



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Training Summary: The Training for Red Cross Volunteers on Emergency Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Promotion for Response and Preparedness (E-WASH for RCVs), During 25-26 October 2017, Muang Pakse District , Champasak Province, Lao PDR



Muang Pakse District, Champasak Province is located in the southern part in the disaster-prone zone of Lao PDR. There are 112,000 populations living in this southern border area. It is bordered by Salavan Province to the north, Sekong Province to the northeast, Attapeu Province to the east wing, Cambodia to the south, and Thailand to the west. The Mekong forms part of the border with neighboring Thailand and, after a sharp bend projecting westward, turns east and flows southeasterly through the province down to Cambodia. Champasak can be reached from Thailand through Chong Mek border crossing, to Vang Tao on the Lao side, from where the highway leads east towards the provincial capital, Pakse.



This E-WASH training for Red Cross Volunteers was organized in two days in Muang Pakse Districts , Champasak Province in preparedness of disaster

management and risk reduction and health & hygiene promotion in this disaster affected area.



The objectives of this red cross volunteers training:

1. To improve the knowledge and skills about E-WASH related disease in Emergency and Importance of Hygiene promotion of Red Cross Volunteers in four disaster -prone districts and 8 community leaders from the villages located in Muang Pakse District.
2. To demonstrate the Drinking water quality, water treatment and sanitation, hygiene promotion in emergencies.
3. To familiarize with technical and practical on the processes of water treatment and water quality by using AP700 Man-Packs and practical on temporary emergency latrine / permanent latrine constructions during emergencies.
4. To develop and discuss about E-WASH Planning at district and community levels in preparedness and response in emergencies.
5. To construct the latrine for Pak Klang Primary School with 123 students and 6 teachers

The training was conducted in two days in Champasak Provincial Red Cross Branch, Muang Pakse. There were 17 WASH focal persons from 7 districts purposively invited to participate in this RCV E-WASH training (Male 6, Female 11).



The five key topics of Emergency WASH, water treatment demonstration by using AP700 Man-Packs, hygiene promotion, group work discussion, “Chlorine Water Treatment, Filtration, Chemical Water treatment”, temporary / permanent latrine construction, health education practices using community tool focusing on three diseases – 7 steps of hand washing were highlighted and demonstrated to participants.



The results of True & False pre- test and post- test with 13 questions shown that the participants’ knowledge and skills were significantly increased from 78% to 97% respectively. The expectations and satisfactions of participants have been totally satisfied at 87.50 % with this E- WASH for RCVs training.

Dr Sing Menorath -Vice President of LRC mentioned that the continuous support for implementing WASH program from IFRC to Laos is really needed because we have just started implementing WASH in only four provinces. The AP700 is very useful in helping the vulnerable people in disaster effected areas.



Mr.Suodsakhon Sripandhon -Participant also quoted that the practical session and theory session are very important for all of participants. “These training sessions were totally new for us and very helpful for communicate with villagers and communities, water treatment and turbidity measurement and filtration process and health hygiene promotion are very interesting for the trainees.”



Mrs. Chanthachone Thepvongsa, WASH officer, Ministry of Health was providing her feedback to Lao Red Cross and IFRC in supporting the latrine construction for Pak Klang primary school and demonstration of water treatment and Alum testing.



An additional latrine will be very useful for 123 students and 6 teachers to improve their sanitation and hygiene promotions in school. And thank you so much to all of training participants for their great contributions in constructing both latrines and water system and hand washing point even in the evening time until 8 p.m.

“I do believe that the participants will bring back and contribute their skills and knowledge gained to help our communities and affected people in our districts. One more request from the facilitation team is about the turbidity tube. It would be great if Lao Red Cross and IFRC are going to give us the turbidity tube for each district for using in communities when needed. This training would have not been successful without the great contributions from all of participants from 7 districts. We would like to request the technical and financial supports from National Head Quarter and IFRC Bangkok Office in implementing E-WASH program and community hygiene and sanitation activities, more additional latrines for the poor, turbidity measurement tubes, water pumps & water treatment machines in helping the vulnerable population in disaster affected areas.”



At the end of training, all of 17 participants was providing their feedback. Mr. Khambai Khounkeo, WASH focal person, Pakse District said that this is a great time to take part in this training course for community volunteers. The AP700 Man-Packs is the best way to help people in communities during emergency. We sincerely appreciate the great support and contributions that IFRC continues assistance to our people as always especially in Champasak Province and Muang Pakse District.



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