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## 2023 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

June: Participatory Assessment for Coffee Processing Groups, Gender Equality in the Family Training, Learning Exchange Program in Xiengkhounag Province, Eco-Mapping Management Planning for the Community

July: Semi-Annual Meeting Steering Committee for SuPER WE Coffee Project, 2023 Annual Coffee Trading Summary Meeting, Eco-Mapping Dissemination Workshop to the Community

**August:** Eco-Mapping Training at Dakrai Village

#### TOTAL BENEFICIARIES REACHED June - August 2023



**COFFEE FARMERS** 301



**ETHNIC WOMEN 153** 

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Sustainable Production and Ethnic Responsible and Women Empowered Coffee Value Chain Project in Sekong Province (SuPER WE Coffee) will empower coffee farmers to increase their productivity and quality of coffee and increase household income by supporting the establishment of coffee processing centers, planting and processing techniques for production groups, and the provision of planting and processing equipment. This project aims to support the development of a green, low-carbon, resource-efficient and more circular economy, to strengthen collaboration with cooperatives as well as building the capacities of women coffee producers on cooperative principles by integrating gender, leadership and entrepreneurship.

#### **AREA**



















#### **Participatory Assessment for Coffee Processing Groups**

On 29 May - 5 June 2023, the SuPER WE Coffee Project conducted a participatory assessment for the coffee processing groups in 10 target villages with a total of 111 participants (70 women). First, partners were trained on using the KOBO tool to collect basic data through participatory methods, to explore the needs of coffee groups in the 10 target villages. This method was used to establish a baseline of the coffee groups' capacity and to raise awareness of the community's understanding of their own capacity to empower coffee farmers to improve their coffee production.





#### Gender Equality in the Family Training

On 5 - 9 June 2023, the SuPER WE Coffee Team, government partners and Coffee Production Groups with a total number of 33 participants (18 women) participated in the Gender Equality in the Family Training. about the training addressed social norms, integration of gender equality in the family, and burden sharing. Issues of gender inequality in the community were also reviewed in order to create plans to address these issues through using the Social Analysis Action (SAA) tool. After the training, participants' understanding of gender equality increased from 63.78% to 89.85%.



















#### Learning Exchange Program in Xiengkhounag Province

On 13 - 19 June 2023, the SuPER Coffee Team, in collaboration with the Provincial of Agriculture and Forestry Office and representatives from the 15 target villages with a total of 30 participants (11 women), went on a learning exchange program to the Keoset Community Coffee, Khoun District, Xiengkhouang Province. Lessons were exchanged on coffee cultivation techniques and integrating crops in coffee plantations, as well as environmentally friendly practices such as planting shade trees and managing waste from coffee husks. How to design packaging, establish a marketing network, and negotiate for exports to the domestic and international markets were also discussed.





#### **Eco-Mapping Management Planning for the Community**

On 17 June 2023, the SuPER WE Coffee project team organized a training on the "eco-mapping" tool for members of the coffee production groups from 15 target villages with a total of 23 participants (9 women). The "eco-mapping" tool helps users to identify environmental issues and look for solutions. After the training, the coffee group members will use the eco-mapping tool in their own villages to find sustainable solutions in coffee production. This will contribute to the project's long-term goal to elevate Dakcheung coffee's value in the global "green" value chain.



















#### **Semi-Annual Meeting Steering Committee** for SuPER WE Coffee Project

On 13 July 2023, the SuPER WE Coffee Project held a Semi-Annual Meeting to review lessons learned from all the project activities conducted over the past six months at the Provincial Health Department, in Lamam District, Sekong Province with a total of 26 participants (7 women). The purpose of the meeting was to summarize the results of the implementation of activities and discuss plans for project activities in the remaining six months of 2023 to ensure that all plans will be achieved within the timeframe.





#### 2023 Annual Coffee Trading Summary Meeting

On 28 July 2023, the Annual Coffee Trading Summary meeting was held with a total number of 29 participants (12 women). This year, 63.34 tons of white coffee beans were sold for a total of 3,854,355,600 kip, 850 kg of green coffee bean for 127,500,000 kip, and 139 kg of roast coffee bean for 12,514,000 kip. In addition, the meeting also provided an opportunity for the coffee producers to discuss and share lessons and challenges in coffee cultivation as well as plan the future work of the coffee production groups together with the project staff and the government partners.















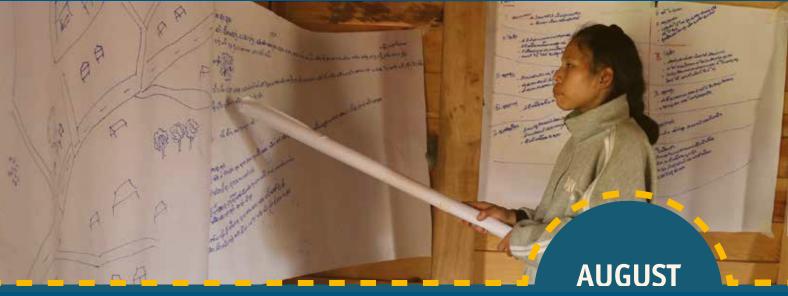




#### **Eco-Mapping Dissemination Workshop to the Community**

On 28 July 2023, the SuPER WE Coffee Project conducted the Eco-Mapping Dissemination Workshop in Dakchueng District Central Hall in 12 target villages with a total of 29 participants (12 women). In the workshop, there was a summary of the problems that often occur in the villages such as littering on the road, dirty water from washing coffee bean, coffee pods rotting. Then they together create the policies for each: start solving waste problems at the family unit level, and dissemination of ecological management information in the community.





#### **Eco-Mapping Training at Dakrai Village**

On 17 August 2023, the SuPER WE Coffee Project Team organized an Eco Mapping training at Dakrai Village with a total of 20 participants (14 women). The purpose was to identify issues which affect the environment, build the capacity on environmental conservation, encourage them to produce coffee through sustainable methods, and empower women on coffee processing. After completing the training, the project team led the coffee production group to a practical session to ensure that they understood what they had learned and are able to implement solutions in the village properly.





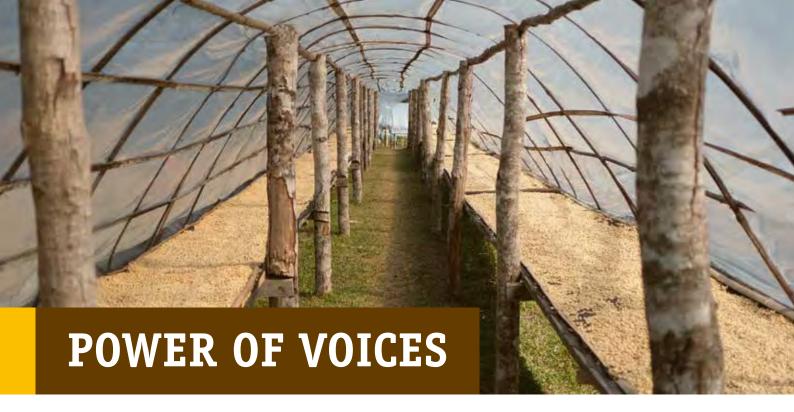












### Male Engagement in Gender Equality

Recorded and translated by: Chattoukhong Phaichit

"Giving the opportunity to women have access opportunities for self-development, dare to express their opinions in the meeting and to be involved in community leadership. This is the basis of gender equality in society."

Mr. Sengphakham Boutchaoly, Head of Coffee Producer Group, Tongxieng Village, Dakcheung District, Sekong Province





"Taking care of children is not the duty of women, but it is the duty of all men who must be responsible and take care together in order to reduce women workload and give opportunities for women to be able to recognize the importance of training."

Ms. Phongxai Keovilai, Coffee Processing Group Member, Prao Village, Dakcheung District, Sekong Province













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