www.childsdream.org

64CHILD'S DREAM FOUNDATION

Area of focus
Education

Established in 2003

Partnership is active in Laos

Partnership with Credit Suisse Since 2005

Child's Dream has been incorporated as a charitable association in Switzerland since 2003 and in Thailand since 2005. It empowers marginalized communities in the Mekong Subregion to shape their own futures by working with them to improve health and education for children and socioeconomic opportunities for families.

Partnership Details With significant financial support from Credit Suisse in 2009, Child's Dream worked with local communities to build schools and dormitories that bring sustainable education to remote areas in Laos. By broadening access to basic education, Child's Dream offers vastly improved prospects to thousands of children. To date, Credit Suisse's funding has helped Child's Dream provide 33 classrooms and 20 toilets, clean water, and writing materials for 1,390 students in Laos. In previous years, Credit Suisse contributed to a migrant learning center in Thailand and also provided financial assistance to four academically strong students from Burma to study at accredited Thai universities.

Success Story In the village of Kuang Kham in the Xaignabouli province in northern Laos, Child's Dream built two secondary school buildings with a total of eight classrooms that support eight teachers and over 140 students. In the village of Na La, where Credit Suisse previously supported the construction of a secondary school, Child's Dream built two boarding houses which are currently home to 40 students. It is essential to provide lodging since most of the students from distant villages would otherwise drop out of school. In both constructions the villagers contributed by leveling the building sites and providing wood, sand, stones, and water for construction. A professional construction team managed the projects. The construction of permanent education facilities has had a profound impact on keeping children in school, thereby allowing them to complete a basic education.