

#### **Terms of Reference**

Title: Consultancy on providing participatory awareness raising for chemical herbicide and pesticide use for the local communities in Boun Neua district, Phongsaly province, Laos PDR.

#### For GREEN project

Strengthening the economic and environmental resilience of rural communities in BounNeua & Phongsaly districts, Phongsaly province, Lao PDR

# **Background**

The CCL (Comité de Coopération avec le Laos) has been involved in implementing rural development programs in Laos for almost 40 years. Currently, CCL works in 4 provinces of Laos. In Phongsaly the CCL is currently implementing 2 projects aiming at strengthening local communities' resilience towards climate change impacts and economic shocks. The projects follow an integrated and participatory approach.

The mission is integrated in the following program:

 Generating an inclusive Resilience and Environment Enhancement - GREEN (CCL, funded by AFD & BfW, 2023-2026)

The specific objectives of the Generating inclusive Resilience and Environment Enhancement Project (GREEN project - Phongsaly and Boun Neua districts) are:

- 1. The natural resources of Phongsaly province are preserved and sustainably managed to favor a sustainable, inclusive, and localized economic development;
- 2. The local stakeholders of Phongsaly province are strengthened, locally acknowledged, and participate in the sustainable and inclusive development of the territory;
- 3. The local stakeholders of Phongsaly province are strengthened, locally acknowledged, and participate in the sustainable and inclusive development of the territory.

In 2013 CCL supported the creation of the non-profit association COSKA. Since then, a close partnership has been effective between both organizations. COSKA is partner to CCL for the implementation of both projects.

#### I. Context

According to the data and information obtained from the Participatory Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (PCRVA) in the 40 targeted villages (20 villages in Boun Neua and 20 villages Phongsaly district) herbicide and pesticides used is impacting health and environment of 11 villages in Boun Neua. This extensive use of herbicides and pesticides is caused by the intensive sugar cane production and impact the water drinkability, and the biodiversity surrounding the villages. During the PCRVA data collection with villagers, they mentioned that

farmers are using quite heavy amounts of chemical herbicide and pesticides in their farms and they observed the direct impact on health issue, water pollution, land degradation and biodiversity loss.

To respond to this issue, GREEN project aims to work with villagers on agroecology technics that would allow the reduction of use of pesticides and herbicides in their crops production. To make the introduction to these technics the aim is to involve youth in awareness raising participatory activities in the targeted villages of BounNeua. 10 model farmers were already trained on those technics and will be showing during ecxchange visits after this awareness raising activities. The main activity of raising awareness to villagers may combine with several methodologies and techniques based on the skills and experiences of local consultants and firms, it may include to the best practice of using chemical herbicide game show, focus group discussion on what are that risk and impacts will affect to the farmers who are using chemical herbicides including the surrounding environment.

## Scope of the consultancy

Raise awareness on herbicide and pesticide impact thanks to children from local schools, to introduce solutions of safety use and waste management, but also to link with agroecological technics that allow the reduction of pesticide and herbicide use in industrial crops production.

## II. Objectives & outputs for the consultancy

## 2.1. Overall objectives of the consultancy

Ensure the villagers in the targeted villages understand the risks and impacts of the chemical herbicide/pesticides usage through a participatory awareness raising activity that involves youth from local schools. And link this awareness raising to solutions emphasized by the project.

## 2.2. Specific objectives and expected outputs

Specific objective 1: Training of youth from local schools, and creation of an awareness raising show on chemical used in crops production

The aim is to involve young people in the change of agricultural practices. This participative activity will allow the project to have an impact on the educational level of young people and the village level.

The consultant will select interested young people from local schools in order to create a group that will be trained in how to develop an awareness raising show on this topic.

Once the group is trained. They will plan with local authorities and the project team the presentation that they will do at village level or cluster level.

#### **Output:**

Make a show with young people from local schools to make awareness raising at village level.

Specific objective 2: Awareness at village level with the show created with youth from schools This awareness raising activity will involved the identified 11 villages that have expressed the need to improve their situation on pesticide and herbicide use.

This awareness raising activity will maybe take a day and will include:

- The show prepared by the youths
- A technical presentation of solutions
- Discussion with villagers about solutions they want to implement and the support they need

#### **Output:**

The villagers are aware of the impact of herbicide and pesticide use and have made a decision about the solution they want to implement.

Specific objective 3: Link the awareness activity to local solutions on usage of chemicals and implementation of agroecological technics

That important specific objective is here to remind the consultant that will work on the awareness raising activity preparation that the show should link with solutions to apply in the area.

The project team has already worked on these solutions and will guide the consultant on the solutions to present in the show to adapt it.

#### **Output:**

Make villagers aware of agroecological solutions adapted to their context and their needs.

## III. Methodology

- 1) Participatory approach: The game show, role playing is combining the local students and local people, because they are living in the village, they will understand their own situation better than others. The role play they do will be able to express the right ways by using the instruction and coaching of consultant.
- 2) Using local languages: The targeted villages are combining of different ethnic groups and using different local languages, it is very important to consider to use local languages and local translator during the activity to make sure villager understanding and they will be confident on contribution their participation.
- 3) Avoid of using technical terminology too much: Using the local languages with giving examples to ensure villagers can understand.

## IV. Deliverables

For this consultancy the deliverables will be:

- Training tools for youth in local schools
- Guidelines for the awareness raising activity conducted at village level (made with the support of GREEN project team)
- Report about the results of the activity (including objectives, attendance, outputs, advise for monitoring)

# V. Expected working days

The number of expected working days is going up to 22 days, with a starting day planned in September 2025 and distributed as follows:

 Prepare the training tools and material to conduct the training at school level and village level: 3 days in September 2025

- Training of youth at school level: 5 days beginning of October 2025
- Awareness raising activity in 11 villages in BounNeua district: 12 days in October 2025
- Reporting about activities: 1 day in October 2025
- Travelling days: 1

The project will cover travelling costs (including flight tickets, train tickets, bus and field mission to village). Accommodation with per diem cost must cover by the consultant and it can be included into the proposal of daily rate.

## VI. Selection process

The CCL is looking for one consultant, national (Lao PDR) or international.

## **Application file should include:**

- a Curriculum Vitae
- a technical proposal which includes the description of the method followed to complete each step of the consultancy.
- A financial proposal which details the consultancy fees (related to the number of working days required and every expense expected to be made to reach the objectives of the consultancy). The financial proposal should detail the expected costs for the overall outputs of the consultancy.
- Any other documents developed by the applicant and that could be relevant to the topic of the consultancy (ex: previous similar activity drafted, former works and results obtained on related fields, publications...)

#### The following skills will be assets:

- Background of knowledge in environment issue, specialized with impact of chemical herbicide usage.
- Experiences with community participatory approach in the rural areas with diversify ethic groups especially, Akha, Lue, Ho and Phou noi
- Women are encouraged to apply.

For any question about this call for proposition, please contact, before the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 2025: Mr Robert WILLIAMSON, robert.williamson@ccl-laos.org.

## Candidates should send their application file per email by 8th August 2025 to:

- CCL Director, Mrs. Manivone VORACHAK, manirachak@gmail.com
- Project advisors: Mr Robert WILLIAMSON, robert.williamson@ccl-laos.org
- Advisor in Climate Change & Environment: Touleelor SOTOUKEE, <u>touleelor.sotoukee@ccl-laos.org</u>

The consultant selected will be offered a consultancy contract signed with CCL.