



Experiences of Bamboo and NTFPs Development Association (BNDA)

ALiSEA Policy Dialogue Working Group Workshop

18th November 2021

French Institute, Vientiane Capital

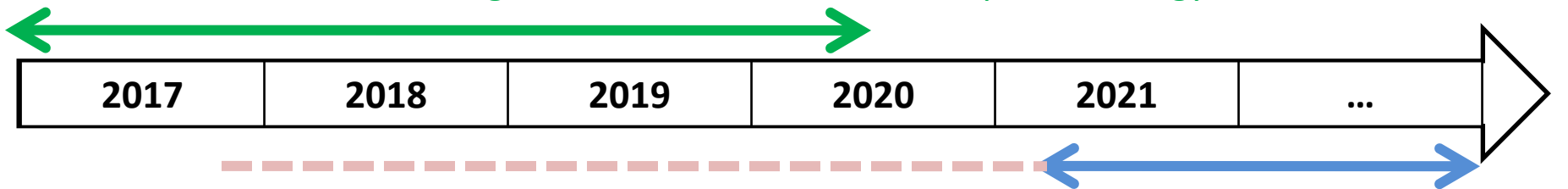
Prepare by: Bounyasith Saengmany (BNDA Representation)

- I. Who and how local/provincial/national government officials were involved and enable the development and implantation of the initiative?
- II. Proven effects on agroecology transitions and food systems
- III. Potential constraints/difficulties
- IV. What are the required conditions before implementation
- V. Take-home messages/recommendations in a dream situation to spread this experience at the whole country level.

I. Who and how local/provincial/national government officials were involved and enable the development and implantation of the initiative?

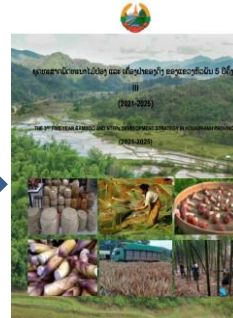
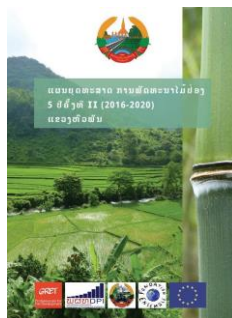
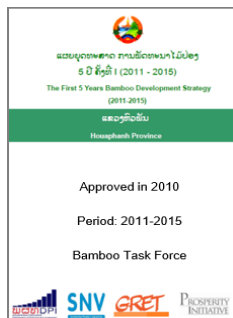
- More then 10 years of developing farmers-based bamboo value chains in Lao PDR, BNDA was established officially in 2020 with participate to the implementation of bamboo value chains and policies development at provincial level.
- BNDA establishment was related to the provincial policy on bamboo and NTFPs development (2nd & 3rd provincial bamboo and NTFPs strategy, 2016-20 & 2021-25).
- The policy action is upscaled up from provincial to the national level which included the **Sustainable bamboo resource management (forests & plantations), Bamboo Business Development, and Enabling environment (Policy & Organization).**

Creation of BNDA/ farmers organization / 2nd Bamboo Houaphan strategy



National Bamboo and Rattan Platform

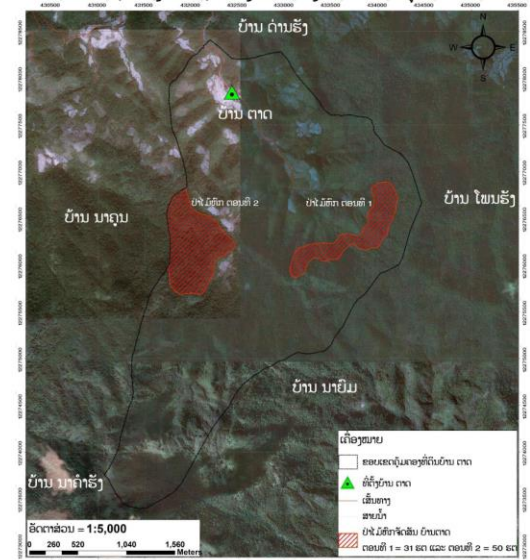
Bamboo & Rattan National strategy



II. Proven effects on agroecology transitions and food systems

❖ Sustainable bamboo resource management (forests & plantations) :

- There is the actions on natural resource management leading by BNDA with participation of local government official at provincial and district level;
- Several training for capacity building and strengthening to the communities and development partners. e.g: forest management methodology, forest monitoring, plantation and nursery...etc.
- Many activities are active and moving forward under the pressure of COVID 19 restriction.



II. Proven effects on agroecology transitions and food systems

❖ Bamboo Business Development :

- There is the actions on the business development by using the natural resource which is managed by the communities in sustainable system.
- Several training for capacity building and strengthening to the communities and development partners is active and moving forward. E.g: Producer group development, Product quality and market access training...etc.

All this scope of work is supporting the implementation of provincial strategy on bamboo & NTFPs development AND supporting rural communities for their complementary income generation which leading to livelihood improvement (Food system).



III. Potential constraints/difficulties

1. The existing organization structure there is no guarantee for sustainable in long term, because most of the organizations are require a proper staff (human resource) and financial resource While government official have no commitment for contribution;
2. The Existing organization need to have a strong capacity for managing his own organization and fund raising, mainly focus on the donors either small grants or projects open call for proposal which is not easy for a young organization with high competition in the country;
3. Keeping a good team work we are getting the economic pressure to supplement the livelihood improvement of the team members.
4. Un expected constraints as COVID 19 is spreading over the country and also in place at provincial level, all the organizations is trying to find out a proper system for working system under COVID 19 situation.

IV. What are the required conditions before implementation

1. The case of bamboo & NTPFs policy development is required highly external support for expertise and financial;
2. Set up a coordinators with a closely and strong coordination in order to have workshop /meeting to monitor the process, modify the methodology and adapted. All of this need to be recognized by the taskforce;
3. Need a strong facilitation of expert with participation of relevant government official authorities;
4. Documenting the commitment or decision made in each meeting that has been organized for further action of the implementation;
5. Bottom up approach at grass root level is important with multi-stakeholder involvement.

*** All of this will be common based approach for policy dialogue.**

V. Take-home messages/recommendations in a dream situation to spread this experience at the whole country level

- What is the policy support to the farmer groups in remote communities While Situation of COVID-19 and lockdown it seems getting worse;
- Livelihood improvement with sustainable complementary income generation at communities level is linking to the sustainable food system. The quality improvement for bamboo & NTFPs products are important for the communities which potentially expand to other provinces in the country to feed in the national action plan of bamboo and rattan;
- Local NPA/CSO is part of the implementer for development which already existed in place, BNDA is one of those it requires for collaboration and proper support to feed in the provincial and national level on development sectors;
- Accessing to the grants is not an easy for a new NPA like BNDA while other organizations in the country also express their need to support in different places (High competition);



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