



## Teaching Learning Workshop was offered!

“We want to improve the teacher’s way of teaching” This desire has come up many times during problem analysis conducted by District Education and Sports Bureau (DESB), teachers and Village Education Development Committee (VEDC). In order to respond to this demand, we carried out a workshop for trainers of Provincial Education and Sports Services (PESS) and for DESB trainers in the period from December 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This workshop aims at improving the teaching skills of teachers for each grade and subject. This will contribute for all students to complete primary education and prevents them from dropping out the school or repeating the same grade.

In Laos, the training for unqualified teachers has been the priority. On the other hand, the system for the in-service teacher training has not been established yet. Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) has been offering

the in-service training for teachers but only within the budget provided by CIED1 and other development partners. As a result, there are many teachers who have never taken teacher training after they finished their study at teacher training institutes.

Here is what MoES considers as one of the most serious problems. There are few teachers who can think “Teachers should support students to make them reach the answer by thinking on their own.” Many teachers think “I already taught the students. After that, it is student’s responsibility whether they can understand the lessons or not.”



In addition, some teachers choose very easy activities in Teacher’s Guide and do the lessons just because students take time to solve the middle or difficult level of activities. As a result the students cannot reach the purpose of each lesson. The students who are not well familiar with basic knowledge tend to fail the examinations and then drop out the classes or repeat the same grade. There are many reasons for the students to drop out or repeat their grade. But it’s a big problem that the teachers are not aware of themselves choosing easy activities for their own sake.



Due to all these reasons, Teaching Learning Workshop aims that teachers will understand the purpose of each lesson in order for the students to reach the goal of each grade. There are two Teaching Learning Workshop handbooks.

In the first handbook, the teachers can learn the curriculum and how to organize student-centered teaching-learning, make good questions, good materials and learning environment for the students, how to assess students' learning achievement and how to make lesson plans. In the second handbook teacher learns how to teach each subject to the students.



### **Training of Trainers for Teaching-Learning Workshop**

Participants of the Training of Trainers for Teaching-Learning Workshop are around 50 trainers from CIED II, consisting of Pedagogical Advisors (PA) and trainers from Unit of Pre-primary and General Education and Teacher Development of each district and province. Most of the staffs in PESS and DESB used to work as a teacher before then got promoted to their current position, which means they have fruitful teaching experiences. Thus when it comes to Teaching Learning Workshop, they discuss the topics very actively each other. Master trainers are from Department of Pre-primary and Primary Education (DPPE), Department of Teacher Education (DTE) and Research Institute for Education Science (RIES) in MoES.

One of the most actively discussed topics by participants was on how to develop the lesson plan in order for students to reach the purpose of each lesson. Another discussed topic was about how to teach at multiple grade classes. Many schools that have challenging problems are located in rural areas. There are many teachers from those areas who want to improve their teaching skill in multi-grade classes.



In this Teaching Learning Workshop, we have improved the module by adding what we had learned from JICA technical cooperation project called "ITSME" (Project for Improving In-service Teacher Training for Science and Mathematics Education).

In this workshop, PESS and DESB trainers learned a lot from MoES master trainers and other participants with fruitful experiences by exchanging their opinions and sharing their own experiences. We conducted 10-day sessions of actual Teaching Learning Workshop for teachers at the end of January 2014, which is during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester school holidays.

### **Teaching-Learning Workshop for school teachers**

Teaching-Learning Workshop for school teachers was conducted to 10 schools each 10 district for 10 days from January 27<sup>th</sup> to February 5<sup>th</sup>. For the school teachers whose schools have high repetition rates, PESS and DESB trainers, who attended Training of Trainers for Teaching-Learning workshop, conducted a workshop. In each district, teachers actively participated in the workshop and discussed many topics with other teachers and trainers. During the workshop the question such as "We use a learning-corner to put the educational materials in order to promote the student's self-motivated learning in a classroom. How can we make the learning-corner in the multi-grade classes?" was raised up. Another participated teacher suggested that they could put the same subject together but put them on the different places or height in the learning-corner. During the workshop they could learn from other participated teachers each other led by trained trainers.



### **CONTACT**

Waiting for your comments!

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