REPORT OF WATER PROJECT

FOR HUIXANG VILLAGE
NAMOR DISTRICT
OU DOMXAY PROVINCE
LAO PDR

(February 12, 2011)

SUPPORTED BY: LAO REHABILITATION FOUNDATION
I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Huixang village is located in the north-western region of Namor district, Oudomxay province, Lao PDR, at a distance of 17 km from Namor on road No.13 and at another 3 km of dirt road from that point. The village contains 153 houses housing 210 families with a total population of 1,014 people, (559 being women). People live below the level of poverty; the economy is mainly agricultural (dry field) and farming.

Education: the village has only one primary school with 187 students.

Public health: there are 2 volunteer health workers (no health care center).
Huixang village is populated by 3 ethnic groups: Lao Hui, Hmong and Khmou, each having their own identity, culture, traditions, costumes and languages.

Prior to the completion of this project, the village had no access to clean water and no toilet. Prior to completion of this project, people used Huixang river water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene. In rainy season the water is very cloudy and in dry season the flow is limited and very dirty. Lack of clean water and toilets were a serious risk factor for spreading diarrhea and typhoid fever yearly.

The women and children worked hard and a considerable amount of time to bring water from the river to their house.

The project funded by Lao Rehabilitation Foundation will greatly improve quality of life for the people of Huixang village.
II. OBJECTIVE

To improve the overall health of people in remote villages by giving villagers access to clean drinking water.

III. PARTNERS

Provincial – level: Department of Provincial Public Health (Water Unit)
District – level: Department of District Public Health
Village – level: Head of Village, Head of Youth, and Volunteer Health Worker

IV. MATERIAL

- All material used for this project was of good quality and standard and was purchased from the bid winning company. Three bids were submitted.
- Sand, wood and some other material was provided by the village.

V. ACTIVITIES PERFORM

5.1 PREPARING

- Cooperation between Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Provincial, district, and village levels.
- Surveyed on July 20, 2010 by team work of Oudomxay Water Unit, Public Health Department.
- Signed MoU on November 10, 2010 between Oudomxay provincial public health and Lao Rehabilitation Foundation.

4.2 STARTED WORK

- Construction started on November 24, 2010. Managed by engineer of Oudomxay Provincial Water Unit, Public Health Department and Namor district, workers were people from the village.
- Duration of construction was 45 days and was completed on Jan 10, 2011.
- There were 5 work steps:
  1. Construction tank at spring area (6.2x0.95m) and construction of dam.

  ![Construction tank at spring area](image1.jpg)

  2. Dig ditch and bury the pipe from spring to village and from big tank to 16 taps (7,755m) (Pipe Ø60) (includes cross-river)

  ![Dig ditch and bury pipe](image2.jpg)

  3. Construction concrete big tank to collect water (4.50m x 4.50m x 2.10m), net contents 30,000 m³, (flows rate: 20 L/minute)

  ![Construction concrete big tank](image3.jpg)

  4. Construction of 16 taps at determined locations in village

  ![Construction of 16 taps](image4.jpg)
5. Villagers were trained on how to take care of and properly maintain the system. Six people were chosen and trained as the responsible team. The village was divided into 16 groups each instructed on how to properly use water for their area.

VI. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

The total budget for this project is 27,267 USD (twenty seven thousand two hundred and sixty seven USD).

The budget of this project is funded by Lao Rehabilitation Foundation 22,715 USD (83%) and the local community 4,572 USD (17%).

VII. HAND-OVER

A ceremony was held on February 07, 2011 at the center of Huixang village, to hand-over the completed project to the villagers. Dr. Luc Janssens, president of Lao Rehabilitation Foundation officially gave the project to Mr. Sivan Phonpachit, community party leader of Namor district and Dr. Khamphan Sayavong director of Oudomxay Provincial Public Health, with partners (water unit, Namor district PoH, head of village and the people of the 3 ethnic groups of the village).
VIII. OUTCOME

- This project is helping people at Huixang village (LaoHui, Hmong and Khmou). Now over 1,000 people have clean water to drink and cook
- Primary school also has access to clean water
- Project decreases work load of women and children to bring water
- Project improves primary healthcare by preventing diarrhea and typhoid fever
- Project greatly improves quality of life, especially for children.

BEFORE:

AFTER:
IX. INFORMATION FOR FURTHER SUPPORT

Head of village and villagers request the following:

- Lao Rehabilitation Foundation should continue support to fund public toilets.
- Lao Rehabilitation Foundation and Lao government should provide support to fund:
  1. Healthcare center
  2. Committee Speaker
  3. Repair the road from 13th northern road to village
  4. Install electricity

Presenter
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