The Second Training for Trainers on Emergency Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Promotion for Response and Preparedness (TOT E-WASH), During 20-22 September 2017, Oudomxay Province, Lao PDR

Oudomxay Province is located in the northern part and borders to China. There are 307,600 populations. In August 2016, the torrential heavy rain has triggered flood and flash flood in this area and affected at least 5,000 people. The flood has submerged several villages in Muang Xay, Pak Bang, Muang La, and Muang Houn Districts.

This TOT E-WASH training was organized in Oudomxay Province in preparedness of disaster management and risk reduction and health & hygiene promotion in this disaster affected area.

The objectives of this training:

1. To improve the knowledge and skills about E-WASH related disease in Emergency and Importance of Hygiene promotion of Red Cross Health personnel in 9 red cross provinces in the northern part of Lao PDR.
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 provincial and district levels in preparedness and response in emergencies.
participants. The results of True & False & Not Sure pre-test and post-test with 20 questions shown that the participants’ knowledge and skills were significantly increased from 51% to 86% respectively. The expectations of participants have been totally satisfied with this organized TOT E- WASH training.

Mrs. NhorLha Kaenpanya, Senior Teacher (Deputy Director) of Donxay Primary School was providing her sincerely appreciation to Lao Red Cross and IFRC in supporting the latrine construction in Donxay Primary School. These two additional toilets will be very useful for 412 students and 14 teachers to improve our sanitation and hygiene promotion in school. And thank you so much to all TOT training participants for their great contribution in constructing both latrines and water system and hand washing point and connected the water system to the old latrines.

Mr. Ninxay Phomphoumy, Oudomxay Red Cross mentioned that this training is very useful for all participants to clearly understand the new knowledge and skills in using the AP700 Man-Packs for Emergency WASH water treatment particularly we can use this machine AP700 Man-Packs to help the beneficiaries in the disaster affected areas. Moreover, this AP700 Man-Packs will be handed over to and located in Oudomxay Red Cross Branch. For other 9 provincial red cross branches located in the northern part, this machine will be shared and allocated to the affected areas when needed.

At the end of training, all of 14 participants was providing their feedback. Mr. Darling Phomphichi, WASH focal person, LuangPraBing Provincial Red Cross Branch said that this is my first time to get involve with the demonstration of AP700 Man-Packs and WASH training. I really appreciated the facilitation techniques, practical skills and the technical knowledge of Emergency Sanitation, water treatment and hygiene health promotion and latrine construction. After go back to my office, I confident that I can contribute my skills and knowledges captured to help our communities and affected people in our provinces.

Reported by Dr Bounma Xayasouk, Head of Health Promotion Department, Lao Red Cross Head Quarter, we are requesting the technical and financial supports from IFRC Bangkok Office in implementing E-WASH program and community hygiene and sanitation activities in
helping the vulnerable population in disaster affected areas.

We appreciate the great support and contributions that IFRC continues assistance to our people as always especially in Oudomxay Province and Muang Houn District. If the resources available for the next fiscal year 2018, we will be scaling up the E-WASH program again to cover more disaster-prone affected provinces and reaching more vulnerable population in communities and in remote areas as our priority.