



**WORLD EDUCATION
IN THE LAO PDR**



IMPACT REPORT 2020

1. Disability Inclusion

The USAID Okard project partners with government and non-government actors to remove barriers to disability inclusion and empower persons with disabilities to optimize and sustain independent living and functional ability. USAID Okard contributes to strengthening the health, rehabilitation and social service systems and promotes equal participation in society. USAID Okard also addresses the individual needs of persons with disabilities through the Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) model in two target districts. Case Managers identify persons with disabilities, develop and implement a personalized action plan with their families to address specific health, economic and social needs to remove barriers that hinder participation and inclusion in society. At the same time, stakeholders in the community are encouraged to work together to identify solutions and create opportunities for inclusion by mobilizing people and resources through changes in knowledge, attitudes and practices, which will lead to a sustainable, inclusive community.

Through the Community Based Inclusive Development model



244 persons with disabilities and their households supported to meet their needs through **individualized case management**



112 persons with mental health concerns have been assessed and started receiving **mental health and psychosocial support** from trained health professionals



180 persons with disabilities began a 6-month coaching program to set up and establish sustainable **income generating activities** to improve economic self-sufficiency

Key Achievements



Led the creation of **accessible COVID-19 information** including daily national broadcast briefings with sign language interpretation



Established Laos' **first inclusion and accessibility auditing service provider** to help create more inclusive and accessible work environments

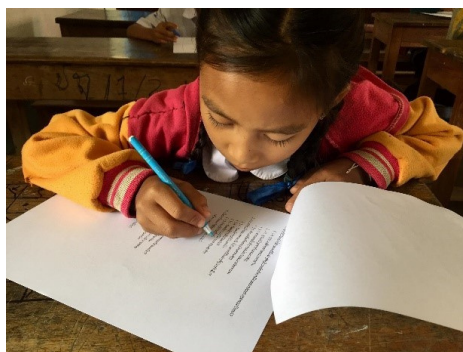


Designed an **innovative digitized needs assessment tool and database** to collect data on the needs of persons with disabilities



Translated the **WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP)** package intervention guides to help district doctors and nurses diagnose and treat mental illnesses

2. Mine Risk Education



The Comprehensive Mine Risk Education (MRE) project aims to reduce injury and death from unexploded ordnance (UXO) by informing school-age children about how to protect themselves and their families.

The MRE Project disseminated MRE messages to primary and secondary school students through the new MRE Curriculum in 88 districts across 10 target provinces and in 8 Teacher Training Colleges.

The new MRE curriculum was successfully piloted in **6** primary schools and **6** secondary schools across the country

61,523 children and **17,223** adults received MRE messages from puppetry performances

2,264 primary school teachers trained on how to utilize the new MRE curriculum

489 professors and **2,046** student-teachers in Teacher Training Colleges obtained MRE knowledge

45 new puppetry troupes established, for a total of **187** troupes across Laos

51 Provincial and District staff are MRE trainers

3. Victim Assistance

The War Victims Medical Fund (WVMF) supports UXO survivors and victims' families, covering the cost of immediate and ongoing medical treatment, transportation, food allowance, accommodation during treatment, religious ceremony for seriously injured cases, and funeral costs in case of death. WVMF works to ensure that survivors and family members affected by UXO accidents in Laos will remain unburdened by medical and funeral-related debt.



22
new **survivors**
and **families**
supported



430
posters and **flyers** distributed to inform government staff and community members about how to access the WVMF

4. Capacity Building for Early Grade Reading



Under the World Food Programme (WFP) Food for Education project, World Education provides technical advice and project management expertise to build the capacity of Big Brother Mouse (BBM), a local organization in northern Laos, with a focus on monitoring and evaluation systems and organizational systems. With this technical support, BBM will strengthen literacy and reading promotion in three provinces in northern Laos.

In 2020, World Education facilitated an **institutional capacity assessment workshop** with BBM and then supported them to design an action plan to be implemented in the future.

Testimonials



“Through puppetry troupe performance on MRE lessons supported by World Education, our students and community can receive UXO safety messages and be aware of the importance of mine risk education. Thank you for supporting this activity in our school.”

- Thong, Director of Samakxay Primary School



"I love weaving. Although I do not have two hands, I have abilities and perseverance like others. Through USAID Okard, I was able to access the healthcare that I need and also receive a prosthetic hand to help me do my work on a daily basis."

- Phanh, USAID Okard Beneficiary

Donors



Government Partners

