



Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Programme

MEDIA RELEASE

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Emergency Relief Provided in Attapeu Province

A handover ceremony, in recognition of the emergency medical supplies donated by the Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Programme (MWBP)* to the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO), was held on 14 September 2005 in Attapeu Province. The supplies were donated in an effort to combat the effects of heavy flooding which occurred in the Province during the first two weeks of August 2005.

Mr Soudchai Sinlapha former head of PAFO said that, "the donation will provide vital support in the relief effort to assist communities in Sanamxai District to cope with the incidence of water borne diseases".

The medical supplies included: antibiotics tablets; fever reduction tablets; de-worming tablets; malarial treatment tablets; diarrhea tablets; syringes and needles; iodine; re-hydration salts; iodine; mosquito nets and much more.

MWBP National Programme Director, Mr. Douangkham Singhanouvong said "(he)... was delighted to be able to support rural communities in this their time of need.... and to try to reduce the negative effects of natural disasters on livelihoods".

The donated medical supplies donated were worth 26,957,000 kip (approximately 2,400USD). MWBP, in collaboration with Health Unlimited and the Department of Health, will oversee distribution and administration.

For more information or photos of the ceremony, please contact:

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* The Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Programme (MWBP) is a joint programme of the four riparian governments of the Lower Mekong Basin – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam – managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), The World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the Mekong River Commission (MRC), in collaboration with other key stakeholders. With funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), MWBP aims to strengthen the capacity of organisations and people to develop sustainable livelihoods and manage wetland biodiversity resources wisely.

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