



Individual Profile

Mr. Dasai VONGVIXA

**Mennonite Central Committee's project coordinator on
Strengthening Conflict Resolution in the Village
in Houaphan province.**

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which is the main motivation that makes me participate in this project."

About him:

Mr. Dasai VONGVIXA is one of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)'s staff. He is a coordinator of the project on Strengthening Conflict Resolution in the Village in Houaphan province. Previously, Dasai started as a volunteer in the Peace Project at MCC. After graduating in 2017, he applied to be the coordinator of the project on Strengthening Conflict Resolution in the Village in Houaphan. Since he has lived in rural areas and has been a volunteer of MCC before, he is interested in applying to join this project. Also, Dasai is a person who likes unity and loves peaceful coexistence, which is the main motivation that makes him participate in this project.

How the project has changed the community:

In the overview from 2020 to now, it can be seen that the Village Mediation Unit in Ban Na Jong has become more intensive. For example, the training for the first mediation unit, it was seen that only a small part of them expressed their opinions, answered questions and tried to implement the mediation according to the principles. It is now seen that they are more involved in commenting, question-and-answer and practice, they have strength in education and skills in handling more cases based on the decree.



Overview of the project:

The Strengthening Conflict Resolution in the Village Project has been implemented in 3 districts such as Xam Nuea, Xam Tai and Houa Mueang in Houaphan Province since 2017, which is currently in the end of Phase II. Initially, before the project came in, mediation units in the project area conducted mediation according to their customs and wisdom. However, traditional mediation is successful and satisfying only occasionally because sometimes it results in some parties benefiting and the other party losing benefits. In the past, the project has provided training in both knowledge and important skills to village-level mediation units in target area.

For example, this project at Na Jong Village, Xam Nuea District started in the second phase of 2020. The project has organized training for the village conflict mediation unit. It also emphasized the rights, roles and duties of the mediation unit and the skills of mediation because they already have the knowledge, only the project to provide assistance in training them skills and carry out mediation procedures according to the decree that the Ministry of Justice has stated which will be in accordance with the principles of mediation.

What has impressed him the most:

Dasai said, "There are many things that impressed me in this project because I like to work in the community, so I like to travel, seeing people living together peacefully and being able to compromise when there is a conflict and the conflict unit being able to perform their rights and duties well, being able to spread knowledge to the people and maintain unity and love in the village. Although the mediation units have the strength to carry out the work, it will be necessary to learn the various relevant laws consistently to guide their mediation and to give the parties confidence. Also, the mediation units should include women in the committee for equality and protection of women's rights, and help resolve conflicts and educate women who have conflicts in the village."

What he has learnt:

Dasai also stated, "Through participating in this project from the beginning, I have learned a lot and have used various knowledge in my own life and work, especially skills in mediation, compromise, question-and-answer, gathering unity and knowing gender equality through this work which I can also bring experience and lessons such as Na Jong Village to disseminate and develop village level conflict mediation units in other target areas in the future to make large-scale conflicts smaller and small-scale conflicts to be resolved so as not to cause any lawsuits."



How Dasai has engaged with LIWG:

Recently, Dasai has been engaged with the Land Information Working Group (LIWG) through information from online channels because he is interested in customary land use and it contributes to his work. His boss also recommended him to attend a training organized by LIWG on the legal calendar. Attending training is very beneficial, it helps gaining new knowledge and skills to work. Dasai also said that information from LIWG is very important if accessible at the local level. However, in reality, many local areas still do not have access to such information as they should, which there should be an open way for them to access more information so that they can recognize and protect their rights.

How the activities will go on under PIASVC:

Based on this activity at the end of Phase II of the project which will end soon. However, it will continue under the new project which is the PIASVC project, which we have set a new target area with villages. For things that we do well, we will continue and will involve lessons about gender and gender equality into the new project. It can be seen that the activities under the project will be to increase the performance, expand the building more intensive village mediation units, reach the people so that they know the rights and roles of the mediation unit and encourage them to use the services of the mediation unit when there is a conflict. Also, it will create new learning opportunities such as new project areas, especially the customs, belief and lifestyle of the people for myself and other colleagues.

How Dasai engages others:

"Finally, I would like to ask other civil society organizations and government sectors to pay more attention in doing more project activities in Houaphan province, especially in remote areas where people still lack the opportunity to access information and study legal content about land, gender equality, etc. which civil society organizations should support funding and create activities that encourage them to live in same standards as people in other areas and see together how we will be able to transform their lives according to traditions to live together peacefully and happily."



Mr. Dasai Vongvixa

A project coordinator on strengthening the village conflict mediation unit in Xamnuea district, Houaphan province.

In partnership with:



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