

### ChangAi team attended opening ceremony of Mangya ChangAi Hope School

Construction of the Mangya ChangAi Hope School was completed last year and the school reopened in August 2012. Joe Horn-Phathanothai, ChangAi co-founder, and a representative from Kasikornbank attended the school's opening ceremony in March 2013.

This primary school in Yingjiang now has over 300 students and 16 teachers. The majority are Dai, while the rest are Jingpo and other minorities. The students plant their own vegetables and raise pigs and fish on the school grounds, using leftover food from the school kitchen as feed.

Over 200 students stay in the 3-storey dormitory building, which has a bathroom/toilet on each floor and a teacher per floor.

More work needs to be done on the promotion of good hygiene among teachers and students. Most are not familiar with the concept of washing hands with soap or boiling water before drinking. At present there is no water reservoir and the kitchen does not have a waste water system. Another issue to be tackled is how to increase transport safety for students who do not live in the school and have to travel far.



New school building (L) and old building (R)



Pigsty and fish pond looked after by students

#### Project activities up close:

##### March 2013

- Farmers in Villages 2 & 6 attended **experience-sharing sessions** organized by Women's Federation.
- ChangAi team visited **Mangya ChangAi New Hope School** and nearby villages in Yingjiang County, Yunnan.

##### January 2013

- Women's Federation organised a study tour for Villages 2, 5 & 6 of the Specialised **Cooperative Union of Farmers** for demonstration on **rubber planting and orchid cultivation**.
- Villages 3 & 4 held **activity day for children** with traditional and team games during the winter holiday.

##### September – December 2012

- **Biogas training** was held in Village 1 for 20 farmers to teach the basic principles, efficient and safe usage of biogas pit, with expert from Rural Energy Station of Forestry Bureau.
- **Dance and painting** workshops were held for students in Villages 3 & 4.
- Women's Federation held training on **loan management and rubber planting** in Villages 3 & 4.

#### Upcoming activities

Later this year ChangAi team will make another visit to **Mangya ChangAi New Hope School and surrounding areas**. Look out for the photos on our Facebook page and for the trip report on our website.

#### Sponsorship, donations & support

ChangAi acknowledges the following people for their support:

- Rosemary Weatherly  
*AUD 350 for painting classes in Suoyang*
- Strategy613 team  
*Donated their time to visit the villages and check progress of school construction, as well as helping with translation work*

May 2012 - April 2013

## Mission Statement

Our aim is to bring hope and opportunity to China's poorest and most vulnerable children by working with their communities to improve children's health, education, environment and life skills.

## Contact ChangAi :

E-mail: [waan@chang-ai.org](mailto:waan@chang-ai.org)

Website: [www.chang-ai.org](http://www.chang-ai.org)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/7659226860>

## How you can help:

How you help is up to you! A few suggestions are to provide:

- Your time or expertise**
- Toys or games**
- Art supplies**
- Computer equipment**

\*\*Email [waan@chang-ai.org](mailto:waan@chang-ai.org) for more information.

ChangAi can make small funds go a long way:

**510 RMB** covers the education and health-related expenses of a junior middle school child for six months.

**310 RMB** covers the same expenses for a primary school child.

**90 RMB** covers the cost of three training sessions for one person.



## Project Overview

Founded in 2007, the ChangAi Children's Project operates in four villages in south-western Yunnan province which are deeply affected by disease, drug use and poverty. The Project works holistically on four levels to:

- Directly support vulnerable children.
- Enhance children's household environment.
- Improve the local community's situation as conducive to child development.
- Develop a model relevant for supporting children in poor villages across China.

From the Project's commencement in March 2008, ChangAi has a five year plan in which to work with local communities to enhance health and education opportunities for children.

## Activities and training - photos



Children participated in traditional and team games in Villages 3 & 4.



Farmers from Village 1 attended a training workshop on biogas pit usage and safety.



Villagers visited the Cooperative Union to learn agricultural knowledge and the need for farmer cooperation.