## Location of Mission:
- Muang Nam Bak, Luang Pra Bang Province, Lao PDR (Baan Sri Boun Hueang)

## Date(s):
- 19-23 Mar 2018

## Purpose of mission:
- The Advanced Training Course on Emergency WASH response and preparedness, Baan Sri Boun Hueang Village: Muang Nam Bak, Luang Pra Bang Province, Lao PDR

## Person travelling/completing report:
- PK - Pornsak Khortwong, IFRC Health Officer

## Key people Met:
- **LRCS**
  - Dr Bounma Xayasouk, Head of Health Promotion Department, LRCS
  - Mr Phonexay Sivilay, Head of Emergency Health and First Aid
  - Dr Viengsawan Kasemsouk, Head of Luang Pra Bang Provincial Red Cross Branch
  - Mr Khamsavath Sisavath, WASH focal person: Luang Pra Bang Provincial Red Cross Branch

## Participants from the sub-district branches:
- 15 Participants from five provincial RC branches (Oudomxay, Xayabouly, Luang Prabang, Khammounne, Champasak provinces) (Male =13, Female=2)

## Summary of training activities/key points and outcomes
- Advanced training course on Emergency WASH response and preparedness for WASH focal persons in Luang Pra Bang Province:
  - This training was organized by receiving the additional budget from Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) in improving the capacity of Lao RC’s staff to prepare and respond to disasters in the affected areas. This advance 3-day training course on emergency WASH was conducted for 15 WASH focal persons from 5 targeted provinces. Training was located at Luang Pra Bang Provincial Branch.
  - LRCS has been receiving funding support from the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) in strengthening emergency WASH capacity since March 2016, focusing mainly on Khammuane province including the procurement and prepositioning of two water purification units (one at that province and one at the NHQ in Vientiane).
  - In April 2017 to March 2018, JRCS continue to support LRCS in the same capacity, where LRCS has expanded its geographical scope to also include Oudomxay and Champasak Provinces. These targeted provinces are known to be affected by...
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Floods on a yearly basis due to its close vicinity to the Mekong river and various tributaries that run along these provinces.

- This Advanced E WASH training for WASH focal persons started with theoretical sessions and table-top exercises, and the second half of both days were mainly focused on practical sessions i.e. installation of the water purification unit i.e. Aquaplus AP 700 CL and construction of a pour-flush toilet (second day).

- A variety of training methods were utilised such as use of IEC materials, PowerPoint presentations, videos, group exercises and demonstrations. Pre- and post-tests, as well as evaluations were carried out. For the revised pre-post test with 20 questions, before the training, the participants recorded an average score of 65% as compared to after the training of 80%.

- Dr Bounma 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. For 2018-2019, The two AP700 manpacks will be provided to Luang Prabang and Xayabouly provinces in response to the floods and the droughts in these two provinces.

- Some of the main topics with divided into three small group discussions during the 3-day training, as follows:
  
  i) Overview of the emergency context in the Asia Pacific region and emergency WASH activities in Lao PDR
  ii) WASH-related diseases in emergencies and importance of hygiene promotion
  iii) Water treatment and drinking water quality
  iv) Sphere standards
  v) Sanitation options during emergencies
  vi) Hygiene promotion in emergencies / Hand washing -7 steps
  vii) Introduction of templates in line with operation and maintenance of the Aquaplus AP 700 CL

- The construction of two latrines have been installed in a primary school of Baan Sri Boun Heuang which consisted of two male teachers and a female teacher and 78 students (female =42, male =36). Baan Sri Boun Heuang, Muang Nam Bak village is located about 95 KM far from Luang Pra Bang Province.

Key follow up actions

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- Following up for the financial report of E WASH project 2017-2018 in Champasak and Oudomxay after the end of Mar 2018 and the clearance about 20,000 USD.
- Developing the continuation phase of E WASH 2018-2019 supported by Japanese RC with requesting about 2 AP700 for Laung Prabang and Xayabouly provinces and trainings for RCVs.
- Discussed with Dr Bounma about the integration of WASH activities with the cross border cooperation project between Thai RC and Lao RC to support this border area in 2018-2019.

Additional discussion:
Focusing on the next five years plan on E-WASH in Laos and the roles of Lao RC in implementing WASH and rolling out to other provinces and the ownerships after the years 2018-2019 and the plan in 2020-2025.

Photos- Advanced E-WASH trainings in Baan Sri Boun Hueang, Muang Nam Bak, Luang Pra Bang Province, 19-23 Mar 2018