

Facts

Name	Atxaiyaphoum
Type of facility	2 Boarding Houses
No. of students	717 (345 girls, 372 boys)
No. of boarders	201 (77 girls, 124 boys)
No. of teachers	33 (23 males, 10 females)
No. of Buildings	5 school buildings
No. of Classrooms	22 total
Size of building	2 x 462 m2
Budget	USD 154,877
Construction period	April – September 2013
Project manager	Chirasak Phetchompoo
Location (Province)	Northern Lao PDR, Xaignabouli Province

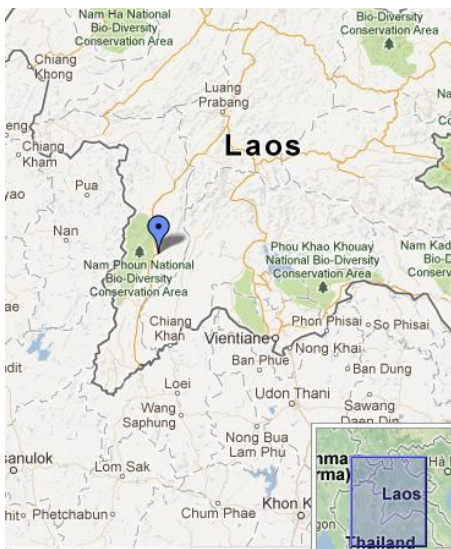
Description

Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School is located in the Xaignabouli province 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 717 students 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, therefore many of them live as boarders on the school premises. Without boarding facilities, these students would be excluded from further education.

Beautifully situated on a mountain in the Phiang district, classes are currently conducted across 18 rooms spread over two locations, which are within walking distance of each other. In 2005, the government supported the construction of one building with 6 classrooms. Room to Read supported the school with an additional building with 6 classrooms in 2008. In 2012, we built one new building with 4 rooms and we are in the process to finish a construction site that had grounded to a halt due to lack of funding which gives the school another 4 classrooms. Finally the community is almost done completing another building where teachers and 2 classes have already moved in. This brings the total to 22 classrooms across 5 buildings.

The boarding houses have not seen the same kind of investment. The current boarding houses are grass huts that provide only minimal shelter from the heavy rains during the raining season and even less protection against the cold of winter. Books get destroyed by the rain and huts need mending every year. Because of the significance of Atxaiyaphoum secondary school for the villages, we want to support them with building new and secure boarding facilities. 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 two boarding houses - one building for the boys and one building for the girls - and add 24 toilets in total. Each boarding house will hold 6 individual rooms. The villagers will contribute some wood that is required for the roof and ceiling, window frames plus scaffolding. 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 April and September 2013.

Photos

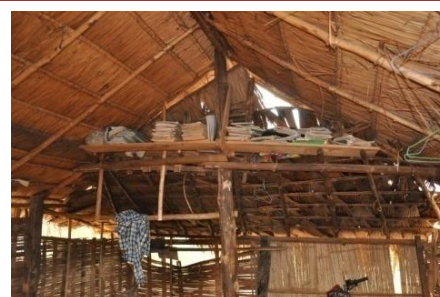


Welcome to Atxaiyaphoum Secondary School



Budget

Item	1 USD = 30 THB		
	THB	USD	In %
Construction material	2,897,264	96,575	60%
Interior / Furniture	528,000	17,600	12%
Labour	600,000	20,000	13%
Transportation	100,000	3,333	3%
Monitoring & Implementation cost	217,119	7,237	5%
Administration Overhead contribution	303,967	10,132	7%
Total Budget	4,646,350	154,877	100%



Project manager

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



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More than 120 boarders are living on the school premises. While these grass huts provide basic shelter, books often get destroyed during the rainy season from leaking roofs. The huts have to be redone every year.