

Gemeinnützige Stiftung für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit





The project "Improving the Viengkham Learning Center 2025" is being realized with the kind support of the Georg Kraus Foundation. contribYOUte is responsible for the execution and legal responsibility for the overall project. The project aims to sustainably improve the learning conditions and educational opportunities for children in the remote community of Viengkham in Laos.

# 2. Project Background

# 2.1. Location and Significance

The Viengkham Learning Center is located in the town of the same name, about 60 km east of Nong Khiaw. It serves as a central educational resource for the local community and is located next to an elementary and preschool with over 200 students who regularly use the center. As the only learning center in the entire region, it plays a crucial role in the education of children and adolescents in the area.

## 2.2. Socioeconomic Context

Laos is one of the poorest countries in Southeast Asia. The rural regions are particularly affected by poverty, which has a negative impact on access to basic resources such as clean water, healthy food, and medical care. Many children in Viengkham come from low-income families and live in precarious conditions. In this context, the learning center is often the only place where they find hope and support.

# 2.3. Current Situation of the Learning Center

Despite its importance, the Viengkham Learning Center has been neglected since its construction in 2010 and is in poor condition. The sanitary facilities are inadequate, the electricity is outdated, the floor is damaged, and the learning materials are outdated or in poor condition. These circumstances significantly hinder the learning conditions and impair the motivation and learning success of the children.

### 3. Project Goals and Measures

### 3.1. Overall Goals

The main goal of the project is the sustainable improvement of the learning conditions in the Viengkham Learning Center. This is to be achieved through the renovation of the building, the procurement of new learning materials, and the improvement of the sanitary facilities to create a safe and conducive learning environment. Furthermore, the project aims to increase the quality of education, improve the future prospects of children and adolescents, and strengthen the local community.

#### 3.2. Specific Measures

The planned measures include:

Renovation of the existing infrastructure: This includes the installation of a new storage room, the laying of floor tiles, the installation of a water connection for the toilets, the renewal of the shelves in the library, electrical repairs, and the installation of new fans, as well as a new interior and exterior paint job. Provision of a new teacher: contribYOUte will cover the costs for the employment of a new, urgently needed teacher for one year to sustainably improve the quality of education and care for the children.

## 4. Target Group

The primary target group of the project is the children in the Viengkham Learning Center, especially elementary school and kindergarten children. However, the center also serves a smaller number of secondary school children. In total, over 200 children benefit from the services of the learning center. The learning center follows an open and inclusive approach that enables all children in the community to have low-threshold access to education.

# 5. Implementation and Partners

contribYOUte works closely with Baraka Community Partnerships, a local organization with experience in development cooperation in Laos. Baraka Community Partnerships is commissioned with the implementation of the project on site. The long-standing and successful cooperation between contribYOUte and Baraka Community Partnerships ensures a deep understanding of the local conditions and needs and forms the basis for effective and sustainable cooperation.

# 6. Sustainability and Prospects of Success

contribYOUte is firmly convinced that the project will have a significant and sustainable impact on the living conditions of the children and adolescents in the Viengkham Learning Center. The prospects of success for achieving the goals are rated very highly. This is based on the applicant's many years of experience in development cooperation, the close partnership with the local implementing organization, and the careful planning of the project. To ensure the sustainability of the project, regular monitoring, the strengthening of local capacities, and the active involvement of the community are planned.

### 7. Conclusion

The project "Improving the Viengkham Learning Center 2025" represents an important initiative to improve the educational opportunities of children in one of the poorest regions of Laos. Through the combination of structural measures and the provision of a teacher, a holistic approach is pursued that takes into account both the physical infrastructure and the quality of education and care. The successful implementation of the project will not only enhance the learning center but also make a positive contribution to the development of the entire community.

Project costs renovation: approx. €9,000.00 / Period: May/June 2025 - August/September 2025