



TITLE:

New Tomorrow Project - Green School

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Generally, Laos is a rich country in term of numerous mineral and water resources, the plentiful forest resources and mountainous terrains. However, as Laos Economy is depended hugely on trade and investment with our neighbors such as Vietnam, Thailand, China and other countries especially in natural resources. Today, it's clearly shown that Laos is increasingly suffered from environmental problems with deforestation (approximately from 4/5 of the total land in Laos, at the moment the number of tree and forest decreased to 2/3 of the total land in Laos), the expanding commercial exploitation of forests, an additional hydroelectric facilities, the demand for wild animals, production for food and traditional medicines and the population growth also increasing the pressure on Laos Environmental Problems.

Moreover, in the previous years, we notice there is not much projects focus on the area of environmental issues in Laos particularly in educating students along with providing an opportunity to involve themselves in a real practices and the opportunity for their own sustainable development and improvement.

From matters above, this project is all about the ideas to educate new generation to understand deeply about the environmental problem and to prevent the action that will harm to the environment at the first hand particularly in order to have a **"Green School"**. This project will also illustrate the worst and opposite scenarios of Laos Environmental in the future with how we could avoid those scenarios. Simultaneously we also aim to educate and encourage them to love the environment they are living with.

Team Members:	Role
1. Ketsada SOYSOUVANH (SUSI 2012)	Coordinator
2. Viladeth SOUKSAVATD (SUSI 2012)	Coordinator

Other Volunteers (<i>non alumni</i>):	Role
1. National University of Laos students (only those who has been selected)	Team Members
2. Volunteers from Lao Helping Heart	Team Members

Partner Organizations:	Description & Role
1. Ministry of education and sports	Authority on giving permission to run this workshop program
2. National University of Laos - Faculty of Environment	Authority on approving this program
3. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Partnership on providing detail and information regarding to the forestry
4. Save the Children Organization	Partnership on providing Children Detail regarding to each province circumstances

AUDIENCE/Those who benefit:

1. More than 500 students from grade 4 -5 on 4 difference schools at 4 difference provinces
2. More than 20 teachers on 4 difference schools at 4 difference provinces
3. Students excluding 4 schools also benefit through our Environmental Cartoon Book

LOCATION:

Due to this is a preliminary project, the limitation in budget and experiences. We will focus on 4 difference provinces where we found out that there are a lot of activities harming the environment notably related to tree and forest. The 4 provinces included Vienchan Province, Savannakhet Province, Khammouan Province and Champasak Province.

INNOVATION:

(Why is this unique and worth funding)

In fact, This project is quite unique to the others as shown below:

1/ We noticed that most of the projects are only focused on theory more than real practices. In this project we combine between theory (included the important of the tree, how to protect the tree and long term environmental by reducing the use of the plastic) and real practices. By doing this we believe that students will understand more deeply about the theory that we taught them and ensure that they know how to do it in their real life.

2/ Additionally, we also noticed that most of the lecturing theories are very academic and too broad for the students in each province to understand. This has caused a lot of misunderstanding and unable to implement. In this project, before our field work, we will study clearly about the specific matters of each province and school to make our presentation, theory and practicing more realistic.

3/ Regarding to some implemented projects in Laos, we noticed that they focused more on improving and constructing the school. As This project focus on the Environmental Issues, we aim to improving the human resources standard by providing knowledge to students in the province to understand about the important of the tree and the theme of our Green School Project. We also aims to construct the school library where they can learn further more about the Environmental Issues (However due to the limitation in our budget we will only provide bookshelf and environmental books).

4/ Moreover, we will invite professor, technician or government officer from local or international who has a knowledge and experiences about environment issues in the specific province to give a brief presentation for the students .

There are still many more issues that we believe that this project is difference from the others project that already implemented. And frankly speaking, we believe that this project is worth funding because as we know about the circumstance in Laos at the moment, this project will help to educate students on the environmental issues and broaden their point of view. Then these future generations will have a right knowledge and education to deal with the environment in the future.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

1/ Providing an accurate theory and practicing specifically in each province for students and teacher to understand clearly about the important of the Environmental Issues

2/ Providing material such as bookshelf and environmental books for the student to further their study on the Environmental Issues.

3/ Invite at least one professor, technician or government officer from local or international to participate in each school's field work.

TIMELINE & ACTIVITY LIST:	
DATE	What You Will Accomplish
March 11, 2013	Final Proposal Submitted to East-West Center staff for review
May 1, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey and obtain information regarding to the Environmental Issues in 4 provinces. - Planning and drafting the content of the program for each province. - Volunteer Recruitment. - Assigned work to each Volunteers to complete the legal procedures and documents, material purchase, environmental cartoon books, transportation arrangement, coordinate with third party such as school, government officer, technician or professor for information and collaboration
June 1, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receiving reply from third party organization - Volunteer training

	- Finalize the Project Plan
Field work	
July 1, 2013	- Depart to Vienchan province
July 2, 2013	- Preparation
July 3, 2013	- Run the project (Please refer to Schedule for Project Implementation) and Return to Vientiane Capital
July 4 -7, 2013	- Summary the activities - Preparing equipment for project in Khammoun Province
July 8, 2013	- Depart to Khammoun province
July 9, 2013	- Preparation
July 10, 2013	- Run the project (Please refer to Schedule for Project Implementation) and Return to Vientiane Capital
July 11 -4, 2013	- Summary the activities - Preparing equipment for project in Savannakhet Province
July 15, 2013	- Depart to Savannakhet province
July 16, 2013	- Preparation
July 17, 2013	- Run the project (Please refer to Schedule for Project Implementation) and Return to Vientiane Capital
July 18 -21, 2013	- Summary the activities - Preparing equipment for project in Champasak Province
July 22, 2013	- Depart to Champasak province
July 23, 2013	- Preparation
July 24, 2013	- Run the project (Please refer to Schedule for Project Implementation) and Return to Vientiane Capital
July 25, 2013	- Draft the Field Work Report for the Project
Follow Up	
August 1, 2013	- Depart to Vienchan Province for collecting drawing, follow up with the progress of students after benefited from the project
August 2, 2013	- Award prize for the drawing Contest and return to Vientiane Capital
August 5, 2013	- Depart to Khammoun Province for collecting drawing, follow up with the progress of students after benefited from the project
August 6, 2013	- Award prize for the drawing Contest and return to Vientiane Capital
August 9, 2013	- Depart to Savannakhet Province for collecting drawing, follow up with the progress of students after benefited from the project
August 10, 2013	- Award prize for the drawing Contest and return to Vientiane Capital
August 13, 2013	- Depart to Champasak Province for collecting drawing, follow up with the progress of students after benefited from the project
August 14, 2013	- Award prize for the drawing Contest and return to Vientiane Capital
August 14, 2013	- Finalize the Field Work Report for the Project

Schedule and Content for New Tomorrow Project - Green School:

Time	Details
8:00am – 8:30am	Preparation for the Activities
8:30am – 9:00am	Implementing: Brief introduction of team member and student and the purpose of our activities.
9:00am – 9:15am	Ice breaking activity
Educate session	
9:15am – 9:45 am	Dos and Don'ts... What children can help for protecting our earth?
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Group activity : Dos and Don'ts
10:00 am – 10:45 am	Tree? & Activities
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Speech from Invited Guest
Activities session	
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Planting trees
11:30 am – 11:45 am	Drawing activity
11:45 am – 12:00 am	Gift-giving to school

➤ The process of our “New Tomorrow Project - Green School” is divided into 2 sessions:

After arriving to the school at 8 am, we will spend 30 minutes on preparation. Then at 8:30 am, our MCs (Member of the Team) will start leading the program by introducing ourselves, our purpose here and the goal of this program.

As the students in rural area are very shy, we will start with Ice - Breaking exercise game before education session.

- **Ice-Breaking Exercise: “Earthquake and Fire”** (9:00 am - 9:15 am)

Students will be formed in at least 2 teams. One team should have 3 people including 2 people for **making a house** and 1 person for the **House Owner**. Moreover we need to have 1 **Outsider** to play this game because this person is the main character of this game which usually stays out of the house. When the outsider says “**Earthquake**”, everyone has to find new partners to make a house and find a new **House Owner**. However, when the outsider says “**Fire**”, only the **House Owner** needs to find a new house. For person who can't find a partner will become an **Outsider**. Then they have to give a brief presentation at the first time and for the second time they have to dance or sing a song.

- **Education session**

- Separate students in to difference groups. One group should have students at

- least 10 people and one volunteer to assist. (Depend on the numbers of students)
- Every group will come up with their group name; this will be more easily run the activities and easy to give a score.
 - Explain to student about the rule on how they can gain the score.

Remark:

- Depend on the situation, sometime we will use the board if they already have to record the score. If they don't we will record in the paper.
- As we have to base on their curriculum, the education session will generally on these 2 main topics:

1/ Dos and Don'ts: What student/children can help to protect our Environment? (9:15 am - 9:45 am)

Objective: This presentation will widen students thought that they can help to stop the Environmental Problems. By introducing the idea of one small thing done from million people are better than one big thing done by only one person.

Material: Big Posters, Picture cards and boxes for group activities

Mission: To introduce the benefit of Green School, the speaker will introduce and explain many topics about what we should and shouldn't do to have a Green Environment and a Green School including:

- Rubbish and Waste: such as put rubbish in the right place, consume enough to less produce the waste and reduce usage of plastic.
- Water and Energy: as they play a very important role in our daily life and it hardly produce again by the environment even though it still hard to recycle by the human. Thus to become water wise will help to keep clean water for a long term. For example, turn the water off while brushing teeth and avoid unnecessary water usage. Beside water, energy is also important in our every life. Thus by turning off lights, Television, Radio, Computer etc.... when aren't using it will help us to save fossil fuels or natural resources and less produce carbon dioxide into the air.
- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle: For some material such as plastic bag or plastic bottle for example. If we can't avoid using them at the first hand, we should reuse or recycle them so that we will be able to reduce the usage of it and this action will help us to have a Green School.
- Tree: They are the most important part in Environmental Circle. Tree receive carbon produce oxygen for us to breath, they keep water, prevent us from a big wind or a big rain and they are also be used as a shade for us.
- Leadership: Empower students to share their ideas and knowledge with other about the actions that can reduce the effect to the environment.

Group Activities: "Dos and Don'ts" (9:45 am - 10:00 am)

- Q & A: Ask student 2 examples of what they should and shouldn't do to protect the Environment.
- "This or That" activity: Student will come up with their group and they will be

formed their own group in a line. Each line group will have two boxes (has word Dos and Don'ts in front of the boxes). Then we will give each line group with 23 picture cards. Every member of each group will have an opportunity to choose the right picture in the right box. Students need to rotate after they finish the selection and the game will go on until they run out of the cards. The most correct team will be scored depend on how many they did right.

After that, we will show them the scenarios of the earth that we give destroying our earth and what if we start act now?

The picture is expected to change as we want to have a cartoon version when we present to the student.



Result: Students will understand the important of the environment, why they need to protect and why they need to make an action.

2/ **Trees?** (10:00 am - 10:45 am)

Objective: Here we want to give students the overall ideas on why the tree is important and why we need to plant and value them.

Material: Cartoon picture draw by our team member and environmental cartoon.

Mission: Our speaker will use the following information as a foundation and preliminary information when they giving speech to students.

The Importance of Trees

Trees, trees, everywhere...

Trees are great! Not only they are beautiful, some of them provide food for humans and wild animals. Some trees are harvested for lumber to build homes and furniture and make all kinds of paper products. Some trees are just fun to climb!

Did you know that trees play a very important role in the natural *environment*? Without them, the Earth would be in big trouble!

Trees clean the air we breathe and create *oxygen* - which we need to live. Oxygen makes up 21% of the air in our *atmosphere*. Plants and trees help keep the oxygen cycle going.

As animals and humans exhale (breathe out), *carbon dioxide* is released into the air. During photosynthesis, plants combine carbon dioxide from the air and hydrogen from water (that they get from the soil) to make simple sugars (carbohydrates). As a result of the *photosynthesis* process, the trees release oxygen into the atmosphere. The carbohydrates are either stored in the tissues of the plant or used by the plant for energy. This is known as *respiration*.

Trees are an important part of the water cycle. Trees help cause rain because they return *moisture* to the atmosphere. Their roots extract moisture from the soil while their leaves return moisture to the air as water vapor. This is called *transpiration*. The water vapor in the air becomes clouds filled with rain or snow.

Trees prevent *erosion*. When it rains, soil can be washed into lakes, streams and rivers. Tree roots keep soil from washing away. Water is also much cleaner when there are a lot of trees around. Their leaves, trunk, and roots are natural pollution filters.

Trees can help humans conserve energy. Trees that are planted around your home provide shade in the summer - making your home cooler and reducing air conditioning needs.

During the winter trees can block cold winds and reduce heating needs. Trees provide shelter for animals. Many different types of birds make nests on or inside trees. Mammals, such as monkeys or squirrels, make nests in trees too! Fish even use trees limbs that fall into the water to make their homes.

You can help trees!

We know trees are important. But the trees need our help! In urban areas, it's difficult for trees to grow, because of the '*heat islands*' that are created in the summer with all of the concrete and asphalt surrounding them. But, the more trees, the better the temperature is *moderated* (reducing the impact of heat islands.) Trees also can be harmed from diseases and infestations, just like humans.

Tips for kids and adults: Plant trees (be sure to research the right tree for the planting area), provide the new tree with nutrients and water, properly care for trees in your yard to prevent disease and infestations, and learn more about trees to help you protect them!

(Information on trees from www.arborday.org, www.sccd.org, www.treesforyou.org and www.inhs.uiuc.edu.)

After that MC will explain the Possibility of the Impact from deforestation such as flood, temperature increase, climate change and air pollution for example.

Group Activity: "Trees???"

- Q & A: MC will review what student have learned by asking question about 2 importance things of the trees, why the tree important to our environment? And what is the impact of deforestation?

Result: Students will clearly understand about the important of the tree and the advantage of having trees.

3/ Speech from our guest (10:45 am -11:00am)

As we want student to get familiar with communication with government officer and to be a foundation for their improvement. We will ask a government officer, technician or professor from school or other that had an experience in Environmental issues and giving a speech that encourage students to love and want to protect the environment by themselves.

● **Activities Session** (11:00 am - 12:00 am)

In this session, we will guide student to practice planting a tree. We will first explain how to do it, demonstrate and then assist them on planting a tree. Student will be separate in groups. (Depend on the number of students)

Tree can be varies from Long term trees, medium term tree and short term tree (However, this depend on the discussion with the school. If they need the big tree

to provide a shade for student, we will provide them with Long Term Trees. However if they require the Short Term Trees for their small garden at school, we will provide them with some seed that they want)

Material: Long term trees, Medium term trees, Short term trees, shovel and recycle watering cans (bottles)

As we want students to share their ideas and imagination after hearing about the environmental issues. Thus, we want them to express their perception and their understanding by participating in a drawing and essay contest under theme “What should we do to make our School Go Green?”

➤ **Follow up week**

After the field work, we will give students about 2 or 3 weeks to prepare their drawing picture and we will come back to them again. This time we will collect their drawing picture and their essay. Then after the selection, we will give prize for those who have the most beautiful picture and creative essay.

Also this time, we will evaluate whether they improved after the field work or not?

OUTCOMES:

- 1/ Benefited students are understand about the environmental issue and able to practice in their daily life
- 2/ Students have new and up to date resources where they can get information regarding to the environmental issues and to be a base for their education.
- 3/ This project will automatically help students and teachers on improving their communication to be more wider