



**Eye Care for People of the Mekong Riverside Project
Pakbeng District, Oudomxay Province**

REPORT

**OF EYE CARE SERVICE
FOR PEOPLE OF THE MEKONG RIVERSIDE**

**In Pakbeng District, Oudomxay Province
January 07-12, 2024**



Supported by Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, USA



- Refer to the agreement of the Minister of Foreign Affairs No. 5400/FA. Dated September 21, 2023 regarding approval of the Project Eye Care for People of the Mekong Riverside from the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF).
- Refer to the action plan of the Project Eye Care for People of the Mekong Riverside in 2024.

The Oudomxay Eye Unit in cooperation with LRF and local staff conducted an eye care mission for people of the Mekong riverside and performed screening vision of students at primary schools at 2 villages, 1 health center and 1 district hospital, the details are as follows:

I. OBJECTIVE:

- *To improve the quality and access to eye health services.*
- To increase accessibility to service for people in remote areas who have visual impairment and could benefit from prescription glasses.
- To develop a database of visual impairment in children, promote the prevention of eye injury to reduce the risk of blindness or visual impairment in children.

II. LOCATION AND DURATION

Services were provided during 4 days (January 08-11, 2024) at the 2 villages, 1 health center and 1 district hospital as follows:

- January 08, 2024 at Saysana Health Center
- January 09, 2024 at LuangTong village
- January 10, 2024 at Kham village
- January 11, 2024 at Pabeng district hospital

III. SUPPORT, TEAMWORK, PARTNERS and INSTRUMENTS

1. Support

By Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF), USA.

2. Teamwork

The team of 6 people included:

2.1 Lao Team (4)

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1) Dr. Phetsamone Indara | Ophthalmologist (Oudomxay provincial hospital) |
| 2) Mr. AjeeFychaseu | Ophthalmic nurse (Oudomxay provincial hospital) |
| 3) Mr. BouksySonpaseut | Ophthalmic nurse (Pakbeng district hospital) |
| 4) Mr. NienSivongthong | High level medicine (Pakbeng district hospital) |

2.2 LRF team (2)

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1) Dr. Luc Janssens | President of LRF |
| 2) Ms. KhammanYabee | Optometrist |

3. Partners

- Oudomxay Provincial Public Health Department and Pakbeng District Health Office.

4. Instrument and Medicine

This mission was performed using quality modern and basic equipment intended for cataract surgery, refraction exams and effective medicine for treatment. It included:

1. Operating Microscope (Scan Optics SO-5000 TFZ)
2. Surgical instruments, equipment and supplies
3. Sonomed A-Scan

4. RightonRetino-MAX K-Plus 3
5. Portable slit lamp, direct and indirect ophthalmoscopes
6. Tonometer (iCare)
7. Mobile autorefractors (Qwicksee, Plenoptika) and trial lens set
8. IOL and medical supplies for cataract surgery and medicine for eye care service
9. Glasses with eyeglasses case
10. Poster for dissemination of knowledge on eye health to prevent eye injury to students

IV. **ACTIVITY PERFORMED AND RESULTS**

Serviced all people at villages free of charge, with no regard to gender, age, ethnicity or religion. Provided mobile eye care services at 2 villages, 1 health center and 1 district hospital in Pakbeng district:

1. **Eye examination, treatment and eye disease control**

Provided:

- Vision test by E-Chart or Snellen Chart.
- Diagnosis with medicinal treatment for some eye diseases.
- Cataract surgery with IOL implant.
- Other eye disease surgeries when needed.

A total of 326 (F 155) eye patients were examined, provided vision test with diagnostic examinations and treated at 2 villages, 1 health center and 1 district hospital of Pakbeng district, as follows:

| No | Location service | Vision test with examinations | | Cataract surgery | | Other surgery | |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| | | Total | Female | Total | Female | Total | Female |
| 1 | at Saysana Health Center | 96 | 39 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | at LuangTong village | 63 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | at Kham village | 39 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | at Pabeng District Hospital | 128 | 63 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| | Total | 389 | 141 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 2 |

Remark: this mission also performed cataract surgery with IOL implants by modern technique for a little girl with congenital cataract.

2. **Refractive error service and donation of glasses**

The team of Dr. Luc and Ms. Khamman examined patients for refractive error by quality modern equipment.

- Refractive error service by portable autorefractor(Qwicksee) and trial lens set
- Donation of glasses.

A total of 311 pairs of glasses were provided, as follows:

| No | Location service | vision test with examinations | | Donation of glasses | |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| | | Total | Female | Total | Female |
| 1 | at Saysana Health Center | 96 | 39 | 76 | 36 |
| 2 | at LuangTong village | 63 | 34 | 44 | 29 |
| 3 | at Kham village | 39 | 19 | 24 | 14 |
| 4 | at Pabeng district hospital | 128 | 63 | 98 | 53 |
| | Total | 389 | 141 | 242 | 132 |

3. Control and prevention of blindness in school children

The team conducted screening vision of children at primary school, Dr. Phetsamone disseminated knowledge on eye health and prevention of eye injury by poster to teachers and students at 1 school.

A total of 127 (F 48) students were screened and eye examined, the results of 100% of students with normal vision was as follows:

| No | School service | Vision test | | Good vision | | Blurred vision | | Provided glasses | |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| | | Total | Female | Total | Female | Total | Female | Total | Female |
| 1 | at Saysana Health Center | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | at LuangTong village | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | at Kham village | 127 | 48 | 127 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | at Pabeng district hospital | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 127 | 48 | 127 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

4. Referral to treatment

A few patients including phacomorphic glaucoma and congenital cataract were referred to Oudomxay Provincial Hospital for surgery with the support of LRF as follow:

| No | Location service | Referred to treat | |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| | | Total | Female |
| 1 | at Saysana Health Center | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | at LuangTong village | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | at Kham village | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | at Pabeng district hospital | 2 | 1 |
| | Total | 4 | 2 |

V. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

The actual expenditure for this mission was **10,039 USD** (ten thousand and thirty-nine USD) included:

| | |
|--|---------|
| – Medicine and instruments from USA | \$3,000 |
| – IOL, medicine and instruments from Laos | \$1,214 |
| – Glasses with cases | \$939 |
| – Transportation and accommodation of LRF team | \$3,540 |
| – Perdiem and accommodation of Lao team | \$825 |
| – Transportation from province to villages | \$365 |
| – Preparing, poster, copy, advertise and other | \$156 |

(Details on attached files)

VI. **NEXT MISSION PLANNING**(under consideration)

Continue the 2024 Action Plan, which includes:

1. Provision of basic equipment and supplies to the Pakbeng district hospital and Khokka Health Center.
2. Eye examination, treatment and eye disease control.
3. Provide refraction for error services and provide glasses at the villages.
4. Control and prevention of blindness in school children.
5. Referral to treatment when needed.

LOCATION:

- At 2health center and Pakbeng district hospital of Pakbeng district or other location as needed.

DURATION:

- One week in May2024

**Director of Oudomxay
Provincial Hospital**



Presenter

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Phetsamone Indara'.

**ດຣ ເພັດສະໝອນ ອິນດາລາ
Phetsamone INDARA, MD**

ດຣ. ເສີມຄໍາ ພິນທະວົງ

Director of Oudomxay Provincial Health Department



ຄໍາວິງ ຮິງດາລາ