



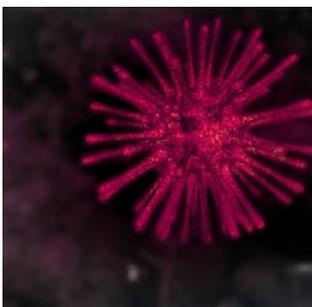
URGENT FUNDING NEEDS

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES NEED URGENT FUNDING OR CONTINUOUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT.



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YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
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MARC THOMAS JENNI

Co-Founder & Managing
Director Operations

COVID-19 Update

We hope you are all safe and healthy during these turbulent times. Here is a short update on developments since our last newsletter, end of March 2020. The very good news is that, after weeks of working from home, the Chiang Mai team is back in the office, happily enjoying social contacts again. We hope that our Myanmar team will also soon be able to return to the office so that a new normal can become the reality for all of us. Our colleagues in Siem Reap have always been working from the office during the crisis due to the low risk of infection. All our teams, however, are still not able to travel either domestically or internationally. Another good development is that we are able to successfully continue to serve our many beneficiaries, though at a slower pace and under more challenging circumstances and often with smaller budgets. On the

gloomier side, we can clearly see that the needs of our children, youth and communities are going up significantly and, at the same time, our incoming donations are slowing down. This gives us a lot of worry. We are also concerned about the potential impact of a significant outbreak of the virus in a country like Myanmar, which would have a devastating effect on an already troubled country. Myanmar has the second worst health system in the world, after Sierra Leona, and is very badly equipped to deal with such a crisis. Hence, we truly hope that you, as our donors, do not forget about us and keep on supporting our causes. Help is more needed now than ever before, but with our strong team and your support at our side, we are confident to perform our duties and emerge from this crisis even stronger.



DANIEL MARCO SIEGFRIED

Co-Founder & Managing
Director Programmes

Our Impact Measurements

Impact evaluation was one of those tasks that was listed as important, but not time-critical and therefore stayed on my to-do list for too long. I simply did not have the time nor the expertise to tackle this task by myself. In March 2018, the solution presented itself in form of a CV from a candidate with just the right qualifications. After a few rounds of interviews, Sahara Singh started her assignment with Child's Dream in July 2018 to finally develop an impact evaluation strategy that not only covers most of our core programmes, but also strikes the right balance between additional resources required and added value and insights gained. The main objective of our impact evaluation is to improve our work for our beneficiaries

and, of course, to demonstrate the success of our work to our supporters.

We have always monitored and evaluated our programmes, but we have never approached M&E in a systematic and scientific way. Our focus was also more on monitoring and evaluating outputs rather than longer term outcomes. It was also difficult, in the past, to measure long term outcomes since we did not have such a long timeline to look back at. We evaluated the schools that have received our

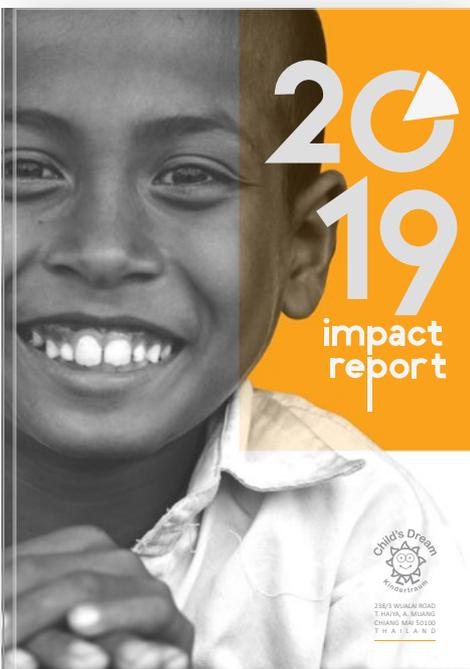
buildings to find out which schools have weak management so that we could intervene, but we never compared our indicators to a baseline. Similarly, we tracked our university scholarship

alumni to find out what they are doing after graduation, but we never went much beyond that. However, we always had a good hunch about whether our programmes were working well or not and why. Nevertheless, it is very comforting to know that our intuitions are now finally backed up with facts and research.

Sahara, together with the teams, has developed M&E log-frames for the following core programmes: school and boarding house construction, high and vocational school scholarship programmes, our Children's Medical Fund and our university scholarship programmes. These programmes represented roughly 60% of our total project expenses in 2019. We hope to increase this coverage gradually over the years.

In 2019 our teams had to lift the extra workload from our new M&E activities. Together we did 83 school evaluations, 18 boarding house evaluations and collected the surveys from 420 high and vocational schools and 156 university scholarship students and alumni. The entire Children's Medical Fund database was cleaned up and 1,890 patient records were aligned.

The results from our impact measurement are very encouraging. Here are some of the highlights: 83% of our university scholarship alumni are employed, of whom 51% are in the non-profit sector and 13% are in the government sector. 78% found jobs related to their field studies and 26% of our Myanmar alumni are entrepreneurs and have established their own organisations. Our high and vocational school scholarship programme has a graduation rate of 85%, which is well above the national average. 81% of our



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alumni are either studying or working. An overwhelming 97% of alumni are satisfied with our support. Since its start in 2006, our Children's Medical Fund has closed 1,719 cases, of which 73.6% were treated successfully and 5.4% did not require any treatment. Of out the 1,264 successfully treated cases, 1,022 cases were life-saving. In Laos and Myanmar, we have reduced classroom overcrowding from an average of 43 students per classrooms to an average of 31 students per classroom. In average, all the 83 schools evaluated have seen a dramatic improvement in school building safety and classroom learning environment.

On the other hand, we also found some weaknesses. Our Laotian scholarship alumni struggle more to find jobs due to the limited job market. Although most of the schools we built more than five years ago are still structurally very sound, some of these schools struggle to maintain their toilets due to water shortages. These are important insights that will help us to improve our designs for future projects.

I hope that you appreciate this report and our transparency about the impact of our work. A special thanks goes to Sahara and our extremely dedicated staff who made this report possible.

FROM THE FIELD



DANIEL MARCO SIEGFRIED

Co-Founder & Managing
Director Programmes

Social Entrepreneurship and the Private Education Sector

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP GRANT

Child's Dream has been supporting social enterprise start-ups since 2010. It started with the now-famous coffee cooperative called [Akha Ama](#). Afterwards we supported a few organic model farms in Myanmar to raise the awareness of sustainable agricultural practices and to promote organic and safe food.

However, more recently, Child's Dream has received some applications for private further education centres, mostly in more urban areas in Myanmar. There is an increasing demand from young adults to upgrade their skills and knowledge that are relevant in today's employment market. Young adults realise the importance of English language with a focus on conversation, rather than grammar and writing, to improve their employment opportunities as well as their chances of getting a scholarship to study abroad.

Child's Dream recently supported two

such centres; one in Mandalay and one in Mawlamyine, the capital of Mon State in Myanmar. Adhipati Education Group in Mandalay focuses on English courses that foster 21st century skills and lifestyle competency in communications, critical thinking and career empowerment. The Suta Center for personal and professional development in Mawlamyine runs general and business English courses and computer courses as well as a more comprehensive 10-month residential programme for rural youth with the focus on English, computer, social science, gender and environment, coupled with internship placements. Both centres charge much less than other private schools and are committed to reinvest any profit into providing scholarships.

It seems that the time for low-cost, high quality private education is ripe for our countries with a growing middle class, especially in urban centres.



KEVIN YAMAMI

Coordinator-
Proposals and Reporting

CD Supports Local NGO to Empower Cambodian Youth

BASIC EDUCATION

Since 2017, Child's Dream (CD) has partnered with PEPY Empowering Youth (PEPY), a local NGO in Cambodia focused on education and youth empowerment in rural, remote, and underserved areas of Siem Reap Province.

To address the lack of awareness of educational and professional opportunities available to graduating high school students, CD funds PEPY's Dream Management Project (DMP), which combines in-school classes that inspire students to pursue higher education and skilled employment with career-focused events and trips.

DMP's classes and events give grade 10-12 students broad exposure to a host of educational and professional opportunities. The classes include topics such as teamwork, citizenship, positive thinking, presentation skills, environmental awareness, effective communication, time management,

financial literacy, university majors, and leadership. Guest speakers provide students with real-life experiences and contexts; skills fairs connect students to potential employers and local job opportunities; study tours give students exposure to a variety of work environments; and scholarship sessions introduce students to educational opportunities in Cambodia and abroad.

The DMP started in one high school in 2012, and has since expanded to three in the Kralanh and Srei Snam Districts, located outside the city of Siem Reap. To date, more than 2,000 students (including a majority of females) have enrolled in the DMP, and annual enrollment continues to grow along with the project's popularity. Moving forward, CD will encourage PEPY to gather statistics on graduating students to better gauge the project's long-term impact.



NARONG SEAN

Senior Coordinator-
Higher Education
Cambodia

Empowering Cambodian Youth Through Leadership and Skills

HIGHER EDUCATION

Child's Dream is currently supporting two organisational partners, Youth Resources Development Program (YRDP) and Youth for Peace (YFP) in Phnom Penh. For YRDP, we have supported only one programme called Empowering Youth for an Equitable Society since 2019, and we have supported YFP with one programme

called Youth Leaders for Peace since 2020. The main goal of these two programmes is to educate Cambodian youth to develop critical thinking skills and leadership skills for them to take up their roles and responsibilities more effectively within their families, communities and society. With these two programmes, they implement

in-house training and field trips to learn the current situation in the community and target high school graduates and students from university.

After researching and observing the issues in Cambodia, four critical barriers currently affecting youth are an increasingly repressive social environment; improving, but still low-quality education; the prevalence of high-risk behaviours; and widespread poverty/unemployment. Additionally, the mismanagement of natural resources and a degrading

political context are hampering youth in the exercise of their rights. This is why Child's Dream is eager to support these two NGO partners which are working to empower youth responsibly to improve and develop their communities.

For our Higher Education team, empowering youth in Cambodia is one of our main missions and we really want to see in the future that they will become responsible leaders and qualified specialists who work towards community development.

FROM THE OFFICE

GENE LORCA

Senior Coordinator-
Communication &
Volunteers



COVID-19 Community Outreach

THANK YOU, DKSH staff! With your generous donations, we have distributed rice, powdered milk, canned goods, Vitamin C supplements, diapers, and other basic essentials to migrant communities in Chiang Mai—families and individuals striving to live off minimum daily wage jobs to make ends meet—impacted by COVID-19. Your help makes a difference and we are extremely grateful! A big shout out to our volunteers, partner organisations, and to all involved for making the relief distribution possible. You guys are truly amazing!



Thailand Children's Day 2020

Child's Dream hosted Thailand National Children's Day (Wan Dek) 2020 with some of our staff members and volunteers at Mae Tala Nue Primary School in Kalayaniwattana District, Chiang Mai Province, on 16 January! Wan Dek is celebrated annually to raise awareness of and support children's welfare across Thailand. The event was filled with awesome performances, games, and exciting prizes! Thank you so much to all involved and for making it possible.



Christmas Fundraising

Thank you so much to Lukas and Selina who raised an incredible amount of CHF 1'600 for us with their fantastic Christmas cookies and sweets at the Aarau Market, Switzerland. What a wonderful way to share your support! We are so grateful!



CDF Board Meeting 2020

On 2 March, our board meeting was held and had productive discussions. Reviewing finances and activities and looking forward to another exciting year with all of you! Thank you everyone for your continued support and to our board members for their service.



CHILD'S DREAM

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