

Strengthening Water Access for Climate Resilience in Phongsaly Province



BACKGROUND

CARE Laos has been implementing a food security and rural development program in Khua, Mai, and Samphan districts for the past ten years, funded by The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Luxembourg, EU, CARE Australia, and private donors including Botstiber Foundation. This project builds on experiences in working on Food Security and Agriculture in Khua district. Lessons from this previous project will be utilised in this project. The overall objective of this project is to enable improved access to clean water, improving health and climate resilience of remote ethnic communities, in particularly women, and contribute to the achievement of SDGs 1,2,5 and 6.

The project targets fifteen vulnerable ethnic communities in Mai and Samphan district, Phongsaly province. These fifteen villages will be selected in consultation with authorities in Phongsaly, feasibility consultant, and CARE International. Water systems typically only deliver water during the wet season as a result of previous damage and limitations of the water sources. Achieving year round in village water supply was viewed by communities as their highest priority and will significantly reduce women's labour associated with water collection as well as have substantial public health benefits including enabling the use the latrines and ceasing open defecation.

SWACR



Location

Mai,
and Samphan districts,
Phongsaly province

TimeFrame Since approval date- 30 September 2028

Beneficiaries

Direct: 4,886 (2,745 women)

Indirect: 14,658 (8,235 women)

Partners

Ministry of Health, Hygiene and Health Promotion
Department, Center of Water Supply and Environment
Health



OBJECTIVES

To contribute to improved health through increasing long term year-round access to sufficient water to meet families consumption, hygiene and sanitation needs by comply with the 9th Five-Year Health Development Plan and the Health Reform Strategy Phase III (2021–2025), focusing on improving healthcare services and access to clean water in target areas, to promote better living conditions and good health.

FUNDED BY

Botstiber Foundation

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OUTCOMES

- **Activity 1:** Undertake community planning processes with Naam Saat to establish water committee and plan water supply systems in each village location.
- **Activity 2:** Develop technical plans, undertake construction, and/or renovation, and monitor water systems in target villages with conditions in 2 districts, Mai District and Samphan District.
- **Activity 3:** Undertake water quality and yield testing of systems constructed.
- **Activity 4:** Undertake a series of community meetings to review different technical models, make decisions over which one to be utilized and plan ongoing operation and maintenance as required.
- **Activity 5:** Implement potable water supply systems/treatment plans in at least two target communities.
- **Activity 6:** Undertake ongoing monitoring of potable water supply system operations and provide mentoring support to water committee in ensuring sustainability.
- **Activity 7:** Transform community gender attitudes and support women to assume community leadership positions through gender equality sensitization, analysis of social norms and capacity building.
- **Activity 8:** Support communities on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) education.
- **Activity 9:** Support communities on WASH social and behavioural change communications (SBCC).
- **Activity 10:** Develop capacity and improve functioning of Water Management Committee to ensure safety and sustainability of water supply.
- **Activity 11:** Support the communities with the knowledge on how to construct latrines.
- **Activity 12:** Organize planning meetings with project staff, district office staff and community authorities in reviewing water strengthening plans and project activities.
- **Activity 13:** Conduct Gender Climate Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (GCVCA) and the Community Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP) focused on water supply watershed protection.
- **Activity 14:** Support implementation of CAAP for target villages

IMPACTS

- **Expected Result 1:** All families in target communities have year-round access to adequate volumes of safe water at the household level.
- **Expected Result 2:** Models for the sustainable supply of clean drinking water for all households developed and implemented.
- **Expected Result 3:** Capacities built at village and district levels ensure technical, social and environmental sustainability of water supply systems established.
- **Expected Result 4:** Climate-resilient adaptation options that enhance community incentives for watershed forest protection / expansion and thus contribute to sustainable water access are piloted and assessed.



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