

Assessment of Incomes Generation Potential for Women in Nong and Sepon District



Supported by DVV International in Laos
Reported by Rural Development Agency (RDA)

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Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Objectives of the Assessment
- Methodology
- Field visit results
- Way forwards

Introduction

- DVV International is launching a coming 3-year project to support women through non-formal education system
- The aim is to build the capacities of women, embedded in CLC structures to generate incomes in rural and remote areas in Nong and Sepon districts for 100 women at least to increase their incomes by 50%
- DVV will deliver for the next three years to all 24 CLCs at Nong and Sepon districts with the major emphasis on 7-CLCs at Nong and 3-CLCs at Sepon
- The assessment aims to give recommendations to DVV in potential capacity building for selected women in projects related to income generation based on what resources are available in the market area nearby
- During 12-17 November 2020, the RDA team visited 3 villages in Nong and 3 villages in Sepon conducted the interview with CLCs management team, women, men and local producers

Objectives of the assessment

General objective

The general objective of this assessment is to provide a response for the questions raised by the DVV International on Potential Income Generation Activity for Women in Nong and Sepon Districts

Specific Objectives:

- *To identify the villages that are most suitable to be included in the project
- *To know the activities that are most promising to generate income in the selected villages
- *To identify the criterias to select the members of the target group
- *To recognize the type of training and activities necessary to achieve the objectives
- *To know the approach about in what way data to increase the income should be collected

Methodology

- The **desk review** and the **consultation meeting** with the DVV staff team was done during the beginning of the work
- A well-structured **assessment questioners** were developed and used to collect the data for each of the assessment strategies
- The main methodologies used to collect the data were through conducting a semi-interview and semi-structured interview by organizing **Focus group discussion, Individual interview** and participant **Observation**

Data collection

- The data was collected by dividing the interviewers who came from RDA, DVV and district government officers into two (2) teams
- One team assigned in Sepon district and the other team was collecting the data at Nong district
- Each team has 2 persons from RDA, DVV's staff and respective district government counterparts such as education office, Lao Youth Union and Lao women union

Sampling / participants / interviewee

The assessment used semi-structured interviews to conduct the focus group discussion and individual interview concerns

There are four (4) groups of people (**CLC committee, Women, Men and Individual**) in the villages. Besides, **entrepreneurs and district government officers** at the Sepon and Nong district town were also included in the assessment

Field visit in Nong and Sepon districts

- The field visited has been designed for one day per village. There were 3 villages per district. the villages selection criteria was based on the discussion resulted from a desk review meeting with the DVV International team at Vientiane
- At district town, the Non-formal education officers, Lao women union and entrepreneurs were interviewed.
- At Savannakhet province and Vientiane capital the group of entrepreneurs and handicraft group has interviewed as seeking for their demanded.

Field visit results

- Potential Demand of the Local products at village and district level
- Potential Suppliers from villages
- Interesting of woman in participation in incomes generation activity
- Community learning center(CLC`s) service capacity in hosting incomes generation activity for women
- The trend of demand on rattan and bamboo handicraft from the Head of Handicraft Group at Phongxong Vientiane province

Local distribution

- Limited alternative local market at Nong and Sepon.
- The small channel to the local market is the Vietnamese traders at village level, but they are not a stable market due to the pandemic and their commitment from them to buy products.
- For the local clients or villagers, they buy one or two times in a year and most of them make for self-consumption.
- For the long-term market if the project able to link the village producers to central like Vientiane capital that would be a good opportunity for the next three years of DVV supporting.

Way Forwards

Which villages are most suitable to be included in the project?

- All six villages are suitable in different approaches to be concerned to include in the project.

What are the activities that are most promising to generate income in the selected villages?

- Bamboo and rattan handicraft product in modern styles as market demanded.
- pig raising set up in a business system
- Broom making with unique style of each districts
- The cloths weaving we recommended to continue coordinate with Lao Women Union at district level to frequently visited the weavers in the village to improve their skill and support their market

Way Forwards (Cont..)

What should the criteria be to select the members of the target group?

- Be a woman who is married and permanently stays in the village.
- Brave and courageous to speak in public at least in a closed group.
- A person who volunteers and is willing to join the project.
- A woman who has permission from their husband to join the project.
- Able to speak a little Lao or willing to learn the official language of Laos.

What kind of training and activities will be necessary to achieve the objectives?

- The significant training for the women and men in the villages is a mindset on business startup. It is like a business triggering perspective. This to get villagers excited to learn and feeling proud to them-self. The training shall be divided into two parts of soft skill and hard skill training

Way Forwards (Cont..)

In what way should data about the increase of income be collected?

The available or increasing of housing facilities and Living style such as:

- ✓ Electricity devices
- ✓ Private underground water pump machine
- ✓ Motorbike or any mean of vehicles
- ✓ Mobile phone
- ✓ Rice mill machine
- ✓ Hard wood or concrete house or permanent house
- ✓ New cloths from market
- ✓ Wear completed dressed of skirts
- ✓ Number of traveling to town frequently
- ✓ Number of animals raising
- ✓ The amount of money spends of a previous month

Some of the pictures taken during assessment time

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ຜະລິດຕະພັນເມືອງເຊໂປນ



pictures taken.....

ສຳພາດບຸກຄົນ



ສິນທະນາກຸ່ມ



Thank you