



SuPER WE Coffee

Dec 2025 – Feb 2026 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

December: The SuPER WE project successfully convened a general assembly to approve essential establishment documents and formally elect the executive committee for the Dak Cheung Mountain Coffee Cooperative.

January: The project team and local partners conducted monitoring visits across 15 villages to assess women's leadership skills and promote gender equality in household roles.

November: A post-harvest coffee processing training was conducted for farmers from the 15 target villages to strengthen their skills in producing high-quality processed coffee.

BACKGROUND

The Sustainable Production and Ethnic Responsible and Women Empowered Coffee Value Chain Project in Sekong Province (SuPER WE Coffee) empowers 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



TOTAL BENEFICIARIES REACHED



DIRECT
400 FARMERS
280 WOMEN



INDIRECT
4,463 PEOPLE
2,217 WOMEN





December

Technical Meeting with Provincial and District Partners - December 2025

On 8–9 December 2025, the SuPER WE Coffee Project, together with provincial- and district-level government partners, held a technical meeting at the CARE Office in Dakcheung District, Sekong Province. A total of 19 participants attended the meeting (13 men and 6 women). The purpose of the meeting was to report on progress and review the strengths and weaknesses in the implementation of project activities over the previous months. During the discussion, all parties agreed to present updates on activities implemented in November 2025 and collaboratively worked to identify solutions to address the challenges encountered. Participants also jointly planned priority activities for December 2025, ensuring that upcoming interventions would effectively contribute to achieving the project’s goals.



December

General Assembly to Approve Cooperative Establishment Documents and Elect the Executive Committee of the Dak Cheung Mountain Coffee Cooperative

From 10 to 11 December 2025, the SuPER WE project, in collaboration with provincial and district government partners, convened a general assembly at the Dak Cheung District Administration Hall, Sekong Province. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Somphone, Mayor of Dak Cheung District, and co-chaired by Mr. Khounthoranong Vanthanouvong, Head of the International Affairs Office of Sekong Province. Participants included representatives from the project, provincial and district-level government partners, heads of the district administration and the district information and culture office, as well as representatives from all 15 villages—a total of 95 participants (63 men and 32 women). The purpose of the meeting was to review and approve key documents for the establishment of the Dak Cheung Mountain Coffee Cooperative, including the cooperative’s operational plan, internal regulations, and business plan, and to formally elect the cooperative’s executive committee.



December

Coffee Business Matching Meeting in Paksong District, Champasak Province

From 12 to 13 December 2025, the SuPER WE project organized a coffee business matching workshop at Paksong City Hall, Champasak Province. Participants represented a wide range of stakeholders, including the project team, EDC consulting companies, two coffee cooperatives, the Lao Coffee Association, two coffee export companies, the Pakse Trust Cooperative, coffee shops, and the Dak Cheung Mountain Management Committee, totaling 20 participants, of whom 6 were women. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen collaboration across the Lao coffee value chain through knowledge sharing, mutual support, and the introduction of financing mechanisms to promote investment and build development partnerships in the coffee sector. As part of the activity, the project also facilitated a study visit for the Dak Cheung Highlands Coffee Cooperative Management Committee to two major export-oriented coffee production sites: the Chai Coffee Cooperative and the Bolaven Plateau Coffee Cooperative. The visits provided opportunities for participants to exchange experiences on coffee production techniques, marketing strategies, and effective cooperative management practices.



January

A Training on improving communication

From 12 to 16 January 2026, the project and partners organized a training on improving communication with a total of 23 participants, ten of whom were women. The training was held at the Sekong District Health Office and included a field trip to Ban Lakai, Kalum District. During the training, participants learned: how to take photos with a smartphone: framing, arranging images, and lighting, the basics of cover video and storytelling with images, practice writing case stories, captions, and social media posts for visibility, review CARE and donor brand visibility guidelines, use motivators and motivators to encourage participation, and visit target villages to film videos and take real photos of project beneficiaries. At the end of the training, feedback was provided to improve the training for the next time.





January

Interview data on coffee production and water usage for the year 2026

Between 19 and 23 January 2026, the project team and district partners conducted interviews in 12 villages to collect data on coffee production and water use. The interviews focused on farmers' coffee production practices and their use of water for coffee washing during the 2026 season. The aim was to assess production levels, water consumption, and whether farmers were following the recommended techniques. Key areas of inquiry included coffee harvesting and processing results, methods used for coffee washing, the amount of water used in processing, water-saving practices, and comparisons between the use of old and new drying houses.



January

Monitoring women's leadership empowerment activities

From 27 to 31 January 2026, the SUPER-WE project and the District Women's Union conducted monitoring visits on activities to strengthen women's leadership. This monitoring covered all 15 villages in order to assess leadership skills, women's participation in village-level organizations, gender equality in household roles, as well as to identify women's capacity-building needs and other skill requirements.





January

Monitoring activities: building drying houses, coffee storage warehouses, machinery usage, water usage systems in the pulping house, composting, seedlings, and wastewater systems

From 27 to 31 January 2026, the project team, together with provincial and district government partners, conducted field monitoring of activities previously supported by the project. The main objective was to identify key strengths and weaknesses. Findings from the field visit showed that 13 villages engaged in coffee production. Of these, seven villages had completed the construction of coffee-drying houses, 12 villages had implemented irrigation systems, and nine villages were using water systems in their greenhouses. Composting activities were found in two villages, and the average number of seedlings remained at approximately 25–30 percent of the expected target.





February

Technical Meeting with Provincial and District Partners

On 3–4 February 2026, the SUPER WE project, together with public sector partners at the provincial and district levels, held a technical meeting at the Department of Agriculture and Environment Office in Sekong Province. A total of 17 participants attended the meeting (11 men and 6 women). The objective was to report on progress, as well as review strengths and weaknesses in the implementation of project activities over the past month.

During the meeting, all relevant departments presented updates on activities carried out in December 2025 and January 2026. Participants also worked collaboratively to identify solutions to the challenges encountered, with the aim of ensuring that these weaknesses are effectively addressed.

Additionally, the meeting resulted in joint planning of priority activities with provincial and district government partners for March 2026, to support the successful achievement of project goals.





February

Post-Harvest Coffee Processing Training

From 22 to 28 February 2026, the SuPER WE project, together with provincial- and district-level public sector partners, conducted a post-harvest coffee processing training for farmers from the project's 15 target villages. A total of 38 farmers, including 29 women, participated in the training held in Dak Vor Village, Dak Cheung District. The objective was to strengthen farmers' knowledge and skills in producing high-quality processed coffee. Participants received training on best practices for quality control, including proper harvesting techniques, monitoring fermentation and washing processes, managing drying and ensuring quality standards, and troubleshooting common issues encountered during drying. The training also included practical demonstrations, a review of key lessons, and coffee tasting exercises to help farmers better understand quality differences. This activity enhanced farmers' practical experience and improved their capacity to produce coffee that meets higher market requirements.





February

Meeting to summarize the 4-year project report and the plan for the final 4 months of the project.

From 25 to 26 February 2026, the project, together with government partners from the central, provincial, and district levels, held a meeting to review the four-year project implementation and to plan activities for the next four months. The meeting took place at the Sekong Provincial Agriculture and Environment Office with a total of 26 participants, including ten women, and was chaired by Mr. Bounsong Nammayot, Deputy Director of the Sekong Provincial Department of Agriculture and Environment. The purpose of the meeting was to summarize the results of project activities implemented over the past eight months (July 2025–February 2026), review overall achievements from the four-year project period, and discuss the proposal for extending the project until the end of June 2026. Participants unanimously endorsed the presented report, and the meeting concluded with recommendations to ensure that the outcomes of the discussions are effectively applied to ongoing activities for the benefit of the project’s target villages.





POWER OF VOICES

Farmer's Economic Empowerment

Recorded and Interviewed by: Phanomphone Phaouthoum

Ms. Sonthana shared how the project transformed her life from struggling with low yields and no market access, to securing a stable income. Through training in coffee planting and processing, her production and sales prices have increased significantly. Most importantly, she gained the confidence and empowerment to earn her own money and make independent decisions. She hopes the project continues to help expand their cooperative and wants to share her knowledge to empower other women.

“Since the project arrived, my life has changed so much for the better. I feel I have a bigger role; I can make my own money and make my own decisions. I want to share this knowledge with all women so they can develop their coffee farming skills and have equal opportunities.”



Ms. Sonthana Jikphaboun



Mr. Aiamkham Chiddala

Mr. Aiamkham shared the positive impacts of the project on his village. Previously, farmers lacked technical skills and sold red cherries at low prices. Now, equipped with pulping machines, drying houses, and new processing techniques for parchment coffee, farmers can sell their coffee for lump sums at higher prices, greatly improving their livelihoods. He hopes the project continues to provide advanced, modern processing techniques to meet market demands.

“Since the project arrived, our village's livelihoods have become much more comfortable. We learned coffee processing techniques and can now earn a lump sum of money. I hope the project continues so we can learn more advanced techniques and process coffee using modern systems that meet market needs.”

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