



Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Lao PDR's Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans, and Programmes Project

“Agro-Biodiversity Project” (ABP)



Inception Workshop

Report

December 2011

Project Overview

Title	Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Lao PDR's Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans, and Programmes (ABP)
Project No	GEF-ID: 2416, UNDP: PMIS 2903-NIM & 00075435, FAO: UNTS/LAO/015/GEF
Implementing Partner	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, MAF, Vientiane, Lao PDR through the Permanent Secretary Office (PSO)
Executing agencies	UNDP (NIM) and FAO (Technical Backstopping)

Project Starting date		Project completion date	
Originally planned	Actual	Originally planned	Current estimate
April 2011	11 April 2011	April 2016	10 April 2016

Resources – in cash	Donor	Amount US\$
	GEF	2,265,000
	UNDP	213,000
	Total	2,478,000

Resources – in kind	GoL	556,200
	UNDP	321,900
	FAO	345,772
	SDC (Parallel)	3,000,000
	Total	4,223,872

Objective	Agreed Key Indicators
To provide farmers with the necessary incentives, capabilities and institutional support framework to conserve agricultural biodiversity within the farming systems in Lao PDR	Area of provincial agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (Target: 100,000 ha)
Outcome/component 1 National policy and institutional frameworks for sustainable use, and in-situ conservation of biodiversity in agro-ecosystems	Number of new national plans, policies, laws, strategies, and guidelines with agro-biodiversity concerns (Target: 8)
Outcome/component 2 Capacities and incentives to mainstream biodiversity, especially agro-biodiversity, at the Provincial, District and community levels	Number of farmers adopting skills and techniques promoted through FFS and farmer field days (Target: 1,000)
Outcome/component 3 Effective project management	Number of strategic recommendations from the Agro-biodiversity Steering Committee (6)

Approved by Dr Phouang Parisak Pravongviangkham,
Vice Minister, MAF



Date 28/11/2012

Drafted by Ole S. Pedersen, Pre-CTA, Mr Bounkong Souvimonh (NPM) & project team.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ABP	Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Lao PDR's Agricultural and Land Management Policies and Programmes (ABP) Project
ACIAR	Australian Centre for Agricultural Research
ADS	Agricultural Development Strategy
AMP	Agricultural Master Plan
AIP	Agriculture investment Plan
ANR	Agriculture and Natural Resources
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AVRDC	The World Vegetable Center (former <i>Asian Vegetable Res. and Dev Center</i>)
BCCI	Biological Corridors Conservation Initiative
BD	Biodiversity
BUCAP	Biodiversity Use and Conservation in Asia Programme
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity (in short biodiversity)
CGRFA	Convention on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
CA	Conservation Agriculture
CC	Climate Change
CO	Country Officer (UNDP)
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTA	Chief Technical Adviser
DAFO	District Agriculture and Forestry Office (MAF)
Danida	Danish International Development Assistance
DED	German Development Service
DG	Director General
DLF	Department of Livestock and Fisheries (MAF)
DoA	Department of Agriculture (MAF)
DoE	Department of Environment (WREA)
DoF	Department of Forestry (MAF)
DoFI	Department of Forestry Inspection (MAF)
DoL	Department of Land (NLMA)
DoLUPaD	Department of Land Use Planning and Development (NLMA)
DoP	Department of Planning (MAF)
DoWR	Department of Water Resources (WREA)
DPI	(Provincial) Department of Planning and Investment
DoS	Department of Statistics (MPI)
ERC	Evaluation Resource Center
ESIA	Environmental Social Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FNPP	FAO Netherlands Partnership Program
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GPAR	Governance and Public Administration Reform
GPAR	Public Administration Reform
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (former DED & GTZ) - German
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
IUCN	World Conservation Union
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
LARREC	Living Aquatic Resources Research Centre (MAF)
LAO PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MoNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MRC	Mekong River Commission

NABP	National Agricultural Biodiversity Programme
NCSAFU	National Capacity Self Assessment Follow-up (Project)
NAFES	National Agriculture and Forestry Extension Service (MAF)
NAFREC	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Centre (MAF)
NAFRI	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (MAF)
NAPA	National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCSAFU	National Capacity Self Assessment Follow-UP
NGPES	National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy
NIM	National Implementation Modality
NLMA	National Land Management Authority
NSDS	National Sustainable Development Strategy
NSEDP	National Socioeconomic Development Plan
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PAFO	Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (MAF)
NUDP	Northern Upland Development Project
pFLUP	Participatory Forest and Land Use Planning
P-DoH	Provincial Department of Health
P-DoE	Provincial Department of Education
P-FLO	Provincial Fisheries and Livestock Office
PIR	Project Implementation Unit
P-LWU	Provincial Lao Women Union
PMO	Prime Minister Office
P-OIC	Provincial Office of International Cooperation
PSC	Provincial Steering Committee
RCU	Regional Coordination Unit (UNDP/GEF)
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SEDP	Socio-economic Development Plan
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SUFORD	Sustainable Forestry and Rural Development (Project)
TA	Technical Assistance
TABI	The Agro-biodiversity Initiative
TRAC	Target for Resource Assignments from the Core (UNDP financing mechanism)
UNDP CO	UNDP Country Office
V/5	Decision number 5 of the fifth meeting of COP 5
WB	World Bank
WREA	Water Resources and Environment Administration

A. PROJECT UPDATE

1. Background

The 5-year Mainstreaming¹ Biodiversity into Lao PDR's Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans and Programmes (ABP) project has a total budget of USD 6,7 million of which 2.5 million (37%) are in-cash, the remaining being in-kind. The ABP project is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), through the Permanent Secretary Office (PSO), under the UNDP National Implementation Modality (NIM).

Funded by the Global Environment Facility² (GEF), the project is required to be of global significance and to be incremental to and work closely with similar projects operating in the same area. Hence, GEF requires a high degree of local contributions i.e. more than 50% co-financing³ or parallel contribution. In This case the SDC funded Agro-biodiversity Initiative (TABI) project is the main in-kind collaborating partner and FAO provides technical support to the project.

The projects relates to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which underlines that biodiversity is a common concern and integral part of the development process. The project operates both at central level and **local** level, primarily in Xiang Khouang (Phoukhout District) and Luang Prabang (Phonxay) Provinces.

This draft background document for inception workshop represents an update on developments since project formulation (main parts of section A) and has been presented to key stakeholders during the inception workshop meetings during 27-29 November 2011. Based on the feed-back from the workshop (Section B), this final inception report has been prepared.

2. Clarifications of terminology and concepts

2.1 Biodiversity related issues

During the inception period, a number of issues related to the project document have been discussed and needs some further attention.

a) *Biodiversity and agro-biodiversity*

Low population density, the wide range of latitude and altitude and rich land and water resources contribute to a huge number of species of plants, animals, fungi and other organisms. Hence, Lao PDR is very rich in biodiversity, which forms an important part of rural livelihoods and poverty

¹ Set of actions for integrating biodiversity into existing and/or new sectoral and cross-sectoral structures, processes and systems such as plans for sustainable development, poverty reduction, climate change adaptation/mitigation, trade and international cooperation and development in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, mining, energy, tourism, transport, and others.

² GEF's fourth replenishment circle within four specific focal areas: biodiversity, international waters, climate change and ozone depletion.

³ In "GEF projects" Co-financing comprises cash and in-kind resources committed by government, multilateral or bilateral sources, the private sector, NGOs, project beneficiaries and the concerned GEF executing agency, all of which are essential for meeting project objectives.

alleviation and supports commercial production and incomes in key sectors including agriculture, hydropower, water supply and tourism. In short, the biodiversity can be expressed by the variety and variability of genes (e.g. plant varieties and animal breeds), species and ecosystems.

Agro-biodiversity includes all components of biodiversity of relevance to food and agriculture, and all components of biodiversity that contribute to the agro-ecosystem: the variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms, at the genetic, species and ecosystem levels, which are necessary to sustain key functions of the agro-ecosystem, its structure and processes.” (CBD COP V/5). More specifically CBD describes agro-biodiversity as:

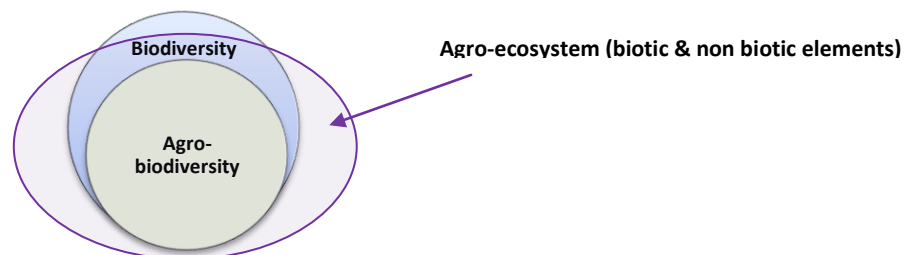
- Harvested crop varieties, livestock breeds, fish species and non domesticated (wild) resources within field, forest, rangeland including tree products, wild animals hunted for food and in aquatic ecosystems (e.g. wild fish)
- Non-harvested species in production ecosystems that support provision of food provision, such as soil micro-biota, pollinators and other insects e.g. bees, butterflies, earthworms, greenflies
- Non-harvested species in the wider environment that support food production ecosystems (agricultural, pastoral, forest and aquatic ecosystems).

The above definition of Agro-biodiversity is reflected in the Lao PDR National Agro-biodiversity Programme (NABP, 2004), which groups the agro-biodiversity into seven components:

1. Crop and crop associated biodiversity
2. Livestock development and management
3. Non-Timber Forest Products and other terrestrial biodiversity
4. Sustainable use and conservation of aquatic biodiversity
5. Household based integrated agriculture production systems
6. Integrated participatory planning approaches
7. Management arrangements.

The NABP was developed taking into account the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and agriculture and poverty eradication objectives. Included in the NABP components are pollinators, mushrooms, wild relatives of crops, and varieties of domesticated crops and breeds. Many of these are very important for the regional and global biodiversity and essential and important source for food security. The ABP Project supports agro-biodiversity by promoting diversified farm incomes and sustaining livelihoods for primarily for food, but also for medicine, fuel, bio-pesticides, etc.

Fig.1.Graphic illustration of relation between biodiversity, agro-biodiversity and agro-ecosystem



Cross cutting issues for agro-biodiversity includes nutrition, indigenous knowledge, property rights, benefit sharing, climate change, etc,

As mentioned above, agro-biodiversity forms the basis for food supply and food security, thus an integral part on the prevailing agro-ecosystem⁴ (see fig. 1). In agriculture, the diversity within species is at least as important as diversity between species. Agro-biodiversity is predominantly managed by farmers, anchored in indigenous knowledge and culture and to various degrees based on alien species introduced from elsewhere. The ABP Project will support agro-biodiversity at farm, village, district, province and national level and across sectors.

b) Global and regional biodiversity

South East Asia contains nearly 20% of the world's biodiversity, but the rich biodiversity is under significant threats and particular so in the four designated world (34) biodiversity hotspot⁵. Lao PDR is within the Indo-Burma Hotspot – and well known as hotspot for upland rice species and varieties.

However, within SEA, the knowledge of biodiversity is uneven. In Lao PDR this is particular true for vascular plant species (trees) and mushrooms of which some are only known by local names.

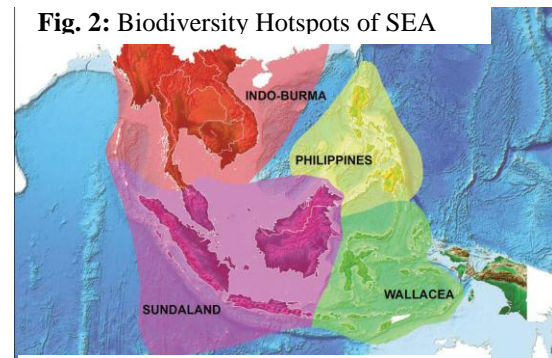


Fig. 2: Biodiversity Hotspots of SEA

Source: Asean Biodiversity Outlook, 2010

c) Indigenous and introduced species

A number of agro-biodiversity species originate from other regions outside Lao PDR, thus in a narrow sense introduced species or non-indigenous. These are mostly economic species such as grass carp, tilapia, maize, sesame, cassava, sugarcane, Irish potatoes, tomato, coffee, rubber, eucalyptus, and various fruit trees. Since long, many of these species has been domesticated and to some extent regarded as indigenous and being an important part of the upland livelihood and an important part of the farming system ABP Project support will be considered.

d) Invasive alien species

A subset of introduced species is Invasive Alien Species⁶ (IAS) becoming a pest in the new location and threatening agro-biodiversity. In Lao PDR, the number of the reported invasive species is relatively small and includes species such as the Golden Apple Snail (*Pomacea canaliculata*), Giant Mimosa (*Mimosa pigra*) and water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*). Other less visible species are various pests of bacteria [e.g. stalk rot (*Fusarium fujikoroii*), vira (e.g. Bird Flu), insects (e.g. white flies) and fungi (e. g. potato blight). A preliminary list of invasive species is presented in Annex 1. Studies on the economic impact of invasive species in Lao PDR are few and incomplete and will be considered for support.

⁴ Consist of living and non-living components and their interaction and influences by particularly farmers

⁵ To qualify as hotspot the area must contain at least 1,500 ferns, conifers and flowering plants (vascular) plant species, which are in danger of becoming extinct (endemic) and have lost at least 70 per cent of its original habitat.

⁶ Some invasive alien species (natural enemies) used in IPM have positive effect in controlling pests

e) Underutilized species

In the upland areas of Luang Prabang and Xieng Khouang, a number of under-utilized plant species have been identified or still need to be discovered and of which some may cope better with pest and diseases and adapting better to climate change and stresses. A tentative list is presented in Annex 2.

2.2 Conservation and sustainable use

In recent years it has been recognized that it is not only important to conserve, but also to sustainable use agro-biodiversity. However, the two terms are often interchanged.

Both in-situ (natural/farm habitat) and ex-situ (gene and sperm banks, botanical gardens, zoos, etc.) maintain agro-biodiversity. The two methods are complementary. The ABP Project dominantly supports in-situ conservation i.e. the sustainable use and conservation of important species in their natural habitats i.e. where growth conditions are optimal. It may cover a small strip of farm land or a larger area that contains wild or managed species recognized for its potential livelihood improvements and for their ecological significance. In other words in-situ conservation encompasses both traditional crops and management of wild populations in their natural or semi-natural habitats.

One of the key achievements of the ABP Project will be in-situ conservation⁷ and sustainable use of at least 100,000 ha for both Xieng Khouang and Luang Prabang provinces and will be made as a result of careful participatory Forest and Land⁸ Use Planning (pFLUP).

Ex-situ conservation will mainly be pursued in awareness raising and demonstration related activities such as exhibitions and inclusion in botanical gardens.

2.3 Participatory Forest and Land Use Planning – tool for agro-biodiversity management

Recently, TABI has prepared Agro-ecosystem/Agro-Biodiversity Analysis (ABA/AEA) in Phonxay and Phoukhout districts. The analyses serve as important background information for the ongoing village based pFLUP, carried out by provincial and district officers. TABI is putting much effort into improving the methodology by complementing existing land use guidelines with a “pFLUP Tools Kit” and the ABP Project is planning to pool resources with TABI in the further land use development process.

The pFLUP Tools Kit promotes strong community ownership and land rights and supports the development and monitoring of local agro-biodiversity plans. These plans will be essential for ABP project support.

3. Updated legal framework and international agreements

Since formulation of the ABP Project document, a number of new strategies, plans or international agreements related to biodiversity have been made or in the process of being made.

⁷ Exact definition is still to be agreed on

⁸ Includes wetlands

3.1 National level

The new sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and development plans related to the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) sector include the 7th National Social and Economic Development Plan (7th NSEDP), the Agricultural Development Strategy (ADS), 2011-20, the Agricultural Master Plan (AMP, 2011-15) and the Agricultural Investment Plan (AIP), 2011-15.

The Agricultural Development Strategy emphasizes food, income security and the need to respond to regional and global challenges and the Agricultural Master Plan underlines the importance of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) is well balanced with rural development, traditional society values and improved livelihood. The Master Plan is based on the “four goals and 13 measures” from 2007, re-engineered into in the following eight programmes (in short):

1. Food production
2. Commodity production and farmer organizations
3. Sustainable production patterns, land allocation and rural development
4. Forestry development
5. Irrigated agriculture
6. Other agriculture and forestry infrastructure
7. Agriculture and forestry research and extension
8. Human resource development

Further, the Master Plan promotes a programmatic approach and presents three groups of measures to implement and monitor the eight programmes measures. Notably, the second group is the relation to and impact on to Climate Change and Biodiversity. In addition, a number of upland extension/farming methodologies are recommended such as Conservation Agriculture (zero tilling/minimal soil disturbance and crop rotation with legumes), Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Lao Extension Approach Plus (LEA⁺).

With support from the UNDP and the FAO Netherlands Partnership Programme, the LAO PDR has been one of first countries with a National Agro-biodiversity Programme (NABP), approved by MAF in 2004 and officially presented by Lao delegations to FAO Headquarters (2004) and referred to in the ASEAN Biodiversity Outlook Report (2010) and latest by the Lao Representative at the 13th Session of the CGRFA (July, 2011). Recently, NAFRI’s leadership has expressed a need to reinforce the programme document. Still, the status and possible follow-up of the NABP remains unclear.

A list of policies, strategies, action plans, and programmes related to agro-biodiversity is provided in Annex 3.

3.2 Regional level

The GoL is committed to regional policies and agreements of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and in the Greater Mekong Sub-region. During the last decade, the ASEAN members have agreed on a number of biodiversity resolutions including the ASEAN Framework Agreement (2004) on the Access to and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from the utilization of Biological and Genetic Resources and the Singapore Resolution (2009) on Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change, Hence, the ASEAN members recognize the importance of and firm in agreeing on protecting and conserving the ASEAN’s rich biodiversity

and in 2005 the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) was established to support to its member countries.

The Mekong River Commission (MRC) is facilitating biodiversity related projects in the riparian countries and have been co-financing partner to GEF (mainly wetland) projects.

3.3 International level

Essential to the ABP Project is Lao PDR's Accession (1996) to the Convention of Biodiversity (CBD) as well as a number of related multilateral environment, natural resources agreements⁹ and instruments of which the Convention on Climate Change (2004) the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT-PGRFA), the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GPA-AnGRRFA), the Global Plan of Action on the Conservation and Sustainable utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GPA-PGRFA), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries are some imperative examples. In compliance with these agreements and instruments national policies, strategies and plans have been prepared and/or being upgraded. Examples are the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the 2005-10 Assessment of the NBSAP (in preparation) and in the regular reporting of which the latest report¹⁰ to the CBD (4th National Report, 2010) provides an excellent status on progress. Similarly, the LAO PDR Second Country Report of Lao PDR on the State of PGRFA¹¹ (July 2007) provides good information and updates on agricultural efforts for in-situ and ex-situ conservation. This report was a contribution to the preparation of the Second State of the World's PGRFA¹².

The CBD encompasses seven thematic programmes¹³ of which the Agro-biodiversity programme (Programme of Work on Agricultural Biodiversity (PoW-AgBD)) is one. Under the CBD, the Nagoya Protocol on Access & Benefit Sharing (ABS) was adopted on 29 October 2010 and supports fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The Second NBSAP is being prepared by IUCN/TABI with additional technical and (minor) financial support from the ABP and the NCSAFU projects, among others. The ABP Project also intends to support an expected stronger focus on agro-biodiversity.

Further, together with TABI and NCSAFU projects the ABP will support the preparation of Provincial BSAPs, which will be an integral part of the 2nd NBSAP and will facilitate the incorporation of biodiversity issues into local planning.

⁹ These include Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, (IT-PGRFA), Convention on Wetlands/Ramsar, Convention and World Heritage Convention (WHC), and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the Second Global Action for Plant Genetic Resources (Nov. 2011).

¹⁰ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/la/la-nr-04-en.pdf>

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1500e/Lao%20Peoples%20Democratic%20Republic.pdf>

¹² <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1500e/i1500e.pdf>

¹³ Agricultural Biodiversity, Dry and Sub-humid Lands Biodiversity, Forest Biodiversity, Inland Waters Biodiversity, Island Biodiversity, Marine and Coastal Biodiversity, and Mountain Biodiversity.

4. Agro-biodiversity threats and barriers

A number of threats and barriers for agro-biodiversity and agro-ecosystems in the upland areas is listed in a non prioritized order:

- Lack of knowledge and awareness on benefits of rich (agro) biodiversity – a common good
- Lack of agro-biodiversity considerations in policies, plans, strategies and land management
- Climate Change
- Lack of farmer confidence in taking active part in participatory land use planning
- Soil degradation and degradation of forest & NTFP
- Commercial agriculture including plantations
- Replacing traditional varieties with few modern varieties
- Mono-cropping and uncritical/overuse of pesticides and fertilizers
- Overharvesting of wild biodiversity
- Invasive alien species (pests, etc)
- Limited extension knowledge on environmental friendly farming (IPM, soil fertility improvement, CA, etc)
- Limited farmer knowledge skills related to market development and contracting/concessions, etc
- Increasing consumer demand for modern few food items and little recognition of nutritious values of natural products
- Inadequate interventions to support increasing demand for organic produces, fair trade, NTFP & ecotourism
- Lack of data, studies and analyses
- Inadequate cross sectoral cooperation and capacity for planning and monitoring (with indicators)

The threats and barriers will be further developed and used in the planning and implementation of activities at central and local levels.

5. Strategy and Approach

5.1 Overall strategy

The summary (and interpretation) of strategic issues mentioned in the ABP Project document is summarized in following bullet points:

- Addressing (agro) biodiversity in a larger landscape including local, regional and global impacts on biodiversity
- Synchronizing international agreements with Government policies, strategies and development plans related to (agro) biodiversity and its relation to climate change, livelihoods, food security and sustainable development
- Pursuing a programmatic approach and strong interaction between local and central levels on policies, planning, implementation and monitoring
- Pursuing integrated approach to mainstreaming agro-biodiversity through capacity & skills development, coordination and awareness
- Involving all actors concerned with agro-biodiversity i.e. farmers, public, private, NGOs, projects, etc
- Perform bottom-up planning and implementation, based on indigenous knowledge and improved technologies for in-situ conservation/sustainable use
- Providing longer term low cost support in same area to ensure lasting benefit

5.2 Working with farmers over a longer period - Farmer Field Schools

The ABP Project will pursue the Farmer Field Schools (FFS), Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and integrated farm/community management approaches. The FFS/IPM is designed to

develop the skills and capacities of farmers. Typical steps are community organizing/selection of crops/animals, training of trainers, season long field schools, farmer to farmer visits, and follow-up activities. These steps are included in the Lao Extension Plus (LEP⁺) approach.

The FFS approach follows the group discovery and adult learning methodology, where farmers discuss solutions to problems through simple field demonstrations. Employing non-formal education methods, the farmers' fields are used as the primary resource for the discovery-based learning. The process is facilitative and respects the experiences of farmers. They work in small groups to ensure that all ideas are shared. The end result is more skilled, knowledgeable and confident farmers that can solve various challenges towards a more environmental friendly farming system and income generation.

Supported by well trained facilitators/trainers, 25-30 farmers typically meet weekly and curriculum will be developed to address both male and female farmers. Apart from improving farm production, the FFS curriculum will include biodiversity for improved human nutrition and participatory plant breeding, crop rotation, farming systems, and biodiversity conservation/sustainable use.

Among others FAO (since 1996), Danida and Sida have rich experience in FFS from Laos and as well as from neighbouring countries. However, successful outcome needs careful planning - taking into consideration local priorities as well as ethnic traditions and sentiments.

5.3 Identification of specific interventions

Agro-biodiversity interventions (FFS and others) will follow a holistic approach taking views of traditions/culture, consumers, markets, and associated players including farmers, village heads, local and central governments, research, extension, NGOs and private sector.

Incremental studies (where needed) and capacity assessments will be an integral part of the identification of agro-biodiversity friendly improvements. Studies may concentrate on underutilized niche species, crops and products and will be carried out in close collaboration with the farming communities. Emerging markets and options for Organic Agriculture, Fair Trade, Ecotourism, Domestication of NTFPs, and Home Gardens will be looked into. Lessons learned from similar interventions and research (e.g. funded by Sida, SDC, SNV, GIZ, and FAO), and other means will be carried out before embarking on further studies. Not least, the ABP project will capitalize on the many TABI pilot initiatives (projects) carried out in Xieng Khouang and Luang Prabang provinces.

5.4 Complementarities and collaboration with other projects

During the ABP Project preparation phase, it was recognized that the ABP project would have a comparative advantage in higher-level policy dialogue through the UN System whereas the activities at the local level, the ABP build on TABI's successful activities, see Table 1 below. Thus, much attention has been paid to avoid overlaps and make synergies with the TABI project as well as with other projects. During the inception period regular meetings have been held with TABI. List of potential collaboration projects is provided in Annex 4.

a) Central level

The TABI's component one (Effective Management of the CBD) is commissioned to IUCN assisting DoF in carrying out its obligation related to CBD. The work has concentrated on the preparation of the 4th Country Report to the CBD (Sep 2010) and the current preparation of the 2nd NBSAP and includes support to secretariat, the focal points and various working groups. Further, the ABP project will support clarification of organizational mandates and coordination.

The ABP project is providing inputs to the 2nd NBSAP and work closely with the TABI/IUCN and the NCSAFU projects, by emphasising on agro-bio-diversity issues and by supporting regional consultations and piloting provincial Strategy and Action Plans (PSAPs). On medium and longer term the ABP project will support local-central linkages with regard to agro-biodiversity planning, implementation and monitoring.

b) Field level

The TABI project is developing a very useful tool kit on participatory Forest and Land Use Planning (pFLUP) at village level and presently supporting provincial and district staff in carrying out the planning in villages in Phonxay and Phoukhout districts. With due consideration to the ongoing pFLUP the ABP Project will after the identification of pilot villages either building on existing village pFLUP or support the existing teams in preparing new and/or finalizing all steps in the land use planning process.

Further, the ABP project will take advantage of lessons learned from the piloted agro-biodiversity related projects in the upland areas. So far, the most promising sub-projects are reported to be native chicken and pig production, promotion of organic vegetables and upland rice. List of TABI's ongoing and completed sub-projects is provided in Annex 5.

Table 1: Complementarities between ABP, TABI and other projects & potential cooperation

Intervention	TABI	ABP	Other upland projects/comments
A. Legal framework support (mainly central level)			
Mainstreaming ABD into legal framework	x	xxx	CC (x) NCSAFU (x)
Preparation of NBSAP and reports to convention	xxx	x	NCSAFU (x)
Coordination with other conventions & treaties	x	x	NCSAFU (xxx) , CC(x), Ramsar (x),
Support to CBD Secretariat/units & Working Groups	xxx	x	NCSAFU (xxx), CC
Support to ABD Technical Working Group	x	xxx	Yet to be established
Capacity Development of MAF & others	xx	xx	NCSAFU (xxx)
Awareness/ Website	xxx	xxx	NCSAFU (xxx)
Biodiversity database	xxx	x	Yet to be established
ABD Monitoring	xx	x	FAO M&E Project (xxx)
B. Provincial activities			
PBSAP	x	xx	NCSAFU (x)
District Agro-ecosystem/Agro-biodiversity Analysis	xxx	x	
Participatory Forest & Land Use Planning	xxx	xx	NUDP (xxx)
Capacity development of local institutions	xx	xx	NUDP (xxx), NSLDP (xx)
Farmer Field Schools/farmer group support	x	xxx	FAO IPM (xxx), BUCAP (xxx), PPOSA (xx)
Extension/outreach	xx	xx	Right Link Project (xx), NUDP (xxx)
Research	x	x	LSUAFRP (xxx)
Upland pilot initiatives (all subsectors)	xxx	xx	NUDP (xxx).
Local awareness raising	xx	xx	
In-situ conservation planning support	xx	xxx	
Private-public agreements	xxx	xxx	

6.4 Cross-cutting issues

a) Gender

Generally, in the upland areas female farmers are occupied with house work (child care, cooking, weaving, cleaning, etc) as well as small livestock rearing, planting, weeding, and harvesting – while men are responsible for home construction, large livestock rearing, hunting and important decision making. In other words, women are dominantly responsible for food security.

The ABP Project will carefully assess the gender issues¹⁴ and will promote gender equity in policies, strategies and programmes as well as in field implementation, while respecting cultural and ethnic gender roles and traditions. Where possible, women's interest and economic contribution to household economy will be supported and at least 50% of direct beneficiaries will be female farmers. Further, TA and staff gender equity will be pursued, project data will be gender segregated and gender issues will be included TORs.

b) Ethnicity

The traditional knowledge associated with the multiple use of the natural resource base by various ethnic groups (mainly Khmu and Hmong) in Xiang Khouang and Luang Prabang is steadily disappearing. Based on the priority setting by users, the ABP Project will strengthen the sustainable use of existing and under-utilized species to support their livelihood.

c) Nutrition and livelihoods

The nutritional level and practices in many upland villages are often quite low and calls for increasing coordination among the health, agriculture, education and other sectors. The ABP project will facilitate such coordination by improving agro-biodiversity and including human nutrition in the curriculum in Farmers Field Schools.

7. Proposed changes to Log Frame - revised indicators

The Logical Framework provides an overview of impact and process indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification and forms basis for the project's M&E system. During the inception period, the ABP project indicators have been revised in order to make them Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound (SMART), see Table 2a and 2b. Further details are provided in Annex 6. Pursuing the programmatic approach steps will be taken to coordinate and synchronize indicators and align work plans with TABI.

¹⁴ Lao PDR is signatory to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which states, among others, that: “ Parties shall take into account the particular problems faced by rural women and the significant roles which rural women play in the economic survival of their families, including their work in the non-monetized sectors of the economy...take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from rural development and, in particular, shall ensure to such women the right to participate in the elaboration and implementation of development planning at all levels...”

Table 2a. Impact Indicators

Long term solution/Objective & Outcome	Proposed Impact Indicator
Long Term Solution/development Objective (project contribution) Lao PDR's Bio-diversity, including agro biodiversity is maintained, protected and sustainably used - as a key to poverty alleviation and adaptation to Climate Change Impact.	To be considered
Objective To provide farmers with the necessary incentives, capabilities and institutional support framework to conserve agricultural biodiversity within the farming systems in Lao PDR	Area of provincial agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (Target: 100,000 ha)
Outcome/component 1 National policy and institutional frameworks for sustainable use, and in-situ conservation of biodiversity in agro-ecosystems	Number of new national plans, policies, laws, strategies, and guidelines with agro-biodiversity concerns (Target: 6)
Outcome/component 2 Capacities and incentives to mainstream biodiversity, especially agro-biodiversity, at the Provincial, District and community levels	Number of farmers adopting skills and techniques promoted through FFS and farmer field days (Target: 1,000)
Outcome/component 3 Effective project management	Number of strategic recommendations from the Agro-biodiversity Steering Committee (Target: 6)

Table 2b. Process Indicators

Quantitative Results/Output	Proposed Process Indicator
Output 1.1 Biodiversity conservation, including agro-biodiversity, incorporated into Government policies, laws and other legal instruments	Number of national workshops with biodiversity content (Target: 10)
Output 1.2 Institutional coordination of agro-biodiversity enhanced at national level	Number of yearly agro-biodiversity inter-sectoral coordination meetings (Target: at least 2)
Output 1.3 Institutional capacity of MAF/GOL to plan for, implement and effectively communicate on agro-biodiversity enhanced at national level	Number GOL officers participated in meetings where agro-biodiversity issues are discussed (Target: 500)
Output 1.4 Key stakeholders understanding and capacity to respond to agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use enhanced	Number of tools developed to support and enhance incorporation of agro-biodiversity into national and institutional frameworks (Target: 6).
Output 2.1 Capacity of Provincial and District Government to mainstream Biodiversity into agriculture increased	Number of Technical Service Centers in cluster villages with agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use activities (Target 4)
Output 2.2 Participatory land use plans integrating agro-biodiversity developed in pilot sites	Number of cluster villages with pFLUP plans (Target: 8)
Output 2.3 In-situ conservation for important agro-biodiversity established	Number of districts with in-situ agro-biodiversity conservation plans (Target: 2)
Output 2.4 Farmer skills, knowledge and incentives necessary to undertake biodiversity-friendly farming enhanced.	Number of male and female farmers graduated from FFS (Target: 1,000)
Output 2.5 -Agro-biodiversity and biodiversity friendly community products promoted	Number of value added agro-biodiversity products marketed for local or international markets (Target 10)
Output 2.6 Private and public sector agreements to mainstream agro-biodiversity into their plans facilitated	Number of private-public sector agro-biodiversity agreements (Target: 8)
Output 3. Capacity of Implementing Partner for integrated planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of programmes improved	Number of MAF-organized cross project meetings (Target: 10)

8. Risks

A number of initial (updated) risks for successful implementation was identified during project formulation and divided into four risk groups (high, medium, medium-low and low), see Annex 7. In the high risk category concerns have been raised for not identifying sufficient agro-biodiversity friendly and economic alternatives to existing agricultural practices. This will be met by careful planning, diversified production and market surveys. The project will regularly update and carefully monitor the risks and if necessary suggest additional mitigating actions.

9. Work plans

An overall work plan for the 5-year period has been prepared and particularly based on the methodology chapter 2 of the project document, see Annex 8. It is however, expected that the work plans will be revised during the course of implementation. Based on the 5-year overall work plan, the Q4 work plan cum budget (Annex 9) as well as a 2011 work plan cum budget have been prepared, see Annex 10.

Continued consultations will be held with central, provincial and district authorities in order to detail activities and ensure stakeholder involvement and participation. Further, work plans and budget will be synchronized with the TABI project.

10. Organizational structure

a) Project set-up

The proposed National Agro-biodiversity Steering Committee, common for both the TABI and ABP projects still needs to be formalized. However, a project (intermediate) coordination/ executive board of four MAF department heads and four projects related to biodiversity and Climate Change has been established in April 2011 and has a potential for enforced MAF inter-project coordination. The board still has to meet and the inclusion of other relevant projects such as TABI should be considered. The proposed organizational structure (see Annex 11) may need further considerations.

Similarly, it has been proposed that ABP and TABI projects are governed by the same provincial steering committee and similarly, the ABP project will be represented in district coordination groups.

b) Other Steering Committees related to Biodiversity

The coordination of environment issues is foreseen to be done by the National Environment Committee under which three subcommittees have been proposed i.e. the CBD/CC MAF sub-committee, the provincial CBD/PPSAP subcommittee and the CBD inter-sectoral sub-committee, see Annex 12. None of these sub-committees have been formally established, although the latter is acting as a taskforce and regularly meeting during the preparation of the 2nd NBSAP, under the leadership of the CBD focal point.

In 2009, the CBD/NBSAP focal point was moved from the Science, Technology and Environment Agency (STEA) to Department of Forestry (DoF) and now (late 2011) being moved back to the new Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE). However, the agency overseeing the NRE related conventions and treaties remains with MAF.

c) Agro-biodiversity Technical Working Group

The ABP Project log frame (output 1.2) supports the establishment and functioning of a specific agro-biodiversity (MAF) technical working group. With the movement of the focal point of CBD/NBSAP to MoNRE this working group increases its relevance, but remains to be established.

d) Local level coordination and collaboration

Apart from the proposed TABI-ABP common provincial steering committee, the PAFO and district authorities are regularly conducting meetings with project representatives. During the field visits PAFO and district authorities have expressed their keen interest in the ABP Project and have assigned project coordinators/focal points.

f) Selection of villages

During visits to Phonexay and Phoukhout districts authorities advised not to include too many villages in order to ensure lasting impact. The selection will be based on criteria for selection (see Annex 11) and expected to be finalized late 2010/early 2011.

g) Collaboration with private sector

The main receivers of farm produces and products are local market places, although an increasing number of traders are buying various upland cash crops. Prices, seems to vary adding uncertainties to medium to long term planning. In meeting market demands the ABP Project will promote farmer/producer groups interaction with the private sector (Public-Private Partnership) and where possible establish unified products (standardization) and certification/”green labeling” of agro-biodiversity niche products. The ABD project will facilitate formal or informal agreements between involved parties.

11. Monitoring framework review

One of the important outputs of the project is to prepare a monitoring framework, which will be designed for use at different levels, i.e. GEF/UNDP/FAO, Steering Committees/Boards, Reviews, Senior Management, and day-to-day management at both central and local level. SMART indicators are essential to the monitoring system as well as their linkages to the GoL monitoring system.

The ABD project will be reviewed annually through the UNDP Project Review System in addition to the external mid-term review.

12. Project Management and UN support

Project management follows the UNDP NIM system and clear TOR have been provided in the Project Document. FAO will through a Letter of Agreement recruit a part-time CTA as well as part of the short-term international and national TA including providing technical backstopping from the FAO Hqs, the Regional FAO Office and the FAO Lao Country Office.

13. Budget

Budgets for Q3 and Q4 of 2010, for 2011 and revised budget for the whole period has been revised, see Annex 7 & 8 and table 3. Lower budget in year one, is due to less activity level in the upstart period. The minor budget changes between components/outcomes are due to changes in use of UNDP (TRAC) funds and do not reflect budget changes of GEF funds. There seems to be a need to synchronize budget figures into calendar years.

Table 3. Revised budget

Component	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Total	
	Pr.Doc	1 st rev.	Pr.Doc	1 st rev.	Pr.Doc	1 st rev.	Pr.Doc	1 st rev.	Pr.Doc	1 st rev.	Pr.Doc	1 st rev.
Comp. 1	199,420	52,545	199,420	203,326	181,420	226,588	163,420	193,606	907,100	886,765	907,100	886,765
Comp. 2	249,400	23,710	249,400	357,700	226,900	267,224	204,400	237,824	204,400	231,820	1,134,500	1,118,278
Comp. 3	76,180	141,093	72,180	53,126	114,680	111,222	63,180	60,934	110,180	106,582	436,400	472,957
Total	525,000	217,348	521,000	614,152	523,000	605,034	431,000	509,458	478,000	532,008	2,478,000	2,478,000

B. CHANGES AS RESULT OF INCEPTION WORKSHOP

14. Comments, recommendations and follow-up

The project document was in principle approved by the inception workshop on 29 November 2011 (agenda, see Annex 15) with the following comments and recommendations.

14.1 Project Approach

a) *The workshop applauded project focus on:*

- interactions between national and local level exchange of experience and inputs to and feed back on new policies,
- agro-biodiversity, as important heritage and contributor to national economy - with several representatives highlighting concerns on the ongoing depletion of the natural resource base including deforestation,
- holistic approach and capacity development at all levels including NGOs and private sector
- close collaboration and interaction between upland and Multilateral Environment Agreement (MEA) projects
- participatory forest and land use planning, as an important tool for delineation of village borders and existing and future use of different land and forest types,
- quantitative and quality improvements of niche products as well as market development options/tools,
- farmer to farmer approach including the FFS/ IPM/CA – with appreciation of the FAO IPM Programme presentation on IPM experiences from the Region and Lao PDR, and
- awareness development efforts at different levels and particular at community (schools) level.

b) *Recommendations and project follow up*

1. To pursue the agro-biodiversity under a programmatic approach e.g. in a sub-sector working group under the ANR Sector working Group, possibly with UNDP and/or SDC as co-chairs – which then may replace the proposed agro-biodiversity technical working group.

Project follow-up: Will follow decisions of SDC and MAF senior management.

2. To emphasize on development of local human resources including upgrading knowledge and skills of extension workers at technical service centers.

Project follow-up: Will continuously be done in close collaboration with local authorities as per detailed capacity development plans.

3. To stay several years in same village clusters in order to ensure strong farmer participation, lasting impact (as nearly all previous projects have failed due to short duration-high inputs approach leading to no change of habits).

Project follow-up: Agree and included as crucial element in the approach in the inception report.

4. Pursue market opportunities (e.g. through GI) with potential spices, traditional medicine, NTFPs, and local rice varieties (e.g. Kao Gai Noi) having good markets prospects in neighbouring countries as well as in Japan.

Project follow-up: Already in work plan and dialogue with related stakeholders will be maintained.

5. To investigate underlying threat to agro-biodiversity losses e.g. deforestation, alternatives to pioneering shifting cultivation.

Project follow-up: Included in work plan under component one, but local provincial workshops discussing threats to agro-biodiversity will be added.

6. To use of various tools related to biodiversity including possible synthesis of thru value of agro-biodiversity and contribution of livestock.

Project follow-up: Already described in project approach, but the details will be worked out during the course of implementation

14.2 Implementation issues

a) The workshop applauded project focus on:

- strong government ownership and wide use of government structures
- strong involvement of local communities/farmers
- strong collaboration with other projects and particularly with TABI
- clear log frame with indicators

b) Recommendations and project follow up

7. To start small in few cluster villages

Project follow-up: Agree and in-depth discussions with local authorities will take place during the second part of December.

8. To pursue strong ownership at district and sub-district level and considering using PCAP as partly done by TABI.

Project follow-up: Agree, and will discuss mechanism with UNDP and with district authorities

9. To encourage to local leadership

Project follow-up: We agree, and actually an essential part of UNDP's national implementation modality. Encouragement to and facilitation of local leadership has been added to the project approach.

10. To coordinate and seek synergy with TABI and other development projects

Project follow-up: We Agree, and have added possible aligned work plans with TABI under project approach in the inception report as well as seeking possible partnerships with other upland projects

14.3 Organizational set-up

a) The workshop applauded project focus on:

- common Steering Committees and Boards at all levels, not least strong representation at local level with mechanism for strong collaboration with TABI and other projects
- involvement of other ministries and stakeholders

b) Recommendations and project follow up

11. To merge steering committee/coordination boards with TABI

Project follow-up: Will follow-up with MAF leadership regarding common national steering committees/executive boards as well as proposed agro-biodiversity sub-working group under the ANR Sector working and/or a separate technical working group

Annex1. List of selected invasive alien species in Lao PDR

Scientific Name	Lao Name	English name	Critical area
<i>Echinochloa colonum/colona</i>		Swamp grass, Awnless barnyard grass (Aus), Jungle rice (US)	Lowland rice production systems
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Top porng ພູໜູ້ນຳ	Water hyacinth	Slow-flowing rivers, stagnant water
<i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i>		Barnyard grass	Lowland rice production systems
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>		Giant Mimosa	Upland agricultural systems in northern provinces.
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>		Mile-a-minute	Northern highland areas
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>		Crofton weed	Northern highland areas
<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>		Siam weed	In abandoned cultivation, along road sides and fallow land
<i>Minisa invisa</i>			Northern highland areas, fallow land
<i>Pomacea canaliculata</i>		Golden Apple Snail	Irrigation canals, rivers and paddy fields.
<i>Aristichthys nobilis</i>		Bighead carp	Mekong river
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>		Common carp	Mekong river
<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>		Silver carp	Mekong river

Source: Invasive Alien Species in the Lower Mekong Basin, IUCN 2006 and others

Annex 2. Updated Key Policies, Strategies and Plans related to Agro-biodiversity

	Legal Frame work	Key content	Agro-Biodiversity
A. Cross sector			
1	<i>6th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED), 2006-10</i>	HRD, increased competitiveness, and linking economic growth with social development.	Prepare Strategic Plan for Environment Sustainable use of Nat. Resources & Market Development.
2	<i>National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES) by 2020</i>	Comprehensive strategic guidance economic growth & poverty eradication.	Improved environmental conservation and natural resources management (Eco growth, Soc/ Cultural Dev, & Conservation of Nat. Res)
3	<i>National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS), 2008.</i>	Four Strategic Goals: Sustainable Economic Development, Sustainable Social Well-being and Development, Sustainable Environment and Natural Resources Management, and Good Governance.	Sustainable forest management; Watershed development and Management; Stainable land use and Management; Biodiversity conservation; Climate change; and Eco-tourism
B. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)			
1	<i>Agriculture Law , 1998</i>	Organization, Promotion of (environmental friendly) production, agro-industry , inputs use	Indirectly
2	<i>Forestry Law , 2007</i>	Principles for forestland use, role and responsibilities, levels of forest management, control & inspection	
3	<i>Land Law , 1997, 2003, PM Decree 88 , Jun 2008</i>	Facilitates land management Implementation of Land Law	Settling land disputes, Manage State Land. Protect the environment.
4	<i>Farmer Organizations Decree</i>		
6	<i>The PM Decree No 135 on State Land Lease or Concession, May 2009.</i>	Principles, procedures and measures leasing state land for agri-business, cash cropping, NTFPs, and industrial tree plantations	NTFPs
7	<i>Strategic Vision for the Agriculture and Forestry Sector, 1999</i>	Guidance for participatory planning; lowland transformation (farming systems – market oriented crops/ modern farming) to expand export commodities; sustainable development of sloping lands (protection of NPAs, NTFPs, and community based approaches to land management); stabilization of shifting cultivation; expansion of irrigation; HRD (focus at district level, improve participatory planning/ extension techniques); and enabling environment for business development.	
8.	<i>Agricultural Development Strategy (ADS), 2020</i>	Direction for gradual transition from subsistence to commercial smallholder production containing four goals: 1) Improvement of livelihood & food security; 2) Partnering investment for commodity production aiming to develop value chains do domestic, regional and global markets; 3) Stabilization of shifting cultivation and sustainable forest management with social and environmental focus; and 4) Development of the institutional capacity and human resources required to manage modernization of the ANR sector.	Short-medium term: Promote environmental friendly market-integrated ANR growth. Long-term: Ensure agricultural and forestry practices are ecologically sustainable, maintain production potential and quality of agricultural biodiversity. Biodiversity conserved for eco-tourism. Domestic NTFPs and conserve forests.
9	<i>Agricultural Development Master Plan, ADMP (2011-2015) (follow-up of ADS)</i>	Roadmap for ADS with four Goals and Eight Programmes: 1) Food Production, 2) Commodity production and farmer organizations, 3) Sustainable production patterns, land allocation and rural development, 4) Forestry development, 5) Irrigated agriculture, 6) Other agriculture and forestry infrastructure, 7) Agriculture and forestry research and extension, and 8) Human Resource development	Programmes measured against biodiversity and climate change, promotes of local breeds, conservation agriculture (CA), IPM, bio-fertilizers, zoning of agricultural areas, initiation of small holder farmer organizations towards pro-poor and green value chains, and sustainable biodiversity incl. NTFP.
10	<i>Four Goals and 13 Measures, MAF, 2007</i>	Goals: a) Food security, b) Commercialization of agriculture production, c) Shifting cultivation stabilization for poverty reduction, d) and sustainable forest management	Broadly supports improvement of all farming and forestry systems

11	<i>NAFRI Strategic Plan for 2007 -2012 & Research Agenda for 2007 – 2010</i>	Five research thrust & area: 1. Maximizing productivity, 2, Improving land use planning and management, 3. Improving enabling env.& effectiveness, 4 Marketing and quality improvement, 5 Sust. management, utilization and conservation of biodiversity.	Potential for agro-biodiversity conservation and Utilization. Local knowledge of systems. Management systems and domestication techniques.
12	<i>Forestry Strategy to 2020, 2005</i>	Guidance on sustainable development of forestry sector in line with national policies, strategies and priority programs for national socio-economic development and environmental conservation. Reviews status of forestry sector incl resources situation, use and management, 146 actions of responsible agencies and main stakeholders.	Importance of biodiversity and NTFP, Land and forest allocation Definition of land and forest types. Village based forest management Consider law on biodiversity conservation
13	<i>Ministerial Decree No 564, Aug 2007, by NLMA</i>	Provides criteria for and issuance of individual and Communal/ collective land titles and land management.	
14	<i>Bio-Diversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), 2004</i>	Maintain the diverse biodiversity as one key to poverty alleviation and protect the current asset base of the poor”.	Among others, improve the biodiversity data base, management and monitoring, capacity building and awareness creation, adjust legislation and regulations in line with MEA’s.
15	<i>National Agricultural Biodiversity Programme (NABP), MAF, 2004</i>	Long-term strategy to sustainably manage, develop and conserve agro-biodiversity. to achieve food security and improve the livelihoods of the rural communities; and to enhance the GoLs capacity to ensure the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources	Thematic issues include crop associated biodiversity, livestock management, NTFP’s, sustainable use and conservation of aquatic biodiversity and integrated agricultural production systems.
16	<i>Wildlife and Aquatic Animals Act (WAAA), 2007</i>	Principles, rules and measures relating to the management, preservation, protection, utilization, propagation and rearing of wildlife and aquatic animals with a view to minimizing impacts on habitat and ecosystems.	Water bodies and protected areas, movements and trade. 3 categories of fish: (i) prohibited hunting, (ii) authorization for hunting & III customary and limited commercial purpose Key Steps & actions for Sustainable Participatory Aquatic Resources Management.
17	<i>Strategy for Climate Change, March 2010</i>	Outlines adaptation and mitigation options for seven key priority areas including agriculture sector & food security.1. Agriculture and Food Security 2.Forestry and Land Use Change.3.Water Resources 4.Energy and Transport.5.Industry.6.Urban Development. 7.Public Health	Increase Climate change resilience through Conservation Agriculture approach, usage of CC and disease resilient crop varieties. Underline possible threats to rich aquatic biodiversity and NTFPs. Enhancing biodiversity conservation.
18	<i>Agricultural Investment Plan (AIP), 2011-15</i>	Follow-up on the Agricultural Development Strategy	
C. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE)			
1	<i>Environmental Law, 1999</i>	Specifies principles, regulations and measures for managing, monitoring, restoring and protecting the environment. Describes prevention of environmental degradation and pollution control. Explains environmental remediation and restoration. Describes environmental protection funds.	Protection of Bio-diversity Allocation of protected by Local administrative authorities and technical line agencies. Designate protection of protected/unprotected species.
2	<i>National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS), 2008.</i>	Four Strategic Goals: Sustainable Economic Development, Sustainable Social Well-being and Development, Sustainable Environment and Natural Resources Management, and Good Governance.	Sustainable forest management; Watershed development and Management; Stainable land use and Management; Biodiversity conservation; Climate change; and Eco-tourism
4	<i>Social and Environmental Impacts Assessment tools</i>		

D. Ministry of Health (MoH)

1	<i>National Nutrition Policy, 2008</i>	Includes a call for cooperation (by National Science Council) between concerned sectors in particular health, education, agriculture, environment, industry/ trade.	Food security should include nutrition security (dietary diversity). Sustainable management of biodiversity and safe food production.
2	<i>Lao PDR National Nutrition Strategy and Plan of Action, 2009</i>	Contains three strategic directions and 10 strategic objectives	Improve food access and institutional coordination

E. Others

1	<i>Lao PDR Tourism Strategy 2006-2020</i>	Forecasts no of tourists will grow from about 1.6 million in 2010 to 3 million in 2020. Protected areas identified as major factors in attracting more tourists and generating more income.	Recognizes the importance of a preserved environment and promotes eco-tourism. Agro-tourism not defined.
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Annex 3a. List of projects relevant to the legal framework of ABP project (un-prioritized order and incomplete)

No	Title	Donor	Period	Implm. agency	Collaborating agency	Interventions	Budget m USD	Legal activities
1	National Capacity Self Assessment, NCSA (FU)	GEF				Obligations to UNCBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD.		
2	The Bio-Diversity Initiative (TABI-1)	SDC	2009-12	MAF (DoP)	DoF, NAFRI, WREA,	2 nd NBSAP		
3	Mainstreaming Bio-diversity in Lao PDR's Agriculture in Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans and Programmes	GEF, UNDP	2011-16	MAF (Cabinet)	DoF, NAFRI, WREA, MoJ,	2 nd NBSAP, Mainstreaming in related legal framework	2.5	40%
4	Biodiversity Conservation Corridor Initiative (BCI)	ADB	2012-16			Mainstream sound environmental management and biodiversity conservation in GMS Economic Cooperation Programs and sub-regional development.		
5	Northern Upland Development Project (NUDP)					General policy support		
6	Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Change Impacts IRAS/NAPAFU Project Climate Change Adaptation (NABA follow-up)	GEF	2910-16	NAFRI	NAFES, PAFO, NLMA, NDMO			
7	Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI), UNDP	UNDP				Review of existing strategies, guides, plans etc.		
8	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&e)	FAO	2012-	MAF, (DoP)	PAPO & DAFO, Projects	M&e Unit established at DoP Strengthening Planning Capacity and Monitoring and Information System		

Annex 3b List of agro-biodiversity related projects in upland areas (un-prioritized order and incomplete)

No	Title	Donor	Period	Implm. agency	Collaborating agency	Interventions	Pilot Area	Budget M USD
1	FAO-IPM Lao National IPM Programme	SIDA	2010-13	PPC (MAF)		Reduction of pesticide risks, curriculum development, FFS TOT, IPM for invasive pests, community action plans, public-private partnerships,	Sayabouly, Xiengkhouang, others	
2	Lao-German Land Management and Registration Project (LMRP)	GTZ	2009-12	NLMA		Procedures and pilot activities related to the registration of individual and communal land registration. Technical guidelines. Data base.	Xayabouri and Luang Namtha Provinces	
3	Forest Management and Community Support Project (FORCOM)	JICA	200x-09			Community support to identify market	Louang Prabang, Huaphan, Luang Namtha, Sayabouly, Bokeo and Vientiane).	
4	Small-scale Agro- enterprise Development in the Uplands of Lao PDR (SADU) III	SDC	2009-13	CIAT, MAF	AFPRC, NAFRI, NAFES, DAFO	Models for contract farming. Open versus closed markets. Livestock production marketing support to smallholders of Groundnuts (Pek District), Passion fruit , Banana, Pig, Poultry (Khoun District) Maize,	Xieng Khouang (4 districts) and Louang Prabang (2)	
5	Lao-Swedish Upland Agriculture and Forestry Research Program (LSUAFRP)	SIDA	2002_-2011	NAFRI		Strengthen research capacity & refinement of national policy on upland development incl. information management component (web-based document depository - http://www.laofab.org)	Multidisciplinary, field-based research is carried out in target districts of northern Lao PDR	
6	Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation in Lao PDR (PAREDD)	JICA	2009-14	NAFES	DOF, DoP, PAFO, DAFO,	LUP, NTFP, Reforestation, Agriculture improvements and monitoring	Luang Prabang , Phu Chom Nge District , Phonthong District, & Phonexay District (Huay Kin Village Cluster)	1.7m
7	Sustainable Forestry and Rural Development Project-2 (SUFORD)	WB, FINNI DA	2009-11	MAF, DoF		Sustainable (production) forest management, protection of biodiversity	9 Provinces (mainly southern)	
8	The Bio-Diversity Initiative (TABI-1)	SDC	2009-12	MAF (DoP)	DoF, NAFRI, WREA,	2 nd NBSAP	Luang Prabang & Xieng Khouang, 5-6 clusters	
9	Mainstreaming Bio-diversity in Lao PDR's Agriculture in Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans and Programmes	GEF, UNDP	2011-16	MAF (Cabinet)	DoF, NAFRI, WREA, MoJ,	2 nd NBSAP, Mainstreaming in related legal framework	Luang Prabang & Xieng Khouang, 5-6 clusters	2.5m
10	Capacity Building and Enhanced Regional Collaboration for the	FAO	2008 -11	NAFRI				1.4 m

	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources in Asia							
11	Northern Uplands Development Project (NUDP)	GTZ, EU, SDC	2010-14	MAF (DoP)	MAF, PAFO, DAFO, ...	Development of socially and environmentally sustainable farming systems, food security, agricultural productivity & market, integration, land and natural resource management, local governance and planning.	Louang Prabang and Huaphan, Phongxaly and others	25 m
12	Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts IRAS/NAPAFU Project Climate Change Adaptation (NABA follow-up).		2011-16			Marketing, Research, IPM. Extension, FGs		
12	Developing improved farming and marketing systems in rainfed regions of southern Lao PDR	ACIAR	2009-2013			Marketing		
13	Developing multi-scale climate change adaptation strategies for farming communities in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Bangladesh and India	ACIAR	2010-2014			Rice based cropping systems, Crop-water adaptation		
14	Northern Uplands Rice Farming Systems Research Project	SDC	2008-2012			Options for productive Rice based farming systems		
15	Geographical indications of Agricultural products in Lao PDR project	AFD	2007-09			Product quality reputation, promotion, quality, market info, certification (coffee, upland rice, silk, green tea, algae)		1.6 m
16	Rights, Information, Networking, Knowledge Project (Rights-LINK)	SDC	200_-2012	NAFES	Village International	Knowledge networking and linking policy to practice by creating platforms to improve coordination and communication at different levels, (2) local use & management of natural resources (3) capacity development of government agencies, civil society & private sector.		
17	Rice Biodiversity project in Lao PDR – Phase 2: Rice Germplasm Collection, Conservation, and Utilization in the Lao PDR	IRRI	-	NAFRI				
18	Rice Productivity Improvement Project	WB	2009-2011			FG seed production & on-farm demonstrations Rice research and multiplication		
19	FFS development for plant	SEARI						

	genetic resource management and sustainable utilization of agro-biodiversity.	CE/Oxfam-Belgium						
20	Biodiversity Use of Conservation Asia Programme-1 (BUCAP)	SEARICE Oxfam Belgium	2001-05	NAFES, NAFRI	NARC, PPC, DAFO	- On farm (informal) and some degree formal seed system support. - Testing rice varieties - FFS	Vientiane, Savannakhet Champasak and Luang Prabang	
21	Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation (CliPAD)	KfW/GTZ/DED,	2010-13	MAF/MPI	MPI/ cim /InWent	Concepts, instruments and mechanisms and implementing REDD demonstration		
22	Support to the reform of the Luang Prabang Agriculture and Forestry College, (SURAFCO)	SDC	2008-11	MAF/DoOP	AFC	Special attention to ethnic groups and female students. Structure, equipment, curriculum development, training of teachers, and networking	Luang Prabang	

Annex 4. List of completed and ongoing pilot sub-projects carried out by TABI**a) Livestock**

	Project title	Impl. Partner	Location	Key technical support	Result/impact
1	Improved Native Pig production and market	P-LO DAFO	8 vilages Sobchia Village Cluster Phonexay District LPB	- Compare native pig production with hybrid pig production - Deregulate prices for native pigs - Introduce pig fodder, stables & natural medicines	- Native pig versus hybrid pig production compared - Higher net returns achieved - Genetic pool of native pigs enlarged
5	Biogas Facilities	SNV & PAFO (DoL)	1 village (Mien) Phonexay District XK	- 20 BG Plants	- Biogas production, Systematic fertilizer supply, less firewood collection
6	Promotion, raising and marketing of native black meat chicken	P-LO, PAFO DAFO	9 vilages (Khmu people) Khung Longhan cluster village Phoukhout District XK	- Production methods (better feed, disease control) - Marketing	- Alternative and improved production adapted - Consistent meat quality - Reduced death rate - Improved growth rate
17	Biogas	PAFO DoL	4 vilages Kheung Longharng cluster, Phoukhout District, XK	- Co-funding material & technical support with SNV	- Gas for cooking and lightening - Easy available manure - Improved large animal raising
36	Biogas-2	PAFO DoL	Long Ha cluster village Poukhout District, XK	- Gas for cooking and lightening - Easy available manure - Improved large animal raising

b) Fisheries and aquatic resources

	Project title	Impl. Partner	Location	Key technical support	Result/impact
8	Promotion and quality production and of crispy river-weed (alga, <i>Cladophora sp</i>)	P-LWU P-DoE P-OIC	4 groups of 20 families 4 vilages Xieng Ngern, Nam Bak & LBP Districts, LPB	- Quality production (dried sheets) Marketing	- Quality assurance of Unique LB Product - Consumer confidence
9	Initiating crispy river weed processing and marketing	D-LWU D-OIC	Producer groups, Nam Khan River, Phoukhout District, XK	- Quality production (dried sheets)	- Production potential - Awareness - Increased income
19	Fish reserve man., native species re-stocking, and conservation of endangered species	P-LFO LARREC (C), DAFO	2 vilages (Nam Pa and Nam Vi) Phonexay District LPB	- Train vilages in sustained fisheries reserves management including stock monitoring.	- Fisheries reserves -established/regenerated and managed - Fish stock recovered

27	Management, restoration and market management of freshwater shrimp	P-FLO	6 villages Xieng Ngern & Nguoi Districts, XK	- Train in harvest management & conservation and restocking	- Better managed resources and sustainable yields
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c) Crops

No	Project title	Impl. Partner	Location	Key technical support	Result/impact
3	Organic Production of Khao Kai Noi Rice Variety	DAFO PAFO NAFES	6 villages Kheung (mainly Lao Phouan), Longhang village Cluster, Phoukhout District, XK	- Train farmers in SRI & Organic production using FFS - Promote market for organic native rice	- Farmer benefits (food security & profit) from rice production of local variety increased - Market understanding of unique organically grown rice niche product
7	Conservation and utilization of local rice varieties	BUCAP PAFO DAFO	6 villages 5 district LPB	- Train farmers in improved technology organic production of traditional rice	- Farmers with improved skills and knowledge - Increased rice yields and income - Organic rice promoted
14	"Little Chicken Rice R2", Variety and Seed Multiplication	NAFES PAFO	6 villages Phoukout District XK	- Train farmers in seed production incl. selection, processing (plant) of local rice variety	- Farmer seed multiplication system in place
18	Intercropping, relay-cropping and SCV to increase yield of short rotation upland rice fields	PAFES DAFOs	2 villages Xieng Ngern and Phonexay Districts LPB	- Train farmers in soil fertility improvement techniques including leguminous relay crops.	- Inter-, SCV, and relay cropping introduced in steeper slopes - Increased soil fertility
25	"Little Chicken Rice". Organic production and marketing	PAFO, DAFO, DoA	6 villages Phoukhout District XK	- Train farmers in use of organic fertilizers, pest control, harvest, labeling, and certification	- Marketed organic rice product
31	Development & promotion of organic vegetable production	PEO	15 villages 5 districts District LPB	- Train farmers in higher efficiency of organic fertilizers - Train in utilization of bio-pesticides - Train in marketing	- Sustainable organic vegetable production and marketing system established
33	Traditional Upland rice seed quality improvement	NAFES, PEO	2 villages Phoukhut District LPB	- Train in quality seed production and purification	- Farmer production of high quality and purified upland rice seeds piloted
26	Establishing "Green CARE Fund"	Green Discovery	Vientiane Province	- Organizing study tours to Nat. Parks for Vientiane 2 nd schools students	- 2 nd School students with increase knowledge on natural upland biodiversity
13	Indigenous waterwheel training and construction	PARUA Project (Care), DAFO	3 villages Phoukhout District XK	- Supply irrigation - Train farmers in construction of traditional Noria waterwheel	- Traditional waterwheel irrigation technology promoted - Increased paddy rice cultivation - Reduced pressure on upland cropping

SRI: System of Rice Intensification (early single plant transplanting, less irrigation water & keep soil aerobic, organic)

d) NTFP & Agro Bio-div Management

No	Project title	Impl. Partner	Location	Key intervention	Result/impact
29	Conservation and Promotion of Indigenous Medicinal Plants (NTFPs) and Medicine.	P-DoH	4 villages Phoukhout District XK	- Train indigenous medical practitioners in conservation and sustainable use of traditional medicine - Train in domestication	- Indigenous knowledge and skills updated and used - Medical NTFPs identified - Medical NTFPs domesticated - Ailments successfully treated with natural medicine
10	Herbal medicine: in-situ conservation, plantation and promotion of practitioners	P-DoH	Huay Khing Cluster Village Phoukhout District LPB	- Train indigenous medical practitioners in conservation and sustainable use of traditional medicine - Train in domestication	- Indigenous knowledge and skills updated and used - Medical NTFPs identified - Medical NTFPs domesticated - Ailments successfully treated with natural medicine
11	Assessment of impact of agricultural pesticides on water quality and aquatic ADB indicators	C-WREA P-WREA	4 villages (Nam Bo, Huay No Tha Po, and Huay Man) Nam Pa River, Phonexay District LPB	- Flood water sampling for pesticide residues	- Pesticide levels in river assessed
12	Forest fire protection and community forest regeneration	PDaA & F	1 village (Phakhok) Phonexay District, LB.	- Piloting fire protection technologies.	- Reduced uncontrolled forest fire - Rehabilitation approaches piloted - Community forest regeneration promoted
15	Bamboo forest management, processing, packaging, and marketing	PAFO, DAFO, DoA	4 villages (Mien, Long Han, Vang Ton, & Lang Jong) Phoukhout District, XK	- Harvest management, processing, marketing.	- Increased awareness of forest bamboo resources - New processing methods adapted (bottling, canning, drying) - Bamboo shoots preserved - Marketing improved
16	Bor Sa (Mulberry Paper) Umbrella	P-DIC, P-LWU PAFO	1 village (Min Xay) Phoukout District XK	- Study market chain - Plant paper mulberry trees near production	- Indigenous mulberry paper umbrella technology promoted - Domestication of paper mulberry trees - Increased income generation
20	Orchids: Forest management, plantation, and marketing	PAFO- DOA, DAFO	1 village (Long Han) Phoukout District XK	- Advise villagers in domestication of wild orchids
21	Kaem Broomgrass cultivation	PAFO DoA, Naxaithong ETSC	3 villages (Mien, Phoung, Man & Long Han) Phoukhout District XK	-

22	Rattan for shoot	PAFO-DoA, DAFO, ETSC	4 villages (Mien, Long, Han Long Jong, & Vang Ton) Phoukhout District XK	- Provided seedlings - Advise in growing	-
23	Bamboo in Kheung	PAFO-DoA, DAFO, ETSC	2 villages (Kung & Phoung Man) Phoukhout District XK	- Provided seedlings - Advise in growing	-
24	"Pom" medicinal plants in Kheung Zone	PAFO-DoA, Naxaithong ETSC	1 Village (Kung) Phoukhout District XK	- Advise in cultivation of medical plans in village area	- Domesticated medical plans piloted in home gardens
28	Regenerating fallow by <i>Macaranga denticulata</i>	NAFREC DAFO	2 villages (Mueng Huay & Vong Kham) Viengkham District LPB	- ...	-
30	Domestication of Broom grass processing	P-DOA	4 villages (Puk hok, Chopchai, Hua Meung, & Dan Xay) Phonexay District LPB	- ...	-

e) Awareness

No	Project title	Impl. Partner	Location	Key intervention	Result/impact
2	Dissemination of Agro-biodiversity-related Information through Khoun Community Radio	Khoun Community Radio, PAFO, P-WREA	8 districts, full coverage in Pek, Khoun and Phonexay Districts XK	- Broadcast topics on: sustainable forest product management, water resource conservation, forest and wildlife conservation, land & forest use & allocation, organic agriculture, and beneficial use of waste	- ABD awareness and knowledge to local Lao, Khmu and Hmong communities
4+ 32	Agro-biodiversity Awareness raising and Curriculum Development	P-DoE	8 prim & 1 Sec schools (750 students & 43 teachers) 8 villages Phoukhout District, XK	- Prepare ABD related curriculum, herbarium & exhibition, -Establish school garden of medical plans and school plantation of native trees	- Teachers with enhanced ABD teaching capacity - In-school teaching aids/demonstration established by students
35	Agro-biodiversity Awareness raising and Curriculum Development	P-DoE	1 villages (San Noi) 2 schools Phoukhout District XK	- Prepare ABD related curriculum, herbarium & exhibition, -Establish school garden of medical plans and school plantation of native trees	- Teachers with enhanced ABD teaching capacity - In-school teaching aids/demonstration established by students

39	Agro-biodiversity Awareness raising and Curriculum Development	P-DoE	5 villages (Phan Xay, Sopchia, Huay No, & Tha PO) - 5 schools Ponexay District LPB	- Prepare ABD related curriculum, herbarium & exhibition, -Establish school garden of medical plants and school plantation of native trees	- Teachers with enhanced ABD teaching capacity - In-school teaching aids/demonstration established by students
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Source: Extractions from TABI progress reports, WEB site and pers comm.

Annex 5a. Revised log frame at impact level (Underline is proposed changes, needs more discussion)

Objectives & Outcome	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Indicator	Stakeholder comments
<p>Specific objective: To provide farmers with necessary incentives, b) capabilities and c) supporting institutional framework to conserve agro-biodiversity within the farming systems of Lao PDR</p>	<p><u>No agro-biodiversity areas designated as agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.</u></p>		<p><u>Area of provincial agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use allocation (100.000 ha)</u></p>	<p><u>ABP: Recommend Only one simple indicator</u></p>

Annex 5b. Revised log frame under Outcome 1. Proposed revision

Outcome	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Impact Indicator (& target)	Stakeholder comments
<p>Outcome 1: National policy and institutional frameworks for sustainable use, and in-situ conservation of biodiversity in agro-ecosystems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land use policies and legal instruments do not include focus on biodiversity (especially agro biodiversity) Emphasis on agro-biodiversity in BD strategy and action plan (i.e. NABP) is weak Agriculture Law does not incorporate emphasis on biodiversity, including agro-biodiversity Integration of biodiversity related criteria into ESIA guidelines are poor Institutional and staff capacities of MAF to mainstream biodiversity into agriculture and land use policies are low. Currently, there is no formal coordination mechanism for agro biodiversity conservation Existing tools such as training, extension, communication and mapping are not adequately used for wider stakeholder awareness or capacities to enable them to mainstream biodiversity into their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8th NSEDP (2016-2020) and MAF master plan and budget allocations, as well as land use policies, agricultural law, biodiversity strategy, and strategic social and environmental assessment guidelines and environmental and social impacts assessment guidelines incorporate biodiversity conservation in agro-ecosystems, and especially agro biodiversity <u>Plans, policies, laws, strategies, plans and guidelines incorporated agro-biodiversity concerns. (Measured each year)</u> Agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use included in national extension strategy, materials, packages and services. Enhanced institutional competence of MAF to plan, monitor and implement actions to safeguard agro biodiversity: functional and funded agro biodiversity programme or sub-programme within MAF Stakeholders (including NGOs, private sector and academia) are able to use training, extension, communication and mapping to enable them to mainstream biodiversity into their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No of new national plans, policies, laws, strategies, and guidelines (identified) incorporating with agro-biodiversity concerns, and especially Agro-biodiversity (Target: 8) Capacity of key government agencies that will continue to champion mainstreaming of biodiversity in agriculture and land use policies, plans and programmes. Presence of inter-sectoral coordination mechanism to mainstream BD in sectors impacting on Agro-Ecosystems and ABD. No of tools developed to support and enhance incorporation of agro-biodiversity into national and institutional frameworks. 	<p>ABD: Suggest more simple formulations and precise target</p> <p>Inception Workshop:</p> <p>ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved others to outputs.</p> <p>Inception Workshop:</p>

Output	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Process indicator	Stakeholder comments
Output 1.1 Biodiversity conservation, including agro-biodiversity, incorporated into Government policies, laws and other legal instruments (Nb. copy of outcome 1)	Do outcome 1	Do outcome 1	- <u>No of national workshops with biodiversity content (15)</u>	ABD: This indicator is at lower level than at outcome level indicator. Inception Workshop:
Output 1.2 Institutional coordination of agro-biodiversity enhanced at national level	Currently, there is no formal coordination mechanism for agro biodiversity conservation	<u>Enhanced institutional competence of MAF to plan, monitor and implement actions to safeguard agro biodiversity: functional and funded agro biodiversity programme or sub-programme within MAF</u> <u>Inter-sectoral agro-biodiversity coordination mechanism in place</u>	- <u>Presence of No of yearly agro-biodiversity inter-sectoral coordination mechanism meetings to mainstream BD in sectors impacting on Agro-Ecosystems and ABD.</u> (at least 2)	ABD: Indicator from outcome, rewritten to be more measurable. Inception Workshop:
Output 1.3 Institutional capacity of MAF/GOL to plan for, implement and effectively communicate on agro-biodiversity enhanced at national level	Institutional and staff capacities of MAF/GOL to mainstream biodiversity into agriculture and land use policies are low.	Agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use included in <u>national extension strategy????</u> , materials, packages and services	- <u>Capacity of key government agencies that will continue to champion mainstreaming of biodiversity in agriculture and land use policies, plans and programmes.</u> - <u>No GOL officers participated in meetings where agro-biodiversity issues are discussed (500)???</u>	ABD: Indicator from outcome, rewritten to be more measurable. Inception Workshop:
Output 1.4 Key stakeholders understanding and capacity to respond to agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use enhanced.	Existing tools such as training, extension, communication and mapping are not adequately used for wider stakeholder awareness or capacities to enable them to mainstream biodiversity into their work	Stakeholders (including NGOs, private sector and academia) are able to use training, extension, communication and mapping to enable them to mainstream biodiversity into their work	- <u>No of tools developed to support and enhance incorporation of agro-biodiversity into national and institutional frameworks (6).</u>	ABD: Indicator from outcome & could be more precise. Inception Workshop:

Annex 5c. Revised log frame under Outcome 2 (needs more discussion)

Outcome	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Impact Indicator	Stakeholder comments
<p>Outcome 2: <i>Capacities and incentives to mainstream biodiversity, especially agro-biodiversity, at the Provincial, District and community levels</i></p>	Existing strategies and capacity building for 2 target Provinces' agriculture land use do not incorporate biodiversity conservation	Long-term strategies and institutional capacity for agro-biodiversity to be mainstreamed into policies and plans at provincial level, including 8 th SEDP (provincial and district level) and corresponding agricultural planning and budget addressing agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use at two pilot sites of around 3,275,500 ha (32,755 km is total of two provinces???) of two pilot provinces.	<p>Capacities to mainstream biodiversity at Provincial level</p> <p>-</p>	ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.5 Inception Workshop
	Existing area with participatory land use plans and participatory FLUP-NRM plans are low and do not include agro-biodiversity conservation	Land use and pFLUP-NRM plans developed and implemented in two pilot sites jointly by communities and government and that include agricultural biodiversity conservation	—Agro ecosystem area under conservation friendly management through development of participatory land use and NRM plans	ABD: One outcome indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.2 Inception Workshop
	Currently, there is no formal existing allocation of land for in situ conservation of agro-biodiversity	In-situ conservation for important agro-biodiversity established over 100,000 ha	—No of districts with in-situ agro-biodiversity conservation plans (8)	ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.3 Inception Workshop
	Existing tools such as Training and extension, communication and mapping do not incorporate agro-biodiversity conservation issues	Tools such as Training and extension, communication and incorporate agro-biodiversity conservation issues and are being used by pilot site communities (men and women) for conservation friendly land use and livelihood practice	- No of tools being utilized to support and enhance incorporation of agro-biodiversity into local planning	ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.4 Inception Workshop
	-	At least 50% of targeted Farming households adopt skills and techniques promoted by the project at pilot sites	- No of farmers adopting skills and techniques promoted through FFS and farmer field days demonstration farms and during farmer field schools	Inception Workshop
	-	Extension programme target at least 50% of its clients as women and incorporate their knowledge and requirements at pilot sites	—Pct of women targeted by the extension programme	ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.5 Inception Workshop
	Existing market for agro-biodiversity and biodiversity friendly products are ineffective in promoting biodiversity friendly agro-ecosystems management	At least five profitable products identified, processed, packed and marketed for local or international markets. Value chain research activities focused (at least 70%) on products already marketed by women or women groups	<p>—No of profitable products identified, processed, packed and marketed for local or international markets.</p> <p>-Targeted gender sensitive value chain promotion</p>	ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.6 Inception Workshop
Private and public sector's involvement and incentives for biodiversity conservation are extremely limited	At least 3 private and public sector agreements (covering different types of agro-biodiversity) with government to mainstream biodiversity considerations into their agricultural plans	No of private/public sector —GoI agreements to mainstream biodiversity considerations into their agricultural plans	ABD: One indicator should be enough. Moved to output 2.6 Inception Workshop	

Output	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Process indicator	Stakeholder comments
Output 2.1 Capacity of Provincial and District Government to mainstream Biodiversity into agriculture increased for two pilot sites	Existing strategies and capacity building for 2 target Provinces' agriculture land use do not incorporate biodiversity conservation	Long-term strategies and institutional capacity for agro-biodiversity to be mainstreamed into policies and plans at provincial level, including 8 th SEDP (provincial and district level) and corresponding agricultural planning and budget addressing agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use at two pilot sites of around 3,275,500 ha (32,755 i km is total of two provinces2???) of two pilot provinces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacities to mainstream biodiversity at Provincial level - No of Technical Service Centers in cluster villages with agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use activities (Target 4). - No of provincial strategies and plans containing agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use issues (??) - No of district plans containing agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use issues (??) 	ABD: Inception Workshop:
Output 2.2 Participatory land use plans integrating agro-biodiversity developed in two pilot sites	Existing area with participatory land use plans and participatory FLUP NRM plans are low and do not include agro-biodiversity conservation	Land use and pFLUP NRM plans developed and implemented in two pilot sites jointly by communities and government and that include agricultural biodiversity conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agro ecosystem area under conservation friendly management through development of participatory land use and NRM plans - <u>No of villages with pFLUP plans (8)</u> 	ABD: Indicator from outcome rewritten to be more measurable. Inception Workshop:
Output 2.3 In-situ conservation for important agro-biodiversity established over 100,000 ha	Currently, there is no formal existing allocation of land for in-situ conservation of agro-biodiversity-	<i>In-situ</i> conservation for important agro-biodiversity established <u>over 100,000 ha</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No of districts with in-situ agro-biodiversity conservation plans (8) 	ABD: Indicator from outcome rewritten to be more measurable.
Output 2.4 Farmers in two pilot sites with the skills, knowledge and incentives necessary to undertake biodiversity-friendly farming enhanced.	Existing tools such as Training and extension, communication and mapping do not incorporate agro-biodiversity conservation issues	<p>Tools such as Training and extension, communication and incorporate agro biodiversity conservation issues and are being used by pilot site communities (men and women) for conservation friendly land use and livelihood practice</p> <p><u>At least 50% of targeted</u> Farming households adopt skills and techniques promoted by the project at pilot sites</p> <p>Extension programme target at least 50% of its clients as women and incorporate their knowledge and requirements at pilot sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No of tools being utilized to support and enhance incorporation of agro biodiversity into local planning - No of farmers graduating adopting skills and techniques promoted through FFS and demonstration farms and during farmer field schools - <u>No of male and female farmers graduated from FFS (1,000)</u> - Pct of women targeted by the extension programme (50%) 	<p>Inception Workshop: ABD: 1st indicator too general. 2nd indicator used at outcome level..</p> <p>Inception Workshop:</p>
Output 2.5 Value chain research studies used to identify, process, pack and market Agro-biodiversity and biodiversity friendly community products promoted	Existing market for agro-biodiversity and biodiversity friendly products are ineffective in promoting biodiversity friendly agro ecosystems management;	<p><u>At least five profitable</u> Improved agro-biodiversity products identified, processed, packed and marketed for local or international markets</p> <p>Value chain research/study activities focused (at least 70%) on products already marketed by women or women groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No of <u>improved agro-biodiversity profitable</u> products identified, processed, packed and marketed for local or international markets (10) - No of <u>improved</u> agro-biodiversity products targeting gender sensitive value chain promotion (7) 	<p>ABD: More simple and measurable indicators</p> <p>Inception Workshop:</p>
Output 2.6 Private and public sector agreements to mainstream agro-	Private and public sector's involvement and inceptives for biodiversity conservation are extremely limited	<u>At least 3</u> Private and public sector agreements (covering different types of agro-biodiversity) with government to mainstream biodiversity considerations <u>into their agricultural</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No of private and public sector <u>agro-biodiversity</u> agreements (covering different types of agrobio-biodiversity) to mainstream 	ABD: Not sure what is meant in para 109? Put into plans may be too optimistic

biodiversity into their plans???

plans

biodiversity considerations into their agricultural plans (5)

– and who should be the driving force?.

Inception Workshop:

Objectives	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Impact indicator	Stakeholder comments
Outcome 3: Effective project management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of programme management capacity in general and integrated programmatic approach in particular. 	Effective management structure in place (MAF), including relevant staffing, revised organogram, plans, budgets, M&E indicators and reporting formats, to support integrated programmatic planning, management, monitoring and evaluation.	<p>Capacities for effective project management</p> <p>- <u>No of strategic recommendations from the Agro-biodiversity Steering Committee (6)</u></p> <p><u>New</u></p>	<p>ABD: Initial indicator not SMART. Understood that Effective management refers to higher level.</p> <p>Inception Workshop:</p>

Objectives	Baselines and Benchmarks	End target	Process indicator	Stakeholder comments
<p>Output 3.1</p> <p>Improved Capacity of Implementing Partner for integrated planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmatic approach not fully operational. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>No of meetings with TABI (40)</u> - <u>No of MAF organized cross project meetings (10)</u> - <u>No of Provincial Steering Committee meeting recommendations (15)</u> - <u>Date of functional M&E in place (end March 2012)</u> 	<p>ABD: No output based indicators in project document</p> <p>Inception Workshop:</p>

Annex 6. Updated project risks, their ratings and mitigation strategies – shortened version

Project Risk	Risk group	Risk Mitigation Strategy by Project
Sustainable use of proposed agro-biodiversity interventions does not lead to sufficient economic gains.	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify new products and new markets. - Provide information of whole “value-chain”. - Pursue diversified farming system approaches with increased returns.
Senior government policy makers do not see agro-biodiversity as making a significant contribution to poverty reduction.	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrate value of agro-biodiversity through practical demonstrations, socio-economic valuations, guidance on sustainable use and effective management. - Prepare communications strategy - Directly or indirectly communicate with senior policy makers incl. members of the National Assembly, ministries and other stakeholders.
Partners pursue narrow institutional targets rather than working together.	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pursue programmatic approach with strong focus on institutional coordination and partnerships.
Developers do not have “carrots or sticks” to identify and mitigate agro-biodiversity losses resulting from large land use change.	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bring agro-biodiversity requirements into EIAs and EMPs, and show how to mitigate losses in agro-biodiversity from land use changes.
Commercial farmers and the private sector not interested in biodiversity friendly practices.	Low to Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify niche products with high potential for export to neighbouring countries, EU, Japan, and elsewhere. - Support measures to ensure that private sector responsibility and involvement.
Land ownership and access rights will continue to be unclear and land allocation will be slow.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support implementation of participatory LUP and land allocation.

Annex 7. Overall 5-year work plan

Draft Overall Work Plan 2010 - 2016

Project Title: Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Lao PDR’s Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans and Programmes

Revised Outputs Indicators & Baselines	Draft Activities	2011			2012				2013				2014				2015				2016	
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Objective:	To provide farmers with the necessary incentives, capabilities and supporting institutional Framework to conserve agro-biodiversity within the farming systems of Lao PDR																					
<i>Indicator:</i>	Area of provincial agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (Target: 100,000 ha) NEW from outcome 1																					
Outcome 1:	National policy and institutional frameworks for sustainable use, and in-situ conservation of biodiversity in agro-ecosystems																					
<i>Indicator:</i>	Number of new national plans, policies, laws, strategies, and guidelines with agro-biodiversity concerns (Target: 8) Only one!																					
OUTPUT 1.1: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION, INCLUDING AGRO-BIODIVERSITY, INCORPORATED INTO GOVERNMENT POLICIES, LAWS AND OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENTS																						
Indicator 1.1 No of national workshops with biodiversity content (15). Baseline 1.1a: Land use policies and legal instruments do not include focus on biodiversity (especially agro biodiversity). Baseline 1.1b: Emphasis on agro-biodiversity in BD strategy and action plan (i.e. NABP) is weak. Baseline 1.1c : Agriculture Law does not incorporate emphasis on biodiversity, including agro-biodiversity Baseline 1.1d: Integration of biodiversity related criteria into ESIA guidelines are poor. End of project end 1.1: 8th NSEDP (2016-2020) and MAF master plan and budget allocations, as well as Land use policies, agricultural law, biodiversity strategy, and	1.1.1 Update status on (A)BD concerns in existing legislations including deadlines for revisions and follow-up from Poverty and Environment Initiative and the CBD (with TABI)																					
	1.1.2 Make recommendations for revisions																					
	1.1.3 Conduct consultation workshops																					

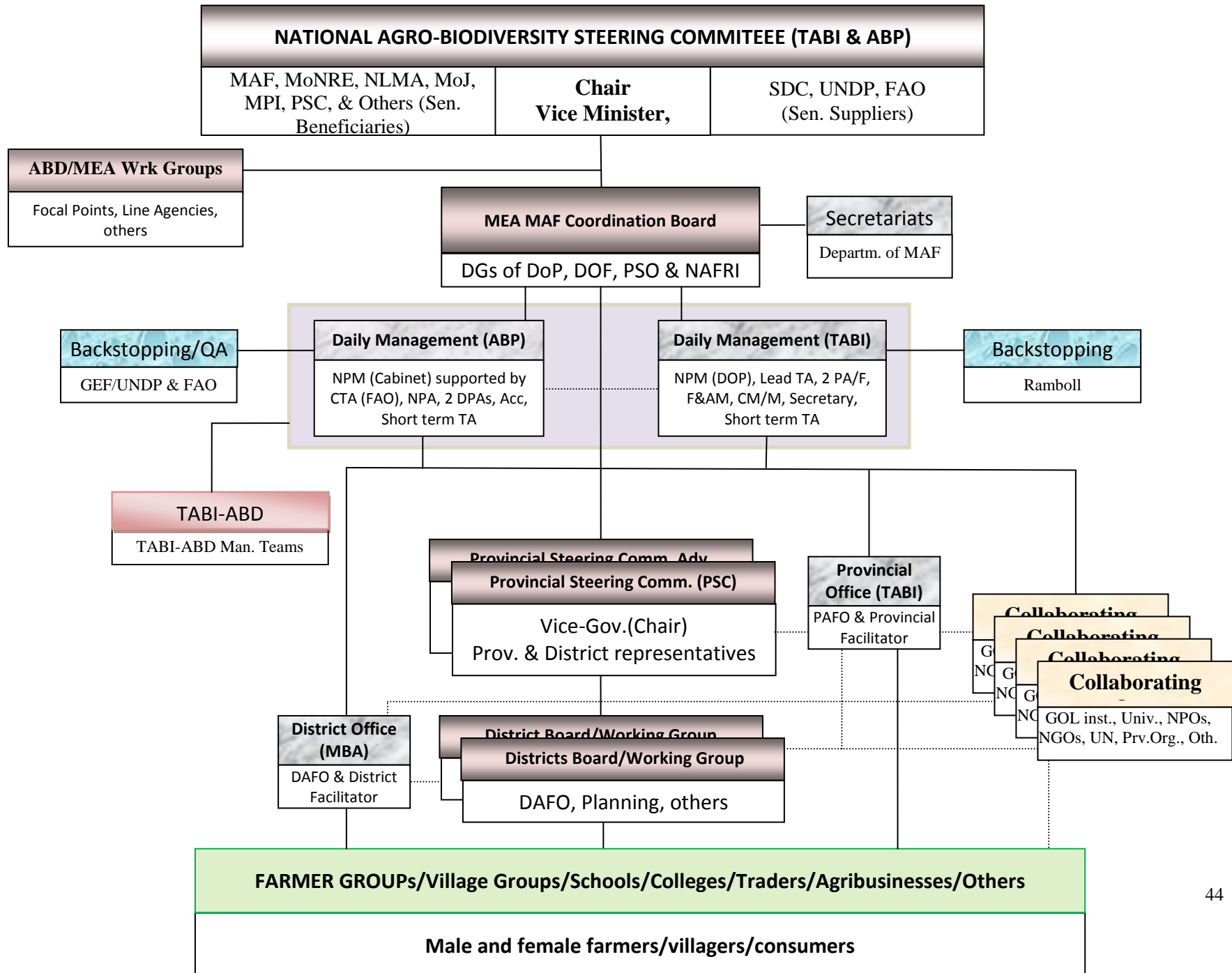
strategic social and environmental assessment guidelines and environmental and social impacts assessment guidelines incorporate biodiversity conservation in agro-ecosystems, and especially agro-biodiversity.		
Sub-total 1.1: \$100,000		
Output 1.2: INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION OF AGRO-BIODIVERSITY ENHANCED AT NATIONAL LEVEL		
Indicator 1.2b: No of yearly agro-biodiversity inter-sectoral coordination meetings (Target: at least 2)	1.2.1 Review current ABD interventions in Lao PRD incl. NBSAP-II and prepare proposal for coordination and sharing of information (with TABI)	x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
Baseline 1.2b: Currently, there is no formal coordination mechanism for agro biodiversity conservation.	1.2.2 Update stakeholder map of MEAs incl. ABD	x x x x
	1.2.3. Revise (A)BD Working Groups setup and if necessary support additional technical focal points (with TABI)	x x
End of project end 1.2b: Enhanced institutional competence of MAF to plan, monitor and implement actions to safeguard agro biodiversity: functional and funded agro-biodiversity programme or sub-programme within MAF.	1.2.4 Provide support to ABD/BD/MEA working groups (with TABI and others)	x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
	1.2.5 Identify additional ABD initiatives (with TABI)	x x x x x x x x
	1.2.6 Document lessons learned on sustainable BD and ABD interventions (together with TABI) Move to 3.1?	x x
Sub-total 1.2: \$50,000		
Output 1.3: INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF MAF TO PLAN FOR, IMPLEMENT (and monitor???) AND EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE ON AGRO-BIODIVERSITY ENHANCED AT NATIONAL LEVEL		
	1.3.1 Identify/update incentives and threats to ABD in general and in XK and LB provinces in particular (with TABI)	x x x x
Indicator 1.3a: No GOL officers participated in meetings where agro-biodiversity issues are discussed (Target500)?	1.3.2 Identify/recommend successful ABD interventions incl. public/private partnerships, consumer and retailer demands, etc. (with TABI)	x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
Baseline 1.3a: Institutional and staff capacities of MAF to mainstream biodiversity into agriculture and land use policies are low.	1.3.3 Assess training needs (with concerned projects)	x x
	1.3.3b Prepare detailed strategy & implementation plan	x x
	1.3.4 Prepare/update training material	x x x x

End of project target 1.3a: Agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use included in national extension strategy, materials, packages and services.	1.3.5 Facilitate/conduct training/refresher courses										x		x		x		x														
	1.3.6 Develop ABD monitoring and reporting tools (with FAO Monitoring Project)										x	x																			
	1.3.7 Develop overall public awareness/communication strategy on ABD (with TABI)											x	x																		
Sub-total 1.3: \$150,000																															
1.4 Key stakeholders understanding and capacity to respond to agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use enhanced																															
<i>Indicator 1.4: No of tools developed to support and enhance incorporation of agro-biodiversity into national and institutional frameworks (6).</i>	1.4.1 Prepare an effective/novel awareness interventions plan (based on lessons learned TAPI output 5)																					x	x	x							
	1.4.2 Prepare ADB awareness & communication strategy/action plan in close collaboration with TABI																						x	x	x						
	1.4.3 Conduct learning dialogues???																							x		x	x	x	x		
Baseline 1.4: Existing tools such as training, extension, communication and mapping are not adequately used for wider stakeholder awareness or capacities to enable them to mainstream biodiversity into their work.	1.4.4 Prepare ABD teaching materials to Luang Prabang Agriculture and Forestry College and others																														
	1.4.5 Prepare an ABD Package to Journalists and other stakeholders																							x	x				x	x	
End of project 1.4: Stakeholders (including NGOs, private sector and academia) are able to use training, extension, communication and mapping to enable them to mainstream biodiversity into their work.	1.4.6 Display ABD issues in Luang Prabang Botanical Gardens																												x		
	1.5.7. Establish contacts to private actors and their networks for better understanding of incentives for ABD																						x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sub-total 1.4: \$100,000 (plus all outputs: Misc 177,000 TA fee, travel & DSA) 330,000																															
Outcome 2:	Capacities and incentives to mainstream biodiversity, especially agro-biodiversity, at the Provincial, District and community levels																														
Indicator:	Number of new national plans, policies, laws, strategies, and guidelines with agro-biodiversity concerns (Target: 8) Only one!																														
	Output 2.1: CAPACITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS TO MAINSTREAM BD INTO AGRICULTURE INCREASED																														
<i>Indicator 2.1: No of district plans containing agro-biodiversity conservation and sustainable use issues (Target??).</i>	2.1.1 Update existing practices/knowledge on ABD in pilot areas																														
	2.1.2 Conduct a capacity needs assessment in PAFOs and DAFOs																														

<p>incorporate biodiversity conservation issues.</p> <p>End of project 2.1: Tools such as training, extension, communication and mapping incorporate biodiversity conservation issues and are being used by pilot site communities (men and women) for conservation friendly land use and livelihood practices.</p>	(also used as baseline for improvements) – should first look at existing need assessments to avoid publications																					
	2.1.3 Conduct learning dialogues				x																	
	2.1.4 Perform on-the-job training to PAFOs and DAFOs on PLUP/PNRM (link to output 2.2).			x			x	x					x	x					x	x		
	2.1.5 Update planning tools for PAFOs and DAFOs					x	x	x														
	2.1.6. On-the-job train/update PAFO and DAFO in local planning and promotion of Bio Div and Sustainable Natural Resource management						x					x				x				x		
Sub-total 2.1: \$100,000																						
Output 2.2: PARTICIPATORY LAND USE PLANS INTEGRATING AGRO-BIODIVERSITY																						
<p>Indicator 2.2: No of villages with pFLUP plans (Target: 8)</p> <p>Baseline 2.2: Existing area with participatory land use plans and participatory NRM plans are low and do not include agro-biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>End of project target 2.2: Land use and NRM plans developed and implemented in two pilot sites jointly by communities and government and that include agricultural biodiversity conservation.</p>	2.2.1 Analyze status of tenure, user rights and land registration (with TABI and right-link project)			x	x															x		
	2.2.2 Identify pilot villages			x	x	x																
	2.2.3a Follow-up on /adjust to existing PLUP research, studies, manuals and extension material (with TABI and MoNRE)			x	x																	
	2.2.4 Follow-up on existing /carry out agro-ecological studies (in close collaboration with TABI)					x	x	x														
	2.2.6 Organize community visits to ABD positive sites						x				x										x	
	2.2.7 Prepare participatory land use plans			x	x				x	x					x	x					x	x
	2.2.8 Based on existing information undertake gender analysis in targeted villages and market system						x						x								x	
Sub-total 2.2: \$150,000																						
Output 2.3: IN-SITU CONSERVATION FOR IMPORTANT AGRO-BIODIVERSITY																						

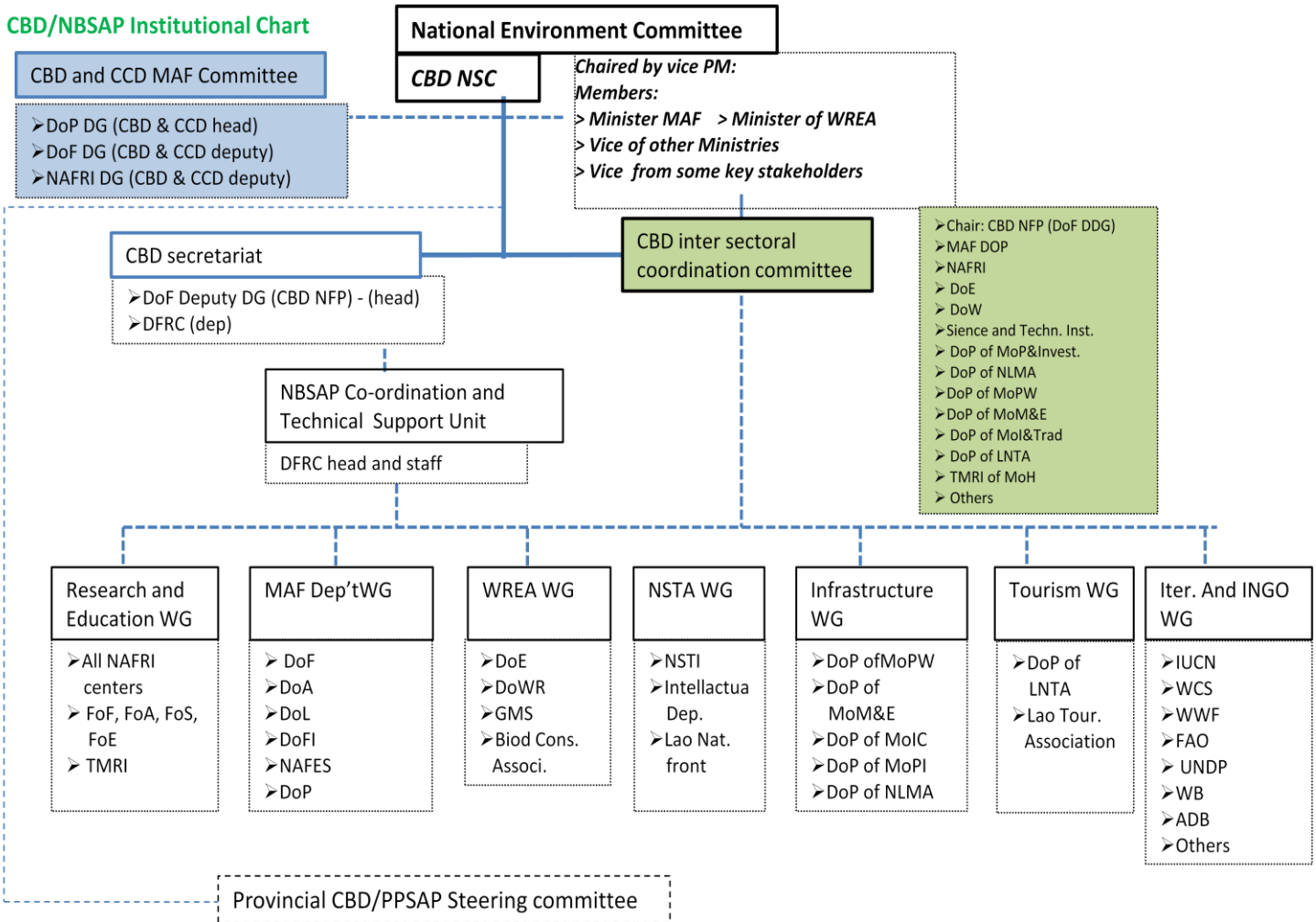
<p>Baseline 3.1: Lack of programme management capacity in general and integrated programmatic approach in particular.</p>	<p>3.1.6 Develop an overall communication and gender mainstreaming strategy</p>				x	x																		
	<p>3.1.7 Update M&E framework</p>	x	x	x																				
	<p>3.1.8 Prepare quarterly and Annual Work Plan and budgets</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p>3.1.9 Conduct regular Project team meetings</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p>3.1.10 Prepare TOR and agreements for project interventions</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p>3.1.11 Prepare and conduct workshops and meetings</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p>3.1.12 Conduct monthly meetings with TABI</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p>End of project target 3.1 :Effective management structure in place (MAF), including relevant staffing, revised organogram, plans, budgets, M&E indicators and reporting formats, to support integrated programmatic planning, management, monitoring and evaluation.</p>	<p>2.2.13 Establish and maintain conducive networks</p>			x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
		<p>3.1.14 Participate in meeting at Districts, Provinces & Vientiane</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
		<p>3.1.15 Facilitate UNDP Reg/FAO Hqs Field Visits</p>			x			x				x										x		x
		<p>3.1.16 Prepare Quarterly, Annual and Terminal reports</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<p>3.1.17 Prepare documentation for and support Mid Term Evaluation Team and Final Oct 2003/Jan 2015)</p>																							x	
<p>Sub-total 3: CTA; 45,000</p>																								

Annex 10. Draft Updated organogram



Annex 11. Outcome 1 coordination bodies proposed by TABI

CBD/NBSAP Institutional Chart



Annex 12. Selection Criteria for selection of pilot villages

**Draft Criteria
for
Selecting the ABD Pilot Villages
in
Phonexay and Phoukout districts**

The proposed pilot villages should comply with the following six selection criteria developed by the ABD team in consultation with TABI:

1. Natural resources sustainability constraints
2. Habitats important to agro-biodiversity
3. Close to or connected to Protected Areas
4. Villagers with genuine interest in formulated development priorities related to agro-biodiversity use and conservation
5. Consensus within the community to participate
6. Agreed upon by village chiefs, village cluster chief, and District Government.

Annex 13. Issues Paper – related to ABP-TABI collaboration

ABP-TABI collaboration issues

B. Background

The 5-year ABP Project (2011-16, USD 6.7 mill.) is an outcome of the National Agro-Biodiversity Programme (NABP, 2004) and been formulated with assistance of FAO and UNDP. The project's GOL-UNDP-FAO appraisal meeting was conducted on 11 June 2010 and after additional adjustments the ABP project was subsequently approved on 11 April 2011.

As per GEF regulations, and in order to reduce transaction costs the project must work closely with a partner project in the same area. Consequently, a significant part of the project budget must be co-financed in-kind and/or or in cash. In this case SDC TABI-1 project (2009-12) is the biggest in kind contributor with USD 3.0 million. This collaboration mechanism by working in same technical and geographical area limits the initial surveys and studies needed by the ABP project (done by TABI), promotes synergies and builds on successful pilot interventions carried out by TABI and other projects in Luang Prabang and Xieng Khouang Provinces.

The project is in its extended inception phase and in the process of finalizing key issues for discussion and decision at inception workshop on 25th November in Luang Prabang. Prior to the workshop in-depth internal project discussions will take place between GEF, FAO Hqs & UNDP and the project team on 23rd November, followed by a field visit to Phonxay District on 24th November.

However, certain aspects in the project document, the resent government restructuring and other events has resulted in a number of strategic and implementation issues which needs attention, advice and direction from MAF leadership.

C. Issues and options

1. National Agro-biodiversity Programme

Conservation and sustainable use of Agro-biodiversity is a rather new concept in many countries. It is regarded as an integral part of Biodiversity and funded by the FAO Netherlands Partnership Programme, the LAO PDR has been one of first countries with a National Agro-biodiversity Programme (NABP), approved by MAF in 2004 and officially presented by a Lao delegation at FAO Hqs. In the Lao PDR and FAO Achievements and Success Stories publication (2011), the NABP was referred as a policy document, but lack such references in MAF's new strategy and action plan. Nevertheless, the NABP is well prepared and contains strategic goals, action plans and funding requirements. Recently, NAFRI (DG) has expressed a need to revitalize the NABP. Both the TABI project and the ABP project align well to the NABP.

Issue: The exact status of the NABP is unclear.

One option is to upgrade the document to a more permanent strategic/framework/policy paper (including genetic resources) with updated goals indicators and targets,

another option is update the programme to be a sub-programme under the NBSAP-II, and

another option is to shelve the document.

2. Emphasis on Agro-biodiversity in new NBSAP

The Convention on Bio-Diversity (CBD) highlights agro-biodiversity by adding it in one of the seven thematic areas. However, the first National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2003), does not directly mention the term agro-biodiversity and seems to put little attention to diversity within crops (varieties) and animal husbandry species (breeds). Further, CBD's relation to other conventions and treaties such as the Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture covering both in-situ and ex-situ conservation call for increased attention to the content of the 2nd NBSAP. Presently, the 2nd NBSAP is being prepared by GOL with core assistance from IUCN (commission by TABI) and with additional inputs from ABP and the "National Self Capacity Assessment Follow-up (NCSAFU)".

Issue: Existing information, status and goals for agriculture related biodiversity seems weak.

One option is MAF leadership oversees the preparation process ensuring that agro-biodiversity is well covered in the 2nd NBSAP.

3. One Programme of several projects – project setup - fostering collaboration and cooperation

The project document envisages a close collaboration between ABP and particular the TABI project, overseen by one common TABI-ABP National Agro-biodiversity Steering Committee. This committee has not yet been established. Another vehicle is the "4 MAF Convention Projects Coordination Board" of the NCSAFU, CC, BD Corridor, & ABP projects overseen by DGs of DoF, NAFRI, Dep Perm Secr. PSO, headed by DG of DoP and established by MAF in April 2010. This "Coordination Board" has yet has to meet. Other project agro-biodiversity related projects could also provide important inputs and contributing to improved coordination between projects, agencies and donors. During a field visit to Luang Prabang and Xieng Khouang (late September/beginning of October), provincial authorities welcomed the ABP project in the Provincial Steering Committee for TABI and likewise the District Governors welcomed the project in their respective project coordination working groups.

Issues: Good coordination initiatives have been proposed in the ABP project document, which needs follow-up by MAF possibly under the umbrella of the NABP. Project structure (different donors and implementation partners & modalities), however limits cross project collaboration and call for firm coordination, guidance and leadership by MAF. Often, project coordination is based on personal relations rather than technical coordination and collaboration efforts by the head of concerned agencies.

One option (two level coordination) is to pursue the two sister projects (TABI and ABD) common National Agriculture Steering Committee and maintain the MAF based 4 project Coordination Board, but adding other relevant projects such as TABI,

another option is to upgrade the 4 project Coordination Board to a Steering Committee consisting of several related CBD projects including TABI and adding representatives from other ministries,

another option to have one steering committee per project.

Follow on TABI – ABP collaboration

In recognition that TABI and ABP have similar overall objectives and outputs (although different headings) – there are tremendous opportunities for synergies and tapping on mutual resources, activities and achievements – in spite of different setup.

Possible steps*a) Overall*

- Common steering committees & coordination board (central and provincial level)
- Common work plans (aligned activities and budgets)
- Monthly TABI-ABP meetings with minutes
- Sharing of common resources (incl. field staff and infrastructure)
- Sharing of documents and other information
- Common lessons learned for possible up-scaling

*b) Areas of comparative advantages***TABI**

- pFLUP and follow-up
- Provincial Capacity Development (with project staff)
- Huge number of pilot projects (some 40 sub-projects)
- Initial market and agro-ecological studies

ABP

- FFS/IPM/CA and follow up
- District level implementation support (with project staff)
- Village level focus (stay long – at low cost) – building on farmer confidence and trust
- Advocacy and central level mainstreaming by taking advantage of UN (UNDP & FAO) easy access to sister institutions (MoNRE, MoE, MoH,)

c) Immediate tasks

- Agreement of monthly meetings with possible invitation of other project (minutes taken)
- Identify common activities for 1st half 2012 possibly including:
 - share and possibly co-finance lessons learned from TABI pilot workshops
 - pool funds on pLUP, awareness and communication, market development, private-public agreement, etc.

NB: ABP is providing resources to preparation (feed-back on drafts (FAO) and regional consultations of 2nd NBSAP, Provincial BSAP (baselines, formulation and consultation)

Ole S. Pedersen: 7th Dec 2011 & minor corrections 21th December 2012

Annex 14 Agenda Inception Workshop

Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Lao PDR's Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Strategies and Plans Project (ABP)

Inception Workshop – Draft Agenda

At PAFO of Luang Prabang Province, Lao PDR
29th November 2011

Time	Contents	Facilitator/presenter
08:30-09:00	Registration of participants	ABP
SESSION 01	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	Co-Chairs by Vice-Governor, Vice Minister, UNDP DRR
09:00-09:25	Welcome	Vice-Governor
	Introductory remarks	Vice-Minister
		UNDP DRR
09:25-10:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agro-biodiversity in a global perspective, examples of achievements and lessons learned from other agro-biodiversity project 2. IPM and FFS methodology and impact in Asia and Lao PDR 3. Key lessons learned of TABI phase I and concept and content of phase II (from mid 2012) 	FAO Rome
		CTA/TL IPM Progr., FAO RAP, Bkk
		TABI
10:00-10:15	Group Photo and Coffee Break	Participants
SESSION 02	TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS	Co-Chairs by Vice-Governor, Vice Minister & UNDP DRR
10:15-10:45	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Key elements of the project 2. Approach and methodology 3. Updated Log frame (objective, outcomes & outputs with corresponding indicators) 4. Overall work plan 5. Suggestions from Provincial and District Authorities on Agro-biodiversity interventions 	UNDP-CO
		ABP
		ABP
		ABP
		Local Authorities
SESSION 03	SUPPORT MECHANISM AND MANAGEMENT	Co-Chairs by Vice-Governor, Vice Minister & UNDP DRR
10:45-11:45	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organogram, Implementation Arrangements (Roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including communication lines and day-to-day support mechanisms) 2. Budget, financial Management and flow of funds 3. AOB 	ABP
		UNDP CO
		All
SESSION 04	CLOSING REMARKS	Co-Chairs by Vice-Governor, Vice Minister & UNDP DRR
11:45-12:00	WRAP-UP and closing remarks	Vice-Governor, Vice Minister, FAO Hqs and UNDP DRR

Annex 15. List of participants Inception Workshop

1. National Government

- Dr. Phouang Parisak Pravongviengkham, Vice Minister, MAF
- Dr. BounAy Nounounavong, Deputy Permanent Secretary Office, MAF and NPD for ABP project
- Dr. Somnuch Thirasack, DDG, NAFES, MAF
- Mr. Kham Sanatem, DDG, DoA, MAF
- Mr. Houmchitsavath Sodarak, Dir NAFReC, NAFRI, MAF
- Mr. BounSy Nanthaphone, Technical Officer, DoP, MAF

2. Luang Prabang Province

- Mr. Khamdua Yiakuanohuevang, Vice-Governor of Luang Prabang Province
- Mr. Houmpheng Khammany, Deputy DG of PoNRE
- Ms. Chantha-ly Sisouvath, Head of Administration, PAFO
- Ms. Thongsamay Souksavath, Head of Technical Service Center, Phonesay District
- Mr. Khamphouth Keobounma, District Cabinet Head, Phonesay District
- Mr. Khambone Chanmanee, Head of District Planning Office, Phonesay District
- Mr. Sengkeo Saykhounsith, Deputy DD of District Education Office, Phonesay District
- Mr. Somlith Chitthaphan, Head of Village Cluster, Phonesay District
- Ms. Chanthanoum, Head of District Women Union, Phonesay District

3. Xieng Khouang Province

- Mr. Phetsamay Khammakvilay, Deputy Head of PAFO
- Mr. Vanthong Chanthavong, District Governor, Phoukout District
- Mr. Bounthong Sinuanthong, Deputy DD of DLMA, Phoukout District
- Ms. Sengchanh Yoisyakham, Deputy DG of District Tourism Authority, Phoukout District
- Ms. Pheng Sikhamxay, Head of District Women Union, Phoukout District
- Mr. Vongphone Phengphachanh, Deputy Village Chief, Langjong Village, Phoukout District
- Mr. Douangserm Mounlasone, Deputy Village Chief, Vangthong Village, Phoukout District
- Mr. Sonthavy Sisophon, Technical staff, District Planning Office, Phoukout District
- Mr. Amphone Chanthavong, Deputy Head of DAFO, Phoukout District

4. International organizations

- Ms. Kyoko Yokosuka, DRR, UNDP, Laos
- Ms. Nadine Azzo, Agricultural Officer, FAO Rome
- Mr. Bruno Cammaert, Chief of Environment Unit, UNDP, Laos
- Ms. Chitlatda Keomoungchanh, Project Analyst, UNDP, Laos
- Mr. Ilari Sohlo, Natural Resources Management Adviser, FAO Country Office, Laos
- Ms. Latsamay Sylavong, Lao PDR Country Director, IUCN, Laos
- Ms. Julian Derbridge, Administration Officer, GIZ

5. NGOs

- Mr. Marut Jatikert, Dir. The Field Alliance, Bkk
- Mr. Bandith Keothongkham, Manager, NALD

6. Projects

- Mr. Jan Willem Ketelaar, CTA/TL, Inter-country Programme for IPM in Vegetables in SEA
- Mr. Carl Mossberg, Programme Coordinator, LSUAFRP, NAFRI
- Mr. Chris Flint, CTA/TL, The Agro-Biodiversity Initiative (TABI)
- Mr. Patrice Autfray, Agronomist, Prosa
- Mr. Phonethip, Chest, Laos
- Mr. Souliphone Xaisingkham, Monitoring Officer, NE-PI NPA
- Mr. Vornthalom Chnthavong, Programme Development Assistant, FAO IPM Programme
- Mr. Annuxaym, Manager SRI Project
- Ms. Chalana K ounthavong, Accountant, AFD

7. ABD project

- Mr. Bounkong Souvimonh, National Project Manager
- Mr. Ole S. Pedersen, Pre-CTA
- Mr. Souksavanh Sisouvong, APM
- Mr. Fuevue Cherthai, District Facilitator - Phoukout
- Ms. Sengphayvanh Vilavong, Support Staff
- Ms. Bounsung Thammavong, Support Staff