

Facts

Name	Samakkeexai Lower Secondary School
Type of facility	School Building
No. of students	137 (58 boys, 79 girls)
No. of teachers	10 (7 male, 3 female)
No. of classrooms	1 building with 6 furnished classrooms & 4 toilets
Size of building	336 m2
Budget	USD 55,988
Construction period	November 2016-April 2017
Project manager	Mr. Somsak Kamdang
Location	Pak Khaen Village, Ngern District, Xiagnabouli Province, North Laos

Description

The Pak Khaen village is part of the Muang Ngern District and is the poorest community in this area. Close proximity to the Mekong river and easy access to the main road was instrumental in making it a hub for families from other villages to settle in the area. The main occupations in the community are subsistence farming and animal husbandry but it is tough to yield great results. Before Samakkeexai School was established, the students had to travel almost 20 kms to Baan Thong Secondary School. It was difficult for families to provide monetary support to their children, either for daily transport or lodgings near the school. In 2015, the government set up the Samakkeexai Lower Secondary School and the dropout rates subsequently decreased. However the primary and the lower secondary school still have to share this infrastructure so the community decided to construct a temporary school building to ease the overcrowding situation. The primary school was shifted to the temporary building and the lower secondary school used the existing one. Currently there are 137 students (58 boys, 79 girls) in attendance. As the existing students get promoted to the newly introduced next grade and new students start joining, they will once again face overcrowding. Too many students and newly added grades clubbed together is not a very feasible option for effective learning. This might subsequently contribute to an increase again in dropout rates in the future. Next year, the school will introduce grade 8 and 9 and a new school building is direly needed to accommodate all students. The school currently caters to 3 villages in the vicinity; Baan Pak Khaen, Baan Home Xai and Baan Huay Ngeuy and the total number of students is expected to increase by 40 to 50% next year alone.

Map



Implementation

Child's Dream will provide support to the Samakkeexai Lower Secondary School for the construction of 1 school building with 6 classrooms, all furniture and 4 new toilets. The school will be moved to a new and wider area (the deed for which is ready with the school director), so that the primary as well as the lower secondary school both have enough space. The new building will cater to 137 students (58 boys, 79 girls), providing them with ample, comfortable space and most importantly, a safe and secure environment to focus on learning. Samakkeexai School is a registered government school and the salaries and teaching aids are provided by the government. As with all our projects, we will seek the involvement of the local community in the construction process as much as possible. For this project, the local villagers will contribute wood, sand and stone for the construction process. We will hire a trusted local contractor who will provide the labour, cover transportation of material and perform the construction. The payments will be made in four instalments based on the construction progress and 5% of the labor costs will be held back for one year as a guarantee for the quality of the work. We consider this project as low risk. The school is easily accessible even during the rainy season. We aim to start construction in November 2016 and completion is expected by April 2017.



Temporary building erected by the community



Students inside the temporary classroom

Budget

1 USD = 7,880 LAK

Item	LAK	USD	In %
Construction material	256,175,000	32,510	58
Labour	92,000,000	11,675	21
Transportation	11,960,000	1,518	3
Interior & Furniture	33,750,000	4,283	7
Monitoring & Implementation cost	16,411,875	2,083	4
Administration Overhead contribution	30,882,560	3,919	7
Total Budget	441,179,435	55,988	100



The main building is breaking down

Project manager

Somsak Kamdang
Nickname: Sak

Sak has been working for Child's Dream since January 2015 as an Assistant Field Coordinator for Laos

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