

# Action Plan

# Healthy Smile

**Promoting Oral Health for Rural Poor People in  
Mondulkiri**  
By Kanitha Chroeung

# How Does Dentistry Promote Peace?

- ▶ Contribute to oral public health of all people, especially the rural poor people in Cambodia
- ▶ Closing the gap of inequality in getting access to oral health care service

# Where Is Cambodia?



# Where is Mondulkiri?



# Introduction

- 85% of Cambodian people live in the rural area=> hardly access to oral health care=> poor oral hygiene.
- Mondulkiri province is in the eastern part of Cambodia; most of the population living there are ethnic people.

# Con't

They are prone to oral and dental lesions mainly due to:

- Remote area: poor access to get dental treatment
- Low income: poor farmers, fruit pickers and unemployed
- Low education: never attend school and primary-school level
- Socio-cultural factor: chewing betel, no brushing



An old woman in Mondulkiri:  
“I have never brushed teeth in my life.”

# SETRA Project

- Students Experience Tour in Rural Area
- Outreach program such as SETRA does not only focus on treatment, but also focus on education.
- Collaboration b/w Organization of International Support for Dental Education (OISDE) + the faculty of Odonto–stomatology of the University of Health Sciences (UHS) in Phnom Penh since 2009.
- Twice to three–time missions per year to Mondulhiri



# Problem Statement

- ▶ Very poor oral hygiene=> overall poor well-being
- ▶ Low education about oral health care
- ▶ Little awareness about getting access to dental treatment

# Objectives

- ▶ Broaden awareness of those villagers on:
  - How to enhance their oral and dental health
  - The ways to get access to dental treatment from SETRA project and referral hospital (provincial level)

# What is going to happen?

- *Happy Smiling Day* on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in a primary school (Sen Monorom primary school) located in Mondulkiri's town
- **Half-an-hour role play** as an activity among the others on the agenda

# How?

- ▶ Volunteer for conducting the role play after the agenda of the Happy Smiling Day was released 2 weeks ago
- ▶ Writing script for the role play
- ▶ Doing rehearsal twice or three times before the event comes
- ▶ Asking for support in terms of role-play tools from sponsors and partners.

# Who?

- **Target**: at least 200 poor ethnic people living in Mondulkiri province as participants.
- **Performers**: 12 dental students
- **Sponsors**: OISEDE, Faculty of Odontostomatology of University of Health Sciences in Phnom Penh
- **Partner**: Colgate company
- chief of village, community-based dental care assistants and referral hospital in Mondulkiri

# Budget Expense

| Item                   | Unit | Price/Unit | Sub-total Price |
|------------------------|------|------------|-----------------|
| Transportation         |      |            | Sponsored       |
| Meal and Accommodation | 12   | USD 8      | USD 216         |
| Tools for Role Play    |      |            | Sponsored       |
| Total                  |      |            | USD 216         |

# Timeline

- ▶ November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012: The idea of Role Play was accepted.
- ▶ November 21<sup>th</sup>, 2012: Meeting with all performers
- ▶ December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012: First rehearsal
- ▶ December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012: Second rehearsal
- ▶ December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 : Happy Smiling Day; performing the role play

# Indicators of Achievement

- ▶ The level of collaboration from the target
- ▶ The level of collaboration from the authority in Mondulkiri, especially the chief of village who will inform the villagers about the event effectively
- ▶ The quality of commitment and skill in making role play from the performers



# Obstacles

- ▶ Less or more understanding from the villagers about the meaning of the role play
- ▶ The word choice used in role play needs to be familiar enough for those ethnic villagers
- ▶ Take time to change the habit of chewing betel since it is rooted as culture for the ethnic group

# Long-Term Plan

- ▶ Keep volunteering for SETRA project to:
  - Make follow-up on villagers' behavior of keeping oral hygiene
  - Carry on the mission in educating people in different villages

For further information:

- ▶ Name: Kanitha Chroeung
- ▶ Tel: (+855)92 348 299
- ▶ Email: [kanithachroeung@ymail.com](mailto:kanithachroeung@ymail.com)