



Laos School Construction Application Report

Prepared for: Cam-Mai Brasch

Thank you for helping us transform a school in Laos!

Project Location

Laonad Complete Primary School is located in the Savannakhet province in Laos, which is located in the southern part of the country. It is the largest province in the country geographically and has a total population of more than 825 thousand. The capital city, Savannakhet, is Laos' second largest city. The city forms an important trading post between Thailand and Vietnam and was bombed and then occupied by Thai armed forces during the French-Thai War. While the male literacy rate in Savannakhet is 79 percent, the female literacy rate lags far behind at 59 percent. With its low literacy rates and a clear disparity between male and female opportunities in education, Savannakhet stands to benefit significantly from Room to Read's programs.

The school is approximately 549 kilometers from Vientiane, the capital city of Laos.

Project ID: LA-SR-14-0012

Name: Laonad Complete Primary School

State/Province: Savannakhet

District/Zone: Champhone

City/Village: Laonad

Grades: 1 through 5

Number of Students

Female: 59

Male: 66

Total: 125

Number of Teachers

Female: 5

Male: 3

Total: 8



The interior of a classroom.



The proposed building site for the new classroom block.

Reason for Support

Some of the current classrooms are inadequate for learning. Poor construction has led to the severe deterioration of older buildings that now allow rain and wind into the classrooms. Unfortunately, many parents choose to keep their children at home when faced with sending them to an unsafe school. Constructing a new block of classrooms will provide students with bright, safe, child-friendly learning spaces where they can pursue a quality education and reach their full potential. A new building will also provide an incentive for parents to keep their children in school.



The exterior of the main school building.

Additional details about existing infrastructure and classroom conditions:

- Electricity; Fence; Play area; Water available
- Dirty; Poor Ventilation; Walls Cracked; Roof Leaks; Dirt Floor

Proposed Plan

In partnership with the local community, Room to Read plans to build a new four room classroom block at this school. Research shows that infrastructure elements that improve ventilation, lighting, and noise control, in particular, have a marked impact on student attendance, attainment (i.e., how long students stay in school), and achievement (i.e., how well students do in school). As such, we will design the classroom block with these elements in mind to provide students with a conducive learning environment.

The new building will be made of brick, cement, and reinforced concrete and will have a concrete slab floor, a green galvanized metal sheet roof, and a gypsum board ceiling in each room. Each of the four rooms will measure 6 x 7 meters in size. There will also be a corridor that will run the length of the building and will be 2 x 28 meters in size to provide easy access to the new classrooms.

Proposed Community/School Contribution to the Project:

- Volunteer labor for unskilled project work
- Wood for the roof structure and ceiling frame
- Security during the construction period
- Official certification of unexploded ordinance clearance (verifies area is cleared of land mines leftover from the war)
- Legal title for land belonging to the school
- Local project management and monitoring

Proposed Room to Read Contribution to the Project:

- Construction materials such as: cement, sand, sheet metal, steel, plywood, nails, paint, and hardware
- Construction tools
- Project monitoring and technical assistance