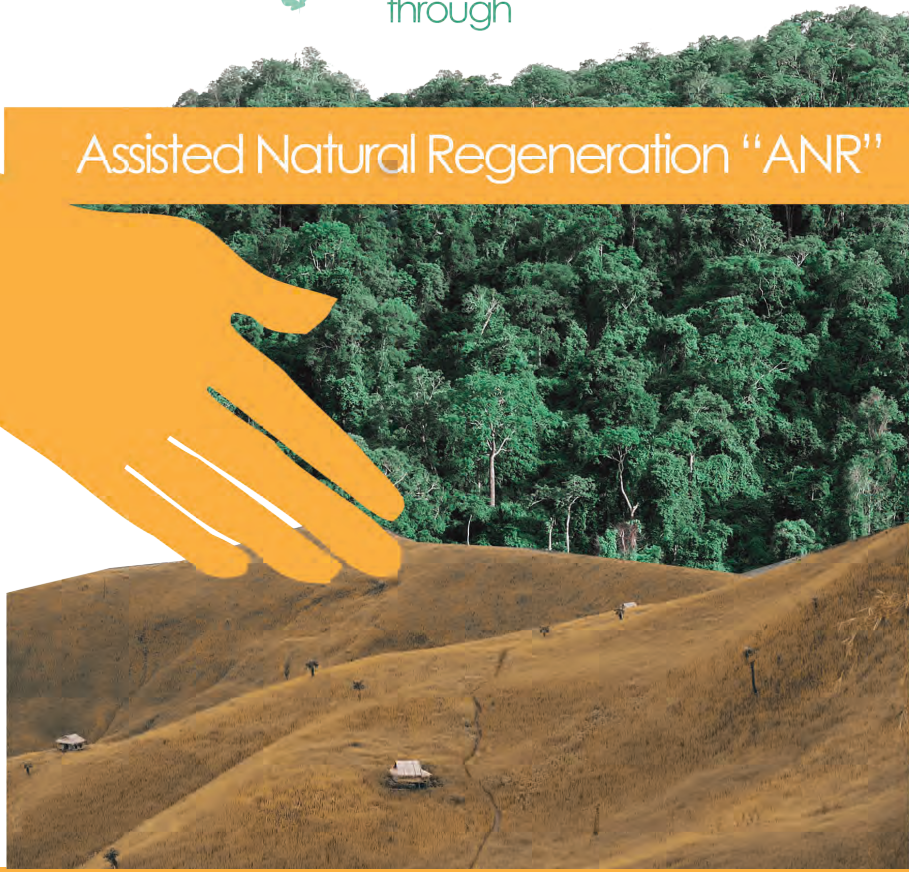




Restoring the Lao forests through

4 basic questions for

Assisted Natural Regeneration "ANR"



1. What is Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) ?

ANR is a method that enables naturally growing young trees to grow faster.



With adequate rain and good implementation, tree restoration is possible in relatively few years. Results are usually evident in less than 3 years instead of 10-20 years.

2. What are the costs ?

ANR is a very cost-effective method.

In Lao PDR, the costs of applying ANR practices in a slash and burn land for a period of 3 years, range between:



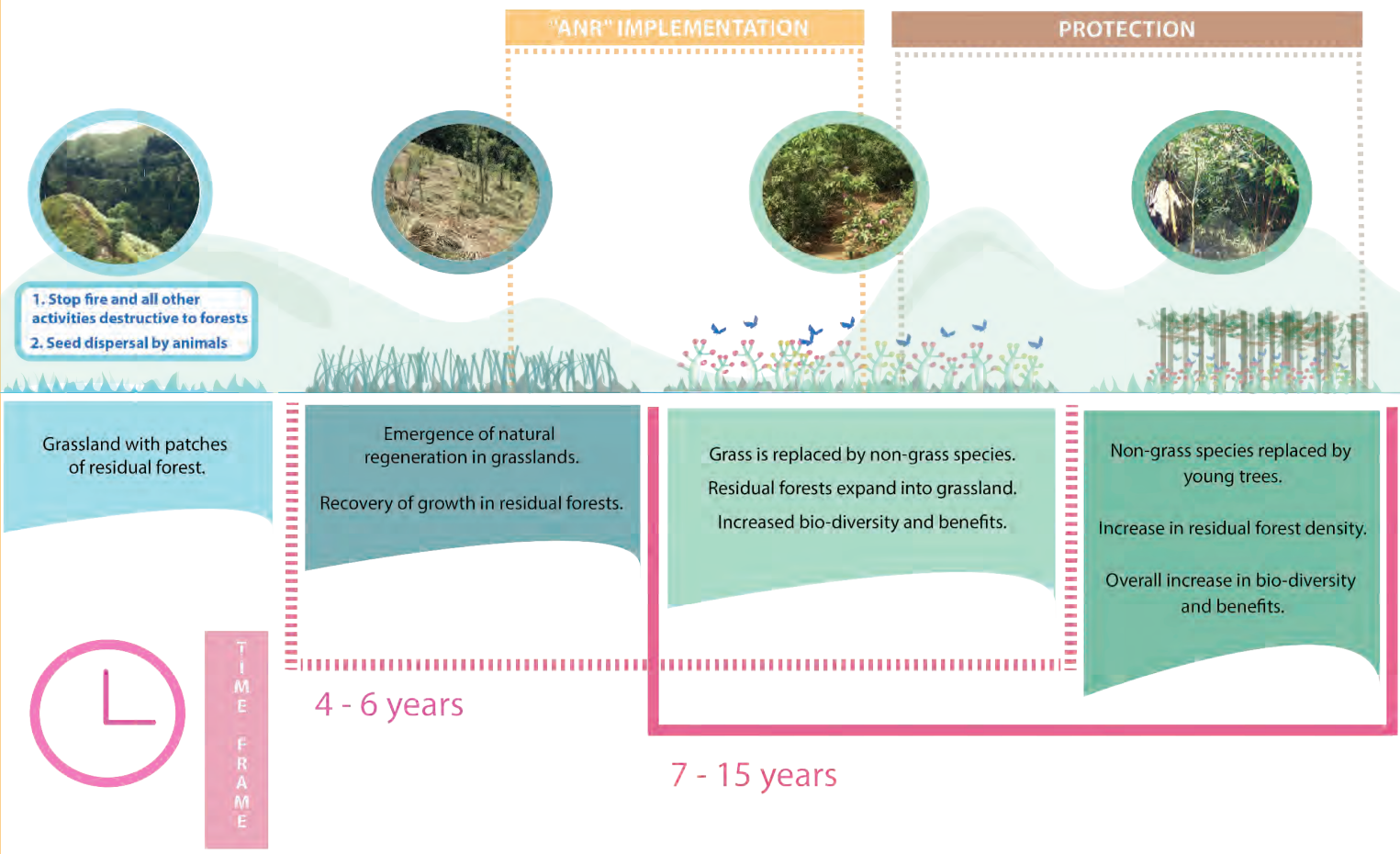
USD 450-500 per ha

ANR costs are approximately 50% lower than the conventional reforestation (CR) methods for tree plantation.

3. How it is applied ?

ANR follows the ecological succession process and it is simple to teach and easy to learn.

ANR basic activities include: protecting against damage from fire, reducing competition from grasses, bushes and vines that hinder growth of the trees and regular patrolling to prevent domestic animals and human vandals from damaging the forest.



4. Who is supporting ANR ?

ANR was introduced to Lao PDR by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE), the authority that protects and conserves Lao forests, while involving local communities in sustainable forest management.

MONRE was supported by FAO, which has promoted for twenty years ANR in South-east Asia, and the Bagong Pagasa Foundation, a Philippine-based, non-profit organization that pioneered the ANR approach and continues to champion it in the region.

From 2012 to 2014, a demonstration site of 50ha was set in Feuang district, Vientiane Province, to provide ANR on-site training. Some 60 villagers participated and were assisted by the National University and provincial and district government officials.

The activities ran under a FAO-supported regional project implemented in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Thailand, to promote ANR practices to restore and protect the forests of Southeast Asia.

