

# Agro-Climate Information for the Adoption of Resilient Farming Practices by Women and Ethnic Minority Farmers in Northern Laos (ACIS II)



Agricultural training for community.

## BACKGROUND

Farmers in Samphan and Mai district in Phongsaly Province are increasingly exposed to climate-related disasters and risks (drought and flooding) that cause crop loss and further aggravate the food security situation and livelihood in the province. Upland rice farming is particularly sensitive to climate impact due to its complex topography and lack of water and resources. As farmers depend on rainfall for their cultivation, they require access to seasonal forecast information and timely, quality farming advice to optimize their production, especially as erratic weather ensues.

## OBJECTIVES

Women and ethnic minority farmers in Samphan and Mai Districts of Phongsaly can better anticipate and respond to climate risks through participatory and equitable agro-climatic planning.

### TimeFrame

January 2018 - December 2021

### Beneficiaries

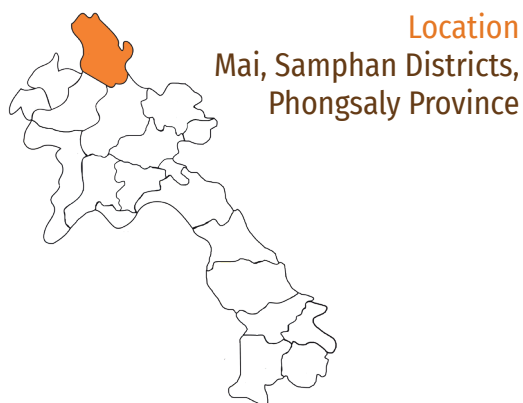
Direct 3,868 (2,282 women)

Indirect 12,087 (7,131 women)

### Partners

Phongsaly Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office, Mai and Samphan District Agriculture Offices, Phongsaly Provincial Office of Natural Resources and Environment, District of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao Women's Union

## GLIMPSE



### Location

Mai, Samphan Districts,  
Phongsaly Province

## FUNDED BY

Ministry of Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG  
Ministère de l'Environnement, du Climat  
et du Développement durable



## OUTCOMES

- **Farmers are organized in Learning Networks for community engagement and knowledge exchange on climate smart agriculture planning**
  - Organise Farmer Learning Networks (FLN)
  - Train Members of Farmer Learning Networks and enable access knowledge on climate change, climate smart agriculture techniques, leadership and facilitation skills, including Participation in Participatory Scenario Planning and exchange of experiences
  - Linking Local Authority and local service providers through the networks to ensure demand-driven technical support and co-learning opportunities
- **Farming practices are improved through participatory scenario planning integrating weather forecasts and a dynamic crop calendar**
  - Produce local seasonal weather forecasts in collaboration with the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, (DMH) and PONRE
  - Develop seasonal dynamic crop calendar with NAFRI, including advice on best agricultural practices
  - Conduct Participatory Scenario Planning
  - Member of the FLN will share and discuss with their fellow farmers on the advisories and weather forecasts in their own village through meetings and other Communication tools (loud speakers, bulletins, etc)
  - Regular revision of advisories based on updated weather forecasts and dynamic crop calendar
- **Strengthened capacity of service providers to better understand and address needs for climate change adaptation of remote ethnic women and their communities**
  - Annual reflective learning on the accuracy of the advisories and related communication mechanism (farmers provide feedback to concerned authorities including DONRE, DAFO, DMH and NAFRI)
- **Enhanced access for women to information and influence on farming decision making**
  - Analyse gender profile in agro-climate information services and related farming practices and provide meaningful recommendations for required women empowerment

## IMPACTS

- Farmers, representatives from 12 villages are organized in Learning Networks for community engagement and knowledge exchange on climate smart agriculture planning
- Farming practices are improved through Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP) integrating weather forecast and Dynamic Crop Calendar (DCC)
- Strengthened capacity of service providers to better understand and address needs for climate change adaptation
- Enhanced women's access to information and influence on farming decision making



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