



# Child's Dream

A charity organization supporting children in need

Unprivileged Children Have Dreams too...

Muandam Phrakot Road  
Soi 1, House 1  
T. Chang Phuak  
Chiang Mai 50300  
Thailand  
Tel. +66 (0)53 214 718  
Fax +66 (0)53 214 718  
info@childsdream.org  
www.childsdream.org

## Funding Proposal for

## Royal Dutch Embassy in Bangkok

Child's Dream would like to support the following project as outlined below:

### Projects concerned:

Construction of two primary school buildings for about 120 children in the impoverished village of Dong Lan Kham in the South of Laos

### Implemented and funded by:

Child's Dream  
Muandam Phrakot Road  
Soi 1, House 1  
T. Chang Phuak  
Chiang Mai 50300  
Thailand  
Tel. +66 (0)53 214 718  
Fax +66 (0)53 214 718  
www.childsdream.org

## Executive Summary

Child's Dream is incorporated in Switzerland as a charitable society and in Thailand as a charitable foundation supporting underprivileged children in the Mekong Sub-Region. We would like to support the construction of two primary school buildings for Dong Lan Kham and its neighbour village in the South of Laos for about 120 children. Our objective is to widen the access to basic education and to reduce illiteracy. The new school will allow many more children to have an education and therefore better chances to lead a successful life and to contribute to the prosperity of the community. Education is one of the most important factors for sustainable development and a peaceful coexistence in a community.

We hope that you will find this project interesting and that you help us making an enormous positive impact on many children's lives.

## Table of Content

## Page

1.	Who is Child's Dream	2
2.	Situational analysis	3
3.	School in Dong Lan Kham	3
4.	Budget	4
5.	Objectives	4
6.	Implementation and ongoing management	5
7.	Final reporting	5
8.	Funding request	5

## 1. Who is Child's Dream

Child's Dream is a charitable society incorporated in Switzerland (ZGB, article 60ff) and has been tax-exempt by the tax authorities of Canton Zurich as well as by the federal tax authorities. It is also registered as a Thai Charitable Foundation.

Our mission is to support underprivileged children in the Mekong Sub-Region (Thailand, Burma, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam). This area is at the core of many humanitarian crises such as human trafficking, exploitation of children and the spread of HIV/AIDS.

From our office in Chiang Mai, we selectively provide support to 'grass-roots' projects, which are in dire need of help and care for children. We want to prevent exploitation of children (child prostitution, child soldiering, child labor and child trafficking) through improving living conditions and education standards, through helping children to take pride in themselves and through restoring their dignity and instilling healthy values towards life and society.

Since its establishment in October 2003, Child's Dream implemented over 40 projects (see the red dots on the map) all over the Mekong Sub-Region ranging from educational infrastructures (nurseries, schools, vocational training centers and colleges), orphanages and water & electricity systems to a children in-patient hospital ward. We are also providing stationery to countless schools as well as clothes and uniforms to over 3400 refugee children. In order to complete the education cycle, we offer scholarships to talented, but financially underprivileged university students.

In order to ensure an optimal use of the funds, Child's Dream provides infrastructure (schools, shelters, water systems, etc.), as well as personal items to meet health and educational needs (clothes, stationary, etc.) directly to the projects concerned.

The two co-founders, Marc Jenni and Daniel Siegfried, had been working for UBS in Asia for many years until they realized that money not only didn't make them happy, but that it also distorted their sense of reality. More information about the founders can be found at [www.childsdream.org/en/aboutfounders.asp](http://www.childsdream.org/en/aboutfounders.asp).

About 70% of all charitable funds raised originate from private individuals mostly residing in Switzerland, Hong Kong and Singapore. We are also proud to be supported by the following corporations and institutions (full list of our corporate sponsors is available at <http://www.childsdream.org/en/ourSponsors.asp>):

- Embassy of Switzerland, Bangkok, Thailand, [www.eda.admin.ch/bangkok\\_emb/e/home.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/bangkok_emb/e/home.html)
- UBS, Singapore, [www.ubs.com](http://www.ubs.com)
- Credit Suisse, Asia Pacific, [www.creditsuisse.com](http://www.creditsuisse.com)
- Migros Genossenschafts-Bund, Zurich, [www.migros.com](http://www.migros.com)
- Siam City Cement, Bangkok, [www.siamcitycement.com](http://www.siamcitycement.com)
- Novartis, Basel, [www.novartis.com](http://www.novartis.com)
- Marc Faber Limited, Hong Kong, [www.gloomboomdoom.com](http://www.gloomboomdoom.com)

Given our lean structure, we are confident of maintaining an administration expense ratio (currently 4.3%) at or below 10%.

## The Child's Dream Team



From left: Watt, Sallo, U, Daniel, Say Thong, Marc & Tai

## The Child's Dream Project Map



## 2. Situational analysis

After six centuries of monarchy, the Communists took control of the government in 1975 and instituted a strict socialist regime closely aligned to Vietnam. Since the revolution, isolation and economic deprivation have hindered the Communist state. Today it is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world, although a gradual return to private enterprise and the liberalization of foreign investment laws began in 1986. Laos also became a member of ASEAN in July 1997.

Laos' infrastructure is very elementary: It has no railroads, only a rudimentary road system, and limited telecommunications. Electricity is available in only a few urban areas. Rural areas however, have no electricity or potable water, and none of the basic facilities of developed societies. Little of the land is arable, and only 5% is used for the subsistence agriculture that provides 80% of total employment. Although the government attempts to eradicate the trade, Laos is one of the biggest producers of opium, and many farmers have no other source of income.

Historically, most ethnic groups had no written language, since most education took place in Buddhist wats, or temples, where monks taught male students orally. Although literacy is on the rise, the lack of available reading material means that literacy is often short-lived. In addition, there is a lack of schools and trained teachers. They are paid irregularly which means that they must work for income elsewhere and often provide only a few hours of instruction a day. Furthermore, parents often require their children to work on their family's farm rather than attend school regularly.

Child's Dream is broadening the access to basic education by building, upgrading and extending schools for remote communities in rural areas. While giving more children the opportunity to study, we intend to reduce the rate of illiteracy among children and provide them with better chances to lead a successful life.

### Map, Facts & Figures of Laos



Government	Communist State
Capital	Vientiane
Population	6.37 million
Area	236 000 km <sup>2</sup>
Ethnic groups	Lao Loum 68%, Lao Theung 22%, Lao Soung incl. Hmong & Yao 9%, Chinese 1%
Life expectancy	55.5 years
Literacy rate	66.4%
Population below poverty line	40%
GDP per capita	USD 1,900

## 3. Primary school in Dong Lan Kham

Dong Lan Kham lies on the main road, which connects Southern Laos with Vientiane. The existing three-room building is from 1980 and made of blocks and cement. It is in a very bad shape. Particularly during the rainy season, the children's safety can no longer be guaranteed. The teachers often send the students back home because they are afraid that a storm or some heavy rainfalls could cause the building to collapse. Due to lack of space the school is able to offer education from grade 1 to 3 only. About 70 pupils from two villages currently attend classes in Dong Lan Kham. They are taught by two teachers. In order to complete grade 4 and 5 the children have to attend school in a neighbouring village about three kilometers away. The community is fully aware of the importance of education and therefore laid the foundation for an additional school building with two rooms to provide grade 4 and 5 nearby. However, the budget was not sufficient to finalize the building (see left). By adding grade 4 and 5, the number of students will increase from currently 70 to about 120.



The unfinished foundation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> building



The current school building is close to collapse



The wooden beams are destroyed by termites

Child's Dream agreed to support the construction of a new building with three class rooms based on the existing foundation. In addition we will finance the completion of the two rooms building. We will also pay for the furniture. The estimated costs are about 1.1 Mio. THB (approx. EUR 25,000). The project is expected to be realized by the end of 2007.

#### 4. Detailed budget

			In THB
Infrastructure	Construction materials	Cement	201,168
		Wood	162,432
		Iron	85,536
		Roof tiles	69,912
		Bricks	60,480
		Sand	40,770
		Ceiling	25,704
		Paint	17,280
		Stones	16,704
		Nails	8,208
		Wire	3,024
		Finishing materials	Windows and doors
	<b>Total Infrastructure</b>		
Transportation			10,000
Furniture			50,000
Labour costs			150,000
<b>Total Project costs</b>			<b>1,021,890</b>
Administration & contingency 6% (Monitoring costs such as accommodation, fuel, Visas, etc.)			61,313
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>1,083,203</b>

#### 5. Objectives

Our overall objective is to prevent exploitation (child prostitution, child labor and child trafficking) and migration of children by

- ✓ improving living conditions and education standards;
- ✓ helping children to take pride in themselves, restoring their dignity and strengthening their self-esteem;
- ✓ raising awareness among families and communities about child trafficking;
- ✓ instilling healthy values towards life and society and
- ✓ encouraging the children to love and respect their own customs and culture



With these particular projects we aim to achieve the following:

- ✓ broaden the access to education
- ✓ reduce illiteracy among the children
- ✓ offer better chances to lead a successful life
- ✓ increase hygiene standards in the school



## 6. Implementation and ongoing management

---

In Laos we usually work closely together with the community leader and the school committee. The construction will be implemented by a local contractor. As for all our projects, we encourage the community to participate in the construction. It gives the villagers a sense of pride and ownership, which means that they will look after the buildings better and know how to maintain them. They are happy to support us with their man power.



Since the village lies neither next to a river nor close to a forest, it is not possible for the community to provide any natural materials. We will buy all the needed materials in a local construction shop, with which we have built up a trusty relationship over the last year. We also arranged for the transportation to the site, which won't be a problem due to the village's proximity to a concrete road.



The implementation is planned to start in early July and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2007. We will regularly check on the progress and the quality of the construction. Child's Dream will also visit the project after completion in order to check whether the school needs extension or upgrading and whether it is still used for educational purposes. The community will be responsible for the ongoing management.

## 7. Final reporting

---

As with all our projects, Child's Dream will submit a detailed final report about the project summarizing all costs.

## 8 Funding request

---

We kindly ask you to support us in our quest to provide education to the children in this remote Laotian village.

Chiang Mai, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007

**Child's Dream**



Marc T. Jenni  
Founder



Daniel M. Siegfried  
Founder