



La Casa di Pinocchio



Municipality of Cascina (IT)
Project Leader

In partnership with



Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (TH)
Institutional Local Partner



Province of Frosinone (IT)



Province of Pisa (IT)



County of Ribe (DK)



Asia Europe Association (TH)



Phimarnvit School (TH)



Primaria NGO (IT)



San Gallicano Institute (IT)
Department of Migration, Tourism and Tropical Dermatology

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La Casa di Pinocchio

*Providing a better future for
disadvantaged children
of suburban areas in Bangkok*



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of Cascina



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Casa di Pinocchio is not just a physical place of socialization for children experiencing hard living conditions. It is not just a place of transition where the children learn to acquire self-confidence before re-entering the society. In Casa di Pinocchio they learn to face the challenges of the world and the more and more competitive labour market through informal education and vocational training.



It represents the efforts of an international partnership composed by Thai and European Local authorities and institutions, NGOs and territorially relevant stakeholders to provide a systemic response to the expressed and unexpressed needs of the metropolitan suburban areas population. The rapid growth that the

South Eastern Asian Countries experienced in the last 2 decades generated a huge mass of poor people moving from the rural areas to Bangkok, looking for better employment opportunities and living conditions for their families.



A great majority of these people found out that the opportunities were not easily accessible and that the living conditions were worse than those in the original villages: the community links that in rural areas still provided a natural social protection system disintegrated thus worsening their vulnerability.

Children are the most vulnerable group. They are forced to live in unhealthy environment, often without the family support and guidance, earning a living by temporary, hard and sometimes

degrading jobs or begging on the streets which, for some of them, constitute their home.

Believing that the cities must become places where each individual can find the means to express and develop him/her-self, Casa di Pinocchio is a successful attempt to create links between Thailand and Europe on relevant issues – as social, economic and political integration of the minorities on one hand, and rehabilitation, empowerment and socialization of disadvantaged or discriminated groups on the other. This objective was achieved learning from each other through best practices' sharing and transfers between the European and Thai "Casa di Pinocchio" partners.

The activities, implemented during Casa di Pinocchio (15th December 2003 – 15th December 2005), can be summarized as follows:

- ✓ Construction and establishment of a multipurpose centre (lodging, food, education, training) to support some children at risk: Casa di Pinocchio. 
- ✓ Training for socio-healthcare volunteers and educators coming from private and public schools and institutions.
- ✓ Implementation of informal education activities in areas at risk. The training activities – which took place in correctional Houses (Ban Pranee and Ban Metta), in public and private schools and in the streets of at risk areas – were carried out by professional trainers coming from Thai associated partners through informal training methodologies aimed at empowering children skills through theatre, drama, music and arts. 
- ✓ Education and work training for a future placement.
- ✓ Awareness building activities addressed to local administrators about children rights.

