

TRAINING CENTER PROJECT

Luang Prabang

1. General Context

Since 2018, **NK Seeds** has been working to improve lasting access to **education in Laos**, particularly through its **sponsorship program** and the establishment of **English and French schools** in remote villages.

To date, we have created four English schools and supported dozens of students throughout their university studies.

Although **NK Seeds fully finances the university education of its students** — approximately **€1,500 per student per year**, covering school fees, housing, food, materials, uniforms and transportation — university remains a very high investment for the association.

This represents **€6,000 per student for a full 4-year program**.



2. The Limitations of the Current University System

Despite this substantial investment, **it remains challenging for students to attain the level of proficiency expected if they rely solely on traditional university education**. This situation is primarily linked to structural constraints within the national higher education system, including:

- A significant decline in student enrollment since the COVID-19 pandemic, which has weakened the overall functioning of universities;
- Reduced budget allocations to the Ministry of Education, limiting the capacity to improve academic quality and teaching conditions;
- Very low remuneration for university lecturers, leading to staffing shortages and difficulties in attracting qualified educators;

- Insufficient language proficiency among teaching staff, particularly in foreign languages, which restricts the effectiveness of language instruction;
- A general decrease in academic rigor, especially in language-related subjects, which are crucial for professional integration in sectors such as tourism, hospitality, and international services.

As a result, students often progress at a slower pace and struggle to reach the proficiency levels required for their academic and professional development, even when they demonstrate strong motivation and commitment.

To mitigate these challenges, **NK Seeds has already implemented several complementary measures**, including:

- **additional evening classes in French, English, and Chinese**, designed to reinforce linguistic skills
- **support in securing part-time employment in the tourism and hospitality sectors** (hotels, cafés, restaurants), enabling students to practice languages in real-life situations and gain valuable professional experience.

3. Why Create an NK SEEDS Training Center in Luang Prabang?

In response to these challenges, NK Seeds aims **to create a comprehensive Training Center**, designed as an effective and realistic alternative to traditional university education.

Its purpose is to enable young people to acquire the essential competencies needed to enter the job market within one year.

Main Objective: Train young people in key skills within one year.

The center will offer an intensive one-year program including:

1. Three essential languages in Laos:

- French
- English
- Chinese



2. Practical modules:

- Entrepreneurship
- Business and management
- Basic computer skills
- Training for careers in the tourism industry

3. Hands-on training in real working conditions

We have a partner restaurant in town (Family Bakery & Restaurant), operated by a trusted Laotian family that has collaborated with NK Seeds for many years.

This establishment **will host students for hands-on training in cooking, service, team management, and operational organization** — a unique professional asset within the region.

Furthermore, **NK Seeds has recently established its own travel agency, NK Seeds Funds & Travel.** This structure provides an additional professional platform where **students can practice foreign languages, develop guiding skills, and gain real experience in the tourism sector.** The agency is designed to offer training opportunities leading to employment, enabling students to become certified guides or tourism assistants.

In parallel, **several partner hotels in Luang Prabang** have formally expressed their willingness to host our students for internships and potential recruitment. These collaborations will allow young trainees to acquire practical experience in reception, hospitality services, and customer relations, thus strengthening their employability in one of the country's most dynamic industries.



4. NK SEEDS' Expertise

Over the past years, NK Seeds has developed solid and recognized expertise in the design, implementation, and management of educational initiatives in Laos.

The organization's core competencies include:

- **Establishing and operating educational infrastructures**, including four English schools created in rural and semi-urban areas;
- **Managing the academic pathways of hundred of students**, from secondary school through university and professional integration;
- **Providing pedagogical supervision and curriculum support**, delivered in collaboration with qualified local teachers and international volunteers;
- **Facilitating access to employment**, notably in the tourism, hospitality, education, and service sectors.

This accumulated experience forms a strong foundation for the development of the future Training Center.

The center will benefit from **qualified teaching staff, experienced volunteers, and established local partnerships**, ensuring high-quality instruction and effective operational management.

5. Organization of the Future Center

The Training Center is designed to function as an intensive and immersive learning environment, combining classroom instruction with applied professional practice.

Learning Schedule

- Morning: academic classes focused on language acquisition and theoretical modules;
- Afternoon: supervised practical sessions including conversation practice, workshops, applied exercises, and professional immersion activities such as internships.



Planned Infrastructure

- **3 fully equipped classrooms**, adapted for language and vocational training;
- **1 administrative office for coordination**, student support, and program management;
- **Outdoor and green areas** dedicated to group activities and interactive learning;
- **Direct access to a professional restaurant training space**, in partnership with a trusted local establishment, enabling hands-on experience in hospitality-related professions.

This operational structure ensures a balanced combination of theory and practice, which is essential for developing real professional skills.

6. Expected Impact

The NK Seeds Training Center is expected to generate significant social and economic impact on both the students and their communities.

Through this program, young beneficiaries will be able to:

- **achieve functional proficiency in a foreign language within one year**, significantly enhancing their employability;
- **secure qualified positions in key sectors**, including tourism, hospitality, education, and commerce;
- **provide financial support to their families**, strengthening economic stability at the household level;
- **break the cycle of poverty** by accessing sustainable employment opportunities;
- **contribute to the development of their villages and regions**, bringing back skills and knowledge that benefit the wider community.

The model proposed by NK Seeds is more cost-effective, more efficient, and better aligned with market demands than traditional university pathways. It positions young people for direct entry into professions where language and service skills are in high demand.

6. Expected Impact

The NK Seeds Training Center represents a strategic evolution of the organization's mission: to equip young people with the skills, confidence, and opportunities necessary to build a meaningful and sustainable future.

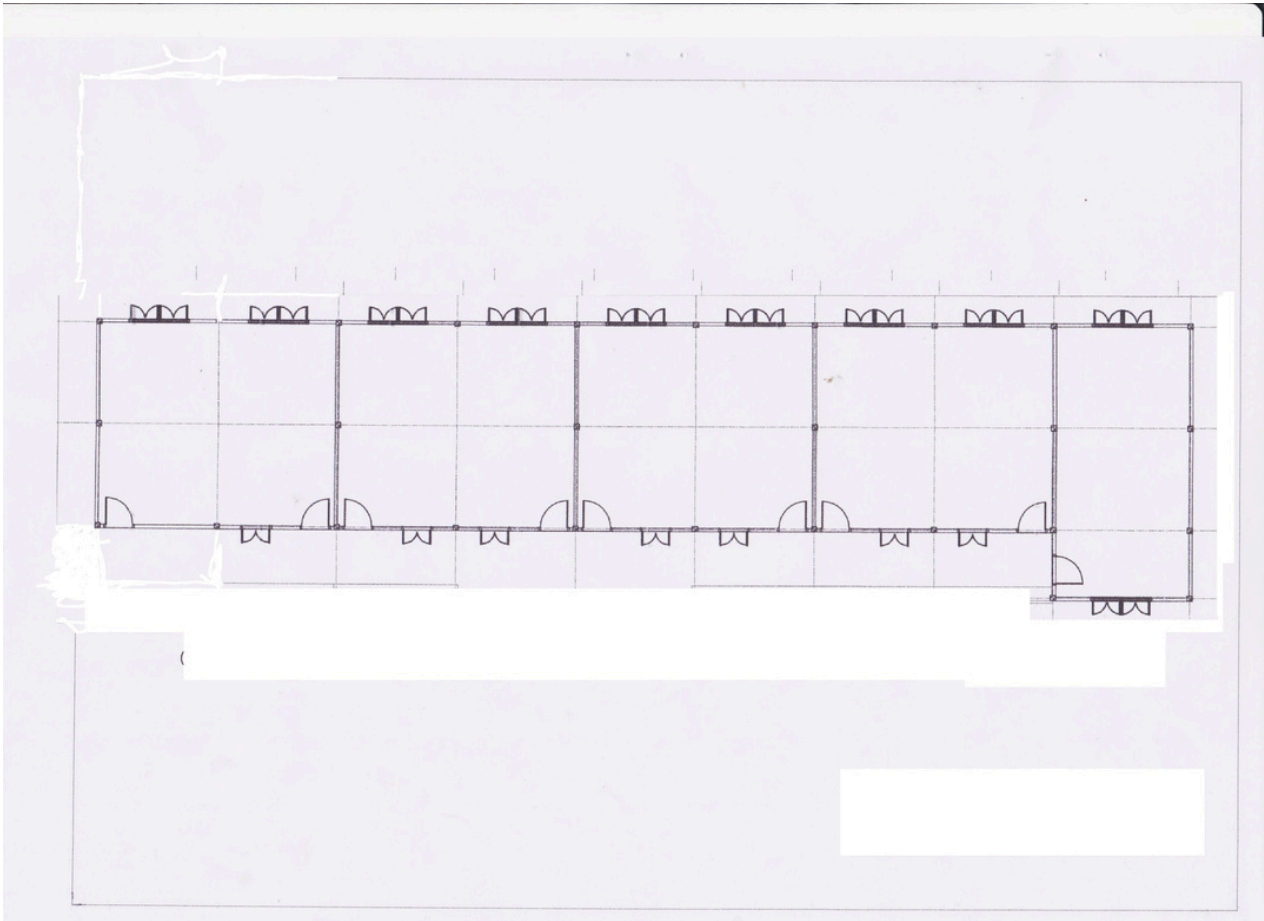
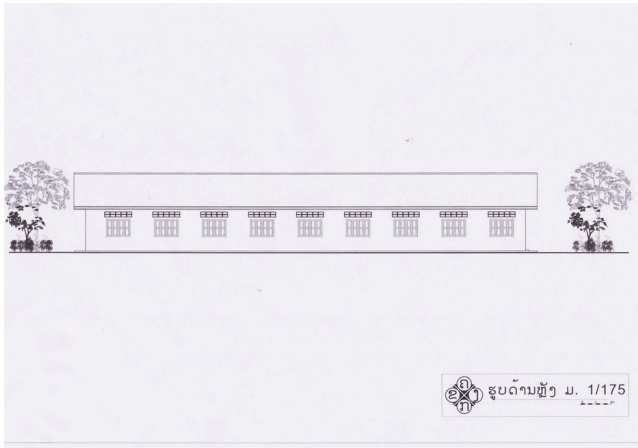
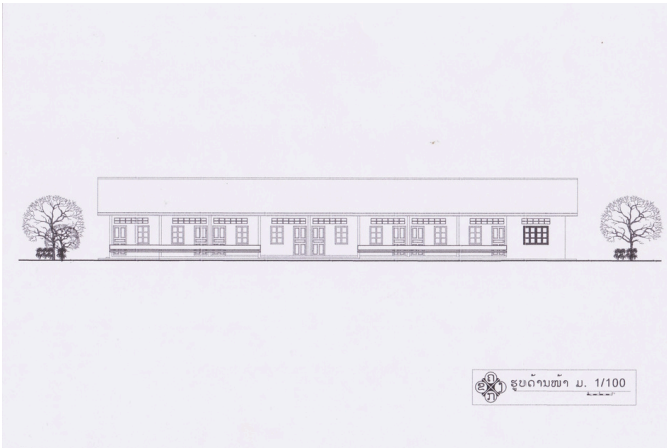
By offering accessible, high-quality, and professionally oriented education, the center directly responds to the needs of Lao youth and the realities of the local job market.

This initiative is fully consistent with NK Seeds' long-standing commitment in Laos:

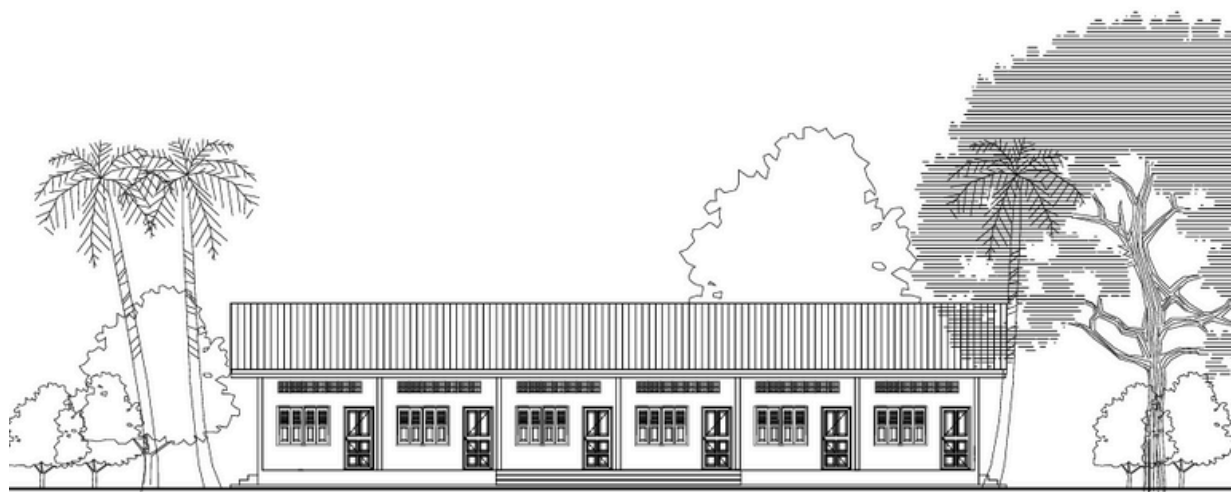
to build, to train, to support — and ultimately, to transform lives in a lasting and impactful way.



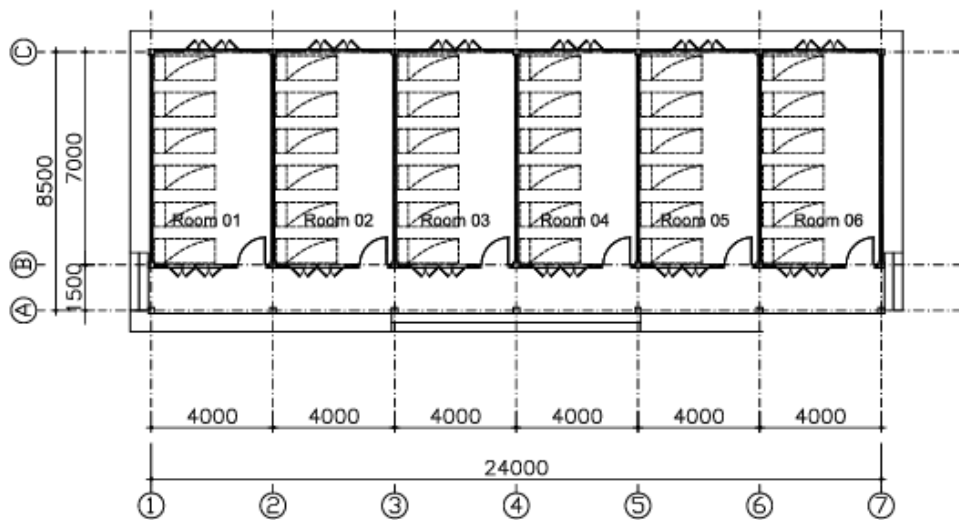
OVERVIEW OF THE TRAINING CENTER ARCHITECTURAL PLANS



OVERVIEW OF THE DORMITORY ARCHITECTURAL PLANS

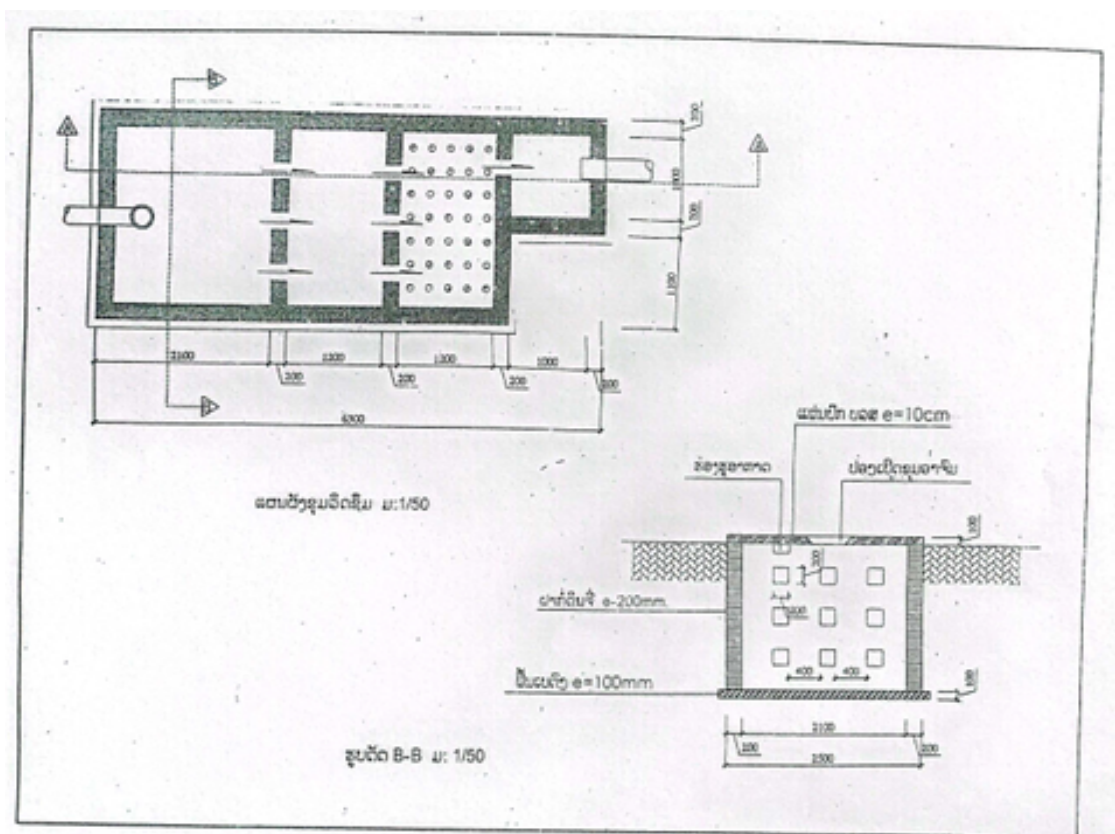
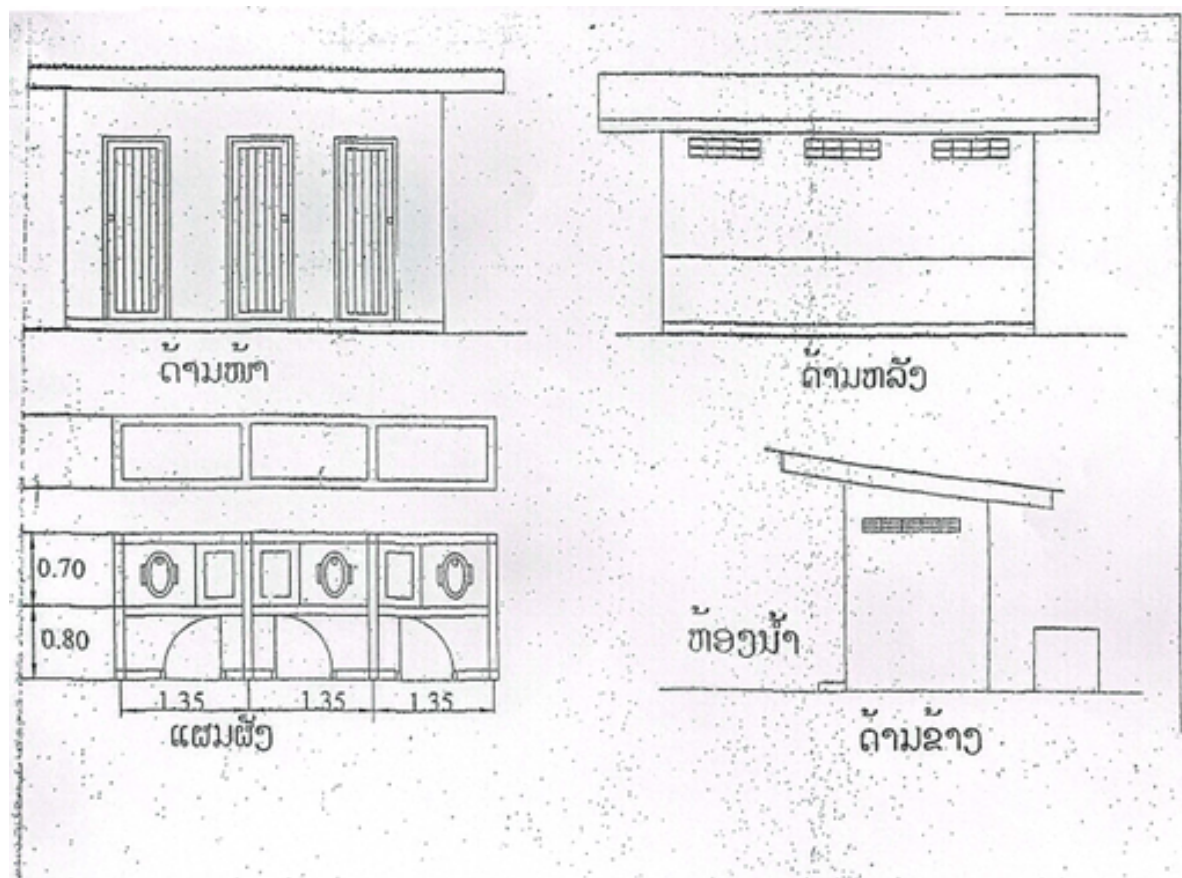


Project: Student Dormitories
(6 room 8.5m x 24 m)

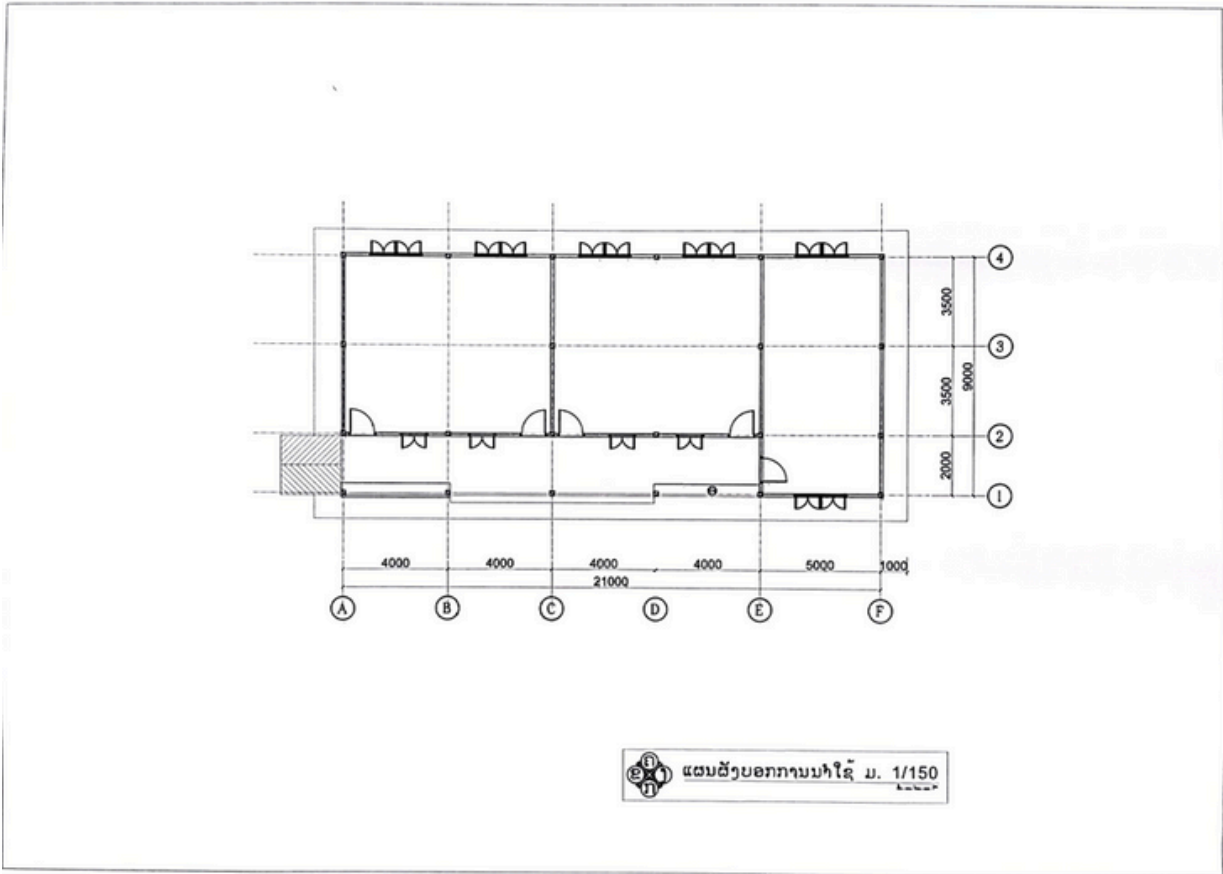
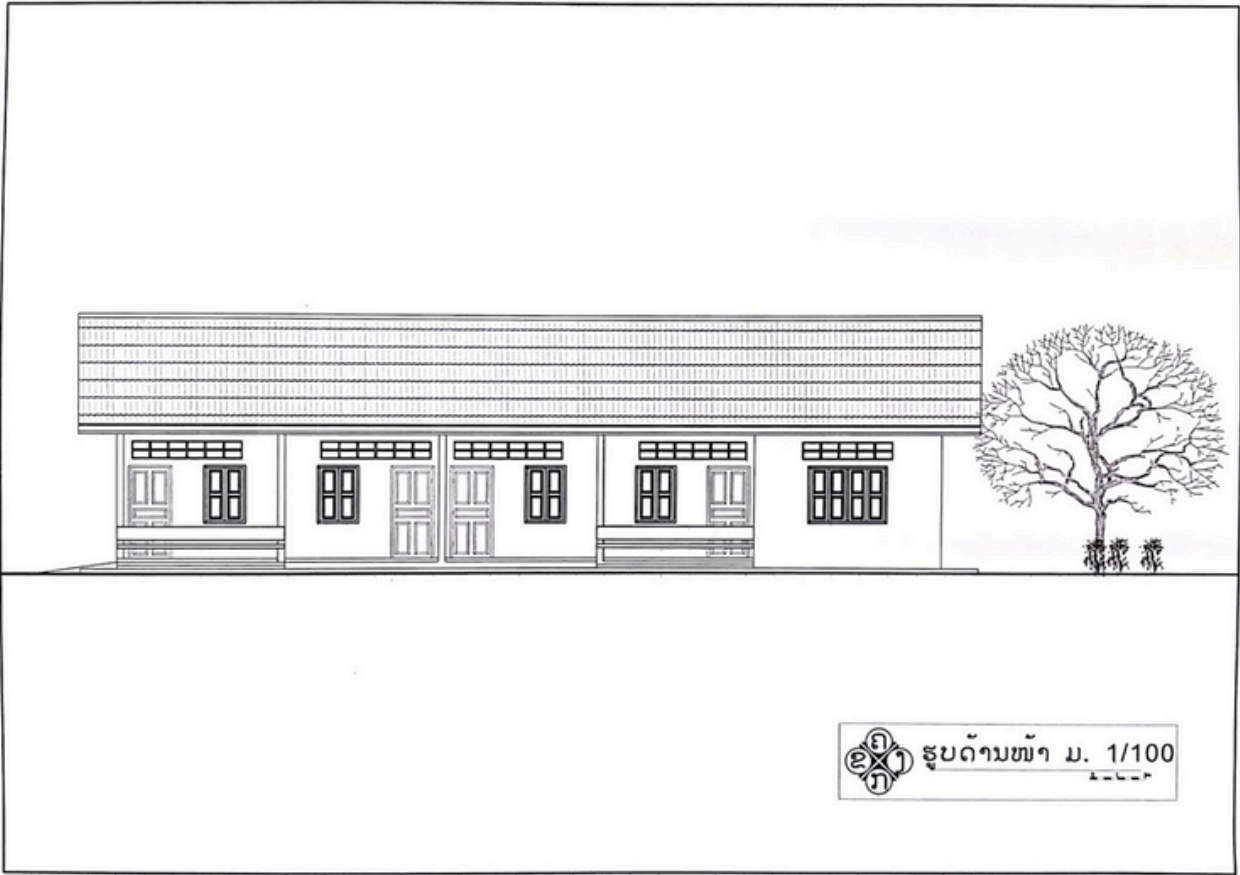


FLOOR PLAN, SCALE: 1/210

OVERVIEW OF THE SANITARY ARCHITECTURAL PLANS



OVERVIEW OF THE CLINIC ARCHITECTURAL PLANS



Total budget

Land	\$80 000,00
Construction & Infrastructure of the Training Center (Building construction, Interior layout, Electrical installation etc)	\$61 948,20
Furniture & Equipment (Student tables and chairs, Teacher's desk, Whiteboards, Storage cabinets, Fans, Desks and office chairs, Computers, Printer, Storage units)	\$5 000,00
Educational Materials (Language textbooks, School supplies, notebooks, pens, learning materials, Projectors, etc).	\$1 500,00
Construction & Infrastructure of 2 dormitory (Building construction, Electrical installation, furniture and equipment)	\$94 958,00
Three sanitary blocks (9 toilettes and showers)	\$14 782,26
Construction & Infrastructure of a Clinic (Building construction, Electrical installation, Plumbing and sanitary installations)	\$41 233,71
Clinic furnishings (Examination table, doctor and patient seating, medical storage cabinets, instrument trolleys, hygiene station, medicine refrigerator, waste-management bins, and an examination light etc)	\$0,00
Human Resources (2 years) Language teachers (French/English/Chinese) Entrepreneurship / business trainers, Hospitality & restaurant training instructors, Center coordinator, Administrative staff	\$40 000,00
Annual Operating Costs (2 years) (Water, electricity, internet, Equipment maintenance, Cleaning services, Educational consumables, Administrative expenses)	\$15 000,00
Communication & Visibility	\$1 000,00
Emergency & Contingency Fund (5%)	\$17 800,00
Administrative paper (5%)	\$17 800,00
GRAND TOTAL	\$391 022,17



NK SEEDS