Details of Each project

1. Kok Payom Community

“Learning Community, Creative English teaching and environment”

Kok Payom community Langu, Satun province
DaLaa MLTV project - code: 0950
Open all year round, min 2 months stay, Maximum volunteers: 5

HISTORY and REASONS OF THE PROJECT

Kok Payom is the name of a small Muslim fishermen’s village where about 600 people living in. It is located 10 kilometers from its district called Langu and close to the seawater canals surrounded by mangrove forests. Most of the families get their resources from fishing. The links are still tight between community members and related families. Since they started to replant and preserve the mangrove forest in 2001, they greatly welcome visitors, activists and volunteers to join useful activities to keep their village alive. They want to be actors to preserve their lifestyle and nature around for the next generation. The community wants to be responsible. There are quite some difficulties and pressure from the modern world and they work hard to find solutions to the environmental and social issues they face.

Since 2009, DaLaa volunteers have been working with the villagers and children especially at the local schools. There have been a big improvement and continuation of useful activities and constructions. Community members are more aware of environmental issues and how to preserve the local beliefs and lifestyle. In 2010, Sakkarin, also staff of DaLaa, decided to move to live in Kok Payom. With help of villagers, he creates “Klong Toh Lem Academy”, an alternative school on the other side of the canal, in the middle of mangrove forest where children can learn about environment, local values, wisdoms, and language in a very natural method of learning every Sunday. There are approximately 20 children, aged between 7-12 attending. So far, the main school building and other necessary structures have been constructed from collaboration of both villagers and international volunteers. However, there is still working that need to be done.
Early 2017, it was officially registered as Klong Toh Lem Academy Foundation (The Community Foundation for the Society of Lifelong Learning). The aims are:

1. To support the opportunity for lifelong learning and education improvement in Kok Payom village
2. To support Community based organization (Kok Payom Community Forest Conservation); to work for mangrove forest protection
3. To organize non-formal, informal and alternative education management for local kids and adults to learn for community sustainable development.

Klong Toh Lem Academy Foundation is the organization that officially hosts DaLaa’s Volunteers in Kok Payom. Executive committee includes 6 persons: Sakkarin, Bung Bari, Bang Det, Bang Kak, bang Peain and Kung.

AIMS of the PROJECT

1. To support activities of Kok Payom community.
2. To support Klong Toh Lem Academy Foundation (see aims above)
3. To build friendship between volunteers and local people.

WORK AND ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday-Thursday</th>
<th>Teaching/activities/environment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday-Saturday</td>
<td>Free time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Klong Toh Lem Academy (Alternative School)</td>
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</tbody>
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Volunteers can possibly do the activities as follows:

- Create non-formal English classes at local schools
- Create non-formal classes at the House of Knowledge for Kids and adults.
- Create a place where local people and children can learn and become more aware of the importance of our environment (Alternative School – Klong Toh Lem Academy)
- To support some work for community base project (Masjid and Islamic learning center)
- Organize nature trips with children (awareness of the importance of nature)
- Plant young seedlings in the mangrove forests (occasionally)
- Organize fun and enjoyable activities to the village children at the village meeting place
- Support the neworking for Satun Education development (English camps)
- Create the activities, tools, library and opputunities to learn for “The House of Knowledge”
- Experience Thai Muslim culture, language and local lifestyle with the villagers and support in any useful activities.

General schedule:

Students’ English ability
Most students basically know only easy words, short sentences and the letters in the alphabet
REQUIREMENTS

The volunteers should be ready to stay in a remote area, to adapt to the local conditions with only basic facilities and with few people able to speak in English. Volunteers should be able to handle spontaneous working environment and constant changes in the plans. The mentality and way of thinking is very different from the western world. There will have often activities with the children. To have responsibility for yourself, the kids and full involvement in community matters is a must.

Villagers of Kok Payom are Muslim so there is no pork or alcohol in the village. Women should dress modestly although you will discover when you live there that the villagers are very relaxed.

FOOD and ACCOMODATION

Volunteers will stay at the Klong Toh Lehm Academy Foundation office which is also the house of Sakkarin and Saneeyah (Kung), your main hosts. They called this place “the house of knowledge” and provide a library, creative English teaching for kids, adults and Wi-Fi for all villagers.

This place actually belongs to Bang Chep family, the house next door with who you will also spend your daily life. There is a triple room house for volunteers, with simple mattress, pillow and mosquito net. You will need to bring your own sleeping bag. You will join daily tasks for cooking and cleaning. Local people eat rice (or noodles) 2 or 3 times a day with side dishes like curries, omelets, vegetables and lots of fish and sea food.