

# National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Responsible Agricultural Investment

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## The Implementation of the promotion for the Responsible Agricultural Investment in private sector

Name of presenter: Mrs. Souphayvanh Thiengchanhxay

Job title: Deputy Director

Name of organisation: Burapha Agro-Forestry Co., Ltd.

On behalf: Board of Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry



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# Outline of presentation

1. Incentives for investors to invest in Lao PDR
2. Visions of investors
3. Advantages and difficulties of operation
4. Comments and suggestions

# Incentives for investors to invest in Lao PDR

- 1) Political stability, not many major natural disasters
- 2) The government promotes agro-forestry investment, plant trees in degraded lands, increase green cover and conserve natural forests
- 3) The forestry strategy can contribute to the social –economic development which aim for green - sustainability and environment protection
- 4) Large empty lands and good geography
- 5) Potential in terms of local labors, near markets, have railway for transport

# Investors' visions

- 1) Voluntarily be members of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- 2) Defines the standards for sustainable forestry management and Chain of Custody (CoC)
- 3) FSC is an recognized international organization in terms of transparency, accountability which members must be responsible for three main components: economy, environment and society

# Advantages and difficulties of operation

- 1) Many related laws and regulations have been revised such as law on forestry, law on investment promotion, law on environment, regulations on imports and exports
- 2) Focus on growing trees in degraded lands in order to increase green cover and conserve natural forests
- 3) Contribute to the poverty reduction of the people by having agro-industry integration, encourage the participations from the local rural labors
- 4) Contribute to the socio-economic development aim for green, sustainability and environmental protection as well as reduce impact of global warming which is the current world's issue
- 5) Leasing/concession of lands in the degraded forests in order to do agro-forestry activities are difficult, some regulations and laws of related ministries are not consistent and take long time to process
- 6) The expansion of the tree growing areas are delayed because the process of the survey for plantation areas is difficult, people in some locations do not provide cooperation and do not understand the policies of the government on the growing trees in forests where can use for the production.

# Comments and suggestions

- 1) Reduce some procedure which are barriers to the business, in general this is to propose to all relevant public sectors to implement the Ordinance No.02 and other ordinances of Prime minister that facilitate and promote the production, business and investment
- 2) To have investment promotion policies by issuing comprehensive, strong and transparent regulations
- 3) The revision of sectoral regulations should not be delayed and contradicted with each others
- 4) To Improve coordination, dispute resolution mechanism of the public sector in the field of agro-forestry investment to be clearer and centralized



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**Souphayvanh Thiengchanhxay**

**+856 20 54199289**

**Email: [spv@buraphawood.com](mailto:spv@buraphawood.com)**

**[www.buraphawood.com](http://www.buraphawood.com)**



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