Report

Consultation Workshop on
Strategic Matters for Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture and the National Land Policy

Venue: ITCT (km 5), Lao PDR
13 November 2012

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# Report

## Consultation Workshop on

**Strategic Matters for CCA in Agriculture and Land Management**

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## Abbreviations

<table>
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA2CC</td>
<td>Agriculture Adaptation to Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
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<td>CCA</td>
<td>Climate Change Adaptation</td>
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<td>CCTAM</td>
<td>Climate Change Training and Adaptation Modules</td>
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<td>DG</td>
<td>Director General</td>
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<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<td>GIZ</td>
<td>Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenenarbeit (German Cooperation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>INGO</td>
<td>International Non-Government Organization</td>
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<td>IPCC</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</td>
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<td>JVC</td>
<td>Japan International Volunteer Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAO PDR</td>
<td>Lao People’s Democratic Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>M &amp; E</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAF</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</td>
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<tr>
<td>MONRE</td>
<td>Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>National Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAFES</td>
<td>National Agriculture and Forestry Extension Service</td>
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<td>NAFRI</td>
<td>National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute</td>
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<td>NAPA</td>
<td>National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation</td>
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<td>NPA</td>
<td>Non-Profit Association</td>
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<td>NTFP</td>
<td>Non-timber Forest Product</td>
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<td>PM</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
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1. Executive Summary

1.1 Rationale for workshop link to policy development

The land-locked country of Lao PDR is a highly exposed and vulnerable to flooding and drought. These natural features are being affected by observable changes in the climate, including higher than usual intensity rainfall events during the rainy season and extended dry seasons. The related risks include sudden flash-floods, land-slides and large-scale land-erosion on slopes, and recently typhoons in the south of the country. These events can be very destructive, not only altering the land scape, fauna and vegetation, but also destroying public infrastructure, property, productive land, agricultural assets and harvests. The people of Lao PDR are particularly vulnerable to climate change because 80% of livelihoods are associated with some form of agricultural activity. Furthermore, poor farmers have a limited asset base and lack access to support provided by public services.

A draft new agriculture law is based on the agricultural policy as defined in the Act IX of the party: “A direction to transition of clean agriculture in expanding to modern agriculture and higher yields. In particular, the allocation of agriculture land in the country should be accelerated. Ensure that the area of food production has enough produces for food security”.

The Agriculture Law No. 01/98 NA, dated 10 October 1998, has been adopted by the IVth National Assembly and announced by decree of the president No. 105, Lao PDR, dated 6th of November 1998. Over the period of the past 14 years the law had defined the general characteristics, but some also defined to broadly, some necessary and important structure was not defined, or some text said too little, or created difficulties in the actual organization.

Agriculture land management between central and local levels does not require details, it allows paddy management not to be effective, there appears to be a simple buying-selling ownership of agriculture land (paddy, primary land) and subsequent transformation of paddy to many other types of land use. The agriculture law does not require details on agriculture business, sets restrictions and resolves conflicts outstanding in current agricultural practice. For these reasons the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) has improved the law to comply with the conditions the new economic and social reality of Lao PDR.

Land management remains a priority area in Lao PDR, given that access to land for rural households is fundamental to sustained poverty alleviation. Responsibility for land matters was recently transferred to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE). The National Assembly plays a key role in balancing accelerated economic development and growth by ensuring that benefits from this process are distributed equitably across Lao PDR.
It is in this context the Government of Lao PDR is reviewing and revising various policies and legislation pertaining to land and nature resources. This process started in 2011, and it is planned that a revision of land use policies will be completed by the end of 2012 and related legislation by the following July. Once this is complete, the revision of other related policies and regulations such as for agriculture, forestry, mining and water will take place.

The Committee for Economy, Planning and Finance of the National Assembly of Lao PDR has identified that the cross-cutting and cross-sectoral issues associated with land, including tenure, ownership, titling, leasing and other land use types poses significant challenges, and that there is a need to take a strategic view and to formulate policies ensuring that the various competing forces, both economic and social, are balanced to maximize growth and alleviate poverty in Lao PDR.

One of the strategic points to be considered is adaptation to potential effects of climate change on agriculture and the links between land use and utilization and climate change impacts. The policy reviewing process initiated by the government will provide many opportunities for projects like IRAS to stimulate the discussion on resilience to climate change, and to assist with finding theoretical approaches and practical solutions for upcoming developments.

This report reflects the recommendations made by IRAS during a recent consultation workshop on the new revised draft land law and the new revised land management policy.

**1.2 Objectives of the workshop**

- Strategic issues related to climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector are identified, and their relevance for sustainable agricultural production is analyzed
- Strategic measures for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation through land management, land use and planning practice are identified and prioritized

**1.3 Expected outputs**

A workshop report summarizing main strategic issues related to climate change and disaster risk reduction potentially affecting the agriculture sector, land management and land use. The report will include findings and recommendations by the participants.

**1.4 Methodology**

- Preparation of concept note, work plan, budget
- Organization of speakers, venue, logistics, invitations, participants, materials
• Finalization Agenda (see Annex I)
  Register
  Opening ceremony
  Introduction to objective and agenda of workshop.
  Main topics (two sessions)
• Session 1: Strategic issues for CCA in agriculture
• Session 2: Potential for land management and land use to support CCA and DRR

1.5 Date and venue

The Consultation Workshop on “Strategic Matters for Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture and the National Land Policy” was organized by the UNDP/GEF/NAFRI project ‘Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts” (IRAS/NAPA follow-up project) through NAFRI on 13th of November 2012 at the ITCT-Centre, Vientiane km5, Lao PDR. The one day workshop was addressed policy makers relevant for climate change adaptation in agriculture, disaster management, land management and land, supportive to CCA and DRR in Lao PDR.

1.6 Participants

There were 30 participants representing 15 different government organizations, INGOs and NPAs involved in the agriculture sector and land management issues in Lao PDR. The list of the participants is presented in Annex II.

2 Strategic importance of policies for Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation, defined by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) as “the adjustment of nature and human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects”, has various strands: reducing the sensitivity of systems affected by climate change, increasing their resilience to climate-related uncertainty and instability, exploiting beneficial new opportunities and coping with adverse consequences.

Lao PDR is becoming more and more concerned about the possible impacts of climate change in the country and the need to consider adopting adaptation and mitigation strategies. With a largely rural population, substantial reliance on agriculture and still significant forestry resources, the need to assess the likely impacts of climate change on land use has been recognized, but so has the problem of separating these impacts from those driven by other factors, such as population growth and economic development. There is a need to identify potential effects of climatic variation, crop suitability, and land use that
may result from climate change, as well as to identify some of the current and future impacts on land use resulting from other drivers.

**Livelihoods of people and agriculture systems are facing with climate change quickly from sufficiency agriculture systems and shortage a system to focused market accommodate more income and food security. Factors are importance causes of this change comes from agriculture law and land policy aims to leverage poverty reduction and conversion sustainable agriculture systems, stable and strong pull of the market cause demand of the agriculture products increase of the local and regional markets.**

**Importance challenges for achieving poverty reduction goals of Lao government that improving agriculture law and land policy to greater flexibility can adapt and respond occur to change rapidly.** These goals can be achieved with laws and policies that comply with regulations, reduction of the negative impacts to the environment and the social life, and ensuring that equality of opportunity for the poor do exist in the growth. The government is recognizing a need to better define the roles of its plan to restructure and coordinate development and land management in the presence and for the future.

The draft Agriculture Law defines agriculture land, business agriculture, import and of export agricultural products, possible restrictions and means how to resolve conflicts. This structure of the draft law was stated in the resolution of the standing committee of the NA, No. 43/祧淜, dated 3rd of March 2009.

While the land policy response to the division of agriculture land to people enough, but allocation land-forest and programs of focus development duplicates causes the areas of land cultivated for crops to revolve around down. Addition, policies for increasing cover the forest area has trend the area productions decline. Impacts occur from cultivation increased frequency is soil loss, the fertile soil down, the increase in grass, demand the labor for cultivation increased and conflict occurs on the more land, sustainability of farming systems become uncertain.

Thus, Agriculture law and land policy are very important and more necessary in order to organize, practices in management, develop, adjust to climate change and use of natural resources for the dry terrestrial which includes cultivation, livestock, production, import-export along with sustainable land use and food security. So, It’s important to established the laws and policies which related on the policies of the party and the government in development economics-society. Here it shows attention very concerned with fibers of government management and development to progress and get better. Need the policy to be right and necessary should be establish the policies and laws to determine the direction of this development with efficiency.
### 3 Excerpts from Agriculture Law/Land Policy and Recommendations (Review)

#### 3.1 Review of draft new agriculture law on strategic issues for climate change adaptation and community resilience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excerpts from draft law / reference article</th>
<th>Relationship to expected IRAS outcomes</th>
<th>Opinions and thoughts for strategic climate change adaptation and increased resilience</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Article 01: Objectives                      | 1. Adaptive agricultural management is a central mission of IRAS.  
2. Promotion and development of food security under conditions of changing climate is a central mission of IRAS,  
3. Sustainable use of agricultural land is a central mission of IRAS. | • Because of the magnitude of Climate Change, this paragraph may stipulate risks or impacts resulting from climate change.  
• General guarantees for conversion of land might be useful. (There is still a lack of an article to support the law, such as: How should conversion apply? What are the priorities? Where are the locations and regions?) |
| Article 06: Obligations in developing agriculture | 4. Dissemination of information  
5. The participation of many partners and agricultural communities  
6. Protection of the agro-ecosystems and agro-biodiversity within the agriculture sector | • The obligations to develop agriculture may include adaptation and mitigation of potential impacts from Climate Change; e.g. related to floods and droughts, erosion and soil quality, water supply and management, adaptive supplies and technologies, protection of varieties and species, etc. |
| Article 09: Type of agriculture land | 7. Land use and management (district and village land use plans), farming systems, crop diversification (climate change training and adaptation modules, CCTAM) | • The potential areas and types of land with climate change risks (as defined in NAPA) may be paraphrased. |
| Article 10: Agriculture land management | 8. The management of land under a long-term perspective of climate change adaptation will be tested through the application of different CCTAMs.  
9. Land management practice will inform climate change scenarios developed by the project. | • Land management is a most important factor for agricultural production; effects from flood, drought and erosion, soil quality will influence land management, which may be highlighted under this article.  
• Some points still should be defined the within the framework of the lease and concession, e.g.  
  - the provincial governments have agreed to the lease and... |
| 10. **Diversification of varieties, products and farming systems.** | concession of agricultural land from 101-5000ha/1 target (1 project)  
- but the provincial government have agreed to the lease and concession of forest land 100ha/1 target (1 project)  
  
- From an adaptation point of view diversified land management practice (higher resilience) has many advantages compared to large-scale monoculture production. |
|---|---|
| Article 12 to 17:  
Agriculture land development, Using agriculture land,  
Conversion of agriculture land, The lease or concession,  
Boundaries of the lease or concession of agriculture land. |  
11. The state manages and promotes using agriculture land for production by forms of assignment use, rights of protection, and rights of development as land for cultivation, land for livestock, fishery and water animals. In 2 target provinces the project activities like fish ponds, rice fields and animal feeds are using land collectively. People’s participation in agriculture land development, use of agriculture land.  
  
- This article may stipulate the measures to protect land under flood, drought, erosion conditions  
- The articles may not enhance conversion of forest land for agro production  
- The criteria for land concessions and conversion may be critically reviewed, and wider public audience might be engaged. |
| Article 20:  
Census and agriculture Statistics |  
12. Collecting information about production and productivity:  
  
13. Agriculture land use  
14. Areas for adaptive crop production and livestock production  
15. Opportunities for adaptive livelihoods  
  
- Agricultural areas should be clear, particularly the areas for crop production and livestock production. Sometimes people are mixing forest land with agricultural production which has a negative impact on the environment and biodiversity  
- Survey should include data on impacts of natural disasters caused by climate change events |
| Article 21:  
Strategic planning in the development of agriculture |  
16. IRAS undertakes strategic and operational planning and management related to climate change adaptation, preservation and development of farming systems and animal husbandry in the direction of adaptation plans and projects, and other specific measures for long term climate change adaptation.  
  
- Measures for stopping shifting cultivations as well as air pollution might be included.  
- The strategic significance of the agriculture sector and the natural resources to adapt to climate change should be introduced.  
- If land is used in forest regions or for concessions, there should be planted alternatives in other places  
- Specific reference to sustainability in development of agriculture and forestry |
| Article 25: Organized groups, cooperatives and associations of agricultural producers | 17. Project activities will diversify agricultural products and productivity by establishing relevant groups, cooperatives and associations of agricultural producers to strengthen resilience.  
18. Activities try assuring gender equality in business activities, production, marketing/sales. | • The importance of agricultural organizations and cooperatives for empowerment of the farmers / producers may be highlighted, especially in the light of adaptive farming practice. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Article 26: Seeds, animal species, fish species and aquatic resources | 19. The project will support supply of seeds, animal species, fish species and aquatic resources from domestic sources and from the region, suitable and adaptive to changing weather conditions. | • Direction toward diversity of species in and for agricultural production might be emphasized, and of experimental varieties for specific purposes.  
• Improvement and further research, development and application of practice for crop and livestock adaptation should be indicated.  
• Local production and availability of adaptive seeds should be actively encouraged. |
| Article 27: Fertilizers, animal feed and fish feed | 20. The proper use of fertilizers, composting as alternative, is part of the relevant CCTAMs.  
21. On-farm preparation of animal feed is part of the relevant CCTAMs | • Promotion of improving soil with the use of organic fertilizers and organic waste from agricultural production should be indicated.  
• Local and on-farm production of animal feed should be encouraged and promoted.  
• Actual benefits of importation / exportation should be analyzed further. |
| Article 28: Insecticides, drugs, prevention and treatment of animals diseases | 22. IRAS promotes the provision and use of traditional insecticides for protection and pest management. In case of outbreaks insecticides to be used in appropriate quantity and with caution.  
23. Integrated pest management (IPM) is part of the relevant CCTAMs. | • Reference may be made to protection measures through combination of different plants, integrated pest management, animal dung.  
• The use of insecticides or animal medicines must strictly adhere to rules and regulations.  
• Use of inputs that are not explained in Lao language, and do not have labels in Lao, should be discouraged. |
| Article 31: Promotion of technology and | 24. Promotion of sustainable techniques, advancement of science and technologies that enhance community based adaptation practice | • The following aspects of technology transfers might be highlighted:  
  o Primary focus on sustainability  
  o Impact, effectiveness and efficiency  
  o Innovation and adaptive capacity |
| Techniques | Should include dissemination of information, technical advice and practical support to farmers preparing for climate change.  
| o Meteorological, hydrological, climatological technology should be emphasized  
| o Early warning systems should be emphasized.  
| • Lao PDR may envisage becoming a location for one of the planned regional “technology transfer centres” related to climate change adaptation. |
| Article 33: Agricultural Marketing | The project investigates supply and value chains in the domestic market and abroad: promoting adaptive inputs, goods, products, services  
| • The importance of increasing diversification, improving production, productivity and value of diversified farming systems may be emphasized.  
| • Agricultural markets may be established more broadly, and with more depth in both domestic and overseas value chains. Vertical integration of processing and marketing facilities and value generation may be encouraged.  
| • Establishment of cooperatives and well selected contract farming may support this. |
| Article 36-40: Business in Agriculture, Business in Cultivation, Business in Livestock, Business in Fishery, Business in Research. | 26. All CCTAM elements include economic assessments; the project promotes capacity building on commercialization benefits for Small Holders and SMEs.  
| • Agriculture business has an important role to play to enhance adaptation of the sector to climate change: provision of inputs, means of production, and marketing of products; “green economy”.... The law may endorse such approach.  
| • Identification of business are detailed in Article 36-40, but there is lack of continuity of its contents, such as permissions for processing business  
| • It is not specified who is responsible for authorization to pursue agricultural business |

### 3.2 Review of draft national land policy on strategic issues for climate change adaptation and community resilience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excerpts from policy / reference article</th>
<th>Relationship to expected IRAS project outcomes</th>
<th>Opinions and thoughts for strategic climate change adaptation and increased resilience</th>
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IRAS, Nov 2012: Strategic Matters for CCA in Agriculture and Land Management  
Page 11
## I. The general policy on the Nation’s Land

### 1.1 Status of natural landscape in Laos

Land resource

An estimated 80% of the areas are plateaus and mountainous, of these about 1/3 of the area have a slope of 30% or more. About 20% are lowland (plain areas) with 8 different soil types. Land suitable for cultivation is about 5.9 million hectares. 1% of the land area has severe land degradation, 83% of the land shows intermediate degradation, and 16% of land has a low level of degradation.

1. The suitability of land is a pre-condition for relevant agricultural adaptation practice.
2. The quality of soils will be a main factor for long-term sustainability of agricultural production.
3. Degraded land is more easily damaged and eroded by rains, storms, floods and droughts.
4. By its physical conditions a mountainous landscape is by its natural characteristics more prone to quickly progressing natural disasters (compared to flat land).

#### Water resource

Potential of the water resource is abundant, such as the Mekong river and the tributaries, suitable for use in agriculture, the development of renewable electricity, in telecommunication sector industries, and for water supply.

5. Effective, efficient and sustainable management of water is a central theme of IRAS’ adaptation practice.
6. Long-term management of the water balance is a core concept of climate change adaptation practice.

#### Water management

- The physical nature of the landscape, being the basis of main eco-systems, should be the most important determinant for allocation of land for specific purposes.
- Special attention should be paid to river basins, water catchment areas and slopes, bio-diversity.
- Coverage of land with trees (forestation) and other “greens” is beneficial for a number of reasons (erosion control, water management, maintaining soil quality, active sink for GHGs.)
- Appropriate technologies chosen for land preparation and management have to be carefully selected, especially for large-scale monoculture production.

- Water quantity and quality should be assured though zoning of areas that protect the water generating capacity of a landscape or an ecosystem.
- Water utilization and water generation capacity have to maintain an overall balance in a region’s water budget.
- High-quality infrastructure development with ‘environment-friendly’ (green) adaptive technologies should be regarded as a priority.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest resource</th>
<th>Bio-diversity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Potential of forest resources: area covered is 47% of the country with 5 types of forests. Forest conservation area is 22.6%. 80% of people live in rural environment, 30.4% of the country’s economy comes from agriculture and forestry (2006 to 2010).</td>
<td>Potential of biodiversity: Lao is rich with plants and animals of at least 8,100 kinds, of these: reptiles and amphibians 166 kinds, birds 700 kinds and mammals 11 kinds; fish 87 species found in Indochina area, but most of them are found in Lao PDR; wild animals of 1,300 kinds are living in their old natural habitat. In the forests along the Mekong river and the tributaries of the Mekong river in Lao PDR is the second most important central source of sticky rice with the traditional seeds totaling more than 3,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Support to agro-biodiversity and diversification of income from agriculture systems, farming systems and forestry is a most important measure for creation of climate change resilience on community and household level.</td>
<td>8. Assessment of indigenous and local species and varieties is part of the project’s CCTAM (climate change training and adaptation module) development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Agro-forestry, integrated watershed management, compensation for non-utilization of forests, re- and afforestation of degraded forest areas, and possibility of future carbon credits should be pro-actively promoted.</td>
<td>9. Agro-biodiversity and crop diversification are regarded as valuable ingredients for food security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• General measures for protection, conservation, management of biodiversity (both forests and agriculture) might be included.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Specific measures for protection of very rare species and varieties might be indicated.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• The interdependencies between crops – livestock production systems in each agro-ecological zone should be considered.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Genetic variety and biodiversity to be researched in support for climate change adaptation and resilience.</td>
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### Mineral resource

**Potential of mineral resources is not significantly utilized.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10. No direct link to IRAS activities.</th>
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<tr>
<td>• If done in an inadequate way, mining has a huge potential to negatively affect the physical and living environment. Alterations of landscape, forest coverage, water regime, erosion, landslides, and pollution are among these which may pave the way for further climate change related damages. Counter-measures should be indicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Relevant geographical areas should be identified and listed, and potential disaster risk scenarios might be envisaged.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Governance of mining is a very demanding issue for policymakers and planners, and should be inter-sectorial.</td>
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#### 2.2.2 Zoning areas

**The zoning of the location geographically makes the distinction between lowland, mountainous area and wetland. It reviews the allocation of land versus forest land.**

| 11. Zoning of land is probably very useful on village and community level and helpful to all adaptation measures to be undertaken. |
| 12. Village and community land use plans will be developed. |
| • Suitable zoning of land is the key for sustainable management of natural resources. |
| • Land management and land use are very difficult with inadequate zoning, and will encourage all sorts of conflicts. |
| • Participatory land use planning (PLUP) process to be expanded for inclusion of climate change matters. |
| • Inclusion of protection and shelter areas is important. |
| • Limitations of zoning over time; review every 10 years. |
| • Land allocation of the past to be transparent. |
| • Zoning of areas at risk of disasters, flood and drought very relevant (lowlands, plateaus, valleys). |
| • Zoning touches very closely the authority of local administrations. |
| • Qualitative and quantitative surveys should be normative. |

#### 2.2.3 Soil classification

| 13. Identification of soil qualities very important for adaptive agricultural technology. |
| • Maintaining and enhancing soil fertility an important element of diversified adaptive agriculture. |
| • Careful analyses before allocation of soil types to land uses. |

**varieties, of these, many kinds cannot be found in other places.**
| 2.2.3 Land classification | 14. Village and community land use plans to include soil qualities.  
15. Compost preparation, suitable application of fertilizer, integrated pest management  
16. Continued research required through NAFRI.  
17. Land classification to be done as part of village and community land use plans.  
18. Tree nurseries, reforestation measures as part of CCTAMs.  
19. Promotion of carbon reduction in agro-technology. | • Careful analyses of soil types before land concessions.  
• Identification of areas and testing of integrated agriculture, forestry, livestock, fisheries, water management in different ecological zones and in areas at risk of flood, drought, and erosion.  
Planners may consider the principles of “clear zones” that prohibit any definitive transition.  
• Links to the protection of aquatic food chain might be established.  
• Specific authority / institute on soil quality and fertility, micro-biology, soil management.  
• Forest management, together with water resource management, are the two most relevant actions for climate change mitigation, adaptation and increase resilience.  
• Identification of forest areas that total up to the envisaged 70% target.  
• Distinction between forest types may be indicated through zoning (see 2.2.2).  
• Introduction of sustainable commercial forestry.  
• Identification of carbon sink areas.  
20. Addressing industrialization of agriculture through large-scale monoculture production  
21. Addressing effective management of Farmer Organizations  
22. Addressing value and supply chain management  
23. Addressing efficient water management | • Rich history and experience on industrial wastelands in Europe, the US, other regions in the world.  
• Rich international experience on organizational models for farmers.  
• Industrial development in the context of climate change adaptation and development not sufficiently discussed and clear recommendations difficult; careful handling of all industrialization processes should be encouraged.  
• Government measures should maintain authority and control of industrial areas to reduce impacts on the environment, society and economy in the short-term and long-term.  
2.2.3 Land and industries |
| 2.2.3 Land and army | 24. No direct link to IRAS activities. | • Industrialization of agriculture hardly discussed internationally, but may have significant repercussions on climate change adaptation and resilience, especially on the side of genetic modifications, seed supplies, and technological patents.  
• Moratorium as a policy instrument to be introduced.  
• Compensation policy reflecting potential values and damages, restoration etc. |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 2.2.4 Land use planning | 25. IRAS supports the production of land use plans for districts and villages in the target areas.  
26. Preparation of these plans under MONRE authority.  
27. PLUP to be reviewed regarding the inclusion of climate change adaptation | • Policy makers should consider determining the roles of the parties involved clearly and show a defined scope and time frame.  
• Accurate recreational areas for the military, police and other land used for defense and security should be sketched out.  
• The processes should be transparent, accountable, just, and fair and equal for all population groups, and legal protection should be granted to landowners on village or community level.  
• Similarly to mining and large-scale industrialization, land use by army may have very damaging consequences to the environment, which may not be contributing to the overall resilience to climate change. |
| 2.2.5 Development of land | 28. Each CCTAM activity on the ground is a contribution to sustainable development of land | • Policy makers further to define roles, principles, operations.  
• Rights and the role of local people in the management of natural resources to be discussed at all stages in their home region.  
• Policies may probably seek support through a detailed and comprehensive discussion among the public  
• Climate vulnerability and risk assessments should be included in future land use planning policies and approaches.  
• Clear roles, principles, procedures for implementation should be made available by policy makers and planners. Which organizations are involved, |
| Land development includes the production of crops and forests that create benefits on a maximum sustainable scale and with participation of stakeholders involved. | with focus on strengthening adaptive capacity of the agriculture sector, farming system and the village household. | how is local engagement ensured? | • Further engagement of research and development institutions may be useful.  
• The point of moratorium may be raised, in case they are conflicting interests at stake |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.7.2 Management of land collectively | Land collectively managed by the public. (As defined by the regulations governing the registration and titling of land.) | 29. Some CCTAMs might be implemented on land under collective or communal management. | • Total land used by village management - used by the authorities might be identified. Purposes for identification should be clear. Local benefits might be outlined.  
• Rules for management should be outlined, and the process should be managed by the principles of clear rights and responsibilities of government organizations.  
• Local population should maintain the rights for maximum benefits within economic, social, local development of the nation.  
• Local action will be important as “first line of defense” for disaster risk reduction. |
| 2.8 Assessed value and land markets | 30. To be gradually addressed through the works of the IRAS Agro-Economist. | 31. Some CCTAM activities may relate to land under concessions or for agricultural investment. | • The principles for assessing the value of land giving justice to all parties should be outlined.  
• The value of land will be significantly influenced by natural disasters, flood, drought and other parameters mentioned in the previous sections.  
• The damages caused by climate change may have to be internalized in the value.  
• The objectives should be clearly specified in the approval process.  
• The interests of the local community and environment conservation matters should be included. Respect for local livelihoods should be maintained.  
• Responsibilities of the investor should be clearly stated. |
| 2.9.2  | Allowing land lease or concession | • This is probably politically a point with many different opinions. To assure a transparent and accountable process, the details of such investments and concession have to be very clear, transparent and accountable. This is a highly political decision-making process.  
• The type of investments made and the locations selected may compete with priorities for climate change adaptation and resilience. |
| 2.10. | Compensation for damages | 32. No direct link to IRAS activities.  
• Further define principles and specify the policy regarding the calculation of compensation for damages.  
• Enable smooth implementation granting justice to all parties.  
• Further international discussion required how climate change related damages will be compensated regionally or across borders. |
| 2.10. | Resolve disputes related to land | 33. No direct link. Indirectly included in experiences made by the project and respective lessons learned, and promotion of these.  
• Guidelines outlined in the case of conflict between the local investors or projects and the Government should be developed. What is the process or the operational approach if there are complaints by the local population?  
• Principles should enable to process the complaints made locally, and funding and legal support in such cases should be provided. Related to major projects there should be the principle of justice to all parties.  
• With increasing probability of sudden climatic events the risk for land and water related conflicts will be increasing, locally, regionally and internationally. |
4 Discussion and Recommendations

Mr. Houmphanh RATTANAVONG

Issues of climate change in Laos occur with issues of climate change in the world, it is serious by now, why does it take place and what causes of climate change in Lao PDR do exist

- Expansion areas of production:
  - Slash and burn for livelihoods of people
  - Planting for production, expansion and land concessions

- Harvesting timber: Big trees in the ancient culture of Buddhism are inhabited by spirits. Traditionally they require maintenance. At present, where there are no big trees it damages the natural ecosystem; and temperature is increasing.

- Issues of stopping slash and burn, policy has changed livelihoods in the mountainous areas:
  - Growing rice as the plant crop and feeding livestock are not sufficient for consumption.
  - Result from collection of NTFP. Therefore, dales man is plant opium and it was their culture in the period of Indochina and America had planting the opium and effect in the past. Planting opium was solved the issues in the negative, but the positive has many things because they use less land cultivation. Next stop planting opium is looking for methods by planting maize. Planting maize 1 hectare with planting opium a little bit.

- Moving settlement to the small village-major village make the policy is not set by the state, but this was dangerous because policies were not implemented the strict, put them down below what is require to solved the issues, organize vocational training center: cropping, tree seedlings. If moved their land should be prepare agriculture land for them. But the real, when moving not have agriculture land, e.g concession of plantation bananas, need to the government has solved to move people out from their areas which has land and move to a place not have land which do all of them poor.
  - The law not rights
  - Policy is not implement for the rights
  - Local do not have monitoring, corruption provisions of the investor. Instead of implementing policies set by the state

Mr. Khampha KEOMANICHANH

- I had seen more projects helping, but the end shortage the monitoring systems, see the strategy how should do?
- Should start implementing the groups of production, variety of food available.
- Should organize the association of farmers in Lao PDR
- Build technician in the village
- Open competition of association in Lao PDR
- Identify animal conservation, build regulations to elephants

Mr. Bounmanh
Decreasing the quality of forest which previously have 80-70% and present only 30%
- Need the ministry has response for that it declined due to what, percentage of the shifting cultivation and why decreased, percentage of foreigners investor, percentage of dam. Because these things has affected and causes to the solutions of implementation for solved concession.

Mr. Sengchanh PHOMMACHANH
- Framework of allocation of land forest and issues allocation land
- How many cycles of farming and how many cycles in the real farming
- Do not concession forest land to production
- Should be presented land is a factor of agriculture
- Improve water in production
- People get more positive information of concession, the negative won’t have.

Mr. Suvanpheng PHOMMASANE
- Land policy and land allocation for leaders or seniors’ staff assumes that give the land all the leaders and next 100 years, where will we give the land?
- Allocation of land, upland why is it not fair? The smaller and give less.

Mr. Singha OUNNIYOM
- Climate change issues had not reflected adequately in Laws and land policy. To integrate which on content of land policy in objectives two said that: Promote the development and land use for efficient, sustainable and protection natural resource and environment. The stopping on the environment, it gives us limited opportunities, assistance in framework of climate change.
- We should have connect the sentence as: including adaptation and restrictions result in negative from climate change issues.
- When we discussed with foreigners, they may have assist to us, need to cooperate with our sectors to reflect, for they have confident and need to assist.
- It reflects a policy to high attention and catch up with this era. The era of climate change is stronger than the past era is environmental condition, but this is era of climate change to reflect these in the policy as can be done.

Dr. Bounthong BOUAHOM
To see the concession land with investing of GIZ with SCC
Concession of land has good and worse investors

Mr. Khamphy KHAMMAVONG
- National land policy word is the law or draft, this particular law or a force like other laws or the policy has solved the issues that occur or policies cover up what any day did the past or after this will cover up or not.
- Glossary of mediation or negotiation in land policies, but see in the past, the word mediation makes many people lose benefit, who has the same level switch it is a fair.
- Policies of government staff. I think it is legitimate on land allocation to government officials, people has policies in the same ways or not. Not well-known NGO and NPA are working develop the natural for our country has the rights or not. Or give the person to flight in the past or not, because the people want to work with government but no have opportunity.

Prof. Dr. Silinthone SAKLORKHAM
- To understand the National Land Policy is the same with agriculture sector as strategic development of Agriculture in 2020. But land policy this year until when the year, it was forever or not.
- Should be added for be clear.

Mr. Khampha KEOMANICHANH
- Strategic of adaptation: I have seen Champhone district the water was drought
- How to solve this natural resources
  - Should have conservation water resources, water levels for sustainable and farmers have water to use in the dry season.
  - The streams need to have dam hold the breath for water flow in rainy season and dry season will have water used.

Mr. Yo SAYSOULINH
- Must see the quality of land that is suitable for any type of crop
- If using the land agricultural must not set free the quality of land

Mr. Vongvilay
- Direction of Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change proposed correct with the goal of workshop about land using effected more than climate change, we come to see 72%, and it was affected on climate change and agriculture.
- Except Beer Lao Company has sell carbon anywhere else in that 5000-7000$/Ton.

5 Summary and Conclusion by IRAS
Farmers have an important role in ensuring food security and provide raw materials for industrial processing which contribute to the national economy. In addition, farmers are covering more than 80% of the population nationwide. In facts, the party and the government, particularly the development goal of reducing poverty and reducing the removal of the least developed countries in 2020.

Climate change impacts and vulnerability in the agricultural sector and land management are increasing recognizing the important role of adaptation. This paper focuses on adaptation in agriculture to deal directly with the risks related to climate change. There is an immense variety of potential and actual adaptation options available, including many different types which have been characterized. Technological developments involve the development of crop, weather and climate information systems and resource management innovations, including irrigation by government to be subsequently adopted producers sometime in the future. Government programs and insurance involved government agricultural subsidy and support programs (including crop insurance, established income). Farm production practices involve decision-making by producers and include diversification and intensification of crop and livestock production (including crop substitution) changing land use, irrigation.

Adaptation cannot be separated from other development efforts because climate change acts upon existing vulnerabilities. Therefore, development programs and policies must be in par with climate risks. Mainstreaming climate change adaptation is a process of considering climate risks in development projects, and of adjusting project activities and approaches to address these risks. It involves understanding the linkages between climate change and national development priorities and understanding the governmental, institutional and political contexts and needs, finding entry points into development planning and making the case for adaptation mainstreaming. It is essential to ensure that adaptation is mainstreamed into budgeting and financing, and implementation and monitoring as well.

Essential for all matters of agriculture adaptation to climate change is proper and sustainable land management, land use and utilization. This requires a complex regulatory framework and reliable institutional capacity. On a medium term, the clear zoning of land for different purposes is unavoidable to avoid conflicts of interests over assets. The way how land will be allocated and used will decide on how the country will look in 25 years from now, how the Lao population will have benefited from it, and how skills for climate change adaptation will have developed.

6 NAFRI recommendations for next steps

The Lao PDR has been recognized as one of the countries that are most vulnerable to climate change impacts due to its particularly high dependence on climate-sensitive natural resources and low adaptive capacity. For example, the whole agriculture sector (farming,
animal husbandry, forestry and fisheries) is directly dependent on land and climatic resources (temperature and rainfall). The industrial sector is also by and large resource-dependent with mining, agricultural processing, hydropower and wood processing as the main sub-sectors. Energy and Transport are particularly sensitive areas, where Laos’ hydropower potential and strategic territorial position within one of the world’s fastest growing regions can contribute to regional sustainable solutions. Moreover, the poor intensely depend on biodiversity and natural resources for livelihoods, such as the provision of fish and aquatic resources that make up to 90% of local diets, and the reliance on non-timber forest products (NTFPs), which account for an estimated 30% of Lao PDR’s GDP. Thus, climate change is likely to pose formidable threats to the economy and the society at large.

There are a number of options for improving the sustainability of the current farming systems and these can be focused on:

(i) Increasing the availability of water and the efficiency with which it is used in lowland rice farming systems,
(ii) Increasing the sustainability of non-rice cropping systems, such as maize, which have significant risks due to unsustainable land management practices, especially related to soil erosion and degradation,
(iii) Improved livestock production and better linking of livestock producers to markets,
(iv) More diversified cropping and farming systems, based on rice, other annual crops, perennial crops, and livestock, so as to achieve greater biological and economic efficiency and resilience,
(v) Improved management, and perhaps specifically marketing, of non-timber forest products.

In short, although climate change will almost certainly have some effect on the Lao agricultural and land use systems, it appears that none of the changes that may result will be as large as the huge changes in land use that are occurring, and are expected to continue to occur, as a result of population growth, economic development, and related development policies. In addition, all of the changes to agriculture and land use that are required to adapt to these changes in climate and that may contribute to mitigation efforts are all changes that should be encouraged irrespective of climate change. In fact, the driver for more eco-efficient agricultural, forestry, and land use policies should be the need to cope much better with the current highly variable climate and the current high risk, low resilience, and barely sustainable farming systems that produce the inadequate livelihoods of a large number of children, women, and men who constitute the marginalized rural poor of the Lao PDR.
Annex I

**Agenda**

“Consultation Workshop on Strategic Matters for Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture and the National Land Policy” in ITCT(km 5), Lao PDR, 13 November 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lead by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:15</td>
<td>Opening ceremony</td>
<td>Dr. Bounthong Bouahom</td>
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<td>DG NAFRI</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15-9:45</td>
<td>Introduction into strategic issues affecting agriculture and land</td>
<td>Mr. Manfred Staab</td>
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<td>management</td>
<td>STA IRAS / UNDP</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Session 1:</strong> Strategic issues related to climate change adaptation</td>
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<td>in the agriculture sector and their relevance for sustainable</td>
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<td>agricultural production</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45-10:10</td>
<td>• General Introduction for Agriculture Law and Agriculture Legislation</td>
<td>Mr. Bounkong SOUVIMONH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Permanent Secretary Office, MAF</td>
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<td>10:10-10:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>10:30-11:00</td>
<td>• Excerpts from the new draft agriculture law and the relevance</td>
<td>Ms. Dalavanh VONGSAKHONE</td>
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<td>for CCA</td>
<td>IRAS Project, NAFRI</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00-11:30</td>
<td>• Lesson for Participatory Agriculture and Forest Land use Planning</td>
<td>Mr. Boualy PHAMEAUNG</td>
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<td>NAFES, MAF</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30-12:00</td>
<td>Q&amp;A, Conclusions and recommendations</td>
<td>All participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td><strong>Session 2:</strong> Strategic measures for disaster risk reduction and</td>
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<td>climate change adaptation through land management, land use and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>planning practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00-13:30</td>
<td>• General Introduction Caused, Impacts and Solutions into Climate</td>
<td>Mr. Vanxay BOUTTANAVONG</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Change in Lao PDR</td>
<td>Department of National Disaster &amp; Climate Change, MONRE</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30-14:00</td>
<td>• Welfare impact of land titling in Laos: “The qualitative study”</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Soulinthone</td>
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<td>SAKLORKHAM</td>
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<td>Faculty of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00-14:30</td>
<td>• General Introduction National Land Policy</td>
<td>Mr. Bounlat VORLACHIT</td>
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<td>Department of Land Management, MONRE</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:30-15:00</td>
<td>• Excerpts from the draft National Land Policy with significance for</td>
<td>Ms. Saisanouk PHIMPHAEK</td>
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<td>CCA and DRR</td>
<td>IRAS Project, NAFRI</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-15:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30-15:45</td>
<td>Q&amp;A, Conclusions and recommendations</td>
<td>All participants</td>
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</table>
### Annex II

#### List of Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Participant</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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**Annex III**

**Presentations**

On request, all presentations are available

Please send email to:

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merdalavanh@gmail.com