



Helping through education for a better future

www.raintree-foundation.org

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The Raintree Foundation, Annual project report 2011

Introduction

The Raintree Foundation is a grassroots social non-government organization registered under the Ministry of Interior, mainly operating in Thailand among rural and underdeveloped communities. The aim is to help people through education, appropriate technology and self-help projects to improve their living standards. The organization was founded in 2008. Present projects are supporting Children's Homes, Day-Care Centers, informal vocational training, providing villages with clean drinking water by providing appropriate filter systems and supplying water through various pump systems.

A word of the President

The year 2011 was a busy and good year for us and we were able to help individual people, especially children and were actively involved in improving the lives of whole communities. We have distributed 200 Bio Sand Filters and 10 hydraulic ram pumps. Our three children homes are managed well and the children attend school and prosper.

Thank you for your interest and help throughout the year of 2011 and we are looking forward to a new productive year. We enjoy being part of a body that really cares for people and help to help them-selves. Please enjoy reading our annual report 2011.

Wanida Oberg
President of the Raintree Foundation

24 January, 2011

ECHO / Partner Workshop

In January there was an upcoming event at Mae Jo which was arranged by the ECHO Asia office in cooperation with Partners. It was held just behind Mae Jo University at the Partners. Around 30 participants from Laos, Cambodia, Burma and Thailand came to learn and share about agricultural techniques. The team from Partners showed how to make compost with the help of rice brand and pigs. They showed how to grow Moringa and how to use it, how to grow mushrooms in the backyard, how to make soap, a lesson about fruit



tree grafting and at least about Vermiculture which was held at Mae Jo University. All topics were really interesting and practicable for the participants and it wasn't just theory what we've done because they have everything on their farm so we had to do things by ourselves too. The learning by doing practice was really exciting and gave us all a new perspective for upcoming projects and their use in the field. The whole group was open-minded and we shared our experiences on several things we do or have done so far and it taught us how to implement the learned techniques in each specific area and surrounding. So after all we were packed with a lot of new ideas and solutions for future projects and farms. The ECHO team and the Partners team did a really great job.

6 February, 2011

Donation of cloths, food, and toys for children



Just this morning we got several packages from a donor which we sorted out at our office. They contain second hand clothes, food products and toys for the kids. We check if the things are in a good shape and repack them to bring them up to our projects in Mae Hae and Mae Nachorn where cloths and toys every time are needed. A big thank to the donor which supported us.

7 February, 2011 15:43

[Clown up in the Mountains.](#)

Last week we had the opportunity to take up Clown Eckie from Bangkok to North Thailand. There in remote hill tribe villages we enjoyed his funny shows. The village people, children and us had a great time and a good laugh. Thank you Eckie. Thank you & Tha Blue!



17 February, 2011

[Karen Coffee Coop](#)

We are making our first steps in becoming a co-op for the hill tribe farmers. Our very first coffee harvest is over and we managed to get an over 1 ton of green beans. The green beans are sold to a coffee roaster which will blend our coffee with other coffee to create a unique taste. We learn many things on our journey to help hill tribe farmers being "coffee novices" ourselves. Not only growing seedlings, planting coffee trees and coffee bean processing is important but also providing a marketing platform for the farmers so that they have a stable income. At our coffee projects all are involved, the children are helping whenever they come from school, the villagers join us in trainings and field works and it is amazing to stand back and to see not only coffee growing but a community growing with better future prospects.



28 February, 2011

[Eye glasses for Samoeng village](#)



A team of The Raintree Foundation went to Samoeng, about a one hour drive by car from Chiang Mai. There we met different Rotary clubs from Chiang Mai. Those Rotary Clubs have had implemented an Eye's Day for helping people living in Samoeng area. There was two Doctors from oversee and one local Doctor. This three Doctors got assistance by ten more people from oversee. Six of them were present at six different check stations and the other four helped the local people to reach each check station. At the end there are two people giving out the right eye glass after the Doctor's detected their sense of sight. Rotaract was representing too, they captured the entire villager coming for eye test. Altogether there were nine hundred local people for eye test and some of them used to went to the clinic to get an eye operation. In January of 2011 Rotary Chiang Mai North www.rotarychiangmai.org asked the Raintree Foundation to introduce our work at their weekly meeting. Ralf O. was the guest speaker and he talked also about our eye glass projects. However, the Rotary Club asked us for some eye glass donations for their big eye glass project in Samoeng. When we went to Samoeng we took 548 pcs. of eye glasses with us and donated it to the Rotary eye project.

29 March, 2011 15:26

[Singapore Tea & Coffee Exhibition](#)

At the 21.03.2011 until 23.03.2011 we went with a few coffee growers to the Tea & Coffee Exhibition in Singapore where all the Asian coffee companies were present. A few showed their processing equipment and machine and other roasting and packing machines. It was quite amazing what kind of new models are available and sometimes how easy and fast they make the work compared to the usual ways of doing. Nearby they have a "Barista" competition running where barista artists from all over the world showed their skills.



18 April, 2011

[Ram pump reinstallation in Buloe \(Mae Sariang/Sop Moi\)](#)

Last year around the same time we did a ram pump installation in cooperation with the Operation Blessing foundation which is connected with CBN Siam. The former installation isn't sufficient enough anymore because the amount of water which was available for the ram pump decreased and the villagers want to use the water directly from the well. So we decided to find another spot which have enough to guarantee a proper ram operation. We went there on Sunday the 3rd of April and planned to finish the whole installation within a week.



First we had to remove the old pipelines, the pump and every possible material we could reuse. The new site is around 3 km far from the village and the next step was to bring all materials to the new site. We started with several groups of the villagers to get the things done faster. One group build the new basement for the collection tanks, another group did the PVC pipeline from the collection tank towards the new site, the next group prepared the basement for the ram and the tank for the ram installation and the last group arranged the transportation of the needed materials to the places where they were needed.

Work went on really well and the villagers are willing to help us in any purpose. At Friday afternoon we were nearly finished with the whole installation and we decided to wait one more day to give the concrete time to cure. So on Saturday morning we started the ram pump and gave the responsible villagers training on the maintenance and proper operation of the pump. Finally we did a few adjustments and went up to the village and waiting to see the water delivered to the tanks. It took quite a while till the water reached the tanks since the whole distance is 2.2 km and with an elevation of around d 165 meters. Finally we left the village on Saturday evening and agreed to follow up the next month, to recheck the pump and to measure the delivered amount of water for the village.

19 April, 2011

On Thursday 07/04/2011 the Raintree team went to Phayao for installing the first of 127 BioSand Filters. This water filters were donated by the Rotary club of Coquitlam Canada. www.rotary-coquitlam.ca In the two days we spend there, we installed 61 BioSand Filters and we got great help from the villagers. They directed us to every single household where they have placed the filter bodies already and therefore we were able to install the filters in just two days. We only needed to fill the filters with the filter media and give some introductions to the new BioSand Filter owners.

We also had time to check on the 20 BioSand Filters we've installed in December 2010. It was nice again to see they use this sustainable water filter to get their own drinking water without any following expenses such as replacing the Filter media.



28 April, 2011

[BioSand Filter Installation in Phayao](#)

On Thursday, April 20, the Raintree team has made the second trip to Phayao for installing another 36 BioSand Filters. So far, 97 families have received such a filter and therefore don't need to spend money on buying drinking water any longer. In total, Rotary Club Coquitlam, Canada (www.rotary-coquitlam.ca) donated 127 units BioSand Filters. There will be one more trip to Phayao in May, to install the last 30 units.



20 May, 2011

[Buloe Check Up 03.05.2011](#)

In the beginning of May we went back to Buloe where we reinstalled the ram pump for the village water supply earlier this year. We did a training with the villagers how to operate and maintain the pump. Finally the pump was started but no water was delivered. We checked the 2.2 km pipeline and found out that some of the PVC connections weren't glued. After fixing that problem the first measurement of delivered water in the village was pretty good. The



pump delivers about 6 liters per minute which means around 8.500 liters a day. The villagers are really happy to have a water supply directly in their own village for the whole year, independent from the seasons in Thailand.

26 May, 2011 12:51

[Mae Hae coffee hulling, May 2011](#)

After we started the coffee co-op up in the mountains in northern Thailand last year, 2010, the farmers brought around 6 tons of coffee cherries to the co-op for processing. Pulped and dried in the sun, the so called "parchment coffee" was stored for about three month. We were able to get in touch with a coffee roasting company which took samples from those beans and declared them for good. The last



step which had to be done, was to hull the "parchment coffee". This means removing the yellowish, protective skin in which the beans were stored before. For this step the coffee co-op got a hulling machine which we set up and did a test run. In the facility we were able to hull the beans within two days. After that the beans had to be hand sorted to ensure the quality and good taste of the beans. The coffee co-op produced around 1300 kg of green coffee beans for the market. We are looking forward to the next season and hopefully the knowledge and skills of the villagers grows as well as the coffee trees.

13 June, 2011

[New School in Mae Hong Son](#)



Last week we could open our first school project with 45 children, 6 teachers and one head master. We help in a small hill tribe village in Mae Hong Song province, where the children have had no other chance to attend school. The curriculum is prepared by the teachers and we additionally try to maintain the tribal culture, create transparency, encourage environmental responsibility, work with gender and health issues. It is our goal to impact the whole village through community development in a holistic approach with education for a better future. Our initial starting point is the school project where we made a long term commitment. The villagers built themselves the new school building, a simple practical bamboo structure. Once the school operates smoothly we will follow up with our next steps, providing clean drinking water and address other environmental issues. At this stage we want to give our special thanks to our friend Yosi who helped with financial support for the teachers' salaries and made this possible.

11 July, 2011

[Donnation of 6 Computers from SPB Software June 2011](#)

Mr. Sebastian from SPB Software donated a total of 6 second hand computers to Raintree Foundation. The computers are installed in our children homes in the Mae Chaem area. We herewith would like to thank SPB Software for their generous gift. The kids are very happy to have computers. They use the computers mainly to study English but not only for that, we connected the computers to the internet as well, which connects them with the "world". The Raintree Foundation is committed to help the disadvantaged and your donation contributes greatly to our aim. Thank you



9 August, 2011

[Baking Muffins with German visitors](#)

On Saturday 16th, Raintree Foundation paid a visit to our children homes with two women from Germany, Anne & Sanna, who help to sponsor our children projects. Since it is rainy season in Thailand at present, the trip to our children homes was quite an adventure. However, we arrived safely and were able to spend some fun time with the children. The visitors from Germany decided that they would bake some muffins with the children. They were all excited to help and were surprised how easy it is to make muffins and even more surprised how tasty those little cookies are. They melted right off our tongues one of the children remembered. A big thank you to our friends from Germany.



16 August, 2011

[Present for Foster Child in Mae La Noi](#)

The Children of our Foster Project are particularly depended on a monthly support from a sponsorship. Their families are in poor and desperate situations, which makes it impossible for the parents to raise them in a healthy way and nourish them. You can sponsor a child living at one of our projects for €25. – per month. We ensure that 100 % of your financial help will be used for the children needs

Last week we were happy and privileged to deliver a bicycle from a foster parent from Germany. The foster child and his family were exceedingly happy to receive this precious gift. It is always a privilege to witness these kind of situations and it motivates us to continue with our foster program. Let me take this blog to thank you for partnering with us providing children with a education and a brighter future.



22 August, 2011 10:23

Foster parent visits her foster child in Mae Hong Song

Last week we were privileged to organize yet another visit in our foster program. A foster parent from Germany wanted to visit her foster daughter in the Mae Hong Son province. This time the child received a very nice pencil case and some other coloring utensils.

Stefan from the Raintree team accompanied our visitor from Germany since our foster children mostly live in remote places, where the average tourist won't visit. The ride from Chiang Mai to our foster children takes about 4 hours. After



the visit at the foster child's house, Stefan showed our visitor a few tourist attractions and passed by our children's home in Mae Na Chorn, where the guesthouse and restaurant 'Hot Coffee' is located. <http://www.hotcoffee-th.org> After a good night at the guesthouse, Stefan brought our guest safely and soundly back to Chiang Mai. Once more, we were able to witness the impact that our foster program has on the disadvantaged children in Thailand. A big Thank You to all our foster parents.

7 September, 2011 11:29

The sun and a simple bottle bringing light

It is just as simple as it sounds. Using a simple 1.5 liter plastic bottle, fill it with water and add a bit of a chlorine solution (to prevent the water to turn green, because of the algae). Cut a hole into the roof where light is needed and place the bottle half way through it, use a sealant to make the whole water proof and that's it. We found that idea watching a clip on the web, and implemented it in one of our community development projects. It is in our food storage room up in the mountains in Mae Hae where we have a children home.



It will bring natural sunlight without common power sources into the dark room which have no window and usually needed an electric light. But with the environmental friendly bottle technique we have the same effect without the need of electricity and it improves the life quality of the children and the community.

6 October, 2011

[Karen Coffee Co-Op](#)



Our coffee co-op is growing daily. Not only are our coffee plants growing on the farm and with our co-op members, but also the hope of a better future for the poor farmers are growing. Recently the local government agencies arranged a meeting and seminar. They informed the farmers how to raise the coffee and how to get organized. The government agencies were very helpful and even donated a few 1000 coffee seedlings to be planted. It was basically our first event together with the farmers, the various local government agencies and us. There is still a lot of work to be done but the co-op is growing.

17 October, 2011

[ECHO Asia Conference Chiang Mai, October 3 – 7, 2011](#)

The RainTree Foundation was pleased to participate at the Echo Asia Conference this year. We were able to introduce over 170 person to sustainable technologies like the water ramp pump, the Bio Sand Filter and some ideas of how to make good use of used plastic bottles, such as a solar light. In the morning sessions we got some input from other organizations. In the afternoon there were sessions as well, about introductions to Biogas, Culture Development etc. The RainTree Foundation Team



was also able to give two afternoon workshops, Thomas gave a Water Ram Pump introduction and Stefan gave a deeper view in how to build a BioSand Filter. It was a great conference where we were able to share some of our knowledge and to learn from other NGO's and organizations.

26 October, 2011

[Pictures and Letters for Foster Parents](#)

Two members of the executive board of Thaicare e.V. in Germany, traveled this July to Thailand in order to check on Raintree's Foster Program. The roads to Raintree's Projects in the Doi Inthanon area, were in critical condition, since the severe rainfalls have caused several landslides. We were more than happy when we finally and safely arrived at the Children's Home in Mae Na Chorn.



At first we were not sure if we could reach the home of several foster children, since they live in quite remote places but we made it, thankfully, and had a good time with the children. We were able to exchange letters from the foster parents to the children and vice-versa. It was a great and adventurous trip and we would like to thank all the foster parents, who share their resources to make a difference in those children and families lives.

8 November, 2011

[Donation of toys for the Mae Hae Children's Home](#)

Thank you Walter from Switzerland! Walters's daughters donated their toys and we could deliver them to our children in Mae Hae. The children were very happy and enjoy the toys a lot. Thank you again!



10 November, 2011

[BioSand Water Filters countdown status: 261 units installed, 739 units more to go to reach our target of 1000 units by the end of 2012](#)

On Tuesday 25th of October the RainTree Foundation Team went to Mae Lod to install another 25 units BioSand Water Filters. Mae Lod is a small village about 65 Km north of Chiang Mai. It is a very clean and tidy village but they have problems with drinking water. Because of this issue, we at Raintree Foundation have implemented the production and distribution of BioSand Filters. Since we started the BioSand Filter project, we can observe a considerable impact on the villagers lives. They are in a better shape and save money on hospital visits. The idea of the BioSand Filter we use comes from Canada, www.cawst.org. At the beginning of the year 2011 we set ourselves a target to support 1000 families with BioSand Filters until the end of 2012. With the 261 installed units we were able to help 260 families, totaling 1250 people. We are thankful for your help and it would be a pleasure to spray your name or your logo on your donated BioSand Filter.



22 November, 2011

[Early Christmas Celebration with Raintree Foundation's Foster Kids](#)

Our foster children had an early Christmas celebration this year, on October 23rd. Almost everybody was able to attend and we had 30 children. Our local staff organized the event. The children attended the celebration from their home village; some of the villages lay as far as 40 kilometers away from the event. However, all the children enjoyed the event and the Christmas gifts didn't miss their effect. This year they received a towel. It may seem a small gift but to these children it is precious. A big thanks to all the foster parents who support one of these children.



7 December, 2011

[Environment Day Exhibition in Chiang Mai, December 2nd to 4th](#)

The annually held event is organized in collaboration with the Environment Office Region 1 and Anti-Global Warming Network, Thailand. This year was the first time; the Raintree Foundation participated at this event. Heifer International Thailand invited the Raintree Foundation and Echo Asia to share a plot at the exhibition.

A team of the Raintree Foundation presented the RAM-Pump and the BioSand Filter, which draw a lot of interested visitors to our booth. We at Raintree Foundation are aiming for a holistic approach to help the hill tribes of Northern Thailand and beyond. With our children homes, we



help the children to get education and with the water pumps and water filters we insure that whole families and communities have access to sufficient water for farming and drinking water.

The children and team wishing you Merry Christmas.

Thank you for being our partner and helping us

Helping people to help themselves through Education, Appropriate Technologies and Community Development

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Balance sheet as at 31st December 2011

ASSETS

Non- Current Assets

Plant and equipment	253,664.56
Other non-current assets	<u>30,000.00</u>
Total Non-Current Assets	283,664.56

Current Assets

Cash in hand and cash in bank	220,333.38
<i>Other current assets</i>	<i>16.59</i>
Total Current Assets	<u>220,349.97</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>504,014.53</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Current Liabilities

Other current liabilities	13,167.53
Total Current Liabilities	<u>13,167.53</u>
Total liabilities	13,167.53

Fund Balance

Funds	407,217.51
Excess of Income over Expenditure	83,629.49
Total Fund Balance	<u>490,847.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u>504,014.53</u>

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December 2011

Income

Donations	4,232,754.50
Bank Interest	<u>1,509.09</u>
Total Income	4,234,263.59

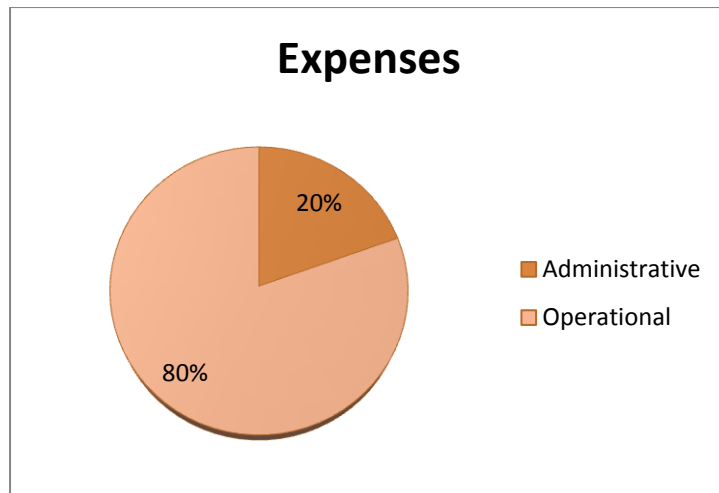
Expenditure

Program costs (OP)	3,339,861.30
Administrative costs (AD)	810,621.91
Tax	<u>150.91</u>
Total Expenditure	4,150,634.10

Surplus/(deficit)	<u>83,629.49</u>
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Expenses

The pie chart below shows the proportion of program and administrative expenses to total expenses.



Income

The pie chart below shows the sources of income that we received in 2011.

