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Lao People's Democratic Republic



ອົງການສະໜັບສະໜູນພັດທະນາ
United Nations Development Programme

1ST QPR 2015
Quarterly Project Progress Report
Effective Governance for Small-Scale Rural Infrastructure and Disaster
Preparedness in a Changing Climate (LDCF II)
8th April 2015

Basic Project Information

(Basic information can be completed by UNDP before sharing the report with the partner)

Project Title:	
UNDP Award ID	4710
UNDP Project ID	00084024
Project Duration	1 st January 2013 – 31 st December 2016
Reporting Period	1 st Jan – 31 th March 2015
Implementing Partners	MONRE, MOHA, UNDP, UNCDF
National collaborating agencies	
Other UN/International collaborating agencies	
Cost-sharing third parties	LDCF (GEF)
UNDP Programme Officer/Programme Specialist	Vichit Sayavongkhamdy

1. Project Implementation Status and Key Results

Implementation Status Summary

The project contributes to the UNDAF Outcome 8: "by 2015, the Government and communities better adapt to and mitigate climate change and reduce natural disaster vulnerabilities in priority sectors" by identifying and implementing adaptation measures in the rural water infrastructure sector, including both engineered and ecosystem-based adaptation options.

The first four pilot infrastructure projects that were funded in 2014 are in the process of being implemented: two projects in Sekong Province (Irrigation Project in Ban Songkhone of Kaleum district and Irrigation project in Ban Mo of Lamarm district) and two projects in Saravane Province (Water Harvesting in Ban Naprabang-Yai of Lakhongpheng District and Irrigation in Ban Nong Deng of Saravane district in Saravane Province).

These four projects will potentially benefit more than 4,277 people (1,834 women and 2,443 men through irrigation and water harvesting projects that will ensure sufficient access to water year-round for agricultural use thereby supporting food and nutrition security while adapting to climate change.

Two ecosystem areas, over 13,000 ha of Phu Ta Yeuane in Thateng district in Sekong Province and 100 ha of Sa O Wellands in Khongsedone District in Saravane Province have developed action plans and implementation will be initiated in 2015. These will constitute pilots that will demonstrate ecosystem linkages with improved climate resilience of communities and water infrastructure within their watershed.

Implementation Progress Summary

(UNDP can pre-fill the table for the first 5 columns. Project needs to complete last 3 columns. Where implementation delays for an activity, please indicate alternative actions being suggested or taken, e.g. changes to activity dates, proposed meetings to discuss delays and so forth.)

OUTCOME <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>
<p>Outcome: Capacities provided for local administrative institutions to integrate climate risks into participatory planning and financing of small scale rural water infrastructure provision</p>	<p>1.1 Percentage change in the ability of local and some national officials to apply methodologies to analyse climate risks and identify CC vulnerabilities in 12 districts</p>	<p>50% of sub-national officials and 10% of national officials are able to analyse climate risks for their districts on a macro level (V&A analysis) and are able to identify specific vulnerabilities and adaptation options at village level (CRVA)</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 1.1 Technical Capacity enhanced for provincial and district officers</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other changes _____</p>	<p>The project team participated in Regional Project Managers Training Workshop on Green Low-Emission and Climate Resilient Development Strategies in Asia and Pacific, for GEF LDCF, SCCF and AF Project Teams, held in Bangkok, Thailand, 27-30 January 2014.</p> <p>The Training for the first time brought together UNDP/GEF, LDCF, SCCF and AF Project managers from a large number of countries in the Asia-Pacific Region, as well as a few countries from Africa and the Middle East. The event offered an excellent opportunity to network with colleagues from other countries working on similar topics, and exchange experiences and learning. It was a good opportunity for the project team to meet the regional team in Bangkok.</p> <p>The event covered all aspects of the project cycle, i.e. from project formulation to implementation and</p>	<p>The knowledge obtained through this training will potentially benefit all beneficiaries, including local and national government officers and in turn direct beneficiaries in local communities. It is not possible to quantify in terms of numbers of beneficiaries at this moment.</p>

						<p>completion. Specific topics, such as M&E, Risk Management, and Gender were covered on some detail through presentations, group discussions and plenary Q & A – which turned out to be particularly rich and diverse due to the diversity and experience of the audience.</p>	
				<p>Activity 1.2.1: Develop a priority list projects based on the V&A and identify projects for financing for the FY 2015-2016</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ Other changes _____</p>	<p>A long-list of projects have been selected based on initial V&A report, and on district consultations. Between 11 & 14 projects will be selected for funding & implementation in 2015. These projects will be integrated into the 2015-16 plans. Once the CRVA team is on board (May 2015), the CRVA process will verify the relevance of these projects in terms of demonstrating climate resilience and ecosystem-based adaptation</p>	7000 villagers
<p>1.2 Procedures are in place to integrate CC resilient advice and investment for small scale rural water infrastructure into district planning</p>		<p>All 12 target districts are applying a climate resilient planning mechanism including project identification, site assessment, approval, execution and M&E</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 1.2.2: Develop indicative budgets for each project (4 projects)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ Other changes _____</p>	<p>All 12 districts are expected to have at least one climate resilient infrastructure project in 2015. For the four districts with pilot projects in 2014, 50% of the funds to district accounts has been transferred for initial implementation based on DDF procedures. A monitoring baseline survey will be carried out early in Q2 based on which each projects results can be monitored and documented</p>	
<p>1.3 Number of district development plans available, reflecting costs for adaptation in the water sector</p>		<p>All annual district investment plans include evidence of incremental CCA costings for water sector projects by year</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 1.3 CRVA</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ Other changes _____</p>	<p>The revised and more targets-oriented CRVA TOR has been posted on UNDP website, and recruitment is expected to be completed by mid-May 2015. This time apart from the general bidders, pre-identified potential bidders have also been invited to send their proposals in</p>	

		4 and at least 4 provide this evidence by Year 2			<p>order to increase the recruitment competitiveness and provide more applicable choices</p> <p>During a recent Regional PMs Training in Bangkok, we learnt that for GEF projects, Outputs can be changed, provided that there are good reasons for such changes. During the training event, we also discussed the issue of the 48 projects with the RTA (Ket), who suggested that it would be better to focus on a smaller number of projects with high quality ensuring better impacts and focused results, rather than to "chase" a specific (and unrealistic) number of projects. The number 48 was originally based on the premise that 12 projects – one in each district - could be implemented each year. However, this was never possible since project prioritization and inclusion into district development plans – based on the DDF mechanism, and following the Lao financial year – was never possible in year one of the project. The meeting agreed that the number of projects to be implemented under this project can subsequently be approved by the Project Board with a good justification on the practical number. Based on recent provincial visits, a realistic project number for 2015 is between 11 and 14 projects</p> <p>National Infrastructure Specialist (NIS) and M&E specialist had visited 4 pilot infrastructures between 9-14 Feb 2015 in both Salavane and Sekong provinces. Based on that visit</p>	7000 villagers
			<p>Activity 1.3.2: additional potential new project sites.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other changes _____</p>		
1.4: Detailed climate resilient project investments finalized and tender			<p>Activity 1.4.3: Provide technical support and advice to DDSCs</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____</p>		

<p>Outcome2 : Incentives in place for small-scale rural infrastructure to be protected and diversified against climate change induced risks benefitting at least 50,000 people in 12 districts of</p>	<p>documents prepared in 12 districts, as well as associate dialogues to facilitate the implementation of annual district investment plans in 12 districts</p>			<p>in reviewing and approving climate resilient infrastructure investment;</p>	<p><i>New Schedule:</i> _____ <i>Response Strategy:</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other changes</i></p>	<p>to the districts and sites of the all four projects, there was a need for some improvements particularly in re-surveying and re-designing in order to make the structures more climate resilient. The responsible districts submitted detailed and complete design to NIS based on a new survey and design in March 2015. As a result, the project in Kaleum district requested additional funds compared with the original design. This was approved through a joint MONRE/LDCF2 – MOHA/GPAR meeting</p>	
<p>2.1 Number of districts routinely investing in climate resilient measures to improve village level water harvesting, storage and distribution systems</p>	<p>All target districts are investing at least 2 projects per year in village level climate resilient water harvesting, storage and distribution systems, which are informed by CRVA</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 2.1 Revised DDF guidelines to include climate resilience criteria drafted</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <i>Reason:</i> _____ <i>New Schedule:</i> _____ <i>Response Strategy:</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other changes</i></p>	<p>The DDF guideline has been revised by internal team of specialists on 27 Feb 2015, and currently in the process of approval by director of DDMCC. The guidelines will be expected to put in use in Q2 2015. This is one major achievement to mainstream this criteria into the DDF guideline. This guideline will then be used widely by all DDF projects in the near future.</p>		
<p>2.2 Number of people benefitting</p>	<p>At least 50,000 people across 12 districts are</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 2.2 Four pilot projects</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i></p>	<p>Bid opening for the three of the four projects is expected to carry out by early April and start to implement the</p>	<p>The first four pilot projects</p>	

<p>Sekong and Saravane</p>	<p>from investments in small-scale irrigation systems to increase their resilience against climate change risks</p>	<p>benefitting from climate change resilient small-scale irrigation infrastructure, which has been informed by CRVA</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 2.2.3: Track, monitor and report on fiscal transfers for the four climate resilient infrastructures</p>	<p>Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other changes</p>	<p>constructions by end of April or early May 2015. One project already completed the bid opening and has initiated implementation in March in order to complete before the monsoon. The four pilot infrastructure projects include two projects in Sekong Province (Irrigation Project in Ban Songkhone of Kaleum district and Irrigation project in Ban Mo of Lamarm district), and two projects in Saravane Province (Water Harvesting in Ban Naprabang-Yai of Lakhongpheng District and Irrigation in Ban Nong Deng of Saravane district in Saravane Province). The Nong Deng Irrigation project has already completed 30% of construction in late March 2015.</p>	<p>will potentially benefit more than 4,277 people (1,834 women and 2,443 men) across the four pilot districts.</p>
	<p>2.3 District level fiscal and administrative incentives are introduced that incorporate climate resilient measures for small scale rural infrastructure</p>	<p>At least 25% in additional CCA funds (annual average) expended over and above baseline District Development Funding in at least 12 districts, based on a system that rewards districts that perform well against predetermined criteria</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Activity 2.2.3: Track, monitor and report on fiscal transfers for the four climate resilient infrastructures</p>	<p>Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other changes</p>	<p>A new version of Manual for the Assessment of Districts' has been drafted of the "Performance under the SCSD Program – District Development Fund (DDF), MoHA-SCSD Guideline No 07/2012", to include requirements for climate resilience grant system. This will result in a more effective allocation of climate resilience grants, i.e. with priority given to most climate vulnerable and best-performing districts.</p>	

<p>Outcome3: Natural assets (wetlands, forests and other ecosystems in sub-catchments) over at least 60,000 ha are managed to ensure maintenance of critical ecosystem services, especially water provisioning, flood control and protection under increasing climate change induced stresses, in Sekong and Saravane provinces</p>	<p>3.1 Number of management /action plans developed and under implementation, which protect natural assets through local scale ecosystems based adaptation measures to improve the resilience of small-scale rural infrastructure against floods and drought</p>	<p>At least 6 management and action plans covering at least 48 climate resilience small-scale infrastructure investments under implementation across both Sekong and Saravane provinces</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>3.1.1. develop and implement ecosystem management and action plan that support climate resilient of rural infrastructure in two pilot locations in Thateng (Sekong) and Kongsedone (Saravane);</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Delayed Reason: _____ New Schedule: _____ Response Strategy: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other changes _____</p>	<p>Two ecosystem areas, over 13,000 ha of Phu Ta Yeuan in Thateng district in Sekong Province and 100 ha of Sa O Wetlands in Khongsedone District in Saravane Province have developed action plans and will initiate implementation in Quarter 2 of 2015.</p> <p>National Ecosystem Specialist (NES) and M&E specialist visited both two ecosystem project sites in Thateng and Kongsedong districts between 19 March-4 April 2015 Saravane and Sekong provinces. Based on that visit to the districts and project sites, an implementation work-plan, which will be started implementation in quarter 2 of 2015.</p>	<p>The number of potential beneficiaries (i.e. villagers) within the watersheds of the two ecosystem areas will be determined by the CRVA process</p>
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2. Financial Management

Financial Information Summary

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

Reporting Period: January to March 2015 (This section is required if the Annual Project Review Report replaces the Quarterly Progress Report for Q1)

Output	Activities	Source of Funding	Activity Budget of Annual 2015		Activity Budget of Quarter (Jan-Mar 2015)		Expenditure of the current Quarter (Jan-Mar 2015)		Accumulated Expenditure by the current reporting period (Jan-Mar 2015)		Delivery Rate of the current Quarter (Jan-Mar 2015)		Accumulated Delivery Rate by the current reporting period (Jan-Mar 2015)	
			USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	%	%	USD	USD	%	%
1. Inclusive planning, budgeting and capacity development for reducing climate and disaster related risks	1.1-1.5	4000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		62160	190,542.40	33,706.97	31,302.39	31,302.39	31,302.39	92.87	16.43					
2. Local investment for reducing climate risks	2.1-2.2	40000	-	-	-	326.02	326.02	-	-					
		62160	24,091.20	6,022.80	3,793.33	3,793.33	62.98	15.75						
3. Securing ecosystem services and assets	3.1-3.2	40000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
		62160	300,697.11	46,867.84	41,554.49	41,554.49	88.66	13.82						
4. Effective Project Management	4.1	40000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
		62160	55,199.00	39,874.39	41,475.24	41,475.24	104.01	75.14						
Sub-total (TRAC):			-	-	-	326.02	326.02	-	-					
Sub-total (LDCAF):			570,529.71	126,472.00	118,125.45	118,125.45	93.40	20.70						
Grant-total (TRAC+LDCAF):			570,529.71	126,472.00	118,451.47	118,451.47	93.66	20.76						

3. Project Management and Oversight

The project has been with a full team capacity including National Infrastructure Specialist (NIS), Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (M&E) and the National Ecosystems Specialist (NES) since Jan 2015.

- Monitoring and Evaluation

The project M&E system was already drafted and shared with team and UNDP and it is expected to be fully operational by end of Q2, 2015. This will benefit the monitoring and reporting of the project.

- Risk management

Risks identified from Project Document:

Most of the risks identified from the project document (e.g. limited understanding and acceptance of climate change, limited willingness at provincial and local levels to invest in climate resilient infrastructure) will be managed by two activities that have been set in motion during the reporting period: (1) the development of a capacity building plan, based on needs assessments; and (2) the CRVA process, for which TORs have been developed and a consultant entity will be recruited in Q2, so that the CRVA process can also be started in June 2015.

Risks identified during project implementation:

The two areas of rural infrastructure implementation and ecosystem management are still seen as two separate areas of intervention. This risk is reinforced by the split into two different outcomes of the project (outcome 2 and 3, respectively). This risk is managed by: (1) designing the CRVA process to specifically cover the linkages between infrastructure and ecosystems, (2) ensuring that the five selected pilot projects will integrate ecosystem-based adaptation options during the implementation process, (3) ensuring that the new National Ecosystems Specialist and National Infrastructure Specialist will have a complete understanding of this issue and work closely together throughout project implementation

- Communication and advocacy

During the reporting period, communication has focused on internal project teams, particularly cross-ministerial communications between MONRE and MOHA, and between central, provincial and district levels. It is important for a coherent implementation of the project that all involved at all levels have a common understanding of the project and their own roles in its implementation.

As soon as the six (four infrastructures and two ecosystem projects) pilot projects start to produce results, communication and advocacy material will be produced and distributed widely, including to beneficiary communities and villagers.

4. Management Responses and Recommendations

The first audit was carried out during the reporting period (6 Mar 2015) by NEXIA SST. The results reported and the project management's response made in relation to the planned of action, person-in-charges and timing.

The first and successful Project Steering Committee and Joint ARM between DRM2 and LDCF2 organized on 16 Jan 2015. The objectives of the meeting were to present a summary of the annual progress report; to receive comments from the government and key stakeholders on the draft and approval of the 2015 AWP by PSC; to discuss steps to further strengthen coordination and collaboration across the projects and government sectors, etc. It was successful in a way that every stakeholder is now up to date with the project progress. However, there is also a higher expectation for the next annual review meeting to see more results and impact as the project progresses.

5. Annex/s

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



- 1) Combined Delivery Report (provided by UNDP & validated by UNDP & IP)
- 2) Budget Analytical Review of the 1st Quarter 2015
- 3) 2nd QWP 2015
- 4) RBM Logs
- 5) Minutes of LDCF2 Meetings
- 6) Long List of CR Investment Projects
- 7) Field visit/Technical Reports/Presentations
- 8) Revised CRVA RFP/ToR
- 9) LDCF2 2015 Audit Report, 8 April 2015

PREPARED BY APM



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Date:

RECEIVED AND REVIEWED BY UNDP



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Date:

23/4/2015