



IMPACT STORY

IVET TEACHERS

“I believe that it is important to have short courses for Animal Husbandry for the disadvantaged.”



Image: Khamhoung Keobounhak Credit: Swisscontact

When you first meet Mr. Khamhoung Keobounhak, you immediately know that he is a dedicated, enthusiastic teacher. Khamhoung is the Head of Animal Husbandry Course at Integrated Vocational Education Training (IVET) School in Xiengkhuang Province. Khamhoung has over 16 years of teaching experience.

Khamhoung had the opportunity to participate in a planning workshop to introduce Certificate 1 courses, which are supported by the VTESS project. “Having programs like these are a great opportunity for people to gain knowledge and improve their professional skills. It is also a good opportunity for young people to have more job opportunities and to upgrade employment to a higher percentage,” he explained.

The teachers are engaged in making the curriculum fun and interactive for the trainees, **“Every week we have a work planning meeting to focus on our lessons, especially to discuss about the practical training activities for the week. If the teachers need support, then I give them advice,”** said Khamhoung.



Image: Students learning Animal Husbandry Credit: Swisscontact

VTESS supports the build-up and strengthening of an inclusive vocational education and training system in Laos. Learn more about Swisscontact’s VTESS project at: <https://www.swisscontact.org/en/projects/vtess>



However, there are some challenges in teaching at the IVET school, “There are many ethnic students in Xiengkhuang who cannot read or write Lao well, and some don’t understand Lao when I speak or explain. Increasingly, I will explain, give advice and pay special attention to these trainees.”

Khamhoung believes raising livestock is an important contributor to the local economy because after graduating, trainees can become entrepreneurs, “I am glad that this course is also offered to disadvantaged groups.” It is also relevant for this course to be done in Xiengkhuang Province because many of the residents are already engaged in animal husbandry and farming.

Khamhoung further explained that the majority of people who work in agriculture are elderly people and the younger ones are reluctant to do it, but the short-term aspect of this training and learning significant new skills appeals to young people.

Khamhoung hopes that his school can find the funds to build a small farm, which would be great addition to the practical training aspect of the course. He said, “Having a farm would be advantageous to the trainees to better understand the lessons.”



Image: Students learning Animal Husbandry Credit: Swisscontact

Inception phase: Aug 2019 - March 2020

Project duration: (4 yrs) Aug 2019 - July 2023

Funded by: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Implementer: Consortium Swisscontact / Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Key implementing governmental partners:

- Ministry of Education and Sports - MoES (Lead)
- Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare – MoLSW

Target Groups:

- Early school-leavers: young people (15-35 years of age) who have completed primary, but not lower secondary education and are subjected to income poverty.
- Wider: Teachers from IVET schools, staff from job centres or similar institutions (career counsellors, job coaches, community or youth workers, village facilitators, social workers)



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