

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

1. Country	Lao People's Democratic Republic
2. Title of the Project	SRI Extension Project in Luang Prabang Province in the Lao PDR
3. Background and Necessity of the Project	PAFO (Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office) of Luangprabang province has been making their efforts toward promoting SRI, as one of the priority policies of the province for improvement of livelihood of the farmers and increase of rice sufficiency of the province. However, only short time training has not been sufficient for the assistant staffs for implement effective extension support and monitoring to the SRI farmers. Under such situation, in order to further develop SRI area in a sustainable manner in the province, "increase of the number of extension staff" and "strengthening of their extension capacity" are urgently needed.
4. Project Purpose	Project Goal is that SRI practice will be expanded in a sustainable manner in the whole irrigation area in Luangprabang province, and the livelihood of farmers will be improved through the increase of household income with the increase of rice production.
5. Target Area	The Project will implement with 18 to 36 villages (3 to 6 villages per district, depending on the situation of each command area of irrigation scheme) in 6 districts of i) Luangprabang, ii) Xienguen, iii) Nane, iv) Nambak, v) Ngoi and vi) Chomphet in Luangprabang province.
6. Target Group	The Project directly will target at 18 to 36 villages (3 to 6 villages per district) in 6 districts with an estimated total of 600 to 900 households. In addition, in terms of capacity building of extension staff, the Project will target at 6 extension staffs (one each of 6 DAFOs: District Agriculture and Forestry Offices) and 18 assistant extension staffs (3 each of 6 DAFOs).
7. Activities and Expected Outcomes	<p>Activity:</p> <p>i) Undertake SRI comparison trials and demonstration activities at the demonstration plots in 6 districts; ii) Undertake SRI practices by participating farmers in the model irrigation schemes in 6 districts; iii) Undertake training of DAFO extension staff and assistant extension staff; iv) Sharing the information of the outcomes of SRI extension activities in Luangprabang province, and conduct training to the extension staffs of the other 6 districts of the Project.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>i) Practical technology of "SRI" suitable for Luangprabang province, northern region of the Lao PDR will be established; ii) The participating farmers will obtain sustainable increase of farm net income through proper SRI technology suitable for Luangprabang province, northern region of the Lao PDR; iii) Through the trainings of Activity 3, the level of extension technology of relevant DAFO extension staffs and assistant extension staffs will be improved; iv) Luangprabang province will be recognized as a model province of SRI extension in northern region of the Lao PDR and will contribute to further extension of SRI to the other northern provinces. At the same time, PAFO's sustainable development system for SRI extension will be verified.</p>
8. Project Duration	October 2010 – September 2013 (3 years)
9. Amount of Estimate	14,396 thousand Japanese Yen
10. Implementation Structure of the Project	<p>i) Overall executing agency of the Project will be the Department of Agriculture and Forestry of Luangprabang Province (PAFO Luangprabang) with full support by Pro-net 21;</p> <p>ii) SRI extension project office under PAFO will be newly established and will cooperate with Pro-net 21 in implementing the Project; and</p> <p>iii) Six (6) DAFOs (Luangprabang, Xienguen, Nane, Nambak, Ngoi and Chomphet districts) will support the project activities under the coordination with PAFO Luangprabang province.</p>