



A FUTURE FOR EVERY CHILD
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FUND ISAAN ANNUAL REPORT 2021

February 2022

“A Future for Every Child”

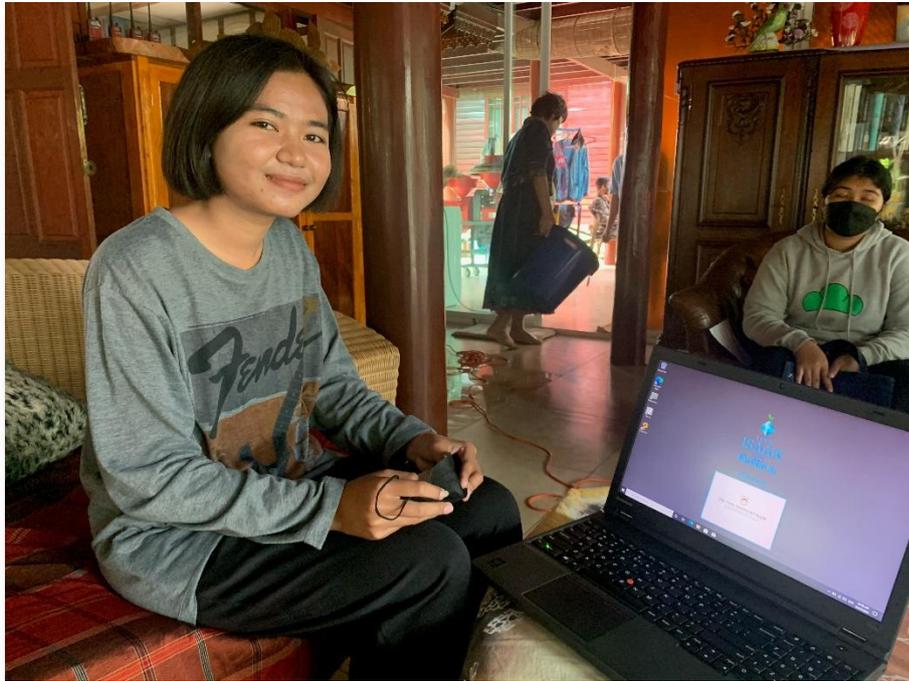


Figure 1: October 2021: Scholarship student Tanin gets a portable computer for online studying during the pandemic



Figure 2: December 2021: New scholarship student Ploy filing in application form

Fund Isaan Annual Report 2021

1. Introduction:

Fund Isaan is a non-profit organization officially established in 2008, but active since 2007. From the day of our establishment until today our objective has always been to support and improve the level of education for children in the Isaan region of Thailand.

To achieve our objective we:

- (i) provide non-refundable scholarships to children with high intellectual potential but limited financial means,
- (ii) provide IT solutions to rural schools and students,
- (iii) send carefully selected and well prepared foreign volunteers to the region to help language teachers raising the level of their English language courses;

Fund Isaan refers to:

- (i) Fund Isaan, a fund managed by the [King Baudouin Foundation](#) in Belgium and
- (ii) [Fund Isaan](#) Thailand, a Non-Profit organization registered under number Sor. Ror. 3/2556 with the Ministry of Commerce in Thailand.

The numbers in this annual report are the consolidated numbers for both entities.

After a challenging 2020, 2021 proved to be at least as difficult. When the coronavirus first hit Thailand in late 2019, the pandemic had a substantial impact on every aspect of daily life including education. Due to the virus outbreak, the Royal Thai government closed schools and introduced remote learning. This continued until November 2021, when schools were gradually reopened.

Over 60 percent of all students do not have access to a computer or the internet at home. About 36 percent of students don't have a smartphone. Only about 45 percent of students nationwide had the ability to attend online classes during the lockdown. (source: Thai PBS World: May 3, 2020). The situation in rural areas is even worse.

Thailand's English proficiency among non-native English speaking countries has been ranked 100th out of a total of 112 countries and territories in the 2021 annual English Proficiency Index survey released by the global language education company, EF Education First in November 2021. Thailand's rank was 74th in 2019, dropping to 89th in 2020. For a more detailed analysis see [English gets raw deal \(bangkokpost.com\)](#)

Organizations like Fund Isaan, focusing on offering quality education to the less fortunate, are more than ever needed, but at the same time limited in their abilities to act.

As:

- (i) Travel restrictions have made it impossible to fly in foreign volunteers to assist teachers.
- (ii) Shortage of chips on the global market had an impact on the production and hence the price of new computers, leading to a limited availability of refurbished computers.

(iii) Sponsors whose revenue has been impacted by the pandemic are looking for means to save money.

All this had a profound impact on our three core activities.

In 2021, we continued paying scholarships to underprivileged but bright students and even added several new students to the program. We also installed three new computer classes and handed out portable computers to our scholarship students for free. We spent 2.748.302,89 Thai Baht, (74.378,97 Euro). Our income was 3.397.854,04 Thai Baht (91.958,16 Euro), (up 8,44 % compared to 2020, mainly due to the sales of overstock portables). Leading to a cash position of 2.075.104,59 Thai Baht (56.159,80 Euro) on December 31, 2021. For the purpose of this report we applied an average exchange rate of 36,95 Baht/Euro (based on the actuals received on the money transfers from the KBS to Thailand).



Figure 3: Scholarship student Key, studying art. The girl has talent!

2. Short overview:

In 2021, in full corona-crisis, Fund Isaan successfully managed following projects:

1. Thanks to the continuous support of our sponsors we added 28 new scholarship students to our scholarship program; 1. Fai, 2. Benz, 3. Bai Bua, 4. Nick, 5. Mew, 6. Bank, 7. Ice, 8. Mint, 9. Aun, 10. Por, 11. Fon, 12. Mook, 13. Pang, 14. Bew, 15. Nga, 16. Baifern, 17. Tanin, 18. Mick, 19. Fluke, 20. Ninja, 21. Ta, 22. Narong, 23. Fiw, 24. Dove, 25. Quw, 26. Phum, 27. Kaipu and 28. Ploy;
2. We installed three new computer classes at schools in Surin province with the support from delaware, Deloitte Belgium and VZW Thaise Vrienden Wevelgem;
3. We donated 70 portable computers to our scholarship students who did not own a portable but needed one for remote learning.

Because of the existing travel restrictions we were not able to send volunteers to Thailand to assist in English classes. We hope to resume this activity in the course of 2022, depending on the covid situation, inbound travel restrictions in Thailand and the travel recommendations by the Ministries of foreign affairs in the countries of departure. As a responsible organization we do not take any risks with the well-being of our volunteers.

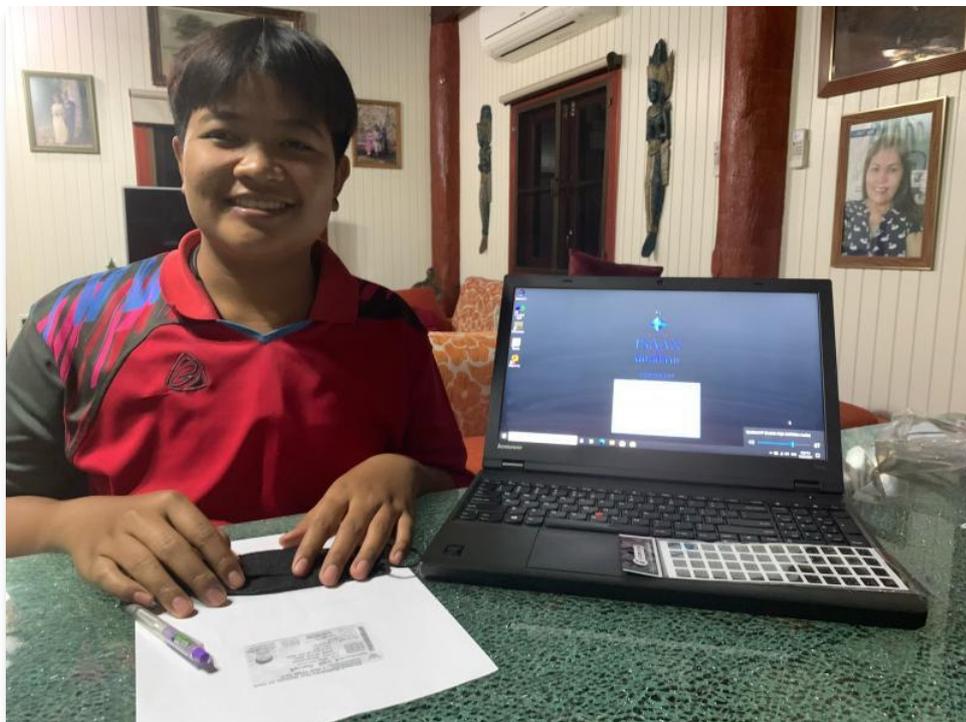


Figure 4: Ning the first scholarship student to receive a free portable

3. Our Sponsors

In 2021 Fund Isaan received 3.001.393,44 Thai Baht (81.228,51 Euro) in financial donations.

Private individuals represent approximately 20% of our budget.
Over 80% of our budget was donated by non-profits and corporates.

Our most important non-profit/corporate sponsors continue to be:



» 3 AMB, a fund managed by the [King Baudouin Foundation](#) (Click to website)



» [Deloitte Belgium](#) (Click to website)



» [delaware](#) (Click to website)



» [Close The Gap](#) a non-profit based in Belgium
(Click to website)



» [Thaise vrienden Wevelgem](#) a non-profit organization set up by a group of goodhearted friends in Belgium.

4. Our scholarship students

In 2021 we added 28 active students to our scholarship student program. In total we supported 322 students. On December 31, 2021 we had 140 active students to whom we paid a total of 1.702.000,00 Thai Baht (46.062,25 Euro) in 2021. This equals on average an amount of 12.157,14 Thai Baht (329,02 Euro) per year/student.

Our alumni program has shown that the financial support we give to our students throughout the entire duration of their studies is substantially decreasing the financial pressure on the students and their families and improving their opportunities to complete the education of their choice. Of our 182 alumni 165 or 91% graduated, 1 student died in a motorcycle accident and 16 students stopped school earlier than planned. Global studies have proven that proper education does not only benefit the individual but also their families, communities and ultimately the entire society.

At least as important as the scholarship is the personal attention we give to our students, explaining the success ratio of 91% mentioned in the previous paragraph. During each visit or contact, whether initiated by us or by the student, we have a personal conversation with the student. Where needed we increase our financial support but more importantly we give our students moral support in an environment where the necessity of studying and obtaining a good education is not always properly understood.

In 2021 approximately 25 of our active students will graduate. As mentioned above we believe that our personal contacts with our students is at least as important as the financial support we give them, for that reason and bearing in mind our limited resources we do not want to increase the number of active students in the program. As one of our main sponsors recently announced that they will gradually reduce their contribution over the coming three years we anticipate a decrease in students over the same period.



Figure 5: handing out computers to our scholarship students for online learning

5. Computer program

Thanks to the support of our sponsors VZW Thaise Vrienden Wevelgem and delaware we were able to buy 210 refurbished notebooks HP and Lenovo i5 or i7 for our annual computer program.

We changed our approach in two ways:

1. instead of desktops we opted for notebooks;
2. as schools were still closed because of the covid crisis we decided to first and foremost focus on our scholarship students to make sure they had a notebook for their online studies.

Upon receipt we tested and activated all the devices and made arrangements with the schools and students.

End of October we informed our scholarship students via our online-community that they could get a free notebook from Fund Isaan. Less than one hour later the first scholarship student arrived at our office to pick up her notebook. By mid-November close to 70 scholarship students had received their new notebook for free.

100 notebooks were made available to teachers and non-affiliated students, under the condition that they were not for resale and to be used for education purposes only. Each teacher or student could only get one notebook. We only recharged the cost of refurbishment which is about 25% of the actual value of the notebook. Without any publicity 100 notebooks found their way to their new owner in no time.

The remaining 40 computers were donated to three schools:

1. Ban Non Champa School;
2. Ban Nong Lek School;
3. Nikhom Sang Tong Eng Prasat School

The total cost for the Computer Program 2021 was 774.134,60 Thai Baht (20.950,87 Euro).



6. Volunteers supporting English Classes

Due to the travel restrictions caused by the Coronavirus we had to temporary stop our volunteering program.

We are closely monitoring the situation and plan to restart the program as soon as travel restrictions are completely lifted (including quarantine requirements) and the ministries of foreign affairs in the departing countries give a positive travel advice for Thailand. We do not want to put our volunteers at risk in any way.

7. Overhead Cost

We managed to keep our overhead cost at 272.168,29 Thai Baht (7.365,86 Euro) or 9,90% of our total spending, which is a substantial decrease compared to 2020.

This mainly because our Thai (and only) office is made available to us for free by our founder and his spouse and because of a decrease in salary costs.

The main contributors (representing 97%) to our overhead cost were:

- ▶ 122.100,00 Thai Baht (3.304,47 Euro) salary cost;
- ▶ 142.540,17 Thai Baht (3.857,65 Euro) management fees charged by the King Baudouin Foundation.

To avoid any discussion or conflict of interest no salaries, management fees or expense reimbursements are paid to members of our board. Their contribution, regardless the cost or time involved, is purely pro-deo.

8. Detailed financials

Fund Isaan consolidated annual account	2021	%	2020	%
<u>Current Assets</u>				
Cash:	16 644,89		9 234,40	
Thai Government Savings Bank:	408 687,65		18 173,47	
Project Account KBS	1 649 772,05		1 332 999,85	
Total current Assets	2 075 104,59		1 360 407,72	
<u>Income and Expenses</u>				
<u>Income</u>				
Thai Government Savings Bank:			165 843,09	
Project Account KBS:	3 001 393,44		2 966 950,00	
Computer sales GSB	396 000,00			
Bank Interest:	460,60		601,18	
Total	3 397 854,04		3 133 394,27	
<u>Volunteer time value</u>				
3 months Volunteer				
6 weeks Volunteers			60 000,00	
2 weeks Volunteers				
Total			60 000,00	
Total income:	3 397 854,04		3 193 394,27	
<u>Expenses</u>				
<u>Operation Expenses</u>				
Scholarships	1 702 000,00	61,93%	1 729 285,00	60,61%
Computer program	774 134,60	28,17%	670 616,00	23,51%
Volunteers			29 392,00	01,03%
Total	2 476 134,60	90,10%	2 429 293,00	85,15%
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>				
Office equipment	2 678,00	0,10%	16 844,00	0,60%
Salaries	122 100,00	4,44%	258 500,00	9,06%
Auditor Fees	3 000,00	0,11%	2 910,00	0,10%
Taxes	150,12	0,01%	114,00	0,00%
Bank Charges	1 700,00	0,06%	2 639,00	0,09%
Management Fee KBS	142 540,17	5,18%	142 646,00	5,20%
Total	272 168,29	9,90%	423 653,00	14,85%
Total expenses:	2 748 302,89	100%	2 852 946,00	100%

