



## Prasert Jantakaew

### Field Supervisor-ARC Migrant Program, Thailand

Kanchanaburi province, Thailand is a province where malaria continues to plague the local people who already have to overcome great odds for day to day survival. The ARC field team have been working in the area and helping in any way to eradicate malaria for more than decades now.

*“...for some reasons some villagers still think that if you drink water with the mosquito’s larva in it you will get malaria,.. with all the misconceptions and the traditional beliefs, education is crucial and is important tool to fight against malaria”* said Prasert.

Prasert Jantakaew, Field Supervisor-ARC Migrant Program who has been working to fight malaria in the area for over 10 years

## “To eliminate malaria, to educate people”

*“To look after my team for the day-to-day running projects, to make sure that the people in the communities whether they are Thai and non-Thai receiving equal health services is my responsibility,-- I will try to do everything in my power to make sure that they are receiving what I have received in my health services too”.*

Down to Sai-Yok district, Kanchanaburi province is where at one of malaria implementing sites under ARC-Kanchanaburi in Thailand. Prasert and his team are providing health education session to their villagers. Although the social media and technology reach to some villages, but to be there and provide the education directly to the villagers is the most crucial and had the most impact according to Prasert.



Providing health education to villagers regularly is the most impacted in malaria prevention and elimination, said Prasert (Field Supervisor-ARC migrant program)

## Community in the front line: Volunteer decade dedication to fight malaria

Mon Nin a 27 years old farmer and mother of 3 years daughter is working as Village Malaria Worker (VMW) in Kampong Spue province of Cambodia. Even though her village is not at high risk of malaria transmission, most of villager work in the forest and often back with malaria infection.

On average Mon Min test 5 suspected case every month using RDT and found half of suspected case malaria positive. Every negative case she refers to the nearest private clinic. In the first week of September 2018, she tested 2 suspected malaria cases, and both found positive. In addition to malaria service, she also provides contraceptive and birth spacing service to the villagers.

*Villagers spend approximately 2 weeks in the forest for work. Spending their working time with entire family including their children*



Mon Nin has been working as a village malaria worker for over decade, with her passion to do the best of her job to fight malaria for her village.

Malaria prevention message to forest goers need to provide repeatedly. Forest goers do not follow what she teach, therefore need to repeat awareness activities with prevention messages until they realize it helps them to prevent from malaria, Mon Min replies.

Mon Nin has been working as a volunteer since 2006.

*“I have never felt my job as a burden even though I need to divide my time for my own family, children and farm work. I am more than happy to serve villagers and want to continue doing this”*