



# Gender in the Lao PDR on the agriculture sector

## **GENDER DATA**

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# **I. Specific national institutions/ ministries that focus on gender**

1. Lao Women's Union
2. Ministry of Planning and investment
3. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
4. Ministry of Education and sport
5. Ministry of Labour and social welfare



## **II. Methodology and the particular instruments used**

1. Lao Agricultural Census 1998-1999
2. Lao Agricultural Census 2010-2011
3. Population and Housing Census 1995 and 2005

# III. The gender-disaggregated data currently available

No	Indicators	Females%	Males%
1	Proportion of Employed in the Population and Housing Census 2005	50	50
2	Literacy Rate for population aged 15 year and above by sex in the Population and Housing Census 2005	44.1	55.9
3	Antenatal care coverage in the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006	76	-
4	Proportion of birth attended by skilled health professional in Lao Reproductive Health Survey 2005	23	-
5	Comparison of men and women aged 15 and over on employed persons in the Lao Agricultural Census 2010-2011	84	84

# IV. Lao Census of Agriculture 2010/11

## 1. Some data items included in LCA 2010/11

- Main purpose of production
- Area of holding
- Land use
- Land tenure
- No. of growers and area for each type of temporary crop
- No. of growers and area of each type of permanent crop
- Area irrigated
- Use of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Use and ownership of farm machinery.
- Access to credit
- No. of each type of livestock and no. of households raising livestock
- Age-sex structure of livestock
- Presence of aquacultural facilities.
- Farm population by sex and age
- Work done by farm population.
- Management of the farm holding
- Forestry activities



## **2. How to measure gender aspects in an agricultural census**

### **Farm management**

Collect data on who in the household manages the farm operations. This could be one or two people.

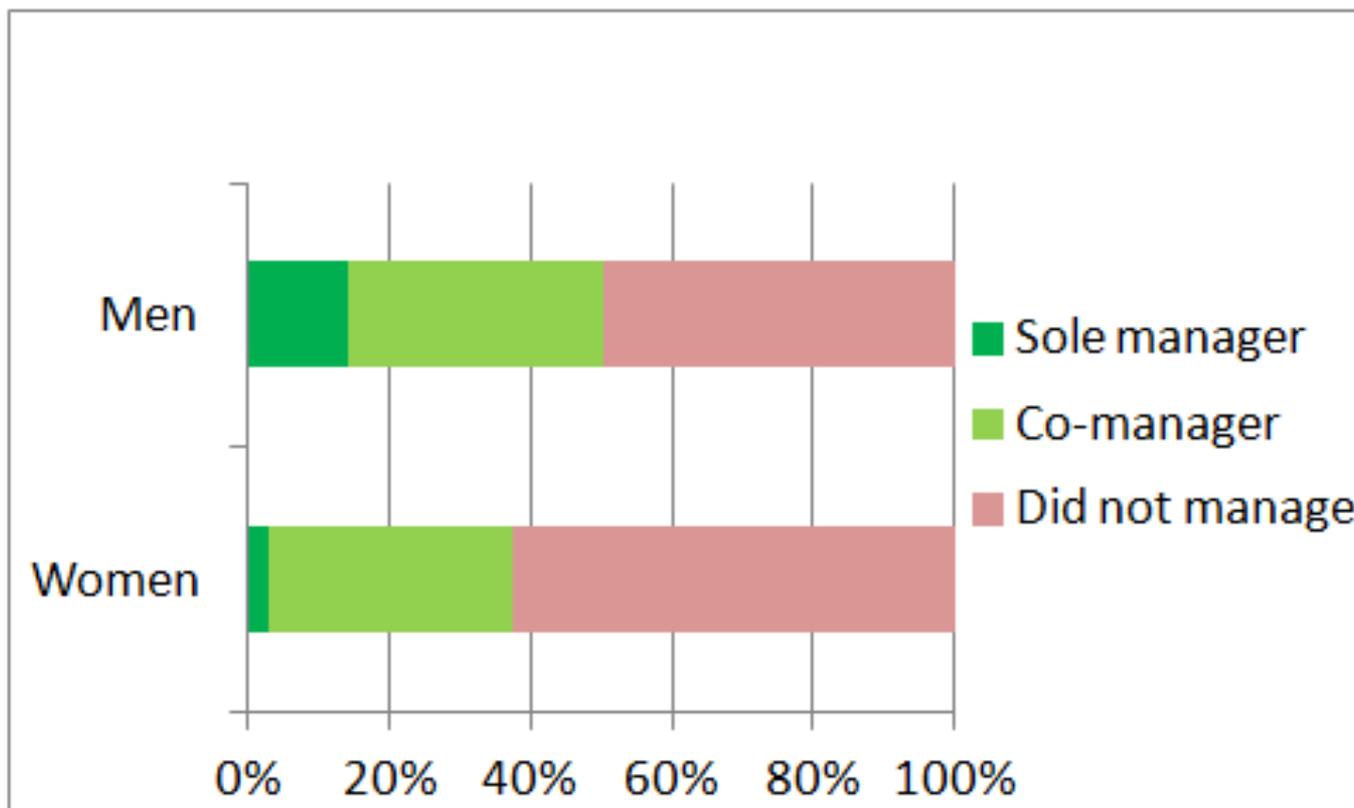
### **Employment characteristics of household members**

Collect data on employment characteristics of each household member as well as demographic characteristics (age, sex).

# 3. Basic farm management results

<b>Number of farm households</b>	<b>782,000</b>
<b>Single person management</b>	<b>256,000</b>
<i>Male</i>	<i>213,000</i>
<i>Female</i>	<i>43,000</i>
<b>Two-person management</b>	<b>527,000</b>
<i>Two males</i>	<i>17,000</i>
<i>Two females</i>	<i>9,000</i>
<i>Male and female</i>	<i>502,000</i>

## 4. Participation of men and women (15 & over) in farm management



## 5. Comparisons between farms operated by men and women

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
<i>Main purpose sale (%)</i>	29%	24%
<i>Raise cattle (%)</i>	42%	36%
<i>Engage in capture fishing (%)</i>	62%	54%
<i>Use chemical fertilizers (%)</i>	29%	39%

# 6. Farm labour measures from the census

*Number of employed persons.*

*Number of employees (paid job)*

*Number of farm employees*

*Number of persons with main job work on holding*

*Number of persons with secondary job work on holding*

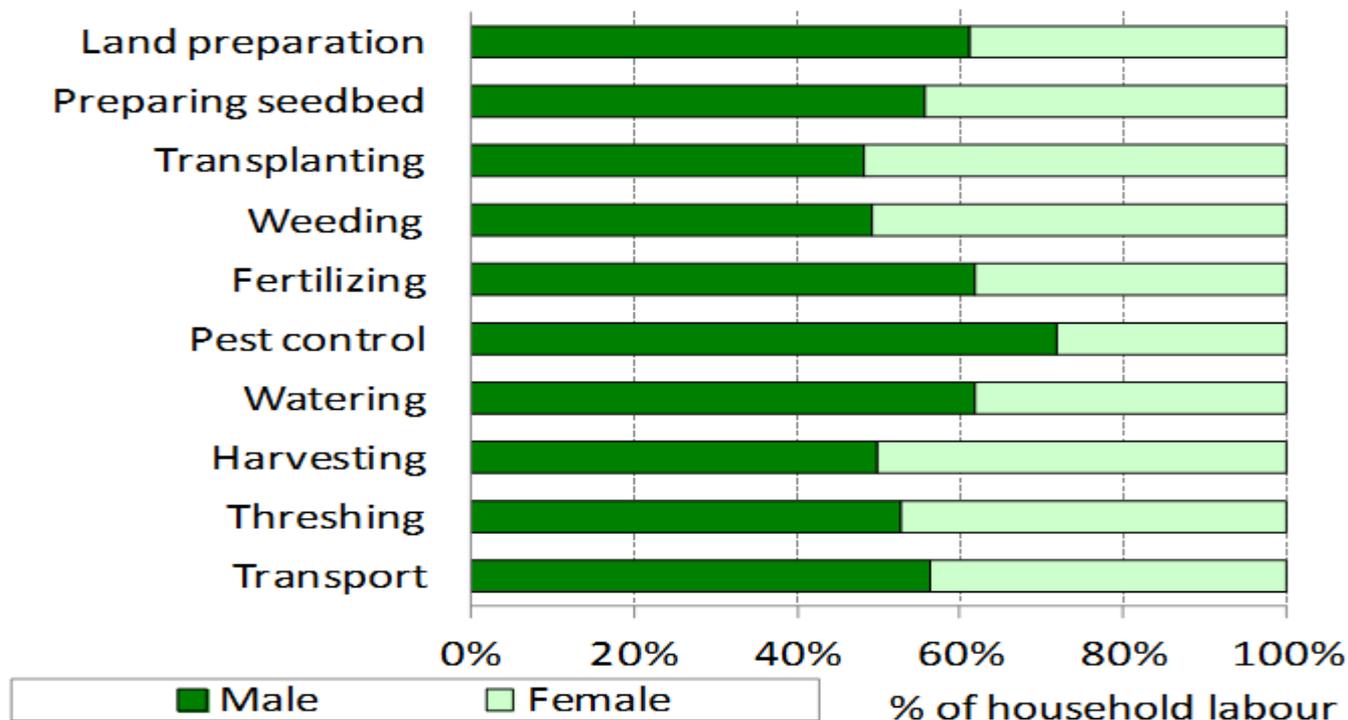
*Number of persons with main job work on holding but doing other  
secondary work off the holding*

## 7. Comparison of men and women aged 15 and over

	Men	Women
<b>Employed persons (%)</b>	84%	84%
<b>Main job of those employed (% employed persons)</b>		
<i>Family farm</i>	83%	87%
<i>Non-farm family business</i>	5.9%	6.6%
<i>Farm employee</i>	5.0%	3.4%
<i>Non-farm employee</i>	6.5%	3.5%
<b>Work on holding (% of employed persons)</b>		
<i>Main job work on family farm</i>	83%	87%
<i>Other main job</i>	11.5%	9.7%
<i>Did not work on family farm</i>	6.0%	3.8%
<b>Off-farm work (% of persons with main job work on family farm)</b>		
<i>Non-farm family business</i>	23%	25%
<i>Farm employee</i>	3.6%	3.7%
<i>Non-farm employee</i>	13%	9%
<i>No off-farm work</i>	60%	62%

# 8. Labour inputs to rice growing are shared between men and women

Figure 1: Labour inputs to rice growing by men and women, 2010/11



# 9. Constraints and lessons learnt

## 1. Constraints

- There were difficulties in planning and implementing the data collection because of delays in receiving funds. Also, there were funding shortages, especially for data collection.
- Transportation is difficult in some areas with the need to travel by boat or on foot in inaccessible areas.
- There were weaknesses in staff understanding of data collection and data processing in censuses or surveys.

## Lessons learnt

- It is important for sufficient time to be allowed for questionnaire design, field testing, preparation of field manuals and other census development activities. In future, at least twelve months should be set aside for this work.
- In planning future censuses, funding issues should be resolved well in advance of the census so that preparations for the census enumeration are not delayed.
- Skills and experience that staff had acquired through working on the previous agricultural census were very useful in the current census.
- Attention should be given to ensuring that decision-makers use the census for planning and policy-making.

**Thank you**  
**KHOBCHAI**

