



Child's Dream Association

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Funding Proposal

DevelopEd Education Limited (DevelopEd) is a Post-High School Community Learning Centre programme for young adults in Lashio, Northern Shan State, Myanmar

Executive Summary

DevelopEd Education Limited (DevelopEd) was registered in Myanmar in February 2014 to establish an education centre in Lashio, Northern Shan State, Myanmar. The DevelopEd model aims to stimulate community development through quality education and enterprises. The education component aims to provide the tools for students to engage in: community development projects, further education, higher employment, and business establishment and operation. The enterprise component aims to provide exposure to the establishment and management of a trading business; to provide training opportunities for students; and to provide an income stream for the education centre.

Using this model, we aim to create a sustainable organisation that is community owned and community focused, and is actively engaged with the community in which it exists. This model also enables the external participants of the project to gradually remove themselves from the operational roles of the organisation, and be replaced with local community members. The result will be an education centre that is supported by its own local enterprises and that is fully owned and operated by local people.

We hope that you will find this educational programme worthwhile and agree in helping us to support the annual budget of DevelopEd.

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1. Situational Analysis

With foreign investment streaming into Myanmar, the provision of quality education to local Myanmar youth is vital to ensure that this next generation of Myanmar citizens are competitive in business and employment, without sacrificing their community identity. Quality education is therefore a high priority throughout Myanmar, in both urban and rural areas. Yet, high quality education is not widely accessible. In the context of Shan State, Dai ethnic community members regularly report that rural families often place little value in education for their children, preferring instead that their children either help to work on the farm or to earn money for the family. This economic imperative is certainly understandable. However, the positive returns on investing in a child's education have long been documented. A medium to long-term investment in children's education, especially in this period of Myanmar's socio-economic development, will help to secure a higher earnings capacity well above that of subsistence farming and unskilled labour. It will also help to provide the skills required for Myanmar youth to be competitive in an increasingly technological, information driven, knowledge based, and service oriented employment market.

Challenges in Education

- ✓ A lack of high-quality, affordable education; especially in the rural areas of Myanmar
- ✓ Lack of experience in and exposure to international business and employment practices for youth in rural Myanmar
- ✓ Rural students lack ideas of what opportunities exist for them



2. Programme Overview

DevelopEd aims to establish education centres (as social enterprises) in Myanmar. The present centre in Lashio is its pilot project. The social enterprise or the for-profit enterprise is used as a working example of a business for the students, for training of students and to provide an income stream for the education centre. The centre also provides the local youth/students with the capacity for creating business. The centre has been running in its 3rd years now. Another 2 years of funding is needed before the centre can be handed over to the locals and run as an independent local community centre.

Objectives

- ✓ Generate USD 18,288 operating income in 2016 (and thereby covering the expenses of the education centre)
- ✓ Employ 3 full-time foreign and 2 full-time local teaching staff as well as 2 part-time local staff
- ✓ Increase the capacity to accept more students from 28 to 52 by launching social sciences courses and a second night class
- ✓ Launch a for-profit enterprise that is integrated with the education centre

Beneficiaries

At DevelopEd Post-High School Community Learning Centre, beneficiaries include youth from rural areas around Lashio aged 17 to 25. It is required that prospective students show a decent level of English (matched to the class that they want to attend), commitment to community development, commitment to self-improvement as well as commitment to social services. In addition to the students there are also 6 staff (5 of which are full-time and supported by Child's Dream) which are employed in the centre. Finally, community members are benefiting from the centre and the enterprise as a whole.

Activities

DevelopEd Post-High School Community Learning Centre offers a range of courses to its beneficiaries:

- ✓ Pre-intermediate English language and introductory social sciences classes
- ✓ Upper-intermediate English language and advanced social sciences classes
- ✓ English language night classes (3 classes ranging from pre-intermediate to advanced)
- ✓ Beginners' project management and community development classes

Students also undertake community development projects during every term. These projects are entirely determined, organised, and implemented by students themselves, with guidance from teaching staff. Current community development projects included: urban composing, cleaning up a local waterway, providing English education to children at a local orphanage, building a structure from the material cob (mixture of soil, clay, mud, sand and straw), and cloths collections for two local villages.

In addition to those classes and projects the DevelopEd team has established a for-profit enterprise in order to provide learning and working experiences for the students. Students are encouraged to submit their ideas for the for-profit enterprise and create business plans. Moreover, the generated profits are used towards subsidizing education costs and thus all students will directly benefit from it. Indirectly, it also creates benefits for local businesses, local employees as well as taxable income for local tax authorities.

3. Budget

Budgets are drawn annually for DevelopEd and disbursed quarterly after we receive the regular narrative reports, photos, and financial reconciliations. Site visits are easily arranged throughout the year. Feedback is also obtained by us directly during our frequent visits. The annual budget covers the running cost of the programme and includes staff salaries, school equipment and stationery as well as office costs such as rent and utilities.

The total annual budget, including our monitoring and overhead costs, is MMK 43,232,458 (**USD 36,794**). This programme runs yearly from January to December, divided into four quarters. A breakdown of the annual budget that covers the period from January to December 2016 is on next page:



Running Cost	Total in MMK	Total in USD
Salaries	30,000,000	25,532
Office Costs	9,000,000	7,659
Total Running Cost	39,000,000	33,191
Project Implementation Cost (3%)	1,206,186	1,026
Administration Overhead (7%)	3,026,272	2,577
Total Project Cost	43,232,458	33,794

USD 1 = MMK 1,175 (MMK, Myanmar Kyat)

Child's Dream fully funds the annual DevelopEd budget on an ongoing basis. A multi-year donor would be preferred.

4. Risk Analysis

We consider this programme as medium risk for the following reasons:

- ✓ There are some attack incidents between the government army and the ethnic armed groups in Lashio and around its region (e.g. bombing at Lashio airport in March 2015)
- ✓ The area can be politically unstable and might restrict recruitment and outreach. This is still a very common issue in Myanmar.
- ✓ Rule of law is still weak in Myanmar and will most likely always be a risk to a certain extent

5. Implementation & Ongoing Management

DevelopEd is in charge of this project, and Child's Dream staff conduct frequent site visits (announced and unannounced) throughout the year. Quarterly narrative and monthly financial reports are produced by the programme and clarified by us. Communication and collaboration with DevelopEd has been very good so far.

6. Reporting & Funding

As with all our projects, Child's Dream will provide semester reporting to donors.

For this particular programme we are ideally looking for donors who are committed to a multi-year funding cycle. Partial funding of the total budget is certainly possible.

We truly hope that we were able to share our enthusiasm with you for DevelopEd. We thank you for your time and consideration and we look forward to hearing from you.

Chiang Mai, June 2016

Child's Dream Foundation

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