

## **Ms Sonekham Phommahaxay (Lao PDR)**



I am Sonekham Phommahaxay from Lao PDR. Laos is a Landlocked Country which is located in the Southeast Asia sharing border with China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. I completed my Bachelor degree of the environment management course at the National University of Laos in 2010.

Currently, I'm working as a Senior Deputy at the Disaster Prevention Division of Social Welfare Department. My main responsibility is to provide an assistance and relief to disaster victims, poor people, disadvantaged people, children who need special protection, and victims of human trafficking. In addition, my division is also responsible for coordinating with relevant parties to collect risk information, create

risk maps, prepare disaster sites and be the center in coordinating the creation of national strategy and action plans for DRR at the central and provincial level, develop a disaster Database system and be a focal point for the implementation of DRR. I am responsible for developing DRR strategy in provincial level, creating a plan for DRR Districts, DRR capacity building in provinces and Districts.

I am very happy to receive this opportunity. I had always been interested in participating in the ADRC Visiting Researcher Programme in Japan because I wanted to gain knowledge and learn from this program as well as by observing how Japan implement DRR. I also want to improve my work experience on the Community Based Disaster Risk Management because Japan has the best implementation system about this. The lessons I experience in Japan will be crucial to take away and improve my work more effectively. Finally, I would like to thank so much to all parties, especially thanks to the Japanese government to support funding and giving me the opportunity to join this important program and again, I'd love to express my appreciation to all staff members at ADRC for providing all facilities and conveniences for this program. Thank you, Khop chai lai lai!!!