

Long Kang Nursery and Primary School Champasak, Laos



Grant Category:	Education
Implementing Agency:	Child's Dream Foundation
Project Status:	Completed
Start Date:	Mar 2011
Completion Date:	Oct 2011

Project Description

Construction of five new fully equipped classrooms including one for the nursery to accommodate 160 students in grades 1-5, 38 children in the nursery and 8 teachers.

Objective

Replacement of the unsafe, poorly resourced 45-year-old school building with a new one developed through a collaborative community lead process to ensure the construction of a school that suits the needs of the students and ensures a sense of community ownership.

Impact

The new safe, secure, well-equipped school has boosted both educational performance and attendance at school with a resultant decrease in dropout rates. These improvements should result in increased participation in education at higher levels.

The construction of additional classrooms will also accommodate the anticipated growth in the student population.

Background

Poor education remains one of the key constraints for the reduction of poverty in many parts of Laos. The Laos governments' education policy provides free education for all up to secondary school, however a lack of safe buildings, trained teachers and teaching materials limits the effectiveness of the policy.

The School was established nearly 100 years ago and continues to play a vital role in the education of children from five surrounding villages on the many islands of the Meung Khong district.

The school consisted of two buildings, one built 45 years ago and a second constructed with government support in 2003. The new building was not large enough to accommodate the student population resulting in classes being held in the older unsafe and poorly equipped building.