

Facts

Name	Thong Kab
Type of facility	Secondary School
No. of students	501 (220 girls, 281 boys)
No. of teachers	33 (26 males, 7 females)
No. of Buildings	2 (half-completed) 3 (completed, in use)
No. of Classrooms	6 (half-completed) 12 (completed, in use)
Size of building	336m2 (total)
Budget	USD 34,072
Construction period	Nov 2011 – April 2012
Project manager	Ms. Supattra Matakoon
Location (Province)	Northern Laos, Xaignabouli Province

Description

Located in the Xiang Hon district of Xaignabouli province in Northern Laos, Thong Kab Secondary Schools is one of the few rural schools that offers complete secondary education that ranges up to grade 12. With the expansion of their curriculum to include upper secondary classes in 2006, the student population had grown tremendously. The school is now providing education to more than 500 students from the ten communities in the sub-district; of which, the furthest village has no direct road access to the school. Already operating at its maximum capacity, Thong Kab Secondary School had converted their boarding facility into classrooms in order to accommodate all their students. However, without the boarding facility, a few students had dropped out, as they were unable to make the journey between school and home, which can take up to 2 hours walking one way.

This sub-district was formed as a result of the mergence of numerous villages in 2001. It has a very rich and diverse culture, as the villagers are from six different ethnic groups (i.e. Hmong, Khamu, LaoLum, Lue, Prai and Yuan). Heavily dependent on their farms for subsistence, these villagers often struggle to make ends meet for their families; some families struggle even harder, as they have 4-5 children studying in this in school. In spite of their impoverishment, the communities had gathered their own resources to construct two additional school buildings. However, the communities were limited by their means to complete the construction of the two additional buildings for the school.

Map



Implementation

To support this school and its communities in providing their students with an opportunity to complete their education, we plan to renovate and finish the two half-completed buildings that the communities had started earlier. In addition, we will also equip the rooms with furniture to facilitate learning. The villagers will be contributing towards this project by preparing and leveling the land, and providing wood, water, electricity and their labour 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 Xiang Hon district town. We consider this a low risk project. However, the unpredictability of the weather and road conditions may affect the delivery of construction materials and there implementation of the project. Additionally, the community may not be able to contribute materials on time. The construction is scheduled to take place between November 2011 and April 2012.

Photos



Inside one of the original classrooms

Budget

Item	THB	USD	In %
Construction material	635,193	21,173	62%
Labour	140,000	4,667	14%
Interior / Furniture	118,846	3,962	11%
Transportation	30,000	1,000	3%
Monitoring & Implementation cost	26,784	893	3%
Administration Overhead contribution	71,311	2,377	7%
Total Budget		34,072	100%



The two half-completed school buildings that the communities had attempted to build



Project manager

Supattra Matakoon
Nickname: Koy

Koy has been working for Child's Dream since May 2008 and is in charge of projects in Laos.



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