



A FUTURE FOR EVERY CHILD  
Rony Wuytjens

Fund Isaan Annual Report 2025

# “A Future for Every Child”

## Fund Isaan Annual Report 2025

### 1. Introduction:

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#### **Fund Isaan: Empowering Education in Thailand’s Isaan Region**

Since 2008, **Fund Isaan** has been dedicated to one mission only: giving children in Thailand’s Isaan region the chance to access quality education and build brighter futures.

What began as a small initiative has grown into a powerful force for change, driven by the belief that education is the most effective tool to break cycles of poverty and inequality.

#### **How We Make a Difference**

To achieve our mission, Fund Isaan focuses on three key areas:

- **Scholarships for Talent:** We provide non-refundable scholarships to children with strong intellectual potential but limited financial means, supporting them throughout their entire education journey.
- **Technology for Schools:** We deliver IT solutions to rural schools, ensuring students and teachers have access to modern tools that enhance learning.
- **Volunteers for Growth:** We send carefully selected foreign volunteers to assist local language and IT teachers, helping raise the quality of their courses and inspire students.

#### **Who We Are**

Fund Isaan operates through two entities:

- **European Friends of Fund Isaan Thailand:** Managed by the [King Baudouin Foundation](#) (KBS) in Belgium, what started as a purely Belgian Fund converted in early 2024 into a European fund.
- **Fund Isaan Thailand (Fund Isaan):** A registered non-profit organization under the Ministry of Commerce in Thailand (under number Sor. Ror. 3/2556).

Our annual report consolidates the work and impact of both organizations.

## Why Our Work Matters

The challenges facing Thai education are urgent and immense. Reports as recent as January 26, 2026 from UNICEF Thailand and the *Bangkok Post* highlight that:

- Thai children are learning less than they did a decade ago, according to international studies.
- The education system is deepening inequality instead of reducing it.
- Students are not being prepared for the future economy.
- Children are not failing—the system is failing them.

Despite these obstacles, education remains the most powerful tool for growth and equality. With bold action, Thailand can still turn the tide—and Fund Isaan is committed to being a small part of that change. (Source: [Fix Thailand's education before it's too late | UNICEF Thailand](#))

## Financial information

In 2025, we applied an average exchange rate of 35.42 Baht/Euro (versus 37.45 Baht/Euro in 2024) for the purpose of this report, based on actual transfers from Belgium to Thailand. These resources continue to fuel our scholarships, IT programs, and volunteer initiatives, ensuring that every child we support has the opportunity to thrive.



## 2. Fund Isaan's Achievements in 2025

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In 2025, Fund Isaan proudly advanced its mission to improve education in Thailand's Isaan region through three impactful projects:

1. **Scholarships for Students:** We welcomed six new scholarship students into our program, ensuring they have the financial and moral support needed to pursue their studies.
2. **Volunteering Program:** With the continued support of **Delaware** and **Odisee University College in Belgium**, we strengthened our volunteer program, bringing dedicated foreign volunteers to assist teachers and inspire students.
3. **Digital Classrooms:** We installed **11 new computer classes** in rural schools across Surin, giving hundreds of children access to modern technology and opening doors to future opportunities.

## 3. Where our support comes from

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- **Private individuals** contributed around **27%** of our budget.
- **Non-profits and corporate sponsors** provided the remaining **73%**, underscoring the importance of strong partnerships in sustaining our mission.

### Our Key Partners

We are proud to acknowledge the continued support of our most important non-profit and corporate sponsors, whose commitment makes our work possible year after year. Their generosity ensures that children in Thailand's Isaan region have access to scholarships, technology, and opportunities that change lives.

The Delaware logo consists of the word 'delaware' in a lowercase, bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'd' is stylized with a red circle on its left side.

## 4. Our scholarship students

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### Scholarships That Change Lives: Fund Isaan's Impact in 2025

Education is the key to opportunity, and at Fund Isaan we believe every child deserves the chance to pursue their dreams. In 2025, we welcomed six new students into our scholarship program, bringing the total number of students we've supported since our founding to 349. Throughout the academic year 2025/2026, we had an average of 51 active scholarship students, receiving a combined 688,500 Thai Baht (19,438 Euro). On average, each student received 13,500 Baht (381 Euro) per year—support that makes a world of difference for families with limited means.

### More Than Financial Support

We assure every sponsor that their entire donation and more goes directly to their student's scholarship. Beyond financial aid, we provide something equally important: personal attention and moral support. Each student is more than a number—they are part of the Fund Isaan family.

We travel thousands of kilometers across Thailand to meet students at their colleges and universities, spending weeks on the road to ensure every student feels seen, heard, and encouraged. These conversations often make the difference between a student continuing their studies or giving up under pressure.

### Results That Inspire

The impact of this support is clear:

- 95% of our scholarship students graduate, with only a small minority leaving early—often because they were offered jobs they couldn't refuse.
- In 2025 alone, 26 students graduated, stepping into new opportunities that will benefit not only themselves but also their families and communities, none left school early.

Global studies confirm what we see every day: education doesn't just transform individuals—it uplifts entire societies.

### Protecting Privacy, Building Trust

To respect privacy and comply with legislation, we never publish names or addresses of scholarship students. Instead, sponsors can follow their student's journey through a secure personal login on our website, where updates are shared using nicknames.

### Looking Ahead

While sponsorship remains a challenge, we are committed to supporting every student already in our program until they graduate. To ensure sustainability, we are carefully reducing the number of new applicants we accept each year—but never abandoning those already on their path.

## 5. Computer program

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### Expanding Opportunities: 11 New Computer Classes in 2025

Thanks to the unwavering support of our loyal sponsors—**Thaise Vrienden Wevelgem** and **delaware**—Fund Isaan was able to install **11 -new computer classrooms** in February 2025. This milestone marks another step forward in our mission to bring modern technology and equal learning opportunities to students in Thailand’s Isaan region.

### From Belgium to Thailand

To make this possible, we ordered **210 portable computers**, complete with Windows and Office licenses, from **Close The Gap** in Belgium. Once they arrived in Bangkok, our team carefully tested each device, adjusted keyboards to the Thai language, activated licenses, and installed our own educational software. Every detail was handled with care to ensure students received tools ready for immediate use.

### Collaboration for Impact

This year, we partnered closely with the **Science and Technology Department of Surin Rajabhat University** to identify schools most in need of support. After thorough evaluation and preparation, the computers were officially handed over during a memorable ceremony at the university. The event was attended by the president and vice-presidents, the dean of the faculty, professors, school directors, teachers, local press, and—most importantly—the students themselves.

### The Schools Benefiting

The following schools received new computer classrooms:

1. Narai Kampong School
2. Tangjai Wittayakhom School
3. Nabua Witthaya School
4. Tanee Witthaya School
5. Nongweang Wittayakhom School
6. Nadi Wittaya School
7. Berd Pittayason School
8. Phusing Prachasemvit School
9. Sripatum Pittayakhom School
10. Ban Patamoh School
11. Ban Nongornongsim School

### Why It Matters

For these schools, the new computer classes are more than just equipment—they are gateways to opportunity. Students now have access to modern tools that prepare them for the digital economy, while teachers gain resources to raise the quality of their courses. Each classroom represents a step toward reducing inequality and empowering communities through education.

For more details and photos, visit: [Fund Isaan Blog – February 2025 Great News](#)

## 6. Volunteers supporting English and STEM Classes

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### Volunteers Bringing Global Connections to Isaan

In 2025, Fund Isaan welcomed volunteers from our partners **delaware (Belgium)** and **Odisee University College in Brussels**. Their dedication enriched classrooms across the Isaan region, strengthening both language and IT education.

### A Program That Benefits Everyone

Our volunteering program continues to be a success—not only for the teachers and students in the schools we support, but also for the volunteers themselves. Spending six weeks at a local school and living with a host family, each volunteer experiences Thai culture firsthand while making a lasting impact on education.

### Expanding Partnerships

To address the shortfall in volunteer resources, we partnered with **Go-To.co**, a UK-based non-profit with a similar volunteering program. This collaboration ensures that schools requesting volunteers continue to receive the support they need, keeping the spirit of international exchange alive.

Testimony from our volunteer: **Axelle De Huyvetter**, delaware  
November/December 2025

*“It is hard to put into words how special my volunteering assignment with Fund Isaan was, honestly, the most special thing I’ve ever done.*

*Staying with a guest family gave me a front-row seat to everyday life: breakfasts that turned into language lessons, car rides to school in the morning rush, and the gentle rhythm of evenings spent swapping stories about both our worlds, that could not be more different and more alike at the same time. Before I left Belgium, I thought this would feel like a completely different life and was preparing myself for a cultural shock. But I became so used to it, in record time. Before the first week even wrapped up, it already felt like I was just living my normal life – at the other side of the world.*

*At school, I got to know the teachers who pour their heart into their classes and the students who bring the place to life. It didn’t feel “a project”, it felt like being welcomed into a community. What really stayed with me was watching the students open up, day after day. At first there were shy smiles and quiet whispers, then came curious questions, bolder sentences, and those small victories when someone tries a new word and nails it. You see the trust grow in the room – the replies that come a little faster, the laughter that bubbles up after a tongue-twister, the pride when a conversation clicks. It’s the kind of progress that doesn’t shout, but it definitely shines.*

*And the impact? It might be modest, maybe one or two students whose English improved clearly. But knowing that a few extra words, a bit more confidence, can open a door for their future – that’s a truly amazing feeling and impossible to measure.*

*Not a drumroll moment, just a quiet, joyful one; that sense that, in a small way, you helped someone see a little farther and dream a little bigger.”*

## 7. Detailed financials

Fund Isaan consolidated annual account	2025		2024	
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash:	6 388,86		51 128,00	
Thai Government Savings Bank:	20 969,78		16 829,62	
Project Account KBS	1 979 192,38		2 215 591,43	
<b>Total Assets 31 December</b>	<b>2 006 551,02</b>		<b>2 283 549,05</b>	
<b>Income and Expenses</b>				
<u>Income</u>				
Thai Government Savings Bank:	5 000,00		115 098,46	
Project Account KBS:	1 668 636,20		2 024 771,70	
Computer sales GSB				
Bank Interest:	378,76		513,17	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 674 014,96</b>		<b>2 140 383,33</b>	
<u>Volunteer time value</u>				
3 months Volunteers	120 000,00			
6 weeks Volunteers	180 000,00		360 000,00	
2 weeks Volunteers				
<b>Total</b>	<b>300.000,00</b>		<b>360 000,00</b>	
<b>Total income:</b>	<b>1 974 014,96</b>		<b>2 500 383,33</b>	
<u>Expenses</u>				
<u>Operation Expenses</u>				
Scholarships	688 500,00	37,63%	970 500,00	46,29%
Computer program	818 022,88	44,71%	883 972,50	42,16%
Volunteers	169 806,98	09,28%	101 127,50	04,82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 676 329,86</b>	<b>91,62%</b>	<b>1 955 600,00</b>	<b>93,27%</b>
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>				
Office equipment	23 300,00	1,27%	14 186,00	0,68%
Transport scholarships	37 400,00	2,04%	50 875,00	2,43%
Auditor Fees	5 150,00	0,28%	5 150,00	0,24%
Taxes	2 559,28	0,14%	56,00	0,00%
Bank Charges	1 541,00	0,09%	1 489,00	0,07%
Management Fee KBS	83 360,97	4,56%	69 387,36	3,31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>153 311,25</b>	<b>8,38%</b>	<b>141 143,36</b>	<b>6,73%</b>
<b>Total expenses:</b>	<b>1 829 641,11</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2 096 743,36</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 8. Appendix

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We strongly recommend below articles.

### **THAILAND'S FUTURE WILL BE DECIDED IN ITS CLASSROOMS**

PUBLISHED : 26 Jan 2026 at 05:38

NEWSPAPER: Bangkok Post

SECTION: [Oped](#)

WRITERS: [Ken Legins and Somchai Jitsuchon](#)

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/3183019/future-will-be-decided-in-classrooms>.

*"On Feb 8, 2026 people across Thailand will head to the national election.*

*Economic growth will dominate the debate -- as it should. ... Thailand's future will depend on whether young people today are prepared to thrive.*

*Preparation for the future must begin with education, and currently it is failing far too many children.*

*Education is not just one policy issue among many, it's the foundation on which all successful policies for Thailand's future rest. Without strong education, economic strategies will falter and inequality will grow.*

...

*Simply providing access to schools is no longer enough. Learning quality remains too uneven and inequality is still widespread across the system.*

*Too many students leave school before completing secondary education, while international assessments show that learning outcomes have declined over the past decade, particularly in reading.*

*For young people and for Thailand, lower scores mean lost potential. These children and young people aren't failing. The system has failed them.*

*... At the same time, artificial intelligence and new technologies are reshaping work and life at a speed we haven't seen in decades.*

*Thailand needs its next generation to leave schools with the right skills for a new world, young people capable of problem-solving, adaptability, teamwork and digital literacy. ...*

...

*Schools should be places where children are eager to learn, not places they want to escape. School counsellors can help students understand their strengths, navigate transitions and use their education as a stepping stone towards a better future.*

*... As education advocate Nicha Kattiyavara, who has worked with Unicef Thailand on education reform, puts it:*

*"We don't want another generation to face the same problems under the same promises. We hope leaders who care about Thailand's future will see young people as equal partners they can trust and work with us through meaningful, continuous collaboration."*

...

*The stakes couldn't be higher, as the flaws in the system are affecting children today and for the rest of their lives.*

*Currently, only 4 in 10 Grade 2 students demonstrate age-appropriate reading and mathematics skills, with children from rural areas and poorer households facing the greatest barriers.*

*Education should be society's most powerful equaliser, but too often in Thailand it reinforces inequality.*

*The consequences are already visible across the country. 4 in 10 adults aged 25–34 haven't completed upper secondary education and one in eight young people is neither studying nor working. This is not just a social problem, it is a structural drag on Thailand's economy.*

*The good news is that none of this is inevitable. Thailand has the evidence, the talent, and the resources that will be needed to reform education through wise investments to drive economic growth and transform millions of lives.*

*Teachers remain the backbone of education, yet are too often overwhelmed by administrative burdens that take time away from teaching. They need support in the form of reduced low-value paperwork, and greater investment in professional development.*

*Children in all schools, including small and remote ones, deserve to have enough qualified staff supporting them.*

*This is not just about spending more on education. It is also about spending smarter and directing resources to the children and schools that need them most.*

*For many disadvantaged children, public education is the only route out of poverty. When education fails, that door of opportunity slams shut.*

*What Thailand needs now is a non-partisan, long-term commitment to education reform that will survive political change.*

*The question facing voters and politicians alike is not whether Thailand can afford to invest in its children, but whether it can afford not to.*

*Thailand's future will be written by its young people. The responsibility to prepare them belongs to all of us."*

**Ken Legins is Unicef Representative for Thailand. Dr Somchai Jitsuchon is Research Director, Inclusive Development, Thailand Development Research Institute.**

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## FIX EDUCATION BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

Unicef Thailand

[Fix Thailand's education before it's too late | UNICEF Thailand](#)

Published 26 January 2026

***“Thai children are learning less than 10 years ago, according to international ratings.***

*COVID disruptions are a complicating factor, but in international tests Thailand’s 15-year-olds score below the OECD average in maths, reading and science. In PISA 2022, Thai students scored 394 in maths, 379 in reading and 409 in science, compared with OECD averages of 472, 476 and 485. Compared to 2012, the number of Thai students achieving basic proficiency has declined sharply. OECD and academics described the 2022 results as “alarming” proof of a 10-year downward trend, with Thailand falling behind Vietnam and, in some areas, Malaysia. Thai children are falling behind, while others pull ahead.*

***Thailand’s learning crisis is worsening, not improving.***

*Over the last decade, Thailand’s PISA scores have fallen by 60 points in reading. If nothing is done, Thailand may lock a generation out of opportunity. This means reduced employment and earning opportunity, and persistence of inequality.*

***Education is deepening inequality, not fixing it.***

*Education can be a great equalizer but in Thailand it entrenches inequality. While the richest 25% of Thai students perform comparably with top-performing countries most [perform below global averages](#). There are huge gaps between urban/rural, large central/small remote schools, and [Thai-speaking and non-Thai-speaking/minority children](#). In other words, where you are born in Thailand matters more than your ability when it comes to education.*

***The system is not preparing children for the future economy.***

*OECD analysis of Thailand’s education finds that the skills produced don’t match what a fast-changing economy needs –[problem solving, digital literacy, creativity, teamwork](#). Schools focus on rote learning and high-stakes exams [over critical thinking, creativity, or socio-emotional skills](#). Children who “succeed” in school still struggle in labour markets.*

***Education is still the most powerful tool for growth and equality.***

*Finishing secondary school increases earnings by at least 10 per cent, according to a World Bank study. Each baht invested in early learning delivers high economic returns.*

***Children are not failing—our system is failing them.***

*We must demand better for every child.*

***Thailand can still turn this around—but only with bold action now.***

*Smarter investment. Stronger early learning. High quality, highly trained teachers in every school. Real skills for real jobs. Safe, supportive, climate-resilient schools for every child. This is what we must demand now. We cannot accept the status quo. We have to hold politicians accountable and fix education like Thailand’s future depends on it – because it does.”*

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