



# Sub Sector Working Group on Agroecology (SSWG-AE)

Friday, 25 October 2024

Venue: Crown Plaza, Vientiane

Lao Farmer Association

# LICA

LAO FACILITATED INITIATIVE ON  
AGROECOLOGY FOR ASEAN



Policy  
Guidelines on  
**Agroecology  
Transitions**



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## 2. Working with farmers

### Explanation

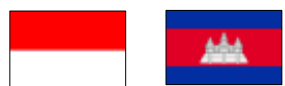
- In any agroecology transition, farmers are innovators, knowledge holders and change agents, and hence, risk takers.
- This section provides guidance on empowering farmers (and their organizations) and creating the conditions under which they can embark on agroecology transitions and be the central actors as stewards and managers of agroecosystems.

### Policy Guidelines

- 2.1 Strengthen farmers', women's and youth organizations and their active engagement in agroecology policy processes
- 2.2 Create enabling conditions to support farmers in transition
- 2.3 Adopt a rights-based approach to establish a safe legal and institutional environment that supports farmers in transitioning
- 2.4 Harness the potential of digital technologies and data/ knowledge management systems to support farmers in agroecology transition



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# Integration of ASEAN guidelines into the next Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)

Q1: What are the main challenges to implementing these guidelines in Laos?

1. AE transitioning require landscape approach that need strong farmer organizations (at community level and between communities). However, too many farmer organizations in the same village doesn't work. Eg. FO for agribusiness, FO on water management, FO on organic agriculture, etc. Perhaps, it is a time to revise vision



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# Integration of ASEAN guidelines into the next Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)

Q1: What are the main challenges to implementing these guidelines in Laos?

2. AE transitioning requires markets, money and knowledge. We don't have strategic AE products; once the product identify, farmers can be organized.



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# Integration of ASEAN guidelines into the next Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)

Q2: Based on the Lao situation, which guidelines should be prioritized in the new ADS?

2.2 Create enabling conditions to support farmers in transition such as AE strategic products with market access; accessible fund for transition; and accessible/affordable technology for transition.



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# Integration of ASEAN guidelines into the next Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)

Q3: What measures should be included in the ADS to improve implementation of the priority guidelines?

- Revisit a guideline on farmer group organizations (focus on 1 FO 1 village)
- Identify key AE products and market linkages/access
- Ensure education, research, extension fit to the strategic AE products.