

Profile of PAREDD site
= Houayha village in Phonxay district

Houayha, a tiny village of Hmong ethnic group, comprising of a population of 396, is belonged to Huaykhing villager cluster and situated about 38 km from Phonxay district town to the Northeast or 6 km diverged from the main road at Km 32 from Phonxay. Elevation of the village is between 1,200 and 1,400 m ASL. Houayha village was established in around 1970. It has now 55 households with 192 women.

The people of the village are primarily upland farmers. For decades now, they have all been involved in agriculture. That is the way they eke out a living. They cultivate rice, as their staple food, and other crops (including corn, job's tears, ginger, pumpkin, etc.), as well as raising livestock (cattle, buffalo, goat, pig and poultry) and collecting non-timber forest products (broom grass, elephant foot yam (*houa doukdeua*), bamboo moth, incense bark (*peuak meuak*)). All these are then sold in the local market for their extra incomes.

Houayha is classified as a poor village as there are more than half or 35 poor households. For home lighting, half of the village total households use solar panel while the remainder still uses oil lamp. Other basic infrastructures in the village include a 2-room primary school (P1 - P5) and a simple water supply scheme (*nam lin*). A mobile phone system, incidentally, has been introduced to the village by a private company in 2011. When falling sick, villagers prefer to go to a health post in Phonthong which is nearer than to Houaykhing.



Increase villagers' awareness of climate change

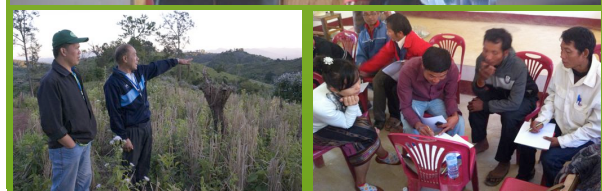
PAREDD project has provided lots of opportunities in terms of human resource development at several levels, such as building skills of staff at provincial and district levels, as well as villagers at grassroots level. Recently, from 14 - 17 January, 2013, a workshop for villagers was held in Sakuan and Houaytho villages, two out of five PAREDD project villages in Houaykhing village cluster, Phonxay district of Luang Prabang province. The main objective is to increase villagers' awareness of climate change which is associated with the forests that villagers rely on for their livelihoods since a long time.

The workshop gave villagers new insights into what will be happening if the forests are destroyed. Villagers also learned how to manage and use the forests in a beneficial and sustainable way.



PAREDD

Bulletin of January 2013 - 9th edition



The Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation




P.O. Box 841
 Luang Prabang Province
 Lao PDR
 Tel. 071-254378
 Fax: 071-254379
 E-mail:
 paredd.lpb@gmail.com

News from Phonxay

Recently, from 15 – 21 January 2013, Phonxay team, comprising of provincial and district project counterparts, has conducted the verification of data and information relating to Type 2 (livelihood improvement activities) participants of each village in the 5 target villages of PAREDD project in Phonxay district. Data and information collected are in relation to the socio-economic status of the participants.

➤ Why we need those data and information?

- 1) To confirm participants' readiness and appropriateness of the Type 2 activities, in preparation for the implementation of activities which is due to come soon.
- 2) To have initial data and information of Type 2 participants in order to monitor their implementation.



Final presentation of Village Development Fund regulations in 4 target villages of Xiengngeun district

In the recent month of January 2013, the regulations on Village Development Fund (VDF) has been presented in the meeting of 4 target villages of PAREDD project. Two steps have been undertaken as follows:

- 1. Presentation of VDF to the village Land and Forest Management Committee (LFMC).*



- 2. Presentation of VDF to villagers in the whole village meeting.*

