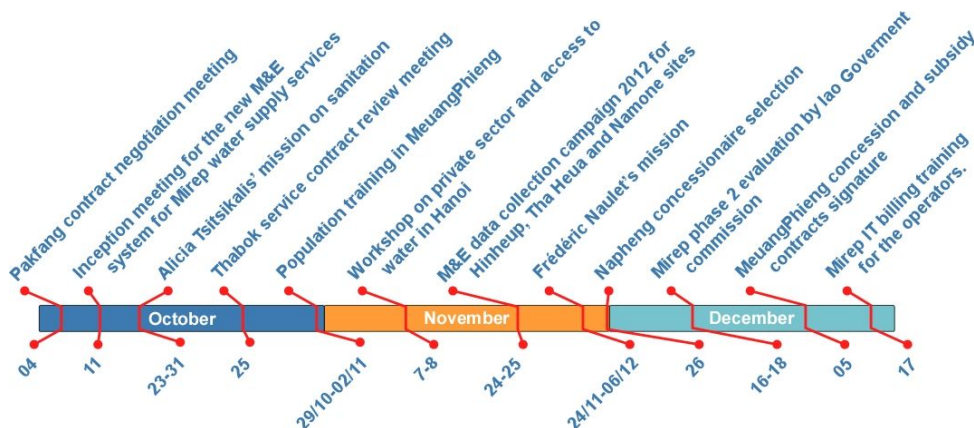


MIREP PROJECT

SMALL SCALE PIPED WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION PROGRAMME IN SMALL TOWNS UNDER PPP SCHEME

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Timeline of major events



Launching of the monitoring and evaluation programme for the water supply services

Last November, the water supply regulatory office (Wasro) assisted by Gret, defined a new program of performance monitoring for the water services managed under delegation contract.

The Wasro has established a list of key performance indicators and the schedule for the monitoring of the three pilot sites: HinHeup, Namone and Thaheua. The Wasro assigned to the monitoring of PPP has already collected the first operation data. 2013 performance monitoring reports will be produced shortly. The results of this monitoring will be presented to local authorities and to concessionaires at the annual concession contracts review meetings (contract review meeting).

This year, and for the first time, Wasro has included water services under the PPP contract in its annual benchmarking report, which covered up to now, only water services managed by state enterprises.

New water services activities progress

- The construction work of the future drinking water system of **Meuang Pa** has progressed at a good pace. The surface water treatment plant will be completed early next year, and the concessionaire is expected to start the operation of the service in April 2014.
- The first serie of community training was organized in the villages of **Meuang-Phieng** late October. Concession and subsidy contracts were signed on December 5th in the presence of Mr. Somvan, the director of Wasro. The investment subsidy for this site includes an exceptional contribution of \$ 15,000 from the provincial budget, the government had wished to take account of the scale of the project.

MIREP

MIREP programme is implemented under the responsibility of the **Department of Housing and Urban Planning (DHUP)** – Started in 2004, Mirep aims at developing the access to safe water supply and sanitation in small towns of Laos through small-scale piped water schemes managed under Public Private Partnership (PPP). Between 2004 and 2011, eight water supply services were set-up (Mirep phases 1 & 2), and also one sewer and one solid waste management service.

In 2012, Mirep enters in a 3rd phase with the objective to establish 9 additional water supply systems in 3 provinces.

Mirep 3 is funded by the Syndicat des Eaux d'Iles de France (SEDIF), the Agence de l'Eau Seine Normandie (AESN), **Aquassistance**, provincial authorities and local entrepreneurs.



Community training in MeuangPhieng site in November



Working session with Wasro on the monitoring and evaluation programme of water services performances

- The concessionaire of Napheng was selected on November 26 following a bidding procedure. The review of the detailed design is in progress.
- The transfer of Pakfang concession contract to the concessionaire of Nonesavanh site was approved by the Governor of Vientiane province. The contract negotiation meeting was held in early October. The concessionaire wants to start the construction work jointly on both sites, Pakfang and Nonesavanh.

The choice of the water source for Nonesavanh site is not done yet, public authorities are considering an alternative option.

- The work progress in Pak Ngum site is slow, the concessionaire is still facing difficulties in recruiting laborers and for the financing of his contribution. The last installment of the subsidy (AEP2 project) was paid in October.

Mirep 2 sites

- The drinking water service in Senxoum started operation in the first village in November. 35 households were already connected at the end of December. The work continues to serve other villages. Training sessions for the concessionaire were conducted on the topic of commercial management based on the new version of the MIREP billing application.
- The detailed design of Hinheup water scheme extension has been validated by the provincial technical authorities. The materials are on site and the work should start in January. The expansion project includes the construction of a surface water treat-

Progress of sanitation activities

The sanitation strategy of Gret Laos was updated last October during the mission of Gret expert Alicia Tsitsikalis.

In consultation with the department of housing and urban planning and local districts authorities, it was decided to focus the interventions on the management of sludge and solid waste as well as access to the sanitation and hygiene through "market" approaches, suitable for small emerging towns.

This strategy will result in new activities in the continuity of the projects undertaken during Phase 2.

Thus, the sanitation component will be implemented in three districts:



- **Hinheup**, Vientiane Province, small-bore sewer system and faecal sludge management,
- **Thapabath**, Bolikhamxay province, solid waste management and landfill maintenance,
- **Phiang**, Sayabouri province, sanimarketing for the development of access to sanitation and hygiene in the households.

The first activities will be implemented next quarter.

Map of the Mirep sanitation and hygiene activities



Concession and subsidy contracts signature in Meuang-Phiang



Water quality testing by Senxoum operator



The water treatment plant of MeuangPa

...ET NEXT QUARTER

- Community training in Nonesavanh and Pakfang.
- Organisation of the provincial steering committees.
- Signature of the concession and subsidy contracts of Pakfang and Nonesavanh.
- Launching of the construction work in Pakfang, Meuang Phiang, Nonesavanh and Hinheup.
- Launching of the feasibility studies in Phasang and Nampheun in Vientiane Province.
- Launching of the sanitation activities in Phiang and Thapabath districts.

WITH THE SUPPORT FROM :



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