

Creating Strong Communities

LAO-WCL-CSC-P03



Champassak Province, Laos



Economic Empowerment

Year 3 Budget \$60,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JUL 18

JUN 22

Overview

Our partners are working to identify and confront core issues that create socio-economic poverty and reduce risks of trafficking and unsafe migration. There is a general sense of despair and hopelessness due to poverty, seasonal food and water insecurity, illiteracy and low awareness of the risks of leaving family. Economic opportunities are limited and it is a culture that often excludes women and youth from family and community decisions and activities. This integrated development program is enhancing food security and economic viability for the poorest families, providing vocational training, improving the health status of the community and strengthening community-based leadership and participation.

Impact for January - June 2021



5 5 womens' savings groups were created

Management training was attended by 12 women leaders. Topics included loan fund regulations, recording activity plans for improving savings and how to increase income.

5 rice banks/farmers' groups were established

supporting their livelihoods with food security. 250 farmers attended trainings and were provided 30kg sacks of rice as a seed grant, returning 35kg in time so others benefit. 63 poor farmers received cash crops and vegetable seeds.



12



12 youth completed vocational training

and were provided with business start-up kits in hairdressing, dressmaking/sewing, motorbike repairs and furniture making. They also completed business management training on strategy, operations, marketing, customer service, pricing and production.

306 primary school children received WASH

training through demonstrations and discussing real scenarios improving knowledge and attitudes to hand washing, treating water before drinking and garbage disposal. Water filters were also installed in classrooms.

306



- COVID-19 travel restrictions and lockdowns resulted in late implementation and postponement of some activities.
- Staff turnovers and leadership changes as well as sudden bad weather also impeded project progress in some areas.



A New Noy

Khamvanh's son, Noy, often had fevers and stomach aches and never wanted to eat. He was malnourished, underweight and stunted as a result of unhealthy and unsanitary food. As part of a food security and livelihood initiative for vulnerable families, Khamvanh received rice and vegetable seeds which she grew in her garden. She also attended sessions on maternal-child health and nutrition.

"I am growing food at home for my son's nourishment. I learnt the proper way to feed my baby and ensure I wash my hands well. As you can see, my child has gained weight and he has not been sick. Thank you so much for your support."



Thank you for making a difference