



## dāna asia

helping invest equitably in asia



dāna (Pali, Sanskrit dāna) is generosity or Giving. In other Asian cultures, it is also the practice of cultivating generosity

dāna asia is an organisation committed to helping current and aspiring philanthropists to give in a transparent and sustainable manner

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dāna asia's vision and mission is simple and strategic

## vision

Build an equitable Asia with significant philanthropic investment and commitment that enables scale and development

## mission

Together with our partners we aim to make a real, substantial and long-term difference to local communities in Asia

## our history

Our team has over two decades of experience in social change projects and programs focused on equity and justice in Asia

Our experience in advising and guiding Philanthropists in Japan, China, Singapore, India and Australia has led to fulfilment of their philanthropic and social investment aspirations

We advise and grant make with the highest levels of accountability and transparency to the Mekong regions of Thailand, Cambodia and Laos, China, Hong Kong, the Philippines, India and Bangladesh

Collaborating with Private Wealth advisors, Banks and other professional advisors, we have crafted philanthropic investment plans for Philanthropic clients and guided their strategy in the region

Using a range of financial instruments and vehicles, we have enabled investments in the philanthropic field through loans, micro credit and social venture funding to create sustainable means to alleviate poverty

Engaging with diverse diasporas, we have spearheaded and engaged in pioneering research and action oriented initiatives in the Asia Pacific region

Building awareness is part of the overall mandate and we provide training to individuals and families on all aspects of high impact grant making

## chair's message

### Welcome to this first annual review for dāna asia

dāna asia is a niche charitable and philanthropic intermediary with a strong core group of donors, rich range of quality community projects and a small, dedicated team.



We launched in July 2011 in Singapore with the purpose of facilitating donor funds to projects that make a real and lasting difference to communities in Asia.

dāna asia provides a transparent and personalised approach to donors who want to make a lasting social impact with their funds. Our staff are skilled in donor and project management and have strong local knowledge and expertise.

dāna asia would not exist but for the foresight and philanthropic generosity of our clients. Their desire to invest in improving the lives of impoverished and disadvantaged people living in communities throughout Asia is fundamental to our work.

Our client donor services are individually focused with:

- Project proposals are based on the requirements as defined by the donor
- Regular individually tailored reports provided to donors to keep them updated on project progress
- Personally managed visits to projects.

dāna asia projects are specifically chosen to ensure donor grants have the greatest impact on the local community:

- All projects are grass roots
- Our partner Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) are well known us and are local, on-the-ground groups with a strong history implementing effective projects and established local infrastructure
- Contractual arrangements are established with NGOs for each project
- dāna asia visits all projects annually for project assessment and due diligence

dāna asia's uniquely individual approach to grant making ensures a better result for both the donor and the recipient community. We are focused on a low overhead approach with 92.5% of funds reaching the local implementing organisations, with a social return on investment that far outstrips many other traditional philanthropic giving in the region.

dāna asia has a small team of dedicated staff based in both Australia and Asia. Their commitment to our clients and the communities that we work with is exemplary. I thank them all for their hard work over the past 12 months.

Julie White (Board Chair)

## executive director's message

**dāna asia's** first 9 months of operations has been a successful with philanthropic funds of over US\$600,000 granted to grass root community causes around South East Asia.



Of particular importance also was US\$20 million raised to start a new financial services organisation dedicated to lending to social enterprises.

### **Our Impact**

dāna asia has been made a significant impact by engaging the funds raised in effective projects aimed to making a “real” and lasting” difference.

- Education grants have provided more than 2,500 children with new, positive, well-equipped schools in Laos, Thailand, Myanmar and Cambodia
- 20 students successfully completed the University Scholarship Program for immigrant students in Thailand, with 15 passing the internationally recognised university entrance exams. 9 program alumni received university scholarships to continue their higher education.
- Vocational training programs in Thailand have enabled 278 Burmese migrant students to gain much needed skills to better prepare than for work in their new home, and 24 students have completed the apprenticeship courses and are successfully employed in their chosen fields.
- 340 members of the Maternal Care Program in Cambodia received medical and educational support to better prepare them for birth, resulting in ZERO morality rates for both mothers and babies. 100% of member babies were fully immunised.
- The Children's Health Care facility in Cambodia received funding for the equipping of a dedicated minor surgical clinic to improve outcomes for many of the 3,000 patients including 600 children attending the facility.
- 356 members to date have received financial and agricultural training through the Income Generation Program in Cambodia. Combined savings have reached US\$2,425 in the first 2½ of the 4 phase program, with 99 members using member savings loans and 197 using project loans to fund small businesses to better secure their incomes.

### **Site Visits**

dāna asia has organised six donor site visits into the Mekong region and Philippines during 2011/12.

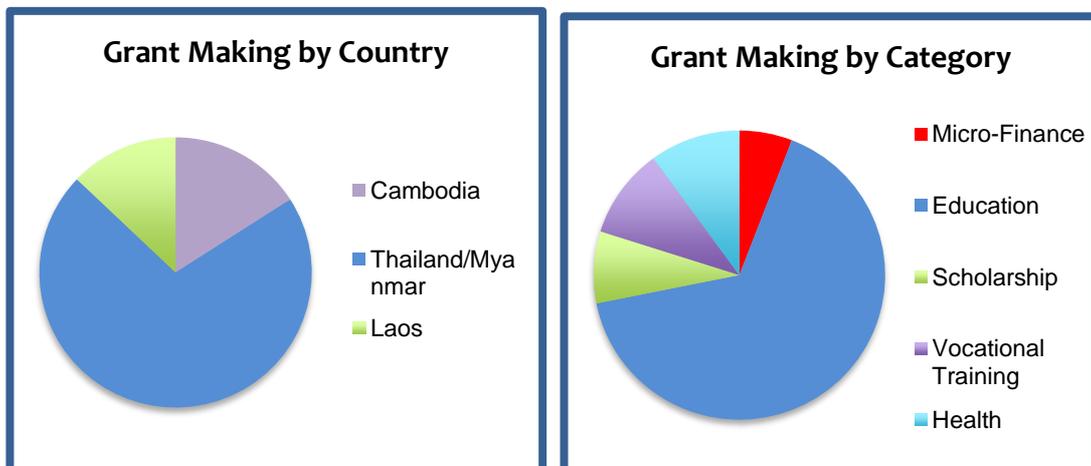
## Consultancy Services

dāna asia consultancy services have:

- Redeveloped the structural base for a significant Australian charity to move forward to its next developmental stage
- Assisted a Family Foundation to establish an international presence
- Completed a research paper for Triodos Bank
- Fund-raised for and helped established an AUD 20m loan fund for Social Enterprises Finance in Australia.

The coming year will be an exciting and important one for dāna asia. After going through the formative stages of the start-up phase, dāna asia now looks to consolidate and grow its grant making operations. This will enable the organisation to further expand its reach into the Asian region, thereby helping provide more poverty stricken and disadvantaged communities with the opportunity to secure a brighter future without poverty.

Duncan Power (Executive Director)



# our people

## the board

**Julie White**  
Chair, Sydney



**Chris Breach**  
Board Member, Sydney



**Peter Hunt AM**  
Board Member, Sydney



**Nasir Haji**  
Board Member, Singapore



## management team

**Duncan Power**  
Executive Director, Sydney



**UK Toptoseda**  
Projects Manager, Phnom Penh



**Michelle Sawyer**  
Director of Operations, Sydney



**Marlene MacFarlane**  
Consultant, Sydney



**Phillip Gardiner**  
Accountant, Sydney



# our focus

## Asia – the opportunity

Asia is home to the largest and fastest growing High Net Worth Individual (HNWI) population in the world.

Economic growth has produced families with significant wealth in countries such as Japan, China, India, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan and Thailand.

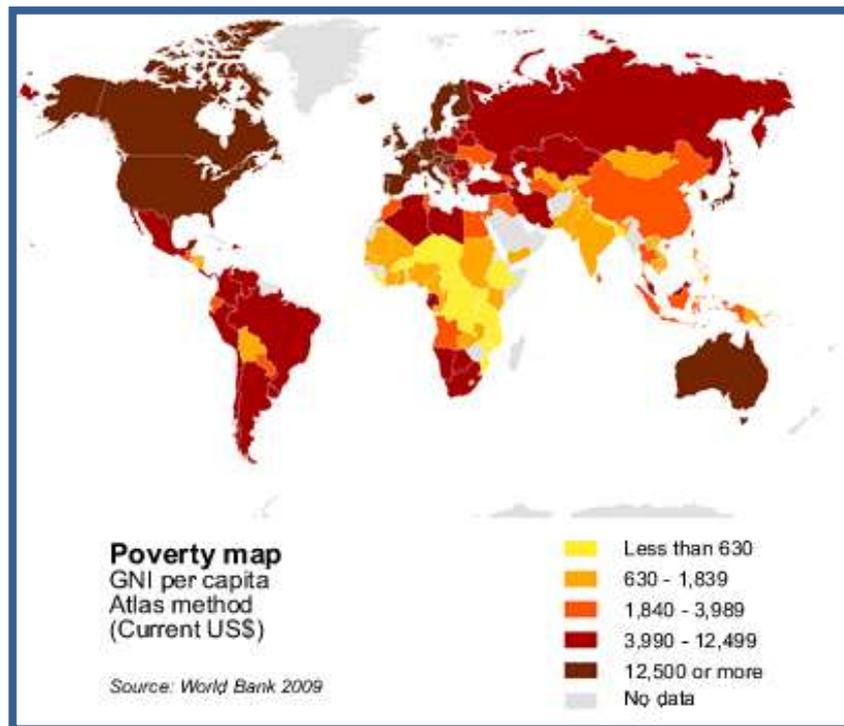
Asia-Pacific's HNWI population reached 3.3 million worth US\$10.8 trillion in 2010, overtaking previously second-placed Europe with 3.1 million HNWI worth US\$10.1t trillion and nearing North America's 3.4 million worth US\$11.6 trillion.

## Asia – the need

Asia is also home to devastating poverty and inequality.

Alongside the generation of wealth has been the growth of disparities in the region.

More than 600 million people in Asia continue to live in extreme poverty.



## our services

**dāna asia** helps donors with the capital and commitment to make a difference in Asia through the provision of key services:

### Advisory

Our advisory services are available to Philanthropic individuals, families and Private Wealth Advisors. Our expertise and experience in the Asian region enables us to identify projects where there will be visible and social impact and social return on investment.

Grant Making foundations and Advisors in Australia, Europe and the United States can also access our services.

We provide customised research, due diligence, monitoring and evaluation for grant makers interested in investing in Asia.

### Grant Making

We enable Philanthropic Individuals, families and institutions including social venture funds to grant make effectively and transparently in Asia.

With the help of trusted partners and networks who have been through our stringent due diligence, we have made grants successfully and impacted visible change in diverse parts of Asia.



# our geographic reach

**dāna asia** works with the most disadvantaged and marginalised communities in Asia to create long term and sustainable change



## Key

### Education

#### Laos

1. Don Pung Secondary School, Xiangnabouli
2. Long Kang Nursery and Primary School, Champasak

#### Myanmar/Thai Border

3. Loi Tai Laeng Primary School, Shan State

#### Thailand

4. Foundation for Education and Development, Khao Lak
5. Children's Development Centre, Mae Sot
6. Minmahaw Higher Education Program, Mae Sot

### Vocational Skills Training

#### Thailand

7. Youth Connect, Mae Sot

### Health

#### Cambodia

8. Children's Surgical/Health Care Facility, Phnom Penh
9. Maternal Care Program, Phnom Penh

### Micro-Finance

#### Cambodia

10. Income Generation Project, Siem Reap

# a sustainable future in Asia

## Social Business Creation = Sustainability

The development of Social Businesses through the provision of micro financial services (savings and borrowings) is a key tool to enable very poor people in Asia to secure their future sustainably. Members establish and manage their own finances to generate income to better secure their livelihoods.

The Seven Principles of Social Business according to Dr Muhammad Yunus (Noble Prize for Peace recipient in conjunction with Grameen)

1. Business objective will overcome poverty, or one or more problems (such as education, health, technology access, and environment) which threaten people and society; not profit maximisation
2. Financial and economic sustainability
3. Investors get back their investment amount only. No dividend is given beyond investment money
4. When investment amount is paid back, company profit stays with the company for expansion and improvement
5. Environmentally conscious
6. Workforce gets market wage with better working conditions
7. ...do it with joy

## Cooperative Chicken Farm = sustainable income generation

Dana Asia has completed a Feasibility Study that has confirmed that the establishment of a Social Business that will be a communal program to raise chickens at the Anlong Pi Dumpsite could significantly improve the livelihoods of the scavengers working there.



The scavengers currently feel “hopeless” and “helpless” for their future as they are from very poor families and have low education. As a result, they feel that they have no option but to work on the hazardous and dangerous mound of waste every day for long hours.

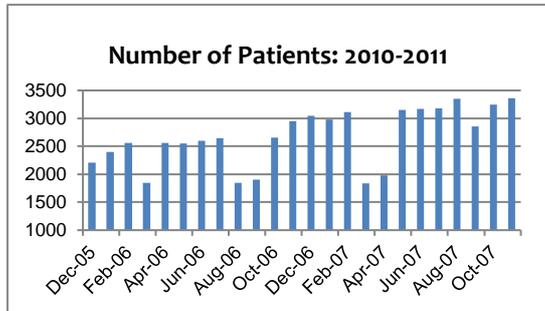


The study concludes that the raising of chickens at a medium or large scale is a viable option due to high demand for the product. The development of a Cooperative Chicken Farm (CCF) is likely to provide scavengers with a sustainable alternative livelihood option that will provide extra income generation for their families, thereby better securing their food and future. In addition, the project will become self-sustainable in 3 years.

# our projects

## Cambodia

### Children's Surgical/Health Care Facility Phnom Penh, Cambodia



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Health
<b>Project Partner:</b>	Cambodian Children's Fund
<b>Project Status:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Start Date:</b>	May 2012
<b>Completion Date:</b>	April 2013

#### Project Description

The Community Medical Centre was established in 2009 within the dump community centre compound and is staffed by a combination of local and international volunteer medical staff. Staff provide free consultations, medicines, immunisations and hospital referrals to poor local children and their families. The centre also runs a range of educational and support activities to assist the local community.

#### Objective

Children's Surgical/Health Care Facility aims to improve the health of vulnerable children and their families within the dump community through the provision of timely, efficient and effective medical services free-of-charge.

#### Impact

The equipping of a dedicated minor surgical clinic will improve outcomes for patients.

The clinic will also improve efficiency due to a reduction in referrals to local hospitals with the resultant loss of time and expenses incurred.

The centre was established in early 2009 and has experienced a steady increase in patient visits, up 20% from less than 2,500 to more than 3,000 including 600 children from 2010 to 2011.

#### Background

The Municipality Waste Dump in southern Phnom Penh is home to more than 2,000 people including 600 children, living in makeshift huts bordering the dump. Conditions in and around the dump are extremely poor due to the toxic fumes created by the dump as well as the presence of glass, needles and medical rubbish within the heap. Children work from a very young age to support their families with approximately 73% working more than seven hours a day for an average income of US\$0.75/day.

# Maternal Care Program

## Phnom Penh, Cambodia



**Grant Category:** Health  
**Project Partner:** Cambodian Children's Fund  
**Project Status:** Ongoing  
**Start Date:** May 2010  
**Completion Date:** April 2015

Reporting Period	Unit	Apr 11	Nov 11	Apr 12
<b>Child Mortality</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Mother Mortality</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Safe Deliveries	%	100	100	99
Babies Healthy at Delivery	%	98	95	98
Mothers Healthy at Delivery	%	99	98	98
Babies Immunised	%	100	100	100
Attendance at Health Checks	%	98	95	98
Attendance at Pre/Post-Natal Classes	%	95	95	99
<b>Total Members*</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>340</b>

\* Almost all members remain until expiry after birth; those who leave do so for new work opportunities elsewhere

### Project Description

The Maternal Care Program provides an innovative, integrated maternal care service supporting pregnant women with medical treatment, health support, education and community outreach.

### Objective

MCP set out to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates and improve the health and wellbeing of women at each step of motherhood along with their babies.

### Impact

The MCP Program has successfully reduced infant and mother mortality rates to ZERO. 98% of mothers and babies are healthy at delivery and 100% of babies are immunised.

High attendance rates at health checks and pre and post-natal education classes have improved ongoing health of both mother and baby.

### Background

The Municipality Waste Dump in southern Phnom Penh is home to more than 2,000 people including 600 children, living in makeshift huts bordering the dump. Conditions in and around the dump are extremely poor due to the toxic fumes created by the dump as well as the presence of glass, needles and medical rubbish within the heap. As a result, health and nutrition levels around the site are low with many people suffering from lung conditions and other serious health issues.

# Income Generation Project

## Siem Reap Province, Cambodia



**Grant Category:** Micro-Finance  
**Project Partner:** Farmer Livelihood Development  
**Project Status:** Ongoing  
**Start Date:** May 2011  
**Completion Date:** April 2015

	DA1	DA2*	DA3**
Total Savings (US\$)	603	717	0
Groups Formed	5	6	0
Number of Members	86	112	0
Members using Group Savings Loans	36	11	0
Members using Project Loans	121	27	0

\* Project is halfway through its 12-month cycle

\*\* Project has just commenced

### Project Description

The Income Generation Project aims to provide group members with convenient access to micro financial services (saving and borrowing) established and managed by themselves to promote income generating activities by members of the group to better secure their food and income.

### Objective

To improve food and income security of targeted households in Siem Reap Province. Membership is selected on the basis of “interest” and “poor” status in their community using the National ID Indicator Survey identifying poverty levels produced by the German Technical Co-Operation at the request of the Cambodian National Ministry of Planning.

### Impact

The project works with up to 8 groups totalling 120-240 members in five to eight new villages during a project cycle of 12 months. 600-1,200 family members are impacted indirectly per cycle, assuming approximately 5 people per member household.

### Background

Siem Reap province has experienced dramatic growth following the opening of the region to tourism in the 1990s however the benefits of the tourist influx have been predominantly limited to urban areas. More than 30% of the population continues to struggle to make a living, most of whom are rural farmers with limited skills and education, and a lack of access to agricultural land and financial services.

# Laos

## Don Pung Secondary School Xaignabouli Province, Laos



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Education
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Completed
<b>Start Date:</b>	Dec 2010
<b>Completion Date:</b>	May 2011

### Project Description

Construction of new fully equipped classrooms and sanitary facilities to accommodate 120 current students aged 13 to 18.

### Objective

Reconstruction of the school through a collaborative community led process to ensure the construction of a school that suits the needs of students and ensures a sense of community ownership.

### Impact

The safe, hygienic school has proven conducive to learning with attendance rates rising and the rate of students going on to high school increasing.

Due to the success of the new school, the Provincial Office for Education has agreed to an upgrade a seven level high school. The government will fund the construction of an additional building to house the 3 new levels, as student numbers are likely to rise to 200.

Governmental recognition is a significant achievement for the school and the local community and ensures students do not have to travel for two hours to attend high school.

### Background

Poor education remains one of the key constraints for the reduction of poverty in many parts of Laos. The 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.

Don Pung is a village in North East Laos, with a population of 455 predominantly minority "Khamu" people. The town has limited resources but built the original Secondary School in 1997 and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Asian Development Bank's Second Education Project a new boarding school was constructed in 2007.

However, in 2008 a severe storm destroyed the school forcing classes to be held in the boarding house with limited space and no desks or chairs.

The school is an important institution not only in the village but also in a much wider area, as it is the only secondary school in the valley, drawing both local students and children from an adjoining province across the Mekong.

# Long Kang Nursery and Primary School

## Champasak, Laos



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Education
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Completed
<b>Start Date:</b>	Mar 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	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 consists of two buildings, one built 45 years ago and a second constructed with government support in 2003. The new building is not large enough to accommodate the student population resulting in classes being held in the older unsafe and poorly equipped building.

## Myanmar/Thai Border

### Loi Tai Laeng Primary School Shan State, Myanmar/Thai Border



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Education
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Completed
<b>Start Date:</b>	Jan 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	Apr 2011

#### Project Description

Construction of new school building with twelve fully equipped classrooms, a canteen with equipped kitchen, teachers' office and 12 toilets. The community established its own small school in 2000 with 27 students and two teachers, but demand has increased exponentially with the school now providing education to nearly 800 children including 265 orphans.

#### Objective

Construction of a new school building for the internally displaced children of the Loi Tai Laeng community. The community is Stateless so has no access to government funds and as a result of the extreme tensions in the area it also has limited access to other forms of external assistance.

#### Impact

The improved learning environment of the new school has enabled the school to accommodate the continually increasing student population.

The new school has resulted in increased attendance rates leading to improved educational performance. It has also seen a reduction in dropout rates.

#### Background

In 1996 the Burmese military regime conducted a mass forced relocation campaign in the Shan State, during which more than 300,000 villagers were forced to evacuate their homes at gunpoint. Many fled to Thailand, however some remained in hiding in the jungle until they emerged in 1999 to establish the internally displaced people (IDPs) community of Loi Tai Laeng. Today more than 5,000 people from the Pa-Long, Pa-O and Shan ethnic groups live in the community.

The community has to deal with the dual challenges of the highly volatile political environment with only the Shan State Army for protection, and the harsh environment of mountains 1,400m above sea level. The community is largely dependent on farming and small shops for income.

# Thailand

## Foundation for Education and Development Khao Lak, Thailand



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Education
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Completed
<b>Start Date:</b>	Jul 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	Mar 2012

### Project Description

FED was formed in 2007 as the first foundation in Thailand managed by Burmese. FED plays a vital role in providing education and vocational training to children and youth from low-income Myanmar migrant families to enable them to secure their livelihoods.

### Objective

The project set out to centralise FED's activities through the construction of a new facility to improve the learning environment by providing:

- Education without interruption
- Higher standards of education
- Larger friendship base
- Extra-curricular activities
- Better classroom structure facilities to improve concentration
- Transport to boost attendance
- Safe environment away from parents' dangerous worksites
- Nutritious meals 5 days a week, health education and medical checkups
- Shared teaching experiences, ideas and resources in a common staff room
- Consolidation of logistical arrangements

### Impact

As a result of the new, expanded learning centre enrolments for the new school year starting in June 2012 are up 80% from 201 to more than 370 children.

It is anticipated that the new positive learning environment will lead to attendance and literacy rate rises thereby improving opportunities for Myanmar migrant children and youth to access further education enabling them to improve their future.

### Background

Thailand has become a key migration centre for Burmese due to continuing conflict and political instability. These people are illegal so are marginalised from society and infrastructure.

For most displaced children, schooling is not an option. Poverty, lack of Thai language skills, low education levels and fear of arrest force many Burmese migrant children into the workforce at a young age, with most working in dangerous environments such as construction sites, rubber plantations and fisheries.

## Children's Development Centre Mae Sot, Thailand



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Education
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Start Date:</b>	May 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	Jun 2013

### Project Description

Children's Development Centre was established in 1995 to educate and care for the pre-school and primary children of health care workers at the Mae Tao Clinic. The school was later extended to all Burmese migrant workers to help ease demand for migrant schools as the influx of Burmese migrant workers and their families continued unabated.

Strong demand for places at CDC resulted in the addition of a second storey in 2005 and the completion of an entirely new school in 2009.

Unanticipated signs of stress emerged requiring strengthening of the buildings. Funding enabled the completion of reinforcement work in 2011 and early 2012 to ensure the safety and longevity of the building. The building continues to be monitored to ensure no further issues arise.

### Objective

CDC set out to provide education and day care to children of migrant working parents. The program ensures parents can work whilst their children are receiving a good education in a safe and nurturing environment.

### Impact

As a result of the 2011 and 2012 reinforcement work to stabilise the school, CDC is now the largest migrant learning centre in Thailand, accommodating over 1,100 students in a safe, secure, positive learning environment. The Centre provides classes from kindergarten to grade 10 Level, and has extended its role to assist graduates with access to higher education and vocational training programs such as Youth Connect.

### Background

Mae Sot is situated in Western Thailand and is one of only two border crossings into Myanmar. It is estimated that up to half of the city's population is Burmese migrants, both legal and illegal, and the local economy is reliant on this steady flow of workers. Conditions are difficult for many who end up in working in poor conditions in factories and sweat shops for little pay and most have no way out with limited or no access to government education or health care.

# Youth Connect

## Mae Sot, Thailand



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Vocational Skills Training
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Start Date:</b>	May 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	Mar 2014

### Project Description

Youth Connect provides both school classes and Youth Courses for migrant students. Trainers conduct classes in classrooms in migrant schools each day. The classes are a requirement for all final year students and are integrated into the school schedule. Trainers teach the curriculum and manage the attitudes and attendance of students.

Students who complete the In-School Training are eligible to apply for the Intensive Training & Apprenticeship Course that provides intensive training and a 3-month paid apprenticeship. The YC Career Centre provides services to assist apprenticeship graduates to find suitable full-time work.

### Objective

YC set out to provide much needed training courses for migrant students to better prepare them for work. The courses aim to overcome the barriers to entry into the Thai workforce due to lack of work-related skills, documentation and unfamiliarity with Thai language and culture. The courses equip students with life skills and critical thinking for better decision-making and communication.

### Impact

In-School Training – 278 students from five schools completed the training in the 2011 academic year.

Intensive Training & Apprenticeship Course for Migrants - 22 apprentices completed the course in the first year and another 20 are currently completing the second course.

Intensive Training & Apprenticeship Course for Thais – 2 students completed the course in the first year and a further 5-8 will attend the second course.

YC's Career Centre has assisted 100% of graduates utilising their services to find employment.

### Background

Mae Sot is situated in Western Thailand and is one of only two border crossings into Myanmar. It is estimated that up to half of the city's population is Burmese migrants, both legal and illegal, and the local economy is reliant on this steady flow of workers. Conditions are difficult for many who end up in working in poor conditions in factories and sweat shops for little pay and most have no way out with limited or no access to government education or health care.

# Minmahaw Higher Education Program

## Mae Sot, Thailand



<b>Grant Category:</b>	Education
<b>Implementing Agency:</b>	Child's Dream Foundation
<b>Project Status:</b>	Ongoing
<b>Start Date:</b>	May 2011
<b>Completion Date:</b>	Mar 2014

### Project Description

Minmahaw Higher Education Program has two key elements:

1. A university preparation course that runs annually in line with the academic calendar. Potential students are assessed via a series of exams held in 12 regions. The program provides intensive tuition and essential techniques to improve students' time management and research skills. Teachers' work closely with students on an individual and class format basis to teach the curriculum and assess management of the tasks assigned.
2. University Scholarships are available to MHEP graduates and alumni with numbers varying from year to year.

### Objective

The program aims to overcome the barriers to entry into higher education experienced by migrant students due to lack of access to formal education and limited study and research skills.

MHEP provides preparation courses to enable students to sit internationally accredited high school exams (GED) to gain access to university, and full scholarships to leading students.

### Impact

In 2011-12 academic year, 20 of the 24 enrolled students were assessed as ready to sit the exams. 18 passed and the remaining 2 are awaiting their results. 6 of these students received University scholarships and 16 of the remainder are extending their skills via study and /or work. All have indicated they will apply for a scholarship in the next round. A further 6 MHEP alumni received scholarships, bringing the overall total to 12 scholarships.

SK Dream Foundation funds two university scholarships per annum, with 2 students commencing in 2010-11 and a further 2 in 2011-12. 2 new students commence their studies in July 2012.

### Background

Mae Sot is situated in Western Thailand and is one of only two border crossings into Myanmar. It is estimated that up to half of the city's population is Burmese migrants, both legal and illegal, and the local economy is reliant on this steady flow of workers. Conditions are difficult for many who end up working in poor conditions for little pay and most have no way out with limited or no access to government education or health care.

## case studies

### *Maternal Care Program Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

Mrs Dit Phy is 28 years old and struggling to earn a living selling food in front of a garment factory. Her husband left home upon hearing the news that she was pregnant, and Mrs Dit Phy's father has mental health issues resulting in violent acts towards her. As a result, she has moved to live with friends in Trea Village.



Mrs Dit Phy joined MCP in March 2012 as she demonstrated high-risk signs for delivery. She was provided with immediate assistance for her delivery in the Russian hospital due to the transverse position of her baby. The baby was delivered successfully and was healthy, however Mrs Dit Phy was very weak. The program provided her with food, vitamins and nutritional supplements to improve her health and support her efforts to breast-feed. Mrs Dit Phy received post-natal care follow-ups as well as health and nutrition education, and counselling.

Support for Mrs Dit Phy:

- 1 water bottle
- 180g capsules of multi-vitamins
- 36kg rice
- Transport fees to health check visit and emergency care facility.
- Operation fee
- Hospital fees
- 1 Baby Kit



## Income Generation Project Siem Reap Province, Cambodia

Kumrou village is located in Lvea commune Pouk district and has a population of 130 families or 630 people, of which at least 95% are farmers living on low incomes. These families face many challenges such as food insecurity, lack of business skills, no access to loan services for increased income generation and a lack of knowledge regarding saving. 32 community members are indebted to the IMF or other private institutions with high interest.

With support from FLD/IGP, the community registered as a Village Saving Loan Group (VSLG) in January 2012 with 23 members.

Mrs Som Leap is a member of one of the VSLG groups. She is 34 years old and is married with 2 children; a son aged 12 (Grade 5) and a 7-year-old daughter (Grade 2). Ms Leap finished grade 5 and she has basic reading and writing skills. Her husband, Mr Sith Saray finished grade 9 and is a farmer.



In early February 2012 Mrs Leap decided to set up her own small business. With support from her group and advice from the loan officer, she borrowed 120,000 riels (US\$30) with a monthly interest rate of 2.5% from the savings group to add to her own contribution of 50,000 riels (US\$12.50). Mrs Leap opened a small grocery shop in front of her house. She is proud of her new business, “I’m very glad to have my own business. The business is good. It’s a good start”.



The success of Mrs Leap’s business encouraged her to expand. In early March 2012 she borrowed 1,200,000 riels (US\$300) from the IGP project. The loan is for a 12-month period with a monthly interest rate of 2.5%. Mrs Leap will use the funds to expand her grocery business with the aim of earning 60,000-80,000 riels (US\$15-20) per month within the next few months.

Mrs Leap will also use the funds to open a hairdressing shop as she has expertise in this field. She plans to open the new business by late June as a means of expanding her potential income. Mrs Leap is excited about the opportunities provided by her new businesses, “I am hopeful for my business, my income will increase as a result of my expanded business”.

Mrs Leap hopes that the additional earnings from her two businesses will allow both of her children to continue their studies into higher education. She would also like to fund her daughter’s enrolment in a beauty course when she graduates from school so that her daughter will be able to take over the hairdressing business.

## Foundation for Education and Development Khao Lak, Thailand

Comments from FED staff member

*I very much appreciate and am proud to see this new school building happening in our community because from now on the parents of the children from all the Burmese communities living around this area will have no more worry on where they should send their children to study when their children reach school age. And, the students will study in this school without fear that someone could close down the school building, as they used to have such a feeling when they were studying in the renting house. They will have a bright future while they are able to continue their study as high as other Thai people.*

*Not only the students, but for us too as the FED's staff and teachers, we always worried about when the house owners will close the school buildings.*

*The other thing is the students can come to study in one place together and it is also easy for the school bus to just drop them once in one place....*



## our partners

### Child's Dream Foundation

Established in 2003, Child's Dream is a charitable organisation dedicated to provide unconditional help to underprivileged children and youth in the "Mekong Sub-Region" (Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia) with a specific focus on remote and neglected areas of the region.



The mission of the organisation is to *empower marginalised communities to shape their own future*. This is achieved by working with communities to improve healthcare and education for children and youth.

The organisation's activities range from health interventions for children to reduce child mortality, construction of education facilities to provide universal basic education, youth employment centres to high school and university scholarships.

### Cambodian Children's Fund

Founded in 2004, Cambodian Children's Fund provides life-changing education, nourishment and healing to vulnerable children from some of Cambodia's most destitute communities. Originally CCF focused on the health and well being of 45 children, however today the Fund cares for more than 1,400 children and has extended its services to provide for families and communities in crisis.



The Fund offers education, health care, nutrition and safe shelter to children and their families in need. Giving the parents the opportunity to lift themselves from poverty — while ensuring that their children have access to education — not only provides for the greater good but also relieves the children of their adult-like burdens. The majority of children in CCF's care were former garbage pickers and primary caretakers of their siblings, living and working on Phnom Penh's former municipal garbage dump.

## Farmer Livelihood Development

Farmer Livelihood Development (FLD) was created in August 2002 by localising SCALE, an international NGO, created by Southeast Asia Outreach (SAO), which began as a fish-focused food security project in 1991. FLD envisages communities where people interact with integrity and empathy to improve and sustain their livelihood activities, and where people can solve their own problems through justice and democracy. FLD's mission is to work with targeted communities to improve productivity, promote and create jobs and enhance micro and small enterprise (MSE) practices to better food security and living conditions.



During 2010, FLD established four complementary, stand-alone programs that will provide the necessary assistance to help communities emerge from the cycle of rural poverty they find difficult to break out of, without professional and compassionate assistance.

- Livelihood Development Program
- SKIL - Support, Knowledge and Inspiration for Life
- Farmer Fund – Micro Credit Operator
- Khmer Farmer Products (KFP)

## Friends-International

With headquarters based in Cambodia, Friends-International (FI) has been assisting marginalised children, youth and their families across the world since 1994. To date, the organisation has initiated and supported programs in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Indonesia, Honduras, Mexico, Myanmar and Egypt.



Each year, the FI programs provide direct support to 50,000 marginalised children and young people (particularly street children/youth), offering a range of comprehensive services as part of a holistic approach to assisting children (and their families) to improve their lives. Through listening to and learning from young people, the organisation designs progressive and strategic programs aimed at providing maximum assistance to them.

FI is built around four main programs:

- *Friends Social Businesses* (Peuan Mit, Kaliyan Mith, Teman Baik, Peuan Peuan, Mith Samlanh)
- *Friends Programs*
- *CYTI Alliance*
- *ChildSafe Network*

Friends-International and Dana Asia will initiate their partnership through the provision of a grant to fund a proportion of the Protection and Reintegration project on the Anglong Pi Dumpsite near Siem Reap town through the provision of outreach, education, vocational training and family support services.



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