|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2017** | **Annual report**  **Lao PDR Forest Investment Plan** |
|  | |
| **FOREST INVESTMENT PROGRAM**  **Monitoring and Reporting**  31 July 2018 | |

This report was produced as a collaborative effort by the three FIP projects presently under implementation in Lao PDR. The report template has been modified to allow easier collation of information under specific topics and questions. The SUFORD-SU project and PFSES project filled in their segment of the template in cooperation with knowledgeable stakeholders. The information regarding SFP was collected from their project supervision reports covering the two six-month periods in 2017. If no relevant data was available, information from last year’s report was used as relevant. After this, all the inputs were collected together to form the draft report which, in turn, was circulated for comments from larger stakeholder group. The report covers progress of the Lao FIP projects as of 31 December 2017.

**LAO FIP DETAILS:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Investment Plan Endorsement Date:** | 01/25/2012 |
| **Lead MDB** | IBRD |
| **Other MDBs** | ADB, IFC |
| **Reporting date (mm/dd/yy)** | 07/31/18 |

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Cover Photo: Collection of pictures from the SUFORD-SU project

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| ADB | Asian Development Bank |
| ANR | Assisted Natural Regeneration |
| BAFRO | Burapha Agroforestry Co. |
| BMUB | Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit (" Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety") |
| BMZ | Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung ("Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development") |
| CA | Cooperation agreement |
| CEM | Community Engagement Manual |
| CliPAD | Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation |
| DAEC | Department of Agriculture Extension and Cooperatives |
| DAFO | District Agriculture and Forestry Office |
| DG | Director general |
| DGM | Dedicated Grant Mechanism |
| DOF | Department of Forestry |
| DOFI | Department of Forest Inspection |
| DVFNM | DOF Village Forestry and NTFP Management Division |
| ENRICH | Environmental Noxiousness, Racial Inequities & Community Health Project |
| ER-PD | Emissions Reduction-Program Document |
| ER-PIN | Emissions Reduction-Project Identification Note |
| ESMF | Environmental and Social Management Framework |
| EX-ACT | Ex-Ante Carbon-Balance Tool |
| FCPF | Forest Carbon Partnership Facility |
| FGD | Focus group discussion |
| FIP | Forest Investment Program |
| FLEGT | Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade |
| FLM | Forest landscape management |
| FPIC | Free, prior and informed consent |
| F-REDD | Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ Support Project |
| FSC | Forest Stewardship Council |
| GHG | Greenhouse gas |
| GIZ | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH |
| GoL | Government of Lao PDR |
| GoT | Government of Thailand |
| ha | Hectares |
| IBRD | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development |
| ICBF | Integrated Conservation of Forests and Biodiversity project |
| IFC | International Finance Corporation |
| IMS | Information management system |
| JICA | Japan International Cooperation Agency |
| KfW | Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau ("Reconstruction Credit Institute") |
| LETAG | Law Enforcement Technical Advisers Group |
| LFNC | Lao Front for National Construction |
| LPFP | Lao Planted Forest Products Group |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluating |
| MAF | Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry |
| MDB | Multilateral Development Bank |
| MFA | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| MTP | Mekong Timber Plantations |
| NA | Not applicable |
| NAFRI | National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute |
| NGO | Non-governmental organization |
| NTFP | Non-timber forest product |
| OGPS | Outgrower partnership scheme |
| OGS | Outgrower scheme |
| OLDM | Operational Logging and Forest Degradation Monitoring |
| PAFO | Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office |
| PFA | Production forest area |
| PFSES | Protecting Forests for Sustainable Ecosystem Services Project |
| PPP | Public-private partnership |
| PS | Plantation scheme |
| PSFM | Participatory sustainable forest management |
| RECOFTC | Centre for People and Forests (formerly known as the Regional Community Training Centre) |
| REDD+ | Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries |
| REL | Reference emissions level |
| SEL | Stora Enso Laos |
| SFP | Smallholder Forestry Project |
| SPIRIT | Smart Phone Information Reporting and Intelligence Tracking |
| SUFORD-SU | Scaling-Up Participatory Sustainable Forest Management Project |
| TLUC | Temporary Land Use Certificate |
| ToR | Terms of Reference |
| UNODC | United Nations Office of Drug Control |
| UXO | Unexploded ordinance |
| WB | World Bank |
| VCS | Verified Carbon Standard |
| WCS | Wildlife Conservation Society |
| VDP | Village Development Plan |
| VFI | Village Focus International |
| VLD | Village livelihood development |
| VLDG | Village livelihood development grant |
| WWF | World Wide Fund for Nature |

Lao fip project brief

PROJECT APPROVAL DATES

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project/Program title** | **Implementing MDB** | **FIP funding approval date** | **MDB approval date** |
| Scaling-Up Participatory Sustainable Forest Management Project (SUFORD-SU) | World Bank (IBRD) | 3 Apr 2013 | 31 May 2013 |
| Smallholder Forestry Project (SFP) | IFC | 24 Jun 2013 | 2 Jul 2013 |
| Protecting Forests for Sustainable Ecosystem Services Project (PFSES) | ADB | 28 Oct 2016 | 6 Jan 2017 |

PROJECT FOCUS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project** | **Main focus** | **FIP focus** |
| SUFORD-SU | Participatory sustainable forest management (PSFM) of production forests and village livelihood development (VLD) | Production Forests; Village Forests; Alternative Livelihoods; Forest Landscapes; Forest Law Enforcement; reducing emissions |
| SFP | Agroforestry – private sector work with smallholders | Safeguards (including FPIC); certification; outgrower schemes |
| PFSES | Sustainable forest management – protection and conservation forests, village forests | Additional financing to existing Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Project by adding 20 new villages (In fact, it has only 17 villages because 2 villages merging in to one and another 2 villages have no natural forest areas - only rubber plantation) and by adding REDD+ activities |

FIP FUNDING IN PROJECTS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project** | **FIP funding arrangement** |
| SUFORD-SU | * Endorsed FIP funding: USD 12.83 million * Co-financing: USD 36.00 million * FIP funding covers 40% of the total World Bank funding and is not earmarked for any specific activity. Hence, FIP contributes to the project as a whole (40% of all results attributed to FIP). |
| SFP | * Endorsed FIP funding: USD 3.0 million * Co-financing: USD 84,000 (to date) * FIP funding covers 93% of the project funding spent to date. Consequently, almost all project results can be attributed to FIP funding. |
| PFSES | * Endorsed FIP funding: USD 12.84 million * Co-financing: USD 60,000 * FIP funding covers 99.53% of the project funding. Consequently, all project results can be attributed to FIP funding. |

KEY FIP OUTPUTS/DELIVERABLES

The key outputs and deliverables linked to FIP funding are listed and numbered under each Lao FIP project below. In addition, the starting month and year, as well as estimated project completion date, are also presented. This information is used to construct a simple timeline of the Lao FIP projects (see next page).

**SUFORD-SU (08/2013 – 08/2018)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Output/Deliverable** | **(Expected) delivery completion date** |
| 1 | Forest Management plans approved | December 2016 |
| 2 | VLD grants disbursed | December 2017 |
| 3 | Village forest management plans approved | October 2018 |
| 4 | Emission reduction/sequestration targets met | August 2019 |

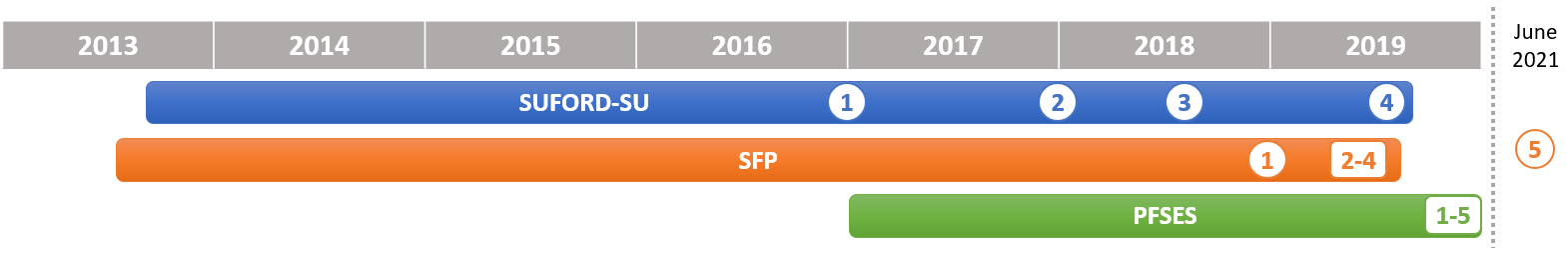
**SFP (06/2013 – 06/2019)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Output/Deliverable** | **(Expected) delivery completion date** |
| 1 | 2 forestry regulations strengthened to improve the enabling conditions for private sector plantation development, including smallholder participation | December 2018 |
| 2 | Improved performance by 2 forestry firms in forestry procedures and adherence to international certification systems | June 2019 |
| 3 | 15,000 people trained in smallholder and outgrower engagement practices to strengthen partnerships with forestry firms (as demonstrated through agreements consistent with internationally recognized best practices) | June 2019 |
| 4 | 15,000 hectares of sustainably managed land | June 2019 |
| 5 | 0.5 million metric tons of GHG emissions reduced annually (reflecting sequestering atmospheric carbon from reforestation and reducing emissions from natural forests through agroforestry) | June 2021 (two years after project end) |

**PFSES (01/2017 – 12/2019)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Output/Deliverable** | **(Expected) delivery completion date** |
| 1 | Awareness and knowledge about REDD+ systems and opportunities improved in 17 villages | December 2019 |
| 2 | Additional personnel trained in REDD+ activities | December 2019 |
| 3 | Forest effectively patrolled (additional 50,000 ha) | December 2019 |
| 4 | Natural forest land rehabilitated (additional 1,450 ha) | December 2019 |
| 5 | Additional households receive cash and technical support to improve productivity and income from livelihoods | December 2019 |

PROJECT TIMELINES AND TIMING OF KEY DELIVERABLES



DISTRIBUTION OF LAO FIP ACTIVITIES IN THE 18 PROVINCES

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project** | **Theme** | **AT** | **BK** | **BL** | **CH** | **HO** | **KM** | **LN** | **LP** | **OU** | **PH** | **SL** | **SK** | **VI** | **VC** | **XA** | **XM** | **XE** | **XI** |
| SUFORD-SU | PSFM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| VLD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest Landscape Management |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Village Forestry |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest Law Enforcement |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SFP | Engagement with private sector clients |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PFSES | Participatory Land Use Planning |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agro-forestry with livestock and crops support |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest restoration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Forest protection patrolling and monitoring of carbon baseline |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Provinces:** Attapue (AT), Bokeo (BK), Bolikhamxay (BL), Champasack (CH), Houaphanh (HO), Khammouane (KM), Luangnamtha (LN), Luangphabang (LP), Oudomxay (OU), Phongsaly (PH), Salavan (SL), Savannakhet (SK), Vientiane (VI), Vientiane Capital (VC), Xayabouly (XA), Xaysomboun (XM), Xekong (XE), Xiengkhouang (XI)

CATEGORY 1:  
COMMON THEMES

This section provides voluntary narrative reporting on

* Theme 1.1: GHG Emission Reductions or Avoidance / Enhancement of Carbon Stock, and
* Theme 1.2: Livelihood co-benefits.

As part of Theme 1.1, area covered under management plan is also reported.

Theme 1.1: GHG Emission Reductions or Avoidance / Enhancement of Carbon Stock

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **SUFORD-SU** | **SFP** | **PFSES** |
| ***GHG accounting methodology (including the start year and period for the Reference Emissions Level)?*** | * Project specific methodology developed by the SUFORD-SU technical adviser * REL for SUFORD-SU production forest areas (PFAs) developed * REL period: 2005-2015 | * Ex-Ante Carbon-balance Tool (EX-ACT), 2015 (Standard Edition) <http://www.fao.org/tc/exact/carbon-balance-tool-ex-act/en/> | * Review the status of REDD+ and VCS carbon funding experiences to date in Lao PDR * REL to be developed by a service provider. Now we are in the process of recruitment of the service provider to implement this activity |
| ***Brief description of the interventions (context and objective)?*** | Participatory Sustainable Forest Management (PSFM) of production forests, forest landscapes, and village forests, work with local communities, alternative livelihoods to reduce pressure on forests, improved forest and wildlife law enforcement (through DOFI). | (EX-ACT 2.1) Deforestation: Project will reduce deforestation as farmers will access agroforestry in plantations.  (EX-ACT 2.2) Firm’s new reforestation of old set aside land.  (EX-ACT 3.2.2) Farmer outgrower schemes (OGS) crop production change from dryland rice to timber: | * Strengthen policy, institutional and human resource capacity for REDD+ * Improve livelihoods of local communities through agro-forestry whereby organic carbon can be stored in soil while atmospheric carbon dioxide can be decreased, * Afforestation through individual planting, community planting, Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) and joint venture planting between local community and hydropower electricity dam company * Implement law enforcement through patrolling to control land use and fight against environmental crime |
| ***Key contributions (successes) of FIP regarding GHG emission reductions / avoidance / enhancement of carbon stock during this reporting year?*** | Continued effectiveness of forest law enforcement by Department of Forest Inspection (DOFI) in reducing illegal logging and encroachment. | More transparent acquisition of land for firm’s plantations and equitable partnerships with local communities, leading to more sustainable carbon stock enhancement. | * Working with local authorities and local communities to ensure land allocation in the corridors complying with land use regulation on which local authority and local community agreed through regular patrolling/monitoring and law enforcement. * Cooperate with law enforcement agencies, particularly with military camps along the national border to control illegal logging and poaching * Conduct conservation awareness campaign to increase understanding of stakeholders about value of forests and wildlife. |
| ***Key challenges and opportunities for improvement?*** | * Further capacity building required * Sustainable financing to be secured * Land use competition from agriculture | * Discrepancy between GHG calculation methods used in IP (non-standard Excel calculations) and current report (EX-ACT) * Identifying and securing engagement with private sector clients has taken longer than anticipated. Project now on track. | * No financially sustainable mechanism to support protection and conservation. However, development of Payment for Ecosystem Services and carbon credit scheme can be options for long term conservation of biodiversity in the corridors * Conversion of forested land to agricultural land and infrastructure development are the main threat to corridors. However, improvement can be made by amendment of the Forestry Law and Land Law in order to make sure forest areas can convert to other development purposes. * Strengthened capacity building of local authorities and communities is the critical issue for long term sustainability while process to facilitate forest management and law enforcement should be strengthened |
| ***Area covered under management plan?*** | 976,211 ha (1.2 million ha in 16 PFAs already covered with forest management plans during previous phases of the project) | 15,000 ha | 690,000 ha |

Theme 1.1: GHG Emission Reductions or Avoidance / Enhancement of Carbon Stock

| **Project** | **NA** | **Narrative (bullet points)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Which actions were taken by your country to bring areas under sustainable practices (sustainable forest management or sustainable land management practices) or to reduce GHG emissions/enhance carbon stocks? Please describe tree species planted, benefitting populations, ecosystems, and other relevant information. | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Enforcement of Prime Minister’s Order 15 aiming to reduce illegal timber exports and logging continued * Process to regain the lapsed forest management certificate for about 175,000 ha of production forest started * Establishment and Re-measurement of Permanent Sample Plots to monitor developments in Production Forest Areas continued * Implementation of Village Livelihood Activities in selected villages started * Approach to forest landscape management introduced in four provinces |
| SFP |  | * IFC project consultant completed a diagnostic assessment for plantation outgrower schemes (OGS), addressing how plantation firms can improve forestry practices by engaging local smallholders. * Drafted a small OGS pilot for Stora Enso Laos (SEL) * The OGS diagnostic developed a comprehensive model of OGS options and how they can be applied in plantation firms and three OGS plans were prepared for Stora Enso Lao (SEL), Burapha Agroforestry Co. (BAFCO) and Mekong Timber Plantations (MTP). * Based on the OSG diagnostic, the team worked with SEL, BAFCO and MTP to design OGS pilots totaling about 15,000 hectares and adapted to the particular wood supply and community characteristics of each firm’s operations. The species of trees that the project cooperates with three firms and its outgrowers are eucalyptus and acacia. * The CO2 sequestered through reforestation activities over the five years of the program is 755, 400 tCO2e and 548,400 tCO2 per year in the final year and thereafter through the continued growth of the tree plantations. Two years after project completion, 0.5 million metric tons of GHG emissions will be reduced annually, reflecting sequestering atmospheric carbon from reforestation and reducing emissions from natural forests through agroforestry. |
| PFSES |  | * 1,768 ha were restored as Assisted Natural Regeneration of which 1,069 ha is in Dakcheung district, Sekong Province and 699 ha in Phouvong District, Attapeu Province. In addition, 348 ha were planted on heavily degraded land with hard wood species, of which 175 ha is in Dakcheung, Sekong Province and 173 ha in Phouvong district |

Theme 1.2: Livelihood Co-Benefits

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **QUESTION** | **SUFORD-SU** | **SFP** | **PFSES** |
| ***Expected benefits (income, entrepreneurship, health etc.)*** | * Enhanced income from alternative livelihood activities and sharing of timber revenue * Employment opportunities * Improved access to NTFPs * Strengthened protection of watersheds and conservation areas inside PFAs | * Enhanced ability to engage in agroforestry food production with private sector firms * Strengthened ability to identify and conserve needed livelihood areas in plantation development zones * Enhanced opportunities for employment with plantation firms through improved communications and understanding | * Increased income through agro-forestry and trained unemployed youth in the village to startup business through vocational training. * Employment opportunities (6,200 local labors were employed for afforestation and 170 villagers were employed for patrolling) * Right to access to NTFPs * Maintained ecosystem services through watershed management and wildlife conservation which directly benefited to 10,027 people in 17 villages. |
| ***What have been key contributions (successes) of FIP regarding livelihoods co-benefits during this reporting year?*** | * Preparation of Forest Management Plans was coupled with documentation of village by-laws for sustainable NTFP collection * Village livelihood projects started in selected villages | * Completed an OGS diagnostic assessment and three OGS plans to engage local farmers for SEL, BAFCO and MTP in 2017. | * Integrated farming system through agro-forestry which focuses on improving farm productivity and livelihoods while generating carbon credits as a co-benefit. |
| ***Key challenges and opportunities for improvement*** | * Slow disbursement of VLD and forest restoration grants * Logging ban still not lifted | * The GoL has a moratorium in place on plantation development due to a record of poor environmental and social practices in the sector. The FIP project is introducing best plantation and agroforestry practices into Lao through the partner firm, which is helping GoL to review and strengthen policies on plantation establishment and performance. * The remote location requires the firm to engage with local communities first to address food security and subsistence challenges through agroforestry schemes, prior to advancing to outgrower schemes involving more independent and commercial relations with communities. | * Slow process of recruitment of service providers to implement carbon assessment, REDD training and livelihoods activities |

Theme 1.2: Livelihood Co-Benefits

| **Project** | **NA** | **Narrative (bullet points)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Number of beneficiaries | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Approximately 380,000 people have received Village Livelihood Grants |
| SFP |  | * 230 (number of people trained, participated in workshops/training events and number of farmers reached) |
| PFSES |  | * 6,200 local labors were employed for afforestation and 170 villagers were employed for patrolling |
| 1. Which actions were taken to provide livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary benefits) that beneficiaries received? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * About 53 % of Village Livelihood Development Grants have been transferred to villages. Extent of benefits can be assessed later once activities funded by the grants start yielding results. * Timber logging ban has not been lifted, so villages are not receiving a share of the timber sales revenues. * Transfer of forest restoration grants pending. |
| SFP |  | * Smallholders have improved capacity to engage in partnerships with forestry firms: * Completed 3 OGS plans for SEL, BAFCO and MTP based on the results of an OGS diagnostic assessment. * Successfully discussed with GIZ on providing a support of UXO disposal requirements for farmer-managed land near SEL operations. * Held a training on facilitating focus group discussion and outreach activity to engage with MTP’s OGS farmers at Kengsadok village, Paksan district. Trained 4 project team members, 4 MTP staff and 2 trainers from Village Focus International (VFI), a local NGO. Also reached 5 local government officers and 34 MTP’s outgrowers, including 17 women farmers. * Co-hosted international FIP Pilot Country event at Luang Prabang province. Organized 1-day field visit of teak smallholder forestry and village wood enterprises involving 50 participants visiting 7 locations. Reach over 200 forest farmers and wood producers. Organized sessions on forestry private sector engagement and smallholder farmers in teak sector. |
| PFSES |  | * Developed Village Development Plans (VDPs) through (1) bio-physical data collection, (2) socio-economic survey, (3) land use planning, (4) market study, (5) capacity development plan. VDF’s activities were selected and conservation agreements were approved by local authorities and villagers. Now we are waiting for recruitment of service provider to implement the livelihood activities. |
| 1. Who was involved? Were any partnerships established? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Approximately 380,000 people have received Village Livelihood Grants * Government staff at province and district level facilitated the transfer of grants and provided extension services |
| SFP |  | * 34 outgrower scheme farmers of MTP * Local governments in Vientiane and Luang Prabang Provinces * 15 staff from the Department of Forestry * 2 female local NGO (Village Focus International) trainers; and successfully established outgrower partnership schemes (OGPS) for phase two. * 3 Firms (SEL, MTP & BAFCO); and successfully established outgrower partnership schemes (OGPS) for 2018-2019. * Lao Planted Forest Products (LPFP) Group, an industry collective supported by the IFC project. |
| PFSES |  | * There are 17 FIP villages with a total population of 10,027 people, of which 5,107 are women and 332 are poor families. The majority of inhabitants are Mon-Khmer speaking group (Brao/Lavae, Oy, Xou and Yarae) with around more than 80%. * Government staff of all levels (central, provincial and district) * International NGOs and local civil society organizations |
| 1. Why did it make a difference? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * It is too early to assess the impact of the village livelihood grants. However, the assessment on the impact of the village livelihood grants provided in the previous phase showed that they accelerate poverty reduction |
| SFP |  | * The GoL DG found the review IFC conducted at the first LPFP Group meeting very useful and issued two Circular Letters on plantation registration, and harvesting and wood transportation. The circulars provide important new guidance to private sector, which should help to better plan, implement and budget for wood harvesting and export. They also represent part of the effort to revise and reissue the national Forestry Law. * The MTP cooperation will focus on supporting MTP to close-out and evaluate their current OGS with 5,000 farmers across 5,000 ha of plantation. |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |
| 1. Will benefits last after the project is completed? Explain. | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * The village livelihood activities are expected to be sustainable. Survey results show that more than 90 % of village livelihood activities started in the previous phase were still under implementation after five years |
| SFP |  | * Local capacity is being built to implement sustainable forestry practices by focusing training on company extension staff, lead farmers in the communities, local NGOs and/or local educational and technical institutions. This will ensure that the knowledge is retained at the local level post project completion. The details of capacity building are below: * Technical: the project provides training on sustainable plantation management. Smallholders are trained to maintain the plantations and assisted in plant intermediate crops such as rich, corn and others to supply cash flow before trees are ready for harvest and sell. * Unit management: the project works with the firms to deliver management and financial training and market information to farmers and production units. These skills enable farmers to negotiate sales at better prices and to meet international market requirements, including environmental and social standards. |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |
| 1. How do they impact vulnerable groups? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * People of ethnic minorities are “overrepresented” among grant recipients; This is expected to accelerate the improvement of their livelihoods |
| SFP |  | * The project designs partnership schemes for firms and local communities based on two socioeconomic conditions: i) Agroforestry schemes with communities where food security remains a challenge; and ii) Outgrower schemes with communities that have adopted cash and wage economies, and can work with companies using contracts and agreements. * The project targets outreach and/or training for women. In general, the project is engaging with women through two major means: a) consultation workshops/dialogue space which to ensure that women are included in the discussions and a part of the process in ensuring proper awareness raising and engagement in the out-grower schemes and b) through development of specific trainings on rights and obligations for participation in the schemes so benefit sharing is not gender biased. |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |

CATEGORY 2:  
OTHER RELEVANT CO-BENEFIT THEMES

This section provides narrative reports to relevant questions under four separate themes:

* Theme 2.1: Biodiversity and other environmental services,
* Theme 2.2: Governance,
* Theme 2.3: Tenure, rights and access, and
* Theme 2.4: Capacity development.

Data from relevant indicators is used to boost the narrative where appropriate.

Theme 2.1: Biodiversity and other environmental services

| **Project** | **NA** | **Narrative (bullet points)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Which activities have been conducted in the reporting period to reduce the loss of habitats and other environmental services? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Forest law enforcement continued; prevention of illegal logging and encroachment were among key tasks. * In support of forest law enforcement, logging analyses in target provinces, as well as an assessment of the most suitable method for logging detection in the future, was concluded and presented to the decision-makers. * SUFORD-SU collaborated with the Joint Research Centre of European Commission to develop and pilot a methodology for identifying locations of forest degradation (incl. logging) * Process to regain the lapsed forest management certificate was initiated |
| SFP |  | * Engaging 3 environmentally responsible firms (SEL, BAFCO and MTP), which should enable the project to achieve the objectives of reaching forest farmers and support sustainable land management. * Workplans and Cooperation Agreements between IFC and firms requires the application of social safeguards to key operations procedures, development of appropriate communication tools and strategies to bring smallholders into certified supply chains. |
| PFSES |  | * Forest management plan cover 690,000 ha. The main activities of forest management plan include (1) village land use planning and land use certificate, (2) development of village regulation, (3) patrolling and law enforcement to fight against environmental crime, (4) forest fire prevention and (5) increasing conservation awareness and (6) livelihoods improvement * To date, 17 villages have completed land use planning by zonings for protection forests, conservation forests and agricultural land * 17 village patrolling teams have been organized and operated 1,768 ha were restored as Assisted Natural Regeneration of which 1,069 ha is in Dakcheung district, Sekong Province and 699 ha in Phouvong District, Attapeu Province. In addition, 348 ha were planted on heavily degraded land with hard wood species, of which 175 ha is in Dakcheung, Sekong Province and 173 ha in Phouvong district |
| 1. What have been key contributions (successes) of FIP interventions regarding biodiversity and environmental services in your country context during this reporting year? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Reduction of illegal logging * Agreement on institutional responsibilities regarding implementation of Forest Landscape Management |
| SFP |  | * Two Circular Letters on plantation registration, and harvesting and wood transportation, issued by the GoL Director General of the Department of Forestry, motivated by the DG’s satisfaction in IFC’s review matrix of draft Decree 96 on Plantation Establishment and Management. The circulars provide important new guidance to private sector, which should help to better plan, implement and budget for wood harvesting and export. They also represent part of the effort to revise and reissue the national Forestry Law. * 1 forestry firm (MTP) is requesting a FSC certification audit * 1 forestry firm (BAFCO) is building wood pellet factory which could supply pellet for stove. The SFP links BAFCO to the World Bank’s East Asia and Pacific Clean Stove Initiative which aims to scale up access to clean cooking and heating stoves for poor, primarily rural households, who are likely to continue using solid fuels beyond 2030. * Majority of outgrowers of 2 firms has small plot of plantation scattered in the village. Planting trees and managing plantations are based on traditional knowledge of rain-fed agricultural and forestry practice. Therefore, planted trees often naturally grow with other natural plants. This is considered as a low risk to biodiversity and environmental services. |
| PFSES |  | * Regular monitoring land use and strict law enforcement |
| 1. What have been your key challenges and what are opportunities for improvement? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Key challenge is the degraded state of many forests * Over the long-term, the quality of such forests may be improved through improved management, forest restoration, and improved protection and forest and wildlife law enforcement. |
| SFP |  | * Key challenge is to compile credible evidence to show that agroforestry, community engagement and livelihood development in plantations can reduce deforestation and forest degradation pressures on adjacent conservation areas. |
| PFSES |  | * Conversion of forest land to agricultural land (coffee, cassava and other development (mining and hydropower development). Improvement can be made by amendment of the Forest law and the Land Law |
| 1. Other criteria: | | |
| SUFORD-SU | x |  |
| SFP | x |  |
| PFSES | x |  |

Theme 2.2: Governance

| **Project** | **NA** | **Narrative (bullet points)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. How has FIP contributed to ensuring that stakeholder processes allow the participation of marginalized or vulnerable groups, such as women and indigenous or traditional groups, in forest-related decision-making processes? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * The Community Engagement Manual (CEM) has been completed and is used by the project field teams in village level consultations. It has also been integrated in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) of the FCPF project implemented by the Department of Forestry in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. * An assessment conducted by an external expert team showed that the implementation of social safeguards is adequate, even though the approach is not consistent through all villages. The assessment confirmed that the women and vulnerable groups had been adequately consulted during SUFORD-SU implementation |
| SFP |  | * In the reporting year, the project involved and engaged with marginalized or vulnerable group through focus group discussion (FGD) under MTP’s re-engagement with growers. Women were encouraged to participate in the FGD meeting. FGD was divided into male and female groups to increase women’s contribution in the consultation process. Their voices were heard by the firm and up taken into the report’s recommendation for a development of new OGS prepared by project. Both men and women are receiving same information on MTP through developed communication materials. |
| PFSES |  | * Project developed gender actions by output to ensure men and women (including ethnic group) have equal right to participate in the process planning, making decision and implementation of project activities |
| 1. How has FIP contributed to the quality, timeliness, comprehensiveness, and accessibility of forest-related information available to stakeholders, including public notice and dialogue on pending actions? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Agrochemical Awareness (Pesticide Risk Reduction) Campaigns were implemented in cooperation with the FAO for staff from 4 provinces with highest risk of environmentally harmful use of pesticides. Government staff that were trained followed up with awareness raising events at village level * The analyses on logging in selected provinces were made available to decision-makers in DOF and MAF * News stories in English and Lao were added to the project website. The project supported the annual DOF Tree Planting Day event June 2017. SUFORD accessories were distributed to project staff and main stakeholders, and they were well received and generated considerable exposure in social media. |
| SFP |  | * SFP team sponsored the first meeting of the newly formed Lao Planted Forest Products (LPFP) Group. The meeting engaged all industrial plantation firms operating in Laos. A key activity led by project was to collect, assess and submit a review matrix of draft Decree 96 on Plantation Establishment and Management. On behalf of the Group, the project presented the analysis to the GoL Director General of the Department of Forestry. The GoL DG found the review useful and subsequently publicly issued two circular letters on plantation registration, and harvesting and wood transportation. The circulars provide important new guidance to private sector, which should help to better plan, implement and budget for wood harvesting and export. They also represent part of the effort to revise and reissue the national forestry law. |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |
| 1. What have been key contributions (successes) of FIP regarding forest governance in your country context during this reporting year? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Continued effectiveness of forest law enforcement |
| SFP |  | * 6 Forestry firms received information on draft Decree 96 in English language and two circular letters. Their comments on draft Decree 96 were compiled and shared with the Department of Forestry. |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |
| 1. What have been your key challenges and what are opportunities for improvement? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * The big challenge remains to be the transformation of Lao PDR into a “rule of law” – or “culture of compliance” - society. Opportunities exist through continued stakeholder participation, information, training, improving transparency, and law enforcement. |
| SFP |  | Challenges related to the expansion of operations of SEL, BAFCO & MTP:   * A weak enabling environment where regulations are based on much higher value natural timber * Difficulty to access sufficient land, which requires careful engagement with local communities. |
| PFSES |  | * Weak law enforcement due to a lack of (1) transparency, (2) participation of stakeholders. Improvement can be made by improvement of forest governance |
| 1. Other criteria: | | |
| SUFORD-SU | x |  |
| SFP | x |  |
| PFSES | x |  |

Theme 2.3: Tenure, rights and access

| **Project** | **NA** | **Narrative (bullet points)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Which actions have been taken to improve the legal frameworks to protect forest-related property rights and access for all forest stakeholders, including women and indigenous peoples? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * SUFORD-SU contributed to draft DOF village forestry policy covering village forest use rights, acknowledgement and revocation of the right to use village forest and forest products, village forest and forest products use, village forest management, and benefit sharing. * Desk inventory of resettlements impacting on PFAs was conducted in October 2017 to be followed by a field assessment in resettled communities targeted by the SUFORD-SU project. |
| SFP | x |  |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |
| 1. What have been key contributions (successes) of FIP regarding forest tenure, rights, and access in your country context during this reporting year? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Contributions to DOF village forest policy * Potential village forest areas have been mapped in the pilot sites for improved tenure. |
| SFP |  | * Completed draft Cooperation Agreement (CA) for a new engagement with BAFCO in phase two. One of the key components in the CA is a pilot alternative models for smallholder engagement, designing to offer benefit for both smallholders who can regularize their customary land holdings and the company, which is able to expand its resource of planted trees. BAFCO will provide assistance to regularize customary land tenure and for households to gain Temporary Land Use Certificates (TLUC) for family lands. A nominal 100 ha of these lands would be selected by BAFCO, which will then enter into a long-term lease for the farmer’s land (notionally 30 years). The farmer will forego the opportunity to share the final harvest sales in lieu of a land lease fee payment. BAFCO will manage the process, apply safeguards for farmers, and provide all plantation inputs including future land taxes, site preparation, seedlings, fertilizer, weeding and maintenance and harvesting and transport to the mill. In addition to a guaranteed lease payment, the farmer will have opportunities for right of first refusal for paid labor. |
| PFSES |  | * Participatory land use planning identified conservation forests, protection forests and village used forests including forest land tenure and customary right of local people and ethnic groups. |
| 1. What have been your key challenges and what opportunities for improvement do you see? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * A major challenge is that work on tenure, rights, and access is a lengthy process, and linked with larger issues, i.e., revision of the land policy and land law, which has already been ongoing for several years. Piloting of new approaches provides a way forward. |
| SFP |  | * The firms are challenged to expand their plantation wood supply to commercial production levels, due to the: i) weak enabling environment where regulations are based on much higher value natural timber, and ii) difficulty to access sufficient land, which requires careful engagement with local communities. |
| PFSES |  | * Forest tenure, right and access are not clear. Improvement can be made by amendment of the forest Law. |
| 1. Other criteria: | | |
| SUFORD-SU | x |  |
| SFP | x |  |
| PFSES | x |  |

Theme 2.4: Capacity development

| **Project** | **NA** | **Narrative (bullet points)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Which actions enhanced institutional capabilities to develop and implement forest and forest-relevant policies at the national, regional, and local Level? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * DOFI contributed to the development of the new Penal Code which was approved in November 2017. The development of Wildlife Compendium was progressing, and updated ToR for DOFI were approved in June 2017. * Technical and institutional support to Farmer Groups or Cooperatives was provided by Department of Agriculture Extension and Cooperatives (DAEC) on legislation supporting the establishment of Farmer Groups and Agriculture Cooperatives. Eleven Farmer Groups were supported and are now registered officially. * DOF capacity for information management was enhanced by establishing functioning DOF Document Management System, a functioning DOF Backup system that takes scheduled backups from the server data, and a service report of computers * Regarding forest law enforcement Information Management System (IMS) functions will continue to be developed and enhanced through the Smart Phone Information Reporting and Intelligence Tracking (SPIRIT) system. Other elements of the Information Management System that were strengthened include intelligence analysis, social media monitoring, and the Google Drive document management systems. |
| SFP |  | * Sponsoring the first meeting of the newly formed Lao Planted Forest Product (LPFP) Group. The meeting engaged all industrial plantation firms operating in Laos. * IFC co-hosted the FIP Pilot Country Meeting at Luang Prabang and lead two activities. Approximately 15 staff of the GoL Department of Forestry attended the event and participated in two of the IFC-organized sessions on forestry private sector engagement and smallholder farmer in teak sector. The project organized a highly successful one-day field tour of smallholder forestry involving 50 participants visiting 7 locations, and reaching over 200 forest farmers and wood producers. * The project worked in early 2017 with the Forestry Department to update a 2007 regulation on plantation management. The draft update was discussed with the Department of Forestry with the intention of distinguishing the differences between natural and plantation forestry, the later operating at much-reduced commercial margins. * The 2 firms and one local NGO increased its human resource on participatory methods for community consultation |
| PFSES |  | * Too early to answer |
| 1. Through which actions did FIP improve capacities of stakeholders in forest and land use planning and management? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * The development of approach to Forest Landscape Management (FLM) planning was piloted and completed. FLM areas in 4 provinces were identified and mapped. The provincial REDD+ Task Forces were identified as the body to be in charge of coordinating FLM implementation in the 4 pilot provinces. The proposed FLM area and the basic approach to FLM implementation were introduced to provincial REDD+ Task Forces in November 2017. * Collaborative work with DOF DVFNM and the Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation (CliPAD) Project continued with inputs to a desk review of existing guidelines on village forest management planning, and draft revised village forest management planning steps. * A functioning Forest Information Management System with data for each PFA was established. |
| SFP |  | * Successfully discussed with GIZ on providing a support of UXO disposal requirements for farmer-managed land near SEL operations. * Held a training on facilitating focus group discussion and outreach activity. |
| PFSES |  | * Afforestation, forest protection through patrolling and law enforcement, livelihood activities, gender action plan, social and environmental safeguard, monitoring, conservation education and financial management can increase capacity of stakeholders to manage their forest resource |
| 1. What have been key contributions (successes) of FIP regarding capacity development in your country context during this reporting year? | | |  |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * Capacity building of government staff and villagers regarding participatory sustainable forest management, extension approaches, knowledge of issues such as free, prior, and informed consent, gender and ethnic issues. DOFI staff have benefited from training on law enforcement issues, English language, and other skills. More than 9000 villagers were informed on legal issues related to forestry. * The SUFORD-SU project supported the National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI) staff in cooperation with DOF and selected PAFO and DAFO staff to work with experienced farmers and staff on improving the Cardamom Value Chain. They produced a handbook, flyers and poster as basis for training villagers in the SUFORD-SU target villages. The first training for DAFO staff was carried out in July / August 2017 and staff subsequently trained villagers. |
| SFP |  | * 1 local NGO, 1 government’s extension institution and 1 firm increased their facilitation knowledge and skills on focus group discussion for smallholders growing Eucalyptus. |
| PFSES |  | * Conducting training on Operational Logging and Forest Degradation Monitoring (OLDM) by using Planet Scope 3 m |
| 1. What have been your key challenges and what are opportunities for improvement? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | * The biggest challenge is the scale of the SUFORD-SU program. But this challenge is being addressed through the training-of-trainers approach, and a progressive, step-by-step training program. |
| SFP |  | * Too early to answer |
| PFSES |  | * Local staff members don’t have full capacity to implement project activities. Improvement can be made through training, study tour, seminar, workshop and meeting. |
| 1. Other criteria: | | |
| SUFORD-SU | x |  |
| SFP | x |  |
| PFSES | x |  |

CATEGORY 3:  
Additional national-level impacts

This section provides information on five narrative themes:

* Theme 3.1: Theory of change and assumptions,
* Theme 3.2: Contribution to national REDD+ and other national development and uptake of FIP approaches,
* Theme 3.3: Support received from other partners including the private sector,
* Theme 3.4: Link of Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM) to Investments from Government’s Point of View, and
* Theme 3.5: Highlights/Showcases of Particularly Outstanding Achievement(s) to Share

THEME 3.1: Theory of change and assumptions

| **Project** | **Narrative** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Please briefly describe how FIP contributed to transformational changes in addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in your country as presented in the endorsed FIP investment plan. What is the value added of FIP? | | |
| SUFORD-SU | * To be reported next year | |
| SFP | To contribute to transformational changes in addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, SFP aims to assist forest companies build efficient plantation schemes (PS) with local communities. SFP has three complimentary components, consisting of company engagement procedures, capacity building of local communities and enabling environment for Forestry Partnerships. Three companies that met with IFC’s engagement criteria were identified as partners to develop Outgrower Scheme (OGS) as a means to increase area of sustainably managed forestry plantation to 15,000 hectares and reach 15,000 forestry farmers who are directly managed forest resources. Increased efficiency in these areas will contribute to net 755,400 tCO2e reduction in emission from reforestation activities over the five years of the program and 548,400 tCO2 per year in the final year. 0.5 million metric tons of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions will be reduced annually by two years after project end. Sustainability will be ensured by the company and farmer groups working together on the continued growth of the tree plantations which a viable PS model is contributing to. | |
| PFSES | * The drivers of deforestation and forest degradation can be reduced through (1) land use planning for long term sustainable use of the resource, (2) forest restoration, (3) protection by strict law enforcement base on land regulation and (4) improve livelihoods of local people. These strategic activities could lead to achieve the project results. | |
| 1. Please assess how well the theory of change and underlying assumptions described in the endorsed investment plan are playing out in practice, what can be learned, and whether corrective measures need to be taken. | | |
| SUFORD-SU | * To be reported next year | |
| SFP |  | |
| PFSES | * Activities leading to achieve the project’s result can be made in the assumption that law, policies and institution should facilitate the management and protection of forests including strict law enforcement through participation of stakeholders and transparency of law enforcement agencies. | |

Narrative 3.2: Contribution to national REDD+ and other national development strategies and uptake of FIP approaches

| **Project** | **Narrative** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Please describe how FIP enhanced and/or advanced the national REDD+ process (including REDD+ readiness and performance-based mechanisms) and relevant development strategies. | | |
| SUFORD-SU | * FIP support has contributed to the development of REL for the SUFORD-SU PFAs and worked to improve national forest information systems. * SUFORD-SU provided inputs to the formulation of the national REDD+ strategy through participation in selected working groups. * The Community Engagement Manual (CEM) developed by SUFORD-SU was integrated in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility project implemented by the Department of Forestry in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. * The FCPF Readiness Grant was signed in August 2014. A technical assistance team was contracted and began work on 1 July 2016. Formulation of REDD+ Strategy started in late 2016. This work continued throughout 2017. * Lao PDR was accepted into the project pipeline for the FCPF Carbon Fund in October 2015, when the Carbon Fund meeting in Brussels accepted its Emissions Reduction-Project Identification Note (ER-PIN). The ongoing work of SUFORD-SU is scaling up participatory sustainable forest management will be the basis for any possible future REDD+ performance-based mechanisms. | |
| SFP | * The OGS diagnostic was prepared by the SFP to review community needs (e.g., livelihoods, food security/nutrition) and historical engagements between smallholders and firms in Laos and other Mekong countries. The diagnostic developed a comprehensive model of OGS options and how they can be applied by plantation firms. SFP used the diagnostic in discussions with 3 firms and prepared for their OGP plans. A field mission surveyed the OGS potential at a location in Vientiane Province near BAFCO plantations. Based on the field mission report and the previously completed OGS diagnostic, the project worked with BAFCO to design and OGS pilot, adapted to the particular wood supply and community characteristics of the firm’s operations. An IDD was completed and a Cooperation Agreement was drafted and cleared by the IFC Legal team. There is a potential of BAFCO’s involvement in and contribution to the Lao PDR’s Emission Reductions Program under the National REDD+ Program funded by FCPF. | |
| PFSES | * Too early to answer | |

THEME 3.3: Support received from other partners including the private sector

| **Project** | **Narrative** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Please describe how bi- and multilateral development partners supported the interaction of FIP and other REDD+ activities. | | |
| SUFORD-SU | * A range of bilateral development partners are supporting the interaction of the Lao FIP and other REDD+ activities. The SUFORD-SU project receives direct support from FIP, the World Bank and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Finland. Other bilateral support for REDD+ comes from Japanese (JICA) and German assistance (both GIZ and KfW). In its forest landscape work, SUFORD-SU is collaborating with the KFW-supported Integrated Conservation of Forests and Biodiversity (ICFB) project in two northern provinces. The World Bank is also supporting the implementation of a FCPF Readiness Grant. * Work was ongoing on preparation of an Emissions Reduction-Program Document (ER-PD) for the Carbon Fund. The proposed program will include six northern provinces, four of which are currently supported by FIP (SUFORD-SU). * DOFI held discussions with INTERPOL, United Nations Office of Drug Control (UNODC), and members of the Law Enforcement Technical Advisers Group (LETAG) with the aim of developing stronger ties and future training. Bilateral meetings were held with Thailand and Vietnam at the central and provincial level. * Work is ongoing on preparation of an Emissions Reduction-Program Document (ER-PD) for the Carbon Fund. The proposed program will include six northern provinces, four of which are currently supported by FIP (SUFORD-SU). * Scaling-up the approach to a national operational degradation and logging monitoring system has been started in a collaboration with ProFLEGT project. | |
| SFP | * The project worked with FIP partners and Government of Lao (GoL) to host the 2017 FIP Pilot Country Meeting at Luang Prabang. * The project worked with the World Bank (WB) FIP project to address industry constraints to Lao plantation concession licensing. The project consultant worked in early 2017 with the Forestry Department to update a 2007 regulation on plantation management. The draft update was discussed with the Lao Forestry Department (DoF) with the intention of distinguishing the differences between natural and plantation forestry, the latter operating at much-reduced commercial margins. Even with the new regulation in place, the plantation firms will still face the next challenge of how local governments interpret and apply the national regulation. A substantial outreach effort will be required, which is addressed by the activity below. * Cooperation with WB Lao FIP project: Completed joint review of revision to plantation regulation. Cooperation on REDD+ project support. Continued developing joint activities of common project interest including plantation development in state production forests. * Based on the OGS diagnostic assessment, SFP prepared OGS plan for SEL. The OGS plan for SEL includes the need to address clearing farmer land of unexploded ordinance (UXO). The project discussed GIZ collaboration in the OGS pilot with SEL. GIZ is willing to support UXO disposal requirements for farmer-managed and near SEL operations. | |
| PFSES | * Too early to answer | |
| 1. Please describe how the (formal and informal) private sector actors have taken up good practices demonstrated through FIP. Please describe challenges encountered in involving the private sector in FIP. | | |
| SUFORD-SU | * SUFORD-SU will work with private timber and wood-processing companies once the PFA logging ban is lifted. Unfortunately, the logging ban is still in force. | |
| SFP | * The team worked with SEL and another potential client, Burapha Agroforestry Co. Ltd. (BAFCO) to complete a diagnostic assessment of outgrower scheme (OGS) risks and opportunities in Laos and prepare plans with the plantation firms for OGS pilots for implementation. * The team worked with BAFCO to design an OGS support engagement, adapted to the particular wood supply and community characteristics of the firm’s operations. The cooperation will support BAFCO to establish an OGS using a low-cost-high engagement approach with farmers to test the minimum level of inputs required to attract farmers when there is a clear market opportunity for planted wood (BAFCOs planned plywood factory). * The OGS plan for SEL includes the need to address clearing farmer land of unexploded ordinance (UXO). The project discussed GIZ collaboration in the OGS pilot with SEL. GIZ is willing to support UXO disposal requirements for farmer-managed land near SEL operations. | |
| PFSES | * Too early to answer | |
| 1. Please describe how civil society organizations and other stakeholders have been involved in FIP implementation. | | |
| SUFORD-SU | * With FIP support, SUFORD-SU has been working with mass organizations, such as the Lao Front for National Construction (LFNC) and the Lao Women’s Union (LWU), on ethnic and gender issues respectively. They have also collaborated with some international non-governmental organizations, such as the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), the Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC, formerly known as the Regional Community Training Center) | |
| SFP | * IFC participated in several meetings and workshops with forest plantation firms including SEL, BAFCO and MTP, and civil society organizations to consider the formation of a Lao Planted Forest Product Group. The Project intends to build on IFC experience of successfully leading the Lao industry working group in the hydro sector. The key interests of the group are well aligned with the IFC project, including plantation management regulations, land access, and community engagement, as well as other technical interests such as resource sharing to more efficiently address pests and diseases, fire, training, and nursery operations. * Project team sponsored the first meeting of the newly formed Lao Planted Forest Products (LPFP) Group. The meeting engaged all industrial plantation firms operating in Laos. A key activity led by IFC was to collect, assess and submit a review matrix of draft Decree 96 on Plantation Establishment and Management. * SFP has involved local NGOs (WWF, RECOTFC and VFI) and local research institute from the National University of Laos (Faculty of Forestry) in capacity building activities, awareness raising and OGS. VFI was hired to develop a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) approach for MTP’s re-engagement with outgrowers. There were one training and one FGD meeting organized. VFI will continue to work with the project under a new Cooperation Agreement with MTP which was already drafted. The project failed to engage the Faculty of Forestry in developing monitoring and evaluation systems for the firms because the Faculty has already engaged with other assignments. However, the project has successfully started to engage RECOTFC on the M&E systems. | |
| PFSES | * Too early to answer | |

Theme 3.4: Link of Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM) to Investments from Government’s Point of View

| **Project** | **Narrative** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Please provide comments on the complementarity of DGM and its contribution to the FIP investment plan. What have been the collaboration and synergies between the FIP focal point office and DGM? | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | |
| SFP |  | |
| PFSES |  | |
| 1. Please describe how the (formal and informal) private sector actors have taken up good practices demonstrated through FIP. Please describe challenges encountered in involving the private sector in FIP. | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | |
| SFP |  | |
| PFSES |  | |
| 1. Please describe how civil society organizations and other stakeholders have been involved in FIP implementation. | | |
| SUFORD-SU |  | |
| SFP |  | |
| PFSES |  | |

The Dedicated Grant Mechanism has not yet been operating in Lao PDR.

Theme 3.5: Highlights/Showcases of Particularly Outstanding Achievement(s) to Share

SUFORD-SU

1. Please provide examples of particularly outstanding achievements or key successes.

Reported in previous year

1. Please provide examples of outstanding achievements in gender mainstreaming:
   1. What have been the most important achievements and impacts in terms of gender mainstreaming in FIP investments?

N/A

* 1. Are there any lessons learned or good practices regarding integration of gender into these investments?

N/A

SFP

1. Please provide examples of particularly outstanding achievements or key successes.
2. Completed the diagnostic assessment of OGS risks and opportunities report
3. Used the diagnostic assessment report to prepare OGS plans for three firms and started new engagement with two firms
4. Completed Phase One and started phase two
5. Successfully engaged two firms in SFP
6. Prepared draft Cooperation Agreements and cleared by the IFC legal team
7. Successfully link SEL with GIZ for UXO disposal requirements for farmers-managed land near SEL operations as highlighted in OGS plan’s recommendation
8. Successfully organized a 1-day field visit and delivered one presentation for a panel discussion at the 2017 FIP Pilot Country Meeting organized in Luang Prabang Province
9. Sponsored the first meeting of the newly formed Lao Planted Forest Products (LPFP) Group
10. Involved one NGO in one firm’s re-engagement with outgrowers through FGD activities
11. Completed a Joint review of SFP and SUFORD-SU on revision to plantation regulation to distinguish the differences between natural and plantation forestry
12. Please provide examples of outstanding achievements in gender mainstreaming:

Female farmers of MTP’s OGS had gone through a consultation process for a development of new OGS. There were 21 female farmers attended the FGD meeting. Female farmers were in a group separated from male counterparts for group discussion. They were confident to share their view on existing OGS of Oji (former shareholders of MTP) with both female and male attendees through professional facilitators.

* 1. What have been the most important achievements and impacts in terms of gender mainstreaming in FIP investments?

The project achieved in agreement with MTP to organize group discussion divided by gender to get better inputs from female farmers. The information from FGD were synthesized and reported to the MTP. MTP was positively acknowledged gender role in tree plantation and agreed on recommendation to mainstreaming gender into the next two FGD meeting and the village cluster meeting to plan for the new OGS. IFC will bring in in-house resource to better mainstreaming gender into the up-coming activities.

* 1. Are there any lessons learned or good practices regarding integration of gender into these investments?

Women and children in the family are working together with their husband/father on planting trees in the plantations. They play a big role on nurturing and caring for the trees since it was young. Most of male farmers only involved in tree planting at the beginning like land clearance, digging hole, weeds at the first three year of planting. Therefore, it is very important to record and collect data on gender role in plantation to help development of proper intervention in terms of capacity building and increased livelihoods. However, it is very hard to avoid child labor issue in the plantation, since women culturally has to take care of their kids and children under 18-year-old helping parents’ work is viewed acceptable and appropriated in the society.

PFSES

1. Please provide examples of particularly outstanding achievements or key successes.

Too early to answer

1. Please provide examples of outstanding achievements in gender mainstreaming:

Too early to answer

* 1. What have been the most important achievements and impacts in terms of gender mainstreaming in FIP investments?

Too early to answer

* 1. Are there any lessons learned or good practices regarding integration of gender into these investments?

Too early to answer

CATEGORY 4:  
OTHER REPORTING TYPES

This section provides information about FIP investments supported by other reporting types including attached or linked photos, videos, events, publications, and/or creative media and platforms, such as blogs, videos, or webinars.

Category 4: Other Reporting Types

SUFORD-SU

1. What are the main achievements of the country program coordination and synergies between different FIP investments?

N/A

1. What are the main achievements of the ongoing stakeholder participation/involvement?

N/A

1. How is the investment plan implemented in the context of broader national policies?

N/A

1. What are the outstanding achievements in terms of knowledge exchange and management?

Department of Forest Inspection video: Using new technologies to monitor changes in criminal behavior and respond intelligently at https://is.gd/lgrUus

1. Is there any analytical work or public communications (evaluative studies, evidence-based learning, articles, etc.) about your FIP Investment plan to share?

Document: SUFORD-AF VILLAGE LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT GRANT (VLDG) ASSESSMENT IN VIENTIANE, SEKONG AND ATTAPUE PROVINCES, LAO PDR. June 2017

SFP

1. What are the main achievements of the country program coordination and synergies between different FIP investments?

N/A

1. What are the main achievements of the ongoing stakeholder participation/involvement?

N/A

1. How is the investment plan implemented in the context of broader national policies?

N/A

1. What are the outstanding achievements in terms of knowledge exchange and management?

N/A

1. Is there any analytical work or public communications (evaluative studies, evidence-based learning, articles, etc.) about your FIP Investment plan to share?

During the term, the IFC Regional Director (VP) requested that the PL meet in a series of seminars to discuss Laos and Indonesia commercial plantation experience with the Deputy Minister of the Thailand Ministry of Finance (GoT). Three meetings were held with the Deputy Minister to identify how IFC could assist the GoT to establish a concession licensing system for commercial tree plantations in Northern Thailand. The PL engaged IFC PPP team in the meetings. IFC concluded that a concession licensing system is not feasible due to lack of sufficient available land in the forestry estate due to encroachment by local communities. The discussions were closed out to the satisfaction of the IFC Regional Director. The experience gained by IFC of reviewing the forestry sector conditions and plans can be applied elsewhere, for example at Myanmar, which has a developing forestry plantation and wood processing sector.

PFSES

1. What are the main achievements of the country program coordination and synergies between different FIP investments?

Too early to answer

1. What are the main achievements of the ongoing stakeholder participation/involvement?

Afforestation and forest patrolling are the main achievement of stakeholders’ involvement

1. How is the investment plan implemented in the context of broader national policies?

Too early to answer

1. What are the outstanding achievements in terms of knowledge exchange and management?

Too early to answer

1. Is there any analytical work or public communications (evaluative studies, evidence-based learning, articles, etc.) about your FIP Investment plan to share?

Too early to answer

1. Project photos from PFSES

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| Figure 1 Community nursery | Figure 2 Teaching villagers on how to plant trees |
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| Figure 3 Planting trees on heavily degraded area | Figure 4 Installing signs for ANR area |
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| Figure 5 Training for village patrolling team | Figure 6 Confiscated wire traps during patrolling |