ບໍລິການ-ສົ່ງເສີມກະສິກຳຮອບດ້ານ ບສກຮ
LURAS Lao Upland Rural Advisory Service

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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HELVETAS LAOS

NAFRI

Meta-study of climate adaptation measures already tested by upland farmers in Laos

National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI)

1. Introduction

This meta-study aims to summarise the lessons learned from completed or on-going projects that supported climate adaptation among small farmers in the uplands of Laos.

The results of this study will help improve the design and implementation of the CRED activities of LURAS and other initiatives to reduce the vulnerability of rural communities to floods, droughts and other impacts of climate change

Sl. No	Projects included	Projects excluded
1	Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts (IRAS), FAO	Climate Smart Agriculture in Laos (CSA), SNV)
2	Eco-Friendly Intensification and Climate Resilient Agricultural Systems in Lao PDR (EFICAS), CIRAD	Climate Smart Agriculture Alternatives for Upland Production Systems in Lao PDR, FAO – on-going
3	Northern Uplands Promoting Climate Resilience (NU PCR), CARE/CCL/SAEDA	
4	Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems (SAMIS) to improve adaptation to climate change and food security in Lao PDR	
5	Climate protection through avoided deforestation (CliPAD), GIZ	

2. Objectives

The overall goal of this analysis is to provide a comprehensive review of literature and climate adaptation measures already tested by upland farmers in Laos and analyze these measures

1. To provide list of projects involving climate adaptation measures projects that were completed or are on-going.

2. To provide list of projects involving climate adaptation measures projects that were completed or are on-going.

Sub-objectives include

4. To conduct a meta-analyses of the measures

3. To conduct a strength, weakness, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis of the measures employed

3. Materials and Methods

Step 1: Data Collection

- The relevant project details were obtained from the relevant websites and by contacting concerned authorities related to the projects mentioned in the previous chapter.

Step 2: Classification of adaptive measures

- Key themes of the project activities were developed based on the literature available

Step 3: SWOT Analysis

- SWOT Analysis of each activity was performed based on the available information

Step 4: Meta Analysis

- Meta-analysis of the adaptive measures

4.Problem Statements

1. What are the existing projects aiming to develop and implement climate adaptive measures to combat the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture?
2. What are the objectives, strategies, activities, and results of these individual projects?
3. Who are the project partners and which areas of Laos were involved in the projects?
4. What are the major climates adaptive measures employed in these projects?
5. What are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of these climate adaptive measures?
6. Which of the adaptive measures performed well compared to others?

5.Output

Capacity Building of stakeholders through knowledge transfer and training	Climate/disaster vulnerability assessment	Weather forecasting
Land Use Planning	Improved water management	Improved livestock management
Improved forest management	Introducing new crop varieties	Participatory action research/ testing agro ecological practices
	Gender/ women empowerment	

Sl. No	Measures	Projects
1	Capacity Building of stakeholders through knowledge transfer and training	IRAS, EFICAS and NUPCR
2	Climate/disaster vulnerability assessment	NUPCR
3	Weather forecasting	NUPCR and SAMIS
4	Land Use Planning	IRAS, EFICAS and SAMIS
5	Improved water management	IRAS and EFICAS
	Improved livestock management	EFICAS and NUPCR
7	Improved forest management	CliPAD
8	Introducing new crop varieties	IRAS
9	Participatory action research/ testing agroecological practices	EFICAS and NUPCR
10	Gender/ women empowerment	IRAS and NUPCR

LAND USE PLANNING: Support Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) and the transformation of these plans into action plans (Community-based Agricultural Development Plans – CADP)

STRENGTHS

Articulation with other programs
Participatory approach
Progressive implementation
Community leaders' involvement
Documentation

WEAKNESSES

Neighboring villages
Leadership capacity
Access to collective watering point

Checking adherence to PLUP

OPPORTUNITIES

Community Mobilization
Non-compliance

THREATS

LAND USE PLANNING: Land Resources Information Management System (LRIMS)

STRENGTHS

Multiple sources of data
Accessibility

WEAKNESSES

Lack of quality and high resolution data on climate
Lack of integrated information

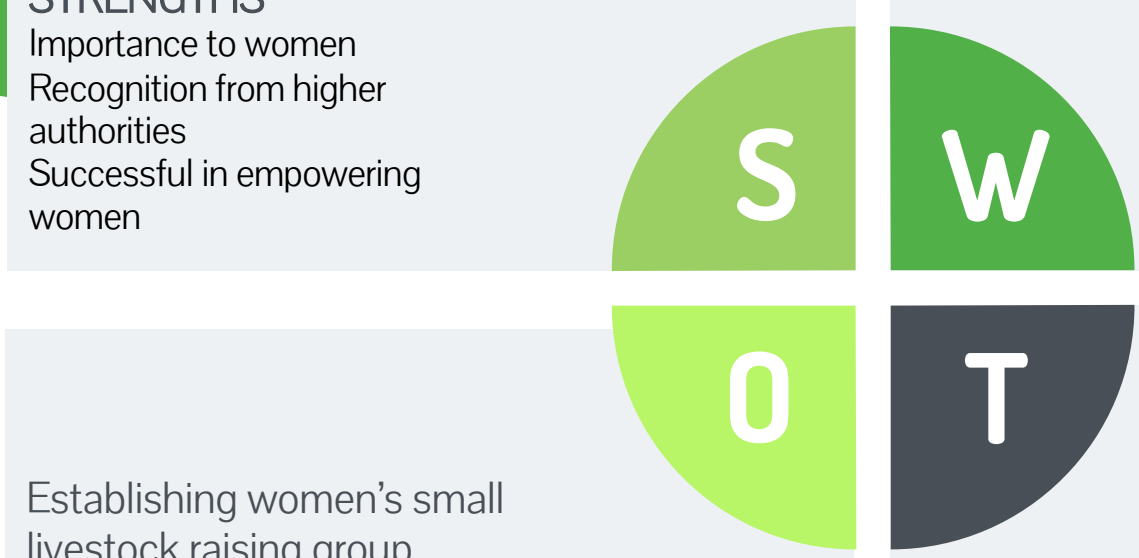
Evidence Based Policy
Monitor approved legislations
Easier investment in agriculture

OPPORTUNITIES

Requirement of information and tools

THREATS

Gender empowerment: Establishment of village savings and loan groups for women in project farming



STRENGTHS

Importance to women
Recognition from higher authorities
Successful in empowering women

WEAKNESSES

Time intensive

Establishing women's small livestock raising group

OPPORTUNITIES

Women's literacy

THREATS

Weather Forecasting: Development of infrastructure, messaging and dissemination channels for short-range weather information, seasonal forecasting and early warning and preparedness

STRENGTHS

Sharing of advisories through Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP) and Dynamic Crop Calendars (DCC)
Cross checking the accuracy of forecasts
Change in the farmers planning of farming calender and practices

WEAKNESSES

Accuracy and capacity of weather forecasts

OPPORTUNITIES

Support of local processes
Addition of information and multiple media and communication tools

THREATS

Sustainability

Improved water management: Support for irrigation infrastructures

STRENGTHS
Tailored efforts

WEAKNESSES
Varying Quality
Cost
Match between water retention capacity and area of field

Resilient livestock production
Delegation to specialized projects
OPPORTUNITIES

Maintenance and replacement
THREATS

6. Conclusion

Vulnerability assessment should be one of the first and most fundamental actions to take.

Various situations in farming communities necessitate specific adaption plans.

Our advice is to take use of the opportunities offered by the previously tried adaptive measures and apply the lessons learnt to future projects.

While many of these adaptive measures produced positive results, it was found throughout the study that they were neither maintained nor scaled up.

- This significantly implies the need for effective policy, institutional leadership, cross-sector collaboration, and resource availability.
- The opportunities provided by the previously tried adaptive methods should be utilized, and future projects should include the lessons learned.
- Throughout the planning stage, it is essential to assess the measures' viability and to set up processes for expanding them.

Thank you