



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY IN LAOS: A REDD+ INITIATIVE

The government of Laos believes that one of the big reasons forests are being cut down is because people are clearing land for farming, especially using a method called shifting cultivation. They wanted to make sure that by 2020, 70% of the country would be covered by forests again. They planned to do this by stopping shifting cultivation, helping forests grow back, supporting farmers with permanent fields, and giving people other ways to make a living so they wouldn't need to rely on cutting down trees.

REDD+ INITIATIVE

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) is an initiative of the Laos government, with a vision to curb deforestation and forest degradation. The government has embarked on an ambitious journey through the REDD+ program across six provinces: Houaphan, Sayabouly, Luang Prabang, Oudomxai, Luang Namtha, and Bokeo.

Specifically, to address the above challenges, Livelihood Development for Sustainable Forest Governance in Northern Laos (LFGL) have been:

- ✔ Create favorable conditions for implementing REDD+ activities in Laos.
- ✔ Provide diverse livelihood opportunities through a village development fund and support for permanent agricultural cultivation in project target villages. This includes surveying suitable areas, developing new paddy rice fields, and providing technical assistance for agricultural practices.
- ✔ Revise forest and forestland management regulations in project target villages, and strengthen enforcement to ensure sustainable management by villagers. LFGL will also aid in forest restoration in highly degraded areas within the target zones.



Irrigation Construction



Livestock Raising

SOME HIGHLIGHTED RESULTS

2,891

Direct beneficiaries/
stakeholders



1,412

women directly and
indirectly benefited



132 hectares

identified for forest
restoration

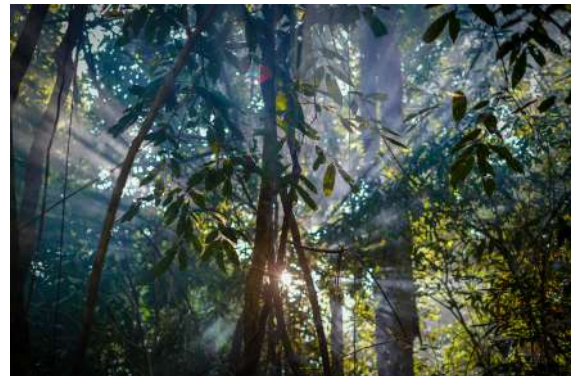


\$ 5,000

fund provided to 4
targeted villages



- LFGL funded the construction of small irrigation systems in four project target villages
- A total of 2,891 people, including 1,412 women, directly and indirectly benefit from this initiative.
- LFGL allocated a village development fund of USD 5,000 per village for the above-mentioned villages.
- This fund supports various livelihood activities such as livestock raising and cropping, benefiting 2,851 people, including 1,229 women.
- Forest regulations in four targeted villages were reviewed, developed, and approved by the district governor.
- These regulations were disseminated and distributed to neighboring villages.
- Degraded areas totaling 131.76 hectares within the four target villages were identified for forest restoration, either through natural means or plantation.



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