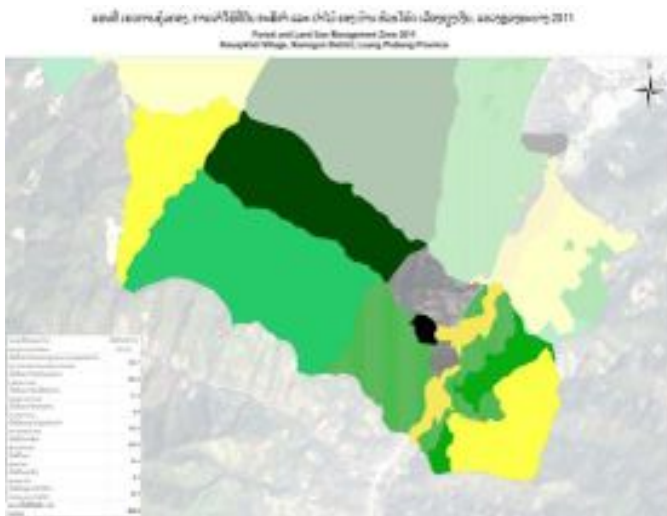


**Forest patrolling in Houaykhot village,
Xinegngun district, LuangPrabang**

On the 3rd of April, 2014, the staff from Xiengngun District Agriculture and Forestry Office, in association with the Land and Forest Management Committee of Houaykhot village, a PAREDD project target village, have jointly conducted a forest patrol in two types of forest, i.e., “Phouchomngae” district conservation forest and village protection forest areas.

Results of the patrol showed that the forests and their boundaries have not been encroached and/or harmed which meant that local villagers took good care of their forests and strictly complied with the forest management regulations.



**Words from Houaytho village head, Phonxay
district, towards PAREDD**

Hello, my name is Khamseng Xayaphone, I am the head of Houaytho village, Phonxay district, LuangPrabang province. My village is one out of the five target villages of PAREDD project and belonged to Houaykhing village cluster. From 2012 onwards, Houaytho received support from PAREDD project for village development in various aspects.

For example:

- Type 1 activity (forest management): village tree planting
- Type 2 activity (livelihood improvement): livestock raising
- Type 3 activity (infrastructure): renovation of village community hall

Moreover, the project also helped to establish Village Development Fund (VDF) and Village Veterinary System (VVS), aiming to improve livelihoods of all villagers in the long term.

Therefore, villagers are deeply indebted to PAREDD project for their kind support that considerably helped improve livelihood of the locals on a gradual basis.

In closing, on behalf of all villagers, I would like to thank the project, its staff and all those who are involved for their immense help making our village strongly grown step by step.



PAREDD

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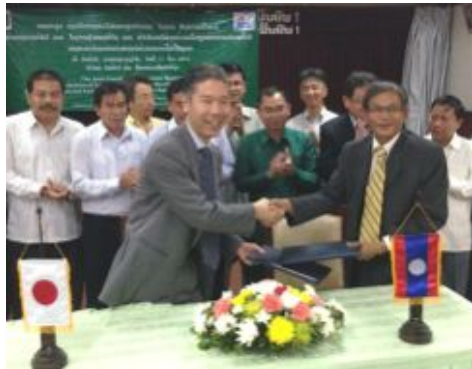
**The Participatory Land
and Forest Management
Project for Reducing
Deforestation**



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PAREDD project terminal evaluation meeting

On 11th March 2014, a half-day meeting in the conference room of Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, was



organized for the purpose of firstly listening to the results of terminal evaluation of PAREDD 5-year project which will be ended in August 2014, and secondly setting a clear view for future direction, particularly towards the end of the project. The terminal evaluation was conducted by the joint Lao-Japan evaluation team from February to March 2014. The meeting was co-chaired by the Deputy Director General of Department of Forestry and the Chief Representative of JICA Laos Office with participants from various organizations concerned, namely, representatives from Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Planning and Investment, JICA Laos office, joint evaluation team members, PAREDD staff and Japanese experts.

The project was so far satisfactorily implemented, but the purpose of the project “to create a system for reducing deforestation” entitled “PAREDD approach” is still early to measure the impacts of the said approach. Therefore, the PAREDD project is unanimously extended to one more year until August 2015 for completion.

Study tour of VDF Committee to Nambak district, LuangPrabang

From 6-9 May, 2014, a study tour was organized, with support of PAREDD project, for the Village Development Fund (VDF) committee of four villages (Houaykhot, Nakha, Paktho and Houaykhong) of Xiengngeun district, with 5 people per each village, to visit the VDF which operated in three villages (Banbom, Namthuum Tai and Nanhang) of Nambak district, LuangPrabang province.

The study tour is to exchange lessons and experiences and during this visit the VDF committees have learned how to manage the fund such as problem solving, loan release, loan mobilization, duties and responsibility of member of the VDF management unit.

In addition, the four village management units have gained a good understanding which they will adapt the lessons learned for use in their day-to-day activities in order to strengthen and sustain the management of their village funds.



Booklet for community awareness raising program

The PAREDD collaborated with RECOFTC (The Center for People and Forests) have developed Three types of booklets for field level extension workers and residents in the project target areas who are trying to manage local natural resources sustainably.

The booklets pick Climate Change Issues and FPIC (Free, Prior and Informed Consent) up to give you a sense of recent issues the project is tackling for. They also deliver brief summary of discussions by series of community awareness program that the project conducted each village in Phonsay site last three years.

We are going to distribute these booklets sooner.

