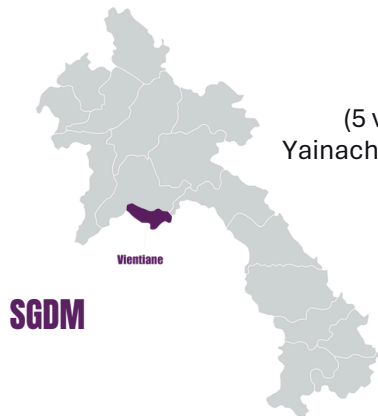


Sangthong Green District Model (SGDM) Project



Location

Sangthong District
(5 villages : Nongboua,
Yainachaleurn, Nasaonang,
Haytay and Napor),
Vientiane Capital.

TimeFrame: From the date of approval until 30 March 2029

Beneficiaries:

Direct 4,838 (2,486 women)
Indirect 29,498 (14,957 women)

Partners:

National University, Ministry of Education and Sports,
Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR.

BACKGROUND

Lao PDR is highly vulnerable to disasters due to climate change including floods, droughts, storms, and landslides. The Lao people continue to be strongly dependent on agriculture and natural resources, and their capacity to prevent, prepare for, and response capabilities remain limited and inadequate. The Government of Lao (GoL) acknowledges the critical connection between mainstreaming environmental concerns and incorporating climate change initiatives into sustainable economic development initiatives. Although Laos is home to a variety of tropical forest habitats, the country's forest cover has decreased significantly over the past few decades, falling from 70% in 1960 to just 42% in 2003 and then increased to 58% in 2019. Forest fires, a significant problem in the Lao PDR, are another problem. For instance, Laos lost 451,000 hectares of its 18 million hectares of natural forest in 2020, which is equal to 242 million tons of CO2 emissions. Deforestation derived from upland agriculture, energy, mining and infrastructure development, along with shifting cultivation, has severely degraded forests, including village forests.

There are 34,336 people (17,443 women) living in 35 villages in Sangthong District. The population growth rate is 2 percent. The district has the total land area of 75,982 hectares, where 29,915 hectares are dedicated for agriculture, 14,000 hectares for protected forest, and 16,335 hectares for protection forest. Sangthong District is designated as a high-risk area for forest fires, with a risk of forest fires exceeding 50%, along with meteorological conditions conducive to large-scale forest fires. The location and natural resources also attract domestic and foreign investors, leading to increased deforestation or forest burning, which has a negative impact on the ecotourism system and public health. In addition, the increasing demand for cash crops such as cassava, corn, bananas, and livestock, has led to significant deforestation and land degradation, mostly through burning.

OBJECTIVES

Enhance the capacity of Sangthong district to manage natural resources sustainably and to support its communities, particularly women, in adapting to the consequences of climate change.

FUNDED BY

Ministry of Environment, Climate and Biodiversity,
Luxembourg through CARE Luxembourg



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Environnement, du Climat
et de la Biodiversité



OUTCOMES

- **Activity 1.1:** Develop the climate change strategy and its five-year action plan of the Sangthong district.
Activity 1.2: Set up a local forest fire inspection and prevention system
Activity 1.3: Support forest restoration activities
- **Activity 2.1:** Promote agro-forestry and smart agriculture models.
Activity 2.2: Promote non-agriculture income generation for women
Activity 2.3: Support with technical follow-up by DAEO
Activity 2.4: Organize exchange visits between non-agricultural, agro-forestry and smart agriculture groups
- **Activity 3.1:** Establish FFS, government and community forestry management model
Activity 3.2: Participate in the Green cities network
Activity 3.3: organize annual meeting to review the progress of the implementation of Sangthong's climate change strategy and its five-year action plan.

IMPACTS

- **Outcome 1:** Sustainable Forest management and reforestation are supported at district level
- **Outcome 2:** Local communities, especially women, implement sustainable income generation activities and have capacities on climate change adaptation
- **Outcome 3:** A demonstration site in Sangthong district serves as model for other districts



CARE International in Lao PDR Vientiane Office
P.O Box 4328, Nongsangthor Rd Ban Nongsangthor,
Saysettha District, Vientiane, Lao PDR
Tel: (+856-21) 217 727