

# Earthbag Construction Workshop

phanganeearthworks

Popularized by Iranian architect and builder Nader Khalili since the 1970s, natural building in general and earthbag building (EB) in particular are becoming more and more relevant in a world where housing becomes less and less affordable. Building with earthbags allows the use of local, natural materials for the filling which substantially lowers the embodied energy commonly associated with the manufacture and transportation of building materials. Using earthbags results in extremely durable and strong structures (in a whole range of climates), for a minimal amount of money (compared to conventional construction methods).

**COME AND JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING WEEKEND WORKSHOP!**

**below:** finished earthbag structure on our property (completed in November 2009)



Participants will learn the basics of EB, and by the end of the weekend feel ready to begin a small structure by themselves. We will inspect existing buildings, do hands-on demonstrations on how to fill bags, how to lay them, and how to tamp them, and engage in Q & A sessions. Supplemental slide shows and film screenings will complete this full-immersion experience. Freshmen welcome, earthbag experience not required.

**Dates:** Saturday 4 February and Sunday 5 February 2012; Workshop hours are 08.00 - 12.00 and 13.30 - 17.30

**Where:** On our jungle hillside property in the hills above Sri Thanu village, Koh Phangan, Surat Thani 84280, THAILAND. Email us at [phanganeearthworks@gmail.com](mailto:phanganeearthworks@gmail.com) for a map and directions, or call Julien 083 393 90 21, or Hubert 086 281 63 08.

**Price:** THB 2'500 (€60) with an early-bird discount of 20% for registrations and payments prior to 18 December 2011. The number of participants is limited to 30 people, first come first served.

**Teachers:** This introductory workshop will be taught by phanganeearthworks co-founders **Hubert Huot** and **Julien Balmer**. After extensive study of alternative building methods in general, and earthen construction techniques in particular, they met on Koh Phangan in 2007 and began conceptualizing what little later became an earthbag adventure. Together they have built four earthbag structures over the course of the past year, including a darkroom meditation dome and a spacious and rather luxurious 65 sqm. house.



**above:** earthbag meditation dome on our property, before final render (completed in February 2010)

## WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY:

- I've never really built large structures like this, very cool to feel like I know enough to get started when I want. (Adam, New Zealand)
- I feel inspired to be more serious about alternative building techniques. I would love to build in the near future. (Cass, Australia)

[www.phanganeearthworks.com](http://www.phanganeearthworks.com)