



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

ChildRight (on behalf of Lion's Club Bergen op Zoom)

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

Projects concerned:

Construction of a new secondary school for about 150 students in the impoverished village of Khan Yang in the South of Laos

Implemented and funded by:

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Executive Summary

Child's Dream is incorporated as a charitable association in Switzerland and as a charitable foundation in Thailand. Its mandate is to support underprivileged children in the Mekong Sub-Region. We would like to construct a new secondary school building in Khan Yang in the South of Laos. Our objective is to widen access to education as well as to reduce illiteracy. The new school will allow many more children to continue their education and therefore to have 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.

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1. Who is Child's Dream

Child's Dream is a charitable association incorporated in Switzerland (ZGB, article 60ff) and has been tax-exempt by the tax authorities of the Canton of Zurich as well as by the Federal tax authorities. We are also a charitable foundation, registered with the Royal Thai government.

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 educational 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. Projects are 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 founders, Marc Jenni and Daniel Siegfried, had been working for UBS Bank 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 is available at 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
- UBS AG, www.ubs.com
- Credit Suisse, Asia/Pacific, www.credit-suisse.com
- Migros Genossenschafts-Bund, Zurich, www.migros.ch
- Siam City Cement, Bangkok, www.siamcitycement.com
- Charities Aid Foundation (CAF Australia), www.cafaustralia.org
- Marc Faber Limited, Hong Kong, www.gloomboomdoom.com

Given our lean structure, we are confident of maintaining an administration expense ratio below 10% (currently 6%).

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, Laos 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, 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 education usually took place in Buddhist 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. There is a lack of schools and trained teachers. In addition, parents frequently 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 ²
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. Secondary school in Khan Yang

The Khan Yang secondary school is located on the same river bank of the Mekong as Khon Kaen, where we built one of our first Laos school. The secondary school offers grade 1 to 3 for about 130 students aged between 13 and 15. The four-room school is centrally located between the four villages where the students come from and can be reached either by foot or, particularly during the rainy season, by boat.

The school was built in 1982 by the government and has been maintained by the community ever since. In spite of the villagers' efforts to permanently upgrade and renovate the building, its shape is getting worse.

Since Child's Dream already provided this community cluster with a primary school, we decided to also accept their request for a secondary school in order to complete the basic education cycle for these four villages. We therefore agreed to build a new school including four classrooms and a teachers' room. The additional class rooms will allow them to also offer secondary grade 4 and 5. We will also provide them with furniture. The projected costs are about THB 1.3 Mio (approx. USD 38,500). We expect the building to be complete by the end of December 2007.



4. Detailed budget

				In THB	In USD
Infrastructure	Construction materials	Iron	207,273		
		Roof materials	107,019		
		Cement	119,709		
		Wood	220,182		
		Paint	23,309		
		Bricks	58,909		
		Nails	15,927		
		Wire	6,545		
		Windows and doors	88,083		
		Finishing materials			
Total infrastructure				846,956	24,910
Transportation				65,455	1,925
Furniture				62,218	1,830
Labour costs				207,273	6,096
Building plan				19,188	565
Total Project costs				1,201,090	35,326
Administration overhead contribution 6%				72,065	2,120
Project related costs 3% (monitoring costs such as accommodation, fuel, visas, etc.)				36,033	1,060
Grand Total				1,309,188	38,506

1 USD = 34 THB

5. Risk analysis

Even though we consider this project as a low risk project, operating in rural Laos is not without risk:

- ✓ While we did not face any problems yet collaborating with the Laotian government, bureaucracy, corruption and a lack of governance, transparency and the country's overall stability might prevent an efficient implementation.
- ✓ The implementation of the construction of this school could be slowed down if the rainy season floods or damages the roads leading to the school. Furthermore, heavy rainfalls might cause an interruption of the work in order to ensure the workers' safety and the quality of the building.
- ✓ Although we have a lot of experience in working with budgets for school buildings, a certain risk remains that we have to cover additional costs, which we didn't consider when calculating the budget. As an example, the Laotian government plans to increase the production of cement and might prohibit the import of cement from Thailand, which is cheaper and of higher quality.
- ✓ Given the fact that Khan Yang School is a government school, the risk that the school might not be used for educational purposes is very low.
- ✓ Although the Thai Baht is a rather stable currency, exchange rate fluctuations might occur.

6. 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;
- ✓ instilling healthy values towards life and society and
- ✓ encouraging the children to love and respect their own customs and culture.

With this particular project we aim to achieve the following:

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

7. Implementation and ongoing management

In Laos we usually work together with the community leaders 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.

Given the villages proximity to the Mekong the community will contribute sand and stones for the building. For this particular project we estimate the value of the community's contribution at approx. THB 74,000 or USD 2,176. The villagers also agreed to organise the transportation of the materials, which have to be purchased in Pakse, the next bigger town.

The implementation will start in 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 frequently after completion in order to control whether the school needs extension or upgrading and whether it is still used for educational purposes. The school committee will be responsible for the ongoing management.



8. Final reporting

As with all our projects, Child's Dream will submit a detailed final report about the project summarizing all costs. This report will be available about 3 months after completion of the project.

9. Funding request

We kindly ask you to support us in our quest with the amount of USD 38,506 to provide a safe learning environment and to broaden access to education for children in this remote Laotian village.

Chiang Mai, June 26th, 2007

Child's Dream



Marc T. Jenni
Founder



Daniel M. Siegfried
Founder