



ສາທາລະນະລັດ ປະຊາທິປະໄຕ ປະຊາຊົນລາວ  
Lao People's Democratic Republic



ອົງການສະຫະປະຊາຊາດເພື່ອການພັດທະນາ  
United Nations Development Programme

**Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic**  
***Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE)***

**United Nations Development Programme**

**Project ID: 00057518**  
**Meeting the primary obligations of the Rio Conventions through  
strengthening capacity to implement natural resources legislation**

**Quarterly Project Report**

**Reporting period:**  
**January – March 2012**

**6 April 2012**

## I. PROJECT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

<b>Project number and title:</b>	00057518, Meeting the primary obligations of the Rio Conventions through Strengthening Capacity to Implement Natural Resources Legislations.
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment, Department of Forest Resources Management
<b>Responsible Parties</b>	Key stakeholder in National and Provincial Level MoNRE, MAF, MEM, MoJ, DoFRM, DoF, MTEA, NAFRI, etc
<b>Donors:</b>	UNDP-GEF

Project Starting date		Project completion date	
Originally planned	Actual	Originally planned	Current estimate
June 2010	January 2012	May 2012	May 2012

<b>Period covered by this report:</b>	January 2012 to March 2012 (3 months)
<b>Date of annual review:</b> <i>[Indicate if planned or actual]</i>	The end of November 2012 (Planned)

Total Budget	Original Budget (US\$)	Latest Signed Revision (US\$)
	399,490	399,490

Resources by Donors	Donor	Amount
	GEF	500,000
	UNDP (In-kind)	400,000
	SIDA (In-kind)	100,000
	GOL (In-kind)	49,850

## II. PURPOSE

### 1. The Main Objectives of the Project:

The Project Objective is to strengthen national and local capacity to implement natural resources legislation with a focus on issues most relevant to the Rio Conventions. The project plays a crucial role in the recognition of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and are reflected in the Global Environment Fund (GEF) in Lao PDR to which the Department of Forestry<sup>1</sup>, UNDP-GEF are signatories, which seek to enhance "the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations and enhanced through sustainable development" (Within the MDG framework)

The project aims to achieve three outcomes:

1. Key stakeholders in the three provinces (Xiengkhoung, Savannakhet, Attapeu) are implementing and enforcing important components of the existing natural resource management legislation.
2. National level stakeholders have the capacity to implement and enforce natural resource legislation, and in particular are able to support all provinces in Lao PDR with legislation implementation.
3. Legislation and policy with regards to the Rio Conventions in Lao PDR is more suitable to the national situation and more comprehensive.

The targets for the first quarter 2012 are:

- Finalise the reviewing of legal framework and organized the consultation meeting on it by beginning of February 2012 (Lao – English);
- Completion of Consultation meeting on Final Draft of compliance strategy (Lao – English);
- Capacity building for technical working group to test existing operational tools and prepares the report. Then develop set of tools for the project;
- Organize monthly meeting with key stakeholder, UNDP and project management board;
- Contribution to the implementing partners workshop in preparation of the PBSAP;
- Capacity building to TWGs at national and provincial level through TOT workshop and consultation meeting on implementing and enforcement natural resource legislation, forest community management;
- Completion of the spot check and audit;
- Conducting monitoring and evaluation of the TWGs implementation and implementation progress;
- Communication and reporting.

<sup>1</sup> Remark: in 2011 last year, the project implemented by DOF under MAF but in 2012 Government Structure had been change NCSAFU project implemented by Department of Forest Resources Management "DFRM" under MoRNE.

### III. PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS

#### 1. Contribution to the strategic goals

##### Intended outcomes/outputs:

The Project will contribute to achieving key CPAP outcomes linked to the MYFF goal and service line for the Lao PDR, including:

- Improved and equitable access to land, markets and social and economic services, and
- Enable environment for growth with equity.

The intended outcome will also contribute to achieving key CPAP outputs through;

- Enhanced management capacity of the Government in meeting its international environmental obligations through strengthened implementation of multilateral agreements and related national policies and legislation.
- The role of biodiversity, agro biodiversity, land management and environment in general in the livelihood improvements and poverty reduction strengthened through enhanced knowledge and management capacity.

##### Progress towards achieving outcome

During the last three months (January-March 2012), the Project has made a good progress and achieved its target.

##### Reviewing and prioritizing natural resource management laws, regulations and/or articles and implemented at national and provincial level:

- The TWGs technical consultation workshop to finalize and endorse/draft review legal framework was organized back-to-back with TWG consultation workshop on the outline and data needs for the compliance strategy development and Training of Trainer Skills on 01-03 February 2012 at Ban Khern Training Center (BTC), Thourakhoum District, Vientiane Province.
- Based on the result of TWG meeting in Bankhem, three target provinces had developed their workplan and initial field activities including: organized local community consultation workshop during March 2012 and carried out the testing tools and developed lesson learnt report, and capacity assessment report for the law enforcement.

##### Compliance strategy development:

- Data collection for compliance strategy development is completed. The meeting in Bankhem has agreed on the outline and possible option that could be included in the compliance strategy report. The National consultation workshop on the draft compliance strategy also organized on 15 March 2012.
- The project team has been collected data from SEADA focus on sustainable agriculture and environment development (poster, CD, as part document related to natural resources and environment) in National level. The operational tools are expected to publishing and be test new tools operation in project site by second quarter of this year.
- The project team has been working with the Legal Division Cabinet to develop handbook for implementing 5 laws, including forestry law, wildlife law, fishery law, plan protection and vegetation laws. The first national technical consultation on the draft handbook was organized on 30 March 2012, technical consultations meeting on first draft handbook, the main objective are: to capacity build of public awareness to villagers' community how to know and understanding for protection and mitigation measure related to natural resources and environment impact.

##### Collaboration with IUCN/TABI and Agro-biodiversity projects to develop a PBSAP.

- The IUCN/TABI have been organized consultation workshop on 01-03 Feb. 2012 in Xiengkhouang Province and during 21-22 Feb. 2012 at Attapeu Province, the meeting aims to call

for collaboration from local government on the development of PBSAP. The mission also collected data related to biodiversity within Attapeu province. The draft PBSAP report would be shared with the project team and related stakeholder comments and feedbacks by early April 2012.

**Collaboration with Department of Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) refer to Seventh Five-Year Socio-Economic Development Plan (2012-2015), related to targets in natural resources and environment.**

- On 29 March 2012, discussion and consultation with Department of ESIA for supported printing of four guideline and Technical National Consultation for review Final Draft EIA Decree, which this activity is according to Seventh Five-Year NSEDP (2011-2015) refer to seven targets example: related to ensure the environmental impacts of development processes during the plan are minimal; develop and protect forestry to cover 65% of the total land area; and build Lao PDR as one of the greener countries in the world.

**Project Management**

- New APM started working on 03 Jan 2012. Contract for project accountant has been renewed and salary has been increased by 5% of the total base on the NIM regulation.
- The revise 2012AWP and target and road map for each quarter were set during the TWG consultation meeting on 01-03 Feb 2012 at Ban Khem, Vientiane Province.
- Participated in the Audit Preparation meeting organized by UNDP and DIC on 8 Feb 2012, Lao Plaza Hotel.
- Project audit was carried out from 28-29 Feb 2012. The draft report will be shared with the project team and UNDP in early May 2012.
- Initial workplan for 2013 for the extension period were identified in consultation with TWG on 15 Mar 2012. Potential target sit for community forestry and land use management activities were identify and will be further assess in the Q2 2012.
- Participated in the Financial Training organized on 28 March 2012 by DIC and UNDP.
- 2012 budget revision has been prepared and submitted to UNDP and UNDP Regional office for consideration and approval. This is include the initial workplan and budget for 2013.
- UNDP, SGP and NCSAFU agreed to channel TRAC fund to support SGP via NCSAFU 2012 AWP (\$30,000).
- Clearance for visa of VSO is under preparation. We expect that the VSO could be onboard late April or early May 2012.

Main challenge during this reporting period includes: maintain a good project planning with TWGs in central and provincial level. The delay in project extension preparation may impact the ongoing activities of the project.

	Key activities completed during reporting period	Expenditures	Progress towards achieving outputs and targets achieved against indicators	Reasons if progress below target and response strategies
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**OUTCOME 1: Key stakeholders in the three provinces are implementing and enforcing important components of the existing natural resource management legislation.**

**OUTPUT 1.2: A compliance strategy at provincial level**

<p><b>Target 1:</b> Provincial officers utilize the compliance strategy</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2</b> Compliance strategy guideline</p> <p><b>Baseline1.2:</b> Existing compliance strategy needs improvement</p>	<p><b>Activity 1.2.1:</b> Develop a compliance strategy for implementing in the provincial level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organized consultation workshop to finalize the compliance strategy,</li> <li>- Publish the compliance strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>150,828,160 LAK</p>	<p><b>Achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1<sup>st</sup> TWG consultation workshop on the outline organized on 2 Feb 2012, Vientiane Province.</li> <li>- 2<sup>nd</sup> TWGs Consultation Meeting on First Draft Compliance Strategy was organized on 24 Feb. 2012 at Sattha Palace Hotel</li> <li>- 3<sup>rd</sup> TWG consultation workshop organized on 15 March to discuss the final draft of the compliance strategy. (implement together with activity 2.2.1).</li> </ul>	<p>The full team in national and provincial level are well functioning and maintain close collaboration.</p> <p>IT equipments were delivered to the focal point in each province to facilitated coordination and administrative work.</p> <p>For publish the compliance strategy will be continue on Q2</p>
<p><b>OUTPUT 1.3: A package of operational tools and capacity built for local authorities and local communities</b></p>				
<p><b>Target 1:</b> Published and disseminated operational tools and national level utilize the operational tools.</p> <p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Operational tools</p> <p><b>Baseline 1:</b> Review existing operation tools of other relevant projects needs.</p> <p><b>Target 2:</b> Capacity build to implement and enforce legal framework at provincial</p> <p><b>Indicator 2:</b> Number of training, workshops on testing the tools and compliance strategy</p>	<p><b>Activity 1.3.1:</b> Test existing tools and upgrade the tools and mark them operational for routine use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review tools and improve existing tools as necessary for operational use,</li> <li>- Upgrade and circulate draft report testing tools and tools development,</li> <li>- Organize workshop on upgrade tools or development tools for operational use.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiative of TOTs for testing tools operational for National and Provincial level have been conducted on 03 February 2012, Vientiane Province.</li> <li>- TWG in the three target provinces were conducted a consultation meeting and testing the tools in the community levels in each provinces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <u>Attapeu Province:</u> organized consultation workshop with local community on 06-09 March 2012, district level participants were 33 persons, 3 villages target,</li> <li>o <u>Savannakhet Province:</u> conducted consultation workshop with villagers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The main objective and output have been provide to project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To testing existing tools operational,</li> <li>- To submit for two report form them such as: (i) lesson learnt report and (ii) capacity assessment report</li> </ul> <p>The main result are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To get recommendations from villagers community,</li> <li>- To keep that comments for develop tools operational next step,</li> <li>-</li> </ul>

<p><b>Baseline 2: Zero</b></p>			<p>community on 22-25 March 2012, at Plantation Division, focus on 2 villages target, o <u>Xiengkhouang Province</u>: organized consultation workshop on 19-26 March 2012.</p>	
<p><b>Activity 1.3.2:</b> Develop the operational tools to fit at the provincial, district and communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Retesting upgrade or development tools,</li> <li>- Finalize tools development,</li> <li>- Publish and distribute final tools for operational use,</li> <li>- Conduct assessment (Survey).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Already testing tools operational for each target provinces,</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need some develop,</li> <li>- Conduct assessment (Survey) because of the tools operational is not successful, need to develop, will be complete in Q2</li> <li>- Most of existing tools is posters, Alternative might need to assess and test.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activity 1.3.3:</b> Organize the orientation meeting/training on using compliance strategy and using operational tools in three target areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deliver training course to local agencies and communities in target area,</li> <li>- Assess training impact.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be developed after testing existing tools completed and compliance strategy development finished.</li> </ul>			<p>To be done on Q2</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 2: National level stakeholders have the capacity to implement and enforce natural resources legislation and in particular are able to support all provinces in Lao PDR with legislation implementation</b></p>				
<p><b>OUTPUT 2.1: An agreed set of priority laws, regulations and/or articles, that are best addressed at National level</b></p>				
<p><b>Target 1:</b> National officers utilize the review report.</p>	<p><b>Activity 2.1.1:</b> Review the text of several national laws/regulations and</p>		<p><b>Achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conducted TWGs consultation</li> </ul>	<p>The main result of three consultation are:</p>

<p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Available of review priority natural resource laws by the end of 2011</p> <p><b>Baseline 1:</b> No priority natural resource laws related to Rio Convention available</p>	<p>determine/which laws, regulations that are the best address at the national level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organize consultation meetings,</li> <li>- Final Review report,</li> <li>- Publish the final reviewing report.</li> </ul>	<p>183,745,224 LAK</p>	<p>workshop together with National and Provincial level in activity 1.2.1 (on 01-03 Feb. 2012).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Finalized Review Legal Framework Report,</li> <li>- Completed for translation from Lao to English version,</li> <li>- Will be publish the final reviewing report on Q2</li> </ul>
<b>OUTPUT 2.2: A compliance strategy at National level</b>				
<p><b>Target 1:</b> National officers utilize the compliance strategy</p> <p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Available of compliance strategy that suitable for implementing at national level</p> <p><b>Baseline 1:</b> Existing compliance strategy needs improvement</p>	<p><b>Activity 2.2.1:</b> Develop a compliance strategy for national level (methodology)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organized consultation workshop to finalize the compliance strategy for national level,</li> <li>- Publish the compliance strategy.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Achieved</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1<sup>st</sup> TWG consultation workshop on the outline organized on 2 Feb 2012, Vientiane Province.</li> <li>- 2<sup>nd</sup> TWGs Consultation Meeting on First Draft Compliance Strategy was organized on 24 Feb. 2012 at Saththa Palace Hotel</li> <li>- 3<sup>rd</sup> TWG consultation workshop organized on 15 March to discuss the final draft of the compliance strategy. (implement together with activity 1.2.1).</li> </ul>	<p>The progress of national consultant is important. The delay submission of the report also influences the finalization of the compliance report.</p>
<b>OUTPUT 2.3: A package of operational tools at National level</b>				
<p><b>Target 1:</b> Published and disseminated operational tools and national level utilize the operational tools by first quarter of 2012.</p> <p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Operational tools.</p> <p><b>Baseline 1:</b> the existing</p>	<p><b>Activity 2.3.1:</b> Selecting and compile existing tools (poster, guideline and training manual , etc) to develop database for information sharing and for testing in national and local project sites.</p>		<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collect some tools from other organization concerning on agriculture, industry impact to natural resources and environment,</li> <li>- Developed existing tools operation to support each target provinces,</li> <li>- Community based forest management : Participatory</li> </ul>	<p>The tool development is a bit delay due to unexpected time consuming. However it is expect to finalize by early late April 2012.</p>



<p>operational tools of other relevant project needs to review and upgrade.</p> <p><b>Target 2:</b> Capacity build to implement and enforcement legal framework at national.</p> <p><b>Indicator 2:</b> Number of training provided and number of people got trained.</p> <p><b>Baseline 2:</b> Project not yet provides any training to government officers.</p>	<p><b>Activity 2.3.2:</b> Develop the operational tools to fit at the national level.</p> <p><b>Activity 2.3.3:</b> Organize the orientation meeting/Training of Trainer (ToT) on using compliance strategy and using operational tools in central level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deliver training course to related line ministries in Vientiane,</li> <li>- Assess training impact.</li> </ul>	<p>Biodiversity and NTFPs Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community Based Forest Management : Participatory Forest Carbon Measuring Monitoring</li> <li>- Participatory Community Based Land Used Management and Monitoring</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>The project organized 1<sup>st</sup> technical consultation meeting on review guideline handbook (focus on legal framework) for protection natural resources with TWGs team on 30 March 2012 at Setha Palace Hotel.</p>	<p>Close collaboration with Legal Division Cabinet of MAF. The update handbook will be uploaded into MAF website and calling for feedback from public.</p>
<p><b>OUTPUT 3:</b> Legislation and policy with regards to the Rio Conventions in Lao PDR is more suitable to the national situation and more comprehensive.</p> <p><b>OUTPUT 3:</b> The existing Environmental Protection Law and regulations with regards to Environmental Impact Assessment will be revised.</p>	<p><b>Activity 3.1.1:</b> Support Department of Planning and Investment at national and provincial to integrated Rio Convention into the annual district and provincial development planning and guideline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organize informal meeting with</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initiative organization the orientation meeting of TOTs on using compliance strategy and using tools operational with stakeholders in national level on 24 Feb. 2012 at Setha Palace, Vientiane Capital,</li> </ul>	<p>TOT manual developing in progress, expected to finalized in the end of May 2012.</p>	<p>In activity 3 is routine work during Quarter 1- 3 of this year</p>
<p><b>Target 1:</b> Approval of district and provincial development plan for 2012-2013</p> <p><b>Indicator 1:</b> District and provincial annual development plan for 2012-2013</p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Just contact but not yet competition. The project will continue in Q2 for working with closely with Poverty Unit and MPI to ensure that environmental issues regard to Rio Conventions</li> </ul>			

<p><b>Baseline 1:</b> District and provincial annual development plan for 2012-2013 needs to development.</p> <p><b>Target 2:</b> List of proposed decree and guideline should be amendment by related line ministries.</p> <p><b>Indicator 2:</b> List of proposed decree and guideline, minute of meetings</p> <p><b>Baseline 2:</b> Review existing decree and guideline for identifying the gap and or contradiction between them is needed.</p>	<p>DoP/relevant organizations and Provincial authority on the development planning guideline/manual process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working with local authority to develop planning guideline/manual.</li> </ul> <p><b>Activity 3.1.2:</b> Support better coordination between government agencies through working with TWGs to review exiting institutional structure and mandate that related to Rio Convention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organize the dialogue meeting</li> </ul>	<p>2,000,000 LAK</p>	<p>mainstream in the annual national socio-economic development plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue working on develop planning guideline/manual process.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Activity 3.1.3:</b> Contribute to improvement of legal framework at operational level such as decrees and development guidelines that issued by Ministries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work with TWGs and line ministries to review and identify area of improvement decree/guideline for mitigating any conflict between decrees/guidelines.</li> </ul>		<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Always coordination between government agencies follow up and update new government structure and mandate that related to project implementation and to Rio convention.</li> <li>- Planned for conduct the dialogue meeting with TWGs in the end of April of Q2</li> </ul>	
			<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>Working closely with line ministries to review and identify area of improvement decree/guideline for mitigating any conflict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implemented and progress of PBSAP report by IUCN/TABI have been conducted two consultations meeting such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) 01-03 February 2012 at Planning and Investment Division, Xiengkhouang Province,</li> <li>(ii) 21-22 February 2012 at Human Development Centre, Attapeu Province,</li> <li>(iii) First draft PBSAP report in</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Good networking and strong leadership of IUCN and local government in Attapeu provinces.</p>

			<p>Attapeu Province.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Official visit to the ESIA and had a meeting with the Head of ESIA on possibility for collaboration with PEI ESIA and ESIA Office on 29 April. The meeting agreed that NCSAFU will closely support the review and update ESIA degree. TOR for national consultant will be developed.</li> <li>- Implement together with activities 2.3.2</li> </ul>	<p>Good collaboration with ESIA and PEI. ESIA play a good coordination role to guide the synergy between NCSAFU and other ongoing project under MONRE, ESIA Office. The project will continue draft TOR and work closely with ESIA staff, collected existing information for review and input to Draft TOR of National Consultant.</p>
<b>OUTCOME4: Project Management and Communication</b>				
<b>OUTPUT 4: Effective Project Management and Institutional Arrangements</b>				
<p><b>Target 1:</b> Periodic progress and advance settlement.</p> <p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Progress report and all financial Forms submitted to UNDP on time with acceptable quality.</p> <p><b>Baseline 1:</b> Progress reports and all financial forms have to submit to UNDP by first week of next quarter in the year.</p> <p><b>Target 2:</b> Terminal Report approve and by end of 2012.</p> <p><b>Indicator 2:</b> Terminal report.</p>	<p><b>Activity 4.1:</b> Maintaining quality of office and administration management</p> <p><b>Activity 4.2:</b> Conduct project monthly meeting</p>		<p><b>Achieved</b></p> <p>Day to day operation is smoothly</p>	
		4,820,500 LAK	<p><b>Achieved</b></p> <p>The project team regular monthly meeting with UNDP CO has been organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 26 January 2012</li> <li>- 10 February 2012 and</li> <li>- 12 March 2012</li> </ul> <p>The minute of meeting were prepared.</p>	

<p><b>Baseline 2:</b> Terminal report is required.</p> <p><b>Target 3:</b> Project performance evaluation report available by end of February 2012.</p> <p><b>Indicator 3:</b> Evaluation report.</p> <p><b>Baseline 3:</b> No project evaluation report.</p>	<p><b>Activity 4.3:</b> Engage international or national consultant to conduct project performance evaluation</p> <p><b>Action 4.4:</b> Support UNDP to conduct a project auditing</p> <p><b>Action 4.5:</b> Prepare project progress report and terminal report</p>		<p>This activities will be do in late 2012 or 2013</p> <p><b>Completed</b> - Finished facilitate and support all finance document to project audit on 28-29 February 2012.</p> <p>Draft Q1 report has been prepared and submitted to UNDP for comments before signatory of NPD.</p>	
	<p>Total Payment from POA:</p> <p>UNDP support Service/direct payment</p> <p>Grand Total Approx:</p>	<p>341,393,884 LAK</p> <p>0</p> <p>341,393,884 LAK</p>		

## 2. Contribution to aid effectiveness-Update on implementation of the Vientiane Declaration and its Action Plan

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, particularly Department of Forestry Resource and Management, refers to project document regarding Vientiane Declaration (Article 2, Point Number. 17), Project document in executive summary "The Department of Forestry Resources and Management will strengthen national and local capacity to implement natural resources legislation with a focus on issues most relevant to the Rio Conventions" in order to meet with the goal, GEF/Project has preliminary prepared its own capacity building by reviewing the text of several national laws/regulations related to the Rio convention, developing of the compliance strategy in national and provincial level, identifying, selecting and developing the operational tools to be implemented at the project site and conducting the training workshop in the target province in order to be able to implement and enforcement those laws/regulations in target provinces related to the annual work plan, action 1.1-1.7, 2.1-2.5, 3.1-3.3

Under the direction of Department of Forestry Resource and Management, project also concern on the developing our effective leadership/ownership and coordinate to lead the relevant stakeholders including the partnership in development; through such mechanisms for the project achievement. The transparency and accountability are the main anticipation of the project to carry out the annual reviews on progress in implementing the commitments on aid effectiveness and improved development outcomes through existing and increasingly objective. Resources of the project are the important tools to allow the project operate conveniently and they will be used impressively in the project implementing in national and provincial level.

The project team try to harmonize and strengthen partnership with other development partners who can provide support to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) in the pilot project or similar of NCSAFU project have been done.

## 3. Update on partnerships

Several internal meetings with line ministries, NGOs; IUCN, TABI, ABP, Right Link, SUFORD/CIFO were organized to seek for synergy and possible for collaboration on land degradation management, development of provincial biodiversity strategy and action plan, development of the annual national socio-economic development plan for 2012-2013.

Additional Consultation meeting with line ministries such as Department of ESIA and Cabinet of MAF were organized to seek for possible for collaboration on develop/update legal, regulation, decree and laws framework in national level.

**4. Update on gender mainstreaming**

The project takes into new assistant project and account gender issues, for instant composition of key staff member and one of interns gender issues, TWGs member and participation of women in number of project activities. Reviewing legal framework has considered gender issues such as consider how particular law/regulation will be impacted to livelihood of women and men, especially women poor in the target areas. The project try to ensure that a national consultant will design an appropriate training tools that most suitable for women group.

**5. Update on audit recommendations**

Completed audit facilitate and support information of finance to Auditor on 28-29 February 2012, Waiting for auditor will recommendation to the project as soonest.

**6. List main challenges and issues (if any) faced during reporting period**

Delay in VSO is recruited to support project team because of Lao Government have been changed to new structure, not clear on role for each position of official governor.

The project board is not officially set up and approved yet, because of Lao Government have been changed to new structure.

Response strategy:

- NCSAFU will closely consult and communicate with UNDP and key stakeholders. The project will speed up the process in order to achieve the pending issues focus on priority output such as (i) annual and material for TOTs workshop and (ii) Testing tools from reviewing legislations, laws, regulations related to the natural resource management, report on the compliance strategy for the national and provincial, and using the operational tools on be implement at the project sites;
- VSO is recruited to support the project team;
- Advance prepare for planned activities that will be implement in Q2-2012.

**7. Rating on progress towards results**

Output: <i>[From table 1. Contribution to Strategic Goals]</i>		
Output 1: Key stakeholder in the three provinces are implementing and enforcing important components of the existing natural resource management legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negative change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unchanged
Output 2: National level stakeholder have the capacity to implement and enforce natural resource legislation and in particular, are able to support all provinces in Lao PDR With legislation implementation and enforcement.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negative change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unchanged
Output 3: legislation and policy with regards to the Rio Conventions in Lao PDR is more suitable to the national situation and more comprehensive in nature.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negative change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unchanged
Output 4: Effective management and institutional arrangement for the project implementation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negative change
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unchanged

#### IV. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE OUTCOME AND/OR OUTPUTS

- Support Cabinet of MAF to develop guideline Handbook for knowledge and enforcement laws, regulations and decree to protect natural resources management;
- Support Department of ESIA to Finalise review EIA Decree by National Consultant focus on Technical.

#### V. FUTURE WORK PLAN

The priority action planned for the following quarter are to:

1. Publishing on Legal and regulation, compliance strategy and update tools operational;
2. Capacity build for TWGs in national and local level by conduct Training of Trainer (TOTs);
3. Planed for develop training materials and provide a TOTs for National and Provincial Officers;
4. Organize two TOTs level as 1<sup>st</sup> TOT workshop for national level on the end of May 2012 and 2<sup>nd</sup> TOT workshop for provincial level on June 2012;
5. Conduct community based forestry and natural resources management and facilitate knowledge exchange activities for villagers in the target areas.

#### 2. List major adjustments in the strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.

1. Result framework for M&E has been changed through consultation with stakeholders in the Inception Workshop.

3. Estimated total budget required for the following quarter: 667,239,870. USD

VI. ANNEXES

1. Annex 1: Combined Delivery Report
2. Annex 2: Second Quarterly Work plan of 2012
3. Annex 3: Project risk Log
4. Annex 4: Project issues log
5. Annex 5: Lessons learned log
6. Annex 6: Initial Monitoring and Communication Plan.

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