

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Vision: All Thai children benefit from a high-quality early childhood development program

May 2024



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## Our Team

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Khun Ian Porter**

Chair; former Country Director, World Bank

**Khunying Kasama Varavarn**

Member of the Board of the National Economic and Social Development Council;  
former Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education

**Khun Aswin Kongsiri**

Chairman of the Board, CH. Karnchang Public Co Ltd

**Khun Omporn Lulitananda Regel**

Vice-Chair; former Senior Education Specialist, World Bank

**Khun Tanatat Puttasuwan**

Treasurer; Consultant on Financial and Risk Management

**Khun Pamornrat Tansanguanwong**

Secretary; Senior Social Development Specialist at the World Bank

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Khun Ian Porter:** Chair

**Khun Omporn Lulitananda Regel:** Vice-Chair

**Khun Tanatat Puttasuwan**

**Khun Pamornrat Tansanguanwong**

**Ajarn Kanoung Saikaew:** Chief Technical Advisor and Implementation Team Leader;  
former professor in the Education Faculty of Surindra Rajabhat University (SRRU)

**Khun Anuje Sirikit:** Operations Manager, previously worked with UNESCO as Project  
Officer, Capacity Development for Education for All in Lao PDR

### IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

**Ajarn Kanoung Saikaew:** Chief Technical Advisor and Team Leader

**Khun Supatcharin Thumphat:** Technical Officer

**Khun Nanthanat Wanunum:** Technical Officer

**Khun Wachiraporn Kansai:** Technical Officer

**Khun Sudarat Kingsoan:** Technical Officer

**Khun Rujirat Jien-Ngam:** Technical Officer

**Khun Thanaporn Unphan:** Technical officer

**Khun Achariya Kohtbantau:** Education Specialist

**Khun Vintas Piromchirayhukun:** Multimedia Designer

"We are also most grateful for the support of many others, frequently on a volunteer basis"



## Letter from Chair

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the 2023 Dek Noi Pattana Foundation Annual Report. In it you will read about the exciting progress DNPF has made over the past year and our plans for the future.

The past year has further reinforced our strong conviction that Thailand has a huge opportunity to rapidly improve the quality of early childhood development (ECD) for all Thai children. In fact, Thailand already has in place many of the pre-conditions for high quality ECD:

- Development centers looking after children aged 2-4 are in operation in almost every village and community (20,000 across the country and run by sub-district administrative organizations (SAOs).;
- financial resources to pay salaries and purchase food, toys and other materials for the centers are being provided by local authorities; and
- children are keen to learn, and families are eager for their children to get a good education.

What's missing are:

- in-service training of teachers and caretakers;
- coaching of teachers and caretakers;
- rigorous monitoring of the development of the children's skills and evaluation of the performance of the centers; and
- meaningful engagement by parents, grandparents, communities and local authorities in supporting teachers and helping change day-care centers into high quality early learning centers.

Since its establishment in 2017 it is these missing ingredients that have been the focus of DNPF's work – building on a pilot project and with demonstrated success in terms of the rapid development of the children's skills (physical, intellectual, social, and emotional) both absolutely and relative to a control group.

Our work began and continues to be focused primarily on the province of Surin where we are pleased to be working in partnership with the Surin Provincial Administration and the Education Faculty of Surindra Rajabhat University (SRRU) to replicate and eventually scale up across the more than 500 centers in the province the excellent progress that has already been made. We are also pleased that in 2024 and in partnership with the Roi-et Provincial Administration and the Roi-et Rajabhat University we have started a pilot project for enhancing the quality of ECD in the province of Roi-et, drawing on the Surin experience. In addition, and at a national level we are pleased to be working with the National Economic and Social Development Council and the Department of Local Administration of the Ministry of Interior on the huge potential for rapidly enhancing the quality of ECD across all of Thailand's development centers.

On behalf of DNPF's Board and Management Committee, I wish to thank Ajarn Kanoung (the leader of our implementation team) and her colleagues based in Surin for the outstanding job they are doing. DNPF is also most grateful for the technical and financial support for our work that we are receiving from a broad range of organizations and many individuals. Such support has been and remains critical to the work we are doing and the achievement of our objectives.

We look forward to continuing to collaborate with our current partners as well as engaging with new partners to help enhance the quality of ECD programs and welcome your comments, questions and suggestions at: [info@deknoipattana.org](mailto:info@deknoipattana.org).

**Ian Porter**  
DNPf Chair





## Our Vision, Mission and Values

### Our Vision

“All Thai children benefit from a high-quality early childhood development program”

### Our Mission

“Pilot innovative projects for teacher training and coaching and engagement of parents and communities that are focused on children’s empowerment”

“Support local authorities and other stakeholders in replicating, scaling up and sustaining such projects across the country's 20,000 ECD centers that are run by sub-district administrative organizations (SAOs)”

“Facilitate engagement of and interaction among key stakeholders in ECD at national and local levels to promote sustainability and increase public awareness of its critical importance”

### Our Values

Professional excellence  
Innovative thinking  
Trust and partnership  
Transparency and accountability  
Open communications and teamwork  
Deep respect for local context and customs

## Section 4: Our Objectives, Where We Work, and What We Do

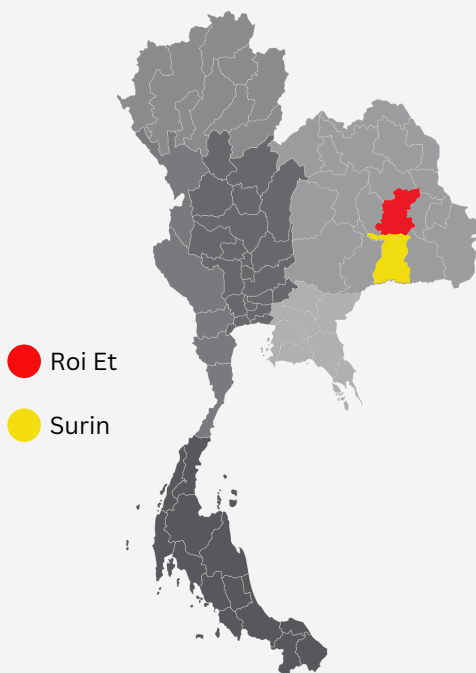
DNPF's objectives for 2023-24 and 2024-25 are to:

- Work with the Surin Provincial Administration and the Education Faculty of SRRU to expand and sustain support for high quality ECD in Surin, drawing on lessons learned and with a particular focus on the development of at least one model center in each district;
- Develop partnerships with like-minded organizations and implement pilot projects in other provinces (starting in Roi-Et) and facilitate sharing of experiences across provinces and more effective integration of ECD into district and provincial planning; and
- Facilitate sharing of knowledge and experience at the national level among government and non-government agencies and the mainstreaming of in-service training, coaching, monitoring and stakeholder engagement into national planning.

Since the establishment of DNPF in 2017, we have been working mainly in the province of Surin and Surin will continue to be the main area of our work in 2024. In addition, we will be stepping up our engagement in Roi-Et, a neighboring province to Surin (see map). Both provinces are situated in northeast Thailand and are among the poorer provinces in the country.

In both provinces, and drawing on lessons learned including from a very successful pilot project, DNPF's work will continue to be focused on:

- in-service training of ECD teachers and caretakers;
- coaching of ECD teachers and caretakers;
- monitoring the development of the children's skills (physical, social, emotional and intellectual) and evaluating the overall performance of the centers; and
- working with parents and grandparents, communities and the local authorities to support teachers and help change day care centers into high quality early learning centers.





## Section 5: In-Service Training

In collaboration with the Education Faculty of SRRU, DNPF was able to resume its pre-COVID practice of five-day bi-annual and in-person training events. These events are focused on introducing new teachers as well as SRRU pre-service students to the practicalities of high-quality teaching and the sharing of experiences gained to date by teachers and centers that are already part of the program. A first event was held from March 13-17, 2023, with 147 participants and a second event was held from November 20-24, 2023, with 107 participants. The feedback on both events was excellent with participants welcoming the opportunity to gain new teaching techniques and share best practices in designing and implementing activities to enhance children's skills development. The November event also included a session focused on helping teachers develop the facilitation skills needed to effectively interact with parents and grandparents, their communities and concerned government officials.

Plans for 2024 include a further two five-day training events plus a number of shorter more advanced training events focused on teachers that have already gone through the basic in-service training program and would like additional training on particular topics, for example use of mobile phones. As with the basic training these events will be organized in close collaboration with relevant Provincial Administrations and Rajabhats and with additional technical support from the New International School of Thailand (NIST) and others.



November 21, 2023: "Learning through Games" during the teachers' training session.



November 23 -24, 2023: A training event for ECD teachers with a focus on helping teachers develop facilitation skills.

## Section 6: Coaching

Consistent with international guidance, DNPf's experience in Surin has reinforced the need to follow up high quality in-service training with effective coaching of teachers and caretakers. During 2023 the focus of the DNPf/SRRU coaching team has been on the eighteen centers being supported to become model centers with members of the team visiting the centers at least once a month, and individual members of the team observing the performance of individual teachers and caretakers and providing on the spot feedback. Where requested, coaching was also provided to teachers in other centers that have been supported by DNPf in the past.

In early December 2023, DNPf organized a technical workshop on coaching for members of the Education Faculties of SRRU and Roi-Et Rajabhat University, the DNPf team and teachers that have already received in-service training and coaching and have the potential to be coaches in the future. The workshop included a zoom meeting with an ECD expert from the World Bank and a visit to a high-performing center in Bangkok to observe the coaching program in action. Feedback on the workshop was very positive. It was gratifying to note that DNPf's current practices with respect to one-on-one coaching once a month are consistent with international best practice. The World Bank expert also provided us with excellent guidance on how to develop networks so that other centers can learn from model centers and well-trained teachers.

During 2024, coaching will remain the major focus of the DNPf/SRRU team in both Surin and Roi-Et. In Surin, the expected focus will be on those centers that have not yet achieved model center status but still have the commitment to do so, as well as new centers recommended by the Surin Provincial Administration. In addition, DNPf/SRRU will focus on helping put in place the networks that will enable teachers and caretakers in neighboring centers to learn from teachers and caretakers in model centers. In Roi-Et the focus of members of the Education Faculty of Roi-Et Rajabhat University (with support from DNPf) will be on the two pilot centers in the province.



December 7, 2023: A coaching session by Ajarn Tida Pitaksinsuk and colleagues at Plearnpattana School, Bangkok. The session was part of the study visit provided for the faculty members of Surindra Rajabhat University, Roi-et Rajabhat University, ECD teachers, education officers, and chief administrator from Sri-suk and Narong SAO ECD centers.

October 16, 2023: The DNPf team visited Ban Bugjarang ECD Center, Kapchoeng District to provide coaching to teachers using activities with shapes. The purpose was for children to learn observation skills, classification, and similarities and differences of geometric shapes.

## Section 7: Monitoring and Evaluation

During 2023 all the centers being developed as model centers introduced rigorous monitoring of the development of the children's skills. All showed that the children had significantly improved their skills by the end of the school year, with more than 90% of both 2-year olds and 3-year olds across all centers meeting the national standards for being able to independently perform key skills. A subsequent independent assessment of the children's skills in five of the eighteen centers confirmed the excellent results reported by the teachers.

### Assessment of development of 2-year-old children's skills in 18 centers in Surin, June 2023-March 2024 (percent of children able to independently perform skills)

Competencies	June/July 2023		February/March 2024	
	Average result for all centers	Range of results across centers	Average result for all centers	Range of results across centers
Domain 1	73	66-78	98	90-99
Domain 2	75	70-79	95	90-99
Domain 3	69	61-77	95	90-98
Domain 4	67	61-75	95	90-98
Overall	73	61-79	96	90-99

Domains: 1: Motor and Physical Development; 2: Perception and Learning Development; 3: Language Development and Comprehension; 4: Emotional and Social Development

### Assessment of development of 3-year-old children's skills in 18 centers in Surin, June 2023-July 2024 (percent of children able to independently perform skills)

Competencies	June/July 2023		February/March 2024	
	Average result for all centers	Range of results across centers	Average result for all centers	Range of results across centers
Domain 1	70	61-78	98	91-100
Domain 2	65	50-75	96	90-99
Domain 3	60	40-71	96	91-99
Domain 4	59	42-72	96	92-100
Domain 5	60	52-70	96	95-99
Domain 6	65	46-73	97	93-100
Domain 7	64	45-77	98	95-100
Overall	63	40-78	97	90-100

Domains: 1: Motor Development; 2: Social Development; 3: Emotional Development; 4: Cognitive Development; 5: Language Development; 6: Moral Development; 7: Creative Development

In collaboration with SRRU, the Surin Provincial Administration and a number of teachers, DNPf also finalized the definition of a "model center" and the indicators to be used in evaluating whether a center has achieved "model center" status. These indicators focus on the overall management of the centers and the performance of the teachers and caretakers, as well as the development of the children's skills. In this regard, the independent evaluation of the five centers mentioned earlier and that was very recently completed concluded that all five centers had achieved model center status with respect to overall management, the performance of teachers, and the development of the children's skills.

Going forward, DNPf will continue to coach and support teachers in regularly monitoring the development of the children's skills. In view of the excellent results achieved in 2023/24, we will also be encouraging teachers to monitor the development of the skills of 2-year olds against the 3-year olds national standards and the skills of 3-year olds against the 4-year olds national standards. Additional centers in Surin will also be independently evaluated to determine whether they have achieved model center status. In Roi-Et the pilot project for enhancing the quality of ECD will include monitoring the development of the children's skills in the two centers being supported by Rajabhat Roi-Et and DNPf. It will also include monitoring the development of the children's skills in at least one neighboring center where no support is yet being provided. This will enable us to more rigorously evaluate the success of the pilot project.



## Section 8: Working with parents, communities and local authorities

The engagement of parents, grandparents, communities and local authorities in supporting teachers and caretakers is critical to centers becoming model centers. In this regard and during 2023 DNPF stepped up its engagement with all of these stakeholders. In particular it followed up with parents of children that were supported under the first pilot project (from 2012-17) and received very positive feedback on the impact of the project on their children's development. DNPF has also established an advisory group of former and current parents across the province to help us further specify how best to engage all concerned stakeholders in supporting the development centers in their areas to become high quality early learning centers.

This increased engagement with a broad range of stakeholders will continue into 2024 and beyond. Drawing on the feedback received to date, DNPF in collaboration with SRRU is also organizing a five day workshop for teams from across the province. This workshop is being organized in collaboration with experts in community engagement and facilitation and will support teams in developing facilitation skills and learning from the experiences of others.



August 4, 2023: Information sharing session with parents at Bukraeng Wittayakom School, ECD center network in Chomphra district.

August 15, 2023: DNPF's management team met with the Education Committee and parent representatives during the monitoring visit in Ban Nonsa-nga ECD center, Patumrat district, Roi-et.

## Section 9: Technical Partners

- Surin Provincial Office of Local Administration; and many Sub-district Administrative Organizations
- Roi-Et Provincial Office of Local Administration; and one Sub-district Administrative Organization
- Faculty of Education, Surindra Rajabhat University
- Faculty of Education, Roi Et Rajabhat University
- New International School of Thailand (NIST)
- Rak Luk Learning Group
- Lampang Community Foundation
- Yuvabhatana Foundation
- Khon Thai Foundation
- Jittamett Kindergarten
- Plearnpattana School



**คณะครุศาสตร์  
และการพัฒนามนุษย์**  
Faculty of Education, Roi Et Rajabhat University



 **โรงเรียนจิตตเมตต์ (ปฐมวัย)**



**โรงเรียนเพลินพัฒนา**  
Plearnpattana School



## Section 10: Donors to DNPF

- World Bank Group
- Ch. Karnchang PLC
- JFK Foundation of Thailand
- Thailand Collaboration for Change
- Khon Thai Foundation
- Thon Poh Fund plus
- **93** Individual Donors in 2023





## Section 11: Financial Report

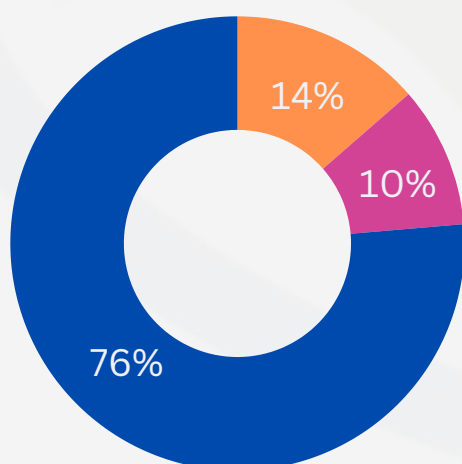
Donations to DNPf totaled 3.5 mill baht in 2023 - the highest level since our establishment in 2017. This was due mainly to the inclusion of DNPf in the World Bank Group's Community Connections Campaign (currently we are the only Thai organization to be included in the Campaign) and under which donations from World Bank Group staff and retirees are doubled by the World Bank Group. All of us at DNPf are most grateful for these donations as well as the donations of other individuals and organizations.

**Dek Noi Pattana Foundation: Income and Expenditures, 2018-23**

Items	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>1. Income</b>	2,366,400.12	3,003,938.91	2,701,486.04	3,145,319.48	2,996,517.25	3,488,187.65
<b>2. Expenditures</b>	2,778,152.50	3,018,993.84	2,101,353.88	2,111,859.03	2,223,043.06	3,861,523.21
<b>3. Balance</b>	(411,752.38)	(15,054.93)	600,132.16	1,033,460.45	773,474.19	(373,335.56)

During the period 2020-22, total expenditures were less than total donations, mainly because the on-going COVID pandemic constrained DNPf's ability to provide in person training and coaching. But with the return to a more normal operating environment and with the overall expansion of the program, total expenditures increased significantly to 3.9 mill baht in 2023 (from 2.2 mill baht in 2022), thereby exceeding total donations. The vast majority of expenditures (76%) went directly for training, coaching, monitoring and stakeholder engagement. Expenditures on travel, accommodation food and meals accounted for a further 14%, a substantial proportion of which was recovered through the fees charged to the participants in the bi-annual training events. The remaining 10% was accounted for by administration and other expenses, including the remuneration for the operations manager, the website manager and the translator as well as the costs of accounting and auditing services. All of the Directors of the Board of DNPf serve on a pro-bono basis. Four of the six Board members also serve on DNPf's management committee and again on a pro-bono basis.

**Dek Noi Pattana Foundation:  
Breakdown of Expenditures by Category, 2023**



During 2024/25, DNPf expects that total expenditures will further increase as we roll out the program in Roi-Et and reinforce the program in Surin. In this context and with the Foundation already operating in a highly efficient and cost-effective manner, it will be critical to mobilize additional funding from both individuals and organizations in order to limit any further reduction in reserves.

- Training, Coaching, Monitoring and Engagement
- Travel, Accommodation, Food and Meals
- Administration & others

## Section 12: Impact of your donation and how to support us

Donations from both individuals and organizations in 2023 enabled DNPF to directly support 96 teachers and caretakers in 18 centers. As a result of that support 1,136 children were able to develop their skills (physical, intellectual, social and emotional) more rapidly. Children in twenty-three other centers that have received direct support from DNPF in the past and continue to perform at a higher level than before are also being able to develop their skills more rapidly. This is hugely important because research globally shows that such an investment will put these children on a better path for the future, irrespective of the quality of subsequent schooling.

Donations to DNPF are also enabling us to work with the Surin Provincial Administration and Surindra Rajabhat University to develop a model for training, coaching, monitoring and engagement that has the potential to be replicated and scaled up across the more than 500 centers in Surin and the more than 20,000 centers in Thailand that are run by SAOs. In addition, the donations are enabling us to work with others at national and regional levels as well as with local communities to “spread the word” about the importance of ECD and the potential for doing something quickly to raise its quality. If successful, this would be hugely important for Thailand in reducing inequality and helping the country move out of the “middle income trap”.

So to those that have so kindly supported us in the past, please continue to support us. And to potential new donors, please support us by sending an email to: [info@deknoipattana.org](mailto:info@deknoipattana.org); and/or by making a transfer to:

Account: **Dek Noi Pattana Foundation**  
Bank Name: **Kasikornbank Plc.**  
Acct #: **035-8-43394-4**  
Branch: **Emquartier**  
Address: **3rd Floor, Emquartier Mall**  
**Klong-Tun Nuea Sub-District**  
**Wattana District, Bangkok 10110**  
SWIFT: **KASITHBK**

