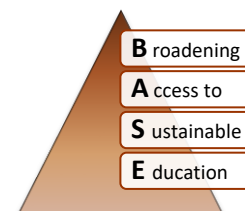




Mueang Muay Lower Secondary School Building A



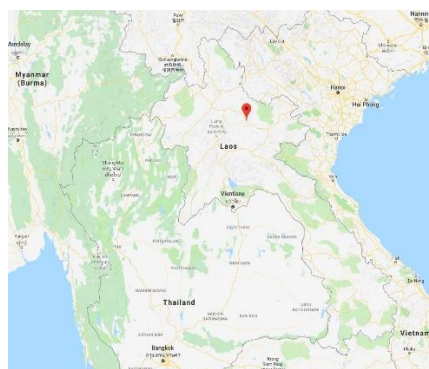
Facts

Name	Mueang Muay Lower Secondary School
Type of facility	School Building A
Number of students	276 (152 boys, 124 girls)
Number of teachers	13 (9 men, 4 women)
Number of classrooms to be built by us	1 building with 4 fully furnished classrooms and 4 toilets
Size of building	224 m ²
Budget	USD 49,469
Construction period	August 2018 to March 2019
Project manager	Ms. Suphatra Matakun
Location	Mueang Muay Village Vieng Kham District Luang Prabang Province North Laos

Description

Mueang Muay Lower Secondary School is located in Mueang Muay Village, Vieng Kham District, Luang Prabang Province, amidst mountains of northern Laos. The village has a population of 1,141 residents and is home to 212 families. The vast majority of the population is dependent mainly on subsistence agriculture, plantation work, and animal husbandry for their living. Established in 2013, Mueang Muay Lower Secondary School has 2 rotten wooden school buildings (building A & B), with a total of 5 classrooms. The 2 buildings completed in 2013 are temporary and supported by substandard wooden columns bolted on concrete piers, with woven bamboo walls, and a zinc metal roof. During the hot season, the building interiors become unbearably hot and the students get wet during the rainy season. The two temporary structures are dilapidated, beyond repair and in dire need of replacement. Currently, there are 276 students, aged 11-15, in attendance. The student population has been continuously increasing over the last few years and the classrooms have become very crowded. The average number of students in most of the classrooms ranges from 50-55. The students cannot focus on their studies and easily get distracted in this chaotic environment, creating many challenges for both teachers and students. Therefore, we have decided to build a new school building (to replace building A) consisting of 4 fully furnished classrooms along with 4 toilets. This new building will emphasise the importance of education to the community and provide an incentive for the children and youth to complete their secondary level education. It will also cater to the expected increasing number of students in the coming academic years. The toilets will help improve sanitation standards at the school and prevent hygiene-related illnesses, hence reduce dropout rates. We will also replace building B with 5 classrooms under a separate proposal.

Map



Implementation

To improve the existing insufficient learning environment, we decided to build a new school building with 4 fully furnished classrooms and 4 additional toilets, which will allow students to fully benefit from their education. As with all our projects, the local community will be involved in the construction process. Involvement of the community is critical, as it encourages a stronger sense of ownership over the project. The community will contribute by providing manual labour, sand and gravel, soil, water for construction, wood for scaffolding, and filling the school foundation. A local contractor will be hired to manage the labour and transportation of materials, oversee the construction, and arrange for the needed furniture. Once the project is completed, the community will be responsible for the maintenance of the school. Payments will be made in instalments, according to the progress of the construction with 5% of the total labour cost held back for one year, as a guarantee for the quality of the work. The school administration will be responsible for the facilities after completion of the project. We consider this a low-risk project as there is sustainability from ongoing upkeep by the community's enthusiasm and active engagement. Nevertheless, the dirt road might pose some transportation challenges, especially during the rainy season. Construction is due to start in August 2018 and expected to be completed in March 2019.

Photos



The two temporary structures are dilapidated, beyond repair and in dire need of replacement.

Budget

FX THB/USD 32.10

Item	THB	USD	In %
Construction Material	1,029,748	32,079	65
Labour	192,901	6,009	12
Transportation	61,132	1,904	4
Interior & Furniture	134,000	4,174	8
Implementation & Monitoring Cost	59,074	1,840	4
Administration Overhead	111,161	3,463	7
Total Budget	1,588,016	49,469	100



Secondary students attending class in one of the makeshift buildings sitting on piers with bamboo sheet walls.



The building's columns are not sturdy and can cause the building to collapse anytime, a possible threat to the safety of the students.



The existing two toilets are old, rotten and not enough for such a large student population.