

Facts

Name	OCK
Type of facility	Primary School
No. of students	512 (250 girls, 262 boys)
No. of teachers	11 (5 males, 6 females)
Size of building	878 m ²
Classrooms	10 (and 5 toilets)
Budget	USD 140,422
Construction period	Nov 2011 – May 2012
Project manager	Tai Charuwan
Location (Province)	Mandalay Division, Myanmar

Description

Established in 1965, the school is located in the Mandalay division of central Myanmar. Being one of the few rural schools in the area, this school plays an important role in providing kindergarten to grade 5 classes to more than 500 children from the community. In spite of their proximity to the Irrawaddy River, the communities are located in the “dry zone” area of Myanmar with desert-like conditions, which makes farming difficult. Hence, most villagers are dependent on daily jobs on construction sites and/or making fences and mats. The average household income of the community is 1,000 kyat per day (or approx. USD 0.8 per day).

With limited resources, classes were being conducted in a building that is at least 70 years old. This building has withstood World War II and a massive fire accident in 1994; hence, it had undergone numerous rounds of repairs and renovations over the years. Today, it is in a state that is beyond repair and is neither safe nor suitable for use.

Map

Mandalay division (in green) in Central Myanmar



Implementation

We support the construction of a new two-storey building with ten classrooms (five rooms on each level). In addition, we will also build five toilets to improve the sanitary and hygiene standard of the school. The classrooms will also be equipped with school furniture. With the new facility, we aim to provide students with a safe and secure environment that is conducive for learning. A central temple in Mandalay will oversee the implementation of the project and oversee the construction progress with the support from their in-house engineers. As the government does not provide much support to this monastic school, the central temple will also be providing other forms of support, such as teacher training, to ensure the sustainability of the school. The communities also play an important role by supporting the school with food donations to the monks and teachers. Due to the volatility of the socio-political situation in the country, we consider this project to be of medium risk. Although this project will be implemented in the dry season, the unpredictability of the weather may affect the transportation of construction materials. Unforeseen currency moves makes budgeting in USD more challenging. We expect the construction to take approximately 6-7 months to complete.

Photos



Welcome to OCK school. This is the small walkway next to the abandoned building.

Budget

Item	Kyat	USD	In %
Construction material	82,834,710	103,543	74
Labour	11,406,000	14,258	10
Interior / Furniture	7,000,000	8,750	6
Transportation	500,000	625	0
Monitoring & Implementation cost	3,052,221	3,815	3
Administration Overhead contribution	7,545,091	9,431	7
Total Budget	112,338,022	140,422	100

Kyat/USD FX @ 800



Some of the younger children in a temporary classroom built beside the abandoned building.



The abandoned school building

Project manager Tai Charuwan

Tai has been working with Child's Dream since June 2004 and is the Focus Group Head for Basic Education



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