# Indigenous Peoples Plan

January 2014

Lao People's Democratic Republic: Greater Mekong Subregion Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project

Prepared by the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao People's Democratic Republic for the Asian Development Bank.

#### **CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS**

(as of 31 January 2014)

1USD = KN 7,874

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADB Asian Development Bank

AP affected persons

CTG community tourism group

DICT Department of Information, Culture and Tourism

DMST double bituminous surface treatment DMO destination management organization

GMS Greater Mekong Subregion
Government Government of Lao PDR
IPP indigenous peoples plan

Lao PDR Lao People's Democratic Republic
LNFR Lao National Front for Reconstruction

LWU Lao Women's Union

MICT Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism

PCU project coordination unit
PIB public information booklet
PIU project implementation unit

PPTA project preparation technical assistance

RP resettlement plan SES socioeconomic survey

#### **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

km	kilometer
kg	kilogram
ha	hectare
m	meter
$m^2$	square-meters

#### **NOTES**

- (i) The fiscal year (FY) of the Government of the Lao PDR ends on 31 October.
- (ii) In this report, "\$" refers to US dollars.

This indigenous peoples plan is a document of the borrower. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of ADB's Board of Directors, Management, or staff, and may be preliminary in nature.

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **Background**

The expected outcome of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project is that increased tourism receipts benefit men and women living in underdeveloped segments of GMS Central corridor in Lao PDR. Project outputs are: (i) improved last-mile tourism access infrastructure; (ii) improved environmental services in cross-border tourism centers; (iii) strengthened institutional capacity to promote inclusive tourism growth; and, (iv) effective project implementation and knowledge management. A detailed description of the project outputs and subprojects is in the Project Administration Manual.

The subproject expected to have impacts on ethnic groups is Chom Ong Cave Access Road Improvements in Oudomxay Province. Beginning at two entry points connected to Route 13, the subproject will (i) upgrade a 54 km rural access road to double bituminous surface treatment (DBST) standard with variable 5–6 m carriageway, including construction of bridges, roadside drainage, culverts and embankment stabilization; (ii) upgrade 3.0 km of secondary access road to DBST standard with 4 m carriageway and 30m bridge; (iii) construct a 2,000m² parking area; (iv) upgrade the 500 m footpath and steps to the cave entrance; and (v) construct a tourist information/reception center at the cave. The subproject is expected to directly benefit about 7,500 Khmu and Hmong people living along the roadway by boosting tourism in the area and improving access to markets and social services.

In accordance with ADB's *Safeguards Policy Statement* (2009), the objectives of this plan are to: (i) address the aspirations, needs, and preferred options of ethnic groups; (ii) ensure that the social and economic benefits from the subproject for the ethnic groups are culturally appropriate and that they participate actively in projects that affect them; (iii) avoid potentially adverse impacts on ethnic groups; (iv) minimize, mitigate or compensate for such impacts when they cannot be avoided; and, (v) implement measures to strengthen the social, legal, and technical capabilities of government institutions to address ethnic groups' issues.

# **Social Impact Assessment**

Lao PDR is an ethnically diverse country with 49 officially recognized ethnic groups. The population of 6.3 million is comprised of four broad ethno-linguistic families: Tai-Kadai (or Lao-Tai, 8 ethnic groups), Mon-Khmer (32 ethnic groups), Sino-Tibetan (7 ethnic groups) and Hmong-Mien (2 ethnic groups). Oudomxay is the fifth poorest province with a poverty rate of 33.7% compared to the national poverty rate of 27.6%. The majority of the population belongs to the Khmu ethnic group (58.89%), with the remainder composed of Tai-Kadai and a number of smaller ethnic groups. The population at Chom Ong Cave is 100% Khmu. In the other 10 villages along the rural access road the population is approximately 80% Khmu, 15% Hmong and 5% Lao/other. The reported poverty rate in the villages ranges from 10% to 38%.

The primary livelihood activity near the subproject site is agriculture, involving the growing of maize that is sold in the market and rice that is mainly used for domestic consumption. Additionally, the villagers in Chom Ong have been earning income from tourism activities since 2005. The villages generally have access to basic services; however, two of the 11 villages report some problems with water supply during certain times of the year. The results from this socioeconomic survey show that the majority of the population has access to primary school and is literate. However, a higher percentage of women (14.7%, compared to 4.4% of men) have had no schooling and are not literate. Over two-thirds of villagers interviewed were interested in enhancing livelihood activities related to tourism.

#### **Consultation and Participation**

Throughout the Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA), information about subproject activities in each area was disseminated and consultations were held with local populations, including the different ethnic groups. The consultations were held first with local district and village leaders during site visits that formed part of the initial feasibility analysis of subprojects (June 8 – 11 2013). The PPTA consultants then organized an additional consultation in July 2013. A total of eight consultation meetings were held in Chom Ong and the other Khmu and Hmong villages along the rural road access loop between 18 July and 30 October 2013.

The consultations presented information about the subprojects initial design and purpose, and the planned capacity development / training activities under Output 3. Participants were asked to share their views on the potential beneficial impacts and risks of the project. A description of the impacts identified and proposed actions to enhance benefits and mitigate risks are outlined in the Beneficial and Mitigative Measures section of this report.

During project implementation ethnic groups will be consulted on all subproject activities that can potentially affect them. Every attempt will be made to obtain their participation in (i) planning, designing, implementing and monitoring measures to avoid adverse impacts or, when avoidance is not possible, to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects; and, (ii) tailoring project benefits for affected ethnic groups.

#### **Project Impacts**

Beneficial Impacts: The village of Chom Ong will benefit directly as a result of more tourists visiting the caves and corresponding increases in employment and income from (i) entrance and parking fees; (ii) cave and village tours and guide services; (iii) earnings from food, beverage and handicraft/souvenirs sales in the multi-purpose tourist center and in the village; and, (iv) increase in the demand for home-stay accommodation.

Upgrading of the rural access loop road will also bring economic benefit to all villages in the catchment areas as a result of: (i) improved farm to market access; (ii) opportunities for development of roadside retail enterprises servicing an increase in traffic; and (iii) further development of home-stay facilities and handicraft production. The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) and Project Implementation Units (PIUs) will be promoting the country's ethnic diversity as a tourism asset. They must ensure ethnic communities have an active role in planning activities that affect their cultural assets, land area, and local resources.

Potential negative impacts: The following are the potential negative impacts raised during consultations and considered in preparing this Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP):

- Increased traffic creates noise and safety issues for ethnic group settlements close to the road. The risk is rated low because the project will add signs and implement traffic safety campaigns. Road design and signs will encourage cars to slow down in villages.
- Loss of traditions and culture due to more exposure to tourism and external influences.
   Rated very low because tourism is already present in the project areas and is promoted in a way that emphasizes the value of ethnic heritage and culture.
- Risk that with increased volume of tourists the Khmu villagers will lose control of access to Chom Ong Cave. The risk is rated low because the project will assist the villages to formalize management authority over the cave.

#### **Beneficial and Mitigative Measures**

The project will implement the following actions under the IPP to increase benefits to ethnic groups and mitigate potential negative impacts:

Action 1: Support to strengthen community-based tourism activities in ethnic villages. In each subproject site, including Chom Ong, the project will establish a Community Tourism Group (CTG) in order to ensure that concerns of ethnic groups are reflected in tourism planning.

Action 2: Support to Chom Ong Village Management Association: Specific actions are set out for participatory site development and management of Chom Ong Cave, which is part of the communal area of the local Khmu population. The Chom Ong Khmu villagers themselves made the decision to open the site to tourists in order to increase opportunities for income generation in their village. Support will be provided to ensure that expansion of tourism activities will benefit this community in a way that is appropriate to the cultural context.

Action 3: Supplementary support for business planning and microenterprise development for ethnic group members: The Khmu and Hmong population stand to benefit from increased tourist visits to the cave and along the loop road to the extent that they are able to develop microenterprises that generate revenues from tourists. The Khmu population in Chom Ong village will have the greatest access to tourist revenues based on their existing management of the cave and proximity to the site.

Action 4: Support for livelihood development in ethnic villages. During project design the Khmu and Hmong villagers consulted requested support in improving techniques for agriculture and livestock development. A focus on improving cultivation techniques for commodities that can be sold to sold to tourism supply chains or residents will increase opportunities from tourism development.

Action 5: Inclusion of ethnic groups in project management. This will be carried out by ensuring ethnic group representation in project management and project implementation committees. Safeguards officers will be appointed in the PCU and PIUs. They will be supported by the social safeguards consultants.

Action 6: Promotion of responsible tourism and regular consultation to avoid negative impacts. Outputs 3 and 4 include a number of actions that promote responsible tourism and address the potential negative impacts of tourism on ethnic communities.

#### Implementation, Monitoring and Institutional Arrangements

Implementation of the IPP will be the responsibility of the Director of the PCU and the Director of the Provincial PIUs. The PCU Director will assign a staff member to be responsible for social safeguard implementation, including implementation of this IPP. The PCU social safeguards officer will be the main project staff responsible for implementation of the IPP activities and will coordinate implementation with the safeguards staff assigned by each PIU. The management and reporting structure for the IPP will follow the lines of responsibility for overall project management as described in the Project Administration Manual.

The PCU, with the support of the Social Safeguards Specialist, will be responsible for undertaking necessary measures to strengthen the capacity of concerned local officials for the implementation of the IPP. Capacity development activities will be planned for the PIUs, village leaders from all ethnic groups, and the ethnic group representatives of Community Tourism

Groups (CTGs). A grievance redress mechanism will be put in place to ensure that ethnic group members can communicate when they lack information about the project activities and anticipated impacts, report any negative impacts not addressed by mitigative measures, or inform project implementers about gaps in their inclusion in project benefits. The grievance process must be culturally-sensitive and compatible with existing practices of the ethnic community. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the IPP will be built into the Project Performance Monitoring System (PPMS).

#### I. BACKGROUND

#### A. Objectives of the Indigenous Peoples Plan

- 1. This document is prepared in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement 2009 and follows guidelines set out in the Draft Working Document: *Indigenous Peoples Safeguards:* A Planning and Implementation Good Practice Source Book (2013).
- 2. The objectives of this plan are to: (i) address the aspirations, needs, and preferred options of the affected ethnic groups; (ii) ensure that the benefits from the subproject for ethnic groups are culturally appropriate; (iii) avoid potentially adverse impacts on ethnic groups; (iv) minimize, mitigate or compensate for such effects when they cannot be avoided; and, (v) implement measures to strengthen social, legal and technical capabilities of government institutions to address ethnic group issues.
- 3. The IPP highlights how the project will bring about positive benefits and avoid negative impacts on ethnic groups as an integral part of its core activities. Actions are specified to ensure the Executing Agency (EA) and engaged specialists carry out appropriate measures to achieve beneficial results for ethnic groups and avoid negative impacts. The IPP will be implemented in synergy with the project's Gender Action Plan (GAP), which addresses women's participation in the project and ensures that gender equality measures reach women in ethnic groups in target areas.

# B. Project Description

- 4. The project outcome will be increased tourism receipts benefit men and women living in targeted segments of the GMS Central Corridor in Lao PDR. Project outputs are: (i) improved last-mile tourism access infrastructure; (ii) improved environmental services in cross-border tourism centers; (iii) strengthened institutional capacity to promote inclusive tourism growth; and, (iv) effective project implementation and knowledge management. In Lao PDR the project will improve infrastructure at tourism sites in Khammouane Province (Thakek District), Luang Prabang Province (Pak Ou and Chomphet Districts) and Oudomxay Province (Xay District). Champasak Province will receive assistance to strengthen tourism management capacity in tourism destinations. A detailed description of the project outputs and subprojects is in the Project Administration Manual (PAM).
- 5. This Indigenous Peoples Plan is prepared for the subproject in Oudomxay province (Chom Ong Cave Access Road Improvements). Chom Ong cave in Oudomxay Province comprises an extensive and unique subterranean system with a total length of more than 16 km. Beginning at two entry points connected to Route 13, the subproject will (i) upgrade 54 km of the main looping rural access road to DBST standard with variable 5–6 m carriageway, including construction of bridges, roadside drainage, culverts and embankment stabilization; (ii) upgrade 3.0 km secondary access road to double bituminous surface treatment (DBST) standard with 4 m carriageway and 30m bridge; (iii) construct a 2,000m² parking area; (iv) upgrade the 500 m footpath and steps to the cave entrance; (v) construct a tourist information/reception center with full range of utilities, vendor kiosks, male and female toilet blocks, and landscaped riverside picnic areas; and, (vi) install a network of illuminated raised walking paths and other facilities inside and around the cave.
- 6. Tourism is an economic sector that favors micro- and small-enterprise development, particularly in retail, food and beverage services, and souvenirs/handicrafts that are operated or

supplied primarily by women. Under Output 3, the project includes activities to support microand small-enterprise development and in Oudomxay will work primarily with women from ethnic groups. With this underlying focus, the project presents a number of opportunities to improve ethnic groups' and women's access to economic opportunities, and further their strategic interests in tourism development, a dynamic and growing economic sector.

- 7. Through Output 3 activities, the project will also assist national and provincial tourism officials to establish Destination Management Organizations and prepare Destination Management Plans. The destinations cover a number of provinces that are close to the sites benefiting from infrastructure investments. The main thrust of these Output 3 activities is capacity building of tourism officials and other tourism stakeholders. These activities mainly involve capacity building to improve tourism management and promote local enterprise development so will have positive impacts on ethnic groups, and no foreseen negative effects. This IPP identifies some general beneficial measures to ensure inclusion of ethnic groups in Output 3 destination management activities, specifically for the Oudomxay subproject (Chom Ong Cave Access Road Improvements).
- 8. When poorly managed and uncontrolled, tourism growth can engender problems such as human trafficking, the spread of HIV and AIDS, drug trafficking, exploitation of children (such as child prostitution and child labor) that put local populations, particularly women and children, at risk. Under Outputs 3 and 4, the project will strengthen the institutional capacity of the MICT and provincial DICTs to promote responsible tourism and engage with the private sector, the Women's Union, Lao National Front for Reconstruction and relevant health and law enforcement agencies to reduce such risks associated with tourism.

#### II. SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### A. Ethnic Groups in Lao PDR

9. Lao PDR is an ethnically diverse country with 49 officially recognized ethnic groups. The population of 6.3 million is comprised of four broad ethno-linguistic families: Tai-Kadai (or Lao-Tai, 8 ethnic groups), Mon-Khmer (32 ethnic groups), Sino-Tibetan (7 ethnic groups) and Hmong-Mien (2 ethnic groups). Table 1 provides an overview of ethnic group representation in the Lao PDR population and some key social indicators.

Table 1: Select Socioeconomic Characteristics of Ethnic Groups in Lao PDR<sup>1</sup>

Ethnic Categorization	Main Ethnic Groups	Ethnic Pop. (%)	Poverty Headcount (%)	Underweight children (Under 5)	Net primary enrollment rates (%)
Lao Tai (formerly Lao Loum)	Lao, Tai, Lue and PhouTay	66.7%	25%	34%	76%
Mon-Khmer (formerly Lao Theung)	Khmu, Lamet, Katang, Makong, Brao, Ta Oy Katu	20.6%	54%	43%	49%
Hmong Mien (formerly Lao Soung)	Hmong, Yao and Huoay	8.4%	46%	37%	47%
Sino-Tibetan (formerly Lao Soung)	Akha, Lahu and Sila	3.3%	40%	41%	35%
Other	n/a	1.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>ADB. 2008. Sustainable Tourism Development Project (Source: TA 4879-REG Consultant Team Estimates; World Bank. 2006. *Lao PDR: Poverty Assessment Report. From Valleys to Hilltops—15 Years of Poverty Reduction*; Gender Resource Information and Development Center. 2005. *Lao PDR Gender Profile*.

- 10. The largest share of the population is in the Tai-Kadai ethno-linguistic family (approximately 65%) and the largest ethnic group in this family is the Lao. Lao and other Tai-Kadai groups predominate in the lowland areas and along the Mekong River. Other groups are largely in the upland and mountainous parts of the country. The provincial ethnic make-up varies considerably across the country with Mon-Khmer groups such as Khmu representing the largest proportion of the population in Northern provinces such as Oudomxay, Luang Namtha, Phongsaly and rural parts of Luang Prabang.
- 11. Poverty and access to social services vary among ethnic groups. According to analyses of poverty data in the 2002/3 Lao PDR Expenditure and Consumption Survey, poverty is lowest among the Tai-Kadai group at 26% and highest among Mon-Khmer at 54%, followed by Hmong-Mien (46%) and Sino-Tibetan (40%). Access to basic services is lower in the upland and mountain areas where the non Tai-Kadai groups are settled. Some groups such as Khmu have traditionally depended on subsistence agriculture and have only recently adopted more commercial forms of production. Levels of education and Lao-language proficiency vary across ethnic groups and create barriers to increasing livelihoods beyond subsistence levels. Ethnic women are less likely to be proficient in Lao language than men. Lack of language skills often bars ethnic women from accessing higher levels of education.

#### B. Policy Context of Ethnic Group Development in Lao PDR

- 12. The cultural rights of different ethnic groups are recognized in the Lao PDR's Constitution (amended 2003), which highlights the right of ethnic groups to protect, preserve, and promote their customs and heritage. The Constitution also prohibits acts of division and discrimination (Article 8). Decree No. 192/PM and Regulations No. 2432/STEA on Compensation and Resettlement (2005) also recognize that ethnic groups are entitled to compensation for individual and communal lands with regard to involuntary resettlement (Article 10).
- 13. In 1992 the Party Central Organization passed a Resolution Concerning Ethnic Minority Affairs in the New Era that mandated all government agencies to create a targeted plan for the development of rural, mountainous areas. Since that time the improvement of living conditions of ethnic groups, while also promoting their distinct identities and cultural heritages, has been an official part of Lao PDR's development planning. The Department of Ethnic and Social Affairs of the Lao Front for National Construction (LFNC) is responsible for coordinating ethnic issues, increasing ethnic groups' awareness of government programs and policies, and supporting the implementation of programs targeting ethnic groups. In its Seventh Five Year National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NEDP 2011–2015), the Lao PDR Government re-confirmed its commitment to poverty eradication within a framework of rapid, sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Gender equality and equity for all ethnic groups are underlying principles of the NEDP.
- 14. The Seventh NEDP highlights that enhancing services to ethnic groups improved their conditions (p. 40) over the previous five-year period and commits to continuing to invest in basic infrastructure to continue these gains. The plan also underscores the need for widening opportunities for education, particularly for ethnic girls, as essential to achieving more inclusive economic growth (p.110).

#### C. ADB Safeguard Policy

- 15. The ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and Operations Manual (OM F1/BP and F1/OP 20 January 2010) affirm that environmental and social sustainability is a cornerstone of economic growth and development. ADB commits to ensuring environmental and social sustainability in the projects it supports. The Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS) sets out the policy objectives, scope and triggers, and principles for three inter-related key safeguard areas: environmental safeguards; involuntary resettlement safeguards; and indigenous people's safeguards. The objectives of ADB's safeguards are to: (i) avoid adverse impacts of projects on the environment, affected people and indigenous people, where possible; (ii) minimize, mitigate, and/or compensate for adverse project impacts when avoidance is not possible; and, (iii) help borrowers/clients strengthen their safeguard systems and develop the capacity to manage environmental and social risks.
- 16. The term indigenous peoples is used in a generic sense to refer to a distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group possessing the following in varying degrees: (i) self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others; (ii) collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories; (iii) customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and (iv) a distinct language, often different from the official language of the country or region. In the case of Lao PDR, there is a high degree of consistency between the Lao PDR recognition of the right of ethnic groups to conserve their culture, history and language and ADB's definition of indigenous people.
- 17. The main point of divergence is that, in the case of ADB's policy, a group that has lost collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area because of forced severance remains eligible for coverage. National legislation, customary law, and any international conventions to which Lao PDR is a party are taken into account for application of the ADB policy.
- 18. The indigenous people's safeguards are triggered if a project directly or indirectly affects the dignity, human rights, livelihood systems, or culture of indigenous people or affects the territories or natural or cultural resources that indigenous people own, use, occupy, or claim as an ancestral domain or asset. In this project, the subproject at Chom Ong Cave Access Road Improvement will support Oudomxay Province and the Khmu village of Chom Ong to increase tourist visits to Chom Ong Cave through better road access and improved facilities at the cave. This stand-alone IPP has been prepared for the said subproject since Chom Ong villagers consider the cave as part of their communal area.
- 19. It should be noted that Khmu villagers started to develop the cave for commercial purposes in 2005 by establishing guided visits and providing homestay accommodations to tourists. The subproject will, thus, essentially increase tourist numbers and upgrade facilities to accommodate more tourists. The subproject will also positively impact other villagers and ethnic groups living along the road by improving access to markets and social services. The IPP will ensure that these communities are able to access these potential benefits while promoting responsible tourism growth.

#### D. Ethnic Profile in Project Locations

20. Oudomxay is the fifth poorest of Lao PDR's seventeen provinces with a poverty rate of 33.7% compared to 27.6% for the whole country. The majority of the population belongs to the

Khmu ethnic group (58.89%) and the remainder is Tai-Kadai (mainly Lue and also Lao, Phoutai, Tai, Yang), Hmong-Mien (Hmong and Iu-mien) and a number of smaller ethnic groups.

- 21. The main economic activity is farming based on swidden<sup>2</sup> land-use practices. Ninety percent of women and 85% of men are engaged in farming activities. Oudomxay's agricultural sector is undergoing a transformation from subsistence upland rice faming to commercial maize production. From 2007 to 2012 the area of maize production increased by 12% per year and the upland rice area dropped by 3% per year. Maize production is contributing to higher household incomes with one study showing that households whose main crop is maize have attained triple the annual income of those whose main crop is upland rice. The project road will facilitate market access for eleven villages whose population invests in this growing commercial activity.
- 22. While economically beneficial, the transition to maize production bears some risks as household food security becomes more dependent on the income from a single commercial crop. Land area for commercial crop development is in high demand and over-expansion will create pressure on forest resources. Developing non-farm economic activities such as tourism services will contribute to mitigating these risks by diversifying household sources of income.
- 23. The Chom Ong Cave is located in Xay District, approximately 50 kms north-west of Oudomxay City and about 5 km from Chom Ong village. The majority of the population along the rural loop access road is Khmu with Lao Lue and Hmong living in a number of villages. Table 2 presents the ethnic composition of the province and subproject villages.

Table 2: Ethnic composition at subproject site<sup>3</sup>

No.	Village	Total Population	Lao- Tai %	Khmu %	Hmong %	Other %	Poverty Rate %
	Oudomxay Province	314,269	25	59	13	3	33.7
	Chom Ong Cave Access Road Improvements						
District	Xay District	67,539					60.0
Village	Kieochalu	519		100			22.7
	Nasao	602	95	5	0		
	Nalea	800	68	32	0		
	HouyOum	369	0	100	0		
	Thasaleuang	626	0	83	18		26.2
	Nangam	830	0	54	46		8.4
	Nasenekham	1122	0	51	49		
	Lang	785	1	95	4		1.7
	Mokha	469	0	100	0		38.5
	Nampra	1138	0	100	0		11.7
	Chom Ong	729	0	100	0		8.3
	Catchment Villages total	7,989					

24. In July 2013 a socio-economic survey and participatory consultations were undertaken at Chom Ong and 8 of the 11 villages along the rural road loop that will be upgraded by the

<sup>2</sup> A land-use system in which a tract of land is cultivated until its fertility diminishes, after which it is left fallow until restored naturally

Sources: *Population*: Statistical Yearbook 2012 (province) and local records (district, village) 2012; *Ethnic composition*: Situation of ethnic minorities, Lao PDR Health Master Planning Study 2005 (province) and local records (village). *Poverty Headcount*: Lao PDR Expenditure and Consumption Survey 2008 (province) and local records (village). Poverty line based on amount needed to buy 2100 calories per day: 180,000 Kip per person, per month for people in rural areas and 210,000 kip per person, per month for people in urban areas.

project (villages selected were those where majority of the population are from ethnic groups). The survey had 112 respondents representing 2% of the combined population of the villages.

25. The respondents included 80 men and 32 women. Figure 1 below shows the age distribution of the members of the respondent households (HH).

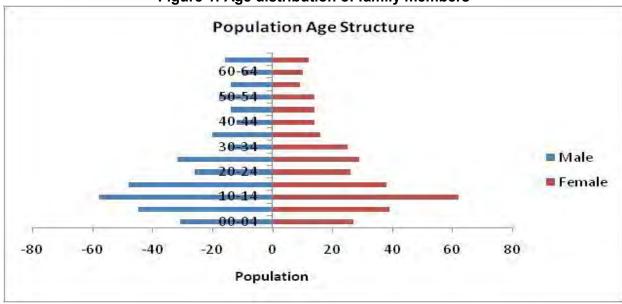


Figure 1: Age distribution of family members

Number of family members = 696

- 26. The results from this group of respondents show that the majority of the population has access to primary school and are literate. However, 14.7% of women compared to 4.4% of men have had no schooling and are not literate. Only 3 women (0.6%) of the total number of family members (N=696) in respondent households and 27 men (4%) have completed secondary school or above.
- 27. Farming was the main source of livelihood for 90% of respondents. 99% of respondents cultivate corn for selling in the market. 51% also cultivate rice of which 31% were selling a surplus and 69% were farming for their own consumption. 33% percent of households also maintain a vegetable garden with produce primarily for their own consumption. 38% of respondents reported having experienced a food shortage within the past two years. Table 3 presents the estimated distribution and estimated duration of food shortage.

**Table 3: Duration of food shortage** 

Number of months of shortages	No. of HH	% HH
1-For 1-2 months	10	23.8%
2-For 2-3 months	12	28.6%
3-For >3 months	20	47.6%
Total respondents	42	100.0%

28. The majority of homes in the subproject catchment area are constructed of wood with tin or thatch roof (85%).

29. Table 4 and Table 5 show how the population receives information from the local and national government, indicating fairly high usage of TV and radio as the main source of information.

Table 4: Main source of communications from national government

Source	No. of HH	% HH
1 - TV	74	66.1%
2 - Radio	41	36.6%
3 - Newspaper	18	16.1%
4 - Others:		0.0%
Mouth to mouth	16	14.3%
From Village authority	13	11.6%
Official notice	6	5.4%
Telephone	1	0.9%
don't know	2	1.8%
Total respondents	112	

A HH receives communications from many sources

A HH without a TV would watch with the ones who have one

Table 5: Main source of communications from local government

Source	No. of HH	% HH
1 - TV	30	26.8%
2 - Radio	22	19.6%
3 - Print memo/flyer from commune office	28	25.0%
4 - Village meeting	104	92.9%
5 - Other: Mouth to mouth	10	8.9%
Total respondents	112	

30. Interviews in three ethnic villages (1 village composed of 85% Hmong, and 2 villages were 100% Khmu) indicate that all have access to basic services although the quality of services varies across villages. Two villages, one majority ethnic Hmong and another majority ethnic Khmu, reported problems with their water supply, which is sourced mainly from a nearby river with the piped system reaching only part of the village. By comparison Chom Ong has benefited from a newly installed piped water system that reaches all households. The 3 villages visited during the field survey each had a primary school (the maximum distance to school was 2 km). Chom Ong had a health post whereas the other villages close to the highway used the Xay Provincial hospital for health services.

Table 6: Household source of water supply

Water supply type	No. of HH	% HH
1- Rain water	2	1.8%
2- Tradition/shallow well	10	8.9%
3- Deep well	1	0.9%
4- Public tap	34	30.4%
5- Purchased	2	1.8%
6- Canal, river, pond	24	21.4%
7- Piped water	61	54.5%
8 - Other: specify		
Total respondents	112	

31. Additional information on socio-economic conditions was collected from the socio-economic surveys. As noted in Table 7, respondents relied on variety of sources for their health

treatment with up to 45% using government health centers and 55% accessing the government hospital when needed. Traditional healers are also an important source of treatment with 23% of respondents using these services.

32. Respondents also reported using multiple sources of water supply with 30% having access to a public tap, and 9% having access to a well. The average distance to a water source is 320 m. 48% indicated that only female household members collect water, 22% reported that men collect water, and 28% reported that both male and female members are responsible for water collection.

Table 7: Source of health advice or treatment

Place to go for advice or treatment	No. of HH	% HH
1-Friends, relatives or neighbors	32	28.6%
2-Traditional doctor/healer/practitioner	26	23.2%
3-Pharmacy or shop	18	16.1%
4-Government health centre or clinic	51	45.5%
5-Government hospital	61	54.5%
6-Private doctor	3	2.7%
7-Other, specify		
Total respondents	112	

Table 8: Sanitation facilities in households

Туре	No. of HH	% HH
1- Pit latrine (dry)	74	66.1%
2- Toilet in house	14	12.5%
3 - Others: Wet latrine	17	15.2%
4 - None	7	6.3%
Total respondents	112	100.0%

Table 9: Average Income by Household

Income Details	Total HH annual income	
No. HH	112	
Average income (KN)	17,383,482	
Median (KN)	13,000,000	
Minimum (KN)	1,500,000	
Maximum (KN)	82,360,000	

- 33. 63% of the respondents indicated they were aware of the subproject and 97% indicated that they considered it beneficial to the community. The main perceived benefit is increased mobility and better access to market.
- 34. Two-thirds of respondents reported having positive experiences with tourists in their community and the remainder had mixed positive or negative feelings or did not know due to lack of exposure to tourists. Less than 3% of respondents associated tourists with negative experiences. Over 85% of respondents stated they liked showing tourists aspects of their culture.
- 35. The number of small businesses / retail shops along the road is small and mainly targets local customers. 12 of the 112 respondents indicated that Chom Ong is the only village to have developed tourism services such as home stays, meals for home stay guests, and cave guide services. Women in Khmu and Hmong villages are skilled in producing clothing and woven bags but presently only make these products for their own use. 78% of survey respondents indicated

that they would be interested in tourism-related jobs or income generating activities. The responses by type of income generating activity are presented in Table 10 (note for some questions respondents provided more than one response). The main types of training needed were in cooking / catering, tour guide services and overall customer/hospitality services.

**Table 10: Type of tourism activity of interest** 

- substant sypt of tourism domini	No. of	
Ways to gain more income	respondents	%
1 - Renting out/selling accommodation (guesthouses)	25	22.3%
2 - Cooking and selling cooked food (restaurants/eating stalls)	32	28.6%
3 - Selling food and beverages or other supplies	73	65.2%
4 - Selling handicrafts (handicraft shops/stalls)	74	66.1%
5 - Selling locally-produced alcohol	62	55.4%
6 - Tour-guiding/trekking services	48	42.9%
7 – Housekeeping	21	18.8%
8 - Ticket selling	18	16.1%
9 - Site cleaning	30	26.8%
10 – Boat rides	3	2.7%
11 – Motorbike taxi	13	11.6%
12 – Car taxi, bus or other transportation service	11	9.8%
13 - Cultural performances (music, dance, ceremonial, etc.)	46	41.1%
14 - Other	6	5.4%
Total respondents	112	

# E. Consultation during Project Preparation

- 36. In addition to the socio-economic survey the PPTA consultants organized 8 consultation meetings between 18 July and 30 July 2013 in Chom Ong and other Khmu and Hmong villages situated along the rural road access loop. The minutes of these consultations are in Annex 2. A total of 130 participants attended these meetings (100% from ethnic groups 85% Khmu and 15% Hmong) of which approximately one-third were women. Separate discussions were also held with women participants.
- 37. The consultations included a presentation of information about the subproject's initial design and purpose, and planned capacity development / training activities under Output 3. Participants were asked to indicate their views on potential beneficial impacts and risks of the project. The main points raised include requests for (i) training in tourism related services; (ii) support for setting up retail and handicraft enterprises; and, (iii) promoting road safety.
- 38. During a meeting held on 10 June 10 2013, Khmu villagers indicated that they consider increasing visits from tourism to be economically beneficial. In Chom Ong, the Khmu villagers confirmed that improving access to the cave and increasing the number of tourists staying in the village are among their local development aspirations. The meeting discussions showed that the Khmu villagers themselves had decided to open Chom Ong Cave to visits. The village chief stated that the community had not revealed the existence of the cave to outsiders until 2004, as they wanted to use it as a hiding place for the villagers' security given the past history of conflict in the country. As the risks of conflicts declined and the villagers sought to increase their economic activity they revealed the cave's existence to the tourism department.
- 39. In January 2009, an international group of scientists of the Northern Lao European Cave Project measured the first part of the cave and calculated a preliminary length of 13.5 km. Supported by the Schmitz Foundation, toilet and bathroom facilities were installed, as well as

ceramic filters supplying clean drinking water in the village. The first 450 m of the cave was equipped with lights and an information board about the site and cultural "do's and don'ts" was erected at the entrance to the cave. In January 2010 a second expedition determined the length of the cave to be about 16.4 km.

40. As the villagers feel ownership over the cave, access to Chom Ong cave should remain under the management of the villagers. For example, any decisions to charge entrance fees for visitors should be made with the full participation of the community. Generated funds could go to village-led improvements to tourist facilities and maintenance of the cave. Both government and villagers support co-management of the cave. Village management with district and provincial support will be formalized in an agreement during project implementation.

### F. Potential Impacts Identified

- 41. The project's planned infrastructure and capacity development activities in targeted tourist sites will positively impact on local ethnic groups by increasing jobs and income associated with tourism, which is an economic sector that some communities are already involved. Under Output 3 a number of activities (including building on the value of ethnic culture and traditions, support for women's enterprise development and labor reducing technology, and campaigns to promote responsible tourism) will ensure that any potential negative impacts of tourism are avoided.
- 42. The village of Chom Ong will benefit directly as a result of an increase in the numbers of tourists visiting the caves and corresponding increase in revenue from (i) entrance and parking fees; (ii) cave and village tours and guide services; (iii) earnings from selling food, beverages, and handicraft/souvenirs in the multi-purpose tourist center (to be constructed by the project) and in the village; and, (iv) increased demand for home-stay accommodation.
- 43. Upgrading the rural access road will also bring economic benefits to all ethnic villages in the catchment areas as a result of: (i) improved farm to market access; (ii) opportunities for development of roadside retail enterprises servicing an increase in traffic; and, (iii) further development of home-stay facilities and handicraft production. Table 11 summarizes the main benefits and potential negative impacts that were identified during the consultations with ethnic people.

Table 11: Main benefits and potential negative impacts in Oudomxav

Table 11. Main benefits and potential negative impacts in Oddonixay							
Output	Potential benefits	Potential Negative Impacts					
<ol> <li>Last Mile Tourism</li> </ol>	Medium: Two of the five villages	Low: Increased traffic creates					
Access Infrastructure	along the rural road to be upgraded	noise and safety issues for					
Improved	have Khmu and Hmong	ethnic settlements close to road.					
	households. These villages are	Rated low because the project					
	developing tourism attractions along the river and in forested areas and will benefit economically from the increase in tourist traffic.	will add signs and conduct traffic safety campaigns. Road design and signs will encourage cars to slow down in villages.					
Oudomxay:	High: Improved road provides local	Very Low: Loss of traditions and					
Chom Ong Cave Access	Khmu and Hmong population with	culture due to more exposure to					
Road Improvement	better access to social services and	external influences. Rated very					
	to markets for agriculture products;	low because tourism is already					
		present and is promoted in a					
	High: Higher tourist arrivals to	way that emphasizes the value					

Output	Potential benefits	Potential Negative Impacts
	Chom Ong Cave bring increased revenues and employment to the local Khmu population.  High: Tourist road traffic brings new income generating activities to Hmong populations living along the road.	of ethnic heritage and culture.  Low: Risk that with increased volume of tourists Khmu villagers will lose control of access to Chom Ong Cave. Rated low because village authority to manage the cave will be formalized under the project.
		Low: Risk that increased revenues from tourism disrupts seasonal pattern of traditional subsistence activities and creates food security gaps in off-season.
2. Environmental Services in Cross Border Tourism Centers Improved	No activities planned in Oudomxay for this output	
3. Institutional Capacity to Promote Inclusive Tourism Growth Strengthened	High: These activities are designed to engage local community members in tourism site management and enterprise development in an inclusive way. Ethnic community members will benefit from training in tourism planning, enterprise development, hospitality services as well as awareness-raising in health, hygiene, safety, heritage conservation, and avoiding negative impacts of tourism.	None: No negative impacts are anticipated from these activities. PCU has experience with developing ethnically sensitive tourism from previous projects; Province DICT has assisted Khmu and other ethnic villages to engage with other departments and the private sector to develop cave and homestay/guided tours.
4. Effective Project Implementation and Knowledge Management	Medium: The integration of the updating, implementation and monitoring of the IPPs into the project's work plan will ensure benefits are realized and concerns of ethnic groups in project planning are addressed.	Low: The PCUs and PIUs will be promoting the country's ethnic diversity as a tourism asset. They will ensure ethnic communities continue to have an active role in planning activities that affect their cultural assets, land area, and local resources.

44. Information about subproject activities and potential impacts in each area has been disseminated and consultations have been held with the Khmu villagers and other ethnic groups living in the subproject area have confirmed that improving access to the cave in their land area and increasing the number of tourists that stay in the village are among their local development aspirations. While all ethnic groups indicated their support for the road improvements and tourist facilities, they have requested that the detailed design avoids the need to acquire paddy land. This recommendation was incorporated into the road's preliminary design. The villagers also requested training in hospitality, English language, guide services and food preparation. These activities have been included in Output 3.

# G. Consultation during Implementation

- 45. Throughout all subproject phases, ethnic groups will be continued to be meaningfully consulted on all subproject activities that can potentially affect them. Every attempt will be made to obtain their participation in (i) planning, designing, implementing, and monitoring measures to avoid adverse impacts or, when avoidance is not possible, to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects; and, (ii) tailoring project benefits for affected ethnic communities.
- 46. The PCU will provide oversight to ensure that such consultations are held. The Provincial PIU will be responsible for ensuring community participation through the Community Tourism Groups (CTGs) that will have representation from every concerned ethnic group. Each village will have at least two designated CTG representatives, one man and one woman. The PIU will set up regular meetings with district leaders, village leaders, the Lao Women's Union, and Lao National Front for Reconstruction (LNFR) to ensure that all the involved people have full awareness and understanding about the project content. In keeping with their role as community mobilizers, the District Lao Women's Union and LNFR will support the organization of the consultations and ensure information and disclosure of project activities to all ethnic groups.
- 47. During detailed design and in the planning of training activities, consultations will be held in every concerned village. It is crucial to invite all villagers to the meetings and to conduct separate meetings with vulnerable households and women to get their perspective on project activities. The objective of the consultations is that all ethnic groups that may be affected by the project are properly informed about the project (early in the project cycle), its scope, implementation schedule and activities, and expected impacts. These consultations will be scheduled to coincide with set milestones throughout the project.
- 48. To ensure full disclosure with ethnic groups, all communication concerning the project will be conducted in relevant local dialects and in a culturally appropriate manner. The project will apply principles of meaningful consultation as described in Box 1. Public meetings will be arranged in villages whenever possible, using participatory methodologies. Information will be posted in a central public location such as the District and area offices, and village information boards at the homes of ethnic leaders. Information will be mostly pictorial in order to guarantee accessibility of the information for ethnic people with poor literacy skills, in particular women.
- 49. Local people's opinions will be recorded in an appropriate way in meeting minutes. Notes also will be taken during all regular meetings between the PIU and ethnic leaders or village representatives chosen by villagers. The IPP will be updated at the start of project implementation in parallel with the detailed design process, in order to ensure ethnic group participation and updating of measures to address any changes or adjustments in the project. All concerns and/or grievances raised will be recorded and integrated in project planning. The final IPP will be disclosed at a district level public meeting including all relevant stakeholders. Women representing affected households must be present at the disclosure meetings. Copies of the final updated IPP, translated into the Lao language and ethnic language(s) where practicable, will be available at the District offices and village leader's house.
- 50. Disclosure will also include posting on the ADB website of the following:
  - a. The Indigenous People's Plan Prior to the staff review meeting
  - b. Updated IPP During implementation (immediately after detail design)
  - c. IPP Monitoring Reports During implementation (quarterly)

#### Box 1: What is Meaningful Consultation?

According to the ADB SPS (2009), meaningful consultation is a process that:

- begins early in the project preparation stage and is carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the project cycle;
- provides timely disclosure of relevant and adequate information that is understandable and readily available to affected people
- is undertaken in an atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion:
- is gender inclusive and responsive, tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups;
- enables the incorporation of all relevant views of affected people and other stakeholders into decision making, such as project design, mitigation measures, the sharing of development benefits and opportunities, and implementation issues.

Source: ADB. 2009. Safeguard Policy Statement, p. iii

#### III. BENEFICIAL AND MITIGATIVE MEASURES

#### A. Beneficial Measures

- 51. Action 1: Support for strengthening community-based tourism activities in ethnic villages. In each subproject site, including Chom Ong and other villas along the access road, the project will establish a Community Tourism Group that will (i) raise concerns of participating communities with the PIU; (ii) ensure that the concerns of the community are adequately reflected in design and implementation of the project; (iii) assist in implementation of community awareness programs; and, (iv) ensure that the community is involved in community-based monitoring and evaluation. In order to ensure that concerns of ethnic groups are reflected in community tourism planning, the following actions will be undertaken:
  - i. Designate members from ethnic households as representatives to the Community Tourism Group (CTG) in accordance with their proportion of the local population;
  - ii. Within destination management plans in subproject areas, identify tourist attractions that will draw visitors to ethnic villages such as road stops/look-outs, walking trails and local markets:
  - iii. Establish small funds for community-based tourism activities in ethnic villages to assist the develop tourist attractions. The Village Chief and representatives of the CTGs will consult with the ethnic village residents on the use of the fund.
- 52. <u>Responsibility for Action 1:</u> The PIU staff and project implementation consultants will assist ethnic groups in preparing the plans. Project funds will be held by the PIU and disbursed based on plans submitted by the Village Chief following these consultations. A lump-sum amount is included in the IPP budget for this activity. PIUs will assist Chom Ong and the 10 other villages form/strengthen CTGs under the guidance of PCU Safeguards Officer and Social Safeguards consultants.
- 53. **Action 2: Support to Chom Ong Village Management Association.** Specific actions are set out for the site development and management of the Chom Ong Cave as it is part of the

communal area of the local Khmu population. The expansion of tourist activities must benefit the Khmu community in a way that is compatible with the local cultural context. The following actions are intended to ensure that the Khmu community maintains their control of the cave site:

- i. At the start of project implementation, the Provincial PIU, with support from the Gender and Social Development Specialists and Tourism Planning Specialist, will hold consultations with Chom Ong Village to determine how to operate the newly developed cave site.
- ii. Based on this consultation, Chom Ong Village representatives and the Provincial Tourism Office will draw up an Operations and Maintenance Plan for the Chom Ong Cave site that includes the following:
  - a. Confirmation of the Khmu villages' management of the cave access and its role in the maintenance of the site.
  - b. The structure of the Village Site Management Committee/CTG, with a minimum of 30% women.
  - c. The types of public revenue to be generated at the site (e.g. parking, ticket entrance, rental of kiosks, etc.) and the system for managing these funds for site maintenance, community social services, and re-investment in village-based tourism microenterprises (guide services, home-stays, kiosks, etc.).
  - d. Roles and responsibilities of the Village Site Management Committee/CTG, Provincial DICT and Xay District.
- iii. The Provincial DICT, with support from the Gender and Social Development Specialist and Tourism Planning Specialist will prepare a capacity development plan for the Chom Ong Cave Village Management Committee/CTG that includes training in:
  - a. Management skills for tourism site operation and maintenance;
  - b. Hospitality services, and dealing with tourist operators and tourists
  - c. Accounting and public fund management.
  - d. Organizational development skills for committee leaders. At project start, the Provincial PIU will provide transitional support/monitoring in revenue collection and management until the skills are sufficient within the Village Management Committee/CTG to independently operate the cave site and manage the associated funds for maintenance and other determined activities.
- 54. <u>Responsibility for Action 2:</u> Oudomxay PIU to establish operational procedures with from guidance of PCU Safeguards Officer and Social Safeguards and Tourism consultants.
- 55. Action 3: Supplementary support for business planning and microenterprise development for ethnic group members: The Khmu and Hmong population stand to benefit from increased tourist visits to the cave and along the road to the extent that they are able to develop microenterprises that generate revenues from tourists. The Khmu population in Chom Ong village has the greatest access to tourist revenues because they manage the cave and live close to the site. The actions outlined below will ensure the local ethnic populations are able to benefit from the increased arrival of tourists:
  - i. As part of the activities planned under Output 3, design and conduct training in business planning and microenterprise development (including hospitality, marketing to tourists, and food hygiene), with separate classes for women, with targeted participation of Khmu and Hmong villagers.
  - ii. Prepare training materials and hand-outs in local languages or using easily understood visuals appropriate to the local context.

- iii. As part of the value chain analysis planned under Output 3, consult with Khmu and Hmong women about their interest in production and sale of souvenirs and handicrafts. Skills trainings in traditional handicrafts will be organized accordingly.
- iv. Establish small revolving funds to provide start-up capital for ethnic minorities wishing to open at tourism-related microenterprises.
- v. Provide training in hospitality and selling to tourists
- vi. Conduct training in English and guiding.
- 56. <u>Responsibility for Action 3:</u> The Output 3 consultants and PCU/PIU staff will develop and implement training programs in these areas in cooperation with the Lao Women's Union. The PCU Safeguards Officer will ensure: (i) preparation of training materials and handouts in local languages; (ii) community facilitators from ethnic groups are trained to coach women in microenterprise development at the end of the training; and, (iii) establishment of small revolving funds to provide start-up capital for ethnic households who are ready to open a tourism-related business. A budget is allocated in the IPP for this purpose.
- 57. **Action 4: Support for livelihood development in ethnic villages.** During project design the Khmu and Hmong villagers in Oudomxay requested support in improving techniques for agriculture, livestock development, and production of handicrafts and home-processed food. A focus on improving cultivation techniques for commodities that can be sold to tourism supply chains or the local market in Muong Xay will increase opportunities from tourism development. The actions to be implemented include:
  - i. Consult with ethnic populations, including separate groups with women, on their interests and preference for agriculture support, animal husbandry, and production and sale of processed food and non-timber forest products.
  - ii. Provide households with training in improved techniques in areas such as vegetable production and animal-raising (including fodder production), handicraft design, and home-based food processing that will help them to benefit from increased tourist arrivals in the area.
  - iii. Establish a small fund for start-up agriculture, livestock, raw materials and equipment for handicraft production, and home-based food processing for local households so they can benefit from the increased tourist arrivals.
- 58. <u>Responsibility for Action 4:</u> The PCU and PIU, with support of the consultants, will develop and implement the assistance programs and help CTGs establish revolving funds. The Village Chief and representatives of the CTGs will consult with village members on the use of the village revolving funds.
- 59. **Action 5: Integration of ethnic group concerns in project management**: This will be carried out by ensuring ethnic group representation in project management and project implementation committees. Safeguards officers will be appointed in the PCU and PIUs. They will be supported by the social safeguards consultants. The actions to be implemented include:
  - i. A social/gender focal person and a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) focal person will be appointed as members of the PCU and PIU.
  - ii. An international and a national social and gender development specialist with prior experience in dealing with ethnic group issues will support the government in project implementation, including implementation of the IPP.
  - iii. Ethnic group representation in the PIU will be proportional to the local provincial population.

- iv. Representative(s) from the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, the Lao Front for National Construction and Lao Women's Union in Lao PDR will be invited to sit on the subregional steering committee, national steering committee and the provincial project steering committee meeting.
- v. Monitoring data will be disaggregated by sex, ethnicity and income.
- vi. All progress reports, internal or external, shall include a section which reports on progress implementing the IPP, and the impact the project is having on ethnic groups—positive and/or negative.
- 60. <u>Responsibility for Action 5:</u> The PCU Director in coordination with PIU Directors are responsible for implementation of the above actions.

### B. Mitigative Measures

- 61. Action 6: Promotion of responsible tourism and regular consultation to avoid negative impacts. Outputs 3 and 4 include a number of actions that promote responsible tourism and address the potential negative impacts of tourism on ethnic communities. Actions to promote responsible tourism will address concerns related to the loss of culture and traditions that could arise from increased dependence on tourism. Impacts such as the acquisition of small amounts of agriculture land for the site development are minor and addressed in the Resettlement Plan (only 6 ethnic group households are affected by resettlement and less than 10% of their land is affected). Problems associated with increased tourist presence such as human trafficking and child exploitation are to be monitored and appropriate prevention programs will be implemented in cooperation with mass organizations, nongovernment organizations and law enforcement agencies. Output 3 includes a number of actions built into the project design to promote responsible tourism. These are highlighted in Box 2.
- 62. To ensure that ethnic groups are not negatively impacted by the project, and to monitor risks associated with growth in tourism, a process of regular consultation will be integrated into project activities throughout implementation. The PIU will ensure ongoing consultation and participation with ethnic groups, their leaders, and mass organizations working in concerned villages. The following actions will be taken to ensure regular consultations:
  - (i) Provincial PIUs will set up regular meetings with the District Committee, Women's Union, Lao PDR National Front and concerned village leaders project inception, and on a semi-annual basis to review project implementation, and ensure that all local officials and village leaders have full awareness and understanding about the project content. These meetings will review the status of tourism growth in the local area, whether the benefits are spread sufficiently across villages and ethnic groups, and if actions are needed to ensure a more balanced distribution of benefits. These meetings will also identify the need to control any negative impacts from tourist growth. Consultations will be held with law enforcement officials to determine if any negative impacts such as drugs, human trafficking or child exploitation are taking place and require intervention.
  - (ii) Provincial PIUs will request ethnic villages to designate representatives (in proportion to ethnic population, with equal numbers of men and women) to Community Tourism Groups. The CTG will provide inputs to the PIU and consultants engaged by the project on the content of training and awareness raising programs to take place in their villages – ethnic group representatives will provide inputs into the specific needs and cultural context of training / awareness-raising in their community.

(iii) Village-level consultations will be organized on an annual basis as part of project performance monitoring system to review the activities that have taken place, ethnic groups' views on project impacts and additional activities or corrective actions required to ensure all ethnic groups equally benefit from the project. In keeping with their role as community mobilizers, the Women's Union and Lao National Front at the District Level will support the organization of the consultations and ensure information and disclosure about project activities to all ethnic groups in the project's catchment area.

#### **Box 2: Output 3 Programs to Promote Responsible Tourism**

**Public Health and Safety Promotion Program.** To promote increased safety and wellbeing of tourists and residents, this activity will (i) conduct road safety awareness in communities living adjacent to project-supported road improvements; (ii) campaign to encourage wearing of helmets while operating motorbikes, and prevent driving while intoxicated; (iii) strengthen systems to ensure compliance with tourist transport vehicle safety and maintenance regulations; (iv) conduct food safety and sanitation awareness seminars targeting tourist accommodation providers, restaurants, and local markets; and (v) assist tourist site operators improve solid waste management (i.e. reduce, reuse and recycling programs) and access municipal waste collection services.

**Tourism Awareness Programs.** This activity will support information and education campaigns to raise awareness among key tourism stakeholders and the general population on the (i) economic and social benefits of responsible tourism practices; and (ii) the potential negative impacts of tourism mismanagement such as the degradation of cultural and natural heritage and spread of communicable diseases.

Heritage Protection, Management and Interpretation Program. This activity will facilitate (i) development of culture, nature and historic heritage protection measures such as heritage zoning and associated regulations; (ii) preparation of heritage management plans; (iii) heritage protection awareness campaigns; (iv) heritage guide training; and (v) heritage research and interpretation, including the development of heritage trails, signage, leaflets, guidebooks and maps.

**Program to Combat Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking.** This activity will build on existing country/regional efforts to map out the occurrence of child exploitation (including child sex and child labor) and human trafficking in the tourism industry, and incorporate measures in DMPs to help prevent and enforce laws against these crimes.

Source: Project Administration Manual.

#### IV. CAPACITY BUILDING

63. Capacity building for the DICTs, Women's Union and members of the Lao National Front in the project area is crucial for successful IPP implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The PCU, with the contribution of the Social Safeguards Specialist, will be responsible for undertaking necessary measures to strengthen the capacity of the PIU staff and concerned local officials on the implementation of the IPP. Capacity development activities will be planned for village leaders from all ethnic groups, the ethnic group representatives of CTGs, and CTG members.

64. Capacity building for local officials will focus increasing their understanding of the legal framework for ethnic participation and strengthening their technical capabilities to implement the IPP. Information and awareness campaigns will aim to positively influence knowledge, attitudes and practice to promote social inclusion and cultural diversity, and heritage protection as key assets for sustainable tourism development. Capacity building for CTG members and village leaders will focus on building their skills in project management, facilitating community meetings, and preparing brief verbal and written reports to document issues and other concerns of the communities. Capacity building programs will begin at project inception and continue throughout the project cycle.

The stakeholder communication strategy in the PAM will be reviewed and launched at project inception to ensure that: (i) necessary documents, information relating to the IPP, government requirements relating to the ethnic groups, and the ADB SPS (highlighting Requirement No. 3: Indigenous Peoples) are made available to all concerned stakeholders and ethnic groups; and (ii) workshops and meetings will be organized to introduce the IPP and ADB Safeguard Policy, with the participation of ethnic groups and concerned stakeholders throughout the project cycle.

#### V. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

- 65. A grievance redress mechanism will be put in place to ensure that ethnic group members can (i) communicate their information needs concerning project activities and anticipated impacts; (ii) report any negative impacts; and, (iii) inform project implementers about any gaps in their inclusion in project benefits. The grievance process must be culturally-sensitive and designed to work with existing practices of the ethnic community.
- 66. The PIU Director will be the point of contact for issues related to the IPP. Each CTG in ethnic villages will include representatives from these communities. These representatives will act as community liaison officers for the ethnic communities, and will record grievances and discuss these with the CTG. These records will be sent to the DICT Director, the Lao National Front and the provincial PIU/PCU for follow-up action. The CTGs will have the contact information of the PIU Director responsible for IPP implementation and PCU Director responsible for IPP oversight. The consultants will be copied in these communications and will review the issues and propose appropriate follow-up actions in consultation with the appropriate authority.
- 52. If efforts to resolve complaints or disputes are still unresolved and unsatisfactory following the project's grievance redress mechanism, the households have the right to send their concerns or problems directly to ADB's Southeast Asia Department (SERD) or through the ADB Lao PDR Resident Mission. If the households are still not satisfied with the responses of SERD, they can directly contact the ADB's Office of the Special Project Facilitator as outlined in the Information Guide to the Consultation Phase of the ADB Accountability Mechanism.
- 67. The grievance redress mechanism will be continuously disseminated to people during project implementation.

#### VI. MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

68. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the IPP will be built into the Project Performance Monitoring System (PPMS), to be developed during the first year of project implementation. IPP monitoring will (i) ensure that the ethnic groups have been engaged in the project activities; (ii) assess the quality and timeliness of ethnic group support programs; (iii) identify problems; and

(v) formulate appropriate responses. IPP monitoring will be consistent with the project's Design and Monitoring Framework. Quarterly progress reports will provide periodic updates on IPP implementation and the effect of the project on ethnic groups. The midterm evaluation will consider past updates and make adjustments to the PPMS, as required. All monitoring data and reports will contain information disaggregated by sex and ethnicity.

#### VII. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

69. Implementation of the IPP will be the responsibility of the Director of the PCU and Director of each PIU. The Directors will assign at least one member of the PCU and PIU to be responsible for social safeguards implementation, including this IPP. The safeguards officers from the PCU and PIUs, with the support of the consultants, Lao Women's Union, Lao National Front, and ethnic CTG representatives will implement IPP activities. An overview of the implementation framework is presented in Figure 2.

MICT Executing Agency (EA) ADB Project Coordination Unit (PCU) Safeguards Officer (SO) DICT **Provincial Implementing Agency** Social Safeguards Specialists (PIU) (International & National) Safeguards Officer (SO) **District Office of** Information, Culture **Community Tourism Groups**and Tourism CTG (representing ethnic groups) **Mass Organizations** e.g. Women's Union & LNFR → = reporting relationship

Figure 2: IPP Implementation Framework

70. Consultants to be engaged to support the PCU and PIU implement the IPP and other social safeguards comprise an International Social Safeguards Specialist, National Social Safeguards Specialist, International Gender Specialist and National Gender Specialist. The PCU will appoint a safeguards coordinator to coordinate and monitor the IPP. The consultant

 $\leftarrow -- > =$  coordination relationship

safeguards specialists will work closely with other consultants to integrate measures to address ethnic groups' participation into the project's annual work plans. The terms of reference for other consultants working under output 3 such as Tourism Training Specialists and Micro- and Small-Enterprise Development Specialists include provisions to ensure that the project benefits ethnic groups.

- 71. The PIU will work with the District Office of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Lao National Front, Lao Women's Union, and ethnic CTG members to ensure that implementation of the IPP stays on track. CTG representatives, with training and support from the national Social Safeguards Specialist and the PIU, will hold community consultation meetings shortly after project inception and regular progress review meetings during implementation to ensure the community is involved in the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the IPP. CTG representatives will work with participating communities to identify priorities for business support services, enterprise training, and other capacity building activities to strengthen local management of tourist sites. The outcomes of the regular community consultations will be summarized and feed into the projects quarterly progress reports.
- 72. The key benefits to ethnic groups are linked with implementation of the subproject and Output 3 capacity building activities in their local area and as such are part of the arrangements and estimated costs of main project. Representatives from the LFNC and the Lao Women's Union will play a critical role in facilitating participation by all ethnic groups in project activities and will be invited to participate in steering committee meetings, as required.

#### VIII. BUDGET AND FINANCING

73. The budget for meetings and consultations, capacity/asset development funds targeting ethnic groups, and publication of awareness and training materials for ethnic groups are incorporated into the IPP budget shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Budget to facilitate IPP implementation

No.	Item	Unit	Qty	Amount (USD)	Total (USD)
1	Consultation sessions			(030)	(030)
1.1	District	Session	10	300	3,000
1.2	Village	Session	10	150	1,500
1.3	District, WU, LNF per diems travel	Pers. Day	100	10	1,000
2	Community Tourism Group	reis. Day	100	10	1,000
2.1	Meetings/ Consultations	Session	20	150	3,000
2.2	Ethnic Group Representative travel costs/allowance	Pers. Day	400	6	2,400
3	Livelihood / Capacity development Funds*	1 Cl3. Day	700		2,400
3.1	Ethnic Group Supplementary Fund - Training, Inputs	LS/Village	10	4500	45,000
3.3	Awareness materials in other languages / visuals	Lump-sum	10	3000	3,000
4	Capacity Development	Lamp Jam	•	0000	0,000
4.1	Capacity development on implementation of IPP and	Event	6	500	3,000
•••	promoting inclusive tourism growth - local officials	LVOIR	J	000	0,000
4.2	Capacity development - village leaders, CTG	Event	6	500	3,000
5	Implementation support				-,,,,,
5.1	Update IPP - meetings, travel	Lump-sum	1	1500	1,500
5.2	Monitoring - meetings, travel	Annual	5	500	2,500
	Total				68,900

# IX. SCHEDULE

# 74. An indicative schedule for IPP implementation is provided below.

NO.	ACTIVITY		YEA	R 1			YEA	R 2			YEA	R 3			YEA	R 4			YEA	AR 5	
	Quarter	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	Update IPP																				
2	Support for strengthening tourism capacity																				
3	Support for business planning and microenterprise development																				
4	Support for livelihood development in ethnic group villages																				
5	Integration of ethnic group inclusion in project management																				
6	Ongoing consultation and meetings with ethnic group villages and representatives																				
7	Capacity building of local officials and ethnic group representatives																				
8	Monitoring (semi- annual)																				
9	Quarterly Reporting																				

IPP = indigenous peoples plan

# ANNEX 1: SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS WITH ETHNIC GROUPS ACROSS SUBPROJECT SITES

The IPP focuses on measures to be taken in Oudomxay for the Chom Ong Cave Road Access Improvements as majority of the population in the catchment area are from ethnic groups who will be directly affected by the project. The project also held consultations in other provinces where ethnic groups that are well integrated into mainstream Lao society reside close to the subproject sites, to identify ways that they can participate in and benefit from subproject activities. Table A1 presents the ethnic composition and other key indicators across all subproject sites.

Table A1: Ethnic composition at subproject sites<sup>4</sup>

No.	Subproject/Location	Total Population	Lao Thai %	Khmu %	Hmong %	Other %	Poverty Rate %
	Khammouane Province Population	390,701	80			20	31.4
1A.1	Xang Cave Access Improvements	·					
District	Thakek District	35,000					
Village	Tham	1,014	100				3.5
	Xieng Vaen (Ethnic Group = Makong)	919				100	11.45
	Catchment villages total:	1,933					
1A.2	That Sikhottabong Environmental Improvement						
District	Thakek District	35,000					
Village	Chom Cheng	677	100				5.3
	Thakek South (Kaolio)	587	100				5.7
	Catchment villages total:	1,264	100				
	Luang Prabang Province Population	463,485	46	30	10	14	27.2
1B.1	Chompet Heritage District Access Improvements						
District	Chomphet	29,910					
Village	Xieng Mene	1,686	90	6	4		
	Ban Neua	415	96		4		
	Catchment Villages total	2,101					
1B.2	Ban Xang Hai–Pak Ou-Tham Ting Cave Access Improvements						
District	Pak Ou	26,019					
Village	Pak Ou	447	100				
	Xang Hai	602	100				
	Hat Mad	329	94	6			
	Vang Lae	350	65	27	12		
	Somsanouk	1,229	53	21	26		
	Catchment Villages total	2,957					
	Oudomxay Province Population	314,269	25	59	13	3	33.7
1C.1	Chom Ong Cave Access Road Improvements	6,955					
District	Xay District	67,539					60.0
Village	Kieochalu	519		100			22.7
	Nasao	602	95	5	0		
	Nalea	800	68	32	0		
	HouyOum	369	0	100	0		
	Thasaleuang	626	0	83	18		26.2
	Nangam	830	0	54	46		8.4
	Nasenekham	1122	0	51	49		
	Lang	785	1	95	4		1.7
	Mokha	469	0	100	0		38.5
	Nampra	1138	0	100	0		11.7
	Chom Ong	729	0	100	0		8.3
	Catchment Villages total	7,989					
	Champasak Province	670,122	84			16	10

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Sources: *Population*: Statistical Yearbook 2012 (province) and local records (district, village) 2012; *Ethnic composition*: Situation of ethnic minorities, Lao PDR Health Master Planning Study 2005 (province) and local records (village). *Poverty Headcount*: Lao PDR Expenditure and Consumption Survey 2008 (province) and local records (village). Poverty line based on amount needed to purchase 2,100 calories per day: 180,000 kip per person, per month for people in rural areas and 210,000 kip per person, per month for people in urban areas.

**Khammouane**: The Xang Cave Access Improvements subproject will benefit two rural villages just outside of Thakek, one of which, Xieng Vaen, an ethnic Makong community with a population of 919 people. The Makong villagers' main livelihood is rice farming and animal husbandry and a few families supplement income with small retail stores. The village has tourist assets they want to develop including a small cave, waterfall and walking trails. The Makong living near Thakhek are well integrated into mainstream Lao society as they live close to the main town.

**Luang Prabang:** Ethnic group members will benefit from the Ban Xang Hai–Pak Ou-Tham Ting Cave Access Improvements situated 25 km from Luang Prabang. Two of the five villages along the access road have Khmu and Hmong households representing 7% of the total catchment population for this subproject. The main productive activity is rice cultivation. Ethnic people supplement their income with collection of non-timber forest products, vegetable cultivation, and handicraft and are interested to market more of these products to tourists.

Consultations were held from 3 July to 8 July 2013 in Khammouane Province and 9 July to 18 July 2013 in Luang Prabang Province. A total of 18 Makong villagers living close to the subproject site were consulted in Khammouane and 40 ethnic villagers (50% Khmu and 50% Hmong) were consulted in Pak Ou District Luang Prabang. 30% of the participants in consultations were women and separate women discussion groups were held. Table A2 presents the potential impacts identified during these consultations.

The ethnic groups living close to the subproject sites in Khammouane and Luang Prabang are not responsible for managing the tourism sites or presently directly involved in tourism but they live along the road to the sites and there is scope to include them in Output 3 activities. The main measures to enhance benefits and avoid negative impacts to these groups are the same as actions that would all benefit ethnic groups. The project will ensure these groups benefit from the growth of tourism in their area, and are not negatively impacted, as part of the objective to enhance inclusive economic growth from tourism investments. The minutes of consultations are in Annex 3.

Table A2: Main benefits and potential negative impacts

Output	Potential benefits	Potential Negative Impacts
1. Last Mile Tourism Acce	ss Infrastructure Improved	
Khammouane; Xang Cave Access Improvements	Medium: An upgraded road provides Makong ethnic group in Xieng Vaen with better access to markets and social services in nearby Thakhek.  Medium: Improved road could induce more tourist traffic from Ban Tam to Xieng Vaen extending tourism economic opportunities to Makong community.	Low: Increased traffic creates noise and safety issues for ethnic settlements close to road. Tourism is already present in the area and is not creating negative impacts on ethnic heritage and culture.
Luang Prabang: Chomphet Heritage District Access Improvements	Medium: Khmu and Hmong households living in catchment villages (approx. 7% of population) will benefit from increased access to markets and social services and opportunities to sell handicrafts and non-timber forest products to tourists.	None: Construction work is concentrated around ferry terminal and main roads. Tourism is already present in the area and is not creating negative impacts on ethnic heritage and culture.
Ban Xang Hai–Pak Ou- Tham Ting Cave Access Improvements	Medium: Two of the five villages along the rural road to be upgraded have Khmu and Hmong households. These villages will	Low: Increased traffic creates noise and safety issues for ethnic settlements close to road. Tourism is already present and

Output	Potential benefits	Potential Negative Impacts
	benefit from improved access to markets and social services and opportunities to sell handicrafts and other local products to tourists.	not negatively e impacting ethnic heritage and culture.
2. Environmental Services	s in Cross Border Tourism Centers Imp	roved
Khammouane: That Sikhottabong Environmental Improvement	None: No ethnic groups living in the catchment area.	None: No ethnic groups living in the catchment area.
3. Institutional Capacity to Promote Inclusive Tourism Growth Strengthened	High: These activities are designed to engage local community members in tourism site management and enterprise development in an inclusive way. Ethnic community members will benefit from training in tourism planning, enterprise development, hospitality services as well as awareness-raising in health, hygiene, safety, heritage conservation, and avoiding negative impacts of tourism.	None: No negative impacts are anticipated from these activities. PCU has experience with developing ethnically sensitive tourism from previous projects; Provincial DICTs will assist interested ethnic villages to engage with other departments and the private sector to develop appropriate tourism products and services.
4. Effective Project Implementation and Knowledge Management	Medium: The integration of the updating, implementation and monitoring of the IPPs into the project's work plan will ensure benefits are realized and concerns of ethnic groups in project planning are addressed.	Low: The PCUs and PIUs will be promoting the country's ethnic diversity as a tourism asset. They will ensure ethnic communities continue to have an active role in planning activities that affect their cultural assets, land area, and local resources.

# ANNEX 2: MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF CONSULTATIONS IN ETHNIC VILLAGES IN KHAMMOUANE, OUDOMXAY AND LUANG PRABANG

#### Objective of field trip:

To conduct consultations with stakeholders and collect socioeconomic data.

#### Output:

Meeting with PIU and enumerators to validate the names of villages in the subproject site, plan and provide training for enumerators in administering questionnaires, make appointments with Head and Vice-Head of villages for the field trip and identify ethnic group households and women to be covered by the survey.

# Khammouane: July 3 - 8, 2013

#### PIU and Enumerators in Khammouane province:

Mr. Panya Deputy Director of ICT Department and PIU

Mr. Keneta Enumerator
Ms. Kanya Enumerator
Ms. Monlieudy Enumerator
Ms. Vilayvanh Enumerator
Mr. Sengchanh Enumerator

<u>All Village Meeting:</u> Introduced and presented purpose showed and explained subproject, resettlement, environmental and planned for data collection.

# Village Data collection in Xiang Vene village (18HH, all villagers are Makong ethnic group):

Mr. La Madmany Head of village

Mr. Intong Keothongphoun Deputy Head of village Mr. Bountai Village protector

Mr. Heuang President of village Lao Front for National Reconstruction Xian Vene village has 179 HH, population 919, 446 women, Makong 100%; has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, use public electricity and wells for water supply; earth road; main occupation is farmer, planting rice; income from rice and agriculture; tourism resource are forest, mountain, Houayhinlap waterfall and Ngiou cave.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Promote handicraft
- 2. Promote weaving and souvenir
- 3. Promote Makong culture
- 4. Develop tourism value chain
- 5. Upgrade facilitation in Ngiou cave and built view point in Houayhinlap

Proposals: 1. Support fund for viewpoint facilities at Ngiou cave

- 2. Support fund for handicraft making
- 3. Support fund to build village hall

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Thone President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Songma Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Deng Villager
Ms. Vene Villager
Ms. Lae Villager
Ms. Leut Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote handicraft, weaving and embroidery

- 2. Support fund to start/expand small business
- 3. Study tour where they have successful tourism

#### Recommendations and concerns:

Road construction should include drainage Road construction should avoid land acquisition Compensate should be paid for land acquisition, if any

#### Village Data collection in Chomcheng village:

Ms. Keomany Head of village

Mr. Inpong Chanthavisay
Mr. Samlane
Deputy Head of village
Deputy Head of village
President of village Lao Front

Chomcheng village has 141 HH, population 677, 309 women, Lao 100%; no primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, use public electricity, have piped water supply, earth roads, main occupation is government staff, plant rice and fishery; income from salary and wage; tourism resource is temple; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

Proposals: 1. Road construction should include drainage

2. Support fund to the villagers to start/expand small business

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Viengsavanh President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Manivanh Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Manisone Villagers
Ms. Khammany Villager
Ms. Phanmaly Villager
Ms. Keo Udon Villager
Ms. Buabane Villager
Ms. Baihung Villager
Ms. Thongphoun Villager

Proposals: 1. Training on food processing and souvenir production

- 2. Training on tourism service
- 3. Support fund to start/expand small business

#### **Recommendations and concerns:**

Road construction should include drainage

The civil works contractor should clean up the worksite after construction

Road construction should avoid land acquisition

Compensate should be paid for land acquisition, if any

#### **Luang Prabang: July 10 – 17, 2013**

PIU and Enumerators in Luang Prabang

Mr. Vanhpheng Itthiphonh
Mr. Phayvanh Chanthasouk
Mr. Chamsouk Hatsady

Administration of ICT office and Enumerator
Administration of ICT office and Enumerator
Head of PWT Pak Ou office and Enumerator

Mr. Nui Vongmanichanh Enumerator Mr. Vathana Souvannavong Enumerator Ms. Niengkham Phommavon Enumerator Mr. Misaykone Hongphachanh Enumerator

#### Data collection in Xiengman Village, Chomphet District::

Mr. Thongkhoun Sisomphone Head of village

Mr. Thitpio Sengsavat Deputy Head of village Mr. Tui Udon Deputy Head of village

Mr. Khamsy Sayalath President of village Lao Front for National Reconstruction

Xiang Mene village has 338 HH, population 1,705, 797 women, ethnic group Lao 313HH, Khmu 21HH, Hmong 4HH; primary school, dispensatory and hospital, market; use government electricity, Mekong river and well for water supply, earth road; main occupation small business and government staff; income from small business and agriculture; tourism resource are forest, Thao and Nang mountain, Sakalin cave and temples; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Promote and protect indigenous products, natural, tradition.
- 2. Upgrade temples
- 3. Sell ticket to tourists who want to look at the temples
- 4. Establish agriculture product group

Proposals: 1. Compensate villagers affected by business disruption during construction.

2. Improve drainage system in village.

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Buavone President of village Lao Women Union Ms. Nome Vilay Vice President of village Lao Women Union Ms. Somchanh Villagers Ms. Sommay Villager Ms. Pinh Villager Ms. Kham Villager Ms. Say Villager Ms. Thi Villager Ms. Chanh Villager Ms. Pheng Villager

Proposals:

- 1. Support fund for weaving and embroidery training.
- 2. Support fund to start/expand small business
- 3. Training in natural dyeing
- 4. Training in food processing
- 5. Ensure there is space for selling at ferry terminal at same location after

works are finished.

#### Separate consultation with ethnic group members in community

Mr. Yearvayang Hmona Mr. Thongsouk Hmong Mr. Viengthone Khmu Mr. Xiengmy Khmu Khmu Mr. Somlith Mr. Vansay Khmu Ms. Sy Khmu Mr. Bounnoy Khmu

Proposals:

- 1. Support fund for agriculture and small business
- 2. Civil works should avoid land acquisition
- 3. Compensate should be paid for land acquisition, if any
- 4. Improve drainage in the village

#### Recommendations and concerns:

Ensure the quality of civil works is good.

Concerned subproject will require acquisition of residential and agricultural land (it will not) When the project finished the government should allocate enough funds for maintenance.

# Village Data collection in Chan Neua village, Chomphet District:

Mr. Thongphanh Phongchaleun Head of village

Mr. Bounma Phetmany Deputy Head of village

Mr. Keo Bandith Deputy Head of village

Mr. Khamhak Bandith President of village Lao Front for National Reconstruction

Mr. Somsy Former head of village

Chan Neua village has 75 HH, population 428, 220 women, Lao 72HH, Hmong 3 HH; has primary school, no dispensatory, no market, use public electricity, piped water supply, earth road; main occupation of villager is home production, wage labor and government staff; plant rice; income from agriculture, labors, tourism, selling pottery; tourism resources are temple, old houses, and pottery production; there is 1 guesthouse and 1 restaurant.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Buid rest house for tourists
- 2. Build river pier

Proposals: 1. Support fund to build river pier

2. Support fund to built communal shop and show room for pottery/local products

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Manh
Ms. Bounleuan Phongchaleun
Ms. La Phetmany

President of village Lao Women Union
Vice President village Lao Women Union
Vice President of Lao Women village

Ms. Choumaly Villager
Ms. Pheng Villager
Ms. Chandavanh Villager
Ms. Vanh Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to built communal shop and show room

2. Support to the villagers to expand small business

#### **Recommendations and concerns:**

Ensure the quality of civil works is good.

Contractors should not disrupt business in village and clean up after work is finished. Concerned subproject will require acquisition of residential and agricultural land (it will not) There should be traffic and boat safety signs installed along improved roads and river piers.

# Data collection in Vang Lae village, Pak Ou District (16 HH, all villagers are Lao Hmong and Khmu group ):

Mr. Choum Bounpaseut Head of village

Mr. Khongkham Deputy Head of village Mr. Oulaivone Deputy Head of village

Vang Lae village has 76 HH, population 390, 181 women, Khmu 20 HH, Hmong 9 HH, Lao 49 HH; has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, use public electricity, use spring; earth road, most of villagers plant rice and collect NTFPs; plant rice; income from rice and NTFP; no tourism resource; no guesthouse.

# Village development plans:

- 1. Reduce swidden agriculture
- 2. Promote women's involvement in production and commerce

Proposals: 1. Support fund to establish/expand small business

- 2. Training on tourism service, handicraft and souvenir production.
- 3. Support for agricultural production.

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Sika President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Deng Vice President village Lao Women Union
Ms. Khammy Vice President village Lao Women Union

Ms. Bouaphanh Villager
Ms. Thone Villager
Ms. One Chanh Villager

Ms. Sinuane Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to establish/ expand small business

2. Training on weaving

3. Train on tourism services

#### Ethnic group discussion

Mr. Khai Khmu
Ms. Chanhom Khmu
Mr. Khok Khmu
Mr. Vaying Hmong
Mr. Jieu Hmong
Mr. Vieu Hmong

Proposals: 1. Equal support for women and men's activities.

2. Support revolving fund for animal raising.

#### Village Data collection in Hatmad village, Pak Ou District :

Mr. Ounheuan Chittaphong Head of village

Mr. Khamla Sidaphone Deputy Head of village Mr. Thongchanh Deputy Head of village Youth Union of village

Hatmad village has 70 HH, population 540, 174 women, Khmu 4 HH, Lao 66 HH; has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, use public electricity, spring water and well, earth road; most of villager plant rice and farmers; previously swidden, now paddy and swidden; income from agriculture; tourism resources are forest and Phalong cave; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. To build guest house
- 2. develop elephant camp
- 3. Install to floating river pier
- 4. Construct road to Phalong cave
- 5. Establish animal raising group
- 6. Expand organic vegetable garden

#### Proposals:

- 1. Support fund to expand organic vegetable garden
- 2. Support fund to upgrade road to cave and village hall

# Women group discussion

Ms. Khamla Sisouphanthone
Ms. Chanthanome
Ms. Vongdeuane

President of village Lao Women Union
Vice President of village Lao Women Union
Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Ounheuane Villager
Ms. Sommay Villager
Ms. Bouakham Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to establish/ expand small business

2. Support revolving fund for animal raising

#### Ethnic group discussion

Mr. Sieun Khmu Mr. Nome Hmong Mr. Mone Khmu Ying Hmong

Proposals: 1. Support fund to establish/ expand small business

- 2. Support revolving fund for animal raising
- 3. Training in new techniques for agriculture and animal raising

#### **Recommendations and concerns:**

Ensure the quality of civil works is good, including drainage and bridges There should be traffic safety signs installed along the improved road.

#### Village Data collection in Somsanouk village, Pak Ou District :

Mr. Phuangphet Panyasavat Head of village

Mr. Somphone Sayavong Deputy Head of village Mr. Sisouvanh Daothaviseng Deputy Head of village

Somsanouk village has 179 HH, population 1,229, 610 women, Khmu 37HH, Hmong 46 HH, Lao 96 HH; has primary school, district hospital, market, bus service to district center, one stone quarry; use government electricity, use spring for water supply; earth road; many occupations, rice farmers, government staff, traders; plant rice and fishery; income from rice and fish and trading; tourism resources are forest and mountain; no guesthouse but 5 restaurants.

### Village development plans:

- 1. Upgrade rover pier
- 2. Promote traditional boat racing in village

<u>Proposals</u>: 1. Training for restaurant and guide service. Also hospitality training so youth can get jobs in Luang Prabang.

- 2. Support revolving fund for animal raising
- 3. Support fund to establish/expand small business

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Phetsaboun
Ms. Manivanh
Ms. May

President of village Lao Women Union
Vice President of village Lao Women Union
Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Sen Villager
Ms. Nome Villager
Ms. Keola Villager
Ms. Bouakham Villager

Proposals: 1. Support revolving fund for women activities

- 2. Support revolving fund for animal raising
- 3. Support fund for small business for tourism service
- 4. Training for restaurant and guesthouse service

#### Ethnic group discussion

Ms. Ly Hmong
Mr. Jo Hmong
Mr. Ko Khmu
Mr. Keo Khmu
Mr. Ngom Khmu
Mr. Air Khmu

Proposals: 1. Support fund for ethnic activities (promote ethnic culture)

- 2. Support revolving fund for animal raising
- 3. Support fund to establish/expand small business

#### Recommendations and concerns:

Ensure the quality of civil works is good.

Concerned subproject will require acquisition of residential and agricultural land (it will not). If any land acquisition, fair compensation should be paid to affected people.

When the project finished the government should allocate enough funds for maintenance.

#### Consultation in Oudomxay: July 18 - 30, 2013

PIU and Enumerators in Oudomxay:

Mr. Bounkuam Mitmuangxay Deputy of DICT Department and PIU

Ms. Vansy Phuangmalay Head of Tourism Division

Mr. Kham Chittavong Enumerator Mr. Chan Anong Sikounnavong Enumerator Ms. Keomany Panyasak Enumerator Ms. Kingphay KhounphiKN Enumerator Ms. Champa Simany Enumerator Mr. Sonephet Sichaleun Enumerator Mr. Vilayphet Ounaphone Enumerator Mr. Saychai Yayongsieu Enumerator

# Village Data collection in Makchouk village, Xay District:

Mr. Khampheng Head of village

Mr. Khanthong Deputy Head of village

Mr. Thongdeuane Teacher

Makchouk village has 73 HH, population 460, 132 women, Khmu ethnic group 100%; has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, use government electricity; river for water supply, earth road; most of villagers plant corn and rice; income from rice, corn and NTFPs; tourism resources are forest and mountain; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Install water supply
- 2. Construction irrigation
- 3. Construction road from Makchuk to Natour village
- 5. Installation of loudspeaker for giving information to the villagers

#### Women group discussion

Ms. Pa President of village Lao Women Union Ms. Kiengkham Vice President of village Lao Women Union Ms. Vanna Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Nonh Villager Ms. Toun Villager Ms. Choy Villager Ms. Vanh Villager

- Proposals: 1. Support fund to establish/expand small business
  - 2. Fund to promote to make clothes
  - 3. Fund to promote small business for tourism services
  - 4. Training on animal raising technical
  - 5. Training on planting vegetables for all season
  - 6. Training weaving and embroidery

#### Recommendation and concerned:

Road should have proper drainage to prevent erosion Install traffic safety signs.

#### Village Data collection in Kieuchalu village, Xay District :

Mr. Bounsen Khaipanya Head of village

Mr. Bounchiek Deputy Head of village Mr. Bountor Deputy Head of village

Kieuchalu village has 79 HH, population 530, 255 women, Khmu ethnic group 100%; primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, has bus to town 2 or 3 time per week; use government electricity, use spring for water supply; earth road, most villagers plant corn and rice; income from corn, rice and NTFPs; tourism resource is Skeb cave; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Construction village hall
- 2. Construction agriculture training center
- 3. Construction dispensary

Proposals: 1. Install water supply

- 2. Construct irrigation
- 3. Construct road from Makchuk to Natour village

#### Women's group discussion:

Ms. Nieo President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Py Vice President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Mod Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Ngem Villager
Ms. Vin Villager
Ms. Keo Villager
Ms. La Villager

Proposals: 1. Construction of village market

- 2. Training on making souvenir
- 3. Training for handicraft production
- 4. Training on tourism services

#### Recommendation and concerned:

Construct public toilets

Improve garbage disposal system

Install traffic safety signs along new road.

# Village Data collection in Chom Ong village, Xay District :

Mr. Bouncheng Head of village

Mr. Khamngone Deputy Head of village Mr. Bounsiene Deputy Head of village

Chom Ong village has 120 HH, population 730, 375 women, Khmu ethnic group 100%; has primary school, dispensatory, no hospital, no market, no bus, use government electricity; spring for water supply, earth road; most villagers plant corn and rice; income from rice, corn and some tourism; tourism resource is Chom Ong cave, waterfall, forest, mountain; no guesthouse but homestay in village.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Improve access and security at Chom Ong cave
- 2. Selling tickets to cave
- 3. Construction of small market in the Chom Ong cave area
- 4. Flowers and fruit trees planting in the Chom Ong cave area
- 5. Establishing group of masons for village construction
- 6. Improve houses in the village
- 7. Construct irrigation
- 8. Construction village hall and police station

Proposals: 1. Support fund for irrigation construction

2. Support fund for construction of secondary school and dormitories.

#### Women's group discussion:

Ms. Bouachanh
Ms. Chanhtha
Vice President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Nieu
Vice President of village Lao Women Union
Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Pheng Villager
Ms. Thong Villager
Ms. Sommay Villager
Ms. Nad Villager
Ms. Lae Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund for weaving, embroidery, and making ethnic clothes

- 2. Training on vegetable production
- 3. Training on raising animals
- 4. Training on fish raising

#### Recommendations and concerns:

Provide regular information on the project and development activities in area.

Minimize land acquisition, especially rice field

Install lighting and traffic safety signs along road

Fairly compensate any people affected by land acquisition

#### Village Data collection in Nam Pra village, Xay District :

Mr. Khammany Head of village

Mr. Kham One Deputy Head of village

Mr. Sayoudom Village police

Nam Pra village has 171 HH, population 1,163, 603 women, Khmu ethnic group 100%; has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, no bus, use government electricity, and spring for well; earth road; most villagers plant corn and rice, raise animals and collect NTFPs; income from rice, corn, selling small animals, and NTFPs; tourism resource is Prong cave and waterfall; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Upgrade road to open tourist attractions and fields
- 2. Construct home stay
- 3. Expand agriculture and animal raising and fish ponds
- 4. Market construction
- 5. Village hall construction

### Women's group discussion

Ms. Nuane President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Nieu Vice President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Nga Vice President of village Lao Women Union

Ms. Choy Villager
Ms. Thieu Villager
Ms. Chanh Villager
Ms. Vanh Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote animal raising and expand corn fields

- 2. Support fund for weaving group
- 3. Training on technical of animal raising
- 4. Training on weaving and embroidery

### **Recommendations and concerns:**

New road should have drainage to prevent erosion

Minimize land acquisition, especially rice field

Install lighting and traffic safety signs along road

Fairly compensate any people affected by land acquisition

# Village Data collection in Mokkha village, Xay District:

Mr. Bounmy Head of village

Mokkha village has 83 HH, population 473, 226 women, Khmu ethnic group 100%; has

primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market; bus 3 times per week to town; use government electricity and spring for water supply; earth road; most villagers plant corn and rice, raise animals; income from rice, selling small animals, and selling NTFPs; no tourism resources and no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Improve houses in the village
- 2. Upgrade road in the village
- 3. Training on improving agricultural techniques

# Village Data collection in Lang village, Xay District:

Mr. Tui, Head of village

Lang village has 138 HH, population 793, 402 women, 2 Ethnics group Khmu 132 HH, Hmong 6 HH; has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market; bus 7 times per week to town; use government electricity and spring for water supply; earth road; most villagers plant corn and rice and raise animals; income from rice, corn and selling small animals; no tourism resources and no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Expand corn planting
- 2. Expand animal raising
- 3. Plant fruit trees

#### Proposals:

Support fund to: upgrading road in the village, improve houses in the village, construct toilets in village, build market, and training in agriculture production techniques, weaving and handicraft production.

#### Village Data collection in Nangam village, Xay District:

Mr. Bounthong Head of village

Mr. Khay Deputy Head of village Mr. Vajieu Deputy Head of village

Nangam village has 142 HH, population 886, 431 women, Khmu 77 HH, Hmong 65 HH; has primary and secondary school; no dispensatory and hospital, no market; bus 7 times per week town; use government electricity and spring for water supply, earth road; most of villagers plant corn and rice, raise animals and some wage labor and gain income from these sources; tourism resource is Phoulong cave and Namhin reservoir; no guesthouse.

#### Village development plans:

- 1. Built village restaurant in Namhin basin
- 2. Promote ethnic culture
- 3. Promote animal raising and agriculture

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote animal raising and agriculture

- 2. Support fund to set village boundary and land allocation
- 3. Construct dispensary in village

#### Women's group discussion

Ms. Lae President of village Lao Women Union
Ms. Nang Vice President village Lao Women Union
Ms. One Keo Vice President village Lao Women Union

Ms. Say Villager
Ms. Gnonh Villager
Ms. Monh Villager
Ms. Vieng Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote animal raising

2. Support fund to promote weaving and embroidery group

- 3. Training on new techniques for animal raising
- 4. Training on natural dyeing of textiles

#### Ethnic group discussion

Ms. Ny Hmong
Mr. Bouamay Hmong
Mr. Yaji Hmong
Mr. Thay Hmong
Mr. Moicha Hmong

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote animal raising and agriculture

- 2. Support fund to set village boundary3. Support fund to construct dispensary
- 4. Promote Ethnic culture

#### Recommendation and concerned:

Construct road should have drainage

Make line on the way

Install light and warning label on the way

# Village Data collection in Thasaleung village, Xay District:

Mr. Khamseng Head of village

Mr. Nasenya Deputy Head of village Mr. Chanpheng Deputy Head of village Village volunteer

Thasaleung village has 137 HH, population 714, 448 women, 2 Ethnics group Khmu 110 HH, Hmong 27 HH, has primary school, no dispensatory and hospital, no market, has bus 7 times per week, use government electricity, use spring, former earth road, most of villager plant corn, before their plant rice, animal raising and wage, their income from wage, tourism resource: Namhin basin, no guesthouse.

# Village development plans:

- 1. Built road to Namhin basin
- 2. Built Namhin pier
- 3. Expand corn field
- 4. Adjust houses in the village

Proposals: 1. Compensate to villager who has affected from subproject

2. Support fund to construct road to the field production

#### Women group discussion

Ms. My President of Lao Women village
Ms. Jing Vice President of Lao Women village
Ms. Choy Vice President of Lao Women village

Ms. Vay Villager Ms. Khin Villager Ms. Khanh Villager

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote animal raising

- 2. Support fund to buy corn nut for planting
- 3. Train technical of animal raising and corn planting

#### Ethnic group discussion

Mr. Phet Hmong
Mr. Song Hmong
Mr. Ying Khmu
Mr. Tonh Khmu
Mr. Kaoloun Khmu

Proposals: 1. Support fund to promote animal raising.

- 2. Support fund to buy corn nut for planting
- 3. Train technical of animal raising and corn planting
- 4. Compensate to villager who has affected from subproject

# **Recommendation and concerned**:

Minimize land acquisition for new road and pay fair compensation for affected households, if any.

Road should have proper drainage to prevent erosion Install traffic safety signs.

Figure A1: Record of Attendance - Consultations in Chom Ong Village<sup>5</sup> ໃບລົງທະບຸເນຕູ້ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມກອງປະຊຸມ ຫຼື ກິດຈະກຳຕ່າງໆ

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Figure A2: Photo of Consultations in Chom Ong Village



 $^{\rm 5}$  Additional attendance records and photos available from MICT and Oudomxay PIU upon request

Figure A3: Attendance Record - Consultations in Luang Prabang (Xieng Maen)

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Figure A4: Photos of Consultations in Luang Prabang (Xieng Maen)

