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**KINDERGARTEN RENOVATION PROGRAMME  
AN DONG, LOI NONG KINDERGARTENS IN THUA THIEN HUE  
PROVINCE**

*6<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>st</sup> December, 2011*

*Sponsored by SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY*





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## Introduction

Thua Thien Hue is located in the central region of Vietnam- a region famous for its unique historic complex of monuments recognised as a world heritage site by UNESCO. Thua Thien Hue shares a border with Quang Tri province to the North and Da nang to the South. It has a population of near 1 million people, stretching over one city and eight districts.

There are approximately 200 kindergartens operating in Thua Thien Hue which provide nursery education for over 20,000 children aged 3-5, and some of these kindergartens are rapidly degrading and do not meet the standards of nursery education. The kindergarten renovation program is a programme that Hue Help and Singapore Management University have organised yearly, with activities of upgrading the degraded kindergartens, teaching English to the children and carrying out cultural exchange activities between Vietnam and Singapore. An Dong and Loi Nong are two such kindergartens in need of support.

An Dong kindergarten is located in An Dong ward, Hue city. It was built in 1986 with contributions from INGOs, local funds and individuals. Currently, there are 100 children aged 3-5- most of who belong to the poor families in An Dong Ward- studying in three degraded classrooms. According to the teachers and the principal of the kindergarten, Mr Hiep, the classes needed to be painted and the walls needed to be tiled in order to facilitate the education of the children.

Loi Nong is one of poorest kindergartens in Thuy Chau ward of Huong Thuy town of Thua Thien Hue province. At the present time, there are 35 children aged 3-5 studying in two classrooms with the constructional support of INGOs based in Hue. As there was no kitchen, the children were required to commute to school twice a day, which caused a lot of difficulties for the teachers in educating the children, and for the children's parents in taking the kids to and from school. Mr. Hoa, the principal of the kindergarten, stated, "If we have a kitchen, we can cook at the kindergarten and provide healthy foods for children and it will improve the quality of our education".

We therefore proposed a project to renovate the kindergarten in order to improve the education quality in An dong and Loi nong Kindergartens in Thua Thien Hue province.



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## Project plan

Based on the concerns of- and recommendations from- teachers in the kindergarten and local authorities in An dong and Loi nong Wards, Hue Help proposed to provide financial support for the constructional works detailed below:

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost in VND</b>
(1)	<i>Kitchen construction in Loi nong</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>52,750,000</i>
(2)	<i>Painting and tiling in An dong</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>34,500,000</i>
(2)	<i>Administrative fee</i>		<i>8,000,000</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>95,250,000</b>

## Implementation

After receiving the approval from Singapore Management University (SMU), Hue Help and Thua Thien Hue's Union of Friendship Organisations worked with An Dong and Loi Nong's People Committee to make a plan for the programme.

On 6th December 2011 the programme was carried out officially with the participation of 32 students from SMU of which 19 students worked in Loi Nong and 13 students worked in An Dong. Moreover, they also had the support of Hue Help's staff and 10 local construction workers in Hue. After nearly ten days, with the effort of all members of SMU and local workers, one kitchen was built completely in Loi Nong and the children in An Dong were very happy to study in a beautiful room with a new colour. The members of SMU had a good chance to exchange with the students of Hue's colleges and visited many landscapes and enjoyed foods in Hue. The programme was ended by "a music and food exchange" night between the students of Singapore and local youths of the Youth Union in An Dong and Loi Nong.



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*Above: The students painting at An dong Kindergarten*



*Above: Loading cement blocks to build a kitchen at Loi Nong*



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*Above: Collaborating with a local worker to build the kitchen*



*Above: Teachers and children in Loi nong in the new kitchen.*



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*Above: An SMU student teaching English to children*



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*Above: Exchanging with teachers and children in Loi Nong kindergarten*



*Above: Exchanging with students of Hue's college*



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### **Conclusion**

The programme achieved great results: a new kitchen was completed, and two classrooms was painted and tiled, it has created a good environment for the education of young children in An Dong and Loi Nong ward, Hue City.

Hue city, December 21<sup>th</sup> , 2011  
Khanh Truong  
Representative of Hue Help in Vietnam