



Installation of pipelines and construction of a reservoir

- Sustainable development project

Laos, Nampath

The aim of the project is to provide access to piped, quality drinking water for the entire village of Nampath, which has a population of around 500. After finding a natural spring in a nearby mountain, the villagers worked with the local authorities and with the support of AIC Japan to install pipes and build a reservoir to bring the water to the village.

Context

Nampath villagers have experienced anguish due to water shortages for a number of years, most significantly during the dry season. In searching for potential water sources, they discovered the source of a natural spring in the nearby mountain. In 2014, the Nampath villagers, facilitated by the local leaders, initially proposed the water pipelines project. The local leaders and AIC Laos conducted preliminary visits. A feasibility study was conducted to determine whether the project was realistic.

In 2017, a representative of AIC Japan made visits and had meetings with local leaders.

The responses and recommendations from the meetings were taken into consideration for further study and discernment, in order to come up with prudent and wise decisions. Finally, from the beginning of the year 2019, aware of the immediate expressed need, the proposed program was approved and financially supported by AIC Japan.



Key figures

- 81 households with 86 families
- 534 residents in total



Local partners

- AIC Japan
- Local authorities of Nampath

Project theme and activities

The construction of the reservoir at the spring site was initiated and followed by the installation of the PVC pipelines. Each household had contributed voluntary free labour to assist the construction of the reservoir by carrying gravel, sand, cement and pipes to almost the top of mountain which is 6.2km from where the flowing spring is situated.

The village finally gained access to drinking water but unfortunately this only lasted less than a month due to the pandemic and the construction of highways and railroads to the neighbouring countries through this village, which slowed down the construction of the reservoir.

Future prospects

Given the circumstances, volunteers, the local authorities and AIC have agreed to re-route the pipelines with the great hope of getting potable water back to the village to improve the sanitary conditions of these underprivileged villagers. Unity and cooperation will lead to the progress and success of the project.