



The project "Improving Quality of Life for People with Disability, 11A092" is supported by SVENSKA POSTKODSTIFTELSEN

through Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC), following the objective of the area of people's living conditions; the focus is on poverty reduction, promotion of human rights and peace building. The stated principle allows then Operations Enfants du Cambodge to empower People with Disability including Landmine Survivors and the poor families, from 1 January to 31 December 2012.

Summary of project

The Project of "Improving Quality of Life for People with Disabilities" for a period of one year, starting from 1 January to 31 December 2012, was implemented in 2 Districts namely Thmor Puok and Preah Netpreah of the Banteay Meanchey province, Cambodia. The main 5 project activities including (1) workshop training on life skill and appropriate capital investment support, (2) workshop on human rights, child rights and rights of people with disabilities, (3) health care for people with disabilities and physical rehabilitation services support, (4) acceptable shelter through home repairing support and (5) support and mainstreaming children of the people with disabilities to attend the school through learning materials and transportation means support were well implemented and achieved a remarkable results as follows:

- 100 people with disabilities and poor families (target groups) selected,
- Four workshops training organized,
- 95 target groups completed human rights workshop training,
- 89 target groups completed life skill workshop training,
- 100 target groups received grant for their own small business activities,
- 24 target groups received grant for home repairing,
- 36 people with disabilities received physical rehabilitation services, and
- 193 children received school materials and transportation means.

2- Project Goal and Objectives

The primary objective of the project is to improve the Quality of Life for People with Disabilities including landmine survivors and low income families, enabling them to participate in the decision process in their community, related to their rights.

As result, the project team in collaboration with concerned chief of villages has succeeded selecting 100 target group including 80 people with

The specific objectives of the project are:

1. to provide good quality of rehabilitation and health care services to landmine survivors, children with disabilities and poor families in collaboration with concerns agencies,
2. to enable children of landmine survivors and poor families to receive education in school nearby their resident,
3. to motivate landmine survivors, children with disabilities and poor families to accept changes by learning possibilities of works and social skill,
4. to provide emergency support to injured people caused by landmine and reinforce people with disabilities' self-confidences based on their rights protected by the law, and,
5. to promote awareness raising related to landmine incident prevention for the target communities.

3- Selection of targeted groups:

The project team accompanied by social workers has met local authorities including chief of communes and villages in project target areas, and explained the goals and objectives of the project, and then discussing logical criteria for selection of target group focused on landmine survivors, children with disabilities and poor families to participate in the project. The following criteria was accepted and applied for target selection:

☛ People with disabilities

- Disabled people by mine/ERW,
- Living in target districts,
- Living in poor condition,
- Has many children and some of them go to school,
- Good moral and discipline with commitment to change standing of life,
- To be patient and hard working,
- Having self confidence,

☛ Poor families

- People living in target districts,
- Living in poor condition,
- Has many children and some of them go to school,
- Good moral and discipline with commitment to change standing of life,
- To be patient and hard working,
- Have self confidence,

The deep comprehension and implementation of these rights can then promote gender equality and heighten the respect of

disabilities and 20 poor families in Thmor Puok and Preah Net Preah districts of the Banteay Meanchey province.

3- Activities

3.1 Training workshop to empower landmine survivors and poor people

The project team organized a two-day training workshop, one in Thmor Puok district from 21-22 March 2012, and another in Preah Netpreah district from 27-28 March 2012 for a total 95 participants. The subjects treated to these training workshops are listed as follows:

- Freedom of speech, expression and of the press;
- Freedom of religion, freedom of assembly and association;
- Right to equal protection of the law and right to due process and fair trial;
- How to promote democratic citizens by deepening fundamental freedom and fundamental rights including right to development and to participation;
- Right to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

The article 1 about dignity, equality, and the spirit of brotherhood, has been deeply discussed among participants in comparing to Buddhist morale, the Brahma-vihara dharma to develop friendship, mutual assistance and to link Buddhism with Human Rights.

The project team led discussion in detail on article 12 about Freedom from Interference with Privacy, Family, Home and Correspondence to encourage PWDs to exercise their life with great independence. To build happiness in the families, the team introduced the basic women rights, namely the right to live in peace, without fear of emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse or psychological abuse. Women are entitled of the right to respect based on motherhood, the right as an intelligent, capable human being with vast capabilities. Additionally, they have the right to never have to fear the loss of their offspring to a society, the right to food, shelter, clothing and proper medical care, the right to free access of knowledge; quality and affordable day care that enhance women development.

individual rights among the family members leading to maintain familial harmony.

In the aim of reinforcing relationship between parents and children, the team led also discussion and analysis on the basic rights of children followed by right, role and duties of parents in developing children through access to education without agricultural forced labor, and to provide children with good learning atmosphere at home and in the community.



3.2 Training workshop for improving life standard

The project team organized a one-day training workshop at Thmor Puok on the 25th of April 2012 and another one in Preah Netpreah district on the 26th of April 2012 for a total 89 participants. The training workshop topics focused on vegetable farming, pig and chicken raising. Regarding vegetable farming, the participants discussed, shared and learned on seed selection, water management, soil nutrient, pest and fertilizer management, and marketing analysis. For pig and chicken raising, the training workshop discussed, shared and learned on breeding, feeding, illness and market of the products.



The team led also discussion on preventive vaccination against diseases to keep the animals healthy and having no harmful effect on their products.



3.5 Referral

The project team sent 31 PWDs, 10 PWDs from Thmor Puok

3.3 Provision of grant for income generation

At the end of training workshop, the project team provided individually the trainees with a grant of 280,000 Riels (US\$70) to start their own business for income generation aims improving their living condition. About 62% of the target group adopted pig, duck and chicken raising, 33% adopted farming and 5% adopted small business. The detail income generation activities undertaken by the target group can be listed as followed:

- 25 people for chicken raising,
- 28 people for pig raising,
- 9 people for duck raising,
- 32 people for farming,
- 01 people for manioc planting,
- 02 people for hair cutting



3.4 Provision of grant for home repairing

The project team provided also grant to 11 targeted people including 8 PWDs and 3 poor families in Thmor Puok and 13 targeted people including 7 PWDs and 6 poor families in Preah Netpreah district for repairing their damaged house. Each target group received approximately 200,000 Riels (US\$50) to repair and improve their house condition.

During the ceremony the director of provincial Social Affairs



and 21 PWDs from Preah Netpreah, to provincial rehabilitation center (PRC) in Battambang town. In addition, 05 PWDs got rehabilitation at their hometown, Choub Vari commune, Preah Netpreah district, performed directly and actively by PRC mobile team. The project team conducted follow-up and assisted PWDs in physiotherapy exercises for adaptation and fitness, after they came back from rehabilitation center.

The project team also coordinated with related project in OEC to get one tricycle for landmine survivor, who has lost his both legs, in Banteay Chhmar commune, Thmor Puok district.



3.6 Education

Education is very important for all people, communities and society. Education is the starting point of human development and all other developments. Nothing can be developed without education. Recognizing this concept, with consideration of international Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Cambodian Education for All, 2003-2015, to achieve gender equality in basic education by 2015, the project team provided the 193 targeted children with: 1,838 writing books, 766 pens, 447 pencils, 193 rulers, 193 pieces of rubber, 96 chalk boards to promote education quality. In addition, to maintain regular attendance, the project assists the children, far distance from school, in equipping them individually with 60 bicycles.



3-7. Event

On 7 December 2012, the project team brought 30 PWDs of the target area participating in the International day of people with disability, organized in Thmor Puok district in collaboration with Provincial Social Affairs.

All landmine victim survivors and poor families are free from All Forms of Discrimination based on gravity of disability, wealth or sex. People in the communities have the obligation to build Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

constantly invited all Cambodian people, to respect and implement the convention of the rights of people with disabilities concretely and effectively, reinforced by the Buddhist Brahmavihara Dhamma, integrating all people and children with disabilities in all communal activities, social, economic, cultural for valuing human dignity and building common well-being



4- Effect of the project

With clear knowledge of universal and basic rights of PWD, all targeted people have then their conscience developed, from what their courage and confidence in their self-strengthened. They have solid morale, with no more idea of complex of under-consideration. The feeling of their dignity and social values in term of human being, with a practical impression presently considered and supported by community members, the targeted people become then hopeful in social environment of non-discrimination, but of assistance and tolerance. The appearance of new social atmosphere makes them work actively in their daily life that reinforces lovely relation in the family giving supporting morale for children in learning. Hopeless and passivity do not exist in PWDs' mind. In the contrary, they recognize all causes of troublesomeness and the mistake of self-underestimation. This awakening spirit draws out from their mind all habitude of not seeking way for self-development and of wasting time by taking intoxicating substance or other useless product that ruin themselves and their family.

The inherent dignity and worth and the equal and inalienable rights of all PWDs to enjoy the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed their full enjoyment of Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political Rights without discrimination based on any kinds.

5-3. Conatraits

- Difficult travelling in rainy season, due to road condition;
- Some participants could not attend regularly meeting as scheduled, due to seasoning collection of agricultural products;
- Around 40% of LPSs staying a long distance from the district decline to come and get new replaced device. Some others refuse to come because of not accepting a long waiting-day in PRC.

which need promotion and protection of human rights of persons with disabilities, including those who require intensive support to live in peaceful and democratic society.

5- Lessons Learned from the Project Implementation

5-1. Main Challenge

- Some targeted people having their fixed residence in target area, but during the farming season they have to stay at their farms located in far distance from their initial house, approximately 20Km, that poses obstacle for the team to conduct follow-up visit,
- Some illiterate PWD could not assist their children at homes learning or doing homework. Facing this problem OEC team gave them some technical advice as encouragement and habitual control by asking children to explain what they have done in school and what they prefer to accomplish at home, or just to take a leaf out of some pages and asking explanation.
- On the raining season, it is so difficult to perform follow up and meet some target group, due to traveling problem and road condition in wet season.

5-2. Success Key

- Commitment of project team, patience and hard work with strong working discipline in maintain good relation and communication with local authorities and friendly manner with the targeted people,
- Close and active work with direct participative assistance in the beneficiary work,
- Transparency and responsiveness of project team members, especially friendly and human communication skills during regular follow-up,
- The deliverance of the project responds to the LPS' needs,
- Correct selection of targeted LPSs and Poor People, who really facing difficulties, which need assistance.

7- Conclusion

The beneficiaries PWDs have strong self-confidence and abandon their habitude of being ashamed and disassociated. They become more courageous in expressing their ideas in any meetings or circle talks by feeling a sense of being equally considered and respected from community members that make them feel their importance in social, economic, and cultural

5-4. Lessons learned

- Close and friendly communication with local authorities, with a sincere and strictly neutral manner, produces strong and active cooperation.
- Use of adult learning technique by exciting observation, analyze comparatively with their past experience, raising question for them to explain freely in their words and solution, followed short debate leading to reach common decision, is the best way to activate participation and facilitate absorption of the treated subject.

6-Field Visit

The delegation of Svenska PostkodStiftelsen has visited the project site and witnessed the meeting organized by the project team with collaboration of Chhub Veary's commune council members on 8 February 2012, for clarification of project's purpose to the target groups and local authorities. The Foundation's delegation has also visited OEC Office and made conversation with OEC Management Team.

activities of their community.

PWDs have notion of familial economy by recognizing importance of making monthly or weekly budgeting plan to control spending that force them to prioritize things and limit expenditure in function of monthly or weekly gain with not forgetting of prevision for children to attend class regularly for a bright future.

This twelve month operation in close cooperation with local communal authorities and good communication with the beneficiaries proves a spiritual change for PWDs which accept the ideas that people can improve themselves by doing action in cooperation with internal and external aids.

