

*“Water is turbid when it’s raining. Without rain, water is clear, but if you look into the water carefully, you will see that the water is contaminated. I take pity on my students that they have to drink water like this. It’s such a good luck that we have got this fund form the Betterment of Life Foundation.”*

*Principal Sak Nosri, Ban nam lak tai School*

**Name:** Ban nam lak tai School

**Location:** Yao Hilltribe village, Tambon Phathong, Amphoe Thawangpha, Nan province. (It is 23 kilometers form the town of Amphoe Thawangpha)

**Number of students and staff:** 57 students from kindergarten to grade 6 and 7 teachers and staff.

**Status of project:** Completed

*The coordinator of the Betterment of Life Foundation (BoLF) visited the school and below is her experience. The images tell their own story.*



Ban nam lak tai's village in which the school is located is in the high mountain region and it was cold when we visited the school.



The villagers plant hill rice, corn, chilli, lychee and pomelo. The villagers are very poor and their average income is approximately 5,000 baht per household per month.

*"It is the villager's bad luck that their land is unproductive So they have to work for payment outside*

*the village"* said Mrs. Napaporn Charoenphol, teacher of grade 5 and 6 said while driving into the school.

8 Kilometers of rough road led us to the village and the school. Even though it just a small school, it consisted of several good building. Mr. Sak Nosri, Principle of Ban nam lak tai School explained that there only one building had been constructed from the government budget and the rest were built from donations: for example a study building, a multi-function building and a library.



*"In the other schools children eat a variety of snacks but the children in this school ate snacks made of sticky rice because they have no money"*

added that they "Take a bath at inculcate in importance of and bathing. parents come to school because



Teacher Napaporn had established a noon Project" to students the personal hygiene Now even the take a bath at the most of them have

no bathroom in their homes due to their way of life. So the school needs more soap and shampoo now.

Lack of clean drinking water was the school's main problem. The water source is hill water contaminated by herbicide and

insecticide. There had also been E. Coli Bacteria in the water that can cause diarrhea.



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This small school made us see the importance of teamwork, and the possibility of bringing development to the village instead of just waiting for the government. This is the way to succeed.



From the follow up process, we found this project not only advantage in students and teachers, but also all of Yao Hill tribe villagers in Nam lak tai village and schools nearby.