Prevalence and attitudes towards disability in Laos: informing World Education Laos’ CBID approach through findings from a household survey

Presented by: Chandalin Vongvilay (World Education Laos)
LAO PDR (LAOS)
USAID Okard
CBID Demonstration Model

= Community engagement / mobilization + Case management by CBID facilitators
RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What is the impact of disability on level of participation, access to services and wellbeing and what are the barriers that restrict participation and access?

What do people in the community know and believe about disability, and how do they behave about including people with disabilities in their community?
METHODS

QUANTITATIVE

Measurement of:
• **Function**: Washington Group Q
• **MHPSS / Wellbeing**: PHQ2 and SCOPIO
• **Other areas**: Contextual questions

2-stage random sampling
Screening and Long Form

QUALITATIVE

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice
Contextual interview guide

Purposive sampling
Related stakeholders and community representatives
SAMPLE SIZE

QUANTITATIVE

2 districts

5,173 persons screened

648 persons answered full survey

QUALITATIVE

42 Interviews:

In-depth interviews and Focus group discussions
RESULTS: PREVALENCE OF DISABILITIES*

*Disability variables were created using Washington Group protocols and the recommended (DISABILITY3) threshold, where ‘a lot of difficulty’ or ‘cannot do at all’ on any one variable considers that person to have a disability.
RESULTS: DOMAINS OF DIFFICULTIES IN FUNCTIONING

Kham

- Seeing: 11.9%
- Hearing: 4.7%
- Mobility: 7.5%
- Remembering: 1.0%
- Self-care: 3.0%
- Communication: 6.4%

Xayphouthong

- Seeing: 14.9%
- Hearing: 4.1%
- Mobility: 9.6%
- Remembering: 16.0%
- Self-care: 1.9%
- Communication: 1.0%
RESULTS: CORRELATES OF DISABILITY EDUCATION

Person without disabilities*
- Currently attending: 80%
- Attended before: 18%

Person with disabilities*
- Currently attending: 55%
- Attended before: 25%
- Never attended: 20%

*School aged children
RESULTS: CORRELATES OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AND LIVING STANDARDS

Higher level of difficulties in functioning

Less likely to be currently working or have paid work*

More likely to have lower living standards*

*When controlling: sex, age, place of residence, education level
RESULTS: ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

Needed health care, in last 3 months

- Persons without disabilities: 28%
- Persons with disabilities: 56%

Able to access healthcare as needed

- Persons without disabilities: 97%
- Persons with disabilities: 91%
RESULTS: ACCESS TO REHABILITATION

Persons with disabilities

- As much as needed: 63%
- Less than needed: 37%

Persons without disabilities

- As much as needed: 81%
- Less than needed: 19%
RESULTS: COMMUNITY ATTITUDES TOWARD DISABILITIES

Despite the outward facing positive messaging from respondents that people with disability are treated the same as people without disabilities, stigma and prejudice against people with disability in the target communities was evident.

‘otherness’
(‘different’)
deficit-based understanding

‘stamped’ or ‘labelled’
by their impairment
Baseline results measure current situation

Results confirm the need for planned interventions and twin-track approach, and provide opportunity for fine-tuning

End line study will measure change and effectiveness of model

IMPLICATIONS: PROGRAMMING
THANK YOU
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

• chandalin_vongvilay@la.worlded.org (MEL coordinator, WEI)
• bernard_franck@la.worlded.org (Chief of Party, WEI)
• donna_koolmees@la.worlded.org (Senior Technical Advisor, WEI)
• wesley.pryor@unimelb.edu.au (Nossal Institute for Global Health)
• liem.nguyen@unimelb.edu.au (Nossal Institute for Global Health)