

## Strengthening Cohesive Communities

LAO-WCL-SCC-P03



Champassak Province, Laos



Economic Empowerment



Tax deductible

Total Budget - \$96,000

Project Timeline



### POPULATION

7.6 million

### POVERTY

18.3% of the population below poverty line

### HEALTH

Life expectancy at birth: 69 years

### EDUCATION

Mean years of school (adults) 5.9 years

### HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX\*

Ranking out of 193 nations Laos 139 (Aust 10)

*\*2023-24 Human Development Report*



### Overview

Our partners are working to 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, water and food 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. Phase four of this integrated development program is improving access to clean water and the health status of the community, enhancing food security and economic viability for the poorest families, providing vocational training, and strengthening community-based leadership and participation.

### Why support this:

Through empowered and enabled youth and women, seed projects and various awareness raising and empowerment workshops, our implementing partners are creating economic and social opportunities within these communities where people feel safe and secure. Ownership of the development process enhances the educational achievements of school students and improves literacy and life-skills among illiterate teenagers and adults. There is high participation of the community in social advocacy, constant links to government and private service providers and strong community-based leadership.

### Objectives Include:



Improved access to clean water



Strengthening development committees



Community awareness raising campaigns



Increase in annual farm production and income

### Expected life Change

- Water is contained and reserved to support the needs of the village during the dry season
- Villages support each other in driving the community development, sharing technology, sourcing services and market links
- Promotion of intentional nutrition and hygiene programs for children and pregnant mothers