

1% FOR DEVELOPMENT FUND – PROJECT DESCRIPTION SHEET

Project:	THA/11/030
Country:	Thailand
Title:	Organic farming and school feeding in the Buddha Kasettra School
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improved organic rice cultivations to produce around 35-50 tons of rice for the children of the school.- Improved meals for the children of the School in the school.- Increase the knowledge and the adoption of organic farming and environmental knowledge of the children, teachers, and selected farmers through two days of “learning working lessons”.- Repair the rice storage room.
Project location	Khun Yoam District, Mae Hong Sorn 58140 – North West region of Thailand.
Total budget:	USD 10,018
Cost to 1% Fund:	USD 7,350. The 1% Fund is not the only source of funds for this project. Other sources of funds have been secured through the supporting groups, ChuayDek group of friends (providing 2,500 USD) and the Panyawitee institute collaborating with 168 USD and contribution during the implementation of the project . Beneficiaries’ contribution to this project will be: Land (70 rais = 11.2 hectares) to be cultivated; labour of the teachers and the farmers in implementing rice cultivation and cooking and the farming machines.
Use of funds:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Support to secure rice for the school year: 2,500 USD, which together with the other 2,500 USD from ChuayDek, are needed to farm 35-50 tons of organic rice. The teachers and the children work together following organic principles in rice farming.2) Procurement of additional food: 3,000 USD (approximately 4.5 USD per child per month) will be used for acquisition of food (meat, fruit, oil, fish, noodles, vegetables, etc) to provide the children with a more balanced diet for breakfast, lunch and dinner for the months May-October 2011, corresponding to 184 school days.3) Fix the roof of the rice storage room: the cost would be approximately 350 USD.4) Increase the knowledge on organic farming: 1,500USD will be used to organize a “Learning working lessons” on organic farming and sustainable agriculture and enable selected farmers to test and apply the new knowledge learnt (e.g. buy organic fertilizer and/or renovate water irrigation system for an improved use of the water). The session will target 10 School teachers, 20 children (from the Matthayom 1-3), 8-10 farmers selected among the parents of the children and those

working in the fields surrounding the field of the School, and 1-2 representatives from the Khun Yoam district school; total expected participants are 40.

Two experts from the Panyawitee institute and/or ChuayDek Group will deliver the session. Other participants (e.g. representatives of other schools, farmers of Khun Yoam and/or relatives of the children) will be able to learn from the experience of the School.

Beneficiaries:

The main beneficiaries of the project will be the children of the Buddha Kasettra School, Khun Yoam. Depending on the years, the School hosts between 100 and 300 children. The ten teachers of the School, 10 farmers and the government school in Khun Yoam will be additional direct beneficiaries of the project. The population of Khun Yoam will be indirect beneficiary.

Background:

The Buddha Kasettra School was founded in the 1980s by a private Foundation, which however stopped providing financial support around six-seven years ago. The support received by the government is minimal and not enough to carry on delivering the vital service to the children its hosting. The children living in the Buddha Kasettra School belong to hill tribes of the North West region of Thailand and are all coming from a very poor background with additional problems, such as loss of parents, drug use, human trafficking, lack of documents (no birth certificate nor registration in the country). By receiving free shelter and meals, free education and support in learning extra curricula subjects, these kids receive a vital service from the school, which helps them not falling into potentially dangerous situations and gives them an additional chance in life.

The ten teachers working in the School will also benefit from the project in terms of new knowledge and easier implementation of their duties. All of them often donate part of their salaries or savings to ensure food, medicines, extra curricula activities to the children. They dedicate all their life to the school and besides teaching, they also cook, cultivate rice and vegetables, and take care of the animals. Agriculture is the main form of subsistence in Khun Yoam and surrounding areas.

Date:

March 2011