

## Facts

Name	Atxaiyaphoum
Type of facility	Secondary School
No. of students	668 (329 girls, 339 boys)
No. of teachers	33 (23 males, 10 females)
No. of Buildings	2 (one new building and one renovation)
No. of Classrooms	8 total (4 in new building, 4 in renovation)
Size of building	2 x 224 m <sup>2</sup>
Budget	USD 54,668
Construction period	Sep 2012 – March 2013
Project manager	Chirasak Phetchompoo
Location (Province)	Northern Lao PDR, Xaignabouli Province

## Description

Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School (map: green arrow) is located in the Xaignabouli province (map: red area) in the northern part of Laos. Being one of the few schools that provide the complete range of secondary education (from grade 6 to 12), many children and youth in the area would not have the opportunity to continue education if not for Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School. Currently, a total of 668 students (329 girls and 339 boys) are enrolled with Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School. Most of the students belong to the Lao Lum ethnic group and are aged between 12 and 19 years old. The students come from more than twelve surrounding villages; hence, 120 of them are boarders living on the school premises.

Situated on a mountain in the Phiang district, classes are conducted across 14 rooms spread over two locations which are within walking distance from each other. A cluster of two buildings with ten classrooms is located just below the cluster of three buildings which comprise of the teachers' office, boarding houses and another classroom building. In 2005, the government supported the construction of one building with six classrooms. Room to Read supported the school with an additional building with six classrooms in 2008. The remaining buildings were built by the communities themselves with their own resources. While the classrooms can accommodate most of the students, the condition of two of the buildings is very poor and not suitable for use. One of the older wooden buildings has deteriorated over the years due to the harsh weather condition and termite infestation. Another of the building is half-complete, as the community is limited by their resources to finish the construction.

Identified as a education hub in the area, we also plan to support Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School with boarding facilities in phase 2. Boarding facilities will not only increase students' access to education, it can also improve their quality of living and learning.

## Map



## Implementation

We plan to construct one new school building with four classrooms to replace the older, wooden school building. In addition, we will also complete the construction of the building that the community had started. The new classrooms will be furnished with tables and chairs and four rooms of toilet will be constructed for the students. The villagers will contribute all the wood that is required for the construction. A professional construction team headed by a foreman will manage the actual construction work. All required construction materials can be sourced and transported from the district town of Phiang to the school.

We consider this a low risk project. However, there is always a risk that the community may not be able to contribute materials on time and the unpredictability of the rainy season may affect the construction progress. The construction will take place between September 2012 and March 2013.

## Photos



Welcome to Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School



Students clean the classrooms before going home

## Budget

Item	THB	USD	In %
Construction material	1,021,249	32,785	60%
Interior / Furniture	209,276	6,718	12%
Labour	215,000	6,902	13%
Transportation	59,000	1,894	3%
Monitoring & Implementation cost	79,186	2,542	5%
Administration Overhead contribution	119,204	3,827	7%
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>1,702,915</b>	<b>54,668</b>	<b>100%</b>



The half-completed building

## Project manager

**Chirasak Phetchompoo**  
Nickname: Gee

Gee has been working for Child's Dream since October 2010 and is Assistant Field Coordinator for Laos.

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**Project Photos:**



Welcome to Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School



Walking towards the second cluster of classrooms



Half-completed, the classrooms lack walls



Inside one of the classrooms in the half completed building.



This building was supported by Room to Read in 2008



Talking with the students



Students gathering before the end of school



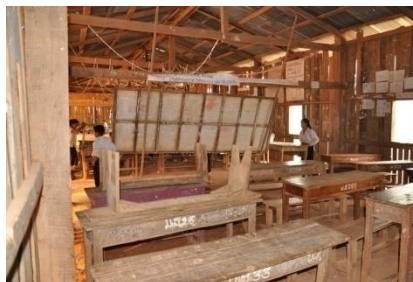
The older, wooden buildings



Exposed foundation which is no longer stable



Inside the classrooms



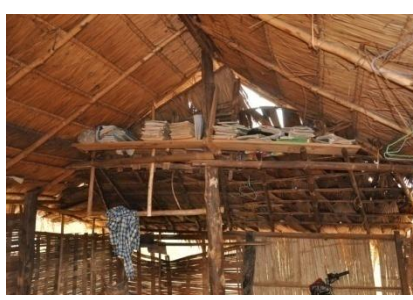
Missing walls between the two classrooms



Our staff meeting with the boarders



Inside the living space of the boarders. While these grass huts can provide shelter to boarders, it cannot protect them during the rainy season. Very often, their books are destroyed by the rain.



More than 120 boarders are living on the school premises.