

# Agro-Climate Information for the Adoption of Resilient Farming Practices by Women and Ethnic Minority Farmers in Southern Laos (ACIS III)



Villagers are ecstatic to their pets  
are safe from season change

## GLIMPSE



**Location**  
Kaleum,  
Dak Cheung Districts,  
Sekong Province

### TimeFrame

October 2019 - September 2024

### Beneficiaries

Direct 10,789 people, women 6,473

Indirect 39,000 people, women 23,400

### Partners

Sekong Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office,  
Kaleum, Dak Cheung Districts Agriculture Office,  
Provincial of Natural Resources and Environment,  
District of Natural Resources and Environment,  
Lao Women's Union

## BACKGROUND

Farmers in Dak Cheung and Kaleum districts (Sekong province) are increasingly exposed to climate-related disasters and risks (storm, flood, drought, landslide and typhoon), that cause crop loss and further aggravate the precarious food security. Increasingly unpredictable weather and seasons require farmers to be able to access and respond to seasonal forecast information and get timely and quality farming advice to optimize.

Their production all above can significantly be mitigated through better access to the proposed agro-climate advisory services (including both short-term and seasonal weather forecasts, as well as advisories on required crop selection and farming practices, particularly soil fertility and pest/disease management). Though the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DMH) produces long and short-term weather forecasts, these do not reach farmers and mostly cover very large areas.

## OBJECTIVES

Women and ethnic minority farmers in Dak Cheung and Kaleum districts, (Sekong Province) are able to better anticipate and respond to risks and opportunities from climate variability through participatory and equitable agro-climatic planning

## Donor agencies

Luxembourg Aid and Development



# OUTCOMES

- **Farmers are organized in Learning Networks for community engagement and knowledge exchange on climate smart agriculture planning**
  - Organise Farmer Learning Networks
  - Train Members of Farmer Learning Networks and enable access knowledge on climate change, climate smart agriculture techniques, leadership and facilitation skills, including Participation in Participatory Scenario Planning and exchange of experiences
  - Link Local Authority and local service providers through the networks to ensure demand-driven technical support and co-learning opportunities
- **Farming practices are improved through participatory scenario planning integrating weather forecast a dynamic crop calendar**
  - Produce local seasonal weather forecasts in collaboration with the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, (DMH) and PONRE
  - Develop seasonal dynamic crop calendar with NAFRI, including advice on best agricultural practices
  - Conduct Participatory Scenario Planning
  - Member of the FLN will share and discuss with their fellow farmers on the advisories and weather forecasts in their own village through meetings and other Communication tools (loud speakers, bulletins, etc)
  - Regular revision of advisories based on update weather forecasts and dynamic crop calendar
- **Strengthened capacity of service providers to better understand and address needs for climate change adaptation of remote ethnic women and their communities**
  - Annual reflective learning on the accuracy of the advisories and related communication mechanism (farmers provide feedback to concerned authorities including DONRE, DAFO, DMH and NAFRI)
- **Enhanced access for women to information and influence on farming decision making**
  - Analyse gender profile in agro-climate information services and related farming practices and provide meaningful recommendations for required women empowerment

# IMPACTS

- Farmers' representatives from 10 villages are organized in two Learning Networks for community engagement and knowledge exchange on climate smart agriculture planning
- Farming practices are improved through participatory scenario planning integrating weather forecast and agriculture advisories
- Strengthened capacity of service providers to better understand and address needs for climate change adaptation of remote ethnic women and their communities
- Enhanced access for women to information and greater women's influence on farming decision making



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