



FED

Foundation for Education &  
Development

# **IT education center project for Burmese migrant children**

Project Proposal

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## **Project summary**

The Foundation for Education and Development (FED) has worked tirelessly for the past decade to provide Burmese migrant children and youth access to an education while living abroad in southern Thailand. FED's 2 learning centers, Thai school integration program, and youth non-formal education courses currently enroll 550 marginalized migrant children, who without FED, would be unable to go to school.

As technology fuels our rapidly developing world, FED understands that in order for the next generation of migrant children and youth to compete and succeed in future job markets, they must have IT skills. Therefore, FED plans to renovate its Library/Computer room into a state of the art IT Education facility located at the Unified Learning Center (ULC) in rural Phang Nga province.

## **Target group background**

Millions of Burmese migrants have left Burma to escape internal conflict, military oppression, and economic instability in search of a better life abroad. In Thailand, migrants are employed in low paying, often dangerous jobs where they face rights violations and human trafficking exploitation. Migrant children tend to suffer the most, as despite having the legal right to attend Thai schools, obstacles such as discrimination, lack of Thai language skills, and the necessity to work at a young age to help support their families keeps many from ever attending, much less completing school.

## **Value of IT education**

The renovation of our IT Education center will allow our education program to offer 550 Burmese children and youth advanced IT skills training courses and certification. These newly acquired skills will empower participants to achieve higher income jobs and become the generation to overcome the poverty cycle that has entrapped migrant families for decades.

The potential for youth with IT skills are limitless. By offering marginalized Burmese migrant youth an opportunity to learn how to use computers for more than just Facebook and games, youth will be better equipped to succeed in the Thai tourism industry job market. IT training will become a key piece of FED's envisioned hospitality and business skills vocational program designed to equip migrant youth with professional skills and internship opportunities at hotels and restaurants along Thailand's beautiful Andaman coast.

Another value is the ULC can apply for and become an **ICDL Center (International Computer Driving License)**. As a result, the ULC will be able to offer internationally certified computer courses to vocational learning program participants, ULC students, and the migrant community. ([www.icdlasia.org](http://www.icdlasia.org))

## Key elements already in place

- FED's Unified Learning Center (ULC), which acts as a migrant community education and outreach "hub" offers the perfect location for an IT education center
- The development of the IT Center will be led by FED's IT manager, a Dutch national, with 10 years experience in the design and marketing industry as a senior graphic designer, website and systems/business analyst, and software engineer. He will ensure staff are trained and equipment cared for properly to maximize the life of the equipment and impact of the training program.

## Equipment and renovations needs

The following equipment is selected for the ULC IT Education Center. The list contains multi-purpose tables, ergonomic chairs for the students and facilitators, 8 computers for students and 1 computers for a computer teacher and librarian, wireless projector mounted on the ceiling with a 120" retractable projection screen, portable wireless classroom speaker (could be used in other rooms as well) and an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) for the equipment to reduce hardware stress when a sudden power drop occurs. This will dramatically extend the lifetime of all connected equipment.

Furthermore, renovations to the room designated to accommodate the new IT Education Center are necessary as the current facility is a simple storage facility. In the past year a new ceiling and tile floor have been constructed in preparation the IT equipment, however the replacement of large garage doors with a concrete wall and office door is still necessary to create an environment appropriate for high-quality IT equipment.

## Estimated budget for computer room development

<b><i>Product</i></b>	<b><i>Quantity</i></b>	<b><i>Unit price</i></b>	<b><i>Total</i></b>
White classroom tables	9	1,350	12,150
Ergonomic chairs	9	2,000	18,000
Acer All-In-One Computer	9	13,000	117,000
BenQ Projector W1070+	1	36,000	36,000
BenQ WiFi Dongle QCast	1	3,000	3,000
Projector screen 120"	1	6,000	6,000
Projector ceiling mount	1	1,500	1,500

Sonos Play 3 WiFi Speaker	1	15,000	15,000
Cyberpower UPS 480W	9	2,000	18,000
Storage Cabinet	1	10,000	10,000
Dehumidifier	1	20,000	20,000
Air conditioner	1	20,000	20,000
<b>Room Development</b>			
Construction Supplies	1	15,000	15,000
Door	1	20,000	20,000
Windows	2	5,000	10,000
Labor Costs	1	12,000	12,000
Thai baht			333,650
USD			9,398.59

\*\*\*Product prices are in Thai Baht and can be found on [www.lazada.com](http://www.lazada.com)