Project Proposal

Poverty reduction and village development in Ban Xai / Hinmou Pueng

I Dec 2011 to 30 Nov 2013

10 September 2011





Part of the Hmong village of Hinmou Pueng in the Wet

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1.0 GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1 Project Title, Location and Timing

Project Name		Poverty reduction and village development in Ban Xai / Hinmou Pueng	
Country/Region/ Province/ Specific Location		Lao PDR/Xiengkhouang Province/Village of Ban Xai	
Project Timing:	Expected Start-up Date	1 Dec 2011	
Expected Finish Date		30 Nov 2012	
Project Duration		12 months (and there will most likely be extensions)	

1.2 Agency Details

Sponsoring Australian NGO	MiVAC Trust
Name	Mine Victims and Clearance
Principal contact officer	Sandy MacGregor
Telephone number	61 2 94577133 or m 61431524506
Fax number	61 2 94577122
Email address	sandy@calm.com.au
Delivery Organisation(s) in Recipient	The Mivac Trust
Country	

I.3 Request

Total funds requested USD:	AUD \$109,950
Total funds requested AUD:	AOD \$107,730

2.0 NEEDS ANALYSIS AND PROJECT DESIGN

2.1 Brief Background to Situation

The MiVAC Trust is an initiative of Australian Vietnam Veterans (Corps of Engineers) who cleared landmines in Vietnam during the Vietnam War and have seen firsthand the devastation caused by these indiscriminate weapons. Membership of the Trust has broadened to include ex-service personnel from other conflicts, humanitarian aid workers, members of peacekeeping forces and many concerned members of the public. MiVAC has operated in SE Asia for 9 years to clear mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO).

Xiengkhouang province in Lao PDR was the scene of much fighting from 1960 to 1975 during the so-called Secret War in Laos. The CIA commanding Hmong (Lao) and Thai soldiers kept at bay the invasion by two North Vietnamese Divisions whose mission it was to keep open the Ho Chi Minh trail. At the end of the war the Hmong was the enemy of the Pathet Lao forces and suffered the consequences.

The Lao Government has taken steps to assimilate the Hmong (a very proud race) into the Lao society – this brings with it extreme difficulties for both the Lao Loum and the Hmong between whom there is a lack of trust. (As recently as 1992 Hmong forces attacked the Lao end of the village of BX – people were killed and houses burnt down). The village of Ban Xai (BX - which incorporates the sub-village of Hinmou Pueng - HP) is one that has 87 Hmong families and 35 Lao families. With the Naiban asking for assistance at his village, MiVAC sees this as a reasonable opportunity to assist the whole village where the majority of the recipients will be the most impoverished ones – the Hmong. This opportunity is a stepping-stone into the Hmong community, the chance for which is very rare because of the perceived bias.

MiVAC has been working in Xiengkhouang province (amongst other provinces) for the last two years, clearing minefields and liaising with village, district and provincial heads in an area located at the western end of the Plain of Jars. Initial tasks in the area were the clearance of Khangpunghor I and Khangpunghor 2 minefields (the minefields are just North of Highway 7 and about 25 Km West of Phonsavan) and the training of a Minefield Clearance Team of II from the adjacent village of Ban Xai. Operational matters were subcontracted to Phoenix Clearance Ltd (PCL) – a Lao commercial clearance company based in Vientiane. It is to

be noted that PCL is the only company in Lao PDR, which has cleared minefields. Thai soldiers under the direction of the CIA laid these minefields.

In October 2010, MiVAC was asked by the Naiban of Ban Xai to see if they could assist the village in many areas of needs. MiVAC carried out an extensive needs survey in the village of Ban Xai which included a sub-village of Hinmou Pueng (about 8 km South of Ban Xai). MiVAC is keen to address the extreme poverty and development needs found at Ban Xai (a Lao and Hmong village) and its neighbouring sub-village of Hinmou Pueng (a predominantly Hmong village).

Most of the inhabitants, being Hmong, are below the Laos government poverty measure of 50 cents per day and many families live on as little as \$30 per year with a food intake of less than 2100 calories per day. The Lao Loum (at the far end of the village of Ban Xai) is comparatively wealthy and will have electricity connected soon. The problems are compounded by the inflow of Hmong relocated by Lao government re-settlement programmes. MiVAC proposes a one-year pilot project to start addressing the needs in these and similar villages along Route 7 in Xiengkhouang.

2.2 Statement of Development Needs/Issues

The 700 inhabitants of Ban Xai and Hinmou Pueng have no clean water sources, toilets in only half the Lao Loum homes, no sanitation, no power for the Hmong, two schools with a dirt floor (at Hinmou Pueng and Ban Xai), and many villagers face gross food insecurity most of the year.

The letter received by MiVAC from the Naiban of Ban Xai (signed by both District and Provincial officials) (attachment 7) has asked for the following:

- a) Building water supply and storage in Ban Xai and Hinmou Pueng group.
- b) Connecting electricity to Ban Xai School and to the poor families.
- c) Repairing schools of Hinmou Pueng group
- d) Building Biodigesters
- e) Supplying materials to build Temple
- f) Assistance with sanitation and toilets and others.

Of the six requests above, MiVAC has influenced the request regarding the biodigesters and please note that the materials for the Temple is not part of this application. The Naiban and village committee was so impressed with the potential of the biodigesters that they offered MiVAC one hectare (I Ha) of land at both Ban Xai and Hinmou Pueng. MiVAC extolled the virtues of biodigesters saying that the whole of the development on the I Ha will revert to the village when MiVAC leaves – the development includes a building, toilets, fencing, cows and cow pen, pigs and pig pen, chickens and chicken pen, an irrigated fertilized market garden, an irrigated fertilized cassava area, a fish farm and biodigesters.

After reconnaissance to the villages it could be seen that many things could be addressed with biodigesters, including utilization of animal droppings, sanitation, gas cooking, lighting and heating, toilets, income generation, animal husbandry. Building of biodigesters could become a viable and entrepreneurial village business. Gas from the biodigesters is an alternative fuel to wood, thereby reducing deforestation in the region and having huge ramification in the slash and burn mentality and the value of irrigation with intensive land farming.

The Hmong school at BX (dirt floor) services the first year of schooling – then the children go to the big NEW School. The Hmong school at HP services the first two years of education (in a one room dirt floor school). Children continue their education and then go to the NEW School at BX. They, the children, have to stay at other Hmong homes (often in a hut that is suitable for only a cow and have to fend for themselves – all this at an age from nine to eleven.) HP has permission for another teacher (supplied by the province) if they have another classroom. This would enable the children to do two more years schooling in HP and then go to Phonsavan Secondary School.

What water there is in both BX and HP must be boiled before use. All water tests taken have shown excess and unsafe levels of E. coli and other bacterial strains. Water is inadequate in the dry season and the distribution of storage and water points are inadequate. Young Hmong girls in Ban Xai were seen bent double carrying 20 litres of water on their backs.

Electricity is about to be connected to 32 Lao Loum families (mainly for lighting), The cost for MiVAC to extend the power lines to the school is \$800, however 3 poor families of Lao Loum will not be connected, nor will any of the Hmong.

Only half of the Lao Loum has toilets. Installing toilets for 87 Hmong families and 17 Lao Loum will boost sanitation with obvious supplementary health benefits. We will liaise with doctors at nearby Phoukoud to train someone at both villages to be able to do first aid and also midwifery. Childbirth deaths we were told were high. Provision for clinic space has been made in the facilities building.

2.3 How Project will Address Development Needs/Issues

Water storage tanks, where necessary will be built, together with further outlets to the existing system Wells are required in HP and a storage and distribution system is to be established. Wells are also required at the Lao Loum end of the village. Storage tanks and plumbed water is required for the biodigester sites. Each home will have a system of bacteria sand filter installed to provide potable water without boiling.

Connect electricity to the NEW School at BX.

It is intended to build concrete floors at the two Hmong schools and supply the materials for the HP new classroom. This means that more Hmong will stay at school and in all probability will enable more Hmong to go to high school

The building and operation of the biodigesters has the most benefits. Six profit centres are established with an increase in sustainability, together with introducing a new form of power and the use of manure, . They will both be a model for the villagers. It is hoped that all the villagers will be served by a biodigester near them. The actual provision, storage, potability and use of water will be a model for future village use. New trades will be learned together with new intensive farming. The improvement of sanitation with all the animal dung being utilized will be a boost to health

Current toilets exist in only 14% of the homes – there will be gains in both in sanitation and health when that figure reaches 100%.

There is the opportunity to introduce a micro credit scheme and so extend the sustainable income for some villagers.

There is a need to introduce health programmes, first aid and train a village nurse/midwife to attend births.

2.4 Project Design Summary

2.4.1 Goals (Impact)

The goal is poverty reduction in Ban Xai / Hinmou Pueng by introducing a series of profit centres and job opportunities for the villagers, to gradually change the dependence on swidden cultivation, to better the health and sanitation of villagers and to increase education opportunities.

2.4.2 Purpose (Outcome)

As this is a multi-faceted project there are several outcomes. These include:

- Reducing poverty by improving infrastructure and domestic resources to lift living standards,
- Initiating an entrepreneurial culture by introducing new economic opportunities
- Providing a safe and healthy environment by improving water purity and sanitation standards

2.4.3 Outputs (Results)

Key Outputs	Indicator & Target	Year		
Potable water including wells,	All inhabitants have access to safe tested water in their			
storage tanks and gravity systems	homes and source water is available year round. Decrease USC mortality from 6.1% to 5.5% pneumonia			
Health, Hygiene, and Sanitation	Decrease U5C mortality from 6.1% to 5.5%, pneumonia			
education	prevalence from 27% to 25% and diarrhoea prevalence from			
	7% to 6%			
	To lift attendance at birth from 11% to 50% and of the			
	poorest quintile from 3% to 50%. Source WHO.			
Use of biogas for villagers	Completion of 2 working biodigesters, each with a capacity	2012		
	of 20 to 25 cubic metres. A cattle Pass-On scheme will be			
	introduced and income generation from market gardens,			
	poultry, pigs, cattle, cassava and aquaculture. These will			
	serve as a model to encourage other villages and villagers to			
	be involved.			
Education	All children attending primary school have access to	2012		
	adequate water and sanitation facilities in accordance with			
	Lao PDR government standards. The Children will also be			
	taught all about the benefits of Biodigesters.			
Economic development	Implementation of new enterprises – building of	2012		
	biodigesters, animal husbandry, brick making, masonry			
	business, vegetable gardens and marketing of farm produce.			
Micro credit scheme	Micro-credit for those marginalised by poverty – the Hmong	2012		
	is poorer than the Lao - to assist in establishing textile			
	weaving, small-scale farm production, trading and other			
	enterprises. Repayment and relending of all loans within			
	twelve months.			
Agriculture and livestock extension	Work with Agriculture Extension officials to implement	2012		
	progressive farming techniques that will diversify crops,			
	improve food security, increase livestock production and			
	broaden marketing channels.			
Communal training facility	Construction of exhibition building on village land. This	2012		
	building will be a facility for briefing, vocational training,			
	health programmes and tourism. This facility will revert to a			
	village committee on completion of the project.			

2.5 Log Frame

Project Summary/Hierarchy of Objectives	Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Risks & Assumptions
Project Goal The goal is poverty reduction in Ban Xai / Hinmou Pueng by introducing a series of profit centres and job opportunities for the villagers, to gradually change the dependence on swidden cultivation, to better the health and sanitation of villagers and to increase education opportunities.	 Villagers wanting biodigesters Villagers copying profit centres in BX and HP Cleanliness of villages More children at school in HP Health improvement in pneumonia and at birth 	 Record names. Visual siting and record names Visual – especially in HP Keeping records by teacher Medical orderly keeping records 	Assumption. Village will willingly receive project. Low risk as village committee participated in needs analysis.
 Increase health with the availability of clean potable water in each of 122 homes To teach the ability to make and operate sand/bacteria water units To deliver adequate water throughout the year to all water points To establish and operate biodigesters in BX and HP for the production and use of methane gas. To show the alternatives available to wood burning for heating, cooking and lighting. To show the effectiveness of using processed animal dung (penned pigs and cows) and water (irrigation) for intensive market gardening and the sanitation benefits. To show the effectiveness of penning chickens and using their dung for fish farming and the sanitation benefits. To show the effectiveness of 6 profit centres within the operation of biodigesters offering income generation and alternatives to swidden agriculture To encourage villagers who have seen the effectiveness of biodigesters to have their own installed by trained villagers 	 Number of water units established Numbers attending training Carry out checks in dry season Biodigester produces gas for cooking Have tours of Biodigester Model Develop market gardens and have tours (employ villager) and collect dung from other areas – show in tours Show fish feeding from chicken dung and of course include in tours Assess interest in numbers of people who wish to do the same Talk to villagers to see what cluster of houses want biodigesters 	 Keep records Keep records Keep records Cooking on gas happens Record numbers on Tours Record production and 5 Record production fish and chickens Keep records and assist those who wish to start Keep records 	Assumption. Villagers will accept biosand filters. Low risk; villagers have asked for filters. Assumption. Periodically river and water points run dry. Moderate risk, which will measured by hydrologist. Assumption. Villagers will accept benefit of biodigesters. Low risk - use of methane gas for lighting. High risk - use of methane gas for cooking because it opposes tradition and culture. Response. Education and use of demonstration biodigesters.
10. To install toilets in or outside houses so that all people of the village have access to a toilet	10. Numbers of toilets installed	10. Keep records	Assumption. Villagers will utilise new toilets. Low risk. Villagers have specifically asked for toilets and improvements in sanitation standards.

 11. To establish adequate facilities at HP for primary schooling and improve the Hmong school buildings in both BX and HP 12. To join the NEW school to the electricity grid to increase the school usage and educational possibilities 	II. Build new classroom and two concrete floors. Liaise with teachers as to attendanceI2. Lights on in school	11. Record numbersat HP in newclassroom12. Manager to view	Assumption. Villagers value education and standard of their schools. Low risk. Villagers have sought renovations and provincial government will provide a teacher if new classroom built.
To provide training for a medical 1st aid, midwifery and health person in BX and HP	13. Selected person does training in both HP and BX	13. Manager to provide names	Assumption. Will be supported by District and Provincial health authorities. Low risk. Already negotiated
To offer the opportunities to establish businesses using micro credit schemes	14. Have meetings and maybe produce a brochure	14. Record businesses establish	Assumption. Villagers ready to embrace entrepreneurial culture. High risk. Response. Partner with indigenous NGO's experienced in microfinance.
15. To construct a facility for train in, medical room, accommodation and kitchen, which, at the completion of MiVAC's time in the village will revert to the villagers.	15. The completed medical room, training room, accommodation room and kitchen.	15. Provide a photo. (This also applies to any part of the project) and attend handover ceremony	Assumption. Villagers will fully utilise building. Moderate risk. In country manager to coordinate and supervise.

	T	ı	I
Output I 1. 122 Home Water Purification units 2. 50 litres/person/day of water available at village collection points 3. At each of the I Ha allotted for the biodigester sites at BX and HP have 10,000 litres/day of water available including water tanks and water reticulation to the biodigester, the animal pens, the kitchen and toilets, the fish ponds, cassava and the market garden irrigation.	 Number of home water units Monitor complaints of inadequate water availability Monitor adequate availability at both biodigesters. 	Record completed units Record complaints and the areas they occurred Record daily water usage and availability for 6 months after market gardens are operating in the dry season.	Assumption. Output achievable. Within capacity of MiVAC. Risk. Water sources dry up. Will be investigated and resolved in implementation phase
Activity I.I			
The purchase, delivery, installation of sand/bacteria water units. The training of the villagers to build and operate the water units	Install 20 units per month commencing Mayl 2012 Monthly training classes commencing May 2012	Keep records Keep records of attendees	Assumption. Villagers will replace biosand layer annually. Low risk. Dependent on education and monitoring.
The knowledge regarding the water units is from Antho Manpower to do the task Activity 1.2 The establishment of the water source and the supply to storage tanks The installation of storage tanks and their connection to the Water Points in Ban Xai The installation of storage tanks and the establishment of water points in Hinmou Pueng	Establishment by July 2012 and storage tanks built in BX Connection to Water Points in BX in August 2012 all Water Points operating Establishment by July 2012 and storage	Visual – take photos Visual – take photos and record complaints regarding supply Visual – take photos and record complaints	Assumption. Existence of year round water source. Risk moderate. Water sources dried up during 2011. Response. Gathering of hydrological data to ensure perennial water source.
Resources for Activity 1.2 A decision and choice of the water source is yet to be no The location of the concrete storage tanks for both BX	tanks built in BX nade – see attached maps for both BX and	d HP.	pipes are available in Phonsavan
Manpower to do the task is available	Ţ	· •	·
Activity 1.3	F. 181		
The installation of storage tanks and pumps at both the Biodigester sites together with a water tank on top of a tower	Establishment by September 2012 in BX Establishment by October 2012 in HP	Manager to view water tanks and take photos	Assumption. N/A

Water reticulation from the water tower to the biodigester, chicken, pigs, cattle, kitchen, toilets, fish,	Establishment by Mar 2012 in BX	Manager to test reticulated water at each point.	
cassava and market gardens	Establishment by Jun 2012 in HP	water at each point.	
Resources for Activity 1.3			
All the raw materials including hoses, fittings, tanks and Timber is available locally within the village Manpower to do the task is available	concrete are available in Phonsavan.		
Output 2			
Build biodigesters and operate them at each site in BX and HP. Biodigesters are 2 m diameter and 2 m high (plus the cone) plus connect them to the gas outlets for the lighting, heating and kitchen. Also build the discharge trenches for the processed dung and all the animal pens.	When the biodigesters are operating gas can be used for cooking, heating and lighting and in addition the processed dung is available for use as fertilizer.	Manager to report successful use of gas and fertilizer. Take photos.	Assumption. Construction of biodigesters is technically an easy task. MiVAC staff experienced in encountering, responding to and overcoming field issues.
Activity 2.1			Biodigesters are a tested technology in
Installation of Biodigester and discharge trenches at BX plus all gas outlets	Established by Feb 2012 at BX	Photographs	similar circumstances throughout Asia.
Resources for Activity 2.1			
Building materials available in Phonsavan for a brick wall	s and concrete dome plus a Trustee from	MiVAC will be on site directing	ng construction.
Activity 2.2			
Installation of Biodigester and discharge trenches at HP plus all gas outlets	Established by May 2012 at BX	Photographs	Assumption. That all component parts will be available locally. Building materials but some pipes and fittings may have to be obtained elsewhere.
Resources for Activity 2.2			
Building materials available in Phonsavan for a brick wall	s and concrete dome plus a supervisor wi	ill be on site directing construc	tion.
Activity 2.3			
Build and construct fencing around I Ha site at BX and HP together with pigpen and effluent collection, cattle pen, and chicken pen. Build the required fish trenches.	Fencing around BX I Ha by Nov II Animal and fish pens BX by Dec II Fencing around HP I Ha by Feb I2 Animal and fish pens HP by Mar I2	Reports and photographs	Assumption. That villagers will comprehend the long term farming benefits associated with operating the biodigesters.
Resources for Activity 2.3 All Building materials available in Phonsavan			
Activity 2.4			
Buy the animals for the biodigester operation and the training of employees who will look after them	Buy pigs, cattle, chickens BX by Jan 12 Buy pigs, cattle, chickens HP by Apr12	Report and photographs of penned animals	As in Activity 2.3 above.
Resources for Activity 2.4			.1
All animals are available to buy within the district and the	ne manager with an advisor can do the Dur	rchasing	

Activity 2.5 Commence the market garden and the cassava growing	Commence Gardens at BX in Feb 12 Commence Gardens at HP in May 12	Report and photographs	Assumption. Villagers will resist short-term market potential for output. Response. We will collaborate with local agriculture officials in the education process.
Resources for Activity 2.5			
There will be a suitable employee chosen along with the	e appropriate knowledge supplied by MiVA	AC T	
Activity 2.6 Commence the Fish Farm	Commence Operating Fish Farm in BX in Mar and HP in Jun 2012	Report and photographs	Assumption. Villagers will understand the potential of the fish farms. Response. Such farms operate throughout this region and provide additional income as well as extra nutritional dietary protein.
Resources for Activity 2.6			
The two types of fish that can be harvested are Catfish	and Nile Perch (the local name is panine)	 both are available and need t 	o be sourced.
Output 3 Build toilets, utilizing labour of the villagers, so that all of the village have access to a toilet in their home.	Toilets available in each house contributes to sanitation and health - villagers will dig the holes for the concrete tank - completed Apr 2012	Reports of progress - numbers of toilets completed per week starting in Nov 11	Assumption. Villagers want better toilets as they have specifically asked for toilets to improve sanitation standards.
Activity 3.1 Purchase, delivery and installation of septic toilets in each home in BX and HP (approximately 105 toilets)	Commence in BX and do approx 4 per week over 6 months	Report and photographs	As stated in Col. I
Resources for Activity 3.1	per week ever e monero		
Raw materials available in Phonsavan (a decision needs t	o be made as to the size of the water cor	tainer) and the Naiban will ini	tiate first villagers to receive toilets.
Output 4 To increase educational opportunities and better the facilities available for education	Liaise with the schoolteacher at HP and ask him to keep attendant records both before and after the new classroom is open.	Ask the teacher for his records and submit report	Assumption. New school built approximately five years ago has lifted education prospects and expectations in Ban Xai.
Activity 4.1			Assumption. Villagers have identified
To provide materials for a new classroom at HP and concrete the floor of two existing classrooms.	Provide materials for new school at HP and do the required concreting of floors by Nov 2011	Photograph the completed tasks	need for better, weatherproof classrooms. Provincial officials have agreed to provide extra teacher on construction of new classroom in Hinmou Pueng.
Resources for Activity 4.1			
The raw materials are available in Phonsavan except the	timber, which is available in HP. Local lab	our will be used.	

Output 5 Have a trained medic in first aid, midwifery and health person in both BX and HP	2 people need to be selected and they will be in Medical Clinic to be built	Keep a book on how many people the medical person is called upon to work with	Assumption. That suitable personnel reside in both villages. Currently negotiations have taken place with medical staff in at Phoukoud hospital regarding siting staff at the new clinic.
Activity 5.1 Liaise with Phoukoud hospital (or Phonsavan hospital) for the training of 2 personnel	The length of training is not known at this time however we expect it to be completed by June 2012	Photograph the two people when their training is complete and they are at the medical clinic	Currently it is understood that respiratory conditions are the main cause of death in the region. However, medical staff reports a high incidence of death during childbirth as well. Note that midwifery training was only reintroduced to Lao in October 2010.
Resources for Activity 5.1 The two people are could be available – one from BX as Phonsavan) have indicated that they are willing to co-op		earance team has already been	trained. The hospitals Phoukoud and
Output 6 Offer opportunities to establish businesses using micro credit schemes	Villagers need to be told about the availability of the scheme and need to exhibit interest - this will be recorded.	Record names at meeting	Assumption. Villagers are willing to embrace the idea of small scale credit financing. To lift success levels we will partner with other indigenous NGO's working in this field.
Activity 6.1 Survey the villagers to gauge their level of poverty and	Provide information in Jun and	Have contracts issued and	Response. Liaise with organisations such as SEDA and other microcredit

Output 7			
To construct the training, medical room, accommodation and kitchen facility at BX and HP in the I Ha site	This is the centrepiece of the model we wish to show the villagers and the school children. Village meetings will take place in the training room.	Record the numbers of meetings, the tours around the I Ha site and viewings by the school children	Assumption. That the villagers will utilise the facility. Negotiations are continuing with villagers who have identified specific uses they have for the facility on hand-over. Draft plans have been modified to embrace their input.
Activity 7.1			
The building at BX is to be subcontracted labour to	Subcontract for building in BX	Take photographs with	See above.
the stage of concrete floor, columns, beams, roof	completed in October	reports of progress	
trusses and roofing. 3 quotes have been obtained and the builder is selected.			
Resources for Activity 7.1			
All the material and the builder (the best of 3 quotes) has	as been sourced from Phoukoud and Phor	nsavan	
Activity 7.2			
The building in BX needs to be completed and the gas	Completion of building and gas fittings	Photographs and reports	As above
fittings installed. Toilets will be built	a Trustee on site will supervise the		
	construction – completed Dec 2011		
Resources for Activity 7.2			
All the raw material can been sourced from Phoukoud a	and Phonsavan and the timber from BX		
Activity 7.3			
The building at HP is to be either local or	Subcontract for building in HP	Take photographs with	As above
subcontracted labour to the stage of concrete floor,	completed in Jan 2012	reports of progress	
columns, beams, and roof trusses and roofing.			
Resources for Activity 7.3			
All the material and the builder (the best of 3 quotes) has	as been sourced from Phoukoud and Phor	nsavan	
Activity 7.4			
The building in HP needs to be completed and the gas	Completion of building and gas fittings	Photographs and reports	As above
fittings installed. Toilets will be built	- completed Mar 2012		
Resources for Activity 7.4			
All the raw material can been sourced from Phoukoud a	and Phonsavan and the timber from HP		

2.5.1 Project Activity Notes

- 1. It is to be noted that there will be some income from the sale of cassava, fish, vegetables, chicken produce, pigs or cattle in the latter part of the year. What to do with this money is not yet decided ultimately it can go to the village or towards the next set of biodigesters to be built.
- 2. The cattle, pig and chicken pass on scheme will be applied to the people who wish to build communal biodigesters within the village of BX or HP. It is expected that groups of villages living close together will have these communal biodigesters serving the whole group. Within the group there may be animals owned by

- the villagers, which will become part of the penned animals serving the biodigester. It is not expected that MiVAC, in this first 12-month project, will have the capital to implement additional biodigesters.
- 3. In the longer term when biodigesters and increased wealth is in the village that these skills will be passed on to other nearby villages who have heard about the success of this project and have asked for something similar. It is known that many similar and more outlying villages exist between Phonsavan and the Vietnam border.
- 4. The uses for the utilities building could be many and varied. There may well be a part to play in Tourism including the sale of product from the micro businesses.
- 5. MiVAC has a number of interested people who wish to be giving on site assistance to the project. It is expected that they will stay in the accommodation section of the utilities building and make use of the cooking facilities and the veranda for the dining room.

2.6 Project Activity Schedule (See attachment 3 on page 22)

2.7 Direct & Indirect Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries are the 700 inhabitants of Ban Xai and Hinmou Pueng. The whole village will gain because of the funds generated from the six businesses established as profit centres for the village.

There will also be micro businesses established which could have an effect on Tourism and Tourism Sales.

The accommodation area could be used for tourists.

With the animal pass on scheme and the increase in biodigester construction and participation it is hoped that ultimately all villagers will have the direct benefits that biodigesters offer.

The animal pass on scheme hopefully is here to stay and can assist the people in new villagers as MiVAC increases their influence and presence in the area.

3.0 PROJECT CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

3.1 Efficiency

Efficiency will be achieved by:

- Proper planning with CPM and Gantt charts with resource allocations, costings and timelines,
- Daily capturing of financial information at project site by spread-sheet,
- · Weekly reporting to Australia for review and double entry accounting
- Graphical analysis of progress
- Charting of progress and outcomes against milestones

3.2 Gender Equality

The project recognises gender roles are based on, and must address:

- Differentiated social and cultural roles of men and women in a subsistence economy,
- Women's health issues particularly at childbirth,
- Relieving women of repetitive, time consuming tasks, and
- Past engagement of women in demining for efficiency, productivity and employment

3.3 Sustainability of Outcomes

- Construction will introduce solid building techniques to prolong building longevity,
- Health programmes that will enable longer term monitoring and a transference from 'reactive' to preventative medicine,
- Improvements in sanitation, women's health and reduction in respiratory illnesses (through the use of biodigesters) that will reduce incidence illness and death in the longer term,
- Introduction of micro-credit that will lead to more income generation opportunities in the longer term, and
- Agriculture and small scale farming leading to food security as a path to poverty reduction

3.4 Analysis and Learning

The project will be continually monitored and assessed by:

- Incorporation of CPM planning into PERT charts for future project planning,
- Maintaining a daily journal incorporating incident log and OH&S reports
- Development of a market orientation versus subsistent economy

3.5 Environmental Assessment

The project recognises the Lao government's policies for:

- Relocation of Hmong to reduce environmental degradation
- Improving development prospects by moving ethnic groups nearer to roads and other infrastructure
- Switch from subsistence / swidden agriculture to market oriented agriculture

- Reducing deforestation
- Assisting longer term reforestation

3.6 Other Markers

With the current positive rapport that has already been established with the provincial government it is hoped to broaden benefits flowing from this pilot project to other villages and other projects.

3.7 Strategies for Management of Identified Risks

Risk	Likelihood (Low,	Consequence (Fatal,	Management					
	Medium, High)	Serious, Manageable)						
Villagers ready to	Medium to High	Manageable – this area s	We will liaise and could partner with					
embrace		less than 2% of total	organisations such as SEDA and other					
entrepreneurial		project.	microcredit groups working in this					
culture using			area.					
microcredits								
That villagers will	Medium	Manageable. The proof of	Priority will be given to garden					
comprehend the		what can be produced	production for what the villagers need.					
long term farming		using the waste from	Once this production can be measured					
benefits associated		biodigesters may take till	and shown to the villagers other					
with operating the		the second year. This is	biodigesters will be built and					
biodigesters.		the model for future.	consequently produce more fertilizer.					
Villagers have	Medium	Manageable. Phonsavan	If Phonsavan officials supply no					
identified need for		officials have told the	schoolteacher, MiVAC will make					
an additional		schoolteacher that they	further enquiries at that time.					
classroom and		will supply a new teacher						
therefore get		at Hinmou Pueng.						
another teacher								

4.0 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

4.1 The Role of (Agency name in Australia) and the (Agency) partner office

The Role of MiVAC is to liaise, design, implement and monitor the project in Xiengkhouang. Most of the initial liaison with the villagers, the Naiban of BX, the District Officials and the Provincial Officials has been completed. This has resulted in Provincial approval of the project (called "Activity") and the design of the Activity. It is as well to know that the request for assistance came up the line from the villagers – a fact that has been greatly appreciated by District, provincial and Vientiane Government level.

The implementation and Monitoring of the Activity is discussed in subsequent paragraphs however the Trustees and Patron of MiVAC will be taking an active part in the Activity by physically visiting the villages and taking part in decision making and assistance. It is known that one Trustee will be visiting and supervising the completion of the utilities building and the construction of the biodigesters. Furthermore it is expected that another Trustee and the Patron will go to the Activity at critical times. There will also be visits to survey other villages for similar Activities to those done in BX.

MiVAC has also appointed an in-country manager who has the desired experience. MiVAC has knowledge and experience of him and this manager has spent two weeks with the Patron in BX and HP and knows and understands the tasks. The man is 55 years old and speaks English. MiVAC has also taken steps to appoint Stephen Woods a supervisor for the project. Steve is a resident of Lao PDR (in Vientiane) and a former Australian soldier from the Vietnam War who speaks Lao and is familiar with Lao and Hmong customs. Steve will spend time on site and will be vitally involved in directing our manager, reporting and fiscal matters.

4.2 The Implementing Agency and Coordinating Arrangements

MiVAC Trust is the implementing agency. MiVAC has worked in Cambodia (village development), Vietnam (building a major causeway and building a series of development tasks required by a series of Vinh Son Orphanages), Sri Lanka (building a major orphanage) – at each of the locations MiVAC has had a man on the ground supervising. In Lao PDR MiVAC has contracted Phoenix Clearance Ltd (PCL) to clear UXOs (from

villages, school grounds and rice fields) and Mine Fields for the last 4 years and has carried out construction tasks at Kohai which involved building, toilets, water reticulation and dormitories for school children. (This construction task was supervised by a MiVAC Trustee).

The Manager on the ground 100% of the time already has a good knowledge and understanding of the Activity and has interacted with, and has a good rapport with the beneficiaries in both BX and HP.

Regarding the Vientiane Government's approvals, the current stage is that the Letter of Request from the Naiban, signed by the Village, District and Provincial officials (Attachment 7), accompanied by a letter from the Provincial Governor affirming that the Province wants the Activity to go ahead has been presented to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Vientiane. The Government has approved the Activity (Attachment 8). MiVAC is now in the process of preparing and submitting a Project Development application and an MOU converting the Activity into a Project, with the corresponding approvals for a Project Office and a Bank Account being an INGO in Lao PDR.

Moneys remitted come to the Activity via PCL who will pass on the total amount of moneys remitted to an account in Xiengkhouang. The in-country manager and Stephen Woods or any of the visiting trustees will operate this account.

4.3 Monitoring and Reporting Roles

The Local Manager on the site at all times is Onkeo who will be living in Phoukoud Village (a few kilometres from Ban Xai). He will be available on email and the mobile phone. He will be submitting weekly reports.

Steve Woods, who lives in Vientiane, will have an overall supervising role for the project. He is ready, at a moments notice, to fly to Phonsavan to monitor, issue instructions and assist the local manager.

The reporting will be done by email to the Trustees and to the Patron. (And to Major Funds provider when necessary). The financial aspects of the project will be supervised by a Trustee (Paul Jeffress).

The Trustees are available (as is the Patron) to visit Ban Xai as and when needed.

4.4 Other Existing Programs in the Area

The only known program in the area is ChildFund . Very little liaison has been conducted with other NGOs in the area.

5.0 BUDGET DESIGN AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

5.1 Presentation of Budget

Activity Year	USD
,	Including IPCs
Year One	\$109,950
Year Two	
Year Three	
Total	

5.2 Project Assets and their Disposal

There are no planned assets from the project (except experience and knowledge) that will belong to MiVAC Trust.

Date 12 September 2011

6.0 ATTACHMENT I: MAP OF BAN XAI AREA



Ban Xai Village - this village is 9.7km long, 1.3km from intersection past Nainan's house to West end and 8.4km to East end. 24.5km from East end to Phonsavan. 60 fam Hmong at E end

7.0 ATTACHMENT 2: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Approx – approximately

BX – Ban Xai

Green Hmong – Tribe of Hmong that fought with the USA from 1960-75

HP - Hinmou Pueng

Lao Loum - the Lao lowlander

MiVAC - Mine Victims and Clearance Trust

MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MOU - Memorandum of Understanding

Naiban – Village Headman

NGO - Non Government Organisation

UXO - Unexploded Ordnance

8.0 ATTACHMENT 3: PROJECT ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY ↓ TIME:→	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1.1 Sand Bacteria Water Unit												
1.2 Water Source & Storage Tanks												
1.3 Water Reticulation at Biodigester sites												
2.1 Installation Biodigesters at BX												
2.2 Installation Biodigesters at HP												
2.3 Fencing and animal pens												
2.4 Commence Animals and Training												
2.5 Commence Market Gardens												
2.6 Commence Fish Farms												
3.1 Installation Toilets in Village												
4.1 Materials for school & concreting floors												
5.1 Medical Training												
6.1 Micro Credit Scheme												
7.1 Building in 1 Ha at BX Subcontract												
7.2 Building in BX completed												
7.3 Building in 1 Ha at HP Subcontract												
7.4 Building in HP completed												

ATTACHMENT 4: BUDGET 9.0

MiVAC Trust Life of Project Budget By Quarters Ban Xai & Hinmu Pueng reconstruction

		Total Funding	Year 1					Year 2						
No.	Description	Life of Project	Apr-11 Mar-12 SUS	Q1 \$US	Q2 \$US	Q3 \$US	Q4 \$US	Apr-12 Mar-13 SUS	Q5 SUS	Q6 SUS	Q7 \$US	Q8 SUS		
1	Project Activity Costs	\$03	\$03	\$03	\$03	\$03	\$03	303	303	303	\$05	\$05		
11	Personnel Costs													
	In-country Staff Salaries													
	In country manager Biodigester maintenance staff x 6	9,000 6,480	4,500 1,620			2,250	2,250 1.620	4,500 4,860	2,250 1.620	2,250 1.620	1.620			
	Village nurse / birth attendant	2,500	1,250			625	625	1,250	625	625				
1.1.2.	Subtotal In-country Staff Salaries In-country Staff Benefits	17,980	7,370			2,875	4,495	10,610	4,495	4,495	1,620			
	Subtotal In-country Staff Benefits													
1.1.3.	Travel Costs					2,650			450	450				
	Lease of Vehicle at \$150 per month Monthly fuel	4,000 1,500	3,100 750			375	450 375	900 750	375	450 375				
	Subtotal Travel Costs	5,500	3,850			3,025	825	1,650	825	825				
	Total Personnel Costs	23,480	11,220			5,900	5,320	12,260	5,320	5,320	1.620			
1.2.	Non Personnel Inputs	,	,===			-,	-,	,	-,	-,	.,			
1.2.1	Assets													
	Tranining facility and medical clinic - Ban Xai Project office rental	22,000 1,580	22,000 780			22,000 390	390	780	390	390				
	Subtotal Assets	22,000	22,000			22,000	330		330	350				
1.2.2.	Staff Training													
1.2.3.	Community Training	2.000	1.000			500	500	1.000	500	500				
	Agriculture and livestock extension Sanitation and health education (Refer note 5 below)	1,000	500			250	250	500	250	250				
	Subtotal Training Costs	3,000	1,500			750	750	1,500	750	750				
1.2.4.	Activity Supplies													
	105 toilets	8 140	3,900			1820	2,080	4.240	2,080	2,160				
	Potable water at each house (Also see Note 1)	4,575	4,575			4,575	3,222		-,	-,				
	Water tower - Ban Xai 2 storage tanks for biodigesters & village water	2,000 4,500	2,000 4,500			2,000 4,500								
	2 pumps and fittings to lift water to towers - Ban Xai	400	400			400								
	2 wells or storage tanks in Hinmu Pueng	3,775	3,775			3,775 4,800								
	4 x biodigesters - 2 Ban Xai, 2 Hinmu Pueng (Refer Note 2 below) Subtotal Activity Supplies	4,800 28,190	4,800 20,050			20,050	2,080	4,240	2,080	2,160				
1.2.5.	Other Project Costs Construction of 2 covered pig pens	3,400	3,400			3,400								
	Fencing for cattle yards (Refer Note 3 below)	1,400	1,400			1,400								
	Purchase of livestock - 20 cattle and 75 pigs Building of chicken pen & roost	7,500 1,000	7,500 1,000			7,500 1.000								
	Mico-credit programme	7,000	7,000			7,000								
	Renovation of school - Hinmu Pueng Construction of concrete floors at Ban Xai and Hinmu Pueng	1,500	1,500			1,500								
	Building materials for classroom - Hinmu Pueng	1,650	1,650			1,650								
	Subtotal Other Project Costs	23,450	20,300			23,450								
	Total Non-Personnel	76,640	63,850			66,250	2,830	5,740	2,830	2,910	.			
	Grand Total Project Activity Costs	100,120	75,070			72,150	8,150	18,000	8,150	8,230	1,620			
2.0.	Activity Support Costs													
	Local Partner Name 5%	4,915	4.015			3,608	408	900	408	412	81			
	Loosi Partner Name 5% MiVAC Trust 5%	4,915	4,015			3,608	408	900	408	412	81			
	Grand Total Activity Support Costs	9,830	8,030			7,215	815	1,800	815	823	162			
	Total Cost to Donor	109,950	83,100			79,365	8,965	19,800	8,965	9,053	1,782			
	Summary Annual Budgets													
	Summary \$US:													
	Country Costs	105,035	79,085			75,758	8,558	18,900 900	8,558	8,642	1,701			
	Australia Costs Total	4,915 109,950	4,015 83,100			3,608 79,365	408 8,965	900 19,800	408 8,965	412 9,053	81 1,782			
	Summary \$A @ Exchange rate	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94		
						80,593	9,104	20,106	9,104	9,193	1,810			
	Country Costs Australia Costs	104,239 5,229	84,133 4,271	1	1	3,838	434	957	434	438	1,810			

- 1 Water costs include the provision of water jars that can take advantage of rain runoff and storage. All this stage whether the water will be sourced from wells or river in Himmu Pueng is unclear. Costs also include possible costs, if water is drawn from the river, for damming and flood mitigation and settlement reservoir. If water has to be pumped from the river the cost (and type of pump) is yet uncertain. The best option will be ascertained by an hydrologist.
- Wells will be capped with a concrete apron to maintain the integrity of the well and drawn by hand pump.

Larger capacity wells / tanks will be required to serve three purposes: water for vegetable and market garden irrigation, water for methane manufacture and water for livestock

2 While there will be 4 biodigesters they will be paired 10 cu m units.

We are to build communally owned, large capacity units and that goal can be achieved by pairing two smaller units

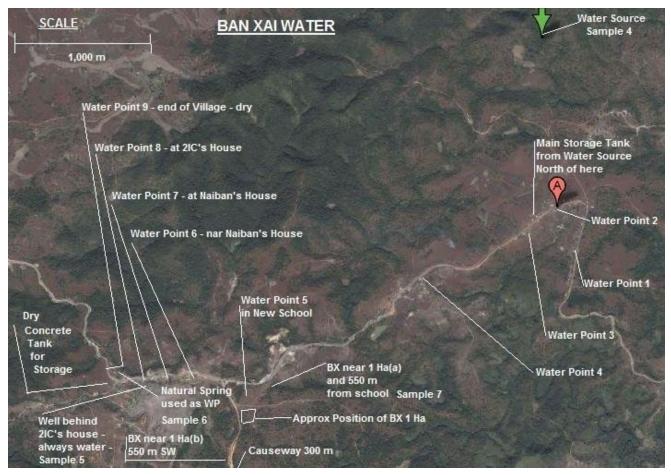
- 3 Proper fencing is needed to protect livestock and prevent their breaking fences and entering nearby uncleared minefields. Cattle will be penned in household yards at night but will be

4 Vehicle will be leased on \$2200 initial deposit and \$150 per month..

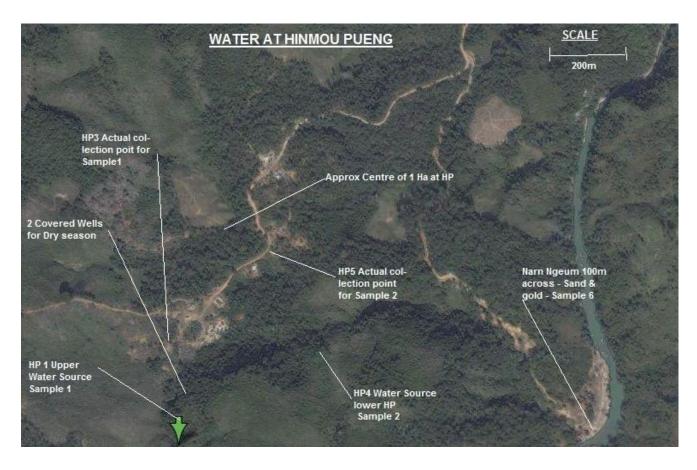
The village nurse will require transport / equipped vehicle for outstation use and both delivery of health programmes and the monitoring of those programmes. Volunteers will be accommodated in the field when they are in Laos but will participate in exploratory trips both along Route 7 and in the hinterland as well as south into Saysomboun / Thatom districts subject to government permission to enter the latter two districts

5 It is understood that death in childbirth rates are as high as 3% in Ban Xai and 10% in Hinmu Pueng. The village nurse will address such issues and monitoring such rates over the longer term. We will also be seeking the assistance of experienced in-country NGO's such as ChildFund to assist in implementation of these aspects of the project.

10.0 ATTACHMENT 5: MAP FOR WATER AT BAN XAI



11.0 ATTACHMENT 6:MAP FOR WATER AT HINMOU PUENG



12.0 ATTACHMENT 7: REQUEST SIGNED BY VILLAGE, DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL

Lao People's Demcratic Republic

Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Xiengkhouang Province

Issue 87/Ban Xai

Phoukoud District

At Ban Xai, 12 July 2011

Ban Xai

Letter of Request

To Patron of Mine Victim and Clearance Trust - MiVAC.

This request follows the funding by MiVAC of the clearance of Minefields and UXO plus the training and employment of Minefield clearance staff by Phoenix Clearance Ltd (PCL) over the last 3 years.

The request consists of mainly water supply, Bio-digester, and sanitation. This letter refers to:

- This request is from the villagers of Ban Xai, Phoukoud district, Xiengkhouang province.
- The poverty of the people in this village group and the needs of assistance, and to follow up with the government's plan on poverty reduction.

The villagers, in consistence with the village organization and authority of Ban Xai, have requested supports from MiVAC for things which will be described as following:

- 1.) Building water supply in Ban Xay and Hinmoupeung group;
- 2.) Connecting electricity to school of Ban Xay and the poor families;
- 3.) Repairing school of Hinmoupeung group;
- 4.) Building Bio-digester;
- 5.) Supplying materials to build temple;
- 6.) Assistance with sanitation and toilets for poor families, and others.

Therefore, this request has been submitted to MiVAC in order to consider it as suitable.

Chief of Department of Foreign Relations

(Xiengkhoung Province)

* กามต่าวยะวากา พะแบก * กามต่าวยะวากา อาตา อุถิมสุท Phoukoud District Governor



ອຳໝອນ ອຸເມນລຸຄ

Head man of Ban Xai

ฐาว เพช ภักษ: 2 รูกการ

ຈົດໝາຍສະແດງຄຳໝັ້ນສັນຍາຂອງ ມາຍແວັກ ຕໍ່ກັບໂຄງການທີ່ບ້ານຊາຍ

ບ່ອນອ້າງອີງ: ໃບສະເໜີຂອງນາຍບ້ານ ບ້ານຊາຍ, ເມືອງພູກູດ, ແຂວງຊຸງງຂວາງ ສະບັບເລກທີ 87/ນບຊ ລົງ ວັນທີ 14 ເດືອນ 7 ປີ 2011.

ຮຸງນທ່ານທີ່ເຄົາລົບ,

ມື້ນີ້ຂ້າພະເຈົ້າໄດ້ຮັບໃບສະເໜີທີ່ກ່າວມາຂ້າງເທິງນີ້ ແລະ ຂ້າພະເຈົ້າຂໍສະແດງຄວາມຂອບໃຈມາຍັງການ ຈັດຕັ້ງບ້ານຊາຍ, ເມືອງພູກູດ ແລະ ພະແນກພົວພັນຕ່າງປະເທດປະຈຳແຂວງຊຸງງຂວາງ ທີ່ໄດ້ໃຫ້ການສະ ນັບສະໜູນ ແລະ ຮ່ວມມືເປັນຢ່າງດີ.

ອີງໃສ່ໃບສະເໜີທີ່ກ່າວມາຂ້າງເທິງນີ້ ຂ້າພະເຈົ້າຂໍຢັ້ງຢືນວ່າ:

ໂດຍອີງຕາມການຊ່ວຍເຫລືອຂອງຜູ້ໃຫ້ທຶນ ມາຍແວັກ ເຫັນດີທີ່ຈະປະຕິບັດແຜນໂຄງການອັນລວມມີ ແຕ່ ບໍ່ໄດ້ຈຳກັດສະເພາະ:

- 1. ນຳ້ສະອາດ, ນຳ້ສ້າງ ແລະ ການຍົກຍ້າຍ ຫລື ສ້າງຖັງເກັບນຳ້ໃຫມ່,
- ການກໍ່ສ້າງຖັງບໍ່ມຊີວະພາບ ເພື່ອໃຊ້ສຳລັບແສງສະຫວ່າງ, ຫຸງຕົ້ມ, ປູກຜັກ, ປູກມັນຕົ້ນ ແລະ ຫນອງປາ ດ້ວຍການໃຊ້ມູນສັດໃນເນື້ອທີ່ 1 ເຮັກຕາ ທີ່ຢູ່ໃກ້ໂຮງຮຽນປະຖົມ ເຊິ່ງສະຫນອງໃຫ້ ໂດຍບ້ານຊາຍ ແລະ ບ້ານຫີນຫມູພຶງ.
- ການກໍ່ສ້າງສິ່ງອຳນວຍຄວາມສະດວກຢ່າງຫນ້ອຍແມ່ນການກໍ່ສ້າງຖັງບື່ມຊີວະພາບ ທີ່ຈະຕ້ອງ
 ມອບໃຫ້ປະຊາຊົນນຳໃຊ້ ເຊິ່ງການສຳເລັດໂຄງການຈະຖືກກຳນຶດໂດຍການຈັດຕັ້ງບ້ານ,
- 4. ການກໍ່ສ້າງຫ້ອງນໍ້າ ແລະ ຈັດຕັ້ງປະຕິບັດລະບົບສຸຂະອະນາໄມ,
- 5. ການສະຫນອງວັດສະດຸກໍ່ສ້າງໃຫ້ແກ່ຊາວບ້ານເພື່ອສ້າງສາລາວັດຂະຫນາດ 6 m x 9 m,
- 6. ການສ້ອມແປງໂຮງຮຽນທີ່ບ້ານຫີນຫມູພຶງ ເຊິ່ງຈະປູພື້ນດ້ວຍຊີມັງ, ແລະ

7. ການຂະຫຍາຍການຕິດຕັ້ງໄຟຟ້າສຳລັບໂຮງຮຽນໃຫມ່ຢູ່ບ້ານຊາຍ ໃນກໍລະນີທີ່ເປັນໄປໄດ້ (ອີງ ຕາມມູນຄ່າການກໍ່ສ້າງ).

ເນື່ອງຈາກວ່າແຜນງານໂຄງການບໍ່ຈຳກັດ ມູນຄ່າຂອງການກໍ່ສ້າງຈຶ່ງບໍ່ສາມາດລະບຸໄດ້ໃນຂະນະນີ້. ຫຼັງຈາກການສ້າງໂຄງການປົກຍ່ອຍໃດໜຶ່ງສຳເລັດລົງແລ້ວ ມາຍແວັກ ຈະສັງລວມມູນຄ່າການກໍ່ສ້າງ ແລ້ວນຳ ມາສະເໜີທີ່ພະແນກພົວພັນຕ່າງປະເທດ ປະຈຳແຂວງຊຸງງຂວາງ.

ເອກະສານທີ່ມີເນື້ອໃນຄົບຖ້ວນເປັນພາສາລາວ **"ແຜນງານການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອ ແລະ ການຮ່ວມມືຕາມທີ່ ຕຶກລິງກັນ"** ໄດ້ຕິດຄັດມາກັບເອກະສານສະບັບນີ້ ເພື່ອທາງການຈະໄດ້ພິຈາລະນາຕາມສົມຄວນ.

ທ່ານ ແຊນດີ ແມັກເກຣເກີ

(ຫົວໜ້າອົງການ ມາຍແວັກ)

Sandy Machingon

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Australia.



Lao People's Democratic Republic Peace Independence Democracy Unity and Prosperity

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Department of International Organisations

No. <u>968</u> /AE.OI.3 Vientiane, August 11, 2011

Mr. Sandy MacGregor Patron MIVAC Trust National Office PO Box 967 Tasmania 7006 Australia

Subject: Approval for Activity plan of MIVAC Australia implementing in Xiengkhouang

Province.

Dear Mr. MacGregor,

With reference to your letter dated 19 July 2011, I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has approved an activity plan implementing in Xiengkhouang Province, with a total budget of 100.000 USD (One hundred thousand USDollar), effective from September 2011 to on ward.

Please accept, Mr. MacGregor, the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

Saleumxay KOMMASITH Director General