



Project Concept

Sustainable use and better management
of forests through empowered
communities

to participate in FLEGT and VPA dialogue
process

F A O F L E G T P R O G R A M M E



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Initial Cooperation of Lao CSO Network/Consortium

Activity	LBA (on behalf of CSO Core Committee)	PADETC (on behalf of Lao CSO Network)	WWF/VFI (with participation of CSOs)
1. Preparation	Develop consultation methodology	Develop consultation tools	Contribute existing methodology and tools
2. Consultation	Oversee consultation / Receive information	Consult with communities in Khammouane province	Consult with communities in Khammouane and Attapeu/support other consultations
3. Analysis / presentation	Analyse and present information to FLEGT	Deliver data Develop media/publish tools	Deliver data Support

Brief Overview

Project background: Opportunities & Challenges

Project Objective

Main Outcomes

Implementation Arrangement

Staffing & Budget

Project Background

- Over the past decades, weak forest governance, forest trade & illegal logging associated with mega economic development projects have been threatening the environment and people's livelihoods in South East Asian countries.
- The government of Laos has various policies & initiatives aimed at forest conservation and management as well as the recent PM Order No. 15 (13th of May 2016). But the needs, participation, and consultation of local communities in developing such policies and initiatives are often overlooked.
- Until the PM Order No 15, illegal logging was rampant and caused serious social and environmental degradation, resulting in big losses of state revenue.

Opportunities

- To counter these forest and timber issues, the Laos government has been actively engaged in EU FLEGT, and particularly in the VPA process since 2010.
- This process provides space to review the policies and structures for forest and timber management with multi-stakeholder participation. Part of this process requires the participation of the communities that rely on and are impacted by the forest and timber management system.

Challenges

- In the past, due to:
 - lack of clarity in implementation of community forest management,
 - lack of community knowledge of the opportunities afforded by the FLEGT VPA process
- Information gap about communities' experiences and concerns among FLEGT stakeholders and decision makers
- The role and contributions of CSOs towards empowering community in FLEGT and VPA process are not yet visible.

To address the stated challenges,

Project priorities:

- Strengthen engagement and participation of forest communities in forest governance through consultation with particular focus on active participation in FLEGT and VPA dialogue process.
- Provide space for local civil society to contribute to the VPA process.
- Address the capacity of civil society, their roles and responsibilities to take active part in supporting and monitoring of forest governance at all possible levels.
- Support Lao CSO FLEGT Network to participate in VPA process and the Core Committee to participate in TEGs.

Project Objective

To identify gaps and issues in community forest management system through community consultations and to bring those gaps and issues into the formal VPA process

Target area

- Some activities: in Vientiane Capital
- Main target areas: 5 villages in Khammouane province

Who is involved?

A lot of people including FLEGT Lao CSO Core Committee, Lao CSO FLEGT Network members

Implementing partners:

LBA and PADETC (under contract from FAO);

and

WWF, VFI have key roles as consultant

Expected outcomes

OC1 – Strengthened Lao CSOs FLEGT network's participation in FLEGT/VPA process


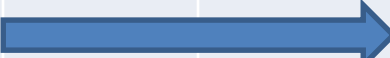
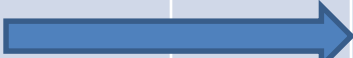
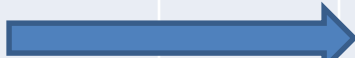

OC2 – Developed & updated toolkit & guidelines for community in FLEGT VPA process is updated; and a Database for sharing & exchange of community consultation information is developed

OC3 – Community consultation on FLEGT VPA process carry out by CC & PADETC

OC4 – Follow-up to community consultations at the district and central level

Timeline

Months after **Protocol** Agreement signature

Activity description	Q-1	Q-2	Q-3	Q-4	Q-5
Outcome-1: Lao CSO FLEGT participation in FLEGT VPA process					
Outcome-2: Toolkit & guidelines for community consultation in the FLEGT VPA process					
Outcome-3: Community consultation on FLEGT VPA process					
Outcome-4: Follow-up to community consultation at the central and district levels					
Project Management: Inception meeting, Workshop, Visibility M&E, and Reporting					

Implementation Arrangement

PADETC, in coordination with the FLEGT Lao CSO Core Committee will take lead in implementing the actions at the district and community levels at the national level,

LBA will be taking an oversee consultation/receive information

Staffing, Budgeting & Timeframe

- Staffing: 2 permanent (PM & Field Specialist/Facilitator) and 2 part-time staff (Admin/Finance & *Youth Volunteer/Student*)
- Budget estimated: 130,000 USD
- Project period is 15 months (Aug 2017 – Dec 2018)

THANK YOU,

Khamphoui Saythalat

Executive Director of Padetc

Email: khamphoui@padetc.org

www.padetc.org