



## EYE CARE

### OCTOBER 2025 – BRINGING EYE CARE TO THE MEKONG RIVERSIDE – THIRD MISSION OF THE YEAR

World Sight Day (WSD), held each year on the second Thursday of October, is a global initiative focused on raising awareness about blindness, visual impairment, and the importance of eye health. The day highlights the need for accessible, high-quality eye care so people everywhere can enjoy the gift of sight. In 2025, World Sight Day fell on October 9, with the theme: *“Love Your Eyes and help make the case for eye care that is accessible, available, and affordable for everyone, everywhere.”*

As part of this global movement, the Eye Care for People of the Mekong Riverside Project, supported by the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF), continues its work to improve eye health among communities along the Mekong River in Pakbeng District. The program provides cataract surgery, free refraction exams, and prescription-quality eyeglasses to individuals who would otherwise lack access to corrective lenses.

World Sight Day is a key annual event for the project. This year, the LRF team partnered with the Eye Unit of Oudomxay Provincial Hospital and the medical staff of Pakbeng District Hospital to deliver comprehensive services, including vision screenings, full eye

examinations, and treatment for common eye conditions, bringing essential care to many underserved residents.

To strengthen long-term impact, the project also provided critical medical equipment—such as mobile operating microscopes, autoclaves, and surgical instruments—to support the Oudomxay Provincial Hospital Eye Unit’s extended outreach mission in Phongsaly Province. This collaboration helps ensure that local medical teams are equipped to continue offering quality eye care beyond the World Sight Day event.

Together, these efforts reflect the spirit of World Sight Day: promoting healthy vision, expanding access to eye care, and empowering communities through sight.

[Click here to view photos of the Mission](#)