



FAO-GEF Project Implementation Report

2022 – Revised Template

Period covered: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

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1. Basic Project Data

General Information

Region:	RAP
Country (ies):	LAO PDR
Project Title:	Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems (SAMIS) to improve adaptation to climate change and food security in Lao PDR
FAO Project Symbol:	GCP /LAO/021/LDF
GEF ID:	5462
GEF Focal Area(s):	LDCF
Project Executing Partners:	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Department of Planning and Cooperation (DOPC)
Project Duration (years):	June 2017 to December 2022 (5.5 years)
Project coordinates:	Entire country

Project Dates

GEF CEO Endorsement Date:	27 July 2016
Project Implementation Start Date/EOD :	26 May 2017
Project Implementation End Date/NTE¹:	30 June 2021
Revised project implementation end date (if approved) ²	31 December 2022

Funding

GEF Grant Amount (USD):	5,479,452
Total Co-financing amount as included in GEF CEO Endorsement Request/ProDoc³:	16,130,000
Total GEF grant disbursement as of June 30, 2022 (USD)⁴:	5,116,157
Total estimated co-financing materialized as of June 30, 2022⁵	10,318,845

¹ As per FPMIS

² If NTE extension has been requested and approved by the FAO-GEF CU.

³ This is the total amount of co-financing as included in the CEO document/Project Document.

⁴ For DEX projects, the GEF Coordination Unit will confirm the final amount with the Finance Division in HQ. For OPIM projects, the disbursement amount should be provided by Execution Partners.

⁵ Please refer to the section 12 of this report where updated co-financing estimates are requested and indicate the total co-financing amount materialized.

M&E Milestones

Date of Most Recent Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:	22 nd of March 2022
Expected Mid-term Review date⁶:	completed
Actual Mid-term review date (when it is done):	
Expected Terminal Evaluation Date⁷:	September 2022
Tracking tools/Core indicators updated before MTR or TE stage (provide as Annex)	Yes

Overall ratings

Overall rating of progress towards achieving objectives/ outcomes (cumulative):	HS
Overall implementation progress rating:	S
Overall risk rating:	Low

ESS risk classification

Current ESS Risk classification:	Low
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Status

Implementation Status (1st PIR, 2nd PIR, etc. Final PIR):	5 th and final PIR
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Project Contacts

Contact	Name, Title, Division/Institution	E-mail
Project Manager / Coordinator	Monica Petri, Project Coordinator, FAO Laos	Monica.Petri@fao.org
Budget Holder	Beau Damen, Climate Change and Bioenergy officer, FAO RAP	Beau.Damen@fao.org
Lead Technical Officer	Nasar Hayat, FAO RAP	Monica.Petri@fao.org
GEF Funding Liaison Officer	Sameer Karki, Funding Liaison Officer, CBC	Sameer.Karki@fao.org

⁶ The Mid-Term Review (MTR) should take place after the 2nd PIR, around half-point between EOD and NTE. The MTR report in English should be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within 4 years of the CEO Endorsement date.

⁷ The Terminal Evaluation date should be discussed with OED 6 months before the project's NTE date.

2. Progress towards Achieving Project Objective(s) (Development Objective)

(All inputs in this section should be cumulative from project start, not annual)

Project objective and Outcomes (<u>as indicated at CEO Endorsement</u>)	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline level	Mid-term target ⁹	End-of-project target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
Objective(s): The project's objectives are: (i) to enhance at national and provincial levels, monitoring, analysis, communication, and use of agrometeorological data and information for decision-making in relation to agriculture and food security and (ii) to improve monitoring and analysis of agricultural production systems by strengthening land resources information management systems (through LRIMS) and Agro-Ecological Zoning (AEZ) to support agricultural policies and climate-change adaptation.						
Outcome 1.1: Improved agrometeorological monitoring, communication and analysis facilities established at national and provincial level	A fully renewed CAgMD within DMH functioning with clear roles and responsibility	Very old systems and no climate and agromet services to meet the needs of farmers	Delivery of facilities and instruments, Capacity development and testing	A fully renewed CAgMD connected with all AWS and database	Government officials have installed 15 automatic agrometeorological station. The manual stations have arrived but not yet installed. The national level communication system is functioning and updated continuously.	S

⁸ This is taken from the approved results framework of the project.

⁹ Some indicators may not identify mid-term targets at the design stage (refer to approved results framework) therefore this column should only be filled when relevant.

¹⁰ Please report on results obtained in terms of Global Environmental Benefits and Socio-economic Co-benefits as well.

¹¹ Use GEF Secretariat required six-point scale system: **Highly Satisfactory (HS)**, **Satisfactory (S)**, **Moderately Satisfactory (MS)**, **Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)**, **Unsatisfactory (U)**, and **Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)**.

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline level	Mid-term target ⁹	End-of-project target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
<p>Outcome 1.2: Institutional and technical capacity strengthened to facilitate data sharing, archiving, analysis and interpretation of agro-meteorological information products to users at all levels</p>	Improved and new climate and agromet products available with users	No system in place to communicate and receive feedback from users	Staff training	Endorsed SOPs, guidebooks (at least 7)	<p>SOP has been endorsed by MONRE and MAF. SOP draft due for final inter-ministerial endorsement soon</p> <p>Weekly and monthly agrometeorological bulletins have been produced and distributed with support of the project since May 2019.</p> <p>>300 technical staff trained staff trained in SOP.</p> <p>> 450 staff trained in bulletins, agro-meteorology and stations management</p>	S
<p>Outcome 2.1: Integrated Land Resources Information Management System (LRIMS) and High resolution Agro-Ecological Zones (AEZ) and agriculture production Systems At Risk (SAR) developed based on agricultural resources (climate,</p>	Number of information systems available	Several scattered information system based on partners activities, no dedicated information systems for the comprehensive structure of the MAF and for agriculture MAF ICT Strategy in place	Design, development and Implementation phase	At least 2 new systems developed and delivered	The LRIMS online since 2021. pyAEZ application for supporting national AEZ is available and being used by multiple countries and by lao government counterparts.	S

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline level	Mid-term target ⁹	End-of-project target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
land, soil, water and crops)					<p>A multiplicity of spatial and tabular dataset are made available in LRMIS for free download including crop, soil, climate downscaled, and climate and crop scenarios maps finalized.</p> <p>Web Development and set-up of GIS/ information portal demo finalized, app under finalization.</p>	
<p>Outcome 2.2: Technical capacity developed for sustained operation and use of LRIMS, SAVA, AEZ and agriculture production Systems at Risk for policy formulation and adaptation planning in agriculture sector</p>	MAF/ DALaM staff trained to maintain and provide or apply LRIMS/ NAEZ information (gender disaggregated)	0 female 0 male Some DALaM senior staff know the AEZ theoretical concepts	15 females 35 males	100 staff (30 female; 70 male) trained	<p>> 180 staff trained in a multiplicity of advanced GIS systems including participatory mapping.</p> <p>Foresight planning introduced in the village level participatory planning</p> <p>Foresight policy making introduced at national level. DOPF is completing an innovative Agricultural Development Plan</p>	HS

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline level	Mid-term target ⁹	End-of-project target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
					monitoring system. DOPLA has completed the development of innovative foresight policy schemes at national (using FMM budget).	
Outcome 3.1: Knowledge and information sharing for local application, agriculture and food security planning and programming and project outcomes/outputs monitored and evaluated to ensure sustainability	Framework for knowledge-sharing and packaging of lessons learned and experiences developed/ improved	<i>0 = No</i>	0 Design M&E plan and Knowledge Management	1 = Yes	M&E plan KI is satisfactory The project and the government team participated to 12 international events and had national media presence in 20 cases The project organized 176 events local events in 2019 and 216 in 2020 within FFS and loudspeakers events. Details of the training programmes including the events is below: FFS 2019 4 rainy season + 2 villages dry season in Savannakhet 2 villages rainy season in LuangNamtha	HS

Project objective and Outcomes (as indicated at CEO Endorsement)	Outcome indicators ⁸	Baseline level	Mid-term target ⁹	End-of-project target	Cumulative progress ¹⁰ since project start Level at 30 June 2022	Progress rating ¹¹
					<p>FFS 2020 2 villages rainy season in Savannakhet 2 villages rainy season in LuangNamtha</p> <p>2019, Loudspeaker 20 sets for awareness raising activity distributed to 20 villages, 29 tablets and 9 projectors to 20 villages + 2 PALaM and 7 DAFO</p> <p>2020, 10 Loudspeaker sets for awareness raising activity, the u distributed 10 tablets</p> <p>2021, 2022 collaborations with NGOs CCL Phongsali (7 villages) SNV Oudomxai (28), SNV Huaphanh (32) EWS project France (10 villages confirmed)</p>	

Action Plan to address MS, MU, U and HU ratings

Outcome	Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?

3. Implementation Progress (IP)

(Please indicate progress achieved during this FY as per the Implementation Plan/Annual Workplan)

Outcomes and Outputs ¹²	Indicators (as per the Logical Framework)	Annual Target (as per the annual Work Plan)	Main achievements ¹³ (please avoid repeating results reported in previous year PIR)	Describe any variance ¹⁴ in delivering outputs
Outcome 1.1				
Output 1.1.1	Agro-meteorological station networks improved/ re-habilitated with both conventional and automatic weather stations to increase coverage in the major agricultural production areas	Ongoing	<i>Installation of AWS is finalized. Manual station under procurement. Office building reparation bid under reparation.</i>	Manual sensors have been procured and will be installed in the next reporting phase.
Output 1.1.2	Development and delivery of training packages relevant to climatology and agro-meteorology, communication and application of climate and agrometeorological information by users	Completed	<i>A mobile app is available in google and apple stores.</i>	Although this activity is complete LaCSA will is being further improved.
Output 1.1.3	Laboratory for agro-meteorological analysis, instrument calibration and geospatial climate data access, monitoring, processing facilities established and functioned at DMH, Vientiane	Ongoing	<i>Climate Atlas published</i>	Laboratory calibration equipment have arrived and will be installed in the next reporting period.

¹² Outputs as described in the project Logframe or in any approved project revision.

¹³ Please use the same unit of measurement of the project indicators as per the approved Implementation Plan or Annual Workplan. Please be concise (max one or two short sentence with main achievements)

¹⁴ Variance refers to the difference between the expected and actual progress at the time of reporting.

Output <u>1.2.1</u>	Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for climatology and agro-meteorology division of DMH and guidelines for installation of instruments and observation, data coding and maintenance developed and staff trained (at least 65 technical staff trained)	Ongoing	<i>The SOP are ready and the signing ceremony should be organized soon.</i>	
Output <u>1.2.2</u>	Development and delivery of training packages relevant to climatology and agro-meteorology, communication and application of climate and agrometeorological information by users.	Completed	<i>All training needed has been undertaken</i>	The activity of training is over-performing. Low number of women trained is due to the low number of women employed in government institutions.
Outcome <u>2.1</u>				
Output <u>2.1.1</u>	Land Resources Information Management System (LRIMS) and customized applications designed, developed, tested and delivered with computing facilities for monitoring and assessment of land suitability	Completed	<i>The LRMIS portal is online. LRMIS finalized. Additional modelling is been undertaken through RAP financing for the GCF preparation and through CAEP. The app is under finalization.</i>	The LRIMS app is being finalized (co-financing, app was not planned in the original project).
Output <u>2.1.2</u>	Available data and information on land, soil, water, crops and socio-economics synthesized and National-Agro-Ecological Zoning (NAEZ) and Information Portal developed, tested and delivered	Completed	<i>All input maps gathered from external entities are ready. Data collection for LRIMS finalized. Policy aspects with foresight analysis through the FMM financing finalized. Monitoring strategy for the ADS still ongoing.</i>	
Output <u>2.1.3</u>	Impact scenarios of water availability, crop yield and socio-economics for all major agro-ecological zones assessed and adaptation strategies developed	Completed	<i>AEZ modelling completed and freely downloadable from LRMIS</i>	
Output <u>2.2.1</u>	Training resources on LRIMS, Agro-Ecological Zoning, SAVA scenario development and selection of main	Completed	<i>67 females and 237 males were trained.</i>	The training programme has exceeded targets.

	indicator developed and training programme conducted			
<u>Output 2.2.2</u>	Adaptation priorities based on revised LRIMS, AEZ and Naf-SAR documented at national level for all production systems and zones (the strategies will focus primarily the agriculture production System At Risk; SAR)	Ongoing	The foresight analysis at local level is completed Foresight analysis for national level completed for 4 crops.	The foresight analysis of the Agricultural Development Strategy is ongoing
<u>Outcome 3.1</u>				
<u>Output 3.1.1</u>	Local application of climate information and location specific adaptation strategies facilitated through Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in close coordination with climate adaptation in wetland areas (CAWA) project activities	Completed	No SAMIS FSS ongoing. Weather information is keeping updated to farmers in five provinces using whatsapp facebook and other means. Collaboration with various projects is ongoing with an outreaching population of 110,000 people (49% women) in the field. The outreach of tv shows and youtube shows is actually not been estimated. Meteo forecast cover around 97% of the population (personal communication by DMH, concrete data do not exist). The LaoFAB mailing list has 7.000 participants.	-12 SAMIS FFS in total. -6 Farmers groups in Villages in Phongsaly. -Total 18 villages. The reaching of LaCSA has therefore been: -361 people (75 women) from the FFS -32,682 people (16,418 women) from the loudspeakers (including FFS) Over the length of the project, training of trainers has covered 73 males and 19 females from PAFO, DAFO, PONRE, DONRE, SNV, CCL, DMH, DALAM, NAFRI, VFI. In particular, a total of 29 DAFO staff undertook LaCSA TOT.
<u>Output 3.1.2</u>	Knowledge and information sharing workshops conducted and best practices, key lessons disseminated via publications, project websites and others to facilitate	Completed	<i>Many materials and booklet are published and many more under development but with some difficulty due to OCC rules.</i>	The output is over-performing even if approvals by OCC are creating issues. KI ready and constantly updated.

	<p>wider awareness and utilization in other climate sensitive sectors</p>			<p>The project and the government team participated to 12 international events and had national media presence in 26 cases</p> <p>The project organized a total of 152 loudspeakers events at local level. Also, the project undertook 4 local level training to NGOs and other projects.</p> <p>In addition, each SAMIS FFS is considered to have at least 20 AR/training events per each rainy season. This sum up for a total of 240 events.</p>
	<p>Project M&E system established to monitor activities, outputs systematically at all levels (national, provincial and local) and outcomes evaluated.</p>		<p><i>M&E plans established. The M&E is undertaken by the project. Sustainability strategy positively screened by GCF, the preparation of the project document has started.</i></p>	

4. Summary on Progress and Ratings

Please provide a summary paragraph on progress, challenges and outcome of project implementation consistent with the information reported in sections 2 and 3 of the PIR.

- **COVID-19 pandemic and associated measures.** The pandemic has delayed some activities related to the training and planning of component 2.
- **High-level visibility, political support and sustainability.** The lack of submission of the sustainability strategy to a donor, the slow progress of Component 2, and some procurement delays all interconnected with the project's high visibility, created challenges between the project team and MAF.
- **Managerial capacity at DMH and at DALAM.** Managerial capacity in DMH improved considerably over the life of the project. At the same time, the problem of the managerial capacities of DALAM has been evident in this phase.
- **Project complexity – Component 2.** The component has been blocked from January to mid-May. There are two separate scales of this issue, one at national, one at the global level. **National level.** Under this component, some of the more complex planning activities continue to miss full technical buy-in and implementation capacity from government counterparts.
- **Operational capacity.** The problems in operations have increased for two problems: a project problem and an office problem.
- **Awareness raising material and corporate approval.** The project team struggles with the internal approval system for publication, but various leaflets have been published, and one book has been submitted for approval.

Development Objective (DO) Ratings, Implementation Progress (IP) Ratings and Overall Assessment

Please note that the overall DO and IP ratings should be substantiated by evidence and progress reported in the Section 2 and Section 3 of the PIR. For DO, the ratings and comments should reflect the overall progress of project results.

	FY2022 Development Objective rating¹⁵	FY2022 Implementation Progress rating¹⁶	Comments/reasons¹⁷ justifying the ratings for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the ratings since the previous reporting period
Project Manager / Coordinator	HS	S	Launching of multiple advanced products such as the LaCSA app, the LRMIS, the Climate Atlas, and the foresight analysis storymaps marked the reporting period. Given the level of quality of the project result, the rating cannot be less than HS
Budget Holder	HS	S	The systems developed by SAMIS are highly significant for the development of Lao PDR.
Lead Technical Officer¹⁸	HS	S	SAMIS is a model project for strengthening technical capacity to develop advanced agrometeorological advisory and climate-oriented land resource information management systems. The systems developed by SAMIS are informing the development of similar technical assistance initiatives elsewhere in the region.
FAO-GEF Funding Liaison Officer	HS	S	This project has been delivering great results and is on track to finish with delivery of its results as planned by its end.

¹⁵ **Development Objectives Rating** – A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁶ **Implementation Progress Rating** – A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project's components and activities is in compliance with the projects approved implementation plan. For more information on ratings and definitions, please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁷ Please ensure that the ratings are based on evidence

¹⁸ The LTO will consult the HQ technical officer and all other supporting technical Units.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Under the responsibility of the LTO (PMU to draft)

Please describe the progress made complying with the approved ESM plan. Note that only projects with **moderate** or **high** Environmental and Social Risk, approved from June 2015 should have submitted an ESM plan/table at CEO endorsement. This does not apply to **low** risk projects. Add new ESS risks if any risks have emerged during this FY.

Social & Environmental Risk Impacts identified at CEO Endorsement	Expected mitigation measures	Actions taken during this FY	Remaining measures to be taken	Responsibility
ESS 1: Natural Resource Management				
ESS 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats				
ESS 3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture				
ESS 5: Pest and Pesticide Management				
ESS 6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement				
ESS 7: Decent Work				
ESS 8: Gender Equality				
ESS 9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage				
New ESS risks that have emerged during this FY				

In case the project did not include an ESM Plan at CEO endorsement stage, please indicate if the initial Environmental and Social (ESS) Risk classification is still valid; if not, what is the new classification and explain.

Initial ESS Risk classification (At project submission)	Current ESS risk classification Please indicate if the Environmental and Social Risk classification is still valid ¹⁹ . If not, what is the new classification and explain.
Low	The risk rating is still valid.

Please report if any grievance was received as per FAO and GEF ESS policies. If yes, please indicate how it is being/has been addressed.

¹⁹ **Important:** please note that if the Environmental and Social Risk classification has changed, the ESM Unit should be contacted and an updated Social and Environmental Management Plan addressing new risks should be prepared.

6. Risks

The following table summarizes risks identified in the Project Document and reflects also any new risks identified in the course of project implementation (including COVID-19 related risks). The last column should be used to provide additional details concerning manifestation of the risk in the project, as relevant.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
1	Unavailability of data for development of information products and impact assessment	L	Low to non-existent. This risk was listed due imprecise assessment at PPG stage.		Unavailability of data for development of information products and impact assessment	
2	Weak technical expertise at the national level	L	Low. This risk was listed due imprecise assessment at PPG stage both for DMH and DALAM.		Weak technical expertise at the national level	
3	Weak information technology and telecommunications infrastructure at the national level to ensure linkages	L	Low to non-existent. Communication technology appears to be far beyond than expected		Weak information technology and telecommunications infrastructure at the national level to ensure linkages	

²⁰ Risk ratings means a rating of accesses the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale: Low, Moderate, Substantial or High. For more information on ratings and definitions please refer to Annex 1.

	Type of risk	Risk rating ²⁰	Identified in the ProDoc Y/N	Mitigation Actions	Progress on mitigation actions	Notes from the Budget Holder in consultation with Project Management Unit
4	Insufficient institutional support and political commitments	L	Low at national level, but still existent for the project.		Insufficient institutional support and political commitments	
5	Recent changes in institutional structures and duplication of efforts by various national departments	L	Low.		Recent changes in institutional structures and duplication of efforts by various national departments	
6	Excess of non-coordinated financing impacting the capacities of the national entities in term of staff availability and continuity of activities (new risk not present in the project document)	L	Low for now, but to be kept monitored as it might cause delays, unsustainability and lack of staff.	The GCF concept note that forms the core of the sustainability strategy requested by the PSC has been submitted two times by FAO. The project document should be submitted before the end of 2022.	Excess of non-coordinated financing impacting the capacities of the national entities in term of staff availability and continuity of activities (new risk not present in the project document)	

Project overall risk rating (Low, Moderate, Substantial or High):

FY2021 rating	FY2022 rating	Comments/reason for the rating for FY2022 and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Low	Low	Not applicable.

7. Follow-up on Mid-term review or supervision mission (only for projects that have conducted an MTR)

If the project had an MTR or a supervision mission, please report on how the recommendations were implemented during this fiscal year as indicated in the Management Response or in the supervision mission report.

MTR or supervision mission recommendations	Measures implemented
Recommendation 1: More Training / Capacity Building	<p>Agro-met training have been by EPINET company and University of Seoul (Financed by CAEP)</p> <p>The team is training other project staff about use of LaCSA in the field. The PSC has defined that there is no need for SAMIS staff to work at local level in SAMIS villages anymore.</p> <p>The SAMIS team has undertaken a new field level assessment that is informing the SAMIS+ preparation.</p>
Recommendation 2: Prepare knowledge products	Documents are under preparation.
Recommendation 3: Increase geographical coverage by including villages in the neighbourhood of the pilot villages	<p>The SAMIS is working with other projects and have reached around 100.000 farmers in 2022.</p> <p>After the MTR, the PSC has defined that there is no need for SAMIS staff to work at local level in SAMIS villages anymore. In addition, more central and district level training is instead requested by DMH, especially in drought modelling, LaCSA, and local data collection activities.</p>
Recommendation 4: Initiate the process of provision of budgetary support by DMH to ensure operations and maintenance of AWSs	<p>The government budget is not sufficient to cover all costs of SAMIS.</p> <p>The WB is implementing the loan project. Meetings with WB are ongoing to use the WB budget to sustain LaCSA until SAMIS. This is already been discussed by SAMIS with WB with the permission of DMH.</p> <p>DALAM will be using Korean budget to sustain LRIMS over time.</p>
Recommendation 5: Support the initiation of the process of development of Crop Insurance products	Rejected. The DMH collaborates with the CIAT De-RISK project “Applying seasonal climate forecasting and innovative insurance solutions to climate risk management in the agriculture sector in SE Asia”, which also co-finance SAMIS. For this, De-RISK has not worked in insurances in Lao PDR. During the inception workshop held on 12 October 18 in Hanoi, the Director-General of DMH, Mr. Khanmani, explained that insurances are not priorities in Lao PDR

Recommendation 6: Ongoing Early Warning System / Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives and SAMIS project may collaborate. This will ensure sustainability of the results of SAMIS project to some extent, while on the other hand this will lead to enhancement of results both for the EWS and SAMIS project	<p>The WB is implementing the loan project Meetings with WB are ongoing to use the WB budget to sustain LaCSA until SAMIS. This is already been discussed by SAMIS with WB with the permission of DMH</p>
Recommendation 7: Actions for Replication and Upscaling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The preparation of the SAMIS2 is ongoing 2. The extension manual is published and is available here 3. The CIAT study is finalized and will be published at soonest. The CIAT is also undertaking a new survey in collaboration with the SAMIS2 team
Recommendation 8: Create a centre of excellence in one of the institutions in Laos for Climate Change Adaptation for the Agriculture Sector	<p>The time available to the project to undertake such a complex process could be too short. In addition, it would be difficult to manage the link with the CCRC in NAFRI.</p> <p>The discussion about this new CC center of excellence could be postponed to the SAMIS2. However, the DALAM could decide to bring this at the SSWG level. The PSC has agreed that this recommendation is not relevant given the time available</p>
Has the project developed an Exit Strategy? If yes, please describe	<p>Yes. The remaining budget is being used to develop the GCF project Scaling up climate-responsive planning and decision making for resilient agriculture and livelihoods in Lao PDR</p>

8. Minor project amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines²¹. Please describe any minor changes that the project has made under the relevant category or categories. And, provide supporting documents as an annex to this report if available.

Category of change	Provide a description of the change	Indicate the timing of the change	Approved by
Results framework			
Components and cost			
Institutional and implementation arrangements			
Financial management			
Implementation schedule	The project has been extended from the initial 4 years to 5.5 years	22 nd march 2022	Steering Comitee
Executing Entity			
Executing Entity Category			
Minor project objective change	<p>Output 2.2.2: Adaptation priorities based on revised LRIMS, AEZ and Naf-SAR documented at national level for all production systems and zones (the strategies will focus primarily the agriculture production System At Risk; SAR)</p> <p>Output 3.1.1: Local application of climate information and location specific adaptation strategies facilitated through Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in close coordination with climate adaptation in wetland areas (CAWA) project activities</p>	<p>The output 2.2.2 has been expanded to cover the revision of the Agricultural Development Strategy.</p> <p>The output 3.1.1 has been expanded thanks to the collaboration with multiple NGOs</p>	<p>Not approved, the activities have been cofinanced</p> <p>Not approved, the activities have been cofinanced</p>
Safeguards			

²¹ Source: <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/guidelines-project-and-program-cycle-policy-2020-update>

Risk analysis			
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%			
Co-financing	The cofinancing is reduced compared to plan, especially in the last PIR	With the project ending the government has less capacity to continue cofinancing	
Location of project activity	The project location is at national scale	With the intervention of various NGOs and partners, the LaCSA is now used in most provinces. Also, data output cover the entire country	Not approved, it was implicit in the original produc
Other			

9. Stakeholders' Engagement

Please report on progress and results and challenges on stakeholder engagement (based on the description of the Stakeholder engagement plan) included at CEO Endorsement/Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u>			
Stakeholder name	Role in project execution	Progress and results on Stakeholders' Engagement	Challenges on stakeholder engagement
<i>Government Institutions</i>			
DMH/MONRE	Management, LaCSA development, laboratory	Very high engagement and support to engage others	Managerial capacity has improved but it is low.
DALaM/MAF	Management of comp2, LaCSA development	Very high engagement and support to engage others	Slow unset that delayed the component
PPC/MAF	As a servive provider implemented FFS	Very high engagement	NA, technical partner
NAFRI/MAF	As a servive provider C1 trained PONREs, DONREs, PAFOs and DAFOs on LaCSA C2 worked on policy recommanation	Very high engagement	NA, technical partner

DOPC/MONRE	As a service provider implemented project monitoring system of SAMIS	Provided some suggestions for weather station improvement.	Low capacity
DCC/MONRE	As a service provider tested the drought index map of LaCSA.	High engagement	Low capacity
DOPC/MAF	As service provider on policy development	High engagement	Low capacity
Policy team of MAF	As service provider on policy development	High engagement	Low capacity
Non-Government organizations (NGOs)			
CCL	As a partner used LaCSA – unpaid	in Phongsaly	NA
HELVETAS	As a partner used LaCSA – unpaid	in Xiengkhouang and support to use LaoFAB website.	NA
SNV	As a partner used LaCSA – unpaid	In Huaphan and Oudomxay province	NA
Private sector entities			
Others[1]			
New stakeholders identified/engaged			

[1] They can include, among others, community-based organizations (CBOs), Indigenous Peoples organizations, women's groups, private sector companies, farmers, universities, research institutions, and all major groups as identified, for example, in Agenda 21 of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and many times again since then.

10. Gender Mainstreaming

Information on Progress on Gender-responsive measures as documented at CEO Endorsement/Approval in the gender action plan or equivalent (when applicable) during this reporting period.

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe progress and results achieved during this reporting period
Gender analysis or an equivalent socio-economic assessment made at formulation or during execution stages.	No	
Any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women's empowerment?	Yes	Carefulness on training women on advanced data modelling techniques
Indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality (as identified at project design stage):		
a) closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources	No	This is not relevant to the project
b) improving women's participation and decision making	Yes	Carefulness on training women on advanced data modelling techniques
c) generating socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	Data from LaCSA include crops that are managed by men and by women.
M&E system with gender-disaggregated data?	Yes	
Staff with gender expertise	Yes	Vandy Phothiyalay, Training Programmes Management and Administrative Assistant Vandy.phothiyalay@fao.org
Any other good practices on gender		

11. Knowledge Management Activities

Knowledge activities / products (when applicable), as outlined in Knowledge Management Approach approved at CEO Endorsement / Approval <u>during this reporting period.</u>	
Does the project have a knowledge management strategy? If not, how does the project collect and document good practices? Please list relevant good practices that can be learned and shared from the project thus far.	<p>A draft KMP was developed but was not completed.</p> <p>The project collected data on farmer use of the LaCSA system and the lessons learned are being published. Also, the data on the use of the two IT system are constantly updated.</p>
Does the project have a communication strategy? Please provide a brief overview of the communications successes and challenges this year.	<p>Main successes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication of nearly one news per week in the MAF webpage - Organization of LRMIS launching event with more than 100 participants - Publication of news on the LaoFAB, a mailing list with more than 7000 members
Please share a human-interest story from your project, focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's livelihoods while contributing to achieving the expected Global Environmental Benefits. Please indicate any Socio-economic Co-benefits that were generated by the project. Include at least one beneficiary quote and perspective, and please also include related photos and photo credits.	<p>Mr. Khanthavy Heuangsouk, a farmer at Kadarn village in Champhone district, Savannakhet province, is one of the FFS member and the agro-met news reader at the loudspeaker. He said that "I have been farming since I was a boy with my parents without knowing when it is going to rain or sunny. The average of rice yield is 3.5 tons per hectare. Nowadays, the climate has changed and it is very different if compared with my parents' generation. There is some year that rice yield is wet cause of rainy during rice harvesting. In 2019, the SAMIS project of FAO came to my village with collaboration of DALaM, PALaM and DAFO. Then, I have been selected to be a village news reader and be trained by project on how to read a news. We have been informed on rainfall and temperature for the next seven days, and also in pest and disease management through WhatsApp group. Also, I can access the bulletin via link of LaCSA on smartphone and Facebook. So, I used it for crop preparation and harvesting and I think that it is accurate at the 80-90 percent. We had a rice yield 4.5 to 5 tons per hectare after we used the new technique from FFS and agro-met news into our farming. I was very impressed with the agro-met, I had never heard about it and it can be used to improve the livelihood and increase the rice yield. I applied to my rice farming this year and it was also applied by other farmers who didn't attend the FFS last year" (2020)</p>
Please provide links to related website, social media account	<p>See annex 1</p> <p>https://www.fao.org/in-action/samis/</p>

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	https://www.facebook.com/samisdmh
<p>Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, video materials, newsletters, or other communications assets published on the web.</p>	<p>See annex 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climatology and agroclimatology atlas of the Lao People's Democratic Republic-English https://www.fao.org/3/cb9713en/cb9713en.pdf - Climatology and agroclimatology atlas of the Lao People's Democratic Republic-Lao https://www.fao.org/3/cb9713lo/cb9713lo.pdf - Livelihood zones and adaptive capacity maps of Lao People's Democratic Republic http://www.fao.org/3/cb4217en/cb4217en.pdf - Bridging the gap: How to get climate services to farmers http://www.fao.org/3/cb3942en/cb3942en.pdf - State of the art agricultural land cover maps for the Lao People's Democratic Republic http://www.fao.org/3/cb3699en/cb3699en.pdf - Climate maps for the Lao People's Democratic Republic http://www.fao.org/3/cb3688en/cb3688en.pdf - Soil mapping for the Lao People's Democratic Republic http://www.fao.org/3/cb3992en/cb3992en.pdf - Agro-ecological zones https://www.fao.org/3/cb5061en/cb5061en.pdf - Weather dependent climate smart recommendations https://www.fao.org/3/cb5888en/cb5888en.pdf - Training Manual Agrometeorology for Agriculture Extension Officers in Lao People's Democratic Republic https://www.fao.org/3/cb7108en/cb7108en.pdf - Climate Smart Recommendations - Practical handbook for agricultural land cover mapping in the Lao People's Democratic Republic https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/CA9960EN/ <p>Also, a weekly TV and radio broadcast has continued in DMH. The TV broadcast is recorded in the DMH studio by DMH staff of the Weather Forecast Division. The list of broadcasts are presented here:</p> <p>27-Dec-2021: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tnoSTq-SI0 10-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCH3z5HjPuQ 17-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cy9rA_-RqBM&t=179s 24-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erwesVsdPm4 31-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQz8FQmG6mM 7-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mhogg5SwbGg 14-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2fS79LoqIE 21-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAxd3VJlcCA 28-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=diqrGVhHjkw 7-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_2CsSzHXK4 14-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWMA7D-fkVY 21-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyaVQIDWkjw 28-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dT-VqdGVRc 4-Apr-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iEY7eq-_JI 11-Apr-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CXG6BlncE 18-Apr-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMubEcr76DM 25-Apr-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aYqj3-V1m 9-May-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bJV3ns3rjU 16-May-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yt9Sd6Hs2HQ 23-May-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_4gNzPDOU 30-May-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EgOqOKZ6OPQ 6-Jun-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94tYp6LRewo 13-Jun-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nziJBzyuQWQ 20-Jun-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REahH3BCbVM</p>

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	<p>27-Jun-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=icEmQkNVM1Q 4-Jul-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anpjtHyvOGO 11-Jul-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JNMySSaZqo</p> <p>Also, a weekly TV and mailing list broadcast has been organized by DALAM in collaboration with DMH. The TV broadcast is recorded in the MAF TV studio by MAF Department Information staff. The list of broadcasts is presented below. Until December, each video was also presented to the LaoFAB mailing list, which has more than 7.000 participants. Joining effort from MAF Information Office and the LaoFAB, has finally positioned the project in the spotlight as data producer for Lao PDR. The activity has contributed greatly to the visibility of the LRIMS activities but it must be underlined that the same activities has also contributed to the visibility of LaCSA, as around 50% of the video reflect LaCSA information.</p> <p>29 Dec 2021: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vwwfr7CYPI&t=7s 8-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smRvVDrF8pE 13-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvVSo1LmZes 21-Jan-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=598b03M10fl 1-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ycj6DFo51Qk 3-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZ4qfgC_RvU 11-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5YqLdclNeY 24-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zaEmUsQ31Q 24-Feb-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-a76MmEFsg 10-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEH8AdwkEYA 20-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ktcrwy-rGeo 28-Mar-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUMSPcXdHj0 8-Apr-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wo-TfMXakrY 25-Apr-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z78ITKQIEfk 9-May-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8PslvCmqxc 23-Jun-22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFricGzie5g</p>
<p>Please indicate the Communication and/or knowledge management focal point's Name and contact details</p>	<p>Phommachanh Phothichanh, Information Management and M&E Expert. Phommachanh.phothichanh@fao.org +85620 2380 3266</p>

12. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Involvement

Are Indigenous Peoples and local communities involved in the project (as per the approved Project Document)? If yes, please briefly explain.

During the first two years of implementation, SAMIS worked in 30 villages in the five pilot areas (LuangNamtha, Savannakhet, Saravan, Champasak and Vientiane province) involving 32,682 indigenous people (16,418 females). The team has implemented a field level assessment of the present functionalities of LaCSA In the villages and the results are under preparation.

While the project has stopped implementing activities directly with farmers groups, field work continues indirectly via collaboration with various NGOs. 30 villages are still receiving the updated of weekly/seasonal forecasting and weather stress event from DMH by Whatsapp group. An overview of this work is as follows:

- The project has trained DAFO, DONRE, NGO staff, villagers, representatives of villages with the SNV NGO that covers two districts in Oudomxai, Beng and Nga districts, with 28 villages and a total of 378 males and 356 females' beneficiaries, respectively. With the same project LaCSA can potentially be used in two districts Huanphanh, Viengsai and Xiengkhor, for a total of 32 villages with 195 males and 180 females' beneficiaries. In both provinces after TOT the plan for village' LACSA training was slow down due to covid. The activities are restarting at the time of reporting, and a SAMIS mission in the field took place from 16 until 28 May 2022. The involved the 60 villages for a total of 6128 households.
- The project Cash assistance and support to resilience of flood affected communities in the South of the country - Attapeu and Sekong province has targeted 10 villages in Attapeu covering 1,817 households. The loudspeaker system is estimated to cover 2123 HH.
- The CAEP project in Bolikhamxay and Khammuane province, DCC presented the existing LaCSA bulletin to communities, with 8 villages and a total of 56 males and 46 females' beneficiaries
- The CCL in Phongsaly province has distributed the weekly weather forecast bulletin and seasonal monthly forecast and to use LACSA use through loudspeakers in Yot-Ou district, with 6 villages and a total of 2,106 beneficiaries (1081 females).
- The CLIMATE REAL project, the training has included each village news reader and government staff from PAFO, PLSW, PICT, PONRE, DAFO, DICT, DLSW, DONRE from Sanamsay, Saysetha, Samakxixay district in Attapeu province. There are 31 villages that's covering 7,069 households (a total is 35,935 beneficiaries and 17,942 females)
- The project Assistance for Smallholders and Socially Vulnerable to Preventing Spread of the COVID-19 in Lao PDR financed by Japan, the SAMIS team supported a training to the provinces of Oudomxai and Luang Prabang province. There are 35 villages of Luangprabang and 20 villages of Oudomxay which a total of 40,567 beneficiaries and 20,058 females' beneficiaries.

13. Co-Financing Table

Sources of Co-financing[1]	Name of Co-financer	Type of Co-financing[2]	Amount Confirmed at CEO endorsement / approval	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2018	Actual Amount Materialized at Midterm or closure (confirmed by the review/evaluation team)	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2020	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2021	Actual Amount Materialized at 30 June 2022	Expected total disbursement by the end of the project
Bilateral Aid Agency	JICA*	In-Kind	4,900,000		4,900,000	321,681			4,900,000
Other*	CIAT CGIAR De-Risk Project	In-Kind			40,000	210,000			250,000
National Government	DMH/MONRE	In-Kind	1,000,000	57,198	66,840	597,838	59,979	42,486	1,824,341
GEF Agency*	ADB through DMH/MONRE	Grant	5,230,000	184,440					5,414,440
GEF Agency	WB through DMH/MONRE	Grant	0	21,466					21,466
Bilateral Aid Agency	China through DMH/MONRE	Grant	0	313,653		5,460,701			5,774,354
Bilateral Aid Agency	South Korea through DMH or DALAM	Grant	0	175,000			20,000		195,000
GEF Agency*	WB DRM through DMH/MONRE	Loan			1,846,508		1,130,567		2,977,075
National Government	DALAM/MAF	In-Kind			303,520	353,060	90,734		747,314
Bilateral Aid Agency	Swiss through DALAM (TABI)	In-Kind			346,850	120,000			466,850

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Bilateral Aid Agency	Germany through DALAM	In-Kind			27,358	38,479			65,837
GEF Agency*	FAO RAP regular programme	In-Kind			234,000				234,000
National Government	DALAM/MAF government financed projects	In-Kind				50,045	262,326	259,530	571,901
Bilateral Aid Agency	France through DALAM	In-Kind				20,000	50,045		70,045
GEF Agency*	FAO RAP regular programme	In-Kind				348,617	32,000		380,617
GEF Agency*	MAF through IFAD through FAO	In-Kind				99,000			99,000
TOTAL			11,130,000	751,757	7,765,076	7,619,421	1,645,651	302,016	23,992,240

Please explain any significant changes in project co-financing since Project Document signature, or differences between the anticipated and actual rates of disbursement

In the previous years, there were additional co-financing from various entities. FAO has also contributed to various aspects of IT products and international entities involvement. However, during the last year there are no new starting up projects neither in DMH and DALAM, so the cofinancing consists of only state budget.

Annex 1. – GEF Performance Ratings Definitions

Development Objectives Rating. A rating of the extent to which a project is expected to achieve or exceed its major objectives.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as “good practice”
Satisfactory (S)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant objectives but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Project is expected to achieve of its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major global environmental objectives)
Unsatisfactory (U)	Project is expected not to achieve most of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits)
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.)

Implementation Progress Rating. A rating of the extent to which the implementation of a project’s components and activities is in compliance with the project’s approved implementation plan.	
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be resented as “good practice
Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with some components requiring remedial action
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with most components requiring remedial action.
Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Risk rating. It should assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project which may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risk of projects should be rated on the following scale:	
High Risk (H)	There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.
Substantial Risk (S)	There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face substantial risks
Moderate Risk (M)	There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only moderate risk.
Low Risk (L)	There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only low risks.