



A FUTURE FOR EVERY CHILD
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Fund Isaan Annual Report 2024

“A Future for Every Child”

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1. Introduction:

Fund Isaan is a non-profit organization established in 2008. From day one until today our objective has been to support and improve the level of education for children in the Isaan region of Thailand.

To achieve our objective we:

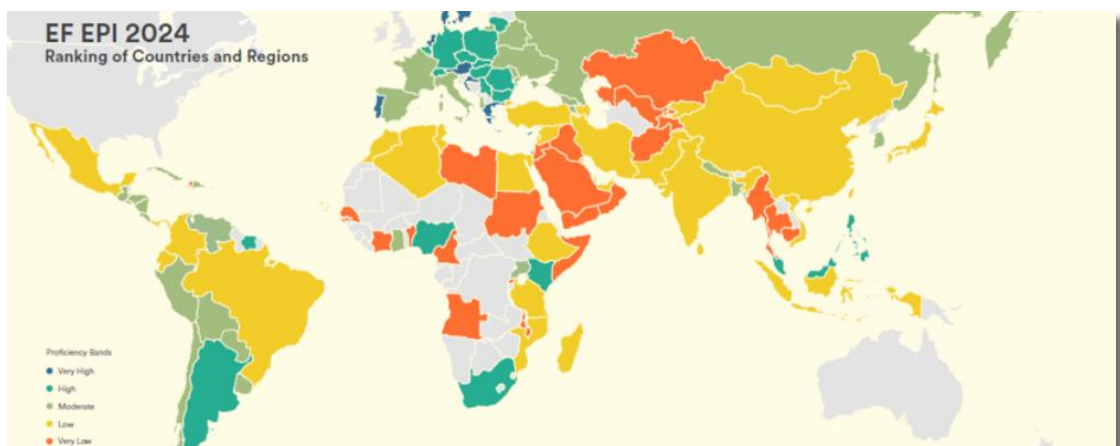
- (i) provide non-refundable scholarships to children with high intellectual potential but limited financial means for the entire duration of their education,
- (ii) provide IT solutions to rural schools and students,
- (iii) send carefully selected foreign volunteers to the region to help language teachers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

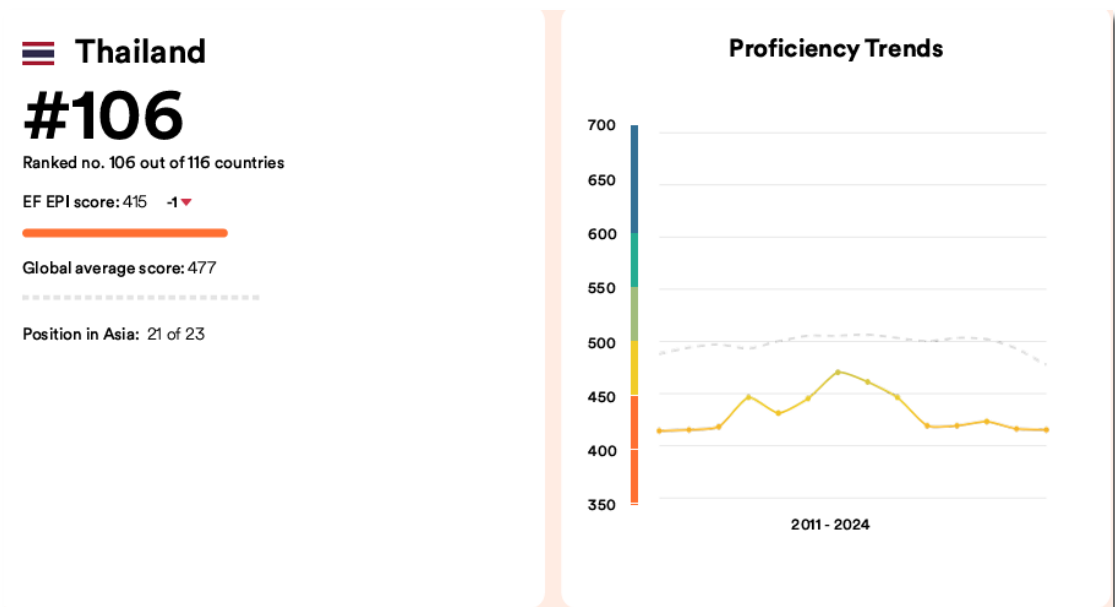
Fund Isaan refers to:

- (i) Fund Isaan, a fund managed by the [King Baudouin Foundation](#) (KBS) in Belgium , early 2024 converted into European Fund “Friends of Fund Isaan Thailand”, a fund managed by the [King Baudouin Foundation](#) (KBS) 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.

The need for our services is proven once again by the global English Proficiency Index 2024, in which Thailand ended up on the 106th place out of 116 countries! Among Asian countries Thailand scored a 21th. place out of 23 Asian countries participating . The global average score is 477, Thailand scored 415, (very low) down with 1 point compared to 2023, a downward trend which has been observed for several years now.





(Source: www.ef.com/epi)

For the purpose of the report we applied an average exchange rate of 37,45 Baht/Euro for 2024 and 36,38 Baht/Euro for 2023 (based on the actuals received on the bank transfers from the KBS in Belgium to our GSB bank in Thailand).



Scholarship student Aun volunteering at the annual Surin Elephant Festival

2. Short overview:

In 2024, Fund Isaan successfully managed following projects:

1. We added eleven new scholarship student to our scholarship program (compared to nine in 2023 and one in 2022);
2. We ran our volunteering program with the support of Deloitte Belgium and delaware;
3. We installed ten new computer classes in rural schools in Surin.



Computer hand-over ceremony at Surin Radjabhat University



3. Our Sponsors

In 2024 Fund Isaan received 2 139.870,16 Thai Baht (57.139,39 Euro) in financial donations. A slight decrease compared to previous years, in line with the decrease of active scholarship students in the program.

Private individuals represent approximately 33% of our budget.
Over 66% of our budget was donated by non-profits and corporates.

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



The logo for Delaware, featuring the word "delaware" in a lowercase, black, sans-serif font. The letter "d" is stylized with a red circle inside its counter.



4. Our scholarship students

In 2024 we added eleven new students to our scholarship program. In total we supported 343 students. Throughout academic year 2024/2025 we had an average of 73 active students to whom we paid a total of 970 500,00 Thai Baht (25 914,55 Euro). This equals on average an amount of 13 294,52 Thai Baht (354,99 Euro) per year/student.

We assure each sponsor that his entire donation and more goes to his scholarship student.

To protect the privacy of our scholarship students and in line with existing legislation we do not make publicly available names and/or addresses of our scholarship student. When we do refer to our scholarship students in our public forums we only mention their nickname. Each sponsor can follow the whereabouts of his scholarship student through a personal log in on our website.

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, allowing them to focus on their studies and improving their opportunities to complete the education of their choice. Of all our alumni 95% graduated, only a small minority stopped school earlier than planned, often because they were offered a job they could not refuse. 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 95% 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 and to the extend our budgets allow, 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 degree is not always properly understood. As we follow our students until the completion of their education, we often have to travel long distances. The universities our students attend are spread across the entire country. It takes us several weeks and more than 4500 kilometres to meet with each and everyone of them.

In 2024 27 of our active students graduated. One of our main sponsors announced in 2021 that they will gradually reduce their contribution starting 2022. For that reason we purposely decrease the number of active students in the program. Not by abandoning existing scholarship student but by accepting less new students to the program. This will also be the case in 2025.

5. Computer program

Thanks to the support of our loyal sponsors Thaise Vrienden Wevelgem, Deloitte South East Asia and Delaware we were able to install 10 new computer classes in February 2024!

Like always we ordered the equipment, 210 portable computers, including windows and office licenses, from Close The Gap in Belgium.

On February 1, 2024 the pc's arrived in Bangkok and were customs cleared. In the next days we tested each and every computer, adjusted the keyboards to the Thai language, activated the office license and installed our own software.

This year we worked closely together with the Science and Technology department of Surin Rajabhat University, faculty of Science and Technology to select those schools that needed our support the most.

After a thorough check and customization the computers were handed over to the schools during an impressive ceremony organized by Surin Rajabhat University in the presence of the president and vice-presidents of the university, the dean of the faculty of Science and Technology, several professors, directors, teachers, the local press and, most importantly, students.

Also present on behalf of Fund Isaan was the president of European Friends of Fund Isaan Thailand and consul of Thailand in Flanders, Mr. Jocelyn Timmermans and his spouse.

The lucky schools were:

1. Don Raet School
2. Takong Wittaya School
3. Pradoo Kaew School
4. Khok Takhian School
5. Suraphin Wittaya School
6. Thung Kula School
7. Khanad Mon School
8. Muang Kae School
9. Kae Suksa School
10. Mobile STEM class Surin Rajabhat University

The remaining notebooks were used for replacements of broken portables in existing Fund Isaan computer classrooms in existing schools.

For more information and pictures: [click to go to our website](#)

6. Volunteers supporting English and STEM Classes

This year we welcomed volunteers from our partners Deloitte (Belgium) and Delaware (Belgium).

Despite our very good relationship with the Thai Embassy in Brussels the process of obtaining visas (a process which is now fully automated) continues to be challenging and time-consuming, caused by shortfalls in the online system, continuously changing requirements and changes in the consular staff at the Embassy. Eventually and despite all these hurdles all visa were obtained in time and our volunteers could travel to Thailand as scheduled.

The volunteering program is a real success not only for the teachers and students at the schools we support but also for the volunteers who get the opportunity to spend time in a country and culture that is completely new for them.

All volunteers spent six weeks at one school and live in a guest family affiliated with that school.

Deloitte Belgium decided to focus its corporate responsibility program on its domestic market, as a result 2024 was the last year Deloitte volunteers participated in our program. We are grateful for the many years of close collaboration between Deloitte Belgium and Fund Isaan.

To overcome this shortfall in resources we linked schools asking for volunteers to www.goto.co, A UK non-profit with a very similar volunteering program. A dozen goto.co volunteers already worked at several schools in the Isaan over the summer of 2024 following our referral.

For an impression of what it means to be a Fund Isaan volunteer we refer to the video created by our 2024 volunteer Delphine Minguet: <https://youtu.be/ViXOqclIk-I>



Our volunteer Lissah Blommaert during one of her STEM classes

8. Overhead Cost

We managed to keep our overhead cost at 141.143,36 Thai Baht (3.768,85 Euro) which is 6,73% of our total spending.

This mainly because our Thai (and only) office is made available to us for free by our founder and his spouse and because we have nobody on our pay-list.

The main contributors to our overhead cost were:

- ▶ 50.875,00 Thai Baht (1.358,48 Euro) travel and accommodation during visits to our scholarship students, which is 36,04% of the total overhead costs;
- ▶ 69.387,36 Thai Baht (1.852,80 Euro) management fees charged by the King Baudouin Foundation, which is 49,16% of the total overhead costs and on which we have no influence.

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.



Scholarship hand-out to our scholarship student Popiy at Burapha University

8. Detailed financials

Fund Isaan consolidated annual account	2024		2023	
Current Assets				
Cash:	51 128,00		76 995,00	
Thai Government Savings Bank:	16 829,62		30 095,15	
Project Account KBS	2 215 591,43		2 071 772,61	
Total current Assets	2 283 549,05		2 178 862,76	
Income and Expenses				
<u>Income</u>				
Thai Government Savings Bank:	115 098,46			
Project Account KBS:	2 024 771,70		2 280 037,56	
Computer sales GSB				
Bank Interest:	513,17		567,74	
Total	2 140 383,33		2 280 060,30	
<u>Volunteer time value</u>				
3 months Volunteers				
6 weeks Volunteers	360 000,00		180 000,00	
2 weeks Volunteers			30 000,00	
Total	360.000,00		210 000,00	
Total income:	2 500 383,33		2 492 424,30	
<u>Expenses</u>				
<u>Operation Expenses</u>				
Scholarships	970 500,00	46,29%	1 019 000,00	39,96%
Computer program	883 972,50	42,16%	832 939,65	32,66%
Volunteers	101 127,50	04,82%	538 620,98	21,12%
Total	1 955 600,00	93,27%	2 390 560,63	93,74%
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>				
Office equipment	14 186,00	0,68%	14 432,00	0,56%
Transport scholarships	50 875,00	2,43%	31 850,00	1,25%
Auditor Fees	5 150,00	0,24%	5 150,00	0,20%
Taxes	56,00	0,00%	93,00	0,00%
Bank Charges	1 489,00	0,07%	1 700,00	0,07%
Management Fee KBS	69 387,36	3,31%	106 548,29	4,18%
Total	141 143,36	6,73%	159 773,29	6,26%
Total expenses:	2 096 743,36	100%	2 550 333,92	100%

