

Impact Story



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizza

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Beneficiary

"The lessons I learned directly apply to my job, and I feel proud of what I am doing."

- Keokoumpa Meuangmany

Image: Keokoumpa Meuangmany Credit: Swisscontact

Keokoumpa Meuangmany is the perfect example of a success story of the ESS coaching cycle program offered by Swisscontact's VTESS project. Initially struggling to find stability in life due to family conditions, he found security and purpose after completing the program.

Through his dedication and determination, Meuangmany was able to secure a job as an electronic and vehicle maintenance technician at the Akung Shop in Salavan.

"I not only gained the necessary job skills in the program, but I also was given the opportunity for a month-long training session at a local shop in Salavan," he said.

Meuangmany is now capable of working on a wide range of vehicles, including motorcycles, tractors, electric motorcycles, grass cutters, pumps, and other assignments. He credits the program for giving him the confidence to communicate effectively with customers and the shop owners. He said, "I can apply the lessons I learned directly to do my job, and I feel proud of what I am doing." Despite facing some initial challenges such as unfamiliar work and tools, he was able to overcome these obstacles with the support of a staff member whom he considers a father figure. He said it took him about three months to work efficiently in his role.



Image: Keokoumpa Meuangmany changing motorbike oil. Credit: Swisscontact







Looking toward the future, Meuangmany is eager to improve his skills and gain more experience, especially in tractor maintenance.

"I plan to save money and start my own mechanic shop in the next five years," he said.

Meuangmany now earns 1,500,000 kip per month and said he is grateful for the opportunities that the ESS program provided and is proud of what he has accomplished.

> Image : Keokoumpa Meuangmany was fixing a grass cutter. Credit: Swisscontact



Inception phase:August 2019 - March 2020Project duration:August 2019 - November 2023 (4 years)Funded by:Swiss Agency for Development and CooperationImplementer:Consortium Swisscontact / Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Key implementing governmental partners:

- Ministry of Education and Sports MoES (Lead)
- Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare MoLSW

Target Groups:

- Main: Early school-leavers young people (15-35 years of age) who have completed primary school only and are deprived socially and economically.
- Wider: Teachers from IVET schools, staff from job centres or similar institutions (career counsellors, job coaches, community or youth workers, village facilitators <u>and social workers</u>).



