

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

OF THE FOUNDATION „ANGEL FOR CHILDREN“



BRESLAU, JANUARY 1945

Following a radio announcement to the civilian population my parents leave the icy and snowy city on a bike with me and my little sister. One day later our father manages to get us on a crowded train leaving from Freiburg/Silesia to Dresden. He himself has to remain behind. We survive the bombardment of Dresden. My mother takes the opportunity to board a military train to Bavaria – final stop Grafenwöhr. I was so lucky: born in middle Europe, growing up in West Germany following the war events. I was given access to a diverse education and was able to make the most of it.





VIENTIANE, JANUARY 2003

A visit to Laos and Cambodia leaves me thoughtful. What opportunities are given to children in these countries? Surely not the ones I was presented with or if so, then they would have to follow a more difficult path. How could I help at least a few of these children? In order to seize opportunities you need to know the odds. My mother was able to help me understand by providing a good education.

All children – no matter where they are born – should have the same chances. With our family foundation “Angels for Children” we want to help children in Laos achieve that goal.

† Ingrid Engel



PREFACE

The Lao saying „Het bun, dai bun“ means doing good and receiving back good. This corresponds to the vision the founder Ingrid Engel had. Out of her own experience, having experienced good, she gave back something good.

13 years after the organization's foundation the commitment to support an elementary school in Ban Sikeud near the capital has grown stronger. The middle school in the neighboring village of Ban Phang Heng, which has been supported since 2011, gives evidence of the successful work of „Angels for Children“ in Laos, as does the second elementary school which is also located in Ban Phang Heng and has been supported since 2013. About 1,600 pupils attend these 3 schools where they are given access to quality education. This is made possible by the provision of competent teachers, additional teaching and learning materials and a wide offer of leisure activities. Although supported privately by „Angels for Children“, these 3 schools are still state-controlled where children's parents do not have to pay extra fees. Through close cooperation with the teachers, principals and responsible authorities the creation of an education center in the educationally rather disadvantaged country was made possible. The schools regularly achieve nationwide record results in state examinations.

For the future development it is paramount for the country to connect itself to the world, especially through the English language. Although English is a compulsory subject for pupils from 3rd grade onwards, only a few of the children can really speak it when they leave school. The reason for this is inadequate linguistic and teacher training. Since the end of 2015 the foundation has been closely cooperating with the Teacher Training College in Karlsruhe to further educate the Lao English teachers. In the 2016 natural science classes for middle schools were added to the program. The foundation aims to help pupils achieve a good educational basis for their later working life by adding language acquisition and science skills.

To escape the vicious circle of substandard education, unemployment and poverty, school graduates must be given access to vocational training. In cooperation with BHS Corrugated in September 2016 the first two apprenticeship classes were started for electricians and mechanics. This involved 44 pupils who had graduated the foundation's middle school. The project, which is driven by BHS Corrugated and supported by „Angels for Children“, is carried out at the Lao German Technical College in Vientiane where young



people get access to a free, three-year vocational training with constant, much appreciated mentoring and support. In 2016, it was also possible for the foundation to expand the cooperation with partners such as the Teacher Training College Karlsruhe, BHS Corrugated and the Lao German Technical College. With the holistic support of scholastic and vocational education, the education center will gain influence in other fields as well so that poverty can be fought in the long term with the help of a good education. Furthermore, the work at the foundation's three schools is transferred increasingly to the Lao partners, who assume responsibility and independently carry forward the good structures.

Further information and news can be found on:

- The foundation's homepage
www.engel-fuer-kinder.de
- The foundation's facebook page
www.facebook.com/stiftungengelfuerkinder
- The University of Education Karlsruhe's project blog
www.thelaosexperience.com
- The website of the Recruitment and Training Programme with BHS Corrugated
www.rtp-laos.com

We would like to sincerely thank all donors and supporters, who repeatedly enable our work. God bless you, Thank you and Khop Chai Lai Lai!

Weiden, January 2017



— THE FOUNDATION

The foundation Engel für Kinder - Angels for Children (AfC) helps children in disadvantaged regions of the world by:

- **building and maintaining educational establishments**
- **provision of teaching and learning materials**
- **education-supporting programs**
- **medical measures**

and is a legally responsible and public foundation of civil law – a charitable and private foundation of the family Engel.

The founders are:

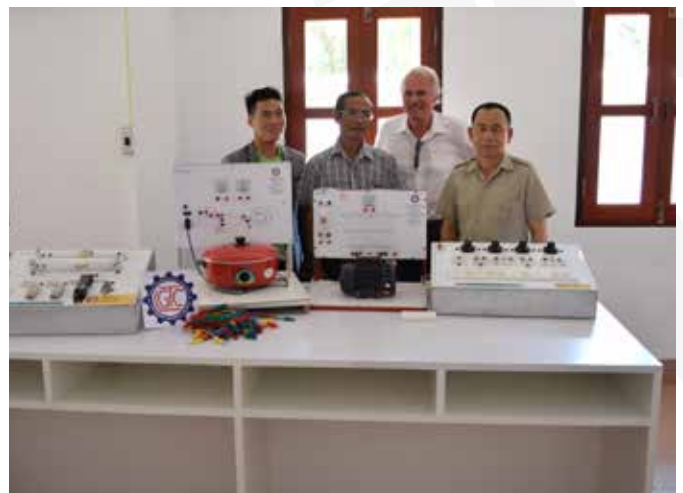
† Paul Engel
† Ingrid Engel
Christian Engel
Lars Engel



REVIEW OF 2016

NEW PHYSICS LAB FOR THE MIDDLE SCHOOL IN BAN PHANG HENG

Early in January the new physics and chemistry lab was finished, which might be the most modern one in whole Laos. The school will receive the majority of chemistry supplies from the Lao State. In addition, the Lao German Technical College gave a generous donation of materials to the school. Now teachers and pupils are able to perform basic electrical experiments with switch boxes during physics lessons.





COOPERATION WITH THE TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE KARLSRUHE

Following the successful pilot stage of the project “Teaching English in Laos” (highlight: visit by the Lao deputy education secretary Prof. Dr. Kongsy Sengmany) the next 3 volunteers from the University of Education Karlsruhe arrived in Laos. Isabella will continue the work of her predecessors at the elementary school in Ban Phang Heng, Jule at the middle school and Jana at the elementary school in Ban Sikeud. They will, through the teach-the-teacher concept, further educate English teachers in didactics, methods and the English language in general and also teach English to other Lao teachers. From September this project will be offered as a volunteer semester abroad at the Teacher Training College Karlsruhe. For this students

are awarded CPs as well as given thorough preparation and follow up. More information can be found on the joint blog of the foundation and the University of Education Karlsruhe:

www.thelaosexperience.com





19TH FEBRUARY: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BAN SIKEUD IS AWARDED MODEL SCHOOL

The long-term support of schools by the foundation “Angels for Children” has been recognized: During a formal ceremony with high-ranking officials the elementary school of Ban Sikeud was appointed model school for the whole province of Vientiane capital (about 700.000 inhabitants). With this, the elementary school becomes one of six model schools in the province and the first one in the district Naxaithong. The ceremony was initiated by the children of the school with hoola-hoop shows, vocal numbers, dances and a show led by the national karate trainer who is also the foundation’s sports teacher, Vixay “Sai”. After that, the leader of the district Virasack Nammountry praised the school’s high standards which cannot just

be seen in the pupils’ education, but also in their sense of duty, their tidiness and their carefulness. The evidence for this being the well cared for appearance of the school which can be observed every day. Reaching this status was only possible with the support of “Angels for Children” and especially with the help of the foundation’s board member Gerlinde Engel, who has been continuously pushing this development.





VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR PUPILS

The recruitment- and training program (RTP) by BHS Corrugated in Laos

The Lao German Technical College (LGTC), the leading vocational college in Laos, has been making an effort over the last two years of cooperating with the foundation to advertise vocational education. The aim is to enable pupils to have a good future after they have graduated from middle school. Because there is a lack of specialists in Laos, a good technical education will bring the best professional prospects.

However, due to ignorance, prejudices and rumors, many pupils do not seize this opportunity, for many of them this is not an option when planning their future after the end of their core education. This was the reason why last year only 3 out of 140 school graduates started a vocational education at the LGTC. BHS Corrugated will make use of this opportunity to train qualified employees and will continue the foundation's social commitment in this way: pupils from the

foundation's middle school are being given the opportunity after graduation to start a vocational training as industrial electricians or machine and plant operators at the LGTC under the control of BHS Corrugated. After signing the Memorandum of Understanding on the 15th December 2015, the planning of the education will take place from September 2016. For BHS Corrugated the target is to employ well educated staff for the installation and maintenance of machines in Asia. In cooperation with local companies all pupils should find employment. Because of the good networking of the LGTC and the serious lack of specialists the training provides them with the best employment prospects in Laos. The LGTC ran several awareness campaigns which have kindled the interest of pupils.

Project website: www.rtp-laos.com





GOODBYE TO MONIKA AND MARION SCHELLBERG FROM LAOS

After two years of work and support in the country, Monika and Marion Schellberg will not return to Laos for the time being. They were sent off with a big baci and a celebration on March 31. The foundation thanks both of them for their commitment and their generous support during these two years.





Image source: „Der Neue Tag“

APRIL 10: CHARITY CONCERT OF THE TEENIECHOR (YOUTH CHOIR) SCHIRMITZ AT THE INNOVISION CENTER IN WEIHERHAMMER

The charity concert of the Teeniechor which was attended by around 600 listeners raised approx. 3.700€ for the foundation “Angels for Children”. With a wide range of songs the choir delighted the audience. The foundation council member Lars Engel drew a parallel between “Angels for Children” and the choirmaster Wolfgang Ziegler as both support the positive development of children and young people – in Germany and in Laos. We would like to sincerely thank Wolfgang Ziegler and the Teeniechor. We would be very happy if we could organize the next charity concert together as well. Also may we thank all donors – Vergelt’s Gott – God bless you!

MAY 6: JOB INTERVIEWS FOR THE PROJECT “TEACHING ENGLISH IN LAOS” IN KARLSRUHE

On May 6 job interviews for nine available volunteer places in Laos took place. 14 applicants were invited to personal interviews by the project leadership and the international students’ registry of the TTC Karlsruhe. After finishing the interviews the nine volunteer places were assigned.

MAY 27: FIRST SEMINAR DATE “TEACHING ENGLISH IN LAOS” AT THE TTC KARLSRUHE

On May 27 the first seminar date of the multidisciplinary project “Teaching English in Laos” took place at the TTC Karlsruhe. The seminar exists for the professional and organizational preparation of the volunteers’ work in Laos and is anchored in the college’s offer of subjects. Following this a Singlish workshop was led by Prof. Dr. Isabel Martin. A report of this event can be found on the blog “The Laos Experience”. Preparations are complemented by participating in additional workshops such as “square dance” and “caller” workshops.



PROJECT VIDEO "TEACHING ENGLISH IN LAOS"

A project video "Teaching English in Laos" was posted on the foundation's youtube channel. The video footage was recorded during the pilot stage of the project from end of October to the beginning of January. Pupils, teachers and volunteers were filmed during classes, events, everyday school routines and on journeys. In the near future, more videos will follow to provide insight into the work of the foundation and life in Laos.



Second seminar date „Teaching English in Laos“

JUNE 4: 20 YEARS OF TRIO

On June 4 the 20th anniversary of "Trio Export Co. Ltd." took place in Ban Sikeud. For this reason Gerlinde Engel traveled to Laos for three weeks. At the celebration, Hans Kremmel and Gerhard Flatz from KTC were present, as well as the Strauss family with some of their staff, the German ambassador Michael Grau and some members of the Lao government. In a press statement by Engelbert Strauss, the ties to the foundation are described. In the course of the celebration of the anniversary, the Strauss family gave a generous donation to Angels for Children.

JUNE 18: LAO VISITORS IN GERMANY

On June 18 Gerlinde Engel traveled back to Germany from the Trio anniversary in Laos accompanied by Bouangeun „Linda“ Hanthavong and her son Thonee, who stayed with her in Floß for one month. They visited Nuremberg and Munich and during the first weekend of July went to the Zugspitze. They stayed in Germany until July 17.



Second seminar date „Teaching English in Laos“

JUNE 24: SECOND SEMINAR DATE OF "TEACHING ENGLISH IN LAOS"

On June 24 the second date of the project "Teaching English in Laos" took place at the University of Education Karlsruhe. Lao and international textbooks which had been purchased for the project were used during the training. Dr. Michiko Weinmann, who is a lecturer at Deakin University in Australia but currently in Karlsruhe undertaking research, gave a lecture titled "Language education in global contexts: Re-conceptualizing the "Asia literacy" debate in Australia".



Third seminar date „Teaching English in Laos“

JUNE 30: NEW VIDEOS ON THE AFC YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The foundation's youtube channel allows a vivid insight into the work of "Angels for Children".



JULY 22: THIRD SEMINAR DATE OF "TEACHING ENGLISH IN LAOS" AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION KARLSRUHE

The third and last seminar date for "Team III" before the journey to Laos mainly covered an introduction into living and working in Laos.



AUGUST 18 AND 19: JOB INTERVIEWS FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL BAN PHANG HENG

The foundation Angels for Children is not only committed to ensuring a good basic education for the children but also wants to promote their vocational training. In order to continue this commitment the Recruitment Training Program was started at the Lao German Technical College (leading college in Laos) by BHS Corrugated.

BHS Corrugated is a German engineering company and has been one of the foundation's main supporters since its formation. Their aim is to train and recruit qualified personnel for future machine installations and maintenance in the Asia Pacific region. For that purpose, up to 50 scholarships are awarded every year to secondary school graduates to become industrial electricians and machine and plant operators. The first trainees will start in September.

The job interviews with the Lao German Technical College took place at the secondary school with 55 participants from the graduation class. During personal interviews (about 15 minutes) applicants were asked questions not only about their grades, but also about their extracurricular activities, their general interests and their technical skills – both in Lao and in English.

After the evaluation, 44 pupils were accepted at the Lao German Technical College. At the end of September the 3-year education course started for 22 industrial electricians and 22 machine and plant operators.





BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER: START OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

As every year on September 1 the new school year started smoothly at the 3 schools. Because of the constantly rising number of pupils it was necessary to add two new classrooms at the elementary school in Phang Heng. One room now provides space for the two

kindergarten classes with about 60 pupils and 2 teachers, the other one is for the two first grade classes, again with 2 teachers.





SEPTEMBER 3: NEW EQUIPMENT FOR THE PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY LAB

Following some of the equipment arriving in May the remainder was delivered at the beginning of September and the Lao teachers could be introduced to the new materials.





SEPTEMBER 9: APPRENTICESHIP CONTRACTS FOR 44 PUPILS OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

On September 9, 44 pupils from the middle school Phang Heng received apprenticeship contracts from BHS Corrugated to become industrial electricians or machine and plant operators at the Lao

German Technical College. At the end of September the two new apprenticeship classes started at the college with graduates from the foundation's middle school only.





MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER: VOLUNTEERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION KARLSRUHE ARRIVE IN LAOS

On September 14 the first group of voluntary teachers from the TTC Karlsruhe arrived in Laos to train their Lao colleagues. The group primarily trains English teachers according to a set program and under academic supervision of Prof. Dr. Isabel Martin but they also educate science teachers in chemistry and physics. Furthermore,

they teach the English language to every teacher who is interested in learning it. In addition, activities are provided for the pupils. The project is documented in the blog www.thelaosexperience.com.

SEPTEMBER 26: START OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING AT THE LAO GERMAN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

On September 26 the vocational training of the first two apprenticeship classes with 44 pupils from the foundation's schools started officially at the Lao German Technical College.





OCTOBER 13: VISIT OF THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT DR. GERD MÜLLER IN WEIHERHAMMER

During the visit of Dr. Gerd Müller at BHS Corrugated in Weiherhammer he had the opportunity to learn more about the foundation "Angels for Children". A presentation introduced him to the foundation's work at the three schools as well as to the involvement of BHS Corrugated in the professional education of the school graduates.

Press reports are available as follows:

Oberpfalz TV 13.10.2016:

„Bildung ist der Schlüssel“

O.netz 13.10.2016:

„Damit die Probleme nicht nach Deutschland kommen“

BHS Corrugated 14.10.2016:

„German development minister visits BHS Corrugated“



image source: Gabi Schönberger

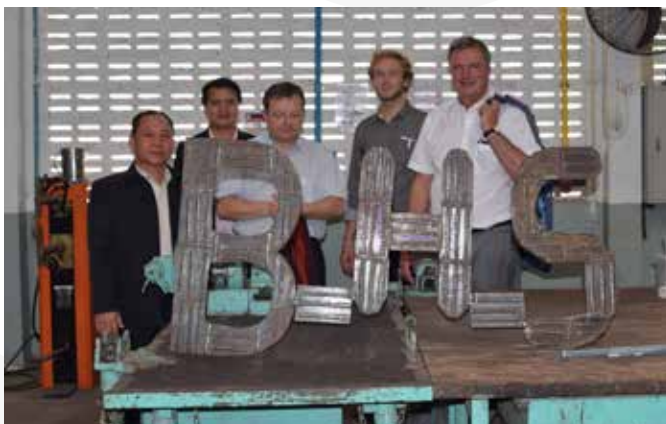




DECEMBER 6 AND 9: VISIT OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER LARS ENGEL AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD CHRISTIAN ENGEL IN LAOS

Within a short period of time both of them went to see the foundation in Laos where they were able to witness the good work and development of the project. In their role of company directors of BHS Corrugated they also visited the training project at the Lao German Technical College.

On December 6, St. Nicholas' Day, at 30°C, the annual internal Christmas celebration of the foundation took place in Laos. On December 9, there was a big dinner together with all teachers from the three schools.





REPORTS

COLLECTED NEWSPAPER REPORTS FROM 2016:

- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Vientiane - Homepage, 5.1.2016: Innovative teaching of English language for early learners in regular public primary schools
- Badische Neuste Nachrichten (02.02.2016): Good Morning Laos.
- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Vientiane - Homepage 19.02.2016: "Angels for Children" school in Ban Sikeud honored as model school of Vientiane Capital Province
- Der Neue Tag (08.04.2016): Oberpfälzer Hilfe für Laos
- Dialog. Bildungsjournal der PH Karlsruhe (3/1) 2016, 54-55.
„The Laos Experience: Pilotprojekt „Teaching English in Laos“ der Pädagogischen Hochschule Karlsruhe und der Stiftung „Engel für Kinder““
- Badische Neuste Nachrichten (14.07.2016): Schulen als kleine Oasen.
- Auriska PH Podcast 23.08.2016: „Podcast 92 - The Laos Experience“
- Oberpfalz TV 13.10.2016: „Bildung ist der Schlüssel“
- O.netz 13.10.2016: „Damit die Probleme nicht nach Deutschland kommen“
- BHS Corrugated 14.10.2016: „German development minister visits BHS Corrugated“
- Oberpfalzecho 14.10.2016: „Dr. Gerd Müller befürwortet BHS-Projekt: „Da geht einem das Herz auf!“
- Jahresbericht 2015/16 der Pädagogischen Hochschule Karlsruhe (p.20-21): „Englisch unterrichten in Laos: Terra Incognita - Experiment und Abenteuer“
- Oberpfalzecho 17.12.2016: „Türchen 17: Ein Herzensprojekt „Engel für Kinder“



— IMPRESSIONS









„All children – no matter where
they are born – should have the
same chances. „

† Ingrid Engel









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