

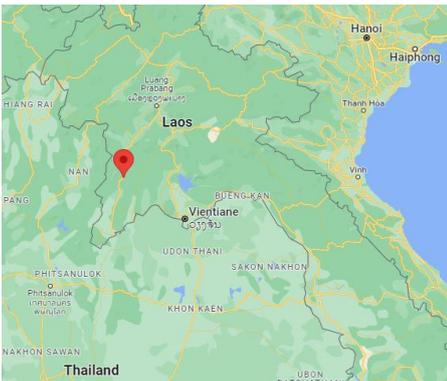
Facts

Name	Phon Sa Art Primary School
Type of facility	School Building
Number of students	126 (70 boys, 56 girls)
Number of teachers	7 (5 males, 2 females)
Number of classrooms to be built by us	1 new building with 5 fully-furnished classrooms, 1 teachers' room and 4 new toilets
Size of building	336 m ²
Budget	USD 64,948
Construction period	April 2023 – October 2023
Project manager	Mr. Chirasak Phetchompoo - Gee
Location	Baan Phon Sa Art Phiang District Xaignabouli Province North-Lao PDR

Description

Lao PDR is considered one of the poorest and least developed countries in Southeast Asia. Even though the social and economic conditions in Lao PDR have improved since its independence in 1975, there is still significant wealth disparity amongst Laotians. Phon Sa Art Primary School is located in Baan Phon Sa Art, Phiang District, Xaignabouli Province of north-western Lao PDR. Founded in 1964, the village is home to 1,450 people living in 310 households. Most families and individuals rely on farming, plantation work, construction and animal husbandry for their livelihoods. There is water, electricity, mobile phone coverage and a local health centre in the village. Established in 2003, Phon Sa Art Primary School has a current enrolment of 126 students (70 boys and 56 girls) aged six to eleven years old, and employs 7 teachers (5 men and 2 women), one of whom is a volunteer. The school building houses five classrooms; however, it was evaluated as unsafe and a major risk for the students and teachers. In 2019, an earthquake struck the area leaving large cracking in the classrooms' walls, severely compromising the structural integrity of the school building. The community agreed to demolish the severely deteriorated wall, but the cracks persist in other parts of the building. Furthermore, exposure to the harsh Laotian climate has left the building in a state of major disrepair. The wood is infested with termites and has rotted away. The open classrooms make way for the dust to billow in during the dry months, and the water to enter through in the rainy season creating a chaotic and uncomfortable learning environment. The students and teachers clearly lack a safe space to learn and teach. Therefore, a new school building with five fully-furnished classrooms and a teachers' room is urgently needed. Teachers and the students will greatly benefit from a new, safe and encouraging environment allowing them to reach their full potential. In addition to a new building, we will also build four new toilets to help improve the sanitation standards of the school and prevent hygiene-related illnesses while reducing dropout rates.

Map



Implementation

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 wood for the wall frames, poles and ceilings, and soil to fill in the foundation. They also further agree to level and prepare the land, connect electricity, and provide water for the construction. Payments will be made in instalments according to the progress of the construction with 10% of the total labour cost held back for 12 months, as a guarantee for the quality of the work. The teachers' salaries and training are supported and managed by the government. We consider this a low risk project, but we will have to allow for potential delays during the construction, as the road condition is quite poor during the rainy season and access could be impeded. Construction is targeted to begin in April 2023 and should be completed in October 2023.

Photos



The deteriorated and unsafe school building is in dire need of being replaced

Budget

FX: USD 1 = THB 34.81

Item	THB	USD	In %
Construction Materials	1,405,197	40,368	62
Interior Equipment & Furniture	216,779	6,227	10
Labour Cost	396,508	11,391	17
Implementation & Monitoring Cost	84,104	2,416	4
Administration Overhead	158,259	4,546	7
Total Budget	2,260,847	64,948	100



The classrooms with direct exposure to weather elements creates a chaotic and uncomfortable learning environment



The building floors are cracked, and become a muddy mess during the rainy season



The students need a safe learning environment to focus and thrive in their education