

# Singapore, Lao and Thai youths volunteer on Khong Island



Project Khong Lam 2008, a youth-initiated Community Service Project, took place from December 26, 2008, to January 4, 2009. The venture was led by Project Leader Mr Elson Lee and his team of 12 ASEAN youths from Singapore, Laos and Thailand.

The 12 youths involved came from diverse backgrounds and cultures. They were from various youth organisations in their respective countries: SSEAYP International Singapore, the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, and the Bangkok Metropolitan Youth Council.

During their nine days with the Community Service Project, the team met its objectives to build and design a school library to serve about 500 students at Houa Khong Secondary School on Khong Island, Champassak province, Laos.

The team aimed to create a conducive-learning environment for the Lao students, and proper fans and lighting were bought and installed in every classroom. The team hoped to foster and encourage reading as a habit among Lao students at a young age.

Apart from setting up the library, the team was divided into smaller groups in each classroom to teach the students to interact in English by using basic and simple English words and sentences.

This meaningful project expanded the volunteers' scope of overseas community involvement projects and promoted ASEAN identity by sharing the fruits of the project with students from National University of Laos on January 3, 2009.

Last but not least, Elson and his team would like to express their sincere gratitude to sponsors for having total confidence in their team. Project Khong Lam 2008 wouldn't have been a success without the sponsorship of the Singapore-ASEAN Youth Fund, Tan Chin Tuan Foundation and Lao sponsors AutoLao, Lao Beverage Co., Ltd. and Mega Management Co., Ltd.