



## **Detailed Report**

Laos faces significant challenges in the education sector, particularly in rural areas. Access to quality education is often limited, and infrastructure is inadequate. Many schools lack basic facilities such as sanitation or sufficient teaching materials. Despite these challenges, there are also positive developments. Initiatives like those of Baraka Community Partnerships contribute to improving educational infrastructure and expanding access to education.

This project exemplifies the commitment to improving the quality of life and educational opportunities for children in remote regions of Laos. Nestled in the picturesque landscape along the Nam Ou River, in the village of Tien Khien, this project provides 87 elementary school children with access to sports and play, making a significant contribution to their holistic development.

In Tien Khien, a village accessible only by boat, we observed during a January visit to the elementary school that the schoolyard, a large, open space, remained unused. The children often spent their breaks sitting with their books. To bring more joy and movement into the children's school day, the "Playing Strong in Laos" project was launched.

In close collaboration with our local partner, with whom we have a long-standing and trusting partnership, a list of sports materials was compiled. The costs for these materials are being covered by us. This includes nets for volleyball and badminton, soccer and volleyballs, badminton sets, jump ropes, and tracksuits.

The long-standing partnership with the Baraka Community Partnerships team is an essential component of the project. Close collaboration ensures that the needs of the community are considered and that the project is sustainable. The local expertise of the partner is crucial for the successful implementation of the project, especially regarding the procurement and transportation of materials.

### **Baraka Community Partnerships and their work in Laos:**

Baraka Community Partnerships has been active in Laos for over 11 years and is dedicated to improving living conditions and educational opportunities in rural communities. The organization undertakes approximately two major construction projects annually, including the construction of classrooms, dormitories, toilet facilities, and water systems. Additionally,

Baraka Community Partnerships funds learning centers and book boats that reach thousands of schoolchildren.

Baraka Community Partnerships works closely with local organizations such as Community Learning International (CLI) and Volun-Tour Laos (VTL). These partnerships enable the effective and sustainable implementation of projects.

The "Playing Strong in Laos" project is an important contribution to improving the quality of life and development opportunities for children in Tien Khien. By providing sports materials, not only is the children's physical fitness promoted, but also their social interaction is strengthened. The combination of our long-standing, trust-based partnership and our firm commitment to financially supporting these projects is the key to success.