















TOWARDS A REGIONAL INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP E-LEARNING RESOURCES IN AGROECOLOGY

Lao Agro-Biodiversity Online Knowledge Sharing Platform







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Outline

- Lao ABD and Lao culture/cuisine
- Lao ABD information and knowledge status
- Why ABD KS platform and target
- What is ABD KS content and Mission
- The procedure and next step

Lao ABD: an essential part of development and Lao culture/cuisine









Wealth of knowledge in Laos but scattered

- Projects, universities, NAFRI have been documenting local Agrobiodiversity both from forest and farmer fields
- Little collection and management of information
- Projects often "re-inventing the wheel" and duplicating efforts
- There is also a lot of implicit local knowledge that can be shared in different ways









Value of ABD KS Platform

- Provide a one-stop shop for information on ABD to range of stakeholders
- Ensure that we do not duplicate efforts
- Repackage already existing information in formats that can be used by different actors
- Ensure local knowledge on ABD is documented and not lost
- Link Lao information to global datasets and knowledge
- Tap into and promote increasing interest in Lao food and products
- Support MAF ICT strategy to centralize related online information into one place as the single point of access for Lao agricultural information



Lao ABD KS Mission



• The mission of the platform is to highlight the importance of Agrobiodiversity for sustainable development in LAO PDR. It will be the only on-line platform providing accurate, comprehensive and detailed information on agrobiodiversity in Laos. It will do this by providing a virtual and physical space to celebrate Lao's rich natural heritage and making connections amongst those interested in ABD policy-makers, researchers/academics, farmers, entrepreneurs, students and development professionals.

Potential objectives

- Help users better understand what is Agrobiodiversity and its value to sustainable development both locally and nationally
- Provide a knowledge base on the richness of Agrobiodiversity in Lao PDR
- Provide a space to share and exchange knowledge amongst different users
- Act as a market space to attract entrepreneurs and customers and link them to farmers and local communities producing ABD products
- Provide decision-makers with appropriate information to plan and support ABD development
- Link Lao to global discussions and processes on ABD (i.e. CBD, IPBES, etc.)



Target Groups and users

Who	What they would want
Academic / Researcher / Students	Access to information on different products for research and studies
Development Practitioners	Information on production, processing and marketing
Children/Young Students	Understand the importance of Lao ABD for Lao culture and heritage
Planners/Provincial/District Experts	Potential products that can be developed in their area
Private Sector / Traders/ Import/Export / Supply Chain	Information on types of products available in Laos and where

ABD KS Platform working areas

Evidence and knowledge base

- Product profiles
- Repository of documents
- ABD Wiki
- Thematic collation



Crowd source – capturing implicit knowledge



Face-to-Face and awareness building activities

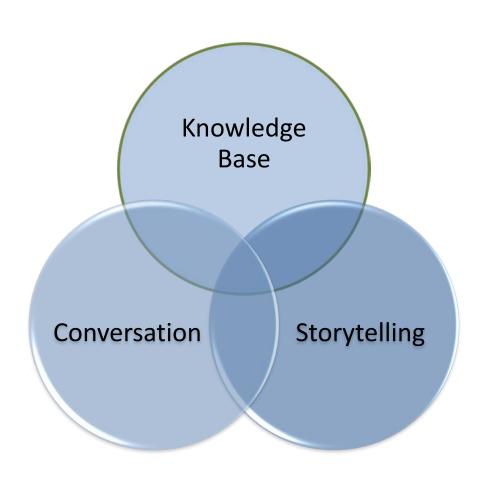
- Collection of local knowledge
- Sharing on best practice/solving problems

- Outreach to schools
- Media
- Competitions

Types of content

- ABD Species profiles: including information on economically important varieties, uses, propagation techniques, location/distribution, marketing price, processing, etc.
- Reports and publications: Repository of important ABD documents and reports
- Educational materials and learning processes: ABD curricula and guides have been developed which will be important to highlight
- Maps and spatial data: TABI has spatially mapped much of the ABD and shifting cultivation and this can be used to show users ABD in a more visually stimulating way
- Expertise/people: Ability to match-make and link people together
- Reporting/linkages to global processes: provide a one-stop shop

3 Pillars of information content



Knowledge Base



Core Components



Core ABD species and product profiles



Experts and practices

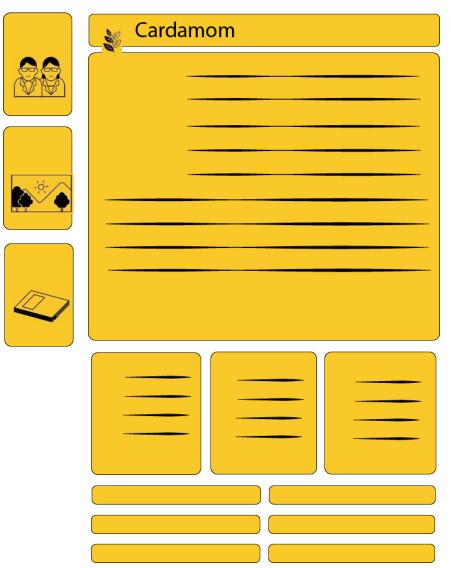


Landscapes and systems



Policy information

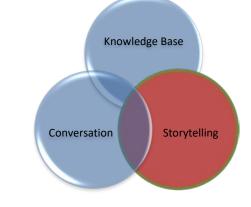
Knowledge Base







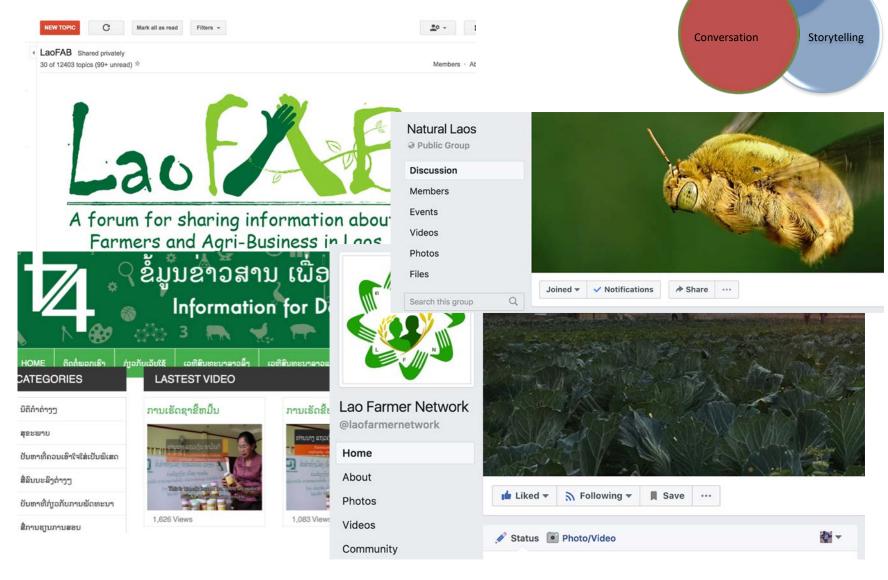
Storytelling Platform







The Conversation

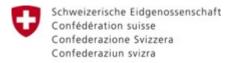


Knowledge Base

ABD platform Development



Initiative working with multiple partners and government agencies – cross sector – multi-disciplinary



Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC























Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Ministry of Education Ministry of Health Institute of Traditional Medicine

Action plan for ABD portal

Start up phase (Oct)

- Develop prototype and wire frames to test process
- Steering committee meeting to identify priority products and assign teams

Design phase (Nov – Jan)

- Writeshop #1: develop initial portal design, content and stories for each product and action plans
- System Build
- Develop stories for the story platform and input core profiles from NTFP handbook

Content upload and testing (Feb – April)

- Upload and confirm content
- Testing
- Launch

Thank you for your attention

