ANR SWG

Key achievements 2010-2011
Perspectives for 2011-12

Ms. Aurélie BRES
Chargée de projet - Project Officer
AFD, Vientiane, Lao PDR
Background

• SWG ANR officially set up in June 2005
• First plenary meeting in February 2006 resulted in creation of 3 sSWGs (irrigation, agribusiness, forestry)
• The 4th sSWG-ANR/Uplands established in May 2007
• The 5th sSWG-ANR/WRE met for the first time in August 2010
Structure

• The SWG-ANR and each the 5 sSWG has a chair (GoL) and a co-chair (DP) as well as a technical secretariat, usually backstopped by technical assistance.
Functions

The core functions of the SWG- ANR and its affiliated five sSWGs are:

– Providing a forum for dialogue and coordination between the GoL, its DPs and other stakeholders on ANR sector development matters and cross-cutting issues such as gender mainstreaming;

– Promoting the development of the ANR sector;

– Ensuring aid effectiveness by implementing the Vientiane Declaration in the ANR sector, in particular by:

  ➢ Bringing the stakeholders together to help formulate sector strategies and development plans in line with GoL policies;

  ➢ Working with the DPs to harmonize and simplify their procedures and to promote program-based, or sector-wide, approaches.
Key achievements to date

1. **An active and open forum for dialogue**

(2 high level meetings per year on average, 50-80 participants).

These meetings have allowed presentations and discussion on major documents:

- MAF 2020 Agriculture Strategy, the master plan and investment plan (2011 – 2015),
- Reports on achievements of plans 2006-2010 and future plans 2011-2015 of WREA, MEM, NLBRDPE, NLMA,
- Agriculture census preparatory phases (2009)
- Agriculture sector issue paper (WB 2007),
- ADB ANR sector review (2007/08),
- Farmer organizations strategy,
- Activity reports from the sSWGs.
Key achievements to date

2. A review of MAF PIUs provided practical recommendations for integrating further PIU functions.

3. Elaboration of a 5-year road map for strengthening a comprehensive MAF M&E system, led by the MAF DOP/Division of Planning.

4. Established a website ([www.anrswg.org](http://www.anrswg.org)).

5. Preparing annual RTIM meetings (reporting on VD-CAP implementation)

6. Supporting the operation of 5 sSWGs
Challenges

(From review of SWG mechanism by UNDP)

1. Poor communication between the 5 sSWGs and between the 5 sSWGs and the SWG.
2. Only one co-chair at the level of the SWG ANR.
3. Need to strengthen the SWG Secretariat in line with its responsibilities
4. Weak links between FDI, domestic resources and ODA
5. No forum for mining and hydropower
Key achievements by sSWGs
Key achievements : sub SWG Forestry

• Coordination for REDD Preparedness; REDD + preparation;
• Forest Investment Program (WB, ADB, IFC);
• Consolidating on-going support to the forestry sector;
• Increased donor coordination in support of UNCBD government focal point; strategy development, attendance of Cop meetings (SDC/TAB/IUCN/FAO/UNDP);
• Reporting to the convention (UNEP) and enforcement of the national legislation related to the 3 Rio conventions including UNCBD(UNDP);
• Consolidated DP support to the revision process of the Forestry Law.
Plans for 2011-12: Sub SWG Forestry

- Acceleration of restoration of forests and tree planting, in line with the Forestry Strategy 2020 (FS2020).
- Promotion of Community-based forest management
- Involvement into FLEGIT process
Key achievements: Sub SWG Irrigation

- Conducted a comprehensive “Irrigation Diagnostic Study” (1 full year process, 12 provinces covered) allowing members to discuss and finally share a common understanding of irrigation in Lao PDR (2007);
- Reviewed the Irrigation Management Transfer (IMT) process, key recent aspect of the Lao irrigation policy (2007), leading to a proposal for adjusting the IMT legal framework;
- Held national workshop on Irrigation Strategy Resolution, chaired by the MAF Minister (Nov. 2008);
- Developed a Lao national strategy on Irrigated Agriculture and an associated 5 year action and investment plan.
Plans for 2011-12: Sub SWG Irrigation

• Target of 171,000 ha for irrigated agriculture.
• Refine long term sub-sector strategy for irrigated agriculture:
  – Improve DoI data base, and monitoring and evaluation system on irrigation infrastructure and irrigated agriculture
  – Review Irrigation Management Issues
  – Develop model for Irrigation public management
  – Formalization of the Irrigation Sub-sector strategy paper
  – Proposal on Improvement of IMT legal framework
• Completion of 3 feasibility studies For irrigated agriculture projects
• Development of new irrigation infrastructure
Key achievements: Sub SWG Agri-business (1)

• Information sharing
  – LaoFAB is institutionalized and operated under CLICK (Coalition for Lao Information, Communication and Knowledge). Has more than 2550 members; more than 12,500 messages posted.
  – LaoLINK has more than 1350 members; more than 7500 messages posted.
  – The LaoFAB repository, launched in September 2008, now holds more than 1300 documents; Lao44 hosts more than 1900 documents including more than 340 videos.

• NAFES strategy
  – Meeting with sSWGAB members was organized to get inputs on developing NAFES strategy.
  – Brief study on Private Public Partnership on agriculture extension service delivery was done to feed into the NAFES strategy.
  – NAFES strategy emphasizes on all previous capitalization studies conducted by the sSWG and discussion in LaoFAB.
Key achievements: Sub SWG Agri-business (2)

- **Study on Farmer Organizations**
  - Study on typology of farmers’ organizations operation in the country was conducted

- **Support to Lao representation** in board meeting of ASEAN Centre for Development of Agricultural Cooperatives (ACEDAC), ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agriculture Cooperatives and ASEAN-Japan Farmers week.

- **Study on contract farming** with the aim of identifying factors that make contract farming successful was conducted and developing a guideline on facilitating contract farming.

- **Capacity Building for Agribusiness Advisory Service (ABAS)**
  - Agri Business Task Force (ABTF) with NAFES has compiled potential list of participants for ABAS team members from all the provinces.
Plans for 2011-12: Sub SWG Agri-business

- Support development of Farmer Organizations (FOs)
- Capitalisation on position of non-state agencies on delivery of agriculture extension services
- Capacity Building for Agribusiness Advisory Service (ABAS)
- Study of indebtedness of farming households
- Inclusive sSWGAB
- Information sharing - providing decision-makers with better access to information and analysis and stimulating critical discussions
Key achievements: Sub SWG Uplands

- Major achievement is the **Northern Uplands Development Program** (NUDP):
  - Multi-sector programme-based approach (PBA) for agriculture and rural development translating the Paris Declaration and Vientiane Declaration into practical action;
  - Inter-ministerial program mobilizing MAF, MPI, MOF, MoH, NLMA and NLBRDPE;
  - EC, SDC and AFD have agreed to pool their contributions, while BMZ is providing technical cooperation through GIZ.

- **Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Productivity Enhancement** (SNRMPE) also multi-sector and multi-DP.
- TA providing support to the secretariats of sSWG Uplands and SWG ANR.
Plans for 2011-12: Sub SWG Uplands

- Enhanced **coordination** mechanism amongst programmes, **harmonization** of DPs funded initiatives & **capacity** at GoL level to manage sSWG Uplands.
- Review of the ToR of the sSWG Uplands (including working on a list of priority issues to be tackled)
- Improving the M&E system for the group itself.
SWG ANR Priority actions for 2011/2012

• Take forward implementation of VD CAP

• Clarifying the structure for Natural Resources, Water and Environment groups.

• Review of the ToR
The way forward : 2012-onwards

- **M&E**: SWG ANR will provide a forum for discussion of, and participation in, roll out of plans for M&E strategy for MAF.
- **PIUs**: Efforts will continue to integrate PIUs into MAF and to standardize procedures for ODA management.
- **Decentralised co-ordination**: ANR-SWG will expand the GOL/DP co-ordination mechanism into the provinces. Pilot test in 3 Provinces under the NUDP.
- **Identify opportunities for more PBAs/SWAs**.
THANK YOU