

***sub-Sector Working Group on
AgroBioDiversity***

Presentation to SWG-ARD
30/9/2013

Topics

A. Introduction of the Inception Meeting on sSWG-ABD

B. Annual Workplan

(October 2013- September 2014)

A: Inception Meeting

- **Date:** 20th September, 2013
- **Venue:** Lao Plaza Hotel, Vientiane
- **Chair:** Mr. Savanh Hanephom: DDG, DoP, MAF
- **Co-Chair: SDC:** Dep Country Director, Dr Liliane

(The presence of the Vice Minister of MAF at the opening session was a clear demonstration of the importance event, specifically our sSWG-ABD has attached to this meeting.)

- **Participants:** 40 persons
 - GOL: 10 persons
 - DP/UN: 7 persons
 - IO/Projects: 13 persons
 - NGOs/NPAs: 7 persons
 - Research and Education: 3 persons

Review of ToR of sSWG-ABD

Issue: The scope of ABD:

"the variety and variability of **indigenous animals, plants and micro-organisms**.....used for.....**food, agriculture and livelihoods**..... including **crops, livestock, forestry and fisheries**..... diversity of genetic resources used for **food, fodder, fiber, fuel and medicine**".

Comments:

- 1.1: propose to include "*the ecosystems and multifunctional landscapes that contain these ABD*"
- 1.2: propose to include species that (a) have become endogenous in Lao e,g, chilli, or (b) their cultivation is favoured by smallholders in MFLs, eg coffee ??

Issue: Focus of sSWG-ABD will be on policy aspects

Comment:

Proposal to include the possibility to also focus on technical aspects, in case where it a technical constraint is the main issue to the development of an ABD based product

Example: Lao Silk

The inability to produce Lao silk thread results in 90 % of Lao silk cloth actually produced from imported – not Lao - thread !)

Specific Objectives of sSWG

1. To provide a platform for technical discussion about the **socio-economic importance and potential of agro-biodiversity** for food and nutrition security, traditional and commercial agriculture and value chains in Lao PDR.
2. To facilitate capitalization of experience, **review of lessons learned.**
3. to **identify and recommend policies and processes** for promoting the development of ABD-based livelihoods in a way that will empower smallholders and support sustainable local economic development.

Frequency of meetings

- At least 2 per year, 2 topics or issues per meeting

Membership

- Government Agencies: MAF , MONRE, NUOL, MoST, MSCT
- Development Partners and Donors
- International NGOs
- Lao Non-Profit Associations (NPA) and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).
- Private Sector
- Research and Education Institutions
- Selected Projects

B. Annual Workplan

October 2013- September 2014

4 Topics and one Task

B: Annual Workplan (10/13-9/14)

Topic 1: Lao rice genetic resources Maintenance, and Assessment

Objectives: (i) Report on status and maintenance of Lao rice genetic resources and (ii) assessment of key steps required to develop a recognized trade name (GI) for specific Lao rice varieties.

Responsible agencies:

- Support and contracting: TABI
- Implementation: TA , in coordination with DoA and Nabong

Topic 2: Potential, constraints and solutions to development of Forest Rattan:

Objectives: To provide clear understanding of potential, constraints and solutions to development of Forest Rattan > perspective of species and forest types/location, land/resource tenure, quotas, supply chain and taxation)

Responsible agencies: WWF, FRC (MAF)

Topic 3: Enhanced management of selected/key Medicinal Plants

Objectives: define and describe issues, and propose solutions for, sustainable management and harvest, production and value chain for key medicinal plants (roots, kheua hem vine and orchids...)

Responsible agencies: DoH/TMC, DoF, FRC

Topic 4: Aquatic resources - livelihoods: actual potential for fish passages, and conservation/ propagation of native species

Objectives: To (i) inventoried and assess the effectiveness of fish ladders constructed or in planning, (ii) clarify native species which can be at propagated, or with potential.

Responsible agencies: TABI, TA, in coordination with LARREC (NAFRI), Faculty of Agriculture/NUOL,

Additional Task: Inventory and Profile of Agencies, Programs and Projects who focus on, or support the role of ABD in Development.

Responsible agencies: TABI

ຂອບໃຈ Thank you

