

**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY**

**REPORT OF
MOBILE EYE CARE
For Cataract Surgery, Refraction and Provide
Glasses**

**In Mai, Khoua Districts Phongsaly Province
And at Oudomxay Provincial Hospital
Lao PDR.**

29 May 2023 – 09 June 2023



**A Cooperation Between
Oudomxay and Phongsaly Provincial Hospitals**

**Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF)
And
SEE International**

- Refer to the agreement letter of Phongsaly Provincial Public Health Department No.629/PoH of May 05th 2023.
- Refer to the agreement letter of Oudomxay Provincial Hospital No.658/PH of May 25th 2023.
- Refer to the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation's public health support plan in 2023.

This healthcare mission was important and necessary for the continued success of preventive eye care to decrease the blindness rate in remote area. This mission was a partnership between the Oudomxay, Phongsaly Provincial Public Health Departments in cooperation with the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF) and SEE International. It was conducted in 2 districts of Phongsaly Province and at Oudomxay Provincial Hospital, the details are as follows:

I. OBJECTIVE:

- To reduce avoidable blindness in Lao PDR.
- To increase access to high quality eye care services for the people of the two Northern provinces of Phongsaly and Oudomxay.
- To provide sight restoring interventions.

II. TARGET

- Service all eye patients free of charge, with no regard to gender, age, ethnicity or religion.
- Service patients in need of eye care.
- Total estimated target of 100 cataracts surgery in 3 locations.
- Total estimated target of 320 glasses to provide in 2 locations

III. LOCATION AND DURATION

Services were provided during 10 days (May 29-June 09, 2023) in the three locations of:

- May 29-31, 2023 at Mai district hospital
- June 1-3, 2023 at Khoua district hospital
- June 5-9, 2023 at Oudomxay provincial hospital

IV. SUPPORT, TEAMWORK, PARTNERS and INSTRUMENTS

1. Support

By Lao Rehabilitation Foundation (LRF) in cooperation with SEE International.

LAO REHABILITATION FOUNDATION (LRF):

The Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. (LRF) headquartered in Napa, California, USA, is a non-profit, non-religious, non-political organization. Activities are conducted by its President, Dr. Luc Janssens. The purpose of LRF is to provide medical services to Laotian citizens, with a greater focus on children. The foundation recognizes that the best guarantee for sound health is adequate nutrition, access to clean water, basic hygiene, decent shelter, education and reasonable access to medical facilities. The Foundation has conducted multiple missions in the remote areas of Laos providing medical services and clean water to the poor. The Foundation has also provided medical equipment to provincial hospitals, district hospitals and health centers in Vientiane capital and many provinces of Northern Laos.

2. Teamwork

The team of 6 people included:

2.1 Lao Team (4)

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|--------------------------|--|
| ▪ Dr. Phetsamone Indara | Ophthalmologist (Oudomxay provincial hospital) |
| ▪ Mr. Pao Suyalat | Ophthalmic nurse (Phongsaly provincial hospital) |
| ▪ Ms. Khemthong Yomnilat | Ophthalmic nurse (Mai district hospital) |
| ▪ Mr. Bounmy ChanthaUdom | Ophthalmic nurse (Khoua district hospital) |

2.2 LRF team (2)

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ▪ Dr. Luc Janssens | President of LRF |
| ▪ Ms. Khamman Yabee | Optometrist |

3. Partners

- Oudomxay and Phongsaly Provincial Public Health Departments.

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. 2 portable autoclaves
4. Sonomed A-Scan
5. Righton Retino-MAX K-Plus 3
6. Portable slit lamp, direct and indirect ophthalmoscopes
7. Tonometer (iCare)
8. Mobile autorefractors (Qwicksee)
9. Trial lens set
10. IOL and medical supplies for cataract surgery
11. Medicine for eye care service
12. Glasses and eyeglasses case

V. RESPONSIBLE UNITS

1. Phongsaly Provincial Public Health Department

- Provided official agreement.
- Provided location and appointment information to patients in remote areas.
- Cooperated with and organized the local staff to join the mobile team.

2. Oudomxay Provincial Public Health Department

- Provided the Lao team from Oudomxay provincial hospital.

3. Lao Rehabilitation Foundation

- Provided medical instruments and medicine for the mission.
- Provided transportation and accommodations for the Lao and US teams and per diem for Lao team
- Covered cost of treatment and hospital stay in some cases, as necessary.

VI. ACTIVITY PERFORMED

Provided mobile eye care services in 2 districts hospitals (Mai, Bountai districts of Phongsaly province) and at Oudomxay provincial hospital. Registration of cases was completed by local staff. Eye examination and diagnosis was performed with manual or automated equipment. Patients were treated with medicine, restored sight by glasses and surgical procedures, as follows:

- Vision test by E-Chart or Snellen Chart.
- Diagnosis with medicinal treatment for some eye diseases.
- Refractive service with donation of glasses.
- Cataract surgery with IOL implant.
- Other eye disease surgery when needed.
- Health education of primary eye care and post-operative procedures.
- Referred cases to Oudomxay provincial hospital for treatment supported by LRF.

VII. RESULTS

A total of 662 (F 338) eye patients were examined, provided vision test with diagnostic examinations and treated in the three locations of Mai, Khoua districts and Oudomxay provincial hospitals. Surgery was provided for 125 patients and 328 pairs of glasses were distributed for refractive error patients, as follows:

No	Location service	vision test with diagnostic examinations		Cataract surgery		Other surgery		Provided glasses	
		Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
1	Mai district hospital	301	157	39	21	7	4	221	109
2	Khoua district hospital	184	95	21	7	6	5	107	46
3	Oudomxay Provincial hospital	177	86	43	23	9	7	0	0
	Total	662	338	103	51	22	16	328	155

VIII. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE

The actual expenditure for this mission was **34,950 USD** (thirty-four thousand nine hundred and fifty USD) included:

- IOL, medicine and instruments from USA \$ 25,650
- Medicine supplies from Laos \$ 600
- Transportation and accommodation of LRF team \$ 5,690
- Transportation, food and accommodation of Lao team \$ 1,550
- Glasses \$ 1,280
- The cost of general anesthesia (GA) for 2 young brothers \$ 180

(Details on attached files)

IX. ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND WEAKNESSES

1. Accomplishments:

- We treated impoverished patients who otherwise would not have received help.
- We helped prevent blindness in Phongsaly and Oudomxay provinces.
- This mission was particularly successful for giving sight to 2 young brothers who now enjoy a normal life after surgery for bilateral congenital cataract.

2. Weaknesses:

- The team was limited to only one ophthalmologist who could do phaco surgery.
- This mission could not screen primary school students for vision, because the school was closed for vacation at the end of May.

X. NEXT MISSION PLANNING (under consideration)

ACTIVITIES:

1. Provide refraction and provide glasses at the villages.
2. Screen primary schools children for eye care.

LOCATION:

- In Houn district of Oudomxay province or other location as needs

DURATION:

- The end of September to October 2023

**Director of Oudomxay
Provincial Hospital**



ດຣ. ສຸລິເຕດ ກິ່ງຄຳ

Presenter

**ດຣ. ເພັດສະໝອນ ອິນດາລາ
Phetsamone INDARA, MD.**

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