



AID-ASHA-A-12-00001
Payap University Solar Power Project
Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ending on September 30, 2014

For the 2014 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014), there has been only limited progress on USAID grant AID-ASHA-A-12-00001 for the purpose of installation of solar electricity generating by Payap University (Chiang Mai, Thailand). During this period, no grant funds were expended.

In January 2014, ASHA approved a draft Scope of Work (SOW) document for the A&E provider which was subsequently signed by both Payap University and the A&E provider. Work began on the Preliminary Design Documents (PDD) and several optional designs were reviewed. However, due to the many layers of administrative approval required and the inauguration of a new President at Payap University, a final decision could not be made.

The new President of Payap assumed her position on 1 June, 2014. There were also significant changes to the composition of the university Board of Trustees. Therefore, decisions related to the new design of the solar panel units could not be made, which meant that work on the PDD could not proceed.

The President appointed a new committee (PYU Order 330/2557, 14 Aug 2014) to oversee this project. The new committee held its first meeting on 5 September, 2014 to discuss the specifics of this project, including all current options available in Thailand. Due to the technical nature of this project, the committee appointed a sub-committee to further review the technology in the Thailand context and make recommendations accordingly. The sub-committee has already made a visit to the Chiang Mai University's Energy Research Development Institute for consultancy.

In the 2015 fiscal year it is expected that Payap University will select a new A&E Service Provider. This is due to the complex nature of this project and the essential technical background required to perform the duties of A&E Service Provider. It is expected that in the 2015 Fiscal Year, the new committee charged with overseeing this project will be in discussions with the Energy Research and Development Institute-Nakornping, located on the campus of Chiang Mai University here in Chiang Mai, Thailand. This organization appears to have the requisite qualifications to properly manage this project. The OSI will submit a SF 330 for ASHA's review once it has determined that this organization will in fact perform as the A&E Service Provider for this project.

While we regret the limited progress that has been made this past year, with the new senior administration of the University settled, it is expected that substantial progress will be made.

Respectfully submitted by

Jonathan H. Wolff
Senior Associate
United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia