

THE CHILD WE CARE FOR
today
WILL CARE FOR THEIR COUNTRY
tomorrow



Our vision

Poor children

become role models for their country's future

"My name is Srey Mao, and in my country it is hard to find a good job after graduating. Thanks to Children of the Mekong, I learned that I had to adapt to my environment, I learned to take initiative and to communicate and to be honest, which is not common among Cambodia's graduates. I have been working in a big phone company in Phnom Penh for four years, and I am now in charge of all of the agents on a national scale. The achievement I am most proud of is to have been able to establish a social project in my company that sponsors underprivileged children in the Kratie province. I would like to give a chance to young people like the one Children of the Mekong gave to me ten years ago. I promised myself I would make a commitment to help others when I graduated; to have a role in my country's development is my priority. Children of the Mekong taught me what real love is, you changed my life, and you freed me."



Srey Mao,
Former Sponsored Child
of Children of the Mekong



CHILDREN OF THE MEKONG PROVIDES EDUCATION

Children of the Mekong is an international NGO with headquarters in France. Since 1958, Children of the Mekong has made it possible for poor children to regain dignity by giving them **access to education**. We act in seven Southeast Asian countries: Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, Burma and China (Yunnan Province).

Our mission is to support, educate and train the children we have in our care. We improve their living standards and help them to grow intellectually, emotionally and morally.

Our values are: 1) respect every human being regardless of their circumstances, culture or religion, and 2) trust, loyalty and selflessness.



OUR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES



A FEW NUMBERS

- 1958** creation of Children of the Mekong
- 60,000** children supported each year
- 22,000** children sponsored each year
- 1,200** volunteers
- 842** sponsorship programmes
- 70** development projects
- 86** French delegations and international offices (operated by volunteers)
- 83** local employees (in Asia)
- 62** overseas volunteers (the "Bamboos")
- 35** employees in Europe
- 84%** charitable expenditure
- 10%** research and fund processing costs
- 6%** administrative costs





Build

THROUGH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (Schools, boarding houses...)



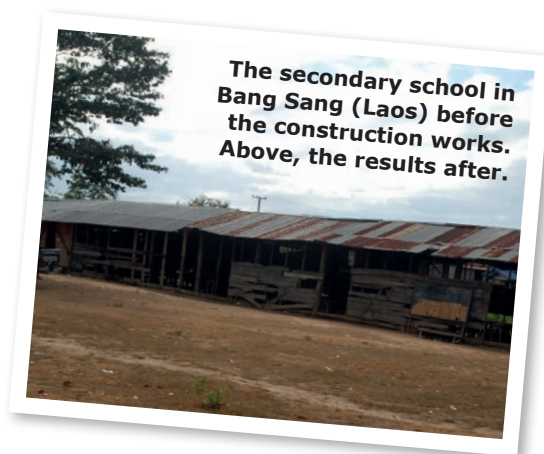
Our development programmes, called “projects”, are organised to improve the living conditions of poor children. We then create an environment suitable for their education. For instance, this can be accomplished by building schools and boarding houses, providing access to drinking water, and purchasing school supplies.

To abide by Children of the Mekong's standards of consistency and transparency,

projects are chosen via a rigorous selection process based on five criteria:

- **Local initiative** : A project is born from actual, on-the-ground needs.
- **Objective** : Children of the Mekong ensures that the children's living and studying conditions improve.
- **Sustainability** : Children of the Mekong ensures that its projects continue in the long term.
- **Involvement** : Children of the Mekong must be involved wherever a project is started to ensure serious, continuous supervision.
- **Local partnerships** : Children of the Mekong ensures that the projects' partners (NGOs, companies, teachers, authorities and / or the church) share the same goals.

A project is chosen in order to give benefactors the assurance that their generosity is the actual answer to a need formulated by local stakeholders, and is put into action with efficiency to improve and facilitate education for southeast Asian children in the long term.



The secondary school in Bang Sang (Laos) before the construction works. Above, the results after.

THEY BENEFIT



"Thank you for supporting us every day, for giving us the chance to be where we are. Without Children of the Mekong, I would not have been able to study. I would surely be working in my village's fields. I am going to do my best to succeed in my studies. You help us today, and later it will be my turn to help others in my society and in the world."

Dok Chon,
Sponsored Child
of Children of the Mekong

THEY SUPPORT

"The Luciole Foundation is a family foundation created in 2013 with the goal to help finance projects centred around education, childhood and women. We operate in French territories and on an international scale.

In 2014, I met the Children of the Mekong team from Asnières, France, and from there a cooperation was born that continues year after year. **Children of the Mekong is first and foremost a humanitarian organisation that knows the challenges faced by the countries in which it operates, all of them located in Southeast Asia.**

In 2015, we funded a school in Kok Mun, North Cambodia, and we were able to participate in its inauguration in December of the same year, noticing how much the "Bamboos" (the volunteers) from Children of the Mekong were invested locally. In 2016, we funded the building of a boy's youth house in Phrao, Northern Thailand.

The volunteers' seriousness in each country is a guarantee for success. Their drive and involvement commands our respect. Children of the Mekong offers both real expertise in the problems each country is facing, as well as a rigorous handling of the projects and a desire to help, train and make all of those children grow with benevolence. **At Children of the Mekong, you really feel like part of a family."**

Marie-Laure Brenier,
Founder of the Luciole Foundation

Our needs / your support*



Hygiene, nutrition,
Healthcare



Construction
of schools and
boarding houses



Specialised support
(people with disabilities,
AIDS, prisoners...)

70 projects per year

60,000 children supported

**Example of support needed:
the construction of
3 classrooms in Laos =
40,000 US\$**

**Global needs :
700 kUS\$/year**

*Estimated annual needs for the 2018-2020 period



Thanks to Children of the Mekong, 22,000 children are helped by sponsors who accompany them along their journeys. Sponsorship allows a child to attend school. It gives a child the means to take their life and the life of their family into their own hands. Thanks to sponsorship, the child you are helping wakes up every morning and makes their way to school instead of going to work in a rice field or a landfill.

Our local managers know the families and their needs. In agreement with our Volunteers "Bamboos", they select sponsored children based on two main criteria: 1) poverty and 2) how motivated the child is to go to school (and their family to send them). As soon as sponsorship starts, the child is part of a Programme and is personally followed by our local manager. They make sure the sponsorship is used correctly and that the child's needs are prioritised.

The local managers also call upon Children of the Mekong to help those in the worst situations. Children who cannot go to school in a traditional way are still sponsored. Children from a prostitution background, children with a physical or mental disability, young girls who were sexually abused, or children from the streets – all are supported thanks to collective sponsorship because they, too, have the right to love and be loved.

Beyond financial assistance, it is a bond of deep affection and moral support that is weaved between sponsor and child year after year. The child will write between one and three letters per year to their sponsor, which will enable the sponsor to learn more about the child's everyday life.

THEY BENEFIT



"In my family, my uncle brought me up alone. He gets up early, goes to bed late and his health is degrading. I will admit, I cried of joy when I heard I was being sponsored. I am very serious about my studies and also actively volunteer to help other people in need."

Li,
Sponsored
Child of Children of the Mekong

THEY SUPPORT



"I have been sponsoring Namphon since 2007. She was then a little six-year-old girl who was shy and had learning difficulties. Ten years worth of exchanges later, I met her in Laos. She had become a blossoming young girl, spontaneous and headstrong who wanted to become a teacher. Such an impressive evolution! From Asnières to Asia, transparency, reliability and enthusiasm are the words that qualify Children of the Mekong the best. There is such a human quality to every member of this association! Wanting to take part in this adventure becomes contagious!"

Stéphanie,
Namphon's Sponsor

Our needs / your support*



Education costs



Uniforms



School supplies



School transportation

22,000 sponsored children
Example of support needed:
1 child in Burma =
35 US\$/month

1000 children are
waiting for sponsorship
each year

*Estimated annual needs for the 2018-2020 period

To be trained IN OUR EDUCATION CENTRES AND BOARDING HOUSES

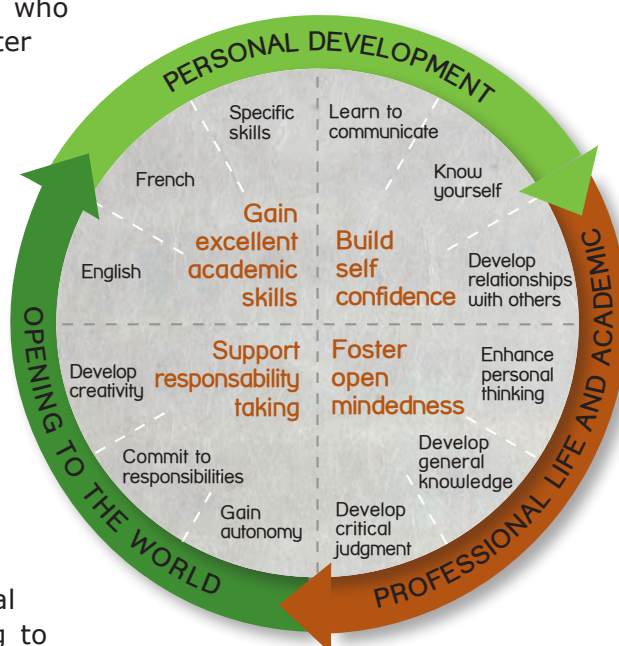


The welcoming of young people in education centres and boarding houses is today a strategic focus of Children of the Mekong. The centre is a place of education, including complementary courses, as well as a secondary home for the children. The usage of boarding houses is sometimes necessary for reasons such as distance from school, a secure environment, or the disappearance of parents.

Humanly and pedagogically, the success of such experiences is obvious: A sponsored child who has stayed at a Children of the Mekong center will most likely have better academic results. Studying in the spirit of brotherhood or sisterhood, he / she become more open, motivated and fulfilled.

OUR INTEGRAL TRAINING

The educational act goes far beyond simple schooling; it is a global anthropological gesture. **Children of the Mekong's ambition is to educate the mind, the heart and the body.** Such is our educational project, based not only on academic and professional knowledge, but also on complete and personal human training -**a real uniqueness of our NGO.** It follows a pedagogical approach and a course of specific training to develop all dimensions of the human as a person.



And it works!

Three indicators of our action in Cambodia:

- **98%** pass the baccalaureate (national average 64%).
- **100%** of our children end up in a better environment than their families can provide.
- **100%** of our graduates find a job or a scholarship abroad within 4 months of the end of their studies.



THEY BENEFIT

"To all young poor people, I would like to say that efforts can overcome obstacles, but for that we need to engage, persevere and fight ignorance. We are born poor, we cannot help it, but poverty is not inevitable, education can get us out of it and restore our dignity."

Loumang Seng,
Sponsored Child
of Children
of the Mekong

THEY SUPPORT

"We are sponsoring a student at the Christophe Mérieux Center in Phnom Penh. What a joy to be able to accompany these deserving young people, to follow their joys, their concerns, and their choices of orientation! We are always so excited to receive regular news from the young ones at the center; their perseverance and thirst for learning lifts our spirits!

We were able to go there, and it was a wonderful meeting. We hope to be able to return for their graduation ceremony. Congratulations to everyone at Children of the Mekong!"

Gaillard Family,
Célestins Fund

Our needs / your support*



Vocational
training



Higher
education



Personal
development

9 Education centres
(4 in the Philippines,
5 in Cambodia)
and **78** homes

1,630 students

Example of support needed:
1 promotion of 10 students
in Cambodia =
14,000 US\$/year

Global need:
1,3MUS\$/year

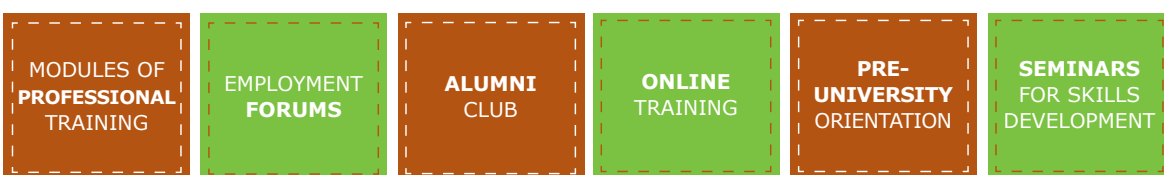
*Estimated annual needs for the 2018-2020 period



Young people supported by Children of the Mekong have, for the most part, very little knowledge of the professional world, and naturally imagine their future in the only positions they know (teacher, police officer...). Orientation and the development of a professional culture are, therefore, fundamental stages that encourage expression of the children's desires and talents. We accompany the children until their very first job.

Children of the Mekong has developed a complementary training course composed of numerous modules so that students gain confidence, initiative and responsibility. This programme also values the spirit of service : the children, in turn, provide services to the community (lessons for poor children, help for the disabled...).

Lastly, Children of the Mekong is developing strong relationships with local businesses (job forums, interview simulations...) to ensure a good match between the dreams of our young students and the needs of the labour market.



THEY BENEFIT



"Life is learning about everything around us. Thanks to Children of the Mekong, we have learned a lot of things that will be useful for our professional life. We have learned leadership, management, business and entrepreneurship. We have learned how to build a CV, a cover letter, politics and social affairs, computer science and languages. We have learned philosophy, self-control, solidarity, compassion and friendship. All this to prepare us for the future of our dreams! Living with Children of the Mekong was too short. During these four years, we grew up and learned so much. We now have a new mission ahead of us, which is life after graduation. But we will never forget that learning is lifelong. There is never an end to education."

Kimhuon,

Sponsored Child of Children of the Mekong

THEY SUPPORT

"Since 2015, we have supported the professional working program of Children of the Mekong in 4 countries: the Philippines, Cambodia, Burma and Laos. The experience and reputation of Children of the Mekong has convinced the Foundation's committee to support Children of the Mekong in what represents, for them, a new stage in the accompaniment of their beneficiaries.

Indeed, thanks to our partnership, more than 500 students from very poor backgrounds have greatly benefited from professional training modules, and 3,000 students have participated in orientation forums, while receiving personalised and real-life training applied to daily tasks at work. **We greatly appreciate the ability of Children of the Mekong to provide comprehensive training for its long-term beneficiaries, as well as its rigor and capacity for innovation."**

Julien Chavanne,

Pierre Bellon Foundation

Our needs / your support*



Internships with companies



Partnerships with local businesses



Serving the community

3,500 students targeted

Example of support needed:
Work placement Programme
in Cebu (Philippines) =
55,000 US\$/year

Overall need :
200kUS\$/year

*Estimated annual needs for the 2018-2020 period

WHY TRUST CHILDREN OF THE MEKONG?

A REGISTERED CHARITY

- At the service of the poorest parts of Asia since **1958**.
- **Strong references:** UBS Foundation, Foundation of France, Bain & Company, Lombard Odier Foundation, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CACIB, Bain Hermes Foundation, Michelin Corporate Foundation, The Peninsula, Marriott Hotels, Accenture Foundation...
- Laureate of the **Human Rights Prize** of the French Republic in 1990.

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

- An **IDEAS Certification**: Since 2011, IDEAS attests to the excellent level of governance, financial management and efficiency of our action.
- **Accounts certified** by an auditor and available online at www.enfantsdumekong.com.

A DIRECT ENGAGEMENT IN THE FIELD

- A strong presence in Asia: 60 volunteer "Bamboos" audit and control each of our programs.
- **1,200 volunteers** are mobilizing in Europe, USA and Asia.
- Charitable expenditure rate of 84%.

A PROVEN MORAL CODE

- Discrete and personalised follow-up.
- The **protection of our donors and sponsors**: no sales and no loans of our records since 1958.

A RETURN ON SUPPORTED PROJECTS

- A thorough and personalised follow-up: each supported project is the subject of a **customised report** (financial assessment, photographs, accounts and impact assessment for the beneficiaries).
- And especially... We welcome you to our centres. Come and see the efforts you support, or could be supporting, on-site in Asia!

"We want to highlight the professionalism of your organisation, the administrators' strong commitment to its functioning and strategy, the opening of the association to the outside world, as well as its efforts towards transparency and communication."





A story of family

Children of the Mekong's educational centre in Samrong, Northwest Cambodia welcomes 75 children. It emerged in 2015 thanks to the support of Blandine and Philippe Labouret.

This centre's construction project began in 2013. The demands for land were pressing. Around the same time, Blandine and Philippe, sponsors of the organisation, along with the head of benefactor relations, flew for the first time to meet their sponsored child in the Khmer region. Upon learning that the old centre in Samrong faced closure, they dove right in and offered their financial support by taking charge of the construction of the new centre. Sustained conversations and constructive exchanges ensued. Blandine and Philippe brought their personal and resolute touch: "When one wants to be generous, it is necessary to have a wonderful project on par with the sponsor and with an added value. It is not only about cheques, it is necessary to have a project consistent with who we are."

In the spring of 2016, the centre's inauguration was held. In the midst of 100 children, the guests hurried to greet the Secretary of State for Education and the Governor of the Province, who came to assess the extent of work. Three generations of the Labouret family visited the area for the occasion and welcomed the authorities with the directors of Children of the Mekong. The solemnity of the inauguration was followed by a more festive atmosphere. The Labourets participated in a game of Cambodian Olympics, **"There were no longer sponsors and poor children. We were all either partners or opponents. We played on equal footing. The memories of this day will always be in our hearts"**, concluded the sponsor. The Labouret are part of the big family of Children of the Mekong.



Your support

If you wish to donate it is simple.

➤ SWITZERLAND

In Switzerland, Enfants du Mekong is established since 2005 and recognised as a legal entity that is pursuing public interest goals. In return for your support of our activities, we will deliver a tax receipt to you or your company. You can find below our bank details:
IBAN: CH61 0900 0000 1772 59273 - SWIFT: POFICHBEXXX

Enfants du Mékong, Rue Caroline, 18 CH-1227, Les Acacias, Switzerland
Please contact us: delegationsuisse@enfantsdumekong.com

➤ GERMANY

If you wish to donate in kind or/and in cash it is simple.
Please contact us: delegationdeutschland@enfantsdumekong.com

➤ UNITED KINGDOM (www.childrenofthemekong.org)

By Online Payment: www.mydonate.bt.com/charities/childrenofthemekong

By cheque, made payable to "Children of the Mekong".

Please send GBP, USD or EUR denominated cheques payable to "Children of the Mekong"
to: Children of the Mekong 22 Lavender Hill London SW11 5RN

By Bank Transfer: wire to our HSBC accounts

GBP Account: 62575841 / Sort code: 40-05-30

EUR Account: 60431957 / Sort code: 40-05-15 / IBAN: GB59MIDL40051560431957

USD Account: 60423901 / Sort code: 40-05-15 / IBAN: GB97MIDL40051560423901

BIC/SWIFT: MIDLGB22

We can provide a **tax receipt for tax claim** if need be for every donation.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about your donation:
info@childrenofthemekong.org

➤ FRANCE (www.enfantsdumekong.com)

By sending a cheque to: Enfants du Mékong, 5 rue de la Comète, 92600 Asnières/Seine
"Enfants du Mékong" (IRPP donation) - "Enfants du Mékong Foundation" (IFI donation)

By Bank Transfer: Ask us for our RIB in Euro (€) or US Dollar (USD)

By making a donation via the internet: <http://www.enfantsdumekong.com>



➤ **HONG KONG** (childrenofthemekong.org.hk)

Bank Name (HKD) : HSBC Hong-Kong - Registered charity number : 91/7344

By Bank Transfer: Bank (HKD): HSBC – Bank code: 004

Account name: Children of the Mekong - Account number: 502-538382-001

We can provide a **tax receipt for tax claim** if need be for every donation.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about your donation:

info@childrenofthemekong.org.hk

➤ **THAILAND**

By Bank Transfer: Name TH: มูลนิธิเพื่อเด็กยากจนลุ่มแม่น้ำโขงแห่งประเทศไทย

Name EN : ENFANTS DU MEKONG EN THAILAND FUNDT

Number : 747 167 6903 - Bank : UOB - Branch : Sathorn

Tax number: 0-9930-00151-25-9 - Charity number: 1372

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about your donation:

edmthailand@enfantsdumekong.com

If you are a company and you want to make a donation please contact us:

partnership@enfantsdumekong.com

➤ **SINGAPORE**

If you wish to donate in kind or/and in cash it is simple.

Please contact us: edmsingapore@gmail.com

➤ **USA**

If you wish to donate in kind or/and in cash it is simple.

Please contact us: EdmUSA@enfantsdumekong.com



"What is not given is lost."

Father Ceyrac

It was sixty years ago that Children of the Mekong allowed for the establishment of friendly ties between families in Europe and impoverished families in Asia.

Many, perhaps, ponder the meaning of their lives and the reason for which we were born on "the right side of the divide". It seems to me that everyone has his or her share of joy and pain, and that one answer to this question would be to give meaning to our own lives.

Loving, helping, and supporting Children of the Mekong would enable you, because we are proposing that you join us in answering a number of questions which you could ask yourself. If you are searching for meaning, efficiency, transparency, personal commitment, a humane and professional approach, innovation – we are there to work on these things day after day!

And if, like René Péchard, founder of Children of the Mekong, and all of us following in his wake, all you want is to simply "give and open yourself up to marvellous surprises", join us.

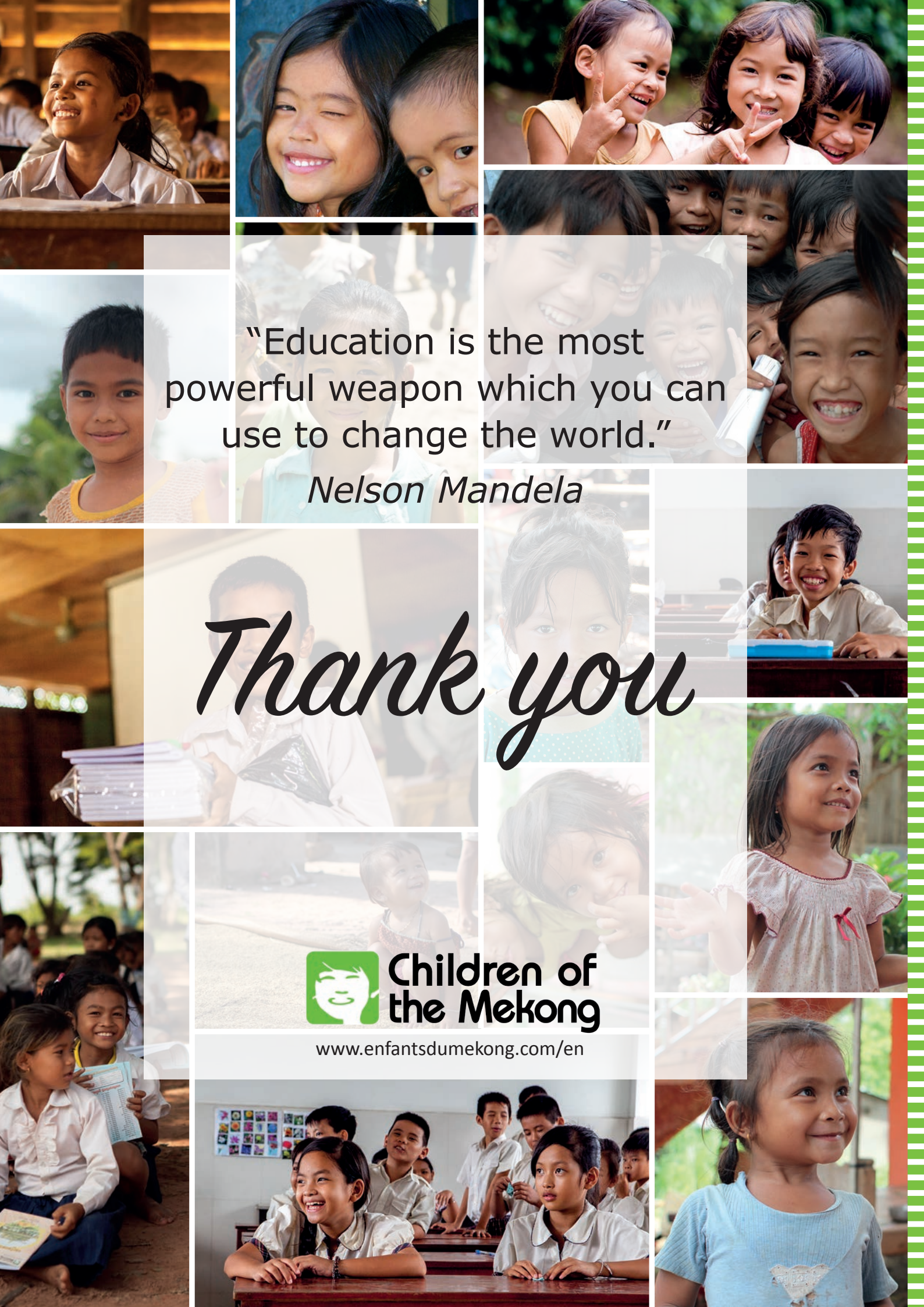
Why Children of the Mekong, why Asia?

*and why not ?
Come and see! Thank you for your trust*



Guillaume d'Aboville
Managing Director
of Children
of the Mekong

Thank you!



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela

Thank you



**Children of
the Mekong**

www.enfantsdumekong.com/en