

SODSAI PROJECT REPORT

Sustainable Water Supply in Thien Khien Village, Laos

100%

WATER SUPPLY
COVERAGE

748

BENEFICIARIES

87

PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHILDREN

€ 5,950

TOTAL FUNDING

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW & KEY DETAILS

Project Title:	Sodsai Project (Water Supply Project)
Project Partner / Organization:	Baraka Community Partnerships (UK Registered Charity No. 1130756)
Project Location:	Thien Khien Village, Ngoi District, Luang Prabang Province, Laos
Construction Lead & Local Management:	Somlath Vongsipheuth (Over 20 years of experience in rural water engineering)
Target Group:	148 families / 748 residents (334 female, 414 male) and 87 primary school children
Project Duration:	6 to 8 weeks
Total Funding / Budget:	EUR 5,950.00

2. BACKGROUND & MOTIVATION

“Sodsai” means “**radiant**” or “**clear**” in Lao, symbolically representing spring water and a healthier future for the people of Thien Khien.

The Situation Before Project Start:

- Out of the 148 families in the village, **79 households lacked access to running, clean water** prior to the measure. These families had to manually fetch water daily from the Nam Ou River and boil it.
- **Special Challenge During the Rainy Season (June to November):** The river water carries heavy amounts of mud and retains a yellow-brown discoloration even after boiling.
- **Impact on Children & School:** The lack of clean drinking water and basic hygiene regularly led to gastrointestinal illnesses among students, severely affecting school attendance for the 87 children. Furthermore, basic bamboo classroom structures exacerbated learning conditions.

Building Sustainably on Past Successes:

- The Sodsai project builds upon successful collaboration in 2025 (the “*Playfully Strong in Laos*” initiative, which upgraded the primary school playground).

- During a follow-up visit in September 2025, the project team verified the local needs: Access to clean drinking water forms the fundamental cornerstone for health and education.

3. IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES & PROGRESS

Under the experienced leadership of Somlath Vongsipheuth (14 successfully implemented village water systems), the following steps were carried out as planned:

1. **Procurement & Logistics (Week 1):** Purchase and transportation of pumps, piping, connectors, and water tanks to the project site.
2. **Construction & Network Expansion (Weeks 2 to 8):**
 - Laying of main and distribution pipelines.
 - Connecting all 79 previously unsupplied households to the new pipe network.
 - Establishing direct water access for the primary school and community facilities.
 - Community involvement through unskilled labor contributions (trench digging and excavation).
3. **Quality Assurance & Installation:** Execution by an experienced specialist team to guarantee a system lifespan of at least 15 years.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACT

- **Comprehensive Water Supply:** 100% of the village community (all 148 households / 748 residents) now have direct access to clean, running spring water.
- **Improved School Hygiene & Health:** The 87 school children benefit from clean drinking water and improved sanitation. The risk of waterborne diseases is drastically reduced, lowering school absenteeism.
- **Quality of Life:** The daily, physically demanding task of fetching river water has been completely eliminated for affected families.

5. SUSTAINABILITY & RISK ANALYSIS

- **Usage & Maintenance Contract:** A formal agreement was established with village leadership. The community is independently responsible for ongoing operation, maintenance, and repairs.
- **Financial Security:** The village allocates approximately 1,000,000 LAK (approx. USD 50) monthly for electricity and upkeep costs.
- **Local Training:** Local personnel received comprehensive training on operating and maintaining the pump and filtration systems.
- **Resource Reliability:** The spring source is projected to provide sufficient yield for at least 15 years.

Long-term Educational Commitment: As part of our long-standing partnership with Baraka Community Partnerships, we have additionally committed to covering the annual salary of a teacher at the Tien Kien Learning Centre (USD 2,000/year) to sustainably secure local education.

6. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW & ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

The budget of **EUR 5,950.00** provided by contribYOUte was used in full and strictly for its designated purpose:

COST ITEM	APPROVED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE
Material Costs (Pipes, Pump, Tanks, Construction Supplies)	€ 4,850.00	€ 4,850.00
Local Labor Costs (Skilled Craftsmen, Site Management)	€ 1,100.00	€ 1,100.00
Administration / Overhead	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
Total Sum	€ 5,950.00	€ 5,950.00

7. CONCLUSION & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The success of the Sodsai Project clearly demonstrates how targeted micro-funding and trust-based partnership can create lasting change. By securing this vital basic need, a strong foundation has been laid for a healthier and brighter future for all children and residents of Thien Khien.

On behalf of the Thien Khien village community, local construction manager Somlath Vongsipheuth, and the entire team at Baraka Community Partnerships, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to **contribYOUte gGmbH** for their valuable support!

Location, Date: Laos / Berlin, 2026

Project Partner: Andy Mckee
(Baraka Community Partnerships)