



# **Activity report 2021**

## In Thailand

#### Over the months

January Day dedicated to the ethnic groups of Thailand organised by the children of the home,

with a programme of games, dances, demonstrations of various traditions, etc.

Children's Day in Thailand. A day of various activities was organised for all our children

(dances, songs and games)

February The children participated in a sports day organised by the staff.

April "Songkran" festival, three days of festivities were organised at the home.

The children participated in a camp organised by the teenagers of the centre.

May All the children participated in the summer camp (education and reflection), organised by

the organised by the teenagers of the home.

June Election of the youth committee for the school year 21/2022

July Fire drill day and safety instructions for all children in the home.

August Mother's Day. A day was organised at the centre. The programme included a show with

singing and dancing, and a special meal for the children.

October Visit of various members of the Government for a thorough inspection of the home:

Construction, safety standards, hygiene, everything is in order.

November "Loy Krathong" festival. A day was organised at the centre. The programme included

making of "kratongs" by the children and traditional festivities.

## **Daily life**

Follow-up of schooling.

- Learning the Thai language.
- + Hmong and Akha classes (mother tongue of most of the children). Safeguarding ethnic traditions (sewing, embroidery, dancing, singing).
- Drug prevention and awareness.
- General culture.
- Hygiene care and prevention.
- Cultural activities, sports, entertainment...
- Summer programme for the older children of the home (internships).
- Summer programme for new boarders, courses and refresher courses (school programme).
- Active participation in the official Buddhist and Christian religious festivals of the country.
- \* Recruitment and training of young people to look after the children.
- ❖ The children of the home occasionally help the farmers of the neighbouring villages and contribute to the development of the country.
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- ❖ The children of the home occasionally help the farmers of the neighbouring villages, as well as the development of the neighbouring villages.
- ❖ Various and necessary steps with the Government, in order to obtain official papers (identity cards, etc.) for the children.
- Continuous support to the Thai villages and the Lahu, Lisu, Akha and Hmong tribes.
- Ongoing support to the various schools attended by our boarders and sponsored children in the villages.
- Regular visits to the villages to look after the needs of the villagers and to monitor the sponsorships.
- Permanent contacts with local people in the province of Chiang Rai who support our action.
- Meetings organised with the parents of the sponsored children living in the villages.
- Active presence in the various meetings organised by the Government for all the NGOs and foundations in Chiang Rai Province.
- Search for sponsorships and donations.
- Continuous training of staff (courses and seminars organised by the Government).
- Visits to parents in prison to maintain contact with the child.
- The pandemic (COVID-19) forced the young people in the home to cope with distance learning for much of the year.
- Environmental awareness, waste recycling. The children of the hostel sort waste which is stored in a special room and then sold.
- Installation of solar outdoor lighting in the home.

#### The staff

To assist them, Barbara and Prapapone recruit staff from the local population. This provides work and anchors the home firmly in the life of the region. In order to attract competent people, and with the idea of ensuring the continuity of Le Sourire, former residents are called upon.

### The farm and the buildings

Throughout the year, as part of the children's extracurricular activities, we cultivate our corn fields, rice fields, orchards and plantations, care for our animals (pigs, cows, buffaloes, etc.), cultivate our gardens and carry out maintenance and development work.

Thanks to the support of generous donors and foundations, work has been undertaken:

- Various renovations & repairs were undertaken the workshop building and garden equipment storage, the cow and buffalo shed, the children's activity shelters, the boys' sanitary facilities, the boys' laundry shelter.
- Various cementing works were undertaken, especially around the buildings. Construction of a new shelter for youth activities.
- Construction of a support wall to the boys' laundry shelter.
- Various constructions for the water treatment system in the kitchen and canteen.
- Various constructions for the water treatment system of the butchery and feed preparation building.
- Several works with heavy machinery were carried out for the drainage system of the building.

## In Switzerland

#### Over the months

January Committee by ZOOM (Sion, Les Masses and Coppet)

June Committee and General Assembly in Genthod

October Committee in Coppet

November Théâtre de l'Espérance, performance in favour of Le Sourire.

Throughout the year, in Sion, sale at LA BOUTIQUE of second-hand clothes for the benefit of the children of Le Sourire de Chiang Khong and Couleurs de Chine.

Throughout the year, in Founex (spring market and Christmas market) and in Sion, sale of objects made by a member of the committee for the benefit of the children of Le Sourire de Chiang Khong.

In 2021, very few markets and events could be organised due to the sanitary measures imposed by the Federal Council because of COVID19.

### **Expanding the solidarity network**

Thanks to the sponsorships, some 300 children are welcomed at the home or followed in their villages.

Throughout the year, the Chiang Khong Smile Association is active in developing child sponsorships, raising funds and getting involved in events for the benefit of the children in the home. Many municipalities and foundations support specific projects.

## **Organisation**

As a human-scale organisation, strictly managed and controlled, the association has minimal operating costs (less than 1% in 2020). The aid goes directly to the action on the ground.

In 2021, the Committee met three times, in Genthod and Coppet, as well as one meeting per zoom. The General Assembly took place in June 2021 in Genthod. The composition of the Committee is listed on the association's website.

As a humanitarian organisation, the address of the website of Le Sourire de Chiang Khong is the following: <a href="https://www.lesourire.org">www.lesourire.org</a>.

Chiang Rai, 23 April 2022