

Creating Strong Communities



Champassak Province, Laos



Economic Empowerment

Year 4 Budget \$30,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JUL18

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 June - December 2021



5 5 village development committees (VDCs)

formed and 4 are now fully functional, able to strengthen and manage their village development processes. All 5 VDCs have representation from women and youth unions.

Increase annual farm production and income

56% of households have increased their income from farm production. The average income for 85 households has increased from approx. \$150 to \$197 per month.



Community awareness raising campaigns

in HIV-AIDS and safe driving held in 3 secondary schools (210 boys, 296 girls). HIV/AIDS prevention materials also distributed to schools. 846 households (5 villages) supported with health and COVID-19 information. Environment awareness campaigns for 3920 households.

Improved access to clean water

313 households, benefitting 1572 family members, received water filters with training on managing and maintaining the filters. Before the distribution, a campaign was run on protecting water sources.

313



- 58 (more than double the planned number) youth were trained in life skills such as leadership, teamwork and character building. 5 new youth groups were formed (78 youth), committed to supporting awareness raising campaigns on HIV/AIDS, WASH and protection.
- 13 village health volunteers were trained in HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 prevention and care.



Ms Nok's New Latrine!

Ms Nok, 51 and recently widowed, is now the sole parent of six children, with the two younger ones still at home. Left to manage the rice harvesting and forest foraging on her own, she struggles to afford to send them to school. She is so thankful that before her husband died, he was able to help build a toilet with materials provided by our partner. Now they no longer have to make the long and unsafe 1km trip into the forest. She hopes to improve the latrine by adding a wash basin and is teaching her children the importance of hygiene and sanitation, including how to clean the toilet!



Thank you for making a difference