

PAREDD project joins the tree planting on occasion of National Arbor Day

On the Occasion of National Arbor Day, 1st of June every year, Luangprabang province held, this year on 30th May, the tree planting ceremony in two places such as: at Parkleung village, Chomphet district, organized by Provincial Natural Resource and Environment Office (PONRE), and at Donkang village, Luangprabang district, organized by Luangprabang Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO). With these two ceremonies, PAREDD project has joined both in order to contribute to the planting of trees for the communities as well as for reforestation which is in line with the purpose of PAREDD approach. The tree species planted were “Mai Somfart” and “Mai Taekha”, which these two kinds are able to retain water and valuable in terms of business.



Words from Houayha village head, Phonxay district, towards PAREDD



Hello! my name is Mr. Somdy JAFONGHER, I am 35 years old, the head of Houaytho village, Phonxay district, Luangprabang province.

I am very pleased with PAREDD Project so with its various support to my village such as funds,

equipment, technical knowledge and skills for implementing three types of activities which include:

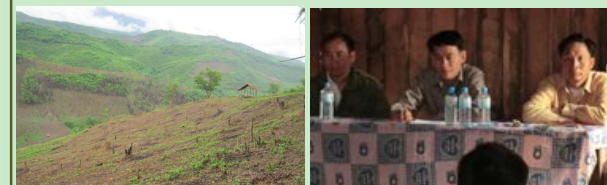
1. Planting trees for village property.
2. Livelihood development programs.
3. Village infrastructure development.

In addition, there were Village Veterinary System and Village Development Fund which established in order to support and successfully implement the above three types of activities. All are aiming to efficiently improve the livelihood of villagers step by step, and in turn reducing deforestation.

In closing, on behalf of all villagers of Houayha village, I would like to thank PAREDD project as well as the district and provincial staff and all parties concerned who have ceaselessly supported our village in improving villagers' livelihood on a gradual basis.

PAREDD

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The Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation



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Project Description for REDD+ is ready for Peer Review

This project was initiated to reduce and control deforestation caused by the expansion of pioneer shifting cultivation among natural and secondary forest and the shortening of fallow periods, based on participatory land and forest management in Houaykhing Village Cluster (HK-VC), Phonsay District, Luang Prabang Province, located in the northern part of Lao PDR.

In the targeted site, to reduce pressures on forest resources and reduce deforestation, the project applied the PAREDD Approach which consists of three stages, Planning Stage, Implementation Stage and Monitoring Stage.

This Project Description (PD) was prepared by through a close collaboration involving the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Department of Forestry (DOF) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Luang Prabang Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO) and Phonsay District Agriculture and Forestry Office (DAFO).

On 20th May, workshop for introducing the Project Description (PD) to concerned departments of Lao Government was conducted and collected comments on it. The PAREDD is now preparing third party peer review to confirm a feasibility of the Project Description.

The initiative of Longlath village, Phonxay district on land use zoning

After spending 2-3 weeks during April 2014, Phonxay District Agriculture and Forestry Office (DAFO) in collaboration with other line offices in the district and villagers were able to satisfactorily complete land use zoning in Longlath village, Huaykhing village cluster, in an unquestionable way. Longlath village was first registered as one of the total six target villages of PAREDD project in 2010. Not long after that, following the government decision, Longlath was ordered to move to another better location but the re-settlement failed due to some inexplicable reason. Consequently, in 2013 the government agreed for Longlath village to be revived. Initiated by Phonxay DAFO, and with support from PAREDD project, land use zoning was successfully conducted in Longlath village with a view to not only mapping out the whole land use zones under Huaykhing village cluster in a complete way but for Longlath to know its clear boundary and land use zones in preparation for future development as well.

The achievement this time has shown that DAFO staff have quite good experiences to do this kind of job (land use planning) well which it is hoped that it can be expanded to a wider area in the future by themselves.



The 6th LFMC exchange meeting of four villages at Houaykhot village, Xiengngeun district

On 30th May 2014, the Land and Forest Management Committee (LFMC) in four target villages of PAREDD project has conducted the 6th LFMC exchange meeting at Houaykhot village. Participants in the meeting were LFMC members from four villages totaling 12 people. Besides the LFMC members, the head of Houaykhot village cluster and other district and provincial project counterparts were also attended.

The purpose of the meeting is to give the chances for LFMC members in the four villagers to discuss and exchange the lessons learned, experiences and problems occurred in implementing the activities. They also tried to find solutions for the problems which commonly happened in their villages.

In addition, LFMC members were also encouraged and mobilized to be more active in their routine work in order to be able to continue to give support to all of the activities, particularly after the project end.

