



OUR STORY

The Day It All Began (2009)

In 2009, we were not looking for an investment. We were not searching for land, nor a real estate project, nor a business opportunity. We were simply a family coming to spend a few weeks in Laos, unaware that this trip would give birth to an adventure that would occupy a part of our lives for over fifteen years.

It was during a visit to old friends of my father-in-law that everything changed. Knowing our love for Laos and our search for an authentic place, our hosts told us about an exceptional piece of land that was for sale. When we arrived on this 7-hectare estate, time seemed to stand still. The view opened onto a peaceful valley, the rivers traced gentle curves, and the vegetation offered perfect natural intimacy.

This was not merely an aesthetic infatuation. It was a profound intuition. This place had a soul. And in real estate, as in life, places that have a soul are those that create the strongest loyalty and the greatest long-term value. That same year, we acquired the land. The title deeds were issued on September 10, 2009.

A Name Given by the Villagers

At the time, this place had no official name. For us, that absence was not a void, but a blank page. We did not want to impose our own vision: we wanted the name to come from those who had known this land for generations.

We took the time to exchange with the village committees of Donglangkham and Sanasomboune. We spoke of a tourist center that would welcome visitors from around the world, but also of a market that would benefit the surrounding villages. The villagers listened. They saw our sincerity. And one day, they came to us with a proposal: "This place would be NONESAVANH — The Little Hill of Paradise." In Lao, "NONE" evokes a small elevation, and "SAVANH" means paradise.

The symbolism is deep: the land is flat, vast and open, yet the name evokes something that rises — as if this place, although physically flat, was destined to rise spiritually. This name was not invented for a brand. It was given to us as a blessing, a recognition, a mutual promise. It is precisely this community origin that makes the strength and authenticity of NONESAVANH.



Building Stone by Stone (2012–2016)

The project was initiated in 2012. From the very first sketches, we made a bold architectural choice: the circular shape. Inspired by Feng Shui and an African aesthetic we wished to bring to Laos, we designed round cottages and a circular restaurant, because the circle symbolizes infinity and harmonious movement. Each cottage has three entrances, leading to three bedrooms and three bathrooms — the number three representing the perfect balance between Heaven, Earth and Man. The bamboo roofs combine robustness and tradition: a natural finish over a solid framework.

If the vision is spiritual, the execution is technical and rigorous. Laos has retained a strong influence of French construction standards in its urban DNA, guaranteeing robustness and safety recognized worldwide. All constructions were carried out by qualified Laotian companies, under the rigorous supervision of my father-in-law — a surveyor by training and founder of the local construction company RATTANASAVANH — supported by a graduate architect acting as Master Builder.

The first phase, completed in 2016, gave birth to a concrete reality: 8 cottages out of the 12 planned, each with 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms — a total of 36 rooms and 36 bathrooms ready for operation; a central circular restaurant with professional kitchens; a 100 m² IT workshop dedicated to foreign visitors; a 100 m² karaoke space; two very large swimming pools whose structures are already excavated; and a pond fed by a natural spring. This first phase was officially validated by the local authorities, materialized by official opening certificates in 2014 and 2016, and by the restaurant authorization and business registration certificate No. 0043 issued on February 3, 2014.

The Chosen Pause (2017–2025)

In 2017, personal funds ran short. It was a moment of truth, one of those instants where you must choose between abandoning and preserving. We chose to preserve. Rather than building in haste, rather than compromising the quality and authenticity of the project for lack of means, we decided to put NONESAVANH on hold. For an outside observer, this might have looked like a failure. The reality was quite different: this waiting period was not suffered; it was chosen.

During these years, we never stopped working. We observed, analyzed, and refined our vision. On a personal and professional level, I closed my knowledge gaps: I developed my expertise in international finance, obtained the CIF certification, and set up professional legal and financial structures to prepare the ground for impeccable governance. The 2012 crisis of my former design office had taught me the essential lesson: excellent technical execution is not enough — it must be protected by flawless financial structuring. Every year of waiting was a year of upskilling. The dream remained intact, but the means to realize it gained sophistication.



The Renaissance (2026)

Today, NONESAVANH is reborn. But it is no longer the same project as in 2009. It is a refined, mature version, ready to conquer the international market. It is no longer just a beautiful family project; it is now a structured investment opportunity, aligned with international standards, resting on a tangible asset: 7 hectares of titled land, 36 rooms standing, a restaurant, complete infrastructure — with zero debt and zero mortgage.

We are not building simple tourist accommodation. We are creating a complete destination: a place where travelers come to live a transformative experience, where luxury lies not in marble and gold, but in space, silence, natural beauty, and the quality of human interactions. The time of maturation is over. The time for action has come.

The Founders

Davy KENE-PHILAPHANDETH — Founder & Strategic Director

At an age when many think of retirement, I do not view this milestone as an end, but as a new beginning. NONESAVANH is the life project I have been building alongside my wife for over fifteen years. We have weathered storms — including the necessary pause in 2017 — only to emerge stronger, equipped today with the maturity, the international certifications, and the professional structure demanded by global excellence. I am not looking for mere investors; I am seeking true partners to write the next chapters of this extraordinary adventure.

Former director of a multidisciplinary technical design office of 26 staff including six engineers, with collaborations with BOUYGUES, VINCI, EIFFAGE and DEMATHIEU BARD; manager of the construction of over 100 individual homes; Construction Economist trained at Le Garzic Architecture Firm in Rennes; CIF certified.

Thiphaphone KENE (born RATTANASAVANH) — Co-Founder & Land Owner

"This land is not merely a real estate asset. It is the cradle of our family. When Davy and I first laid eyes on this hill, we didn't see a project. We saw a sanctuary. I watched our children grow up running through the dust of the early construction sites. I watched the seasons transform the valley, and I felt the soul of this place grow alongside us, year after year. As the legal owner of this land, I have always known that we do not truly own it. We are merely its temporary guardians. We are not building to sell; we are building to pass on and to share. Welcome to NONESAVANH. Welcome home."

Laotian national, legal owner of the 7-hectare estate titled in her name since 2009, guarantor of regulatory compliance, land security and local anchoring.



What We Carry Forward

We have learned that large-scale projects are not built in a day, and that long maturation avoids the mistakes of youth. We have learned that a vision without execution is only a hallucination. We have learned that a project that is not loved by its local community is a vulnerable project — and that our relationship of trust with Donglangkham and Sanasomboune is an invaluable asset. A project loved by its community is a resilient project.

We have learned that patience is not immobility; it is the ability to let a vision mature until it is ready to reveal its full potential. And we have learned that the most enduring projects are those born slowly, those that take deep roots, and that withstand the test of time because they were built with love.

Closing

The rainy season is approaching. The land is waiting. The stones are ready. All that is missing is you.

Welcome to NONESAVANH. Welcome home.