



IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CROPS IN LAO PDR

PROJECT FACTSHEET

The objective is to enhance the level of food security by developing sustainable fruit and vegetable farming systems in Lao PDR that help with diversification to reduce poverty, and improve the incomes, nutrition, and livelihoods of smallholder farmers in the project area.

What is the project about?

Lao PDR has the natural resources essential for the introduction of new technologies that will raise the level of horticultural development.

Currently most fruit (more than 50%) are imported. Many vegetables are imported (estimated 10 to 20%) especially during the rainy season when production is more difficult and farmers concentrate on growing rice. Most imported fruit and vegetables can be grown in Lao PDR. Similarly there is scope to increase the range of vegetables grown.

Fruit and vegetable consumption is low compared to other countries. Low consumption contributes to the common deficiencies of iron and Vitamin A, especially amongst women and children.

The project is a pilot programme designed to develop not only the most appropriate technical packages for fruit and vegetable growers, but to also develop the methods to ensure delivery and sustainability.

Period

May 2004 to April 2007

Actors and Partners

MAF, NAFRI, DOA and NAFES

Budget/Donor

\$749,981
GCP/LAO/013/ITA

Site

Provinces of Champasack and Luang Prabang

Planned Project Outputs

1. A preliminary survey of the target areas
2. Improved availability of fruit cultivars
3. Improved vegetable production organized and promoted, based on market demand
4. Upgraded and expanded fruit nurseries, production of high quality planting materials and quality seeds available
5. Strengthened horticultural capabilities of Government staff and farmers
6. Agro processing promoted at home and at semi-commercial scale
7. Identification of key horticultural agribusiness opportunities and models
8. Identified credit systems for Micro-credit facilities

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