

Wetlands preservation under scrutiny

Sisouphan Amphonephong

The first meeting of the secretariat of the Ramsar National Management Authority took place in Vientiane yesterday to discuss progress made since Laos acceded to the Ramsar Convention in September, 2010.

The meeting was convened to inform all committee members and stakeholders of the significance of wetlands as well as Laos' commitment to manage and use the resources wisely. The meeting discussed the Ramsar Convention and institutional arrangements for wetland management, including the roles of concerned institutions.

The discussions come ahead of a meeting on World Wetlands Day on February 2.

Deputy Prime Minister and President of the National Environment Committee and Ramsar Management

Authority, Mr Asang Laoly, chaired the meeting.

Mr Asang said Laos' commitments towards implementing the Ramsar Convention included the need for strategic planning for wetland management.

"Laos officially became a party to the Ramsar Convention on September 28, 2010, and two wetland sites of global importance were nominated - Beung Khiat Ngong in Champassak province and Xe Champhone in Savannakhet province," he said.

He also said that in joining the convention, Laos designated the country's first two wetland areas of national significance.

From an environmental conservation perspective, wetlands perform several important functions for the local ecosystem such as flood control, maintaining ground water, purifying water

and providing a habitat for thousands of species of fauna and flora.

"Wetlands are one of the world's most productive ecosystems housing incredible biological diversity. Wetlands are essential for providing subsistence and generating incomes for the people living on them," Mr Asang said.

"Much of Laos' rural population lives near wetlands and depends on them for rice farming, fishing and countless other livelihood activities."

"The government is committed to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention through the protection of its vital natural resources, especially its wetlands, and through appropriate support of local livelihoods and national development over the long term," he added.

Xe Champhone supports the largest population in Laos of the critically endangered



Mr Asang Laoly talks about the importance of wetlands.

Siamese crocodile, while Beung Khiat Ngong includes the unique wetland habitat 'peatland'. It is the largest area of peatland found in the country and contains a rich reserve of fish species important to the livelihoods of local communities.

The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971 is an

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Transport officials to carry out bus safety checks

Somsack Pongkhao

Transport officials will inspect all buses departing from main bus stations in a bid to ensure passenger safety and minimise road accidents.

The move is in line with a Ministry of Public Works and Transport regulation issued in response to a number of fatal bus accidents on Laos' roads in recent years.

Deputy Director General of the ministry's Transport Department, Mr Buaphet Xayasan, said yesterday officials would not only check that buses are roadworthy, but also ensure the driver is fit to undertake a long journey.

Inspectors will also assess the way luggage is loaded on the roofs of buses to prevent overloading and see that it is safely secured.

"For the buses' mechanical condition, we will check the lights, brakes and horn," he said, adding that any bus that fails to meet standards will not be allowed to leave the bus station without undergoing repairs.

Vice President of Vientiane's Northern Bus Association Mr Thongphan Phommalith said most buses in Laos are quite old, so mechanical checks are very important to ensure safety.

In the worst cases, some buses are modified to carry more passengers to make them more profitable, but without approval from the Ministry of Public Works and Transport.

Experts agree that the ministry needs to monitor the modification of buses as changes can affect vehicle safety standards.

Bus accidents occur every year in Laos, usually caused by mechanical failure or drivers falling asleep or speeding at night.

In November last year, a fully loaded 25-seat bus travelling from Oudomxay to Luang Prabang skidded off a hillside road in Kachet village in Nambak district, Luang Prabang province, about 500km north of Vientiane. The accident killed 18 people and injured seven others.

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Pigs, poultry sufficient for New Year festivities

Khamphone Syvongxay

The Agriculture and Food Processing Association has confirmed that the supply of pigs and poultry will meet consumer needs over the Chinese and Vietnamese New Year this week.

Association President Mr Phouvong Korakan told *Vientiane Times* last week the Chinese and Vietnamese New Year is always celebrated in Laos, and the association is confident that livestock farms will be able to supply enough meat to satisfy public demand.

Vientiane market vendors said the price of piglets and poultry would increase during the period of high demand.

Pig prices at farms are now stable at 19,000 kip per kg, while cut pork in the market is 33,000 kip per kg, said Mr Phouvong.

Vientiane usually sources pigs from Khammuan and Borikhamxay provinces if pig farms in the city cannot supply the market.

Traders and vendors in many markets are always ready to work harder to prepare pork and poultry products for sale over the New Year, because they always bring good sales.

Owner of Vientiane's Nongdouang slaughterhouse,



Pork prices are stable at the farm but are rising in markets.

Mr Ackson Naleuphay, said January 29-31 would see a big increase in the number of pigs brought to slaughter.

The slaughterhouse normally kills about 70-80 pigs a day, but this would increase to about 100 pigs a day for the New Year festivities.

"Each year we have to kill more pigs because of high demand from people throwing parties or holding ceremonies," said Mr Ackson.

After the New Year, the

slaughterhouse anticipates business will return to normal. Mr Ackson said business always increases during special occasions. But Donedou slaughterhouse would not increase the number of pigs it kills for Chinese and Vietnamese New Year, as there were already enough pigs to meet demand, said owner Mr Khampeun Singkavongxay.

He said 50-60 pigs were killed at his slaughterhouse every day as competition with

other facilities in Vientiane was stiff.

"Several years ago, my slaughterhouse killed more than 100 pigs a day for market sale, but now many private slaughterhouses have been set up," Mr Khampeun said.

A Vientiane resident, Mr Sithone, said his family always found that pork and poultry got more expensive when they celebrated special events, but the price soon returned to normal.

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Home news

Champassak ups tobacco control efforts

Times Reporters

Champassak province is gearing up to campaign for the proper practice of the Law on Tobacco Control, which came into effect on December 10, 2009.

The Ministry of Health, together with the Ministry of Justice and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency held a meeting last week at the provincial administration office.

Office Deputy Head Mr Bounsy Chitpasong and Deputy Director General of the Law Advertising Department of the Ministry of Justice Mr Boulom Douangmala co-chaired the meeting.

The objective of the meeting was to implement the provincial programme for controlling tobacco from 2000. It also set about realising the provincial governor's regulation on tobacco control, dated May 8, 2008.

A campaign will be launched to show the dangers of tobacco to young people and encourage them not to smoke. This is in response to the Law on Tobacco Control, particularly Articles 31-38,

which indicate that tobacco is a serious obstacle to economic development.

The law states that hospitals and schools should be 100 percent non-smoking zones, while government and private offices, restaurants and entertainment venues should define specific zones for smokers.

The 43 participants from various sectors in the province agreed that the meeting was very important to protect people from the negative impacts of tobacco.

According to a Ministry of Health survey conducted in 2005, 40 percent or 1.5 million Lao people under 18 years of age smoke, with 67 percent of those being male. The survey also found that 14.4 percent of students aged between the ages of 13 and 15 smoke.

According to statistics from the World Health Organisation, there are an estimated 1.3 billion smokers worldwide. The statistics also state that about 5 million people around the world die every year, and 14,000 people every day, from smoking-related illnesses.

Drug dealers to face prosecution

Times Reporters

A case involving three drug dealers detained in Vientiane will be submitted to the prosecutor's office within a week, a senior investigator has said.

Investigating officers in Xaysettha district, Vientiane, are finalising documents and evidence for submission to the prosecutor's office, Deputy Head of the district's Investigation Division, Police Lieutenant Somsanouk Theuakphimon, told the Vientiane Times yesterday.

In the meantime police will continue their investigation into the activities of the drug network as they believe there are others involved.

The case began on July 30 last year when traffic police stopped and examined a motorbike near That Luang stupa and found 600 amphetamine tablets and 3,000 Thai baht under the seat, Lt Somsanouk said.

In control of the motorbike was Mr Soukvilay, 17, a student at Xangkhou Upper Secondary School in Xaythany district, Vientiane.

Mr Soukvilay confessed to obtaining the amphetamines from a dealer in Saphanthong village and said he was taking them to his customers in

Choumphet village, Sisattanak district.

The investigation resulted in the arrest of two adult accomplices.

Investigators believe that the three were only small-time dealers rather than producers, the Police Lieutenant said, reiterating that they will continue to search for the ringleaders.

Since 2009, 202 drug cases have been recorded in Vientiane, according to an official.

However, he declined to say how many cases involved students, stating that an official request needed to be submitted to obtain this information.

Mr Hongkeo Thammavong, of the Vientiane Education Department, estimates that some 1,000 students out of about 10,000 in the 14 secondary schools in Vientiane are involved in drug use.

He said this trend is likely to increase as some schools that used to be drug-free are now seeing a resurgence of drug abuse.

"Xaysettha Secondary School used to be drug-free but as we prepared to declare the school as such it reported a case of drug possession," he told the Vientiane Times.

Health institute appoints new director

Times Reporters

Newly appointed Director General of the National Institute of Public Health, Associate Professor Dr Kongsap Akkhavong, said he would continue to strive for effective health research to benefit the Lao people in years to come.

Dr Kongsap was speaking at a ceremony last week to hand over directorship of the institute from Professor Dr Bounnong Bounpha, who was promoted to Deputy Head of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National Assembly's sixth legislature.

"I realise that my work will be hard but it is an honour. I would like to thank the leadership of the Ministry of Health for trusting and appointing me as the director of the institute," Dr Kongsap said.

He added that his skills may be different from Dr Bounnong's, but he would do his best to lead health research at the institute in an effective way, especially by encouraging solidarity among the staff to achieve the institute's goals.



Outgoing Public Health Institute Director Dr Bounnong Bounpha (left) and new Director Dr Kongsap Akkhavong sign a document to hand over the position, while Dr Pommek Dalalay (centre) looks on.

Foreign Affairs Commission Deputy Head Dr Bounnong said she was honoured that the National Assembly had appointed her to her new position.

"I have grown up in the health sector for more than 30 years. I want to thank the Ministry of Health for giving me opportunities to attend various global health meetings throughout my time working here. These have helped me develop my knowledge and

skills," she said.

Dr Bounnong asked Dr Kongsap to continue to improve the quality of health research for the future, including creating high level curricula for bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and doctorates.

At the ceremony, Minister of Health Dr Pommek Dalalay advised Dr Kongsap and Dr Bounnong to strive for achievement in their future work.

"The new director of the institute should expand the positive outcomes of health research, leading the field professionally, effectively and at a high standard," said Dr Pommek.

He also noted that Dr Bounnong's new position gave a good opportunity to present the importance of health sector development in the National Assembly and include the views of the sector in future policy planning.

Road accidents kill 91 in January

Times Reporters

Road accidents killed 91 people in Laos during January, up from 70 in the same month last year, according to a report from the Ministry of Public Security's Traffic Police Department.

The number of accidents throughout the country last month reached 633, an increase of about 13.7 percent compared to January last year, despite enhanced road safety campaigns and increased vehicle inspections ahead of festivities.

The total cost of road accidents in January reached almost 6 billion kip, according to the report.

Vientiane reported the highest number of accidents with 201, resulting in 29 deaths, followed by Champassak province with 72 accidents and 14 deaths.

Savannakhet province ranked third with 57 accidents and seven deaths, while 52 accidents and four deaths were reported in Luang Prabang province.

Eight people were killed in both Borikhamxay and Saravan provinces, which reported 38 and 21 accidents respectively.

Only six accidents occurred in both Phongsaly and Xayaboury provinces, with one death in the former and two in the latter.

Huaphan and Xekong provinces each reported no fatalities and only a low number of accidents during January.

The number of fatalities in January this year was higher than in any month of 2010. In November and May of last year, 25 people were killed on the nation's roads.

Vientiane Police Headquarters Chief Colonel Dr Bounxou Nammachack told Vientiane Times recently that while the number of

robberies and other crimes has decreased in the capital, the number of road accidents continues to rise.

He said public concern has sparked authorities into addressing the issue.

In 2010, the number of road accidents in Vientiane reached 1,812, an increase of 4 percent on the previous year. The accidents resulted in 225 fatalities, an increase of 29.7 percent on 2009, while 3,583 people suffered injuries.

Police said the main cause of road accidents is motorists' failure to respect traffic regulations, particularly by driving at high speed and drink-driving.

In Vientiane, most fatalities occur in suburban areas and are due to excessive speed, according to the capital's traffic police office. Most accidents occur between 5 and 11pm, with fewer accidents recorded in the morning, despite the large number of vehicles on the road in the rush hour.

Vientiane typically has the highest number of road accidents due to the greater number of vehicles, belonging not only to residents but to people from the provinces.

Traffic police said road safety campaigns sometimes fail to reach motorists living outside Vientiane.

Police said the accident was caused by brake failure, causing the bus to veer off the road and plunge about 70 metres down a hillside into a river.

Also last year, two public buses collided in Thakhek district, Khammuan province, killing four people and injuring eight others.

Those who died were all women and included the owners of both buses. The accident was judged to be the result of driver fatigue.

President of the Vientiane Southern Bus Association Mr Khamsaen Thammavong said the transport ministry

issued the regulation on bus inspections several months ago, but implementation had only just begun.

One article of the regulation stipulates that luggage or goods loaded on the top of buses can be no higher than 60cm, but previously some buses were being loaded with two to three metres of cargo, according to Mr Khamsaen.

The regulation also states that any bus travelling 400km or more must carry two drivers, allowing them to alternate to avoid accidents caused by fatigue.

Wetlands preservation...

FROM PAGE 1

intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

There are presently 158 contracting parties to the convention, with 1,828

wetland sites totalling 169 million hectares.

The meeting was attended by high ranking government officials from the relevant ministries and provincial authorities, along with members of the Ramsar Convention Management Authority.

Transport officials...

FROM PAGE 1

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In brief

Xekong tackles illiteracy

The Xekong provincial education service has released its plan to solve the growing problem of illiteracy in Lamam district. According to a report from the local education office yesterday the new education strategy plan will be implemented in over 40 villages by the end of this year, for a five year period (2011-2015). Lamam district has more than 26,000 residents, of whom around 2,500 people aged 15-40 are literate. The service will focus on removing the fundamental obstacles to literacy, such as socio-economic conditions that perpetuate poverty. Illiteracy must be eradicated in order for the province to develop. In the 2005-06 academic year, over 5,000 people aged 15-40 were estimated to be illiterate, a large increase from the 2001-02 figure of only 990 illiterates.

Changeable weather causes crop loss in Attapeu

Hundreds of families in Phouvong district, Attapeu province, have recently struggled to earn a living from their cassava and vegetable crops due to the variable weather conditions. According to a recent report from the local media yesterday many crops have been affected by the dry weather because farmers lack the know-how to deal with the changes. However, high demand has given some farmers in other parts of the province a competitive edge. They can produce crops of good quality and have access to cheap transport.

Borikhamxay villages set to be poverty-free by 2015

Many rural families in Pakxan district, Borikhamxay province, expect to eradicate all poverty by the end of 2015 and hope to be declared model villages of poverty eradication within the next five years. According to a report from the district authority, to create more model villages by 2020, authorities will implement the government's policy of merging small villages into larger units, enabling people to work more efficiently towards freedom from poverty. The districts' residents are planning to work closely with local authorities to strengthen education, improve primary healthcare, introduce cooperative saving funds, improve infrastructure and develop farming and livestock. Local people are being informed about more efficient farming techniques, saving funds and raising livestock by staff from the provincial Agriculture and Forestry Department's agriculture promotion unit.

World Wetlands Day celebrated in Champassak

Times Reporters

This year World Wetlands Day celebrations came to Beung Kiat Ngong Wetlands in Champassak province, one of the first sites in Laos recognised under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

The theme for World Wetlands Day 2011 is "Forests for Water and Wetlands", recognising the vital role played by forests in the water cycle and in providing environmental services such as protecting water quality and storing carbon. The United Nations has also designated 2011 as International Year of Forests.

This year's World Wetlands Day also marks the 40th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention.

Ramsar protected wetland sites cover an area of 186 million hectares, about the size of Mexico, making it the largest protected area network in the world. Laos joined the Ramsar Convention in 2010, nominating two wetlands sites of national importance, Beung Kiat Ngong in Champassak province and Xe Champhone



Wetlands at the Ramsar site, Beung Khat Ngong in Pathoumphone district, Champassak province.

in Savannakhet province.

Provincial and district government representatives, teachers and students, journalists and civil society participants came together at Beung Khat Ngong in Pathoumphone district on February 5 to celebrate World Wetlands Day.

IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, and the Champassak provincial government convened varied activities for the participants to promote the value of wetlands, emphasising the importance of flooded forests and forest swamps, such as those found in Beung Khat Ngong.

"Laos's wetlands, including these forested wetlands, provide us with essential services, such as carbon storage, habitats for fish and other species, and livelihoods for local people. Laos's recent accession to the Ramsar Convention shows its growing commitment to protecting its wetland resources," commented Ms Latsamay Sylavong, Country Representative for IUCN Laos.

In addition to a workshop involving representatives from provincial government

agencies, mass organisations and nine districts in the province, processions, local performances, and an elephant baci ceremony were organised.

Games and quizzes about conservation were a highlight for local primary school students.

World Wetlands Day is a global event organised by the Ramsar Convention Secretariat in Gland, Switzerland. The convention is an international treaty signed by nations to protect wetlands around the world.

IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network. IUCN is a democratic union with more than 1,000 government and NGO member organisations, and some 10,000 volunteer scientists in more than 150 countries.

IUCN's work is supported by 1,100 professional staff in 62 countries and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world.

IUCN helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environmental and development challenges by

supporting scientific research; managing field projects all over the world; and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN, international conventions and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice. The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

There are presently 160 Contracting Parties to the Convention, with 1910 wetland sites, totaling almost 187 million hectares, designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.

Ramsar's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".

Laos was the 160th country to join the Ramsar Convention, and the 8th in the ASEAN region.



Mr Bouavanh Keodara (left) signs an agreement with Prof. Dr Herbert Hinzen at yesterday's handover ceremony.

Germany backs Lao education reform

Bounfaeng Phaymanivong

DVV International (Institute of International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association) has presented the Ministry of Education's Non-Formal Education Department with educational supplies worth more than 1 billion kip.

The donation, consisting of literacy primers, teachers' handbooks and office equipment, was handed over to the ministry yesterday.

Department Acting Director General Mr Bouavanh Keodara said the ministry is in the process of developing its latest five-year plan, as well as evaluating the implementation of the national education system reform strategy.

"The non-formal education sector received only 0.35 percent, or about 6,000 billion

kip, of total education funding during the last five years," he said.

The department is developing its policy and practices for supporting the government's efforts to reach all urban and rural residents, particularly to boost literacy.

"I appreciate DVV International's assistance in providing literacy primers, teachers' handbooks and office equipment. In addition, the organisation has also supported us in capacity development through conferences and workshops at the international, regional and national, as well as provincial and district, levels," Mr Bouavanh said.

DVV International is a member of the Education Sector Working Group in Laos, which means it can work

with various partners to ensure strong development results within the wider sector.

The organisation conducts programmes, projects and initiatives in cooperation with its partners, which focus on literacy and basic education, non-formal vocational training, and media development.

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Laos Dr Peter Wienand, Deputy Minister of Education Ms Sengdeuan Lachanthaboun, DVV International Regional Director Prof. Dr Herbert Hinzen and senior officials were present at the ceremony.

Partners such as DVV International are helping the government to achieve essential goals such as the Millennium Development Goals, and the Education for All initiative.

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Unions urged to fulfill their mandate

Times Reporters

Vice President Bounhang Vorachit yesterday asked for greater contributions from labour unions to help the government reach its development targets.

The vice president issued the call at a special meeting to mark the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions (February 1, 1956 – February 1, 2011) held at the National Culture Hall in Vientiane.

Mr Bounhang called for unions to unite and mobilise workers across the nation to fulfill their obligation to participate in the development process. This will facilitate the government to reach its development targets and the UN Millennium



Mr Bounhang Vorachit addresses the trade union meeting.

Development Goals.

The unions were asked to educate workers about Party policies including market-oriented initiatives in order to raise awareness of the implementation of the 7th Five-Year National Socio-

economic Development Plan (2011-2015).

Mr Bounhang stressed the need to educate workers on Party ideology so that the public fully understands the Party's directives and policies.

He said it was necessary to form union representative bodies in state organisations and private enterprises to fulfill the unions' mandate of educating and uniting centralised manpower and implementing the Party's directives and policies.

But some workplaces were still unaware of the need to form a union.

"Some local and central organisations haven't paid proper attention to forming unions," he told an audience from all walks of life present at the meeting.

The vice president urged everyone involved to work harder to improve their skills, saying that many people's skills are inadequate.

Unions are critical and the Party places great importance on union affairs, he added.

"The Party consistently sees unions as strategic to the vision of the Party. Mass unionisation is a critical power that can determine revolutionary victory," he told the meeting.

Lao Federation of Trade Unions President Mr Khamlah Lorlonsy listed unions' major achievements to date.

Union membership has increased from 50 to a current total of 155,108, including 60,000 women, helping to bolster efforts to fulfill the unions' mandate.

DPM calls for stronger wetland protection

Times Reporters

Deputy Prime Minister Asang Laoly called for all sectors to join hands to nourish the natural environment in Laos and end environmental damage for a healthier world.

Mr Asang, who is also President of the National Environment Committee and National Committee for Wetland Management of the Ramsar Convention in Laos, yesterday delivered a message to mark World Wetlands Day, which falls on February 2.

On the occasion, Mr Asang said "I would like to urge all state organisations, authorities at all levels, mass organisations, businesses, and the Lao people to fulfill our obligation in protecting, preserving, nourishing, and rehabilitating the environment, water resources, and wetlands as stipulated in the constitution."

The call joins that of the international community in celebrating the day under the theme 'Forests for Water and Wetlands' that campaigns for an end to environmental threats for the enrichment and rehabilitation of the natural world.

The Lao government attaches great importance to protecting the environment as stipulated in its constitution, and promotes environmentally friendly sustainable development.

"All organisations and people must protect the environment, natural resources, soil, forests, wildlife, water resources and the air we breathe," said Mr Asang, citing a phrase stipulated in the constitution, adding that this protection also covered wetlands.

To achieve a healthier environment, Mr Asang called for strict following of laws on forests, water resources, wetlands and the environment in general, contributing to ensuring the nation's steady economic growth harmonises with a sustainable environment.

To achieve this, the deputy premier recommended

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Traffic police to stop irregular inspections

Souknilundon Southivongnorath

Public complaints are rising that some traffic police are working in a dishonest manner when on duty on the streets and highways of Laos.

The Ministry of Public Security reported last month that traffic police working on roads throughout the country to enforce traffic regulations have been demanding money from motorists, especially those working in traffic police boxes along Road 13.

The announcement was made following a series of public complaints to leading ministry officials that some traffic police were carrying out their work illegally. The ministry and concerned sectors investigated the allegations and found them to be true.

As a result, the Public Security Ministry issued an announcement last month to remind traffic police around the country of their duties. Part of the announcement noted that traffic police working in police boxes should only be helping motorists or controlling the flow of traffic.

Vientiane Traffic Police Department Deputy Chief Major Youttaphong



Traffic officials at police posts on road No 13 north road can no longer stop motorists for irregular inspections.

Souvanhasing told media yesterday that the ministry's main objective was to solve social problems among traffic police officials.

"We admit some traffic police have abused their power in the past, fining motorists for breaking traffic regulations and other problems. These were reported to the ministry and are the reason why the ministry

issued the announcement," he explained.

After last month's announcement all traffic police along Road 13 north and south are conducting themselves properly, he added.

"We will only carry out inspections or follow up on traffic related crimes if we receive permission from the ministry or the provincial

traffic police departments to continue," he said.

A motorist from Sidamduane said that some traffic police are good while others are bad. "I've had to give them money instead of producing my driving documents several times in the past. I'm very happy with this announcement and I think other motorists will be too," he said.

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Laos, Japan to cooperate on rice research

Khamphone Syvongxay

The Lao National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI) and the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RHIN) of Japan announced collaboration on further research into conservation of cultivated and wild rice in Laos yesterday.

The declaration was agreed at a meeting in Vientiane between the NAFRI Director General Dr Bounthong Bouahom and RHIN Director General Dr Narifumi Tachimoto.

For two decades NAFRI has been investigating the genetic diversity of wild and cultivated rice in Laos with support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, said Dr Bounthong.

Appreciating the significance of this endeavour, RHIN began to collaborate with the institute in 2003. In the course of their research NAFRI has identified six species of wild rice and over 10,000 native cultivated lowland and upland rice types.

The results of this collaborative work have been widely disseminated in academic journals and international symposiums,



Dr Bounthong Bouahom.

contributing to global understanding of rice diversity in Laos, he said.

Lao people have used rice as a staple food throughout history. Farmers grow and conserve rice with traditional knowledge, especially sticky rice, and thanks to a diversified ethnicity and remoteness the diversity of rice has been conserved, Dr Bounthong said.

Laos has a rich diversity of ecosystems, species of plant and animal genetic resources. Some wild rice species that were the forerunners of cultivated rice were indigenous to Laos, according to a NAFRI report.

The Lao economy is a heavily subsistent, traditional

system that enables enormous biodiversity to evolve and be maintained, which is essential for the survival and well being of the Lao people.

The biodiversity of Laos is globally significant as it is located in a mega diversity region and a primary centre of origin and diversity for cultivated rice, wild rice and many other crops.

During the past few years, Laos has made significant progress in collecting, characterising, conserving and developing a database of plant genetic resources for major crops such as rice, through the collaboration of the International Rice Research Institute of Laos.

NAFRI and RIHN are committed to working together to collect seed reserves in cooperation with local people and communities and to promote in-situ and on-farm conservation through regional, national and international networks in tandem with an ongoing recognition of 'Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Areas'.

NAFRI in cooperation with RIHN has now established a location for wild rice conservation in Thongmang village, Xaythany district of Vientiane.

Vangvieng discos ordered to keep to closing times

Viengsavanh Phengphachan

Authorities in Vientiane province's Vangvieng district will use a firmer hand in managing entertainment venues at the popular tourist destination, the move follows last month's closure of a number of discos that failed to follow regulations.

Chief of Vangvieng district Information and Culture Division, Mr Ounheuan Outhaithit, told *Vientiane Times* yesterday that officials were arranging for seven open air discos on Donkang Island in the Xong River that were closed down to be combined into one entertainment zone.

"Formerly the owners of the open air discos competed to attract customers by playing loud music, but now we will manage them as one group," Mr Ounheuan said.

The local authority has received numerous complaints from people living near the island about the late night noise generated by the discos, which often stay open long past 11:30pm, the regular closing

time issued by officials.

In reality, nightclub goes often sing and dance until 4am.

"Many western backpackers are unfamiliar with their new environment in Laos, and don't realise that our sleeping time is the time of their partying," said Mr Ounheuan.

The disco owners originally submitted applications to operate restaurants, but instead they have modified their businesses into entertainment areas where guests enjoy dancing and drinking.

This is against the regulations in Vangvieng, where only five karaoke restaurants are legally permitted to operate as entertainment outlets.

Vangvieng is well-known among foreigners as a place to explore and enjoy tubing and kayaking on the Xong River, Thamchang caves and other activities during the day time.

But at night visitors are there for the bars and dancing at the open air discos and other entertainment venues.

The tourism boom in Vangvieng has brought skyrocketing profits for local tourism operators and guesthouse owners since Laos opened its doors to welcome more tourists with the 'Visit Lao Year' campaign in 1999.

Although the officials ordered these seven discos to close temporarily to solve the noise issue, other bars in the town are still running normally, but they also have to adhere to a midnight closing time or up to 12:30am on special occasions such as Lao New Year.

Mr Ounheuan admitted that the authority was all too aware that trying to enforce measures to control entertainment venues too strictly would most likely harm the local economy as it could lead to fewer tourists.

But he emphasised that when the discos reopen on Donkang Island, they must adhere to regulations on closing times. "People are free to drink and gather at nightclubs as long as they don't disturb the villagers living near them," he said.

Deputy Prime Minister receives new Australian ambassador

Times Reporters

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith yesterday received a courtesy visit at the ministry from new Australian ambassador to Laos, Ms Lynda Worthaisong.

The newly-accredited ambassador presented her credentials to President Choummaly Sayasone on January 25.

Dr Thongloun congratulated Ms Worthaisong on her appointment as Australian ambassador to Laos, saying this would continue to enhance long-standing relations and cooperation between Laos and Australia.

The deputy premier said he highly valued the growing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries. According to a press release from the



Dr Thongloun Sisoulith (left) greets Ms Lynda Worthaisong.

ministry, Australian assistance to Laos has been increasing and extending into new areas, especially education, trade investment, and rural development.

State inspectors reveal administration lapses

Times Reporters

The State Inspection Authority has unveiled irregularities relating to state administration including corrupt officials who abuse their power for their own benefit, according to a report from the authority.

Officials from all the provinces are attending a national meeting of the State Inspection Authority in Vientiane this week to discuss what needs to be done to meet the challenges and ensure transparency in state administration.

Chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and President of the State Inspection Authority, Mr Asang Laoly, the meeting opened on Monday to review activities in 2010 and set plans for 2011 as well as identify targets for the period until 2015.

According to the report, the authority found illegal logging was still a major concern and in some cases officials facilitated this activity.

In 2009-10, authorities seized almost 65,000 logs nationwide, equal to 32.4 million cubic metres of

timber.

The report also found corruption in the import of vehicles where claims were made that vehicles were for use in construction projects when in fact they were sold on.

The authority also found problems related to the management of land use where officials had approved development on land plots larger than the size allowed at their level.

Some villagers had acquired state land without approval from higher authorities.

The State Inspection Authority also found that provinces operated projects totalling 53.81 billion kip without the approval of the National Assembly.

The Assembly was concerned that this kind of financial abuse could create chronic debt for the country which could be difficult to manage.

The report also found that state service fees amounting to 83.7 billion kip and timber sales of 69.9 billion kip had not been transferred to the

central state budget.

During the National Assembly session in December, government officials said they spent some of the state service fees on important events or emergencies, mainly assisting flood victims.

National Assembly members maintained that all expenditure needed to be in line with the law and in the case of an emergency the government could spend money but must inform the Assembly later.

In 2010, some 682 companies in Vientiane failed to pay taxes, affecting the government's revenue collection.

The authorities believe it is important to train officials in political ideology to address the problem of abuse of power.

The State Inspection Authority accepted that not enough was being done to combat corruption. The collection of information and evidence concerning corruption was not sufficient.

There have been many cases of corruption in Laos but prosecution is rare.

DPM calls...

FROM PAGE 1

more campaigning to raise awareness on the importance of managing wetlands in a sustainable manner, coupled with forest protection through participation by all parties.

He stressed the need to formulate policy and strategic plans for the sustainable management of wetlands until 2020, and plans of action for each period.

Mr Asang also emphasised the need to survey and list wetlands, as well as formulating a master plan to manage and preserving Laos's two wetland sites under the Ramsar Convention, which Laos acceded to in September, 2010.

Capacity strengthening is

needed in both administrative structure and capacity building for Lao officials in central and local organisations to enable them to implement the convention and its related activities.

Water resources and wetlands areas are of great importance as they preserve biodiversity, and also provide numerous benefits including air purification, water and carbon storage, minimising floods and soil erosion.

These benefits are presently under threat as many important water resources and wetlands in the world have been harmed by human activities.

Many areas have become

degraded, reduced in productivity due to excessive use of the resources without proper consideration towards sustainable management and protection, he said.

Consequently, world wetlands day is of great significance to encourage the world to lend a hand to preserving these vital resources.

This year's theme recognises the important and decisive role forests play in regulating the water cycle, including protecting water quality and quantity in watersheds and wetlands.

To recognise this importance, the UN has designated 2011 'International Year of Forests'.

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UXO a major obstacle to farmland expansion

Somsack Pongkhao

The government will focus on clearing farmland over the next five to 10 years but it faces the challenge of not knowing the exact number of bombs remaining in the country.

The National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action Sector in Laos (NRA) is conducting a survey to identify UXO-affected farmland with a view to drawing up a national action plan to increase rice farmland to 2 million hectares by 2020.

NRA Director Mr Phoukhieo Chanthasomboun said on Thursday that without knowing the exact quantity of UXO remaining in the country, it could be hard for the government to achieve its goal of farmland expansion.

“Our intention is to clear UXO from agricultural land, but we still don’t know by just how much we can increase farmland by 2015 due to a lack of concrete information.”

There are currently 680,000 hectares of rice fields in Laos, and the government has seen the need to expand it to ensure food security despite the challenges posed by UXO.

UXO remains buried in 41 of the 47 poorest districts in Laos, which are mainly in the northern and eastern regions.

The bombs not only kill and maim people every year but also prevent the country’s development and the reduction of poverty.

Northern Laos is largely mountainous, forcing local villagers to rely on slash and burn cultivation to avoid poverty, made all the more difficult by the prevalence of UXO.

Thai police free 5 Lao victims of human trafficking

Times Reporters

At least five Lao victims of human trafficking were freed from forced labour at an entertainment venue in Thailand, Thai media reported on Wednesday.

An estimated 17 girls from Laos were being held against their will at Pheo Karaoke in Suphanburi province, according to a report released by television channel 3.

Thai police were tipped off by a member of the public and launched an undercover investigation.

A police team then launched a crackdown on the venue, during which staff and suspected victims reportedly escaped.

Five Lao victims were held by police, who continue to search for additional victims.

Women interviewed by Thai media said they were lured into the sex trade, paying

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry recently announced that 40 of the total 143 districts in Laos will face severe rice shortages this year, sparking serious concerns over food security.

Mr Phoukhieo said UXO is one of the main issues affecting rice production in Laos.

According to a survey conducted in 1996-97, UXO was reported in 87,000 sq km of the country’s terrain, or almost 900,000 hectares. Of the total area contaminated by UXO, 200,000 hectares was agricultural land.

However, the survey only provided a brief overview without giving detailed information about how much UXO was buried in farmlands of each province or district.

Its stated aim was to provide a general assessment of the situation in Laos as a basis for future research and surveys.

Mr Phoukhieo said the NRA will work in cooperation with the ministry and local authorities to collect detailed information and the new survey should be complete by the end of this year.

Laos is the world’s most UXO-affected nation, with 25 percent of the country’s villages impacted. Government officials have said it may take more than 100 years to remove all the bombs unless there is a major increase in funding from donors.

Unexploded ordnance left by US warplanes during the Indochina war more than three decades ago remains one of the major obstacles to expanding rice farmland in Laos to ensure food security and the sustainable reduction of poverty.

5,000 baht to be trafficked into Thailand for work.

An examination of the venue by police turned up evidence including clothes, used condoms and 17 notebooks that appeared to log customer transactions.

Venue staff members suspected of illegal activities were arrested and will be charged in accordance with local law.

Thai officials responsible for human trafficking are holding the five victims at a safe house before sending them back to Laos under a bilateral agreement.

An official from the Lao Embassy to Thailand in Bangkok, Mr Somneuk Boulivong, said embassy representatives will meet with the victims on Saturday.

Last month 21 victims of human trafficking were detained in Thailand and returned to Laos.

Vientiane, govt bodies vote for general election candidates



Vientiane administrative officials cast their votes to choose candidates for the general election.

Khonesavanh Latsaphao

Vientiane will announce its candidates for election to the 7th Legislature of the National Assembly today after a preliminary vote was held yesterday, according to Vientiane Vice Mayor Mr Somvandy Nathavong.

“From the 18 applicants today, 12 candidates will be

elected to stand at the general election on April 30,” he said.

The candidates who receive the highest number of votes will represent Vientiane at the National Assembly.

The general election will see new members from Laos’ 17 constituencies elected to the 7th Legislature.

According to the National

Election Committee, 132 National Assembly members will be elected from 190 constituencies.

Vientiane is constituency No 1, while Phongsaly province is No 2, Luang Namtha province No 3, Oudomxay province No 4, Bokeo province No 5, Luang Prabang province No

6, Xayaboury province No 7, Huaphan province No 8, Xieng Khuang province No 9, Vientiane province No 10, Borikhamxay province No 11, Khammuan province No 12, Savannakhet province No 13, Saravan province No 14, Champassak province No 15, Xekong province No 16 and Attapeu province No 17.

In yesterday’s vote to select candidates to stand at the election, only five of the 18 applicants were women.

“Vientiane hopes our five women applicants will be elected to sit in on the next legislature,” Mr Somvandy said.

Vientiane will have 21 candidates at the election, of which 15 will be elected as National Assembly members.

According to a member of the National Assembly’s 6th Legislature, Dr Bang On Xayalath, 12 candidates will come from Vientiane and the other nine will be candidates from the central level.

On the same day, the Ministry of Information and Culture also held a vote to select a representative to stand for election.

Champassak festivities showcase importance of wetlands

Times Reporters

The government has underlined the importance of sustainable management of wetlands for the long term protection of these vital natural habitats, including encouraging community participation.

It is recognised that wetlands are key food and water sources for nearby communities.

As part of the effort, local residents and authorities recently organised awareness raising activities on the importance of wetlands in preserving biodiversity at Kiet Ngong village in Pathoumphone district of Champassak province, which is next to one of Laos’s most important wetlands.

The activities were held as part of events to mark World Wetlands Day on February 2, and included a question and answer session on the importance of forests, wetlands and the environment, according to a local *Vientiane Times* correspondent.

A sideline elephant festival was also held, in which audiences experienced elephant performances, an elephant-capture demonstration and baci ceremony for the majestic beasts.



Onlookers admire an elephant performance at a festival in Champassak province.

Elephant rides offered festival goers the chance to admire the Kiet Ngong wetland zone from a unique viewpoint.

This year’s World Wetlands Day took the theme ‘Forests for Water and Wetlands’, campaigning for an end to environmental threats and the enrichment and rehabilitation of the natural world.

In his remarks at a ceremony held on the day, Deputy Governor of Champassak province Somsanith Bouttivong expressed hope that the Kiet Ngong wetland would continue to contribute significantly to biodiversity, provide carbon

dioxide storage and serve as a habitat for fish and other species of aquatic animals.

“The area also provides a source of food, traditional medicines, and income generation for local people through tourism-related services,” he said, adding that for this reason sustainable use of the wetland required participation from all sectors.

Earlier this month, the central government joined the world in organising a number of activities to mark the day.

Champassak province boasts one of two wetland zones in Laos that are protected under the Ramsar Convention,

which Laos acceded to in September 2010. The country’s other listed wetland is located in Savannakhet province.

To protect the nation’s wetlands, the National Committee for Wetland Management of the Ramsar Convention in Laos recently announced it would formulate a national policy plan and strategy to manage the precious environmental resources until 2020, with a plan of action for each period to realise sustainability.

The committee will also survey and list other national-level wetlands to ensure they are properly managed.

Government raises...

York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 23 cents to settle at US\$86.71 on Wednesday.

In London, Brent crude gained 23 cents to US\$102.55 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

According to the Brunei

Times recently the price of crude oil will hit US\$120 this year.

According to the Lao Petroleum and Gas Association, oil was about US\$78 per barrel in January last year and fell to about US\$75 by the middle of the

year. But it rose to US\$89 per barrel by the end of last year.

The fuel consumption in Laos is expected to rise to more than 750 million litres this year, amid spiralling global oil prices.

Consumption increases about 7 to 10 percent each

year. The consumption was over 640 million litres in 2009 and increased to more than 700 million litres last year.

About 45 to 50 percent of the fuel Laos imports is used in Vientiane and Vientiane province.

FROM PAGE 1



ຈັດງານສະເໜີສະຫງວນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ແລະ ງານເທສະການຊ້າງ



ໃນໂອກາດດັ່ງກ່າວນີ້ພົວພັນນ້ຳສາກົນ ວັນທີ 2 ກຸມພາ ໝູນລຽນມາສົບຮອບ 40 ປີ (2/2/1971-2/2/2011) ແຂວງຈຳປາສັກໄດ້ຈັດພິທີສະເຫຼີມສະຫຼອງວັນດັ່ງກ່າວຂຶ້ນ ທີ່ນະຄອນຫຼວງວຽງຈັນ ທີ່ມີການເທສະການຊ້າງໃນວັນທີ 5 ກຸມພາທີ່ວ່ານີ້ມາຢູ່ບ້ານກຽດວັງ ເມືອງປະທຸມພອນ.

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“ ຕົວເອົາສຳລັບການສະເຫຼີມສະຫຼອງວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ໂລກປີ 2011 ນີ້ແມ່ນ ” ປ່າໄມ້ເພື່ອຄວາມ

ສຸດົມສົມບູນຂອງນ້ຳ ແລະ ດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ”, ຍ້ອນແນວນັ້ນເອີ້ນແນວນ້ຳດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳເຂດປ່າດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ໄວ້ຈະໄດ້ປະກອບສ່ວນສຳຄັນຕໍ່ການໃຫ້ບໍລິການຂອງລະບົບນິເວດນີ້ທະຍາເອີ້ນ : ການສະຫຼອງນ້ຳທີ່ສະຫງວນ ແລະ ເກັບກັບທາດກາຍພອນ, ການໃຫ້ຢູ່ອາໄສແກ່ປ່າ ແລະ ສັດນ້ຳຊະນິດຕ່າງໆ ລວມທັງເປັນແຫຼ່ງສະໜັບສະໜູນອາຫານ, ຢາພື້ນເມືອງ, ສະໜອງໂອກາດຫາງດ້ານເສດຖະກິດໃຫ້ແກ່ປະຊາຊົນທ້ອງຖິ່ນ, ເປັນຕົ້ນແມ່ນມີລາຍຮັບຈາກການທ່ອງທ່ຽວ, ຕັ້ງນັ້ນການປຸກລະດົມໃຫ້ນ້ຳໄຊ້ດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳຕ່າງສອດຄ່ອງແນວພາລະພາກີ ແລະ ສົນທິສະຮອງຊຸກຍາກສ່ວນໃຫ້ດີຂັບຕົນປະໂຫຍດຈາກດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳນີ້ ແລະ ສິ່ງດັ່ງກ່າວຈະກາຍເປັນບູລິມະສິດໃນປີ 2011”. ທ່ານສົມສະເຫິດກ່າວເນັ້ນ ຕອນຫ້າວ.

ຍ້ອນມີການສຸມຊື່ນ ສະໜັດທະສົມ ເຈົ້າເມືອງງປະທຸມພອນ ກໍໄດ້

ເນັ້ນໃຫ້ເຫັນເຖິງຄວາມໝາຍສຳຄັນ ແລະ ຄູນທຳຂອງເຂດດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳປ່າດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ເຊິ່ງມີ 4 ມາດຕາມນ້ອມ 8 ມາດຕາມຂອງສົນທິສັນຍາຮາມສະກຳນິດໄວ້. ຈາກນັ້ນທ່ານກ່າວເອີ້ນວ່າ : ການຈັດງານເທສະການຊ້າງແຕ່ເປັນການສະເຫຼີມສະຫຼອງວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນເທົ່ານັ້ນ ແຕ່ທັງເປັນການຈັດງານເທສະການຊ້າງເພື່ອເປັນການອະນຸລັກຮັກສາຊີວະຄວາມຊື່ນເພື່ອເປັນຖານຂອງຊາດບ້ານກຽດວັງ ກໍຄືຊາດປ່າດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ທີ່ມີຄວາມສຳຄັນຕໍ່ການສະຫຼອງຊ້າງທີ່ມີນາແຕ່ບູຮານນະການ, ນອກນີ້ທັງເປັນການຈັດງານປະເພນີບູນນະມົດສະການສະຖານປະເພນີບຸກຄົນລູກສາໃນສັກ.

ໃນງານເທສະການສະແດງຂອງຊ້າງ, ການສາຍິດການຕ້ອງຊ້າງ ແລະ ພິທີບຸກສີສັດຊ້າງ; ຕອນບ່າຍກໍມີກິດຈະກຳການຖາມ-ຕອບກຽດກັບຄວາມສຳຄັນຂອງປ່າໄມ້, ດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມ, ກິດຈະກຳເຫຼົ່ານີ້ເພື່ອສອກຫາທາງເລືອກໃນການຝຶກລົງຊີວິດ, ຈາກນັ້ນກໍມີກິດຈະກຳສີ່ຂ້າງທ່ຽວສົນທິສະຫງວນວັງປ່າດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ.

ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມພິທີທ່ານນາງລິດສະໄໝ ສີລາວິງ ຜູ້ຕາງໜ້າອົງການສາກົນເພື່ອການອະນຸລັກທຳມະຊາດປະຳລາດ, ມີຄຳເຫັນວ່າ- ສອງພະແນກການທີ່ກຽດຕ້ອງຂອງແຂວງ, ການນຳຈາກບັນດາເມືອງ, ຈາກສະແບວງການຕ່າງໆ ຕ້ອນສ້າງເມືອງ, ອຳນາດການປົກຄອງບ້ານ ແລະ ພໍ່ແມ່ປະຊາຊົນຊາດບ້ານກຽດວັງ ແລະ ບ້ານນ້ຳສາກົນໄດ້ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມປະມານ 200 ຄົນ./

***ຂ່າວ-ລາຍ : ສູນຂອງໃຈ ***



ບັນຊີພິມລາຍວັນ

ລາວພັດທະນາ

ປີທີ 5 ສະບັບທີ 1252
ວັນ ສຸກ ທີ 11 ກຸມພາ 2011

Lao Phatthana Daily

ອຳນວຍການ ເລກທີ 060, ຖະໜົນເສດຖາທິລາດ, ນະຄອນຫລວງວຽງຈັນ, E-mail: laosphatthana@yahoo.com
ບ.ບ. P.O. BOX: No.9552, ໂທ (856-21) 263860, 215869 ແຟັກ: (856-21) 263 860

ລາວພັດທະນາ 3

ສະຫລອງວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ແລະເທສະການຊ້າງທໍ່ບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງ

ໃນໂອກາດວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ວັນທີ 2 ກຸມພາ ໄດ້ຮຽນວຽນມາຄົບຮອບ 40 ປີ (2/2/1971-2/2/2011) ແຂວງຈໍາປາສັກໄດ້ຈັດມີສະເຫຼີມສະຫຼອງວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນ ພ້ອມກັບເທສະການຊ້າງໃນວັນທີ 5 ກຸມພາຢູ່ບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງ ເມືອງປະທຸມມອນ.

ໃນໂອກາດເຂົ້າຮ່ວມມີສີ, ສໍາມະພັນສະໄຫມ ບຸດຕິວິງ ຮອງເຈົ້າແຂວງຈໍາປາສັກ ໄດ້ໃສ່ກຽດເປົ້າເຫັນ ກ່ອນຍື່ນສໍານາໄດ້ຍົກໃສ່ເສັ້ນຄວາມອຸດົມສົມບູນ, ຄຸນຄ່າ ແລະ ຄວາມສໍາຄັນຂອງສໍານະຊາດ ເຊິ່ງມີປ່າໄມ້, ນ້ຳ, ດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ແລະ ຊີວະບາງຜັນຢູ່ແຂວງຈໍາປາສັກ ເວົ້າລວມ, ສະເພາະກໍ່ແມ່ນເມືອງປະທຸມມອນ; ຍົກໃສ່ເສັ້ນຄວາມໝາຍສໍາຄັນຂອງການສະເໜີເອົາເຂດປຶງກຽດໂງ່ງເຂົ້າຮ່ວມໃນພາກີຂອງສິນສີພັນທາຣາມຊາ.

“ ຕົວເມັດສໍາພັນການສະເຫຼີມສະຫຼອງວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳໂລກປີ 2011 ທີ່ແມ່ນ ” ປ່າໄມ້ເຜືອຄວາມອຸດົມສົມບູນຂອງນ້ຳ ແລະ ດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ, ” ຍ້ອນແນວນັ້ນເຜືອແປວ່າດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳເອດປຶງ

ກຽດໂງ່ງຈະໄດ້ປະກອບສ່ວນອັນສໍາຄັນຕໍ່ການໃຫ້ບໍລິການຂອງລະບົບໄຟເວດວິທະຍາຊັບ: ການສະຫລອງນ້ຳສີ່ສະອາດ ແລະ ເກັບກັບສາດນາກອນ, ການໃຫ້ຄູ່ອາໄສຂອງປ່າ ແລະ ສັດນ້ຳຊະນິດສິ້ນງຸດລວມທັງເປັນແຫຼ່ງສະໜັບສະໜູນອາຫານ, ຢ່າຝືນເມືອງ, ສະໜອງໂອກາດສາງດ້ານແສດຖະກິດໃຫ້ແກ່ປະຊາຊົນສ້ອງຖິ່ນ ເປັນຕົ້ນມີລາຍຮັບຈາກການທ່ອງທ່ຽວ. ດັ່ງນັ້ນການປຸກລະດົມໃຫ້ນໍ້າໃຊ້ດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳຢ່າງສອດຄ່ອງແມ່ນມາລະສານີ ແລະ ວັນສະຫລອງຄຸນຍາກສ່ວນສີ່ໄດ້ໃຊ້ສິນປະໂຫຍດຈາກດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳຢື່ ແລະ ສິ່ງດັ່ງກ່າວຈະກາຍເປັນບູຮົມນະສິດໃນປີ 2011.” ສໍາມະພັນສະໄຫມໄດ້ກ່າວເພີ່ມ.

ພ້ອມຢື່ສໍາພັນ ສຸດິວັນ ສະຫວັດສະມີ ເຈົ້າເມືອງປະທຸມມອນກໍ່ໄດ້ເນັ້ນໃຫ້ເຫັນເຖິງຄວາມໝາຍສໍາຄັນ ແລະ ຄຸນຄ່າເຂດດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳປຶງກຽດໂງ່ງເຊິ່ງມີ 4 ນ້ຳຖານໃນ 8 ມາດຕະການຂອງສິນສີພັນທາຣາມຊາໄດ້ກ່າວເພີ່ມໄວ້.

ສໍາພັນ ສຸດິວັນ ກ່າວຕື່ມວ່າ:



ການຈັດມີເທສະການນີ້ປະຫວັດແຕ່ເປັນການສະເຫຼີມສະຫຼອງວັນດິນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກົນເທົ່ານັ້ນ, ແຕ່ທັງເປັນການຈັດເທສະການຊ້າງເມື່ອເປັນການອະນຸລັກຮັກສາສິດຄອງປະເມນອັນດີງາມຂອງຊາວບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງ ກໍ່ໃຊ້ຄວາມປະສານສົມທົບປະເມນການລ້ຽງຊ້າງທີ່ມີນາແຕ່ບູຮານມະການ. ນອກນີ້ກໍ່ຍັງເປັນການຈັດປະເມນບຸນນະມັດສະການສະຖານປະຕິນະກໍາວັດທູອາສາໃນອີກ.

ໃນບຸນດັ່ງກ່າວຍັງມີການສະແດງຂອງຊ້າງ, ການສາທິດຄອງຊ້າງ ແລະ ມີສີບາສີຊ່ວຍນຳຊ້າງ; ຕອນລ່າຍກໍ່ມີກິດຈະກໍາການຖາມ-ຕອບກ່ຽວກັບຄວາມສໍາຄັນຂອງປ່າໄມ້, ດິນ

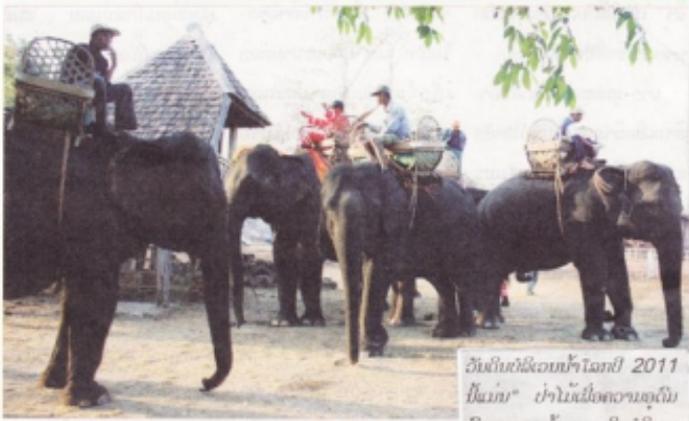
ບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມ, ກິດຈະກໍາເວທີເມື່ອຊ່ອງສາສາງເລືອກໃນການຕໍາລົງຊີວິດ. ຈາກນັ້ນກໍ່ມີກິດຈະກໍາສີ່ຊ້າງທ່ຽວຊົມສິດສັດປຶງກຽດ ໂງ່ງຕື່ມອີກ.

ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມມີສີພັນທາຣາມຊາ ສິດສະໄໝ ສີລາວິງ ຜູ້ຕາງສໍາລັບການສາກົນເປັນການອະນຸລັກສໍາມະຊາດປະຈໍາລາວ, ທີ່ວ່າສໍາ-ຮອງແະແນມກການສີ່ກ່ຽວຂ້ອງຂອງເມືອງ, ການນໍາຈາກບັນດາເມືອງ, ຈາກຂະແໜງການຕ່າງໆພ້ອມຊ່າງເມືອງ, ອໍານາດການປົກຄອງບ້ານ ແລະ ຜູ່ມໍ່ປະຊາຊົນຊາວບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງ ແລະ ບ້ານປິກຄຽງກໍ່ໄດ້ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມປະມານ 200 ກວ່າຄົນ.

ເສດຖະກິດ-ສັງຄົມ

ກິດຈະກຳເລີ່ມທີ່ 59 ຕະຫຼອດປີ 2010 (ໄດ້ມີທ່າວຽກຄ້າແຂວງ ໖໓ ຕຳບຳ)

ສະຫລອງວັນດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳເສກິນ ແລະ ເທດສະການຊ້າງທ່ຳບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງ



ທ່າວ, ຫຼຸມສອງນ້ຳ

ໃນໂອກາດວັນດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກິນວັນທີ 2 ກຸມມາ ຫຼຸມສອງນ້ຳຄົບຮອບ 40 ປີ (2/2/1971-2/2/2011) ແຂວງຈຳປາສັກໄດ້ຈັດມີສີ່ສະເຫລີມສະຫລອງວັນດັ່ງກ່າວຂຶ້ນ ພ້ອມກັບງານເຫດສະການຊ້າງ ໃນວັນທີ 5 ກຸມມາສ່ວນນ້ຳ ທ່ຳບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງ ເມືອງປະທຸມມອນ. ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມມີສີ່ ຫານ ສິນສະຫນິດ ບຸດດິວິງ ແຂວງເຈົ້າແຂວງວງ

ຈຳປາສັກ ໄດ້ຍົກໃຫ້ເສັ້ນຄວາມຄູດົນສິນບູນ, ຄູນຄ່າ ແລະ ຄວາມສຳຄັນຂອງທ່ານະຊາດ ເຊິ່ງມີປ່າໄມ້, ນ້ຳ, ເດີບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ແລະ ຊີວະນາໆພັນທີ່ແຂວງຈຳປາສັກ ເວົ້າລວມ, ເວົ້າສະແກະກໍແມ່ນເມືອງປະທຸມມອນ; ຍົກໃຫ້ເສັ້ນຄວາມຫມາຍສຳຄັນຂອງການສະເຫນີເອົາເຂດປົກກຽດໂງ່ງເຂົ້າຮ່ວມໃນສາຍຄວາມສິນສັບທາຣາມຊາ. "ສິດສຳນັບການສະເຫນີມີສະຫລອງ

ວັນດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳໂລກປີ 2011 ທີ່ແມ່ນ" ຢ່າໃນບໍລິເວນຄວາມສິນບູນຂອງນ້ຳ ແລະ ເດີບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ "ພ້ອມແນວນັ້ນເຊິ່ງແຕ່ວ່າ ຕົ້ນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳເຂດປົກກຽດໂງ່ງ ຈະໄດ້ປະກອບສ່ວນອັນສຳຄັນຕໍ່ການໃຫ້ບໍລິການຂອງລະບົບນໍ້າເວດບໍລິຫານເຊັ່ນ: ການສະໜອງນ້ຳທີ່ສະອາດ ແລະ ເປັນກັບທາດການນອນ, ການໃຫ້ສີ່ຢ່າງໄສແກ່ປ່າ ແລະ ສັດນ້ຳຊະນິດຕ່າງໆ ລວມທັງເປັນແຫຼ່ງສະໜັບສະໜູນອາຫານ, ຢ່າພື້ນເມືອງ, ສະໜອງໂອກາດສາງດ້ານເສດຖະກິດໃຫ້ແກ່ປະຊາຊົນທ້ອງຖິ່ນ, ເປັນຕົ້ນແມ່ນນໍ້າອາຣົບຈາກການສ່ວງສ່ວງ, ດັ່ງນັ້ນ ການປຸກແລະ ດົມໃຫ້ນ້ຳໃຊ້ດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳຢ່າງ

ໄດ້ຮັບຜົນປະໂຫຍດຈາກດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳນີ້ ແລະ ສິ່ງດັ່ງກ່າວຈະກາຍເປັນບູລິມະສິດໃນປີ 2011; ທ່ານ ສິນສະຫນິດ ກ່າວເປັນຕອນທ້າຍ.

ແລນນີ້ ທ່ານ ສຸສິວັນ ສະຫວັນສະສິນ ເຈົ້າເມືອງປະທຸມມອນໄດ້ເນັ້ນເຖິງຄວາມສຳຄັນ ແລະ ຄຸນຄ່າຂອງດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳປົກກຽດໂງ່ງ ເຊິ່ງມີ 4 ມາດຕາມໃນ 8 ມາດຕາມຂອງສິນສີ ມັບທາລາມຊາໄດ້ກຳນົດໄວ້.

ທານ ສຸສິວັນ ກ່າວເປັນຕໍ່ວ່າ: ການຈັດງານສີ່ອີ່ນີ້ ບໍ່ແວງແຕ່ເປັນການສະຫລອງວັນດົນບໍລິເວນນ້ຳສາກິນເທົ່ານັ້ນ ແຕ່ຍັງເປັນການຈັດງານເຫດສະການຊ້າງ ເມື່ອເປັນການສະຫລຸບສັກສາຍິດຄອງປະເມນີອັນດີງາມຂອງຊາວບ້ານກຽດໂງ່ງທີ່ຊື່ຊາວປົກກຽດກັບປະເມນີການລ້ຽງຊ້າງທີ່ມີມາແຕ່ບູຮານຂະການ. ນອກນີ້ ກໍຍັງເປັນການຈັດງານປະເມນີບຸນນະມັດເຫດສະການສະການຖານປະເມນີກຳວັດທູອາສາ ເປັນອີກ.

ໃນງານເຊິ່ງນີ້ ຍັງມີການສະແດງຂອງຊ້າງ, ການສາທິດການຄ້ອງຊ້າງ ແລະ ມີສີ່ປາສິນສູນອັນຊ້າງ, ຕອນທ້າຍກໍມີກິດຈະກຳການຖານ-ຕອນກ່ຽວກັບຄວາມສຳຄັນຂອງປ່າໄມ້, ເດີບໍລິເວນນ້ຳ ແລະ ສິ່ງແວດລ້ອມ, ກິດຈະກຳເວທີ ເມື່ອຊອກສາທາງເລືອກໃນທາງຄຳລິງສິວິດ, ຈາກນັ້ນ ກໍມີກິດຈະກຳທີ່ຈັດສະຫລຸບປີ 2010

ສະໜັບສະໜູນ