

Village-based Forest Rehabilitation in Lao PDR

**Under
AFoCo Landmark Program
Restoration Component**

Annual Progress Report

April-December, 2016



Annual Progress Report

On the implementation of the AWP 2016

Project Title : Village-based Forest Rehabilitation in Lao PDR

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Abbreviation

AFoCo	ASEAN-ROK Forest Cooperation
AOA	Agreement on the Operational Arrangement
ANR	Assisted Natural Regeneration
CFs	Conservation Forests
DAFO	District Agriculture and Forestry Office
DOF	Department of Forestry, MAF
DD	Deforestation and Forest Degradation
DoNRE	District Office for Natural Resource and Environment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FoF	Faculty of Forestry, NUoL
FRC	Forest Research Center, NAFRI
FS 2020	Forest Strategy 2020
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GoL	Government of Laos
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
Lao PDR	Lao Peoples Democratic Republic
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAFRI	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute
NPFs	National Production Forests
NTFPs	Non-Timber Forest Products
NUoL	National University of Laos
PAFO	Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office
PFs	Protection Forests
PM	Prime Minister's decrees
PoNRE	Provincial Office for Natural Resource and Environment
REDD	Reduce Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
UXO	Un-exploded Ordinance
UNESCO	United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TMF	Training and Modeling Forest area

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I. Introduction

1.1 Objectives

The overall objective of the project is to increase forest cover by the restoration of degraded forest areas, strengthen capability of government agencies and local authority including villagers in implementing national forest rehabilitation policy, and contribute to poverty reduction by providing direct income to local people, particularly, the poor. The specific objectives of the project are as follows:

Objective 1: To demonstrate village based forest rehabilitation concepts in degraded forests through the application of different forest regeneration measures: (1) establishment of ex-situ conservation plantation; (2) enrichment planting in degraded forest areas where natural regeneration cannot secure; (3) assisted natural regeneration where degraded forests can naturally generate;

Objective 2: To generate broad public support on the implementation of national forest rehabilitation policy in general, village based forest rehabilitation program in particular;

Objective 3: To provide incentives to local villagers through various means, inter alia, strengthening capacity of villagers to produce a good quality of seedlings, seedling production, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas.

Objective 4: To strengthen capability of stakeholders at all levels for successful implementation and replication of the project.

To achieve the above overall and specified objectives, the project's outputs are specified in the following section.

1.2 Project Outputs

The table 1.1 shows major project outputs expected to be produced in two project sites, Paksong and Sangthong districts:

Table 1.1 Major project outputs be produced in two project sites

Objective 1	<p>Output 1.1: About 455,000 seedlings are produced for ex-situ conservation plantation and enrichment planting. Of which 170,000 seedlings for Paksong site and 285,000 seedlings for Sangthong site;</p> <p>Output 1.2: About 60 ha of ex-situ conservation plantation have been established and maintained. Of which 40 ha in Paksong and 20 ha in Sangthong;</p> <p>Output 1.3: Nearly 790 ha of enrichment planting (160 ha in Paksong and 630 ha in Sangthong) have been successfully established and maintained.</p> <p>Output 1.4: About 2,770 ha of Protection Forest (400 ha Paksong and 2,370 ha in Sangthong) have been protected by local villagers.</p> <p>Output 1.5: Barren land of individual landowners in Sangthong have been supported through agroforestry extension services</p>
Objective 2	Output 2.1: Public and private sectors are aware and promote village based forest rehabilitation program;
Objective 3	Output 3.1: Local villagers both men and women, particularly, the poor have additional incomes from sale of seedlings, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas.
Objective 4	<p>Output 4.1: Forestry sectors and local authority have knowledge and capacity on how to implement national forest rehabilitation policy at district and village level with an active participation of local villagers;</p> <p>Output 4.2: Villagers have capacity to produce a good quality of seedlings and implement forest rehabilitation activities;</p> <p>Output 4.3: Necessary materials and facilities for implementation and replication of village based forest rehabilitation have been sufficiently developed and made in place.</p> <p>Output 4.4: Financial and Project Management</p>

II. Status of the work implemented during the reporting period

2.1 Completion status in Paksong

The status of activities in the reporting period are as follows:

Table 2.1 shows the status of activities in the reporting period in Paksong site

Paksong district, Champasak Province		2016				Status of activities in the reporting period
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Objective 1	<i>To demonstrate village based forest rehabilitation concepts in degraded forests through the application of different forest regeneration measures: (1) establishment of ex-situ conservation plantation; (2) enrichment planting in degraded forest areas where natural regeneration cannot secure; (3) assisted natural regeneration where degraded forests can naturally generate;</i>					
Output 1.1	Sufficient quality seedlings of 170,000 seedlings are produced for ex-situ conservation plantation and enrichment planting in 200 ha					
Activity 1.1.1	Seeds collection					
Activity 1.1.2	Seedlings production of 170,000 seedlings					
Output 1.2	<i>About 40 ha of degraded forest land have been reforested through the establishment of ex-situ conservation plantation, which, in turn, produces future quality seed sources of valuable native tree species</i>					
Activity 1.2.1	Survey and demarcation of project areas and preparation of ex-situ and enrichment plan		X			Completed
Activity 1.2.2	Establishment of 40 ha of ex-situ conservation plantation					
Activity 1.2.3	Maintenance and protection of the ex-situ conservation plantation (Weeding, Mortality survey and replanting, Pruning and thinning)					
Output 1.3	<i>160 ha of degraded forest land have been regenerated through enrichment planting with native tree species</i>					
Activity 1.3.1	Preparation and Conducting enrichment planting					
Activity 1.3.2	Maintenance and protection of the ex-situ conservation plantation (Weeding, Mortality survey and replanting, Pruning and thinning)					
Output 1.4	<i>About 400 ha of degraded forest land in the project site have been successfully regenerated through natural forest regeneration facilitated by village driven forest protection</i>					
Activity 1.4.1	Establishing and equipping Village Forest Protection Groups (VFPGs)		X	X		Completed
Activity 1.4.2	Conducting Village Driven Forest Patrolling (VDFP) covering the whole project site		X	X	X	1 st VDFP started in the mid of December 2016
Objective 2	<i>To generate broad public support on the implementation of national forest rehabilitation policy in general, village based forest rehabilitation program in particular</i>					
Output 2.1	<i>Public and private sectors are aware and promote village based forest rehabilitation program</i>					
Activity 2.1.1	Organizing inception workshop		X			Completed

Activity 2.1.2	Signboard			X	X	Completed
Activity 2.1.3	Organize Arbor Day Events including awareness raising materials and engagement of media specialist		X	X	X	Completed
Objective 3	<i>To provide incentives to local villagers through various means, inter alia, strengthening capacity of villagers to produce a good quality of seedlings, seedling production, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas</i>					
Output 3.1	<i>Local villagers both men and women, particularly, the poor have additional incomes from sale of seedlings, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas</i>					
Activity 3.1.1	Conducting community consultation on seedlings production and sale, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas		X	X		Implemented in December 2016
Activity 3.1.2	Establishment of Village Forest Development Groups			X		Completed
Activity 3.1.3	Contract Development			X	X	Implemented in December 2016
Objective 4	<i>To strengthen capability of forestry sectors and local authority including villagers in implementing national forest rehabilitation policy, particularly village based forest rehabilitation program</i>					
Output 4.1	<i>Forestry sectors and local authority have knowledge and capacity on how to implement national forest rehabilitation policy at district and village level with an active participation of local villagers</i>					
Activity 4.1.1	Organizing study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial levels			X		Completed
Activity 4.1.2	Organizing training courses for forestry sectors at implementation level			X	X	Implemented and to be continue in Q1 2017
Output 4.2	<i>Villagers have capacity to produce a good quality of seedlings and implement forest rehabilitation activities</i>					
Activity 4.2.1	Conducting village consultation for villagers' engagement in project implementation		X	X	X	Implemented
Activity 4.2.2	Organize various training modules for villagers (on seedlings production, enrichment planting, etc.)			X	X	Implemented
Output 4.3	<i>Necessary materials and facilities for implementation and replication of village based forest rehabilitation have been sufficiently developed and made in place</i>					
Activity 4.3.1	Development of reforestation concept and related methodologies, procedures, and technical guidelines		X			Completed
Activity 4.3.2	Recording, storing, synthesizing, updating and documenting all related concept, methodologies, procedures, technical guidelines and experiences					
Activity 4.3.3	Arrangement and procurement of materials (Procurement of vehicles, office and field equipment)		X	X	X	Under progress Import tax exemption documents has been prepared
Activity 4.3.4	Renovating/expanding field office and improvement of access roads, fencing materials for ex-situ plantation			X	X	Completed
Output 4.4	<i>Financial and Project Management</i>					
Activity 4.4.1	Annual work-plan development		X			Completed
Activity 4.4.2	Fee for technical services, including honorarium		X	X	X	Implemented
Activity 4.4.3	Running costs for the project management at field office		X	X	X	Implemented
Activity 4.4.4	Running costs for the project management at Central Office (DoF)		X	X	X	Implemented

Activity 4.4.5	Project monitoring/field follow up		X	X	X	Implemented
Activity 4.4.6	Annual meeting for the Project Steering Committee				X	Implemented
Activity 4.4.7	Annual review and planning meeting for project team				X	Implemented
Activity 4.4.8	Project performance assessments (Interim/Final)					
Activity 4.4.9	Financial Audits (Interim / Final)					
Activity 4.10	Closing workshop					
	Contingency		X	X	X	Implemented

2.2 Completion status in Sangthong

The status of activities in the reporting period are as follows:

Table 2.2 the status of activities in the reporting period in Sangthong site

Sangthong district, Vientiane Capital		2016				Status of activities in the reporting period
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Objective 1	To demonstrate village based forest rehabilitation concepts in degraded forests through the application of different forest regeneration measures: (1) establishment of ex-situ conservation plantation; (2) enrichment planting in degraded forest areas where natural regeneration cannot secure; (3) assisted natural regeneration where degraded forests can naturally generate;					
Output 1.1	Sufficient quality seedlings of 285,000 seedlings are produced for ex-situ conservation plantation and enrichment planting in 250 ha					
Activity 1.1.1	Seedlings production for ex-situ plantation			X	X	Contract agreement with Sangthong DAFO's nursery at Nachalern Village was signed and the activity was started in December 2016
Activity 1.1.2	Seedlings production for enrichment planting					
Output 1.2	About 20 ha of degraded forest land have been reforested through the establishment of ex-situ conservation plantation, which, in turn, produces future quality seed sources of valuable native tree species					
Activity 1.2.1	Land clearance				X	Not implemented and will be implemented in the Q1 2017
Activity 1.2.2	Establishment of 20 ha of ex-situ conservation plantation					
Activity 1.2.3	Maintenance and protection of the ex-situ conservation plantation (Weeding, Mortality survey and replanting, Pruning and thinning)					
Output 1.3	230 ha of degraded forest land have been regenerated through enrichment planting with native tree species					
Activity 1.3.1	Forest survey and Boundary demarcation			X	X	Completed
Activity 1.3.2	Conducting enrichment planting					
Activity 1.3.3	Maintenance and protection of the ex-situ conservation plantation (Weeding, Mortality survey and replanting, Pruning and thinning)					

<i>Output 1.4</i>	<i>About 2,370 ha of degraded forest land in the project site have been successfully regenerated through natural forest regeneration facilitated by village driven forest protection</i>					
Activity 1.4.1	Establishing and equipping Village Forest Protection Groups (VFPGs)		X	X		<i>Completed</i>
Activity 1.4.2	Conducting Village Driven Forest Patrolling (VDFP) covering the whole project site		X	X	X	<i>Not conducted due to late establishment of VDFP</i>
<i>Output 1.5</i>	<i>Barren land of individual landowners have been supported through agroforestry extension services</i>					
Activity 1.5.1	Consultation meeting					
Activity 1.5.2	Contract development					
Activity 1.5.3	Seedling distribution					
Activity 1.5.4	Monitoring and mapping					
Objective 2	<i>To generate broad public support on the implementation of national forest rehabilitation policy in general, village based forest rehabilitation program in particular</i>					
<i>Output 2.1</i>	<i>Public and private sectors are aware and promote village based forest rehabilitation program</i>					
Activity 2.1.1	Organizing inception workshop					
Activity 2.1.2	Signboard			X	X	<i>Completed</i>
Activity 2.1.3	Organize Arbor Day Events and fire protection campaign		X	X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Objective 3	<i>To provide incentives to local villagers through various means, inter alia, strengthening capacity of villagers to produce a good quality of seedlings, seedling production, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas</i>					
<i>Output 3.1</i>	<i>Local villagers both men and women, particularly, the poor have additional incomes from sale of seedlings, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas</i>					
Activity 3.1.1	Conducting community consultation on seedlings production and sale, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas			X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 3.1.2	Establishment of Village Forest Development Groups			X		<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 3.1.3	Contract Development			X	X	<i>Not implemented due to late establishment of VFDG</i>
Objective 4	<i>To strengthen capability of forestry sectors and local authority including villagers in implementing national forest rehabilitation policy, particularly village based forest rehabilitation program</i>					
<i>Output 4.1</i>	<i>Forestry sectors and local authority have knowledge and capacity on how to implement national forest rehabilitation policy at district and village level with an active participation of local villagers</i>					

Activity 4.1.1	Organizing study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial levels			X		<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 4.1.2	Organizing training courses for forestry sectors at implementation level			X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Output 4.2	<i>Villagers have capacity to produce a good quality of seedlings and implement forest rehabilitation activities</i>					
Activity 4.2.1	Conducting village consultation for villagers' engagement in project implementation		X	X	X	<i>Not implemented due to late establishment of VFDG and VFPG</i>
Activity 4.2.2	Organize various training modules for villagers (on seedlings production, enrichment planting, etc.)			X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Output 4.3	<i>Necessary materials and facilities for implementation and replication of village based forest rehabilitation have been sufficiently developed and made in place</i>					
Activity 4.3.1	Development of reforestation concept and related methodologies, procedures, and technical guidelines		X			<i>Implemented (the output was produced)</i>
Activity 4.3.2	Recording, storing, synthesizing, updating and documenting all related concept, methodologies, procedures, technical guidelines and experiences				X	
Activity 4.3.3	Arrangement and procurement of materials (Procurement of vehicles, office and field equipment)		X	X	X	<i>Under progress</i>
Activity 4.3.4	Renovating/expanding field office and improvement of access roads, fencing materials for ex-situ plantation			X	X	<i>Renovation completed</i>
Output 4.4	<i>Financial and Project Management</i>					
Activity 4.4.1	Work plan and Annual workplan development	X	X			
Activity 4.4.2	Fee for technical services, including honorarium		X	X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 4.4.3	Running costs for the project management at field office		X	X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 4.4.4	Running costs for the project management at Central Office (DoF)					
Activity 4.4.5	Project monitoring/field follow up		X	X	X	<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 4.4.6	Annual meeting for the Project Steering Committee				X	<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 4.4.7	Annual review and planning meeting for project team				X	<i>Implemented</i>
Activity 4.4.8	Project performance assessments (Interim/Final)					
Activity 4.4.9	Financial Audits (Interim / Final)					
Activity 4.10	Closing workshop					
	Contingency		X	X	X	<i>Implemented</i>

III. Description of activities implemented in the reporting period

This report covers a period of nine months between April and November 2016. The activities were implemented in this period in Paksong and Sangthong site include:

- Seeds collection
- Seedlings production for ex-situ plantation
- Survey and demarcation of project areas and preparation of ex-situ and enrichment plan

- Establishing and equipping Village Forest Protection Groups (VFPGs)
- Conducting Village Driven Forest Patrolling (VDFP) covering the whole project site
- Organizing inception workshop
- Signboard
- Organize Arbor Day Events including awareness raising materials
- Conducting community consultation on seedlings production
- Establishment of Village Forest Development Groups (VFDGs)
- Contract Development
- Organizing study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial levels
- Organizing training courses for forestry sectors at implementation level
- Conducting village consultation for villagers' engagement in project implementation
- Organize various training modules for villagers
- Development of reforestation concept and related methodologies
- Arrangement and procurement of materials
- Renovating/expanding field office and improvement of access roads,
- Annual workplan development
- Fee for technical services, including honorarium
- Running costs for the project management at field office
- Running costs for the project management at Central Office (DoF)
- Project monitoring/field follow up
- Annual meeting for the Project Steering Committee
- Annual review and planning meeting for project team

3.1 Seeds collection in Paksong (Act 1.1.1)

In October 2016, about 25 Kgs of seeds of three (3) native tree species were collected, of which 15 kgs are *Paramichelia baillonii*, 5kgs are *Persea kurzii* and 5kgs are *Spondias axillaris*. The project staff used the seeds for on-the-job training on seedlings production in December 2016 as mentioned in the section 3.14 of this report. The seeds also will be used for seedlings production for ex-situ conservation plantation in 2017.

3.2 Seedlings production for ex-situ plantation in Sangthong (Act 1.1.1)

The contract agreement for seedlings production in Sangthong was signed. The project staff signed a contract with Nalath DAFO's nursery at Nachalern Village. Based on the contract, 40,000 seedlings will be produced in 2017 and will be ready for planting in 5 ha of ex-situ plantation in June. The price of seedlings determined on the basic of market price is 4,000 Kip/seedling which includes transportation of seedlings to the ex-situ planting areas, maintenance of seedlings after six months up to 24 months old in the nursery (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1. Seedlings production for the ex-situ conservation site in Sangthong District

Sl.No	Species	Price of seedlings (Lao Kip) (including transportation and maintenance up to 24 months in the nursery)	Amount	Total price
1	<i>Pterocarpus macrocarpus</i>	4,000	10,000	40,000,000
2	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	4,000	10,000	40,000,000
3	<i>Azalia xylocarpa</i>	4,000	10,000	40,000,000

4	Hopea odorata	4,000	4,000	16,000,000
5	Dipterocarpus alatus	4,000	3,000	12,000,000
6	Sindora cochinchinensis	4,000	3,000	12,000,000
Total			40,000	160,000,000 Kip

Remarks: US\$ 1= 8500 Kip

3.3 Survey and demarcation of project areas (Act 1.3.1)

The ground survey and boundary demarcation of the project's rehabilitation sites in Sangthong and Paksong have completed. In Paksong, between June 15 and June 26, 2016, the project staff and villagers completely conducted the ground survey and demarcation. The survey team members comprised with 4 staff from DOF, 4 staff from Champasak and Paksong forestry sector, and 9 villagers from Kontun Village, totally 17 people. The main achievement of this survey included demarcation of the project boundary including area for the ex-situ conservation plantation and the enrichment planting, there are 19 GPS points have been marked on the ground (Table 3.2) and species richness in the rehabilitation sites were also recorded. There are 25 tree species with a different diameter classes (10-19; 20-29; > 30 cm) were recorded in the enrichment area. The results of the survey has been acknowledged by Paksong DAFO. In December 2016, the project staff and villagers conducted demarcation of project areas with concrete posts (12x12x100 Cm). There are 38 posts were demarcated mainly in areas where there is high risk for encroachments (Fig 3.1).

Table 3.2. GPS coordinates of the project's boundary in Kontun Village

GPS Poinits	E	N	GPS Poinits	E	N	GPS Poinits	E	N
1	106.32'98.65"	16.89'54.0"	8	106.33'42.92"	16.88'31.0"	15	106.33'77.38"	16.89'13.0"
2	106.31'96.36"	16.87'13.0"	9	106.33'49.35"	16.88'47.0"	16	106.34'67.43"	16.88'67.0"
3	106.31'85.41"	16.86'37.6"	10	106.33'62.94"	16.88'31.0"	17	106.34'73.74"	16.88'95.0"
4	106.32'94.52"	16.86'20.1"	11	106.34'05.79"	16.88'51.0"	18	106.34'56.77"	16.89'23.0"
5	106.33'37.63"	16.86'87.0"	12	106.34'13.96"	16.88'47.0"	19	106.34'62.95"	16.89'62.0"
6	106.32'62.72"	16.87'42.0"	13	106.34'24.25"	16.88'54.0"			
7	106.32'95.76"	16.87'73.0"	14	106.34'24.00"	16.88'92.0"			



Fig 3.1. Rapid ground survey and demarcation with cement posts in Paksong site

In Sangthong, the ground survey was conducted in between July 7 and July 26, 2016. The survey team comprised with 9 staff from DOF, 1 staff from Vientiane PFS and 2 Sangthong DAFO, and 11 villagers from 4 villages (Nachaleaun, Taohi, Nong Boua, and Koy), totally 23 people. The main achievement of this survey include demarcation of the project boundary (except ex-situ conservation area), there are 228 GPS points have been marked on the ground (Table 3.3) and there are 28 tree species with a different diameter classes (10-19; 20-29; > 30 cm) were recorded in the enrichment area. The results of the survey has been acknowledged by Sangthong DAFO. In November 2016, the project staff and villagers conducted demarcation of project areas with concrete posts (13x13x100 Cm). There are 70 posts were demarcated mainly in areas where there is high risk for encroachments such as Ban NongBoa 8 points, Ban Koy 21 points, Ban Nachalearn 17 points, Ban Taohi 14 points, and Ex-situ plantation areas 10 points (Fig 3.2).

Table 3.3. GPS coordinates of the project's boundary in Sangthong

GPS Ponits	E	N	GPS Ponits	E	N
1	18° 18' 57.094"	102° 9' 56.876"	77	18° 20' 42.206"	102° 9' 26.908"
2	18° 18' 55.286"	102° 9' 56.726"	78	18° 20' 43.412"	102° 9' 27.866"
3	18° 18' 53.135"	102° 9' 56.671"	79	18° 20' 45.480"	102° 9' 28.102"
4	18° 18' 50.899"	102° 9' 56.707"	80	18° 20' 47.377"	102° 9' 27.315"
5	18° 18' 47.893"	102° 9' 56.936"	81	18° 20' 49.642"	102° 9' 26.899"
6	18° 18' 44.886"	102° 9' 57.165"	82	18° 20' 51.496"	102° 9' 26.653"
7	18° 18' 40.495"	102° 9' 56.876"	83	18° 20' 52.474"	102° 9' 26.529"
8	18° 18' 39.180"	102° 9' 56.662"	84	18° 20' 53.931"	102° 9' 27.315"
9	18° 18' 38.483"	102° 9' 55.998"	85	18° 20' 55.448"	102° 9' 28.696"
10	18° 18' 38.505"	102° 9' 54.601"	86	18° 20' 57.005"	102° 9' 29.318"
11	18° 18' 38.738"	102° 9' 52.932"	87	18° 20' 58.445"	102° 9' 28.971"
12	18° 18' 39.395"	102° 9' 50.850"	88	18° 20' 59.091"	102° 9' 27.285"
13	18° 18' 39.812"	102° 9' 49.988"	89	18° 20' 59.060"	102° 9' 25.682"
14	18° 18' 40.274"	102° 9' 49.215"	90	18° 20' 59.616"	102° 9' 24.412"
15	18° 18' 41.042"	102° 9' 48.842"	91	18° 21' 1.508"	102° 9' 23.300"
16	18° 18' 41.588"	102° 9' 47.933"	92	18° 21' 3.561"	102° 9' 22.510"
17	18° 18' 41.614"	102° 9' 46.807"	93	18° 21' 6.600"	102° 9' 22.190"
18	18° 18' 41.251"	102° 9' 45.552"	94	18° 21' 8.662"	102° 9' 21.994"
19	18° 18' 39.217"	102° 9' 44.640"	95	18° 21' 11.054"	102° 9' 23.252"
20	18° 18' 37.949"	102° 9' 43.220"	96	18° 21' 13.562"	102° 9' 25.319"
21	18° 18' 36.460"	102° 9' 41.443"	97	18° 21' 13.915"	102° 9' 25.706"
22	18° 18' 36.341"	102° 9' 39.959"	98	18° 21' 13.915"	102° 9' 25.706"
23	18° 18' 37.506"	102° 9' 37.329"	99	18° 21' 15.503"	102° 9' 27.449"
24	18° 18' 39.027"	102° 9' 35.503"	100	18° 21' 17.612"	102° 9' 29.501"
25	18° 18' 41.245"	102° 9' 34.297"	101	18° 21' 21.684"	102° 9' 34.343"
26	18° 18' 44.413"	102° 9' 33.344"	102	18° 21' 22.914"	102° 9' 36.080"
27	18° 18' 49.400"	102° 9' 33.263"	103	18° 21' 23.623"	102° 9' 37.509"
28	18° 18' 53.192"	102° 9' 33.741"	104	18° 21' 23.812"	102° 9' 38.677"
29	18° 18' 56.912"	102° 9' 35.211"	105	18° 21' 23.443"	102° 9' 39.854"
30	18° 19' 0.205"	102° 9' 36.869"	106	18° 21' 23.110"	102° 9' 40.625"
31	18° 19' 2.434"	102° 9' 36.382"	107	18° 21' 22.344"	102° 9' 41.133"
32	18° 19' 5.252"	102° 9' 35.075"	108	18° 21' 20.977"	102° 9' 41.741"
33	18° 19' 7.462"	102° 9' 33.328"	109	18° 21' 19.782"	102° 9' 42.346"
34	18° 19' 9.118"	102° 9' 32.562"	110	18° 21' 18.977"	102° 9' 43.169"
35	18° 19' 14.326"	102° 9' 32.226"	111	18° 21' 18.602"	102° 9' 43.941"
36	18° 19' 19.710"	102° 9' 32.246"	112	18° 21' 18.610"	102° 9' 44.481"
37	18° 19' 23.893"	102° 9' 32.448"	113	18° 21' 18.962"	102° 9' 45.016"
38	18° 19' 26.943"	102° 9' 32.776"	114	18° 21' 20.126"	102° 9' 45.222"
39	18° 19' 29.204"	102° 9' 32.145"	115	18° 21' 21.418"	102° 9' 45.336"
40	18° 19' 31.875"	102° 9' 31.291"	116	18° 21' 22.669"	102° 9' 45.631"
41	18° 19' 35.564"	102° 9' 29.555"	117	18° 21' 23.839"	102° 9' 46.242"
42	18° 19' 40.700"	102° 9' 27.904"	118	18° 21' 24.626"	102° 9' 47.130"
43	18° 19' 43.887"	102° 9' 27.096"	119	18° 21' 24.861"	102° 9' 48.432"
44	18° 19' 48.114"	102° 9' 26.811"	120	18° 21' 24.964"	102° 9' 49.602"
45	18° 19' 51.452"	102° 9' 25.675"	121	18° 21' 24.733"	102° 9' 51.362"
46	18° 19' 55.267"	102° 9' 25.451"	122	18° 21' 23.464"	102° 9' 52.779"
47	18° 19' 59.695"	102° 9' 24.838"	123	18° 21' 21.837"	102° 9' 53.300"
48	18° 20' 0.981"	102° 9' 25.718"	124	18° 21' 20.296"	102° 9' 53.731"
49	18° 20' 1.353"	102° 9' 26.414"	125	18° 21' 19.010"	102° 9' 54.022"
50	18° 20' 1.840"	102° 9' 27.919"	126	18° 21' 17.038"	102° 9' 54.460"
51	18° 20' 2.885"	102° 9' 28.821"	127	18° 21' 15.795"	102° 9' 54.705"
52	18° 20' 4.229"	102° 9' 28.961"	128	18° 21' 15.456"	102° 9' 55.071"
53	18° 20' 6.368"	102° 9' 28.792"	129	18° 21' 15.554"	102° 9' 55.835"
54	18° 20' 8.632"	102° 9' 28.322"	130	18° 21' 15.947"	102° 9' 56.234"

55	18° 20' 9.655"	102° 9' 27.711"	131	18° 21' 16.000"	102° 9' 56.953"
56	18° 20' 10.643"	102° 9' 27.203"	132	18° 21' 15.532"	102° 9' 57.276"
57	18° 20' 11.414"	102° 9' 27.029"	133	18° 21' 14.325"	102° 9' 57.071"
58	18° 20' 12.400"	102° 9' 27.391"	134	18° 21' 13.031"	102° 9' 56.822"
59	18° 20' 13.649"	102° 9' 28.073"	135	18° 21' 11.833"	102° 9' 57.202"
60	18° 20' 15.352"	102° 9' 28.099"	136	18° 21' 10.423"	102° 9' 57.810"
61	18° 20' 17.565"	102° 9' 27.685"	137	18° 21' 9.021"	102° 9' 59.004"
62	18° 20' 18.388"	102° 9' 27.509"	138	18° 21' 7.239"	102° 10' 0.609"
63	18° 20' 19.250"	102° 9' 26.468"	139	18° 21' 5.327"	102° 10' 2.171"
64	18° 20' 20.006"	102° 9' 25.666"	140	18° 21' 2.767"	102° 10' 3.519"
65	18° 20' 21.502"	102° 9' 25.243"	141	18° 21' 0.380"	102° 10' 4.909"
66	18° 20' 23.484"	102° 9' 25.178"	142	18° 20' 58.930"	102° 10' 5.743"
67	18° 20' 25.107"	102° 9' 26.132"	143	18° 20' 58.930"	102° 10' 5.743"
68	18° 20' 26.668"	102° 9' 25.644"	144	18° 20' 57.186"	102° 10' 7.033"
69	18° 20' 27.537"	102° 9' 25.090"	145	18° 20' 56.170"	102° 10' 8.130"
70	18° 20' 28.762"	102° 9' 24.205"	146	18° 20' 54.632"	102° 10' 8.786"
71	18° 20' 29.690"	102° 9' 24.136"	147	18° 20' 52.346"	102° 10' 8.327"
72	18° 20' 31.399"	102° 9' 24.540"	148	18° 20' 51.046"	102° 10' 7.673"
73	18° 20' 33.102"	102° 9' 24.512"	149	18° 20' 49.024"	102° 10' 7.616"
74	18° 20' 36.351"	102° 9' 24.405"	150	18° 20' 47.908"	102° 10' 7.769"
75	18° 20' 38.983"	102° 9' 25.209"	151	18° 20' 46.452"	102° 10' 8.153"
76	18° 20' 40.068"	102° 9' 25.911"	152	18° 20' 46.036"	102° 10' 9.061"
153	18° 20' 45.923"	102° 10' 10.143"	191	18° 19' 58.850"	102° 10' 14.512"
154	18° 20' 45.159"	102° 10' 10.876"	192	18° 19' 56.400"	102° 10' 14.551"
155	18° 20' 43.870"	102° 10' 10.942"	193	18° 19' 51.802"	102° 10' 14.806"
156	18° 20' 42.280"	102° 10' 10.968"	194	18° 19' 49.867"	102° 10' 14.793"
157	18° 20' 41.602"	102° 10' 11.700"	195	18° 19' 45.863"	102° 10' 14.498"
158	18° 20' 40.754"	102° 10' 12.479"	196	18° 19' 44.527"	102° 10' 14.294"
159	18° 20' 39.678"	102° 10' 12.407"	197	18° 19' 42.287"	102° 10' 14.016"
160	18° 20' 38.772"	102° 10' 12.196"	198	18° 19' 41.289"	102° 10' 13.447"
161	18° 20' 37.788"	102° 10' 12.528"	199	18° 19' 39.115"	102° 10' 11.816"
162	18° 20' 36.310"	102° 10' 12.866"	200	18° 19' 38.157"	102° 10' 11.021"
163	18° 20' 34.730"	102° 10' 13.036"	201	18° 19' 37.247"	102° 10' 10.586"
164	18° 20' 33.717"	102° 10' 13.160"	202	18° 19' 35.436"	102° 10' 10.210"
165	18° 20' 32.324"	102° 10' 13.239"	203	18° 19' 33.967"	102° 10' 9.738"
166	18° 20' 31.650"	102° 10' 14.574"	204	18° 19' 31.377"	102° 10' 9.105"
167	18° 20' 31.059"	102° 10' 15.259"	205	18° 19' 29.263"	102° 10' 8.644"
168	18° 20' 30.204"	102° 10' 15.633"	206	18° 19' 27.019"	102° 10' 8.096"
169	18° 20' 29.516"	102° 10' 15.645"	207	18° 19' 25.592"	102° 10' 7.578"
170	18° 20' 28.519"	102° 10' 15.120"	208	18° 19' 24.293"	102° 10' 6.969"
171	18° 20' 27.291"	102° 10' 13.474"	209	18° 19' 23.081"	102° 10' 6.449"
172	18° 20' 26.242"	102° 10' 12.321"	210	18° 19' 21.910"	102° 10' 5.747"
173	18° 20' 25.416"	102° 10' 11.749"	211	18° 19' 21.347"	102° 10' 5.531"
174	18° 20' 23.956"	102° 10' 11.908"	212	18° 19' 20.191"	102° 10' 5.820"
175	18° 20' 22.674"	102° 10' 12.424"	213	18° 19' 19.552"	102° 10' 6.281"
176	18° 20' 21.425"	102° 10' 12.309"	214	18° 19' 19.206"	102° 10' 6.500"
177	18° 20' 18.795"	102° 10' 12.566"	215	18° 19' 19.206"	102° 10' 6.500"
178	18° 20' 16.041"	102° 10' 12.467"	216	18° 19' 18.530"	102° 10' 6.928"
179	18° 20' 12.884"	102° 10' 13.022"	217	18° 19' 17.630"	102° 10' 7.123"
180	18° 20' 11.579"	102° 10' 13.188"	218	18° 19' 16.597"	102° 10' 7.094"
181	18° 20' 10.135"	102° 10' 13.211"	219	18° 19' 15.428"	102° 10' 6.528"
182	18° 20' 9.170"	102° 10' 13.083"	220	18° 19' 14.213"	102° 10' 5.783"
183	18° 20' 8.338"	102° 10' 12.664"	221	18° 19' 12.175"	102° 10' 4.690"
184	18° 20' 7.375"	102° 10' 12.680"	222	18° 19' 10.745"	102° 10' 3.972"
185	18° 20' 5.540"	102° 10' 14.223"	223	18° 19' 8.478"	102° 10' 4.436"
186	18° 20' 4.525"	102° 10' 15.392"	224	18° 19' 6.255"	102° 10' 3.736"
187	18° 20' 2.884"	102° 10' 16.067"	225	18° 19' 2.939"	102° 10' 2.454"
188	18° 20' 1.539"	102° 10' 16.044"	226	18° 19' 1.196"	102° 10' 0.862"

189	18° 20' 0.583"	102° 10' 15.384"	227	18° 18' 59.989"	102° 9' 58.703"
190	18° 19' 59.717"	102° 10' 14.948"	228	18° 18' 58.642"	102° 9' 57.853"



Fig 3.2 Rapid ground survey and demarcation of project areas with concrete posts in Sangthong

3.4 Establishing Village Forest Protection Groups in Sangthong and Paksong (Activity 1.4.1)

The VFPGs in Sangthong and Paksong have been completely established. There five (5) groups in total, of which four (4) VFPGs are in Sangthong, namely Nachalerun, Koy, Nongboua, and Taohi VFPG and one VFPG is in Kongtoun and Bengkatoud in Paksong (Table 3.4; Fig 3.3). The main task of the VFPGs is to conduct forest patrols to protect forests from offenders. The VFPG will also act as local key informants who work with and feed information to official forest inspectors. Roles and regulations on management and works system of these groups will be developed by group committee

members in Q1 2017 and acknowledged by Sangthong and Paksong DAFO.

Table 3.4: VFPGs in Sangthong and Paksong

Paksong VFPG	Sangthong VFPGs
<p>I. Kongtoun and Bengkatoud (8 Members)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Boun king (Head) 2. Mr. Thongsouk (Deputy head) 3. Mr. Thansamay 4. Mr. Nay 5. Mr. Lin 6. Mr. Bouala 7. Mr. Loun 8. Mr. Somchit 	<p>I. Ban Nachaleurn (15 Members)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Sysouphanh (Head) 2. Mr. Vong...(Deputy head) 3. Mr. Chanthavy..Committee Member 4. Mr. Vanchay –do- 5. Mr. Keo Sengmysay.. –do- 6. Mr. Kham.. –do- 7. Mr. Soy.. member 8. Mr. Ven..-do- 9. Mr. Sone..-do- 10. Mr. Somphet..do- 11. Mr. Pen..-do- 12. Mr. Khan..-do- 13. Mr. Vone..-do- 14. Mr. Say..-do- 15. Mr. Phet..-do- <p>II. Ban Koy (4 members)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Bouaseng (Head) 2. Mr. Khamnoun (Deputy Head) 3. Mr. Yeng (Deputy Head) 4. Mr. Ma Sengaloun (Deputy Head) <p>III. Ban NongBoua (5 members)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Baolar (Head) 2. Mr. Thithkao Sysombath (Deputy head) 3. Mr. Khasong (Member) 4. Mr. Channaly (Member) 5. Mr. Khammy (Member) <p>IV. Ban Taohi (6 Member)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Boun yoy herngpengsy (Head) 2. Mr. Phone Pongpakdy (Deputy) 3. Mr. Khampien Khammysay (Member) 4. Mr. Baoloy (Member) 5. Mr. Lord (Member) 6. Mr. Champy (Member)

ແຜນທີ່ ຈຸດປັກຫຼັກໝາຍ ພູຂະຫຍະ, ເມືອງສັງທອງ, ນະຄອນຫຼວງວຽງຈັນ.

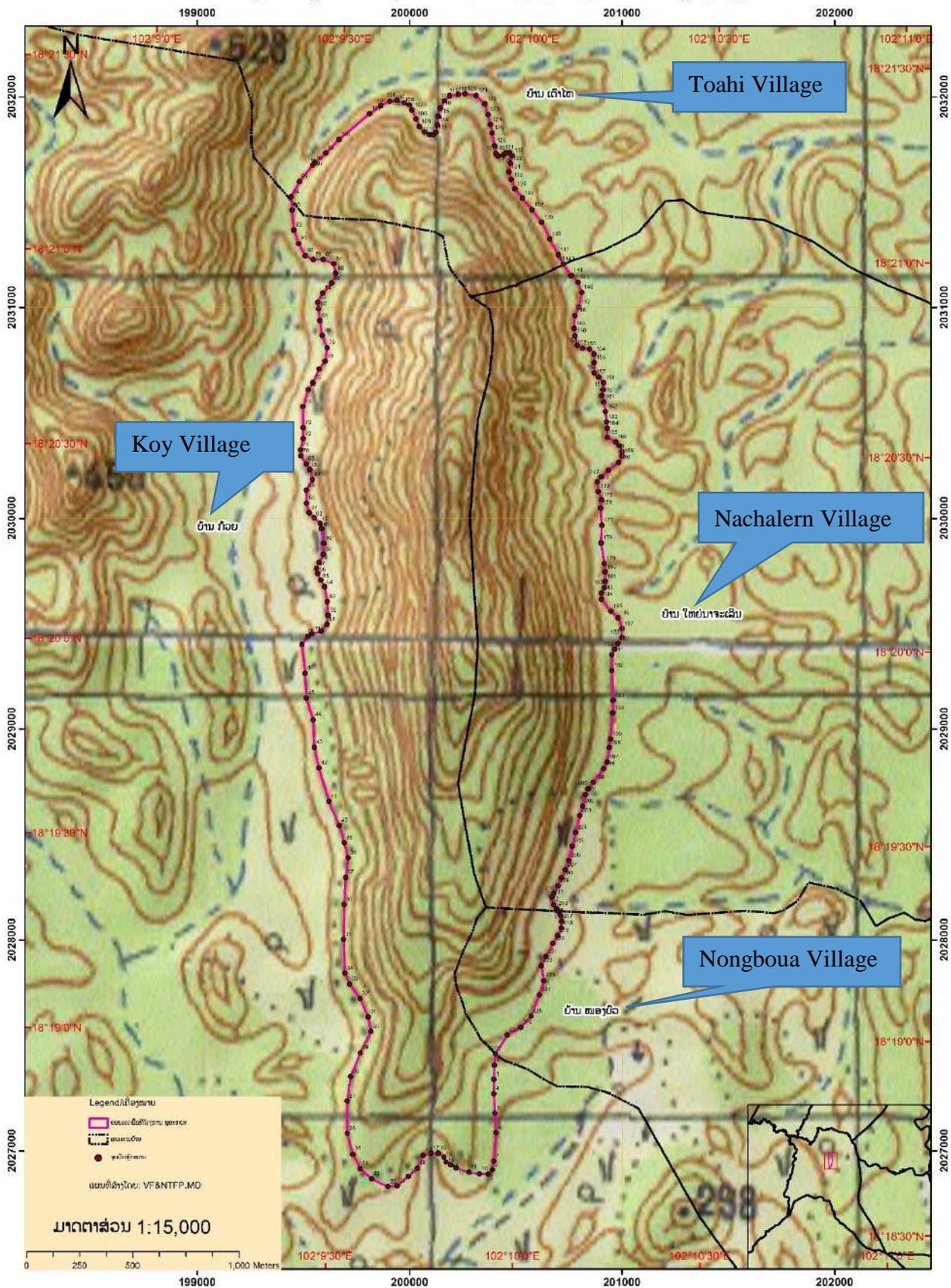


Fig 3.3 Villages involved in the project in Sangthong (b)

3.5 Conducting Village Driven Forest Patrolling covering the whole project site (Act 1.4.2)

In 2016, the project staff and VFPG members conducted only patrol in Paksong because of late establishment of VFPG in both Paksong and Sangthong. In the mid of December, the project staff and VFPG members (8 Members) conducted a forest patrol. This time of patrol focused on identification of patrol route and viewpoints. In 2017, the patrols will be conducted in a systematic manner, covering the whole project site, including the areas covered by forest plantation and enrichment plantation. More frequently, the patrols should be conducted during dry season where forest fire normally occurs.

3.6 Organizing inception workshop (Act 2.1.1)

The inception workshop was organized in Vientiane on May 30-31, 2016 (Fig 3.4). The main objective of the workshop is to introduce the project concept, framework and implementation arrangement to forestry sectors, local authority and stakeholders concerned, while announcing the official start of the project implementation. The workshop was shared by Director General of Department of Forestry and attended by 44 participants from a different division of DOF, representative from AFoCo and Champasak and Vientiane Capital including Paksong and Sangthong district. In addition, an expert of Saemaul Undong from ROK was invited to give a special session for the concept.



Fig. 3.4: The inception workshop was organized on May 30-31, 2016

3.7 Signboards (Act 2.1.2)

In Sangthong, four signboards were posted. Each signboard was posted in each village, namely Ban Nachalearn, Ban Koy, Ban Nongnoua, and Ban Taohai to show important information on enrichment planting site and its boundary. The signboard titled “Forest Management and Development of ... (Name of village)” shows the location of the project area and a different type of land use in each village (Fig 3.5). In Paksong, two signboards are ready to be posted. Each signboard will be posted in each village. Namely Ban Kongtoun and Beng Katoud. The title and information presented in the signboard, shows important information on enrichment planting site and its boundary as the same with

those of Sangthong.

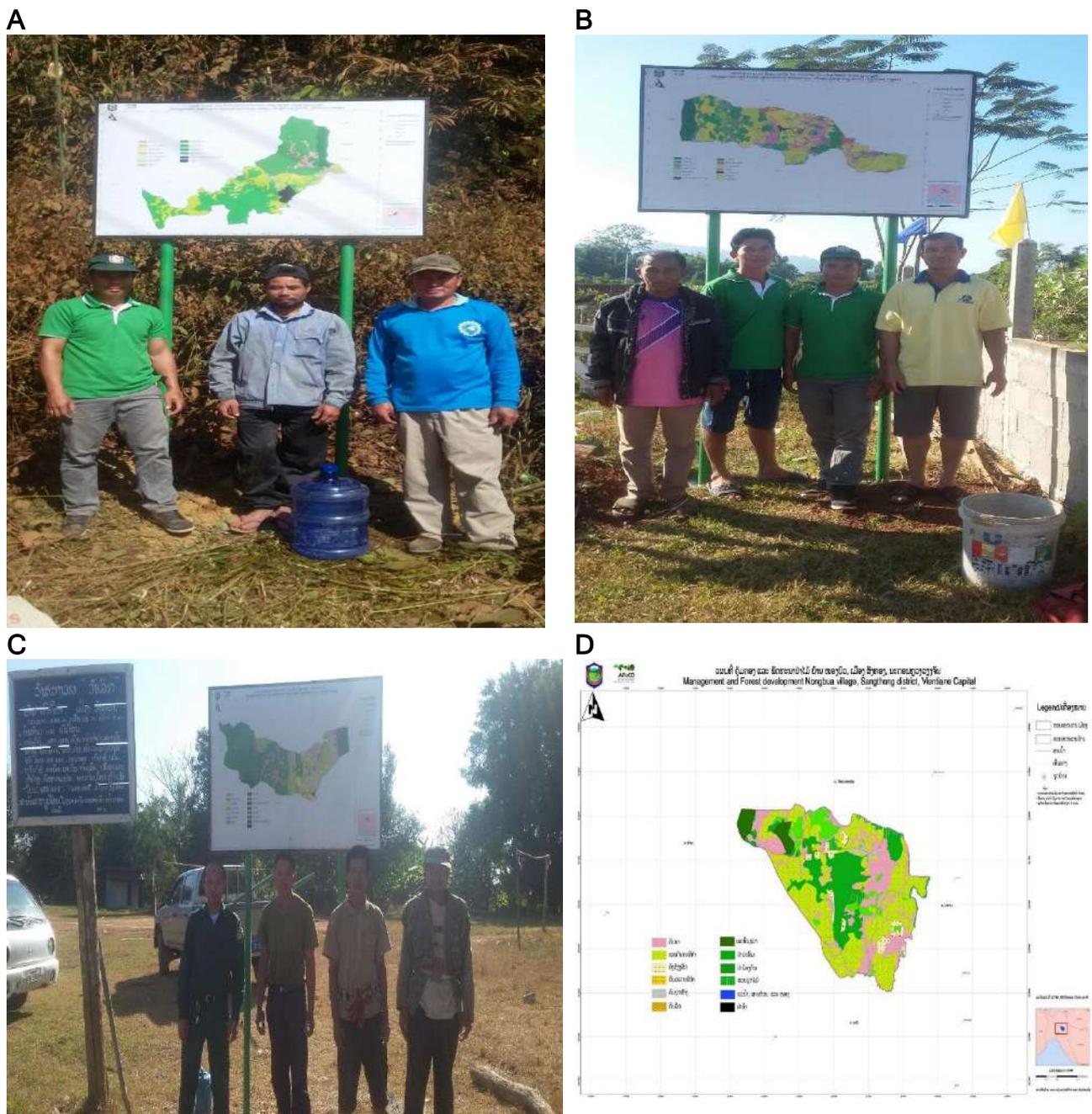


Fig. 3.5 Signboards in Ban Kuoy (A), Ban Nachalern (B), Ban Taohai (C), and Ban NongBuoa (D)

3.8 Organize Arbor Day Events including awareness raising materials (Act 2.1.3)

In 2016, three times of tree planting ceremony were organized in Santhong and Paksong. The 1st time was organized in Nachaleun Village of Sangthong District, Vientiane Capital on May 31, 2016 (Fig 3.6). The ceremony was attended by representative from AFoCo, government agencies from Sangthong district, youth organization from DOF, and students from Nachalern Secondary School, and local newspaper. The 2nd time planting ceremony was organized in field office Nachaleun Village of Sangthong District, Vientiane Capital on December 5, 2016. The ceremony was attended by the Project Steering Committee Meeting for the Village based Forest Rehabilitation in Lao PDR under the Landmark Program, government agencies from Sangthong district and DOF, Nachalern villagers, and

a MAF's correspondent. The 3rd time was organized in the field office at Kongtoun Village, Paksong District, Champasak Province on December 28, 2016. The ceremony was attended by the DG of DOF, Paksong District Governor, and government agencies from DOF, Champask and Paksong district, Kongtoun villagers, and a MAF's correspondent.



Fig 3.6: The tree planting ceremony in Nachaleun Village of Sangthong District.

3.9 Conducting community consultation on seedlings production (Act 3.1.1)

In 2016, three consultation meetings on seedlings production were conducted (two meetings in Paksong and another in Sangthong). In Paksong, the 1st meeting was conducted at Kongtoun Village on October 5, 2016 and another meeting was conducted in late October 2016. The meeting focused not only to establish VFDGs but also seedlings production. The meeting was shared by Mr. Syhong, Deputy Head of Champasak Provincial Forestry Section (PFS) and attended by 40 participants from a different sector in Paksong District, representative from DOF including villagers from Kongtoun and Beng-Katoud Village (Fig 3.7). As the result, villagers have a general agreement to form a Village Forest Development Group. There are 33 people from 17 families were selected as member of this group. The mandates and working systems of this group will be discussed and consulted among their members in order to sign a contract agreement with the project for seedlings production, enrichment planting, etc.

In Sangthong, the meeting was conducted in Nachalern Village of Sangthong on late October 2016. The meeting was to focus not only to establish VFDGs in Sangthong but also seedlings production. As

a result, four (4) VFDGs have been established as mentioned in the section 3.10.



Fig 3.7 Village consultation meetings to establish VFDGs in Kongtoun and Beng Katoud Village

3.10 Establishment of Village Forest Development Groups (Act 3.1.2)

Five VFDGs were established in Sangthong and Paksong. Of which, four VFDGs have been established in Sangthong, namely Nachalerun, Koy, Nongboua, and Taohi VFDG and one VFSG has been established in Kongtoun and Bengkatoud in Paksong. There are 73 members in total (Paksong 44 members and Sangthong 29 members) (Table 3.5).

Table 3.5: VFDGs in Sangthong and Paksong

Paksong VFDG	Sangthong VFDGs
I. Kongtoun and Bengkatoud (45 Members) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Yeng (Head) 2. Mr. Ken (Deputy head) 3. Mr. Tha (Committee member) 4. Mr. Tei –do- 5. Mr. Somchai –do- 6. Mr. Nyeurn –do- 7. Mr. Somchit –do- 8. Mr. Mr. Khamka –do- 9. Mr. Khamphet –do- 10. Ms. Noy –do- 11. Mr. Yuay-do- 12. Mr. Noy 13. Ms. Lar 14. Mr. Khamsay 15. Mr. Merng 16. Mr. Phouvanh 17. Mr. Sone 18. Mr. Sy 19. Mr. Thongphet 20. Mr. Onta 21. Nouy 	I. Ban Nachaleurn (16 Members) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Boutdy Simmalavong (Head) 2. Mr. Somchan Chanthavong (Deputy head) 3. Mr. Lerd Committee Member 4. Mr Loy –do- 5. Mr. Moun –do- 6. Ms. Vanhthong –do- 7. Mr. Phay khaisy –do- 8. Mr. Souphy-do- 9. Ms. Pong –do- 10. Mr. Thein-do- 11. Mr. Khamdy-do- 12. Mr. Sana-do- 13. Mr. Et-do- 14. Mr. Sienglar –do- 15. Mr. Seng Aloun-do- 16. Ms. Vanh –do- II Ban Koy (3 members) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Seng thongsamay (Head) 2. Mr. Davone (Deputy Head) 3. Mr. Noy (Member)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22. Mr. Sing 23. Mr. Khanh 24. Mr. Chui 25. Mr. Soth 26. Mr. Air 27. Mr. Thongsouk 28. Mr. Som 29. Ms. Sy 30. Mr. Sysamoth 31. Mr. Yern 32. Mr. Phoung 33. Mr. Thone 34. Mr. Keo 35. Mr. Somphone 36. Mr. Lorn 37. Ms. Loy 38. Mr. Phonvilay 39. Mr. Chong 40. Mr. Song 41. Mr. Phath 42. Mr. Sack 43. Mr. Thongkhoun 44. Mr. Sang 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> III. Ban NongBoua (4 members) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr.Som (Head) 2. Mr. Pa Naly (Deputy head) 3. Mr. Oth Inthavong (Member) 4. Ms. Theingkham (Member) IV Ban Taohi (6 Member) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Phosay Vongsamouth (Head) 2. Mr. Thongdam Phommaphong (Deputy) 3. Mr. Khanthong Sommysak (Member) 4. Mr. Buoasone (Member) 5. Mr. Khamsy (Member) 6. Ms. Thing (Member)
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3.11 Contract Development (Act 3.1.3)

In 2016, Sangthong and Paksong’s VFDGs did not sign any contract with the project staff for seedlings production, however, the initial discussion was made with VFDGs in Sangthong and Paksong. Based on the discussion, the VFDGs were happy to have a similar contract and condition with those one signed between the project staff and Nachalern Nursery in Sangthong. Since the project intends to buy the seedlings from villagers with market. In 2017, a contract agreement between project and producers shall be developed and registered in accordance with the Contract Law as stated in the project Workplan.

3.12 Organizing study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial levels (Act 4.1.1)

In 2016, two study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial level were organized. The 1st study tour to Korea for stakeholders at policy was organized in the 1st week of October. The study teams comprise with 6 PSC members and 3 managerial levels (Fig 3.8; Table 3.6). The main objectives of one week study trip (from October 3-7, 2016) was to learn from the practical experiences relate the successful forest restoration of Korea. The study teams led by DG of DOF visited a different place in Pohang, Young-ju, and Seoul such as Pohang Landslide Park, Forest Medicinal Resources Institute, Baekdudaegan National Arboretum, Timber Distribution Center, Saemaul Undong Center, office of Interim Secretariat for AFoCO, and Yongmun Silvicultural Management Site. The study team members show their impressions on each visiting agency (Table 3.7).

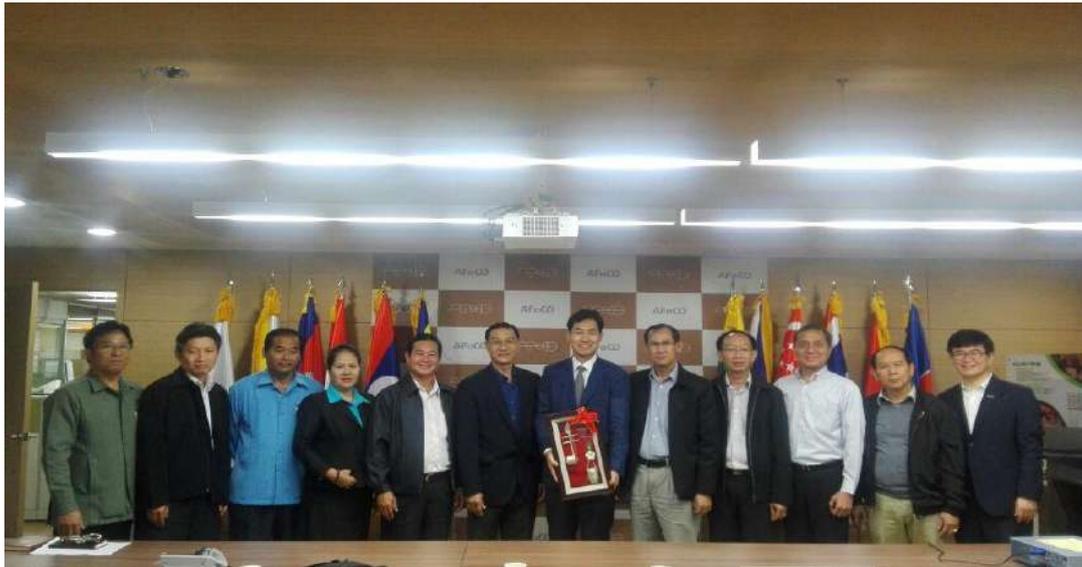


Fig 3.8 Study trip to S. Korea (AFoCO secretariat and Saemaul Museum)

Table 3.6. Name and position of the study team

S.N	Name	Position
1	Mr. Sousath Sayakoummane	Director General of Department of Forestry (DoF), Lao PDR
2	Mr. Oupakone Alounsavath, Ph.D	Director of Village Forest and NTFP Division, DoF / National Project Director of Landmark Program in Lao PDR
3	Mr. Prachith Noraseng	Deputy Head of Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office, Champasak Province
4	Mr. Kasone Thepkhamheuang	Deputy Head of Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office, Vientiane Capital
5	Mr. Bouakham Sysongkham	Vice District Governor of Sangthong District, Vientiane Capital
6	Mr. Vichit Keobouapha	District Governor of Paksong District, Champasak Province
7	Mr. Phouthone Sophathilath	

		Deputy Director of Planning & Cooperation Division of DoF
8	Ms. Khamnouy Chanthalasy	Deputy Director of Rehabilitation Division of DoF
9	Mr Samlan Paseutkhamla	Deputy Director of International cooperation, Department of Planning & Cooperation, MAF

Comments and impression to the visited agencies are as follows:

Table 3.7. Brief comments or impressions on each visiting agency

S.N	Agency	Comments/impressions
1	Pohang Landslide Park	All study members have impressions on the development of erosion control technology and Korea's rehabilitation and its key aspects presented by the Head of Education Center and Prof. Han Dong Geun. Laos is mountainous, erosion and landslides in mountains are commonly occurred during rainy season. Moreover, flooding is serious problems. Forestry sectors in Laos have no lessons and practical experiences on erosion control engineering, technologies and knowledge transfer on erosion control in forestland from the center is important for Laos.
2	Forest Medicinal Resources Institute	All study members have impressions on the ROK investment on Medicinal Resources Research Center and interested in present use and research trend of Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs). Laos is rich in NTFPs and most of forest dependent communities use NTFPs for food, medicine, and income generation. The Government of Laos consider NTFPs are very important for socio-economic development and does not allow to export unprocessed medicinal plants and some NTFPs. Division of Village Forest and NTFPs management in DOF is responsible for strategic plan for NTFPs management, but many NTFPs are lesser known. Cooperation with this Center to demonstrate cultural practices, storage and process of certain NTFPs (wild ginseng in Sekong province) should be promoted in near future.
3	Baekdudaegan Arboretum	Most of study teams have general impressions on Baekdudaegan National Arboretum facilities and development. The technology and facility to preserve tree seeds from different sources is very interesting. Collaboration with this Arboretum is highlighted by DG of DOF to preserve some indigenous tree seeds in Laos.
4	Timber Distribution Center	Timber Distribution Center is less impression for most of study members. The GOL doesn't have a clear policy to promote this type of investment.
5	Saemaul Undong Center	Visiting the Saemaul Museum is very interesting. Most of study members have learnt and realized how ROK departure from poverty

		<p>from three spirit of Saemaul Undong “Diligence, Self-help, and Cooperation”.</p> <p>Village driven development using villagers’ spirit can lead to sustain development not only forestry sectors, but also rural economic development. All PSC members support the concept of the project “Village-based (driven) forest rehabilitation” in both sites.</p>
6	Yongmun silvicultural management site	Yongmun silvicultural management site, all study member show their interest on a way to involve generate public awareness to protect forest by providing a service on funeral and burry ash and bone of dead body in a tree inside forest.

The 2nd study tour was organized to Thailand for stakeholders at managerial levels from October 17-20, 2016. The study teams comprise with 13 people, of which 3 people were supported by AFoCo (Table 3.8). The main objectives of this study trip was to observe and absorb lessons from selected community forest practices in Thailand, particularly on how they manage forest resources sustainably and observe practice of community forestry enterprise in Thailand and how it can help providing better livelihoods for communities. The study teams led by DDG of DoF visited a different place in Thailand such as local authorities and communities on Village Forestry Management and Social Forestry Model practice sharing (Agroforestry in Kanchanaburi (Fig 3.9).

Table 3.8 Participants name to the VF study visit to Thailand

	Name	Position and Organization	Remarks
	RECOFTC Support		AFoCo will arrange their flights and cover all the cost except for the transportation for the field trip
1	Mr. Bounpone Sengthong	DDG, DoF	
2	Mr. Somphouthong OUNPHACHAN	Village Forestry Division, DoF	
3	Mr. Chanthana Phouksavanh	Village Forestry Division, DoF	
4	Ms. Thongsouk SAYAPHANTHONG	Deputy head-Planning and Cooperation Div, DoF	
5	Ms. Phetmany SOULIVONG	Head of Forest Section, PAFO Savannakheth province	
6	Mr. Bounnao MATSAVONG	Head of Forest Section, PAFO Attapeu province	
7	Mr. Hinkeo PASANSACK	Head of Forest Section, PAFO Saravanh province	
8	Mr. Khammeung DENGMANEY	Head of Forest Section, PAFO LuangNamtha province	
9	Mr. Khamphaeng CHAIYASACK	Head of Forest Section, PAFO Bokeo province	
10	Mr. Bounyadeth Phouangmala	RECOFTC Laos Programme Coordinator	
	AFoCO Support		AFoCo will arrange their flights and cover all the
1	Dr. Oupakone ALOUNSAVATH	Head-VF division, DoF	
2	Mr. Simeuang Southivongnorlath	Deputy Head of Forest Section, PAFO Vientiane capital	

3	Ms. Bouavanh Xayalath	Deputy Head of Forest Section, PAFO Champasak province	cost except for the transportation for the field trip
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Fig 3.9 Study trip to Thailand (RECOFTC and Village Forestry Management in Kanchanabury)

3.13 Organizing training courses for forestry sectors at implementation level (Act 4.1.2)

In 2016, four (4) training workshop for forestry sectors at implementation level for Sangthong and Paksong were conducted. The 1st training workshop was organized in DOF on July 12, 2016. The main objective of the workshop is to introduce the project concept, framework and AWP 2016 implementation arrangement to Champasak and Vientiane forestry sectors and Paksong and Santhong DAFO. The workshop was shared by Deputy Director General of Department of Forestry and attended by 18 participants (two women) from a different division of DOF, representative from Champasak and Vientiane Capital including Paksong and Sangthong districts. The following issues were agreed in the meeting:

1. Name of Project in Laos
2. Organization structure of the project is integrated into government so called “Samsang” or “Three Pillars Development Policy”.
3. Field office is integrated into Village Administration Office and at least 1-2 forestry officers present in the office to advise villagers implement project’s activities
4. Procedures to approve budgets, budget transfer to Paksong and Sangthong, and activity and financial reports.

The 2nd training workshop was organized in DOF on August 11-12, 2016. The main objective of the training is to strengthen capacity of project staff on how to make a budget plan, approval processes, writing an activity and a financial report in accordance with the project’s AWP 2016 and government instruction on financial management. The training was attended by 22 participants (two women) from a financial management section of DOF (as resource person), staff of Village Forest Division, project staff from Paksong and Sangthong including field office staff, totally 22 participants (Fig 3.9).



Fig 3.9 Consultation workshop on the AWP 2016 implementation in DOF

The 3rd training workshop was organized in DOF on November 21-25, 2016. The main objective of the training is to strengthen capacity of project staff on how to implement the village based forest rehabilitation concept and guideline, particularly village nursery establishment and seedlings production. The training workshop was attended by, staff of Village Forest Division, project staff from Paksong and Sangthong including field office staff, totally 20 participants (two women). The following issues were agreed in the workshop:

1. Village temporary nursery is suitable for both sites,
2. The age of seedlings should be more than 1 year for enrichment planting and at least 6 months for ex-situ plantation,
3. The species should be matched with the sites and not limited to species that were identified in the project work-plan, particularly for enrichment planting in both sites.
4. Capacity building for VFDGs on seedlings production is very important before signing a contract on seedlings production with each VFDG.

The other training workshop was the Training of Trainers (TOT) on teaching technique and contract development. This training is not in the AWP 2016, but it is important for the project staff for developing a contract with VFPGs and VFDGs in Paksong and Sangthong. The five days training between June 20 and June 24 being held at Huapamom Forestry Training Center (Fig 3.10) aims to build up capacity of extension staff on teaching and helping villagers for contract development i.e. seedlings production and tree planting, etc. This training was jointly organized by Village Focus International and DOF with financial supported by FAO and AFoCo.



Fig 3.10 Organization of Training of Trainers (TOT) at Huapamom Forestry Training Centre

3.14 Village consultation for villagers' engagement in project implementation (Act 4.2.1)

In 2016, the village consultation meetings on establishment of ex-situ plantation conservation and enrichment planting in Santhong and Paksong were conducted. In Paksong, the field staff of Paksong conducted a meeting with VFDGs members and Villagers of Kongtoun and BengKatoud in the Mid of November and In Sangthong, the project staff met VFDGs members in Nachalern village in December. The main objective of the consultation is to obtain information what, how and under what conditions village authority and villagers are willing and decide to participate of ex-situ plantation conservation and enrichment planting activity. Two options were raised in the meeting: 1) contract based and 2) daily wage based. Most of members and Villagers prefer contract based with closely supervision with the project staff during implementation. In February 2017, land clearing and site preparation in 5 ha of ex-situ conservation in Sangthong and 10 ha in Paksong should be completed because of rain start early, particularly in Paksong region as recommended by villagers.

3.15 Organize various training modules for villagers (Act 4.2.2)

Based on the village consultation meeting, the on-the-job training on seedlings production were conducted in Paksong and Santhong. In Sangthong, the five days training conducted in the last week of December 2016 at Nalath DAFO's extension center in Nachalern Village (Fig 3.11) aims to build up capacity of VFDGs on seeds handling technique, establishment of temporary nursery, soil mixture for showing seeds, preparation of bed seeds, etc. The training was attended by, staff of DAFO Sangthong as resource person and 5 members of each VFDG, totally 20 participants (two women). All trainees have received a certificate.



Fig 3.11. Training on seedling production for VFDGs members in Sangthong

In Paksong, the three days training conducted in the first week of January 2017 at Paksong DAFO's extension center (Fig 3.12) aims to build up capacity of VFDGs on seeds handling technique, establishment of temporary nursery, soil mixture for sowing seeds, preparation of bed seeds, etc. The training was attended by, staff of DAFO's Paksong as resource person and 28 members of VFDG, totally 29 participants (two women). All trainees have received a certificate.



Fig 3.12. Training on seedling production for VFDGs members in Paksong

3.15 Development of reforestation concept and related methodologies (Act 4.3.1)

The Village-driven Forest Rehabilitation Guideline was completely developed in December 2016. The contract agreement on consultant service for the development of specific guidelines for the Village-driven Forest Rehabilitation, and the Project Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework has been developed and endorsed by the AFoCo secretariat. Mr. Souksompong Prixar, the Consultant, submitted the report in 20 December 2016 (ANNEX 1).

The guideline comprises with four steps and in each step is comprising of main implementing activities as follows:

Step 1: Development and approval of Village-based Forest restoration and Management plan

Activity 1: Feasibility study and preliminary defining of forest restoration area at village level

Activity 2: Defining of restoration area, objectives and restoration approach

Activity 3: Development of VBRFM plan

Activity 4: Approval of VBRFM plan

Step 2: Arrangement for implementation of Village-based Forest restoration and Management plan

Activity 1: Propagandize for people participation, select and accept participants

Activity 2: Assignment of village steering committee to manage forest restoration at village level

Activity 3: Organize village forest restoration and management group at village level

Activity 4: Capacity building for project team at district level and village steering committee
 Activity 5: Capacity building for village forest restoration and management group at village level

Step 3: Implementation of Village-based Forest restoration and Management plan

Activity 1: Seedling production

Activity 2: Tree planting

2.1 Defining of restoration area

2.2 Land preparation for tree plantation

2.3 Land preparation for enrichment planting

2.4 Planting

Activity 3: Tending operation and maintenance of plantation

Activity 4: Forest protection

Step 4: Monitoring and assessment of implementation of Village-based Forest restoration and Management plan

Activity 1: Progressive monitoring

Activity 2: Assessment of VBFRM implementation

Activity 3: Recording and record keeping

Activity 4: Reporting

In each main activity; there are prescriptions on (1) Objective, (2) Output, (3) Implementing approach, (4) Participants and responsibility, (5) Tool and equipment required, and (6) Knowledge and skill required in implementation

3.16 Arrangement and procurement of materials (Act 4.3.3)

Following the government procurement regulation, a procurement committee has been established and necessary office materials were purchased and distributed to the stakeholders based on the distribution list (Table 3.9). The procurement of vehicle is delay due to an improvement of import tax exemption and, however, the purchase contract agreement with import tax exemption with KOLAO Groups was signed in January 2017.

Table 3.9: List of office materials

No	Description	Quantity
1	Desktop computer HP Pavilion 550-152L (N4R93AA#AKL	4 Sets
2	Notebook Dell Inspiron N5459	7 Units
3	Printer SAMSUNG SL-C1810W	3 Units
4	Multifunction Copier (A4 + cartridge)	set
5	Individual working desks with arm chair	7 sets
6	Meeting tables with normal chairs	6 sets
7	LCD projector View sonic PJD5155	set
8	Camera Nikon D5500	Units
9	Individual working desks with arm chair	sets
10	Meeting tables with normal chairs	3 sets

3.17 Renovating/expanding field office and improvement of access roads (Act 4.3.4)

The filed office in Sangthong and Paksong have been completely renovated and constructed. The improvement of access roads to ex-situ plantation site in Ban NongBuoia in Sangthong was also

completed.

In Sangthong, the field office has been completely renovated the mid of November and officially open to use on December 5, 2016. The office located in Banhai Nachalern Village office was built last year, due to a limitation of fund the construction stop. Based on the agreement of Sangthong district governor on renovation and authorization to partly use this office for the project, the project has supported construction materials such as cements, ceiling material, door and windows, bricks, electricity, etc. (Fig 3.13 a). In the case of Paksong, the field office has been constructed in Ban Kongtoun Village. The project has supported all construction materials including labor cost. The construction was completed in the mid of December and officially open on 30 December 2016 (Fig 3.13 b). Both district governors nominate its steering committee to follow up and facilitate the construction process, and to make sure transparency, accountability, and effectiveness of the construction. The committee members comprise with a representative of district cabinet office, DAFO, village organization such as youth, women union, trade union, etc.



Fig 3.13 a. Field office in Sangthong



Fig 3.13 b. Field office in Paksong

The improvement of existing access roads about 4 km from Nongbua village to the project site (ex-situ conservation plot) was completed. Based on the government procurement regulation, the project staff signed a contract with local construction company to improve the road condition (Fig 3.14a) in December 2016. The company started working in the last week of December 2016 and completed in the 1st week of January 2017 (Fig 3.14b).



Fig. 3.14a Condition of the road before improvement



Fig. 3.14b Condition of the road after improvement

3.18 Annual work-plan development (Act 4.4.1)

The AWP 2016 was completely developed during the second quarters in 2016. The AWP 2017 was drafted and presented to the 2nd Project Steering Committee Meeting for “Village-based Forest Rehabilitation in Lao PDR” on December 5, 2016.

3.19 Fee for technical services, including honorarium (4.4.2)

The development of Social-economic base line for Sangthong and Paksong is important to measure the overall objective of the project, particularly contribution to poverty reduction by providing direct income to the poor. Budget under activity 4.4.2 of Paksong and Sangthong were used for this purpose. The main activities include data collection on economic status of households, data analysis, and report. The result of this development will be used as a reference to select a right family to provide incentives through various means, inter alia, strengthening capacity of villagers to produce a good quality of seedlings, seedling production, enrichment planting, maintenance and protection of rehabilitated areas for both sites.

3.20 Running costs for the project management at field office (Act 4.4.3)

This activity was not implemented in both offices due to renovation and construction of field office completed in December, however, Sangthong office use the budget for installation of electricity supply in the office.

3.21 Running costs for the project management at Central Office (DoF) (4.4.4)

Ms. Southsakhon Inthavong has been appointed to assist the NPD since April 1 to December 31, 2016 (9 month period). Her role is to follow up the project implementation, write a progress report,

meetings and workshops arrangement, and other administration work based on the NPD instruction.

3.22 Project monitoring/field follow up (Act 4.4.5)

The project monitoring/field follow up was conducted by 3 staff of Village Forest Division for both Paksong site. The team led by Mr. Somphouthong, Deputy head of NTFP management section and two members from VF&NTFP Division met villagers in Kongtoun and Paksong district authority during the 1st week of October. Over all observation of the project implementation is good, but only issue is the capacity of field officers in writing a progress and financial report as which need to be strengthened in order to submit the NPD timely manners.

3.23 Annual meeting for the Project Steering Committee (Act 4.4.6)

The 2nd Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting for the “Village-based Forest Rehabilitation in Lao PDR” under the Landmark Program was held in Vientiane, Lao PDR, on 5 December 2016. The Meeting was attended by PSC members and co-chaired Mr. Sousath Sayakummane, the Director General of the Department of Forestry of Lao PDR and Mr. Lee Kyung Ho, Coordinator of the Planning, Budget and Human Resource Management Team, the Interim Secretariat for the AFoCO (the Secretariat). The Meeting agreed a number of issues such as include two (2) more PSC members from the Secretariat, carry over the remaining balance to the next year and clarify it in the annual financial report by the end of January 2017, publish the guidelines in both English and Lao language after further revision and the inclusion of practice activities carried out from the project sites in 2017, and decided to hold the 3rd PSC meeting in mid-November 2017 in Champasak province, Lao PDR.

3.24 Annual review and planning meeting for project team (Act 4.4.7)

The annual review and planning meeting for project team was conducted in Sangthong and Paksong, In Sangthong, the annual review meeting was conducted in the 3rd week of December 2016; while in Paksong was conducted in the 4th week of December 2016. The meeting was attended by the project staff and head of VFPGs and VFDPGs totally 10 people in Sangthong and 7 people in Paksong. In the meeting, the pending activities and issues in 2016 were discussed and need to carry over in the Q1 of AWP 2017 as mentioned in the section VI. The most challenges faced in 2016 in both sites were capacity of field staff and villagers to implement the project’s activities in accordance with the project concept “Village-based or Village-driven” that involve direct participation by the communities. It is inevitable that some activities showed a slower than expected progress.



Fig 3.15 Annual review meeting in Sangthong

IV. Remaining activities

The remaining activities shall be carried over in the Quarter 1 of AWP 2017. This includes:

4.1 Paksong Activities

- Activity 4.1.1 Organizing study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial levels
- Activity 4.1.2 Organizing training courses for forestry sectors at implementation level
- Activity 4.2.2 Organize various training modules for villagers (on seedlings production, enrichment planting, etc.)
- Activity 4.3.3 Arrangement and procurement of materials (Procurement of vehicles, office and field equipment)
- Activity 4.3.4 Renovating/expanding field office and improvement of access roads, fencing materials for ex-situ plantation

4.2 Sangthong Activities

- Activity 1.1.1 Seedlings production for ex-situ plantation
- Activity 1.2.1 Land clearance
- Activity 1.4.2 Conducting Village Driven Forest Patrolling (VDFP) covering the whole project site
- Activity 4.1.1 Organizing study tours for stakeholders at policy and managerial levels
- Activity 4.1.2 Organizing training courses for forestry sectors at implementation level
- Activity 4.3.3 Arrangement and procurement of materials (Procurement of vehicles, office and field equipment)
- Activity 4.3.4 Renovating/expanding field office and improvement of access roads, fencing materials for ex-situ plantation

V. Conclusion

Most of activities planned in AWP 2016 were implemented accordingly. Vice minister of MAF, Mr. Thongphath Vongmany, strongly support the concept of Village-driven Forest Rehabilitation. District governor of Paksong and Sangthong have strongly supported the project to establish/renovate field office at Village and Clustered Village, respectively. Village heads including villagers around the project sites engage in the implementation of the project's activities.

VI. Next plan

The next plan, the project will implement activities in 2017 according to approved AWP 2017.

ANNEX

- ✚ Contract on seedlings production in Sangthong
- ✚ Results of field survey approved by Paksong DAFO
- ✚ Adult Education Training of Trainer (ToT)
- ✚ Contract farming District Level ToT (ENG)
- ✚ The results of the survey of Sangthong DAFO (in Laos)
- ✚ Nomination letter to establish VFPG and VFDG of Paksong and Sangthong (Laos)
- ✚ Minute of the Consultation Workshop on the AWP 2016 Implementation (in Laos)
- ✚ VBFR Guideline (Laos)
- ✚ Final Meeting Report of the 2nd PSCM (Eng)