

# Women Empowerment for Climate Resilience (WECR)



Women and Men are trained on Adaptation Action Plan.

## BACKGROUND

Since 2014, CARE International in Lao PDR has received funding support from CARE Denmark and European Union (EU), and the Ministry of Development and Sustainable Infrastructure Luxembourg provided funding to implementing the project of enhancing adaptive the capacity of women and ethnic smallholder farmers through improved agro-climate information of two districts: Mai and Samphan in Phongsaly province. The overall objective of this project is to enable improved resilience of remote ethnic both lowland and upland communities, in particularly women, to the impact of climate variability and change, and contribute to the achievement of SDGs 1,2,5,13 and 17.

This new project (Women Empowerment for Climate Resilience: WECR) will be implemented in three districts: Mai and Samphan, and Khoua districts of Phongsaly Province.

The project activities will be analysed through the community consultation and agriculture and forestry offices. Improving access to accurate seasonal weather forecasts has seen as essential for improving farmers' ability for medium to long-term planning and thus increased resilience. Especially for food security and main cash crops, which heavily affected by the changes in rainy season and having access to these forecasts is likely to reduce losses of yields caused by unfavourable weather conditions.

## OBJECTIVES

to enhance the adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers, particularly ethnic women, in adapting to sustainable climate change through the implementation of Community Adaptation Action Plan and apply scientific climate information as well as local/traditional climate knowledge, weather information consultation, agro-agriculture, capacity building and seasonal calendar.

## FUNDED BY

Danish Telethon, Denmark

## GLIMPSE



### Location

Phongsaly Province  
(Mai, Samphan,  
and Khoua Districts)

### TimeFrame

January 2021 - December 2024

### Beneficiaries

Direct 6,734 people, women 3,620  
Indirect 18,993 people, women 10,197

### Partners

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Phongsaly  
Provincial Agricultural and Forestry Office



## OUTCOMES

- **Activity 1: Ethnic minority women develop and implement own solutions to their families' "climate challenges"**
  - Improve Gender Sensitive - Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (GCVCA) tool
  - Training on GCVCA to project staff and government coordinator and relevant government offices at the district level
  - Conduct GCVCA in 11 new villages
  - Review GCVCA in 9 villages (used to be former CARE villages)
  - Summarize primarily data of the project, based on GCVCA
- **Activity 2: Ethnic minority women increase the income and food security of their family through the innovative areas of action: Weather information, drought resistance paddy fields and sustainable beekeeping**
  - Formulate Community Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP) for climate change
  - Implement alternative activities of each livelihood cluster, based on the Community Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP)
  - Establish Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLA) in qualified villages and non-qualified villages
  - Build Community Accountability Mechanism (CAM) in targeted villages
  - Support Community Innovation Funds for women's groups to initiate adaptation activities, including capacity building for women's groups on modern production techniques, improving the quality of alternative products, and marketing
- **Activity 3: Ethnic minority women develop and implement own solutions to their families' climate challenges**
  - Training on the use of Community Dialogue Toolkit (CDT)
  - Community issue research by using CARE's Community Dialogue Toolkit (CDT) and create an activity plan by integrating it into the Community Adaptation Action Plan (CAAP)
  - Action research on GBV – resilience nexus
- **Activity 4: Providing reference information and learning to facilitate the knowledge exchange at the community and macro levels**
  - Developing Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Learning (MEAL) system
  - Developing advocacy plan on community adaptation to climate change
  - Documenting learning/approaches and lessons learnt at the local and central levels

## IMPACTS

- Technical staff from the Government partner offices and representative from villages receive training and 20 target villages are conducted Gender Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (GCVCA).
- Women have increased incomes and involved in decisions about using savings groups and funds to adapt to climate change. They have accessed to climate information services and agriculture.
- The Community Dialogue Toolkit (CDT) has been used to assess and analyze the issues of women in 20 project target villages and to improve gender and attitudes toward violence against women in 20 project target villages

Weather announcement in the village everyday is important.



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