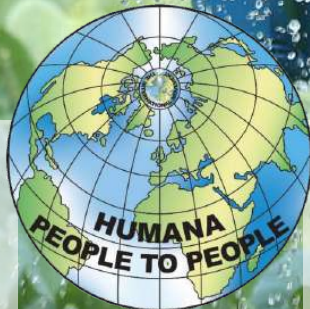


Progress Report 2019

ອົງການ ມະນຸດສະທຳເພື່ອຄົນສູ່ຄົນ
HUMANA
People to People Laos



ມູນນິທິ ມະນຸດສະທຳເພື່ອຄົນສູ່ຄົນ
HUMANA
Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo

Mission & Vision

Humana People to People Laos (HPP Laos) & Humana Fundación Pueblo para Pueblo (Humana FPP) are committed to work alongside the poor in a collective process that supports the people to make changes, improve their lives and solve their problems.

We believe that poverty can be overcome through coordinated, community-based approaches which combine improved livelihoods, sustainable agriculture, health and disease prevention, increased production and income, education, women's empowerment and environmental protection.

With the base for the struggle being the poor engaged in changing their own fates, we join forces with them, with governments and progressive forces nationally and internationally in a collective effort to transform and in the long run erase the existing conditions of the poor.

Our work is based on the ethos of Solidary Humanism. We embrace the idea that people are at the centre of their own development as the driving force, and that sustainable change is created through a collaborative process. When people go together and engage in common actions they find better ways. When people are at the centre of the decision-making processes and the implementation and evaluation of their work, they create development.

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Dear partners, stakeholders, staff members, friends, and everyone who contributed to our great project results -

2019 was another exciting year of working with people in the rural communities of Laos on improving their agricultural production systems, their health, and their village environments. 2019 was also a year of collaborating with donors and government partners, exchanging best practices, and moving forward together. And, in 2019, we continued to actively participate in civil society platforms to learn from other development partners and to share our experiences.

We would like to invite you on a journey to revisit the past year in our Progress Report 2019. On the following pages, we have summarised our main achievements and activities. We have collected stories from projects to let beneficiaries share their views of the projects and activities themselves.

HPP Laos & Humana FPP

And, finally, we will shine a light on what is yet to come and by sharing our plans for 2020 and beyond.

On behalf of HPP Laos and Humana FPP, we would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to making 2019 a successful year: Our valued partners, especially the European Union, the Global Fund, Humana Second Hand Fundraising Projects and Planet Aid,, without whose support we would not be able to implement projects. Also thanks to our government partners from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Health. And last but not least, our dedicated staff who give their best every day to fight poverty, malnutrition and tuberculosis.



Inger Damkjaer

Country Representative HPP Laos



Gitte Hector

Program Manager Humana FPP

Members of the Federation HPP

HPP Laos and Humana FPP are not-for-profit organisations under the global Federation Humana People to People. The Federation is a network of 30 organisations operating in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. Humana FPP is the local delegation of a Spanish Foundation with more than 30 years of global development experience.

Thematic areas in Laos

HPP Laos and Humana FPP started with project activities in 2011 and 2017, respectively. We focus on sustainable agriculture, health and disease prevention, nutrition as well as water, sanitation and hygiene and community development. Our core theme is to work shoulder to shoulder with people in remote and vulnerable communities, empowering them to work together and achieve the change they desire.





Current projects

HPP Laos and Humana FPP implement community development projects in Bolikhamxay and Khammouane Provinces. Currently, we have 45 dedicated staff, collaborating closely with government authorities at village, district and province levels as well as with project partners. Up to date, a total of 88,000 people in 180 villages have been reached.

In Khammouane, Humana FPP is cooperating with Health Poverty Action and the Provincial Health Office to implement an EU-funded food and nutrition security project (see p. 10-15). In Bolikhamxay, HPP Laos is a sub-recipient of a Global Fund grant to the National Tuberculosis Centre. The project aims at finding people infected with TB and supporting them to access and sustain their treatment (see p. 16-20).

HPP Laos & Humana FPP



Sustainable Agriculture & Environment

100 Farmers' Clubs with
5,000 members established

90 demonstration plots
established



102 Village Veterinary Workers
trained and equipped

3,853 animals handed out
under pass-on loan scheme

47 villages' irrigation systems
installed or repaired

17 wells dug for irrigation

2019 Achievements

Health & Disease Prevention

35,899 people screened for
tuberculosis symptoms

1,081 presumptive TB cases
identified

69 TB cases diagnosed

41 people completed treatment

56,428 people reached with
information on TB

57 home gardens established to
support nutrition of TB-
affected families



Sustainable Agriculture

Location: 6 districts in Khammouane Province (Bualapha, Mahaxay, Thakek, Nhommalath, Xaybuathong and Khounkham)

Duration: 2018 to 2020

Beneficiaries: 5,000 farmers and their families in 100 villages

Humana FPP, with project partners Health Poverty Action (HPA) from the UK, and the Khammouane Provincial Health Office (PHO), is implementing a Food and Nutrition Security project funded by the

European Union. The project is part of the EU's Partnership for Improved Nutrition in Lao PDR. Activities commenced in 2019.

Humana FPP is responsible for delivering activities around strengthening food security, climate resilience and dietary diversification of vulnerable communities. To achieve these aims, we work through our Farmers' Clubs approach and have established 100 Farmers' Clubs with around 50 members each. The Farmers' Clubs are the basic project structure through which activities are implemented.

Core activities include:

- Establishment of demonstration plots and vegetable gardens (1 per Farmers' Club)
- Training on climate-smart agriculture and other sustainable agricultural practices
- Establishment of 10 seed banks
- Adoption of small-scale water systems for irrigation
- Training of Trainers on SRI methodologies
- Training in animal husbandry and set-up of animal pass-on-loan schemes
- Introduction of innovative techniques of food processing, preparation and storage
- Creation and training of 6 cooperatives (1 per district)

**Ms Kuanta Khienmany, Ban Man,
Mahaxay District**

"I am so happy to be part of this Farmers' Club. I am pregnant with my third child and it is very good for me and my family to be eating so many vegetables. In the past, growing vegetables was done individually, but now we plant and cultivate them together. This makes us a lot stronger as a community. Since joining the Farmers' Club, I have learnt so much about vegetable growing, especially how to produce organic fertiliser. I have received different kinds of vegetable seedlings and chickens from the project."



The Farmers' Clubs Concept

An approach tested and applied all over the world

The Farmers' Clubs concept has been developed and implemented globally by members of the Federation Humana People to People. After adapting the concept to the local context, HPP Laos led a Farmers' Clubs project in Bolikhan District, Bolikhamxay Province from 2015 to 2017 with 1,000 farmers. Currently, Humana FPP is using the approach in its EU-funded Food and Nutrition Security project with 5,000 farmers. The Farmers' Clubs approach organises small-scale farmers in groups of around 50 so they can join forces, share knowledge and resources. At least 50% of farmers are women to enable them to equally participate in the project.

Farmers' Clubs improve climate resilience and nutrition

The overall objectives of Farmers' Clubs are to further sustainable and climate-smart production, to improve families' nutrition through a balanced diet, and to create a crop surplus for sale. In their groups, farmers learn how to work together



more effectively, how to bargain as a collective, and how to support each other. They meet to discuss progress and issues, and to receive training, once a fortnight. Farmers' Clubs evolve to become self-sustaining and mutually supportive networks of farmers which last beyond project completion.

Case Study

Mr Phet Sengsoulin, Ban Man, Mahaxay District

"I have received five chickens from the project, and I already own some geese and ducks. I have learnt how to look after them better and I am currently building a fence around their coop to protect them. As part of the animal pass-on scheme, I will give the first few chicks to others in my Farmers' Club. Since I also participate in the vegetable growing activities of my Club, I can use waste lettuce from the demonstration garden to feed it to my animals. They love it and they are growing very well."



Climate Change & Nutrition

Supporting smallholders to adapt to and mitigate climate change

The Farmers' Clubs approach is applied in environments at risk of extreme climate change impacts in Humana People to People's projects in Asia, Africa and the Americas. Weather patterns in Laos are already changing, and the country is expected to experience extended droughts and shorter yet more severe rainy seasons, putting farmers' livelihoods at risk. Farmers' Clubs increase their members' climate resilience through training in climate-smart production systems. This boosts their income generating abilities in a climate change world, bolsters their families' nutrition and provides them with improved resilience.

Environment Protection & Climate Resilience Training Elements



Case Study

Ms Phousai Lotkenphachan, Ban Man, Mahaxay District

"I have become much more confident and happy to grow vegetables. I am the Deputy Head of the Lao Women's Union in my village, and I support the Farmers' Clubs structure. It works! It has replaced farming as a tiresome chore with fun because we work together, help each other and share experiences. It is much better than before. We do not use chemicals, but only natural inputs, and this is so much better for our health and also the environment."

Health & Disease Prevention

Location: 3 districts of Bolikhamxay Province (Bolikhan, Pakkading and Pakxan)

Duration: 2018 to 2020

Beneficiaries: Communities of 51 villages

HPP Laos, as a Sub-Recipient under the National TB Centre (NTC) is implementing a Tuberculosis (TB) Active Case Finding project in

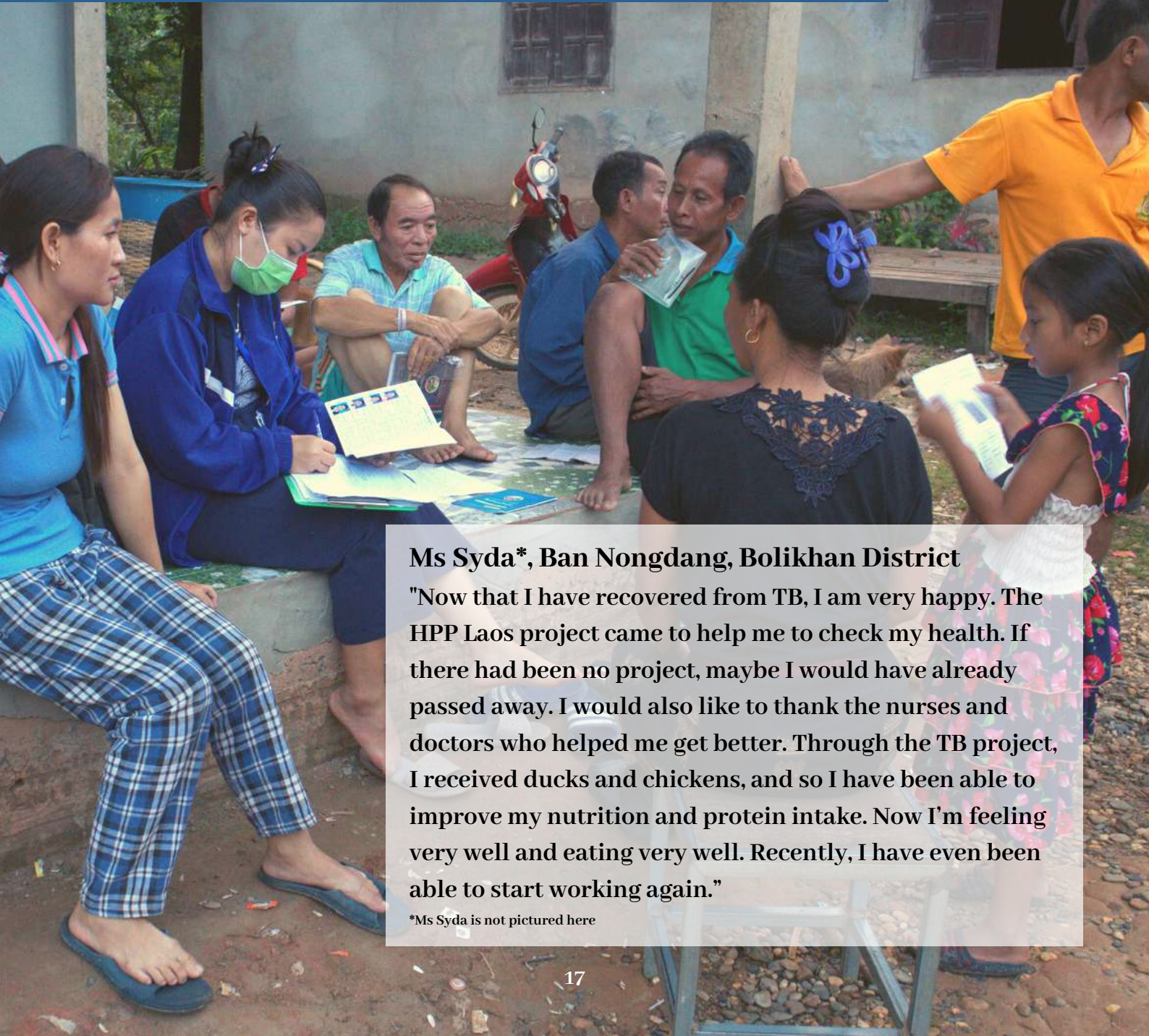
Bolikhamxay. The project is funded by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and it aims at reducing the TB burden in Lao PDR as per the National TB Strategic Plan 2017-2020 and the WHO End TB Strategy.

The project raises awareness of TB in rural communities within TB hotspots, to identify presumptive cases through screening and contact tracing, and to refer patients to be tested in Health Centres for diagnosis. TB patients and their families receive treatment adherence support through education on TB, improved nutrition, and the establishment of TRIOs to ensure regular medication intake (DOTs) and other support. Project staff work with and build capacities of local health staff.

Core activities include:

- Identification of TB hotspots in conjunction with health authorities
- Mass awareness campaigns of TB symptoms, prevention, and treatment
- Training of Health Centre staff and Village Health Workers
- Household screenings in areas of high TB prevalence
- Connecting presumptive TB cases with Health Centres for diagnosis
- Supporting Health Centre staff in collecting and transporting sputum samples
- Supporting TB patients to access and sustain treatment through psycho-social support structures at household level
- Establishing home gardens with TB-affected families for improved nutrition

Case Study



Ms Syda*, Ban Nongdang, Bolikhan District

"Now that I have recovered from TB, I am very happy. The HPP Laos project came to help me to check my health. If there had been no project, maybe I would have already passed away. I would also like to thank the nurses and doctors who helped me get better. Through the TB project, I received ducks and chickens, and so I have been able to improve my nutrition and protein intake. Now I'm feeling very well and eating very well. Recently, I have even been able to start working again."

*Ms Syda is not pictured here

Total Control of the Epidemic

A people-centred approach to disease control and prevention

The TB Active Case Finding project is based on HPP's Total Control of the Epidemic (TCE) concept. Like the Farmers' Clubs concept, TCE has been developed and tested throughout HPP countries worldwide. It is applied to combat TB, HIV/AIDS and malaria.

TCE is centred on the idea that only the people can liberate themselves from the epidemics. HPP Laos incorporates Village Health Workers in all activities and mobilises communities to support their TB-affected peers, for instance through TRIOs: TB patients and two family members or friends are trained in TB awareness and nutrition. TRIOs ensure daily medication intake of the patient. HPP Laos provides TRIOs with knowledge in and materials for vegetable gardening and animal raising. Improved nutrition supports TB patients' recovery and improves their overall health to decrease their risk of getting sick again.



Case Study

Mr Vieng Sihalat, Ban Viengkham, Pakkading District

"I attended an awareness meeting of the HPP Laos TB project in my village. I did not know about TB symptoms before, and I compared them to what I was feeling. I gave a sputum sample but the test was negative. I still had symptoms and the HPP Laos team continued to follow up with me, and finally I was checked and diagnosed by X-ray. The HPP Laos team supported me to access treatment and gave me eight ducklings and vegetable seeds. I learned new things about vegetable growing and was taught how to raise ducks as a source of protein."





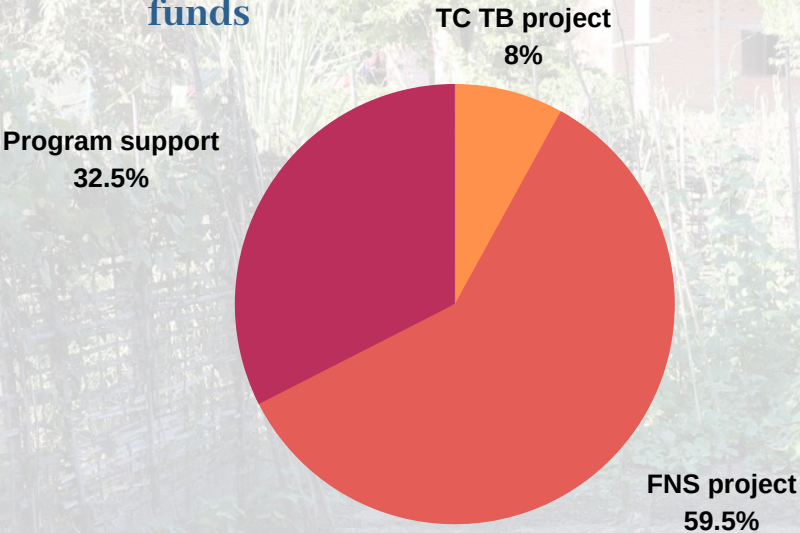
Ms Soy*, Donesay Village, Pakkading District

"I live with my son, my daughter-in-law and their children – eight family members in total. In 2014, I was treated for TB for the first time. When the HPP Laos project team came to my village, in December 2019, they assumed that I had become sick again, but my sputum test came back negative. The team raised our awareness for TB symptoms and treatment. As my symptoms persisted, the team took me to the Bolikhamxay Provincial Hospital to have an X-ray in February 2020, and I was diagnosed with TB. I am very happy to now have clarity on my situation, and to be receiving medical treatment. I received vegetable seeds and chickens from HPP Laos. I have grown vegetables by my house before, but through this program I have learnt many new things, especially about organic fertilisers and garden maintenance.

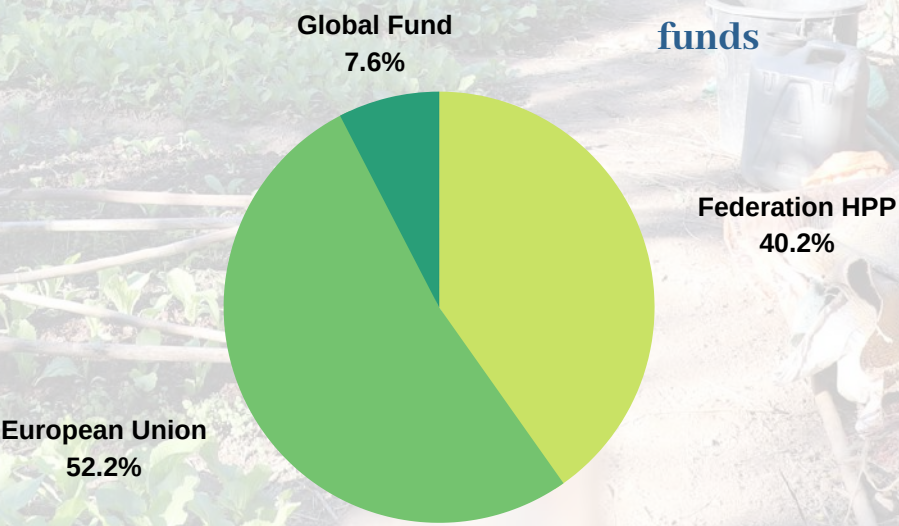
*Ms Soy is not pictured here

Financial Overview

Expenditure of funds



Source of funds



Dedicated project staff at the grassroots

HPP Laos and Humana FPP staff work from the organisations' three offices in Vientiane, Pakxan and Thakek as well as projects' target locations. Field staff are based in the communities they work in and develop close relationships with project participants. Where possible, field staff are recruited in project locations to build local capacity and to ensure they have contextual knowledge and speak ethnic minority languages.

"I enjoy my work very much: I live with the villagers and can see that the project suits their needs. The villagers are very hard working. I am responsible for 5 target villages, train farmers and work with them. I am proud to have this opportunity and give my best", Mr Metta Soulivong, Farming Instructor (FNS)

Every project commences with an intensive training period through which staff as well as government partners acquire the necessary knowledge for the project to succeed.





Local knowledge and global experience

The Federation HPP strengthens HPP Laos' and Humana FPP's work by providing project management training. In total, eight Lao staff have attended the Frontline Institute in Zimbabwe, and four more are currently there.

"My favourite part about the TC TB project is to support villagers' to learn about TB and to get better. As a team, we discuss strategies before we go out into communities and make decisions together. I learnt a lot about team work and community development at Frontline, especially through the program's travel component", Ms Champa Thatsyavong, Field Officer Leader (TC TB)



Frontline is a training institution for HPP staff to learn project management, leadership and community development in a 1-year-program. Since 1993, around 70 women and men per year from countries as diverse as Brazil, China, Mozambique, Malawi, DRC, Angola, Laos and Zambia live and learn there together.



Child Aid in Bolikhamxay

After two successful Child Aid projects in Bolikhan District, HPP Laos will launch a third in the same district. It will focus on improving the nutrition of children under 5 by constructing toilets, wells and household gardens. The latter will provide a source of balanced nutrients to families and enable them to increase their household incomes. Further, the project will raise awareness of maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health and the spread of mosquito-borne diseases.

Improving the quality of life of people living with HIV in Bolikhamxay

HPP Laos is very pleased to commence an HIV/AIDS-related project. Based on the TB project's positive results, the Province Health Office approached HPP Laos to support HIV patients in accessing antiretroviral therapy. With funds from Gilead Sciences' Asia Pacific Rainbow Grant Program, HPP Laos will work with a group of people living with HIV in a key-population led intervention. Activities include training of counsellors, setting up self-support structures, TB/HIV co-infection testing, HIV awareness raising and nutrition support.

in 2020?

TB Active Case Finding in Bolikhamxay

HPP Laos will launch a new TB project in conjunction with Community Health and Inclusion Association (CHIAs; formerly LaoPHA) and with funding from Expertise France's 5% Initiative. The project will cover Viengthong and Khamkeuth Districts in Bolikhamxay, under HPP Laos' lead, and two districts in Khammouane which LaoPHA will be responsible for. The action, running from 2020 to 2023, will combine best practices from both organisations' experience such as close hands-on support to local health staff as well as establishing TRIOs and home gardens. New elements include engaging civil society and tracking patient data digitally.

Extension of current TB Active Case Finding project in Bolikhamxay

HPP Laos' will extend its current activities in Blikhan and Pakkading Districts, Bolikhamxay, to cover 26 villages in Pakxan as an additional district. This extension will be enabled by a funding instrument provided by the Global Fund to scale-up successful projects, and it will include the same activities as in HPP Laos' current TB active case finding project.



About the Federation



The Federation's mission

The Federation Humana People to People is a network of 30 non-profit associations engaged in international solidarity, cooperation and development. Growing out of a progressive education movement in the 1970s, the Federation is rooted in a commitment to tackling some of the world's major humanitarian, social and environmental challenges. It does so by working as a collective, supporting people to make changes, improve their lives and help solve issues they are facing.



The Federation's values

The Federation has members across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and South America. These members share a set of common values to protect the planet, build communities and support people to join forces and thus unleash their potential for positive change and action. These values are also shared by the numerous international partners who have supported this work during 2019.



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[Humana People to People Laos](https://www.linkedin.com/company/humana-people-to-people-laos)

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