

Life-giving water!



Northern Thailand



Water

Total Budget

Project Timeline

\$154,250

JUL 17

JUN 20



Overview

Our partners work in the golden triangle hill country of Thailand near the borders of Laos and Myanmar. Cultivation of the opium poppy and drug abuse in these ethnic minority hill tribe areas has contributed to families living in poverty for generations. This project aimed to improve the health of villagers by providing access to clean water and sanitation facilities in ten villages over three years. Poor water and sanitation are key factors keeping these families in poverty due to ill health, especially amongst the children. As a result of this project hundreds of families have benefitted and other families are moving into the villages now that clean water is available which builds communities and village capacity.

Objectives

Impact



Clean water for 10 villages

Ten villages have clean water for drinking, cooking and cleaning, toilets and bathing, and irrigation. Families also helped build bathrooms and gardens.



Hygiene education

Villagers have been educated in sanitation and hygiene and have seen a marked improvement in the health of the community, particularly children.



Repairs & Maintenance Training

Training in maintenance and repair of water systems in each of the 10 villages and establishment of water management committees to oversee maintenance and cost sharing.



Community participation & awareness

Improvement of family income through awareness building, increased community participation and sharing, and agricultural training for better yields.



Life change

- Better water and sanitation facilities has led to improved health as water-borne diseases decline and diets from home-grown gardens improve.
- Time spent collecting water is redirected to tending crops and gardens resulting in increased yields and more reliable income.
- Building awareness of sound agricultural and environmental practices improves the quality and productivity of farming.
- Villagers live more harmoniously as there is no fighting over water.



Jabo and Nami

Jabo (front page) lives with his wife Nami and three children. "Our village has always lacked water, especially in the dry season. We had to compete with others for water from a dirty stream, so illnesses and arguments were common. Together with experts, we helped build a water tank with filter and then piped it all the way to our village where taps were installed at various points. We helped build family bathrooms and gardens. There is enough water for everyone to cook, bathe, even clean the pigsty and tend the vegetable garden. We have vegetables to share and are very happy!"



Villagers in front of the completed water tanks they helped build

Fresh water for a family

Suthipong Amornsiriwattanakul (pictured right with three of his children) and his wife Chugai Arjaw have four daughters, two still only toddlers. Since the new water supply system was built they have been enjoying access to clean water in their village. "It has made such a difference to every aspect of daily life: we can cook rice in clear water, wash dishes and clothes, shower, and there is still enough for toilet use as well. It used to be a struggle to get enough water, especially in the dry season, and when we did get some, it was unclean and often made us sick. The whole village is better off now and it has made things so much easier."

