

Lao Farmer Network (LFN)

-  Phouththasinh Phimmachanh
-  Saphangmor village, Saysettha district, Vientiane capital
-  +856 030981036, +856 20 55611716
-  lfn@laofarmers.net
-  www.laofarmers.org



The Lao Farmer Network was established in 2014 as the first and only network of smallholder farmer organizations at national level in Laos. LFN is currently active in 10 provinces, namely Vientiane capital, Vientiane, Sayaburi, Oudomxay, Phongsaly, Xiengkhouang, Hoaphanh, Bollikhamsay, Savannakhet and Champasack. The members of LFN are organizations of small holder farmers in the form of producer groups, farmer associations and agricultural cooperatives—all of which are well-assessed and recognized by the government. Most of the members are engaged in vegetable, rice, coffee, sugarcane, fish, cattle production and some are into management of non-timber forestry products and processing such as silk and worm producer group, bitter bamboo management group and turmeric/ginger herbal production group.

With a total of 3,275 farmers, 41% are women and 24 % are under 35 years old. The network pays special attention in engaging women and youth in particular reaching out ethnic minorities and farmers in remote areas.

With an aim to facilitate cooperation among small holder farmers to eradicate poverty and develop sustainable livelihood, the network has 4 main programs which are: strengthening farmer organizations through organizational development, management and transformation; strengthening service delivery for FO members to their members including economic services such as product development and marketing; promoting farmer-to-farmer learning which include activities on capitalization of farming good practices, identification of farmer experts, facilitate knowledge sharing and conduct participatory action research and learning, and; about policy advocacy where the network advocates for policies that favors smallholder farmers at local, national and regional level. The network is a regular member of technical working group that organizes farmer forum at least once a year.

LAOS





Photo above: a training on bio-pesticide, organized by Lao Farmer Network

Photo below: LFN organized national farmer conference on youth in agriculture in Vientiane capital, 2017



LAOS

Kang Agriculture Production Group

-  Neuang Sonbounkhun
-  Kang Village, Hadsaiyong District, Vientiane Capital Province
-  (856) 20 5652 4589/55703088

Areas: Vientiane Capital,

Commodity: Fish and native chicken

The Kang Agricultural Production is a former pig producer group from Vientiane capital. Its members learned a lot from previous failed contract farming leaving them indebted to banks. The group is now producing native chicken while integrating with fish production. †

Thongmang Organic Vegetable Production Group

-  Khammone Luanglath
-  Thongmung Village, Xaythani District, Vientiane Capital
-  (856) 20 55800675

Areas: Vientiane capital

Members: 45 people (27 women), 13 youths

Commodities: Organic Vegetables

The Thongmang Organic Vegetable Production Group is a former pig producer group that switched to organic vegetable production. It has 45 members, 27 of which are women and 13 are youth. The group is located about an hour-drive from the central town of the capital which gives them a great advantage in terms of market. The group successfully opened market outlets at a shopping mall and in two national public parks. Recently, they also started the 'farmer basket', a direct marketing mechanism to consumer through internet.



Photo, lower left corner: the outlet at Vientiane shopping mall



Photo, lower right corner: Khammoune Xaymany, head of the group is piloting a new rice cultivation technique (Jaeng Rice Production Group)

LAOS

Jaeng Rice Production Group



Khammoun Saimany



Jaeng Village, Thoulakhom District, Vientiane Province



(856) 20 55114809

Areas: Vientiane Province, Thoulakhom District: 1 village

Commodity: Rice and rice seed

The Jaeng Rice Production Group is one of the successful rice seed production groups in Laos. However, due to lack of market demand on rice seeds, the group focused on producing, processing and marketing of brown and black rice. The group has small facility and machine to harvest, dry and stock the paddy. The group is also planning to establish small milling facility in the future. The group has 12 members, 3 of which are women. The head of the group is the current president of the Lao Farmer Network.

Bankern Cattle Raising Group



Phouthhasen



Ban kern Village, Thulakhom District, Vientiane Province



(856) 20 22401646

Areas: Vientiane province

Commodities: Cattle, herbal products

The Bankern Cattle Raising Group has an experience in contract farming arrangement and small machinery innovations. The group has a sub-group that produces ginger tea powder, turmeric powder, and other traditional herbs. There are 60 members in the group, 40 of which are women and 10 are youth.



Photo, lower left corner: A member is making turmeric powder



Photo, lower right corner: Youth group is producing turmeric tea

LAOS

Farmer Association for Sustainable Agriculture Production (FASAP)



Bounma Phumin



Xang Village, Khoun District, Xiengkhouang Province



(856) 20 5593 2561

Areas: Xiengkhouang Province, Khoun District: 14 villages

Commodities: Rice, Coffee and Organic Vegetable

Established in 2006, the Farmer Association for Sustainable Agriculture Production is one of the oldest farmer organizations in LFN. The group's original purpose was to promote sustainable agriculture to address the issues on the use of chemical inputs in their areas. It is now in the process of transforming into an agriculture cooperative on vegetable and rice. With support from local development association, the group has been establishing organic internal control system, trainings to members, and running organic outlet at district town. The group produces commodities such as rice, coffee, and organic vegetables. The group has 169 members, 102 of which are women and 15 are youth.



Photo, middle-left: Bounma, head of FASAP is presenting their strategic plan.



Photo, middle-right: the organic outlet of OFA.

Organic Farmer Association (OFA) of Paek District



Bouachanh Heuangvilay



Huen Village, Pek District, Xiengkhouang Province



(856) 20 9631 8191

Areas: Xiengkhouang Province, Pek and Phoukoud District: 14 villages

Commodity: Organic Vegetables

The Organic Farmer Association is one of the few FOs that successfully run an organic market at the local level. The members all live in the center town of Xiengkhouang province and they market their vegetables at the farm gate and the provincial organic market three days a week. The group has 220 members, 184 of which are women and 18 are youth.

LAOS

Hoi Vegetable Cooperative



Somphone



Hoi Village, Khoun District, Xiengkhouang Province



(856) 20 58299772

Areas: Xiengkhouang Province, Khoun District: 1 village

Commodities: Vegetable, Tobacco, Maize

The Hoi Vegetable Cooperative produces a variety of vegetables for markets in the provinces of Louangpabang, Bolikhamsay and Khammoune. The cooperative produces mainly chili pepper and cabbage. They also produce other vegetables, tobacco and maize. They have not obtained the organic standard yet but are consistently applying good agriculture practice using minimal fertilizer and almost zero pesticides. The cooperative has 39 members (22 women and 8 youth).



Photo, middle-left: a youth member of Hoi cooperative interviewed on the importance of agriculture



Photo, middle-right: Farmers are grading chili pepper in Hoi cooperative.

Farmer Association of Khangvieng zone



Thongvanh Vongphachanh



Mieng Village, Khoun District, Xiengkhouang Province



(856) 20 55531535

Areas: Xiengkhouang Province, Pek and Phoukoud District: 1 village


Commodity: Rice and vegetable.


The Farmer Association of Khangvieng Zone was established at village cluster level including about seven villages. Their primary activity is training of members on organic rice production, but the association is planning to transform into an agriculture cooperative. The group produces rice and vegetables. They have 63 members (32 women).

LAOS

Agriculture Community Buying and Promotion Cooperative (ACBPC)

 Sengphet

 Nasuang Village, Paksong District, Champasak Province


 (856) 20 5667 7809


Areas: Champasack Province, Paksong District: 14 villages


Commodities: Coffee, Vegetable

The Agriculture Community Buying and Promotion Cooperative is one of the seven registered cooperatives in Champasack province. It is located in the area believed to have the most fertile soil and best climate for farming in the country, the Bolavane plateau. The cooperative has contract farming arrangement with Thai traders. The group has 103 members (37 women) who produce coffee and vegetables.

Nongsung Vegetable Production Group

 Khaophone

 Nongsuang Village, Paksong District, Campasak Province

 Phone: (856) 20 96515377

Areas: Champasack province

Commodities: Organic Vegetables

The Nongsung Vegetable Production Group produces cabbage and other organic vegetables using good agriculture practices. Most of their produce are exported to Thailand. The group has 33 members (15 women and 10 youth).

LAOS

Jhai Coffee Association



Somboun Saybouakeo



Katouad Village, Paksong District, Champasack Province



(856) 20 9933 3020



www.jhaicoffeehouse.com

Areas: Champasack Province, Paksong District: 63 villages

Commodity: Coffee

The Jhai Coffee Association is the strongest LFN member when it comes to contract farming high quality coffee production and marketing. The cooperative is currently exporting their best green bean coffee to Japan, USA, and Europe. The lower grade coffee beans are sold via contract farming with the biggest local coffee company, the Dao coffee. Jhai obtained organic and fair-trade certificates. They are currently running a coffee shop at district town. The association consists of the 450 households (31 women).



Photo, lower left: farmers are loading up cabbage to market in Nongsung village.



Photo, lower right: Coffee green bean for export to USA at Jhai cooperative

LAOS

Coffee Producer Cooperative of Bolavaen plateau CPC




-  Bounthong
-  Phonkoun Village, Pakse District, Campasak Province
-  (856) 20 97419973
-  www.cpc-laos.org

Areas: Champasack province

Commodities: Coffee

The Coffee Producer Cooperative of Bolavaen Plateau is the oldest and most advance agricultural cooperative in Laos. With a long history of support from the government and donor-funded projects, the cooperative is self-run and able to export coffee green beans to European countries. The cooperative celebrated its 10th year anniversary last October 2017. The cooperative has 1110 members (510 women and 600 youth).

Houy-oun organic vegetable production Group

-  Bounthun
-  Houyoum Village, Xay District, Oudomxay Province
-  (856) 20 58053192

Areas: Oudomxay Province, Namor District: 1 village

Commodities: Organic Vegetables

The Houy-oun Organic Vegetable Production Group has been producing and marketing organic vegetables over the last few years. The group has 56 members. With a larger volume of production, they sell vegetables at their outlet every day. Each of their members maintains a greenhouse with a size of 4x30m. Some members of the group grow grapes and produce red wine.



Photo, lower left: A member of CPC that have a coffee shop



Photo, lower right: a member of Hoay Oune group is watering vegetable

LAOS

Namphaeng NTFPs management Group



Loun Sorlakham



Nampheang Village, Namor District, Oudomxay Province



(856) 20 9613 9713

Areas: Oudomxay Province, Namor District: 1 village

Commodities: Bitter Bamboo, Cardamom

The Namphaeng Management Group is a good example of a farmers' organization that has collective marketing model through contract arrangement with buyers. The group has a good example of sustainable management of bitter bamboo forest. They also produce cardamom. The group has 154 members (80 women and 74 youth).

Navieng Organic Vegetable Production Group



Sor Syamphone



Navieng Village, Hiem District, Houaphan Province



(856) 20 58582129

Areas: Navieng Village, Hiem District, Houaphan Province

Commodities: Organic Vegetables

The Navieng Organic Vegetable Production Group is led by a strong female farmer who is also the village head. The group sells organic vegetables at an outlet at the district town, supplying varieties of vegetable to consumers. The provincial governor of Hoaphan province has recently visited the group and he promised to provide the group access to a bigger market in the provincial center. The group has 10 members which are all women.



Photo, lower left: A girl in Namphaeng village is harvesting bitter bamboo shoot




Photo, lower right: Garden of the Navieng group.

LAOS

Kang Vegetable Production Group

 Synuan Souksavath

 Kang Village, Somneau District, Houaphan Province

 (856) 20 23854773

Areas: Kang Village, Somneau District, Houaphan Province

Commodities: Organic Vegetables

The Kang Vegetable Production Group of Xamnuer produces large volumes of organic vegetables during the dry season, after harvesting rice. They have 36 member (20 women).




Photo, middle-left: Farmers of Kang group is harvesting cabbages.




Photo, middle-right: a young farmer of the Kang vegetable group

Sod Cattle Raising Group

 Phaengsom


 Sod Village, Add District, Houaphan Province


 (856) 30 5413448


Areas: Sod Village, Add District, Houaphan Province

The Sod Cattle Raising Group raises cows and buffalos. There are 13 members in the group, one of which is a woman.

Longku Vegetable Production Group

 Mr Bounthiem

 (856) 20 54674466

 Longku Village, Viengxay District, Houaphan Province

The Longku Vegetable Production Group produces organic vegetables. They have 10 members, 5 of which are women.

LAOS

Mulberry and Silk Production Group

-  Khongmany
-  Na-ngua Village, Viengxay District, Houaphan Province
-  (856) 30 9536343




There are few groups producing silk in Laos nowadays. The Mulberry and Silk Production Group does not only produce native silk, but they also have mulberry fields to feed the worms. They produce silk and weave them into traditional Lao clothing. The group has 16 members (8 women).

Samadyai Tea Production Group

-  Bounthun
-  Samadyai Village, Xaysathan District, Xayyabouly Province
-  (856) 30 99674225

The Samadyai Tea Production Group produces tea in Sayaburi province. They have 23 members in the group, 6 of which are women and 2 are youth.

Samadnoy Tea Production Group

-  Bounyuam Huammany
-  Samadnoy Village, Xaysathan District, Xayyabouly Province
-  (856) 30 9100636

Areas: Sayaburi province

The Samadnoy Tea Production Group produces tea. They have 15 members (1 woman and 6 youth).



Photo on lower right: Silk production in Na Ngoua group

LAOS

Nalae Sugarcane Production Group



Mr. Keo paseuth



(856) 20 5403 7473



Nalae Village, Bounneur District, Phongsaly Province

The Nalae Sugarcane Production Group has a successful contract farming with Chinese buyers. The group has been exporting sugarcane to sugar factories in China. The group has 53 members (25 women and 5 youth).

Pakbueng Fish Production Group



Mr. Bountem



(856) 20 9922 9308



Pakbueng Village, Paksan District, Bolikhamxay Province

The Pakbueng Fish Production Group is formerly a tobacco production group under contract farming with the Lao tobacco company. Due to high risk associated in dealing with pesticides in growing tobacco, the group transformed to fish and rice production. They produce rice and vegetables and also raise animals. They sell cat fish to Xiengkhouang province. There are 52 members (16 women and 4 youth) in the group.

Sugarcane Production Group



Mr. Boualery Khensaiya



(856) 30 9306630



Dongphieng Village, Saybouri District, Savannakhet Province

The Sugarcane Production Group is organized to have better contract farming arrangements with sugarcane factory in the province. They have 259 people, 42 of which are women and 25 are youth.