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First Quarterly Project Progress Report 2015

[SUPPORT TO INTEGRATED IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE IN 2
DISTRICTS IN BOLIKHAMXAY]

[First submission date: 9 April 2015]

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Basic Project Information

Project Title: Support to Integrated Irrigated Agriculture in 2 Districts in Bolikhamxay (SIRA)

UNDP Award ID	00068072
UNDP Project ID	00083482
Project Duration	June 2012 to June 2015
Reporting Period	January to March 2015
Implementing Partners	Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office of Bolikhamxay Province (PAFO)
National collaborating agencies	Provincial Department of Planning and Investment of MPI, Provincial Natural Resources and Environment Office (PNREO) of MONRE, Department of Irrigation of MAF, Department of Livestock and Fisheries of MAF, Department of Forest Resources Management of MONRE, Department of Forestry of MAF
Other UN/International collaborating agencies	
Cost-sharing third parties	n/a
UNDP Programme Officer/Programme Analyst	Singha Ounniyom

1. Project Implementation Status and Key Results

Implementation Status Summary (This needs to be completed by project)

- Briefly assess (<150 words) how the project has progressed towards expected outcomes (UNDAF and Country Programme Outcome) during the reporting period, highlighting any key activities or results during the reporting period.

The project has been accomplished almost all activities planned for the First quarter with satisfactorily level with total project delivery rate at 85% at the end of March 2015. The watershed management plan for Nam Pou has been approved by Bolikhan District Governor; the physical rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure in Nam Pou, Nam Sae and Nam Yang were completed and inspected, irrigated water is now made available for year-round cultivation for 650 hectares of paddy field in two target districts. Villagers leading by Water Users Group have contributed actively in the activity to clean canals at 3 irrigation project sites, hundreds of farmers from target communities were trained on new agricultural practice techniques including for dry season vegetable planting, harvesting, transportation and storage. Some cash crop seedlings

were supplied to 24 key participating farmer households in 3 irrigation project sites. A study visit to the neighbouring Khammouane province to enhance capacity of farmers and government officials in water management and food and income generation associated with irrigation was done in February with the participation of 37 participants. Tree fish spawning tanks and nursery ponds were equipped to the Agricultural technical Center of Bolikhan district to facilitate the fisheries development activities. A training workshop on project cycle management for 15 technical government staff from PAFO and DAFO was conducted in late March. Progress in details could be summarized as in the following section.

Implementation Progress Summary

OUTPUT <i>In line with QWP/AWP</i>	INDICATOR	TARGET	STATUS OF TARGET <i>(Achieved, On Track or Off Track)</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List all activities to be undertaken during the period as stated in QWP/AWP</i>	ACTIVITY PROGRESS TO DATE <i>Give detailed explanation of the status. Provide justification if delayed and new schedule planned and provide response strategy if any</i>	RESULTS ACHIEVED <i>Describe concrete, key results (policy, publication, key event etc.) achieved so far, vis-à-vis the specific targets set in the QWP/AWP</i>	BENEFICIARY <i>Approximate number of beneficiaries reached by project activities (disaggregated by sex/age), etc.</i>
Output 11. Watershed management plan for Nam Pou project is developed and implemented	Indicator 1.1: Watershed Management Plan developed and implemented and Watershed Management Committee in place	Target 1.1 (2015): Watershed Management plan developed and Watershed Management Committee in place	On track	1.1.1 February: watershed management plan of Nam Pou catchment finalized and approved at district level.	Completed	February: Hold the meeting to review, revise the watershed management plan of Nam Pou catchment to improved action plan and strategic plan of Nam Pou to 2020 with district stakeholders and village headman of 5 target villages (Ban Bor, Ban Phonsong, Ban Phonyeng, Ban Phadai and Phameung). The meeting agreed and accepted the plan for watershed management implementation such as deforestation, sustainable use and management of natural resources, stopped burn-slash, establish fishery conservation zone and livelihood alternative.	23 Participants (7 women)
			On track	1.1.2 March: Introduced and implemented watershed management plan of Nam Pou catchment in 5 target villages such as Ban Bor, Ban Phon song, Ban Phon yeng, Ban Phadai and Ban Pha meung.	Completed	March: Hold the meeting to dissemination of watershed management plan to villagers at 5 target villages to starting implement of watershed management plan of Nam Pou catchment. The village watershed boundary signs were prepared and installed to keep the public informed of the management plan. The watershed management plan focus on forest protecting around the upstream and boundary of Nam Pou	324 Participants (186 women) the watershed management plan will be access to more than 3,000 people living in Nam Pou catchment

						catchment, deforestation, sustainable use and management of natural resources, stopped burn-slash, establish fishery conservation zone at Nam Pou catchment and livelihood alternative for the villagers living around Nam Pou catchment. An option for construction of a small-scale check dam in Phadai village was discussed.	
Output 2 Water supply in both season for irrigating command area of Nam Pou project in Bolikhan District and Namyang and Phondou projects in Viengthong District is available	Indicator 2.1: 3,050 meter main canal of Nam Pou project, 1 weir of Namyang project and 1 weir of Phondou project is rehabilitated by 2014	Target 2.1(2015): Feasibility for rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure conducted, and in 2013 rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure completed					
Output 3 Irrigation projects are co-managed by government authorities and Water Users' Association with women participation	Indicator 3.1: WUA established by 2012 and functional by 2014	Target 3.1. 2015 WUA established, capacity of WUA developed in 2013, and in 2014 WUA able to co-manage irrigation projects in cooperation of provincial and district government authorities	Ontrack	3.1.1 Monitoring water user group	Completed	- February: follow up the water user group contributed clean the canal of Nam Pou Bolikhan district and Nam Yang and Na Sae Viengthong district	346 people (135 women)
			On track	3.2.1 Communication product on sustainable water use and management	Completed	- January: Printed out and disseminated 2 set of posters on sustainable water use and management (1,000 copies for each poster).	This material will be accessible to 3 water user group of 3 irrigation project and more than 7,000 people living in that

							area such as Ban Bor, Bolikhan district, Ban Phondou, Ban Nam Yang and Thaphae Viengthong district
			Off track	3.2.2 Handing over of the tree irrigation schemes to water users group for utilization/operation and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ✓ Delayed Reason: Due to the workload the counterpart busy with the report to preparation the provincial meeting will be conduct to review the progress of provincial development implementation of 2011-2015 and planning for 2016 – 2020. New Schedule: _the end of April 2015		
			On track	3.2.3 Study tour of water user group at Nam Karb and Ban Yangkham, Xebangfai, Khammaune Province	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March: Study tour of water user groups of Nam Pou Bolikhan district, Nam Yang and Nam Sae Viengthong district exchange visited to Ban Yangkham, Xebangfai district, Khammaun province and Nam Karb to shared experience on water use and management of water users group. Participants gained better understanding regarding how the water fees determined, how farmers/water users group members could access extension services and get benefits from crops diversification. Lessons learned from the study visit on water management and water Users Group organization could be applied in their own communities. 	37 participants (5 women)
			On track	3.2.4 Annual meeting of water user group	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - February: the annual meeting of water user group to implemented activities of 2014 	170 participants (54 women) attended annual meeting at 3

						and planning for the year 2015 at Nam Pou Bolikhan district, Nam Yang and Nam Sae Viengthong district. The meeting discussed and reviewed the previous activities before and during the construction phases and agreed on planning to supply water for dry season cash crop to be carried out by 24 participating households from Ban Bor Bolikhan district, Ban Phondou, Ban Thaphae and Ban Nam Yang	irrigation project
Output4 Agriculture production increased and diversified in Nam Pou project in Bolikhan District and Namyang and Phondou projects in Viengthong District	Indicator 4.1: Two season cultivation with diverse cropping pattern in dry season, Crop yield increased by 2014 - rice 3.5 t/ha (wet season) 4.5 t/ha (dry season), Sweet corn 4.3 t/ha, Feed corn 5 t/ha, Soybean (2t/ha)	Target 4.1 (2015): Crop yield increased, two season cultivation in at least 25% of irrigated area (205 ha) with crops other than rice in dry season, and in 2014 two season cultivation in additional next 25% (410 ha) with crops other than rice in dry season	On track	4.1.1 Training plantation approach of dry season plantation at Viengthong and Bolikhan district.	Completed	- February: trained on dry season plantation at Nam Yang 2 ha of 14 households for integrated vegetable planted and Nam Sae, and 10 households for sweet corn plantation at Ban Bor Bolikhan district	36 participants (16women) attended training workshop
			On track	4.1.2 Follow up dry season plantation at Viengthong and Bolikhan district.	Completed	- March: A field monitoring conducted on 2-11 March to follow up progress with the trained famers on how to prepare and grow the dry season crops at Nam Yang and Nam Sae irrigation projects and sweet corn at Nam Pou irrigation project.	33 farmers (16 women)

Output 5 Improved Fisheries in Nam Pou reservoir through establishment of fisheries co-management	Indicator 5.1: Fisheries co-management established	Target 5.1 (2015): Fisheries management subcommittee (FMsC) under the WMC established and capacity developed, fisheries co-management developed, and in 2015 fisheries co-management implemented	On track	5.1.1 Design spawning tank and nursery pond of Ban Bor, Bolikhan district, Bolikhamxai	Completed	- February: Designed spawning tank and nursery pond of Ban Bor, Bolikhan district at Agriculture technician Service Center. The installation and construction of the facilities completed in March 2015.	12 participants (4 women)
			On track	5.1.2 Fishery hatchery establishment at Agriculture Technical Service Center of Ban Bor, Bolikhan district	Completed	- March: 3 spawning 1 x 2 meter and 4 nursery pond 5x10 meter has been established at agriculture technician service center at Ban Bor, Bolikhan district. A training on fish breeding and hatchery will take place in the second quarter. It is expected that about 200,000 fingerlings will be produced before May 2015.	The spawning tank and nursery pond can be produced fingerling more than 500,000 fingerling for each season, this first year due to lack of fish brood stock, they are expecting to produce only 100,000 -200,000 fingerlings, benefiting directly to 10 famers and indirectly to more than 3,000 people living around Nam Pou catchment
Output 6 Technical and managerial capacity of provincial and district level government staff enhanced	Indicator 6.2: Project management team trained following the assessment of institutional capacity in first quarter of project implementation	Target 6.2(2013): Project team capable to manage all aspects of the project implementation	On track	6.2.1 Counterpart training on watershed management, agriculture extension, water use management, fishery development and implementation and project management.	Completed	- March: Trained on project cycle management for government staff. Participants confirmed this course is very useful for them because the obtained knowledge could be applied immediately for their daily work and for future career development. The average level of understanding on project cycle management before	15 trainee (7 women) from Irrigation section, Fishery section, extension section, water resources section and DAFO of Bolikhan and Viengthong and Project staff,

						training is 40 % and after training is 70% of all trainees.	
Output 7 Project management	Indicator 7.4: Quarterly/annual work plan, reports on quarterly/annual project progress, midterm review, monitoring and evaluation including field visit reports, revised quarterly work plans after midterm review is available in timely manner	Target 7.4): Regular project monitoring and in 2013 to 2015 as the same as 2012	On track	7.4.1 Annual review meeting of 2014 and planning 2015	Completed	- January: Hold the annual review meeting at Xokbounma Hotel, Paksan district . The meeting took note on the progress made in 2014 and accepted planning of 2015.	30 participants (5 women)
	Indicator 7.6: Audit reports / spot checks with no high risks observation and minimum medium/low risk observations	Target 7.6: All implementing agencies have experience working with externally funded projects	On track	7.6.1 Audit	Completed	- March: Conducted audit by NEXIA STT Audit-Tax-Advisory Company, the audit findings include 2 medium and 2 low priority opinions. This is the first Audit for the project.	

2. Financial Management

- ❖ Provide a summary of key financial information using the tables below as a guide. Put detailed information in an annex if necessary.
- ❖ The delivery rate for Q1/2015 was made of the total planned target.
- ❖ Please add Output/Activity as per QWP/AWP. If required, provide additional information (eg list specific activities funded by the donor's contribution).

Financial Information Summary

(UNDP can pre-fill the first 4 columns and project will report remaining columns.)

Reporting Period: January-February-March 2015

Output	Activities	Source of Funding	Approved Annual Budget (USD)	Activity Budget (USD)	Expenditure of the current reporting period (USD)	Accumulated Expenditure by the current reporting period (USD)	Delivery Rate of the current reporting period (%)	Accumulated Delivery Rate by the current reporting period (%)
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Output1.Watershed management plan for Nam Pou project is developed and implemented	1	55021	7,207	4,789.85	4,426.52	2,780.48	92.41	38.58
Output 2 Water supply in both season for irrigating command area of Nam Pou project in Bolikhan District and Namyang and Phondou projects in Viengthong District is available	2	55021	235,598.63	235,598.63	209,119.72	26,478.91	88.76	11.24
Output 3 Irrigation projects are co-managed by government authorities and Water Users' Association with women participation	3	55021	32,292.66	16,718.05	14,223.33	18,069.33	85.08	55.95
Output4 Agriculture production increased and diversified in Nam Pou project in Bolikhan District and Namyang and Phondou projects in Viengthong District	4	55021	17,420	8,263.16	5,944.75	11,475.25	71.94	65.87
Output 5 Improved Fisheries in Nam Pou reservoir through establishment of fisheries co-management	5	55021	11,487	5,670.65	5,266.72	6,220.28	92.88	54.15
Output 6 Technical and managerial capacity of provincial and district level government staff enhanced	6	55021	5,334	2,820.62	2,634.78	2,699.22	93.41	50.60
Output 7 Project management	7	55021	65,511.82	15,675.85	14,137.95	51,373.87	90.19	78.42
Total			374,851.11	289,536.81	255,753.95	119,097	88.33	31.77

3. Project Management and Oversight

(This section should be completed by project in coordination with UNDP)

This progress report is prepared in close coordination and cooperation with UNDP CO Environment Unit. Apart from a regular communication through telephone and emails, three monthly meetings were conducted for January, February and March. These help improve the communication and project oversight for not only the concerned project management authorities but also for the project staff at all levels.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Information related to progress of the project implementation, risks, issues and plans for future actions were discuss and shared among core team members during every monthly meeting organized in the last week of the month.

- Some field visits conducted by project team, UNPD team and construction company as per agreed plan. For example, a field visit was held during annual meeting on 27-28 January 2014 and the other visits took place on 28 February to observed project implementation progress. The management team provided timely guidance and recommendations to resolve the challenges encountered including the difficulties associated with the hard rock as obstacles for the construction of canal in Nam Pou irrigation site causing delays for project handover from contractor to communities.

- **Risk management**

- (Actual/ anticipated operational, political and environmental risks)*

- Due to delay irrigation construction the villager cannot delivering the rice plantation but can be deliver other vegetable and sweet corn for this year.

- **Communication and advocacy**

- Installed 5 villages signboards of land use planning and watershed management plan of Nam Pou site

- SIRA project team and UNDP have a regular meeting and communication through email and telephone to make sure the effective coordination is maintained.

- Some promotional materials were produced for advocacy and awareness raising on the project activities such as watershed management plan and poster on sustainable water use and management of water user groups.

- A press release article on SIRA project prepared and disseminated for public audiences through UNDP website in March 2015

- News articles on SIRA progress were posted for local radio and TV programmes in Bolikhamxay province.

4. Management Responses and Recommendations

(To be completed by project in coordination with UNDP)

- ❖ *Update on the implementation of audit, Spot Check recommendations & management responses to project evaluation*
- ❖ *Key issue that require the attention of management / steering committee in the next quarter. Organization of the Mid-term/Final Evaluation; organization of the project Annual Review meeting; organizational of the Field Visit for high level of project Management team; preparation of project Exit Strategy; preparation of the project annual and fourth quarterly progress report; revision of the project annual work plan and budget.*
- ❖ *Audit conducted 5-6 March 2015. See Annex 7 for Management responses in detail.*

5. Annex/s

(Example of annexes attached to the report are at a minimum as the following, more annexes can be added as appropriate)

- ❖ *Combined Delivery Report (provided by UNDP & validated by UNDP & IP)*

- ❖ Annex 1. Budget Analytical Review of the quarter (optional)
- ❖ Annex 2. Quarterly Work Plan for the Second quarter of 2015
- ❖ Annex 3. Project Monitoring and Communication Plan
- ❖ Annex 4. Project Risk Log for the following quarter (as per Annex 15 - Project Risk Log of the NIM-SOPs)
- ❖ Annex 5. Project Issue Log for the following quarter (as per Annex 16 - Project Issue Log of the NIM-SOPs)
- ❖ Annex 6. Project Lesson Learned Log for the following quarter (as per Annex 17 - Project Lesson Learned Log of the NIM-SOPs)
- ❖ Annex 7. Audit Report



PREPARED BY PROJECT MANAGER

Date:

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APPROVED BY NATIONAL PROJECT DIRECTOR




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RECEIVED AND REVIEWED BY UNDP

Date:

10 APR 2015

 J. Singh.
22/4/15