Working with extension workers to scaling up SLM in Lao PDR

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Project overview

“Scaling-up SLM practices by smallholder farmers: working with agricultural extension services to identify, assess and disseminate SLM practices”

• Funded by IFAD
• Implemented by Center for Development and Environment (CDE) of the University of Bern, Switzerland and WOCAT secretariat
• It aims at building capacities of extension services for a standardized documentation of SLM practices using participatory WOCAT tools and methods. Special focus is given to the assessment of existing SLM practices building resilience to climate change by smallholder farmers.
Project sites

- Work in the IFAD large investment program
- 3 provinces in 5 districts in Southern part of Laos
How we work with extension services?

Extension services were fully involved in the project, strongly involved in the documentation process from the selection of the relevant practices to the dissemination of the final knowledge products at the local level.

However, extension workers are lack of SLM knowledge.
NAFRI worked closely with them to build capacity on SLM concept with aims to scale up SLM practices.
Decision support for SLM implementation

- Decision Support tool
- Training
- Implementation
- Identify the ecological zone for DS workshop
- Key role in conduct DS workshop
Collaborations with stakeholders

Project collaboration at local level but also at national level has built a strong understanding of the need to promote SLM practices and policy towards a more sustainable agriculture.
Work with national level and in order to scaling up SLM

• National expert group was established with the purpose to identify policies which are relevant for mainstreaming SLM, to validate and approve good SLM technologies and approaches documented by the project using the national SLM database

• National expert group is key to disseminate knowledge products and information on SLM to inform to policy makers

• UNCCD focal point as a member of the national expert group works closely with project