Introduction

2009 – A year of changes, not only for Child’s Dream.

Since its establishment in 2003, our activities have continuously and considerably grown. On the one hand we have implemented more projects and started more programmes, on the other hand the topics we were confronted with have changed and became more diverse. It was therefore time in 2009 to take a step back, to think about our work, to review our strategy and question our organisational structure.

We organised numerous brainstorming sessions and workshops including all our team members from Thailand and Cambodia. A clearer and more streamlined structure soon emerged from these meetings. As a result, Child’s Dream now has three focus groups: Health, Basic Education and Higher Education. These focus groups are supported by a strong administration team. Members of our administration team took on new, non-core assignments related to one or more focus groups. A significantly broader job scope and increased responsibilities yielded in higher job satisfaction and motivation. It took many months but we are very proud that each and everyone in our team very actively participated in this process to create an even more powerful and efficient Child’s Dream.

Thanks to all our donors’ continued strong support and trust we achieved a donation volume of CHF 3,192,854 in 2009, which is 9.4% above our 2008 donation volume. Considering the very difficult economic environment we would never have thought this possible and we want to express our sincere gratitude for all your support and trust. As a consequence of the high donation volume and the stringent cost management, our administration ratio was 6.6% for 2009. We are of course relieved to see that we were able to maintain it at a low level. Again, please be ensured that every Swiss franc, Euro or Dollar counts and makes a difference to our charity. Smaller donations are the lifeline of Child’s Dream, they give us the freedom we need to operate.

Our Cambodian organisation (formerly called KAKO) has changed its name to ‘Child’s Dream Akphiwat Khmer’ and adopted our logo along with this change. ‘Akphiwat’ stands for ‘support’ whereas ‘Khmer’ stands for Cambodia as a country as well as for its people. With this step, the full integration of our Cambodian entity was completed.

We have been working on offering tax breaks for donors living in a number of European countries. We are happy to announce that tax efficient giving is now possible in Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands and the UK. These countries join the existing arrangements we have in Australia, Hong Kong and the USA. Please visit the donor section of our webpage for more information.

2009, a year of changes for Child’s Dream! A year of hard work, but again a very rewarding year for us. We have seen school children’s eyes sparkling when they got their own notebook and pencil for the first time in their life, we have seen children recovering from difficult surgery and hospital stays, we have seen school buildings growing brick by brick and we have seen university students graduating and starting their first jobs.

A big thank you goes again to all our donors, small and big, for their valued and continued support and trust.

And finally, all this would never have been possible without our fantastic team. The outstanding commitment and dedication of each and everyone makes our organisation successful.

Thank you, Child’s Dream team, for being part of our dream!
**OBJECTIVES**

- To reduce childhood mortality and allow children to participate in education
- To offer basic education for all in order to improve literacy and create alternatives to exploitation
- To create opportunities for employment and income generation, knowledge and skills transfer as well as community capacity building

**HOW WE HELP**

- 40,000 Burmese are protected from malaria by a comprehensive programme providing mosquito nets, treatment and education
- 50,000 Burmese children aged below 12 years receive Vitamin A and de-worming treatment
- 5,800 Burmese children below 14 years receive vaccinations
- 40,000 Burmese are being taken care of by over 200 village health workers
- 566 children have received life-saving operations and treatment
- Over 60,000 students have received school supplies (pencils, pens, notebooks, etc.) and sports material (footballs, volleyballs, cane balls, etc.)
- Over 2,000 teachers have received teaching supplies (pens, paper, scissors, chalk, etc.)
- We built 50 nursery, primary or secondary schools for about 10,000 children
- About 600 children are staying in our 10 boarding houses
- 72 academically strong students are currently studying at universities in Thailand and Hong Kong
- 380 bright students are currently studying in our three colleges in two refugee camps

**BENEFICIARIES**

- Basic Health Intervention for Children (BHIC)
  - Although the ongoing unstable political situation in Karen State (including recent attacks forcing the displacement of 4,000 villagers) continues to be a challenge and poses logistical problems in the region, the BHIC programme has made significant progress in 2009 again.
  - More than 11,500 children have received vitamin A and de-worming medication from the collaboration of Karen State Education Assistance Group (KSEAG) and Karen Teacher Working Group (KTWG). A total of 1,591 children under the age of five have been screened for malnutrition and 111 have completed an adequate treatment while another 2,870 children have received essential vaccinations. Furthermore, solar powered cold chains have been installed in three clinics by Border Green Energy Team (BGET).
  - In order to ensure sustainability of the BHIC, considerable effort has been made on the training side: 15 village health worker

**HIGHLIGHTS 2009**

- 2009 was a very important year for the Basic Education Focus Group. Not only did we successfully implement the new organisational structure, but we also completed several projects on which we have been working very hard. Amongst them we are proud to announce the completion of Child’s Dream’s biggest project ever undertaken. Details are featured later in this article.
- There were also challenges that were overcome this year. As we reorganised our structure, three staff consequently finished their duties with Child’s Dream. The resulting situation is that we are now more efficient, despite having less team members, and are now able to handle more projects, all while raising the quality of our work.
- Our focus in Thailand is still to build schools, boarding houses and nurseries for remote communities who otherwise wouldn’t have proper access to basic education. In line with this mandate, we completed six boarding houses and three Kindergartens in 2009. Our largest project ever, the Children Development Centre (CDC) school in Mae Sot was finished and opened successfully. With more than 1,200 students, this is the largest migrant learning

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

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**FACTS**

- More than 2,000 teachers have received teaching supplies (pens, paper, scissors, chalk, etc.)
- Over 60 students received soft skills trainings that increase their job opportunities and provide 20 students with internships
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**Solutions to bridge the gap**

Streamlining has occurred in the three Burmese refugee camp colleges being supported and much progress has been made in partnership with the Institute of Higher Education in curriculum building in two schools, Pu Taw Memorial Junior College (PTMJC) and Kaw Lah Junior College (KLJC), while the Leadership and Management Training College has been busy consolidating and clarifying its own curriculum. Many administrative processes have been standardized between PTMJC and KLJC including student records, intake procedures, marking, and tracking of students’ academic profiles.

2009 saw extensive development of two programmes: Youth Connect (YC) and Minmahaw Higher Education Programme (MHEP). YC is primarily a vocational programme focusing on skills training and internships, while operating a career centre for
The school hosts activities spanning primary, middle, and high school levels as well as doubles as a community centre.

Not only in Thailand did we achieve significant results but also in the other three countries where we extend our work: Laos, Cambodia and Burma. We finished building 13 schools in Laos and nine are currently in realization. The staff changes mentioned above affected Laos work the most since two of the staff left the organisation from the Laos team in 2009. However, we are confident in our field coordinator for Laos, who also gets support from other staff members. Overall, our confidence is based in our strong coverage for the growing portfolio of projects in this country.

Children Medical Fund (CMF)
During 2009 we accepted 152 new patients into the Children Medical Fund Programme whereas 87 patients were brought forward from 2008 because they needed follow-up treatment. We were able to close 140 cases during 2009, which reduced the total number of pending patients to 99 as of 31 December 2009.

64% of the cases referred were congenital heart conditions, 13% were Hirschsprung diseases or imperforate anus and the rest were a mixture of other congenital conditions including meningoceles and other musculoskeletal deformities. Furthermore, we have a new cooperation with the Lampang Hospital which reduces the waiting periods for heart surgeries from Chiang Mai University Hospital.

BurmeSE migrant youth in Thailand. This programme essentially provides a much-needed bridge from high school to employment, which was previously not addressed. By contrast, MHEP is a university preparation course aimed at legally documenting the education of Burmese youth, including refugees and migrant youth in Thailand, with the aim that this will enable them to continue their educational pathway to university; without the assistance of MHEP, university education for the overwhelming majority of these students is simply unattainable.

In Thailand, we have agreed to expand our support to Natoe Agricultural College, which teaches students of ethnic minority villages in the north of the country, the skills needed to successfully shape a livelihood from agriculture in today's modern economy. Many traditional practices are thus complimented by modern agriculture methods, resulting in a sustainable lifestyle. Increased support includes the construction of several buildings at the Natoe campus.

It has been agreed that the Social Entrepreneurship Grant (SEG) programme will be expanded to a broader target group. It enables students and other entrepreneurs to apply for grants to start a social enterprise. This is essentially the end of the cycle of educational support, where those with either newly acquired skills or experience can truly begin a project or programme of their own making and embark on creating a new livelihood that has social benefit.

Finally, in our University scholarship programme, we started to support eight Burmese students. We expanded our programme to more scholars so that now 72 students study at universities in Thailand and Hong Kong. Some students successfully completed their studies so that we now have five alumni. On the other hand, some dropped out from our programme for various reasons (5.5%). Besides, our colleague, Anne, has decided to pursue her own graduate studies in the US and her successor is Um who was a student on a scholarship for BA in Political Sciences at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. Finally, we could start our programme with two Laotian students who are studying on graduate level. Our programme will continue to expand. We are going to accept seven Laotian and 25-30 Burmese students in 2010.
**Child’s Dream 2009 in Numbers & Pictures**

**Origin of Donations 2009**

- Switzerland: 38%
- Japan: 6%
- Thailand: 6%
- Singapore: 7%
- Hong Kong: 8%
- United Kingdom: 8%
- Australia: 8%
- Kuwait: 8%
- Others: 2%

**What your donation can achieve**

- **US$10**
  - buys 110 bricks to build a school, or
  - 2 toilet bowls

- **US$50**
  - buys 5 complete sets of school uniforms or 1,000 pencils

- **US$100**
  - buys 800 notebooks or 400 kg of rice

- **US$500**
  - buys 3,000 school meals or 1,110 toothbrushes

- **US$1,000**
  - provides malaria treatment for 170 affected children

- **US$8,000**
  - provides a university scholarship for a year

- **US$30,000**
  - can build a whole school

**And this is our team 😊**

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**Child’s Dream Foundation / diversethics Foundation**

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**Asset Donation Volume**

*all legal entities, in CHFm*

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