

## **SJV1435 INFOSHEET**

### **EXPERIENCING CULTURE WITH ETHNIC PEOPLE AT BUOC-VILLAGE.**



#### **CODE NUMBER AND TIME**

**SJV1435 04/11/2014 - 15/11/2014**

#### **WELCOME WORDS FROM CAMP LEADER**

Dear volunteers,

Firstly, it is a great honor for me to be able to welcome you here in Vietnam. I would like to express how happy I feel to have the opportunity to manage and meet a group of people like you who have travelled from different countries. I believe we can do our best to utilize an environmentally conscious attitude, bring a smile to the children of the reserve, and get closer by working together on this project. Welcome to Vietnam, I am sure you will be seduced by the country, the local people and, Vietnamese food. Finally, I would like to

thank-you for your interest in volunteering in Vietnam. We respect you and your kindness. I look forward to meeting you in Vietnam.

## **LOCATION OF THE PROJECT**

The working place is Buoc-village, Mai Chau town, Hoa Binh province, Vietnam. It's about 160km north from Ha Noi.

[Google map's link](#)

## **BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT**

BUOC-village is a small village of Thai-people (an ethnic group came from southern of China) with very pure landscape. As you can see on the above map, this area is placed by only green color and a lot of mountain. Because of this natural condition, Thai-people here rely mainly on agriculture. In the past, the village was located adjacent to streams and people in the village used water of the stream for gardening. During the rainy season water from the mountain goes down through the streams and washes everything away, making it very dangerous to live close to the stream. For this reason, the government has helped residents here to move to higher lands, and build permanent \traditional houses with wood. 10 years have passed since the new BUOC-village was reconstructed in 2002. Currently, firm houses, concrete roads, electricity have become the basic-living-condition of every villager. Although the stream is very beautiful it is dangerous. Despite the good aspects of new infrastructure, villagers still lack a lot of education and understanding about modern society. Therefore, it would be very helpful to help and stay with BUOC-villagers.

## **ROLES AND TASKS**

In the workcamp, volunteers will be divided into small teams to do different tasks including:

- Organizing activities for children
- Create a friendly environment

- Help locals understand the importance of protecting the environment
- Some environmental activities, like gardening, building a bamboo fence, planting trees
- The volunteers will have host families so that they should act like the famous saying, “when in Rome, do as the Romans do”

## DAILY LIFE

### **Accommodation:**

Volunteers will stay in a traditional bamboo house in the BUOC-village.

### **Food:**

The village will provide meals for volunteers. Vietnamese food consists of many varieties and flavors, but if you have any special dietary needs please inform us in advance.

### **Day off and holidays:**

You have 2 days off per week. Mostly during the weekend, unless there are special events in your working place.

### **Daily transportation:**

The volunteers will walk to the working place.

### **Extra information:**

There is no internet at the project side.

During your free time you can travel to discover further wonders of Vietnam!

The province of [Hoa Binh](#) is located in south-western of Vietnam, about 100km from [Hanoi](#).

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✦ Be able to do manual work.
- ✦ Willing to work and stay near Hanoi

- ⤴ Strong inter-personal skills, and experience in working with a wide variety of people, cultural sensitivity.
- ⤴ Commitment to volunteerism
- ⤴ High motivation and come ready to live as the locals do (basic accommodations, transport by bus or bicycle, local food). Be ready to face many difficulties such as language barriers, culture differences, low budgets, etc.
- ⤴ Be patient and sympathetic with the children
- ⤴ Follow the rules of the village

## WHAT TO BRING

- ⤴ A raincoat
- ⤴ Cap
- ⤴ One long sleeve shirt
- ⤴ Water-proof clothes and shoes
- ⤴ Sleeping bag
- ⤴ Pillow
- ⤴ Mosquito spray
- ⤴ Mosquito net
- ⤴ Basic pharmacy kit
- ⤴ Pictures of your hometown and family
- ⤴ Games, objects or food from your country
- ⤴ Craft materials for your project, if possible
- ⤴ Copy of your passport
- ⤴ Presents for the children



In BUOC-village there are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn, and winter. But it is possible to divide the climate into two main seasons: the rainy season from May to September (it's hot, heavy rain), and the dry season is from October to April (it is cold, little rainfall). Please bring clothes according to the season.

## MEETING TIME AND MEETING POINT

Meeting time: 9:00 AM the first day of workcamp

Meeting point: Suit 903 - Building N01 - 282 Linh Nam - Vinh Hung ward - Hoang Mai district - Hanoi. Please inform the workcamp coordinator if you arrive late.

We will go to the project site together by local bus and we will share the transportation fee.

This is the Google map's link of our office: <http://g.co/maps/84hn5>

## HOW TO GET TO MEETING POINT

SJ Vietnam can arrange a taxi to pick you up at Noi Bai airport and bring you our office. There will be a taxi driver **at the entrance gate** of the Noi Bai airport with a **board with "your name"** on it. Normally the taxi fare is around 20 USD (400.000 VND) to come to our office.

**For those of you who can come earlier, please follow the instruction:**

If you come to Hanoi early, you can stay at a backpackers' hostel for a price of from 5-10 USD/person/per night or a hotel from 15-30 USD/room/night.

Hostel: <http://www.hanoiyouthhostel.com>

Hotel: <http://www.joyjourneyhotel.com>

**\*From Noi Bai Airport to Hanoi Center( about 30 km):**

**1.1 By taxi:** This is the most convenient way if you have bulky luggage and it takes 45 minutes or 60 minutes depending on traffic. Taxi price: around 17 USD. (There are 6 taxi companies that can legally work at Noi Bai airport which you can see at the taxi desks near the luggage belts where you pick up your bags). They have a fixed rate of 350,000 VND (17 USD) to go to the city center.



*Noi Bai  
airport*



*taxi*

**Total journey costs 17 USD**

**1.2. By public bus:** Only available after 6.30 AM and before 6 PM. It is quite complicated and takes around 2 hours to reach to city center.

- When you get out of the airport, find the electrical bus in white color which runs to the bus station (around 3 minutes). It costs 5000 VND (around 0.4 USD)



***Electric bus at Noi Bai airport***



- Then take the bus numbered 17 (all public bus in Hanoi is red and yellow color) to the last stop (Long Bien station). It is around 15,000 VND (around 0.7 USD) (Cause sometimes you will be charged more for your luggage)

***Public bus in Ha Noi***

- Then please take a taxi to your hotel which is 2-3 km more. Taxi costs 11,000-18,000 VND/km (it costs around 50,000-60,000 VND until reaching your hotel)
- Please use the Mai Linh taxi company which is a green color or green and white color (see the picture below). Otherwise there is a high possibility you will get overcharged.



*Total journey costs around 4 USD*

**1.3. By minibus:** When you get out of the airport, turn right and cross the lane to find the minibus (12-seats bus) (35,000 VND, around \$1.7 USD), which only stops at the center of Ha Noi and takes around 1 hour. Then take a taxi, which costs around 50,000 VND (3 USD). (Take Mai Linh taxi only) and show the driver your address.



*Total journey costs 5 USD*

**→ We recommend you to take the taxi from the airport if you go in group because it's less complicated and most ensured way that you can come to our office without any trouble.**

**When you get off the taxi:**

**1. Address: room 903, N1 Building, 282 Linh Nam street, Hoang Mai district, Hanoi.**

**2. The opposite site of the building is a petrol station.**



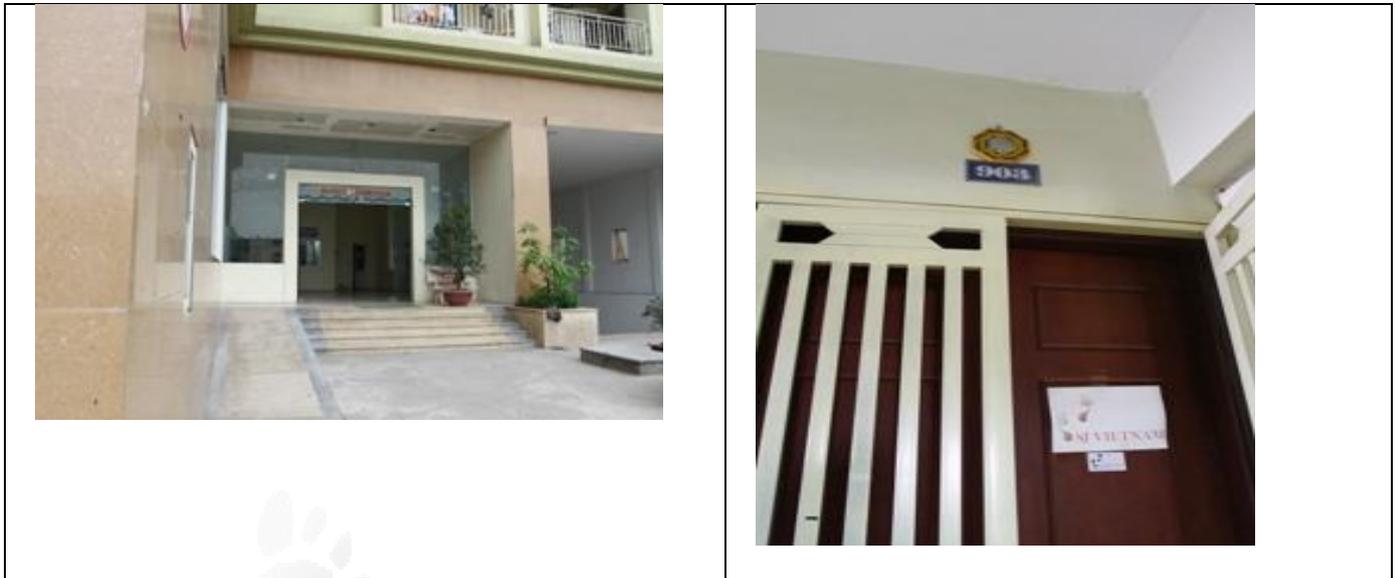
**3. You will see Argi bank office on 1<sup>st</sup> floor of N1 building**

**4. Please turn right and go to the back of the building, you will see the entrance gate.**



**5. Congratulations, you are in front of the entrance gate now!**

**6. Go to the 9<sup>th</sup> floor and knock at the door: *Welcome to SJ Vietnam!!* 😊**



In case of an emergency or you need assistance please contact our coordinators

Mr. Duc: +84 (0) 984150584

Mr. Nam +84 (0) 965640571

Mr. Thanh +84 (0) 1697755668

Our Office: +84 (0) 4362845535

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND CONDITION**

The total fee is 5,000,000VND/participant which includes transportation to and from the project site, food, basic accommodation and materials for the workcamp. This fee will be paid upon arrival at the workcamp on the first day. Participation fees enable SJ Vietnam to take care of you during your stay and to fund their projects. Volunteers' activities in the evenings or on the weekends are their own expense.

Following is the address to transfer fee:

Account name: SJ Vietnam

Account number: 4054928

Address: ANZ Hanoi Branch

No 14, Le Thai To Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Swift: ANZBVNVX

Telephone: +84 438258190

Fax: +84 438258190

## **CONTACT**

### **SJ Vietnam office:**

Suit 903 - Building N01 - 282 Linh Nam - Vinh Hung ward - Hoang Mai district - Hanoi.

Tel: + 84.4.62845535/+ 84.4.22154993

Fax: + 84.4.62845535

**Workcamp coordinator: Mr. Do Minh Duc/ Mr. Tong Quang Nam/ Mr. Nguyen Minh Thanh**

Tel: +84.984 150584/ +84.965 640571/+84.1697755668

[workcamp@sjvietnam.org](mailto:workcamp@sjvietnam.org)

*Feel free to contact us anytime if you want more information. We look forward to meeting you soon in Vietnam.*



**SJ VIETNAM**