

# Improving education for all children



Education is central to poverty eradication. It was identified as a key focus area in the Lao Government's Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy. Education is not only a powerful tool in providing improved earning opportunities, it can also play an important role in improving health and social well-being outcomes.

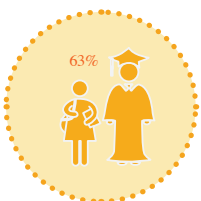
## FAST FACTS



Population under age 20: **50%**



National budget allocation to education among the lowest in the world: **2.3% GDP**



Literacy rate for women: **63%**



Primary school enrolment rate : **95.2 %**



Survival rate to grade 5 in 2012: **70%**



## WHAT WE DO

World Vision emphasizes the importance of educating children at an early age and implements projects that strengthen children's learning abilities. We work with teachers to improve their teaching abilities. We engage parents and community leaders to become more involved in school planning and management activities.

We aim to ensure that all boys and girls can read and write by the age of 12 and equip them with essential life skills. We are currently focusing on the following activities:

### Improving the quality of education for all children

- Promoting the value of education to government and community stakeholders including school management committees, teachers, parents and village authorities.
- Supporting effective teaching by training and enhancing the skills of the teachers and helping them adjust their curriculum to be more student-centered and locally relevant.
- Supporting school infrastructure projects – including building new schools and renovating old schools. We provide schools with furniture, blackboards, teaching guide books, text books, school uniforms, note books, pens and pencils.
- Equipping village development committees to ensure school facilities are maintained.

- Preparing 3 to 5 year olds for school with our early childhood program.
- Supporting community learning centres that provide villagers with access to reading materials and enabling informal education groups that train people, especially women, in literacy skills, child protection, and group skills.
- Offering children access to experiences that promote learning in the village, scholarships, school exchanges, peer-to-peer coaching, video, radio, drama, singing and group reading.



## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN FY14

WorldVision has trained 503 teachers, 24 head masters and 645 village volunteers and has constructed 18 new schools and 8 school toilets. We have also constructed bore holes, water pumps and access roads, all of which have actively supported local government to meet goal 2 of the MDGs, with 85% of boys and girls having completed five years of primary education in our target areas in comparison to a national average of 75%.



## STORY

'Education is important' Khanvaline scrawls in Lao script, wearing a look of determination on her face. At 14, Khanvaline's determination has got her far. She's the only person in her family to reach Grade 9. Her older siblings had left school by this point, driven to find work and support her mother and grandmother who were raising the family alone.

WorldVision encourages children to focus on their education and helps parents become aware of the benefits of education for their family's future.

With the support of her sisters and World Vision, Khanvaline has poured over her textbooks, made school friends and pushed through primary school. She has received school material, books and a school uniform from World Vision, to help ease the economic burden on her mother.

Today, Khanvaline focuses on the future. She dreams of the day when she has graduated high school, when she will finally enter teacher's college.

"When I'm a teacher, I'll come to teach children in my village," she says.

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