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The 11th High-Level Round Table Meeting
“Accelerating MDG Achievement and Inclusive Development”
Field Visit to Luang Prabang Province, Lao PDR
20-21 November 2013

Field Visit Programme

This note aims to provide general information on the RTM Field Visit scheduled to take place between 20th-21st November 2013 in Luang Prabang province. As part of the 11th High Level RTM held in Vientiane, delegates will be visiting some development projects in two districts: Xieng Geun, and Pak Ou districts.

Luang prabang (LPB) province is a mountainous province located in the northern part of the country. The province consists of 12 districts and has total land area of 16,875 square kilometers and a population of about 417,000 people. 89.1% of the population lives in rural areas. The poverty rate in LPB is 40.8% and four of the districts are included in the Government's list of the 47 poorest districts nationwide.

LPB city, the provincial capital, has achieved UNESCO World Heritage status. It was one of the royal capitals and the seat of the former royal family. It was also an important strategic stronghold for royalist forces during the Indochina war.

Wednesday, 20th Nov 2013

12:10-12:40 Travelling from VTE to LPB with flight number QV101

13:30-14:30 Heads of Delegation pay a courtesy visit to the Governor of Luang Prabang province

14:30-15:45 All delegations travel to Xieng Gneun District to visit:

Pak Khan Primary School

Location: Pak Khan village, Xieng Gneun District, LPB province

Pak Khan School was originally built in 1993 supported by a number of international NGOs, such as the World Vision, Save the Children America and Education Quality Improvement Project 2 (EQIP 2). The Pak Khan Primary school has provided opportunities for young children in this village to get access to education as there was no school available in the village. The school also provides lunch and some learning supports as incentives. As a result, the students are more likely to stay in school and succeed with completed grades and higher future education and earning capability.

Visit Xieng Gneun District Hospital

Location: Xieng Gneun District, LPB province

The Xieng Gneun District Hospital with the total 20 hospital patient beds was originally built since 1975 supported by the Government of Lao PDR aiming to provide healthcare services for soldiers, government officials and general public. Then, this hospital was renovated in 1989, including building a new electronic house, a new house for patients and new two delivery beds. In addition, there are recently additional rooms for emergency, health

examination and laboratory. Xieng Gneun district hospital is primary crucial in providing healthcare services with the sufficient cover vaccines and other primary health care facilities for people living in this area. The services also include consultation for pregnant mothers on nutrition helping to increase awareness of proper eating for both the mother and children.

15:45-17:00 Travel to Luang prabang to visit Orphan School

Location: 1st Bridge Village, LPB province

The orphan school provides a safe place for orphan children as vulnerable group who are affected from HIV/AIDS, poverty and other family issues to gain a better life and education opportunity. The school represents a good example of private contribution and social responsibility. At the school, there are various activities that promote the nutrition in children, including the vegetable gardening by students, cooking lesson as well as other vocational skills.

17:00-17:45 Leave the village and travel back to hotels

17:45-18:00 Pick up at Hotels for dinner Reception

18:00-20:30 Welcome **Baci and Diner Reception** hosted by the Governor of Luang Prabang at Phou Si Hotel

20:30 Closing and travel back to hotels

Thursday, 21st Nov 2013

07:00 – 08:00 Breakfast and pick up all delegates at hotels and check out. It is highly recommended that delegates check out their hotels now.

08:00 – 08:45 Travel to **UXO Office in Luang Prabang District** to visit the displays and activities related to UXO

08:45 – 09:45 Travel to **Hard Khor Village – Pak Ou District**

09:45-10:30 Visit UXO clearance site

Location: Hard Khor Village, Pak Ou District, LPB province

The Lao PDR is, per capita, the most heavily bombed country in the world. Throughout the Indochina War (1964-1973) more than 580,000 bombing missions (or one B52 bombing mission every 8 minutes, 24 hours a day, for 9 years) and wide ranging ground battles, led to over 2 million tons of ordnance being dropped on Lao PDR.



Ban Hat Khor is one of eight villages forming a Khumban in Pak Ou District, LPB province and that is one village seriously affected by UXO. Since 1973, within the ten affected districts of LPB province, 925 people have been recorded as being killed or injured by UXO, of which there has been one fatality in Hat Khor village. Accidents commonly occur in rice fields and village centres and are primarily caused by handling UXO and by setting fires to cook over, or to keep warm. The majority of the UXO in the area are bombs – cluster munitions – and large bombs.

At the site, participants will see a demonstration of equipment and methodologies, UXO in the ground where found), detonation of UXO and observe the Mine Risk Education demo e.g. puppet show, song, dance or lectures to school children/ villagers

10:30 – 11:00 Travel to **Hard Pang Village - Pak Ou District**

11:00 – 12:00 Visit community-based livestock interventions (supported by IFAD/ADB co-financing) **Location:** Had Pang Village, Pak Ou District

Had Pang village is one of the villages in Pak Ou district, which is covered by the land suitable for the agriculture and livestock activities. Therefore, the provincial and district authorities have continuously supported and encouraged people living in this village to improve their livelihoods through the development of livestock productivities profitability. Before the intervention of the Community-based livestock interventions in 2008, Had Pang villagers were under the poor living conditions as they had faced challenges in raising livestock due to the widespread diseases affecting the livestock activities.



Yia Ya is feeding chickens on her farm in Luang Prabang Province, northern Laos.

However, since the community-based livestock project support commenced in 2008, there are significant improvements of the livestock health and productivity as below detailed lists. These improvements also increase livestock products, household incomes and eventually ensure food security in the village.

12:00-13:00 Travel back to Luang Prabang

13:00-14:30 Lunch at Pham Xai Restaurant, Luang Prabang

14:30-15:45 **Visit to Nurse-Midwifery College**
Location: LPB province

Students have been trained and graduated in a midwifery course. The College helps to improve skills in delivering babies under their teachers' guidance at the school, nearby hospital or healthcare centre. This midwifery school significantly contributes to the improvements of maternal and infant care as women giving birth need a skilled attendant who knows how to respond to obstructed labour, haemorrhage, shock and infection, and there needs to be an accessible referral facility.

15:40-18:00 City tour to the Royal Palace and Xieng Thong Temple with local guides (Optional)



The town of LPB was the capital of the old, medieval kingdom Lane Xang, the 'land of the Million Elephants'. There is a Royal Palace left in LPB, which houses today a national museum.

Of all the temples in LPB, Xieng Thong Temple is the most famous and precious. It represents a typical LPB architectural style with its big and unique roofs.



18:40-19:30 Travel back to Vientiane.
Flight from LPB to VTE: QV104 from 18:40-19:30

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