

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



Communities feel reassured knowing their animals are safe.

## GLIMPSE



Location  
Kaleum,  
Dakcheung Districts,  
Sekong Province

### TimeFrame

October 2019 - September 2024

### Beneficiaries

Direct 5,000 ( 2,950 women)

Indirect 10,789 (6,473 women)

### Partners

Sekong Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office, Kaleum, Dak Cheung Districts Agriculture Office, Provincial of Natural Resources and Environment, District of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao Women's Union



## BACKGROUND

Farmers in Dak Cheung and Kaleum Districts in Sekong are increasingly exposed to climate-related disasters and risks (storms, flooding, drought, landslides, and typhoons), that cause crop loss and further aggravate precarious food security. Increasingly unpredictable weather and seasons require that farmers have access to seasonal forecast information and timely, quality farming advice to optimize their production and respond to changes as they occur.

Crop loss can be significantly mitigated through better access to the proposed agro-climate advisory services such as short-term and seasonal weather forecasts, advisories on required crop selection, farming practices, soil fertility, and pest/disease management. Though the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DMH) produces both long and short-term weather forecasts, they are not able to reach farmers or cover specific target areas. The project will resolve this by making this information available to rural facing communities in accessible ways and simple to understand, visual formats more specific to their districts.

## OBJECTIVES

Women and ethnic minority farmers in Dakcheung and Kaleum Districts in Sekong can better anticipate and respond to risks and opportunities from climate variability through participatory and equitable agro-climatic planning.

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Ministry of Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
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Ministère de l'Environnement, du Climat  
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# OUTCOMES

- **Farmers are organized in Learning Networks for community engagement and knowledge exchange on climate smart agriculture planning**
  - Organise Farmer Learning Networks
  - 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
  - Link 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 update 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 10 villages are organized in two Learning Networks for community engagement and knowledge exchange on climate smart agriculture planning
- Farming practices are improved through participatory scenario planning integrating weather forecast and agriculture advisories
- Strengthened capacity of service providers to better understand and address needs for climate change adaptation of remote ethnic women and their communities
- Enhanced access for women to information and greater women's influence on farming decision making



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