Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

MY LY HYDROPOWER PROJECT

Volume III: Social Baseline
29 September 2017

ENVIRO-DEV
With input from PECC1
## Date

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ANNEX 3.2: GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRES FOR FGDS AND KIIS

3.2.1 Guide Questionnaires for Focus Group Discussions (FGD)

3.2.1.1 FGD Guide Questionnaire for agriculture and livestock breeding households

Explain the purpose of our visit and this meeting (as in separate instructions for the FGD teams). Explain that the purpose for this discussion is to find out how the villagers are using and cultivating land so that the HPP planning can consider how their access and use of land is ensured during and after the dam construction.

1 Knowledge about the planned HPP

- Have you received information about the planned HPP?
- How/by whom and when have you received information? (e.g. commune officers, village leader, PECC1 survey team, only rumors from neighbors etc.)
- What do you know about the planned hydropower project?
- What kind of information would you like to have in the future? How? (information channel: from village leader, village meeting, written information such as a leaflet, etc.)

2 Land use

- Where are the fields of HHs in this village located? How far are they from the village, and how long time does it take to go to the fields?
- What is an average upland field size per household?
- Are all the cultivation land upland fields or are there also wet paddy fields? How many HHs have wet fields and what is an average area per HH?
- Do you have any irrigation systems? What kind? How do your agriculture fields get watered?
- Do HHs have land certificates? How is land owned? (e.g. if it is communal owned, if it is based on family lines, etc.)
- How do new families (married couples) get cultivation land? Explain the system, e.g. if land is divided from existing family fields, if they take over a forest plot that is then burned and prepared for cultivation, etc.)
- Is there enough land for all HHs?
- Is permission required to use new land for agriculture?
- Do you plant anything by the river? If yes, which time of the year? Why do you use the river bank or sand bars? Do HH have allocated areas by the river?

3 Crops

- What crops are cultivated? What are the most important ones? Do all HHs cultivate same crops? Please record the crops, both rice, corn, different vegetables, herbs etc. and their importance.
- How many rice harvests per year? What is an average rice yield/ha or what is an average rice yield per household per year?
- Do all HHs in this village have enough rice all the year? If not, how many HHs suffer from rice insufficiency and how many months per year?
- Do HHs grow vegetables or other crops by the riverside? Explain which crops, how large areas and where are the cultivations located
- Do HHs collect wild growing plants, vegetables, etc. growing by the riverside? Explain which crops and their location by the river or by tributaries.
- Do any HHs sell rice, corn or other products? Where? For what price? How do they transport the products for sale?
- Is all cultivation done manually, or do you have any agricultural machines?
• Do you use cow/ox power in cultivation? How?

4 Livestock

• What animals do HHs in this village have? Do all HHs have these animals and how many animals/HH? Record average number of cows, pigs, chicken, ducks per HH.
• Are animals bred for HH food only or are they sold? Where? When – how many times per year are animals sold? Which prices? How are they transported to be sold?
• How often do HHs eat chicken? Pork? Beef? (Weekly, monthly, only in special occasions, etc.)
• Where are the pasture lands for animals? Are animals held by the river, where – location?
• Are animals held in different locations on different seasons? Where – location?
• Do the livestock use the river? Dependent on drinking water?
• Is there any indication that river water can make animals sick on occasion?
• What do you do when animals are sick? Medicines? Any help available? (in village or commune)

3.2.1.2 FGD Guide Questionnaire for households using forest resources

Explain the purpose of our visit and this meeting.

Explain that the purpose for this discussion is to find out how the villagers are using forest areas and forest resources so that the HPP planning can consider how their access and use of forest is ensured during and after the dam construction.

1 Knowledge about the planned HPP

• Have you received information about the planned HPP?
• How/by whom and when have you received information? (e.g. commune officers, village leader, PECC1 survey team, only rumors from neighbors etc.)
• What do you know about the planned hydropower project? Do you expect to affected in anyway?
• What kind of information would you like to have in the future? How? (information channel: from village leader, village meeting, written information such as a leaflet, etc.)

2 Forest use

• How often do you go into the forest and for what purpose? (e.g. every day, x times/week, casually, etc.). Who in the HH generally goes to the forest?
• Where is the forest located? How far from the village? If several different forest areas are utilized, list their approximate location and distance from village. (note the direction)
• Are there forest areas designated for different HHs or all areas can be used? Discuss this.
• What forest resources do you use? (it may be bamboo, fruits, vegetables, herbs, medicinal plants, betel nuts, timber for construction, fodder for animals, firewood, etc. or it may be animals they hunt. Record what different people say, men and women may give different items, record the differences. List what is collected, for which purpose, approx. amounts if possible, the importance of different products – which are the most common/important products, which are secondary
• Do HH use specific herbs from the forest? Ferns? Bamboos? Mushrooms? How often are these used for food? Are any of these processed (fermented, dried, salted)? List. Explore if processed items are used over the year/seasons?
• Are any forest products used for making drinking products? If yes, when used? Daily, special occasions, sickness or celebrations.
• Do HH or some persons use the forest for cultural / ritual reasons? Explain.
Do you cut trees for building or other purposes?
Do all HHs in your village collect these items in the forest?
Do you use different products from the forest during rainy season and dry season? Record which
Is there grassland near your village? Where, how far? Record locations and distances
Do you use any resources from the grassland, which ones?
Do HHs sell any forest or grassland products? Which? Where? What is the average price they get for each product?
Is there any type of logging allowed? Discuss the issue. Outside parties involved in cutting trees? (explore carefully)

3  Hunting

What animals live in the forest?
What animals do you hunt and for what purpose? What are the most important ones and what are the less important ones? List the different animals, their importance and use
Are you hunting seasonally or different animals different time of the year?
Which is the most common forest animal you hunt for family food, for eating?
How often does your family eat meat from forest animals? Record if animals are eaten commonly or only in special occasions, celebrations
What equipment do you use for hunting?
Do HHs hunt for sale forest animals? Which animals? Where do they sell animals? What is the average selling price for these animals?
Do any animals come into your crop areas? Do animals cause any damage? If yes, which time of the year?
Are there any restrictions for hunting? Types of animals, areas where you can hunt?

4  Table over forest products and their use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product collected</th>
<th>How often</th>
<th>Season collected</th>
<th>Amount (if possible to give)</th>
<th>Importance 1=very important 2=secondary 3=least important</th>
<th>For sale Yes/No</th>
<th>Sell price per Kg or per item (if sold)</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

3.2.1.3  FGD Guide Questionnaire for discussion with fishing households

Explain the purpose of our visit and this meeting. Explain that the purpose for this discussion is to find out how the villagers are using the river and fish resources so that the HPP planning can consider how their use of the river and fishery can be ensured during and after the dam construction.

1  Knowledge about the planned HPP

Have you received information about the planned HPP?
How/by whom and when have you received information? (e.g. commune officers, village leader, PECC1 survey team, only rumors from neighbors etc.)
What do you know about the planned hydropower project? (Do you expect to be affected in any way?)
What kind of information would you like to have in the future? How? (information channel: from village leader, village meeting, written information such as a leaflet, etc.)
2 **Boat use**

- How many HHs in your village have a boat?
- What kind of boats? Describe
- Do people in your village use boats for traveling from village to other places and for transportation of goods? Where do they travel/transport goods (from village or to village or both?)
- If boats are not used for travel and transportation, ask how people travel and how they transport goods
- How many households have a boat for fishing purpose?
- Do households share boats or ‘hire’ boats for any purpose?

3 **Fishing HHs**

- How many HHs are fishing in your village?
- How often do they fish (every day, x times/week, seasonally – which time of the year)?
- Who in the family is fishing? (Men, women, children)
- Do many HHs fish together/share a boat, or does each fishing HH have its own boat?
- Where are HHs fishing? Which river: in the main river, in tributaries or both? Name the locations as carefully as possible
- How often are they fishing?
- Do HHs fish during dry season when water levels are low? How many HHs? Where are they fishing during dry season?
- Are more HHs fishing during wet season when water levels are high? How many HHs? Where are they fishing during wet season?
- How many kilograms or number of fish does a fishing HH usually catch per fishing period/time? (idea is to get an idea of catch size per unit time, 1 hr.)
- Are there HHs that are catching fish for sale? How many HHs? Where are they selling the fish?
- Are fish processed in any way? Dried, salted, fermented, etc.?
- Do all HHs in the village eat fish as their staple food? How often do they eat fish?
- How often does your family eat fish? Ask different participants and record the answers

4 **Equipment, fish species and habitats**

- What equipment is used for fishing? (Nets, baskets, etc.) What is the most common used equipment?
- What are the most common fish species that are caught?
- What other species do you know there are in the river? Any insects, shell fish/shrimp? (crustaceans?)
- Which part of the river give a good fish catch? Any special areas?
- Are there certain fish present/absent during the low water period (non-rain season) and the high water level period?
- When do you find the fish breed / see eggs or fry in the water? Which areas are suitable for fish breeding (spawning)? Explain?
- Do you collect any river plants or river bank plants? Reeds? What do you use them for?
- Do HH use the river banks for anything? Seasonal gardens?

3.2.1.4 **FGD Guide Questionnaire for discussion with ethnic minority leaders/ elders**

Explain the general purpose of our visit and this meeting (as in separate instructions for the FGD teams). Explain that the purpose for this specific discussion is to find out specific cultural issues for the ethnic minority people and their lands, houses, graves and other sacred places that may be affected by the HPP, so that the specific issues can be considered in the project planning and negative impacts avoided or mitigated.
1 **Knowledge about the planned HPP**

- Have you received information about the planned HPP?
- How/by whom and when have you received information? *(e.g. commune officers, village leader, PECC1 survey team, only rumors from neighbors etc.)*
- What do you know about the planned hydropower project? *(How do you think you (the village) will be affected.)*
- What kind of information would you like to have in the future? How? *(information channel: from village leader, village meeting, written information such as a leaflet, etc.)*

2 **Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders**

- How many HHs and people live in this village?
- How long time has this village been here, in this location? When and from where did people come here?
- Have the same families been living in the village all the time, or have new people moved in? Why? When? Where from? Have village residents migrated out? Why? When? Where?
- Which ethnicity are people in this village? *Record ethnic groups, how many people in different groups, calculate percentages when preparing the FGD report*
- Which ethnic leaders do you have in the village? How many ethnic leaders?
- What is the mandate and what are the responsibilities of the ethnic leaders?
- How are ethnic leaders elected or appointed? Who elect or who appoint? Explain the process
- Are all ethnic leaders men, or are there also female ethnic leaders? Can a woman be ethnic leader? Explain

3 **Land and forest**

- How is land owned in your village? Is there land that is owned by the community? By each household?
- How do you clear new land in the forest, who will decide over that?
- How do you allocate land to new households (newly married couples)?
- Who decide over land allocation? Do ethnic leaders have any authority/ role in land allocation?
- What kind of ceremonies are required for clearing new land/ taking new land in use? Explain.
- Is the forest used for special ceremonies? Are there special trees/plants? What are these called and why important?

4 **Spirits, graves and other sacred places**

- Do you have any sacred places in the village or near the village (e.g. in the forest) where specific spirits reside or where specific ceremonies are held? Explain. Where – location? How far from the river?
- What annual ethnic celebrations or ceremonies are held in the village or near the village? When, which time of the year? Where? Who participate? Explain.
- Where are the graves of this village located? How far are the graves from the village and from river? *Record if all graves are located in the same area or if there are several areas with graves - record the location of graves*
- How many graves are located in that/each location?
- If your graves will be flooded by the planned hydropower project, what do you want to do with the graves - should they be relocated?
• Are some ceremonies/rituals required if the graves will be flooded/relocated? Explain what, how, by whom, and what resources are needed (e.g. animals, food, etc. and how much that would cost in VND)
• If your graves have to be relocated, how close to the village should the new location be? Where would you like to remove the graves?
• If any graves will be flooded by the HPP, who should negotiate about mitigation and compensation, relocation and required ceremonies etc.? (E.g. ethnic leaders, each household)
• Do you have a village cultural house? If that will be affected by the HPP/has to be relocated, what kind of ceremonies are required?
• Are there any specific spirits residing in the village that will be disturbed if the HPP will be constructed? How should those spirits then be taken into consideration/pleased?
• Are there any specific spirits in houses that will be disturbed if the HPP will be constructed? How should those spirits then be taken into consideration/pleased?

3.2.1.5 FGD Guide Questionnaire for discussion with women

Explain the general purpose of our visit and this meeting (as in separate instructions for the FGD teams). Explain that the purpose for this specific discussion is to find out specific issues from women’s perspective and for women, so that gender issues can be considered in the project planning and negative impacts avoided or mitigated.

1 Knowledge about the planned HPP

• Have you received information about the planned HPP?
• How/by whom and when have you received information? (e.g. commune officers, village leader, PECC1 survey team, only rumors from neighbors etc.)
• What do you know about the planned hydropower project? (based on what they know, explore: How do you think you will be affected by the project?)
• What kind of information would you like to have in the future? How? (information channel: from village leader, village meeting, written information such as a leaflet, etc.)

2 Population, ethnicity and women leaders

• Are there women who have come to this village through marriage? How many are they? Where have they come from? Do they originate of the same ethnic group as their husbands? Ask the same concerning men, if there are men who migrated to the village
• Are there any women-headed households in this village? Single mothers? Reasons?
• How often do women go to the commune center? District town? There may be women who never been outside their local area, not even to the district town, find out how mobile women are. If women do not travel outside the village and surrounding areas, ask:
  o What are the obstacles for women’s mobility (traveling outside the village vicinity areas)?
• What are the purposes of travel outside the village?
• Are there any female leaders in this village? Who are they, are they ethnic leaders or Women’s Union chair, teacher, midwife or something else? How were they appointed/selected? What is their mandate, responsibilities and their power?

3 Health, diseases and healthcare, child health and nutrition, health care staff and traditional providers

This is the main topic

• Where do you take water for (1) drinking (2) cooking (3) washing clothes – Record locations
Where do you wash yourselves? Where do you wash your children? River, tributaries, home – Record location

What are the most common diseases/ health problems in this village? What are the health problems that women suffer from?

Do children suffer from diarrhea? Other child health problems?

Do you or children (or other family members) have teeth problems/aches. How do they take of that?

Do you have enough food to give to your children throughout the year? Record if there is seasonal food insufficiency. Are there malnourished/ underweight children in the village? If Yes, try to find out how many children and how common malnourishment is

Are there any death cases of (a) pregnant women (b) mothers or (c) infants? If yes, ask when, why and how many cases

Is there any health clinic or health worker, in the village? Find out if there is a village health worker, nurse, midwife, trained traditional birth attendant in the village, and if that person is male or female.

Where is the health clinic you go to? What clinic is it (village clinic, commune health center)? How far is it, how do you get there (boat, bicycle, motorbike, walking…) and how long time does it take?

Do you have any traditional healer in the village, male or female? Explain when people ask for help from that person and what he/she is doing

Do you know what HIV/AIDS is? If YES: How did you get information? Is there anybody in the village who has HIV/AIDS? Do you know if anybody in other villages/commune has HIV/AIDS? Explain

4 Education

Which language do you use in your everyday communication in village? If ethnic minority language, ask if all people in the village can speak Vietnamese language fluently

Can all women in your village read and write? Are there illiterate people in the village? How old are they? Are they men or women?

How many years/what level of schooling do you have? (record the participants). Do men and women have the same education level in your village? Explain

Where do children go to elementary school, in the village/ how far from the village and how long time does it take to go there (by walking, bicycle, boat, motorbike –how do they travel)?

Where do children go to secondary school, in the village/ how far from the village and how long time does it take to go there (by walking, bicycle, boat, motorbike –how do they travel)?

Where is the nearest high school, how far from the village?

Do children go to boarding school (stay over the week in school and only come home during weekends)? At which level? Explain.

Do many children drop out of school, at which age? Boys or girls? For what reasons?

5 Cultivation, forest, river resource utilization

Where are your fields located? Are women working in the fields? How far, how long time does it take for women to go there? Do women walk to get there or do you use boat, bicycle, motorbike? Record the location of fields and how far they are from the river and the village; time used for going there and how women go to the fields

How often do women go to the fields during different seasons? – record different seasons

What crops (vegetables, herbs, etc.) do you cultivate around your house – home garden?

Do you grow vegetables/other plants by the riverside? Where? Which species? Are these plants important for your family as food or in other ways - how?
• Do you gather wild growing grass and plants by the riverside? Where? Which species? Are they used for food for people or as fodder for animals?
• Are your animals breeding by the riverside? Which animals (chicken, pigs, cows…) and Where – location?
• What products do women gather in the forest? Where do you find these products: location and distance from village?
• Do women gather herbs and medicinal plants in the forest? Which ones? Where do you find them – location?
• Are there some specific forest products that only women or only men gather?
• Do you sell any products outside the village? Where? How do you transport the products to be sold? How often? Are there any traders coming to the village to buy products?
• What crops, vegetables etc. do you eat daily, what are the most important food crops for you?
• How often do you eat meat and from which animals? daily, weekly, monthly, only in special occasions? Does everybody eat meat (any differences between men, women, children)?
• How often do you eat fresh fish? Do you process fish in anyway (salt, ferment, etc.)? Record if different in different seasons of the year

3.2.2 Guide Questionnaires for Key Informant Interviews (KII)

3.2.2.1 Key Informant Interview: Village leader

Population

• How many people live in this village? In how many HHs? How many men/women? Approximate age division, how many persons in labour age?
• How many HHs are classified as poor? Near poor? Reasons for poverty?
• How many HHs receive allowance/ rice from the government?
• Are there any HHs headed by a single woman? With children? Why single woman?
• What is the ethnicity of people in this village? Do all people belong to the same ethnic group?

Migration

• Since when has this village existed in this location? When and from where did people move here?
• Have new people moved into the village? When? Who? Reason for moving in?
• Are there marriages between women/men from other villages? From where? Do they move into this village?
• Have any people moved out of the village? When? Who? Where? Why?

Livelihoods and labour

• Are all the HHs living on farming? Are any people (how many?) doing trade/business? Is there any government official living in the village? Is anybody working outside the village?
• Are any villagers working as government officers? Explain position, location, sex and age
• Are any villagers doing business? Explain
• Is any village resident working seasonally outside the village? Who: men, women, age? When? Where?
• Have any villagers out-migrated for finding job elsewhere? Who: men, women, age? When? Where?
• Are there any government or NGO programs for livelihoods development (during the past 5 years)? Explain.
Community organization and development

- Which mass organizations (Women’s Union, Farmers' Association, Fatherland Front, Youth Union) exist in the village? What is their role and importance? What kind of activities benefitting villagers?
- Are there other community organizations? If any, explain their role and importance, what kind of activities benefitting villagers.
- Are there any government or NGO programs for community development (during the past 5 years)? Explain.

Education

- What is the education level of people in this village? % with elementary, lower secondary, upper secondary education; higher education?
- Are their villagers with some special vocation training? Explain
- Are there many illiterate persons in the village? Their sex and age
- Are there many persons who cannot fluently communicate in the Vietnamese language? Their sex and age

3.2.2.2 Key Informant interview: Village/commune health worker

If the informant is Village health worker/ midwife/ traditional birth attendant/ traditional healer, adjust questions accordingly to deal with the village;

If the informant is staff of commune health center, adjust questions accordingly to have information of the entire commune and specifically of the affected villages

Health services

A. Commune level

- How many health clinics are there in this commune? Of what kind? How many people are they serving totally?
- How many health staff are there in this commune, their position/competence and where located (e.g. nurse, midwife, assistant doctor; commune health center, XX village)
- Are there any health workers located in villages? How many staff in how many villages?
- What health services are available in the affected villages and how frequently? (e.g. midwife going to village, mobile child vaccinations)
- % of children who are vaccinated in commune
- What are the most critical issues/problems with health services in this commune?

B. Village level

- Is there any trained health worker in the village? His/her sex and education
- Is there any traditional healer in the village? Explain
- What health services are available in the village and how frequently? (e.g. midwife coming to village to attend to pregnant women/assist in delivery, mobile child vaccination services)
- Where is the nearest health center? How do villagers travel there and how long time does it take to go there?
- Where is the nearest hospital? How do villagers travel there and how long time does it take to go there?
- What are the most crucial issues with access to health services in this village?
Health problems

- What are the most common health problems/diseases in this village/commune? Who is suffering from them (e.g. elder people, infants, pregnant women, etc.)? How many cases/year?
- Are there water related diseases (such as diarrhea)? How serious and common are they, how many cases/year? Are the cases seasonal? Where (location) are water-related health problems occurring in the commune area – explain if especially in some villages. Who is suffering from water-related diseases (small children, elder people, all people)? Have there been any death cases due to water-related diseases? In which location?

Maternal and child health

- How many malnourished/underweight children are there? (% of under-fives) Reasons? (e.g. food insufficiency, mothers do not know how to properly feed their children, etc.)
- Are there any infant deaths or under-five deaths in the commune/village during the past 5 years? How many cases? Reasons?
- % of children who are vaccinated
- Do children have health problems? What kind? Explain
- Where do women deliver their babies (% in village, commune health center, district hospital)?
- How many women (%) deliver their babies in the village? Who is assisting them?
- Are there any maternal death cases in the commune/village during the past 5 years? Explain

Health information and awareness

- Is there or has there been during the past 3 years any government program or NGO working to improve nutrition (e.g. through cultivation of specific crops or through education of mothers) in this commune/village? Explain
- Is there or has there been during the past 3 years any government or NGO program on health-related issues in this commune/village? Explain (also if information is delivered by e.g. Women’s Union)
- Do people in this commune/village know about HIV/AIDS?
- Is there any HIV/AIDS awareness information available in this commune/village? Explain

3.2.2.3 Key Informant Interview: Agricultural extension worker
(or experienced senior farmer in the village)

Crops and cultivation areas

- How many HHs of the total number of HHs in this village are living on agriculture?
- What are the main crops cultivated in this village? List and fill in the Table below
- Do all HHs cultivate the very same crops?
- Is any HH cultivating some special crop for sale?
- Is rice upland/wet paddy?
- Is agriculture rain-fed or are there any irrigation systems in the village?
- How many rice harvests per year?

Sufficiency of agriculture

- Do all HHs have enough cultivation land?
- Do all HHs have enough rice all the year, or how many HHs are suffering from rice insufficiency, how many months per year? Reasons?
Market

- Are all crops for HH consumption or are some grown for sale? If yes, list the crops and their sell prices. Where are they sold?
- Where is the nearest market?
- How do people from this village get to the market (means of travel, travel time)?
- Are there any traders/middlemen coming to the village to buy agricultural products? When, how often? Where are the products taken for sale? List the prices of the most important crops sold.

Riverside cultivation and utilization of plants

- Do HHs grow any crops or vegetables by the riverside? Explain which crops, areas used, location of cultivation. How important are these plants for HH food?
- Do HHs collect wild growing plants by the riverside? How important are they for HH diet?

Agriculture development

- What are the most crucial issues/problems in agriculture in this village?
- What agricultural extension services are available for villagers? Explain
- How many times per year do extension workers visit the village and provide training in the village? What training have been provided during the past 3 years?
- Who has attended agricultural training in the village? Men/ women?
- Can HHs access credit for developing agriculture? What are the available credit providers? Which ones do people prefer? How much credit can an average farmer take? Explain.
- Have there been any seasons when crops have been lost the past 5 years? When? Which crops? Reason? What was the effect on HHs? How did HHs cope with the losses/situation?

Cultivated crops, typical areas and productivity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Importance for HHs*</th>
<th>Usage**</th>
<th>Cultivated by approx. % of HHs</th>
<th>Typical cultivated area/HH</th>
<th>Total cultivated area for all village HHs</th>
<th>Planting time (month)***</th>
<th>Harvest (month)***</th>
<th>Average yield/ha</th>
<th>Average annual yield in village in Kgs/Tons</th>
<th>Comment/Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
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<td>Etc.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* 1-3 with 1=most important; ** Used for: 1= HH consumption; 2=Animal fodder; 3=for sale;
*** Which month(s) of the year the work is undertaken, record also if several crops/year
### 3.2.2.4 Key Informant Interview: Headmaster/teacher in commune/village school

**Schools**

- How many schools and which level schools are there in this commune?
- Where are the schools located? (How far from this village?)
- How do children access school? (Walking, bicycle, boat, motorbike) and how long does it take them to reach the school?
- Are there boarding schools for children from remoted villages? Where? At which level? How many children stay there?
- How far from the commune are the nearest schools with higher education (high school, college)?
- What vocational training is provided in the commune?

**Education**

- How many children of total children in school age go to school (% elementary level, % secondary level, % high school level)?
- Are many children dropping out of school? % of drop-outs. Boys or girls? At which level/in which age? Reasons for school drop-outs.
- Do you know if there are many adults who are illiterate in this commune/village? Their sex and age group?
- Do you know if there are many people who cannot speak and understand Vietnamese fluently? Their sex and age group?

### ANNEX 3.3: INFORMATION LEAFLET DISTRIBUTED TO VILLAGERS DURING FIELDWORK IN JANUARY 2017

(English translation from Vietnamese)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 Name of Project: My Ly Hydropower Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Location: My Ly commune, Ky Son district, Nghe An province</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Reservoir length: The reservoir will be built along 37 km of the river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Land to be used for the Project: Approximately 2,462 ha will be permanently acquired for the construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dam height: 100 m. The dam will have capacity of 180 MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Reason the team is visiting your village today: To gather information on the people who may be affected by the project and information about your village and especially cultivation, forest use, river use, health issues, education, and ethnic culture. This information is important for planning of this hydropower project so that its impacts on your village can be better understood. More understanding of your village means that we can better design the project so that there will be less negative impacts on your lives. The aim is to assure that you can maintain and even improve your lives and livelihoods after the dam is constructed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Timeline of Project: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Resettlement Plan reports are being reviewed by the Government of Vietnam. At present the international consultants are preparing an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the international funding agency. The technical design is also being prepared. If the ESIA is approved by the international agency, then project construction could begin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
by end of this year or early next year.

8 **ESIA Consultants:**
International Consultant: ENVIRO-DEV, Norway
National Consultant, contact: Power Engineering Consulting Joint Stock Company I
Address: Km 9+200 Nguyen Trai Street, Thanh Xuan Nam Ward, Thanh Xuan District, Ha Noi
Tel: 0438541207

9 **Project Developer:** My Ly – Nam Mo 1 Hydropower Joint Stock Company
Address: 148 Nguyen Sy Sach Street, Hung Dung Ward, Vinh City, Nghe An Province
Tel: 038-3520556
ANNEX 3.4: PEOPLE CONSULTED IN THE VILLAGES AND IN THE COMMUNE CENTERS IN JANUARY 2017

3.4.1 Participants in FGDs and key informants interviewed in villages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>FGD/KII</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Total persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KENG DU COMMUNE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Keng Du</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Forestry</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Fishing</td>
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<td>Teacher</td>
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3.4.2 People met/interviewed at commune level

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ANNEX 3.5: FIELDWORK DATA REPORTING TEMPLATES

3.5.1 FGD reporting formats

REPORT FROM FGD WITH AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK BREEDING HOUSEHOLDS IN [VILLAGE NAME] VILLAGE IN [COMMUNE NAME] COMMUNE

Project: My Ly HPP

General about the FGD

The FGD took place [date] with [insert number] participants, [insert no.] of them [insert no.] men and [insert no.] women. The ethnicity of the participants was [insert ethnicity]. Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

1. Awareness about the planned HPP

What participants know about the planned HPP and what is their comprehension about the HPP. If, how, when and from whom they have received information about the planned HPP, what kind of information have they received and if the information has been spoken or written. Do they find the information sufficient? Are there rumors in the village, are people talking about the HPP and what are they talking? How do they feel about the project? Special thoughts and reflections, special issues that people are concerned over.

What kind of information about the HPP, how, from whom and in which format they would like to receive in the future?

2. Land use

Location of the cultivation land used, distance from the village and the time it takes to go from village to the fields.

If known or estimated, the total cultivation area of the village and average area per household (both in active use and unused in rotational system), area of paddy fields (if applicable) in village, how many HHs have paddy fields and the average field size per HH.

Explain the used cultivation models (upland rotational system, paddy fields, home gardens), used irrigation systems.

Land ownership and distribution system, land use certificates, red books, how do new families get land.

Land availability and sufficiency situation in the village, different types of available land, how is new land made available.

Is there cultivation land by the riverside, location, area and importance. Any land allocation system for riverbanks.

3. Crops

Cultivated crops and their importance. Number of rice harvests per year and the average yield/ha, estimated average production/household/year if known.

Do all HHs cultivate rice and do all HHs have enough rice all the year. If not, number of HHs with rice insufficiency and the number of months per year.

Cultivation by the riverside, what is being cultivated and which time of the year. Explain which crops, how large areas and where are the cultivations located.

Wild growing plants, vegetables, etc. growing by the riverside that are being used, for what purpose and how are they used Explain the crops and their location by the river or by tributaries.
Are HHs selling rice, corn or other products, where do they sell their products and for what prices. Ways of transporting goods for sale.

Cultivation technology, equipment/machines, manual work. Animals used in cultivation.

4. Livestock

Animals kept in the village, do all HHs have animals. Average number of animals/HH.

What animals are for: are they bred for HH food only or are they sold? Where are animals sold and how are they transported to be sold. When – how many times per year are animals sold. What are the sell prices of different animals?

How often HHs eat chicken, pork, beef (Weekly, monthly, only in special occasions, etc.

Location of pasture lands for animals. Are animals held by the river, where is the location. Seasonality: are animals held in different locations on different seasons. Where are animals watered, drinking river/stream water. Any indications of river water making animals sick, when and where.

How sick animals are treated. Any veterinary services available.

5. Other information and reflections

E.g. development of land availability and use during the past 25 years, problems in livelihoods development, etc.

Please include any additional information and reflections from the team on the situation in this village.

REPORT FROM FGD WITH HOUSEHOLDS USING FOREST RESOURCES IN [VILLAGE NAME] VILLAGE IN [COMMUNE NAME] COMMUNE

Project: My Ly HPP

General about the FGD

The FGD took place [date] with [insert number] participants, [insert no.] of them [insert no.] men and [insert no.] women. The ethnicity of the participants was [insert ethnicity]. Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

1. Awareness about the planned HPP

What participants know about the planned HPP and what is their comprehension about the HPP. If, how, when and from whom they have received information about the planned HPP, what kind of information have they received and if the information has been spoken or written. Do they find the information sufficient? Are there rumors in the village, are people talking about the HPP and what they are talking? How do they feel about the project? Special thoughts and reflections, special issues that people are concerned over.

What kind of information about the HPP, how, from whom and in which format they would like to receive in the future?

2. Forest use

Frequency and purpose of going into the forest of different person (men, women)

Location of forests used, distance, time from the village.

Forest allocation system in the village.

Forest products used by villagers, what is used, who is using, for what purpose and the importance of different forest products. Common and specific forest products (such as medicinal plants etc.), how used, processing of products. Seasonality.
Forest / forest products used for cultural / ritual purposes.
Tree cutting / wood. Use of wood. Logging, outsiders logging in the forest.
Grasslands locations and use.

3. Hunting

Animal species that live in the forest. Hunting, species, purpose of hunting, frequency, seasonality, importance of different animals for food, selling, etc.

Restrictions for hunting. Frequency of eating meat from forest animals, seasonality, which animals. Hunting equipment.

Animals hunted to be sold, species, location for sale prices.

4. Other information and reflections

Please include any additional information and reflections from the team on the situation in this village.

Table over forest products and their use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product collected</th>
<th>How often</th>
<th>Season collected</th>
<th>Amount (if possible to give)</th>
<th>Importance 1=very important 2=secondary 3=least important</th>
<th>For sale Yes/No</th>
<th>Sell price per Kg or per item (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REPORT FROM FGD WITH FISHING HOUSEHOLDS IN [VILLAGE NAME] VILLAGE IN [COMMUNE NAME] COMMUNE

Project: My Ly HPP

General about the FGD

The FGD took place [date] with [insert number] participants, [insert no.] of them [insert no.] men and [insert no.] women. The ethnicity of the participants was [insert ethnicity]. Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

1. Awareness about the planned HPP

What participants know about the planned HPP and what is their comprehension about the HPP. If, how, when and from whom they have received information about the planned HPP, what kind of information have they received and if the information has been spoken or written. Do they find the information sufficient? Are there rumors in the village, are people talking about the HPP and what they are talking? How do they feel about the project? Special thoughts and reflections, special issues that people are concerned over.

What kind of information about the HPP, how, from whom and in which format they would like to receive in the future?

2. Boat use

Number of HHs that have a boat, describe the kind of boats villagers have. Purposes for use of boats (what boats are used for). How many HHs use boats for fishing. Ownership of boats, do several HHs share a boat, are boats hired.

Transportation with boats, importance, where, what is transported. Is river or road more important for transportation and travel.
3. Fishing
No. of HHs fishing. Importance of fishing, frequency, seasonality. Who in HH is fishing (men. Women, children). Is fishing collective or individual (each HH alone)
Location for fishing: the main river, in tributaries both. Good locations for fishing.
Seasonality: dry season, wet season; importance and location of fishing during different seasons.
Usual/average catch size.
Importance of fishing for HH economy (selling, where, how many HHs), importance of fish as HH food (how often fish eaten and if all HHs eat fish). Processing of fish.
Importance of fishing today compared to the past, i.e. if fish resources have decreased, reflections from villagers.

4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats
Equipment used for fishing. Common species of fish. Other species in the river that are used (insects, shrimp, clams, crustaceans). Seasonality in the presence of fish and different fish species. Areas that are suitable for fish breeding (spawning).
Plants collected in the river and river banks and their use. Use of river banks.

5. Other information and reflections
E.g. local beliefs related to the river and fishing, development of fish resources and fishing due to previous HP development etc.
Please include any additional information and reflections from the team on the situation in this village.

REPORT FROM FGD WITH ETHNIC LEADERS/ELDER PEOPLE IN [VILLAGE NAME]
VILLAGE IN [COMMUNE NAME] COMMUNE
Project: My Ly HPP

General about the FGD
The FGD took place [date] with [insert number] participants, [insert no.] of them [insert no.] men and [insert no.] women. The ethnicity of the participants was [insert ethnicity]. Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

1. Awareness about the planned HPP
What participants know about the planned HPP and what is their comprehension about the HPP. If, how, when and from whom they have received information about the planned HPP, what kind of information have they received and if the information has been spoken or written. Do they find the information sufficient? Are there rumors in the village, are people talking about the HPP and what they are talking? How do they feel about the project? Special thoughts and reflections, special issues that people are concerned over.
What kind of information about the HPP, how, from whom and in which format they would like to receive in the future?

2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders
Number of households in the village. Village history, since when in this location, origin and migration to this location. Stability of population: in- and out-migration, destinations and reasons.
Ethnicity of villagers, % of different ethnic groups.
Ethnic leaders, mandate and responsibilities, selection process, sex – men/ women leaders.

3. Land and forest
Land ownership system, community/ individual HH; Decision making concerning land clearing and land use. Land allocation system, decision making, allocations to new HHs. Role of elders/leaders related to land systems.
Traditions/ rituals related to land clearance. Traditions/ rituals/ special cultural/ spiritual issues related to land, forest, river. Species/ trees/ plants etc. that are culturally/ spiritually important.

4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places
Sacred places in the village / near the village, forest where specific spirits reside or where specific ceremonies are held, their location and distance from the river.
Annual cultural celebrations/ ceremonies in the village/ near the village, time, location, participation.
Location of graves, distance to village and the river. Number of graves. How to handle graves in case they will be affected/ inundated by the HPP, compensation, relocation procedures, cultural procedures/ ceremonies/ rituals required, costs and payments, negotiation about compensation, involvement of elders/ households – who involved? Preferred location for relocating the graves.
Other constructions/ important sites that may be affected by the HPP, how to handle them, what is culturally required.
Beliefs concerning spirits and location of spirits, in forest, river, houses/ residential area, how to be considered in the HPP, if relocation, what is culturally required.

5. Other information and reflections
Please include any additional information and reflections from the team on the situation in this village.

REPORT FROM FGD WITH WOMEN IN [VILLAGE NAME] VILLAGE
IN [COMMUNE NAME] COMMUNE
Project: My Ly HPP

General about the FGD
The FGD took place [date] with [insert number] participants, [insert no.] of them [insert no.] men and [insert no.] women. The ethnicity of the participants was [insert ethnicity]. Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

1. Awareness about the planned HPP
What participants know about the planned HPP and what is their comprehension about the HPP. If, how, when and from whom they have received information about the planned HPP, what kind of information have they received and if the information has been spoken or written. Do they find the information sufficient? Are there rumors in the village, are people talking about the HPP and what they are talking? How do they feel about the project? Special thoughts and reflections, special issues that people are concerned over.

What kind of information about the HPP, how, from whom and in which format they would like to receive in the future?

2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders
Origin of women and migration of women into the village.

Women-headed households, single mothers, reasons.

Women’s mobility outside the village, frequency, ways of transportation, purposes, obstacles for travelling.

Female leaders in the village, their background, selection, roles, responsibilities and power.

3. Health and nutrition

Type and location of water sources for (1) drinking (2) cooking (3) washing clothes

Water source and location for body washing, washing children?

Most common diseases/ health problems in the village. Most common health problems for women. Most common health problems for children.

Food sufficiency / insufficiency, insufficiency months per year, number of HH. Malnourished/ underweight children, number/%. Death cases of (a) pregnant women (b) mothers or (c) infants? Reasons.

Health care in the village (if any). Access to health care, distance to closes clinic, travel time and way of travelling there. Traditional medicine/ healer in the village, male / female, activities.

Women’s knowledge of HIV/AIDS, information channels. Any person(s) with HIV/AIDS in the village or commune, how got infected.

4. Education

Language used in everyday communication in the village, fluency in Vietnamese, literacy/ illiteracy among men and women in different ages.

Common education level in village among men and among women.

Children’s education, location and distance to elementary, secondary, high school, how children travel to school, how many children stay at commune/ district boarding school.

School drop-out, in which age, frequency, boys/ girls, reasons.

Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Location and distance to fields, women’s work in the fields, frequency of going to/ working in the fields in different seasons.

Home garden cultivation.

Riverbank cultivation.

Wild plants collected by the riverside and their use.

Animal breeding by the riverside.

Forest products collected by women, their location and use.

Herbs and medicinal plants.

Agricultural, forest and other products villagers sell outside the village, sell location, transport of products to be sold, frequency, seasonality. Traders/ middle men coming into the village.

Daily food: most common/ important staple food. Frequency of eating meat from different animals. Frequency of eating fish from the river. Processing of products, fish.
5. Other information and reflections

Please include any additional information and reflections from the team on the situation in this village.
3.5.2 Village summary report template

VILLAGE BASELINE ON [NAME OF THE VILLAGE] VILLAGE IN [NAME OF THE COMMUNE] COMMUNE TO BE AFFECTED BY MY LY HYDROPOWER PROJECT

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the [name of the HPP] in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1. Location and General Conditions of the Village [based on the Team's observations in the village]

Location of the village, distance to the river, village structure (location of houses e.g. along the river, up from the river, etc.), access road/transportation conditions, condition of houses, access to water, electricity access, sanitation standard

2. Population

Number of households and people in village, men/women, no. of people in labour age.
Number of poor HHs. Near-poor HHs. Reasons for poverty.
Any single-headed HHs, HHs headed by women, women with children, reasons.
Ethnicity of the villagers.

3. Village History and Migration

Age of the village, origin of villagers, in and out migration, reasons for migration.

4. Land Availability and Land Use

Please harmonize with the information in the specific commune level Livelihoods Report to be prepared by Mr. Phuong

Brief overview: Land areas, land types and availability of land; land allocation and land use systems, ownership and tenure systems; problems related to land.

5. Livelihoods and Labour

Please harmonize with the information in the specific commune level Livelihoods Report to be prepared by Mr. Phuong

Brief overview: Agriculture and production systems, cultivation areas, crops, production; Forest resources use; Fishery and river resources use; Livestock breeding; Trade and business; Labour.

Village specific livelihoods issues and problems.

6. Education

Literacy, language fluency, general education level; Access to education at different levels; educational attainment and school dropouts (gendered) and reasons.

7. Health and Health Care

Health status and most common health problems; infant and child health and nutritional status; maternal health; incidence of deaths (maternal, infant, under-5).

Availability and access to health services. Health and nutrition awareness of villagers.
Critical issues related to health and health services.

8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

Ethnicity; leadership; culture and identity; ethnic culture/traditions/beliefs related to specific locations; annual celebrations/rituals related to specific locations; spirits related to specific locations; graves – location and importance; cultural seasonality.

Cultural issues/traditions/beliefs/rituals related to land, forest, river, opening up of new land, building new houses, etc.

9. Gender Issues

Overview of women’s position and gender roles, women’s mobility, literacy and language fluency, cultural and other specific issues related to gender.

10. Community Organization and Development

Existing organizations in the village and their function; leadership.

Government and other development programs/projects.

11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

Villagers’ knowledge and comprehension about the HPP; when/ if and how have they been informed and what kind of information they received, and how they find the information. Possible rumors about the HPP. Villagers’ thoughts and feelings about the project, their concerns.

What kind of information about the HPP, how, from whom and in which format villagers would like to receive in the future?

12. Additional Issues

Any other issues that came up in this village, observations, concerns and reflections from the consultants.

3.5.3 Commune livelihoods report template

LIVELIHOODS IN [MY LY] COMMUNE TO BE AFFECTED BY [MY LY] HYDROPOWER PROJECT

Livelihoods reports are based on the data and information collected in January 2017 in communes and through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the [My Ly] Hydropower project.

1. My Ly HPP and its expected impacts on My Ly Commune

Short description of the location and geography of the commune, of the HPP and its impacts on My Ly Commune, villages to be affected and the expected impacts (inundation – relocation, land to be affected – new land to be allocated)

2. Land types, land availability and land use in My Ly Commune

Land areas, land availability, land use systems and patterns, ownership and tenure in the commune;

Problems related to land (availability, use, etc.) at commune level.
3. Livelihoods in the areas to be affected by the HPP

General description of the livelihoods systems, importance of different livelihoods, problems with livelihoods. Any programs/projects the past 5 years with focus on livelihoods improvement.

3.1 Agriculture

Description of the land and agricultural production systems; land allocation systems, ownership and tenure; cultivation areas; crops cultivated; production; problems. Agricultural extension.

3.2 Forestry

Forest areas; forest types and status; forest allocation and use in commune area; forest access; forest management systems (by commune, communities, groups of HHs, xxx); forest production systems; actual forest use by affected villages, by outsiders; different forest resources (fruits, plants, mushrooms, wood, animals/hunting, xxx) and their importance at commune level and for affected villages; seasonality in forest use.

3.3 Fishery/ river resources use

Importance of fishery and other resources in the river; current availability of fish and changes in fish availability over the past 20 years; location of current fishery; common/important fish species being caught (also seasonality), seasonality of fishing; average catch; importance of fish for HH food; fish selling (what, when, where) and its importance.

3.4 Livestock breeding

Animal species kept and their importance (1) as household food (how often HHs eat chicken, pork, beef), (2) economic importance (what is sold, when and where, frequency, animal prices). Breeding locations, especially related to the river, seasonality. Animal watering locations, indications of water pollution through animal sickness. Treatment of sick animals.

3.5 Trade and business

What is being sold by affected villagers, importance and location of markets for buying and selling, transportation of goods, middle men and mobile traders, magnitude of trade/business activities in commune and in the affected areas.

3.6 Labour

Job opportunities, seasonal labour, labour migration, men/ women as labour force.

4. Specific livelihoods issues in the villages to be affected by the HPP

Description of each village and its basic situation; include ethnicity of the villagers; specific livelihoods issues in each village.

4.1 Xang Tren Village
4.2 Xop Duong Village
4.3 Cha Nga Village
etc.

5. Expected impacts on livelihoods

Description of expected livelihoods impacts and rationale (why, reason for the impact) and the magnitude of the expected impacts on each village. Write-up of each village and summary in the table below.

5.1 Xang Tren Village
5.2 Xop Duong Village
5.3 Cha Nga Village
Table: Summary of expected livelihoods impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Expected impact</th>
<th>Rationale and Magnitude* for impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Xang Tren</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xop Duong</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cha Nga</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Magnitude: Low=L, Medium=M, High=H

6. **Other information and reflections**
Annex 3.6. BASELINE REPORTING
My Ly Hydropower Project
Prepared by PECC1 Survey Team
Field team members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>Ms. Thi Thanh Van Khuc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant, livelihoods expert</td>
<td>Mr. Duy Phuong Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Ms. Thi Tuy Hoa Tran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Ms. Thanh Huong Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Ms. Van Manh Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Ms. Thi Thuc Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Mr. Thanh Thai Dao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Ms. Thi Thu Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Ms. Thoa Le</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National consultant</td>
<td>Mr. Huu Hai Dang</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.6.1 Keng Du Commune

3.6.1.1 Livelihoods Report

Livelihoods reports are based on the data and information collected in January 2017 in communes and through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly Hydropower project.

1 My Ly HPP and its expected impacts on Keng Du Commune

My Ly HPP is located in Ca River at the end of Ban Ve HPP with the coordinates of the centerline of the reservoir as 19°39’10.2” N and 104°19’27.3” E in the Earth coordinate system and Đ1(X=2.173.953,287m; Y=454.973,513m) and Đ2 (X=2.173.814,790m; Y=455.390,772m) in the Vietnamese coordinate system VN2000. It is located about 1.6km from the border Vietnam and Lao PDR. The construction area is located in My Ly Commune, Ky Son District, Nghe An Province. The reservoir is 50km long starting from Xang Tren village to Keng Du village of Keng Du Commune. When the reservoir is inundated, 4/10 villages of Keng Du commune along Nam Non river will be affected. It is estimated that two villages will be relocated and lose production land. In particular, Keng Du village has to relocate the whole 39 households due to the close distance to the river, and Huoi Xui village has to relocate about 15 households due to landslides when the water level rises. The villages Huoi Phuon 1 and Hat Ta Ven are located higher, so only their production land is affected.

2 Land types, land availability and land use in Keng Du commune

2.1 Land use of Keng Du commune

Keng Du is a border commune, which is about 74km far from Ky Son District in the north. The total land area within the administrative boundary is 8,014.91ha, including the following land categories:

Table 6.1 Land use of Keng Du commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total land area</td>
<td>8,014.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agricultural land</td>
<td>3,452.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Production land</td>
<td>99.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Categories</td>
<td>Area (ha)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1</td>
<td>Land for annual crops</td>
<td>41.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1.1</td>
<td>Land for rice</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1.2</td>
<td>Land for other annual crops</td>
<td>19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.2</td>
<td>Land for perennial crops</td>
<td>58.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Forests</td>
<td>3.353.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1</td>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>148.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2</td>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>3.204.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Land for aquaculture</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Report on Land Use of Keng Du Commune 2014

2.2. Land ownership

The whole commune has allocated and leased 100% of its land area, in particular, (i) 5,441.77ha for use, including 5,436.92ha to households and individuals, 1.19ha to the CPC, and 3.66ha to other State agencies, (ii) 2,573.14ha for management, including 987.79ha to the community and 1,585.35 to the CPC. The land allocation, leasing, and acquisition are organized in accordance with regulations on land planning and use as well as procedures stipulated in Land Law 2003 and the Decree 181/2004/ND-CP.

The commune has recently issued land use right certificates to residential land; there have been issued no land use right certificates for production land such as paddy land or swidden land. The production land ownership is recognized based on the history of reclamation and use over generations. The households have hitherto defined their land use right over their land within the reclaimed boundaries and had the authority recognize such ownership.

Production forests with the area of 3,204.20ha under the direct management of the State, particularly the provincial forest protection force has been allocated to households and groups of households. It is the form of community-based forest management. The village head and the management board of the village are those directly in charge. Due to the slash-and-burn practice to expand swidden land and to collect wood, the quality of the commune’s forest has been reduced. At present there is only restored forest, bamboo forest and mixed forest. The households in the village usually go to the forest to collect non-timber forest products.

Production forest area is 148.90ha large, which is allocated to households to build more trees. However, there are actually no trees in this area. Due to the population growth, the demand for production land has also been increased. As a result, the people have converted this area into production land to cultivate rice and maize, for example. The commune has difficulties collecting these figures.

The unused land of the commune accounts for 55.4%, equal to 4,446.82ha. It is mainly mountainous land with high slope partly located far from the residential land and partly scattered within the villages. It is not convenient for cultivation, so there has been nothing but grass and bushes there.

The data on land for aquaculture of the commune is not available; however, it is reported that the commune has 1,080m² of fish ponds. Fish raising is not developed. The source of fish and shrimps is dependent on streams and Nam Non river.

2.3. Land use categories

The commune’s land is used mainly for agriculture and forestry. Cultivation of multiple crops has played a crucial role in the economy of the people in Keng Du hitherto.
**Swidden land:** There have been no administrative boundaries of the swidden land in the commune; the area of swidden land has been even unavailable in the commune’s database. However, it is observed that the majority of swidden land of the commune is located on forest land with high slope.

The crop categories on swidden land are mainly upland rice, maize, and cassava. The cultivation method is monoculture. Due to the dependence on rainfall, the people cultivate one crop/year. The planting season is from June to November annually. After rainy season, the land is left fallow, and the production will continue in the next year. The cultivation circle is 1-2 years followed by a fallow period of 3-4 years, depending on the land fund of the village and the households. Those facing a shortage of land leave the land fallow in 2 years and sometimes even one year only.

**Paddy land:** The total area of paddy land is 22ha, allocated to almost all villages. The paddy area is mainly along streams. Stream water is used for cultivation. Since there is a shortage of water during dry season, the people also fallow paddy land and cultivate one crop/year.

**Forest:** The forest of the commune includes (i) protection forest covered by mixed forests, the quality of which is very low, (There are only, bamboos, rattans and bushes rather than rare and valuable trees for wood; some areas have been overexploited for many years; some other areas have been converted to production land.) (ii) production forest, in which there are not many trees except bushes and which is now mostly used for cultivation of upland rice, maize or cassava.

Land for perennial crops: The common perennial crops here are fruit trees or trees for wood planted in the gardens of the households. They do not have high economic values.

3 Livelihoods in the areas to be affected by the HPP

Due to the location in the mountainous and remote areas in Ky Son District, the people depend much on agriculture and forestry. According to the statistics of Keng Du commune, the population dependent on agriculture accounts for 100%; they mostly cultivate and graze livestock, which make up 98% of their income. In addition, some households in the commune center of Huoi Phuon 1 also carry out some services and trade. Some households, mostly in Keng Du village, do aquaculture; some, especially the Thai, also do some handicraft such as weaving. Other livelihoods such as collecting non-timber forest products or working for other villages in the commune or in Laos also contribute significantly to the households’ income.

Table 6.2 Summary of poor households in affected villages of Keng Du Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Total number of households</th>
<th>Total number of persons</th>
<th>Poor household</th>
<th>Near-poor household</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Keng Du</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Huoi Phuon 1</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Huoi Xui</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hat Ta Ven</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>1,655</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Results of in-depth interview with village heads, 2017 January

The rate of poor household in affected villages is quite high. According to Table 6.2, the rate of poor household ranges from 77% to 100%.

Table 6.3 Summary of livelihoods of villages in Keng Du commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>Local seeds</td>
<td>Mainly for food</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One crop/year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Livelihoods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional cultivation method</td>
<td>Low and unstable yields</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid seeds</td>
<td>One crop/year</td>
<td>Extensive cultivation</td>
<td>Low yield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local seeds</td>
<td>Extensive cultivation</td>
<td>Low yield</td>
<td>One crop in two years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local seeds</td>
<td>One crop/year</td>
<td>Low yield</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainly in Thai community</td>
<td>Small scale</td>
<td>Cultivation along the river or around the houses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cows, buffaloes
- Free-range
- Shortage of fodder
- Poor veterinarian services
- High death rate due to diseases
For sale for investment in house construction and children’s education

### Pigs
- Local breeds
- Free range
- Out of disease control
- High death rate
For sale

### Poultry
- Small scale
- Out of disease control
- High annual death rate
For food
For sale when large production

### Fishing
- Keng Du: mainly fishing along the river
- Other villages: mainly fishing along streams
For food
For sale in case of large catches

### Forestry
- Community-based protection service
- Remuneration from the State
For forest protection
For remuneration

### Non-timber forest production collection
- Collect: wild vegetables, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, herbal plants
- Hunt: wild boars, squirrels, birds, mice
For food

### Non-agricultural activities
- Thai community
- Traditional weaving method
- Products for sale in Lao PDR
For an increase in incomes

### Working for other households in the village/in Lao PDR
- Work on the fields/harvest/build houses
For an increase in incomes

### Working for some companies
- Young people migrate for jobs
For an increase in incomes

### 3.1. Agriculture

The statistics on short-day plants grown on the fields are not available. According to CPC’s statistics, the area for annual crops is about 60ha. However, according to CPC’s report 2016, that area is 1,045.8ha. Annual crops in the commune include upland rice, maize, cassava and peanuts. However, according to FGDs 2016, it is estimated that each households has 3-5...
upland plots. Each household plants 60kg of seeds on average, equal to 1-1.5ha. The average upland area of each household 4ha, including fallow plots. According to the commune, there are 699 households with 2,796ha of fallow land at present. Agriculture depends much on rainfall. Monoculture is applied and mainly in rain season. They have one crop/year from June to November. The yields vary depending on the soil fertility and fallow periods.

Keng Du commune has 22ha of paddy fields, scattered in various villages. They can plant one crop/year on paddy fields due to a shortage of water. They graze livestock on the fallow areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Area measured by the CPC (ha)</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.796 *</td>
<td>1.045,8</td>
<td>1.7-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet rice</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>2.0-3.5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>150*</td>
<td>397,5</td>
<td>4.0-4.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>70*</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>20-25</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>15*</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.16-0.18</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*)-results of FDGs 2016

Upland rice: Each household cultivates on 1.5-3.0ha. Those that have more land and more labour can cultivate on 4.0ha/year. However, cultivation depends completely on rainfall and traditional method, so the annual yield is low and unstable. FGDs results show the yield ranges 1.7-3.0ton/ha and varies among villages. When the weather is favourable, the yield can reach 4ton/ha in fertile areas.

Sometimes the yield is even lower than 1 ton/ha due to unfavorable weather, traditional cultivation method, worms and crop diseases, short fallow periods, degrading seeds, and lack of attention to seed selection and recovery.

Wet rice: The commune has 22ha of paddy land, scattered in many villages. The people mainly use water from streams. They cultivate only in summer-autumn season due to the shortage of water. The average yield is 3.5ton/ha/crop. However, some can reach 2ton/ha/crop due to extensive cultivation method and worms.

Hybrid maize: Hybrid maize is the second popular crop. The average area of each household ranges 0.5-0.8ha. The households that have large land and more labour can cultivate on 1-2.5ha. The planting season is from June to November. The seeds are LVN10, CP 888, NK 9698 provided by the commune and some companies. The yield ranges 3.0-4.5ton/ha, which equals only 40-45% of the potential of the seeds. The main reasons are unfavorable weather and cultivation without techniques.

The production is usually sold to local traders; however, the selling price ranges 3-4,000VND/kg due to inconvenient traffic. 60-70% of production is sold to the market; the rest is used for livestock breeding.

Local cassava: Cassava is the third popular crops. There is no data on the area of cassava at the commune. FGDs show that it is difficult to determine the cassava area of each village as well as each household. It is estimated that each household plants 100-150 roots/year. Some can 1,000-2,000roots/year. The roots are usually planted in 2 years. The yield ranges 20-25ton/ha. The production is used for livestock breeding and winemaking, not for sale.

Peanuts: Peanuts are mostly grown in Keng Du and Hat Ta Ven. The areas vary. Each household in Keng Du grows 5-10kg of seeds/year on average. Those in Hat Ta Ven, however, plant 1-3kg/year. Peanuts are intercropped among maize, cassava and sometimes they are monocrop. The average yield ranges 0.16-0.18ton/ha. The production in Keng Du is mostly for sale. The selling price ranges 25-30,000/kg of dried peanuts. It is, however, used as the families’ food in Hat Ta Ven.
Vegetables: Vegetables are mostly grown along the river or in the gardens with small areas of 50-100m². The production is mainly for the families’ food. It is mostly just Thai that grow vegetables. Kho Mu do not and just collect wild vegetables in the forests.

Fruit trees: Fruit trees are planted around the houses or along the streams with various types such as grapefruits, papayas and pineapples mostly for the families’ consumption.

3.2. Forestry

Keng Du commune has two forest categories, i.e. protection forest and production forest. There is hardly any special-use forest in the villages. The areas of Keng Du commune’s forests are presented as follows:

Table 6.5 Forest areas of My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest categories</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Watershed protection forest</td>
<td>3,204,20</td>
<td>Poor forest</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special-use forest</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>No information</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>148.90</td>
<td>Few trees due to cultivation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Report on land use of Keng Du commune 2014

Watershed protection forest and special-use forest are under management of Forest Protection Force and Protection Forest Management Board of Nghe An Province. The area of protection forest of the commune is reported as 3,204ha. This forest is allocated directly to the groups of households or to the management board of the village under the supervision and support of the local forest protection stations. The people are not allowed to exploit protection forest and special-use forest, including wood and rare animals. The forest protectors and forest protection community receive remuneration in accordance with the State’s regulations.

Production forest: Due to the shortage of cultivation land, the production forest area has reduced considerably to 148.90 ha at present. There are mostly bushes in this area. There have been Styrax benzoides or Styrax benzoin planted since 2010 on about 30ha. The rest has no trees. Though the real area of production forest has not been determined, it is observed that it has become upland fields with Acacia and Melia azedarach intercropped among short-day plants.

Non-timber forest products: The common NTFPs are (i) bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Auriculariales, and wild vegetables (while the last ones are collected everyday, the rest are collected in rainy season), (ii) herbal plants for common diseases such as stomach-ache, diarrhea, temperature, and cough and some rare ones for sale for the annual yet unstable income of 1-2millionVND/year, (iii) wild animals such as birds, mice, wild chicken, and wild boars, in which mice are the most popular. The bigger animals are rarely caught, but when they are, the villagers either share with other households or sell to traders.

Forest protection: The village receives 180-200,000VND/ha for its community-based forest protection service or 24-50million VND in total. Part of the payment is kept as a fund for forest protection; the rest is divided to the households. Each household in a populous village receives 300-500,000VND.

3.3. Fishery/ River Resources Use

According to the commune’s statistics, the pond area of the whole commune is 1,080m². The people do not pay attention to fish raising but fishing. The Thai in Keng Du village go fishing everyday. Almost all households go fishing using various methods. Those having boats and cast nets can go far from the bank and even to Lao PDR’s territory. The annual catch is not high, about 8-10kg after one-two days but only 1-2kg/day if fishing along the river bank. When valuable fish such as Hemibagrus guttatus are caught, the people sell to local traders for 200-800,000VND/kg depending on the fish sizes. When the fish caught are small, they dry them for later consumption. The Kho Mu in Hat Ta Ven and Huoi Phuon 1 rarely go fishing far off the bank.
Table 6.6 List of the fish commonly caught

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish categories</th>
<th>Frequency of catch</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anguilliformes</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>For food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For sell in case of large catch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemibagrus guttatus</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Mostly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For food in case of small fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagarius bagarius</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>For sale for the values of the fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprinus carpio</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>For food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For sell in case of large catch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tortoises</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>For sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small fish</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>For food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women and children usually collect small fish, snails, shrimps, Caridina flavilineta, Brachyura and tadpoles along the river and streams by basic tools such as baskets, nets, traps, even electric fish shocker although it is banned. The daily average catch is 0.2-0.5kg; though the catch is small, it plays a crucial role in the families’ meals, especially to Khomu people in Hat Ta Ven, Huoi Phuon 1 and Huoi Xui.

In addition, the households collect seaweeds and mosses to eat as vegetables. This collection is carried out mostly in dry season when the water level is low from October to next April. There is little during flood season. The amount collected annually is not significant and decreasing in comparison to many years ago.

Transportation by waterway: It is mostly popular in Keng Du village. The people use boats to transport agricultural products during harvest and other goods and to fish. Their income can increase by 3-6million VND/year thanks to boats. However, this income source is not stable and cannot be one of the main sources.

3.4. Livestock Breeding

The people in My Ly Commune mostly raise buffaloes, cows, pigs, and chicken. Most of the households use free-range method. Some households do intensive farming and use more industrial fodder in the villages near the commune center or near the road.

Table 6.7 The quantity of cattle and poultry in My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cattle and poultry</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>1027</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>For sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>For sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>1112</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>For sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>1310</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>For food and for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese)</td>
<td>2615</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>For food and for sale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*) Report on socio-economic development 2016

Cattle: The cattle in the villages is mainly beef cattle, buffaloes, goats. There are 1027 cows, 315 buffaloes and 1112 goats. Each household has 1-2 buffaloes/cows. Some have large-scale livestock breeding with the quantity of 15-25 animals. The number of goats has been continuously increasing. The cattle are free-range on the fields or in the forests. During the planting seasons, the villages allocate a pastureland area, which is the area that is left fallow. After harvest, they are free-range again. The FGDs with the villages show that cattle breeding is facing many difficulties when the grassland area is decreasing due to the increasing demand for arable land and shortening fallow period. The lack of fodder for cattle in the winter months, cold
weather and the incapacity of the commune vets for treatment for animals are some other disadvantageous factors.

**Pigs:** The commune’s herd of pigs is about 1310 pigs, mostly the local breeds. Each has one gilt. When the gilt delivers piglets, the people usually keep and raise the whole herd. Each household has 1-2 pigs. Some have 10 pigs. They graze the animals freely and use maize and cassava as fodder. Each household sells 3-4 pigs/year and earns 4-6 million VND. However, due to diseases and lack of support of the commune veterinarians the pig death rate is high.

**Poultry:** The poultry here is chicken, ducks and geese. The households practice small-scale livestock breeding, from 5 to 10 fowls/household and even 20 ones/household. Poultry breeding is usually to provide food for the households, especially in the Thai community. Some households raise 40-50 fowls/year with 1-3 generations/year. The selling price is 90-100,000 VND/kg.

The contribution of livestock breeding to the households' income is 30-40% and the main source of cash. However, if the villagers are assisted with reorganization of local food resources, technical assistance, disease prevention methods, and connection to the market, this contribution can be the main source of income of the households.

### 3.5. Trade and Business

**Small businesses:** Small businesses usually concentrate in the commune center, in Huoi Phuon 1 village. Mostly Kinh people from other communes come to sell clothes, food, agricultural tools and buy agricultural products. It is estimated that the households can earn 2-4 million VND/month. Those running restaurants and purchasing agricultural products can earn 4-5 million VND/month during dry season.

**Transportation and business in the river:** Keng Du people use boats to transport goods and go fishing. There is little trade on boats.

**Trading and collection of non-timber forest products in Lao PDR:** The households collect Ganoderma lucidum, bamboo shoots, Balanophora fungosa, Thysanolaena latifolia, and Stemona tuberosa to sell to local traders. Some households still collect wood though it is forbidden. Those collecting NTFPs can earn 2-4 million VND/year depending on the amount of their collection. Some can earn 5-6 million VND/year. It is unlikely to estimate the income of those logging. According to the village head, it can be 20-30 million VND/year.

### 3.6. Labour

**Non-agriculture activities:** These activities are not popular in Keng Du commune. According to the village head, there is one to two men migrating to work, but it is unknown where they work and what they earn. In general, though the communes have programs supporting employment, the people do not participate in.

**Working as helper in the village:** Many people work as construction workers or carpenters in the village or in other neighboring villages in the commune for 200-250,000 VND/day. Some women cut grass, prepare the soil or harvest maize for the households that have much land or insufficient labour for 100-150,000 VND/day. Thus, the annual income ranges 3-5 million VND/year since these jobs are not frequent.

**Handicraft:** Small-scale handicrafts such as brocade weaving are practiced only in Thai villages. FGDs results in Keng Du village show that most of the households in the village weave. Each household can produce one piece of brocade sized 1.8 x 0.8 m. The average selling price is 600-650,000 VND/piece. One skirt costs about 270,000 VND for one to two working days. It is estimated that the income of the households that frequently weave is 2.5-2.6 million VND per month. Those that do not do it regularly earn less than 0.7-1.0 million VND per month.

### 4 Specific Livelihoods Issues in the Villages to be Affected by the HPP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Livelihoods in the villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Huoi Xui</td>
<td><strong>Agriculture:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture plays a crucial role in the villagers’ livelihoods. There is about 150 ha of swidden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village</td>
<td>Livelihoods in the villages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>land of the whole village.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|         | + Upland rice: The annual area for upland rice is 1-2 ha/household on average. The area of the households that have many members can reach 3ha. The yield ranges between 2.7-3.0 ton/ha and sometimes just 1.5-1.6ton/ha in some areas in higher positions due to the infertility of the soil and the short fallow period, only 2 years. The rice production is only sufficient for domestic consumption.  
+ The average area for maize is 0.14-0.28 ha/household, equal to 1-2 kg of seeds. The average yield of maize can reach 4.2 ton/ha. The yields in different areas vary; they are also very dependent on the weather. Maize after harvest is usually sold out for 3.5-4.5/kg. |
|         | Forestry                     |
|         | Protection forest is allocated to the village. Each year the village receives remuneration for community-based forest protection service. Part of the payment is divided to the households, around 0.5-1.5 million VND/household. It depends on the amount of each year that the village decides how much they keep for their fund. The households jointly plant trees. Each is responsible for 2-3ha of forest, which is zoned to plant Syringa and Melia azedarach. There have not been any incomes generated from production forest. The villagers also collect non-timber forest products such bamboo shoots, Auriculariales, mushrooms, wild vegetables, herbal plants, timber and firewood as well as hunt the wild animals such as wild chicken, birds, mice, and wide boars. The big animals are seldom caught. Forest products are usually used in the families. When they collect a lot of herbal plants and bamboo shoots, they can dry them and sell some. Dried bamboo shoots can be sold for 50-150,000VND/kg, and Ganoderma lucidum and some other valuable herbal plants can be sold for 350,000VND/kg. |
|         | Livestock breeding           |
|         | Livestock breeding plays a crucial role and is considered as the main income source of the households in the village. Almost all households graze buffaloes and cows. The village has no accurate data on the total number of buffaloes and cows. About 12 households raise 15-20 buffaloes and cows; other households have 2-3 buffaloes and cows on average. They sell one when they need a large amount of money to build houses, spend on children’s education, wedding or treatment. One big cow costs 15-20million VND; one buffalo 20-30million VND. All households raise pigs, usually the local breeds. Each household has 1-2 pigs; some have 4-5 pigs. Grown pigs are usually sold to traders for 65-100,000/kg depending on the weight. In addition, pigs are also slaughtered when there is a wedding or ceremony. The number of poultry changes every year. Each household raises 10-15 chicken/ducks on average. Poultry is raised for domestic consumption. If there is more than needed, the households will sell for 90-100,000/kg. The people raise livestock using the traditional free-range method. Limited grassland and diseases are the two factors constraining the village’s livestock breeding. |
|         | Aquaculture                  |
|         | The villagers do not go fishing by boat like the Thai. They go fishing mostly along the river and streams using simple tools such as landing nets or cast nets. Products from the river are used for domestic consumption. They also sell to traders when they can catch much. However, the catch is decreasing; they have experienced many days without any catch. |
|         | Non-agricultural activities  |
|         | The households that suffer a shortage of cultivation land work for other households in the village or in Laos; particularly, they build houses, cut grass, or harvest. They earn then about 100-150,000/day or receive rice. No one works for any companies. |
| Keng Du | Agriculture                  |
|         | Agriculture plays a crucial role in the villagers’ livelihoods.  
+ Upland rice: Each household cultivates 1-2ha/year. The average yield ranges 2-2.5 ton/ha. The production is mainly for domestic consumption; they rarely sell rice.  
+ The whole village has only 2ha of paddy land. The yield of one summer-fall crop is 4 tons/ha.  
+ Hybrid maize: Each household cultivates one 1.5-2 ha. The average yield ranges 5-6 tons/ha in the areas along the river and 4.0 tons/ha in the higher areas. When the weather... |
Village Livelihoods in the villages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Livelihoods in the villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hat Ta Ven Agriculture</td>
<td>Upland rice: Each household has the average area of 1.5-2.0 ha. The yield of upland rice ranges 2.0-2.5 tons/ha and is unstable. When the weather is unfavorable, or rice gets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

is unfavorable, the yield is lower than 3 tons/ha. 90% of maize production is sold to the market. Only 10% is kept for livestock breeding. The selling price of corn ranges 3.5-4 thousand VND/kg.

+ Cassava: Each household plants 0.1-0.3 ha of cassava. The yield after two years ranges 20-25 tons/ha. The production is used mainly for livestock breeding and winemaking.

+ Peanuts: Some households cultivate peanuts. They intercrop peanuts among cassava or maize. Some plant peanuts as a monocrop. Each household plants about 10 kg of seeds/year, equal to 0.4-0.5 ha. The yield ranges 0.16-0.18 tons/ha. Part of the production is for the families’ consumption. The rest is sold to the market for 30,000/kg.

The village’s cultivation faces many unfavorable weather conditions, namely long lasting drought, high slopes, severe erosion, increasing soil degradation. If the production land is acquired, the risks that many households face a shortage of land and food are inevitable.

Forestry
- The village protects 240ha of protection forest and receives annually 24million VND for the community-based protection services. About 50% of the payment is divided to the households in the village. The villagers’ livelihoods depend mainly on the non-timber forest products such as wild vegetables, bamboo shoots, herbal plants and the wild animals such as mice, wild chicken. Wild boars and other big animals are rarely caught.

Livestock breeding
- The village has about 500 buffaloes and cows in total. Each has 3-5 buffaloes or cows on average. Some households have 50 of these. Buffaloes and cows are usually sold to local traders. One costs 15-20million VND. The households only sell when they need money.
- The whole village has at present about 230 pigs. Each has 4-5 pigs on average, mostly local breeds. Each household can sell 1-3 pigs. Some can sell 5-7 pigs/year. There are 5-7 households that can sell hybrid pigs for high productivity; each has 4-5 pigs. The local breeds are usually sold for 70-100,000/kg; the hybrid ones are cheaper, normally 30-35,000/kg.
- There are over 700 chickens, ducks, and geese. Each household has 10-20 fowls, mostly local breeds. Poultry is raised mostly for the families’ consumption and rarely for sale. It costs 80-100,000VND/kg of chicken.

The village is facing the shortage of fodder due to the limited grassland area. The free-range method also makes it hard to control diseases. Though the people have experience in treating livestock diseases, the rate of cattle and poultry death remains high. Every year poultry dies a lot.

Aquaculture
All households go fishing. Fish is the main source of food. The whole village has 40 boats. The people use cast nets and landing nets. The fishing area is about 30km upstream far from the village and in Lao PDR’s territory. The fish commonly caught are Hemibagrus guttatus, Anguilliformes, Pisodonophis, Gobiiformes, and Bagarius rutilus.

When big fish are caught and the catch is large, the households will sell. The price is 150-170,000VND/kg, lower than in My Ly because Keng Du is in remote area and there are fewer traders. Otherwise, they eat the fish or dry them for later use.

Non-agricultural activities
The women jointly weave brocade and sell to Lao PDR. Each can earn 1.0-1.5 million VND/month. Some can earn 2.0-2.5 million VND/month.

When there is no work on the field, many households use boats to buy food from Lao PDR and transport to Vietnam to sell or transport goods for other traders. They gain 300-500,000/day.
Village | Livelihoods in the villages
--- | ---
diseases, the yield is lower than 1 ton/ha. Many households have nothing to harvest. Paddy rice: 40 households have paddy fields. Each of them has 5-7 “sào” to 1.5 ha. The only planting season is the summer-autumn one. The yield is 3.5-4 ton/ha. The production is mainly for food and rarely for sale. Hybrid maize: Each household has 0.2-1.0 ha on average. The yield is only 3.5-4.5 ton/ha. The production after harvest is for sale. One kg costs 3-4,000VND/kg. Cassava: About 80 households plant cassava. Each uses 0.4-1.0 hectare for Cassava. The yield after two years of planting ranges 25-26 ton/ha. The products are used for livestock breeding and winemaking, not for sale. In addition, the households also grow potatoes and peanuts. The amount is small and only sufficient for the households’ demands. There is no free production land. The people are cultivating on the plots that they have reclaimed for generations. Thus, there will be a shortage of land in the near future. The yield of upland rice is low and unstable due to degrading seeds, extensive cultivation method, no investment in fertilizers. The rate of households suffering from hunger is 30%. That rate in 2016 was 70% due to droughts and loss of harvest. Forestry The management board protects the forest and receives remuneration every year. It is partially divided to the households and partially kept as a village fund. The livelihoods of the villagers depend mostly on the forests, i.e. they collect NTFPs, hunt wild animals and make use of water supply for rice cultivation and the families’ daily use. Livestock breeding Beef cows: 121 households raise 350 cows. Some raise 20 cows. Some others, however, raise only one. 6 households raise 38 buffaloes. The cattle are free range on the fallow area. The products are sold to the market for the average price of 14-18million VND/item. A big buffalo can cost 30million VND. The households sell one in two years on average. When someone is sick or they build houses, they will sell 3-4 cows/buffaloes. Pigs: All households have pigs, 2-4 pigs/each. Those having gilts can raise 10 pigs. Pigs are used for ceremonies and sold when money is needed. The selling price is 100,000VND/kg if the pig is less than 30kg and 80,000VND/kg if over 30kg. Chickens: The whole village has about 100 chickens. Due to diseases, many chickens died. They did not have chickens for sale last year. They just had enough for the families’ consumption. Aquaculture A few households collect small fish, snails, shrimps, Caridina flavilineata, Brachyura and tadpoles along the river and streams by basic tools such as baskets, nets, traps, even electric fish shocker although it is banned. The daily average catch is 0.5-1kg; though the catch is small, it plays a crucial role in the families’ meals.

**Huoi Phươn 1**

Agriculture Upland rice: Each household cultivates 0.5-1.2 ha/year. The yield of upland rice is 1.5-1.7 ton/ha depending on households and cultivation areas. The yield in the area of high slope dropped to 1 ton/ha. Upland rice is to use in the families’ meals. Some sell when they need money. The selling price is 5-7,000/kg. Hybrid maize: Each household plants about 0.5-1 kg of seeds/year. The yield reaches 7-9 ton of corn/ha, equal to 3.5-4.5 ton of corn/ha. The production is used for livestock breeding. When they harvest much, they sell to traders for 3-4,000VND/kg. Cassava: Each household plants 300-500 roots and some even 700-1000 roots/year. The people harvest cassava after 2 years. The average yield ranges about 5-6 kg/root, equal to 24 tons/ha. Cassava is not for sale but for poultry breeding and winemaking. Peanuts: Half of the households in the village plant peanuts. Each plants 1kg of peanut seeds. The yield of 1kg peanut seeds is 30 - 40kg of fresh peanuts. The production is used for the families’ meals. Some sell when they need money. 50% of the households suffer from hunger in 3-4 months every year.

---

1 sào = 497 m²
### Village Livelihoods in the villages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forestry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The management board protects the forest and receives remuneration of 50 million VND every year. It is partially divided to the households and partially kept as a village fund. The livelihoods of the villagers depend mostly on the forests, i.e. they collect NTFPs and hunt wild animals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock breeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef cows: Most households raise one or two cows per household. They sell only when they need more money, such as studying for children, building houses or having sick people. Price of each one is 15 million. Pig raising: Each household has one sow and 6-10 piglets, pigs for anniversaries, as well as new festivals, weddings, and when needed money is sold. But the disease epidemic years, hardly sold. Goat husbandry: all households in the farm, each household has 5-7 heads / household; To sell when need money spent in the family. Poultry husbandry: on average 20 - 30 poultry per household, many households do not have chickens, ducks because the disease has died out can not be reared.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aquaculture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing is not widespread in the village. The people mainly use simple tools such as cast nets or landing nets. They sometimes go fishing in streams, rarely go to the river. Each time the catch is less than 1 kg. Sometimes they can catch nothing. The amount of fish, shrimps, snails, and tadpoles is decreasing; thus, the food supply of households is also declining.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-agricultural activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only a few households in the village go to work for households in other villages. Particularly, they harvest, cut grass, and build houses. The jobs are unstable. They earn 100-150,000 VND per day. There are 5 people working far away for garment companies and restaurants in Vinh city.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Programmes and projects in the project area

**Program 30a:** Assistance in fast and sustainable poverty reduction for 62 poor districts; Assistance in production (preferential lending, direct assistance with plants and animals; job creation and income increase, including exporting labour in the poor districts abroad; vocational training and awareness increase; complementation of human resources at various management levels and working groups; investment in infrastructure at villages, communes, and districts.

**Program 135:** Investment in infrastructure, assistance in production development to the extremely poor communes, border communes, communes in historical safe zones and especially poor villages; assistance for the people’s life by essential commodities such salt, rice when hungry, seeds, animals and techniques.

**National target program on new rural development:** Program on new rural development in combination with Program 30a focuses on infrastructure development: communal-level roads, schools, and clinic, for example, have been built for the past few years.

**Program on sustainable development and payment for environmental services:** The households receive remuneration for forest protection services that is paid by the hydropower companies. The remuneration depends on the area of forests under management.

In addition to the national programs, the province and district also have some programs supporting production development such as: livestock development, cooperation with private companies in job creation, and handicraft development.

**Program on credit and access to loans:** At present the households in rural areas in general and the project area in particular have access to rural credit programs through Vietnam Bank for Social Policies and Vietnam Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. The preferential
credit programs with low interest rates (Table 6.6) facilitates production development for poor households. This is one of the available sources for affected households and vulnerable households to recover livelihoods in addition to the Community Livelihood Development Plan of the Project.

Table 6.8 Some local credit programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Preferential Lending Programs</th>
<th>Interest Rate (%)</th>
<th>Month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Normal lending to poor households (Decree No. 78/2002/NĐ-CP)</td>
<td>0,55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under which: lending to poor households in accordance with Decision 30a at poor district</td>
<td>0,275</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lending for Job Creation (Decision 71/2005/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lending to students (Decision 157)</td>
<td>0,55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lending to poor and ethnic households to export labour (Decision 71/2005/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,275</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lending to other customers to export labour (Decision 71/2005/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lending to poor households to build houses (Decision 167/2008/QĐ-TTG)</td>
<td>0,25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lending – rural water supply and sanitation (Decision 62/2004/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lending to the extremely poor ethnic households (Decision 54/2012/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lending to households in the difficult areas for production and business activities (Decision 31/2007/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lending to traders in difficult areas (Decision 92/2009/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0,75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the social economic survey in the project area, the State’s supporting policies brought necessary impacts on the people’s life. However, the people’s income is still at the low-average level; the rate of households falling back in poverty remains high. There are a big number of households that have overcome poverty line but their incomes are still close to the poverty line. The gap between the rich and the poor remains huge. There remain many difficulties for the poor and especially the ethnic minorities. Thus, the assistance for livelihood recovery is a necessary program for the affected community.

5 Expected Impacts on Livelihoods

According to My Ly HPP planning, Keng Du commune is located at the end of the reservoir and about 40-50km far from the dam. My Ly HPP when constructed will have the following impacts on the people:

(i) Resettlement due to the reservoir’s impacts: It is estimated that the whole Keng Du village will be relocated, and the households close to the river in Huoi Xui village will be relocated, too.

(ii) Agriculture will be affected considerably due to the permanent acquisition of production land in the four villages given that land for cultivation has already been limited.

(iii) The area of grassland is expected to reduce; thus, livestock breeding of the households will also be affected.

(iv) Waterway traffic will be affected, too; particularly, the transport of goods from downstream area will be limited.

(v) Various social evils such as drug addition, prostitution, and unstable security will increase after compensation; one of the reasons is that the households receive money but are not capable for managing and spending it for the right purposes.
(vi) There can be some positive impacts on livelihoods. For example, the upstream villagers can raise fish in cages.

(vii) There will be impacts on the forest as well due to the demand for timber to build more houses.

The livelihoods of the villages in Keng Du can be summarized as follows:

**Table 6.9 Summary of expected livelihood impacts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Expected impact</th>
<th>Rationale and Magnitude* for impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keng Du</td>
<td>39/39 households are expected to be relocated due to the reservoir impacts.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is estimated that 25% of the total production land will be lost since it is located along the river. The lost land includes swidden land, paddy land, and land for fruit trees, such as mulberries.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huoi Xui</td>
<td>It is estimated that 12-15/81 households along the river will be relocated due to the reservoir’s impacts and possible landslides when the water level rises.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is estimated that 3-5% of production land of the whole village will be lost due to inundation or landslide when the water level rises.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The inter-communal road can be inundated, which will have impacts on the villagers' life.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hat Ta Ven</td>
<td>Production land will be lost since the water level rises. It is estimated that about 20% of agricultural land of 15 households will be lost.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huoi Phuon 1</td>
<td>Production land will be lost since the water level rises. It is estimated that about 20% of agricultural land of 15 households will be lost.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*) Magnitude: Low=L, Medium=M, High=H

6 **Other information and reflections**

At the time of the survey, due to the incompleteness of landmark demarcation of the basin, the data on land area affected by the HPP is mainly based on interview information (FDGs) and might not be accurate.

Furthermore, the commune’s statistical data on land area has clear differences since the records and documents on land of the communes and even within a commune have not been standardized.

The productivity of the crops in the FDG report may not be entirely consistent with the data from the commune since each village has distinct terrain and land conditions.

Although the statistics might not be completely accurate, the information provided by FDGs can be used to assess the livelihoods and production system of the villages in the project area.

3.6.1.2 **Keng Du Village – 9 January 2017**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION**

Date 1/9/17

Village Keng Du

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex Male</th>
<th>Sex Female</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Agriculture and Livestock Breeding</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Age</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
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</tr>
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<td>x</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

II. Use of Forest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Phung Van Linh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

III. Aquaculture - Use of River

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

IV. Woman Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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</thead>
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</table>

V. Elder - Ethnic Minority Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
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<td>Occupation</td>
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<td>Lo Hoang Thoi</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 **Village Summary Report**

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. **Location and General Conditions of the Village**

Keng Du is the only Thai village in Keng Du. The position of the village is a little different from that of the Khomu villages of Keng Du commune and much lower than the others. The location of Keng Du is close to the Nam Non River. The house is extended up to about 1 km. The large road (footpath) connects to the center of Keng Du commune with some slopes of 30°. This road makes it easy for people to reach the village by motorbike and car in dry season. In rainy season people can only walk because of the very slippery roads.

The village is also accessible by waterway. Traveling from My Ly to Keng Du by motorboat takes about 4 hours along the Nam Non river.

In the village, there is a Keng Du border guard station directly in the charge of Keng Du border station.

The village has a national grid and clean water, which is transported from streams to four water tanks scattered throughout the village.

The village is quite clean though the cattle are free-range.

1.2. **Population**

There are 46 households with 183 people in the village. Nearly 100% of the villagers are Thai. There are 83 men and 100 women. There are 77 working-age people.

The whole village has 36 poor and 10 near-poor households. The causes of poverty in Keng Du households are identified as infertile soil, location with huge slope, nature-dependent water supply, and impractical seed supply of the government.

4 of the near-poor households are currently investing in livestock and industrial crops. According to the FGDs, these households have tried to make use of loans, human resources and worked hard to understand breeding techniques.

Both villages have 2 HHs headed by women. The husband of one of those women is working for the commune, so she has to be the head of the family. The other one has neither parents nor husband. She is living alone. There are no single moms or those whose husbands died and have to raise children on their own in the village.

1.3. **Village History and Migration**

The village was founded in around 1940 during the war against the French with 8 HHs. The entire population is Thai, and the Keng Du villagers are proud to be the first inhabitants of this area.

Between 2004 and 2005, 10 Thai HHs moved to Laos to work and started their life there. There have been some people immigrating to and emigrating from the village for marriage reason. In the past two years, young people in the village have started going out to look for work. There
are currently 28 young people (3 women and 25 men) working in Vientiane for a golf company with Vietnamese investment.

People in the village often go out. The women usually leave the village 3 to 4 times a month and travel with their husbands on a motorbike to go shopping at the center of the commune to buy rice, food and utensils. Sometimes they go for occasional medical examinations at the commune health station. It takes about half an hour for them to reach the commune center by motorbike and about 2-3 hours on foot.

In addition, women sometimes go to the commune center for some administrative requirements for their child's study, which are usually taken by the husbands.

There are also traders going to the village to buy products and sell various kinds of industrial goods to people, for example soap or clothes.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

The village head does not know the total area of the village. Keng Du village has land types such as production land, residential land, forest land, cemeteries and others such as rivers, streams, and transportation land.

Production land

Approximately 600 hectares of land is used for production and is allocated to each production group. The village is divided into 5 production groups and each year the villagers use about 150 hectares to grow staple crops such as rice, maize, cassava and vegetables.

Households usually have about 2-3 acres of land, yet on average, a household uses about 2 to 3 hectares of land each year for farming. Paddy land is only about 0.8 ha / household / year; 0.6 ha / household / year for growing vegetables, mainly vegetables; The remaining area is maize and cassava.

The method of production is similar to other villages in the area, which is rotational cultivation in an area within about 1-2 years; then the land is left fallow. The people cultivate another area – after 4-6 years they will return to the original slab. The short rotation of land use depends on how much space the family has, the production capacity and the level of soil recovery. However, according to the people here, the ability of soil recovery is slower, the erosion, degradation occurs at a speed faster than before about 10 years.

Land for production has not been granted a certificate of right of use.

Forest land

The area of forest land for the entire village is 250 hectares. The whole area has been allocated to groups of households so that people together protect and take care of the forest. For this plot of forests, people have the right to collect NTFPs and firewood. They can also use this area to graze their livestock.

Production forests cover more than 200 ha. This area is allocated to households, on average, each household has 4-5 ha of production forest. People grow trees for wood such as Melia azedarach, Syringa und Medusagyne oppositifolia. However, the seedlings provided by the government are often weak and do not guarantee the quality of mortality.

In the village there are 4 households who have used production forest land to grow the farm. They buy seedlings such as Melia azedarach und Medusagyne oppositifolia to intercrop among oranges and mangoes. However, in the unfavourable weather conditions in 2015 and 2016, numerous seedlings could not survive.

Landscape

The land area of each household is not large, only about 200m² of residential land, including surrounding gardens. The land around the house is not used to grow vegetables, but to grow a few fruit trees to have shade and some grow a number of vegetables.

The system of ownership and land allocation

The land is not currently owned by the people, but they have the right to use it. The people in the village are still using the land that has been cleared and used for generations. It is not
allowed to expand their present land area. Newly established households receive land from the available area of their parents. Thus, the swidden area is narrowed down, and the fallow period is shorter and shorter.

The village head and the heads of the clans have never played any roles in land allocation. Traditionally people use the land that they have reclaimed for a long time, and the community has to accept their rights over that plot. Since the 2000s, in accordance with the 1993 Land Law and more recently, the implementation of the new National Targeted Program for Rural Areas, the commune and district-level governments have developed land use plans, and the people hitherto have cultivated in the planned land only. However, there has been no clear demarcation of the boundary and, as a result, no issuance of certificates of agricultural land use rights for each household due to difficulties in finance and land mapping.

The villagers do not rent land. Since the commune has re-delineated the boundaries between communes, the incidents that the people cultivate on the other people’s land have reduced considerably.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Production land

The cultivation land of the village is mainly swidden land, which stretches about 7 km along Nam Non river bank and streams. Each household has about 2-3 acres of land but it is divided into many fragments, which have been reclaimed for a long time.

The whole area of land is sloping land which is very difficult for cultivation. The villagers use no machinery. They mainly practice traditional cultivation, which is slash and burn cultivation, and “dig holes, plant seeds”. Due to the sloping topography of the area, there is no irrigation system, mainly depending on rainfall.

In the village there is 2ha of paddy area that one household has been reclaimed for a long time. They use stream water by means of a self-made trench system on this field.

All arable land does not have a land use right certificate; however, land is traditionally owned by households from decades of history after their reclamation over the area.

It is the general practice here that parents allocate land to their children when they establish their own households.

The 250 ha of watershed protection forest is under strict control.

Riverine land

Some households have land along the river, which has no land use right certificate either. These land areas are mainly used to grow vegetables and fruit trees such as bananas, pineapples, or jackfruits. Some households grow corn. People, especially women, often go to the riverside to collect wild vegetables and moss to eat.

On average, each household has 0.6ha for vegetables. They mostly keep the products for domestic use.

• Major crops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.0-2.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>5.0-6.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>20-25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upland rice is the main crop that plays a crucial role in daily life of the villagers. It is the main staple food of the households. One crop of upland rice is cultivated per year. The unstable yield is around 1 ton/ha. Upland rice is not for sale and the production is just enough to eat. The villagers sometimes still face food shortage. Some households with more manpower can
cultivate more rice, but very little of their production is available for sale. On average, each household raises 50-70kg of seeds, equivalent to 1 - 2 ha.

One crop of hybrid maize is cultivated per year. Maize yields are rather high since it is usually cultivated close to the river. The postharvest products are mainly sold to the market (90%) and 10% left is used for livestock. Corn price ranges between 3,5-4 thousand VND/kg. Many households cultivate on upland fields. On average, each household produces 20kg of corns. Some reach 30kg/crop/year, equivalent to 1.5-2 ha.

- Cassava is planted on the sloping area along the river. Each household grows 300 - 500 roots intercropping them along the upland rice rows or intercropping among maize. The households that have large land and much labour can plant from 1,000-2,500 roots, equivalent to 1 - 2 hectares. Most cassava products are used for winemaking and livestock production.

- Peanuts are grown mainly for sale at the price of 30 thousand/kg. Each household grows about 5 - 10kg per crop.

Livestock breeding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>240 items</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
<td>10 items</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>300 items</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>500 – 600 items</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average, each household has 3 or 4 cows and buffaloes, and there are about 35-40 cows. However, the mortality rate was high due to epidemics. The local people could not cure the livestock on themselves when the extension workers did not arrive in time. Prevention methods and treatment for cattle have not been disseminated regularly. Therefore, the number of cattle in the village is not fixed. Annually, one cow can be sold for 10 - 12 million VND, and one buffalo 15-20 million VND.

At present, there are more than 300 pigs in the village, with an average of 5 to 6 piglets and one gilt per household. The households do not sell pigs. Sometimes they need to slaughter a pig for some household issues. Those that raise many can sell but probably one 1-2 pigs per year.

Chicken, duck, and geese: Sometimes the households can raise many, about 20-30. However, for the past few years, many have died due to epidemics and diseases. They use mainly the local breeds and keep them free-range. The food of the families in the village is mainly chicken, thus they are rarely sold. If the households sell chicken, the price is about 70,000 - 100,000 VND/kg or more than 200,000 VND/chicken.

Water for livestock is stream and river water. They say that since the water source is not ensured so many diseases outbreak. The commune veterinary staff often comes to village to inject drugs and to prevent seasonal diseases. Nonetheless, since many households graze their livestock on the fields so would rarely go back to the village to have their livestock injected. Furthermore, some have no money to pay for veterinary drugs.

Use of river resources

There are 40 households having boats. There are two types of boats: motorboats and wooden rowing boats. There are three types of motorboats available, namely those of 13, 18 and 20 horsepower. Boats are used for traveling, fishing, transportation of food and transportation (visiting relatives, going to school, or going to work). Many households in the village use boats to buy food in Laos and transport to Vietnam for profit. Those households having no boats can borrow or rent boats to go fishing or transport agricultural products harvested on the field.

One of their livelihood activities is to catch fish from the river for food, or if there is some (though very rarely) surplus, they will sell. Fishing is undertaken by men, women go catching fishing near the river. Some can fish about 30 km far from the bank on the side of Laos, where there
are many fish, and often large fish. However, when fishing away, people do not go longer than 3 nights because there is no tool to keep fish alive for too long. 100% of the households use landing nets to catch fish everyday along the river during the day.

The catch of the Keng Du people is considered only secondary occupation.

The caught fish are usually dried, smoked, salted, or soured so that they can be maintained for food a long time. Some households, usually those fishing far from the bank, sell fish and have contacts of traders coming to the village to buy.

Types of fish usually caught in the river are: lobster, salmon, goby, Anguilliformes, Bagarius rutilus, shrimps, and snails. There are many eels and crabs on Laos’ side. During July, August and September it is turbid season when there are more fish.

The households go to collect mosses in the river to eat. Its season is from December to January of lunar calendar. Along the banks of the river there are some vegetables but they do not collect them.

The riverbank area is also used to grow vegetables and fruit trees but mainly serves the needs of the households.

No households have ponds. Some households used to raise fish in the river. However, it was far from home, so they gave up at the end.

Use of forests

The forests provide local people with more products that can be sold than the river.

The most commonly sold products are listed as follows:

- Lingzhi mushroom: 330,000 VND/kg
- Balanophora fungosa, Smilax, Stemona tuberosa: the price varies between 50,000 - 300,000VND/kg of dried products depending on the moment of purchase.
- Bamboo shoots: in rainy season, women often go to the forests to collect bamboo shoots; then they dry them and sell for 50,000 - 100,000 VND/kg.
- Thysanolaena latifolia: 15,000 VND/kg after being dried
- Timber: they sell wood if they can collect Syringa and some other wood types; they go to Laos and ask for timber such as Lagerstroemia, Syringa if building a house.
- Herbal products: the villagers also collect to cook with water and then drink the liquid; some can be sold; the names of the products are, however, unknown.

Many people still commit illegal clogging. There remains much Syringa, Lagerstroemia in the forests, but the villagers have to go further into the woods. Some go to Laos to collect wood for the others; sometimes, it is even illegal.

Animals such as birds, rats, squirrels, wild pigs, snakes are hunted regularly mainly by crossbows and traps because guns are prohibited.

The people hunt to have food for the family because they normally have only vegetables. They usually catch mice and squirrels, especially during harvests because they destroy crops. Traps are set on the fields and checked twice a day.

Bears, squirrels, and wild boars are hunted for sale because they are costly. Sometimes the households also share a wild boar to eat.

Other livelihoods

100% of the villagers work in agriculture and do not have shops or run any businesses. There are some commune-level officials in the village, who receive allowances as follows:

- The secretary of the commune, the vice chairman of the commune, the secretary of the commune: 1,150,000VND/month
- Head of the village: 1,150,000/month
- Women's Union, Fatherland Front, Youth Union, village elders: 360,000VND/month
- Police officer, militia: 70,000VND/month
- Health worker: 360,000/month
- Population officer: 50,000VND/month
- Agricultural extension worker: 260,000VND/month

Thai women make skirts, each of which costs from 270,000VND to 2,500,000VND. It takes about a week to make one.

1.6. Education

The villagers communicate in Thai and Kho Mu. They do not have many difficulties communicating with Laotians because the languages are quite similar.

Two thirds of the population are illiterate and do not speak Vietnamese, especially women who are less exposed to the outsiders. Men as key decision makers and traders have to communicate regularly in Vietnamese so can use the language better.

There are kindergartens and elementary schools. There are 27 children in primary school (17 girls). Primary school has 5 classes (2 mixed classes). There are 12 children attending secondary school (including 8 girls). The school is located outside the commune, 8 km away from the village. Secondary school children can walk to school and go home once a week. Some are picked up by their parents by motorcycle. No children drop out of school. In 2016 all school-age children are sent to school.

There are no children in high school. There is one college student. No children are attending college or vocational training school.

1.7. Health and Health Care

The village has four water tanks, which were built by the state seven or eight years ago, so there is enough water for daily use. People in the village use the water for eating, drinking, and other daily activities.

Children bathe by the tanks. In summer they go to the river to bathe, about 100m far from the village center. Adults also bathe by the tanks and river.

Common illnesses in the village are asthma, cough, diarrhea, and headache. Women suffer from back pain and unexplained abdominal pain. Those who cannot bear the pain have to go to the gynecological clinic. Few people recover because they often do not take the medicine that are prescribed by the doctor. The main reason is that they can not afford the medicine. Thus, they often take southern herbology which is collected from the forests and processed.

In the village there are no traditional healers making medicinal herbs for money, but there are 5-6 old people who know about medicine from the previous generation and help the other villagers when needed.

There are no midwives but only one male village health worker. He sells no medicine, and mainly propagates some programmes or gives people injection when needed.

The commune health center is about 7 km from the village. There is a doctor, a midwife and other nurses working there.

The women usually deliver children at home, especially in rainy season when the road is slippery and dangerous. They are assisted by some old experienced women during home childbirth. They have never heard of clean and safety delivery service package. In hard cases, they will be sent to the district-level hospital, which is 90 km far from the village.

For the last 5 years, young mothers have become more knowledgeable about pregnancy. They pay for prenatal visits though not regularly because of the poor road conditions.

There is no death of women during pregnancy or infants. There have been, however, 3 cases of miscarriage recently.

There are some children that are malnourished. About three to four cases appear smaller than they are supposed to be at their age. Nonetheless, they have not taken any examinations in order to find out which nutrients they are lack of.
Infants are fully immunized on a monthly basis according to the commune's immunization schedule.

Every year, the district organizes regular gynecological examinations and general check-ups. All villagers are informed about the schedule, but people do not attend due to hard road conditions.

Information on reproductive health programs, population planning, HIV/AIDS, and children's education is often combined and disseminated in community meetings or programs.

In addition, there is a border guard station which also provides medical support.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

In the village there is a worship area to worship the guardian of the villagers. This area is located at the beginning of the village. If the project is carried out, it will be inundated, and a new place must be found.

The cemetery of the village with about 100 graves is located about 1 km from the village and about 700 m from the river. Thai do not relocate graves. However, they need to do some rituals in case the cemetery is inundated. A master will carry out some rituals at the worship area to inform and invite the gods and the spirits to another area. In the absence of a master in the village, the villagers have to hire another one, from Cha Nga village for example. The offerings for the rituals of the village include chicken and wine.

The households then will have to conduct a family ritual to leave the graves. A household needs to make one worship even when it has many graves. This ceremony belongs to the family, and they will proceed with the items that the family prepared themselves. The least they must have are chicken and wine.

At present, people do not have any ideas how to choose a new graveyard because the location of the residential area has not yet been informed/decided.

The villagers all have stilt houses, so when moving they would like to move the houses on themselves.

Thai often choose to build houses on the second day of the lunar month. When a house is rebuilt, ordinary people support each other. The host will conduct a ritual with wine and chicken before assembling the frame of the house.

1.9. Gender Issues

Men are breadwinners. They go fishing and hunting. Women collect vegetables in the forests. They also weave brocade cloths, carry out animal husbandry, do baby care and cultivation.

Most women, especially the elders, are illiterate. At present, both girls and boys are sent to school, at least until they finish primary school. Some might drop out afterward due to the families' economic conditions.

The majority of migrants are young men. 3 of 28 job seekers in Laos are women. The female villagers rarely go to the commune centre because of poor road conditions.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

Organizations in the village

Official associations are the Women's Union, the Farmers' Association, the Veterans Association, the Elders' Association, the Youth Union, the Party Cell and the Fatherland Front. The leaders of these associations will, in principle, be elected by the members, but often receive a strong suggestion from the authorities. The village head is elected every 2.5 years and is fluent in Vietnamese, good at speaking and highly educated.

Socio-economic program

Program 134 supports 2/3 of households to build houses. Specifically, households can borrow 35 million at the 2.05% interest rate.

Program 135 was implemented in 2002. 35 cows were provided. However, they all were crossbred so could not reproduce and then died all of diseases. In addition, the program also
distributed two pigs/household, 34 goats/household and 10 chickens/household, but they all
died of some common diseases. Seedlings also died since they could not adjust to the climate,
the soil was degraded, and the people had no techniques.

Program 30A supports 15 houses. Each household gets a loan of 5 million and receives 37
million for free.

The rural water supply and sanitation program has been degraded since 2003. 10/46
households have their own toilet. There are 32 households borrowing money. Each household
borrows 15 million at the 0.65% interest rate.

Agricultural extension officer provides regular training and gives people instructions on farming
practices and rice farming.

Often there are charity groups from Hanoi to Keng Du giving the villagers warm clothes and
warm blankets;

The government supports poor households with 6kg per capita and 100,000VND per household
for Tet holidays.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

The villagers received the general information on the project provided by the CPC, but there
has been no official announcement. They also knew about the project from the commune staff.

It was once about environment, society, health and land. Once the PO representatives met with
the people and introduced the project, but did not say when it would take place. They just said
that the village would be inundated if the project was implemented.

The villagers do not know exactly when and what the plan will be, what will be affected and
whether resettlement will take place, specifically which households will be affected, whether the
arable land will be affected, what will be the changes in life of the villagers, as well as what will
be compensated?

People want to ensure that they have houses with gardens in the new residential area, arable
land and better roads as well as schools for the children.

According to words of mouth, about 20-30% of the village's arable land will be flooded.

1.12. Additional Issues

Due to the location close to Nam Non river and in the border area, many small-scale trades are
carried out here.

Drug traffickers are sometimes caught in this area.

The teachers are often drunk and do not seem to receive the respect of the villagers, which can
be easily noticed through the behaviours of the villagers towards the teacher.

If the water level rises to the border guard station, that means higher than 10 meters above the
river level in January 2017, the entire village will need to be relocated. The main reason is the
risk of landslide that is exposed to those that stay. The village head suggested a new area,
which is uphill and 1.5 km far from the present location.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 09/01/2017 with 10 participants, of which 07 are men
and 03 are women. All of participants are Thai ethnic minority people.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in
Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an
attachment.
2.1. *Awareness about the planned HPP*

Villagers have known that there will be a hydropower project constructed at Xang Tren village but there is no official notice. The project information is supplied by deputy village head and by the commune People's Committee.

Villagers know little about when and how it is planned, what are the impacts on the village, and whether they will be relocated, which households will be affected, whether cultivated land will be affected, when the hydropower project is constructed, how the village will change, whether compensation will be applied, and how the compensation will be. The villagers expect that if resettlement takes place, there shall be houses with gardens, productive land with easy access, schools for children within the village, and concreted road.

It is said that 20-30% upland land area of the village will be submerged up to its residential area at present.

2.2. *Land use*

Cultivated land area of the village is mainly upland area, stretching 7km along Nam Non River and along streams.

Each household has in total 2-3 ha of upland land which is divided in several fields (4-5 fields) and has been reclaimed long time ago. Each upland field is cultivated for 1 or 2 crops and then left fallow in 2-3 years before the new crop.

All of cultivated land area is upland land with steep terrain, which makes it difficult for cultivation. There is no machine and cultivation is done by traditional method, i.e. slash and burn, dig holes and plant seeds. Because of sloping topography, there is no irrigation system, and cultivation depends on the weather.

The village has 2 ha of paddy rice owned by 1 household, who reclaimed it long time ago. This paddy rice area is irrigated by self-made irrigation system.

Both of upland area as well as paddy area have no land use right certificate; however, it is recognized that the land has been used by households for tens of year after family reclamation. Newly separated household will use their families’ land. The parents share land with their children because there is no more land fund for new reclamation.

The village has 250ha of watershed protection forests, which is controlled strictly. Land along the river banks: some households own land along the river bank, which was reclaimed by themselves long time ago, with no land use certificate. The villagers cultivate there vegetables, fruit trees such as bananas, pineapples, jack fruits, etc. Some households plant cassava. Local residents, particularly women, usually go to the river bank to find wild vegetables or alga for family consumption.

On average, each household has 0.6 ha for vegetable cultivation where they cultivate colza for family demand.

2.3. *Crops*

Main crops include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average productivity (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.0-2.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peanut</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- *Upland rice* is the main crop. It plays an important role in daily life since it is the main nutrition source of households. Upland rice is cultivated once a year yet has unstable yield. It is only 1 ton/ha in some years. There is no redundant upland rice for sale, it is for family consumption only, sometimes even insufficient. Some households that have
many members at working age, can cultivate and harvest more rice, but there is little to sell. On average, each household sows 50-70kg of rice seeds on 1-2 ha of land.

- Hybrid maize is cultivated once a year and has fair yield because it is planted mainly in lower area along the river bank. They are mainly sold to market (90%) while the rest (10%) is used for livestock. Hybrid maize is sold for 3.5-4 thousand VND per 1kg of hybrid maize. Many households cultivate on upland fields, each household on average sows 20kg of hybrid maize seeds, some households sow 30kg/crop/year. It means the area is up to 1.5-2ha.

- Cassava is cultivated on upland area along the river, each household has 300-500 roots. Cassava is intercropped upland rice or hybrid maize. Households who have much land and labor plant 1000-2000 roots which are equivalent to 1-2 ha. Most of the products are used for wine making and for livestock breeding.

- Peanut is planted mainly for sale. The present price is 30 thousand VND per kg. The largest peanut cultivated land area is 0.5ha. Each household cultivates 5-10kg of peanut seeds per crop.

2.4. Livestock
Main livestock at the time of survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>240 cows</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>10 buffaloes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>300 pigs</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>500 – 600 chickens</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average, each household has 3-4 cattle. Some households have 35-40 cattle. The death ratio is high due to diseases, which the villagers cannot treat, or because the agricultural extension officer came late, or the preventive/treatment method is not updated regularly. Annually, cattle breeding households can sell a cow for the price of 10-12 million VND. The buffalo price is higher, i.e. 15-20 million VND/buffalo.

At present, there are about 300 pigs in the village. Each household on average has 5-6 small pigs and one gilt. They mainly use local pig breeds and apply traditional husbandry method. The number of pigs is high but has never been counted. Pigs are killed for family events. Sometimes pigs are sold. Only 1-2 pigs/household can be sold per year.

There is a period when households in the village raise lot of poultry. Each household has 20-30 poultry, but in the last year lots of chicken died due to diseases. The people mainly use local breeds. Poultry is raised by free breeding. Poultry is bred for family demand, very few chances to sell. The chicken price is 70,000-100,000 VND per kg. A big chicken can bring back 200,000 VND.

Water source for livestock breeding is the river and from mountain streams. Villagers told that due to unsafe water source lots of diseases occur. To prevent seasonal diseases or water transmitted diseases, veterinary officers from commune visit the village regularly for injection but due to free-range method, many households cannot gather cattle back home for injection or just because they cannot afford for medicine.

3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 9 January 2017 with 9 participants, 3 of them were men and 6 were women. The ethnicity of the participants was Thai. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished
the 3rd grade, three the 4th grade, one the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the two last ones the 9th grade.

The list of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP
- Villagers have known about the project by village meetings held in 2015 and 2016. They know there will be a hydropower project constructed in My Ly but do not know how it will affect their lives.
- Some households took part in some discussions but the purposes were unclear to them, did not know whether it relates to the hydropower or not.
- In case if they need more information, they want village officer, commune officer or project staff to inform them and hold meetings so that they will know when the project is implemented, how villagers will be affected, how much they will be compensated?

3.2. Boat use
- The village has 46 households and 6 among them have no boat. There are two types of boats: motor boat and manual rowing boat. The motor boat is divided in three types: 13, 18 and 20 horsepower.
- There are 6 households in the village that have no boats, but they can borrow or share with others, even for fishing.
- Boats are used for navigation, fishing, hauling food and is a means of transport (visit relatives, go to school, go working, etc).
- Many households in the village use boats to buy food from Laos and return to Vietnam to sell for profit or hire boats as a means of transport.

3.3. Fishing
- 100% households go fishing. Those that do not have boat will go together with other households. When going fishing, a boat will have at least 2 people and normally are 3-4 people (especially when fishing far from home), and, therefore, households go together.
- Net fishing is done by men, while women go fishing nearby the river bank or in smaller streams and do housework, cloth waving.
- 30km away from the village is the furthest fishing are, close to the territory of Laos where there are still plenty of fish, even big fish. However, when doing fishing far from the bank, villagers spend no more than 3 nights because they do not have equipment to keep the fish alive for a long duration.
- Processing when catching lots of fish: heating, drying, making fish sauce or cooking fresh for meal.
- Fishing is considered as secondary means of living.
- Every household goes fishing to find food for family. They usually go fishing near by the river bank (fishing within the day). Villagers go fishing in dry season and when fishing for additional income they will go further.
- Caught fish is sold at the village or in Huoi Phuon. Some households in the village know middlemen and they can contact them when they have fish.
- 1-2 hour fishing will not bring a large catch, about 0.5-1kg only. When catching big fish (2kg or bigger), villagers normally spare for sale. Since the village is far from center and hardly accessible, the fish price (as well as other food) is usually lower than in other villages by 30 thousand VND or more.
3.4. **Equipment, Fish species and Habitats**

- At present no electric shock is allowed for fishing.
- Fish species caught from the river include: Hemibagrus, goby, shrimp, snail, in Laos side there are lot of eels and crabs from stream.
- The duration when fish are the most available is July, August, and September (unclear water season). In other season, households must go fishing far from village.
- Fishing tools: net, basket (for fishing around the village); fishing rod (off shore fishing).
- No abstain time or location for fishing. The turbidity season is the breeding season of fish but there is no abstain at all. Some fish species have breeding season in February, March.
- Households go to river to take algae. Along the river is reed but they do not take it. Algae is available in the period from December to January of lunar year.
- No household has ponds. Before there was household do aquaculture in stream but because of far distance from home, they could not take good care of the fish and therefore abandoned them.

3.5. **Other information and reflections**

- Compensation for affected households must be fair. At present the living source and daily livelihood of villagers attach to the river. The project implementation will cause difficulties to households.
- There shall be satisfactory and practical support to affected households in a certain period of time because the displacement of house and productive land area will require a few years before households can stabilize their living.

In future, households want to be supported for fish cage farming.

**4 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households**

(Mr.) Nguyen Van Manh & (Mr.) Dang Huu Hai

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 09/01/2017 with 10 participants, of which 07 are men and 03 are women. All of participants are Thai ethnic minority people.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

**4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP**

Villagers have known that there will be a hydropower project constructed at Xang Tren village but there is no official notice. The project information is supplied by deputy village head and by the commune People’s Committee.

Villagers know but not exactly when and how it is planned, the village will be affected by what and whether or not displacement and resettlement? Which household will be affected, whether cultivated land will be affected? When the hydropower project is constructed the village will change what? Whether compensation will be applied? And how the compensation will be?

The villagers expect that if there is resettlement, it shall be similar to what they have now, there shall be house with garden, there must be productive land with easier access, there shall be school for children at village, road shall be concreted.

By verbal information, there will be 20-30% upland land area of the village will be submerged up to housing area of the village at present situation.
4.2. **Land use**

Cultivated land area of the village is mainly upland rice area, running of 7km along Nam Non River and along streams. Each household has in total of 2-3 ha of upland land which is divided in several fields (4-5 fields) and has been reclaimed long time ago. Each upland field is cultivated for 1 or 2 crops and then leaving fallow 2-3 years before coming back.

All of cultivated land area is upland land with steep terrain making it difficult for cultivation. There is no machine and cultivation is done by traditional method, cutting tree, burning and holing, seeding. Because of sloping topography, there is no irrigation system, cultivation depends on weather.

The village has 2 ha of paddy rice owned by 1 household which is reclaimed long time ago. This paddy rice area is irrigated by self-made irrigation system.

All of upland land area as well as paddy rice area have no land use certificate, however, the land is implicated used by households tens of year ago after family reclamation.

Newly separated household will use family land, parents share land to their children because there is no more land fund for reclamation new upland land.

The village has 250ha of protective watershed forest which is controlled strictly.

Land along river: some households own land along river which are reclaimed by themselves long time ago, with no land use certificate. These land areas are mainly cultivated with vegetable, fruit tree as banana, pineapple, jack fruit, etc, some households plant cassava. Local resident, particularly women, usually go to river bank to find wild vegetable, or alga for food.

In average, each household has 0.6 ha for vegetable cultivation where they cultivate colza for family demand.

4.3. **Crops**

Main crops include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average productivity (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.0-2.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>5.0-6.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>20-25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanut</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

- **Upland rice** is main crop taking important role in daily living since it is the main food source of households. Upland rice is cultivated a crop a year with unstable productivity. It is only 1 ton/ha in some year. There is no redundant upland rice for selling, it is for family demand only, sometime even not enough. Some households who have lot of members at working age, can cultivate and harvest more rice, but there is few to sell. In average, each household sows 50-70kg/rice seed on 1-2 ha of land.

- **Hybrid maize** is cultivated one crop a year, of fair productivity because it is planted mainly in lower land area along river edge. Vegetable is mainly sold to market (90%) while the rest (10%) is used for livestock. Hybrid maize is sold for 3.5-4 thousand VND per 1kg of loosen hybrid maize. Many households cultivate on upland land, each household in average sows 20kg of seed hybrid maize, some households sow 30kg/crop/year, it means the area is up to 1.5-2ha.

- **Cassava** is cultivated on upland land area along the river, each household has 300-500 roots. Cassava is cultivated alternately with upland rice or with hybrid maize. Households who have lot of land area and member at working age plant 1000-2000 roots which is equivalent with 1-2 ha. Most of product is used for wine making and for livestock breeding.
- *Peanut* is planted mainly for selling, present price is 30 thousand VND per kg. The largest peanut cultivated land area by household is 0.5ha. Each household cultivates 5-10kg of peanut seed per crop.
4.4. Livestock

Main livestock at the time of survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>240 cows</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>10 buffaloes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>300 pigs</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>500 – 600 chicken</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In average, each household has 3-4 cattle, some households have 35-40 cattle, but death ratio is high due to diseases which cannot be cured by local resident or because agricultural extension officer came late or preventive/cure method is not updated regularly. Therefore number of cattle in village varies. Annually, cattle breeding households can sell at price of 10-12 million per a cow, buffalo price is higher at 15-20 million per buffalo.

Presently, there are some of 300 pigs in the village, each household in average breeds 5-6 small pigs and one mother pig, mainly is local pig bred and breeding by traditional mode. Number of pigs is high but the owners do not know and not sell. Pig is killed in big family event. There is few cases of selling pigs and only 1-2 pigs are sold a year.

There is a period when households in the village raise lot of poultry, each household has 20-30 poultry, but in the last year lot of chicken died due to diseases. Chicken is mainly local bred. Poultry is raised by free breeding. Poultry is bred for family demand, very few chances to sell. The chicken price is 70,000-100,000 VND per kg, if selling, a big chicken can bring back 200,000 VND per chicken.

Water sources for livestock breeding is the river and from mountain creek. Villagers told that due to unsafe water source lots of diseases occur. To prevent seasonal diseases or water transmitted diseases, veterinary officers from commune visits the village regularly for injection but due to free grazing mode, many households cannot gather cattle back home for injection or just because they cannot afford for medicine.

5 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 9 January 2017 with 9 participants, 8 of them were men and 1 were women. The ethnicity of the participants are Thai. They are at age of 47 to 71.

List of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of attendant knew about the planned hydropower project from previous meetings held on the project. However, men know better because they were invited to meetings. They suggested that there should be more meetings and other mode of information dissemination such as by means of louder speaker in their language. Every one expressed their worries on the information that they would be relocated and there shall be disturbance in their lives.

5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village has been here a long time ago before the commune was established. There were only 7-8 households, and the number expanded as it is today. There were 10 households that moved to Laos 10 year ago for business. They are Thai.

Village head is voted every 2.5 years, the voted one shall be well behaved and gifted, friendly and shall be somehow wealthy. There are 4 households doing small sized trading in the village. They trade timber, skirts to Lao and Kho Mu people. People from outside go to the village to sell clothes, pan, tray, etc…
The village has 46 households, 187 people, they are all Thai, 46 households among them are poor, 100% households are supported and given with rice.

Two people from the village are now leaders: one is party secretary and other is deputy chairman of the commune People’s Committee, these two are father and son. The village has 04 graduated people. Weaving is quite developed, but only women do.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

The village has some of 600 ha production land, and they cultivate together in teams. There are 5 production teams cultivating in different areas which are allocated and marked by streams, big trees, etc... On average each household cultivate some of 3ha. Every one plant under a common rule of the whole village. When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating within the production team which their family is member and on the same land plot, no approaching to land plot of in the same team.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating on the same plot which has been used by the whole family but not specially allocating to them. 5 years after the formation of new household then will be cultivate in separate and do it in other plot but somehow must within the defined cultivation land area.

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of a clan (big family) has no role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Annually, at about the end of February or early March, when thunder and shower appear signing of a new season, it is when Thai prepare for Xang Khan ceremony. Thunder is a sign of heavy rain. Shower is the great joy of Thai living in the region. Whenever a thunder, Thai women always hang 4 rice bundles at 4 corners of their kitchen. Thai call it “xà tấu phi”. To explain this custom, Thai say that, hanging 4 rice bundles on 4 corners of kitchen means a full rice house. At the beginning of new season, praying for good weather so everyone in the family will be good health condition. In the same time, whenever thunder appears, elder members of family such as father, mother usually use boiled egg submerging in water pot to wash faces of their children and grandchildren. Washing face with egg has special meaning, parents wish their children and grandchildren a good health and of a pure heart as the white in the egg. Particularly when the thunder of new season comes, it also means a new Xang Khan ceremony is coming. Xang Khan ceremony means connection in Thai community. Before Xang Khan ceremony lasts 2-3 days but now it is only in 1 day. The Xang Khan ceremony is a kind of Thanksgiving Day to witch-doctors who cure and save lives.

Sacred forest is 3.5 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area. The forbidden forest is located surrounding the village.

The village has its temple to worship ancestor of Thai (who established the village). Every year villagers organize worship twice at the temple. When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering river god (to bring ghost home), things to offer must include chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river.

The village worship is performed at the temple twice a year: the first worship is performed in September of lunar year when offering fruit and the second worship is performed in December of lunar year to close the year.

The village worship is performed in December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited.
Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers of Keng Du village go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays Keng Du villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor (who established the village) of Thai. When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering the river god (to bring ghost home), thing to offer must be chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river, because graveyard of the village is on the other side of the river so on the way back from ghost forest there shall be things offered to show thankful.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

The village worship is performed in December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited. The worship requires pig, or cow in a good harvest year, the first worship is performed in May of lunar year when offering fruit and the second worship is performed in October of lunar year to close the year.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident, this area will be affected, submerged by hydropower project. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

There are cultural works in the village which must be relocated such as temple, cultural house, school, but by custom, when a whole village is relocated, wizard will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temples (as described above) to inform the relocation to new place. Each household, each family will offer their own worship to invite their ancestor to go with them.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Local people must be supported in performing community ceremonies (worship at temple, graveyard) and in families when they are displaced because this is unavoidable custom to Thai.
6 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 9th January 2017 with 8 female participants. All of them are Kho Mu; one of them is illiterate; one finished the 5th grade, two the 8th grade, four the 9th grade and one the 11th grade.

Age of participants varies between 19 and 30. 7/8 are married and have 1-3 children.

Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They were informed by the project management board about the project 2 years ago and there were some survey teams that visited the village to work so they know about the planned HPP.

They knew about the planned HPP but now they wanted to know when this project is implemented so villagers can know about extent of impact, the allocation plan if they are affected.

Project information shall be public to villagers in more details by means of meeting, loud speaker, and leaflets because many villagers know Vietnamese.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Villagers are Kho Mu. There are some Thai women from other communes that marry to men in the village. Among 8 participants, 3 are Thai who got married to men in the village, they come from the same district. They are treated as if they are the same villagers. The custom of Kho Mu is different from that of the Thai but they get on quite well.

There are two households headed by women (one because husband works far away, one is single without parents or husband). No single mom or widow with small child is raised in the village.

Women in the village go out of the village 3-4 times a month, they go with husbands by motorbike to market in commune center to buy rice, food and family stuff, and sometimes they go to commune clinic for health inspection. It takes half an hour to the commune center by motorbike, or 2 hours on foot for strong people but 3 hours on foot for normal one. About 60% households in the village have no motorbike.

Besides, women go to commune center to do administrative work for their children at school, and they do it with their husband first. Then the women will do it if it is required more. Those having no motorbike or when women go themselves, they must leave early in the morning to catch up the working time at commune office.

No women work as leader in the village, no one works at commune office or at school, there is only one deputy chairwoman of Women’s Union in the village, chairwoman is from other village. The deputy chairwomen is proposed and voted by women in the village. Work and responsibility is to propaganda, mobilize other women in the village in programs organized by the commune women union or by commune authority, push up other women attending to regular meeting.

Elder women go out of the village less because their children are mature enough to do work on behalf, they stay at home to look after grandchildren, they go out of the village only when they visit relatives, or for ceremony.

6.3. Health and nutrition

The village has 4 water tanks which was constructed by the Government 7-8 years ago, which supply enough water for daily using. Villagers use water from the tank for eating and daily activities.
Children wash at the tank by mother, by grandmother or by themselves if they mature enough. In summer they bath in river, some of 100m from the village center. Adult usually bath at the tank and in the river.

Common diseases in the village: asthma, cough, diarrhoea, headache, women are headed with stomach-ache or pain in back, reason unclear. Some women can not stand the pain and inspect at clinic they are told to have gynecological diseases. Few get over the disease because they don’t take spill as bill as they can’t afford to buy. They usually treat the disease by herb which is found by villagers from forest.

In the village, there is no traditional healer who make and sell medicine, but there are 5-6 elder people who know about herb, but they ask for no money, they only help their relatives and villagers.

There is no midwife in the village, only one village health officer, who is man, but not selling medicine, he only propagandas and inject for ill people.

The commune clinic is located some of 7km far from the village, there is one doctor, one midwife and other nurses there.

There is malnutrition children but not many, some of 3-4 children seem to be smaller than age but they don’t go for inspection to find out whether malnutrition or not and which matter is lack of.

Village women usually give birth at home because it takes time to go to the commune, even when there is some difficulty, they still try to give birth at home because way to clinic is steep, hardly access, particularly in rainy season when the road is slippery, dangerous. Participants to the FDG told that many mother suffered even one week of pain but still give birth home because they feel at good health condition, they asked for experienced person, elder women to help giving birth. Women in the village are not supported in any form relating to home birth giving and they never heard about clean birth giving package.

In the last 5 years, young mothers know better when they are pregnant, they go to check when they are pregnant but not one go regularly during pregnancy because the way to clinic is so difficult, not safe to pregnant mother.

There is no case of death happen to mother or child at birth, there are some pregnant women lost their child during pregnancy due to hard working or don’t know about their pregnancy themselves. There were 3 cases like that in the last few years.

Children is vaccine injection fully every month according to injection time table of the commune, the commune health officer goes to the village to inject as the informed time table.

Annually, the district organizes gynaecological inspection and other common diseases once a year, at the commune office, all villagers from various villages are informed in previous the time table but not all of them attend to such inspection because of difficult accessibility.

In village, households normally find vegetable themselves from forest or from river bank (daily, women will be in charge for this) or they go to river bank to fish, men fish by net, small quantity will be for family using, but they will sell if they catch many so as to have money to buy tools for family or buy other kind of food.

Meal comprises of vegetable and meat, 3-4 meals a week, but not every household, about 20% of households in the village are lack of food to eat regularly, they can afford only 1-2 meals a week, children eat what adult eat.

Besides, women in the village in free time go to forest to find herb, but for daily using so as to enhance their health condition, herb as cure only known by elder women who find in the forest and keep home in case any one needs helps. Men in free time go also in forest to find herb and sell if they collect many to bring additional income for family.

Program popularing about birth giving, family planning, HIV, children education are normally combined with community meeting or other programs of the commune, no specific topic program.
6.4. **Education**

Villagers communicate with each other by Kho Mu language, when they communicate with Thai, Kho Mu (Laos) and Kinh people, they speak Thai. Communication with Kinh people to purchase goods is in Vietnamese.

Most of villagers are Vietnamese literature, but not so well because they usually stop schooling, some people forget, particularly women who contact less with the outside. It is common that elder women are illiterate (age 55 and above), those at age of 70-75 completely can not understand Vietnamese. Men know and speak Vietnamese better because they contact regularly with the outside. Purchasing, trading for family is usually decided and done by men.

There is kindergarten and primary school at the village, secondary school is at commune (some of 7km from the village), most of secondary school children go to school themselves with their friends, and they come home once a week, some children is taken school by motorbike by their parents.

High school children attend to boarding school in Muong Xen town, they come home once a month or when the school term is over, some children is pick up by parent by motorbike at weekend and return school on Sunday. Some children buy car ticket by parent money to go home or walk home.

No children leave school, in 2016, all children at school age attend the school.

6.5. **Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization**

Upland field of households in the village is located between 1km to 10km far from the village, taking half a day to walk there, some households use small boat travelling on the river then walking up to their field. Most of households have a hut at field, they walk home daily if close, but in next year when they move further they may stay at the field during harvesting time. Households whose field is far, they stay 1 month at the field, if their children are taken care by someone, they stay at the field until the harvest is done.

Beside working on the field to plant rice, corn, peanut, men also set trap to catch rat, squirrel, animal destroying their crop, or set up fence for animal grazing on field.

Some households have land along river where they plant vegetable, they plant rice, maize on upland field, plant peanut, vegetable to eat because they stay up at the field for 5 months before returning home.

Chicken, pig are raised free around the house, buffaloes, cow are raised on field or along the river, when they need to buy tools for family or when they need money for children to pay school fee they will sell cattle, poultry.

Trapped animal from forest such as squirrel, rat, boar, or fish will be for family meal, On average 4-5 meal with meat/fish a week, children will take as adults. Villagers eat fresh, because they do not have many to salted or smoked for long keeping.

Every day, women collect vegetable from forest or along the river, men go to forest to collect, exploit stump and firewood, if they can collect many they will sell it.

6.6. **Other information and reflections**

Recommendation by women group:

- Wish to know the project plan and whether villagers must be relocated?
- During resettlement, whether they are given with cash to buy food for survival? Wish to know Government policy in the case of hydropower project construction in this area.
- If hydropower project is constructed, they wish their husband, children can work as laborer to ear money for their living, and for children’s school fee.
3.6.1.3  Huoi Phuong 1 Village – 10 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date  1/10/17

Village Huoi Phuon 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<td>Pit Pho Ngoan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cat Muoi Hai</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cut Thao Thi</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Moong Pho Quang</td>
<td></td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>Use of Forest</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cut Pho On</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Aquaculture - Use of River</td>
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<tr>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<tr>
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<td>x</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Pit Van Boi</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<td>IV.</td>
<td>Woman Group</td>
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<td>Moong Thi Van</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Cut Me Lan</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<td>Moong Me Chan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cut Thi Ha</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Seo Me Nhi</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Seo Thi Phuong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Moong Thi Mo</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.</td>
<td>Elder - Ethnic Minority</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Village Summary Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

Huoi Phuon 1 village is located near the commune center, just 100 meters away and is located right at the beginning of the route to Keng Du. The distance from Huoi Phuon 1 village to the river bank is about 8 km and with very large slope. Due to the division of administrative boundaries of the Keng Du Commune People’s Committee, part of the land of the village is adjacent to the river. However, this area is almost unused.

The houses in Huoi Phuon 1 village are arranged along both sides of the road down to Keng Du and are wooden stilt houses of Kho Mu people. The distances between houses are so short that there is little land for gardening. The residential area of the village is relatively flat. Roads in the village are made of concrete, and it is possible to travel by motorbike in the village. Being close to the commune center, the village has access to basic social services such as health, education and information.

Traffic to the village is convenient. The people of the village often go to the commune center for daily shopping, hanging out with friends, or visiting relatives. There are weddings, clowns, funerals, and anniversaries, as there are also many relatives in the center of the commune. The people often go to other villages. The families with children usually travel by motorcycle; the elder walk. It is also convenient to go to the district center in Muong Xen. They do not have difficulties travelling there on foot.

There are water tanks scattered in the village. Three water tanks receive water coming from the ravines. The village has national electricity grid and has better sanitation than other villages.

1.2. Population

The village has a total of 96 households with 388 people. Nearly 100% of the households are Kho Mu. Some Thai and Kinh people are living in the village. There is no man living with their in-laws in the village;

There are 2 households headed by women; their husbands die. They are about 40 years old and their life is difficult because they have to work alone. There are no single moms in the village.

The whole village has 56 poor households (accounting for 58.3% of total households). There are 10 near-poor households. The causes of poverty in the village are: (i) soil discoloration; (ii) low labour productivity and (iii) unfavourable weather conditions, i.e., shortage of rainfall when it is sunny.
Some families suffer from hunger for 3 to 4 months.

There are many leaders in the village, but almost all of them are men. Only the chairman and vice-chairman of the Women’s Union are women.

1.3. **Village History and Migration**

Huoi Phuon 1 village, which was established around 1960, was named after the waterfall Huoi Phuon. There were initially only 22 households, then gradually developed to 96 households. There have been no relocated households to date; no households have moved, and only a few are currently working in other provinces.

There are women immigrating and emigrating for marriage.

There are 17 people working outside the village, including 10 men and 1 woman working in Ho Chi Minh City for garment companies. There are 3 people working in Malaysia and 3 others in Laos.

1.4. **Land Availability and Land Use**

**Land categories and land use**

The whole village has an area of about 270 hectares for annual crops. There are no paddy fields in the village. The upland fields are far away from the village and it takes 2.5 hours to get to there. The land is quite steep, about 40°. On average, a household has about 1ha per year for upland rice cultivation with 80kg of seed per crop. With such upland areas, households in the village report that they suffer from a shortage of land, which will become gradually more serious.

Newly-married couples receive land either from their parents or their siblings or slash and burn some forest to have land.

The households in the village still cultivate in the traditional way, which is to slash and burn the old forests and plant rice without using fertilizers. When they do that, they have to ask the commune or the village for permission. Even if the households can find some flat areas, the path to the fields is still usually very steep.

The villagers usually cultivate one crop per year on one plot and then move to the other one. After a 3-4-year fallow period they come back and continue a new crop. That period was even shorter in the past, about 2-3 years.

Slash-and-burn agriculture often depends on annual rainfall, and there has been no irrigation system in the village.

The practice of labour division in production of the villagers is still maintained. During harvests, women harvest, and men make rice storages.

On the riverside households have land, but do not plant anything on the riverbank. They use it to graze cattle.

**Residential land**

They have received land use certificates for residential land and surrounding residential areas that people do not use for cultivation. They only plant a few fruit trees for the use of the families.

**Forests**

The total area of protection forest allocated is 300 hectares. The forest is right next to the village; it takes about ten minutes on foot to reach it. The cemetery forest is about 35 minutes on foot from the village's settlement. This area is strictly protected.

Forests are used to cultivate, graze and plant some types of trees such as oak. Thai and Kho Mu in the area often plant this tree type to build houses. Each household has an average of 5 hectares of forest land.

1.5. **Livelihoods and Labour**

**Agricultural activities**

Important crops for Kho Mu are rice, maize, cassava, taro, bananas, and grapefruits.
**Upland rice:** each household grows around 50kg of seeds and one crop per year. It is said that the average yield of each quintal of seeds is 2-3 tons if the land is good. Otherwise, it might be less. The planting season is from June to August. Households grow upland rice mainly for domestic consumption; a few families sell when they need money.

In addition to cultivating the aforementioned crops, the households also cultivate vegetables on the upland fields for their food. They say that daily wild vegetables collected along the river and from the forests are not enough to feed them. Thus, they intercrop some vegetables on their fields, where there is water supply.

**Maize:** On average, each household grows from 0.5 to 1 ha with the yield of 7 - 9 tons/ha. The planting season is from May to August of lunar year. When they have good harvest, they sell some of the production.

**Peanuts:** About half of the households grow peanuts; each household plants about 1kg of seeds. The planting season is from May to August of lunar year. The yield of 1 kg of seeds is about 30-40 kg of peanuts. Households grow peanuts for their consumption. However, if money is needed, they will sell some of the production.

Some households go to the forests to collect a variety of bamboo shoots and wild banana flowers.

**Livestock breeding**

Common livestock in the village is buffalos, cows, goats, pigs, chickens, and ducks.

- **Chicken:** Some households raise 20 - 30 children, but many houses do not have any.
- **Cows:** Each household has 1-2 cows. Almost all households have cows. They sell cows when they need money, for example their children's study. Each costs from 10 to 15 million VND also depending on each cow.
- **Goats:** Each household has 5 - 7 goats. All households raise goats and sell them when money is need.
- **Pigs:** Each household has 6 - 10 pigs, at least one of which is a gilt. They only sell pigs when they need money.

The villagers use local breeds of cows, pigs and chickens and practice traditional breeding methods. New techniques have not been applied. They use stream and river water in livestock breeding.

When the livestock is infected, the commune veterinary staff will come. They vaccinate the livestock. Since the subsidized vaccines are no longer available, the households have to pay for medicine and injection.

**Fishery**

Due to the long distance to the river, the villagers do not have boats. It takes about 2 hours to get to the river, so many households have not gone fishing for a few years. Only 3 households go fishing. Mostly young or old yet fit men go fishing. They usually catch small fish, occasionally *Hemibagrus guttatus* or *Cyprinus carpio*. People often catch fish in streams such as Huoi Soc, Huoi chooc, and Nam Non. The last one is the most visited one.

**Forest based operations**

Forests in the area where villagers live include protection and production forests:

- **Protection forests:** This forest is strictly protected by many agencies such as forest protection force, the committee and the villagers. The villagers are not allowed to collect timber or hunt animals. All activities in protection forests which can cause unsafety will be intervened and dealt with in accordance with the law. Protection forests are allocated to the village, and the protection service is paid by the State annually.

- **Production forests:** These forests are under the management of the local authority. This is the main forest that creates jobs and facilitates the villagers’ cultivation. The households work together in the production forests but have no land use right certificates because this area is not allocated to each family. During the fallow periods, this forest is also the main livestock grazing area of households.
The villagers use forest products for a variety of purposes:

- Timber is used for construction of houses and ranches as well as fences around production areas. There are more houses for sale to those in need. Timber is harvested when the households want to build a new house. When people have the need to collect timber, they only need to inform the village head. However, they can only collect timber in production forests but protection forests. Some households have to store timber for 2-3 years in order to have enough to build a house because the amount of available wood is quite limited at the moment.

- Wild animals and vegetables such as bamboo shoots, mushrooms, and Auriculariales are collected for food. Some are eaten when they are raw without being processed. Some have to be boiled, fried, or dried. Mushrooms, wild vegetables and bamboo shoots are the most frequently collected during the rainy season from July to August each year. They also collect Thysanolaena latifolia to make brooms.

- Herbs are used to treat diseases. The villagers sell some when they can collect much. The herbs commonly found here are Balanophora fungosa, Stemona tuberosa, Ganoderma lucidum.

- Dry branches are used as firewood.

The sacred forest area is the cemetery, where no one is allowed to make any infringements. It is their tradition that graves cannot be removed.

Local people hunt mice, Rhizomyinae, birds, snakes, squirrels, Muntiacus, and wild boars. Those who go to the forests regularly can have meat of wild animals every day. Those who do not go to the forests frequently have meat twice to three times a week.

**Table of forest products and their use**

| Forest products | Frequency | Seasons | Amount (if available) | Significance 1=the most important | For sale Yes/No | Selling price/kg or /item (if for sale)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoots</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>Once or three times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushrooms</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auriculariales</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savories</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbal plants</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When a house is built</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500,000-35,000,000/m3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/item</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1,500.000/item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muntiacus</td>
<td>Once every</td>
<td>Year-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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## Forest products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Seasons</th>
<th>Amount (if available)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Selling price/kg or /item (if for sale)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>one – three months</td>
<td>round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snakes</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild boars</td>
<td>Once every six – twelve months</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150,000/kg</td>
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<td>Rhizomyinae</td>
<td>Once or twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Other livelihoods

The women also weave. The villagers often go to the forest to collect rattans to make items such as tables, chairs, and landing nets.

There are 5 young traders. They buy goods and deliver them to the remote villages in the commune and neighbouring communes.

4 households have stalls in the market of Keng Du commune.

17 young men work in textile industry or wood manufacturing in Ho Chi Minh City and Laos.

### Education

The communication language is Kho Mu, but they all can speak Vietnamese when it is needed. The old people do not speak Vietnamese as fluently as the young ones, so it is a common practice here that all the meetings are held in Kho Mu.

All women aged under 40 in the village are able to read and write Vietnamese as they learn to read. Those aged over 40 are less able to read and write in Vietnamese, but still understand and can communicate; only writing is difficult. Every year village female leaders are invited to the commune for training on legal issues, gender equality or domestic violence, and then disseminate the information later to other villagers.

The village has a primary school and a kindergarten, so children go to school very easily. Other versions also have classes in the village. The secondary boarding school is built near the primary school. Thus, the children can access it easily, too. When entering high school, they have to go to the district and rent accommodation there.

Primary students are less likely to drop out of school. There is an increase in the number of drop-outs after graduation from secondary school, regardless whether they are boys or girls (aged 12-15). The main reason is they have to work with parents.

### Health and Health Care

There are some water tanks in the village. Previously, the villagers used to use the tank water for eating and bathing. One tank is broken and has no water. They do not suffer from a shortage of water during rainy season. However, they have to go to take water from a stream about 2km far from the village in dry season. In winter women take water to bathe their children at home; in the summer, some take a bath at the tank while some take water to have a bath at home. Sometimes some go to take a bath in streams.

Women often suffer from the diseases such as headache, fever and tiredness. There used to be some epidemics, but they no longer appear again. Children also have diseases such as diarrhoea and dental diseases. Every year, the clinic informs the women that they can go there for some gynaecological examinations. Some people do not go to the clinic. There might be
more people suffering gynaecological diseases, but the figure is unknown because it is not informed. People go to the clinic when they are sick, especially the old people and children.

The women in the village usually deliver birth at home. Only difficult cases will be send to the clinic or hospital. There are some midwives in the village. They assist childbirth for no money. Sometimes the mother, sister or even husband acts as midwives during child delivery. At present, more women deliver birth at the commune clinic and hospital. The clinic is only 15 minutes on foot far from the village.

Women now have regular prenatal examinations at the commune clinic during pregnancy. For some recent years there have been no cases of maternal death during child delivery.

There are also some drug users in the village. Most of them are young, but the number is unknown. The FGD participants said that there were no HIV / AIDS victims; however, they are no certain about it.

It is observed that in general children are fit. Some suffer from malnutrition but seem quite small. The accurate figure is unknown.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

Kho Mu of the village do not have to do any rituals before choosing the land. They do not have to do any riturals when they slash and burn the forests.

The sacred forest area is 10 hectares large. It is prohibited to collect wood and hunt. However, it is allowed to graze livestock there. The cemetery is about 15 minutes on foot far from the village and can not be flooded.

1.9. Gender Issues

The Khomu women of the village only go out for funerals or weddings even though they are close to the centre of the commune. They usually stay home and work on the field. They work with their husbands on the fields from May to November, just coming home at the weekend.

All family decisions are made by men. Women speak fluently Vietnamese and communicate better than those in Hat Ta Van, Keng Du or Huoi Xui villages. Women also take the initiative to get loans from the Women's Union to develop their household economy.

The women in the village are still struggling to have boys for the family of her husband since the domestic ceremonies will be performed by men. They prepare food on those special occasions because it is believed that women are not "clean" to cook for ancestors and divinities.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

Organizations in the village

Official associations are the Women's Union, the Farmers' Association, the Veterans Association, the Elderly Household, the Youth Union, the Party Cell and the Fatherland Front. The leaders of these associations will, in principle, be elected by the members, but often receive a strong suggestion from the authorities.

Socio-economic programs

Program 135 was implemented in 2005. 100% of the households have received cows. However, 65% of the provided cows died due to the extreme weather conditions in the area. 5 households received goats; each has 5 goats. 50 households received chickens; each has 10 chickens.

Program 30A supports 10 households. Each household gets a loan of 5 million VND and gets 37 million for free.

There are 45 households borrowing credit with the scale from 15 to 30 million with the interest rate of 0.65%.

Often there are charity delegations from Hanoi to Keng Du to support warm clothes, warm blankets;

The government supports the poor households to eat every year with the rate of 6kg per capita and the Tet holiday of 100,000 per household.
1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

According to the FGDs’ participants, the women have not heard about the project. Only the men know that a hydropower plant is going to be built in Nhan Ly. Nonetheless, they do not know which villages or households will be affected.

Some people heard that some Westerners came and made a project file.

People want to know the details of how the project will be built, what are the impacts, where will be flooded, whether the households will be relocated, whether they will have houses there and how they start their new life there, whether it is better.

The project officer should come directly to talk to the people about the project and the policies that are related to the people.

1.12. Additional Issues

The village is quite far from the river and also in a high area, so it is unlikely to be affected by the hydropower project concerning resettlement or impacts. Part of their riverine land will be affected, but this area is almost unused.

2. **Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources**

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 09/1/2017 with 11 participants, of which 8 are men and 03 are women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Participants said they know about planned HPP in Nhan Ly village, the project will take form Huoi Xui to Keng Du. The planned HPP will not allow to do upland cultivation, building house, water will raise and impact all. The heard about foreigner came and the project has been prepared with papers at village. Villagers were invited for a meeting on the planned HPP and comments on the project. But they do not know anything else about the HPP. Such information is not enough for villagers about hydropower project, so as to move on with work and living.

They expected to know about compensation, how they will be affected, when moving, whether the affected cultivation land and house will be compensated or given with a replacement? How large the replacement. When is the next meeting on hydropower so they can know clearly about the project. They also wish that information shall be in writing, sketch for better understanding.

2.2. Forest use

Participants said that, forest is large, supplying many things to villagers, it protects human. They usually go to forest for various purposes:

- Men go to forest for hunting, exploiting timber, visiting upland fields, raised animal, harvesting;
- Women go to forest to collect daily firewood, sometime they go 2-3 times a day. Women go to forest to collect vegetable, bamboo shoot, herb, mushroom, etc…

Forest is not so far from the village, it takes only some of 5 minutes on foot. The village is surrounded by forest, only the ghost forest is the furthest taking 20-25 minutes to go to.

Forest in the area where they live comprise of two types: protection and production forests:

- Protection forest is strictly protected by many forces such as forest guard, commune and villagers. Villagers are not allowed to exploit timber, hunting in such forest. Every activities violating the protection forest causing unsafe will be treated and punished under the law. Protection forest is handed over to the whole village for protection and they are paid for that annually by the Government.
- Production forest is also under control by the Government and local authorities. This is forest creating job and where they perform cultivation for their living. Households in the village cultivate in production forest, not yet land use right certificate and not allocating specifically to each household. Villagers cultivate one crop a year and then leave fallow in 5-6 years before coming back. They do not use fertilizers, soil is not so good because of sloping, so they must leave fallow in some year to make soil better before coming back. During the fallow time they raise their livestock there.

Product from forest is used in various purposes by villagers:

- Timber is for house building, making animal farm, fence, or selling to those want it if they have in extra. Timber is exploited only when they want to build house and in that case they are required to inform to the village head, but they can only exploit from production forest only, not from protection forest. Some households must buy gradually from Lao and keep for 2-3 years before getting enough for a house because in pastureland there is not enough timber for villagers for new house.

- Wild animal and vegetable such as bamboo shoot, mushroom are used in daily meal. Some types they use fresh, some must boil, dry, smoke before using. Hunting and collecting forest product is only done when they need. Mushroom, vegetable, bamboo shoot are exploited the most in rainy season, about July, August annually. They collect also thysanolaena latifolia to make broom.

- Villagers collect also herb to cure, and sell if they collect many. Depends on each disease herb will be processed differently such as dry, heat, grinding, etc… Some herbs are used to boil and drink every day, some to put in wine, some used to cover on the open hurt. Herb is available all around the year, and many in forest: Balanophora fungosa, Stemona tuberosa, Lingzhi mushroom, spicy herb, etc…

- Villagers also collect firewood.

2.3. Hunting

Participants said that, there are many animal live in forest such as rat, bamboo rat, bird, snake, squirrel, sometime deer, boar...

Hunting is done when they need meat for their meal. Animal hunted normally are rat, snake, bamboo rat. These species they catch all the year. But very few villagers found and hunted deer. Boar is only hunted during harvesting period when they come from deep forest to destroy the crop.

Hunted animal is sold too, including rat, bamboo rat, those are abundant species in the forest. Villagers will sell hunted animal to whom in need, in and outside the village.

Tools for hunting are mainly trap, crossbow, catapult, and net. Gun is prohibited by the Government.

Who visit forest frequently will have meat for daily using, those are lazy in hunting will have meat to eat every 2-3 days.
### Forest products and usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=least important</th>
<th>Foe sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>5-10.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herb</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When build house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>500-35 M/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day or in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-50.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-50.000/rat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-1.500.000/bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>once a month or in 3 months</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>once in 6 months or 12</td>
<td>Harvest season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

**Mr. Le Manh Hung**

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 7 participants, of which 7 were men and none were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnic minority people. Among them one is illiterate; one finished the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the three last ones the 9th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

**3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP**

They have just heard about the planned HPP, some villagers heard about foreigner came to do the project. Before they were told not to do cultivation in Huoi Chop area, no upland cultivation, or house building will allowed, because water will raise up and impact all. They knew about the planned HPP, but how it will impact, how far the water will go, they do not know.
Villagers expect to know more detail about project, how it will be constructed, how far the extent of impact/submergence, if being relocated, whether they will be constructed house? Or build themselves, how new lives in new area, is it similar here? Is it better? How their livelihood will be affected? How compensation will be done?

They expected that information should be from someone responsible such as village officer, commune officer or people relating to the project. The best way is a meeting with villagers to inform them.

3.2. Boat use

Villagers do not have boat.

They do not use boat for travelling. They go by road, because the village is located just at the commune center. There is no bus to go to the district.

3.3. Fishing

Fishing is done mainly by young villagers and elder men, only strong ones can do it.

Normally found small fish, rarely catch carp, Hemibagrus guttatus.

Not many villagers go fishing, only 3 households do it. Villagers do not go fishing, there are some people have not go fishing for 2-3 years because the river is too far away. It takes 2 hours on foot to get to Nam Non River.

When fishing, they do in Nam Non River, Huoi Soc stream, Huoi Chooc stream. There are 3 small streams, they prefers Nam Non stream.

They go fishing any time regardless to season, whenever they have free time. But fish is not so abundant so it has no meaning fishing in season but they go fishing less in cold weather because they cannot stand the cold.

They go fishing 1 day if they need to eat, but they go only once in every 10 days, because distance is too far. And fish catch very few.

Fishing for family eating only, no selling because fish is very few, before there were lot but now they use electric shock so there is no more fish.

Caught fish is fired, cooking, big fish will be used to prepared special dish, but rare.

Fish is not daily meal, they eat sticky rice, rice, for daily, sometime with pork, rat, fish is rare.

Fish species are small size fish, big ones are Hemibagrus guttatus, carp, shrimp...

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

Before men went fishing by two means, net and bucket, sometime use bucket to fish in streams, and can fish 1kg of fish in lucky day.

There are small size fish species, Hemibagrus guttatus, carp, shrimp. Villagers do not know spawn season of fish, they catch only normal fish, not ever take not to habit of fish species. Villagers only know they can fish any time during a year, in low water season, it is easy to fish but fish is not many and no big fish. In high water season, there are many fish, but hard to catch due to rapid and deep water. They do not know where is fish spawn, if they do they will go there to catch all. River here is deep, rapid flow so they have no idea about fish spawn.

They do not use river bank for cultivation.

Very few households collect vegetable from river bank, they plant on upland fields because it is too far to the river.

3.5. Other information and reflections

There is no ritual relating to the river, no fishery, and fishing is limited because of far distance from the river. They fish some small size fish from stream for their families needs only.

There are 5 villagers work outside as laborer (3 men, 2 women), they go to make clothes, coffee farm, some come back once every year, some every 2-3 years.
No social diseases, no drug dependence, no HIV.

4 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 11 participants, of which 8 were men and 3 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnic minority people.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Approaching to information by villagers about hydropower project is different, participants to the FGD said that women never heard about the planned project, men just knew about hydropower project in Nhan Ly village. Men said: they heard that from Huoi Xui to Keng Du, there is Huoi Chop area where no upland cultivation, or house building will allowed, because water will raise up and impact all. That is all information they have and knew nothing else but only there will be a hydropower project, but how it will impact, how far the water will go, they do not know.

Some villagers heard about foreigner came and the project has been prepared with papers.

Villagers expect to know more detail about project, how it will be constructed, how far the extent of impact/submersion, if being relocated, whether they will be constructed house? Or build themselves, how new lives in new area, is it similar here? is it better?

Project staff should come and talk directly with villager so as they can ask about the project and policies to which they are benefited.

4.2. Land use

Villagers lives on upland cultivation, no double crop paddy land as in other villages. It takes 2.5 hours from the village to their upland fields where sloping and steep. Each household has some of 1ha for upland rice cultivation and they use about 80kg of seed per one crop.

With such land area, but villagers still confirm that land is lack, a lot, because it is getting crowded day by day (before, there are only 22 households, now it is 96 households, no immigration from other places to the village at all).

Normally, when cutting tree for upland cultivation, villagers do not have to ask for permission from the commune or village if it is within the allocated land plot, but if it is in prohibited are, they must ask for permission. Preparing upland field must be done by selecting type of soil, black, reddish black, or soil in deep forest.

Forestry land used for slashed and burned cultivation has not been given with land use right certificate, only house which has been issued with use right certificate.

In case of young couple who just married and live independent, some household they have spare cultivation land for children and share with them after marriage, residential land must buy.

Households in the village cultivate by traditional methods, which means slash and burn cultivation in deep forest, they cultivate without fertilizer, machine or cow to help at all because access to upland field is difficult and sloping.

Upland field is cultivated one crop a year then they move to other land area to cultivate, leaving fallow in 3-4 years before coming back. Participants to the FGD said that, in deep forest area (reddish black soil, which is good soil), they return every 2-3 years for 1 crop.

Upland field depends on weather, no irrigation system in the village.

Villagers still maintain labor exchange habit until now. In Harvest, women cut rice, men prepare hut to keep rice.
Along river, households have land, but participant to FGD said that they do not cultivate on land along the river, but they raise cattle there. This land is far from the village.

4.3. Crops

Important crops to Kho Mu is rice, maize, cassava, taro, banana, pomelo, etc...

Upland rice: 1 crop a year, each household use some of 30-50kg seeds, big size family and having large land will cultivate 80kg seed, On average each quintal of seed give 2-3 ton of rice if soil is good, and less if soil is bad. They start cultivation from June and harvest in September calendar year. Household cultivate rain-fed rice for their own demand, few number of household sell when they need money.

Households plant also vegetable on upland field for family needs, they said vegetable collected from forest and along river is not enough for them so they plant vegetation such as mustard green, spinach, onion on upland field and areas nearby water source to feed their families.

Maize: On average, each household plant 0.5-1.0 ha, yield 7-9 ton/ha. They plant in May-August of lunar year. Almost all households plant maize for livestock, but in good harvest year, they can sell to traders.

Peanut: About half of households in the village plant peanut, each households plants some of 1kg seed, planting in period between May-August of lunar year. Each 1kg of peanut seed will give some of 30-40 kg green peanut. Households plant peanut for family food, and similar to rice, they will sell if they need cash.

Some households go to forest to collect bamboo shoot (various type of bamboo shoot) and wild banana flower.

4.4. Livestock

Villagers raise buffalo, cow, goat, pig, chicken, duck, etc...

- Chicken: On average each household raise 20-30 chicken, many households do not raise any.
- Cow: 1 – 2 cow per household, most of households have cow, they sell when they need cash.
- Goat: 5-7 goats per household, all households in the village raise goat, they sell when they need cash.
- Pig: 6-10 pig per household, of which there is at least 1 mother pig, to sell when they need cash.

Pig, cow, chicken breeds are local ones, raising by traditional method, not yet applying new technique in breeding activities. Water sources for livestock is from creek, river.

When disease occurs to livestock, commune veterinary officer will come, vaccine is for free, cure drug must buy and villager must pay for injection.

The village has hunger households, there are 50% poor households. In drought year, they lack food for 3-4 months. Certified poor households are supported with many programs from the Government such as giving young cattle, and they are supported with rice every year: 15kg/individual x number of household member x 12 months.
6  Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 11 participants, all men and none women. The ethnicity of the participants was Kho Mu. They are at age of 40 to 80.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1  Awareness about the planned HPP

They have heard about the planned HPP. They heard about a hydropower project in Nhan Ly, some where from Huoi Xuoi to Keng Du. They were told not to do cultivation in Huoi Chop area, no upland cultivation, or house building will allowed, because water will raise up and impact all. They do not know anything else. There are 96 households in the village, all of them are Kho Mu.

6.2  Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

Kho Mu live here for long time, their grand parents, great grand parents and great great grand parents lived here. Huoi Phuon village is named as Huoi Phuon ravine. Huoi is from Thai language and Phuon is Kho Mu language. There were 22 households at first then expanding, no households immigrate here from outside.

There are 96 households in the village (100 % Kho Mu) with 388 individual.

This is the eldest person in village, ask him about custom, habit, for good day of wedding. His name is Sieng.

Besides residential land area, the village has cultivation land, forest, mountain, ravine, pastureland, graveyard, roads. Every members live there are allow to exploits, use natural resources for living, but they will lose the right when they move to other place. Border between villages are formed using natural features such as stream or path, peak or big tree. However such demarcation line is only symbol, villagers of this village can cultivate on land of other village without punishment. Village of Kho Mu gathers by family relationship, it means a village can have many families from different clans. Each village has 3-4 clans, but sometime up to 9-10 clans. Of which one or two clans are large and they are usually the first one arrived and set up the village, but not because of large number that they can get over control the rights of other clans.

6.3  Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Forestry land used for upland cultivation is not net given by the Government with land use right certificate, only for residential land, not yet upland field. Upland field can be any where up to their like but must be within production forestry area and except protection forest where they are prohibited.

When reclaiming upland field, they select good land area, deep forest, flat, planting without fertilizer. Seeding, harvesting completed before worship. New rice ceremony is offered in November of lunar calendar year. In month of seeding, they offer village worship with a big pig or a cow. By December when the harvest almost come, they worship once more, every 1-2 years. Worship is offered once before seeding, and once at harvesting. Habit of exchanging working labor is still kept. Women harvest, men build hut.

Villagers live on upland cultivation, rain-fed rice, rain-fed maize cultivation, no paddy field. It takes about two hours and a half to field, quite far. Big family of some 10 individual owns some of 100 m2 or 150m2. If cultivate they use 1 quintals or 80 kg of seeds

Of course villagers lack of land, many, lots. Before they did not lack, when less people, large land. Upland reclamiation is not required permission from commune, only do if within prohibited area, not within the permitted land area.
Important crops to Kho Mu is rice, maize, cassava, taro, banana, pomelo, buffaloes, cow, chicken, pig, duck.

They cultivate one crop a year, however early or late crop. Before use out of date, now the social develops, they get to modern to. Before one quintals of seed can harvest 2-3 tons, good soil, now the rice yield is less. They switch there upland field every one year. This is at this location, next year will be other, and the return back after 3-4 years. 10kg of seeds in good soil can harvest 1 ton, but not with bad soil. Last year they used 60 kg of seed and harvested 25 bags, each bag weight 50kg. It means 1 ton.

In the village there is hunger people, a lot, almost the whole village, when drought lasts long, no harvest because of no rain, hunger period lasts up to 3-4 months. They prepare land in March, plant in May, June and harvest in about November. Hunger is not only in one year.

Vegetable is planted, not being collected from forest, but they collect bamboo shoot, many types, from forest. They also collect wild banana flower from forest, in general speaking, there are squirrels, weasels, rat but not others. There are many types of other products which are a lot, such as stemona tuberosa, seed root such as cassava, yam roots which are 2-3m under the ground.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

In case of new married couple, it depends whether their parents have spare land for them, otherwise they have to buy residential land, cultivation will be done up to them in the forest area they like. Reclamation shall be done in selected soil, it should be black soil, black red soil, in deep forest. They do not offer worship before selecting land, when cutting forest, they offer worship only when seeding, and before harvesting. Worship offers chicken or a small pig. New rice worship is in November.

Role of elders/leader in land system

No role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Kho Mu think that: every activities in daily life of human are supervised by super natural forces. Such “super natural forces” includes 4 types: the biggest, respective and scariest is “Heaven god” (hrôî lvang). Heaven god is supported and helped by staff including thunder god, wind/rain god among which the most important is Thunder god (Chũmrâî), the second is land god (hrôî ptê), below land god is upland field god (hrôî hrê), forest god (hrôî bri), village god (hrôî cung)… The third is (prûd ông) monster serpent, representing water resource, river, stream. The fourth is tiger god (rvai) king of the forest controlling every animal. Those are four important gods who are offered in any worship and ceremonies. These four gods together with household ghost and ancestor ghosts (of family, clan) can punish or support people any time depending on how they behave. Besides are other gods which may harm people such as “wader ghost” “premature ghost”, “stomach age ghost”, etc…

Sacred forest is 03 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

Rituals: before seeding Kho Mu offer worship to land god at upland field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and new rice worship (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor of Kho Mu. Every year Kho Mu organize worship twice at the temple.

The village worship is performed in July and November annually, representatives from households will joint, the worship is performed at the village fate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year.

Ghost forest (graveyard) is located on the other side of the river, and they do not have habit of exhumation. If graveyard is submerged, they offer a worship at the village temper to inform the ghost forest god then go to forest to invite the god and ghosts to new place.
Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values
There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.
In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

6.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places
Sacred places in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river
Each village has its temple to worship ancestor (who established the village) of Kho Mu.
Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants
The village worship is performed in July and November annually, representatives from households will joint, the worship is performed at the village fate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year.
Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.
Graveyard of the village is some of 15 minutes on foot far away. If the village is submerged all, ghost worship must offer. The village is here for long time, many death are there now. It will cost some of 15 million VND for the whole village to offer a common worship, families will offer their own worship.
Ghost worship must offer pig and drug if the death is drug dependence when alive. Wealthy family can offer worship with buffalo.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.
If being affected, villagers have selected themselves a new place to live but there is no water there. Any villagers must inform the village god before doing any thing. Every year, the village offer two worship in July (seeding season) and in November (Harvest).
Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition
Local people must be supported in performing community ceremonies (worship at temple, graveyard) and in families when they are displaced because this is unavoidable custom to Kho Mu.

6.5. Other information and reflections
Due to situation at site and there was no people to inform villagers previously so attendants to the FGD were men only, no women, therefore comments from women were not collected.

7 Report from FGD with Women
Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD
The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10th January 2017 with 08 female participants. All of them are Kho Mu; one of them is illiterate; one finished the 2nd grade, one finished the 6th grade, three the 9th grade and one the 12th grade and one graduated from teacher junior college.
List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

7.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All FGD participants said that they know about the planned HPP and so villagers. However, villagers do not know in detail, how big is the project, who will be affected, what will be affected, whether they are relocated and where to if does.

Villagers know about the project from village meeting and from commune meeting.

Women expect before the project implementation, the Investor as well as local authorities shall public in detail information about what they will be affected, whether will be compensated? Is compensation fair? (they wish to know about compensation policy).

If project is implemented, writing document shall be sent to villagers, describing the project and clarifying the project policy. Information in Vietnamese is just fine because youth and children at school age can read for their parent and elder people. Besides, meeting should be held to as villagers questions and comment will be explained and answered by authority officers.

7.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Almost 100% villagers are Kho Mu ethnicity. There are women from outside married to men here. There are Thai, Kinh women married to Kho My men by not many, they met each other at work then married and moved here to live. There are also women met their husband at work and moved out to other village, commune, sometimes to other province, but they can not count. Number of women married to other ethnicity men are limited. There is no man move here because of marriage to woman in the village.

There are women who are head of household because their husbands died. There are two of them and they are at age of 40, their lives are difficult, because they have to work all along. There is no single mother in the village, not ever. They do not know whether there is in other village.

The village is near commune center, only 100m away so women visit the commune center daily to buy things, go out with friends, visit relatives. They visit each other whenever there is wedding party, birthday, funeral, death anniversary in the village or in other villages. It depends on wealthy of the household to go on foot or by motorbike, young people go by motorbike, elders go on foot. Villagers also go to the Muong Xen district town for school parent meeting. There is no difficulties in accessibility. Just they want to go or not.

There are many men work as commune officers, but only men do. Only head and vice head of women union who are voted by women in the village to be behalf of them to get information and fight for their rights if needed.

7.3. Health and nutrition

There are public water tanks in the villages. Before they use water from tanks for drinking, washing and bathing. Now one tank has broken. Reason is unclear to them, they just notice no water going down to the tank for them to use. No shortage water in rainy season but it is in dry season when villagers must go to a ravine of some 2km far away to take water for using. Villagers go to water tanks to take water for daily lives, washing is done at the tank. In winter time women take water home for bathing, in summer, some of them bath at the tank, young ones take water (by plastic piping) home for batching. Sometimes they go bathing in the ravine.

Common diseases in the village are normal ones. Women usually suffer from headache, fever, recently there is no more diseases. Some children have diarrhoea, tooth age but not many, only some cases because of bad taken care not a disease. Annually women are noticed by clinic for gynecological inspection. Some go, some not. How many women suffer gynecological diseases are unknown, this is only the commune clinic knows. When they are ill they have to go health check and find a cure themselves. Go to health inspection are mainly young one, the elders go to the clinic only when they are sick.

Before most of women deliver babies at home, only those having difficult go to clinic or hospital. In the village there are some women acting as midwives but they do it for helping each other.
only. Sometimes mother-in-law, sister or mother helps their daughter in delivering babies. A woman said she gave birth to all of her 7 children at home because she afraid of operation. An operation when giving birth means no housework can be done. But now more and more young women deliver at the commune clinic or hospital.

Young women also go to clinic for regular inspection during pregnancy period so recently no dead at bird. There is midwife at the commune clinic to help normal case, but hard case is transported to district hospital at Muong Xien town. The commune clinic is close to the village, taking only 15 minutes, therefore no need quack.

There are drug dependences in the village, mainly young one, but number is not known. There is no HIV/AIDS case, there may be in other village but they do not know. They do not know well about HIV because they have no information.

Children now have more thing to eat so most of them strong, there is few number of small one who may be suffer the malnutrition. Most of families are free from hunger, only when harvest is bad but if it is, the Government will support by rice. There is some poor households in the village who lack of rice for 2 months a year, those people are supported with rice from the Government.

7.4. Education

Daily communication in the village is in Kho Mu language, and they speak Vietnamese when they communicate with Kinh people. Elder people speak Vietnamese more difficult than young ones so whenever meeting, the village head speaks their ethnic language for easy understanding.

All of women under age of 40 in the village can read and write thanks to education. There are few women those are older than 40 can read and write fluently Vietnamese but they can understand and communicate, only difficult in writing. There are some understand speaking Vietnamese but cannot speak fluently. It happens to men also but number of women is more (no statistic number). Annually the village women officer is invited to commune for training on law, gender equality or family violence. Women officer after meeting will tell other women in the village.

The village has primary school, kindergarten so children are easy to go to school. Other villages also have classes at village. A boarding secondary school is constructed next to primary school and it takes some minutes to go there. But high school is at district town and children must stay boarding for school.

There are few children leave primary school, but number of those doing this at secondary school age is higher due to family difficulty so they have to leave school to work with their parents (mainly at age of 12-15). Both male and female children leave school.

7.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

It takes 2-3 hours to arrive at the production area of the village. Villagers can use motorbike to places close to their upland field then walking there, but not many do that because they afraid their motorbike would be stolen. It is also because they normally stay up long at the fields so they prefer walking. The village is lack of production land, each household has 1ha for cultivation. In cropping season, they stay there the whole day to prepare land, cutting grass, planting rice, maize. If not the season, they go there to take vegetable. They sell if they have a lot and when they need money. The product is mainly for family demand. Because of limited residential land, planting of vegetable around the house is limited too.

There are some households fishing along the river, small fish only, for family demand only. But they can not name fishes because they know only in Kho Mu language, not in Vietnamese. Land along river bank is sloping and mixed with rock so no plant there. They also take vegetable from land along river but not many.

The village territory runs down to the river bank but villagers live focus above. It takes half an hour by motorbike from the village to the river bank but can not go if raining.

Before women go to forest to take firewood, dig stemona tuberosa roots and sell to people in Muong Xien but no many now. Living standard is now improved much. Households have 3
meals a day depending on each household, but many households have meat every 3-4 days. There are some hunger households who suffer hunger for about last 2 months of a year. These households are supported by the Government. Last year, when harvest was bad and no yield, all of them are supported by the Government.

7.6. Other information and reflections

The village is located just next to the commune center. Villagers live focus and close to each other so almost all households have no garden. Population is quite flat. Inter-village road is concreted and accessible by motorbike. Thanks to position which is close to the commune center, accessibility to basic social services such as health care, education, communication of villagers comparing to others is much more favorable.

3.6.1.4 Hat Ta Ven Village – 13 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date 1/13/17

Village Hat Ta Ven

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Agriculture and Livestock Breeding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Luong Pho Ngoan</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Pit Me Du</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>Use of Forest</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Luong Pho Nom</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cut Pho Dia</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Aquaculture - Use of River</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<tr>
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<td>x</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tang Me Lan</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Village Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

### 1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

Hat Ta Ven is located 5km of road far from Keng Du Commune. The access road to the village is made of concrete, and the roads within the village are cemented. It stands about 8km far from the river and at least 300m higher than the level of river water. Due to the administrative division of the villages using streams, some villages have some land along the river.

The houses in the village are allocated quite densely. Each house stands about 5-10m far from the other. Due to the population growth and the populous status of the village, it is re-dividing residential areas in accordance with the program on residential area expansions of Nghe An Province. There will be about 50 households moving to the new residential area that is about 700m far from the previous area and closer to the river.

There is sufficient infrastructure including community house, primary school, kindergartens in previous and new residential areas.

It is about 3km from the village to the market and 70km to the district-level hospital.

The village is using the national grid.

The village has tanks of clean water, which were built in 2005. There is already electricity in the new residential area; however, clean water has just been led to the taps but no tanks have been built yet.

There are about 50% of all households that have built toilets outside the houses.
1.2. Population

There are 130 households with 622 Kho Mu in the village. There are 324 males and 298 females. It is impossible to calculate the working age population. The number of poor households in the commune are 98, and there are 2 near-poor households.

The whole village faced a serious lack of food in 2016 due to the harvest failure. There are normally 60% of poor households (about 67 households) lack of food every year. 98 poor households usually receive rice subsidy from the government. They are also sent 100,000VND/household for Tet holidays. The near poor households do not receive anything.

The cause to poverty of the village is the low yield, crop failure due to bad weather, lack of water and poor soil. Moreover, the people cannot use fertilizers due to the slope of the region, so the sold cannot recover fast. There are no redundancies of products to sell.

Hitherto many women have immigrated to the village due to marriage; some female villagers have also migrated to other villages, communes, districts or provinces for the same reason. Two Laotian women have come to the villages since they got married to the male villagers that went to Lao PDR to work. These women belong to E De ethnic minority group. There are no men that got married to the female villagers and decided to live here.

There are 8 widows in the village. All of them are at the age of 30-40. There are also 3 single mothers raising children aged less than 9. They all are aged 20-22 and were cheated so got pregnant. The men, however, did not want to get married later. The single moms are living with their parents at present. They have not faced much discrimination. There is no discrimination or stigmatization.

1.3. Village History and Migration

Hat Ta Ven villagers have been living here for a long time. The village is named after the biggest stream in the village. It was officially established in 1962. The villagers said that all Kho Mu villages in Keng Du Commune originated from Hat Ta Ven. Thus, they have relatives in almost all other villages in the commune.

Due to the large population and limited residential area, Nghe An Provincial People's Committee has levelled a new area that is located 700m downhill in order to separate the village.

There are 24 villagers working far from home, including 8 girls and 16 boys. They all went to Quang Nam to dig gold.

There are 6 young villagers going to China. They all are at the age of 18-25 and have gone for about 2 years. They have not been in touch with the families.

No Kho Mu villagers get married to Kinh or Thai. However, there are Kho Mu women got married to those of other villages but in the same commune. Some got married to Kho Mu women from other areas. There are not many people coming from other districts.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

The total arable land of the village is 3,000ha. The arable land of the whole village is swidden land with the slope from the river upwards. This area is located 2-6km downhill from the village. Each household has 4ha of production land on average.

Swidden land

There is 450ka of land for planting rice every year. 600ha of land is for maize, about 1000ha for cassava, and 600ha for vegetables. These figures were estimated by the village’s head. They are not absolutely accurate since the villagers also practice intercropping.

Residential land

This area is not large. Each household has 100m2 of land and the distance between their houses is about 5-10m.

Garden land
There is almost no garden. They plant almost nothing in front of the house or next to the house. Some have one or two mango trees or Artocarpus heterophyllus.

They cultivate within 2 years and then leave the land lie fallow in 3-4 years. Those lack of land leave the plot in about 2 years only.

The land along the river is allocated to 4 production teams. The heads of production teams are the village’s head and his vice, the secretary of the Party’s Cell and the police. The teams receive the same-size plots and then allocate it to the households. Each household plants there 1-2 years, and then the next household. The villagers plant vegetables in this area because it is quite far from the village and hard to plant any staple crops.

The commune has a different official land allocation system. The management board has the authority to allocate only the land along the river.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Most of the crops are rice, hybrid maize and cassava. The arable land and the specific yields are presented in the following table:

1. Crops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice 450 ha</td>
<td>2.5-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize 600 ha</td>
<td>3.5-4.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava 1000 ha</td>
<td>20-25</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice: The average area is 1.5-2.0 ha. The villagers plant both non-glutinous rice and glutinous rice. Glutinous rice is much planted due to the habit of eating glutinous rice. The glutinous rice crop is about 2ton/ha. The non-glutinous rice yield is higher, about 2.5-3ton/ha. Just some households plant much rice and have more to sell. It depends on the plot that the villagers choose to plant which type of rice. In general, they plant glutinous rice on dry plot and the other on wet land.
- Hybrid maize: The average area to plant maize is about 0.2-1ha. 97 poor households are provided with 1-2 kg/household. The yield is 1kg of seeds for 0.25-0.3 ton of corn, equal 3.5-4.5 ton/ha. Hybrid maize is planted to sell. The price ranges between 3-4,000VND/kg.
- Each household plants also local maize (15-20kg of seeds) to have fodder for livestock breeding.
- Cassava: About 80 households plant cassava. Each household plants 0.4-1 ha of cassava on average. The yield of one 2-year-old root is 1-8kg. The cassava crop is used for livestock breeding and winemaking. It is not to sell.
- In addition, the households also plant potatoes and peanuts. Though the amount is small, it is enough for the households’ demand.
- At present, 3-4 households are using lawn mowers in agriculture.
- There are about 30% of households that are lack of food in about 6 months. However, the number of households that are lack of food has increased to approximately 70% due to 2 continuous years of harvest failure.

2. Livestock breeding

- Cows: 121 households raise 350 cows. The most cows one household has is 20 and the least one can have is 1 cow.
- Buffaloes: 6 households raise 48 buffaloes.
- Goats: There are 250 goats in the village. Goats are considered the most potential because they go to find fodder on their own and there is plenty of fodder for them in the village. Goats are also easy to sell and raise. They suffer from fewer diseases. One goat can be sold for 3,500VND, and they can easily reproduce.
- There are four groups grazing animals in the fallow plots.
- Pigs: Each household raises pigs but the number is not large. Each family has 2-4 pigs.
- Chicken: There are about 100 chicken. Due to an epidemic, a lot of chicken have died.
- Buffaloes and cows are sold in the market for the average price of 14-18million VND/buffalo or cow. Big buffaloes can be sold for 25-30million. It takes on average 2 years to sell one. Only when they need money for example to get treatment, build houses or spend on the children’s study, they sell 3-4 buffaloes or cows/year.
- Pigs are raised mostly to sell. The price is about 100,000VND/kg for those that weigh less than 30kg. Those weighing over 30kg are sold for 80,000VND/kg.
- Poultry is raised to serve the households’ daily demand. They are also ceremonial objects during special occasions and will be sold when it is needed.
- Dung of buffaloes and cows is used as fertilizer. They practice shifting farming on the swidden land using no fertilizers.
- The households are active and aware of vaccination and treatment for cattle and poultry. When noticing diseases, the village will invite the vet to check the animals up and buy the medicine prescribed.
- Water source: The households use stream water for their daily activities that is transported through a pipe system and tanks provided by some proponents. There are two public tanks. The people have difficulties seeking water during March and May. It is usually the case that there is no water in the tanks. The people have to search for the streams that have water. The villagers here do not use river water for their daily activities.
- The people wish to find new seeds that are more appropriate to the region and profitable, i.e. there are markets for them.

Livelihoods dependent on the river

Everyone in the village participates in fishing. They go fishing when they are free, especially not during the harvest period. Men use cast nets; children catch fish using landing nets. They usually fish along the river and do not go further. There are 5 motorboats used for fishing, and people can borrow boats to go fishing.

- There are many types of fish. The popular ones are Rachycentron canadum, Anguilliformes, Garra fuliginosa, Lethrinidae, Kyphosidae. Fish are used for food. If the catch is big, they will sell some to Kinh people. However, they hardly sell fish.
- The river is a good source of nutrients for the villagers. They eat fish about once 2-3 days.
- The fishing tools are simple, usually nets and landing nets to catch fish close to the bank. There are no areas where fishing is banned during seasons. However, it is prohibited to use electrofishing or bombs to catch fish. There are two people in the village that know when the fish go searching for food. Thanks to the knowledge of many generations, they know which nets to catch which fish at which water levels.

Livelihoods dependent on forests

There are forests around the village and houses. It takes a few minutes to get there. Men usually to the forests to collect wood to make houses. Sometimes they go to somewhere that is 2km far from their houses. It takes about 3 hours to go and come back because the road is difficult and dangerous.
- Women collect vegetables, bamboo shoots, and herbs for their families' daily demands.
- The protection forests here are large; there are many big trees there. The villagers are not allowed to collect wood or chop down trees. It is believed that there is a variety of forest resources.
- Wood is collected to build houses and stables. If they can collect a lot, they will sell. Normally they sell to Vietnamese traders coming to the village. They collect dead wood and twigs to have firewood frequently. The village has its own area for wood collection to build houses. When wood is needed, the people just need to inform the village's head.
- They hunt wild animals everyday to have meat for their families and sell them when they can catch a lot. Wild meat is sold to the people in and out of the village, e.g. Vietnamese traders. Wild
- Herbs are used to cure illness and sold when there are a lot. It depends on the diseases that each herb is processed differently such as drying, cooking, drying and then pounding, or rubbing. Some are used to cook with water, and the people then drink that liquid. Some are used to make wine. Some are used to place on the bodies. There are herbs during the whole year and there are a lot in the forest such as Ganoderma lucidum, Balanophora and Stemona tuberosa to cure diarrhea and fever.
- There are a variety of animals in the forest, namely, Muntiacus, birds, wild boars, mice, snakes, feral chicken and squirrels. Mice and Cannomys badius are usually hunted for sale because of their large population in the forest. Those that catch a lot usually sell to both insiders and outsiders.
- They use traps, nets, longbows or rubber guns. Those going to the forest regularly will have meat to eat everyday. Those rarely going to the forest have meat once two or three days. Fish are also eaten everyday if the households go fishing regularly. When the catch is large, they also sell to other people, both inside and outside the village.

### Table of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest products that are collected</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season for collection</th>
<th>Amount (if available)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>To sell</th>
<th>Selling price per kg or per item (if sell)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>1-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auricularia auricula-judae</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savoury</td>
<td>Once-twice a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wood to build houses</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When a house is built</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5 hundred-35 million/m3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
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<td>Mice</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1.500.000/item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest products that are collected</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Season for collection</td>
<td>Amount (if available)</td>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>To sell</td>
<td>Selling price per kg or per item (if sell)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mang</td>
<td>Once a or three months</td>
<td>All seasons</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snakes</td>
<td>Once-twice a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild boars</td>
<td>Once 6 or 12 months</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannomys badius</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>30-200.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrels</td>
<td>Twice or four times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>30-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feral chicken</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>70-90.000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other livelihoods**

There are three households in the village that have grocery stores. They do not pay taxes since there are not many goods.

Many households go to Lao PDR to work. The remuneration ranges 80,000-200,000VND/day depending on the work. The villagers can apply for a permission to go and work in Lao PDR quite easily.

There are 15 people receiving subsidy ranging from 270,000 to 1,150,000VND. It is 6 people receiving subsidy since they are the village’s head, secretary of the Party’s Cell, the policemen, health officer, and militia. Three of them have pension since earlier they were the commune’s officers and the aforementioned 6 people receive that amount of money are elder people, probably over 75 years old.

1.6. **Education**

30% of villagers cannot communicate in Vietnamese. Most of them are aged 40 plus. Women under 40 years old can communicate in Vietnamese. There are three students going to high school in Muong Xen. They stay at guesthouses and go home every month.

There are 57 students going to secondary school that is located about 5km far from the commune center. It depends on the families that the students go to school by bike or on foot.

There are 81 students at Keng Du 2 primary school. The secondary school is built in Hat Ta Ven. There are 5 classes for which 5 teachers are in charge. The teachers come from other areas to live here.

The primary school has 5 classes:

1. 1st grade with 19 students
2. 2nd grade with 20 students
3. 3rd grade with 10 students
4. 4th grade with 15 students
5. 5th grade with 17 students
They usually walk to school in the morning, come home for lunch and then go back to school in the afternoon. About 4-5 children dropped out of primary school due to difficult family circumstances. The drop-outs were aged from 13 to 15. There were both boys and girls but the exact number is unknown.

The primary school has 45 students and is located next to the community house.

There is one female university student and one male graduate. There are two people studying at college, one is still going to college and the other one has graduated. Both of them are male.

In general, students are sent to school by their families; teachers have to persuade them not to drop out of school, but most of them only go to secondary school and do not study further because (i) the high school is too far away; (ii) the family is not economically viable for high school children; (iii) even if they can finish school, they still have to go back to raise cow, because there are no jobs for them;

- People who are illiterate are usually middle-aged (men over 40 years old and women over 30 years old).
- There are only few old people that know how to read and write as well as communicate in Vietnamese, but there are no official figures.

1.7. Health and Health Care

There are two water tanks in the village for people to collect water for their daily use. There is a shortage of water usually in dry season, so some people have to use stream water to wash, eat, and wash their clothes.

- In summer, women and children bathe next to the water tank, while in winter, they bathe in the house, wash clothes at the tanks, and bring back water for cooking.

There is a health worker of the village, but he does not have to do anything. The clinic is located in the center of the commune, 5km from the village. They go to the clinic by motorbike or on foot. If you ride a motorbike, it's only 10 minutes, but it takes about 30 minutes to 1 hour, depending on whether the pedestrian is fast or slow.

Every year, the commune health center organizes gynecological examinations for women. The clinic does the examinations for those that come, informs them about the diseases and give them medicine (10 %). It is usually the case that the mother assists her daughter's birth delivery and the mother-in-law does it for her daughter-in-law. There are also 4 people in the village who regularly help women during childbirth.

There used to be some cases of maternal death in childbirth or the death of a baby after being born because of the difficulties the mothers faced during childbirth. There have been no cases of maternal death during childbirth or infant death since the women go for a check-up and know whether they should go to the clinic/hospital. There are also some women who miscarried due to heavy work.

- When children are sick, they are taken to the health center for a check-up and bought medicine. When the illness is severe, they will be sent to the district-level hospital in Muong Xen, about 50km far from the village. Children are also vaccinated periodically; they are taking vitamins. People do not know the rate of child malnutrition, but 2-3 in every 10 children are small and lightweight.

Also depending on circumstances, some families eat fish or meat once 10 days. Sometimes they have fish/meat once 3-4 or 1-2 days. Some households have meat regularly (about 2-3 days a week). If they want to eat meat, they have to buy pork or eat the dried meat of mice and some small wild animals. There are also about 20 households lack of food in 2-3 months in case of crop failures.

In the village there are five to six people who know how to cure backache. When a person is sick, he/she goes to her for a check-up. She gives the patients medicine. If the illness is cured, the patient has to pay. If it is not cured, she will not get paid. However, in general the patients will recover.
There are drug users in the village. There is no list so the number of drug users is unknown. It is important that there is no HIV/AIDS victim. The people do not know about HIV/AIDS because no one has disseminated the information.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

The village has a village management board consisting of representatives from various departments and the village head. The village arranges one celebration (related to production) every May to pray for good production. During that even, the ceremonial objects consist of two wine jars and a buffalo or cow. Previously in the village there was a shaman, but now no one can do the ritual, so the village must invite someone from the other village. The place of worship is the house of the village divinity in the mountain at the entrance to the village.

The wedding is now simpler. The boy will bring 10 bottles of wine, or 20 liters of wine to the girl's house. If the girl's family and the girl agree the boy, they will drink. The wedding now tends to be more similar to the Kinh’s. After marrying the boy stays in the girl's house about 6 months - 1 year. After that they will continue organizing another wedding, which will be the official one with tube wine, buffaloes, cows and “the wedding challenge” of 10-20 million VND for the girl's family.

Since the land acquisition only relates to riverine land, customs related to the graveyard and the relocation of the house were not discussed.

The riverbank area does not have any trees or sacred sites to look out for. However, at present, there are two comments related to riverbank land acquisition:

(I) Some believe that they will continue to cultivate on their present plots in order to receive compensation for land and crops;

(ii) The management board of the proposal still maintains the order of households with their turns to cultivate on the plots until the commencement of the project. When the land needs to be acquired, the land compensation will be returned to the village management board so that the amount then can be divided equally among the households cultivating there.

1.9. Gender

Kho Mu women have to do housework, take care of children and work on the fields. However, when it is a special occasion or new year ceremony, the cooks are usually the men. Kho Mu are not good at activities related to the river/water but setting traps and weaving. Men are responsible for river-related activities. The villagers still maintain the customs of having sons to continue to the family lines.

Men play the main role in worshiping the ancestors. They are also those who directly prepare meal to offer the divinities. Men also make decisions on expenses and cultivation.

Men are also household heads; thus, they are invited to public meetings and women seem to be weak in participating in social activities.

Though Women’s Union acts as representative and assists the women in develop production, borrowing and the amount to borrow still need the agreement of the men.

More girls enrol in school than boys, but they get married at the early age, 17-18.

One of the reason why women rarely participate in pubic activities is the language barrier. Most of women aged over 45 know little Vietnamese.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

In the village there is a village management board and village elders together with associations and other organizations. The associations include the Women's Union, Veterans Association, Farmers' Association and Youth Union. There are also the Fatherland Front and the Party’s
Cell. Individuals working in the administration are village head and his vice, police officers, health workers, extension workers, and militia.

On the authority's side, the village head is in charge, and he will be the contact person, holding all the information from the commune level and making decisions at work related to the production and administration of the village. The village management board was established with the participation of the village representatives and village head. The management board is entitled to allocate riverine production land to production groups.

The extension worker only carries out seasonal calendars on an annual basis. He mobilizes people to work three times a year. They first have to prepare land, then cut grass and finally harvest. Although trained, the extension worker neither has much knowledge to communicate to people nor explores new varieties and new techniques in production to support people.

The village health worker only propagates to households with young children when they can get vaccinated and informs the people if free health care activities are available to them. There are three types of free medical examinations from the district or commune health center, from border guards and from charity groups. Depending on the year, people are examined by the unit.

The Programs that have been implemented in the village are presented hereunder:

Program 135.

Its implementation started in 2004, and now is still in progress.

The state supports with 100% cement to make concrete roads.

80% of households received cows from the program, but 50% of cows died due to disadvantageous climate and poor breeding. Five households received piglets that reproduce and are still maintained.

The village received in total 2 quintal of seeds, each household then received 1kg.

Program 134.

The State supports 40% of households with housing. Households received 25 million VND to build houses.

Water and sanitation program for rural and rural areas

A concrete road in the village 250km long was built. The water supply system for 100 households was also provided.

Programs 30A / 167:

- 18 households received roofing support and got a loan of 24 million VND for each in the first phase. In the second phase 9 households borrowed money; each got 8 million. Both loans were available at the interest rate of 0.25% per year.

Payment for forest services

The village receives VND 27 million each year for forest services, part of which is contributed to the village’s fund for custom preservation and water supply maintenance.

Resilience program supported by Nghe An Provincial People's Committee

An area was levelled for 53 households to rebuild their new home and build the community house, kindergarten and elementary school. Clean water will also be provided. 87 households have access to credit from Vietnam bank for social policies to borrow from 10 million to 20 million VND within 3 years at an interest rate of 6.5% per year. The state subsidizes 100,000 VND to poor households for Tet and rice for famine every year. 98 poor households receive rice to deal with their hunger (6 kg/person). In addition, the state subsidizes oil, fish sauce and salt to all households.
1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

All participants said that they knew about the hydropower project, and so did the other villagers. However, they do not know about the project in details such as the scale, the affected people and what can be affected.

All they know is that the hydropower project can be built in the downstream area in My Ly Commune. They got the information since some project officers came to do survey, and the village’s head also disseminated the information at the meetings.

The villagers want to receive more accurate information on the impact level of the project on the village and the households, i.e. which households will be affected. They want to know about the compensation for land and assets.

They want to get more information through (i) community meetings and direct discussion, (ii) documents to read later because they are afraid that they can forget after a while. The women group said that they can read Vietnamese so the information can be given in Vietnamese.

1.12. Additional Issues

Shifting plots of agricultural land leads to difficulties in determining the number of affected people because the statistics are changing. It seems that farmers want to keep their land and do not let other people to get their turn on the same plot with the expectations of getting compensated. During the discussions, it seems that the compensation for land along the river might result in some conflicts.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

Mr. Nguyen Van Manh & Mr. Dang Huu Hai

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 10 participants, of which 8 were men and 2 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers knew about the planned HPP for several years. There were many survey team coming with work with the commune and the commune officers told them too. Villagers said that there was a meeting with them about the project, natural environment and social environment.

But that is all they knew. They did not know when it will start, where is affected. They only knew that hydropower project will cause submergence if the river is stopped.

They wish to know if the project is constructed, will impact be large? How far the water level, must they relocate, whether they will be compensated, compensation will be applied to what?

They expect more information such as when the project is implemented, how it will be constructed, will villagers in this village be affected, how is the project policy, will be compensated satisfactorily?

They wish officer will come and explain to them about the project, about policy applying to them and the impact extent caused by the project, how their lives will be affected?

2.2. Forest use

Villagers usually go to forest on this side of Nam Non river (on Vietnamese side), sometime go to forest in Lao and when they do they go in group. Men usually go to forest to take timber for house building, making pig barn. Women go to forest to collect wild vegetable, firewood.

Women go to forest more frequent than men. They go every day, to collect wild vegetable for family meal. Main work of women is livestock breeding, cultivating on upland field, taking care of
children. Livestock is breeding on upland field. Each 5-6 households will share one area, making fence surrounding to keep cattle out.

Taking timber from forest will take time, because they must go in deep forest, 2 hours to go, sometime half a day to get to where timber can be exploited.

The furthest upland field of village is 5km away, the closest is 3km. Upland field is not yet allocated specifically. Villagers still cultivate by traditional way: reclaim, hoing, seeding, harvesting. They do cultivation for 1 or 2 year then leaving fallow in 3-4 years before reassuming. There is rumor that cultivation land will be relocated, but nothing yet and they did not know when it will be done.

Doing cultivation on upland field is done with consideration, they offer worship to select good land area, for example, if they go to forest and have a good dream they will cultivate on such land area, if not, they do not and they will consider trees growing on such land area, if good they will cut off and do the cultivation, if not they will go to other. Normally they do only one crop then leaving fallow but if they do one crop and found it is good, may be next year they keep cultivating on such land for one crop more before leaving fallow the land.

Men go to forest to take timber and hunt rat, bird, make fish pond on shallow land area. Syringa timber is used to build house but the forest is ran out of this timber. It is now available only in Laos forest. Forest in close vicinity is only available with premature forest. They must ask for permission from the commune if they want to go to Laos forest, which is accessible by navigation. When they arrive to Laos they must see the village management board and forest management board to ask for permission. If they agree then villagers can go to forest to exploit. There must be agreement between two sides.

The village is allocated by the commune a protection forest. Households through village head will protect such protection forest. It is prohibited to go to protection forest to exploit timber and hunting. Women still go in to protection forest to collect wild vegetable.

Products from forest are:
- Timber: syringa, bassia, Madhuca sp, Vatica odorata (Griff.) Symington, lagerstroemia…
- Herbs: stemona tuberosa, linzhi mushroom…
- Wild vegetable: centella, bamboo shoot (big bamboo shoot in August, small bamboo shoot in October), fern, etc…
- Products from upland field: rice, maize, peanut, vegetable, mustard greens, banana flower, papaya, pumpkin, taro, sweet potato, cassava, yam, etc…
- Besides, women and men go to forest to collect rattan to do handicraft, making furniture such as table, chair, etc…

2.3. Hunting

Livestock breeding on upland field are buffalo, cow, goat.

Men in the villager go to forest to bund rat, bird, squirrel, snake, etc… They hunt what they see, even frog, but abundant the most is rat. There are many types of rat so villagers hunt for meat to improve their daily meal.

Hunted animal can be for sale if they hunt lot, even rat, which can be sold to other villagers. Tools for hunting is trap, crossbow.

Not every day villagers have meat to eat, only few occasions when they have lot of food to each, like in May when they go preparing upland field they have to offer worship with pig, chicken and most of villagers do as custom, and in November when they kill pig to offer new rice ceremony. So during such period, villagers have food to eat. Wedding in the village must kill pig, chicken, cow to prepare party too.

3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung
General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 08 participants, of which 5 were men and 3 were women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity. Among them there are 5 illiterate, 1 finished grade 4, 1 finished grade 5, 1 finished grade 9.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- Villagers knew about the project from a survey team on the project, but they did not know more, how it will impact, what will be impact. They heard that cultivation and pastureland along the river will be affected. They did not know whether their village, which is located high above, will be affected or not.

- Villagers did not know how they will be impacted. Last year, a survey team came, and they asked some households, not the whole village, so they were not sure.

- They wish to know more about the project, to know whether the village will be affected? If does, is there any compensation?.

- They expect community meeting so every villagers will have the information.

3.2. Boat use

- In the village there are two households having boat to provide navigation service. They do not use boat for fishing. This is private own boat. No one share boat with each other.

- This is small size motor boat, carry 5 people, not to transport goods.

- Villagers usually use motorbike, or go on foot. Road is good, car accessible up to houses. Only difficult in rainy day. But in general, road is good, much better now.

3.3. Fishing

- In vicinity of the village, there are two rivers, Nam Non river, the bigger on, and Nam Soc river. Besides are smaller streams namely Huoi Seo, Huoi Hao, Huoi Gang, Nhan. Hat Ta Ven village is named following Hat Ta Ven ravine.

- They usually go fishing in Nam Soc, Nam Non river, some of 2-3 km far, 15 minutes on foot.

- Fishing in an average day will catch 0.5-1kg, sometime they catch none.

- There is only one household go fishing the most, every day. This household catch lots of fish. And they will sell if they catch big fish. The best one costs 100 thousand VND per one kg, the cheapest one costs 50,000 VND per one kg. Villagers have caught once a fish of 20 kg.

- The rest households in the village go fishing too, but rarely. Mainly men go fishing, women fish using basket, or collect moss, algae.

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

- There are many fish species on Nam Non river, white fish, milkfish, eel, goby, etc... Villagers usually catch white fish. They eat all type of fish, but milkfish has less bone.

- They use net, rod, hook to fish. Women use basket to take fish. Not many fish for sale, they fish for family demand mainly.

- It is not every day to have fish to eat, sometime only once a week. They cook fish in soup, boil, fried, salad, etc... And they dry fish if they have many.
- Villagers go fishing when have nothing to eat. They go any time, regardless to season, because they do not fish regularly. They collect food from forest more frequent. Villagers have no idea about spawning season of fish.
- Besides fish, there are many other species, tortoise, shrimp, crab, snail, bird, frog, etc...
- Along river bank, villagers plant: chili, sugar cane, banana, papaya, pumpkin, egg plant. There are up to some of 30-40 households plant along river bank.
- Besides, they collect moss and algae from river to eat too.
- Villagers do not offer worship to the river, but they do with the forest twice a year, one in November and one in May, at starting and ending harvest season.

3.5. Other information and reflections
Generally, villagers of Hat Ta Ven village live depending largely on upland field cultivation and collection of forest products. Most of households go fishing from Nam Non and Nam Soc rivers. But fishery is not main living source. They sometime go fishing. There is only one household go fishing usually. Moreover villagers do not use fishery product in their daily meal. Living with less dependence on the river so their belief relating to the river is limited too. Their belief instead fixing with forest and upland cultivation.

4 Report from FGD with Agriculture And Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD
The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 7 participants, of which 3 were men and 4 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.
List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP
Villagers knew about the project from the meeting held at the village in 2016, some households answered the questions asked by the survey team on the project.
Villagers did not know when the HPP would be constructed, they wished to know who would be affected, how they would be supported by the HPP? Whether the land-affected household would be compensated with other land for cultivation?
They wish to know the policies of the HPP for affected households.

4.2. Land use
Cultivation land of the whole village is upland field, sloping from the river bank up to the top. Upland field is 2-6 km from the village, lower than the village.
Paddy field: 40 households in the village have paddy fields. The area varies between 7 perch and 1.5 ha per household. Paddy fields are cultivated one summer crop only and left fallow for the rest time of year because it is far from residential area.
Land along river: for planting vegetable only, in duration between June and July of lunar calendar.
Villagers use cattle and apply traditional method in cultivation on paddy fields. They do not use cattle on upland fields because of the slope.
There have been no land use right certificates issued for cultivation land.
Newly established households share land with their big family. Now many households have not enough land for cultivation.
There is no more land for reclamation because there is no free land available.
Upland fields are used for cultivation within 2 years normally and then left fallow within 3-4 years. Households lacking land for cultivation will let their land lie fallow in 1-2 years only.

4.3. Crops

Upland rice: The average upland field areas of the households range from 1.5-2.0ha. They cultivate two rice types: glutinous/sticky rice and white rice. Sticky rice is more frequently consumed since it is the habit of the local people. The sticky rice yield is about 2 ton/ha. White rice has a higher yield, about 2.5-3 ton/ha. Some households plant a lot of rice, so they have extra amount to sell. Depending on the land plot, villagers will decide to plant sticky rice or white rice. Normally, they plant sticky rice on dry soil and white rice where there is sufficient water.

Hybrid maize: the average area of hybrid maize ranges about 0.2 – 1 ha (97 poor households were provided with 1-2kg seeds/each. Hybrid maize yield: 1kg of seed gives 2.5-3 quintal of dried corn, equivalent to 3.5 – 4.5 ton/ha. Hybrid maize is planted for sale at the price of 3-4 thousand Vietnam Dong per 1 kg.
Main crop areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.5-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet rice</td>
<td>3.5-4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>3.5-4.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>20-25</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each household normally plants also 15-20kg of local seeds for livestock breeding.

Cassava: About 80 households plant cassava; On average each household plants 0.4-1 ha of cassava. One root of cassava produces 7-8 kg within 2 years. Cassava is used in livestock breeding, winemaking, not for sale.

Besides, on upland fields, households plant sweet potato and peanut with small quantity for family demand only.

At present, some households use grass cutting machine in agricultural activities (3-4 households).

Normally, about 30% households suffer from a lack of food in about 6 months. This year, the number of hunger households is higher, up to 70% due to two successive years of loss of harvest.

Many villagers work in Laos. Their wage varies between 80,000 and 200,000 VND per day depending on the work. It is quite easy to ask for permission to go to Laos to work.

4.4. Livestock

Cow: 121 households raise 350 cows. One household has maximum 20 cows, minimum 1 cow.

Buffalo: 6 households raise 38 buffaloes.

There are 4 livestock breeding teams in the village. They raise livestock on fallow upland fields.

Pig: every household in the village raises pig, but not many, between 2-4 pigs.

Chicken: there are about 100 egg laying chickens in the whole village. Many died because of disease.

Cattle is raised mainly for sale at the average price of 14-18 million VND/each. Big buffaloes can be sold at the price of 25-30 million VND/each. The households sell one buffalo in two years on average. When they are ill, building house or need cash for children at school, they may sell up to 3-4 buffaloes a year.

Pigs are raised mainly for sale. The selling price at the village is 100,000 VND per kg of a pig that weighs less than 30kg and 80,000 VND per kg for the one that is heavier than 30kg.

Cattle and poultry are raised for daily demand, for worship and for sale when necessary.

Cattle dung is used in planting vegetables. Upland field is exploited naturally with fallow interval. They use no fertilizers at all.

Households are actively and aware about vaccine injection and injection for curing cattle and poultry. If they find any phenomenon of disease they will ask veterinary officer to check and buy medicine under instruction.

Water resources: households use stream water with a piping system and water tanks invested by the Government. There are two public water tanks in the village. During a year, from March to May, villagers might not have enough water. During that period, the public water tanks normally run out and then the villagers must look for stream water. They do not use river water for domestic activities.

Villagers expect to find new suitable seedlings and a market.
4.5. Other information and reflections

Women were inactive in group discussion, many questions were asked about agricultural activities, but the women did not know and did not give any responses either. The FGD participants left the FGD 30 minutes before it was over with the excuses that they had to go home to cook or to attend to a new house building ceremony.

Huoi Nhan Village (which is newly separated from Hat Ta Ven Village)

- 53 households were separated to establish a new village and to have more space for themselves because of the high population density in the previous village. They registered and were allocated new residential land in the new place.
- Relocated households were supported with 30 million VND to move their houses from the previous village to the new place.
- They still use the same production land.
- Worship in the new village: When the houses were moved, the village held a ceremony in the new place. The offerings include 2 chickens, 2 jars of wine and sticky rice. In the first village worship ceremony there was only chicken; the villagers then offered pigs or cows and no chickens in the later one. The chair of the ceremony was the village elder of either the former village or the new one. The cost of that ceremony was paid by the village fund.
- Selecting graveyard:
  + Lower than the village
  + Not in cultivation or grazing land area
  + Few people passing (normally within protection forest)
When a suitable place was selected, the whole village held a meeting to make an agreement. They did not hire any shaman.

5 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 15 participants, all men. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity. Their ages vary between 20 and 57.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of FGD participants knew about the planned HPP, through previous meeting on the HPP. But only men know well because they were invited to such meeting. They said there should be more similar meeting and other way of information such as: on louder speaker in their language, etc... Every one expressed their worries on potential displacement and disturbance in their living.

5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

There are 120 household and 678 individual in the village. Of which number of people at working age is 234. There are 46 poor households in the village, 34 household among which must be supported with rice during pre-harvest interval.

The village has been here for long time, 100% is Kho Mu. They manage the community themselves. Village of Kho Mu is controlled and managed by a voted system, under their ethnicity standard. The system comprises of various positions with different tasks. They are: Khun Cung: in the language of Kho Mu it is village head. Before the village head must be from the most crowded clan and shall be at mature age and to be the most prestigious person in the village. Khun Cung (the village head) is responsible to maintain peace between members and
villagers, settle conflict, fighting and has the right to punish who violates the rule. He will be on behalf of villagers to set up relationship with surrounding villages and is the one running production, working, cultivation. He must know well his ethnicity custom and habit and in the same time together with wizard to chair any village worship ceremony at early of the year. Khun Cung position used to a position from generation to generation, but now to be voted by villagers. Person who is selected for Khun Cung position is not limited on age, unless he has talent, gifted, good prestigious, good working. He shall control all the work of the village relating to social, economy, culture and social order. Though bringing a heavy job but there is no symbol specifically for Khun Cung to show his power. He is as normal as other villagers, must work to eat.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

The furthest forest is 5 km away, the closest is 3km. At present, forest is allocated by the Government, they heard that but not yet allocated. They perform cultivation in good land area not in bad land area. Getting in to forest must offer a worship, before going tin to forest if they have good dream they will do cultivation on such land area, if they dream of not good sign, they will not do and instead they consider trees and vegetation on the land, which is good growing then they will do their crop there. They cultivate of good land, not on not good land.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new household

In case of new married couple they keep cultivating in the land area there parent and family cultivate before, no allocation specifically to them. 5 years after that will be cultivated independently and in other land plot but anyhow still within the previously allocated land area.

Role of elders/leader in land system

No role in land allocation system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Sacred forest is 1.5 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

In Kho Mu village, religious people is classified in many levels, with different names and chair different ceremonies. “Mo mon” (great wizard) who owns “sa la” house (where worship is performed), this is a small house on stilts built next to a stream, annually after harvesting, he is allowed to perform a specific worship, known as “Khau khua” (drying rice). In the concept of Kho Mu, “Mo mon” is the one able to communicate with “spirit gods” and therefore can help illness people to get over. “Mo mon” is respected by all villagers. In the village, any household before building house, eating new rice, wedding, all come to him and invite him to attend. Whenever a wine jar is opened or a wine bottle is opened “Mo mon” is the one is invited first. Annually on the eve day, “Mo mon” will have the right to organize “gong” beating. When “Gong” sounds, villagers in the village will bring things to him. If “Mo mon” dies, during burying, the altar in “sa la” house will be brought to his grave. Besides “Mo mon”, in Kho Mu village there are “Ca thom ca tha” (lower level wizard) “Xung ra ro” (fortune teller).

The village worship is performed in May and October every year, representatives from households will joint, the worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...
5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred places in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Ghost forest (graveyard) is located on the other side of the river, and they do not have habit of exhumation. If graveyard is submerged, they offer a worship at the village temple to inform the ghost forest god then go to forest to invite the god and ghosts to new place.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor (who established the village) of Kho Mu. Whenever a person die, they offer worship to gods (when they return home from graveyard). Offered things must have chicken. Worship is completed when the throw offered thing away. That is why they must offer thanksgiving worship.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

The village is affected only its forestry land and production land, no impact to graveyard or ritual area.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

No works will be affected.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Sacred areas of village are free from impact.

6. Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 09 participants. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of FGD participants said they know about the planned HPP and villagers knew too. But they did not know any other detail of the project such as the project size, who will be impacted, what will be impacted.

So far what they knew is there will be a HPP constructed in downstream, in My Ly commune. They had information from project survey team who come in to the village for survey and from the village head at meeting when they gathered to answer the survey team.

Women and villagers expect to have further information about the impact of the project caused on their village and each household (which household will be affected?). They wish to know about compensation policy in case of land and properties affected.

Form of information they prefer (i) community meeting and direct discussion; (ii) in writing so as they can read because they afraid they will forget if it takes too long. The women group said that they can read Vietnamese so information can be provided in Vietnamese.
6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

From before, there are many women from other places married to men in the village and women from the village got married to men in other villages. In recent years, women in the village got married to men in further villages, some to men in other district, other province. There are two Lao women got married to men in the village. Because young men from the village go to Lao to do work then they married to Lao women. These two women are E De ethnicity in Laos. But there is no man from other places getting married to women here and stay.

There are 8 widow in the village, one took part to the FGD. Widow are at ages of 30-40. There are 3 single mothers raising children below 9. They are at age 20-22 and suffered with unintended pregnancy and men left them behind. They are now living with their parents. In the village, villagers treat with single mothers as same as other, without any preconception.

It is 5km from the village to the commune center (commune People’s committee), except elder people, middle age and young women usually go to the commune center and surrounding village for shopping, visiting relatives, wedding, health inspection, visiting children at school, parent meeting at school, or paper work at the commune People’s committee, or meeting, etc...

Travelling by women is headed with no difficulties because it is accessible by motorbike, their husband or children will take them, some go on foot.

In the village there is woman taking part in the village committee (the village women union) who was voted to be representative for the village women to attend in the village activities. Criteria to be voted for head of village women union are: educated, having social knowledge, good speaking and trusted by village women. Responsibility of the head of the village women union is to deploy activities organized by the commune women union such as organizing meeting, popularizing policies, movements, collecting fee from women union member, managing household borrowing credit loan from the union.

Women union has meeting every three months. The village women union will attend to specific topic training course which is organized by province, district in the commune. After meeting, she will propaganda to other. Member of the union will be attend to training course. Rate of poor women in the village is 20%.

6.3. Health and nutrition

There are two water tanks constructed at the village where villagers take water home to use. Water is available in this season, but limited in dry season when some villagers use water from ravine to bath, eating, drinking and washing.

In summer, women and children bath and wash at the water tank, in winter they bath at home, wash at the tank and take water home for cooking.

The village has health care officer, but do nothing. The clinic is located at the commune center, some of 5km away. They go to the clinic by motorbike or on foot. It takes only 10 minutes on motorbike but 30minutes or 1 hour on foot, depending on speed.

Annually the commune clinic organizes gynaecological inspection to women, commune will announce and they free to come and be given with medicine if they are affected. There are some of 8-9 have, but do not know who because no one told.

Common illness in the village is: malaria, diarrhea, cough but do not know how many, this is only clinic to know. Women in the village usually deliver at home, only difficult case will go to commune clinic or hospital. Mothers will help their daughter or mother in law helps her daughter in law in delivery. There are 4 women usually help other in delivery.

Before there was woman died during delivery or baby died because of hard delivery. Recently, there was no such a case, because during pregnancy period, women go to clinic for inspection so hard case will prepare to delivery at the clinic or hospital. There were some women terminated their pregnancy due to hard working.

Ill children are brought to clinic for inspection, buying medicine. Severe case is brought to hospital in Muong Xen district, some of 50km away. Children are subject to regular vaccine
injection and vitamin. Villagers do not know the rate of malnutrition child but some are seen smaller than other, each 10 children has 2-3 children like that.

It is depending on conditions, some families have meat and fish every 10 days, sometime every 3-4 days or 1-2 days. Others have meat to eat regularly (2-3 day a week), if they want to eat they will buy pork, or eat rat, hunted wild animal (small size animal) which was dried to eat in long time, but not many. At present most of household have 3 meals a day and children is no more hunger. There are some of 20 households lack of food in 2-3 months in a bad harvest year.

There is a female quack in the village curing illness by herb. She can cure back pain, bone pain... Illness comes to her for curing. She will then collect herb to cure. If illness is cured, she will be paid, and not paid if she cannot cure, but normally she can cure.

There are drug dependence young men in the village but number is unclear, mainly young one. There is no HIV/AIDS case. They do not have knowledge on HIV/AIDS because no one talk about that. They do not have any idea whether an HIV case in the village because no one talk.

6.4. Education

Daily communication between villagers is in Kho Mu language. When they go out or to the commune, they speak Kho Mu or Vietnamese. Some elders cannot speak Vietnamese (elders are those form 55 and above), only young and those beneath 30 can speak Vietnamese fluently. Some of those above 30 can listen but can not speak, some can not understand. It happens to men and women but rate of women is higher because they did not go to school.

There is a kindergarten in the village with 40 children and 2 teachers. They study under the Government training course. Children at primary school age in the village go to primary school in 200m a way from the village. The primary school has 5 classes with 5 teachers. Children go to school on foot or taken by their parents. Secondary children go to boarding secondary school at Huoi Phuon village of Keng Du commune. They go to school by bike or taken by their parents. Some go school on foot. Secondary children must leave home from 6 AM to attend to the school at 7h30 AM. High school is located at Muong Xen district town, which is 50km far from the village. Few children go to secondary and high schools because of long distance and their parents cannot afford to pay school fee. There are not many jobs for young to do after college or university.

6.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

The village is located next to road and they live concentrating. Most of households have no bare land surrounding house. They raise chicken, pig as free grazing at home.

Women go to upland field every day to work during Harvest. They cultivate rice, corn, peanut, vegetable, fruit trees such as mango, jackfruit, and banana. Every household have upland field but cannot tell exactly their land area or others.

When they do not do cultivation, they go to forest to collect firewood, vegetable. Planted crops are for family demand and livestock breeding. Women plant crops for their family demand, only for sale when they need or when family member is ill, or they need cash to buy things.

There is no market in the village. Villagers go shopping at the commune center, which is 5km far. Some villagers sell vegetable. Products such as corn, peanut is sold to traders when they come to the village.

There is no crop on land along river because the village is located on a mountain side, next to the road and far from the river. There is some land area along the river which is used alternatively by households, normally they plant corn, or nothing at all.

Families eat wild vegetable, winter melon, pumpkin planted by themselves or collected from forest, upland field. Rice is the most important food of the family, corn is used in livestock breeding or for sale.

They rarely eat fish, and do not go fishing in the river.
6.6. Other information and reflections

The village is located next to a car accessible road connecting to the village center. Villagers live next to each other and concentrating on one side of a hill. From the village to the commune is 5km asphalt road so accessibility is easy and favorable. Main means of transport of villagers is motorbike, only those cannot afford to buy or do not know to ride will go on foot. Ability in accessing to market and information of the villagers is better than other villages thanks to favorable accessibility.
### 3.6.1.5 Huoi Xui Village - 10 January 2017

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Date** 1/10/17

**Village Huoi Xui**

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1 **Village Summary Report**

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. **Location and General Conditions of the Village**

The Village is located far from the inter-communal and inter-district roads. The access road to the village is steep, so it is hard to travel. The transportation mean in the dry season is motorbike while they can only walk in rainy season. The main income is generated from agricultural activities and forestry; handicraft is not developed. The rate of poor households is high with 69 out of 79 households and it has been proposed to the government that they should be certified as poor households.

Villagers do not have high education attainment; most of them have finished primary level; some have finished secondary level while no one can enroll high school. This is a difficult task for information dissemination and training on project implementation. There is no secondary school in the Village, so students have to go the commune which is far from the village and the road is difficult to travel.

Each household has many members with 5-7 persons, some have 10-11 persons. The HPP will affect the living standard of the people, especially women and children while their living is already difficult.

Houses in the village still have traditional features of Khomu people with wooden floor and clay or concrete roof tiles.

People used national power grid; clean water is taken from the stream and stored in 4 tanks. These tanks are made of cement and have taps. The villagers go there to bathe themselves, wash clothes and take water for daily activities.

1.2. **Population**

The Village has 79 households with 462 persons, in which 257 persons are in working age. The ratio of men to women is approximately 1:1. 69 out of 79 households are poor households; however, when receiving rice for poverty elevation, the Village distributes it to all households; therefore, 100% households receive rice supports.

Most of women are originally from the Village; only 1 woman is from Laos (also Khomu). She immigrated to the village for marriage.
There are 5 female-headed households since their husband died. There is one single-28-year-old woman with a one-year-old child.

There are 10 people that can speak Vietnamese, mainly women and elders.

1.3. Village History and Migration

Huoi Xui village has been formed for a long time, during the war, people evacuated, and administratively, Ky Son district merged with Tuong Duong district. After 1975, the village was re-formed and gradually became crowded. In 2004, some households were separated to form another village called outside Huoi Xui. At present, 100% of Huoi Xui people are Kho Mu.

In the village, there is less migration to another place, but seasonal migration. There are 23 people working as gold diggers in Kham Duc. Some are working in Laos, and by the end of the year, they are back home until February.

The women of the village rarely travel to other places. Some get married into other villages, or in other communes and districts in the province. There is a Laotian woman that married into the village as she met her husband in Laos when he went there for work.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

The village has 200ha of upland fields. Each household has about 1-4ha of upland fields on average. The area depends on the number of family members or newly households split from the large household or not. The upland field area is located 2km far from the house, it takes 1 hour to get there. Some households have to go further and take more time to get to the upland field area. The upland fields have not had land right use certificate yet.

Each household has residential land with area of 200-300m² without garden land.

Land along the river. The land is divided to production groups and then the groups allocate the land to households taking turn in cultivation. However, the land is far from the living area so people rarely cultivate in this area.

Forestry land including planted forests and protection forest.

Planted forests are production forests that are allocated to villages to manage and exploit. Each households takes care of 2-3 ha to plant Melia azedarach and Syringa. This area is allocated to the whole village without any land use right certificates. Within this forest area, some areas are zoned for planting rice, bananas, maize, cassava.

Protection forests are allocated by the State to the villages and households for management and protection. Annually, the State shall pay forest protection expenses, which shall be paid for the whole village, the deduction part shall be put into the operation fund of the village and the remainder shall be divided equally among families according to each household member. Protection forest includes regular patrols to fight against forest poaching, forest fire and firefighting.

Cemetery

The village planned an area with 10ha for cemetery. The cemetery is located far from the river and higher than the living area. This area is the forest and protected by villagers.

Land allocation officially is under decided by the authority. However, in the villages of Keng Du, there is a land use plan but allocation of production land to each household has not been conducted yet. Currently, people are using land as they have traditionally done, i.e. if one household reclaims more land, then they can use this area with respect of the community.

Newly established households that want to separate from the large family will receive land from parents or reclaim more land. People will have to get permission from the authority to reclaim more land (however, this is not complied)
In villages of Khomu people, no village elder has power in the most important decision on customs but the head of the clan. Each clan has an elder or/and family head. These people do not have power in land allocation in general but play a role in mediation (if dispute occurs).

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Cultivation:
Each household has 1-1.5ha of arable land and about 1-2 ha of land in fallow period. The area is steep and used to plant food crops, such as upland rice, maize, cassava, and vegetables. There is only one crop because cultivation is dependent on rainfall. One crop lasts from May to November. Each household grows 60kg of rice seeds on one ha of land on average and harvests about 3 tons of rice/year. In general, rice is for domestic consumption. When there is more than needed, they sell to other villagers for 7,000VND/kg.

Each household plants maize on about one ha of land and harvests about 3 tons of maize. Traders come to the village to buy at the price of 4,500 VND/kg of corn and 2,500VND/maize with cobs.

The villagers mostly plant winter melons, the leaves and flowers of which are eatable, too. They plant winter melons for sale and for domestic consumption.

Their cultivation method is not much different from the traditional method. The villagers do not use plows and harrows only to dig holes and plant seeds. They do not use fertilizers, pesticides or any chemicals to protect plants. The soil fertility is restored by the soil itself. Water for agriculture is totally dependent on the nature. That is the reason why the yields of the crops are not high.

River-based livelihoods
Kho Mu in Huoi Xui village do not have or use boats though they live near the river. Since there are many streams around the village, the people usually go to streams and river to catch fish. If they are lucky, they can catch some big fish to sell to traders. If they cannot sell, they will dry the fish to conserve it. The villagers can cook many dishes with fish, but no one makes fish source.

Apart from fishing, the villagers also collect mosses and river vegetables for pigs and sometimes for humans, too.

Forest-based livelihoods
The villagers usually to to the forests everyday; some go twice-three times. Men go to the forests to hunt animals to have meat for the families. Women go to the forests when they have time and usually before the meal.

The forests cover the village and protect the village when there is flood. The shortest distance form the village to the forests is about 100m, and they need about 5 minutes to get there. The farthest is about 500m.

Men also go to the forests to exploit woods, which they need to ask the authority for permission in advance. They can only collect timber to build houses in the area that has been allocated to the village. The villagers can also collect firewood. Illegal logging happens once in a few months; the villagers inform the local authority whenever it happens so that the wrongdoers can be arrested and executed.

Women collect wild vegetables, mushrooms, and bamboo shoots to eat. Moreover, they collect herbal plants to treat some illnesses or to sell. They also collect Thysanolaena latifolia. Dried bamboo shoots, mushrooms, and herbal plants can be sold for 5,000-350,000VND/kg. Bamboo shoots and mushrooms are collected mainly in rainy season – July to August. Wild vegetables are available year-round.

The villagers hunt the wild animals such as mice, Rhizomyinae, birds, snakes, squirrels, and wide boars by traps, crossbows, nets, slingshot. Guns are not allowed. Wild animals are usually caught for domestic consumption or conservation for later use. When they can catch big animals, they sell them to those having demands. Mice, Rhizomyinae, birds, and snakes are caught year-round without any limitations. Wild boars and Muntiacus are rarely caught. They sometimes can catch wild boars during harvests, mainly in June and July.
Women collect wood more frequently than men since the forests are not far. Some households living far from the forests usually collect wood when they go to the fields. Men rarely collect wood but children aged 10+ sometimes accompany their mothers and bring wood home.

**Livestock breeding**

There is no grassland for livestock breeding in the village since most of the area is forests. It is very steep. The villagers plant grass around the houses and at the edge of their fields.

They raise buffaloes, cows, chicken, pigs, goats, and geese. Each household has 2-20 buffaloes or cows. The villagers usually cultivate within their clans; thus, each clan has their own pastureland zone. Some households share a same plot; after harvest, the animals are free-range again. The income from livelihood breeding is the largest amount. The households that have 6+ cows/buffaloes can sell one each year. One big cow costs 30 million VND. One big buffalo costs 45-50 million VND. Pigs can be sold or eaten on some special occasions.

Animals have been sick recently; thus, husbandry has been declined. However, it contributes much to the households' income in comparison to cultivation.

**1.6. Education**

About 20% of women in the Village can understand Vietnamese but cannot speak. 80% of villagers understand and speak fluent Vietnamese. The main language in the village is Kho Mu.

Women between the ages of 15 and 25 can write and read Vietnamese, people over 50 years old or older are illiterate, can understand but cannot speak Vietnamese.

Children study primary level in the Village, there are 4 primary classes, 1 compound class, 1 kindergarten. The school is located in the center of the village; those living far from it take about 20 - 30 minutes to get to school (there are some separate households on the side of the mountain which is over 1km farther from the village center, the road is steep and difficult to walk). There are 4 elementary school teachers, 1 kindergarten teacher, all from other places, no one is from the village.

Secondary school is in the commune, high school is in Muong Xen, there are two children are in high school, they usually come home after finishing one semester or one year because the school is far from the Village. For middle school students, they usually walk to school to study and stay at school for one week then go home. There are very few households that have motorbikes to bring their children to school, if they have one, they also pick up their children once per week.

There are many drop-outs, in the past 2 years, about 20 people from grade 6 dropped out of school due to lack of money and illiterate parents (50% male - 50% female). One male student who was in the middle of the 9th grade dropped out of school to work in the south.

The government supports poor households; each poor student receives 60,000 VND/month.

**1.7. Health and Health Care**

There are 4 water tanks in the village which is taken from the stream. These tanks were made by the State in 2007 and now they are under maintenance. They use stream water for cooking and daily activities.

In the summer, women take children to river or water tanks for bathing. In winter, women occasionally warm the water for their children to bathe.

Children usually have diarrhea from eating, flu, measles, fever since they are not vaccinated. Adults have headache, back pain, and flu and women have gynecologic infections.

Children have dental disease but the number is not high. The causes are the lack of hygiene and eating habits. When children get sick, parents (mainly mothers) buy medicine in commune clinic for their children.
Children are malnourished but not many. 3 women do not have milk to feed children, have no iron tablets during pregnancy and after giving birth, they do not have enough food so their children are small and do not grow as others. About 30% of children in the village have food in the meals everyday, if not eating rice with vegetables.

The commune clinic provide medicine for students per year and come to the village for vaccination under schedule, usually they come monthly and inform the schedule to villagers in advance.

Women get sick do not go to the communal clinic as the distance is far, they only use herbs in the forest for common diseases. In case of gynecologic infection, they go to the commune clinic to buy medicine.

The village has a health worker with main task as disseminating the information on prevention on seasonal diseases, keeping living and kitchen area clean, food hygiene to prevent diarrhea. In cases of server sickness, people will ask the health worker for advice on how to get treatment at the commune clinic or transfer to the district hospital.

There is no midwife and traditional healer in the village.

Pregnant women rarely go for health examination periodically. Many women never go for prenatal check-up or go only once and then give birth at home. In cases of having difficulty during pregnancy, they go to commune clinic. Only 12 days ago, a woman had to go to the clinic because of difficult delivery.

No children died after being born on the day of delivery, in only some cases the infants were too weak then died after 1-2 months. Women with good health gave birth at home. Only when there are some strange signs, they go to the clinic.

No one suffers from HIV/AIDS. Villagers do not know about the HIV as there is no specific programme. It is usually combined with other programmes or community meetings so just a few of people remember the information.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

In the village there are cultural works that have to be relocated such as: Temple of Pho Hung, cultural house, schools, but according to customs, the shaman worships at Pho Hung Temple (mentioned above) to announce moving to another place. In the households, each family will have to worship the ancestors to move with them.

When someone dies, the people must worship the river god (when bring the spirits back) with a chicken, then throw the chicken down the stream because the village graveyard across the stream; thus, there must be a ceremony.

Representatives from the households participated in the annual ceremony in December that is held at the front of the village, where is forbidden to cut, destroy or throw waste. The villagers slaughter a pig during the celebration. If they harvest well, they slaughter a cow. The first time (in May in lunar calendar) with fruit offerings, the second time (in October in lunar calendar) before New Year’s Eve.

1.9. Gender Issues

Kho Mu women have to take care of housework and children and work on the fields. However, on holidays, New Year’s or birthdays, the cook is men. Kho Mu are not good at activities related to water but are better at trapping and knitting. These jobs are mostly conduced by men. The people in the village also maintain the custom of having son to perpetuate the family line.

Women in the village do not have a loan/credit fund. Women also do not have loans to develop their household economy. If they have a loan, they do not have money to pay. Both husband and wife agree to take loans when the family needs money or decides to invest, or has to pay
tuition fees for their children, the loan is usually from 15 million to 35 million, in 3 years with the interest rate of 0.65% per year.

Girls go to school more often than boys because boys often engage in work in the forest earlier (getting timber for sale or working as hired labour for companies that are allowed to exploit timber in the area).

Women also participate less in community meetings than men due to language barriers.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

In the village, there are a number of organizations established as a top-down system, such as village women's union, village party cell, youth unions, veterans’ association and farmer associations. These associations operate to support the associations at the commune level in credit management, fee collection, organization and mobilization of people to participate in meetings (with the guidance of commune-level organizations or commune-level authorities).

There are 4 families in the village, the Hung family, the Cut family, the Luong family and the Pit family. Each family has a family line head and this person will play the role of a spiritual leader of the family.

The village is one of the poor ones and has received much support from the program 135.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

People do not know any information on HPP and how the HPP is implemented. They said that some hydropower officials go to the Village but people do not know what they survey. The project staff just said that there will be HPP but do not inform further information.

If get information on HPP, people want to know when the HPP is implemented, entitlements and what impacts and how compensation is carried out.

People want to know whether they have to resettle or not. If resettlement needs to take place, the project must organize meetings to inform detailed information so people know the plan for their lives.

(Fishery group)

The discussions with participants of the forest resource user group at Huoi Xui village show that no one was aware of any specific information on the My Ly hydropower project. Some said that they just heard about the HPP. The information that people know about hydropower primarily through words of mouth. Households participating in the group discussion found that such information on HPP was not enough. They want to know how many assets are affected by the project, how much is compensated, when the project is officially implemented, where the relocation will be, the cultivated land will be provided or not. Participants want to participate in formal meetings with local staff and project staff to know information and certainty from the authority in charge of hydropower.

1.12. Additional Issues

According to the observation of research team, it is impossible for a household to catch 100kg of fish per day as through discussion, consultation with people in neighbor areas, in the same condition of ecology and aquatic resources, the fishery productivity of other villages is much lower.

Women can understand Vietnamese but cannot speak or can speak just the language a little during group discussion. There was an officer of Fatherland Fond translating when the women could not express their ideas.

Women could not remember their ages exactly, the team had to ask many times to get their ages.
According to the observation, there were 2 children bathed close to the tanks when it was 19°C then dressed warm clothes by their grandmothers.

2 Report From FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 8 participants, 4 of them were men and 4 were women. The ethnicity of the participants is Kho Mu.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1 Knowledge about the planned HPP

Discussion with FGD participants, the team found that they did not know about the planned HPP, some have just heard that there will be a HPP here. They know about the HPP by oral speaking only. The FGD participants said that such information is not enough to them.

They wish to know what is the extent of project impact, whether they are compensated? How much they will be compensated? Whether they need to be relocated, will be given with new land for cultivation? When compensation happens? When land measurement will be done?

The FGD participants expect to joint official meeting held by local authorities, project staff to know better and to have confirmation from authorized people about the HPP.

2.2 Forest use

Villagers go to forest everyday in free time, when they need food, when they visit upland field, when they visit livestock raising in forest. Some go 2-3 times a day. Men go to forest in free time, for hunting. Women usually go to forest in free time or before they prepare meal for family.

Forest surrounds the village, protects the village from flood and rain. The closest location from the village to forest is 100m, it takes 5 minutes on foot. The furthest house from forest is some of 500m.

Forest is divided in two types: production forest and protection forest.

- Planted forest (production forest) is pasture land, to be allocated directly to the village for management and exploitation. Each household is allocated 2-3 ha for planting bead-tree, syringa, etc. This forest type is allocated to the village for management and using, but there is no land use right certificate for each household. In the production forest there are area allowable for reclamation for rice cultivation, plating banana, corn, cassava, this is called as upland field.

- Protection forest is allocated by the Government to households in the village to manage and protect. Every year the village is paid by the Government for protecting forest and this amount of cash is paid to the village as a whole, part of the amount is added to the village fund, the rest is divided evenly to household per individual. The protection of forest include regular inspection to prevent forest destroy and detect any fire.

Products from forest are plenty in type, abundant in quantity and completely from nature. Villagers use such products in many purposes. Forest products include food, timber, firewood, herb, material for handicraft.

Men go in to forest for hunting for family food. They go to forest to exploit timber when they need to build house, but this must be agreed by authority. Timber is only exploited from production forest which has been allocated to the management and using of the whole village.

Women go to forest to collect vegetable, mushroom, bamboo shoot, spicy herb. Besides they go to forest to find herb to cure in case of people sick, some household collect herb to sell. Material for handicraft such as thysanolaena latifolia is collected from the forest. Mushroom, herbs are remarkable income of households in the village: bamboo shoot, mushroom, herb are dried for latter using and sell at quite high cost between 50 thousand VND to 350,000 VND per kg. Bamboo shoot and mushroom are collected mainly in rainy season, between July and August every year. Vegetable is available all the time.
Depending on each type of illness that herb will be process and used differently. Some diseases use fresh herb to take water from it or to cover on the hurt. Some diseases are treated with dried herb which is used to boil water. Herb can be collected Year-round.

The village has ghost forest where burying the death. Some important ceremonies to the death are performed there. FGD participants said that they do not have exhumation habit, in unavoidable case, they will invite wizard to offer worship and magic, not relocating the grave.

Timber cutting and exploitation is done with selection:
- Premature or stump, branches are used as firewood.
- Timber for house building is exploited from production forest under agreement by the authorities and only allow those reach the requirements.
- Illegal logging happens once in few months in protection forest but if it is detected by villagers they will report to local authorities and forest guard to prevent and treatment.

There is no pasture land for breeding since forest in the area is mainly at high sloping. Grass is collected from bare land surrounding their houses, and from the fields for raising livestock.

2.3. Hunting
Animals available in the forest include rat, bamboo rat, snake, squirrels and boar. Hunting is allowable to all of the said species. Regularly hunted is rat, bamboo rat, snake which are used in daily meal. When villagers hunt a lot they can sell to those who have no time to go to forest to sell to people in other villages who are in need. Rat, bamboo rat, bird, snake are hunted Year-round and not limited. Boar and deer are rarely hunted, board only seen during Harvest, mainly in June, July. Tools for hunting includes trap, crossbow, catapult. Gun is prohibited in any purpose.

2.4. Other information and reflections
The village is located quite far from inter-commune, inter-district road systems, accessibility is difficult with high sloping. The most possible means of transport in dry season is motorbike, or on foot in rainy season. Income of local resident comes mainly from agriculture and forest, handicraft is not yet developed. Rate of poor household is high with 69/79 households proposed to be confirmed by the authorities as poor households.

Knowledge is not high, mainly finishes primary school, some finish secondary school and number complete high school is none. This is difficulty in propaganda, training for the project. There is no secondary school class at the village, children must go to the commune with difficult accessibility and far distance.

An average household has 5-7 individual, some have 10-11 individuals. This affect to living standard particularly children and women when income is limited and not enough for family expenditures.

List of forest product and their usages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance (1 = very important, 2 = second important, 3 = least important)</th>
<th>Foe sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear</td>
<td>once-</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collected forest products</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Quantity (if available, please note)</td>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>Foe sale Y/N</td>
<td>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
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<td>-------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>twice/day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herb</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 M, VND/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1,500,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-100,000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-200,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrimp</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crab</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyster</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

**Mr. Le Manh Hung**

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 8 participants, 2 of them were men and 6 were women. The ethnicity of the participants is Kho Mu.

The list of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

**3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP**

- Villagers did not know anything about the planned HPP, and have never heard from anyone about the HPP because the village is located quite remote. Hydropower staff visited the village but they did not know the staff investigate what, they did not know anything about the project, just knew that there will be a hydropower project.

- If information is available, they wish to know when the project is implemented, what do they benefit from, is there any impact and how compensation will be?
- Villagers expect to know whether they are relocated for hydropower development or not. If yes or if there is any impact to villagers, please organize a meeting to inform villagers officially so they will prepare themselves in living.

3.2. Boat use
- No household has boat in the village, villagers travel in road and motorbike, no household has boat for navigation or fishing.

3.3. Fishing
- There are many stream, ravine and river surround the village so villagers usually go there to fish.
- All of households in the village go fishing and villagers go fishing regularly. Every households in the village go fishing, this is important source to villagers beside upland cultivation, taking timber from forest, taking other non-timber product from forest, fishing is a regular source of food.
- All villagers go fishing, regardless to sex, however male, female, young, old. Women and children use basket to fish, men use net.
- There are households with members go fishing regularly, but very few. In a lucky day, one family can fish up to 100kg of fish.
- Fish is easily to sell, however the quantity.
- Fish is normally sold to villagers or to traders.
- Villagers eat fish frequently, once every 2-3 days and they eat fish in the same day of catching.

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats
- Main tools for fishing by villagers is basket, net and rod. Men go fishing using net, women and children us basket.
- In the village area, there are many types of fishes, cannot name all, they do not know the name in Vietnamese but common species are catfish, turtle, etc…
- Villagers go fishing not only for family demand but also to sell when they catch lot.
- When they do not sell, but having lot, they will dry it for later using. They fire, smoke, salted but no one do fish sauce.
- Fishing season is normally when water is high, in rainy season, flood season, about August – October.
- Productive season of fish is normally in rainy season, high water season. Villagers go fishing all around year, without limit, as far as fish available, no abstain whether productive season or not. Spawn habitat of fish is stagnant water, in ravine but no one know exactly where the spawn is.
- Besides going fishing, villagers collect moss, algae from the river for pig and also for human.

3.5. Other information and reflections
- As visual from the site, the studied team found that it is impossible for each household in the village to catch 100kg of fish in one day. By chatting, asking and consulting with villagers in surrounding villages in the same biological zone and in similar aquatic sources, fishing productivity of villagers in other villages is much lower.

4 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Van Manh & Mr. Dang Huu Hai
General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 8 participants, of which 4 were men and 4 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnic minority people.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers, particularly FGD participants did not know anything about the planned HPP, and have never heard from any one about the HPP because the village is located quite remote. Only when there is something the commune officers will go to the village, normally only villagers go to upland field or into forest.

They do not know how the project will be constructed, and how they will be benefited by electricity generated by the project, whether they are given with priority, because they know after completion, power generated by the project will be sold monthly to them.

They wish to know what is the extent of project impact, whether they are compensated or not. How much they will be compensated? Whether they need to be relocated, will be given with new land for cultivation? When compensation happens? When land measurement will be done?

To get villagers a better understanding about the project, meeting should be organized to explain directly to villagers and they will support.

4.2. Land use

Upland field of the village is some of 2km far, taking 1.5 hour on foot. The road to upland field is sloping but some field is accessible by motorbike so time to be there only some of 30 minutes.

Total upland field area of the village is about 150 ha, each household have 1-1.5 ha, some have 2-3ha. Such land area has no land use right certificate. Household cultivates separately, but family having many generations they share with their family members but not separate. Some household, as wishes of their children, will separate 1-2 plots for them to do. Upland field is cultivated in one crop, household if have spare good land can cultivate in two crops then leaving fallow in 2-3 years before coming back. Normally the village controls their cultivation land by families, each family cultivate in one area.

The village has only upland field, rain-fed cultivation only, some households have vegetable land area where water is connected from ravine for irrigation, but made by themselves only, no technique is applied to the cultivation.

At present land of the village is enough for cultivation, but there is no land fund for reclamation because it has ran out. Families therefore have no extra land for reclamation. Land is not good because of sloping topography, but they must accept, household wish to do reclamation more land they have to ask for permission from commune authority and only do with commune permission, if not they will be punished by village rule and then being reported to local authorities.

The village has no land along river bank, villagers collects wild vegetable from the river bank for meal (women do this work).

4.3. Crops

Rain-fed rice is the most important crop, to be main food source of villagers. Maize, cassava, subsidiary crops are secondary. However, rice is cultivated in one crop with yield of some 80kg of seed for 4 ton rice/crop/year.

Products from rice, maize are sold in good harvest year, rice is less sold, with price of 7000VND/kg, maize 4500VND/kg in loosen seed, and 2500VND/kg corncob. Traders will go to the village to buy and they transport by truck.

On upland field, besides planting rice, maize, peanut, villagers plant also vegetable for family needs but not many, so women go to forest or to river bank to find wild vegetable for daily eating. To moss season, women will collect moss for their meal too.
Villagers plant rice, cassava, corn by traditional way, holing, seeding, where the field is located in low and less sloping topography, they use buffalo to break the soil and prepare the field but not in high and sloping field.

4.4. Livestock

Most of households in the village raise buffalo, cow, pig, chicken, goat, duck.

Some households raise up to 20 buffalo/cow, some only have 2-3 cattle for pulling plough and to sell when they need cash for family. The sell cattle to traders from outside. All of products which can be sold are sold to traders from outside. A good cow can bring back 30 million VND per each, buffalo costs 40-50 million VND each. So they sell only when they need cash such as when they need money for building house, chicken and pig are normally sold for smaller need. Pig price is 65,000 VND/kg, good pig costs 100,000 VND/kg.

The village also has pastureland area, some households made a group who after harvesting will raise their livestock there, but that shall close to water resource. Some households whose field is near the river raise their cattle there as free breeding.

Food for livestock is corn, cassava, vegetable.

Water sources for livestock is water river and from ravine, but mainly from the river. Some households think that diseases start from the water resources because if disease occurs, it happens to those breeding along the river which carries diseases from elsewhere.

When their livestock are sick, they ask veterinary staff from the commune to cure, some households having motorbike will go to commune/district to buy drug and cure their cattle, livestock themselves.

Households in the village have meat 10 times a week, common meats are chicken, rat (if hunted). Sometime rice is lack, but normally happen to poor households and family having few laborer. Poor households are given rice one a year, 15kg rice/individual x number of individual in the household.

67/69 poor households are hunger, lacking food for 1-2 months a year, and more in a bad harvesting year.

There is no agri-extension staff in the village but there is in commune. This officer propagandas how to plant, how to raise livestock, how to cure crop, livestock and show how to present disease and how to do livestock to villagers.

5 Report From FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Huoi Xui village with 8 participants, 5 of them were men and 2 were women. The ethnicity of the participants is Kho Mu, ages varies between 42 - 61 years old.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of FGD participants knew about the planned HPP by means of meeting on the HPP held before. But only men know better because they were invited to meetings. They said other meeting should be organized and there shall be other means of information such as speaking in their language on louder speaker. They all expressed their worries about relocation and potential disturbance to their lives.

5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village has been here for long time, but during American War, they moved to Tuong Duong, and in 2004, a part of the village moves out and known as Huoi Xui Ngoai. 100% villagers at Huoi Xui village is Kho Mu.
They vote for village head every 2.5 year. The village head must be friendly, gifted and wealthy.

There are 23 villagers work as gold collies in Kham Duc. Some other work as logging collies in Laos and only come home by the end of year, they leave for working 1 month after Tet. The village has 89 households with 462 individual. Number of people at working age is 257 people, 10 villagers cannot speak Vietnamese and they are women and elders. 100% households receive support from the Government though only 79 households are officially given with rice by the Government but they are willing to share evenly with the whole village.

Kho Mu live in house on stilts building on a large, uneven area. Before they build house by bamboo and grass, now their houses are more permanent. House always has two kitchens, the kitchen in the second room is for everyday cooking, the one next to main tower row of the house which is the third tower counting from the stairway is for worship, this is called worship kitchen and is used to cook sticky rice which reflects well-off, wealthy and comfortable. Visitor should not enter this kitchen because in their conception, it easily brings bad lucks to the house owner. Totemism reflects quite clear in Kho Mu. Family name of Kho Mu always named as an animal, furniture or vegetable, and the whole family must respect and do not eat the one in their name. In Rvai family they do not eat tiger, while branches of Rvai family, including Rvai vênh ung (tiger), Rvai tiệp (panther), Rvai đerr (grey tiger), Tmoong family do not eat weasel, fox, Rich family do not eat bird, Tva family do not collect fern to eat, etc... Nowadays, Kho Mu still remember their family names and acknowledge relatives each other, share the same ancestor, but in identity cards they have named themselves as the way Thai do such as Me, Hoang, Lo, Luong, Vi, Quang family names, etc. The ancestor ritual habit of Kho Mu is quite unique. Their ancestral altar is a fire kitchen set in the third room counting from stairway, this is where a tower connecting up to the roof and there is above a bamboo plate where the Kho Mu think it is where their ancestor live and they can invite them whenever there is a big event in the family. The protocol offering “Rư u c n” (wine drunk out of a jar through pipes) to ancestor is an important one and “Rư u c n” is made to offer the ancestor in cases of wedding, building new house and other special important ceremonies in a year by the family.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Forestry land used for upland cultivation is not net given by the Government with land use right certificate, only for residential land, not yet upland field. Whole village share the cultivation land, not yet allocating to each household. Each individual cultivates some of 5kg of seed, total will depend on number of household individual. Land is enough for households to cultivate therefore villagers do not reclaim further than the village land area.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

In case of new married couple they keep cultivating in the land area there parent and family cultivate before, no allocation specifically to them. 5 years after that will be cultivated independently and in other land plot but anyhow still within the previously allocated land area.

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of clan have no role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Sacred forest is 02 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

Rituals: before seeding Kho Mu offer worship to land god at upland field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and new rice worship (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor of Kho Mu. Every year Kho Mu organize worship twice at the temple.

The village worship is performed in December every year, representatives from households will joint, the worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year. First worship
is offered in May lunar calendar when they offer fruit and the second worship is in October of lunar year for year closing ceremony.

Ghost forest (graveyard) is located on the other side of the river, and they do not have habit of exhumation. If graveyard is submerged, they offer a worship at the village temper to inform the ghost forest god then go to forest to invite the god and ghosts to new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village. In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred places in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor (who established the village) of Kho Mu. Whenever a person die, they offer worship to various kinds of ghosts and gods, and more worships will be done when they return home from graveyard, one tray of foods outside to give thanksgiving to various ghosts met on the way who protect them home safe.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

The village worship is performed in December every year, representatives from households will joint, the worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year. First worship is offered in May lunar calendar when they offer fruit and the second worship is in October of lunar year for year closing ceremony.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is some of 1km far away. Villagers said that this area will be affected and submerged.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident, this area will be affected, submerged by hydropower project. Kho Mu do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

There are cultural works in the village which must be relocated such as temple, cultural house, school, but by custom, when a whole village is relocated, wizard will offer a worship at temples (as described above) to inform the relocation to new place. Each household, each family will offer their own worship to invite their ancestor to go with them.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Local people must be supported in performing community ceremonies (worship at temple, graveyard) and in families when they are displaced because this is unavoidable custom to Kho Mu.
6  Report From FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 10/01/2017 with 10 female participants. 8/10 participants age from 21-28, one at 45 and 1 at 50. All of them are Kho Mu; one of them is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, two finished the 4th grade, two finished the 5th grade, one finished the 6th grade and two finished the 9th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1.  Awareness about the planned HPP

FGD participants have never heard from any one about the planned HPP, this is the first time they ever heard.

They wish to have leaflet about the project so as the village head can read and tell them. They wish to have meeting and discussion like this so as they will know more about the project, how far it will impact and how they will be affected, if affected, what policy they will be benefited?

If affected, how their houses will be compensated? It will be constructed by the project in new land area or they are compensated in cash and build it themselves? Will crops be compensated?

6.2.  Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Women in the village is local resident, there is only one Laos woman (also Kho Mu) who married to a man in the village and live here. The Laos woman said that living condition in Vietnam is better than in Laos, with clothes, foods and better living conditions.

There are 5 women in the village are household heads, 4 among them are widows, one of 28 years old is single mother.

At commune center there is market, clinic and Keng Du border guard station. Women in the village visit commune center three time a month: buying medicine, rice, food, daily stuff, but they go to the district less frequent. In drought year when they do not have enough rice to eat, they have to buy, such as 2016 the harvest was lost, households in the village lack of food for 2 months in period between August and October of lunar year.

It takes 3 hours on foot to the commune center, 1 hour by motorbike. Some of 30% households in the village have motorbike.

Women are fearful to go to the commune center because they contact less with people from outside and because they do not have money, if they have they still want to go with their husbands to buy things for family.

There is only one woman of the village works as head of women union and one deputy head of women union. These two's job is organizing regular meeting for the village women, organizing programs of the village, of the commune, sometimes they propaganda about gender equality and settling couple disagreement.

6.3.  Health and nutrition

There are 4 safe water tanks constructed by the Government in 2007 which contain water from ravine. These are now upgrading, not yet accepted. Households use water from ravine for drinking and daily activities.

In summer, mothers bath their children in the river or at water tanks, in winter, some boil water to bath their children.

Common diseases on children in the village are: diarrhea due to eating, cold due to weather, measles, fever due to disease and not vaccine injection. Adult have headache, back pain, flu, women have gynecological disease.
Children also have tooth ache, but not many, only some cases because of bad taken care and nutrition regime. Mothers buy medicine from clinic to cure their children.

Children at the village are suffered also malnutrition, but not many, there are 3 cases which are affected by not breast feeding since their mothers have not enough food to eat so they are visually found not as mature as others. Some of 30% children in the village have food to eat every day, sometimes their meal only are rice and vegetable.

In a year the commune clinic gives medicine to pupils and come to the village for vaccine injection, they come every month and there is a notice before so as mothers can bring their children to an appointed location for vaccine injection.

For sickness of women: they go to clinic to buy medicine, not using herb.

There is 1 health care officer in the village whose main job is to propaganda how to prevent seasonal diseases, to keep clean the house, kitchen, eating, drinking to prevent diarrhea. If there is a serious illness case, the village health care officer is asked to instruct them how and where to inspect at the commune or the district.

There is no midwife in the village, no quack.

Few pregnancy women go regular inspection during pregnancy period. Many cases feeling well and therefore have no inspection during pregnancy period or only once then delivering at home. Only hard cases or having trouble during pregnancy period go to commune clinic. 12 days ago, there was a case delivering at commune clinic because of hard and difficulties during pregnancy.

No case of death at birth, but there were some die 1-2 months after birth. Strong women deliver at home but if there is strange phenomenon they go to clinic.

There is no HIV/AIDS case. They do not know well about HIV because they have no information. There is no specific meeting on HIV, normally it is mentioned in a mixed topic meeting so they cannot remember all.

6.4. **Education**

There are some of 20% women in the village can understand Vietnamese but not speak. 80% can understand and speak Vietnamese fluently. Main language in the village is Kho Mu language.

Women in the age from 15 to 25 can write and read Vietnamese, elders at age of 50 and older do not know Vietnamese, and they can understand from listening but cannot speak.

Children go to primary school at the village, there are 4 primary classes, 1 kindergarten class. The school classes are right at the village center, the furthest distance takes some of 20-30 minutes on foot (there are some households living separate on a slope, some of 1km from the village center, road is sloping and difficult). There are 4 primary teachers, 1 kindergarten teacher, all from outside, none of them are villagers.

Secondary school is at the commune, high school is at Muong Xen district town, there are two children study at high school coming home every school terms or after a school year because accessibility is difficult and costly. Children at secondary school age study at school at the commune center and they go on foot, they stay up at the school and come home once a week. Few household has motorbike to take their children to school, if they have, they take them school/home once a week.

Many children drop school, in the last two year, about 20 children from grade 6 drop school because they cannot afford and because their parents are not educated (50% male, 50% female). 01 male children drop his grade 9 when he finished half school year already to work as laborer in the Southern Region. No one is heard leaving to China.

Poor households with confirmation by the commune will be supported by the Government 60,000VND per month per pupils.
6.5. **Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization**

Upland field is at least 2km away, taking 40 minutes on foot. Households stay up at their field and go home every 1-2 weeks. Their children are left home themselves or left at their grandparents for caring if they are too premature. Those who children go to boarding school will stay there, if at part-time boarding school at the village will go back their grandparents at night.

Households cultivate maize, which is mainly for sale, rice is for family demand. Buffalo, cow, pig, chicken raised at upland field will be sold when they need cash for their children’s school fees or when they need cash for family.

Women go to forest to collect forest vegetable, or they go to the river to collect vegetable for daily eating (names unknown).

Besides, women go to forest to collect firewood, because forest is not so far away, the closest distance is only some of 500m, for those living further, they collect firewood when they visit their upland fields. Few men go to forest to collect firewood, sometime children older than 10 years old go to the forest with their parent to collect firewood.

Households eat meat, fish fresh. They do not eat salted meat/fish, sometime when men catch lot of fish they will sell. Sick chicken, pig will be eaten, so they have meat 4-5 days a week. In the village, only when there is event or ceremony in the family, not sick chicken or pig will be killed.

Men go to forest for hunting, small animal as squirrel and/or rat are for family eating, deer if hunted will be sold.

Agricultural products such as corn, fish, hunted animal can be sold to traders who come from outside. In the family, men are decisive maker.

There is no women credit fund in the village. Women do not borrow fund to household economic development because they cannot afford to pay back. Normally both husband and wife agree to borrow cash in case of family need or when they need a loan for an investment or spending on children studying. Normally they borrow some of 15 million VND to 35 million VND, 3 years term, interest 0.65% per year.

If it is not in harvesting time or when they do not go to forest to collect firewood, women attend to meeting more than men because men go to forest to work as laborer to a timber logging company. Women attend less to programs because they know Vietnamese not so well.

6.6. **Other information and reflections**

Recommendations to the project case:

- The project information will be better provided by meeting (oral speaking), by louder speaker in Kho Mu Language.
- Villagers wish to know more information about the project, but it shall be simple for better understanding.
- They expect to know compensation policy if their house, land are affected.

Some other notes:

- Women understand Vietnamese during FGD but they cannot speak fluently, very few chances they did. There was an officer of Fatherland Frontier Union translated if FGD attendants cannot expressed fully their speaking.
- Women cannot remember exactly their age, the question was asked over and over again before getting the answer.
- As visual, there were 2 small children bathing by their grandmother at the tank under weather of 19°C (water from ravine) then getting cloth on them.
3.6.2 My Ly Commune

3.6.2.1 Livelihoods Report

Livelihoods reports are based on the data and information collected in January 2017 in communes and through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly Hydropower project.

1 My Ly HPP and its Expected Impacts on My Ly Commune

My Ly HPP is located in Ca River at the end of Ban Ve HPP with the coordinates of the center point as 19°39′10.2″ N, 104°19′27.3″ E in the Earth coordinate system and as Đ1 (X=2.173.953,287m; Y=454.973,513m) of the center line of the reservoir with the coordinates Đ2 (X=2.173.814,790m; Y=455.390,772m) in the Vietnamese coordinate system VN2000. The center point is located about 1.6km from the border Vietnam and Lao PDR. The construction area is located in My Ly Commune, Ky Son District, Nghe An Province. The reservoir is 50km long from Xang Tren to Keng Du of Keng Du Commune. Hitherto the rate of land to be acquired has not been determined, but the affected areas that have been determined include: (i) land loss and resettlement due to the direct impacts of the reservoir in Xop Duong, Cha Nga, and Xang Tren, and (ii) direct impacts of the dam and workers’ camp on Xang Tren, and (iii) downstream impacts on Xieng Tam and Yen Hoa.

2 Land Types, Land Availability and Land Use in My Ly Commune

2.1 Land use status in the project area

According to the statistics provided by the My Ly Commune People Committee (CPC), dated Jan 2017, the agricultural land area of the commune is 17,858.20ha and accounts for 65.87% of the total land area. Hereunder are the detailed land categories.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Land use</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agricultural land</td>
<td>17.858.20</td>
<td>65.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Land for wet rice</td>
<td>31.80</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Land for wet rice only</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Land for annual plants</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>0.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Land for perennial plants</td>
<td>26.00</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Protection forest area</td>
<td>15.210.00</td>
<td>56.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Special-use forest area</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>2.520.00</td>
<td>9.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Aquaculture area</td>
<td>25.40</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: the data is supplied by My Ly CPC, Jan 2017.

2.2 Land ownership

By the end of 2016, the commune allocated and leased the total land area, i.e. (i) in 16,381.92ha of land for use, 16,341.57ha to households and individuals and 0.70ha to the Commune People’s Committee, 30.76ha to economic organizations and 8.89ha to State agencies; (ii) in 10,727.96ha of land for management, 8,439.63ha to residential communities and 2,288.33ha to the Commune People’s Committee. The land allocation, leasing and acquisition are conducted in accordance with regulations on and plan for land use as well as the procedures and regulations of Land Law 2003 and Decree 181/2004/ND-CP.
My Ly has issued land use certificates for residential land but not the certificates for paddy land or swidden area yet. The ownership of production land is based on the history of land reclamation and occupation over many generations which has been witnessed by the village’s elder and head. Hitherto the households have defined their ownership of production land using the established borders and have automatically received the long-term use rights over the land they reclaimed.

Concerning forest land, the large area is protection forest (15,210ha), under the management of the State, particularly the Provincial Forest Protection Department. Protection forest is allocated to groups of households in the form of community-based forest management. The village heads and the management boards are those responsible for protection forests.

The production land area is 2,520ha and has been allocated to the households to plant trees. However, this area is not large at present since part of production land has been converted to land for other crops, such as rice and maize. The provincial statistics department has difficulties determining the accurate arable areas of each village in general and each household in particular. Thus, the relevant figures are not available.

The commune does not have land reserve fund for the purpose of expanding production and developing residents. Thus, the new households receive land from the present land fund of their former households. In the other words, their parents share with them the production land after they get married and have themselves separated to be another household. With the average population growth rate of 1.1-1.2% and with the rapid erosion of agricultural land at present that the households will face a lack of arable land in the coming years is inevitable.

The area that has not been used yet is mostly the land along the stream or along the river on sheer slopes of the mountain that has no utility for agriculture development. The total area is 9,060ha. Thus, it is impossible to expand production land.

The surface area of ponds for aquaculture is about 25.4ha. They are mainly small ponds along the stream and scatter in the villages. Aquaculture produces small returns since the villagers do not pay attention to development but focus more on exploiting the natural resources.

2.3. Land use categories

Swidden area: The total swidden area of the commune is mostly used for agriculture. There is little distinction between land for forestry and land for agriculture. Since the cultivation depends on rainwater, most of the land is used for monoculture of a number of crops such as upland rice, maize, cassava and peanuts. Some households intercrop peanuts among maize or cassava among maize. The crop takes place in rainy season, normally from June to November. The villagers than let the plot lie fallow after the rainy season and come back to plant a new crop in the next year. A plot is normally cultivated in 1-2 years continuously and then left fallow in 3-4 years. It depends on the production land fund of the village and the households that the fallow periods vary. There are also households whose fallow period is only 2 years.

Forest area: The commune’s forest area consists of (i) protection forest area covered by mixed forests and grassland with poor quality due to illegal exploitation many years ago, (ii) production land area where some fast-growing trees such as Aracia, teak trees, or the local trees such as Chukrasia tabularis and Erythrophleum fordii are planted. However, most of forest land is used for agriculture, i.e. to grow upland rice, maize and cassava due to the lack of arable land.

Water surface area for aquaculture: The surface area is only 25.4ha. Most of the area is located along the stream or small ponds. Aquaculture is not developed here. Moreover, the water surface areas such as rivers or streams do not play any roles in aquaculture due to sheer slopes and floods during rainy season.

3 Livelihoods in the Areas to be Affected by the HPP

Due to the location in the remote mountainous areas of Ky Son District, the people are dependent mainly on agriculture and forestry. Most of the households practice subsistence farming. According to the commune’s statistics, the population dependent on agriculture accounts for 98.3%, and 80% of their incomes come from cultivation and livestock breeding. In
addition, some households also provide services and do trading, and some others go fishing for their own demands. The income from forest products except wood also makes significant contributions to the livelihoods of the households. As a poor mountainous commune listed in the program 30A, My Ly Commune has 80.67% poor households, and most of them stay in the remote areas. The per capita income is reported to be 900,000VND/month by the Commune.

Table 11. Poor and Near Poor Household Proportion of seven Villages in My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of Villages</th>
<th>Total Households</th>
<th>Total of People</th>
<th>Total of Poor Households</th>
<th>Total of Near Poor Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Sang Tren</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Cha Nga</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Xop Duong</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Yen Hoa</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Xop Tu</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Xie Tam</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Hoa Ly</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>810</td>
<td>3583</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 12. Summary of livelihood activities of the villages of My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Importance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>Local seeds are used. One crop is planted per year. Traditional cultivation techniques are used. Yields are low and instable.</td>
<td>To eat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Hybrid seeds are used. One crop is planted per year. Extensive farming is applied. Yields are low.</td>
<td>80% of the total harvest is sold. 20% of the total harvest is used for livestock breeding.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>Local seeds are used. Extensive farming is applied. Average yields are low. One crop is planted once in two years</td>
<td>To use for livestock breeding and winemaking.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>Local seeds are used. One crop is planted a year. Yields are low.</td>
<td>90% of the total harvest is sold. 10% is to eat</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>Mostly vegetables are planted in Thai villages. Small-scaled cultivation takes place along the river or around the houses.</td>
<td>To use for daily meals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock breeding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows, buffaloes</td>
<td>They are free-range and lack of food. Veterinary service is poor. Many died of diseases.</td>
<td>To sell for money to build and renovate houses.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>Local breeds of pigs. Small scale pasture farming. Free range. Lack of capacities of disease control. High death rate.</td>
<td>To sell and to eat.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>Small scale. Free range.</td>
<td>Mostly to eat. A few to sell.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods</td>
<td>Situation</td>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Importance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td>Lack of capacities of disease control. High annual death rate.</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td>Small water surface area. Undeveloped aquaculture. Small ponds along streams. Popular fish are: Ctenopharyngodon idella, Cyprinus carpio.</td>
<td>To eat.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing</td>
<td>Regular fishing in Ca River and streams. Unstable and decreasing catch.</td>
<td>To eat and to sell when the catch is more than the households’ demand.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>The protection forests are protected under community-based management and the households receive remuneration in accordance with the State’ present regulations.</td>
<td>To protect headwater protection forests and to earn the remuneration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest protection</td>
<td>Collect wild vegetables, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Auricularia auricula-judae, and herbal medicine. Hunt wild animals such as wild boars, birds, squirrels and mice.</td>
<td>To eat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-timber forest products</td>
<td>It is practiced only in villages of Thai. They use manual methods. Products are mostly sold in Lao PDR.</td>
<td>To increase the households’ income</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-agricultural activities</td>
<td>Young people of the villages by the river participate in wood manufacturing for a local company. It is a seasonal job.</td>
<td>To increase the households’ income</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood manufacturing</td>
<td>Working as helpers on the fields for some households in the villages or in Lao PDR.</td>
<td>To increase the households’ income</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working as helpers</td>
<td>Some young people migrate to big cities such as Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, and Binh Duong to work.</td>
<td>To increase the households’ income</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.1. Agriculture

Cultivation on sloping land plays a main role in agriculture. It depends on rainfall and features monoculture crops namely upland rice, maize, cassava and peanuts. The commune’s swidden area used for agriculture has not been determined since most of the arable land for rice, maize, and cassava is located right on the areas of production forests and protection forests.

The wet rice area of the whole commune accounts for 31.8ha, situated mostly in 4 villages, namely Xang Tren, Yen Hoa, Xieng Tam and Xop Tu. There is only one harvest in this area in summer-autumn season. The land here is usually abandoned and used as pastureland in winter-spring season.
Table 13. Yields of some main crops of My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Areas (ha)</th>
<th>Areas according to the commune’s statistics</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>4.988*</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>2.0-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet rice</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>3.5-4.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>360.5</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>4.0-4.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>125*</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>16-24</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>80*</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0.1-0.17</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*)-Data collected from FGDs

**Upland rice:** Upland rice is the main crop in the swidden cultivation system and holds a dominant position among the economic activities of the households because upland rice cultivation provides staple food for the households. Each household cultivates on 1.5-2.0ha. Those having more land and more labour can have the swidden area of 3.0-3.5ha. However, due to the dependence on rainfall and traditional cultivation methods, the annual upland rice yield is low and unstable. The survey findings show that the average upland rice yield is normally 2.0-3.0ton/ha. Some households reach the yield of 1.7-2.0ton/ha only. Weather is the main reason for the annual unstable upland rice yields. In addition, the fallow period is increasingly short, and the seeds are deteriorating due to the lack of focus on the seed selection and restoration, which leads to the low yields. As a result, the rate of households that were lack of staple food during March and August of lunar calendar reached 50% in some villages.

**Hybrid maize:** Hybrid maize stands at the second position in the swidden cultivation system. Maize is extensively cultivated, receives little investment; some households do not use fertilizers for maize. Each household has the average maize area of 0.7-1.5ha. Some households have much land and labour, so are able to cultivate on the areas of 2-2.5ha. The planting season is from June to November. Though the households use hybrid maize (LVN10, CP 888, NK 9698), the yield is only from 3.0 to 4.0 ton/ha, which equals to 40% of the potential yield of the seeds. The reasons for the low yield are tough weather, long lasting droughts, and cultivation without following any technical procedures. Corns are usually sold to local traders for the price of 4,000-4,500VND/kg. The rate of the total crop of corn sold in the market accounts for 80-85%, and only 15-20% is spent on livestock breeding.

Traditional cultivation techniques (slash, burn and sow seeds) is applied. The planting season is from June to November every year. The cultivation period is 2 years, and fallow period 3-4 years. Some households that are lack of land have the fallow period of only 2 years.

**Local cassava:** Cassava is the third crop in the swidden cultivation system. Cassava is extensively planted without fertilizers. They use local seeds. Each household plants 300-500 roots/year on average. Many households plant 1,000-3,000roots in large areas. Unlike upland rice and maize, cassava is planted in 2 years and harvested gradually for the demand of the households. It is estimated that cassava yield is 40-45ton/ha depending on the period the plants are kept on the fields. The crop is usually used for livestock breeding and winemaking, not to be sold.

**Peanuts:** Peanuts are mostly planted during summer-autumn season in Thai villages. Local seeds are used. Peanuts are usually cultivated as a single crop; however, some households intercrop peanuts among maize or cassava. Each household harvests 10-30kg of seeds in the area of 1,200-1,500m². The average yield of peanuts reaches 0.16ton/ha in fertile areas and even 0.20ton/ha in advantageous weather. Dried peanuts are usually sold to local traders for 25-30,000VND/kg.

**Vegetables:** Vegetables are usually planted along the river or in the gardens of a small area of 50-100m2. The common vegetables are for example Brassicaceae, Lactuca sativa, and Allium.
The crops are food for the families. Most of the vegetables are planted in Thai villages. Kho Mu do not pay attention to planting vegetables but collecting wild vegetables.

**Fruit trees**: Fruit trees are planted around houses or along the river. The common categories are Dimocarpus longan, Citrus maxima, Carica papaya, and Ananas comosus. The crops are mostly used as food and not for any commercial purposes. The yield of these trees is quite low.

### 3.2. Forestry

My Ly Commune has two forest categories, i.e. protection forest and production forest. The areas of My Ly Commune’s forests are presented as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest categories</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>15,210,00</td>
<td>Poor forest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special-use forest</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>2,520,00</td>
<td>Few trees due to cultivation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The provincial-level Forest Protection Department and Protection Forest Management Board are in charge of protection forests and special-use forests. Forests are allocated to groups of households, and their forest management is carried out under the supervision of the forest protection force station. The villagers are not allowed to collect wood and rare animals in accordance with the laws. The people and the communities participating in forest protection receive protection remuneration in accordance with the State’s regulations, which is 100,000VND/ha.

**Production forests**: The commune’s production forests are allocated to the mountainous areas with the slope of over 25%. However, due to the lack of arable area, production forests have been converted into land for staple crops, such as rice, maize and cassava. According to the commune’s statistics, the area of production forests is 2,520ha, mostly to plant the fast-growing species such as Aracia, Melia azedarach, and Chukrasia tabularis. Those trees are usually intercropped among short-day plants. In fact, production forests do not contribute to household economics but rather to agricultural production.

**Non-timber products**: The people collect non-timber products as follows:

(i) bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Auricularia auricula-judae, and wild vegetables for food of the families (wild vegetables are collected everyday, but bamboo shoots and Auricularia auricula-judae can be collected only during the rainy season);

(ii) medicinal plants to cure some common diseases such as stomach-ache, diarrhea, fever and cough in the families or in the communities. Some of the households can collect many medicinal herbs and some valuable herbal medicines to sell to traders. However, the average income is not high, about 1-2 million VND/year and not regular.

(iii) wild animals such as birds, mice, wild chicken, wild boars, and Muntiacus. Among them mice are the most popular. There are not many wild boars, Muntiacus and wild chicken. The people sometimes can catch only 1-2. They hunt to have meat for the families. Mice are the main protein source to some families in high areas. When catching big animals, they usually slaughter them and then invite other households to share with or sell some to local traders.

**Forest protection**: The total protection forest area is allocated to villages so that they manage and protect it. Those villages receive remuneration for their services. It is stipulated that the families receive 180-200,000VND/ha for each ha of protection forest. Each village receives 30-80 million VND/year on average. Part of it is used to protect forests, and the rest is shared to the households. Forest protection does not contribute much to increase the income of the households but rather to support their livelihood by securing the water supply for the households’ use and cultivation.
3.3. Fishery/River Resources Use

The feeding and breeding grounds in My Ly are small. They are mostly small ponds or some low-lying areas that are covered to raise fish, so the yield is not high. In general, aquaculture is not developed in the region and usually started spontaneously. Most of the villagers living along the river or My Ly stream have not had a custom of raising fish intensively. This might result from the low and unstable water level at present and small water surface areas.

Since the water surface area is limited due to the topographic features of the region, aquaculture has little developed. The local people’s fishing depends much on the natural fish resources of Ca River and tributaries. The villagers along Ca River use various fishing methods and their frequencies of going fishing also vary. Almost all households do fishing. Those having boats and cast nets can catch 5-7kg of fish per day and sometimes 20-30kg per day. When the catch is big, they sell to traders after going fishing. The prices depend much on the fish categories. A kilogram of Bagarius bagarius or Bagridae ranges between 200-300,000VND/kg depending on the sizes of the fish. The others can be sold for 50-80,000VND/kg. The average income from fishing of the Thai villages along the river is 5-7million VND/year. The catch and catch frequency during dry season is higher than in flood season. In comparison to 20 years ago the number of fish categories and the catch have significantly decreased since the people have overexploited the resources and electrofished.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Frequency of catch</th>
<th>Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anguilliformes</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>To eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagridae</td>
<td>Seldom</td>
<td>Mostly to sell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagarius bagarius</td>
<td>Seldom</td>
<td>Mostly to sell because this fish category has high price.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprinus carpio</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>To eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trionychidae Fitzinger</td>
<td>Seldom</td>
<td>To sell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anguilliformes</td>
<td>Seldom</td>
<td>To sell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small fish</td>
<td>Frequently</td>
<td>To eat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apart from fishing in Ca River, the households that do not have boats and women usually collect small fish, snails, shrimps, Caridina flavilineata, Brachyura and tadpoles along the river and streams by basic tools such as baskets, nets, traps, even electric fish shocker although it is banned. The daily average catch is 0.5-1kg; though the catch is small, it plays a crucial role in the families’ meals.

In addition, the community along the river also collects seaweeds and mosses to eat as vegetables. This collection is carried out mostly in dry season when the water level is low from October to next April. There is little during flood season. The amount collected annually is not significant and decreasing in comparison to 10 years ago since many people also collect.

Transportation by boat in the river is also popular since the roads inside villages are not convenient. In addition, water transportation plays a crucial role in livelihoods of some households in villages because trading, goods transportation, and fishing take place everyday in the river.

3.4. Livestock Breeding

The people in My Ly Commune mostly raise buffaloes, cows, pigs, and chicken. Most of the households use free-range method. Some households do intensive farming and use more industrial fodder in the villages near the commune center or near the road.
Table 16. The quantity of cattle and poultry in My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cattle and poultry</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>3913</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
<td>1243</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>3741*</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese)</td>
<td>18.705*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*)-estimated based on FDGs

*Cattle:* The cattle in the villages is mainly beef cattle, buffaloes, goats. There are 3913 cows and 1243 buffaloes (5,156 in total) accounting for a large number of the big herd of cattle of the commune. Cows and buffaloes have contributed significantly to the households’ income and economics and are developing. Each household has 2-3 cows. Some have large-scale livestock breeding with the quantity of 30-50 animals. There are 552 goats in the commune. Some households raise 10-15 goats since they are omnivore, hard to manage and usually create damages to crops. Buffaloes and cows are free-range on the fields or in the forests. During the planting seasons, the villages allocate a pastureland area, which is the area that is left fallow. After harvest, they are free-range again. The FGDs with the villages show that cattle breeding is facing many difficulties when the grassland area is decreasing due to the increasing demand for arable land and shortening fallow period. The lack of food for cattle in the winter months and cold weather result in a number of buffaloes and cows dead in that period.

*Pigs:* The households usually raise local pigs and use extensive and free range method. Some households in My Ly raise 5-6 hybrid pigs and use industrial fodder. Pig breeding plays a crucial role in the households’ income. Each household sells 2-3 pigs per year and earns 3-5million VND. If there is no disease, each household can sell 5-6 pigs/year or even more due to the number of pigs raised. However, pig breeding in those villages since diseases happen with the frequency of twice a year, usually in March and June. The contribution of pig breeding to the households’ economics is quite low in the case of diseases.

*Poultry:* The poultry here is chicken, ducks and geese. The households practice small-scale livestock breeding, from 10 to 20 animals/household and even 30-50/household. Poultry breeding is usually to provide food for the households. When there are no diseases, many households sell chicken and ducks. The selling price is 70-100.000VND/kg.

Though the contribution of livestock breeding to the households’ income is not considerable due to diseases and ineffective assistance of the communal-level vet; however, if the villagers are assisted with reorganization of local food resources, technical assistance, disease prevention methods, and connection to the market, this contribution can be the main source of income of the households and a complement of their livelihoods.

3.5. **Trade and Business**

*Small businesses:* Small businesses usually concentrate in the commune center, and there are some grocery stores in the villages. According to the Commune’s statistics, there are 10 households that have a shop with various articles: utensils, construction materials, food, fodder, and agricultural materials. There are 1-2 small shops in each village selling mostly daily products such as rice, fish sauce, salt, drinks, sweets, and gasoline. The income of the business households is 1-2 million VND/month and even 3-4million VND/month after harvest.

*Transportation and business in the river:* The whole My Ly Commune has 150 boats participating in businesses in Ca River including goods transportation, provision of goods and necessary products for the villages living along both sides of the river, i.e. in the territories of both Vietnam and Lao PDR. Businesses do not take place regularly. Each household has the average income of 3-5 million VND/month and mostly in the months of dry season. Some households also open grocery stores in the villages on the other side of the border to sell primary commodities for the local people’s life.
Trading and collection of non-timber forest products in Lao PDR: Some households near the border such as Cha Nga and Xop Duong usually go to Lao PDR to collect Syringa roots to sell for the price of 13-15,000 VND/kg. There are about 30-40 people going to Lao PDR to collect wood, but it is not a regular job. The income as a result is unstable because the wood resource has decreased.

Handicrafts: The handicrafts such as brocade weaving are practiced mostly in Thai villages when they are not busy on the fields. The products are usually sold to Lao PDR, and some are used to make clothes for the women in the villages. The prices range between 600-650,000 VND/piece of cloth with the size 1.8 x 0.8 m. The average income of the weaving households is 1-1.5 million/month.

3.6. Labour

Non-agriculture activities: Most job opportunities to do non-agriculture activities concentrate in the villages of Thai. Those participating in these activities are usually male and young. Each village has 2-3 people working as workers in some provinces far away such as Ho Chi Minh City, Binh Duong and Vinh City. The average income is 5-6 million VND/month. The other young males go to work for the wood manufacturing companies seasonally. Their income ranges between 300-500,000 VND/day depending on the amount of work.

Working as helper in the villages: The households that have little land or are lack of arable land due to recent separation usually work for other households in the villages including preparing land, cutting grass, harvesting for the remuneration of 100-150,000 VND/day. Those working as helpers are usually those having little land and finishing their seasonal jobs soon.

Working as helper in Lao PDR: Some women usually cross the river to harvest or plant crops. The young and the middle-aged usually go to Lao PDR to work for some wood companies or to do construction work. Jobs in Lao PDR are not regular, seasonal and sometimes when there is a request.

4 Specific Livelihoods Issues in the Villages to be Affected by the HPP

Table 17. Summary of the villages' livelihoods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village names</th>
<th>Status of livelihoods of the villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Xang Tren     | - Agriculture: Swidden cultivation plays a fundamental role in the villagers’ livelihoods.  
+ Upland rice: The average area is: 1-2 ha/household, yield ranges from 1.7-3.0 ton/ha.  
+ The average maize area is 0.1-0.3 ha/household, yield ranges from 2.5-4.0 ton/ha.  
+ The average cassava area is 0.1-0.2 ha/household; the yield after two years of planting ranges from 20-25 ton/ha.  
Insufficient arable land, short fallow period, soil degrading, seeds are unqualified and lead to low and unstable yields.  
- Livestock breeding  
Cattle breeding (cows, buffaloes, and goats) plays an important role in income. 70% households raise cows and buffaloes.  
+ The number of cows of each household ranges between 3-4 cows.  
+ The number of buffaloes of each household ranges between 1-4 buffaloes  
+ The number of goats of each household ranges between 100 goats per 20 households.  
+ The number of poultry (chicken, ducks and geese) of each household ranges about 15-20 animals.  
Traditional livestock breeding method, free-range, lack of fodder, unable to control diseases, a lot cattle and poultry die.  
- Forestry  
At present the village manages 500 ha of protection forest, receives 70-80 million VND/year. Livelihoods depend much on non-timber forest products apart from timber (wild vegetables, mushrooms, Auricularia auricula-judae, bamboo shoots, medicinal herbs to serve the daily demand of the households, not to sell. They hunt.
and trap the wild animals such as wild boars, Muntiacus, wild chicken, birds, and mice. However, the number of wild animals has been decreasing seriously for the last 10 years.

- **Aquaculture**
  All households do fishing either with various methods (boats, nets, cast nets, rods) or manually every day to have food for the families. However, the number of valuable fish and big one is decreasing.

- **Non-agriculture activities:**
  (i)- A number of households having motorboats usually transport goods to Laos or exchange for rice, chicken or pig. The households’ income ranges between 3-4 million VND/month on average.
  (ii)- Sand exploitation: Some young villagers exploit sand along the river during dry season but it is not a regular job.

### Xop Duong

- **Agriculture:**
  - Swidden cultivation plays a fundamental role in the villagers’ livelihoods.
  - Upland rice: The average area is: 2-3 ha/household, yield ranges from 2.5-3.5 ton/ha.
  - Maize: 0.1-0.2 ha/household, yield ranges between 3.0-3.5 ton/ha.
  The arable land is just sufficient. Due to old seeds, traditional cultivation techniques, the yield is quite low and unstable. Production land acquisition and resettlement will lead to many difficulties for agriculture production and livelihoods of the people.

- **Forestry:**
  The village manages 577ha of protection forest. The villagers collect mostly non-timber forest products such as mushrooms, Auricularia auricula-judae, bamboo shoots. They hunt and trap the wild animals such as birds and mice. However, the amount of non-timber forest products is decreasing.

- **Livestock breeding**
  Cattle breeding (cows, buffaloes, and goats) plays an important role in income. 70% households raise cows and buffaloes.
  - The number of cows of the whole village is 200. Each household has 2-3 cows; some have 4-5.
  - The number of buffaloes the whole village is 84. Only 20 households raise buffaloes. Each has 4-5 buffaloes.
  - 15 households have 70 goats.
  - The number of poultry (chicken, ducks and geese) of each household ranges about 15-20 animals.
  Traditional livestock breeding method, free-range, lack of fodder, unable to control diseases, a lot cattle and poultry die each year.

- **Aquaculture**
  The households go fishing in the river. Those having boats can go fishing far from the bank with cast nets, braided fishing lines. Those having no boats have the women and children participating in fishing every day in tributaries, streams or near the river. The catch is to serve the families’ meals. When the catch is big, they also sell. Prices depend of the types of fish. It can be 400,000VND/kg of Bagarius bagarius or Hemibagrus and sometimes 200-300,000VND/kg when the fish are small. The others can be sold for 100-120,000VND/kg.
  When they catch more in dry season, they dry or salt the fish to eat during the rainy season.

- **Non-agriculture activities**
  The village has about 20 people trading and transporting goods in the river, particularly transporting goods, materials, or rice. Though the job is irregular, it contributes to the households’ income. The average income per day is 300-500,000 VND/day.
  Young villagers participate in wood manufacturing for some companies. The remuneration is about 500,000VND/day.

### Cha Nga

- **Agriculture**
  Upland rice: Each household cultivates 1-2 ha/year. The yield of upland rice is 2-3 ton depending on households and cultivation areas. The yield is 1.5 ton/ha in the
Village names | Status of livelihoods of the villages
--- | ---
area of poor soil and dropped to 1 ton/ha during the years of crop failure. Upland rice is to use in the families, not to sell. Hybrid maize: Each household plants about 2-3 kg of seeds/year. The yield reaches 3.0 ton of corn/ha. The whole crop is sold to trader for 4,000VND/kg. Cassava: Each household plants about 200-300 roots. The yield after 2 years is 7-8 kg/root on average. Cassava is harvested mainly for livestock breeding and winemaking. Livestock breeding All the households raise livestock to increase the families’ income. Beef cattle: The whole village has 300 buffaloes and cows. Each household has 3-5 ones. They use free range method on the fields. The products are mainly sold to traders for 15-20million VND/buffalo or cow. Each household sells one buffalo/cow and sometimes 2-3 buffaloes/cows. Pigs: The households raise local pigs. There are some households making farms near the river, but their pigs died due to diseases. At present there are only a few pigs. Poultry: There is no poultry in the village since they all died of diseases. Livestock breeding is facing diseases. The grassland for cattle is not sufficient for the winter months. Forestry: The forest area of the whole village is about 440ha of protection forest. The villagers are not allowed to collect wood. The village receives remuneration 1million VND/household for forest protection service. The households’ livelihoods do not depend much on the forests because there are not many forest products left. At present they just collect wild vegetables and bamboo shoots, mushrooms, and Auricularia auricula-judae. The households collect much Auricularia auricula-judae and mushrooms, which are sold for 150-250,000/kg. There are few big wild animals such wild boars and Muntiacus. They mostly trap mice, wild chicken and Rhizomyinae to have food for the families. Aquaculture All the households (44/44 households) go fishing in the river. Men use boats, cast nets, or braided fishing lines to catch fish. Women and children go fishing along the streams and catch small species such shrimps, Caridina flavilineata, snails and tadpoles. When they can catch Bagarius bagarius, Hemibagrus, Bagarius rutilus and Anguilliformes, they sell for 200-300,000VND/kg. They eat the small ones. When the catch is big, they dry them to eat gradually. The fish resource is decreasing due to the increase in the fishmen. Non-agriculture activities There are some people participating in wood manufacturing in Lao PDR, mostly transporting wood by boat or digging Syringa roots to sell. The average income is about 3-5 million VND/month depending on the number of the days they go to work. Some households weave brocade and sell to Lao PDR for the average price of 600-650,000VND/piece of cloth. Each month they can sell 2 pieces and gain 1.2 million VND.

Xieng Tam
- **Agriculture:**
  - Swidden cultivation plays a fundamental role in the villagers’ livelihoods.
  + Upland rice: Each household has the upland rice area of 1-2 ha on average. The yield ranges from 1.7-3.0 ton/ha.
  + The average maize area is 0.1-0.3 ha/household, the yield ranges between 2.5-4.0 ton/ha.
  + The cassava area of a household is 0.1-0.2 ha on average, the yield after 2 years of planting ranges between 20-25 ton/ha.
  The arable land is not sufficient. The fallow period is short. The soil is degrading. The seeds cannot ensure the quality, which leads to low and unstable yield.
  - **Forestry:**
    The village is managing 528ha of protection forest. The households manage in the form of community-based forest management. The annual expense is 50-150million VND and varies among years. The villagers mostly collect non-timber forest products such as bamboo shoots, wild vegetables, Auricularia auricula-judae mice,
Village names | Status of livelihoods of the villages
--- | ---
birds, wild chicken for their daily meals. The big animals such as wild boars, Muntiacus are rare. In production forests Dendrocalamus membranaceus Munro and Acacia dealbata are mostly planted. The accurate area is not determined. It is estimated about 50ha. The economic productivity is not high since the villagers have transport them downstream if they want to sell.  
- **Livestock breeding**  
The villagers raise mostly big cattle (cows, buffaloes), which play a significant role in their livelihoods.  
+ Cows: 500. Each household has 2-3 cows. Some raise many and have 30-40 cows.  
+ Buffaloes: 100. About 80 households raise buffaloes.  
+ 12 households raise goats. The whole village has 40 goats.  
+ Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese): each household has about 20.  
They use traditional breeding method: free range. There is a lack of fodder. Diseases are uncontrollable though the communal vet has intervened. A large number of cattle and poultry die every year.  
- **Aquaculture**  
The households have no fishing ponds. All households have boats. Women and children go fishing close to the bank and along the stream in order to ensure the food for the family every day. The catch from the river is decreasing due to the increase in fishermen.  
- **Non-agriculture activities:**  
(i) There are 40 motorboats that usually transport goods to villages in Lao PDR. The villagers make wood during dry season. The average income each month is 3-5 million and varies among households.  
(ii) There are 40 people going to Lao PDR, mostly young people. The average income is 200-300,000/day. They work 4-5months/year.  
(iii) There are 30 people working for companies in Vinh and Hanoi with the average salary of 5million VND/month.  

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**Yen Hoa**  
- **Agriculture:**  
Swidden cultivation plays a fundamental role in the villagers’ livelihoods. Each household has 4ha of swidden area on average.  
+ Upland rice: Each household has the upland rice area of 1-2 ha on average. The yield ranges from 2.0-3.0 ton/ha.  
+ The average maize area is 0.13-0.15 ha/household, the yield ranges between 3.0-4.0 ton/ha.  
+ The cassava area of a household is 0.1-0.2 ha on average, the yield after 2 years of planting ranges between 18-20 ton/ha.  
The arable land is not sufficient. The fallow period is short, 3-4 years. The soil is degrading. The seeds cannot ensure the quality, which leads to low and unstable yield. 15/99 households are facing a lack of food.  
- **Forestry:**  
The village protects protection forest but has no idea about the accurate area and receive a remuneration each year for its service. Most of that amount is used as the village’s fund. The rest is shared to the households. Each of the receives about 1 million VND/year.  
Each household has 2-3ha of production forest to plant Melia azedarach. There are only 100 households that have production forests. The State has not allocated this forest so there is no land use certificate. There is no income from this forest. The households gain mostly from upland rice and maize intercropped in that area.  
- **Non-timber forest products:** Women go to the forests to collect wild vegetables to eat and to sell when they can collect a lot. The amount to sell is not much. The herbal medicines such as “củ xa nhân”, Smilax roots, Ganoderma lucidum are usually dried and sold. Each household earns about 0.1 ton of dried products/year with the price of 60-70,000 VND/kg, equal 6-7 million VND/year.  
- **Livestock breeding:**  
They usually raise big cattle such as cows and buffaloes, which has a significant
**Village names** | **Status of livelihoods of the villages**
---|---
| role in the villagers’ livelihoods.  
+ Cows: 200. Each household has 1-2.  
+ Buffaloes: 40. Only 15 households raise.  
+ Pigs: 400. Each household has 3-4, mostly local pigs.  
+ Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese): mostly died of diseases. The whole village has about 400 left.  
They use traditional breeding method: free range. There is a lack of fodder.  
Diseases are uncontrollable though the communal vet has intervened. A large number of cattle and poultry die every year.  
**Aquaculture:**  
The households usually go fishing except when they work on the fields. They have boats and tools (cast nets, nets, braided fishing lines) so usually go fishing in the river. Women and children go fishing along the river using basic tools such as basket or fish traps.  
The catch is not large. If it is or there are Bagarius bagarius, Hemibagrus, Bagarius rutilus and Anguilliformes, they sell for 200-300,000VND/kg. They eat the small ones.  
**Non-agriculture activities:**  
Each household in the village has boat to transport food along the river such as rice, wood, construction materials. The job is irregular. They earn about 300-500,000/day.  
A small number of young villagers and middle-aged ones do construction work, transport materials, or work in wood manufacturing for some companies. Their income is about 200-400,000VND/day. It is irregular.  
| Xop Tu | **Agriculture:**  
- Swidden cultivation plays a fundamental role in the villagers’ livelihoods. All the village has 525ha of swidden area. Wet rice area is 17 ha under the management of 15 households. Swidden cultivation is the main source of livelihoods of the villagers.  
+ Upland rice: Each household has the upland rice area of 1-2 ha on average. The yield ranges from 3.0-4.0 ton/ha. Some households gain 2.5-3.0 ton/ha due to bad weather and the two-year fallow period.  
+ The average maize area is 0.1-0.14 ha/household, equal 1 kg of seeds. The yield ranges between 4.9 ton/ha. It is unstable due to the disadvantageous weather. The villagers sell maize to traders for the price of 3-3,500VND/kg.  
+ Each household plants 100-300 roots of cassava and after 2 years harvest 18-20 ton/ha.  
+ In addition, they also plant some other crops such as peanuts, taro intercropped among vegetables.  
The arable area is just sufficient for the households. However, the fallow period is only 2-3 years. The soil is degrading. The old seeds do not ensure quality. The weather is disadvantageous so the yield is low and unstable. The tough weather in 2015-2016 led to a number of households facing a lack of food (22/175 households).  
**Livestock breeding:**  
The villagers raise mostly big cattle (cows, buffaloes), which play a significant role in their livelihoods.  
+ Cows: 320. Each household has 1-2 cows.  
+ The whole village has 50 goats.  
+ Pigs: 350 local pigs. Each household has 1-2 gilts/sows. The number of piglets is hard to calculate.  
+ Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese): each household has about 20-30  
They use traditional breeding method: free range. There is a lack of fodder.  
Diseases are uncontrollable though the communal vet has intervened. A large number of cattle and poultry die every year. Many households are unable to pay to loans that they borrowed to develop livestock breeding  
**Forestry:**  
The households participate in protection forests and receive 1 million each year for that service. Production forests are used to plant short-day plants such as rice,
Village names | Status of livelihoods of the villages
---|---
maize, cassava.  
Non-timber forest products: The households’ livelihoods depend much on forests to collect bamboo shoots, wild vegetables, mushrooms. Auricularia auricula-judae mice for their food everyday. When they can collect much, they dry them or sell them. The herbal medicine is used to cure diseases or to use as tea to drink everyday. They mostly hunt mice, birds and wild chicken to eat. The big animals such as wild boards, Muntiacus and bears do not appear any more.  
Aquaculture  
All households do fishery with various levels. Some have boats and tools such cast nets. They catch fish to eat and sometimes to sell when the catch is big. Those having no boats go fishing close to the bank or along the streams. The fish catch has decrease much in comparison to 10 years ago.  
Non-agriculture activities  
The village has some households that have boats to transport and trade goods in the river, mostly to transport wood from Lao PDR. They earn 400-500,000VND/day. However, it is not a regular job. Each month they can earn 3-4 million, and can do it only during the dry season. There is no one migrating to work for some companies.

Programmes and projects in the area

Program 30a: Assistance in fast and sustainable poverty reduction for 62 poor districts; Assistance in production (preferential lending, direct assistance with plants and animals; job creation and income increase, including exporting labour in the poor districts abroad; vocational training and awareness increase; complementation of human resources at various management levels and working groups; investment in infrastructure at villages, communes, and districts.

Program 135: Investment in infrastructure, assistance in production development to the extremely poor communes, border communes, communes in historical safe zones and especially poor villages; assistance for the people’s life by essential commodities such salt, rice when hungry, seeds, animals and techniques

National target program on new rural development: Program on new rural development in combination with Program 30a focuses on infrastructure development: communal-level roads, schools, and clinic, for example, have been built for the past few years.

Program on sustainable development and payment for environmental services: The households receive remuneration for forest protection services that is paid by the hydropower companies. The remuneration depends on the area of forests under management.

In addition to the national programs, the province and district also have some programs supporting production development such as: livestock development, cooperation with private companies in job creation, and handicraft development.

Program on credit and access to loans: At present the households in rural areas in general and the project area in particular have access to rural credit programs through Vietnam Bank for Social Policies and Vietnam Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. The preferential credit programs with low interest rates (Table 6.6) facilitates production development for poor households. This is one of the available sources for affected households and vulnerable households to recover livelihoods in addition to the Community Livelihood Development Plan of the Project.
Table 18. Some local credit programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Preferential lending programs</th>
<th>Interest rate (%)/month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Normal lending to poor households (Decree No. 78/2002/NĐ-CP)</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under which: lending to poor households in accordance with Decision 30a at poor district</td>
<td>0.275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lending for Job Creation (Decision 71/2005/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lending to students (Decision 157)</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lending to poor and ethnic households to export labour (Decision 71/2005/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lending to other customers to export labour (Decision 71/2005/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lending to poor households to build houses (Decision 167/2008/QĐ-TTG)</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lending – rural water supply and sanitation (Decision 62/2004/QĐ-TTG)</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lending to the extremely poor ethnic households (Decision54/2012/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lending to households in the difficult areas for production and business activities (Decision31/2007/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lending to traders in difficult areas (Decision 92/2009/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lending to the near-poor households (Decision15/2013/QĐ-TTg)</td>
<td>0.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the social economic survey in the project area, the State’s supporting policies brought necessary impacts on the people’s life. However, the people’s income is still at the low-average level; the rate of households falling back in poverty remains high. There are a big number of households that have overcome poverty line but their incomes are still close to the poverty line. The gap between the rich and the poor remains huge. There remain many difficulties for the poor and especially the ethnic minorities. Thus, the assistance for livelihood recovery is a necessary program for the affected community.

5 Expected Impacts on Livelihoods

According to My Ly Hydropower Plan, the dam is going to be built at Xang Tren village, about 1km to the village and on the upstream area. My Ly HPP after construction will have impacts on the people’s livelihoods in many ways:

(i) - Resettlement due to the impacts of the reservoir and road construction for the construction of the hydropower plan

(ii) - Permanent or temporary land acquisition and importantly arable land loss in order to support the project construction and allocate land for resettlement. In addition, land acquisition will have direct impacts on livestock breeding of the villages since the swidden area is reduced or the fallow period is shortened.

(iii) Activities using water transport such as travelling, transportation, trading of all villages will be affected or terminated when the dam is being constructed.

(iv) Fishery and the catch in the downstream will be reduced due to the impacts of dam construction, affecting direct the meals of the downstream households.

(v) Water resources and the quality of downstream water will be affected during the construction period. These impacts will affect the downstream people’s life since they use river water to wash themselves, wash clothes and even to drink and eat everyday.

(vi) The arable area along the river of the downstream villages can be affected during the release of floods. In addition, the release of water can affect the households’ assets such as boats, livestock pens, and tools to catch fish in the river.
(vii) There are impacts on the community’s health, transmission diseases, noise, transport accidents during the construction due to the number of workers constructing the hydropower plant, operating machines, and vehicles with higher density.

(viii) The social evils such as drug users, prostitution, and security are at risk from increasing during the construction, after the compensation and resettlement.

It depends on the distances of villages to the dam that the impacts of the HPP on them vary. The upstream villages such as Cha Nga and Xop Duong will suffer from land acquisition, resettlement, arable land loss and limit in trading by water transport due to impacts of the reservoir and the dam. Though the downstream villages will not have their production land affected but the impacts on water transport, fishery, water quality will be serious when the water is released. In addition, other impacts during the construction including workers, noise, dust, polluted waste will have direct impacts on the villages near the construction. The impacts on forests can increase during resettlement plan since the villagers need wood to build houses.

The impacts of My Ly HPP on the villages' livelihoods are summarized as follows:

**Table 19. Summary of expected impacts on livelihoods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Expected impacts and causes</th>
<th>Impact level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cha Nga</td>
<td>Due to the reservoir impacts, the whole village is relocated. (94 households).</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loss of production land and forest land along the river. It is estimated that about 15% of swidden area of the village along the river can be lost.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water transport will be affected due to construction of the dam and its safety corridors. Trading and transport on the river of the downstream villages will be affected.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xop Duong</td>
<td>Due to the reservoir impacts, the whole village is relocated. (55 households).</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loss of production land and forest land along the river. It is estimated that about 15-20% of swidden area of the village along the river can be lost.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water transport will be affected due to construction of the dam and its safety corridors. Trading and transport on the river of the downstream villages will be affected.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xang Tren</td>
<td>The households close to the river will be relocated due to the possible impacts when the water is released. Or land acquisition for construction.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent loss of production land due to the close distance to the dam, roads and upstream reservoir. It is estimated that about 30% of upstream swidden area close to the river will be inundated due to the reservoir’s impacts</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temporary land loss for construction site for building the plant, roads, and workers’ camp.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The dam will cut water way to transport, travel and trade.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Downstream aquatic resources will have impacts on fishery and daily meals of the households.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Security and the community’s health will be affected due to the number of workers building the hydropower plant.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other impacts such as noise, dust, transport, polluted waste during the construction.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xieng Tam</td>
<td>Land loss due to the expansion of access road, which has not been determined accurately but it is not a huge impact.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When the dam is built, downstream fish resources will be affected, which then has impacts on the households in the village.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Villages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Expected impacts and causes</th>
<th>Impact level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water way is cut due to the dam, which will have impacts on the trading activities of 40 households having motorboats.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The water quality during the construction can be affected since the village uses river water to wash themselves, wash cloths, and eat.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The cultivation areas along the river (vegetables, fruit trees) can be affected by the water release during the operation.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Security and the community’s health will be affected due to the number of workers building the hydropower plant.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yen Hoa</td>
<td>When the dam is built, the downstream fish resources will decline and have direct impacts on daily meals of the households.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water way is cut due to the dam, which will have impacts on the trading activities of 40 households having motorboats.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The water quality during the construction can be affected since the village uses river water to wash themselves, wash cloths, and eat.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The cultivation areas along the river (vegetables, fruit trees) can be affected by the water release during the operation.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xop Tu</td>
<td>When the dam is built, the downstream fish resources will decline and have direct impacts on daily meals of the households.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water way is cut due to the dam, which will have impacts on the trading activities of 40 households having motorboats.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The water quality during the construction can be affected since the village uses river water to wash themselves, wash cloths, and eat.</td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The cultivation areas along the river (vegetables, fruit trees) can be affected by the water release during the operation.</td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*) Levels: Low=L, Medium=M, High=H

### 6 Other information and reflections

The reservoir border was not determined during the survey, and the area of the land acquired since the reservoir impacts are purely estimated according to FGDs.

The statistics and estimated data of land loss is different from the records and statistic of the commune have not been standardized.

Though it is inaccurate, the FGDs can be used to assess the present livelihood status and production system of the villages in the project.

The impacts on livelihoods of the villages are still estimated. In order to determine impact levels, there should be more fieldtrips.
### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

**Date** 1/15/17  
**Village** Cha Nga

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lo Van Binh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Luong Thi Thoong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Luong Van Thuong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lo Thi On</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Luong Van May</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vi Thi Huong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lu Van Thoong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lo Thi Mang</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lo Thi Thuyen</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>I. Agriculture and Livestock Breeding</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vi Van Manh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lu Van Bieng</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Luong Thi Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lo Van Huong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Luong Van Nhe</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lo Ngoc Su</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lu Van Ba</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lu Van Kham</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>II. Use of Forest</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lo Van Bon</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vi Thi Chan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lo Thi Ha</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vang Thi Xoon</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lo Thi Thu</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vi Thi Lam</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Vi Me Phanh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Luong Van Coong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Vi Van Lieu</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>III. Aquaculture - Use of River</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vi Thi Thoong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kha Thi Thit</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lo Thi Huong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Luong Thi Pieng</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lu Thi Ky</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lo Thi Thu Huong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lu Thi Tuyen</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lo Thi Dam</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Male: x
- Female:  
- Occupation: Farmer
- Ethnicity: Thai
### Village Summary Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

#### 1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

The Village is near Nam Non River, the distance from the nearest house to the bank edge of the river and the Village has gentle slope. Houses are allocated near each other with typical structure of Thai, which is high stilt house made from wood.

The Village is bordered by Keng Du Commune and far from the communal center leading to difficulty to access, they have to go by boat (2 million VND/round trip for a boat, people will contribute money for a round trip). If there is no boat, they have to go by road but it is difficult in the rainy season as the road is used to transport woods. If they go on foot, it takes 1 hour so women rarely go to communal center, only have things to do (parents meeting for children, health examination, administration procedures in the commune…)

Water are taken from the stream into the water tank. They use water for cooking, taking bath, washing clothes and other daily activities.

The Village has not had national electricity grid; they use accumulator or small hydropower.

The road is made by soil. Hygiene condition of the Village is not good since cattle dung as well as garbage are not collected.

There are some rudimentary toilets outsides. Most of households do not have toilet.

#### 1.2. Population

100% of villagers are Thai. There are 96 households with total of 444 persons. People in working age account for 50%.

56 households are poor, 20 households are marginally poor. There used to be 20 households that do not have enough food. In 2015-2016, this number increased to 40 households because of bad crops. They do not have enough food in 1-3 months.

According to the villagers, the reasons for poverty are (i) no convenient access to the road; (ii) a lack of a large area of production land and quite steep; (iii) soil emaciation and unfavorable weather; (iv) a lack of business skill; (v) some lazy households; and (vi) drug addict.

Migration does not take place here. Individuals go and leave the Village by marriage. Men and women can get married in the same village, they also get married to someone with same ethnic in other villages. About 50% of women have husbands from the same village, the rest are from...
other villages; they moved here for marriage. As the village is near Laos, their children go to Laos for trading or working at company, they met their soulmates then got married and lived at the Village or husband’s family in Quang Ninh, Thai Nguyen, Hai Phong, or Laos.

7 widows are household heads, no one is single mother.

1.3. Village History and Migration

The Village was created long time ago. The Village used to belong to Thien Ly commune; however, in 1986, the Village was integrated to My Ly commune. 100% of villagers are Thai.

Migration does not take place here. Individuals go and leave the Village by marriage.

Some villagers go to work in Laos (9 men) and Ho Chi Minh City, Quang Nam. 5 men go to Quang Nam for digging gold and 10 people (in which 4 women) work at Garment Company in Ho Chi Minh City.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

The total area of production land is about 2000ha. Upland fields are from the river bank to the mountain peak, of which the area along the river is small. Cultivation in upland fields is the main livelihood with a crop/year and totally depends on rain water. Cultivation land was planned, however the Village cultivates by production groups. There are 4 production groups in different areas. Allocation of cultivation area is identified by stream, big trees. On average, each household customarily cultivates 3 ha.

Due to the slope of the area, machines and cow/buffalo cannot be used to plow. People can only use hoes to make land.

The scared forest is 4ha. Exploitation and hunting are forbidden here. The cultivation method is to dig holes and plant seeds. Each household cultivates 1-1.5ha of rice, 1000-1500m2 of maize and 7000-9000 m2 of cassava.

Upland fields were allocated for the households to cultivate without land right use certificate. However, the land is determined between households customarily.

Currently, the land fund ran out, no area can be longer reclaimed for new households, they cannot buy land even if they have money.

Households will face difficulties if cultivation land is acquired as land fund in upland field ran off.

Land along the river is used to grow fruit trees. Vegetables can be grown in this area as the slope is too high.

Residential area is small, each household has 150m2 and does not include garden land. They have land right use certificates for residential land.

There is no one having authority to allocate land to households. Households are cultivating in the area which were reclaimed and then planned as production area by communal and district PC. Therefore, no one is allowed to reclaim more land and new households will use available land of their large household, then they apply to CPC for more production land; however, due to the lack of production land and the surround forest has been zoned for protection, so no more land is provided. Therefore, the land area of the households with many children is becoming smaller as they have to divide land for their children and the fallow circle for restoration is shortened (about 5 years now in comparison to 10 years previously).

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture and production systems:

Main crops: upland rice, maize, cassava, peanuts
### Agricultural production:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average productivity (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Importance Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>3.0-3.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>3.0-4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upland rice**: On average, each household cultivate 1-1.5ha/year with local glutinous rice, the productivity is unstable depending on weather, productivity reaches 3-4 tons if the weather is nice, productivity reaches 1 ton/ha or there is no harvest if the weather is bad due to droughts. Households rarely sell rice, they keep it to eat.

**Maize**: Households only grow 1-2kg seeds, equivalent to 0.1-0.15ha. The productivity is low with 3-4 tons/ha, sometimes 2 tons/ha. After harvesting, maize is sold for local trader at price 3.000-4.000 VND/kg.

**Cassava**: Each household grow 700-1000m2 of cassava in 2 years with productivity reaches 16-20 tons/ha. They use cassava to make alcohol and breed livestock.

**Peanuts**: Only some households grow peanuts with local seeds, the productivity reaches 1200kg/ha, sometimes they only can harvest 700kg/ha. They use peanuts for family.

Agricultural activities depend on human labour and restoration level of land naturally. They cultivate one crop on one plot in 1 year then leave it fallow for restoration in 3-4 years.

In agricultural production, they still remain labour exchanging and hiring. Labour wage: 100.000 VND/day (exclusive of meals).

Agricultural products are only used for household needs, they are not sold as the traffic is not convenient: there is no access road to the Village for car, transport by boat is difficult with high price.

- **Buffalo**: 40 households have more than 100 buffaloes belong to 40 households, 70 households have more than 200 cows, mainly grazing on upland fields and forests. There is no pasture, the grazing area is mainly fallow area. There are 4 grazing areas, the Village does not divide breeding groups as other places.

- **All households used to raise chickens**, however, three to four months ago, chickens died of diseases so only some households raise chickens.

- **Pig**: Some households have one or two pigs, because many pigs died last year, the quantity is little. In the village there are 10 households raising chicken and pigs along the river. Diseases of livestock are caused by the weather, not by the water.

- **Cattles** are sold to the Mong people in Muong Ban village (about 60km away from the Village), the price is about 10-15 million VND /cattle, they sell 1 cattle per 2 -3 years.

- **Currently**, they are only raising about 50 chickens and pigs. As livestock have died of diseases, they only raised for family or worship.

- **People do not have the habit of having cattle and poultry vaccinated.** They only get livestock injected medicine when they are sick.

- **Veterinarians will come in if the people inform.**

*Use of river resources*
- About 80% of households have boats. Households that do not have boats can share or borrow boats of other ones. There are mainly motorboats, some households use normal boat to fishing. Traffic of the Village mostly depend on boats as the road is not convenient. Boats are used for fishing, delivering goods, trading, transporting rice, maize, woods from the upland fields. Households do not share a boat; each boat belongs to one household. They also use boat to go to Laos for visiting relatives, friends.

- 100% of households in the Village go to fishing frequently. They go to fishing 3-4 days per week. Some people go fishing for both food and sale. Some go fishing mainly for food, they only sell when they have some left.

- They catch fish by fishing gear, cast nets, and almost all households have these fishing tools.

- People do not grow vegetables on the land along the river. They only collect wild vegetables. There are some kinds of wild vegetable along the road that can be eaten, however people do not know the name. People sometimes collect wild vegetables along the river, they mostly collect vegetables grown on the upland fields. In the forest, there are more kinds of edible vegetables.

- People collect moss in the river. Moss can be cooked and eaten as vegetables.

**Use of forest resources**

Forest is the main livelihood of the villagers. The forest is 3km far from the village, it takes 30-40 minutes to get there. The village have protection forest and production forest:

- The forest around the village has been planned for protection. This forest is not allowed to be exploited by the people, and if they exploit, they will be dealt with in accordance with the law. Protected forests are allocated to villagers for protection. The State provide fee of forest protection annually. Part of the forest protection fee (30%) is kept as the general fund of the village, the rest is divided equally to households.

- People go to the forest for hunting and collecting timber, firewood, and herbs. Women go to the forest for firewood, vegetables, bamboo shoots, herbs, spices, and Thysanolaena latifolia.

- Herbs are collected for healing, drinking, prepared and combined in different ways depending on the type of disease. Herbs include Stemona tuberosa Lour, Balanophoraceae, lingzi mushroom, ginseng, Tinospora crispa, Homalomena occulta, and Cibotium barometz. The herbs are collected year-round, some kinds are collected the most in the rainy season. Any herb that is collected is not going to be used for sale and for sale only when the money is short. In the village there are some collectors who sell; some people go to the Village to order the villagers collect for them.

- Mice, birds, snakes, squirrels, goats, gilts, wild chickens, wild boars are used for food and for sale. Wild animals are hunted all year round, and wild boars are hunted only when the harvest season comes. Wild boars are not forbidden to hunt.

- Vegetables, bamboo shoots and mushrooms are available in daily meals or simply processed for domestic consumption or sale. Vegetables, mushrooms and bamboo shoots are collected the most during the rainy season from July to August every year.

- Timber is used to build houses, livestock breeding facilities. The people collect timber and firewood throughout the year when they need. The forest is not rich anymore, people have to buy woods when they need.
- Sacred forest area is a graveyard of the village. Encroaching on this area is forbidden.

**Hunting**

According to the opinions of most villagers attending the group discussion, animals are mice, mice, birds, snakes, squirrels, gilts and wild boar. The villagers hunt many animals except the rare species. Wild animals are hunted mainly for the needs of the family. People only sell wild animals to other villagers or people from other villages when they can catch more than their needs. They also said that if they go to the forest regularly, they will have meat everyday. Tools for hunting are usually traps, crossbows, and slingshot. Guns are not used.

**Tables of forest products and using ways**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collecting products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if possible)</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
<th>For sale Yes/No</th>
<th>Price/Kg or /product (if possible)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo roots</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>1-3 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood’s ear</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spices</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1,500.000/item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muntjac</td>
<td>1-3 months/time</td>
<td>All seasons</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>1-2 times/week</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild boar</td>
<td>6-12months/time</td>
<td>Harvest season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhizomyinae</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50.000/item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jungle fowl</td>
<td>1-2 weeks/time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other livelihoods**

There is no market in the village, only some families sell groceries. Each month, 1-2 traders in Muong Xren or My Ly bring food and utensils to the Village for sale and they buy brocade woven
by Thai women (Every household has a loom). Women make their own skirts. It takes 4-5 days to weave a simple skirt, they also sell if someone needs. Each skirt can be sold for the price of 500,000-600,000 VND; the yarn costs 200,000-300,000 VND.

1.6. Education

Everyday people talk to each other in Thai language. About 25% of women are literate; original villagers know little Vietnamese, only women coming to the village for marriage speak fluently the language. The majority of women originally coming from the Village and aged over 30 do not speak Vietnamese.

There is a primary school and kindergarten in the village, so children can finish grade 5 near their homes, and then they go to secondary school in My Ly and high school in Muong Xen. There is only one student enrolling the boarding school in Vinh, he is the son of the village head. When they go to secondary school in the commune, the children who study at boarding school will be subsidized by the state (if poor households), the rest must be stayed at the relatives or rent a house. Student go back home one time per week or few weeks by walking.

Many students drop out of school because schools are far away from the Village and have difficulty in completing their studies so they cannot get a job. Therefore, so many students drop out between the age of 12-13 years and even older.

1.7. Health and Health Care

The village has two people trained: 1 medical primary (male) and 1 medical intermediate (female), in which village health workers have primary qualifications.

The village has 3 traditional healers (2 males, 1 female)

+ Ms. Hien - 50 years old, uses wild herbs to cure diseases related to asthma, colon, and stomach. Previously, people had to give a chicken and pay money depending on the disease (10-20-50,000 VND / time). Now she makes tobacco to sell for the patient (50,000 VND / bunch). Usually 5 to 10 bundles of herbs can cure the disease. Solders often buy her medicine.

+ Mr. Phuc 53 years old, can cure bone-joint diseases with the same method as Ms. Hien's.

+ Mr. Vinh can cure the kidney disease, i.e. kidney stones with the same method as Ms. Hien's

Private medical services are provided by a married couple who both are health workers (wives with intermediate medical qualifications). There is a mini-pharmacy at home to provide initial medical treatment for the patients when needed. Services include prenatal care, infusion, bandage, injections, delivery, and medical consultation for children.

The nearest hospital is Muong Xen district hospital, about 60 km away from the village. People have to go to My Ly commune by boat or on foot and then drive to the district hospital.

People go to the communal clinic by motorboat / boat (about 1 million per way). It takes about a day if they go on foot.

The most important problem with access to public health services is the lack of transportation means (but uncomfortable and expensive for the poor if used). Previously, the clinic sent people to the village to provide vaccination services. Now people have to go to the clinic, so just few people use this public health service.

People use water from stream. Every 10 houses share a stream. People contributed a little bit and the rest was supported by the state for cement and pipe to take water to the village. There are very few houses have with bathhouses, so most people go to the river for a bath. When it is cold, babies are bathed in the house, but the older ones bathe themselves in the river.

Children in the village often suffer from pneumonia, fever, and diarrhea, while women suffer from gynecological diseases due to unclean water. In case of illness, the villagers use herbs to cure themselves.
There are medical stations in the commune center. At the clinic, there are midwives and delivery rooms and rooms for patients to stay for medical treatment, but the commune clinic is very difficult to reach and patients only go there in severe cases. There is a pharmacist in the Village, therefore people come to buy medicine and ask for advice. In the village, there are 3 traditional healers (2 men and 1 woman) who can cure a number of diseases such as asthma, stomach pain, colon, osteoarthritis, kidney using herbs.

Malnourished children account for about 30-40% of children in the village. Data may be inaccurate since it was purely estimation. However, it can be seen that many children have rickets, lack of substances because their mothers have not received sufficient nutrition during pregnancy. Very few children were vaccinated because many households cannot afford it.

Pregnant women are not vaccinated, either, because they cannot go far. 90% of women give birth at home. They are brought to the clinic or hospital only in emergency cases. There is one woman who has intermediate qualification in medical care and can help the others in case of difficulty deliveries without receiving money. In addition, when giving birth, women also ask for help from neighbors. There are also many cases of giving birth with the help of family members.

Previously, many women died previously due to the lack of antenatal checkups; in some cases, both the mothers and children died. These situations have not happened recently. Last year there were 3-4 miscarriages since the women worked hard during pregnancy.

80% of teenagers who dropped out of the school are drug addicts; most of them are boys. One woman is drug addict; however, she has moved to Laos for business for the past 2-3 years. There are 8-9 couples divorced since the husbands are drug addicts. 6-7 women are beaten by their husband when they asked for money to buy drugs. No one in the Village suffers from HIV/AIDS. People are also being propagated about the harm of these diseases.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

100% people in the village are Thai. Women who got married and moved into the village are Lao and Kinh people; however, they follow the Thai custom.

There is a sacred place, where people worship the Village God. It is located in the mountain near the road to the village. The Village God is the one that created the Village but no one remembers the name. People perform ceremonies at the temple annually, including:

- The April ceremony – This is held in the beginning of new crop (before preparing land and sowing). The purpose of this ceremony is to ask for good weather and good harvests.
- The November ceremony – the new rice ceremony. This is held before harvest. The purpose is to inform the Village God the results of the year.

The Ceremony of the end of the year – held in December annually with the participation of representatives of households. The ceremony is taken place in front of the Village, where it is forbidden to cut, destroy trees or throw waste. The villagers slaughter a pig during the celebration. If the harvest is good, they slaughter a cow. When worshiping the Village God, people will invite Water God and Forest God. On the last day of the year under the lunar calendar, according to the custom, all family members wash their hair. This custom means throwing unlucky things in the old year and welcoming new, happy things in the next year. Then they wear new clothes. For women, they will wear colorful clothes, especially Thai clothes with jewelry. In the past, Thai have a custom of calling spirits for family members in the evening of December 28, 29, and 30 under lunar calendar. They offered 2 chickens, one for ancestor, one for calling spirits of death members. They also had custom on using water for lucky. For Thai, water means good things, propensity and raising all species. Water must be taken before chicken crows the first time. If water is taken after chicken crow, then it means nothing. Water is taken from stream, if anyone can take water from the upstream then the water is more purify. According to Thai, if people use water from upstream to drink and wash face in the first moment of the year, they will purify like the stream and healthy and lucky throughout the year.

The graveyard is located about 1km far from the village. According to the villagers, if this area is affected due to the HPP, they will not relocate graves. They do a ritual at the sacred place in
order to inform the god and ask him/her to spread the words to the other divinity in charge of the forest of the dead. After that they bring some products to the cemetery to worship the local god and invite both the gods and all the spirits to the new area chosen by the villagers. That area becomes the new forest of the dead.

For displacing the Village, people worship at the Temple with the participation of all representatives of households. The Village has a shaman who can perform the ceremony. This ceremony is to ask the Village God giving permission for the whole Village to move to new place and invite God to the new place. After performing the ceremony at the Temple, each household will hold a similar ceremony at their house to invite ancestor to new place.

Items used to worship for the village ceremony are bought by the village fund. The fund is established by the money from forest protection services (50% of the amount is kept for village fund, 50% is equally divided to households).

1.9. Gender issues

Women in the village have lower education attainment than men. 70% of elder women have difficulties in communication in Vietnamese.

In labor, although Thai still have matrilineal customs, women in the Village not only do housework but also participate in production activities. Due to the upland fields are far from the Village and the need of guard to against the destruction of crops by wild animals, women also have to stay at the fields. This makes women unable to take care of themselves during pregnancy.

The girls in the village are educated as boys, but the higher education they are, the more likely they are to drop out of school than boys and often marry at the age of 16 or 17;

Due to the difficult traffic, the village is completely isolated from the outsiders because of floods, women face difficulties in heath examination, they all give birth at home and only by experience of the older women. They have not provided the clean and safe deliver service packages.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

Official associations are the Women's Union, the Farmers' Association, the Veterans Association, the Elderly Association, the Youth Union, the Party Cell and the Fatherland Front. The leaders of these associations will, in principle, be elected by the members, but often received a strong suggestion from the authorities. Most of the leader of the village associations play a weak role in supporting the economic improvement of their members, they only provide support for communal organizations.

The Village is in difficult situation and entitled to programs 135, 30A.

Program 135 provided cows for 100% of households; however, only about 60% of cows were alive and developed;

Program 30A provided chickens, but due to diseases, most of the chicken no longer live;

Every year, households receive support from support program such as: providing oil, salt and money for Tet festival (VND 150,000 / household); rice provision from government in May and June annually with 66kg rice / household

In the production development loan program, there are 60 households borrowing loans of different sizes with interest rates of 0.69% per year (from 15 million to 30 million).

40 households took loan to build houses with the amount of 24 million VND/ household;

There are 5 households receiving 5 million VND to fix houses without interests;
1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

Villagers were informed of the project by the commune officials. The affected areas are known as residential land, production land, and houses; furthermore, the villagers were informed that they will be relocated uphill.

It is said that the villagers can continue cultivating on the same production land after resettlement.

Some households said that the state would support seeds and livestock to compensate for the lacking of productive land.

If they were to be resettled, the households participating in the group discussion would like the state to support the land and the roads more favorably and build the water system for the living.

The villagers want more information on the time of project development and the policies related to compensation with the form of meeting and documents so they can ask their children read and explain for them.

1.12. Additional Issues

Cha Nga Village which is a remote village of the commune, near Laos so they have marriage relationship of Thai with Laotian people. The village also has close relationship with Noong Kang Village of Laos and many villagers go to work in Laos, e.g. to dig Syringa roots. However, due to poor infrastructures, goods delivery is not as convenient as there is no road. Therefore, products are hardly sold and inactively as depending on purchasing power of traders. The Village has not had electricity yet. They have to use small hydropower. The rate of poor households is high.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held with 08 participants, of which 07 are men and 01 is women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

The village has known about the planned project through meeting when villagers were invited and there was plan to show villagers. But they do not know in detail. For them such information is not enough. They need to know other information about the planned HPP such as when they will be compensated, how much they will be compensated, any now land allocated for cultivation. Most of villagers expect to be given with information in writing or map so they can keep it to see and discuss with each other.

2.2. Forest use

Forest is the main living source of local people. Forest is 3km from the village, it takes some of 30-45 minutes on foot. The village has production forest and protection forest:

- Production land is planned but the village cultivate in teams, there are 5 teams who cultivate in different location, demarcation is done by stream, big tree, each household On average cultivate 3 ha of land, villagers cultivate under common rule of the whole village.

- Protection forest is forest protecting villagers from flood, preventing drought. Villagers are prohibited to exploit timber from this forest, if someone break the law he will be punished by authority. The protection forest is allocated to villagers to protect it. And in return annually they will be paid with forest protection fee. This fee will be used partially as the village fund, the rest will be divided evenly to household by individual number.
- Men go to forest for hunting, taking firewood, herb, protecting upland field, visiting animal, harvesting crops.
- Women go to forest to cultivate, firewood, vegetable, bamboo shoot, herb, spice vegetable, harvest.
- Collected herb is used for curing, boiling to drink as daily water; or prepared and combined in different way depending on each type of disease. Herb includes balanophora fungosa, Smilax, Stemon tuberosa, etc... Herb is collected all around the year, some are abundant the most in rainy season. Herbs collected in large quantity will be sold for money. There are some households collect regularly herbs to sell, sometime there are people from outside go to the village to order villagers to take and sell them.
- Rat, bird, snake, squirrel, board, chicken, etc..., are used as food and to sell. Wild animal is hunted all round the year, except boar which is only hunted during harvesting time when they destroy the crop. It is not prohibited to hunt boar.
- Vegetable, bamboo shoot, mushroom from forest are used in daily meal or treated draft for longer using or to sell. Vegetable, mushroom and bamboo shot are abundant the most during rainy season, lasting in July – August every year.
- Timber is used to built house, or barn for farming, decay timber is used as firewood. They are collected all around the year then they are needed. Forest is not many now, they have to buy timber if they need.
- Scared forest is graveyard where burying the death ones, this area is prohibited to villagers.

2.3. **Hunting**

Participants of the FGD said that animals living in the forest mainly are rat, bamboo rat, bird, snake, squirrel, wild boar. Hunting is allowable to such mentioned animal, only prohibited for special and rare animal. Hunted wild animal will be mainly for family demand, only when it is abundant more than the family demand then it will be sold to other villagers or people outside. They said that if they hunt regularly, then they could have meat to eat every day. Tools for hunting are crossbow, trap. Gun is no more allowable for hunting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Selling price per Kg or per item (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat’s ear</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herb</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/rat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1,500,000/bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50,000/bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90,000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 15 January 2017 with 9 participants, of them were men and were women. The ethnicity of the participants was Thai. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, three the 4th grade, one the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the two last ones the 9th grade.

The list of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP
- They have known about the project, officers from commune had a meeting and informed them.
- Extent of impact has been known including crops, residential land, productive land and houses.
- Resettlement is known as moving up resettlement.
- Productive land area after project implementation will be the existing productive land: “keep using the remain unaffected productive land”.
- The Government will support by tree seed, livestock seed to compensate the lack of productive land.
- Villagers want to know clearly information about the project such as when the project is implemented, how compensation will be done, how to stabilize the livelihood. Villagers expect that the authorities will organize meeting with them and inform to villagers concrete information.

3.2. Boat use
- Some of 80% households have boat, those who don’t have boat can share or borrow from others.
- Boats are mainly motor boat, some households use non-motor boat for fishing.
- Villagers travel mainly by boat since the road access is unfavorable.
- Boat is used for fishing, transporting goods, for trading, hauling firewood, rice, corn from upland field. Boat is owned by each household and they do not share boat.
- Regularly go to Laos to visit relatives, friends, etc.

3.3. Fishing
- 100% households in village usually go fishing and they go few day a week.
- In turbid water season, villagers go fishing for good and for sale. Other duration in the year, the go fishing for food, and they sell fish only when they have and if someone ask to buy.
- Men go fishing offshore, women go fishing near river bank.
- If they catch lot fish they will dry it, make fish sauce to eat gradually.

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats
- Fishing tools include net, hooks, basket, in the village almost all households have net, hooks, basket for fishing.
- There are many type of net, large and fine pitch net.
- Fishing is done also by basket, especially in turbid water season when people usually go fishing by basket.

- There are lots of fish species on the river: hemibagrus, goby, carp, tortoise, etc... tens of species. The most abundant are hemibagrus... but very few now.

- On average, one day they can fish 2-3 kg of fish and they will sell if it is abundant than demand.

- Fish is available all around the year, any season.

- On river bank, the villagers do not plant vegetable, sometime they go taking wild vegetable for eating. There are many wild vegetable growing along the river bank which is eatable but Vietnamese name is unclear. But villagers go for wild vegetable from river bank for sometimes only, they normally go to upland field to take planted vegetable and in to forest to take wild vegetable where more eatable vegetable and bushes available.

### 4 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

**Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu**

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 15/01/2017 with 08 participants, of which 05 are men and 03 are women. All of participants are Thai ethnic minority people.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. **Awareness about the planned HPP**

Villagers have known about the project from meeting attended by commune officers and informed them. To their knowledge, the impact will include crop, residential land, productive land and houses. They also informed about the resettlement mode which is moving up resettlement.

Productive land area after project implementation will be based on the existing land area of households “keep using the unaffected land area”.

Some households told that the Government will support young tree, livestock to compensate the lack of productive land.

If resettlement is unavoidable, the FGD participants wish that the Government will support by giving residential land, more favorable access road and construct safe water supply system for domestic use.

4.2. **Land use**

The village Upland area area runs from the river bank up to mountain peak, including a limited area of land along river bank.

The village has not paddy rice area, only upland land area where cultivates 1 crop a year.

All of upland area is cultivated depending on weather and without irrigation system.

Upland area is located on steep topography where no machine or cattle can be used for support cultivation activities.

Upland area area has been assigned to households in the village for using, without any certificates. However, there is conventional demarcation between households since before.

At present the land fund of the village is over, there is no more for reclamation making it difficult for new separated household, even with cash it is still very difficult to buy cultivate land.

Households told that they can be headed with difficulty in cultivate land if the existing cultivate land is acquired since the land fund is ran out.

Land along river is planted with fruit tree, no vegetable is planted due to steep sloping.
4.3. Crops

Main crops include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Importance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>3.0-3.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>3.0-4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanut</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upland rice**: On average, each household cultivate 1-1.5ha/year with local glutinous rice, the yield is unstable depending on weather, yield reaches 3-4 tons if the weather is nice, yield reaches 1 ton/ha or lost if the weather is bad with drought. Households rarely sell rice, they keep it to eat.

**Maize**: Households only grow 1-2kg seeds, equivalent to 0.1-0.15ha. The yield is low with 3-4 tons/ha, sometimes 2 tons/ha and even no harvest at all. After harvesting, maize is sold for local trader at price 3,000-4,000 VND/kg.

**Cassava**: Each households grow 700-1000m² of cassava in 2 years with yield reaches 16-20 tons/ha. They use cassava to make alcohol and breed livestock.

**Peanut**: there is only few household plants peanut, using local peanut race with low yield, 12 quintal per ha, in some year, the peanut yield is only 7 quintal per ha and is mainly used for family demand.

Agricultural activities completely depend on human force and natural recovery of land. Land will be cultivated in one year and leave fallow in 3-4 years.

In agricultural production, there is still maintaining the mode of mutual help and hiring labor as well. Rate of working labor per day is 100 thousand VND (no feeding enclosed).

Agricultural products are for family demand only, no selling because of unfavorable accessibility: there is no car accessible road, difficult and costly navigation on the river.

Crops failed in two successive years (2015, 2016) causing more households lacking food. Normally, 20/96 households in the village are lack of food in some of 3 months a year. Causes of this: lack of experience, lazy, drug dependence.

40/444 individual in the village are drug dependence. Mainly are men at youth age.

In the village, there are lot of households going to Laos to work as laborer: mason coolie, timber coolie, and agricultural workers.

At present, many households in the villages go to Laos to dig syringa stump (30 households) due to a high price between 10-14 thousand VND/kg of timber this type.

4.4. Livestock

- **Buffalo**: the village has more than 100 buffaloes owned by 40 households, more than 200 cows owned by 70 households, mainly free grazing on Upland fields and in forest. There is no grazing land in the village. The grazing area is mainly fallow land area. There are 4 grazing land, the village does not have grazing team as other villages.

- **Normally every household raise chicken**, but 3-4 months ago chicken died all due to diseases so there is some household have some seed chicken only.

- **Pig**: there are some households have 1-2 seed pigs because pig died a lot last year due to disease and the village now has very few pig. There are 10 households doing
chicken, pig farming along the river, but not so well doing due to disease. Diseases on cattle, poultry are due to weather, not by the water source.

- Raised cattle is sold to H'Mong people from Ban Long come to the village (some of 60km away) at price of some 10-15 million VND per cattle, 2 years sell a cattle, some household sell cattle every 3 years.

- Number of pig and chicken is limited, At present is 50 chicken. They die due to disease, very few chance for sale, mainly used as food or in family/village ceremony.

- Villagers are not used to injection to prevent disease on poultry and cattle, they do it only when cattle or poultry is sick.

- Veterinary officer will come to the village if informed by villagers.

5  Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 15 January 2017 with 8 participants, all of them were men and 0 were women. The ethnicity of the participants are Thai. They are at age of 51 to 81.

List of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

5.1.  Awareness about the planned HPP

All of attendant knew about the planned hydropower project from previous meetings held on the project. Every one expressed their worries on the information that they would be relocated and there shall be disturbance in their lives.

5.2.  Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village has been here long time ago. 100% are Thai.

Village head is voted every 2.5 years, the voted one shall be well behaved and gifted, friendly and shall be somehow wealthy. There are 96 households, 444 individual, 100% Thai, including 26 poor households. Two people from the village are now officers: one is district police, the other is border guard officer, 1 is kindergarten teacher.

No phenomenon of mechanical immigration. There are individuals in and out of the village by marriage. Before young men and women in the village can get married to people in the village, they also get married to people of the same ethnicity but living in other village of other commune in the same district.

Marriage of Thai bases on love, especially on the agreement between two families, which is well above the agreement made between young couple, because it is not just business of young couple but it has close relationship to the family, clan, particularly to the continuity of family line and ancestor worship. Thus, marriage of Thai bases on love of the couple, but must be under agreement by both families. Marriage of Thai is monogamy, under custom and rules. People said that the violating person will be punished, no exception, regardless to the position of such person (children or relative to head of community (Châu muông), head of land (Châu din).

5.3.  Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Cultivation land is planned and they cultivate together in teams. There are 5 production teams cultivating in different areas which are allocated and marked by stream, big tree, etc... On average each household cultivate some of 3ha. Every one plant under a common rule of the whole village.

Sacred forest is 3.0 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.
Land allocation system, decision making, land allocation to new separated household

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating within the production team which their family is member and on the same land plot, no separate land will be allocated to them, even when there is new other household.

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of a clan (big family) has no role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Ritual: before seeding, Thai worship land god at the field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and offer new rice worship (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has its temple to worship gods.

The village worship is performed in December every year, representatives from family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited. The worship requires pig, or cow in a good harvest year. Water god, forest god, etc… will be invited to the ceremonies.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

On the eve day, by custom, all family members must wash hair. This custom means washing away all bad luck of the previous year to welcome new joy, happiness of the coming year. Then they wear new clothes. For women, clothes shall be more color than daily. Before Thai have custom of inviting spirit of the death, praying birth to family members at eve night or nights just before the eve. They kill two chickens, one to offer ancestor, one to call back spirit of all family member. Thai also have custom of taking water for luck. Water in Thai custom, means good luck, wealthy, a sources for all species. Taking water must be done just after midnight. If water is taken after chicken signs a new day it will has no meaning at all. Water shall be taken from river, stream, but it will be more meaningful if water is taken from source. Thai consider that water taken from source of river for drinking and washing face during the very first moment of new year will bring back purity as the water source and in that year, the whole family will stay always healthy, with many good lucks.

At present people in Cha Nga village receive an amount of 36 million VND for protecting forest. After giving evenly to every household, the remaining amount will be used as common fund of the whole village. This fund is spent on village ceremonies.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers of Cha Nga village go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays Cha Nga villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has its temple to worship gods of Thai. When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering the river god (to bring ghost home), thing to offer must be chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants
The village worship is performed in December every year, representatives from families will take part. Offered things shall be prepared by households.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident, this area will be affected, submerged by hydropower project. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

There are cultural works in the village which must be relocated such as temple, cultural house, school, but by custom, when a whole village is relocated, wizard will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temples (as described above) to inform the relocation to new place. Each household, each family will offer their own worship to invite their ancestor to go with them.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Local people must be supported in performing community ceremonies (worship at temple, graveyard) and in families when they are displaced because this is unavoidable custom to Thai.

6 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on 15th January 2017 with 8 female participants. All of them are Thai; two of them are illiterate; one finished the 5th grade; one the 6th grade; one the 8th grade, two the 9th grade, and one the 12th grade. Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

The people have heard about the project since some consultants had come to the village several times. However, they are from an ethnic group; some will understand, and some others do not. If the State needs to build a hydropower project, they will support but they are truly worried.

Now they just want to know when the project commences. What benefits do the villagers receive when the project takes place? Who will be relocated and where will they go? Will crops and houses be compensated? What are the prices? Is there sufficient residential land and what can they do to earn a living?

It will be better to arrange public meetings to inform the villagers carefully and deliver some documents so that they can read at home (or their children/grandchildren read for them).

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

All participants are Thai. Half of them were born and raised in Cha Nga Village and are married to local men; the rest come from other areas because of being married to Cha Nga men. Cha Nga women also go to other places because of marriage.
Due to the close distance to Laos, the families also have children that go to Laos to do business. Some girls went to Quang Ninh, Thai Nguyen, Hai Phong provinces to work for some companies. There they met and married local men. Then the couples either came back to Cha Nga Village or stayed in the men's hometowns, or at the places where they met. There are some of those women in this meeting, but it is hard to name all in the village.

There is only one female-headed household. The reason is her husband died. There are no single moms.

The village is located far from the commune center and it is difficult to travel. If they want to go to the commune's center, they have to travel by motorboat. A round trip costs about 2 million VND/motorboat. Thus, the more travelers there are, the less they have to pay. Without boats, it takes them one day to walk to the commune center, so the women in the village rarely travel, except in certain cases, e.g. parental meetings, check-ups, or some administrative procedures at the commune. Mostly these women ask each other to help when they need to buy something or they just go to some small shops in the village.

There are no women in leader positions. There is only one kindergarten teacher that has graduated and worked for 2 years.

6.3. Health and nutrition

They use water from ravines. About 10 households share one ravine. The people contributed some money and the State provided cement and tubes to bring water to the households. Few households have bathrooms so the majority take a bath in the river. When it is cold, little children are washed at home. Elder children go to the river for a bath.

Children in the village usually have pneumonia, fever, or diarrhea.

Women usually suffer from gynecological diseases due to using unclean water. In such cases, they usually use leaves from the forests to cure or the disease goes away on its own.

90% of women deliver babies at home. Only those having difficulties will go to the clinic or hospital. There is one woman graduating from medical secondary school. She has helped other women in cases of difficult deliveries and assists them in childbirth for free. In addition, the women here also ask neighbors for assistance when delivering babies. In many cases the other family members assist their deliveries.

Many women died after childbirth since they did not have any prenatal examinations and were, as a result, not informed how their conditions were. Sometimes the mother died; sometimes the baby and in some other cases both the mother and the baby. Recently there has been no maternal mortality. There was a stillbirth 3 years ago. There were 3-4 cases of miscarriage because the women had to work too hard. Those cases had to be dealt with in the hospital.

There is a clinic in the commune. There is a midwife, a delivery room and sick rooms for patients to stay overnight when coming for a treatment. However, the clinic is located far away. It is hard to travel, so they go to the clinic only when they get severe diseases. There are three traditional healers in the village (one male and two females) that can cure asthma, stomachache, inflammatory bowel disease, diseases of the musculoskeletal system, and kidney diseases using herbs from the forests.

Many young villagers drop school. 80% drug users are boys. There was only one female drug user and she left for Laos to do business for 2-3 years without returning. There have been 8-9 couples divorced because the husbands used drugs and the wives, as a result, moved back to their parents' houses. There are 6-7 women suffering from domestic abuses when the husbands need drugs and request for money. Using drugs leads to thieveries in the village and increases worries among local people.

The villagers talked about drug users but did not mention HIV/AIDS. They have been informed about the negative impacts of this disease.
6.4. Education

The villagers talk to each other in Thai language. About 25% of women can read and write in Vietnamese. Few local women can; it is usually those coming here because of marriage that can read and write in Vietnamese fluently. Most of the women born in the village and over 30 years old cannot read and write so it is hard to communicate in Vietnamese properly.

There is a primary school and a kindergarten so children can finish the 5th grade near home. Entering the 6th grade, they have to go to My Ly commune and they have to go to Muong Xien to go to high school. There is one boy studying at boarding school in Vinh, who is the village head’s son. Entering secondary school at the commune, the children are fully subsidized by the government if staying at boarding school. Otherwise, the families have to send their children to relatives or rent a room for them. The children then go home once a week or a few weeks, mostly on foot.

Many students dropped school because the school is too far from their houses and it is hard to go there. Also because it is hard to get a job even after graduation, many dropped school at the age of 12+.

6.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

All households have upland fields. They have only one crop season in about 5 months from May to November of the lunar calendar. During this period the villagers go to the fields to plant and take care of rice and maize everyday. Out of the period, they go to the forests once 2-3 days to collect vegetables, dig stemona tuberosa or lilac roots to sell to traders from Muong Xien. They collect also bamboo shoots to eat or salt for later meals. They do not dry bamboo shoots here. There are not many wild vegetables so they do not sell but keep to eat. They used to benefit a lot from the forests but now the resources are reducing.

Many do not know medicinal plants in the forests. Only the elder people know about traditional medicine so it is hard to find some to sell.

Women plant vegetables on the fields to eat because there are many rocks along the river and it is unlikely to plant any vegetables there. The common vegetable is wintermelon. There are also cabbages but they usually have to buy them.

They raise buffaloes and cows on the fields. Pigs and chicken are free raised around the houses. The women sometimes also catch fish in the river to change the meals.

There is no market in the village. There are some families selling groceries. Traders from Muong Xien or My Ly bring staple food and home tools to sell and buy patterned fabrics woven by Thai women. Each household has a weaving frame. Women weave and make skirts on their own. It takes 4-5 days to make a simple skirt. If someone wants to buy, they will sell. Each skirt costs normally 5-600,000 VND, but the threads cost 2-300,000 VND.

Rice and maize are of great importance because the households eat them, use some in livestock breeding and sell some when money is in need. However, there remain many difficulties because they depend on those coming to buy and their selling price is much lower than the price paid by the end-users.

It depends on the conditions of each family. Some families eat fish once a day or two days. Some eat vegetables the whole month. In general children are fully fed. The families have fish and meat sometimes because they raise chicken, e.g., on their own and go to the river to collect shrimps and fish every day.

They can also collect mosses on rocks in the river and cook as vegetables. Chicken eggs are not used for food but for breeding. Livestock breeding does not go very well because there are many diseases.

6.6. Other information and reflections

Cha Nga Village is one of those in remote areas of the commune. It is bordered with Laos. There are cross-border marriages in Thai groups of both countries. Many villagers go to Laos to
do business, mostly to work or to dig lilac stump. However, due to poor infrastructure, transportation of goods is not convenient. There is no road, and homemade products can hardly be sold. The villagers are also dependent on the traders’ purchasing power.

There is no electricity in the village. The villagers have to use picko-hydro. The poverty rate is high.

3.6.2.3  Xop Duong Village -16 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date  1/16/17

Village Xop Duong

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<td>V.</td>
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1 **Village Summary Report**

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. **Location and General Conditions of the Village**

Xop Duong village is neighbor to Xang Tren village and located on the opposite side of Kengkor Village of Laos PDR. The village is 15km away from commune center. An access road to the village was constructed by a logging company 3 years ago. The village can also be reached by boat which takes one hour away from My Ly commune center with rapids.

The closest house to the river bank is 20m away and 5m higher than the river level in January. Houses have features of Thai’s and are 15m away from one another. 60 houses in the village are located in terraced position. All roads in the village are soil ones.

National grid has not been provided to villagers. Electricity is generated through battery or small hydroelectric generator. Wood stove is mainly used for cooking.

Water is transmitted from streams around the village to 4 public water tanks. Water tanks were built in 2008 and are still being in use.

The village has neither market nor clinic. There is one primary school point. Electromagnetic wave has not reached the village. Communication is through word of mouth or mail brought and delivered by traders who pass by the village by boat.

The village has no sanitation facilities. There is only temporary 1,2 meter square toilet in which is surrounded by nylon. All of human waste and animal waste are disposed directly onto the environment. By the time of the field trip to the village, due to the rain, it was observed that the sanitation of the village was in a bad condition.

1.2. **Population**

The village has 60 households, 246 people who are all Thai ethnic group. Only one woman is from Kho Mu ethnic group who moved to the village for marriage. There are 102 people at the working age; the number of women is 126 which accounts for 51.2% of the village population.

54 village households which accounts for 90% of the village are poor. Among the poor households, 15 ones face a shortage of food during between-crop period, which lasts 2 or even 3 months.

The reason for poverty of the village are (i) soil erosion (ii) unfavourable weather condition (iii) poor transportation.

It is hardly found woman-led household in the village. There is either no divorced or widowed women. There is one case that one woman left her husband who is addicted to heroin and imprisoned for trading heroin to her parent’s. This woman is her 20s and having small kids.
1.3. Village History and Migration

Xop Duong village has its long history and villagers have been living here since 1960s. In 1973, the whole village emigrated to Laos PDR, in the other side of the river, deep in the forest. The whole village moved back to their original land and founded the new village.

Immigration and emigration are both recorded in the village due to marriage between Vietnamese and Laos people. Marriage is mainly for labour transfer for which Vietnamese go to Lao PDR for work.

There are 10 villagers working in Gia Lai and Kontum. They collect coffee or take care of rubber trees. 3 villagers go to Laos to work for a few days and then come back. All these jobs are seasonal.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

Villagers have not received land use right certificate for their arable land which has not been legally allocated to villagers. The amount of land use area is subject to demand and household capacity. Arable land is managed and allocated to production teams which are grouped by village households. There are 7 production teams, each of which consists of 7-9 households.

Arable land is exclusively upland, which is 3-4 km away on the mountain. It takes 2 hours on foot due to uphill, for which motorcycle cannot be used.

As production is arranged within the team, there is no clear guideline on growing upland rice. Each household member plants on an average of 10 kg upland rice but not less than 7kg per period per year.

The total area for upland is in great amount. However, land productivity is not high. Land productivity reaches 3 tons per ha. For bad harvest, productivity is reduced by half. The government gave rice to village households; each received 15 kg in 6 months. (there were 15 households who did not have enough rice).

Land along the river is available but upland land is the most important for planting. The land along the river is used for grass or mulberry tree planting to get silk. Many village women use silk for weaving to sell fabric to Laos or Kho Mu ethnic people.

The village has 577 ha of forest land which is controlled by management unit. Income from forest conservation is used for village fund and fire protection fund. The rest will be distributed to villagers.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture-based livelihood

Upland is used for planting rice, maize and cassava and other food crops. Agriculture products are for household consumption and for breeding. Rice crop is rarely for sale as the amount is enough for consumption only. For a good harvest, maize can be sold to traders who travels to the village to buy maize crop.

Cassava is harvested little by little for breeding. Some use cassava flour to bake cakes as food substitutes. Households who plant from 1000 to 2000 roots have enough to sell to traders.

Plants growing along the river or in the forest can be used as vegetables and food such as vegetable fern and other unknown plants.

Most households live on the mountain slopes where they grow plants and vegetable. Households living by the river hardly grow vegetable as the land is not fertile one.

Villagers still use traditional way of cultivation “dig holes and plant seeds”. Technology has not been applied into farming.

The main livestock are buffaloes, cows, goat, pigs and chicken. Livestock is raised for food and worship objects. Buffaloes, cows, goat are sold directly in the village to traders. No household needs to travel out of their village to sell their stocks. The village has:

- 170 buffalos, each is sold for 20 to 20 million VND
- 84 cows, each is sold for 30-38 million VND
- 200 pigs, which are consumed as food or used as worship object
- 70 goats, some sells to traders. Others use goat as worship object

Almost households have livestock so that it is ensured that at least one of their daily meals has meat or fish. Beside breeding and farming, household members look for wild plants in the forest or along the river. Some hunt rats, squirrels, deer, wild pigs, porcupines. Buffaloes, cows, goats are grazed on mountain slopes, which are surrounded by fence to prevent those from straying or breaking the field. Pigs and chickens are raised freely in the village.

Farms on swidden field which is 2 hours away on foot are developed by 9 households. Farms include livestock breeding and planting tree for timber such as clove, red peach and Raspberry. These households focus on breeding traditional pigs to sell to restaurants in Muong Xen and to sausage maker in Tuong Duong. These pigs are sold at around 30kg each for 100,000 VND per kilo. If the pigs are bigger, the price is lower at 60,000 per kilo.

*Forest based livelihood*

The forest surrounds the village which makes it quite convenient for villagers to go to the forest. It takes 5 minutes on foot to reach the forest.

Protected forests are allocated 577 hectares by the government for management, protection, and are paid annually by the state. Money for forest protection and care: 1 part of which is put into the village fund, one is put into the fire prevention fund and the other is distributed to the people in the village.

Forest species, wild animals are diverse: deer, wild pigs, squirrels, porcupines, mice, birds, snakes ... Villagers still go hunting for food in the forest. Forest products from the forest also include many types of wood, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, wood ear, rattan (only for small quantity), chit (semi), medicinal plants (for home use).

- Timber is used for house construction and breeding facilities. Currently there is not much timber in the forest so the exploitation is very limited and selective.

- Wild animals is consumed as food in family meals. Hunting animals for food is frequent throughout the year.

- Bamboo shoots, mushrooms are used as family vegetables. Harvesting usually takes place year-round for some types. The best harvest is during the rainy season from July to August.

- Chit which is taken around the year to sell to traders is the material for brooms for sale

- Medicinal plants in the forest are often taken when the family needs treatment, the processing is done in different ways depending on the type of disease. Herbs collected include 30 bulbs, rhizomes, lutes, jade ...

**Forest products and usage**

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<tr>
<th>Forest products</th>
<th>Harvesting frequency</th>
<th>Harvesting season</th>
<th>Degree of importance</th>
<th>For sale (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Price per unit</th>
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</table>

*Other means of livelihood*

Beside farming, three households run their own business such as selling ice cream, milk sugar, noodles ...

Women weave traditional skirts for sale to the Lao people and surrounding villages and gain about 200-300 thousand from weaving (essentially labor) after subtracting the input cost for a skirt;

Young people or middle-aged people work for logging companies for 3 million VND/month.

1.6. *Education*

Villagers communicate in Thai language. Women aged under 30 go to school, are literate and can speak fluent Vietnamese (Vietnamese official language). The majority of women aged over 30 are illiterate. More men are literate and have better communication skills than women.

There is a kindergarten in the village for children from 3 to 5 years old with 2 teachers. There are 3 elementary school teachers. 3 primary school teachers teach children from grade 1 to 5. As very few students in grade 2 go to school, students of grade 2 and 3 study together. Secondary school students study at the school in the center of My Ly commune, which is about 15-16 km away from the village. They attend school and live at school. They visit home once every 2-3 weeks. Students are provided meals at school from Mondays to Fridays while on Saturdays and Sundays, the students have to manage themselves, sometimes having noodles or cooking on their own. Only secondary school students can stay at boarding school. Due to the fact that the school is very far away, 3 children have dropped out of school. High school students have to travel 50-60 km to school in the district. This explains the large number of high school dropouts. Students tend to drop out after grade 5, of whom mainly are girls.
1.7. Health and Health Care

Water source is 2km away from the village. Water is stored in common water tanks and carried through the manmade plastic pipes for eating and bathing. Some carry water home for bathing, others bathe themselves by the river. Big children bath in the river while the smaller ones only shower at home.

Women suffer from drowsiness, headaches, dizziness, and a fever. Women have to do hard work which causes miscarriage. Children get cough or cold and are treated by experience of elderly people in the family. Medical staff reminds villages of getting vaccinated at clinics when the clinic informs them. Sick people are looking for medicine or go to the hospital for serious case. Children also have diarrhea, toothache but only use medical plants for treatment. Only when the situation is getting worse, are the children taken to hospital. There are vaccination programs for children every year, but they have to bring children to the commune health station. Participation is very low.

The commune health station is 15 km away from the village with full facilities for medical examination, birth delivery room and midwife. However, the transportation of the village to the station is very difficult, so the women mainly give birth at home. In the village, one woman who is over 40 years old helps pregnant women to give birth. There are some women died in childbirth. In the summer of 2016, one woman died of a weak pregnancy, who was not brought to the hospital on time. Two or three pregnant women died of stillbirth. Recently pregnant women have a medical examination at the commune health station. Before that, nobody went because the road was too difficult.

There are many drug addicts who are mainly in their teens. Young people who drop out of school are mostly addicts.

It is unclear whether someone suffers from HIV/AIDS, and moreover, if any, it is not publicized. HIV/AIDS information was disseminated, but few people are interested in this information.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

In the village there is a sacred forest area of 03 hectares, where illegal logging, hunting and hunting are strictly prohibited. The shrine is on the upper reach of the Nam Non river. The shrine is small, and to worship the people who discovered this area first. Similar to other Thai villages, the villagers will make offerings at the village shrine whenever there is a problem related to the village. Every year, they donate at the temple before sowing rice seeds at the end of the lunar month (late April and early fifth lunar month) and offer the new rice (before harvest) in October of the lunar calendar.

In addition, the most important ceremony must be held annually in December, representatives of households together participate in the yearly offerings. Previously, if villagers have to relocate, they will find new area of land and consult the gods through the worshiper/shaman (there are worshipers, and this person/shaman also worships in other villages, even in Laos), if the gods agree, the people will carry out rituals for relocation.

Today, in the case of relocation due to hydroelectricity, the choice of settlement area does not depend on the village. They still have to do worship to ask for the gods’ opinion. If the gods disagree with the chosen area and no other place is available, then the worshiper/shaman will ask for it (in the form of begging) and worship in the new place.

After the worship for resettlement for the whole village, each household will have to worship at home to invite their ancestors to the new place.

Graveyard is 2km away from the village, and located in the lower village, close to the river. When the project is implemented, the cemetery will be inundated. Grave relocation is also similar to the resettlement of the village because Thai people do not move graves, so if they need to go somewhere else, they will have to worship in the ghost forest. The time for the ceremony must be at night and for the whole village. Later, the family also has to perform the ceremony to remove the grave of his family and invite the ghost to the new place.
1.9. Gender Issues

50% of the elders in the village are illiterate. Women are the least informed about hydropower. There is inadequate health care for women, women also do not have the means to care for themselves. The phenomena of stillbirth and loss at birth still occur.

Young women get married at the age of 15-17 and many young people are addicts and poorly informed of HIV / AIDS. All decisions on production and the family belong to the men. Although wives are informed, the husbands are still the decision makers. The management of family budget belongs to women.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

There are mass organizations such as the Fatherland Front, the Women's Union, the Farmers' Association, Veterans' Association, and the Youth Union joined by the people. These organizations are established to protect the interests of members, contributing voice to build community. The village has production teams that are set up to assist each other to produce and exchange the land needed for tillage and harvest. Current there are not so many development projects. Over the last 3 years, thanks to Viettel's program, there are 9 households receiving 1 cow. Cattle are now being raised quite well.

Program 167 (Decision 167/2008) is about housing for 9 poor households, each of which received 30 million. Rice of 15kg/month is provided for hunger relief for poor households within 6 months.

Over the past three years, all seedling supply activities in Papua have been discontinued and people, including village heads, have not known the reason. There are 30 households borrowing policy bank loans through the Women's Union, the Farmer's Association and the Veterans Association. The size of the loan is 25 million and the interest rate is 6.5% per annum.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

Participants in the discussion group provided information that they had learned about the hydropower project. Over the past several years during the meetings, it was announced that hydropower would be implemented in the area in 2007. However, specific information on People's projects was not yet known.

They wished to know the specific information about the project and required the resettlement area to have adequate infrastructure before relocation; Compensation must be made in one time; Desire to compensate graves when affected. Since information on the project, all welfare projects for the people have been suspended or not implemented (such as neighboring villages). It is suggested that if the project is not implemented, it should be informed so that people can stabilize their life.

Some suggestions when implementing the project

- Requirement of resettlement area must have adequate infrastructure before relocation
- Compensation should be made once
- Compensation for graves
- Since the information on the project, all welfare projects for the people are suspended or not deployed (like neighboring villages). It is suggested that if the project is not implemented, it should be informed so that people can stabilize their life.

1.12. Additional Issues

Due to difficulties in travelling, cultural and information activities are limited, the rate of poor households is high, young people are addicted. It seems to be well-known for its addictive and unavoidable nature to some drug traffickers.

Reformers are not agile and do not seem to have a strong influence over the villagers.
2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held at Xop Duong village with 08 participants, 5 men, 3 women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1 Knowledge about the planned HPP

FGD participants said that, they knew about the hydropower project many years ago in meetings when they were told that a hydropower project would be implemented in the area since 2007. But they did not know anything specifically.

They wish to know more about the project. They request that the resettlement site must be equipped with enough infrastructures before relocating people there; compensation must be done once and they wish they will be compensated for affected graves. Since the time when the project information was available, every welfare works for people have been suspended or stopped (happened in surrounding village). They request that if the project is not constructed, please inform them so they can stable their lives.

2.2 Forest use

Men go to forest in free time or when family needs food. They go to forest every day to hunt, collect timber, firewood, herbs, to protect upland field, visit livestock, harvest crop.

Women go to forest for cultivation, collecting firewood, vegetable, bamboo shoot, herbs, spicy herbs and harvesting crop. Women go to forest every day to collect vegetable, firewood, bamboo shoot for family using.

Forest is located close to the village, taking some of 5 minutes to be there. The village is surrounded by forest so getting there is favorable.

The village has production forest and protection forest.

- Production forest in the village has not been allocated to each household. Villagers use land by demand and ability (family with many member can do more). Now the village manages production land by various production teams. Each team comprises of some 7-9 households. Production land area will be allocated to each production team. There are 7 teams in the village, each has 7-9 households. On average each individual seed 10kg rice seed. Upland field area for cultivation is quite large by with low yield. Maximum yield is about 3 ton/ha. Land is left fallow in 3 years approximately. They plant rice, corn, cassava and some other food crops on upland field. Agricultural products are mainly for the family demand and livestock breeding. In the last 3 years, Xop Duong village was no more supported with seed and livestock seed. The village has no paddy field area because upland field makes it impossible in irrigation.

- The whole village is allocation with 577 ha of protection forest for management and protection and are paid annually by the Government for doing this. Cash gained from forest protection is added partially in the village fund, partially in fire fighting fund and the rest is divided to households per individual.

FGD participants said that wild animal in forest is abundant, includes: deer, boar, squirrels, porcupine, rat, bird, snake, etc... Villagers still set traps in forest to hunt regularly. Products from forest are many: timber, bamboo shoot, mushroom, wood ear mushroom, rattan (for family using only because not many more in the forest), Thysanolaena latifolia (selling), herbs (for family using).

- Timber is used to build house or make barn. Timber is now not many in the forest so exploitation is limited and with selection.
- Hunted wild animal is used for family demand. Hunting is done Year-round to find food for family.
- Bamboo shoot, mushroom are used as vegetable in the family. Collection is done all the year for some species, but abundant the most in rainy season between July and August.
- Thysanolaena latifolia is collected Year-round to sell to trader, which is used to make broom.
- Herbs are abundant in the forest, and are collected for family need in case of illness. Depends of which illness the herbs will be process differently. Collected herbs are balanophora fungosa, stemona tuberose, lingzhi mushroom, etc…

The village has a temple where offering worships of the whole village. Each year they offer worship after seeding the rice to pray for a good harvest and strong heath. The village has forbidden forest where villagers are prohibited to cut tree and cultivate. This area is existed with many big trees but under strictly protection by villagers. This is where the village ghost is worshipped. Graveyard is 2km far from the village but located lower than the village and close to the river. It is possible that the graveyard will be submerged if the project is implemented. Local people has no tradition of displacing grave, if the project is implemented, worship must be offer under traditional custom to invite the death to new village.

Timber is not so plenty in the forest now, when villagers need they buy. Timber exploitation from forest is almost no more possible, only decay tree or branches are collected for firewood.

Grass land is normally on river bank where land is quite flat, close to water resource, making it easier for grazing and livestock breeding.

2.3. **Hunting**

There are many animal species in the forest: deer, boar, squirrels, porcupine, rat, and snake. Villagers set trap and hunt frequently. On average each year they catch 3 boars. Boar appears normally when the harvest is about when it comes to destroy the crop. Hunted animal is used mainly for family demand, not many to sell. They are not prohibited in hunting in production forest, but in protection forest. Who go in forest frequently will have meat to eat every day, who go less will have meat to eat every 3 days.

Hunting tools are: net, crossbow, and trap. But they usually use trap as main tools.

2.4. **Other information and reflections**

Visually from the site and by discussion with FGD participant, the survey team knew that livelihood of households is difficult. There are 15 households lack of food for 2-3 month a year. On average. Cultivation habit of villagers is not suitable, not yet exploiting all land potential to ensure food safety.

Households do agriculture and collection of forest product mainly for self demand. Very few goods exchange.

Accessibility is difficult, mainly on foot. The fastest means of transport is motor boat. But number of household having motor boat and number of motor boat is very few.

### List of timber and non-timber products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Price/kg or per item (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1=very important, 2=important, 3=the least important</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herb</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber for house building</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1.500.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 months/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 months/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-200.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 weeks/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90.000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

**Mr. Le Manh Hung**

**FGD summary**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 at Xop Duong village with 9 participants, all men. Participants are Thai ethnicity. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, three the 4th grade, one the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the two last ones the 9th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

#### 3.1. Awareness about the Planned HPP

- Many years ago, there has been information about a hydropower project which would be implemented in the territory (2007). Villagers knew thanks to a survey team coming to the village.
- Villagers do not know anything else about the project information.
- They wish to know further information to make sure whether they are relocated. They wish to know how compensation will be done, when the hydropower project is constructed. If the project is done, meetings shall be organized with villagers so they will know in public.

#### 3.2. Boat Use

- All of households in the village have boat, some of ten households do not have motor boat yet, only rowing boat. The rest are motor boats.
- Boat is used as means of transport, to go to school, and for transportation (timber transportation), go fishing. Among which boat using as navigation means, transporting goods and timber is the most. Sometime using in fishing. Boat used in fishing is additional only, mainly for goods transportation and for navigation.
3.3. **Fishing**

- Fishing is frequently done for family demand. Household is rarely fishing for sale. Only when they catch big fish or are asked they will sell. Villagers said that before they can catch many big fish, no more now, and they do not know where the fish has gone. They do not eat big fish even if they catch, they will sell big fish, eat small fish. But even small fish is now not so abundant not speaking to big fish. Each fishing in 2-3 hours can catch 1-2kg in a lucky day, usually few grams to eat.

- Favorable fishing season is in June and July. The rest time of a year catch less fish because water level in June and July is high when fish has more food to eat, water is high so fish from ravine, stream go finding food. High water level also means fat fish and many more big fish. Low waer season is easier in fishing by basket, casting net but fewer fish and fish is not as good as those in high and turbid water season.

- Some households go fishing in Laos, but they go and back in 2-3 days only.

- Households usually go fishing on the river section within the village vicinity, besides go fishing in Laos.

3.4. **Equipment, Fish Species and Habitats**

- Fishing tools: casting net, basket, and rod.

- Fish caught includes: Hemibagrus, Bagarius rutilus and some small fish but they do not know names in Vietnamese. When they catch lot they will dry it, salt it and make fish sauce for latter using.

- There is no household having pond.

- Land along the river is mainly planted with grass for cow, mulberry bushes for silkworm feeding. Women in the village still keep their traditional handicraft of weaving to sell to Lao or to Kho Mu. Mulberry bushes planting households to feed silkworm for silk.

3.5. **Other Information and Reflections**

- Graveyard is located 2km away, at lower elevation than the village and close to the river. When the project is implemented, it is possible that the graveyard will be submerged all. Local people has no tradition of displacing grave, if the project is implemented, worship must be offer under traditional custom to invite the death to new village.

- Resettlement site must be equipped with enough infrastructure sbefore relocating people.

- Compensation should be once.

- Compensation for graves.

- Since the time when the project information was available, every welfare works for people have been suspended or stopped (happened in surrounding village). They request that if the project is not constructed, please inform them so they can stable their lives.

4. **Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households**

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

**FGD summary**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 with 9 participants, 7 men, 2 women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.
4.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

They heard about the project long time ago, since 2007. The village head told them in village meetings, but because so long so they could not remember what has been told. Now villagers still do not know anything specifically.

Villagers do not know when the project will be implemented, whether it will be like other times, said about a project but then do nothing. They wish to know what are the project impacts on the village, further information about the project, how is their life when water causes submergence, whether they are compensated by the Government, how their houses will be relocated and to where, whether their houses will be constructed or they will build house themselves after compensation, how many household will be affected, whether whole village will be relocated, how much they will be compensated in case of land acquisition.

They wish to hear about the project directly by means of meetings so they are explained and known the Government policy in case of land acquisition.

4.2. Land use

All of production land in the village has not been furnished with land use right certificate because it has not been allocated to each household. Villagers use land by demand and ability (family with many member can do more). Now the village manages production land by various production teams. Each team comprises of some 7-9 households. Production land area will be allocated to each production team. There are 7 teams in the village, each has 7-9 households.

Production land of the village is upland field, no paddy field. Upland field is located 3-4 km far away from the village, on mountain. It takes some of 2 hours on foot because of sloping topography where motorbike is impossible.

Due to the management form which is by production team, the upland rice cultivation is furnished with clearly rules. On average each individual uses approximately 10kg seed but not exceed 7kg/crop/year.

Upland area is plenty but yield is not high. The highest is 3 ton/ha. In bad harvest year, it is only haft. 2015 and 2015 were such harvest years so the Government must support them by rice. Each individual in the village was supported with 15 kg of rice in 6 months (there were 15 hunger households).

The village has land along river but upland field is still the most important in cultivation of the villagers. Land along the river is mainly planted with grass for cow, mulberry bushes for silkworm feeding. Women in the village still keep their traditional handicraft of weaving to sell to Lao or to Kho Mu.

The whole village is allocation with 577 ha of forest for management. Cash gained from forest protection is added partially in the village fund, partially in fire fighting fund and the rest is divided to households per individual.

4.3. Crops

Upland area of the village is cultivated with rice, corn, cassava and some other food crops. Agricultural products are mainly for the family demand and for livestock breeding. Very few household sells rice because it is only enough for the family. They sometimes sell corn, but only in good harvest year when they do not use all in livestock and they need cash. Traders will come to the village to buy.

Cassava is used in livestock breeding. Some household grind in to flour to make cake. Only household planting 1000-2000 bushes will have redundant for sale.

They said that in the last 3 years, Xop Duong village was no more supported with seed and livestock seed by the Government, reason is unclear to them.

Annually there are some of 15 hunger households in the village who suffer hunger in pre-harvest period (2 months, sometimes 3 months maximum).

There are many wild vegetable growing on the land area along the river and in forest which villagers use instead of planted vegetable in family meal, including fern and other they do not know name.
Crops are planted on upland field, so vegetable too. Because their houses are located mostly on mountain side, some of them lives near the river but even so soil is not suitable for vegetable planting in land around their houses.

Villagers cultivate with traditional method which is out of date: holing, seeding, harvesting. No new technique has been applied to any land plot.

4.4  Livestock

Livestock of villagers comprises mainly buffalo, cow, goat, pig and chicken. Poultry is breeding for food and for worship. Buffalo, cow, goat are raised for sale. They sell right at the village to traders or to trading households in the commune. No household must bring their products outside the village to sell.

- Cow: whole village has some of 170 cows, they sell only when they need cash with price of 20-25 million VND each.
- Buffalo: whole village has some of 84 buffaloes, price of 30 – 38 million VND each.
- Pig: whole village has more than 200 pigs, which are mainly used food, worship offered things in family or in village event.
- Goat: whole village has some of 70 goats. They sell to traders who come to the village to buy. Some clans in the village use goat for worship offered things.

Livestock breeding is maintained in families so almost all households have enough food to eat all week round. There is at least 1 meal with meat, fish in a day.

Besides livestock breeding and cultivation, households go into forest and to the river bank to collect wild vegetable (women) and hunt wild animal such as squirrels, deer, boar, porcupine, etc (men set traps on upland field to catch rat, squirrels which destroy crop, or use crossbow to hunt deer, boar, etc…).

Buffalo, cow, goat are raising on mountain slope. They make fence to keep their livestock from missing or destroying crop. Pig and chicken are raise freely in the village and under their house on stilts to use in family event, such as birth day, wedding.

4.5  Other information and reflections

The village is located some of 15km from the commune center. Because sometimes they suffer with bad harvest year when crop and livestock yield badly, there are some of 25-30 households in the village borrow from the bank with preferential interest rate. Some households borrow loan to invest on livestock breeding but livestock die. This is hardly overcome difficulty of households in the village.

Some expectations when the project is implemented:

- The resettlement site must be constructed with infrastructure before relocating people there.
- Compensation should be once.
- Compensation for graves.
- Since the time when the project information was available, every welfare works for people have been suspended or stopped (happened in surrounding village). They request that if the project is not constructed, please inform them so they can stable their lives.

5  Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 at Xop Duong village with 8 participants, all men. Participants are Thai ethnicity. Their ages vary between 50 and 63.
List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of attendants knew about the planned hydropower project from previous meetings held on the project. However, men know better because they were invited to meetings. They suggested that there should be more meetings and other mode of information propagandas such as by means of louder speaker in their language. Every one expressed their worries on the information that they would be relocated and there shall be disturbance in their lives.

Village head is voted every 2.5 years, the voted one shall be well behaved and gifted, friendly and shall be somehow wealthy. There are 60 households with 246 individual in the village, including 58 poor households. There are many drug dependence in the village but it is not official number. The village has one primary school with 335 children studying from grade 1 to grade 5.

5.2. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

- Land in the village has not been furnished with land use right certificate
- Land has not been allocated to each household. They use land by demand and ability (family with many member can do more). Now the village manages production land by various production teams. Household do cultivation in teams.
- The village has 7 teams; each has 7-9 households.
- On average each individual uses approximately 10kg rice seed.
- Upland area is plenty but yield is not high. The highest is 3 ton/ha. Fallow interval is 3 years approximately.
- Upland area of the village is cultivated with rice, corn, cassava and some other food crops. Agricultural products are mainly for the family demand and for livestock breeding.
- They said that in the last 3 years, Xop Duong village was no more supported with seed and livestock seed.
- No paddy rice field in the village.
- Land along the river is mainly planted with grass for cow, mulberry bushes for silkworm feeding. Women in the village still keep their traditional handicraft of weaving to sell to Lao or to Kho Mu. They plant mulberry bushes to feed silkworm for silk.
- Annually there are some of 15 hunger households in the village who suffer hunger in pre-harvest period (2 months, sometimes 3 months maximum).
- The whole village is allocation with 577 ha of protection forest for management. Cash gained from forest protection is added partially in the village fund, partially in fire fighting fund and the rest is divided to households per individual.
- There are many animal species in the forest: deer, boar, squirrels, porcupine, rat, and snake. Villagers set trap and hunt frequently.
- On average each year they catch 3 boars.
- Forest products include:
  - Timber
  - Bamboo shoot,
  - Mushroom, wood ear mushroom.
  - Rattan (family using only, because not many left).
- Thysanolaena latifolia is collected Year-round to sell.
- Herbs which are collected for family need only

*Land allocation system, decision making, land allocation to new household*

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating on the same plot which has been used by the whole family but not specially allocating to them. 5 years after the formation of new household then will be cultivate in separate and do it in other plot but somehow must within the defined cultivation land area.

*Role of elders/leader in land system*

Head of clan has no role in land system.

*Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition*

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Sacred forest is 1.5 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

Ceremonies at beginning of a crop are respected by and very important to Thai because it is considered as bring luck to the crop that year. With such meaning, annually when starting crop, Thai organize “Te tong” (field worship) ceremony to invite “Then pha” (heaven gods), “Pu xua” (land god), “ie hay ie na” (died people but without child to worship them), “phi xut duon” (those considered as first people every exploiting land), and “boc then nang na” (who always staying at the field) to the party and bless villagers a good harvest crop. Who organizes “Te tong” ceremony is called "Pu dam", he is voted and respected by villager to organize ceremonies. Pu Dam will select good hour, good day for ceremony. They will on behalf of villagers to invite a wizard for worship. Offered things in the worship include buffalo, sticky rice, wine jar, piper bithe.

In “Te tong” ceremony, land preparation is very important. Thai think that, the odd day of the first moon week in a month (lunar year) is good day. In such a day “Pu dam” will be the one bringing buffalo to the field first.

When seeding, the household head will insert a “Ta leo” (a thing made in sun shaped made by bamboo wire representing eye of a god to watch and protect) at the field to inform the heaven god that on such place the family has seeded, the heaven is prayed not dropping there grass. “Ta leo” is also used to stop “ghost” from eating seeds which have just seeded.

After selecting good day for seeding, Thai insert “Ta leo” and perform other ceremonies to pray for good lucks and good harvest, no insect. This worship ceremony is performed by family and done at the field. Offered things include pork (or chicken), sticky rice, wine and piper bithe. After praying the household head takes pig feather (chicken feather) inserting on a bamboo stick and set at four corners of the land plot. Thai thinks that by doing so “phi” (ghost) of the field will bless them. When “Ta leo” has been inserted, “me ke chau huon” (household head’s wife) will go in to the field and insert the first young rice seed. By then, the household head will insert reed or edibe canna on the field to wish a good rice crop.

There is also temple where worshiping gods established and helped Thai to set up their living. Worship is done by inviting water god, forest god, etc... When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering river god (to bring ghost home), things to offer must include chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

*Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values*

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.
In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.3. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor (who established the village) of Thai. When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering the god. Offered things include chicken which is left behind after praying.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

The village worship is performed in December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited. The worship requires pig, or cow in a good harvest year.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident; this area will not be affected, submerged by hydropower project because this is downstream of the planned HPP. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

The temple must be relocated; the displacement requires worship to invite gods to go with them.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

6 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 with 9 female participants. All of them are Thai ethnicity including 2 literate, 1 finished grade 3, 3 finished grade 5, 1 finished grade 9.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Before, there were several meetings on hydropower during which the village head talked about hydropower but cannot remember now because it was too long. They do not know how the village is affected, who must leave, who stay, where the water will go. They do not know where to go if they have to relocate, whether they can bring the house with them.
Whether crop and house will be compensated, how is the price for compensation?

Villagers do not know when the project is implemented. If yes, meeting shall be organize with villagers to tell them thoroughly. When understands, they will follow. The best way is meeting. Speaking on louder speaker is fine, but must be over and over again.

The best way is in leaflet so villagers can read or ask children to read and so they can remember. And they can keep leaflet to read when they need. But font size must be larger, not small as today, which is difficult to read.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

100% villagers are Thai, except 1 Kho Mu woman who go married to a man in the village and a Thai woman married to Lao man. Before, there was Lao (Thai in Laos) married to man here. There are also women from other commune married to men here but no one remember now and not counting how many at all. No list for such women.

There is no household headed by women. No widow and no divorced. Only one woman whose husband is drug dependence and is in prison now. She divorced him and stays with her parents house. She is at 20s and raising small child.

The commune center is 15km from the village, but before accessibility was difficult and costly by navigation so not many went out. Recently, a timber logging company constructed road which is motorbike accessible. They go the commune center when they have paper work there to do, young go by motorbike, elder go on foot. It takes a day to go and back. They go to the commune center only when they need to do paper work so no one count how many and how frequency is it (visiting child at school, visiting relatives, go to wedding, health inspection, etc...).

There is no women work as leader in the village, only one chairwoman of women union in the village, voted by villagers. She sometimes go for training course and then telling union members. Each year women has their own meeting for 2-3 times, mainly on the 8th of March and 20th of October.

6.3. Health and nutrition

Ravine is 2km far from the village. There are public water tanks, household take water home by small plastic pipe for eating. Washing and bathing use river water. It depends on each household, some take water home to bath, some bath in the river. Only small children bath at home, older one bath in the river.

No common illness for women in the village, some hard working women have pain in body, head ache, some have fever, and some were terminated pregnancy because of hard working during pregnancy period. Children suffer with fever, cough. They cure by herbs told by elders in the village. The village has health care officer but he only remind households to bring their children to vaccine injection under the notice time table of the commune. Ill villagers will find cure themselves or go to hospital if it is severe. Some children has diarrhea, tooth ache but they use also herbs and go to hospital if it is severe. There is vaccine injection program every year to children but they must go to commune so few household do that.

The commune clinic is 15 km far from the village where equipping with means for health inspection, for birth delivery and midwife but because of hard accessibility, women usually deliver at home. There is a woman at 40s know how, so she works as midwife when she is asked. There were some women died during delivery. In 2016, there was a woman died because of difficult during pregnancy but she did not go to hospital promptly. There was some 2-3 women terminated pregnancy, reason unknown. Now pregnancy women, if they can afford, go to commune clinic, not before because of difficult in accessibility.

There are many drug dependence in the village, they are mainly dropped schoold children, do not want to work. But no one told to have HIV/AIDS. Commune also gives them leaflet for HIV/AIDS prevention but not many literate so they do not keep.

6.4. Education

Villagers communicate in Thai. Women under 30 go to school so they communicate fluently in Vietnamese, not those above 30 who are mainly literate. Many can listen but can not speak.
Because old people cannot understand Vietnamese so during meeting, officers must peak in Thai language. Rate of literate men is higher than women. Their communication is better too.

There is kindergarten in the village keeping children between 3-5 years old with 2 teachers. They have primary school too with 3 teachers where children from grade 1 to grade 4 are studying. The second grade, because of few numbers of children, studies together with grade 3. Secondary school is located at My Ly commune center, some of 15-16 km away. It is a boarding school, children stay there and go home every 2-3 weeks. The school pays for children 5 days a week and they must feed themselves other two days. In that two day weekend they eat instant noodle or cook rice. The commune has boarding secondary school only; high school is even further located, in the district, in some of 50-60 km far, so not many follow up to high school. Family does not try. Children usually leave school after grade 5, mainly female, because they are afraid of being far from home.

6.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Everyone in the village cultivate on upland field, which is 3-4 km far from the village and taking 2 hours on foot. Some of 8-9 households are staying at the field to raise cow, pig and to cultivate rice, vegetation. Their children are taken care by grandparents and they come home sometimes. Most of women go to upland field to collect vegetable, harvest fruits. The village regulates that each household individual must plant 7kg of rice seed. Last year was a bad harvest year so the Government must supply rice for 6 months, each has 15kg.

Most of houses are located on mountain slopes, some close to the river bank where vegetable still cannot planted. Those households sometime go fishing to catch fish and shrimp for using. Cow is raise on upland field, each household has 2-3 cows. Pig and chicken a freely breeding for family using in case of family event such as birth, wedding, death anniversary, holiday, etc… They sell pig, chicken and cow to H’Mong people when they need cash. Every household weave cloth for using and selling.

In family, husband is the main worker to earn money, sometimes the husband goes to forest to find timber to sell to timber logging company at price of 5 million VND/ton. There are households paying tax to Laos to exploit timber in Laos. Collecting timber from Laos must pay them caseh, normally with 2 million VND per each trip.

6.6. Other information and reflections

The village is located some of 15km far from the commune center. Road connecting there was constructed in 2015 by a timber logging company so villagers can approach to the commune center by motorbike. But motorbike does not help in rainy day. There are some households living near the river, most of villagers live on mountain slope. Due to difficult accessibility, cultural activities and information is limited. Rate of poor household is high. Many young are drug dependence as a result from lacking healthy playing environment.

3.6.2.4 Xang Tren Village - 8 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

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1  Village Summary Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1.  Location and General Conditions of the Village

Xang Tren Village is located on one side of Nam Non River – the natural border between Vietnam and Laos PDR. Most of the houses in the village face the river, and some of them are situated close to the river, just about 20m far from the water level in December. Since the area is quite steep and narrow, the houses stand quite close to each other. There is little space between the houses, which is different from the house allocation in other villages of Thai. Nearly 100% houses are stilt houses featuring a wooden structure and fibre cement roofing sheets or clay roofing tiles.

There is an access road to Xang Tren Village but one can also travel by boat to reach the village. It takes about half an hour by motorboat from the commune center. However, there are no passenger boats. One has to rent a boat to travel. A round trip costs 1 million VND. There is a road, but the quality is not good. That road was opened by the logging companies; thus, its main purpose is to transport wood. As a result, it is bumpy and cannot be used in rainy season.

The paths inside the village have been concreted thanks to the program on rural roads and national target program to build new rural area, in which the State provides cement and the villagers contribute their labor to construct roads.

The village has national grids. 100% of the households have grid electricity. One or two households keep using micro hydropower systems in case the national grid is broken. There is a clean water system in the village and 4 water tanks. Water is transported from the mountain streams. The villagers use this water for daily activities, and some still use river water to wash clothes.

Xang Tren Village is quite clean although the people pasture their livestock in the village and have not truly collected waste. Domestic waste is usually disposed of along the river or along the road.

There is no market in the village, but there are five grocery stores.

1.2.  Population

Xang Tren Village has 174 households and 688 people. 100% of them are Thai. 337 men account for 49% of the population of the village, and 51% of the total figure, which equals to 351 people, are women. The working age population – aged 15-60 - is about 46% of the total number.

There are 145 poor households according to the results of poverty monitoring in 2017. The number of near-poor households is 16. The villagers believe that the cause of poverty is first due to the poor quality of arable land. In addition, their irrigation is dependent on the nature; as a result, the productivity is not high. Furthermore, the roads out of the village are not truly convenient, so their products cannot be sold for good prices. Meanwhile, they have to buy consumer products for higher prices. Another cause of their poverty is their lack of labor.

There are 10 households headed by women. All of them are widows, over 40 years old, and their children have already grown up.

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<td>74</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.3. Village History and Migration

Xang Tren Village has been located here for a long time. The villagers had to evacuate to Tuong Duong District due to the war before 1954. Eight households moved back to the former place in 1954, and they have had 174 households in total by now.

There are some women coming to the village due to marriage. They are at the age of around 20-30, and 4 of them are Kinh. Some 20-30 aged women that married men from other villages. Moreover, there are some men (5 Kinhs and 30-40 Thais) staying in the village after the wedding according to the local custom. Young villagers are increasingly migrating out of the village to look for a job. 50 male villagers aged 18-40 have gone to Quang Nam Province to dig gold or to the South to work. Three women have gone to China to work since 2013. They still keep in touch with their families.

Apart from the people migrating for work and the students staying in the boarding school in Muong Xen, female villagers sometimes leave the village for the commune center or for Muong Xen. They either go on foot or travel by motorboat. It takes about one day to go to Muong Xen, which is 58km far from the village, first by motorboat and then by motorcycle/bus from the commune. They go out of the village about twice or three times a year, only when they have to, for example, in case of general check-ups, gynecological examinations, parental meetings, administrative procedures for the study of the children or visits to relatives. Due to the difficulties in travelling, the interaction with other villages is also limited.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

The village has 666ha of forest land, 500 ha of grazing land, 200ha of upland fields and 6ha of paddy fields. It takes about one hour to go to the nearest upland field and about half a day to reach the furthest point.

The villagers have received land use certificates for their residential land but not yet for their arable land. There is little garden land since the soil around the houses is mixed with a lot of rocks. The commune has planned an area for cultivation. Normally each household works on an area of 1-2 ha. There are some households having over 2ha of land, and some even have 4ha. They work there for about one or two years and then abandon that area for 2-3 years before using it again. Thus, the average arable land that a household has in total taking into consideration the abandoned area is about 5-6ha.

In general, each member should have an arable area where 5kg of rice seedlings can be planted. It is the fact that each household only has enough labour to cultivate about 1 to 2ha per year. Even if there is more land, they cannot do more work. It is the evaluation of the FGD participants that they have enough land.

The land planning and allocation is aimed at stopping the practice of swidden cultivation since the policy on payment for forest and environmental services is applied here.

The villagers plant rice, maize, cassavas, winter melons, and squash. The area along the river is used to plant various crops, namely bananas, sugar canes, sweet potatoes, taro, onions, kales, and potatoes. The harvested vegetables are only enough for the households’ consumption. If a household sells some, they have to eat less.

The land along the river is not allocated to the households because the area changes between the rainy season and the dry one. There are about 50-60 households cultivating there, but the area of each one depends on their own demand and capacity.

The whole village has about 5ha of paddy land, and 6 households are working on it. It is supposed to be a double-cropped area, but the villagers normally can crop only once due to the lack of water.

The head of the clan or the elder people play no roles in the village’s or the community’s land allocation but a pivotal one in conflict reconciliation. According to some FGD participants, there were conflicts over land between some households, but when it was found out who cleared the areas at question, the conflicts were settled. There have been no cases where the villagers fought each other for land.
There are no households renting land in the village. If there is demand, the households usually borrow land from their relatives, siblings or friends. Nonetheless, no household in the village has to do so.

Apart from the 6 households having 5ha of paddy fields the other households cultivate on upland fields. The cultivation method is "cut – burn – dig – plant" (cắt đốt chóc tía) with the swidden plot rotation of 5-6 years. The households usually use 1-2 ha. If after the first crop the soil remains fertile, the villagers will continue with the second crop on the same plot; otherwise, they will leave it for about 5-6 years. The swidden plot rotation used to be 10 years, but because of the population growth and decline in land availability as a result, it has been reduced to 5-6 years.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture and production systems:

The agricultural activities usually begin in about May of the lunar calendar\(^2\) with softening the soil and cutting the grass (or slashing and burning vegetation if it is a new land plot). The crop lasts 5-6 months, so October or November is the time to harvest.

The crops planted on swidden fields are rice, maize, and cassava. Among them, rice is the most important. However, due to the steep feature of the arable land the villagers only sow rice, but they hole and sow seeds in order to avoid soil runoff when ploughing up or hoeing the soil. The men poke holes and the women put seeds into the holes. The upland rice yield with traditional seedlings is 2.5-3 ton/ha. The maize yield of one kg of seeds is 30-40 kg/ha, and each household plant 2-5kg of hybrid seeds. Each household plants 1,000-1,500 cassava roots, and the yield of the two-year roots is 7-8kg.

Apart from the food crops, the households plant teak trees around the upland fields or part of the land plots. Teak is used to build houses, especially the floor and the wall. Part of the area is used to plant some fruit trees, normally around the houses. Each house has some mango trees or Pouteria lucuma trees. These fruits are usually for the households’ consumption only. It is observed that a lot of fruits fall on the ground, but no one eats them, and they cannot be sold.

Use of forest resources

Their livelihood is dependent on the forests. There are three types of forests around the village. The first one is production forest which can be cleared to plant food crops such as rice. The second type is used as pastureland. The villagers can raise livestock such as cows or buffaloes in this area. They are allowed to exploit this type in accordance with the laws, and particularly to collect some forest products, namely, mushrooms, bamboo shoots, rattans, and medicinal plants.

The third type is protection forest, which is not to be exploited; however, the villagers are allowed to collect mushrooms and bamboo shoots here.

The last two types are allocated to each group of households for forest protection purpose. Their services are paid. The payment is computed based on the area allocated. Each member receives 50,000VND twice a year. Part of the payment is kept by the management board as a fund of the village.

The exploitation of the forest products is seasonal. For example, bamboo shoots and canes of *Schizotachyum aciculare* are collected the most during March and April, and bitter bamboo shoots in February and March. Medicinal plants, particularly *Stemona tuberosa*, can be collected in the whole year. However, few people know these plants. The villagers also set traps to catch small animals such squirrels, weasels or birds although it is forbidden. The hunted animals are normally used as food and sometimes sold.

Women go to the forests to collect wild vegetables when they have time. They do not remember their names because these vegetables all are wild.

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\(^2\) The cultivation cycle follows the Moon calendar and May in the Moon calendar falls between May and July in the international (Gregorian) calendar.
Those that know medicinal plants are usually men. They collect those plants to make southern herbology, usually in the deep forests and sometimes in Laos’ forests, when they do not go to the fields with their wives. They also cut woods to sell and earn more for the families. The woods that can be exploited are roots of lilac, oak and Buretiodendron hsienmu trees.

Moreover, when building houses, the villagers can ask the CPC and the Forest Protection Agency for permission to cut wood. The forests also provide firewood; the households use some and sell some.

**Use of river resources**

All households have boats. 80% of the households use motorboat to do fishing. Furthermore, boats are also used to transport goods, wood, rice and maize. Some of the households regularly go to Laos to visit relatives and exchange goods by boat. They buy pigs, chicken, rice, wood and herbal medicine to sell in Vietnam.

There is no fish pond, but there are four households raising caged fish. The villagers mostly do fishing in Nam Non River. About 100 households do fishing. The villagers eat the fish that weight less than 1kg. The heavier are sold to traders from Muong Xen. It costs normally 25-30,000VND/kg. They use that money to buy meat and vegetables.

There are shrimps but not many and they are small. They usually use coops to catch shrimps. Sometimes they can catch turtles, but it is extremely rare.

Villagers go fishing occasionally, only when they have nothing to do. On average they go fishing about 4 times per week. Sometimes they go and catch some fish, but there are also some days when they do not get anything. There are two seasons in this area, i.e. a season of high water level and one of low water level. In the former season there seem to be a lot of fish, but due to the large volume of water, they have to use nets to catch fish. In the latter season, however, it is much easier because they can use coops. Thus, it is very difficult for them to tell which season they can catch more fish. In addition, they are dependent on the forests rather than the river; therefore, they normally do not pay much attention to the catch.

The villagers do not have any rules; it is the State that prohibits dynamite and bombs. The villagers commit to those rules. There are no rules prohibiting catching any specific fish. Fish during the fertility period are believed to be more nutritious because of spawns. They collect moss and vegetables along the river.

They go fishing not only in Nam Non River but also in several ravines, namely Kho, San, and Mai. There are many fish in Kho ravine, which is near the village. The women use hand nets to catch fish and tadpoles. It is possible to catch carps, arowanas, silver fish, gobies, and shrimps in the ravines.

They use fishing rods, nets, and baited lines. All households in the village have baited lines. There are 173 households in the village; all of them are Thai. About 10 households have more than 10 sets of baited lines. More nets are casted; more fish can be caught. Thus, they always arrange the baited lines in water to catch fish. Only when they are busy, they do not do it. They never collect fish from the others’ baited hooks because they remember where their hooks are. However, fish are sometimes stolen.

All households have nets. There are many types of nets with various sizes of holes, i.e. from 1 to 10, to catch small, medium or big fish. Size 1 is the smallest and used to catch small fish.

In addition, they also catch fish by local landing nets. When the water is turbid, they use local landing nets. Men use cork to weave those nets, the sizes of which vary.

Men go fishing individually. One man can catch about 5kg fish on average per time. If households cannot eat all the fish, they will sell part of it. If they cannot sell, they will hang, fry, grill, use them to make salad or cook soup, steam or leave them tied in the river, and someone will come to buy the next day. Cobias and Bagarius rutilus can be used to make salad. Raw Bagarius rutilus is the most delicious. The villagers can cook sour soup with Bagarius rutilus and bamboo shoots or tamarinds.

Some people dig gold; some others collect sand and rocks on the river bank to build auxiliary structures, toilets, pigsties and penhouse. A cubic meter of sand costs 300,000VND. If they cannot collect on themselves, they will buy.
Livestock breeding

The main livestock are buffaloes, cows, pigs and chicken. Pigs and chicken raised in the village freely; some households make henhouses. Since there is no husbandry, the productivity is low. It takes one year to raise a pig until it weighs 45kg. The price for a whole pig weighing less than 30kg is 100,000VND/kg, and that for one weighing over 30kg is 70,000VND/kg.

The village is divided into 3 livestock breeding groups with 4 pastureland areas to raise cows and buffaloes. The villagers usually feed them with some salt so that they do not go away. The prices for one cow or one buffalo range from 25 million to 35 million VND, depending on their weights.

100% of the households raise chicken and pigs. Each household has 15-50 chicken and at least one pig. 100 households have buffaloes; each of them has 1-4 buffaloes. About 130-140 households have cows; each of them has 3-4 cows. There are about 100 goats of 20 households.

Livestock breeding usually faces diseases, but the commune’s veterinary officer introduces the prevention and cure methods for both cattle and poultry. The villagers are aware of vaccination for cattle at present.

Secondary occupations

Women’s secondary occupation is weaving. Each household has a loom. They plant cotton in the forests and raise silkworms to make thread. Households that cannot raise their own silkworms buy thread from those households that are able produce enough for selling. All raw materials cost around 3-400,000VND for a skirt, for example. The producer then normally will sell such a skirt for about 600,000VND.

Good exchange and trade take place in the village since there is always someone coming to buy local products and someone bringing goods to sell. Particularly, traders come to the village to buy rice, maize, pigs, chicken, buffaloes or cows. Rice has been the most popular product in recent years. One kg costs about 15,000VND.

1.6. Education

The villagers communicate in five languages, namely Thai, Lao, Kho Mu, Hmong and Vietnamese. The elder people communicate with each other in their own language, but almost all of them can speak either Kho Mu language or Thai language.

Most of the women in the village know how to read and write Vietnamese. Only those aged 55+ know neither how to read and write nor how to read numbers.

There are 67 primary students, from the 1st grade to the 5th grade. The number of students is divided into 23 classes, among which 6 are mixed due to the lack of students, i.e. one class is a mix of 2nd grade and 3rd grade and one is a mix of 4th grade and 5th grade. The primary school is located in the village. All school-age children enroll in school at the right age.

There are 30 secondary school students, from the 6th grade to the 9th grade. Since the secondary school is located in the commune center and stands about 7km far from the village, the children have to stay in boarding school. They go to school normally by boat. If they walk, it takes nearly a whole day to reach the school. The tuition fee is subsidized by the State, but the parents have to contribute money or rice for the children’s meals. In 2010 the school issued the rule that children living 10km+ far from the school have to stay in boarding school, and the parents have to register for the children.

There are 12 high school students. They have to stay at the boarding school in the district. If children go to high school and stay in the school, they will get full subsidy from the State. If they rent a room out of the school, the parents have to pay on their own. Children go home once a semester. Parents give them 8-9,000,000VND.

There have been 30 people that finished high school. More than 20 young people have completed their studies at colleges or vocational secondary schools but are currently unemployed.
Local children usually finish the 9th grade and stop going to school then because the high school is far away. Going to the district, children get bored and do not want to go to school. Also because the parents cannot afford their study, some drop school. It happens to both boys and girls. It happens sometimes that more boys drop school than girls when entering high school. The common rate of dropouts among different levels is 70 of the 100 primary school students will enroll in secondary school, and the number reduces to 20 when they go to high school.

1.7. Health and Health Care

Adults in the village commonly suffer from headache, stomach-ache or back pain. Children may have diarrhea, toothache, eye problems, asthma. About 80% women have gynecological diseases. They usually buy some medicine to take and clean. Those that know about southern herbology look for herbs and vegetables in the forest, bring them home, and cook them in water. The women then use the cooked water to wash themselves.

When children have a stomach or tooth ache, they are treated with southern herbology. When it is other diseases, the parents will go to the commune to buy medicine. Only in severe cases, they will be brought to the hospital.

The indigenous people mostly use southern herbology. They go to the clinic or the hospital only when the traditional medicine does not work. The villagers share the knowledge of traditional medicine to cure children. Some cure children on themselves. They search for herbs on their own in the forests to make medicine.

There are 5 people in the clinic. One of them is a doctor, and another one is a midwife. There is a male village health worker. If children are sick, they are brought to the health worker’s house to get medicine or injected, but he cannot do it. His main job is to advise people what to do and where to go, also jointly propagandize for the programmes of the commune or the district.

Many women give birth at home because the clinic is too far away. The pregnant women that feel well normally give birth at home. Those that feel weak go to the commune. Those that are worried about both mother and child also go to the clinic. Some even go to the district hospital to give birth.

It used to be the case that many new-born babies died after birth due to home birth. However, there have been no cases as such recently because the pregnant women give home birth only when they feel healthy or when they are on the fields and cannot come back. If they find anything odd during pregnancy, they will register at the clinic or go to the hospital. There is no case of maternal death or infant death.

There is no mid-wife in the village but many people give birth at home because there are many experienced people that can help.

There is no traditional healer that gives treatment for money. There are only those who know about medicine and share with the others.

The villagers use the ravine water, which flows to the tank built by the State 10 years ago, to bathe and wash clothes.

They usually take a bath in the river. So do women after childbirth. After one day the mother and the new-born baby take bath in the river. Women have to do everything if there is no one home. When growing up, children will go with brothers and sisters to the river or the tank to take a bath. Children learn how to swim from parents or other adults.

The village health worker has graduated from the general medical secondary school. However, her main duty is giving information on health, prevention and sanitation. She also propagandizes about HIV, but not much. Condoms used to be delivered earlier but this practice does not exist at present. The village health worker has no medical box, no office and no medical supplies. However, the village health worker buys common medicine and sells to the households when they need.

There are 50 drug users in the village; three of them are women. They sell assets in order to have money to buy drugs, thus causing accelerating poverty for their families and the village. 3 people have been sent to prison for drug selling. It is said that the drugs are transported from Laos to Vietnam, but what kind of drugs remains unanswered.
1.8. **Ethnic Culture and Leadership**

Each village has a specific place – a temple - to worship the forefather of Thai – Pho Hanh. When someone dies, the villagers have to worship the river god. This ritual takes place when the soul of the dead person is invited home. They need chicken to carry out the ritual. At the end, the chicken is thrown into the river since the cemetery is located on the side of the river.

There is an annual celebration in December to worship the village god. Representatives of all households participate in it, which takes place at the front of the village. There it is forbidden to cut, destroy or throw waste. The villagers slaughter a pig during the celebration. If they harvest well, they slaughter a cow.

The grave area is located about 1km far from the village. According to the villagers, if this area is affected due to the HPP, they will not relocate graves. They do a ritual at Pho Hanh Temple in order to inform the god and ask him/her to spread the words to the god in charge of the forest of the dead. After that they bring some products to the cemetery to worship the local god and invite both the god and all the spirits to the new area chosen by the villagers. That area becomes the new forest of the dead.

Before sowing rice, Thai worship the land god on the fields. It is normally at the end of April and beginning of May of the lunar calendar. They do another ritual named “cơm mới” or new rice before harvesting in October of the lunar calendar. Thai organize two celebrations at the temple annually.

There are no animals or plants that have some economic or spiritual values and need to be kept in the village.

1.9. **Gender Issues**

In Thai culture, the daughters are preferred. When it comes to marriage, the decision is taken by the girl. The married man first has to stay with the family of the girl. Later on the couple can move out or the woman can go to live with her husband’s family.

The role of Thai women has not been changed in their community. In general, Thai men and women play different roles in production. However, both work on the fields and go to the forests. Fishing is usually done by men. Women rarely go fishing. Both the husband and wife discuss and make decisions together concerning the children’s study, e.g.

The Women’s Union of the village and the commune supports women in production development. The households can borrow money for their production thanks to the Union.

Since the roads are not convenient, women deliver babies at the home at present. Due to the economic difficulties, women rarely rest and still have to work during pregnancy and after childbirth.

Women keep cash of the households.

They rarely go out of the village and rarely participate in social activities. There are four men in various positions in the commune (the head of the commune police, an officer of the party committee office, a commune policeman, and vice chairman of the red cross). One woman is the chairman of the Women’s Union of the village.

1.10. **Community Organization and Development**

The existing organizations in the village are the Cell of the Party, the Village’s Fatherland Front, Youth Union, Women’s Union, Veterans Association, and Farmers’ Association. These organizations play a role in supervising the activities of the village’s authority, particularly the village head, the vice head of the village, or the village health worker, and mobilizing the people to support the programs and projects that the authority puts forward.

The Women’s Union, the Veterans Association and the Farmers’ Association also serve as trustees so that their members can borrow money from Vietnam Bank for Social Policies for production development. There are these following programs taking in the village:

(i) Program 135: It supported the construction of national grid, roads, schools, and clinic in the first phase. Cows were provided to the villagers in the second phase, but only 60% of the households were able to raise those cows. The rest of the other households died. The villagers
received cows, pigs, goats, and chicken in 2016. A bull was sold for over 20 million VND. Ten households received goats, 3 goats for each of them. 30 households received chicken and fodder.

(ii) Nghe An Radio Station provides the village’s kindergarten and school with solar power.

(iii) The program 30A provided support for livestock breeding in 2014-2015. 12 cows were given to poor households. In addition, hybrid apple and mango trees were provided, but they were not effective. 13 households received acacias, 110 trees/household. 30 households received melia azedaraches, 110 trees/household. However, 70% of the trees died because the moment of seedling delivery was not appropriate for tree development.

(iv) The Water Supply and Rural Sanitation Program gave a loan of 8 million VND to build toilets but no one borrowed.

(v) 100 households borrowed 2.5 billion with the interest rate of 0.65% from the Bank for Social Policies through Farmers’ Association, Women’s Union, and Veterans’ Association. 60 households borrowed 30 million VND. 10 households borrowing have children that are still going to school or university.

(vi) The program on labour export propagated in the village but could not be implemented since the villagers did not trust it.

(vii) The government provides rice to save the poor annually. The poor households receive 5kg of rice for each member.

(viii) There is a program on delivery of salt, newspaper, insurance cards and cash support for Tet Holidays (100,000VND/household).

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

All the participants are aware of the HPP due to the previous meetings announcing the project; however, men have more knowledge about it because they were invited to the meetings. They believe there should be more meetings and other communication channels such as radio in their mother tongue. According to the elder group the villagers are all concerned about the large number of workers that will live close to the village and will possibly have certain impacts on the life of all households.

Since 2003 some of them have got the information when a survey team came. They first heard that the village would be relocated; it was, however, later said that they would not have to move. The villagers wonder whether such a close distance to the workers’ camp would have impacts on the villagers’ life. The proponent came and informed the villagers of the HPP, but they have no idea of how the HPP is constructed. According to the last survey team, the dam will be moved up 100m higher after the exploration drilling process. It is said that the construction will no have impacts on the village. The villagers do not think it is necessary to discuss the benefits after the completion of the construction but the operation and management of the hydropower plant is worrisome. If the houses close to the river are not relocated, floods come, and the reservoir reaches its capacity, heavy rains will sweep away those houses.

The villagers want to know whether they will be relocated, which policies on resettlement are, and how the inventory of assets will be carried out. The villagers do not dare to do anything and keep waiting for the HPP. They want to know about the compensation. Moreover, they are worried about the impacts of the HPP on their living environment. Particularly, they are worried that they might plant some trees that will not be compensated for.

Clearer information should be provided. There should be clear policies on pollution levels during the construction and methods to avoid dust. Since their present living conditions are very difficult, they want to know how their life will be after the HPP completion. They request that those living close to the construction site and the dam should be relocated in order to protect their crops and assets.

1.12. Additional Issues

The fact that many houses are built close to the river indicates certain risks that can happen when the dam is constructed. Spillways, for example, can lead to some negative impacts. Thus, it is recommended to take into consideration a resettlement plan for this village, or at least for the households close to the river.
2  Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

Mr. Nguyen Van Manh & Mr. Dang Huu Hai

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held with 12 participants, of which 10 are men and 02 are women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They heard about the project for 10 years, for many time, many survey teams have visited. There are many information sources such as by survey team, by commune authority, village authority and oral speaking between villagers. Recently they heard about meeting, and this time up to district level.

Implementation of hydropower project will cause great impact to livelihood, making it very difficult to villagers. The village is poor already and now is threatening by losing cultivation land, even house relocation. However, they also expect hydropower project so as they can have power for their living.

Hydropower project will cause impact to environment, losing cultivation land, affecting to hunting, fishing activities.

Villagers wishes to know more clearly information, such as do or do not, if do then when the project is implemented. If relocated, where they will be displaced to, when and how is compensation policies for land, for house and for cultivation land. There is no detail information about that.

Villagers wish to know when the project is implemented, is there any impact on environment, the environment is ensure to live or not, cultivation will be ensure or not, is there enough land for villager to cultivate?

2.2. Forest use

There is land fund of the commune, productive land is share one area surrounding the village, there is no demarcation between households, they can cultivate as far as they can. Production forest allocated to each household is 1-2 ha. Normally they do in one year and leave fallow in 2-3 years before coming back. Almost all households involve in production forest but there are some special case that household does not involve due to health condition or they have other occupation.

There are three type of forest: (i) production forest, planting rice, subsidiary crops; (ii) pastureland: use in grazing cattle in harvest season, to keep, protect and is allowable for exploitation under the law and (iii) protection forest which is unallowable for exploitation.

Production forest surrounds the village in distance of 200-300m from production area.

Planting mainly rice, maize and cassava.

Forest product include: timber, vegetable, herb and hunting.

Households go into forest every day when they are free and with no stable time table. Main purpose of forest product is for family demand, only if they can collect lot of bamboo shoot or mushroom then they will sell.

Bamboo shoot, mushroom and vegetable are abundant in rainy season, lasting from February to April, herb is available all around the year, they collect whenever they found or collect by order.

Vegetable collected from forest is know as eatable, name unknown, herd the same, they know only this herb is used for curing what kind of disease (stomachache, bone), name unknown.
Most of villagers know common herb, but few know about special one and not one person know all but each person know one kind of special herb. Almost all households in the village use herb for curing but there is some people (some of 10 households) collect regularly for sale.

Among herb, the Stemona tuberosa is the most abundant with price of 30,000 VND/kg.

Forest product collected from forest is sold to traders, villagers phone them when they have or phone to border guard, teacher.

Among forestry product, timber plays the most important role because it is used to build house, boat and firewood as well.

Building a house requires 1-2 year to prepare and collect timber. Timber exploitation for house building must apply for permission from commune People’s Committee, The Management Board of Protection forest and forest guard force. The preparation time may be shorter if they have many people, some household must buy timber to build house.

The village has no field, grazing is done in pastureland, grazing is done also in the field after harvesting. If cattle, poultry is sick, veterinary officer will be asked to help, otherwise they can buy drug to cure themselves.

### Hunting

At present, forest exists many wild animal including Red-whiskered bulbul, squirrel, rat, boar, porcupine, monkey, wild chicken, bamboo rat, snake, etc. Villagers go hunting all around the year but gain the most in dry season which lasts from October to March of lunar year. Traps are manual, include crossbow, net, harpoon. Common tools are trap: bird, wild chicken, and by manual digging to take rat, bamboo rat. The Government has disarmed all gun. Among animal rat and bird have the most quantity and are main source of meat for villagers. Big squirrel sell 50,000/squirrel, medium size cost 30,000 VND each. Big weasel cost 150,000/kg, wild chicken 150,000VND/kg. Porcupine: 250,000 VND/kg. Rat cost between 20,000 to 30,000 VND/rat depending on size.

Both men and women go to forest, but men do it more frequently for hunting, if they hunt lot they will sell; go for collecting herb, timber exploiting, there is few women go with her husband to collect herb or forest vegetable. Hunting is mainly for daily food, and for sale if they catch lot. Some households dry and smoke hunted animal for using in rainy day, or for busy days when they can not go into forest.

### List of timber and non-timber products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Quantity (if available)</th>
<th>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=the least important</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price//Kg or per product (if sold)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1 month/once</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N (selling is not allowed)</td>
<td>--------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stemona tuberosa</td>
<td>Winter (3 last months of year)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30,000VND/kg</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbal</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
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<td>Y</td>
<td>400,000VND/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balanophora fungosa</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>400,000VND/kg</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Smilax</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Very few</td>
<td>10,000/bundle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Quantity (if available)</td>
<td>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=the least important</td>
<td>For sale Y/N</td>
<td>Price/Kg or per product (if sold)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weasel</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>150,000 VND/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Not catch for long time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30,000-50,000/squirrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>150,000 d/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>250,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>20,000-30,000/rat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

**Mr. Le Manh Hung**

#### General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 8 January 2017 with 9 participants, 9 of them were men and none were women. The ethnicity of the participants was Thai. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, three the 4th grade, one the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the two last ones the 9th grade.

The list of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

#### 3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Some villagers have heard about the project since 2003 when a survey team of the district visited the village. They first knew that the village had to be relocated. When they later heard that they would not be relocated, the villagers expressed their concern about the possible impacts on their life during the construction process due to the close distance. The proponent came to the village last year, 2015. They met and announced the plan but the people did not really understand the construction process. After the last survey and the exploration drilling process, the dam was moved up 100m higher. During the construction, they said that there would be no impacts on the village. Those living along the river are worried about the plant operation and management when floods come. If they are not relocated, floods come, the reservoir is filled to its capacity, and the spillway releases floods, some houses will be swept away.

The villagers want to know whether they will be relocated. They do not dare to do anything at present and just wait for more information on the project. They want to know about the compensation. It is unclear how many houses will be relocated. Relocation means a lot of hard work. How long is it left till the construction commences? Some households want to build houses but do not dare to. If they did, they will not be able to move the house, and the first survey already took place in 2003. In addition, the villagers are worried about the impacts of the hydropower plant on their living environment, i.e. planting the trees that are not compensated.
3.2. Boat use

Each family has a boat; Expensive motorboats cost about 50 million VND. Fishing boats are also motorboats but small and cost 7-8 million VND or 13-15 million VND. Small boats are used to travel near the bank.

80% use motorboats for fishing. Furthermore, boats are also used to transport goods, wood, rice, maize to the fields like a motorcycle.

They frequently go to Laos to visit their relatives and exchange goods, i.e. travel by motorboat and import Laotian products, such as “củ ba mủ” (Stemona tuberosa), chicken, and ducks to sell in Vietnam. One chicken costs about 80,000VND and can be sold in Vietnam for about 140,000VND, so the benefit is nearly 70,000VND. It takes about one hour to Houaphanh and Xiengkhouang by boat. It is allowed to use nets but not dynamite or bombs. The people need to request for a document at the Border Guard’s if they want to go to Laos. My Ly Commune has agreed with Ban Long Kang and Muong Duong that they will have briefings twice a year. If Vietnamese go to Laos and stay along the river, they do not need any documents, but if they go further, they need to register for a permission.

If the project takes place, the distance will be enlarged, boats will be disposed, and they cannot go to Laos any more.

3.3. Fishing

They fish in Nam Non River. There are no fish ponds. The villagers mainly catch fish in the Nam Non River. 100% of the households do fishing. The villagers eat only the fish weighing less than 1kg. If they catch some fish that weigh over 1 kg, they will not eat but sell them. Normally it costs 25-30,000VND/kg. They use that amount of money to buy meat and vegetables. They make their own staple foods. They sell fish to the traders, some of whom come from Muong Xin. In the village there is one household that can catch a lot of fish in a year. They earn each month On average about 1-2,000,000VND from fishing. Once they caught 15kg fish and sold for 6,000,000VND. One kg costs 500,000VND. If they can do it once a year, it is already enough.

There are shrimps, but mostly are very small. They usually use coops to catch shrimps. Sometimes they can catch turtles, but it is extremely rare. They go fishing occasionally, only when they have nothing to do. Sometimes they go and catch some fish, but there are also some days when they do not get anything. If they stay home, they go fishing 4 times per week on average. The villagers do not have any rules; it is the State that prohibits dynamite and bombs. The villagers commit to those rules. There are no rules prohibiting catching any specific fish. Fish during the fertility period are believed to be more nutritious because of spawns. They collect moss and vegetables along the river. There are many types of vegetables but they do not know their names in Vietnamese, e.g. “rau dớn” - diplazium esculentum - is called “phạch cut”, “lá lố” in Thai language.

They go fishing not only in Nam Non River but also in several ravines, namely Kho, San, and Mai. There are many fish in Kho ravine, which is near the village. The women use hand nets to catch fish and tadpoles. It is possible to catch carps, arowanas, silver fish, gobies, and shrimps in the ravines.

They go fishing along the river and even to Laos. If they want to go further into Laos’s territory, they need some documents, but it is not required when they stay close to the border.

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

They use fishing rods, nets, and baited lines. All households in the village have baited lines. There are 173 households in the village; all of them are Thai. About 10 households have more than 10 sets of baited lines. More nets are casted; more fish can be caught. Thus, they always arrange the baited lines in water to catch fish. Only when they are busy, they do not do it. They never collect fish from the others’ baited hooks because they remember where their hooks are. However, fish are sometimes stolen.

All households have nets. There are many types of nets with various sizes of holes, i.e. from 1 to 10, to catch small, medium or big fish. Size 1 is the smallest and used to catch small fish.
In addition, they also catch fish by local landing nets. When the water is turbid, they use local landing nets. Men use cork to weave those nets, the sizes of which vary.

There are tens of types of fish in the river, namely Hemibagrus, Bagarius rutilus, “cá lêch”, turtles, cobias, gobies and carps. The most are “cá mãc”, Bagarius rutilus; Hemibagrus, cobias, but the numbers of these fish have been reduced.

They can catch about 5kg fish on average. If they cannot eat all, they will sell. If they cannot sell, they will hang, fry, grill, use them to make salad or cook soup, steam or leave them tied in the river, and someone will come to buy the next day. Cobias and “cá ghê” can be used to make salad. Raw “cá ghê” is the most delicious. The villagers can cook sour soup with “cá ghê” and bamboo shoots or tamarinds.

Some others dig gold. 5-6 households plant vegetables along the river and have their own gardens there, mainly for their daily meals. Those whole sell have to eat less.

Some people collect sand and rocks on the river bank to build auxiliary structures, toilets, pigsties and penhouse. A cubic meter of sand costs 300,000VND. If they cannot collect on themselves, they will buy.

The villagers do not pray to any river or forest spirits but to their ancestors. They do a village ritual in March or April using a pig and another one in the end of the year using a cow.

4. Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 08/01/2017 with 10 participants, of which 6 were men and 4 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnic minority people.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- The project information has been known by villagers through previous surveys and investigations.
- They have participated in 2-3 consultations done previously;
- Expectation by villagers: when the hydropower project is constructed, it must ensure environment and information on displacement shall be informed to villagers: is it displacement or moving up resettlement? How the living standard, economic development will be when the project is implemented. Local households are living on the river, if it is not necessary to construct the dam here, please reconsidered. Domestic water supply depends on river, slashed and burned fields along the river have been stabled, if land is acquired for the hydropower project construction, how the allowances and compensation will be?
- It is proposed to support fish cage farming when the project is completed.

4.2. Land use

- Most of agricultural land owned by households are upland fields, to be divided in two areas, a haft area is near by the river while another is upland area. All of households have cultivated land area near the river and upland area as well.
- Average slash and burned land area of households is 2-3 ha, some have 5-6 ha due to previous reclamation. Some households have paddy field. The whole village has some of 5ha of paddy field shared by 6 households.
Slash and burn land area is mainly upland, depends on weather, no irrigation.

The slash and burn land area has been planned and allocated to households but without certificates.

Households find themselves not enough land for production, particularly those who have just separated for independent living because no more land fund for reclamation.

There are 10-20 households lack of food because of lack of working force. The lack food households are supported by the Government (rice support, participants of FGD do not know exactly the quantity of rice given). These are normally poor and hunger households.

As planned, the slash and burn land area of the village which are along the river will be affected most due to the reservoir formation and dam construction. If cultivated land area is acquired, the village will lack of land and many households will have not enough food.

Land along river is cultivated with various types of subsidiary crop, banana, sugar cane, sweet potato, taro, vegetable, onion. Land along river is not allocated to households since the area varies year from year. The land along river is cultivated depending on demand and capability of household. All of households in the village cultivate on this land. Vegetable planted for family demand.

4.3. Crops

Crops in the village are as in the below table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average productivity (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.5-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddy rice</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>4-5.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice: similar to traditional upland rice, 1 crop a year, from June to October every year, can be up to January, unstable productivity. In good weather year, it can be 3 ton/ha, but in bad year, it is only 1.7 or 1.0 ton/ha or even no harvest. Rotational cycle of crop is 2 years planting and 3 years leaving fallow. Each household has 3-5 upland fields.

- Paddy rice: paddy field along river, stream can be cultivated with 1 crop a year, and is cultivated with seeds given by the commune. Usually affected by insect and drought condition therefore productivity is low.

- Hybrid maize: planting 1 crop a year, productivity is varies between year. Year when drought period lasts long, hybrid maize does not grow, and productivity is low, only 2 ton/ha.

- Cassava: harvest after two years, mainly local seed, each household plants 1000-1500 bushes depending, some household plant cassava but some do not. Average productivity after 2 years about 7-8 kg/bushes. Productivity is some 20-22 ton/ha.

- 20 households in the village are in food lacking condition due to lack of working force, or permanent sick.

- Households usually collect bamboo shoot, forest vegetable for food, caught rat and fish are used as a protein source for daily meal.

- Agricultural product is redundant sometime. Excess rice is sold to other household in the same village or to traders from outside. Households with small number of livestock normally have 5-6 quintal of hybrid maize for sale. When selling agricultural products,
the whole village will discuss and agree on price of each product and sell to the traders together. Rice price is between 5-6 thousand VND per kg while hybrid maize is 3-4 thousand VND per kg to loosen hybrid maize.

4.4. Livestock
- 100% households in village have pig, chicken. Each household has 15-50 chicken and at least one breeding pig.
- Buffaloes: 100 households have buffaloes, On average each household has 1-4 buffaloes.
- Cow: 130-140 households have cow, On average each household has 3-4 cow.
- Goat: there are some of 100 goats owned by 20 households.
- Cattle are grazing and taken care by teams. The village has 3 grazing team with 4 pastures.
- Cattle is normally sold to traders from outside who come to the village to buy.
- Livestock is usually headed with diseases but there is veterinary staff who transmit how to protect and cure the sick cattle and livestock. At present, local resident has aware about vaccine injection to cattle.
- 100% households in the village go fishing to sell to traders (160 households have fishing boat).
- Lots of young people in the village go as hired labor force in other provinces all over the country (no number can be noted).

4.5. Other information and reflections

Forest protection
The village has 500 hectare of forest, the amount of money gained from forest protection is 70-80 million VND/year. Half of this amount will be added to the village fund, the other half is divided evenly to households in the village.

At present the village has no difficulties on social-economic conditions.

Domestic water source: from river and from mountain creek. The Government has invested a water supply system with 7-8 water tanks and piping in the village. In a year, villagers use water from mountain creek for 4-5 months, and from water for the rest duration (taking water home in bucket).

Graves: normally located nearby the river (on the other bank of the river). When someone die, villagers use boat for funeral. No tradition for grave exhumation. If graves are submerged, there will be a kind of traditional ceremony to bring ancestor to new village.

5 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD
The FGD took place on the 8 January 2017 with 11 participants, 7 of them were men and 4 were women. The ethnicity of the participants was Thai. They are at age of 54 to 85.

List of participants with their names, sex, age, ethnicities and occupations and the FGD notes prepared by the national consultant team that conducted this discussion are enclosed.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP
All of attendant knew about the planned hydropower project from previous meetings held on the project. However, men know better because they were invited to meetings. They suggested that there should be more meetings and other mode of information propagandism such as by means of louder speaker in their language. Every one expressed their worries on the information that
there will be a huge number of worker living nearby the village which will impact to daily living lives of villagers.

5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village has been here long time ago, they moved to Tuong Duong during the war and came back in 1954. There were only 08 households at that time while now the number is 173 households with 360 individual, 100% is Thai ethnicity.

Family organization of Tay Muong/Tay Do group is quite close. Each family has one worship house for the whole big family where they offer worship ceremony to ancestor at full moon day of June or July of the lunar year (which is affected by Kinh people).

Marriage of Thai is monogamy, living with husband, characterized with patriarchal and trading features as showing from decisive roles by parents in exact wedding presents “cost per person”. Before, marriage of Thai reflected distiguishly aristocracy and common class and suitable alliance. Basic principle in marriage of Thai is family exogamous, under which all male and female members of family relative community who share the same ancestor within 3 to 5 generations are prohibited to get married with each other.

The second principle is agreement characteristics, if getting disagreement it will be considered as breaking the “pig head turning” custom (táo hua mü). The agreement characteristic is formed basing on three fundamental relationships: āi nòng, lúng ta and nhinh xao.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

The village has 666 ha forestry land, 500 ha pastureland and 200 ha upland field. At present, there is only land use right certificate for residential land, not yet cultivation land. At present the whole village cultivate on one planned cultivation land but not yet dividing to each household, each individual cultivates with some of 5kg rice seed, total will depends on number of individual in such household. Villagers told that cultivation land for households in the village is enough therefore they do not reclaim further than the village’s cultivation land plot.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating on the same plot which has been used by the whole family but not specially allocating to them. 5 years after the formation of new household then will be cultivate in separate and do it in other plot but somehow must within the defined cultivation land area.

Role of elders/leader in land system

In traditional society of Thai, in title, land, natural are all belong to the whole village ownership. Land and nature are classified in three types:

Land and natural zone belong to public ownership (all of people in the village are entitled to exploit and used, except animal hunting which requires a “pay in kind” to the land owner: a pig must be paid by its front leg, deer must be paid by its behind leg); Land and natural zone belong to the village management, only exchange, selling will be allowed; Land managed, used by families (which has ownership, possession, free selling, exchange, etc).

At present, land ownership belong to families, particularly residential land which has been allocated to households in the village. Cultivation land is allocated to group of households who will share the allocated land plot.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Due to living characteristics, production activities of Thai which depend completely on natural condition, they perform worship to pray the heaven for good weather and yieldfull harvest. They offer many worship in a year: the first is “field opening” ceremony (Tế tòng). Before seeding, they offer “hạch ma” worship. When rice grows in ear they offer “hau cẳm” (or ăn khem) custom. Before and after harvesting, Thai offer thankful worship to spirit of the rice and invite
rice spirit home. The offering things always are sticky rice, fish, egg and “rượu cần” (wine drunk out of a jar through pipes). One among important ceremonies which Thai organize annually is “phà ma” worship (heaven back), or known as ceremony to welcome the very first thunder of spring. The first thunder in custom of Thai is a sign for a good moment for production and seeding. This is when rice spirit wake up after a long cold winter. Because of that conception, annually, whenever the first thunder, all families offer their own worship. Family of the head of a clan (ông đẳm) must offer a bigger ceremony than others. Because he must be on behalf of the whole big family (clan) to pray heaven for a good year and a yieldfull crop. The “rain pray” (“cầu mưa”) is also a popular custom in Thai community and occurs annually. The “rain pray” (“cầu mưa”) worship is performed in bright moon nights when weather causes potential long drought period. The rain pray ceremony is mainly performed by young people in the village. They gather in group walking around the village while singing a song praying for rain (xo nặm phồn). After that the crowd goes to water streams (bờ nậm) at village gate to play the watering game with hope that when they imitate such “raining” activities, the heaven will understand and give them rain.

There is temple worshiping Phò Hanh and Lý Khâm gods in the village (who set up the village and helped Thai to reclaim land), worship offers to Phò Hanh god they will invite water god, forest god, etc... also.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values
There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.
In case of forest, every month, villagers of Xang Tren village go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays Thai stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places
Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river
Each village has its temple to worship ancestor of Thai. When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering the river god (to bring ghost home), thing to offer must be chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river, because graveyard of the village is on the other side of the river so on the way back from ghost forest there shall be things offered to show thankful.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants
The village worship is performed in December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited. The worship requires pig, or cow in a good harvest year, the first worship is performed in May of lunar year when offering fruit and the second worship is performed in October of lunar year to close the year.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident, this area will be affected, submerged by hydropower project. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.
Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

There are cultural works in the village which must be relocated such as temple, cultural house, school, but by custom, when a whole village is relocated, wizard will offer a worship at Phô Hanh temples (as described above) to inform the relocation to new place. Each household, each family will offer their own worship to invite their ancestor to go with them.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Local people must be supported in performing community ceremonies, this is where workers will gather and leave.

5.5. Other information and reflections

Xang Tren village is proposed for a worker camp, therefore workers shall be informed about custom and habit of local resident so as to prevent any potential misunderstanding about different custom.

6 Report from FGD with Women

(Ms.) Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The FGD took place on the 8th January 2017 with 17 female participants. All of them are Kho Mu; one of them is illiterate; two finished the 2nd grade; one the 3rd grade; one the 4th grade, seven the 5th grade, one the 7th grade, two the 8th grade, one the 9th grade and one the 12th grade.

Participant list with the name, sex, age, ethnicity and occupation of each participant together with the discussion notes in Vietnamese prepared by the national consultants undertaking the FGD are enclosed.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

A survey team has come here but there has never been any formal announcement. Thus, the villagers do not know whether the project will be implemented or not. Today is the first day that they heard about the project technical information.

It is suggested that the information be detailed. There should be clearer policies on air pollution during the implementation of the project. They want to know how to avoid dust and how their life will be after the project finished because their present life is really tough. They want to know whether and how they will be relocated and what the resettlement policies are.

The villagers want to get the information through louder speaker and through public meetings on the project so they can get more detailed implementation.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Xang Tren women are Kho Mu. They marry the men of the same ethnic minority or of Thai group.

There are two female-headed households. The husbands died at the age of 40-46. Their children all have grown up. The youngest is already 18 and has left school.

Xang Tren women sometimes go out of the village to the commune centre or to Muong Xen, either by boat or on foot. They have to travel 58km to Muong Xen and that takes them one day by boat. They go out of the village 2-3 times per year on average. It is hard to travel so the interaction with the other villages is also limited. They go to the commune for check-ups, gynecological examinations, parental meetings, some administrative procedures or visits to relatives.
There is no one working for the commune, no one in leader positions, even in the Women’s Union. When there is a meeting, the Women’s Union of the commune goes to the village to organize it.

There is no market in the Village. If they want to go to the market to buy household appliances for the family or books for the children e.g., they have to go to Muong Xend.

6.3. Health and nutrition

The villagers use the ravine water, which flows to the tank built by the State 10 years ago, to bath and wash clothes.

They usually take a bath in the river. So do women after childbirth. After one day the mother and the new-born baby take bath in the river. Women have to do everything if there is no one home. When growing up, children will go with brothers and sisters to the river or the tank to take a bath. Children learn how to swim from parents or other adults.

Adults in the village usually have a headache, stomach-ache or pain in back. Children have diarrhoea, toothache, pink eye, asthma. About 80% women have gynecological diseases. They usually buy some medicine to take and clean. Those that know about southern herbology look for herbs and vegetables in the forest, bring them home, and cook them in water. The women then use the cooked water to clean themselves.

When children have a stomache or toothache, they are given southern horology. When it is other diseases, the parents will go to the commune to buy medicine. Only in severe cases, they will be brought to the hospital.

The indigenous people mostly use southern herbology. They go to the clinic or the hospital only when the traditional medicine does not work. The villagers share the knowledge of traditional medicine to cure children. Some cure children on themselves. They search for herbs on their own in the forests to make medicine.

There are 5 people in the clinic. One of them is doctor, and another one is midwife. There is a male village health worker. If children are sick, they are brought to the health worker’s house to get medicine or injected, but he cannot do it. His main job is to advise people what to do and where to go, also jointly propagandize for the programmes of the commune or the district.

Many women give birth at home because the clinic is too far away. The pregnant women that feel well normally give birth at home. Those that feel weak go to the commune. Those that are worried about both mother and child also go to the clinic. Some even go to the district to give birth.

It used to be the case that many new-born babies died after birth due to home birth. However, there have been no cases as such recently because the pregnant women give home birth only when they feel healthy or when they are on the fields and cannot come back. If they find anything odd during pregnancy, they will register at the clinic or go to the hospital. There is no mortality among pregnant women or new-born babies.

There is no mid-wife in the village but many people give birth at home because there are many experienced people can help.

There is no traditional healer that gives treatment for money. There are only those who know about medicine and share with the others.

6.4. Education

There are five languages used in the village, namely Thai, Lao, Kho Mu, Hmong and Vietnamese. The elder people communicate with each other in Thai or Kho Mu.

Most of the women in the village know how to read and write Vietnamese. Only those aged over 55 know neither how to read and write nor how to read numbers.

Local children usually finish the 9th grade and stop going to school then because the high school is far away. Going to the district, children get bored and do not want to go to school. Also because the parents cannot afford, some drop school. It happens to both boys and girls. Once more boys dropped school when entering high school.
The secondary school is a boarding school because it is located far away, in the commune centre. They have to travel by boat from the village to the commune. If they go on foot, it can take them one whole day. The tuition fee is subsidized by the government, but the parents still have to contribute money or rice for meals. If children go to high school and stay in the school, they will get full subsidy from the State. If they rent a room out of the school, the parents have to pay on their own. Children go home once a semester. Parents give them 8-900,000VND.

The secondary school in the commune has required that children have to go to boarding school if their houses are 10km far or further from the school. Parents register their children’s participation in study at school. All school-age children in the village went to school in 2016. No one could not go to school.

6.5. **Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization**

There are only 2 households having paddies; the rest has only upland fields. There has been no upland field allocation; the villagers are working freely on upland fields. Each household has about 3 ha to plant rice or maize. Normally they leave that plot after 2 years and move to the new place. Some households’ fields are located near the village so they can walk there. However, those having their fields far from the village usually stay on the field because they work there about 5 months per year.

Agricultural products are rice, maize, peanuts, and vegetables. There are not many vegetables because they plant cabbages, which need frequent care. If the households have babies, it is hard for them to take care cabbages. They cannot plant anything around the house because the soil there is mixed with rocks.

There are some disputes over upland fields in the village but just a small number. After determining whose land it is by talking to relatives, neighbours and the village head, they usually make concession to the other. There has been no case of fighting.

The secondary occupation of the village as well as the women is weaving. Each household has a weaving frame. They plant cottons in the forests and raise silkworms to make threads. If a household cannot plant on their own, they buy threads. Those that can produce much will sell some.

The whole village has about 86% poor households; thus, some households are lack of food in about one month per year.

They have meat or fish twice a day. They raise chicken and pigs on their own. Pigs are kept for food. If a household raises many healthy pigs, they can sell some then. Only a few households that are too lazy do not have fish or meat to eat. They do not have money to buy food.

If they have time, women go to the forests to collect wild vegetables. They do not remember the names of the vegetables because they all are wild. If someone knows about medicinal plants, they will collect those to make southern herbology – traditional Vietnamese medicine. It is usually men who search for medicinal plants. The rare species can be found in deep forests and sometimes on Laos’ side.

Apart from working the fields with wives, men go to the forests when having free time to collect medicinal plants and exploit woods to earn a living for the family. The woods collected are timber, oak, and azobe.

Outsiders go to the village to trade or exchange products. They bring goods so there are many different products for their daily life.

Some outsiders go to the village to buy rice, maize, pigs, chicken, buffaloes or cows but cannot negotiate prices. The villagers sell to those that they like. Rice has been mainly traded recently. After harvest, the households bring rice from the fields to the village to sell.
**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Date**: 1/21/17  
**Village**: Yen Hoa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<tr>
<td>I.</td>
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1 Village Summary Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

Yen Hoa village is located upstream 4km from the commune center and downstream the future My Ly HPP. There is a station on the river bank of the village. There is also a road to the commune center My Ly, which is accessible in all seasons. It is not difficult to get to the village.

Houses are allocated along the river. The closest distance of a house to the river is 200m. The area has high slope. The houses feature Thai style; they are wooden stilt houses with fibre cement roofing.

The road inside the village and the road to the station are cemented thanks to the National Target Program on New Rural Development.

The villagers use national grid and have 6 water tanks built under sponsorship of a French organization. Nghe An radio and television station installed solar panels for a kindergarten.

The village looks quite clean though livestock is free range here. Some households have toilets.

1.2. Population

The village has 99 households with 442 people. 96 households are Thai and 3 are Khomu. There are 46 people aged over 60 and over 100 children aged under 15. There is no accurate statistics. It is said that each household has 2-3 aged under 15. The working population is about 55% of the total. There are 11 State officers in the village, i.e. the Party’s secretary, the commune chairman, commune judicial officer, deputy chairman of the Farmers’ Association, and deputy chairman of the Fatherland Front.

100% households do agriculture. 3 run grocery stores and one has a pharmacy. The pharmacist is a woman that has graduated medical study, could not find a job so opened a pharmacy at home.

There are 69 poor households accounting for 69.7% of the total number; 66 of them are Thai and 3 are Khomu.
The reason for poverty of the village are (i) long droughts leading to loss of harvest, soil erosion (ii) usually sick family members (iii) shortage of labour, and (iv) drug addicts.

There are no single mothers. There are two over-40-aged widows; as a result, they are also the head of the households. The other household heads are all men.

1.3. Village History and Migration

The village has been living here for generations. Due to fire, it moved downhill close to Khe Lat, which is about 2km far from the former location. However, due to the population growth, Khe Lat did not have enough space for people. As a result, the people moved back to 1992. Pieng Pang village merged into Yen Hoa in 1976. However, due to some incompatibility reasons Pieng Pang villagers split themselves and moved back to the former place. In 1983 some Khomu households migrated to the village.

Thai women mostly marry Thai men in the commune. Some got married to Kinh men from Bac Giang, Tan Ky and Thanh Chuong (Nghe An) who work for the same companies. Some married Lao men. However, there have been no women from other districts or provinces marrying male villagers.

There are 36 young villagers working in textile, brisk manufacturing, and electronics or digging gold. 10 of them are girls. 6 girls work in Laos, and 4 others work for some companies in textile in Ho Chi Minh City. Some boys go to Laos to work in construction or wood manufacturing. There are 5-6 young people digging gold in Quang Nam.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

Production land

The total swidden area of the village is 186ha/crop. 93ha is for maize, 47ha is for cassava, 26ha is for potatoes, and 10ha is for wet rice. The 10ha of wet rice is cultivated in two 2 crops. Thus, the total production land area is 362ha. The area in fallow periods is about 1000ha, which Yen Hoa villagers use to cultivate within 5-6 years.

Residential land

Each household has about 120-150m2 of residential land and has received land use right certificates for this area.

Garden land

It is not clear whether they have gardens around houses. However, the villagers plant fruit trees and some vegetables around houses.

Forest land

Protection forests around the village are allocated to the community to take care and are forbidden to encroach on.

Land allocation system

Land allocation system belongs to the CPC’s authority with reference to the traditional use of land of the villagers. The production land area has been planned, and the cultivation area of the village cannot be extended since there is no land fund. The villagers cultivate on the plots that their previous generations reclaimed. There are 5 groups of production cultivating on different
plots. Each household has 2-3ha of cultivation land. Land allocation has taken place since 2000s. Afterward the fallow period declined from 10 years to 6 years. The newly established households continue cultivating on their families’ land. Their plots cannot overlap the others’.

The elders, the clan heads and the village heads do not have rights for land allocation.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture-based livelihood

Paddy rice: The village has a paddy area.

The total production land of the village has not been allocated. The households, however, have divided their plots.

Each household has about 4 ha of swidden land. The villagers cultivate only one crop/year in either swidden or paddy land; the total area is about 2ha. They practice rain-fed agriculture. They can cultivate on paddy fields only when they can transport water from streams. They use buffaloes there, too.

The practice traditional cultivation method on swidden field, particularly “dig holes, plant seeds”.

Upland fields are used for planting rice, maize and cassava.

Upland rice: The villagers use local seeds. The seeds the government provided cannot be grown here. Each plants 60-70kg of seeds, equal to 1-1.2ha/household/year. The yield of upland rice is 3-4tons/ha on average. Some reach 2 tons/ha. When the weather is favourable, the yield can be 4 tons. When not, it can be under 1 ton/ha. They suffered from loss of harvest in 2014 and low yields in 2016 due to worms and rice diseases. Rice production is for domestic consumption, not for sale.

Hybrid maize: The villagers plant both hybrid maize and local maize. The yield is low, about 1 ton/ha. The production is for domestic consumption. Each household plants 2-3kg of seeds, equal to 1300-1500m2. The yield of hybrid maize is about 4 tons/ha. The production is mainly for livestock breeding and for sale when the production is large. The selling price is about 3-4,000VND/kg of corn and about 2,500VND/kg of maize.

Cassava: the yield is 20tons/ha. The production is mainly for livestock breeding or winemaking, not for sale.

There are 15 households suffering from hunger in about 1-2 months due to 2 years of loss of harvest. There are 5 households suffering from hunger in general.

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<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
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<td>Cassava</td>
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**Livestock breeding**

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<th>Significance</th>
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<td>Pigs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (chicken, ducks)</td>
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Each household has 3-4 buffaloes or cows. Some have 200. Buffaloes and cows are usually free range on the fields or in the forests. Each household sells buffaloes/cows to pay for their expenses. The selling price is 10-15 million VND/cow and 15-25 million VND/buffalo.

Pigs are free-range; some households keep theirs in pigsties. The villagers mostly use local breeds. Each has 3-4 pigs on average. Pigs are mostly sold to traders. The selling price is 70-100,000 VND/kg depending on their weight.

Poultry: the households raise chicken and ducks with free-range method. The production is for domestic consumption and some for sale to local people. The selling price ranges 90-100,000 VND/kg.

They use water from the river or the streams for livestock breeding.

When livestock is sick they call the vet. However, the death rate of poultry and sometime also cattle is high. Those raised in the forests did not die; many of those kept in pigsties for example died.

**River based livelihoods**

There are 30 motorboats and 60 small boats with paddles. The people use boats to travel, go fishing, transport goods or timbers to downstream.

There are 2-3 fishery households. The common fishing area is Khe Xieng and Khe Lat. The villagers sometimes go fishing. Agriculture contributes 80% to the household’s income, and fishery and collection of forests production contribute other 20%.

Fishing is usually done in rainy season. They catch fish for domestic consumption. Sometimes they also sell when the catch is big.

There are many types of fish; however, when Ban VE HPP was built in 2004, the catch reduced. The villagers usually use cast nets, landing nets, hooks, baskets to catch fish. They can catch 2-3 kg each time. Their income can be 300-400,000 VND/day. However, just some households live on fishery. The majority go fishing for food.

Women usually catch shrimps, snails and crabs. If the catch is large, they also sell. They collect mosses, though within 1-2 months, and the amount is declining.

Men can also catch birds, mice, and squirrels along the river. Mice are common and can be sold. The selling price is 15-20,000 VND/mouse.

There are 50 households cultivating on the land along the river. They plant kales, sweet potatoes, taro, and papayas.
Forest based livelihood

The villagers go to the forests everyday to catch animals and collect herbal plants. The small animals are for domestic consumption; the bigger ones are for sale.

Both men and women go to the forests. Women collect wild vegetables.

The forests are located right close to the forests; however, they have to go further about 2-5km into the forests to collect herbal plants or timber.

Sometimes men go to Lao forests, about 40-50km far from the village, and sometimes even 100km.

Protection forests are allocated to the village. It is forbidden to encroach the forests.

Each household is allocated 2-3ha of land to plant Melia azedarach. There are about 100 households that plant trees for the forests. However, these households have not received any land use right certificates for these areas.

The forest products that are collected here are listed as follows:

- Syringa: the selling price is 10-12,000VND/kg if it is small timber or 70million/m3. Each household earns 1-3tons of timber/year depending on the number of family members participating in this.
- Magnolia: Magnolia is the timber commonly used to build houses. The households also use it to make furniture. The selling price is 7-8million VND/m3.
- Ocimum basilicum: the selling price is 8million VND/m3 but just some households can collect to sell. There is not much in the forests.
- Lagerstroemia: the villagers use it to make houses and furniture, not for sale.
- Lucky timber and “âm” timber: the selling price is 10-11million/m3.
- Some other timber types but the villagers cannot remember their names.

Syringa is the most valuable.

There used to be many herbal plants. The villagers have to go further into the forests if they want to collect herbal plants now.

- Ganoderma lucidum: it is collectable in October and November. The households dry it after collection. Each household can get about 10kg of dried Ganoderma lucidum/year. The selling price is 60-70,000VNV/kg of dried Ganoderma lucidum.
- Stemona tuberosa: the selling price is 30,000VND/kg of dried products and 17,000VND/kg of fresh products.
- “Củ bò “: The selling price is 20,000VND/kg of dried products.
- Amomum: the selling price is 400,000VND/kg of dried products.
- Polygonum multiflorum. The selling price is 5-6,000VND/kg of fresh products. The households can collect about 20kg each time.
- There are about 20 other types, but the villagers cannot remember all the names.

Women also collect bamboo shoots for sale.
**Other livelihood activities**

There are three households running grocery stores and one pharmacy.

All Thai women can weave brocade. The wives coming here from other areas also learn to weave for their consumption or for sale. There are 5-6 women excel at weaving. They can earn 5-6 million VND from weaving. The others earn 2-3 million VND/month.

1.6. **Education**

Due to the close distance to the commune center, many people can speak Vietnamese. There are four elders that are illiterate and cannot speak Vietnamese. Some women, mostly over 30 years old, did not go to school so cannot read or write in Vietnamese. There are 40 students in total in primary school; 20 of them are girls. There are 5 classes. Each class has one teacher in charge. There are 12 students (6 girls) in the 1st grade, 10 (6 girls) in the 2nd, 4 (3 girls) in the 3rd, 10 (4 girls) in the 4th and 4 (1 girl) in the 5th. All school age children go to school. There are drop-outs after primary school since the families cannot afford the study. The children then stay home to help their parents.

There are over 20 students studying in secondary school in Xop Tu village, which is about 10 km far from Yen Hoa. The students stay in boarding school and go home on the weekend.

There are 6 high school students (2 girls) studying in Muong Xen, which is about 60 km far from the village. Those staying in boarding school receive subsidies from the State. They go home every month.

1.7. **Health and Health Care**

There are 4 water tanks. The households have sufficient water to use for washing and cooking. Many households have bathrooms and toilets. The majority of women and children bathe at home. Young villagers sometimes go to bathe in the river in summer. Some households built water tanks to store water in dry season.

Women suffer from allergies, headaches, stomach-aches, and a fever.

Children also have diarrhea, toothache.

The villagers use medical plants or buy medicine when they are sick. When it is severe case, the patients will be sent to the hospital.

There is a traditional healer, Mr. Kha Van Bien. He finished a nursery course and knows how to use herbal medicine to help the others. He does it not for money. The commune health center organizes general check-ups for children and gynecological examinations for women. Old people rarely go. Their families bring them to the hospital when it gets more serious.

There are 18 men aged 30-45 that have used drugs since they work far from home. There are no HIV/AIDS victims. The villagers have heard of HIV/AIDS, but they do not remember.

There are a few malnourished children since their mothers took medicine or got injected periodically during pregnancy. Some mothers have difficulties bringing their children to have periodical check-ups.
1.8. **Ethnic Culture and Leadership**

Yen Hoa has clear features of Thai in Western Nghe An. Thai here still maintain some matriarchal customs; for example, husbands stay at the houses of wives’ parents. The uncle of the girl’s family is the decision maker when the guy proposes.

There is an ancient tower, which the villagers know quite a little about. According to the cultural officer of the CPC, this tower was built in about 1008 and is a structure of a sect migrating from Thailand through Laos to Vietnam in the 7th century. The villagers still maintain 3 bronze statues of Buddha that used to be in the tower. They have moved these statues to an altar at the big tree in the center of the village and next to the tower.

The tower is considered as the soul of Yen Hoa village. The villagers usually come here on the first and the fifteen day every lunar month to worship. They also come here to worship for rain during droughts or for recovery when someone is sick.

The agriculture-related rituals are carried out in the tower area. One example is the festival Xang Khan, which takes place in late February or early March. (More details of this festival can be found in the Vietnamese village report.)

The graveyard of the village is located in such a high position that it will not be affected.

1.9. **Gender Issues**

There is one Kinh woman coming here to live for marriage. That is a teacher and the daughter-in-law of the chairman of the commune. There are three other female teachers. One is the member of the Commune People’s Council and the chairman of the village Women’s Union.

It is the tradition of Thai that women are the decision makers in families. They usually participate in social activities.

Women’s Union and Farmers’ Association act as borrowers of unsecured loans and then lend women in the village so that they can invest in production and their children’s education.

Yen Hoa is the first cultural village of My Ly commune. There are many movements that people eagerly participate in, especially those for women. The female volleyball team of the village won the first prize in a competition of the commune in 2006. The singing team of Yen Hoa women also won the first prize in 2011.

1.10. **Community Organization and Development**

There are mass organizations such as the Front Committee, the Women's Union, the Farmers 'Association, Veterans' Association, Association of the Elders, the Party's Cell, and the Youth Union in the village. Women’s Union is said to be the most active one.

In addition, there are independent groups in the village. The members of the groups are middle-aged men. Their mission is to ensure the security of the village and the forests.

The village’s management board includes the village head and the representatives of the mass organizations. They are responsible for the village’s production.

**The development programs in the village**

100% households borrowed 15-30million VND from Vietnam Bank for Social Policy for production within 3 years at the interest rate of 0.69%.
The National Target Program on New Rural Development built the road inside the village. The State provided funding. The people contribute their labour. In addition, this program also assisted 30 households in building toilets with some loans at interest rate of 0.65%.

Programs 135 and 134 assisted 32 households in roofing houses in 2010-2015.

Program 30A or Program 167 lent 12 households, 8 of whom borrowed 22 million VND/each and 4 borrow 10 million VND/each to buy cows.

100% of the households received maize seeds.

The households that have paddy fields received wet rice seedlings.

Mountainous households received oil and salt.

Poor households received health insurance.

The 69 poor households receive annually (i) 100,000 VND/each for Tet, (ii) 5.5kg of rice/head, and (iii) a loan of 10 million VND/each.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

There was some information on the project in 2007, but the villagers have never known whether the project will take place. They heard of the project taking place in Xang Tren for 2-3 years ago. They also listened to TV saying some households that had to relocate but the compensation was not justifiable. They do not know how the project would affect the village.

The villagers are doing well at the moment, especially in fishing; they sometimes earn 1-2 million VND from fishing. They are afraid that the project will stop fish coming downstream. As a result, they might lose fishery.

It is recommended that the authority should give detailed information soon.

1.12. Additional Issues

Thai in Yen Hoa have a quite decent life. It is said that they used to be poor, but thanks to the good village head, they have learnt how to do business. All households have a loom and produce brocade to export to Laos.

The local beliefs related to the river and fishery do not exist here.

Some women left their families to work far from the village. 2 graduated from college and are working as teachers. One has finished university. The villagers marry at young age, particularly girls at the age of 14-15 and boys 15-16.

2 Report from FGD With Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 21/01/2017 with 07 participants, 4 men, 3 women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.
2.1. **Knowledge about the planned HPP**

They heard about the project long time ago, since 2007 but they do not know when the project will be implemented. They wish to know what are the project impacts on the village, how it will impact them, what is the project policy to them, how their lives will be under impact?

If there are impacts, they should be told and there shall be satisfy compensation policy.

2.2. **Land use**

Production land of households is mainly upland field which has been reclaimed long time ago. Presently, they are using in agricultural cultivation.

Paddy field: the village has paddy field and fish ponds along stream. But recently many households left fallow fish pond because water resource is badly polluted by Ban Ve HPP.

All of cultivation land has not been furnished with land use right certificate, but households have clearly defined their land plot.

Each household in average has some of 4 ha of upland field for cultivation. All of paddy and upland field is cultivated one crop a year.

Upland field is cultivated completely depending on weather. Paddy rice is cultivated one crop taking water from ravine, stream.

Upland field is cultivated by traditional method, burning, holing, and seeding. No machine is used at all. Paddy rice is cultivated using cattle pulling force when preparing land.

Cultivation land of the village is no more enlarged because no more land fund. Protection forest is prohibited with exploitation and was allocated to households for protection under supervision of village head and the commune People’s Committee.

New household share land with their parents on the land fund they have from before.

2.3. **Crops**

Upland cultivation is considered as main activities in cultivation of the village, main crops are rain-fed rice, corn and cassava.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rain-fed rice</td>
<td>3.0 – 4.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rain-fed rice*: mainly using local race, races given by the Government do not work. Each household plants 60-71kg of seed equivalent to 1-1.2 ha/household/year. Yield of rain-fed rice in average is 3-4 ton/ha, some household only have 2 ton/ha, in good weather year, it may yield up to 4 ton but only 1 ton/ha in bad year. Rice was affected by weather and insect and causing very bad harvest as in 2014 and 2016. Productivity of paddy rice is low, only 4 ton/ha if well irrigated, but only 2 ton/ha in dry year. Rice is mainly for family demand, not for sale.

*Hybrid maize*: villagers plant two corn races, local race (low yield of some 1 ton/ha, used for family demand only) and hybrid maize, each household plants some of 2-3kg of seed equivalent to some of 1300-1500 m². Average yield of corn is 4 ton/ha, corn is used in livestock breeding and for sale to local trader if redundant. Corn price is 3-4 thousand VND per kg.

*Cassava*: yield 20 ton/ha, mainly used in livestock breeding or cooking wine, not for sale.

The village presently has 15 hunger households (some 1-2 months a year) as a result of two successive no harvest years. Usually there are some of 5 hunger households only.
2.4. **Livestock**

Main livestock at the time of survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>300-400</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (chicken, duck)</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In average each household have 3-4 cattle, maximum is 20. Cattle are mainly free breeding on upland field or in forest. Cow and buffalo are properties of households. Annually each household sell cow, buffalo for family expenses. In average each cow costs 10-15 million VND, buffalo 15-25 million VND.

Pig is breeding freely (some have barn already). Mainly is local pig race, each household has 3-4 pigs. They apply traditional breeding method, using corn, cassava. Pig is sold mainly to trader at price 70-100 thousand VND per kg depending on size.

Poultry: including chicken, duck. They are breeding freely. Poultry products are used in family meal and to sell to local trader too at price of some 90-100 thousand VND per kg.

Water for livestock breeding: if close to river, using water from river, if close to ravine, using water from ravine.

Some households using water from river for livestock breeding are usually affected by disease from the water resource. A man told that his family has just suffered by dying 2 pigs which were affected from disease from the river. Before, he had seen death pig body flowing in the river. After pig died, he must use water from ravine for the rest pigs.

Villagers are afraid that after the HPP is constructed and under operation, living environment of villagers will be more polluted. Now the mud flushing from Ban Ve has created badly pollution to them already.

When cattle suffered from illness, they usually ask veterinary staff to help but curing ratio is low. Annually poultry die lot, in some year, cattle and pig die because of disease too. If they are breeding on forest they will be free from disease but if they are breeding in village, they will be affected.

3. **Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources**

**FGD summary**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 20/01/2017 at Yen Hoa village with 08 participants, 3 men, 53 women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. **Knowledge about the planned HPP**

They heard about the HPP 2-3 years ago, rumor only, because they seen survey team came and left. Last year there was another survey team, and another one came in middle of the year. They do not know this survey team and other work on the same HPP or not and they do not know when the HPP is constructed too.

Villager head and some people who go out frequently to the commune told them about a future HPP, which will be constructed here but then nothing so they did not pay attention. Now there is another team come so they know there will be a HPP constructed here.
Hydropower project cause difficult to people, submerge all and all must relocate, so they do not like HPP though now they have no power to use.

They wish to know more about the project by direct meeting to make everything clear as same as we are doing now, so as they can ask about the Government policy, the project policy for affected community. Commune officer and project staff must disclose information officially to villagers, more information and they must tell when the project is implemented, whether relocation will be required, what is the project policy in case of resettlement, what will be compensated, whether crops will be compensated or not?

3.2. Forest use

Households go in to forest every day to hunt rate, squirrels, to collect fruit, and herbs. Hunted small animal is for daily meal. If they catch bigger animal they will sell to trader who come to the village every day to buy livestock, food from villagers.

Both men and women go to forest but men do more frequently. They go to forest to hunt; if they hunt lot they can sell; to find herbs, to exploit timber. There are only some women go to forest with husband to collect herbs.

Besides, women go to forest every day to collect wild vegetable, who know herbs can collect home to boil and drink every day to strengthen health.

Forest is located just behind the village but if they want to collect herb and timber they must go in deep forest, 2-5km in close distance or 100km. They go in groups in South direction from the village along the river.

Sometimes men from the village go to Laos forest of 40-50km far, sometimes further, 100km.

The village has protection forest and production forest.

- Protection forest is allocated to the whole village for protection. No villager is allowed to get in to protection forest to destroy, if someone does and detected by villager, that person will be punished by village rule and to the commune law. They will inform to the commune whenever the detect such as case.

- Pastureland is allocated 2-3 ha to each household On average where they plant bead tree. There are some 100 households in the village plant forest. This forest has not been allocated by the Government, no land use right certificate.

- Besides, households have upland field (reclaiming from forest). Upland field cannot count because households do not know exactly how many ha, they only know that if household has 2-3 individual they can cultivate 30-50 kg of seed/year/crop. 2/3 households in the village have 2-3 members and more. Upland field is cultivated in 1 year, some household plant 2 years there then leaving fallow in 2-3 years before reassuming. Household does not like a land plot anymore can discuss with other and let the other cultivate there. There is no land conflict because unused land area is plenty here so they can do if they can.

Men go to forest to hunt, exploit timber to sell to company, to collect herbs to sell to trader who come to the village. Women go to forest to collect wild vegetable, they do it better. They collect wild vegetable for family meal, including fern and many other they do not know name. Forest products are used by villagers as below:

- Timer: collected timber is mainly sold to company:
  - Syringa timber: 10,000VND – 12,000VND/kg if small log, 70 million/m3. On average each household collect 1 – 3 ton/year (depending on how many member of household taking part in).
  - Golden core timber: is timber used mainly in building house (households in the village build house and furniture by this timber), selling price 7 – 8 million/m3.
Talauma: selling price 8 million/m³ but not every household can find for sell. There is lot of this timber tree in forest.

Lagerstroemia timber: villager collects this timber to build house and make furniture, not for sale.

Lucky timber and negative timber: 10 – 11 million/m³.

Many other timber types but cannot remember to list.

- Among the listed above timber, clove timber is the most valuable timber to villagers.

- Herbs were a lot in the forest, but now getting fewer. They can collect but must go deep in forest.
  
  Lingzhi mushroom: normally collect in October, November annually, household collect and dry it for sale. Each household can collect some of 1 quintal dry/year, selling price 60,000VND – 70,000VND/kg dry
  
  Stemona tuberosa: 30,00VND/kg dry, fresh is 17,000VND/kg.
  
  Cow root: selling price 20,000VND/kg dry;
  
  Smilax: selling price: 400,000VND/kg dry
  
  Multiflorous knootweed: trader buys at price of some 5,000VND – 6,000VND/kg fresh, each time a household can collect some of 20kg if in correct place.
  
  Besides are many other type of roots (20 types) which villager can collect from forest to sell, but they cannot remember to list.

Women go to forest to collect wild vegetable, and bamboo when season come. They collect bamboo to sell to. Men go to forest to collect smilax root, this root is boil for daily drinking in family to strengthen health.

Men go to forest in group of 2-3 persons, most of group is from family member or relatives.

After harvesting rice on upland field, households raise buffalo, cow, goat to the field area for breeding then move to another land plot to cultivate. Each plot is shared by a group of some 12-13 people to breed livestock.

3.3. Hunting

- Hunting: squirrel, selling 10,000 VND/kg, each year household can hunt 70kg to 100kg to sell for extra income of family.

- Weasel, boar, etc... hunting by crossbow or trap, price of weasel is 300,000 VND per kg. If the catch only one weasel they will eat, and sell if they catch 3-4 weasels.

Hunting besides for family food but also to protect field, villager set trap to catch rat, boar... come to destroy their crops. Men in family will go checking trap twice a day, in the morning and in the afternoon.

They said that, because of family income then men must go to forest to collect timber and herb and hunting, local authority in fact prohibits them from exploiting timber and hunting. All of households in the village go to forest (strong one) to exploit timber and collect herbs while women go to forest to collect vegetable and they go all the time.

All of hunted animal if catch many, will be sold. Trader comes to village to buy. Sometime household bring to market at Muong Xen town to sell when they have business to do there.

3.4. Other information and reflections

To be a village next to Nam Non river, access road from the river to village is sloping, but villagers go every day by navigation to other villages and other communes. Some households have motorbike will go by road, but there has not been road from village to village so most of villagers travel by navigation.
In the village, households live concentrating. The village center is located at flat area. Villagers contribute in concreting the intra-village road. But accessibility to basic social services (infrastructure) of villagers in general, women and children in particular is limited due to difficulties in travelling.

Some recommendations by villagers to the project:
- The village has not have road, bridge over the river, and has no primary, secondary school, if the project is constructed, it is proposed the Government construct road/bridge for easier travelling and production of villagers.
- They wish to know soon the construction plan so they will have production plan for themselves.
- The project policy must be suitable and actual to community;
- Wishes and expectation of villagers should be clarified before project implementation

### List of timber and non-timber products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Quantity (if available)</th>
<th>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=the least important</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or per product (if sold )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lagerstroemia</td>
<td>1 – 2 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N (Not allow to sell)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,000 12,000VND/kg or 70 million VND/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syringa</td>
<td>1 – 2 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1-3 ton/year</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7 million – 8 million VND/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden core timber</td>
<td>1 – 2 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talauma</td>
<td>1 – 2 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 million – 11 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucky timber and negative timber</td>
<td>1 – 2 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Herbs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stemona tuberosa</td>
<td>Winter (3 last months of the year)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30,000VND/kg dry, 17,000VND/kg fresh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow root</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>20,000VND/kg dry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smilax</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>400,000VND/kg dry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lingzhi mushroom</td>
<td>Month 10 – month 11 annually</td>
<td>1 quintal dry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>60,000VND – 70,000VND/kg dry.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiflorous knotweed</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>20kg fresh/time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>5,000VND – 6,000VND/kg fresh.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balanophora fungosa</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Animal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>Quantity (if available)</td>
<td>Significance</td>
<td>For sale</td>
<td>Price//Kg or per product (if sold)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weasel</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1=very important</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>300,000VND/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2=second important</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3=the least important</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 21/01/2017 at Yen Hoa village with 8 participants, 4 men, 4 women. Participants are Thai ethnicity. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished grade 5, one the 6th grade, 4 the 9th grade and the two last ones the 10th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- All of FGD participants knew about the HPP. They heard about it 2-3 years ago. They heard that there would be a HPP constructed at Xang Tren village. They heard also from television that in other projects people do not agree to move because of unsatisfied compensation. But that is all they know, nothing specifically yet. They do not know how they will be affected?

- At present villagers do well. Years ago fishing was easy; sometime they can fish up to 1 million, 2 millions. They are afraid that HPP wills top fish from migrating so fishing will be affected.

- They wish local authority and the project will have official announcement to villagers when the HPP is constructed and how it impact to livelihood of villager.

4.2. Boat use

- There are 30 motor boats per 96 households. All private own. There are motor boat and smaller rowing boats (60).

- They use boat to travel, go fishing, go cultivating on upland field, visiting livestock.

- They use boat to transport goods for trading, transport timber to downstream.

4.3. Fishing

- They go fishing frequently, in Xieng stream, which is on the other side of the river; in Lut ravine where they take water for using too. Not so many household do fishing, some of 2-3 households only, other households having boat use for travelling, transporting timber, goods and as means of transport.

- Villagers having nothing to do will go frequently, because they have to go to the field too.

- Main income is from cultivation and livestock breeding, then to fishing.

- Taking timber too, 80% from cultivation and livestock breeding, 20% go fishing and in to forest.
- They go fishing more in rainy season, and less in cold weather.
- They sell to people passing by, to teacher, and H'Mong people.

4.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats
- There are various type of fish such as carp, grass carp, hemibagrus, and bagarius rutilus, but now Ban Ve HPP is existed, not many fish now.
- Bagarious rutilus weight up to 20-30 kg, big fish, fishing by rod, cost 300 thousand VND per kg, hemibagrus costs 800 thousand VND per kg.
- They go fishing by net, casting net, rod, basket, crossbow, etc…
- Each fishing can catch 2-3kg, small fish cost 60-70 thousand VND per kg. Each day villages can catch equivalent to 300-400 thousand VND.
- Small fishes are to dry, salted, deep fried or making sauce. Big fish is prepared in to salad.
- They collect moss, vegetable too, few shrimp, lot of snail, short snail, long snail, 17-20 thousand VND per kg, crab 80-100 thousand VND per kg.
- From the river bank they also hunt bird, rat, weasel, 15-20 thousand VND per one rat. Rat is prepared in “nhooc” disk but Kho Mu makes it better.
- On river bank is planted with mustard green, sweet potato, taro, and papaya. 50 households have garden on the river bank. Mustard green vegetable costs 10 thousand VND per kg.
- They eat more fish, less vegetable and meat because fish is easier to catch.

4.5. Other information and reflections
- Thai in Yen Hoa village, My Ly commune have quite high economic life. They said that before they were poor but thanks to a new village head who is good master and in recent years helped them to do business. Every households do weaving, handicraft is still kept and bring back income from skirt which is exported to Laos.
- Ritual relating to the river and fishery are not existed. The village is existed with “Sup Lut” tower which is ritual place of villager. The tower has been here for a long time and is where villagers go praying and blessing.
- There are some women go out for work, 2 graduated from college now working as teachers, 1 graduated university. But marriage age is still young: 14-15 for female and 15-16 for male.

5 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

FGD summary
The Focus Group Discussion was held on 21/01/2017 with 8 participants, 7 men and 01 women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai. They are at age of 53 to 70.
List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP
All of FGD participants knew about the HPP. They heard about it 2-3 years ago. They heard that there would be a HPP constructed at Xang Tren village. They heard also from television that in other projects people do not agree to move because of unsatisfied compensation. But that is all they know, nothing specifically yet.
5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

They live here for generations and in 1962 the village was burned down so they moved to Khe Lat to settle there, but then the village develop, more and more people and Khe Lat area was no more enough for them so they moved back here since 1992. In 1976, Pieng Dang village moved to live with them but by 1978 households from Pieng Dang village separated and back to their previous location. By 1983 there were some Kho Mu households moved in the village. At present the village has 93 households of Thai, 16 households of Kho Mu. Number of villagers work at State authorities are 11, they work at the commune People’s Committee, including: party secretary, chairman of People’s committee, commune justice, deputy chairman of farmer union, deputy chairman of father land frontier.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Cultivation land is planned with 1200 ha and they cultivate together in teams. There are 5 production teams cultivating in different areas which are allocated and marked by stream, big tree, etc... On average each household cultivate some of 3ha. Every one plant under a common rule of the whole village not approaching to other household’s land plot.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new household

In case of new married couple they keep cultivating in the land area there parent and family cultivate before, no allocation specifically to them. 5 years after that will be cultivated independently and in other land plot but anyhow still within the previously allocated land area.

Role of elders/leader in land system

No role in land allocation system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

In tradition of Thai, there are three worlds, one is heaven above, the other two lives on the ground including world of alive human and world of ghost. The world on heaven includes “Then Luong”, the supreme controlling heaven, land, human and every things. “Then Luong” is helped by his staff. On earth, everywhere is existed with ghost “phi” who controls. Setting up village, reclaiming land, burning upland field must all ask field ghost, upland field ghost, forest ghost and river ghost, etc... Gods above heaven, ghost on the earth together with “phi huon” (house ghost), “phi dam” (clan ghost), “pup au” (death great grandparents) are those blessing and protecting human.

Thai think that, on human body, “hon” (spirits) on human head will concentrate making a “phi” (ghost) and go to heaven. The heaven is above world, where “Then” lives. Spirits from hands, legs will create “phi huon” (house ghost) and lives on altar worshiping the deaths in the house. “Phi huon” (house ghost) live with alive human in the world of alive human. Spirits from tree body will gather making a ghost living in “muong Pu Pau” in forest where burying the deaths. “Muong Pu Pau” correspond with “muong Ma”.

Thai also worship clan, family and have separate place to worship. It can be a forbidden forest, a rock or a tree. Families of the same clan worship together and connect with each other by worshiping a same ghost to clan while families stay together by worshiping the same ghost house. Thai also have wizard whose role if important. The wizard works as a prayer and a quack as “moi” of Muong people. Thai believe in strength of ghost, evil and gods as resulted from ritual world. However following the social development, such phenomenon is reduced many, as same as charming, foreshadow, etc...

Ancestor worship is a separate worship form of each clans. “Xen dam” (each clan), “xen huon” (each families). “Xen dam” is habit worshiping the clan ghost “phi dam”, “Xen dam” is organized by families of the same clan in a certain time of a year. At present only large clan remains such custom and organize clan worship at full moon day of June, July annually. Most of Thai families organize “xen huon” at home. “Xen huon” is custom of worshiping house ghost “phi huon” which is organized by people living in one family. “Phi huon” in viewpoint of Thai is the death father.
House ghost is worshipping in one room inside the house, just next to the bed of the house master, which is called “hong”. Altar of house ghost is simple, no tablet, two cups of water, a bottle of wind and bethe. Annually when Ten comes, Thai clean and decorate altar and replace a new mat to prepare for house ghost praying. In the concept of Thai ethnicity “to tien” (ancestor) above the heaven is only invited when family has big events while house ghost always stay with them to take care and bless them. Therefore, whenever a good things, Thai always offer house ghost to eat first. This is a good habit showing respect to ancestor of Thai.

Ghost forest (graveyard) is located on the other side of the river, and they do not have habit of exhumation. If graveyard is submerged, they offer worship at the village temper to inform the ghost forest god then go to forest to invite the god and ghosts to new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred places in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has its temple worshiping gods established and helped Thai to set up their living. Worship is done by inviting water god, forest god, etc... When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering river god (to bring ghost home), things to offer must include chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river.

Yen Hoa village is existed with a Buddha tower (which is seriously downgrading but still somehow recognize). The tower is located on a large flat land area, some of 30m high. It is a 5 floor tower, constructed by brick, in red color. The tower base is in square shape and getting smaller up. Each tower floor is still existed with fine decoration such as Buddha, flower, etc.. Elders of Yen Hoa village said that, before, besides this tower, there were 3 other towers of the same shape but smaller in size at Xang Nua, Ta Lay (now is Hoa Ly village) and Xieng Tam respectively. All have been collapsed.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

The village worship is performed in December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited. The worship requires pig, or cow in a good harvest year. First worship is in May of lunar year when they offer fruit, the second worship is in October of lunar year to close the year

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident; this area will be affected, submerged by hydropower project. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

Yen Hoa village is existed with cultural works which must be relocated, including: temple, Yen Hoa tower, cultural house, school. But because the village is not relocated so such listed works will be free from impact.
Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

No relocation
6 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 21/01/2017 with 17 participants. All of them are Thai; three of them are illiterate; one finished the 1st grade; three the 2nd grade; three the 5th grade, one the 6th grade, one the 7th grade, one the 8th grade, three the 9th grade and one the 12th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1 Knowledge about the planned HPP

The people have heard about the project from the village head and neighbour. However, they do not know when the project commences and whether their village are affected. The people want to get full information but no one disseminates it to them.

The people want to get the information on the impacts on the village before the project starts.

The project policy must be disseminated to the people. What was promised to the people must be taken seriously.

The villagers want to get the information through public meetings on the project and the more detailed implementation.

6.2 Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Thai women in the village mostly get married to Thai men in other villages through introduction by relatives or acquaintance by themselves. Some Thai women have Kinh husbands in Bac Giang, Tan Ky, Thanh Chuong districts (Nghe An province) as they work for the same company, or some women get married to Laotian men. There are 30 young people working for companies in garment, brick, shoe, gold, or electronics production. Young people who work for a gold company at Quang Nam province are all men. Other people go to Ho Chi Minh.

There is one Kinh woman in the village (she is a teacher and the daughter-in-law of the village head) and three women are teachers. One woman participates in Communal People’s Council and is the chairman of the village Women’s Union. She was elected for the People’s Council. This woman is responsible for reporting expectations of the voters, especially the women.

6 households do small business and 1 household sells traditional medicine.

Yen Hoa is the first cultural village of My Ly commune. There are many movements, especially movements of women that receive much support from the people. In 2016, the female volleyball team was awarded the first prize during a sporting event among villages in the commune. In 2011, the female team also won the first prize for art performance.

There is a wharf in the village which is 4km far from the commune centre. There is a wide road to get there, so women usually go to the commune centre by boat, then motorbike. Some also walk. They do not have any difficulties. Women go out of the village when they want to get to the market, to buy check-ups, attend a wedding, exchange cultures, participate in sporting events, visit friends, relatives and meetings or do some administration work in the commune for, e.g., borrowing money or paying interests.

6.3 Health and nutrition

There are 4 water tanks so people can use to bath, wash clothes and cook. Many households build bath house and toilet. Most of them take bath at house, only teenagers take bath in the river during summer. In the flooding season, there is no water as the canal is turbid so they build tank to store water.

The women usually suffer from some common diseases such as cough due to weather allergy, headache, cold, stomach-ache, and children usually have diarrhoea and tooth decay because of unhygienic food. In these cases, people use herbs or buy medicine from the one who has
learned in the medical field. That seller normally examines and gives advise. The villagers go to the hospital in severe cases.

In the village, a tradition healer named Kha Van Bien has taken part in a course in nursing. He can use herbs to cure illness but does not do it for money.

The communal clinic organizes vaccination for children and gynaecological examinations for women annually. Some young women go for check-ups and gynaecological examinations, have their children vaccinated while the elders rarely go unless they get severely sick or take grandchildren for a check-up.

Some teenagers became drug users when they went to work in other places; however, no one suffers from HIV/AIDS.

Children are not malnourished as they are eating more nutrients and their mothers during pregnancy ate better and got vaccinated. Some women have difficulties taking children for periodic examinations.

6.4. Education

Due to the close distance to the commune centre, many people can speak Vietnamese fluently. Few women are illiterate since they did not go to school (mostly over 30 years old). Because the kindergarten and primary school are located in the village, children can walk to school. After primary school, they then have to go to the commune for secondary school. Some finished the 9th grade then left the school as their families were unable to afford tuition fees for higher education. The drop-outs normally stay at home and help families as babysitter or cook.

6.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Most women participate in upland field cultivation and livestock breeding; particularly many raise pigs and chicken. The production is mainly for food for their families; they only sell when they need money. Many people collect *Stemona tuberosa* when they do not cultivate. A *Stemona tuberosa* can weigh up to 2-3kg and be sold for 30,000 VND / kg. There used to be more *Stemona tuberosa*.

The upland fields are on the mountain near the village. It takes 1-2 hours to get there on foot. For women over 40 years old, if their children can earn money, they can stay at home and look after their grandchildren. If not, they have to collect vegetables or woods. They go when the weather is sunny, and they stay at home when it rains. Besides cultivation, some households along the river go fishing. Sometimes they sell fish to the neighbours if they catch many fish. If HPP commences, the quantity of fish is believed to decline.

Thai women know weaving. Their daughters-in-law coming from other area also have to learn weaving. When they do not go to upland fields, they do weaving to make skirts for themselves or to sell. 5 women have high skills in weaving and have the income of 5-6 million VND/month. The others earn 2-3 million VND/month.

In order to help the women improve their families’ living, the Women’s Union acts as borrowers of unsecured loans and then lends the money to the groups of households in the village. Most of women who are participating the discussion group have taken loans; some people have done it 3 times. The loan of 30 million VND with the interest rate of 0.65%/year within 3 years. Thanks to this loan, many women’s lives have been improved since they invest in livestock breeding or their children’s education.

6.6. Other information and reflections

The village is near the commune centre, about 4km, so the women and children can access basic services, such as health and education more conveniently. The infrastructure is quite good; they have cement road. Many families have built bathrooms and septic toilets. Women’s Movements are organized actively, women participate in many cultural programs, including art and sport events. Most of them are very good at communication and business.
### 3.6.2.6 Xieng Tam Village – 13 January 2017

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Date** 1/13/17

**Village Xieng Tam**

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<th>No.</th>
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1 Village Summary Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1 Location and General Conditions of the Village

Xieng Tam Village is the central village of My Ly commune and the My Ly communal People’s Committee is on the area of the Village.

All roads to the Village has been concretized. The outsiders can access the village by waterways and road. For waterways, there is a station at the CPC and the road is from Muong Xen District or Quy Hop.

The Village has electricity, clean water and households have rooms for renting at appropriate price.

The Village is quite clean as households have toilet. Although some households still breed pigs by free ranger method and the garbage are not gathered at regulated sites, the sanitary environment of the village is quite good.

1.2 Population

The Xieng Tam Village has 48 households with 287 persons. There are 2 ethnics in the Village which are Thai and Kinh people, however there are only 5 Kinh households.

The number of people in working age is 127, in which 61 women and 66 men.

The Village has 32 poor households (mainly Thai) and according to the villagers, the cause of poverty is unfavourable weather as production activities is too dependent on the nature. Another reason is the circulation of goods. The products are purchased by the traders, but because the commune is located too far from the district center, the price that traders buy is usually only 60-70% of the purchase price of the same goods in communes which are near the district center.

1.3 Village History and Migration

The Village were formed 400 years ago, there were only 2 households but now the number up to 42 households with 287 persons. People came to live here are relatives as they want to live closely, some were received land from siblings and some bough land.
The villagers are mainly Thai, just only some are Kinh people (2%). Moreover, some women are from other ethnics as Khomu, Kinh and Laos got married into the Village.

Women of the Village are also got married in other villages and even other districts.

There are 21 young people go to work at the South and Quang Nam Province. They work as garment workers and gold diggers.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use
The cultivation land of the village is about 2600 ha extending to Yen Hoa village with a total length of about 3 km. There is road for motorbikes but sloping and it takes 20 minutes.

The area of upland fields includes forestry land, each household cultivates about 1-3 ha upland fields of rice on average, depending on the household size with 5kg seeds/person.

In the village there are 7 households working on paddy rice, with the area of 12ha.

The whole area of cultivation land is upland fields with sloping topography which is very difficult to cultivate.

For sloping land, there is no irrigation system, mainly depends on the rain while paddy land mainly use water from the stream with self-created canal system.

All upland fields have no land use right certificate, however land was traditionally owned by households decades ago after land reclamation.

Newly households will use the land of the household, means that parents must allocate land to the children because the land for reclamation is virtually run off.

At present, there is no land left for reclamation as the land belongs to protection land in the upstream which is strictly protected.

The main cultivation activities are clearing trees without mechanical application and pulling force by cattle due to sloping topography.

The distribution in residential land and production land does not depend on any individual outside the governmental system.

The Village Management Board has the right to divide the area of protection forest land for households to manage and protect, but this division is also based on community consensus.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture and production systems

The cultivation products are: upland rice, maize, cassava, peanuts, vegetables…

- Each household cultivate 5-7 upland fields with the fallow period of 3-4 years (2 years of cultivation then fallow), some households with many members have the fallow period of 2 years.
- The area of maize is from 2-3kg seeds per household on an area of 1500-2000m2.
- Cassava are planted from 600-1000 roots on area of 800-1000m2 per household.
Main crops:

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<th>Productivity (ton/ha)</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2.5-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>3.5 - 4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>16.0-17.0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice is the main crop which has important role in daily lives of villagers as the main food. The upland rice is cultivated 1 crop per year with unstable productivity. The productivity can reach 3-4 tons/ha in bumper crops, only 1 ton/ha in bad crop, even lose everything if the fields are damaged by heavy sunshine.

- The planted maize is hybrid seeds with a crop per year. The productivity is quite low as they are planted on slope topography, products are mainly sold directly to the market (about 80%) and the rest are for livestock breeding.

- Cassava is planted in small area by multi-crop method with upland rice or maize. After harvested, it mainly use for making alcohol or livestock breeding, rarely to be sold.

- Land along the river is used to plant vegetables but the area is not significant.

Households do not have enough food to eat but not much, only 1-2 months during the gap between seasons. Poor households are entitled support from the State once a year: 15kg/person. If the support rice is run off, people will borrow rice from the traders and pay debt with interests with the harvested rice. So the hunger circulation is continuously.

- **Livestock at the survey time:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Important degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>&gt; 250</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The location for livestock breeding is on the upland field or surrounding the house. The livestock are mainly bred surrounding the house are chicken and pigs. The livestock are mainly local breeds so the breeding method is also as tradition.

- Cow: each household has 5-10 cows, including meat cattle and breeding cattle. People said that sometimes due to disease prevention is not good so cows are infected with disease leading to mass death, every year the veterinary staff of the commune come to the Village for well disease prevention, the cattle develop healthy. There are about 6-7 households in the village has many cows, about 20 cows per household. On average, each household can sell 1 - 2 cows, and households have many cows can sell 4-5 cows. But there are times they do not sell any cows. People said that if they needed more money, they would sell cattle while they sell chickens or pigs when they need small amount of money. If they need to support family finance, they have to sell all cows and buffalo. The price of a cow can be from 10 to 15 million VND, buffalo is from 15 to 18 million VND.
At present, each household has about 3 - 5 pigs, some raise 10-15 pigs. The price of pigs for sale is VND 80,000 - VND 100,000 / kg

Most households have chicken but not every year. If there is disease, all chickens die. The price of local chicken is 80,000-100,000VND/kg.

The main food of the households in the village is fish, sometimes the family or the Village has business they would have meat. On average, there are three to four meals have food a week

Use of river resources

All households in the village participate in fishing in the river for food for the family or sell when they catch many fish, they go fishing in both dry and rainy season.

Everyday in the village there are households go fishing and fishing in many different forms. Men often go fishing on the river or using landing nets and cast nets. However, the volume of fish is not stable. Each household can catch 5-7 kg, some days only 0.5-1 kg, some days none.

Fishing positions are along the Ca River to the near area of Xang Tren, or to the downstream about 2-3 km.

Women and children go fishing along rivers and streams using rudimentary tools such as a basket to catch fish, snails and shrimp for the family to eat.

Fish is considered as the main food source of the households in the village. Most households do not have to buy food if they can catch fish.

Compared to 20 years ago, the amount of the fish decrease much, there are no more big fish, now only small fish, occasionally they can catch the fish to 10-15 kg.

Fishing in the dry season is easier than in the rainy season because the rainy season is very difficult to catch as the water flow is strong. The net can not be released during the flood season.

Fish are caught mainly for use of the family, if more will be sold to local staff such as teachers, soldiers, or local traders, local business restaurants or to Mong people. When they do not sell fish, they will dry the fish to gradually eat.

In addition, the households also take moss near the banks to eat but the amount of moss is decreased.

There are also birds and mice on the river bank to catch or sell up to 20,000 VND per mice.

They also plant kales, taro, sweet potato, papaya, pineapple in the land along the river for the need of the family.

Use of forest resources

Production forest or zoning forest is the area for people to cultivate rice, maize, cassava, peanuts, banana – main food of the Village. According to the group discussion, the production forest has not been allocated to people and granted land right use certificate. Currently, the Village is cultivating the production forest together. The production area is often taken after by the villagers, all men and women visit the upland rice to prevent livestock and wild animals damage the fields, especially in harvest season. The harvest rice is just enough for the household to eat. Households cultivate a large amount of maize will sell it to the traders who come to the Village directly by car. Cassava is used as food for human and livestock. Timber is also exploited in production forest.
- Protection forest is the forest which protect people from flood, drought. People are not allowed exploiting timber in this area. If anyone get timber, they will be punished as regulated of law. The protection land are managed by villagers. The State will pay protection fees to villagers.

Products from the forest hunted and harvested by the people are very rich and are used in many different purposes:

- Mice, birds, snakes, squirrels, Porcupine, muntjac, wild chickens, wild boars are used as food and for sale. Wild animals are hunted all year round, and wild boars are hunted only when harvesting season comes.
- Vegetables, bamboo shoots and mushrooms are used in daily meals or preliminarily processed for use or sale. Vegetables, mushrooms and bamboo shoots appear and are collected most during the rainy season from July to August every year.
- Wood used for house construction, firewood. They exploit, harvest year-round when there is a need. However, at present, there is not much timber in the forest so it is forbidden to exploit. There are many people who come to Laos to worked as hired labour in getting timber.
- Herbs used to cure diseases, drinking; made or mixed in different ways depending on the type of disease. Herbs include: Balanophoraceae, Stemona tuberose lour, lingzi mushroom ... Herbs cure diseases: abdominal pain, lung, limb fractures, gallstones, diarrhea. Herbs are collected all year round, some of them are most during rainy season. Herbs are collected by many people who know about the herbs, some of the traditional healers in the village are the most frequent collectors. Those who know about the herb also teach their children. These simple and popular herbs are widely known. The kind of herbs that can be harvested are often used for sale or when money is short. In the village there are some households usually collect herbs, some people go to the Village to order then villagers go collect the herbs then sell it for them. Current types of wood are usually oak, bamboo, mixed wood. The bamboo which exploited abundant and people cannot use all of them will be sold to traders, firewoods collected are sold to people inside or outside the village.

**Hunting**

Forest species are mainly mouse, porcupine, birds, snakes, squirrels, muntjac and wild boars. The rare animals are few and often deep in the forest. Hunting is practiced on all mammal species, but is strictly for hunting and trapping of rare wildlife animals, if found, they will be fined. Wild animals are hunted mainly for needs of the family, when they hunt a lot of animals, they will sell it to people inside and outside the village. Those who go to the forest regularly have meat to eat daily.

Tools used primarily for hunting are traps, crossbows, slingshot.

**Other livelihoods**

The village has 40 motorboats and 60 small boats, all using large boats and small boats for fishing on the river. Those who do not have boats that can borrow their neighbors 'or siblings' boats to go fishing.

Villagers use boats for travelling, transporting goods to Laos, exchanging rice, trading grocery, fishing, farming on upland fields, cattle breeding.

They transport timeber and goods from the upstream to the downstream.
There are also young men and women working in the south and central provinces such as Ho Chi Minh City and Quang Nam Province. They work as garment workers and/or gold maker.

Some young people (mostly young men) spend their free time to work as timber porter for wood company.

Women have weaving job. They make dresses to wear and to sell. Average labor income from the sale of a dress is about 200,000 to 600,000 VND for a period of 1 week to 2 weeks for weaving according to the type of skirt.

### Table of forest products and the use of them

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collecting products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if possible)</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Priec/Kg or /product (if possible)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo root</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>1-3 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/pack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushrooms</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cây chit</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood’s ear</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spices</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>1-2 times/week</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewoods</td>
<td>1-2 day/times</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/pack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouse</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/mice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1.500.000/bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muntjac</td>
<td>1-3 month/times</td>
<td>All season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snakes</td>
<td>1-2 times/week</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/times</td>
<td>Harvest season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrels</td>
<td>2-4 day/times</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50.000/squirrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/times</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90.000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1.6. Education
As the Village is near the communal center so many women can read and write. Some women are illiterate as they did not go to school (mainly over 30 years old). Women communicate by Thai language, sometimes by Kinh or Tay language, depending on individuals.
There is a primary school in the Village so students finish grade 5 here, then they go to secondary school in Xop Tu which is 5km far from the Village and boarding high school in the district.

There are kindergarten and primary school in the Village so students walk to the school. There is a student cannot go to school as the family is too poor. Mainly students go to secondary school after finishing primary level, even some go to high school. Students drop out school early as their family are poor so they help their parents in looking after siblings, cooking or working after finishing primary level.

1.7. **Health and Health Care**

There are 2 streams which are 2-3 km far from the Village so it is convenient for people take water for washing clothes, cooking. Many households built bath houses while toilets were built by supports of a project. Most of women and children bathe themselves at home, they just bathe themselves in the river when the village is out of water. There are only young people bathing themselves in the river in the summer. During the flood season, there was no water. Because of the turbidity, many houses built water tanks. The village faces a lack of stream water usually in April – July; therefore, people must use river water. They drink river water without filtering it.

Women usually have headache, flu, stomachache, sore throat, while children have diarrhea, tooth decay due to unhygienic eating habit. In case of severe illness, people use herbs or buy medicine. If not, they go to the communal clinic or hospital.

Women used to give birth at home. Currently, they go to communal clinic, in cases of difficulty in delivery, they go to the district hospital.

There was a case of mother and infant died from difficulty delivery but now there are none.

Every year, the communal clinic conduct vaccination for children and gynaecological examinations for women. Some women go with their children while elders rarely go.

In the past, there were cases where women gave birth to mothers who died due to difficult births when both mother and child died, but in recent years, no mother or baby died at birth.

Every year, commune health stations organize vaccinations for children and gynecological examinations for women. Some young women have medical examination and treatment, vaccination for children and the elderly are less.

Children in the village do not have any serious illness but perhaps being malnourished due to pregnant mother not eating well but do hard work. Children are much happier now than before, not hungry anymore.

In the village there are also some young addicts as they are affected while working in other areas.

People also heard about HIV / AIDS.

1.8. **Ethnic Culture and Leadership**

There is a temple in the village, but it is not affected by the construction of HPP.

There is no possibility of being affected by land acquisition, but erosion and sedimentation can occur.
Because there is no land acquisition and no relocation of houses or cemeteries ... so consultants do not discuss on customary practices related to site clearance to prevent people from being confused.

1.9.  **Gender Issues**

Women are less likely to go out, they only go to district market 2-3 times a year on holidays. Although they live in the center of the commune, they rarely come to the center. Most people focus on production and living in the community.

Women in the village can speak and understand Vietnamese well. They are also willing to participate and take the initiative in discussion on the issues of the village.

In the family, women also have a decisive voice over the big problems of their families. Studying and producing, borrowing or investing, they are able to get involved and have ideas with their husbands.

1.10.  **Community Organization and Development**

Mass organizations are the Women's Union, the Farmers' Association, the Veterans Association, the Elderly Association, the Youth Union, the Party Cell and the Fatherland Front. The leaders of these associations are elected by the villagers.

In addition, in the village there is a self-managed groups with members are middle-aged men. Their task is to ensure village security and forest protection.

The management board of the village is including village chiefs, representatives from the mass organizations and they are in charge of the production of the villagers.

**The development programs of the Village**

In recent years, the village has had socio-economic development programs.

Access to credit from policy banks: 70% of households with loans from 15 million to 30 million for production development with the duration of 3 years at an interest rate of 0.69% per year.

National Target Program on the New Rural Development has provided loans for 12 households with interest rate of 0.65%.

Program 135 has supported the construction of concrete roads and water supply system for the village.

Program 30A: 50 cows for 50 households;

Provision of maize seeds: 100% of households;

Oil and salt support program for mountainous households;

Provision program on health insurance for poor households;

For poor households, every year they receive (i) money for Tet holiday: VND 100,000/household; (ii) Rice allowance of 15kg/person/6 months; (iii) loans of 5 million VND/household (6 households) without interests.
1.11. **Awareness about the Planned HPP**

The villagers already know about the hydropower project that will be built in Xang Tren Village. All information on hydropower construction was provided to the CPC and the geological drilling activities are in progress. In the middle of the year, there is a survey team to ask villagers for information related to the economic life of the people.

However, the Village do not know the exact date and the specific plan of the hydropower project will be affected.

The project that is built here will be more difficult for the people. When hydropower is built, the sale of goods by boat will no longer be possible, whether a way to replace or not.

People want to know the detailed plans for hydropower construction, any affected households, and affected cultivation land or not.

Whether fish source is still available for fishing or not, if not, it will be difficult for households

2 **Report from FGD with Women**

*Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong*

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 8 participants. All of participants are Thai ethnicity. Among them there are 4 under 30 years old, 2 under 35 years old and 2 at age of 44-53. Those at age under 35 know how to read, how to write Vietnamese, only elders are literate.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. **Awareness about the planned HPP**

They heard about the planned HPP, from the village head, commune officers, project staff. Neighbor also talked about the HPP too.

Villagers did not know when the project is done. They do not know how they will be affected, how the village is affected. Villagers wish to know but no one told them.

They wish to know about the project impacts before any implementation so as they can get themselves ready.

They expect to be informed publically the policy applying to affected household, project support to villagers. Meeting with villagers is just fine.

2.2. **Population, ethnicity and women leaders**

Thai women in the village usually get married to Thai men in other villages in the commune or other commune under introduction or they know each other themselves. There are some villagers getting married with women/men from other ethnicity such as Kinh, Tay or H'Mong people when they go out working, or married to Lao men. They marry by love.

There are some women from other places married to men in the village, but no men married to women in the village and stayed here.

There are women are household head because they are widow, but do not know how many. There is no single mother raising small child.

There is no woman working in the commune leadership, there is only one woman who is head of the village women union. She is voted for this position. She will be on behalf of women in the village to speak out wishes of village women.
From the village to commune centre is 4-5 km far, so women usually go there. Some go by motorbike, some go on foot. But there is no difficulty in accessibility. They go out for shopping, health inspection, wedding, visiting relatives, friend, meeting, visiting children at school, etc... and doing papers at the commune when needed. There are many young people work elsewhere. But they do not know where unless they are told.

2.3. Health and nutrition

There are two ravines in 2-3km far so families take water home for using. It is abundant for bathing, washing and cooking. Many households build bathroom, latrine was made available thanks to a project. Most of women and children bath at home, only when ravine runs over, they will bath in the river. Young people bat in the river in summer. In flood season, they do not have water for using because it is when ravine is turbid. Many households build water tank to store water. Water from ravine is usually lack in April – July, during which they have to take water from river for using. They use river water directly without any filtering.

Common illness to women is headache, flue, stomach-ache, throat ache. Common illness to children is diarrhoea, toothache due to eating regime. Not severe illness is cured by villagers using herbs or buying medicine themselves. Severe case will go to clinic to check or go to hospital.

Before women deliverd at home, now young women give birth at commune clinic. In case of difficult deliver, they will be tranfered to district hospital.

Before there was case of women died at delivery because of difficult case, and case dying both mother and child, but recently there is no mother or child died at birth.

Annually the commune clinic organizes vaccine injection to children and gynaecological inspection to women. Some young women go to gynaecological inspection and cure, and have vaccine injection to their children, but less number of old women, except when they are in severe condition when their children will take them to hospital.

Children in the village do not have severe illness, but may be malnutrition as a result of food lacking and hard working during pregnancy. Children now is happier than before, they are not hunger any more.

There are some drug dependent young men in the village, who blamed on working far from home.

They heard about HIV/AIDS, there may be some cases in the village, they not so sure.

2.4. Education

Thanks to location of the village which is close to the commune center, many women know how to read, how to write. There is few literate women who did not attend to school (mainly older than 30). Women communicate in Thai, Kinh or Tay, it depends.

There is primary school at the village so children study at the village up to grade 5, from grade 6 they have to study in Xop Tu, which is 5km from the village. High school is boarding school located at the district.

There is kindergarten and primary school located right at the village, so children at school age all go to school. There is one child of poor household did not go to school. Most of children after primary school will continue at secondary school. Some even attend to high school. Early left school are those of poor households, they dropped school to help their parents, such as taking care young brother, younger sister, cooking, or go working with their parents.

2.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Most of women in the village cultivate on upland field, plant vegetable, raise livestock, cattle. Production is for self demand mainly, and sell only when they need cash. When they need cash they sell chicken, pig. Need more, they sell buffalo, cow. In free time when they do not cultivate on upland field they go to forest to collect bamboo shoot, stemona tuberosa root for sale. Before there was a lot but not many now.

Upland field is on the mountain behind the village, taking 1-2 hour on foot to be there. Old women, if having small grand children, will stay at home taking care of them, otherwise, they go
to the field to collect vegetable, firewood. They go in sunny day, not in rainy day. Households living near the river go fishing for family food. Sometime if they catch lot they will sell to neighbor. If the HPP is constructed, there would be less fish.

3 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 6 participants, 5 men and 1 woman. All of participants are Thai ethnicity. Their ages vary between 57 and 82.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1 Awareness about the planned HPP

All of FGD participants knew about the planned HPP, through previous meeting on the HPP. Every one expressed their worries on potential displacement and disturbance in their living.

3.2 Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

There are two ethnicities in the village, which are Kinh and Thai. The village has been here for some of 400 years, with 2 households at first. Now it is 48 households with 287 persons. They are somehow relatives because they want to live close to each other. Some are shared land by brother, some bought land to settle here.

The elder of village: Besides “Khun Cung”, the elder person of village plays an important role in Kho My society. He is the one having lots of experience, knowledge on working method and in selection of land, seed, livestock. He passes such knowledge to children. He knows well traditional custom, good at communication internally and externally. So they are respected by villagers. All of land conflict, water resources conflict, or agricultural/forestry product conflicts must be settled by the elder of village. The elder of village is one among decisive making people in case of relocating the village if fire, disease, losing harvest happen. It can be said that the elder of village is the highest ranked advisor on custom, production experience, communication and behavior among person and person and among the community. Thus many village events, the village head always consults the elder of village.

3.3 Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

When villager do reclamation to new land plot, they offer a simple worship on such land plot. They cultivate in 1 year and leave fallow in 2-3 years before reassuming.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new household

In case of new married couple, they keep cultivating in the land area there parent and family cultivate before, no allocation specifically to them.

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of clan has no role in land allocation system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Ritual: before seeding, Thai offer worship to land god at the field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and offer New Rice Ceremony (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has a temple where worshiping gods and ancestor who helped them setting up the village. The village worship is performed twice a year, representatives from households will joint, the worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year.
The temple is located in the middle of the village. This is where gods in the concept of Thai, who helped them setting up the village, staying. When offering worship they will invite water god, forest god, etc…to join. They offer two worship a year, one in September of lunar year when they offer fruit, and one in December of lunar year when the offer worship to close the year.

*Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values*

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

3.4. *Spirits, graves and other sacred places*

*Sacred places in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river*

Thai think that super nature who decides fate and life of each human is “Po Then” (super). “No” is symbol of power and authority of gentle class. “Muong Then” area is existed with “Then Bua” (happiness), “Then Chang” (village officials), “Then Xoi” (criminal), “Then Lo” (village midwife), “Then Chat” (longevity), “Then Chuong” (war), “Then Thum” (creating rain and wind), “Then Khao” (protecting spirit and beauty of women), etc... People consider habitats of human ancestor are “dam doi” (land living with queens, both gentle class and normal class). “Muong Then Hit”, “Then Hay” are areas concentrating with queens of poor. Who died suddenly cannot enter “dam doi” area and “lieng pan luong” and “luong pan moi” areas are where spirits of gentle class live forever wealthy. This reflects impacts by Buddhism, “lien pan” in this case is Nirvana.

“Then” controls gods, various types of fields, field ghost, ancestor ghosts, spirit and physical body of human living on the land controlled by land lord. Besides village master, hamlet master are witch to control spirit. Shaman is respected in the community however he is poor. That custom is clearly developing from the concept of respecting land lord so as to strengthen the order set up by these people or their previous generation. Therefore, within a village or a group of villages, there is no large social disturbance. The most restriction of such society is that villagers do not dare to stand up to fight against the controllers, accept themselves as “cuong, nhoc”, “con, huon”.

The patriarchal family order is confirmed and strengthened by ancestor worship custom. Gentle class clans have their family annals and records in Thai language. Each clan has a separate worship place.

Living among mountain and forest, human in one hand living friendly with the nature, they change the nature, but in other hand they do not understand the nature so worry and anxious arisen. Worships land lord, village gods, ancestors, etc... are offered every year, by Harvest and usually combined with agricultural rituals... In spring are ceremonies such as “xieng muong”, “sen ban”, “xen huon” organized. They invite heaven god, land god, river god, mountain god and ancestor from various clans to join and organize parties with their traditional cultural characteristics. Rituals relating to agricultural worship are taken care by people: the custom of waiting for the first thunder sound in spring, custom of worshiping rice spirit and the king of field when seeding, the new rice ceremony to thanksgiving the “rice spirit” who made harvest yield. Whenever suffering illness, people ask witch to worship super natural forces such as god, ghost, lord, etc… to adjust, fix and make it harmonious so as the illness will go away. In some regions, there are still cultural signs of original culture.

The village has graveyard area. Witch will perform worship using things offered by the whole village. After praying, everyone all together eat right at the temple. The residual food must be left at the temple.

*Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants*

There is one big tree in the village which is said to be habitat of the village spirit.

*Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies*
Baseline reporting

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required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Whose graves they all remember. When the project is implemented which effect to graveyard, villagers must move and offer worship to each graves there. If the family can do it themselves then the family will do it, if not they have to ask a wizard to do. Each worship costs 1-3 million VND, offered things must be wine, chicken, pig.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

Affected works include cultural house, worship area of the village.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Villagers should be supported in performing the community rituals (offering worship at temple, graveyard area) and of family when they are displacing because this is unavoidable custom of Thai.

3.5. Other information and reflections

Because of time table which is tight and due to the village location where accessibility is difficult. There was no notice in prior about the survey team, when we came, villagers have gone, the discussion was performed with participation of men only, no women therefore no comments from women were collected.

4 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Xieng Tam village with 06 participants, of which 4 were men and 2 were women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

FGD participants said that they knew about the planned HPP which will be constructed in the commune territory through a meeting which was attended by local officer and project staff when they showed map to villagers. However, villagers do not know detail information about the project. Such information so far is not enough to them. They expect to know other information such as when compensation will be done, how much is the compensation, is new land will be allocated for cultivation. Most of villagers wish to be supplied with such information in writing and map to make it easier to keep and see when they want.

4.2. Forest use

By discussing with FGD participants the survey team know that villagers frequently go to forest whenever they have free time or when they are preparing family meal. They said that purpose of men and women when going in to forest is different:

- Men go to forest for hunting, taking timber, firewood, herbs, to protect field, visiting livestock, harvesting crops.
- Women go to forest to do cultivation, taking firewood, wild vegetable, bamboo shoot, herbs, and spicy herbs and harvesting crops.

Forest is near the village, it takes only 5 minutes on foot to get there. This is favorable conditions to villagers in production or in collecting products from forest.
The forest in the village comprises of production forest and protection forest.

- Production forest, which is called as pastureland, is an area for villagers to cultivate rice, corn, cassava, peanut, banana, which are main food sources of villagers. Production forest, under comments by FGD participant, is not furnished with land use right certificate for each household and has not been allocated specifically to each household. The whole village is now cultivating on that land. Production area is visited regularly by villagers, both men and women go visiting upland field to keep livestock and wild animals from destroying crops, especially when the harvest season comes. Rice is normally enough for household demand only, not many to sell. Those cultivate lot of corn will sell to traders who come to the village by truck to buy. Cassava is used as food for human and for livestock breeding. Timber is only exploited from production forest.

- Protection forest is the forest protecting villagers from flood, drought. Villagers are not allowed to exploit timber from this forest. If they do they will be punished by the local authorities under the law. Protection forest is allocated to villagers to protect, no exploitable is allowed. Annually the Government will pay an amount of money for protecting the forest.

Products from forest are plenty and abundant, they are used in different purposes:

- Hunted rat, bird, snake, squirrel, bamboo rat, deer, wild chicken, boar are used as food and for sale. Wild animals are hunted Year-round, except boar, which is hunted during Harvest when it comes to destroy crops.

- Wild vegetable, bamboo shoot and mushroom are used in daily mean or processed for later using or for sale. Wild vegetable, mushroom and bamboo shoot appear and being collected the most in rainy season, in July and August annually.

- Timber is used in house building, firewood. It can be collected Year-round when they need. However, there is not many big trees now in the forest so it is prohibited in exploiting. When they need timber they must buy. There are many villagers go to Lao to work as logging laborer.

- Herbs are used for curing. It is processed in different ways depending on each type of illness. Herbs include: stemona tuberosa, linzhi mushroom, etc... Herbs are used to cure illness as: stomachache, lung, bone broken, diarrhoea. Herbs are collected Year-round by villagers, some is abundant most in rainy season. Herbs are collected by many villagers who know the herbs. Some quacks in the village are those collecting the most. Those who know herbs tell their children. Simple and common herbs are known by many. Herbs when being collect lot will be sold when they need cash. There are some households in the village specially collecting herbs to sell. Traders come to the village to order villagers to collect. Common timber now available are bead-tree, bamboo, etc... Bamboo when villagers do not use, will be sold to traders who transport downstream. Firewood is collected and sold to those in need in and outside the village.

4.3. Hunting

Common wild animal in the forest are rat, bamboo rat, bird, snake, squirrel, deer, boar. Rare animal is very few and usually lives in deep forest. Hunting is allowable to all wild animal except rare and endangered wild animal. If they hunt rare and endangered animal they will be punished. Hunted animal is for family demand only, only sell when they hunt lot. Household goes regularly to forest will have meat to eat every day.

Tools for hunting are trap, crossbow, catapult.
## List of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=least important</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/rat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-1,500,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>100-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90,000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 8th January 2017 with 8 participants, 4 of them were men and 4 were women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai. Among them there are none illiterate, 1 finished grade 5, 1 finished grade 6, 4 finished grade 9 and 2 finished grade 10.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

The village knew about the planned HPP which will be constructed at Xang Tren village.

Information about the planned HPP was supplied by the commune People’s Committee and they knew from activities of drilling work for investigation which are doing.

But the whole village did not know when the project is constructed and how is the plan, the village will be affected by what?

They wish to know detail plan of the HPP, which household will be affected, whether cultivation land will be affected?

After the HPP construction, the village will change what, is fish in the river available for fishing any more, if not, it will be difficult to households.

5.2. Boat use

There are many boats in the village, 40 motor boats and 60 small boats. All households use big boats and small boats to fish on the river. Household having no boat can borrow from neighbor or from relative to go fishing.

They use boat to travel and transport goods to Laos, to exchange rice, trading things, go fishing, go to upland field, breeding livestock.

Transport goods to sell, timber from upstream to downstream.

Household who has not boat must hire or borrow from other household in the village to go fishing.

5.3. Fishing

All of households in the village go fishing on the river for family demand or to sell. They go fishing in dry season and in rainy season as well.

Every day, there is household go fishing on the river and they go fishing with various means. Men go fishing by throwing net or using rod to catch fish. Quantity is unstable, sometime up to 5-7 kg, but sometime only 0.5-1kg a day, even none.

They go fishing all along Ca river, up to Xang Tren village or down 2-3km in downstream.

Women, children go fishing along river bank, in smaller streams, using tools such as basket, setting trap to catch fish, snail, and shrimp for family demand.

Fish is considered as main food source of households. Almost all households do not have to buy food if they went fishing.

Comparing to the last 20 years, quantity of fish is reduced remarkably, not many big fish now. Now is only small fish, rarely catch big fish of 10-15 kg.

Fishing in dry season is easier than in rainy season because rapid flow in flood season cause difficulty to fishing. Net cannot be used in flood season as well. When flood comes, they can fish only along the river bank.

Fish is mainly for family demand, if the catch lot they will sell to local officer such as teacher, soldiers or local traders, restaurants or sell to H’Mong people.
Fish caught is used as daily meal of villagers. When they do not have meat to eat, they go fishing.

5.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

Tools for fishing: mainly net, rod, hook for fishing.

There are many fish species on the river: Onychostoma laticeps, Hemibagrus, Garra fuliginosa, Bagarius rutilus, Cyprinus carpio, Bagarius yarrellii, Trionychidae, Anguilla marmorata. Nowadays, Hemibagrus, Bagarius yarrellii and Trionychidae are rare. They catch mainly goby and Cyprinus carpio.

Women and children usually catch shrimp and small fish: Onychostoma laticeps, Hemiculter leucisculus, and small goby.

Ever since Ban Ve hydropower plant is existed, fish is no more plenty as before, but they do not know why.

In low water level season, they usually catch big fish such as Bagarius yarrellii, Anguilla marmorata which can sell at price of 200-250 thousand VND per kg. Bagridae can be sold at price 500 thousand VND/kg

When they catch lot of fish, if not selling they will dry it for later using.

Besides, households collect moss and algae from the river to eat but now the quantity of moss and algae is reduced because Ban Ve reservoir controls flood and no more moss as before.

From the river bank they can hunt bird, rat. They eat or can sell at price 20 thousand VND per rat. Rat can be fired or making “nhooc” dish. “Nhooc” dish made by Kho Mu is better.

On the river bank, they plant sweet potato, taro, papaya, pineapple for family demand.

6. Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 13/01/2017 with 08 participants, of which 6 were men and 2 were women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers have known about the planned HPP at the commune from the information by the commune People’s Committee and officers visiting the village. They also know because of geological drilling activities occurring at site.

However, they do not know exactly when and how is the plan, how they are affected. The planned HPP may cause impact only to the access road but whether land is acquired or not is unknown and unclear to them.

They wish to know more detail on the planned HPP, is there any household affected by land acquisition and how they are affected, what is the project policy applying to them? They expect to know all details relating to the project development.

6.2. Land use

The village has some of 2600 ha of cultivation land running up to Yen Hoa village in total length of 3km which is accessible by motorbike. It takes some of 20 minutes to be there, most of cultivation land is upland field.

Upland field of the villagers comprises also forestry land, every year each household cultivates some of 1-3 ha of rain-fed rice. Depending on the number of household individual, each individual cultivate some of 5kg of seed.
There are 7 households in the village cultivate paddy rice, on some of 12 ha. All of cultivation land area is upland field on sloping topography and is difficult for cultivation. Upland field has no irrigation system, rain-fed only, while paddy land is irrigated by an irrigation made by villagers themselves. All of upland field has not land use right certificate, but it has been owned by households for tens of years after their reclamation. Newly separated households will share land with their parents, in other words, parent must share land to their children because there is no more spare land fund for reclamation. There is no more spare land for reclamation, only protection forest which is strictly controlled and managed. Cultivation activities include holing, seeding, no machine or cattle pulling force is used because of sloping topography. Agricultural products are rain-fed rice, corn, cassava, peanut, vegetable, etc.

- Each households cultivate 5-7 upland field plots, fallow interval is 3-4 years (cultivate in 2 years then leave fallow). Household with many individual the fallow interval is only 2 years.
- Each household cultivate some of 2-3 kg of maize seed in one year, equivalent to some of 1500-2000 m².
- Each household cultivate some of 600-1000 cassava bushes, equivalent to some of 800-1000 m².

### 6.3. Crops

**Main crops**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rain-fed rice</td>
<td>2.5-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid maize</td>
<td>3.5 - 4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>16.0-17.0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanut</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice is main crop taking important role in daily living because it is main food source of villagers. Upland rice is cultivated one crop a year, with unstable yield. In a good year, it yields 3-4 ton/ha, in bad year it is only 1 ton per ha, sometime no yield at all due to drought conditions.
- Maize is mainly hybrid maize, one crop a year, yield of lower average because of cultivation land which is upland. Product after harvest is sold (80%), the rest 20% is for livestock breeding.
- Cassava is planted on a limited land area. Villagers plant cassava as fence surrounding their upland field or intercalated with maize. Cassava is used mainly in cooking wine and for livestock breeding, rarely for sale.
- Villagers also plant vegetable along the river bank but negligible.

Households in the village suffer hunger, but not for long, normally 1-2 months a year during pre-harvesting period, poor households in the village are supported by the Government once a year: 15kg rice/individual x number of family member. During hunger period when rice given by the Government is over, villagers borrow from traders who will come after harvesting period to take back the borrowed quantity plus interest, the rest will be for the family. It is a cycle so they suffer hunger in such a way year to year.
6.4. **Livestock**

Livestock at the time of survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>&gt; 250 cow</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>100 buffalo</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Livestock breeding is done on upland field and surrounding the houses of villagers. However, those raised surrounding the house are pig and chicken. Livestock are local race so the way they do breeding is also traditional local way.

- Cow: each household has some of 5-10 cow, including cow for beef and productive cow. Villagers said that sometime when they do bad prevention, cow die because of disease. But when veterinary officer of the commune does the prevention well, cow will be strong. There are some of 6-7 households in the village raise lot of cow, some of 20 cows each. On average, every year a household can sell 1-2 cow, some have more can sell more, up to 4-5 cow. But sometime they do not sell any cow. Villagers said that, they sell cow when they need lot of money, when they need less they sell pig or chicken. If family need much money they sell all cows they have. A cow costs between 10-15 million VND per a cow, while buffalo costs 15-18 million VND each.

- At the time of survey each household raise some of 3-5 pigs, some raise 10-15 pigs. Pig costs between 80,000 – 100,000 VND/kg.

- Most of household raise chicken, but sometime they suffer disease, local chicken costs between 80,000 – 100,000 VND/kg.

- Villagers frequently eat fish, only when there is family event or village event then they will have meat to eat. On average, there are 3-4 meals a week with food, the rest they eat with vegetable only.

### 3.6.2.7 Xop Tu Village – 11 January 2017

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Date** 1/11/17

**Village Xop Tu**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Moong Quang Hung</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lo Van Thanh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lo Ngoc Bien</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lo Van Long</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Luong Van Nam</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lo Van Thin</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lo Van Nhat</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Loong Me Ta</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Loong Me Pho</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Moong Thi Loi</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Luong Van Nhien</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lo Quang Hung</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vi Thi Van</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lo Thi Phom</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Loong Y Giang</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Aquaculture - Use of River

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ha Van Toan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lo Van Hung</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lo Van tam</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vi chinh Nghe</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lo Van chung</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lo Van Thang</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lo Thang Nguyet</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. Woman Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Loc Thi Thien</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>La Thi Chuyen</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lo Thi Hoi</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lo Thi Hong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Luong Thi Vieng</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lo Thi Canh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lo Thi Lan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vi Thi Khat</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Elder - Ethnic Minority Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Phan Bien Phong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kha Van Bun</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lo Van Thinh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lo Van Binh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lo Vun Thanh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lu Van Khanh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lo Quang Hoan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kha Van Chuong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Village Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

Xop Tu village is located 4 km away from My Ly commune center. The inter district road runs along one side of the village while the other faces the bank of My Ly river. Thanks to the good location, both of road and river travels are very convenient to villagers. Roads in the village are made of cement concrete.
The majority of villagers’ houses are made from wood and quite close to each other. Some households live near the road on which they depend for doing small business. There is one culture house; however, the common space is very limited in size for joint activities of villagers. For example, there is no room for outdoor activities such as sports for villagers.

The infrastructure in the village is generally well-built. 100% of households have access to national electric grid. The water is led from streams from mountains to water tanks in the village. Each household has one water tank for washing, bathing and cooking. When the water from stream goes dry, villagers use water from the river for washing and bathing. Water used for cooking is always the clean one from the stream. Most households have toilets. Some share toilets with neighbors.

The surrounding environment in the village is not good. Domestic waste is burned or discharged directly to the river. In recent years, some households raise pigs in lodging near their houses. Manure from pigs deteriorates the village’s living environment.

1.2. Population

The village has 175 households and 774 people in which there are 114 poor households and 20 nearly poor households. 22 households are in hunger support program. Villagers are from 4 ethnic groups which are Thai, Kho Mu, Kinh (Vietnamese) and Hmong.

There are 4 woman-led households as the husbands already died. These women are aged between 30 and 35 and have small kids. The women’s union gives presents to these households every year. There are some widowed aged women who live with their grownup children who are the family heads.

There are 10 Kinh women who came to the village for marriage, in which one is teacher. Some are from Thanh Hoa, Ha Tinh provinces. There are some people marrying Lao people and those in other provinces in Vietnam. There is one woman who is the director of women’s union.

1.3. Village History and Migration

Villagers of Xop To are originally Thai ethnic people. The villagers also belong to Kinh, Kho Mu and Hmong ethnic groups. Thai people take 80% of the population. People from other ethnic groups move here more marriage or for livelihood. Xop Tu villagers do not have the tendency to migrate for work. Only some women left the village for marriage in the other village of the same province or other provinces or in Laos.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

Villagers have already received the land use right certificate for their residential land but not yet for their production land. The total production land area is 900 ha (other figure shows 270 ha). Production land spreads on different areas. It takes 30 minutes to the closest and 2 hour to the furthest. Production land is allocated to 6 households for production, which are separated by natural border such as stream or big trees. Besides swidden land, there is 17 ha of paddy land which is cultivated for one harvest per year.

Each household cultivates 3 ha per year depending on the demand and labor availability of the household. Villagers still apply the wide range cultivation method due to large cultivation area. Production land are made free from 3 to 4 years to restore fertilizer. New households can cultivate on their parents’ land. After 5 years, they will get share of village’s production land.

Protection forest land is managed by forest management and protection board. The village also has 3 ha of sacred forest. Land along the river can be used to plant vegetable such as corn, peanuts and sweet potato...Family head has no right in allocation of land use.
1.5. **Livelihoods and Labour**

**Agriculture:**
- Swidden cultivation plays a fundamental role in the villagers' livelihoods. All the village has 525 ha of swidden area. Wet rice area is 17 ha under the management of 15 households. Swidden cultivation is the main source of livelihoods of the villagers.
  + Upland rice: Each household has the upland rice area of 1-2 ha on average. The yield ranges from 3.0-4.0 ton/ha. Some households gain 2.5-3.0 ton/ha due to bad weather and the two-year fallow period.
  + The average maize area is 0.1-0.14 ha/household, equal 1 kg of seeds. The yield ranges between 4.9 ton/ha. It is unstable due to the disadvantageous weather. The villagers sell maize to traders for the price of 3-3,500 VND/kg.
  + Each household plants 100-300 roots and after 2 years harvests 18-20 ton/ha.
  + In addition, they also plant some other crops such as peanuts, taro intercropped among vegetables.

The arable area is just sufficient for the households. However, the fallow period is only 2-3 years. The soil is degrading. The old seeds do not ensure quality. The weather is disadvantageous so the yield is low and unstable. The tough weather in 2015-2016 led to a number of households facing a lack of food (22/175 households).

**Livestock breeding:**
The villagers raise mostly big cattle (cows, buffaloes), which play a significant role in their livelihoods.
- Cows: 320. Each household has 1-2 cows.
- The whole village has 50 goats.
- Pigs: 350 local pigs. Each household has 1-2 gilts/sows. The number of piglets is hard to calculate.
- Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese): each household has about 20-30

They use traditional breeding method: free range. There is a lack of fodder. Diseases are uncontrollable though the communal vet has intervened. A large number of cattle and poultry die every year. Many households are unable to pay to loans that they borrowed to develop livestock breeding.

**Forestry:**
The households participate in protection forests and receive 1 million each year for that service. Production forests are used to plant short-day plants such as rice, maize, cassava.

Non-timber forest products: The households' livelihoods depend much on forests to collect bamboo shoots, wild vegetables, mushrooms, Auricularia auricula-judae mice for their food everyday. When they can collect much, they dry them or sell them. The herbal medicine is used to cure diseases or to use as tea to drink everyday.

They mostly hunt mice, birds and wild chicken to eat. The big animals such as wild boards, Muntiacus and bears do not appear any more.

**Aquaculture**
All households do fishery with various levels. Some have boats and tools such as cast nets. They catch fish to eat and sometimes to sell when the catch is big. Those having no boats go fishing close to the bank or along the streams. The fish catch has decrease much in comparison to 10 years ago.
### Table of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest products that are collected</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season for collection</th>
<th>Amount (if available)</th>
<th>Significance 1 = the most important 2 = the second most important 3 = the least important</th>
<th>To sell Yes = 1 No = 2</th>
<th>Selling price per kg or per item (if sell)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>Once-three times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auriculariales</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Cây Gia vị”</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>Once-three times a day</td>
<td>When building houses</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/mouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrels</td>
<td>Once in two or four days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-50.000/squirrel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Non-agriculture activities

The village has some households that have boats to transport and trade goods in the river, mostly to transport wood from Lao PDR. They earn 400-500,000VND/day. However, it is not a regular job. Each month they can earn 3-4 million, and can do it only during the dry season.

There is no one migrating to work for some companies.

#### 1.6. Education

100 percent of children at the age of 6 go to school. The village has kindergarten, primary school and secondary school. High school is located in Muong Xen village. Children can stay the whole day at the kindergarten where parents have to pay 150,000 VND per month for food. Primary school student go to school in the morning or the afternoon. High school is also boarding school where students are supported with tuition fees. Students pay for food and some other school fees. Dropouts still exist for secondary school, especially girls from Hmong ethnic group which still maintains perpetual marriage. 8 to 9 percent of villagers are illiterate and cannot speak Vietnamese who are mainly women over 40.

#### 1.7. Health and Health Care

The commune health station was rebuilt and located near the village. People go to medical stations and receive medicine when they are sick.

Annually, women in the village are provided with a gynecological examination at the commune health station. The proportion of women with gynecological diseases is quite common, mainly due to using river water for daily use.
In the past 10 years, women in the village have been going to the clinic for antenatal care and delivery. Previously, women used to give birth on their own at home or in the field. The situation of women miscarriage or premature birth still occurs due to work hard during pregnancy. At present, no more women die during childbirth or infant death.

Under-five malnourished children in the village are very few, accounting for about 2% (according to the subjective opinion of the population). Children often suffer from diseases of the mouth and respiratory diseases.

Drug addiction remains, 50% of which are young boys. There is no addictive women in village. There is no HIV / AIDS infected person. Village women were disseminated, distributed leaflets on HIV / AIDS and participated in training on gender equality. However, there is no training in domestic violence.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

The sacred forest area is 03 hectares, where it is prohibited to exploit, cut and hunt animals. The cemetery area of the village is in the protection forest, also known as ghost forest. The cemetery is about 1 km away from the village.

Thai people still practice worship ceremony in their agricultural production. The worship ceremony is carried out twice per year in September and December.

Thai people do not have the custom of moving graves. When the cemetery is flooded, they organize rituals at the shrine in the village to report to the god who governs the forest. The worship ceremony is to invite spirits to move to the resettlement area.

1.9. Gender Issues

Both men and women make the decision making in the family. There is difference in gender equality practice among households. In Thai and Kinh groups, women are more appreciated than women in Kho Mu and Hmong families. However, boys are still more appraised and preferred due to the notion that boy will take care of the family in the next generation. However, there is no difference, especially for children, in access to education, health and other areas.

At present, the proportion of illiterate (those who do not speak Vietnamese) are totally female. However, illiterate women are not under pressure or stigma. These women have livelihood activities attached to the available resources of the village so they have no difficulty in earning livelihood.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

The village has a full range of mass organizations such as the Front Committee, Women's Union, Farmers' Association, Veterans Association, Youth Union. Members are entitled to protection and support in all aspects of social life.

Six production teams were set up to assist each other in production and exchange for harvesting.

Current development projects are not much.

Program 167 gives 24 million VND to each poor household.

Poor households get 15 kilo of rice for hunger relief within 6 months;

100% of households borrow credit from the development bank through the Women's Union, Farmer's Union and Veterans Association.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

Villagers have already heard about the project for 4 years mainly through word of mouth. Villagers have not been informed officially about the project. Therefore, they want to have discussion and workshop to get information on the hydropower plant and its impacts and compensation programs to villagers. Information should also include project details,
compensation policies, resettlement program. The information should be informative and documented which makes it easy for villagers to understand.

1.12. Additional Issues

The village is very well -located for various ways of livelihoods which include agriculture, forestry and aquaculture. Some households have boats for transportation. Many households can take advantage of bank loan for production. Therefore, in general households' livelihood of the village are better than other villages’ of My Ly commune. Migration for work is not common in the village. Living environment of the village is not good due to domestic waste and waste from free-range livestock.

Villagers used to be impacted indirectly from Ban Ve hydropower project. Villagers therefore have much concerns about its impacts on villagers’ livelihood. The villagers predict the impacts as following:

- The construction of hydropower will make the water level to fluctuate irregularly. This phenomenon has been observed to occur due to the impact of hydropower Ban Ve.

- Fish cage culture is unstable due to irregular water level fluctuations

- The state needs to compensate and provide adequate support to the households.

2 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11/01/2017 with 07 participants, all of which 6 were men and 0 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity. List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers have heard about the planned project but only oral speaking between them, not officially. The information about the project has been 4 years, but sometimes they said do, sometime saying no.

The village party secretary, a participant, heard about the planned project from some meetings held at the commune and from some district officers, but because there have been no official directions so no meeting has been organized to inform to the villagers.

The village leadership needs official and more detail information about project as well as it impacts so as to tell to villagers.

Detail of the project and information about compensation policy, allowances to compensate project impacts should be known by the villagers so as they can support the project. The Government policy, project policy shall be public and explained to the villagers.

2.2. Land use

Upland field of villagers is 1-2km far away, taking 30 minutes on foot to be there. Some further field takes 1-1.5 hour. There is no land use right certificate for cultivation land, the land is owned as general property, under general management. Each household On average cultivate some of 1-2 ha of upland field a year, the whole village has some of 270ha. 100% households in the village have upland field for cultivating rice, cassava, corn and other subsidiary crops such as peanut, sweet potato, bean, etc…

There are 9 households in the village have paddy rice field with total area of 17ha, productivity of each crop is approximately 6 ton/ha.
Residential land area in the village has been furnished with land use right certificate, but not yet to cultivation land area.

Household cultivates one crop a year on upland field, then leave fallow in 3 years, sometime 4 years before reassuming. They apply traditional way of cultivation, depending on weather.

On paddy land, 9 households use cattle to help preparing land and apply some new technique in cultivating rice and subsidiary crop which are trained by agricultural extension staff.

2.3. Crops

On average each household individual need to plant 8-10kg upland rice seed and most is sticky rice (90-95%) and very few normal rice, productivity 3-4 ton/ha. However upland rice and other crops cultivated on upland field depend completely on weather so there will be no harvest at all in drought year, sometime it is only 2-2.5 ton/ha. Rice is cultivated between May and September. Villagers use local rice seed and cultivate by traditional way using no machine or cattle pulling force for upland cultivation, cattle is used only for paddy rice (17ha).

Corn: villagers plant two types of corn, hybrid maize and local maize. The hybrid maize is for sale, the local one is for family using and for livestock breeding. 1kg seed of the hybrid maize yield gives 7 quintals of maize (almost dry). Hybrid maize price is 2,500-3,000VND/kg. Cultivating season is between May and August every year, On average each household plant 6kg of seed, some households use 15-20 kg of seed.

Cassava: number of cassava bushes planted by households is different. Each cassava bush gives 15kg. Most of household plant cassava for livestock breeding and it normally takes 2 years to harvest.

Peanut: each household plants some of 1kg peanut seed in 3 months similar to corn, alternating with subsidiary crops. Peanut is planted for family demand, not for sale.

There are many crops planted by villagers in the village or on upland field such as rice, corn, cassava, peanut, watermelon, cucumber, jackfruit, mango, coconut, sweet potato, taro, bean, but in small quantity, mainly for family demand.

The most important products to village is rice, corn.

2.4. Livestock

The most important livestock to the villagers are buffalo, cow, goat, pig, chicken.

There are 88 buffaloes, 320 cows, 50 goats, each household On average has 2 productive pigs, and unaccountable baby pig. Each household has some of 20-30 chicken and duck. But poultry is usually affected by disease. Cattle sometimes are affected too but thanks to good prevention work the number of death cattle has been limited. Every year the commune veterinary officer goes to the village for vaccine injection to cattle and poultry. Very few household cure the sick cattle and poultry.

Some households raise fishes in ravine (quantity is unknown).

Water resources for livestock breeding are from the river which is usually polluted. Some households think this is main reason causing disease to cattle in the village because villagers still apply free breeding method.
Cattle, poultry are breeding by villagers by free grazing method. Villagers sell buffalo, cow, pig when they need money for family expenses or to pay school fee.

2.5. Other information and reflections

Villagers raise pigs in barn but ambient air in the village is truly affected and smelly as a result of untreated shit in pig barns.

Comments by households if project is implemented:

- The project implementation will cause lot impact to household livelihood though they are in downstream of the project. Ban Ve hydropower plant has caused many difficulties to livelihood of local resident and also to living environment.
- Formation of a reservoir will cause water fluctuation, At present the local resident has seen this phenomenon due to impact by Ban Ve reservoir.
- Fish cage farming may be unstable because unforeseen water fluctuation.
- The Government shall compensate and support satisfactorily to affected households.

3 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11th January 2017 with 11 female participants. All of them are Thai; among them one is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, 3 finished the 5th grade, two finished the 9th grade, one finished the 10th grade, two finished the 12th grade and one at junior college veterinary.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

There has been no company introduced the planned HPP. They heard about the planned HPP from traders who said that they purchased goods to supply whom performing investigation drilling.

If project is constructed, there must be impacts because the village is located just next to the river. In the village there are many households having boat. They use boat to travel on the river, to purchase goods from Laos, and to get to further remote villages. If the HPP is constructed, there will be lots of difficulties.

Women and villagers expected to hear about the project information. When the project will be done, how is the compensation, resettlement and the extent of project impacts.

The best way is a meeting to popular whole village and must be written information. Who illiterate will be read by their children.

3.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

All the village is Thai (Thai is household head), there is no Laos getting married to men here, but from other provinces of Vietnam, such as Thanh Hoa, Ha Tinh. Kinh teachers come here for teaching also got married to Thai men and then staying in the village. There are 10 Kinh women got married to Thai men in the village. They work as teacher, trader. Young women from the village also got married to men in other province, or Lao men.

Women in the village work as officer including chairwomen of commune women union, village women union.

Women usually go the My Ly commune center because it is not so far away. Xop Tu is only 4km far from My Ly. They go to My Ly to do paper work at the commune People’s Committee,
to the market, health inspection. Women also go to Keng Du for meeting, singing festival, visiting relatives by means of motorbike.

There are some of 3-4 households headed by women who are widow. They are between 30-35 years old with small children and therefore heading with difficulties. There is one old widow with no children. No single mother case in the village.

3.3. Health and nutrition

Water is taken from ravine to tank. Each household has a tank for bathing, washing and drinking. Villagers now rarely use river water for washing. Some poor household who cannot afford to build bathroom will use cloth to make a kind of bathroom. When water from ravine runs out, they bath in the river.

Women are commonly having gynecological disease. The commune clinic organize annually a gynecological inspection to women. It is easy to access to clinic which is newly constructed.

Women in the village at age of 30 or more usually deliver at home because before there was no clinic. Some women delivered at the field, without any help from midwife but her husband. Now most of them deliver at the clinic.

There are few children less than 5 suffer with malnutrition, some of 2%. But this is by feeling not confirmation from inspection. They are seen smaller than others of the same age. Children normally suffer with tooth age because of eating sweet. Cough is also popular.

Before there were women died at delivery, some of them terminated the pregnancy but not many. In the last 3 years, there was woman terminated at the 6th month of pregnancy period, and had to go to provincial hospital, but she had not been told the reason why. At that time there was no clinic.

Now women go inspection during pregnancy more regular. Pregnancy termination happens quite popular because of hard working or premature delivery. There is no quack in the village. They usually go to clinic where ultrasonic machine is used.

There is no woman using drug in the village, 50% of young men are drug dependence, no HIV/AIDS case. They are given with leaflet about HIV/AIDS. They have just been trained on gender equality not yet on family violence. Sometime there is a case drunk husband or jealous husband beat his wife.

3.4. Education

100% children at school age go to school, none staying at home. Kindergarten is located at the village, on the road connecting Muong Xen town. Only 8-9% women cannot read, write Vietnamese, they are at age of 40 and above. All of women younger than 30 know how to read and write.

There is primary school and secondary school at the village. Only high school children must go to Muong Xen town where a boarding high school there. Children study at school far from home will stay boarding, but family do not have to pay if their children stay at boarding school. There are some children at secondary school age drop school, particularly H'Mong women who drop school to get married.

3.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Upland field is some of 2-3 hours on foot far away. In the village, all households plant hybrid maize and rice. Each 1kg seed of hybrid maize will harvest 7-8 quintals of corn. Hybrid maize is for sale, last year the price was 2,500-3,000 VND per one kg. In 2016 there were 3 households in the village planted 10-20kg of seed and harvest 15-20 million VND for sale maize. Family income is managed by both husband and wife.

There is land along river bank to plant sweet potato and cabbage, for eating and selling. They collect wild vegetable also to eat. The collect bamboo shoot from the forest.

Women and men go fishing by using net, basket. Fish caught are for family needs, not selling many because not many fish caught.
There are some households trading in Laos: by boat, but navigation is difficult, they have to manage travelling to get over waterfall. They go 2-3 times a month. Those having no boat will share with those having boat. They go to Laos to sell things like shampoo, etc... Then they buy buffalo, cow, chicken, rice, timber back to Vietnam.

Most of women (50%) borrow from social policy bank. The women union is on their behalf to guarantee the loan for them. The loan is 25 million VND, in 3 years term. The loan is for livestock breeding so interest is only 0.65%. Procedure is simple too.

Each household can borrow 2-3 times. When they pay back all they can apply for a new loan. Some households borrow 3 times maximum. There are 5 teams borrowing loan in the village. The borrowed amount from social policy bank of the commune has reached to 3 billion VND.

It depends on the family income that meal will have meat or not. 1/3 women are from poor household. There are 3-4 households of special poor ones. They are widow with small children. The women union usually give gifts to special poor households.

3.6. Other information and reflections

Xop Tu village is located on main road and is the village having many shop trading or restaurant running households. The village is some of 4-5 km far from My Ly commune center. Intra-road in the village is wide and motorbike accessible. Only those do not know how to use motorbike, which are mainly elder, will go on foot. Many households have boat for transportation service or they use boat for trading with Laos. Many households approach to loan from bank and know how to use in trading, manufacturing. The economic condition of the village is wealthier than others in My Ly commune.

4. Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11/1/2017 in Huoi Xui village with 8 participants, all of them are men. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai, ages varies between 50 and 63.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of FGD participants knew about the planned HPP by means of meeting on the HPP held before. But only men know better because they were invited to meetings. They said other meeting should be organized and there shall be other means of information such as speaking in their language on louder speaker. They all expressed their worries about relocation and potential disturbance to their lives.

4.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

All of FGD participants knew about the planned HPP by means of meeting on the HPP held before. But only men know better because they were invited to meetings. They said other meetings should be organized and there shall be other means of information such as speaking in their language on louder speaker. They all expressed their worries about relocation and potential disturbance to their lives.

The village has been here for long time. There are three ethnicities living here: H’Mong, Thai and Kho Mu, but most of them are Thai.

They vote for village head every 2.5 years. The village head must be friendly, gifted and wealthy.

There are 175 households with 774 individual living in the village, of which 114 are poor households and 20 near poor households. Number of households to be supported because of hunger is 22 households. In the village there are 6 drug dependence, but official number must be much higher.
There is primary school at the village with 335 children studying from grade 1 to grade 5. Number of illiterate villagers at ages between 15 and 60 are 169.

4.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Cultivation land is planned but the whole village cultivate in production teams. There are 6 teams cultivating in different area. Demarcation is done using natural features as stream, big trees, etc. Each household On average cultivate some of 3ha. Villagers cultivate under general rule of the village. New couple, new household will keep cultivating in the same team of their family and no approaching to land of other household in the same team.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

In case of new married couple they keep cultivating in the land area there parent and family cultivate before, no allocation specifically to them. 5 years after that will be cultivated independently and in other land plot but anyhow still within the previously allocated land area.

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of clan have no role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Ancestor worship is specific worship in each clan of Thai. Xên đăm (each clan), Xên huon (each family). Xên đăm worship is organized by families in the same clan in certain time during a year. The ghost house is worship in one room just next to the house master’s bed, called as “hồng”. Altar of ghost house is simple, no ancestor tablets, only two cups of water, one bottle of wine and betel and areca. In the concept of Thai “ancestor” lives above the heaven and will be invited home in big family events while house ghost always stays with them to take care and wish good luck to them.

Sacred forest is 03 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting.

Rituals: ancestor worship is specific worship in each clans of Thai. Xên đăm (each clan), Xên huon (each family). Xên đăm worship is organized by families in the same clan in certain time during a year. Nowadays, only big clan can keep ancestor worship and they organize in June, July every year. Most of Thai families organize “Xên huon” at home. “Xên huon” in fact is house ghost (Phi huon) worship, which is organized by individual living in one family. “Phi huon” in viewpoint of Thai is the death father. The ghost house is worship in one room just next to the house master’s bed, called as "hồng". Altar of ghost house is simple, no ancestor tablets, only two cups of waer, one bottle of wine and betel and areca. Annually the Tet comes, Thai clean and decorate the altr and replace a new mat to worship house ghost. In the concept of Thai “ancestor” lives above the heaven and will be invited home in big family events while house ghost always stays with them to take care and wish good luck to them. Thus, whenever they have something good, strange, they offer the house ghost first. This is a respective custom showing their respect to ancestor, elders of Thai.

Due to living characteristics, production activities of Thai which depend completely on natural condition, they perform worship to pray the heaven for good weather and yield full harvest. They offer many worship in a year: the first is “field opening” ceremony (Tế tòng). Before seeding, they offer “hạch ma” worship. When rice grows in ear they offer "hau cẳm" (or ăn khem) custom. Before and after harvesting, Thai offer thankful worship to spirit of the rice and invite rice spirit home. The offering things always are sticky rice, fish, egg and “rư u c n” (wine drunk out of a jar through pipes). One among important ceremonies which Thai organize annually is "phà ma" worship (heaven back), or known as ceremony to welcome the very first thunder of spring. The first thunder in custom of Thai is a sign for a good moment for production and seeding. This is when rice spirit wake up after a long cold winter. Because of that conception,
annually, whenever the first thunder, all families offer their own worship. Family of the head of a clan (ông đẳm) must offer a bigger ceremony than others. Because he must be on behalf of the whole big family (clan) to pray heaven for a good year and a yield full crop. The “rain pray” ("cầu mưa") is also a popular custom in Thai community and occurs annually.

The “rain pray” "cầu mưa” worship is performed in bright moon nights when weather causes potential long drought period. The rain pray ceremony is mainly performed by young people in the village. They gather in group walking around the village while singing a song praying for rain (xo nặm phồn). After that the crowd goes to water streams (bó nặm) at village gate to play the watering game with hope that when they imitate such “raining” activities, the heaven will understand and give them rain.

Besides the listed above religious custom, there are many other custom and rituals in society of Thai such as those of magic, spirit belief, love magic, etc… Nowadays, under the light of Central Party on construction of new cultural life, those religious ceremonies are now no more getting well with modern life. Many of them are shadow and disappearing such as belief on spirit, worship for curing illness. Anyway the culture on worship of Thai is still priceless properties. When we appreciate and exploit reasonably positive values and minimize negative values of Thai traditional belief. Such will be force to exploit internal strength of Thai culture in construction of a modern culture characterizing with various ethnicities of Vietnam. It is also a barrier for other religious to intrude in the spirit lives of Thai.

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor of Thai (who established the village). Every year villagers organize worship twice at the temple.

The village worship is performed in September and December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess is prohibited. They offer pig in worship, or a cow in a good harvest year.

There is also temple worshiping gods established and helped Thai to set up their living. Worship is done by inviting water god, forest god, etc… When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering river god (to bring ghost home), things to offer must include chicken. The river god worship must throw offered things to the river.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays Xop Tu villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

4.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has its temple to worship ancestor (who established the village) of Thai. When an individual in a village die, worship must be done offering the river god.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

The village worship is performed in September and December every year, representative of family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited. The worship requires pig, or cow in a good harvest year.
Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident; this area will not be affected, submerged by hydropower project because this is downstream of the planned HPP. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

This is downstream of the planned HPP, there is no impact.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

This is downstream of the planned HPP, there is no impact.

5 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Xop Tu village with 16 participants. The ethnicities of the participants are H’Mong, Thai and Kho Mu. Most of them are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

FGD participants have just heard about the planned HPP which will be constructed at the commune and in vicinity of the village. They did not know anything else. Information about the planned HPP is mainly oral. Villagers wish to attend more meeting and to be supplied with more detail information about the planned HPP such as when it will be done, whether the village is affected? Which properties are affected? How is the compensation? Is there any new land allocated? Whether they are trained or created conditions for new job? Where is the resettlement site? Which works will be constructed for them? They expect information shall be in writing so they can read for easier remembering.

5.2. Forest use

The FGD participants said that number of villagers go to forest are many and they go regularly. But purposes by men and women are different from each other:

- Women go to forest daily to collect firewood, wild vegetable, mushroom, bamboo shoot, spicy herb, herbs, to take care of upland field, to harvest crops.

- Men go to the forest to log timber for building house, for hunting, to protect upland field, to collect herbs, firewood.

It takes 5-10 minutes from the village to the forest. The furthest distance is 15km. The village has protection forest and production forest.

- Production forest is planned in separated area by the way of production organization. There are 6 production teams in the village, which cultivate in different area. Demarcation is done using natural features such as stream, big tree, etc... On average each household cultivates 3ha, everyone in the village cultivates under general rule of the village.
- Protection forest is allocated to villagers to protect, no timber exploitation will be allowed in such protection forest area, only firewood and herbs collection will be allowed from there. Annually the village is paid by the Government an amount of money for protecting forest. Protecting the forest include detecting and prevent illegal logging, fire prevention. Forest petrol is done by different group of households who stay close to each other or by family to make it easier in supporting when they go in to the forest. In case of fire in large scale in the forest, the whole village will be mobilized for firefighting. Bushes cutting for fire prevention in the protection forest are done regularly. Each year, each household is paid 1 million VND for forest protection.

Products collected from forest by comments by participants are diversity. Villagers hunt and collect products such as rat, squirrel, mushroom, bamboo shoot, various types of herbs, wood ear, etc...

- Timber log is for house building, making barn, making fence protecting upland field.
- Herbs are used for curing. They put in wine or boil to take water for drinking, eating fresh... Herbs are collected Year-round.
- Bamboo shoot, wild vegetable can be used freshly, boil, cook, dry or for sale when they collect many. But abundant more in rainy season.
- Mushroom, wood ear can be used freshly or dried for latter using, for sale in and outside village. These products can be collected Year-round.

Sacred forest is 0.3 ha large where no one is allowed to exploit timber, cutting branch, hunting but livestock breeding is allowed there.

The village has temple of its own where worshiping ancestor of Thai. Annually the village organizes two worships, one in September and the other is in December at the temple.

Forest area managed by the village has not pasture land but livestock is grazing in ghost forest and on upland fields after harvesting and during fallow interval.

5.3. Hunting

Animal in forest which is normally hunted is rat. Other species such as boar, deer are now no more existing. Hunted animal is used for eating, only for sale if they hunt lot.

Wild animal is used as daily food. Hunting is done regularly and hunted animal is a source of food.

Hunting tools include crossbow, trap. Gun is no more allowed to keep and using in any purposes.
List of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stemona tuberosa</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber for house building</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>500-35 M. VND/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/rat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-50.000/squirrel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung & Ms. Le Thi Thoa

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11th January 2017 with 9 participants, 6 of them were men and 3 were women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai. Among them there are 2 illiterate, 1 finished grade 5, 1 finished grade 6, 2 finished grade 9 and 1 finished grade 10.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1 Awareness about the planned HPP

The FGD participants said that they heard about the planned project (as humor) about 4 years ago, but sometime say will do, sometime say will not do.

The village party secretary, a participant, heard about the planned project from some meetings held at the commune and from some district officers, but because there has been no official direction so no meeting has been organized to inform to the villagers.

The village leadership needs official and more detail information about project as well as it impacts so as to tell to villagers.

6.2 Boat use

There are some of 64 motorboats, 10 rowing boats in the village and some of 70 households have not boat.
However, those having no boat can borrow or hire from other for travelling for fishing.

Though the village is located near main road but boat is still main means of transport and is the important means of transport especially in exchanging and communicating with other villages near by the river.

6.3. Fishing

100% households in the village go fishing. Those having not boat are normally share with those having boat.

60% households in the village go fishing for sale.

10-15% households usually act as fish traders..

15 households go fishing Year-round as main occupation to earn the family income. They make float hut on the river and live mainly on the river.

In this area men go fishing. They use net to fish, women go together with them to help classifying fish for sale or for family eating.

6.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

In the last 3 months, unknown source wastes follow the river to the river section at the village vicinity causing great impact to fishing activities and living habitat of villagers.

In this area, they go fishing Year-round, but June, July when water is turbid, there are more fish.

There are many fish species such as goby, hemibagrus guttatus, anguilla marmorata, etc...

Villagers do not plant on the river bank and collect no type of wild vegetable from there.

3.6.2.8 Hoa Ly Village – 11 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date 1/11/17

Village Hoa Ly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture and Livestock Breeding</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mac Van Thanh</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pui Van Hoa</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vi Thi Thien</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Vi Thi Duyet</td>
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<td>52</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
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<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Use of Forest</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mai Van Thanh</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Lo Thi Thao</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Thai</td>
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</table>
Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1. **Village Summary Report**

Hoa Ly Village is 5km far from the My Ly communal center, along the end part of Ban Ve Hydropower Reservoir. Houses is allocated in the both side of the main road with 50 households near the Ban Ve reservoir area and 100 households is in the opposite. The Village has sloping topography and the layout for houses is narrow.

The access road was made of concrete. Villagers can go to the commune by road and waterways conveniently. There is no market in the village so people have to go to the market in the commune center which is 5km away. The distance from the village to Muong Xen District is 52km.

The Village has national power grid, water tanks, primary school and cultural house.
50% of households have toilets. In general, the residential area is quite narrow but the Village is quite clean and spacious.

1.2. Population

There are 158 households with 702 persons. The village has 12 Khomu households while the rest are Thai.

The number of men accounts for 51% of the total population and 45% of villagers are in working age.

The village has 117 poor households accounting for 74% of total households. There are 26 near-poor households. The reasons of poverty are as follows: (i) the production land has been reduced as the impacts of Ban Ve reservoir; (ii) protection forest is increasing so people do not have production land.

Women from other places got married into the villagers from such as the communes in Tuong Duong, Ky Son. They are also Thai and Khomu people. Women and their husband know each other by introduction or meeting when working in provinces in the South or the North. They move back to the village when they have children.

There are 3 female-head households (Vi Thi Xoa, Luong Thi Duyen and Moong Thi Xen) as their husband died, in which a woman has children in school age.

There are 2 single mother, One of them is Moong Thi Hue who has a child finished in grade 1, she left her husband as he is disabled and drug addict. Another is Moong Thi Tuyet (about 40 years old) has 5 year-old child without husband. When Tuyet was pregnant, she was fined 500,000 VND by the village for having children without husband, however the other women treat her normally.

1.3. Village History and Migration

The village was formed in the early 50s or 60s. The village has stayed here from the start. In 2003, the Ban Ve HPP completed, the Village had not been affected by land acquisition and resettlement, but the village is located in the end part of the reservoir so it is affected by water storage and discharge of the dam.

Many women from other places got married into the Village. Some women in the Village got married into the other provinces, even men got married to Kinh women but not living in the Village.

There are 30 people working outside the village: Laos and some provinces in the South, in which, about 18-19 people are men, the rest are women. Five people (women) are worked as seasonal labour while the others go home once time per year.

03 women go to worked and married in China, in the group of age from 18 to 30 years old.

No Thai women got married to men from different ethnic then stayed at the village. 02 women got married to Laos men and stayed in Laos.

There are 10 households open small grocery store.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

Production land

The Village does not have paddy field, only have 210 ha of upland fields, villagers are free to cultivate in this area. This production area is regulated by competent authorities of commune and district. Each household cultivate 5kg of rice seeds/season on average. However, work volume is dependent on each year. Each household has 1-2ha of upland field.
The upland fields are cultivated from 1-2 years then people fallow for 3-4 years. People grow local rice seeds and the cultivation method as tradition which is totally dependent on the rain, although the fields are near the stream where people take water for daily activities.

Total upland field area is scoping topography, it makes difficulty in cultivation without machinery.

All upland fields have no land use right certificate. However there are no dispute on land as people know exactly which field belongs to which household and the duration of fallow.

Newly households will use the land of the household, means that parents must allocate land to the children because the land for reclamations is virtually run off.

The Village has protected forest but the area is small. No one is allowed to reclamation more land or timber exploitation in this forest. The forest is assigned for households in the Village for management.

Some households in the village are allocated a zone of forest land for livestock breeding and planting of oak trees for house construction. However, there are oak trees in every households, they grow around the house or garden.

The land along the river of the households is also reclaimed land without a certificate. At present, there are about 100 households with land along the river for maize cultivation. Previously, every households had land along the river, however, when there was Ban Ve hydropower in the village, this area was no longer alluvial as before, so some people do not plant maize, only fruits such as banana, pineapple and jack fruit...

Residential land has land use right certificate. Each household has an average area of 250m².

The Village Management Board has the right to divide the area of protection forest land for households to manage and protect, but this division is also based on community consensus;

The village elder, village head and village management board have no right to allocate residential land or productive land.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture and production systems:

Crops:

The main and annual crops of households: rice and maize are main food of villagers. Upland rice is grown 1 crop/year, the upland fields will be left fallow within 3-5 years after harvesting.

People grow enough rice to eat, they also sell but the quantity is little, only when they have a bumper crop. They can harvest 1-1.5 tons for each ha of rice, unhusked rice is sold at the price of 8,000 VND per kg while rice is 15,000-17,000/kg.

In addition to growing upland rice, people also grow maize, cassava ad sweet potato. The Village has 25 ha of hybrid maize and 25ha of cassava.

People grow hybrid maize in the most of maize area with high productivity with 5-6 tons/ha. When the harvest season comes (August – September), the traders come to the Village to purchase maize with the price of 2,500-4,000VND/kg. People sell about 90% of maize products, the rest are for livestock breeding.

Cassava is planted in steep area on upland fields or along the river. Households with less members and land area plant 300-400 roots, while some with many members (7-8 persons/household) plant about 1000 roots – 1ha or 2000 roots – 2 ha. The cassava products are mainly used for livestock breeding and making alcohol.
Thai plant oak tree to sell or build house. The area cannot be count but it does not have to cut down the big trees to sell so the forest area always has trees. The price of oak trees is 1.6 million VND/m3.

For land surrounding house, people plant fruit trees such as mango, jack fruit...to eat. Some households sell the products for traders or people in the Village if needed with the price of 10,000-15,000VND/kg. People can earn 5 million VND per year for each mango trees. Each household has about 6-7 mango trees, some has 20-30 mango trees. Previously, when there was no Ban Ve HPP, land along the river had a lot of fruit trees. There are about 50% of households planting mango and banana to sell.

The main livestock are pigs and chicken. However, according to participants of group discussion, a lot of livestock were died from diseases because of water pollution caused by Ban Ve HPP. Therefore, incomes from livestock breeding of households have been decreased.

People said that there are times a dozen of pigs died, both pigs and piglets. Each household has about 3 sows and dozens of piglets. They breed livestock by free ranger method, however, some households build pig pens to prevent and isolate pigs from the diseases. But they still use river water so a lot of pigs died. For households build pig pens, they mainly use stream water. The price of local pig is 70,000-90,000 VND/kg. The Village has about 672 pigs.

Each households has about 50-60 chickens so the Village has 1000 chickens in total. The price is from 120,000-140,000 VND/kg depending on the size. There are two chicken breeds in the Village: local breeds and super breeds which lay a lot of eggs.

The chicken breeding method has been changed depending on each breeds. Super breeds are bred in the chicken coops while local breeds are free ranger.

Bufalo: the Village has 127-128 buffalos with some have 5 in minimum and some has 20 in maximum, average of 6-8 buffalos/household. Buffaloes are sold to people from the lowland. The big one is sold for 30 million /buffalo, cow is from 15 to 20 million/cow.

The Village has about 37 goats, it can be sold at 130,000 VND / kg, cheaper than chicken.

**Use of river resource**

People used to do cage fish farming but now as the water is polluted and unstable so they do not do that anymore.

The Village has a lot of boats, each household has a boat with total of 157 boats. The main means of transportation is boats so each household has a boat. They consider boat as motorbike. No one share a boat, they only borrow from each other. All are motorboats with the price of 30 million VND/boat. In addition to motorboats, there are many normal boats, some households have 2 types of boats, the Village has about 20 normal boats.

Boats are used for travel, good transportation, fishing, carrying maize and rice. People who cultivate in the upland fields also use boats to carry rice, maize, goods. The Village is located in the end part of Ban Ve reservoir so people earn main income from fishing. The Village has 30 fishery households, they do not cultivate in the upland fields. However, they have a high income with selling fish for 200-300,000VND everyday. Including non-fishery households, the whole village go to fishing. The fishery households can catch 10kg of fish per day.

The Village has a lot of fish in Lat Stream, Ha Lang Stream, Tuoc Stream and Ke Stream. Women usually go to fishing in the streams. Men go fishing in the River or HPP reservoir by boats.

People grow 25ha of maize along the river. When the water level is low (after Tet holiday), they grow maize then harvest in July (time of high water level, from July to December). The highest water level is 3-4 metres, even house of the village head flooded.
Use of forest resource

The village is allocated 733 ha of protection forest, the village manages, takes care, and does not exploit. People get paid for care and protection services annually. The amount depends on the year. In 2016, the village received 80 million VND then the amount was distributed to each household, 1 hectare has unit price of 206 thousand dong;

People go to the forest to find the products almost year round, unless the busy harvest season, because when entering the forest they will have food sources from wild vegetables as well as fresh food. However, each seasons has a featured vegetable, tree kind. Specifically, in the rainy season, from March to June there are more wide vegetables, bamboo shoots and mushrooms. Birds and animals are available all year round.

The main purpose of the products obtained from the forest to mainly serve the family, only the days get a lot of bamboo shoots or mushrooms they would sell. Herbs are available around the year so people collect when they find any or under the order of the buyer.

There are many types of vegetables but the villagers do not know the name, just collect which is edible. They also collect the herbs, just know that can cure the diseases (stomachache, bone pain, abdominal pain) but do not know the name of the plant. For most popular herbs, most people know but special plants are few and most known by elders or men. However no one can know all of them. Most of the households in the village use herbs to treat the disease, but only some people (about 10 households) regularly collect for selling.

Timber has the most important role among forest products as the timber is used for building house, making boats, firewood for cooking. Getting timber for building house in protection forest has to be permitted by the village head, commune authority. They also get firewood from the protection forest. For herbs, Stemona tuberosa Lour and mushrooms is abundant and can be sold. The price is 30000-40000 VND/kg. Mushrooms has many types so there are different prices.

There is no pastureland for livestock breeding so they let the cattle in the forest, when the harvest season ends, they let the cattle in the upland fields. When the livestock get sick, they call veterinarian for treatment, if it is not severe, they buy the medicine.

Hunting

In the forest there are many kinds of animals such as: birds, mouse, snakes, squirrels, wild boars, wild chickens ... People hunt almost all year round, but usually in the dry season, around October to March under lunar calendar. They will sell if they can hunt a big one but they have not hunted muntjac for a long time.

Hunting tools are mostly handcrafted like traps, crossbows, nets. The current main tool is traps for birds, wild chickens and even handmade like digging to catch (mouse, porcupine ...).

Among the animals, mouse, birds are the most numerous and the main source of food in the village.

The price of mice is from 20,000 to 30,000/mice depending on the size; Squirrel is sold at 50.000 VND / big one, and is 30,000/ normal one; Wean is 150,000 / kg, wild chicken is 150,000 / kg; hedgehog is 250,000 /kg

Both men and women go to the forest, but men go for hunting wild animals to eat and sell, finding herbs, getting timber; women go with her husband to seek for herbs or wild vegetables.

The main purpose of hunting is to get food, if many can be sold. Some households process animals by drying to use for rainy days, crops or busy when they cannot go to the forest.
### Table of forest products and use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collecting products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if possible)</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Price/Kg or /product (if possible)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timber, plants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1 month/time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stemonatuberosa Lour</td>
<td>When there is order</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>30,000đ/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>When sick or have order</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo roots</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Mùa mura</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Less sale</td>
<td>10,000/pack</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>1 week 2 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wean</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>150,000đ/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>30,000-50,000/item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yes (not much)</td>
<td>150,000đ/kg</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedgehog</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>250,000/1 kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20,000-30,000/item</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>1 week 1 time</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>50,000-60,000/item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other livelihoods**

Most of women has brocade weaving skills, all households have a loom. Each skirt of Thai can be sold at the price of 500,000 VND; it takes them 2-3 days to finish one skirt. They can weave skirt with price of 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 VND when have order or they weave when they want something to wear.

To help women with conditions to improve living standard of the family, WU have established a group for loan through unsecured credit of WU with 3 million/time. The loan can up to 30 million with interest rate of 0.65% / year for 3 years. Through this loan, households have money to by breeds, send children to school.

1.6. **Education**

People in the village communicate mainly in Thai, Kinh language. About 20% of women in the village are fluent in speaking Vietnamese(at different ages), and 50% of women that can write in Vietnamese are young people in school.

At present, there are 5 children who are studying at the high school in Muong Xen, no female college students.
Women in the village usually finish fifth grade because the secondary school is in the communal and their family cannot afford the tuition fees.

84 students are attending primary school in the Village (each student must contribute about 700,000 VND to 900,000 VND/year).

32 children are in kindergarten, each parent must pay 250,000 VND/month for food and 300,000 - 400,000/semester for toys.

Students have to go day-boarding secondary school in the commune, each parent must pay 900,000 VND/semester. Only households that are certified as poor households are exempted from tuition fees in accordance with state regulations.

The number of drop-outs in 2016 has not decreased, according to villagers that about 20-25 students drop out of school (all levels 1, 2, 3) every year. The number of boy drops out from the school is higher than girl, accounts for 90% of total students drop out the school.

1.7. Health and Health Care

In 2006, the State built 5 tanks for the Village under the clean water program of Program 135. However, the damaged pipeline was not repaired, so now 4 tanks have run dry, only one tank in the middle of the Village still has water for surrounded households. The nearest stream is 1km far from the Village. Up to now, one third of the households buy tank and pipeline by themselves to take water from the main tank to their houses, the rest go to their house to ask for water.

Women often bath their children in the yard, they warm the water for bathing in the winter, and the households in the village have no bath houses. Previously, the river was not blocked by the hydropower, the children still came to the river for bathing but now they cannot.

Common diseases in the village are: Most of them get cough, fever, diarrhea by eating habit. When the climate changes, children have nosebleeds (there are about 5 or 6 children affected by this phenomenon) but it is not known what the actual cause was.

Women often suffer from gynecological diseases, infections, cysts, and fibroma when they go to the communal clinic for health examination. Every year, the province and district go to the communal clinic to examine gynecology for women in the village but not all of them go, only those who are not well go for health examination, each time about 5 - 7 people, the rest have no means to go. When they cannot bear the diseases, they go to the commune or district hospital for examination and treatment.

There are no pharmacies in the village, no traditional healers, no one know how to make herbs so when people are sick, they buy drugs by themselves or go to the commune clinic.

In the village there are 6 malnourished children, underweight but do not know what nutrient is lacking, and parents have to go to the doctor but only know that their children are malnourished. Children also eat as adults when they start eating porridge and rice. As a baby, only breastfeeding, very few children drink milk like people living in the district or city.

Children are routinely vaccinated, mothers often take their children to commune clinic for vaccination as noticed schedule.

In the past, most of the women give birth at communal clinic, but now about 30% of pregnant women go to the commune clinic for delivery, the rest gives birth at home.
The Village has a health worker is male, no midwife, the communal health staff are also trained but no medicine or injection to help people in the village. They mainly carry out advocacy activities for health programs launched by the commune.

The Women's Union and the health worker disseminate HIV/AIDS information to villagers or hold women meeting on HIV/AIDS and drug addiction. There are about 15 addicts in the village and no one has HIV.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

The Village will not be affected by the land acquisition, therefore the group discussion was not mention on ceremonies related to moving the Village, the Temple and the cemetery.

Although the river has important role in economic and transportation of the Village, through group discussion, villagers do not have any beliefs related to the River. It is possible that the fishing activity was formed after Ban Ve HPP came into operation.

1.9. Gender Issues

Women of the village are quite active in their work as well as communication. They are quite confident in contact with the consultant team, possibly due to the relatively open location of the village (the Village is adjacent to Tuong Duong district and on the way to Quy Hop district).

Women here are well aware of the project's impact on their community. They said that if My LY HPP is implemented, their community will not be able to continue the trade and transportation of goods for upstream villages. Moreover, they are also concerned that the source of the fish will be reduced when there are bred fish and wild fish from upstream to the lake.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

Mass organizations are the Women's Union, the Farmers' Association, the Veterans Association, the Elderly Association, the Youth Union, the Party Cell and the Fatherland Front. The leaders of these associations are elected by the villagers in principle, however these positions are receiving strong suggestion from the authority. In these mass organizations, Women's Union is assessed to be the most active and most effective in support the members as the organization holds cultural and sports events for women as well as helps members can take loan for production improvement.

In addition, in the village there is a self-managed groups with members are middle-aged men. Their task is to ensure village security and forest protection.

The management board of the village is including village chiefs, representatives from the mass organizations and they are in charge of the production of the villagers.

The development programs of the Village

In recent years, the village has had socio-economic development programs.

Access to credit from policy banks: 100% of households with loans from 15 million to 30 million for production development with the duration of 3 years at an interest rate of 0.69% per year.

National Target Program on the New Rural Development has provided loans for 25 households with interest rate of 0.65%.
Program 135 and 134 has supported the construction of concrete roads and water supply system for the village. According to assessment of villagers, these programs are very effective.

Program 30A: provide 67 cows but only one of the third is alive.

Provision of maize seeds: 100% of households;

Oil and salt support program for mountainous households;

Provision program on health insurance for poor households;

For poor households, every year they receive (i) money for Tet holiday: VND 100,000/household; (ii) Rice allowance of 15kg/person/6 months; (iii) loans of 5 million VND/household (6 households) without interests.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

People have heard about the HPP. They used to know the information on HPP by others in the village mentioned. They also saw a survey team came to the Village but do not ensure the HPP implemention.

They heard about the official information on the project last year (2015), just by mouth-to-mouth while official document from the commune, the district and the Project are not available. Meetings on information dissemination have not been conducted officially.

The Project will affect people lives. The Village were affected by Ban Ve HPP Project, now they continue being affected by My Ly HPP Project. Villagers will be lost production land and main income from fisheries so their lives will be more difficult.

However, most of villagers want the Project be commenced as they want a stable power source for daily activities to improving spiritual life.

People want the Project provide detailed information such as the time of commencing, impact degree, how affected and compensation, support price.

Moreover, whether the environment will be affected or not, the environment is guaranteed to live, the cultivation is guaranteed and enough land for villagers to cultivate or not.

1.12. Additional Issues

The Hoa Ly villagers live along the banks of the Nam Non River, the lower area is in the reservoir area of the Ban Ve hydropower reservoir, the villagers are significantly affected by the discharge of hydropower. When the water level is high, the garden and barn are flooded, people cannot go on some parts of the road. When flooded, trees and dead animals from the upstream make environmental pollution and traffic jam on river surface and cattle, poultry and other livestocks have been diseased because of water pollution. It has no benefits from aquaculture because of water pollution and Ban Ve dam discharge, however, compared with many villages living in the upstream of the Nam Non River, Hoa Ly Village has advantages in fishing as living in the deep water area has big fish. Fishs not only appear in the meals of households everday but aslo become main livelihood source for a proportion of the villagers (about 30% earn main income from fishing). Moreover, the Nam Non River is also the main road of the villagers, the means of transportation in the village are mainly boats. People also lose a source of firewoods in rainy season (because the wood drifts from upstream).
Although the river has important role in economic and transportation of the Village, through group discussion, villagers do not have any beliefs related to the River.
General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11/1/2017 in Hoa Ly village with 8 participants, 4 men, 4 women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai, age varies between 20 and 52.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They have heard about the planned HPP, but it is rumor only, nothing yet. First they saw a survey team who said they are about to do hydropower project. No official information at all. They knew about the planned HPP last year. There has been no official information from village or commune at all.

2.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

There are two ethnicities in the village, which are Thai and Kho Mu. The village has 157 households (8 among them are Kho Mu, the rest are Thai), with 704 individuals.

2.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Doing upland cultivation, no paddy land. They do free cultivation within allocated land area of the whole village. Each individual on average plant 5 kg of seed, but it varies. Some do more, some do less. Some household has 10 individual, but some has 5-6 individual. On average, each household has 1-2 ha of land to cultivate rice.

The village has 702 individual of Thai ethnicity. Each ha of rice yields 1-1.5 ton. Upland rice is cultivated in one crop, sometime no crop depending on the soil quality. They cultivate one crop a year, leaving fallow in 3-5 years before reassuming. Villagers harvest enough rice to eat, very few selling. They sell only in good harvest year, 1 kg of rice costs 8 thousand VND, 1 kg of husked rice costs 15-17 thousand VND. There is only one crop a year, no soon or no late crop. Besides rice, they cultivate also maize, sweet potato, cassava. The village has 25 ha of hybrid maize, 210 ha of rice, some of 25ha cassava. They do not plant herbs.

They plant bead tree in the forest to use in building house. Every household plants bead tree, uncountable. They cut big size bead tree. It costs 1.6 million VND per m3. Besides bead tree, they plant fruit tree to eat. But they sell too, some household sells lot. It costs 10-15 thousand VND per kg. Some household earns 5 million VND per year from selling fruit. Every household in village has mango tree, some has 6-7 mango trees, some 20-30 mango trees. Before Ban Ve HPP, there was a lot, but after Ban Ve, there is very few. Ban Ve reservoir kills all. Some of 50% households now plant mango. They have banana too, every household. And they sell too.

Livestock: they raise pig, but is affected by Ban Ve reservoir. There was no disease before the hydropower, after that, there were many which kill lots, tens of pigs, mother pig, children pig, died all. Chicken was killed the most. Each household lost tens of chicken.

They raise cattle too. The village has 672 pigs, 127-128 buffalo. Some has 5 buffalo, some has up to 20 buffalo. On average, each household has 6-7 cattle. Cattle is sold to trader, big buffalo costs 30 million VND, cow costs 15-20 million VND.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of village have no role in land allocation to new household.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river
Thai still remain house ghost worship custom (worship one generation). Before, there was village worship, village group worship. House ghost worship is organized in Tet. Customs such as calling back spirit, tying birth by wire (hằng văn), eating new rice are still maintain; magicians still worship soil god, river god, mountain god but no more popular. Xăng khan ceremony is only performed in some places.

Spirit lives of Thai are abundant and plenty. Their songs include nhuôn, xuôi which are popular, famous is xuôi Liềp năm (down to the river), xuôi báo xao (young men and young women love song); xuôi hùm hươu mỏ (in new house ceremony), xuôi hập đoong (song in wedding party). There are also dances, such as “lắm vông” (Laos type), “phận công coong” drum dancing and bamboo stick dancing “múa sắc” which are famous and well known. Famous music tools comprise of flute (pi), two string guitar (xi xo), lip whistle (hững mư), and khen pe flutes. They have khua lòng (quánh lòng) music which is performed using pestle to create different sound making a great and unique performance.

The village has temple to worship those helping Thai to set up. Worship is combined with offering water god, forest god…

Sacred forest is 0.5 ha large where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values
There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays Thai stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

2.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

Each village has a temple worshiping ancestor who helps Thai to establish the village and other gods.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard of the village is about 1km far, according to local resident; this area will be affected, submerged by hydropower project. Thai do not relocate graves, if graveyard is submerged they will offer a worship at Pho Hanh temple, a wizard will offer a ceremony to report gods and ask gods to inform the god who manage ghost forest, then they will prepare things for worship at ghost forest and invite gods, spirits in the forest to move to other place decided by the villagers. That area shall become new ghost forest.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

There are cultural works in the village which must be relocated such as temple, cultural house, school, but by custom, when a whole village is relocated, wizard will offer a worship at temples (as described above) to inform the relocation to new place. Each household, each family will offer their own worship to invite their ancestor to go with them.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition.
3 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Hoa Ly village with 8 participants, 4 men and 4 women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They have heard about the planned HPP. Information about My Ly HPP is rumor only, oral speaking between villagers only. There was survey team came but whether the project is implemented is unclear to them.

They heard oral official information about the project last year (2015), but oral only, not official writing document from commune, district or project. There has been no official meeting on the project.

Hydropower project will surely cause impact to villagers. Before, the village has been affected by Ban Ve HPP, now will be from the planned HPP. Cultivation land will be affected. Main income from fishing so livelihood of villagers will head with difficulties for sure.

However, most of villagers expect a soon implementation because they expect to have stable power source which is hopefully will raise up their spirit lives.

The villagers expect that project information shall be clear. Every information such as when it will be implemented, extent of impact, how it will impact and how is the compensation shall be all clear.

Besides, they wish to know whether the project will cause environmental impacts, whether the environment will ensure their living, whether land is enough for them to cultivate.

3.2. Forest use

Production land, cultivation land has no land use right certificate. There is no allocation specifically to each household. They can do up to their ability. Production forest area allocated to each household varies between 1 and 1.5 ha. Normally they do the cultivation in one year then leave fallow for few years before reassuming. However because there is no allocation so may be this year this household cultivate in this land plot but next year that land plot is cultivated by others. Most of household involves in production forest but there is specific case in which household do not do due to health condition or they do other works.

Besides production forest, the village is allocated with 733 ha of protection forest for them to manage, take care but no exploitation is allowed. Annually the village is paid for their caring service on such forest area. Amount of money gain will depend. In 2016, the whole village gained 80 million VND, this amount was divided evenly to each household, one ha is paid 206 thousand VND.

Production forest is surrounding the village. It takes 300-500m from the village to production area.

Products from forest include wild vegetable, herbs, re-used wood and animal hunting.

Villagers go to forest to collect things almost Year-round, except when they are busy for harvesting. Forest gives them wild vegetable and fresh food. Each season gives them a predominant vegetable. In rainy season, which lasts from March to June, there are lots of wild vegetable, bamboo shoot and mushroom. Wild animal is available Year-round.

Things collected from forest are for family needs. They sell only when they collect lots. Herbs are available Year-round. They collect whenever they see or under order by trader.

Wild vegetable is abundant but they do not know name. They collect whatever eatable. As same as to herbs, they only know which herb is for which kind of illness (stomach ache, bone pain), but not name of the herb. Common herbs are known by everyone, but special herb is
known by few men or elders. But not an individual know all type of special herbs. When there is a member ill, he/she ask other to find herb and pay by chicken or in cash for worship to a certain kind of herb.

Almost household in the village uses herbs for curing but there are some households (about 10) collecting regularly herb to sell.

Among products from forest, timber is the most important one. They use timber to build house, to make boat, used as firewood. Timber for house building normally is collected from protection forest. In such a case they need permission from village head and commune. Firewood is also taken from protection forest. The most available herb collected from forest is thysanolaena latifolia and mushroom which can be sold with price of 30,000 to 40,000 VND/kg. There are many types of mushroom whose price is different.

There is no grassing land area for grazing, livestock is raised in pasture land area, or in upland field after harvesting. When livestock is seriously ill, they ask for help from veterinary otherwise they cure themselves.

3.3. Hunting

There are many animal in the forest such as rat, squirrel, boar, wild chicken, etc. Villagers go hunting Year-round, but they hunt lot in dry season, lasting from October to March of lunar year. They sell when they hunt large size animal, but it has been a long time since the last hunted deer.

Hunting tools are crossbow, trap, net. They use traps to hunt bird, wild chicken. They hunt also by digging (rat, bamboo rat).

Among animal, the abundant species are rat, bird which is predominant and is main food source of villagers.

Rat costs 20,000-30,000 VND per a rat depending on size. Large size squirrel costs 50,000 VND/squirrel, medium size cost 30,000 VND per one; weasel cost 150,000 VND/kg, wild chicken 150,000 VND per kg, porcupine 250,000/ 1kg.

Both men and women go to forest, but men are more frequently, for hunting. Men go to forest to hunt. They sell hunted animal when they hunt lot. Men go to forest to collect timber too. Women go with their husband to collect herbs and wild vegetable.

Hunting is mainly for family food, but they also sell when they hunt lot. Households process things by drying for using in rainy days or for busy harvesting time when they cannot go to the forest.

### List of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance 1 = very important 2 = second important 3 = least important</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timber, vegetation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>once a month</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>No (not allow to sell)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stemona tuberosa</td>
<td>At order</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30,000VND/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>When illness or at order</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Few selling 10,000/bundle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetable</td>
<td>twice a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Quantity (if available, please note)</td>
<td>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=least important</td>
<td>For sale Y/N</td>
<td>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weasel</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>150,000đ/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>30,000-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y (but very few)</td>
<td></td>
<td>150,000đ/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>250,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,000-30,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
<td>50,000-60,000/item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11th January 2017 with 8 participants, 4 of them were men and 4 were women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai. Among them there are none illiterate, 1 finished grade 2, 1 finished grade 3, 1 finished grade 4 and 1 finished grade 6, 2 finished grade 7 and 2 finished grade 9.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They have heard about the planned HPP, first a team came for survey who told them that they are about to do hydropower project, but rumor only, not officially from village or commune.

Villagers wish to know in details and officially from officers, authorities by means of meeting with them, rumor does nothing helpful.

Hydropower project will cause lots of impact to them so they expect concrete information, such as which is affected, who is affected, how it effect to them. All of such information shall be clear to them. Who will lose land, who has to relocate, all of these information must be clear. If the project causes impact to villagers’ economic life, they shall be compensated. How compensation will be done shall be made public, not unclear. There shall be plan so as villagers can prepare themselves. There must be agreement with villagers.

4.2. Boat use

The village has lot of boat. There are 157 households in the village, each has one boat. Because boat is means of transport to villagers. No one share boat. They can borrow from each other, they do not share boat. Boat in the village is motorboat. Each boat costs almost 30 million VND. There are also rowing boats. Some households have motor boat and rowing boat too. There are some of 20 non-motor boats in the village.

Boat is use to travel and transport goods. Boat is the most important means of transport in travelling and transporting goods. Besides, boat is used in fishing, transporting rice, corn.

Villagers use boat to get to their upland field. They use boat to transport rice, corn, goods.
4.3. Fishing
There is no fish pond in the village, before they did fish cage farming on the river, but now water in the reservoir is polluted and unstable so they have stopped.

The village is located near Ban Ve hydropower reservoir so villagers live depending on fishing from the river. There are up to 30 households who specialize in fishing, no cultivating at all. Sometime they can fish up to 10 kg of fish in one day. Income of such household is high, earning 200-300 thousand a day. But the whole village goes fishing. They eat fish every day.

Men go fishing by boat and using net. Women go fishing using basket in ravine. There are many small streams such as Lat, Ha Lang, Tuoc, Ke... Small fishes are caught from smaller streams, ravines. Fishing in the river requires using net.

There are many types of fish from the river: cyprinid, anabas, Hemibagrus guttatus, crucian carp, anguilla marmorata, shrimp... Of which Anguilla marmorata is the most costly. Crucian carp í many from the river. The biggest fish caught is Hemibagrus guttatus, 20-23kg, one kg costs 400-500 thousand VND but rarely caught.

Angulla marmorata is expensive, but normally villagers catch lots of cyprinid, crucian carp.

Hemibagrus guttatusis big, of some 20-50 kg, costs 500 thousand VND per kg.

Hoa Ly villagers go fishing Year-round, in their free time, regardless to season. But nowadays number of household go fishing is less. Main work is upland cultivation, livestock breeding. Fish cage farming is no more developed due to severe pollution as an impact of Ban Ve HPP reservoir. Disease come more regular, not only to fish but also to livestock. Productive season is unknown to villagers, they cannot tell.

Villagers go fishing using net, rod. Water in this location is deep so basket fishing is not efficient.

Along the river they plant 25 hectare of corn. They plant corn there in low water level season, at the time of harvest, from July to December, is also high water level period.

The highest water level must be 3-4 m, up to the roof of village head’s house.

Women go fishing from small stream, ravine. There are many small streams such as Lat, Ha Lang, Tuoc, Ke. Small fishes are caught from small streams, from ravine. Fishing on the river is done using net.

When they catch lot fish, they salt, dry fish for using latter. They sell fish when fresh.

4.4. Other information and reflections
Hoa Ly is a village locating along Nam Non river bank. Downstream is Ban Ve reservoir area. The villagers are affected clearly from operation of the hydropower. When water is high, it causes submergence to garden, barn. Some section of the intra-village road is also submerged. During high water duration, tree, animal from upstream together with the water cause pollution and traffic jam on the river. Cattle and poultry raised by villagers are affected by diseases which are results of pollution water resources.

Though the villagers are affected by fish cage farming on the river due to polluted water and usually affected by operation of Ban Ve HPP, but comparing to many other villages living in upstream of Nam Non river, villagers in Hoa Ly village has advantage in exploiting fishes thanks to a close location to deep water area, where many big fishes are available. Fish is not only daily meal but has become a livelihood to a number of villagers (up to 30% of villagers live depending on fishing).

Not only that, Nam Non is a main navigation too. Means of transport in the village is boat.

However, discussion of Hoa Ly villager showed no ritual or custom fixing with the river or jobs on the river.
5 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11/01/2017 with 08 participants, of which 4 were men and 4 were women. All of participants are Thai and Kho Mu ethnicities.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers have heard about the planned project but only oral speaking between them, then there were some investigation teams came to the commune and they said that they were there to investigate a HPP but they did not confirm that the HPP will be done or not. The investigation team came last year but since then no official information about the project. There was rumor about a project in this area.

Villagers expect to know official information and detail of the planned HPP so they will know about the project impacts to their living.

Questions from villagers: when the project is constructed, whether water will submerge the village, what is the extent of water level, how far the water will go, what is policy to affected people, whether they are relocated, which form of settlement will be applied, whether they are constructed with houses or they have to build house themselves, living condition will be better or worse.

They expect to hear directly and project information shall be broadcasted on louder speaker of the village, and such information shall be public soon.

5.2. Land use

There is no paddy land in the village, only upland field which is freely cultivated within an allocated land area by authorities. On average each individual in household cultivates 5kg of see each crop. However, this quantity varies between years. On average each household cultivates 1-2ha of rice.

Upland rice is cultivated in 1-2 years on a land plot then the plot is left fallow for 3-4 years before reassuming. Villagers cultivate local rice race by traditional method, depending largely on weather though such field somehow locates near the ravine where villagers take water home for daily using.

All of upland field is located on sloping topography, making it hard for cultivation, no machine, cattle force is used in cultivation.

Upland field has not been issued with land use right certificate. Villagers do cultivation freely within a whole allocated land area but there is no land conflict between households in the village because they all know well which land plot belongs to which household even when they leave it fallow for years.

New household of new couple will be share with land of their family. No new land area will be reclaimed because the land fund is over.

The village has protection forest but this area is limited and no one is allowed to reclaim land or exploit timber from such protection forest area. Households in the village are assigned to protect and manage such protection forest area.

Some households in the village are allocated with pastureland area where they plant bead tree for building house. However, households in the village also plant bead tree surrounding their house or in garden.

Land along river is also reclaimed land by households which is supported with no land use right certificate. There are some of 100 households At present using land along river to plant maize. Before every household in the village has land plot along the river. But then, when Ban Ve HPP
came, the land area along the river is no more deposited as before so some households left maize and they plant some fruit trees such as banana, pineapple, jackfruit, etc…

5.3. Crops

Annual crops, which are main crop of households in the village, are rice and maize. These are main food sources of families in the village. Upland rice is planted one crop a year. After harvesting such land plot will be left fallow 3-5 years before reassuming. There are 210ha of upland rice.

Rice is for their own needs, few for sale. They sell only in good harvest year. Each ha of rice yield 1-1.5 ton of rice, rice price is 8,000 VND/kg, husked rice costs 15,000VND – 17,000 VND/kg.

Besides rain-fed rice, villagers plant corn, sweet potato, cassava also. The whole village has 25 ha of hybrid maize and 25ha of cassava.

Villagers mainly cultivate hybrid maize, with quite high yield: 5-6 ton/ha. In harvest season between August and September, traders come and buy at price of 3,500 4,000 VND/kg of loosen corn. Most of corn (90%) is for sale, the rest is for livestock breeding.

Cassava is planted on upland field or along the river. On average, households with few working members and less land will plant 300-400 bushes, those having more working members (7-8 individual) plant some of 1000 bushes which is equivalent to 1ha, 2000 bushes which is equivalent to 2ha. Villagers do not sell cassava much, they use in livestock breeding and wine cooking.

Thai plant bead tree for house building or to sell. They do not know exactly how many hectare of land planting bead tree. One cut down bead tree will be replaced by a young one, so the bead tree planting area always the same. Bead tree costs 1.6 million VND/m3.

Land area surrounding houses is planted with fruit tree such as mango, jackfruit, etc... Households having lot will sell to traders or to other villagers if they need. Price is 10,000-15,000 VND/kg. Each mango every year gives about 5 million VND. Every household has mango, some have 6-7 mango trees, some have 20-30 mango trees. Before Ban Ve HPP, there were a lot of fruit tree along the river, now only 50% left. Households in the village plant mango, banana to sell.

5.4. Livestock

The most popular livestock is pig and chicken. But livestock is usually affected by disease so income from livestock as said by FGD participants is reduced. They blame on Ban Ve HPP which they said that water source is polluted since Ban Ve HPP came causing lot of disease to livestock which cause death. Before Ban Ve, there were very few cases when livestock was affected by disease.

Villagers said that, sometime each day there were tens of pigs, mother pig and young one too, died. On average each household has some of 3 mother pigs and tens of young pigs. Livestock is still free breeding. But some households have constructed pig barn to prevent and protect themselves from disease. But they said that if they use water from the river, disease still happen lot. Households having barn use water from ravine for their livestock breeding. Pig price at the local is 70,000-90,000 VND/kg. There are some of 672 pigs in the whole village.

Each household On average has 50-60 chickens. At the moment there are some of 1000 chickens. The chicken price varies between 120,000-140,000 VND/kg depending on size of the chicken. There are two chicken races raised by villagers: local chicken race and the super-egg laying chicken.

Mode of raising chicken depends on race, the super egg laying chicken is raise in cage while local chicken race is breeding freely.

Buffalo: there are some of 127-128 buffalo in the village. Household has 5 to 20 buffaloes, On average, each household has 6-8 buffalo. Cattle raised by the villagers will be sold to traders from outside. Big size buffalo is sold with price of 30 million VND per one buffalo, cow costs 15-20 million VND per one cow.
There are some of 37 goats in the village, selling price 130,000 VND/kg, cheaper than chicken. There is no household raising fish in the village. The FGD participants said that before they do fish cage farming on the river but now the water is polluted and unstable so they do not do that anymore.

5.5. Other information and reflections

Some of 50% households in the village have latrine next to their house. They conduct water from ravine to their own plastic water tank for flushing the latrine.

The village is located on a sloping topography. Some households live at lower elevation. Accessibility is difficult even with intra-village concrete road.

6 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 11th January 2017 with 10 female participants. All of them are Thai; among them one finished the 3rd grade, 1 finished the 5th grade, two finished the 6th grade, one finished the 7th grade, 3 finished the 9th grade and one finished the 11th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They have never heard about the HPP, only in commune, the villagers knew about the project from rumor only, this is the first time to know in more detail.

When the project is implemented, villagers wish to hear directly from officers so they can ask information about the project such as resettlement, displacement of house. In case of resettlement, which form will be applied? Is there any compensation for crops, trees and income source of family.

They need information about policy applied to affected household, project policy in supporting villagers.

They wish to have someone to explain in detail and clearly to them because there has been a hydropower project which caused impact to land along the river, making lives of villagers more difficult, income from land along river and from the river is reduced.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Many women in the village moved here from other communes in Tuong Duong, Ky Son districts. They are Thai and Kho Mu. They knew their husband by introduction or when they went working outside and met. They moved back to the village after giving birth.

There are three women are household leader, they are Vi Thi Thoa, Luong Thi Duyen, Moong Thi Xen. They are widow; one among them is now raising children at school age.

2 single mothers who raising children: Ms Moong thi Hue, invalid and drug dependent husband so she divorced and now raising small children at primary school age and Ms. Mong Thi Tuyet, no husband (about 40 years old), with a 5 years old child. Ms Tuyet was punished by the village because of having child without husband. But then women in the village treat her fair. The village let her stay at the village after punishment as normal.

The village is 5km located from commune center, women in the village visit regularly the commune when they need to do paper work at the commune for children, go health inspection, go out, go to wedding. Women go to Muong Xen district town every 2-3 months for health inspection, buying family things (from the village to Muong Xen is some of 60km far). They go by motorbike or by coach. Most of family has motorbike so they have no difficulty in travelling out of the village. Before when they do not have motorbike, it took 2 days on foot to go to
Muong Xen, but since the last 7-8 years no one went out on foot anymore. They go by motorbike or by coach.

No one from the village works as leader, there is one villager teaches at the village’s primary school and one other teaches at primary school of other village. Task of chairman of village women union is to mobilize women in the village to take part in, to help other when they have difficulty in caring children or to develop household economy. Propaganda and mobilize women to take part in various programs of the commune.

6.3. Health and nutrition

In 2006, the Government constructed 5 water tanks in the village under program 135, but now piping system has failed, not yet repaired resulting in 4 tanks out of water. Only the one in middle of the village is now full of water for households surrounding to use. The closest ravine to the village is 1km far. So far 1/3 of household in the village furnished themselves with plastic tanks and built piping system to connect water home. The rest shares with neighbor.

Women bath their children outdoor. They warm water to bath their children. Households in the village do not have bathroom. Before when Ban Ve HPP was not there, children used to bath in the river but now no more doing that.

Popular illness in the village is: cough, fever, diarrhea due to eating. Children at season switching interval usually have nose bleeding (some of 5,6 children have such phenomenon) but reason is unclear to them.

Women are affected with gynecological disease, cyst, fibroma which are detected when checking health at the commune. Annually staff from province, district go to the commune to perform gynecological inspection to women, but not all of them go. Only those do not feeling well go. Each time only some of 5-7 women, the rest blame not to have means of transport so they do not go. Only when they cannot stand any more the illness then they go to the commune or district hospital to check and cure.

There is no medicine store at the village, no quack, no one know how to process cure from herb so the illness people buy medicine themselves to cure or go to commune for health inspection.

There are some of 6 malnutrition children, but they do not know which matter is lack. Parent brought them to inspection but all they know is malnutrition. Children eat similar to adult when they can eat porridge, rice. They are fed with breast feeding, very few have milk like those living in district or city.

Children are regularly vaccine. Their mothers bring them to commune clinic for vaccine injection by the informed time table.

Before, most of women in the village deliver at home, now there are some of 30% pregnant women go to commune clinic, but strong feeling one still deliver at home.

There is one health care officer, which is male, at the village, not midwife. Commune heath officer is trained with their special. But they do not sell medicine. They do not inject either. They mainly propagandas programs on health care to villagers which are performed by the commune.

Women union and health care officer come to the village to propaganda or organize meeting with women about HIV/AIDS, drug dependence. There are some of 15 villagers are drug dependence, no HIV case.

6.4. Education

Villagers communicate in Thai and Vietnamese. There are some of 20% women in the village speaking Vietnamese fluently (listening, speaking) at various ages. Some of 50% women know how to write Vietnamese, they are young women who attend to school.

There are now 5 children studying at high school at Muong Xen, no female children go to university.

Women in the village normally stop studying after grade 5 when they attend to secondary school which is located in the commune and because their family cannot afford to pay school fee.
There are 84 children studying at primary school in the village (each pupil cost some of 700,000 VND to 900,000 VND per school year).

32 children studying at kindergarten, each costs 250,000 per month for eating and 300-400,000 VND for toys per school term.

Secondary school is at commune center. This is a boarding school. Each pupil must pay 900,000 VND per school term. Only household with certificate of poor household will be reduced the school fee as per the Government regulation.

Rate of children drop school in 2016 did not reduce. Villagers said that every year some of 20-25 children drop school (high school, primary, secondary school). Male is more than female, taking some of 90% number of dropping school.

6.5. **Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization**

Upland field is far, taking some of 1-2 hours from the village. Women go to the field with men. Each year they do one crop on upland field, from June to December of lunar year.

Upland field is far from the village because only protection forest is surrounding. They plant rice, corn (few), peanut and vegetable.

Ever from Ban Ve HPP was constructed, living of villagers is more difficult. Before, whenever water in river goes down, households living along the river bank and some other in the village plant corn on that land where soil is fertilize and therefore corn productivity is high, between 7 quintal and 1 ton per household. There are 100/150 households in the village plant corn. Nowadays number of households planting corn reduced because the reservoir formation has stopped the flowing river so yield is reduced too. Besides, households do fish cage farming on the river, but now only some of 20 households doing that because floating timber, firewood go with the flow all over the river section, fish is death or few found.

Women in the village plant vegetable around houses or along river bank for their needs. They plant rice, corn (few), peanut and vegetable.

Livestock breeding is done surrounding house or on upland field: each household has On average 2-3 cows, 5-10 goats.

There is no hunger household in the village. They had before but not many and not in long period. Before if there was, the hunger period is only 1 month. They in such period, the hunger households borrowed from and paid later to traders.

Some of 70% of households have meat to eat regularly, the rest have 3-4 meals per week.

Most of women in the village weave cloth. Every household does. Each Thai women skirt costs 500,000 VND. A skirt takes 2-3 days to weave. Special skirt costs up to 1-1.5 million VND but they do it as order only for if they like to make it for themselves.

Besides, the women union in the village set up a credit fund which offer loan by mean of the union trust. Member of the women union can borrow a loan of 3 million VND in 1-2 terms with preferential interest. Some households use that loan to buy seed, some use to pay their children school fee. Households need loan for production investment can borrow from bank a loan up to 30,000,000 VND with interest rate of 0.65% per year in 3 year term.

6.6. **Other information and reflections**

Recommendations by women attended to FGD are:

- If hydropower project is necessary, it should be implemented soon. Detail on the implementation should be public to villagers.

- Allowance policy in relating to economic life of villager shall suitable because there is now a hydropower plant in the region already. The people have stable their lives after the hydropower plant operates. But now the flow is polluted so income of villagers is reduced remarkably. There shall be suitable policy.
If resettlement is required, villagers expect to move to somewhere else better than here, free from environmental pollution.

3.6.3 Kouan District

3.6.3.1 Livelihoods Report

Livelihoods reports are based on the data and information collected in January 2017 in communes and through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly Hydropower project.

1 My Ly HPP and its Expected Impacts on Long Duong Commune

My Ly HPP is located in Ca River at the end of Ban Ve HPP with the coordinates of the centerline of the reservoir as 19°39'10.2" N and 104°19'27.3" E in the Earth coordinate system and D1(X=2.173.953,287m; Y=454.973,513m) and D2 (X=2.173.814,790m; Y=455.390,772m) in the Vietnamese coordinate system VN2000. It is located about 1.6km from the border Vietnam and Lao PDR. The construction area is located in My Ly Commune, Ky Son District, Nghe An Province. The reservoir is 50km long starting from Xang Tren village upstream.

When the reservoir is inundated, the project will affect 5 villages of Kouan district, namely, Phiangthath, Kengkor, Sopkang, Sopsan and Phiangsang. Though it has not been determined how much land will be acquired, the impacts of the project on these villages are inevitable due to their close distance to the river. It is expected that (i) the whole 5 villages will be relocated when the water level rises; (ii) the villages’ agricultural land along the river will be lost. In addition, there will be impacts on inter-village traffic and graves.

![Figure: Map of the villages affected by My Ly HPP](image)

2 Land Types, Land Availability and Land Use in Long Duong Commune

Kouan District has planned and categorize its land fund.
2.1. **Land use in the project area**

FGD results show the present land use in the affected villages in Kouan District as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Land uses and vegetation types</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Kengkor</th>
<th>Phiangsang</th>
<th>Phiangthat</th>
<th>Sopkang</th>
<th>Sopsan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Agricultural land</td>
<td>697.85</td>
<td>189.18</td>
<td>493.76</td>
<td>909.53</td>
<td>533.91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Construction land</td>
<td>1.46</td>
<td>2.29</td>
<td>2.78</td>
<td>2.61</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Cultural land (graves)</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Forest</td>
<td>563.85</td>
<td>182.03</td>
<td>1439.73</td>
<td>557.27</td>
<td>332.89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>174.51</td>
<td>110.18</td>
<td>40.55</td>
<td>272.03</td>
<td>182.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Conservation forest</td>
<td>313.9</td>
<td>71.85</td>
<td>386.65</td>
<td>92.19</td>
<td>182.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>75.44</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1012.58</td>
<td>193.05</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>1439.78</td>
<td>6.93</td>
<td>9.06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Water and riverine land</td>
<td>13.31</td>
<td>7.61</td>
<td>45.54</td>
<td>24.77</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Land use plan of villages in 2015

2.2. **Land ownership**

By the end of 2010 the district has allocated and leased 100% of the total land area to individuals and agencies as follows:

(i) 16,381.92 ha to be used, including 16,341.57 ha to households and individuals, 0.70 ha to the District, 30.76 ha to economic organizations, and 8.89 ha to state agencies;

(ii) 10,727.96 ha to be managed, including 8,439.63 ha to communities, and 2,288.33 ha to the district.

Land is under the management of the village. It is said that the village heads play a role in land allocation. The households, however, can choose their cultivation plots within the area of the village, which depends on the households' labour and demand for food. Some villages allocate land to the clans, and the households then cultivate within their clans' areas. There have been few disputes over land because of the large land fund of the villages.

There are three forest categories, i.e., (i) protection forest, (ii) conservation forest, and (iii) production forest. It is forbidden to exploit any forest products in the two first forests, which are under the management of the State and supervised by specialized agencies. The citizens are allowed to collect timber in the last forest category to build houses and public constructions such as schools or community houses.

Newly separated households or new immigrants share the land fund of the village, within the area of the village or the clans. The village heads and the groups of elder people are responsible for land allocation in such cases. Due to the small population and the present land fund, household separation does not have any impacts on the general agricultural land fund.

Unused land: At present, the statistics on the land use of the villages do not mention unused land. However, it is observed and assessed that forests cover almost everywhere; thus, there seems to be little unused land.
Water surface area: The land use statistics of the villages also do not include water surface area for aquaculture. Nonetheless, according to FGD results, some villages have ponds for fish raising at household scale. The average pond area is from 300 to 500 m² and there are 5-7 households with ponds but mainly in Sopkang village. Other villages do not have pond area. However, most villages have designated fish conservation areas in streams nearby.

2.3. Land categories

**Swidden land:** Cultivation depends on rainfall. The people practice monoculture of upland rice, maize, and cassava or intercrop them among other short-day crops. They cultivate one crop/year. The planting season is from June to November. The land plot is left fallow after rainy season. The fallow period lasts 5-6 years.

**Forest:** 60-70% of the forest area of the village is covered by protection forest or conservation forest, which is categorized as monsoon forests of mixed evergreen with many valuable wood types in group 1 and group 2. Production forests account for a small proportion of the total forest area of the district. Part of this area is used for cultivation of upland rice and maize.

**Surface water for aquaculture:** There are some fish ponds in Sopkang. The Sopkang villagers practice extensive cultivation method and use the breeds from the river. Each village has a fish conservation area in the streams nearby with the direct management of the village heads and the mass organizations such as Youth Union or Women’s Union. The villagers cannot go fishing there except on some special occasions. They can catch fish there to sell to the other people in the village, and spend that amount of money on the celebrations or other activities of the community.

2.4. Livelihoods in the Areas to be Affected by the HPP

Since Kouan District is located in a remote area and along Nam Non River, 100% of the population is reported to depend on agriculture and forestry. It is estimated that 98% of the total income of the households comes from cultivation, livestock breeding, and forestry. Non-agricultural activities, including weaving, transportation of goods, and fishery, account for 2-3%. Though the data on poverty is not available, the village heads gave the information that almost all households are poor.

| Table 2: Summary of poor household in the affected villages of Kouan Commune |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| No | Village | Total number of household | Total number of persons | Poor household | Near-poor household |
| 1. | Phiangthat | 65 | 254 | 39 | - |
| 2. | Kengkor | 26 | 135 | 26 | 0 |
| 3. | Phiangsang | 8 | 35 | 8 | 0 |
| 4. | Sopsan | 16 | 89 | 14 | - |
| 5. | Sopkang | 16 | 93 | 10 | 4 |
| Total | 131 | 606 | 97 | 4 |

*Source: In-depth interview with village heads, January 2017*

*Note: (-) no information*

According to the above table, most of affected villages have high rates of poor households (100% of households in Kengkor and Phiangsang villages are poor household). In Sopsan village, 88% of total households are poor while in Sopkang, this percentage is presented for
poor households and near-poor households. Phiangthat village has the lowest rate of poor household in Kouan commune, accounting for 60%.

Table 3: Summary of livelihoods in the villages of My Ly Commune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>Local seeds</td>
<td>For food</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One crop/year</td>
<td>For winemaking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Traditional cultivation method</td>
<td>For sale when there is more than needed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low and unstable yield</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>Small amount of seeds</td>
<td>90% for sale to Vietnam</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hybrid seeds from Vietnam</td>
<td>10% for livestock breeding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One crop/year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Traditional cultivation method</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low and unstable yield</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>Cultivated by a few households</td>
<td>For livestock breeding</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local roots</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extensive cultivation method</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low average yield</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One crop/2 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>Cultivated by a few households</td>
<td>For food</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cultivated along the river or around houses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock breeding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows, buffaloes</td>
<td>Free range</td>
<td>For sale to have money to build houses and</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of fodder</td>
<td>spend on daily life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor veterinary services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High death rate due to diseases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>Local breeds</td>
<td>For sale</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small scale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Free range</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No control diseases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High death rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>Small scale</td>
<td>For families’ meals</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Free range</td>
<td>For sale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No control of diseases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High death rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish raising and conservation</td>
<td>Few fish ponds</td>
<td>For families’ meal</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fish conservation areas under management of village heads and the</td>
<td>For special celebrations of the villages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>community</td>
<td>For sale to other people in the villages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Protected by the villagers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing</td>
<td>Riverine villages: fishing along the river</td>
<td>For families’ meals</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Villages far from the river: fishing along streams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logging</td>
<td>Illegal logging in protection forests, production forests</td>
<td>For sale to Vietnamese traders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Valuable woods collected, such as Syringa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection of non-timber</td>
<td>Collection of wild vegetables, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Auricularia</td>
<td>For food for the families</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forest products</td>
<td>les, and herbal plants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hunting of wild animals such as wild boars, birds, squirrels, mice.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.5. **Agriculture**

The main crops here are upland rice, maize, and cassava, in which upland rice is the main staple food for the people in this district.

*Upland rice:* Upland rice is the main crop in the cultivation system. Each household cultivates 1.5-2.0ha. Some cultivate 3-4ha. The planting season is from June to November. The yield is unstable. It is reported that the average yield is 1.5ton/ha. However, it can reach 2.5-3.0ton/ha when there is good harvest. The majority of households in the village suffer from a shortage of food within 2-3 months. Some face the shortage in 3-4 months. Though there is plenty of land and the soil is fertile due to long fallow periods, cultivation is still limited due to traditional cultivation customs and labour as well as the lack of market. In addition, the people do not actively change or plant any other crops.

*Hybrid maize:* Hybrid maize is the second crop in the cultivation system. The extensive cultivation method applied without fertilizers. Each household cultivates on 0.3-0.5ha. The planting season is from June to November. Though the households use hybrid maize from Vietnam and Laos (LVN10, CP 888), but the yield is from 2.5-4.5ton/corn/ha. The main reasons for the low yield are disadvantageous weather, long lasting droughts, and cultivation without consistence with technical procedures. Corn is usually sold to Vietnamese traders for 2.5-3.5thousand VND/kg, much lower than the selling price on the other side of the border with Vietnam. Sometimes maize could not be sold since there were no traders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Non-agricultural activities | Brocade weaving  | Brocade weaving  
Handicraft method  
Products sold to cities | For increase in the households’ incomes | 2            |
|                 | Wood manufacturing         | Wood transporting and cutting for Vietnamese  
Irregular jobs: only when Vietnamese need | For increase in the households’ incomes | 1            |
|                 | Working far from home      | some villagers migrate to work in the cities  
Jobs: unknown | For individuals’ living  
Not for households’ incomes | 3            |

Source: FDG, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Area stipulated in the commune’s data (ha)</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phiangsang</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>60*</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5-2.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>3.0*</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.0-4.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0*</td>
<td></td>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phiangthat</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>160 *</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>23 *</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.5-3.5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: Area and yield of some main crops of the villages
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Area stipulated in the commune’s data (ha)</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sopkang</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>48.0*</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1.5-2.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>5.0*</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>1.5*</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.0-18</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kengkor</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.0-4.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5-4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanuts</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.15-0.16</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sopsan</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5-3.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5-4.0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>18.0 - 20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*)-Estimated data based on FDG results, the commune’s statistics

Local cassava: The extensive cultivation method is applied without fertilizers using local seeds. Each household plants 300-500 roots/year. Many households plant 1,000-2,000 roots on a larger area. Cassava is planted within 2 years and harvested year-round. The yield is estimated to be 15-20 ton/ha depending on the length of the period that cassava is kept on the field. The production is mainly used for livestock breeding and not sold out because there are no buyers.

Peanuts: Peanuts are planted mainly in summer-autumn season. They use red seeds from Vietnam. Only Kengkor villagers cultivate peanuts. The average yield is 0.16-0.17 ton/ha. The production is mainly to serve the families’ demand.

Vegetables: Only few vegetables are grown along the river or in the gardens with the area of 10-20 m². The vegetable categories are Brassicaceae, Lactuca sativa, and onions. The main products are mainly used in families’ meals.

Fruit trees: Fruit trees are planted around houses or along streams with various categories such as mangos and papayas.

2.6. Forestry
The forests account for a large area and area categorized as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phiangsang</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation forest</td>
<td>71.85</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>110.8</td>
<td>There remain many woods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phiangthat</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>1012.58</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation forest</td>
<td>386.05</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>272.03</td>
<td>There remain many woods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sopkang</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>193.05</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation forest</td>
<td>92.12</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>272.03</td>
<td>There remain many woods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kengkor</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>75.44</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation forest</td>
<td>313.9</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>174.51</td>
<td>There remain many woods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sopsan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection forest</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation forest</td>
<td>182.4</td>
<td>Good quality</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production forest</td>
<td>150.5</td>
<td>There remain many woods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The villages' land use planning

The watershed protection forests and special-use forests (conservation forests) are under the management of the State and at present under the direct management of the agencies of the district. The people are not allowed to exploit woods and rare animals in accordance with regulations; however, illegal logging still takes place. The villages participating in forest protection do not receive any benefits from the State’s budget.

**Production forests**: Production forests are allocated to the villages so that they can plant trees and collect forest products. However, the people have not started planting trees because there remain many woods. In some villages the people have encroached on production forests in order to have cultivation land.

**Collection of non-timber forest products**: Livelihoods of the people here depend much on the forests. Though it is not recorded, the people admit that illegal logging still takes place. They sometimes collect woods when they need money for food. In addition, the people also benefit from non-timber forest products such as (i) bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Auriculariales, wild vegetables for the families’ meals (bamboo shoots and wild vegetables are collected everyday while the rest only during rain season.), (ii) herbal medicines to treat common diseases such as stomach-ache, diarrhea, temperature, fever and cough (When the collection of these herbal medicines is large, they will sell to Vietnamese traders or exchange them for food.), (iii) wild animals such as birds, mice, wild chicken, wild boars, monkeys, and Muntiacus.

**Forest protection**: The total forest area has been allocated to the village management boards; however, the villages do not receive any remuneration for their services. They believe that it is important to protect the forests in order to maintain the water supply.
2.7. *Fishery/ River Resources Use*

Fish is the main food source for the households; they usually go fishing in the river. Some have boats; the majority use simple tools such as cast nets and landing nets. Women and children mostly go fishing along the streams everyday to catch small fish, shrimps, snails and crabs. The catch, about 1-2kg/day, is merely sufficient for the families’ consumption and not for sale. Only the households having boats can catch big fish to sell; nonetheless, it happens only once or twice a year.

As aforementioned, there are fish conservation areas in all villages as the fish sources for celebrations of the communities or for sale to other villagers. The fish source remains plentiful; everyone protects it. It is also forbidden to set nets overnight to catch fish outside the conservation areas since that might increase the fish death rate.

In addition, the people along the river also collect mosses or algae to have vegetables during dry season from October to next April. It is only sufficient for daily consumption. They do not have enough to dry or sell.

2.8. *Livestock Breeding*

Table 6: Livestock breeding of Kouan District is summarized in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Amount (*)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phiangsang</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>For daily consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For celebrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rarely for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>For households’ consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phiangthat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>For daily consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For celebrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rarely for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>For households’ consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sopkang</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>For daily consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For celebrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rarely for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>For households’ consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>200-300</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kengkor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>For daily consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For celebrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sopsan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Livestock

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Amount (*)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mainly for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>For daily consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For celebrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (chicken, ducks, geese)</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>For daily consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For celebrations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*)-Estimated data based on FGD results

**Cattle:** The villages raise mostly cows, and also buffaloes and goats. Cows and buffaloes are considered as assets of the households and contribute significantly to their income. Each household has 2-3 cows. Some have 15-20 cows. Some households in Kengkor also raise goats, but the number of animals is small. Buffaloes, cows, and goats are grazed freely on the fields or in the forests. During the harvest, the villages zone the grassland, which is usually the area during fallow period, for livestock breeding. After that, the livestock are free range again. According to FGD results, the people do not have difficulties finding pastureland; however, they cannot control diseases, which break out quite frequently and kill a large number of livestock. In addition, many buffaloes and cows die during winter since husbandry is not taken care of.

**Pigs:** They usually use local breeds, practice extensive method and graze the livestock freely. Each household has 2-3 pigs on average; some villages do not have pigs due to diseases. Pigs are raised for celebrations and sometimes slaughtered for the whole village or some households to eat together. They do it once a month on average. They contribute pigs in turn and then share to all. Some households raise many pigs and sell some to Vietnamese traders. Raising pigs faces many difficulties due to diseases, especially in March and June.

**Poultry:** The households raise mainly chicken, ducks, and geese with small scale. Each has 5-10 fowls. Some have 40-50 ones. In addition, there are many households not raising poultry. Poultry raising is mainly to serve the households' consumption. The households living along the river sell chicken and ducks to Vietnamese when diseases do not attack their poultry. The selling price ranges 70-100,000 VND/kg.

### 2.9 **Trade and Business**

**Small businesses:** There are few business activities in the villages. There is one grocery store in Sopkang owned by a Vietnamese. It provides almost all necessary utensils. There are also some Vietnamese selling these products in other villages; however, their services are mobile.

**Transport and business in the river:** Only two villages have motorboats, i.e. 2 of Sopkang and 4 of Phiangsang. 4 households in Phiangsang have motorboats to transport goods and woods. They earn about 5-6 million VND/month. The local people do not use boats to do business, but depend on Vietnamese boats.

**Trade and forest product exploitation:** The households only collect forest goods such as wild vegetables and hunt for wild animals for their daily consumption, not for sale. The villagers collect woods in both protection forests to sell to Vietnamese traders regardless of the ban on illegal logging. The income from logging is used by the whole village or divided to the households so that they can buy food and other necessary utensils.

**Handicrafts:** The villagers weave brocade for the households' consumption or for sale in big cities. Each household can produce 2-3 pieces of cloth/month on average. Each costs about 300,000 VND. Their income from weaving ranges 600-900,000 Lao kip.
2.10. Labour

*Non-agricultural activities:* There are few job opportunities outside the village.

*Employment opportunities in the villages:* Some work for other villagers, particularly prepare soil, cut grass, and harvest with the remuneration of 100-150,000VND/day.

2.11. Specific Livelihoods Issues in the Villages to be Affected by the HPP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Phiangsang  | **Agriculture**  
Upland rice: The village cultivates about 10 ha of rice each year. The yield is about 1-2 ton/ha, but if the weather is disadvantageous, the yield is lower than 1 ton/ha, and even there is no harvest. The production is used for the households’ food and for sale when it is more than needed. The selling price is 5,000VND/kg.  
Maize: The village cultivates 3ha of hybrid maize of Vietnam. The average yield ranges 4-4.5 ton/ha. The selling price is 2,500 VND/kg of corn.  
Cassava: The whole village cultivates 1 ha of cassava; each root produces 6-7 kg. It is estimated that the yield ranges 15-17 ton/ha. The reduction is mainly for livestock breeding.  
The total area of production land remains large and not limited to the households. They produce enough to eat, not too much.  
**Forestry**  
The village is located in the protection forests. The villagers collect wood (Erythrophleum fordii, Melia azedarach, and Lagerstroemia) to mostly sell to Vietnamese. The average income from logging is about 2-3 million/month. They also collect some non-timber forest products such herbal plants (Amomum, Stemona tuberosa), and honey to sell to Vietnamese. Wild vegetables, mushrooms, and bamboo shoots are for daily consumption. There are a lot of vegetables and bamboo shoots that the households can eat them year-round. They hunt wild boars, wild chicken, mice, Muntiacus, and money when these animals come to destroy crops.  
**Livestock breeding**  
Cows: The village has about 30 cows. Each has 3-5 cows and grazes them without any limits because forests and grassland remain large. Each household sells one cow/year on average to Vietnamese. The selling price ranges 20-22 million VND/cow.  
Pigs: The households usually use local breeds. Each has 2-3 pigs, grazes them freely, and feeds them with cassava. The production is mainly used for the village’s consumption, not for sale.  
Poultry: There are about 20-30 chicken and ducks since many have died of diseases.  
**Aquaculture**  
There are 6/8 households participating in fishery along the river. The common fish here are Bagarius rutilus, Claridae, Cyprinus carpio, and shrimps. Each catch ranges about 20-30kg. They go fishing about 5-6 times a month. Fish are kept for the households’ meals. The villagers sell, however, Hemibagrus guttatus and Bagarius rutilus to Vietnamese. The selling price ranges 60,000 – 80,000 VND/kg and sometimes 200-250,000/kg of Hemibagrus guttatus.  
**Non-agriculture activities**  
Almost all households weave brocade for domestic use. They also sell some for 250-270,000, equal to 500-600,000 VND/piece sized 1.8 x 0.8 m.  
4 households have motorboats to transport goods and woods. They earn about 5-6 million VND/month. Some do have boats, work for Vietnamese people in wood manufacturing. |
| Sopkang     | **Agriculture**  
Upland rice: The whole village has about 48 ha of upland rice. Each has 2.0-3.0 ha/year depending on the labour of the households. The average seed is 150 kg/year. Rice is sufficient; sometimes they lost harvest due to droughts and wild animals. When the production is large, they also sell to Vietnamese.  
Maize: They sell about 5ha of maize/year. Each household plants 2-3 kg of seeds; it... |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>is estimated on about 2000-3000 m². The production is for chicken; the selling price is 500,000/kg of corn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>The whole village cultivates about 1.5 ha of cassava. Each household cultivates 500-700 roots. Those that have labour plant 100-2500roots. The production is for livestock breeding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Some households cultivate peanuts; it is estimated about 0.2ha. The production is for the households' domestic use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There is much production land. The fallow period is long, 4-5 years. The whole village has 1-2 households suffering from hunger when they lose harvest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock breeding</td>
<td>Beef cows: The village raises 500 cows and buffaloes. Some raise 3-4; some raise 25-30. The cattle are grazed freely on grassland and on the fields. They sell each year 1-2 cows/buffaloes, which cost 18-20million VND/each. They sell more when they need money.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pigs: The households usually use local breeds. Each has 2-5 pigs, grazes them freely, and feeds them with cassava. The production is mainly used for the village’s consumption; they sell to Vietnamese traders for 90,000VND/kg. They can sell 2-4pigs/year depending on the households. The rest is for celebrations and weddings of the households.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poultry: There are about 20-30 chicken and ducks since many have died of diseases. The production is usually sold to Vietnam. Diseases usually break out in March and June; but the death rate last time was low since the households contacted the commune vet and the livestock got vaccinated on time. The selling price is 100,000VND/kg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Silkworm farming: Some households raise silkworm for silk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Livestock breeding has many opportunities to develop. The biggest obstacle is diseases because if the vet is not informed and the disease cannot be cured in time, numerous big cattle will die. The vet service is not quite efficient; the annual death rate of livestock remains high.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>The village has 193.3ha of protection forests, 92.19ha of conservation forests, and 272 ha of production forests. The people do not benefit from the forest protection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Illegal logging is still taking place; the money from logging is divided to the households so that they have money to buy food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>They also collect some non-timber forest products such wild vegetables, mushrooms, and bamboo shoots are for daily consumption, not for sale. Herbal medicines are collected when a family member is sick. They rarely sell herbal medicine. They hunt wild boars, wild chicken, mice, Muntiacus, and money when these animals come to destroy crops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td>There are about 6 fish ponds in the village; they use local fish from the river as breeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The households having no ponds usually go fishing in the river and in the streams using landing nets and cast nets. When we catch big fish such as Hemibagrus guttatus, and Bagarius bagarius with the selling price of 200-300,000VND/kg. They can catch, however, 1-2kg of small fish. They cannot set nets overnight because that will kill many people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The village has streams under the management and conservation of the village head and other organizations. As being as, the catch in this area is for the community’s celebration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-agriculture activities</td>
<td>Almost all households weave brocade for domestic use. They also sell some for 250-270,000 kip, equal to 600,000 VND/piece.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 households work for Vietnamese people, particularly, to transport goods and wood. They earn about 200KIP/day, or 500-600,000VND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None of the villagers work far from home. They work for each other. If they face a shortage of labour, they hire Vietnamese and pay per diem.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Village Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sopsan</strong></td>
<td>Upland rice: The village has about 40-50 ha of upland rice. The area ranges 1.5-2.5 ha/household/year with 100-200 kg of seeds/households. The yield is not stable. It was 3 ton/ha when the harvest was good. However, it was below 1.7 ton/ha, especially in the three recent years due to loss of harvest. The production is mainly used for the households’ consumption. &lt;br&gt;Maize: The area for planting maize is about 6 ha; each plants 3-5 kg of seeds/year, equal to 2000-3500 m². They use waxy corn, not hybrid corn. The yield ranges 1-2 ton/ha. The production is for the households’ consumption, not for sale. &lt;br&gt;Cassava: The area for planting cassava is about 4 ha. Each household plants 100-300 roots. Some plant 1500-3000 roots. The average yield is 6-8 kg/root after 2 years. The production is for livestock breeding or for the households’ consumption when there is no rice. Some sell to Vietnamese for 700 VND/kg. Though the land fund is plentiful, the households only cultivate in an area that produces sufficient food. However, due to disadvantageous weather, the village suffered hunger within 3-4 months in 2016.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Kengkor** | Agriculture | Upland rice: The whole village has 50 ha. Each household cultivates on about 2 ha. The highest yield is 3-4 ton/year. Sometimes it was 1.5 tons due to long lasting droughts and lack of rainfall. As a result, the village suffered from hunger. Maize: The households plant hybrid maize. The total area is about 1 ha/year. The yield is unstable. When the harvest is good, they yield reaches 7 ton of maize, equal to 3.5-4.0 ton of corn/ha. Otherwise, the yield is low. In 2015 for example, each household planted 1-2 kg of seeds but harvested only 3-4 quintal/household, equal to 2.8-3.2 ton/ha. The village had 3-4 ton, which was sold to Vietnamese people for 3000 VND/kg of corn. The rest is for raising pigs and chicken. Cassava: Cassava is planted on about 0.5 ha. Some households plant cassava. Each }
## Village Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>has 300-400 roots. The average yield after 2 years is about 5-7 kg/root, equal to about 18 tons/ha. The production is mainly used for livestock breeding, not for sale due to cheap prices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Peanuts: The whole village plants about 0.2 ha. Only 5-10 households plant. It is estimated that the village harvests about 300-320kg of peanuts, mostly for the households’ consumption. Some households have much and can sell to traders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Forestry</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The village has 75.5ha of protection forests, 313.9ha of conservation forests, and 174.5ha of production forests. The people do not benefit from the forest protection. Illegal logging is still taking place; the money from logging is divided to the households so that they have money to buy food. They also collect some non-timber forest products such herbal plants (Amomum, Stemona tuberosa), and honey to sell to Vietnamese. Wild vegetables, mushrooms, and bamboo shoots are for daily consumption. There are a lot of vegetables and bamboo shoots that the households can eat them year-round. They hunt wild boars, wild chicken, mice, Muntiacus, and money when these animals come to destroy crops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Livestock breeding</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cattle: The whole village has 100 cows, 60 buffaloes. Each has about 2-3 cows/buffaloes on average. They use local breeds and graze the animals freely on the fields or along the river. When the cows grow up, they sell to Vietnamese traders. They only slaughter cows when there are some community issues in the village. One cow can be sold for 25-30 million VND, one buffalo 38-40 million VND;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goats: There are about 23 goats in the whole village. The selling price is about 130,000 VND/kg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pigs: Each has 2-3 pigs, which are used for the households’ consumption only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poultry: At present there are no chicken or ducks due to diseases. They used to raise a lot poultry to have food for their families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Aquaculture</strong>:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The villagers mostly work on the fields and do not go fishing regularly. They go fishing only when they want to have fish for their meals. Only five households have nets and catch fish along the river bank only because they do not have boats. They go once a week on average. The catch ranges 3-5 grams. They usually go fishing during dry season. Fish are, however, just additional nutrient. The main food of the villagers is sticky rice and meat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The people sometimes collect wild vegetables along the river but they do not know the names of the vegetables in Vietnamese.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Non-agriculture activities</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- No villagers migrate to work outside the village. They work for each other. Some young villagers work for Vietnamese people such as transport wood. The job, however, is irregular. The income from this job ranges 400-500,000 VND/day depending on the specific tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phiangthat</td>
<td><strong>Agriculture</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upland rice: The village cultivates about 160 ha of rice each year. Each household has 1.5-2.5 ha with 100-200kg of seeds/year. The yield is about 2 tons/ha, sometimes just 1.2ton/ha. Sometimes there is no harvest because droughts lasted long and wild animals come to destroy the crop. The production is used for the households’ food. There is nothing left to sell out.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maize: The whole village raise 23 ha of maize. Each has 3-7kg of corn/ha. The yield is 7 ton of maize/ha, equal to 3.5 ton of maize/year. When the harvest is bad, the yield is about 1.7-2.0 ton/ha. The production after harvest is sold for 2,500-3,000 VND/kg. If it is not sold, the households keep to raise pigs and poultry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|         | Cassava: The village plants about 1.5 ha of cassava. The households plant along the fields. Cassava is harvested after two years of planting. The production is consumed right after harvested. Each root produces 5-7 kg of cassava after two years, equal to 16-18 ton/ha. The production is mainly for livestock breeding and for food when there is a shortage of food. Due to the old seeds and disadvantageous weather, the yield is low. 42/42
Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Status of livelihoods in the affected villages in Kouan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>households suffer from shortage of rice in 2-3 months, usually from April to June every year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forestry:
The village has 1012.58 ha of protection forests, 386.05 ha of conservation forests, and 272.03 ha of production forests. The people do not benefit from the forest protection. Illegal logging is still taking place; the money from logging is divided to the households so that they have money to buy food.

NTFPs: The households collect wild vegetables, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Auriculariales, herbal plants everyday for their own consumption not for sale. When they have much, they sell or exchange for rice or other necessary utensils.

Hunting: The households catch birds, mice, wild chicken, and Rhizomyinae to have meat. Sometimes they can catch wild boars, Muntiacus. They rarely sell out.

Livestock breeding
Almost all livestock, died during the disease outbreak at the beginning of the year; only 80 cows survived. They do not have any livestock left at the moment.

Livestock breeding has not contributed to livelihoods due to diseases and the incapacity of the commune vet in treating for livestock.

Aquaculture
Since the village is located far from Nam Non river, the village has 1-2 households fishing by landing nets and cast nets along the river. The others go fishing along the streams everyday except when it rains heavily. The catch includes mostly small fish, snails or shrimps and is just sufficient for the households' meals, not for sale.

The money for selling fish from the conservation area is contributed to the fund of the village for celebrations. Each year they can earn 5-7 million kip.

Non-agriculture activities
There are no villagers migrating for work. No one in the village weaves like Thai people in other villages.

2.12. Expected Impacts on Livelihoods

According to My Ly HPP planning, Kouan District is located in the upstream area. My Ly HPP when constructed will have the following impacts on the people:

(i) All villages will be relocated when the water level rises.

(ii) Permanent land acquisition due to the inundation of reservoir including residential land, production land and roads as well as public construction. The loss of a large area of land, including forests as well as production land will have impacts on the people's livelihoods.

(iii) Traffic by waterway will be affected and terminated when the dam is constructed. The transport of goods from downstream in Vietnam will not be as easy as at present.

(iv) The fish conservation areas of the villages will be affected due to the deeper level of water in the river and the streams, which will consequently affect the food source of the villages.

(v) Demand for timber will increase due to resettlement and house construction.

(viii) Various social evils such as drug addition, prostitution, and unstable security will increase after compensation; one of the reasons is that the households receive money but are not capable for managing and spending it for the right purposes. Their children will face the risks of being involved in these social evils.

It depends on the locations of the villages here mentioned to the dam that the impacts on them vary. These 5 villages will be not only relocated but also lose much production land along the river. Their natural resources will be changed; as a result, they will face much difficulties after
resettlement. Though it is inevitable that they will lose production land, they will not face the risk of having no production land as those in Vietnam.
### Table 7: Summary of expected livelihoods impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Expected impact and rationale</th>
<th>Magnitude* for impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phiangsang</td>
<td>The whole village are expected to be relocated when the reservoir is inundated</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is estimated that 40-50% of the total production land will be lost since it is located along the river.</td>
<td>H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The loss of forests along the river will affect the source of firewood, wild vegetables, and wild animals.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waterway will be affected due to the construction of the dam. Trade and goods transport along the river of some households will be affected.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phiangthet</td>
<td>The whole village are expected to be relocated when the reservoir is inundated</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Land along the river will be lost. It is estimated that 10-15% of production land will be lost due to the 2-to-3-km distance from the river to the village’s production land area.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The loss of forests along the river will affect the source of non-timber forest products of the villagers.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The fish conservation areas will be inundated, so the fish source here can be lost or changed, which will affect the income as well as the food source of the households.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sopkang</td>
<td>The whole village are expected to be relocated when the reservoir is inundated</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is estimated that 25-30% of the total production land will be lost since it is located along the river.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The loss of protection forests along the river will affect the source of timber and non-timber forest products of the villagers.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waterway will be affected due to the construction of the dam. Trade and goods transport along the river of some households will be affected.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The fish conservation areas will be inundated, so the fish source here can be lost or changed, which will affect the income as well as the food source of the households.</td>
<td>H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kengkor</td>
<td>The whole village are expected to be relocated when the reservoir is inundated</td>
<td>H</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>It is estimated that 30-35% of the total production land will be lost since it is located along the river.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The loss of protection forests along the river will affect the source of timber and non-timber forest products of the villagers.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waterway will be affected due to the construction of the dam. Travel along the river of some households will be affected.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The fish conservation areas will be inundated, so the fish source here can be lost or changed, which will affect the income as well as the food source of the households.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sopsan</td>
<td>The whole village are expected to be relocated when the reservoir is inundated</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>It is estimated that 40% of the total production land will be lost since it is located along the river.</td>
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<td>The loss of protection forests along the river will affect the source of timber and non-timber forest products of the villagers.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waterway will be affected due to the construction of the dam. Travel along the river of some households will be affected.</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The fish conservation areas will be inundated, so the fish source here can be lost or changed, which will affect the income as well as the food source of the households.</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: (*) Magnitude: Low=L, Medium=M, High=H
3 Other information and reflections

The data on land acquisition at present is based on FGD results. Though it might not be accurate, the results show the status of livelihoods and production systems of the villages in the project area.

The statistics on land areas in reality and in the records of the district have not been standardized.

Data on land use is only available at village level, which is different from the Vietnamese administrative system.

Here are the expected impacts that need to be further surveyed and assessed.

3.6.3.2 Phiangxang Village - 14 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date 1/14/17

Village Phiangsang

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Agriculture and</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Livestock Breeding</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>II.</td>
<td>Use of Forest</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>III.</td>
<td>Aquaculture - Use of River</td>
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<td>IV.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Age</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
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<td>V.</td>
<td>Elder - Ethnic Minority Group</td>
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<td>Lu Kham Phon</td>
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<td>Farmer/Village vice chief, party secretary</td>
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<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer/Village chief</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: There are 8 Laos households in the village with 35 men and women, in which 21 persons are in working age (16-20 years old). Therefore, the participant lists of discussion groups are coincided.

1. **Village Report**

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. **Location and General Conditions of the Village**

Phiangsang Village belongs to Kouan District, Houaphan Province, Laos PDR and is located on the bank of Nam Non River. Opposite it and across the river is Cha Nga Village of My Ly Commune, Ky Son District, Vietnam. There are only 8 houses of 8 households of the same family line. The house closest to the river stands only about 20m from the water level and on the location featuring the steepness of about 10°. The village is located about 80km far from Kouan District and right on the road from Kouan to Noong Het of Xiangkhouang Province.

There is a road still under construction from the village to the District. The houses are allocated close to each other; the average distance between two houses is 10m. All houses are stilt houses mainly made of wood. In general, the houses are not much different from those of Thai or Kho Mu people of My Ly Commune, Vietnam.

There is a solar power system provided by Laotian government thanks to the investment of Luxembourgian government. Water is transported to the village through a system coming from the mountain gully. There are only 2 taps for all villagers.

The environment around the village is spacious and clean although they pasture their pigs around the village.

1.2. **Population**

Phiangsang villagers belong to Kho Mu ethnic group of Laos. There is one Vietnamese man living here. The village population used to be 30-40 households. There are only 8 Laotian households at the moment with 35 people, i.e. 14 females and 21 males. There are 21 people at the working age (16-60). There is one single-headed household, whose head is a woman.
with 2 children. Hitherto the village has never received any subsidies from the government. 100% of all households are poor and have received poor household certificates.

1.3. Village History and Migration

This village was established in 1978. The former village head was a teacher who migrated from Vietnam in 1978 and then married a woman here. Currently, people in the village are children and grandchildren of the former village head. Since 2005, people have moved to Xiangkhouang and Vientiane to live and do business. Only the family of village head (8 households) still stays because he knew that when the hydropower plant is built, they will be compensated. It is his plan that after receiving compensation, he will move to another place.

The location of the village is quite isolated so they rarely go out. Women sometimes leave the village for entertainment or work. They mostly go to Vietnam, particularly the My Ly commune centre, which is 30km far from the village. They go there normally by boat to buy utensils or for medical examination. Muang Kouan is the district centre, 80km from the village. However, the women rarely go there. The men go there mostly when they have business.

Thus, the village head is the only one who can speak Vietnamese. The others can only speak Thai and Lao language. No woman is in leader position or works at communal level.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

All households have land use right certificates (LURC) for residential and arable land. Each household has 5-6 ha of arable land, however, they only cultivate 1-2ha. The whole village only has upland fields, the LURC is issued by Kouan authority in accordance with the laws of Lao PDR; it does not fall within the rights of the village head. Because the whole village is one family, there is no accurate land allocation among all the households, no land dispute, as well as no practice of land renting.

The villagers cultivate under a several-field rotation, which can last up to 8 years. Each household uses 2ha of land for about 2 years, and then they move to another area to let the previous plot lay fallow.

The cultivation method is “cut-burn-dig-plant”, machines and tilling are not used. Rice after harvest goes through a rice huller to remove its chaff. There is one rice huller in the village.

The land along river is not used.

Each house has a garden with area of 100-200 m2 to plant mango trees and taro. Some trees (a fruit tree is similar with the custard-apple) are also planted. Fruits are only consumed within the household.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture and production systems:

The main livelihood activities here are farming on upland fields and livestock breeding (castle, pig, chicken, and duck).

The village has 10ha of paddy fields. They work there for about two or three years and then leave it for another area. The productivity of the paddy fields fluctuates between 1 and 2 tons per ha (if it is poor harvest) and between 3 and 4 tons per ha (if the harvest is good). When they have a good harvest, the rice is sold at 16,000 VND/kg.

They plant maize on 3ha of land. Maize has a higher yield of 10 tons per ha and the price is 2,500 VND/kg.

They plant cassava for livestock breeding. Because cassava is harvested gradually, i.e. it is harvested when needed, so they cannot estimate the yield.

Fruit trees here are orange, mango, grapefruit, guava, jackfruit, tamarind and coconut. They eat mango. It costs about 6,000 VND/kg if sold. The other trees do not account for a large number.
Use of forest resources

Besides agricultural activities, people earn a significant income from the use of forest resources. They usually go to the forest to collect *Elettaria cardamomum* and *Stemona tuberosa* and exploit wood to sell to Vietnamese.

Those exploited to sell include *Erythrophleum fordii*, teak trees, *Chukrasia tabularis*, and *Lagerstromia*. The income from selling wood of each household is about 2-3 million VND per month.

They trap small wild animals such as muntjac, bird, porcupine, deer, and wild boar. Not only do they eat wild animals but they also sell them or dry for storage. Moreover, other products including mushroom, honey and bamboo shoots are collected for household use.

It is estimated that each household earns up to 25 million VND/month thanks to forest resources.

Use of river resources

There are 6 out of 8 households fishing by net, rod and cast net. 4 households have motorboat to transport goods and woods earning 5 to 6 million VND/month. Some fish kinds in Nam Non River are *Bagarius rutilus*, catfish, carps and shrimps. They get 20-30kg of fish each time. They go fishing 5-6 times per month on average; however, they can get the most in the season of high water level from May to September. They catch fish to eat and the big ones are sold to earn money for the education of their children or daily spending. The price of *Bagarius rutilus* is about 60,000-80,000 VND/kg.

Moreover, people collect mosses 2-3 times per month. Vegetables which grow along the river are ferns, Okinawan spinach, and amaranth.

Livestock breeding

The village has 30 cows, which are raised in the forest. It takes about 2 hours to walk there.

Each household breeds pigs (2-3 pigs/household on average) by the free-range method. Ducks and chicken are not bred in large quantity. There are only 5-6 chickens and 3 ducks per household.

Poultry and pigs are bred for eating. Cows are sold but not many. Each cow is sold for the price of 20 to 22 million VND.

Secondary occupations

The secondary occupation of most of women is weaving. Each skirt can be sold for 500,000 VND to 1 million VND. It takes 2 to 3 days to finish one skirt.

The village head is entitled to an allowance of 120,000 LAK/month (equivalent to 331,587 VND), the vice head of the village is entitled 100,000 LAK/month (equivalent to 276,322 VND).

1.6. Education

There are 3 men in the village who graduated from high school.

All children go to boarding school which is located in Xop Lan Village, 12km away from the the village (primary school and secondary school). Children go to school by boat or on foot, and they go home with a frequency of every 2 months. All tuition fees and living costs of primary students are paid by the State.

The secondary school is in Xiangkhouang (40km from the village, takes 6 hours to walk). There is a High school, which is located in Xop San Village, Noong Het District. All students get full subsidy from the State. There is no student who leaves the school and takes vocational training; they only finish high school and then stay at home to help family or the female ones get married. There are 3 students in the 9th grade, 2 students in the 12th grade, 4 students and 1 student in the 8th and the 7th grade respectively.

Women can read and write in Lao language. There are 3 elder people who cannot read and write in Laos because they did not go to school.
The villagers communicate in Kho Mu language (Lao) and Thai language. There is only village head who can understand and speak Vietnamese fluently.

1.7. Health and Health Care

The villagers use the gully water, which flows to the tank built by the State for cooking and daily activities.

Adults and children take a bath near the tank and in the river in both winter and summer. The river is about 20m from the village.

Adults in the village usually suffer from headache, stomach-ache, cough, and flu. Children may have diarrhoea, cough, asthma, and measles. Women usually have gynaecological diseases or unexplained back pain.

They usually use southern herbology to cure headache, stomach-ache, and diarrhoea. Only in severe cases when the traditional medicine does not work, they go to the hospital. People go to My Ly clinic or Muong Xen District for treatment. There is also a case with a patient going to a hospital in Vinh City in Vietnam (2 years ago).

There is no traditional healer or midwife. The village health worker is male. He has been trained for 6 months. His main task is to propagandize and to give advice for disease prevention and personal hygiene.

There is a villager who can use herbs to cure but not for money.

No one suffers from HIV/AIDS or use drugs. There is no programme propagandizing against HIV/AIDS or for reproductive health, gender equality or child care.

Members of the Women’s Union share experience in child care and disease prevention when the season changes.

Children are fully immunized, because the clinic worker goes to the village monthly for injections according to the vaccination schedule of the State.

Women usually give birth at home if they have good health with the help of some experienced people because the clinic is far from the village. There are two women that went to My Ly clinic to deliver their children in 2015 and 2016.

No mother and children die from home childbirth. The pregnant women with good health rarely suffer from miscarriage.

Two children are malnourished because the mothers have no milk and food for her children.

There are no periodic programs or examinations of reproductive health care for women. If people are sick, they go to Vietnam for a check-up or treatment by themselves.

All households have vegetables, meat and fish for families and children everyday; besides pigs and chicken and fish, people go hunting deer, porcupines and pangolins to eat.

Besides growing vegetables on the upland fields or near the river, women collect wild vegetables along the river and in the forest for their families. They also collect mosses to eat 2-3 times per month.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

The village has a specific place – a temple at a tree whose name is not remembered to worship the village divinity. In front of the tree, there is a small temple which looks similar to a stilt house but it is made from bamboo and has no wall. The tree and temple are located in the upstream and stands 30km far from the nearest house. The annual celebration takes place in September and December in the front of the village with the participation of representatives of all households. There it is forbidden to cut, destroy or throw waste. The villagers slaughter a pig during the celebration. If they harvest well, they slaughter a cow.

The cemetery is located 2km far from the village. According to the villagers, if the village is affected by the HPP, and so is the graveyard, they will have to hold a celebration for the village divinity and ghosts so that they agree with the new place. Ceremonial objects include pigs or cows or buffaloes. The village head and the shaman do some divination what the spirits want
and they will offer that object. There is no shaman in the village. Thus, they have to invite one from the other village when there is a celebration. The remuneration is 1-1.5 million VND per time.

Each household will worship with a chicken when they build a new house. They choose the building date on an even day of the beginning of the months of the lunar calendar.

1.9. Gender Issues

Women in the Phiangsang focus on cultivation and housework. They also participate in women’s union; however, they have the same blood so they do not organize any WU activities. 3 older women are illiterate. Girls go to school as boys.

Males are responsible and make decisions concerning all work related to trading and production.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

In the village, there are titles as village head, village policeman, health worker; however, these titles are just formality because the this is a small village and they are relatives. All decisions are made by the father.

There are no programs or projects of the Government that were implemented in the past 5 years.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

All villagers are aware of the HPP and compensation but do not know the way and price of compensation. The whole village (village head’s household and households of seven children of him) decided to stay in the village until they receive the compensation and then move to Vientiane or Xiangkhouang.

In the case the households do not move to Vientiane or Xiangkhouang, the village head had a back up plan related to resettlement site location. He chooses an area (about 5km upwards) near a road under construction connecting Kouan District with Nonghet District.

1.12. Additional Issues

The village head is a Vietnamese. He is aware of the HPP and the compensation information, so he requires his family move to another place after receiving the compensation.

According to the evaluation of the interview group, fish production cannot be up to 20-30 kg for each catch.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Phiangxang village with 08 participants, 4 men and 4 women.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

Villagers knew about the project implementation. The project has organized meeting to inform previously the project information. However, villagers did not know any specific information about the project. They wish to know more information such as when the project is implemented, which properties will be affected, how much they will be compensated, where is new relocation land, new cultivation land. They also wish that the project information is officially in writing, including map, diagrams.
2.2. *Forest use*

Going to forest is daily work of villagers. Men and women in the village all go to forest but with different purposes:

- Men go to forest to do logging, hunting
- Women go to forest to collect vegetable, mushroom, herbs.

Forest is the main source of living of villager, includes protection and production forests:

- Protection forest, as said by FGD participants, is strictly protected by many authorities such as forest guard, commune People’s Committee and villagers. Villagers are prohibited to exploit timber, cutting tree or hunting there. Any activities approaching protection forest which cause unsafety will be interrupted and punished under the law.

- Production forest is managed by the Government and local authority. This is forest where villagers cultivate to make their living. Households in the village cultivate in the production forest, without land use right certificate and not specifically allocated to household. Villagers usually cultivate 1 crop a year then leaving fallow for 5-6 years before reassuming. They do not use any fertilizer, but because of high sloping, the land plot must be left fallow for few year to make the soil good again before reassuming the cultivation. During fallow interval, this is where villagers grazing livestock.

Products from forest are plenty:

- Timber: including iron wood, bead tree, etc... each logging household can earn some of 2-3 million VND per month. There are 4 people in the village go out to work. Decay timber and branches are used as firewood.

- There are 6/8 households go fishing, they use net, rod, hook. 4 households have motorboat for transporting goods, log. Their income per month is some of 5-6 million VND. Fish are: catfish, carp, shrimp, etc... Each fishing yield 20-30kg, they go fishing 5-6 time a month On average. Fish is for family needs and to sell. Fish costs some of 60-80 thousand VND per kg. Villagers go fishing daily for eating. Fish is abundant in rainy and flood seasons but they catch many in dry season because it is easy then.

- Hunted wild animal and bamboo shoot, mushroom, wood ear mushroom are used as food for family. Some is used fresh, some is boiled, fried, dried, etc... Villagers go hunting and collect forest products when they need. Mushroom, wild vegetable, bamboo shoot are appeared and collected the most in rainy season, July, August annually. Besides they collect thysanolaena latifolia to make broom.

- Herbs are for curing illness and to sell when they collect lot. Herbs will be processed differently depending on each type of illness such as dry, grind, crush, etc. Some boil, some put in wine... Herbs are available Year-round and plenty in the forest: balanophora fungosa, stemona tuberosa, linzi mushroom, spicy herbs, etc...

- Villagers collect moss also, some of 2-3 times a month. They collect wild vegetable such as fern, amaranth, etc...

- Ghost forest is where burying the deaths. This is sacred forest where no one dare to violate. When someone died, funeral will be done as traditional way. They do not have custom of exhumation.

2.3. *Hunting*

Wild animal available in the forest includes: deer, bird, porcupine, board, rat, snake, wild chicken. Hunted animal which is for sale include rat, bamboo rat, because they are plenty in the forest. Those hunt lot will sell to those in need in and outside the village.

Tools for hunting mainly are trap, net, crossbow, catapult.

Who visits forest regularly will have meat daily, who visits less, will have meat to eat every 2-3 days. Villagers can have fish for every day eating if they go fishing frequently.
### List of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1.500.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-200.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90.000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

**Mr. Le Manh Hung**

**FGD summary**

The Focus Group Discussion was held with 06 participants, 4 men, 2 women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity of Laos.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.
3.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

- Villagers knew about the project from survey team who came and told them that hydropower project will effect to villager. But they do not know how they will be affected.
- Villagers do not care much, if the hydropower project requires relocation, they will relocate.
- It is better if there are more information such as how they are affected, when the project is implemented, relocation will be compensated or not. Villagers wish that the information will be made public to villagers as soon as possible. It will be the best if village officer, commune officer or project staff can organize meeting with villagers and inform them.

3.2. Boat use

There are 4 households having motor boat for fishing, but they use mainly for transporting goods, log and earn some of 5-6 million VND/month On average.

3.3. Fishing

6/8 households in the village go fishing, they use net, rod, casting net.

Each fishing they catch some of 20-30kg of fish. They go fishing some of 5-6 times a month. Fish is for family and to sell to. Fish price is some of 60,000 – 80,000 VND per kg. Fish is available all the time, big fish comes in high water season between May and September.

Caught fish is for family or to sell when they fish lot. Cash from selling fish is used to pay children school fee or for daily expenses. Besides doing upland cultivation and going to forest, fishing is important to villagers.

Villagers collect moss from the river 2-3 times a month.

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

- 6/8 households in the village go fishing, they use net, rod, casting net.
- Some fish species on Nam Non river: sheatfish, carp, shrimp…
- Besides, villagers collect moss from the river 2-3 times a month. They also collect wild vegetable from the river bank such as fern, amaranth.

Villager go fishing Year-round. They go fishing when they not go to forest, to the field and in free time regardless whether high or low water season. Fish is available all the time. High water season comes with big fish but difficult to catch while in low water season fish seem to run away. But low water makes it easier to fishing using casting net or basket while net is easier in high water season.

3.5. Other information and reflections

The village head is Vietnamese. He knows about the project and he knows that there will be compensation by the project in case of relocation. Therefore, though the whole village has moved to Vientiane or further, but he requests his family to stay waiting for the project compensation before moving to somewhere else.

As from the site conditions, survey team member has the feeling that it seem to be impossible when catching 20-30 kg of fish each fishing.

4. Report from FGD with Agriculture And Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

FDG summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held with 08 participants, all men. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.
List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

The village has heard about the planned HPP from district officer and from village head for quite long time but they did not know when it is implemented. Recently, there was officer form Vietnam who came and talked about the project but did not say when the project will be done.

The village does not know exactly when the project is implemented so they wish to know about the project schedule, when will it be constructed, when is the compensation, what are impacts, where to go if the village is submerged, is the land for cultivation in resettlement site, whether the new place is constructed with infrastructure? They said that now they are difficult, no road, no school, children from the village must go to other to study or to district to study.

The best way to public the project information is meeting with villagers or broadcasting on louder speaker. Detail schedule should be given to the village head so he will explain to villagers.

4.2. Land use

Upland field of the village is located to the West of the village, some of 300m far, most of them are on mountain while some runs along river bank in 2km. It takes some of 20 minutes to get to the field for close location. 1/3 of upland field of villagers is 1km far from the village. Villagers go to the field and back within a day.

Rice cultivation land area of the village is some of 10ha. They cultivate 2-3 crops on one plot then leaving fallow for 3-4 years before reassuming, because land here is quite good comparing to that of other villages.

Upland field area is on sloping topography. They do not have paddy rice field. Cultivation is done by traditional way, no cattle pulling force or machine is mobilized. Sometimes they apply some new cultivation techniques such as how to take care and use fertilizer under instruction by agricultural extension staff. The village head, who was a teacher, remembers many new techniques instructed by agricultural extension staff. All of upland cultivation depends on weather, no irrigation system.

Upland field is not yet furnished with land use right certificate, but every households has certificate of pastureland allocation which is planned for each village.

Before there were many households but now not many left, so upland cultivation area is plenty. Households can still reclaim more land to cultivate if they are able. But now On average each household in the village has 2-3 members at working age so they can only able to cultivate the present land area, even when they move to new land plot they still can do as same area as before.

Some land area along river bank, which is 50-80m above the water level On average, is planted mainly with maize, cassava. In high water year, such land area could be affected by 50%.

4.3. Crops

Main crops in the village are rice, corn, cassava, fruit trees such as mango, apple, etc.

Productivity of each crop is listed below:

Rain-fed rice: in good harvest year, rice yield is 3-4 ton/ha, each household cultivate some of 30-40kg of seed. Rice is mainly for family demand, sometimes not enough, so there is no rice to sell.

Maize: local corn race, upland cultivation method is holing, seeding, harvesting. The whole village has some of 3ha of corn. 5-7 corncob/ha. Corn is for livestock breeding, sometimes sell to Vietnamese trader with price of 2,500 VND/kg corn seed.

Cassava: On average each household cultivate some of 200 bushes (some of 1ha for the whole village), mainly for livestock breeding. They harvest the amount they need when they need.
Fruit tree: mango is for family demand, but in good harvest year, they will sell at price of 6,000 VND per kg. Products can be sold right at the village in Vietnam Dong. But households in the village cultivate enough for their demand only. In bad harvest year, they lack of food for 1-2 months, mainly in May, June every year.

In hunger time, villagers go to forest to collect herbs such as stemona tuberosa or exploit timber such as iron wood, bead tree, lagerstroemia to sell to Vietnamese. Each logging household can earn 2-3 million VND per month On average.

4.4. Livestock

Livestock in the village are buffalo, pig, cow, duck, chicken, etc. Livestock is breeding mostly as free grazing method on upland field (where they build fence for protection) or in protection forest area.

Pig: villagers raise to local pig race, each household On average has 3-5 pigs. There are some of 20 pigs in the village. Pig is free breeding. Villager kill pig for family event or village event. Sometimes when they need cash they sell pig at price of 80,000 – 100,000 VND per kg depending on weight of pig.

Cattle: local race, grazing on upland field (with protection fence on just harvested field) or along river bank. Each household raises 2-3 cattle. When they need cash they will sell at price of 25-30 million VND each.

Chicken, duck: each household has 20-30 chicken, for family demand only, so they frequently have meat to eat.

Besides, households go fishing too. They use net, rod to fish. If they fish lot, they can sell. Price depends on each type of fish, varying between 50,000 and 100,000 VND per kg.

Water to livestock breeding is from river, ravine.

4.5. Other information and reflections

This village migrated from Vietnam (Chieng A village) in 1978, deputy village head is a teacher from Vietnam, whose wife is the villager. At the most crowded time the village has 30-40 households, but now, due to living condition, they have left to Muong Kham, Vientiane, and therefore only 8 households left. All of them are children, grandchildren of the deputy village head (before he was village head but now his son does, he is deputy village head and the elder person of village).

100% households in the village are poor and certified with poor household certificate. They have never ever received any support from the Government.

5 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held with 08 participants, 5 men, 3 women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity of Laos, ages vary between 32 and 70.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

Knowledge about the planned HPP

They heard about the HPP, but nothing happened yet. First, there was a survey team who came and told about the HPP. But they do not know when it is implemented. They heard information last year, rumor only, within the village, the commune. But nothing official yet.

Hydropower will impact to properties, crops of villagers, and require relocation. They need to know more information, how inventory will be done, how their social security will be?
5.1. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village was established in 1978, migrated from Vietnam (Chieng A village). The village head was a teacher from Vietnam who came here and married to his wife who is the villager. Before there were about 30-40 households but now most of them moved to Muong Kham, Vientiane. There are only 8 households left who are children and grand children of the village elder (who just passed village head position to his son 2 months before).

Population: 8 households of Laos, 35 individual, 14 female and 21 male. There are 21 people between the age of 16 and 60, one single mother headed by woman (02 children). So far the village has never received any support from the Government. 100% households in the village is poor and certified with poor household certificate.

Villagers live on upland cultivation, livestock breeding, poultry breeding. They usually go to forest to collect stemona tuberosa root, iron wood, bead tree wood, lagerstroemia timber to sell to Vietnamese. Each logging household earn some of 2-3 million a month. There are 4 villagers now go out to work.

There are 6/8 households go fishing, they use net, rod, casting net. 4 households have motorboat for transporting goods, log. Their income per month is some of 5-6 million VND. Fish are: catfish, carp, shrimp, etc.. Each fishing yield 20-30kg, they go fishing 5-6 times a month. On average. Fish is for family needs and to sell. Fish costs some of 60-80 thousand VND per kg. Besides, villagers collect moss from the river 2-3 times a month. They also collect wild vegetable from the river bank such as fern, amaranth.

Finished grade 12: 3 children. Distance to primary school 12km, children go to school by boat or on foot (2 months approximately), grade 9: 3 children, grade 12: 2 children, grade 8: 4 children, grade 7: 1 child, illiterate: 3 female children.

They go to Vietnam for health inspection, no clinic in the village.

Totemism is reflected by family restriction and stories explaining origination of families. Family names of Quang, Luong, Lu will not eat tiger, family name Sam will not eat crow, family name Lo not eat “Noc tang lo” bird, Vi family name will not eat unicorn beetle. Family name also reflects class: gentle class names Sam, Lo, Cam, some family names from normal class then become gentle class such as Hun, Lang, Vi, Quang, some family names from normal class such as Luong, Vi, Ca (small water hen), Loc (varan), Lo (koel), Lo (crow), etc. Many family names are affected by other ethnicities such as family names Pham, Nguyen, Le (originate from Viet Muong), Sam (Chinese), Hun, Vi, Mun, Quang (Laos). Family names reflects in each relationship “ai nong”, “lung ta” and “nhinh xao”. “Ai nong” is relatives on the father’s side of the same totemism, same generation accounting up to 7 generations. “Lung ta” is male members of family having marriage relationship with families having marriage relationship with female person of “ai nong” (on the father’s side). This is trace of the previous union between 3 clans.

Thai family is patriarchal family. Trace of big family is gone now. In Thai family, power concentrates on the family head. His sleeping place is right below main tower of the house where hanging ritual things of the house, just next to house ghost altar.

Marriage of Thai before characterized with purchasing features. “Ca hua” amount is the price of the girl which the groom must pay in kind and he must stay at his wife’s family. When “ca hua” amount has not been paid, until death the husband ghost can not “live together” with his wife ghost. The custom do not support male and female from not the same class to get married. Purchasing characteristics are clearly conflict with free love between young people. It is allowable by the tradition when parents do not allow marriage of a couple that the man can “rob” or the couple can escape to other Muong (village group) or escape in to Buddha temple for being “con, huon”, or simply just staying at the girl’s house waiting for persuade. Thai family is patriarchal family with one husband and one wife which is ruled by strictly custom. One husband and many wives family happens only in high class, gentle class. The society accuses disagreement family, divorced. Fate of such family members are servants of the Muong lord. Punishment is by cash, buffalo, pig and is a heavy one for case violating stability of the family such as adultery, incest.
5.2. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Cultivation land is share in the village, because all households in the village are members of a family.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating on the same plot which has been used by the whole family not approaching to land of other household in the same team.

Role of elders/leader in land system

No role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

The forest is just next to the village where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited but livestock grazing is allowable.

Ritual: before seeding, Thai offer worship to land god at the field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and offer New Rice Ceremony (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has a temple where worshiping gods and ancestor who helped them setting up the village. The village worship is performed twice a year at the temple.

The village worship is performed twice a year in September and December, representatives from households will join. The village ghost worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) but now because number of villagers left is not many so they do not organize anymore.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

No impact.

5.3. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

Each village has temple for general worship of the whole village. They come there to worship also when someone is ill. Annually they organize the village worship twice at the temple.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

Village worship is performed in September and December every year, representatives from households will join. The worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Graveyard is some of 2km away. If the village is submerged, the graveyard will be submerged too. Abandoning the village means abandoning graves, but they must offer worship spirits so the deaths can follow them. In the worship to abandon grave, they must offer pig and drug. They must invite wizard to check new land.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

Temple is affected and shall be relocated. Before relocation, they must offer worship to invite gods going with them.
Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

6  Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 14/1/2017 with 08 participants. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity of Laos. One of them is illiterate; 1 finished grade 3; 2 finished grade 5; one finished grade 6, 1 finished grade 8, and 2 finished grade 9.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

They heard about the HPP 2-3 years ago, but did not know when it is implemented.

The village management board and households in the village wish if the project is constructed and caused submergence, the whole village will be relocated to Xiengkhuoang. The Government told them but residential land has not been selected.

The project information is just fine noticed to the village management board then village head, deputy village head will tell villagers.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

Villagers are Kho Mu ethnicity who moved from Chieng A here in 1978, women in the village are Kho Mu too, 1/3 of women from other village got married to men in the village and stayed. Some households have moved to Xiengkhuoang from the village.

There is one single mother household who is raising 2 small children.

Women sometimes go out of the village, for business and go out. Mostly to Vietnam (My Ly commune center), some of 30km from the village, by navigation (by boat) to buy things or for health inspection. Muong Quan is district town, some of 80km from the village but women from the village go there rarely, only men go when they have work to do.

There is one Vietnamese (village head) who can speak Vietnamese (he is a retired teacher).

Women and men in the village can speak Thai and Laos.

There is no women work as leader, no women work in the commune.

6.3. Health and nutrition

Villagers use water from ravine which is flowing by gravity to water tanks built for eating and daily living activities.

Adult and children bath at tanks and river in summer and in winter too. The river is some of 50m far from the village.

Common illness of villagers are: head ache, stomach ache, cough, flue. Children suffer from diarrhea, cough, asthma, measles. Women suffer from gynaecology, back pain, reason unknown.

In most case of illness, villagers cure by herbs which can cure head ache, stomach ache, diarrhea on children. Severe cases will go to hospital because many illness can not cure by herbs. Villagers said that they go to clinic at My Ly commune to cure to go to Muong Xen, some cases went to hospital in Vinh city of Nghe An province to cure (2 years ago).
There is no quack, midwife in the village. The village health care officer is a man. The village health care officer attended to a training course for 6 months. His main job is to propaganda and instruct villagers how to prevent diseases and keep personal cleanliness.

There is one person in the village knows how to process herbs to cure illness in villagers without any charge.

There is no HIV person in the village, no drug dependence, only cigarette smoker. There has been no program propaganda HIV, reproductive health, gender equality or children caring instruction.

Women at women union meeting share with each other experience in caring children and how to prevent disease at season changing interval.

Children is vaccine injected. Health care officers come to the village to inject vaccine monthly according to the Government vaccine injection time table.

Women in the village usually deliver at home, because of far distance to clinic. If they feel strong they will ask for help from experienced person. There were 2 mothers in 2015 and 2016 who came to My Ly commune clinic to give birth.

There is no case of death on mother and child at home delivery. Pregnancy women are normally strong, few case of termination.

There are 2 malnutrition children because their mothers has no milk and few food to feed them.

There is no regular health inspection program or reproductive health inspection to women. Who has trouble will go themselves to Vietnam for inspection and curing.

All of households in the village have food daily for family and children. They eat vegetable, meat, fish because besides raising pig, chicken, go fishing, villagers go hunting in the forest where they can hunt deer, porcupine, pangolin.

Vegetable is planted on upland field or along river bank. Women collect wild vegetable from the river bank and from the forest for their family needs. Every month villagers collect moss twice or three times from the river for family meal.

6.4. Education

Villagers communicate with each other in Kho Mu language (Laos) and Thai. Only the village head can listen and speak fluently Vietnamese language.

Women know how to read, to write fluently Laos. There are 3 elder people who did not attend to school so do not know how to read, how to write.

There is no school in the village, children go to a primary school which is 12 km far from the village, normally by boat or on foot. Children stay a boarding school and come home every two months. School free and living expenses are paid by the Government. Secondary school is at Xiengkhuoang (40km far, 6 hours on foot). High school is at Xop Lan village, Bo Nhia commune, Noong Het district. All children who go to school are paid by the Government. There is no child dropping school, no children go to vocational school. They usually drop school after high school to help family or getting married in case of female children.

6.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

On average, each household cultivates some of 1ha. They cultivate rice, corn, cassava. A land plot will be cultivated in 2-3 years then leaving fallow. Household having lot member can cultivate 2ha. In good harvest year, they can harvest 3-4 ton of rice a crop, in bad year, it is only 1-2 ton/year. If they have lot corn they will sell. Cassava is for livestock breeding. Besides rice, corn, cassava, villagers also raise livestock such as cattle, poultry on upland field for family demand and to sell for family income.

In good harvest year, they will sell rice. Rice price is 16,000 VND/kg.

Villagers plant also orange, mango, guava, jackfruit, coconut, tamarind.

Men in the village go fishing for sale, 2-3 times a week. Fishing is for food, and for sale if they catch lot.
Women go to forest with men to collect mushroom. Men go to forest to collect stemona tuberosa root, etc., or logging timber to sell to Vietnamese. Men decide to buy, to sell agricultural products and family things.

Women in the village can weave. Almost all households in the village do. Each skirt may cost up to 500 thousand VND or 1 million VND. It takes 2-3 days to weave a skirt like that.

6.6. Other information and reflections

Recommendation by women group to the hydropower project:
- They need to know soon the project plan and whether they are relocated.
- If they are relocated, if propose to relocate the whole village. New place shall be selected by fortune teller.

3.6.3.3 Sopsan Village – 16 January 2017

1 Village Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

Sopsan is a village of the Muong Duong group in Kouan District, Houaphanh Province. The Village is located in the right side of Nam Non River, the opposite is Cha Nga Village of Ky Son District, Nghe An Province. The Village is 6km far from the Muong Duong Group and 50km from Kouan District and the distance to Nonghed District of Xiangkhoang is about 50km.

Villages around the area and villages from Vietnam can go to Sopsan Village by waterway. However, Sopsan villagers rarely go to Vietnam by boat, except when they need to buy things which are not in Kouan district or Vietnamese traders do not bring to the village. In addition, they can cross the river to Vietnam for medical purposes.

The location of the houses in the village is similar to that of Thai people and also faces to the Nam Non River. The houses are quite closely set. About 5 houses are located about 30 meters from the water edge; the others are gradually higher up and back into the interior. The houses are numbered and the address is specified. According to the people, this number is similar to the ID number of the household and it is recorded in the household register.

The village has no electricity grid and is still using solar power. The Lao government has assisted people with solar systems with additional funding from a Chinese company.

The Village has 2 water tanks funded by a French NGO. The tanks are scattered in the village and with tap and bathing area.

Sanitary conditions are acceptable. Since the houses are not too close together, the pigs, although are bred by free ranger, are not much, so the environment in the village and around the village seems quite clean. Households do not have toilets so they release in the forest.

2. Population

The whole village has 16 Lao Loum households with 89 people. According to villagers, they are Thai people (in Laos, divided into 3 groups, Laos Loum, Lao Thowng and Laos, but each group has different ethnic groups).

There are 14 poor households. In Laos, the level of household poverty assessed by each household is about 180,000 kip / household / month, which is considered to be poor.

Cause of poverty here is due to crop failure, roads are difficult, so if it makes the product is difficult to sell to other people, only traders.
1.2. **Village History and Migration**

The Village used to locate by the stream in this area, about 2km. Then they moved to here in 1954. In recent years, many households go to Vientiane because they do not like living in this area, remote areas and in Vientiane there are jobs and can earn money so they do not have to cultivate.

The main ethnic groups are Lao Loum. In marriages, ethnic groups are free to marry, without distinction of ethnic. Therefore, men and women in the village are also free to marry in another village or another place if the two of them are in love. There are also many other women from other places married into the village. Children receive the family name and ethnic of the father.

There are no female-headed households. The head of household is male, if any husband dies, they stay with son, son will be head of household. But there are no single women raising children in the village.

The women in the village also have some people leave the Village for working, they go to near area or further to work at Laos company. Sometime they go home.

The village has an elder to do many things, such as settling the quarrel, lawing, the village elders are voted, not from generation to generation.

1.3. **Land Availability and Land Use**

**Productive land**

- The cultivated land of the village is near, the nearest place is about 1 km, it takes 15-20 minutes to 1 hour depending on the distance or near. The entire area of cultivated land is upland field with sloping topography, no paddy fields. For sloping land without irrigation system, mainly depends on the rain.
- All upland fields have no land use right certificates, only land planning by the Village. Cultivation land of the village is managed by the community under the direct management of the village management board and village elders' council.
- The area of upland fields is approximately 100 ha, with an average of 1.5-2.5 ha / household / year with the rice seed sown from 100-200 kg / household. The planted area of maize is less than 3-5 kg per household per year, equivalent to an area of 2000-3500 m². Cassava is planted between 1500 and 3000 roots per household, equivalent to 700-900 m². The upland fields are very spacious and no one is in dispute with anyone.
- Each household is made up of 2-3 upland fields per year. Households have labour can make 4 pieces per year.
- Newly households will use the village land as land is abundant and used by community, and the village head have right to allocate cultivated land to newly households.
- There is no need to reclaim more land since the land is still abundant, and the forest land is protected and people are forbidden to exploit by the Government.

**Residential Land**

Residential land has been granted a land use right certificate and they have about 1000m² of land to build houses and gardens around the house. However, garden land is not used much, only planted some trees such as peppers, fruit trees ...

**Land along river**

Land the river is not used to grow crops or people do not collect vegetables to eat.

**Forest land**

Forest land belongs to protection forest and people are not allowed to exploit. Forests are also not allocated to the village for management purposes, there is a separate forest management board as this area is a nature reserve.

The management and allocation of land belongs to the government and the village has represented is the village management board. However, due to the size of the land, people are
less likely to have land conflicts, as well as new families cultivate the same productive land of the whole village.

1.4. Livelihoods and Labour

*Agriculture and production systems:*

**Crops**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Productivity (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waxy Maize</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice is a major crop that occupies an important place in daily life as a staple food source for households. They cultivate 1 crop/year.
- Waxy maize is mainly grown with 1 crop/year, with a very low productivity of only 1.2 ton / ha, mainly for eating.
- Most of the products are harvested after 2 years or gradually during the year. Most products are used to raise pigs.
- Some years do not lack rice to eat, if drought or forest animals destroyed, the food will be missing. This year, due to the low productivity of rice from the influence of weather conditions, 14 out of 16 households are lacked of rice.
- Local authorities do not support hunger, if lack of food people often buy from Vietnamese traders. Debt repayment will be paid when they sell timber. The timber are harvested by the whole village in the forest under the management and the amount from selling timber is shared equally among the communities.
- The main cultivation activities are the clearing trees, dig holds, plant seeds, use no mechanical application, no pulling force due to steep terrain.
- Rice products are mainly used for food for the household, if the rice is abundant, people will sell to Vietnamese traders for 5000 VND / kg.

**Livestock Breeding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Each household has 1-2 buffaloes, in 2015, due to Foot-and-mouth disease, most of the buffaloes died and could not be treated.
- There are 250 pigs in the village, mostly local pigs. Each household has 5-7 pigs. There are households have 15 pigs but they are small.
- The current number of chickens is about 600, with an average of 15-20 chickens per household, however the number of chickens may decrease as a result of the disease in March.
- Cows raised in the form of breeding are mainly local, free-ranging grazing, pasture grazing or freeing in natural forests. There is a system of protection fences for upland
fields during the growing season. After harvesting, upland crops are freely grazed. Cattle as adults are mostly sold to Vietnamese traders. Only slaughter when there are jobs or family work as wedding. Price from 6-10 million VND per head depending on the weight. Cows sell only when the family needs money to buy rice or sick, build house, worship ceremony ... ... on average 2 years they sell 1 cow.

- Pigs are partly sold when there is a buyer or for sale in the village. Price of pig sold to Vietnamese about 100,000 VND / kg right at the village.
- Chicken are raised mainly to serve the needs of the household; people rarely sell chicken.
- The food of the household is mainly vegetables and fish caught in the river, they eat meat when the family has ancestor worship or festival.
- Water sources for breeding mainly from spring water and river water
- When cows and pigs are sick, there is no cure, commune-level veterinarians do not come for treatment, and people do not know how to stop the deaths of cattle and poultry.

**Use of river resources**

Everyone participate in fishing. The fishing is done in free time, not crop harvest. Men usually cast nets; children catch fish using baskets. People usually go fishing along the riverside without going far. There are 5 motor boats for fishing, and people can borrow each other's boat.

- There are many fish, mainly Anguilliformes, Rachycentron canadum, Garra fuliginosa, Lethrinidae, Puntius brevis. Fish are caught to use as food and if more are sold to the Vietnamese. However, almost no sale.
- The river gives people a good source of nutrition. About 2-3 days, the households have fish once.
- The fishing tools of the villagers are simple, mainly using nets and baskets to catch the near shore fish. In the river, no river sections are forbidden from seasonal fishing, but it is forbidden to use electric jacks or blasting to fish. There are 2 men in the village, they know when the fish go find food and according to the knowledge from generation to generation, they know that fish live in shallow water depths to use appropriate mesh or fishing gear.

**Use of forest resources**

The forest is located around the village, around the house, it takes a few minutes to arrive. Men often go to the forest to cut timber to build house, and hunting. Sometimes it is 2km away from the house, it takes about 3 hours to go home because the road difficult.

- Women collect vegetables, bamboo shoots, herbs, firewood to meet the daily needs of the family.

The protection forest is very large; the tree is large. The villagers are not allowed to exploit timber, cut off trees. Forest protection is very rich in resources.

- Timber is taken to make houses, breeding facilities, or sell if more exploitation. They usually sell timber to Vietnamese traders. Wood or branches for firewood. Fuelwood is harvested or harvested as often as needed. The village has a specific forest for exploitation for house construction, where it is only necessary to inform the village head that it is possible to exploit timber.
- Wild animals are hunted for food and sold when abundant. Wild animals are sold to people inside and outside the village, and sold to Vietnamese traders. Wild animals are hunted daily according to the needs of the people.

- Herbs used to treat diseases and sell when abundant. Depending on the disease and each type of herb will be processed in different ways such as drying, sharp, dry spray canopy, mince. There are types made into water to drink, some types of alcohol, some types used to cover, apply ... Herbs year round and a lot in the jungle such as: Balanophoraceae, Stemona tuberosa lour to cure diarrhea, fever...

Forest species include: muntjac, birds, wild boars, mouse, snakes, wild chickens, squirrels. Hunting animals are usually sold as mice and Rhizomyinae because of the large amount of them. Many hunters will sell to those inside and outside the village.

The tools used for hunting are mainly traps, nets, crossbows, and slingshot.

Those who usually go to the forest for hunting will have animal meat every day, and who sometimes go hunting will have meat every 2-3 days per week. Fish caught daily serve the needs of the family if you willing to go fishing everyday, when abundant, fish will be sold to people inside and outside the village.

### Tables of forest products and using ways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collecting products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if possible)</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
<th>For sale Yes/No</th>
<th>Price/Kg or /product (if possible)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo roots</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>1-3 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood’s ear</td>
<td>1-2 days/time</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spices</td>
<td>1-2 times/week</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber for building house</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500,000-35 million /m3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.0000/ item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>1-2 times/day</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1,500.000/ item</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muntjac</td>
<td>1-3 months/time</td>
<td>All seasons</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>1-2 times/week</td>
<td>Throughout the year</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild boar</td>
<td>6-12 months/time</td>
<td>Harvest season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhizomyinae</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Throughout</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
times/day | the year | 1 | 1 | 30-200.000/kg
---|---|---|---|---
Fish | 1-2 times/day | Throughout the year | 1 | 1 | 30-50.000/item
Squirrel | 2-4 days/time | Throughout the year | 2 | 1 | 70-90.000/kg
Wild chicken | 1-2 weeks/time | Throughout the year | 2 | 1 | 70-90.000/kg

1.5. **Education**

Villagers communicate by Thai language and this is similar to the language of Thai people in Vietnam so they can talk to Vietnamese traders. Women only finish grade 5-6 or under. Children can go to school.

There is a primary school in the village with all children study. Then they go to secondary school in the commune and high school in the district. High school students are required to be boarders.

There are no drop-outs of the primary school, however, girls usually drop out from the secondary school as the school is too far. In the Village, men have higher education attainment than the women.

1.6. **Health**

The water for daily activities is from the river and mine water in the dry season and they use water from the tank to drink and cooking.

Women give birth at home with the help of old women. There is no birth delivery package; the villagers use simple tools that are disinfected by boiled water. Women use herbs from the forest to recover after giving birth.

Women do not go to the Kouan District clinic as the distance is too far and the road quality is not good especially in the rainy season. In center of Muong Duong group, there is no medical clinic.

There were some cases women died from hard delivery, however, there are no similar cases in recent years. There are also some cases the child died but they do not know the reason.

Women usually have headache, tired while children have temperature, flu. Children are feed more food than previously as adults give their food for the children so there is no case of malnutrition or they do not know as lacking of medical examination.

There is no health worker in the Village. They only have a traditional healer. When people sick, they use herb by themselves or pay 50.000 VND/bunch or buy herb from the traditional healer. In server cases, they go to the hospital in the District or Vietnam.

There are some drug addicts as they work outside the Village and learn bad things.

There is no propaganda about HIV in the village, but there is no mention of anyone being infected.

1.7. **Ethnic Culture and Leadership**

In the village there is a temple, before displacement, they must hold a ceremony to worship god with a cow and the shaman and the elder will implement. People worship twice times per year, in August and November. November is offering when the season is finished and worship at the temple and the families will also worship at home. When the Village perform the worship, all households participate.

The cemetery is located near the river bank has about 500-600 graves. With 5 different zones, one located near the river, an another is in the stream about 2km. When the tombs are flooded,
they do not move to another place. They only worship with one pig, one chicken, a jar of wine, sticky rice.

In order to move the Village and the Temple, they must hold a ceremony to say goodbye to the old village with a cow, then when in new place, they must hold a ceremony with a pig. For displaced households, they have to worship for a day. The shaman will choose a day to move the Village.

1.8. Gender issues

All issues are decided by men. Women are less educated than men. Indigenous knowledge issues are passed on to the daughter by the mother, but only in the field of husbandry and cultivation. They also teach each other how to make dresses, however, other fields such as worshipping or doing anything related to social work, women rely entirely on men.

There are also young women leave the village for working, but most of them work outside and then marry elsewhere, so new elements come from outside to the women in the village is almost none.

The frequency of going to the Quaker district of the women in the village is almost zero, especially for those who are 35 or over. They do not have car and can not ride a motorbike in difficult road conditions (because they wear skirts), and do not want to go far.

1.9. Community Organization and Development

The Village has village head, village vice chief, Women’s Union, Health worker, militia, cell party... however, the decision power belongs to village head. Spiritual issues related to community are depending on the elder, however, his role is only reconciliation and preservation some other customs. The elder will worship to the god for a bumper crop.

Beside programmes such as fresh water and solar power were commenced, households said that there were no socio-economic development programmes implemented in the past 5 years.

1.10. Awareness about the Planned HPP

- Villagers were informed of the project by the commune officials. However, they do not know when the planned HPP will be implemented
- The information on Planned HPP were provided by surveyor groups of Laos and PECC1 from Vietnam
- The Village do not know exactly when the project is implemented and the detailed plan
- They have no idea about the location for new place.

1.11. Additional Issues

The Village was surveyed on the day that they have a party. Therefore, people do not provide much information. There are 1 household so the participation by group is difficult to implement. Women are afraid of communication.

There is one Vietnamese trader lives in the Village (temporary residence). This man provide money for villagers to cultivate and sell the products for him after harvesting. He also willing to help and spend money for households when needed, then they will pay the debt by timber.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held at Sop San village with 08 participants, 4 men, 4 women. All of participants are Lao Lum ethnicity.
List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. **Knowledge about the planned HPP**

FGD participants knew about the HPP last 2 years through village meeting. But they only know that there will be a HPP constructed, no other specific information. They wish that the project will organize meetings to talk about the project. Project information should be in writing, map so they can read and easier to look. They wish to know more information such as the project scale, how much is the compensation, when it will be constructed, when it will be completed. They expect that meetings will be attended with officers from province, district, commune and all villagers will be attended. They wish they will be relocated with their children, grand children. They worry that if they stay, they will have no land for cultivation. If it is possible, they wish to relocate all the village. They need to know in case of resettlement, where they will be relocated to?

2.2. **Forest use**

Villagers cultivate only upland rice, because land is sloping, paddy is impossible. It takes some of 1.5 hour on foot to get the cultivation land area, some of 7km far away. Upland field is located within pastureland forest. Villagers cultivate rice, corn, cassava, peanut. Production area is normally protected with fence to keep livestock and wild animal from destroying crops. Cultivation, harvesting, visiting and protection upland field are provided by men and women. They cultivate one land plot in one year then leaving fallow for 5 years before reassuming. They said that land must be left fallow because on sloping topography soil is easily exhausted so they leave fallow the land in some year for better soil when coming back. Each household has 4-5 land plots for alternative cultivation. There is forest surrounding the village, taking few minutes to be there. Men and women, besides going in to forest for cultivation, harvesting, protecting crop, go to forest with different purposes:

- Men go to forest regularly to work as logging laborer, cutting timber to build house and hunting. Sometimes they collect timber from forest 2km far from home, taking 3hours to go because access is difficult and hard.

- Women go to forest to collect vegetable, bamboo shoot, herbs, firewood for daily demand of the family.

Protection forest is large with lots of big trees. Villagers are prohibited to exploit timber and cut tree from there. Protection forest is rich in forest resources.

Products from forest are plenty. Villagers collect things and hunt in pastureland forest. Hunted animal normally are rat, birds, wild chicken, board, snake, deer, squirrel. Besides wild vegetable, bamboo shoot, mushroom, herbs are also abundant there.

- Timber is exploited to build house, barn and for sale if they can collect many. Normally it will be sold to traders from Vietnam. Decay wood, branches are used as firewood. Firewood is collected regularly when they need. The village has a forest area specially for exploiting timber for house building. When someone needs, he must inform to the village head before he is allowed to exploit timber for house building.

- Hunted animal is for family food, or for sale when they hunt lot. Hunted animal is sold to people in and outside the village, to Vietnamese traders. Wild animal is hunted every day by the villagers’ demand.

- Herbs are used for curing and for sale when they collect many. Herbs will be processed depending on each type of illness such as drying, grinding, crushing, boiling, putting in wine, etc… Herbs are available Year-round and plenty in the forest: balanophora fungosa root, stemona tuberosa, linzi mushroom, etc…
2.3. **Hunting**

Wild animal in the forest are: deer, bird, boar, rat, snake, wild chicken, squirrel. Hunted animal for sale normally are rat, bamboo rat because of great quantity in the forest. Who hunt lot will sell to people in demand in and outside of the village.

Hunting tools mainly are trap, net, crossbow, catapult.

Who goes frequently to forest will have meat daily, those go less will have meat every 2-3 days. Fish is caught daily for family demand if they go frequently. Fish is sold also to people in and outside of the village if they catch lot.
### List of timber and non-timber products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Quantity (if available)</th>
<th>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=the least important</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or per product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herb</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30-500,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber for house building</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>10-50,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>10-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30-1,500,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>100-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30-200,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>30-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>70-90,000/item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Facilitator: Mr. Le Manh Hung

**FGD summary**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 at Sop Sang village with 10 participants. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, three the 4th grade, one the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the two last ones the 9th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.
3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP
- Villagers heard about the project information 2 years ago.
- Villagers did not know so clearly, how the project is done, large or small, where is it constructed, what is it impact, how economic life of villagers will be affected?
- They wish to know more information about: how much they will be compensated, when the project is started, where is it located, to which extent is the project impact, how their economic life will be affected?
- The best way is meeting or providing them with leaflet to each household so they can understand clearly.

3.2. Boat use
- There are 5 motor boat in the village which are used for navigation, goods transportation and fishing.
- These are private owned boat, but other household can borrow from each other for fishing.

3.3. Fishing
- Everyone, every household in the village go fishing regardless to men, women, old, young. They go fishing in free time to improve their meal, or for sale when they catch lot. Men, women, children use basket to catch small fish. Strong men go fishing using net, rod, casting net.
- Common fish species are: goby, cyprinid, red-eye trout, tortoise, tadpole depending which tool is used. But generally in surrounding, there are many type of fish, big and small fish. Big one weight tens of kg, small one takes tens fishes a kg.
- Caught fishes are used in daily meal. They fry, boil, cook, dry for eating. Fish is sold when they catch lot.
- Villagers can sell to Laos, to other people in the village and sell to Vietnamese. But normally fishing is only enough for family demand.
- Fishing is done Year-round but low water season is easier to fish and they catch more during that period. In cold weather, they are lazy and it seems that fish runs all away.
- In a day, one household can catch up to tens of kg of fish.

3.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats
- Villagers go fishing with basket (to fish along river bank), or net, rod, casting net.
- Villagers usually go fishing around the village, not fishing far.
- Generally no villagers know when is the spawning season, because there are many types of fish and they must have different spawning period from each other.
- But villagers know what is eating time of fish. It is depending on each type of fish so villagers can figure out fish habit, know what time is the fish eating time, shallow or deep. Depending on that so villagers can use net, rod, casting net or basket to catch fish.
- Villagers usually eat fish, they eat fish whenever they go fishing. On average, they have fish every 1-2 day.
- Villagers are afraid that if the HPP cause submergence, fish will run all away, no more to catch and living source from fishery will be gone.
- In the village, in the commune, there is no area prohibited for fishing. But the authority prohibits to use electric shock to catch fish because they are afraid of destroying all fish species.
- On river bank, villagers plant no crop and they rarely go there to collect things.

3.5. **Other information and reflections**

- Villagers said that fishery potential is existed and can be developed if they are invested on seed, fund and technique. There should be market for fish because lot of local resident want to buy fish for their meal.
- Villagers are afraid that submergence by the HPP will scare fish away, so fishery sources will be gone gradually.

4 **Report from FGD With Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households**

*Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu*

**FGD summary**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 with 08 participants, all men. All of participants are Lao Lum ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. **Knowledge about the planned HPP**

- Villagers knew about the planned HPP from district and commune officers. But they do not know when the HPP will be constructed.
- They knew about the HPP from a Lao survey team and a Vietnamese survey team (PECC1).
- Villagers do not know when and how is the plan.
- They wish to know detail plan of the HPP construction, when it comes to the village, how is the compensation plan, where is resettlement site, is there upland field for cultivation, how cultivation land will be arranged?
- They expect to be supported with road, schools, etc. in resettlement site.

4.2. **Land use**

- Cultivation land of the village is close, some of 500m from the village, taking about 15-20 minutes on foot, but some take up to 1 hour on foot to be there.
- In average each household cultivate on 1.5-2.5 ha of upland field with some of 100-200 kg of seed each household. Each household in average cultivate 3-5kg corn seed/household/year equivalent with some of 2000-3500 m². Each household cultivates 1500-3000 cassava bushes equivalent to 700-900 m². Upland field is plenty, no conflict.
- Each household has 2-3 upland field plots a year, some household with many members can have 4 plots a year.
- All of cultivation land is upland field, on sloping topography, no paddy land.
- Cultivation on upland field is supported with no irrigation, depending completely on weather.
- All of upland field has no land use right certificate, only planning for each village. Cultivation land area of village is managed by community under direct management of the village management board and village council of elders.
- New household will share land with the village because upland field fund of the village is still available. They use similar as the community. The village head has the right in allocation of cultivation land for new households.
Presently, no further reclamation will be required because land fund of the village for cultivation is still available, moreover, forestry land of the village is protection forest where exploitation is prohibited by the Government.

If the HPP is constructed, it may cause impact to many upland field area because upland field is located close to the river for easy transport.

Cultivation land area of households are also located close to the river for easier irrigation and transport during harvest.

Besides, villagers plant other crops such as vegetable, mustard green, onion, sugar cane close to the river, but in smaller scale.

All of 16 households in the village are located along the river, if water raises up, they must be relocated.

4.3. **Crops**

Main crops are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rain-fed rice</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice is main crop playing important role in daily living of villagers because it is main food source of households. Upland rice is cultivated 1 crop a year.
- Corn is local race, to be cultivated one crop a year, the corn yield is low, some of 1.2 ton/ha, harvested product is mainly used as food.
- Cassava is harvest after 2 years, or harvest gradually when they need. The harvested product is used mainly for livestock breeding.
- Villagers do not lack of rice, only in drought year or when wild animal destroy the crop then rice will be lack. This is, the rice yield is too low because of unfavorable conditions so 16/49 households in the village are lack of rice.
- Local authority will not support for hunger. If villagers lack of rice, they buy from Vietnamese trader and pay later when they have cash from selling timber. The whole village go logging from the forest area under management of the village. The amount gained from logging is divided evenly to the whole community.
- Cultivation is mainly done by traditional way, holing, seeding, harvesting. No machine, cattle pulling force is mobilized because of sloping condition.
- Rice is mainly used for family demand, in good harvest year, if rice is abundant, they will sell to Vietnamese trader with price of 5000 VND/kg.

4.4. **Livestock**

- Main livestock at the time of survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>20 cow</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>6 buffalo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>250 pig</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>600 chicken</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In average, each household has 1-2 cattle, in 2015 due to foot and mouth disease, cattle in the village died almost all without any possibility of curing.
Presently, the village has 250 pigs, mainly are local race, each household has 5-7 pigs, some has 15 pigs but small one only.

There are some of 600 chicken, each household in average has 15-20 chicken, but this number will be reduced because of disease in the coming March.

Cow is local race, free grazing by household. Pastureland area is upland field or in natural forest. During crop, there will be fence in upland field area for livestock breeding. After harvesting, cattle is free grazing. Mature cow is sold mainly to Vietnamese trader, and is killed only on village event or family events such as wedding, funeral. Cow costs 6-10 million VND each depending on size. Cow is sold when the family needs cash to buy rice or its member is ill, when they build house, for worship, etc… In average they sell one cow every two years.

Pig is sold when someone need to buy or for killing and selling pork in the village. The pig price selling to Vietnamese trader is about 100,000 VND/kg, price at the village.

Chicken is raise mainly for family demand, rarely sell.

Foods of household mainly are vegetable and fish caught from the river, very few meat, unless the family has event such as worship, death anniversary, or when there is ceremony in the village.

Water used in livestock breeding is mainly from river, stream.

When cattle, poultry suffer disease but veterinary staff from commune did not came, villagers do not know how to cure so cattle and poultry die lot.

5  Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 17/01/2017 at Sop Sang village with 8 participants, 5 men, 3 women. Participants are Lao Lum ethnicity (Thai ethnicity). Their ages vary between 60 and 71.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers have heard about the HPP, then information about when it is constructed, when is the compensation, what are project impacts. Villagers expect to have land for cultivation, residential land, school, power supply, road, etc... When they receive cash, many households will move to other place to live with children and grand children. Compensation for house should be fair and satisfied.

5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village has been here since 1954, but due to the war, they scattered everywhere. Then they came back. This village has only Lao Lum people. There are 49 household with 265 individual (Thai ethnicity).

In recent years, there are household moving to Vientiane because they do not like any more remote area and they moved there with their brothers who have more cash.

There is elder in the village, he can do lots of work, he solves conflict, fighting, rules. The village elder is voted not pass on from generation.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.
Cultivation land is planned and they cultivate together in different areas which are marked by stream, big tree, etc…. On average each household cultivate some of 4ha. Every one plant under a common rule of the whole village.

Sacred forest is just next to the village where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

**Land allocation system, decision making, land allocation to new household**

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating within the area planned for the village, because the planned land of the village is still large which can satisfy demand of villagers.

**Role of elders/leader in land system**

No role in land system.

**Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition**

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Ritual: before seeding, Thai worship land god at the field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and offer new rice worship (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has its temple to worship gods. Annually Thai offer worship twice at the temple. The village worship is performed in December every year, representatives from family will take part, the worship is performed right at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, shitting, making mess are prohibited.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

**Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values**

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

**5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places**

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river

The village has a temple which is common worship place of the whole village. If it is displaced, villagers must offer worship to invite gods and they must offer a cow. The worship is offered by wizard and the village elder.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants

The village worship is performed in December every year, representatives from families will take part. Offered things shall be prepared by households including chicken, sticky rice, wine, etc… to offer general worship for the village at temple and in each household. Every members will take part in.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

The village has ghost forest where no one is allowed to cut tree. No one go there. Graveyard is located close to the river where burying some of 500-600 graves in 5 different sections including 1 section close to the river, one location by a stream in 2km distance.

If submergence happens, they do not displace graves, they only offer worship with 1 pig, 1 chicken, 1 wine jar and sticky rice.
Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

Displacement of the village and the village temples must be done with consultant with a fortune teller. They must offer worship to say farewell to the village with a cow and another worship in new place with a pig. Household who must relocate, must offer worship which take a whole day to do. Day of movement should be consulted with wizard who will do the worship.

Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Each household worships their ancestor, if they are relocated they must offer worship in each household.

6 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 16/01/2017 with 8 female participants. All of them are Lao Lum; all of them know how to read, how to write Lao language.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They heard about the HPP long time ago, about 2 year ago, but now they cannot remember. The information about HPP was from the village head, by Lao officer and Vietnamese officer.

Villagers do not know when the project is constructed, if yes, whether their crops, houses will be compensated, how is the price, how much is the compensation. If the village is submerged, where and when they will be relocated to, whether the whole village is relocated?

Villager expect a meeting with the whole village so as they will know in more detail. They wish they will be explained by officer until they understand.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

In the village, mainly are Lao Lum ethnicity. In marriage, people from various ethnicity are free to get married unless they love each other, there is no distinguish about ethnicity. Therefore male and female in the village are free to get married to people in other village or other place if they love each other. There are women from other places got married to men in the village. Children will be named and followed ethnicity of their father.

There is no household head women. Household head is man. Widow lives with her son who is the household head. There is few household in the village, only 16, no single mother raising small child.

Women in the village go to other place to work, close and far distance. They work for Laos companies. Sometimes come home.

Young usually go out with friends because they can ride motorbike. Other go out only when they have work to do. It is only 6km from the village to the commune center so there is no difficulty in visiting relatives, wedding from the village and other surrounding villages to the commune center. Elder goes out less.

There is no woman working as leader, there is only a chairwoman of the village women union. She sometimes go out for meeting and then telling to the union member. The women union also mobilize its members to take part in village work when they are needed.
6.3. **Health and nutrition**

Domestic water resources for the village is from river, ravine. Washing using river water, drinking using ravine water or from raining. Ravine is close to the village so household goes there to take water for drinking, washing and bathing using river water. It depends on each household, some take water home to bath, some bath in the river. Only small child baths at home.

Women usually deliver at home, except some hard cases delivering at the commune clinic or go to hospital in Vietnam which is close.

Before there was women died during delivery because of difficult delivery, but recently, there was none. There were some children died but reason unknown.

Common illness suffered by women in the village are headache, tired; suffered by children are fever, flu. Children now no more suffering with hunger because during hunger period, adult usually spare food for children so there is no malnutrition child in the village. There may be yes but no inspection so no one know exactly.

There is no health care officer in the village, only quack. Not severe illness will be cured by herbs collected from forest, if they can not collect, they must buy at price of 50 thousand a bundle or go to see quack to buy herbs. In severe case, they go to commune clinic or to hospital.

There are some drug dependence cases because they went out to work and became drug dependence.

No one propaganda about HIV in the village.

6.4. **Education**

Villagers communicate in Lao Lum, Lao Thung, Kho Mu, Mong, Vietnamese languages. Women study up to grade 6 only. But young villagers all know how to write, how to read Laos.

There is a primary school at the village so children at school age all attend to school. Secondary school is at commune, high school is at Muong Duong district. High school children must stay boarding.

No children drop primary school, but up to secondary school, female children usually drop school because of far distance. In the village, male children is higher studied than female children.

6.5. **Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization**

Every households in the village cultivate upland field. But they cultivate only upland rice because of sloping topography where paddy rice cannot be cultivated.

Upland rice is some of 7km far from the village, taking 2 hours on foot. It depends on household but normally each household cultivate some of 80-100 kg of seed, 1 crop rice, yield 3-3.5 ton rice. Household has some of 3-5 upland field plots to cultivate corn, cassava, sweet potato, vegetable. It is only for family demand and livestock breeding, not for sale. Normally it is enough to eat, but last year they were shorted, must buy from Vietnam. When they need cash they sell pig, chicken, or buffalo, cow, or exploit timber to sell for cash.

Cultivation land area is mainly in forest but also near river too. Area near river is cultivated with vegetable, mustard green, onion, sugar cane. Every house raise pig, chicken as free grazing so cultivation there must be protected by fence.

Products from forest are wild vegetable, bamboo shoot, mushroom, herbs, snake, rat, bird, boar, deer, etc…

Forest products are mainly for family demand. Some people sell, but not many.

Household living near the river uses net, casting net, rod to catch fish. Women use basket to catch shrimp, tadpole, crab, etc… They also collect moss when season comes. These are mainly for family demand but they will sell if they collect lot, but rarely.
### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

**Date** 1/17/17  
**Village** Sopkang

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture and Livestock Breeding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Som Nit</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Say Xan Phanh</td>
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<td>Laos Lum</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Say Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chan Thi</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Xom Sac</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Laos Lum</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lam Say</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Use of Forest</td>
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<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Thong Say</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thao Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lien Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Chan Xuc</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aquaculture - Use of River</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Xi Nuan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bay Phon</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kham Phet</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bun Say</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Thong Vang</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thong Nuan</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Xon Say</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lun Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Phon Xi Bua Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Xanh Phon</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bun Xanh</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kham Say</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bao Xinh Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Xa Xinh Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lien Kham</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nang Ban</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nang Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elder - Ethnic Minority Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Klo Bun Nho</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Phon Thay</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pho Xi Nay</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nan Say</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Xon Phay</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bun Thon</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Phet Chay Thong</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Xom Rang Say</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Laos Lum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 **Village Summary Report**

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. **Location and General Conditions of the Village**

Sopkang is a village of the Muong Duong village group in Kouan District, Houaphanh Province, Laos. The Village is located along the Nam Non River, which is 20m from the river bank in January. The area on the river bank is quite steep, about 10°. The distance between houses is 20-25m, so the Village is more spacious than other villages of Kho Mu people in Vietnam. The typical house type is small stilt house with many rooms, which are similar to houses of Thai people in Vietnam and Laos.

The Village can be accessed by road and waterways. The waterways are only used by Vietnamese to go to the Village or vice versa (the villagers use waterways to go to Vietnam) and the travel is in one day or several days according to the regulations of the two countries. Villagers can go to Vietnam for purchasing goods, utensils and medical examination.

The road access the Village is under construction by a Vietnam company by BOT. The road to Kouan District was constructed 7 years ago, however, some parts are degraded, if the construction of the road linking Kouan District of Houaphanh province and Nonghed district of Xiangkhoang province is completed, access to the village will be easier. Currently, there is only soil road with high slope and this is the only road access the Village, however, this road is impossible in using if it is rain. The Village is 50km far from the Kouan District centre and 7km to Muong Duong group. Therefore, teenagers have motorbikes usually go to Muong Duong for entertainment 2 weeks/time.

The village is using solar power provided by Lao Government; the power grid is under construction by Kouan District.

The village has fresh water to use. The water source for daily activities is from stream and stored in water tank. Each tank has 2-3 water taps, so people use this water source for bathing themselves and washing clothes. Adults and children go to water tank area for bathing even in the winter, and they use cold water.

Pigs are bred by free ranger method so livestock manure (pigs and cows dung) are scattered in the village. Each household has a small garden (about 30m2) to grow kales. Chickens are also bred by free ranger method; however, people still have chicken coops for hatching.
1.2. Population

The majority of households is Lao Loum people.

There are 16 households with 93 persons (48 men and 45 women). The number of people in working age is 49.

The whole village has 10 poor households and 4 near-poor households. The reasons for poverty are bad weather, steep landscape and traditional cultivation without fertilizers as well as soil degradation.

There are no female-headed households. The head of household is male, if any husband dies, they stay with son, son will be head of household. Only one woman who have husband died, her son is household head (about 50 years old). There are no single women raising children in the village.

There are 9 young villagers (male and female) go to other provinces for work, they work at Shoes company, Construction company in Vientiane, they sometimes go home.

1.3. Village History and Migration

The Village moved to current place in 1954. Due to wars, the people scatter everywhere. After that, they gathered at the new area.

Recent years, some households move to Vientiane as they do not like remote areas and they have relatives in Vientiane. People heard that if they move to Vientiane they will have more money and get jobs easier.

Teenagers have motorbike usually hang out with friends; otherwise, they only go out when they have to. The distance from the Village to the commune center is about 7-8km, to district is 40km and villages of Vietnamese is about 1-2km (by waterways), so it is convenient to visit relatives, or attend weddings in neighbour villages or commune centre, even to go go the district. Older people are less mobile.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

The total area of cultivation land is about 100ha, and it is located only 100m from the Village and streches along the river about 3km. It takes 30 mintues to walk to the furthest.

- The total cultivation area of each household is 4 ha, of which the upland field area is 2.0-3.0 ha/household/year depending on the number of labourers in a family. Each household plants 150 kg of seeds on average each year. Each household plants on average 2-3 kg of maize estimated 2000-3000 m2.
- Cassava is cultivated by households with 100-200 roots per household or 1500-2500 roots per household depending on the number of labourers of each household.
- Each household cultivates from 3 to 4 upland fields with unstable area per year depending on labor and weather conditions.
- The entire cultivation area is upland fields with sloping topography, no paddy land.
- For sloping land without irrigation system, mainly depends on the rain.
- All land for cultivation has no land use right certificate, only land planning by the village. Cultivation land of the village is managed by the community under the direct management of village management boards and village elder councils.
- The cultivation land is abundant; there is no land dispute among the households in the Village.
- Newly households will use the available land of the household or the land of the village as land is abundant and used by community.
There is no land left for reclamation as the whole is a protection forest. The Government prohibits exploitation. Moreover, the land is still abundant because the fallow period lasts 4-5 years.

The cultivation area is near the riverbank (only 50m) with sloping topography; if the water rises, the area of the upland field can be lost as much as 20-30% or more.

People do not plant anything along the river because land along the river is mainly forest. Some fruit trees such as guava and grapefruit along the river is naturally grown.

Land distribution has been determined in advance with land tenure and use traditionally. In cases where new land is needed or arrangements need to be made for the new household to have land (this does not occur in practice, due to large production land, however - is assumed), the village head and village head will responsible for arrangement.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

**Agriculture and production systems:**

Main crops:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Productivity (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Importance degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Upland rice is a major crop that occupies an important place in daily life as a staple food source for households. They will sell rice if it is abundant. Maize are grown mainly for selling, cassava for livestock breeding. Rice, maize and cassava products are sold to Vietnam traders after harvesting.
- Upland rice and maize are harvested a crop/year while cassava are gradually harvested after 2 years of growing.
- Each household grow 1000 roots of cassava on average. Some household grow 500 roots while others grow 2500 roots with productivity reach 3-6 tons/year.
- Households have enough rice for a year. Only 1-2 households are lacking of rice for 1-2 months, especially May and June annually. When they do not have enough rice to eat, they will borrow some from other households if they have. Besides, they will buy from Vietnamese traders and pay by money from selling timber or exchange pig, chicken or cow for rice depending on the amount.
- Products (rice, maize) are sold in Vietnam Dong, with 1kg of rice for 5000 VND, 1 kg of maize for 2500 VND. All products are sold in the Village. However, they have only few of products to sell, products only enough for households to use for a year.
- Cassava is used to feed pigs, chicken.
- The main cultivation activities are the clearing trees, dig holds, plant seeds, no mechanical application, no pulling force due to steep terrain.

**Livestock Breeding**

- **Livestocks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Important Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow, buffalo</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken, Duck</td>
<td>20-30/ household</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Silkworm

| Silkworm | Each raises 5-10 basket-like containers. | 4 |

- Each household has 3-4 cows, some households have 25 to 30 cows. In 2015, some cows have diseases but people buy medicine by themselves and call veteran from district to the Village. The cost for medicine and injection is high. Thanks to timely treatment, only 2 cows were died.

- The whole village has 500 pigs, each household has 3-5 pigs on average with local pigs.

- Poultry including chicken, duck with quantity of 20-30/household. The disease occurs annually in March and June, however, the rate of death is low as households actively call for the communal veteran for treatment and injection. Households pay the money for medicine and check-up costs.

- Cows raised in the form of breeding are mainly local cows; the villagers practice free-rang grazing methods, pasture grazing or freeing in natural forests. There is a system of protection fences for upland fields during the growing season. After harvesting, upland crops are freely grazed.

- Each household sell 1-2 cows per year. If the household have things such as building house or buying motorbike, they will sell 4-5 cow/year with the price of 18-20 million VND/cow for Vietnamese traders.

- Pigs are also bred by free ranger method with the main food are cassava and maize. Each household sell 2-3 pigs per year for Vietnamese traders or people from other villages. The price is 0-100 thousand VND/kg depending on the weight. If the pig is small under 20kg, the price is 100.000 VND/kg and over 30kg is 70.000 VND/kg.

- Chicken are raised mainly to serve the needs of the household; people rarely sell chicken. If they have many chickens, they will sell for Vietnamese traders at the price of 80.000-100.000 VND/kg.

- Households breed many chickens, ducks, and pigs to serve the needs of the family.

- The water source for livestock breeding is from the stream.

- When cows and pigs are sick, people buy medicine and call the veteran from the commune to the Village for the treatment so the rate of death is low.

**Forestry**

The village has 193.3ha of protection forests, 92.19ha of conservation forests, and 272 ha of production forests. The people do not benefit from the forest protection. Illegal logging is still taking place; the money from logging is divided to the households so that they have money to buy food.

They also collect some non-timber forest products such wild vegetables, mushrooms, and bamboo shoots are for daily consumption, not for sale. Herbal medicines are collected when a family member is sick. They rarely sell herbal medicine. They hunt wild boars, wild chicken, mice, Muntiacus, and money when these animals come to destroy crops.

**Aquaculture**

There are about 6 fish ponds in the village; they use local fish from the river as breeds.

The households having no ponds usually go fishing in the river and in the streams using landing nets and cast nets. When we catch big fish such as Hemibagrus guttatus, and Bagarius bagarius with the selling price of 200-300,000VND/kg. They can catch, however, 1-2kg of small fish. They cannot set nets overnight because that will kill many people.
The village has streams under the management and conservation of the village head and other organizations. As being as, the catch in this area is for the community’s celebration.

**Non-agriculture activities**

Almost all households weave brocade for domestic use. They also sell some for 250-270,000 kip, equal to 600,000 VND/piece.

4 households work for Vietnamese people, particularly, to transport goods and wood. They earn about 200KIP/day, or 500-600,000VND.

None of the villagers work far from home. They work for each other. If they face a shortage of labour, they hire Vietnamese and pay per diem.

**Table of forest products and their usage**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forest products that are collected</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season for collection</th>
<th>Significance 1 = the most important 2 = the second most important 3 = the least important</th>
<th>To sell Yes = 1 No = 2</th>
<th>Selling price per kg or per item (if sell)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>Once-three times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auriculariales</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amomum</td>
<td>Once-twice a week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>Once-three times a week</td>
<td>When houses are built</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/mouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1.500.000/bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muntiacus</td>
<td>Once in one – three months</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snakes</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild boars</td>
<td>Once in six – twelve months</td>
<td>Harvests</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhizomyinae</td>
<td>Once-twice a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrels</td>
<td>Once 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50.000/squirrel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.6. **Education**

Villagers communicate by Laos, Khomu and Mong language. The highest education attainment of women in the village is grade 5. The majority of elders in the Village are illiterate. Children can read and write in Laos language.

There is a primary school and secondary school in the village with all children study. There are no students drop out from the school. There are 50-60 children go to the school in the Village. 110-115 students are going to high school in Muong Duong District.

In the Village, men have higher education attainment than the women.

1.7. **Health and Health Care**

The water for daily activities is from the river and stream. As the stream is near the Village, households go to the stream for bathing, washing clothes and take the water for cooking. Depending on each household, there are households take water back home for bathing, some households go to the river for bathing.

Women used to give birth at home. Currently, they go to the hospital for delivery. In case they can not make it to the hospital, they will give birth at home. However these case is not much. In recent years, there are no women death from giving birth or infant died after being born.

Women usually have stomachache, tired while children have cough, fever, flu. When sick, households use herds to cure. In server case, they use medicine or go to hospital in Vietnam for treatment.

There are no health worker in the Village as there is no salary for this postition although people want to have one to help them basis check-up before going to the hospital. (There may be no regulations on health training in villages such as Vietnam)

Currently, Muong Duong group do not have communal clinic so people have to go to the district hospital which is 40 km far from the Village. Women also have to go to the hospital when sick. Poor households have certificated given by the Village will have discount when go to the hospital.

Children are feed more food than previously. However, some children are rickety, they are smaller than others with the same age. People do not know if these children are malnourished or not as there is no periodic examination. The rate of malnourished children is not acknowledge.

1.8. **Ethnic Culture and Leadership**

There is a temple in the Village. Before displacement, the elder and shaman will hold a ceremony with a cow to invite gods to the new place.

People worship twice times per year, in August and November. November is offering when the season is finished and worship at the temple and the families will also worship at home. When the Village perform the worship, all households participate.

There is the area of gosh forests where no one can cut trees. There are about 500-600 graves there in 5 different zones. One of them is close to the river. Another one is about 2km far from the stream.

When the tombs are flooded, they do not move to another place. They only worship with one pig, one chicken, a jar of wine, sticky rice. Other important construction/area can be affected by the HPP, how issues will be solved according to traditional customs.
In order to move the Village and the Temple, they must hold a ceremony to say goodbye to the old village with a cow, then when in new place, they must hold a ceremony with a pig. For displaced households, they have to worship for a day. The shaman will choose a day to move the Village.

The villagers worship ancestors. If they are relocated, they have to do a ritual to inform them.

1.9. Gender Issues

Villagers of Sopkang village is Thai people of Laos. This ethnic accounts for the majority of Laos’s population and still preserve traditional features. For Lao Lum people, woman has the most important role in the family. Man has to live with the in-law and decision power belongs to the mother. However, as the Village is far from the District and other villages so women are less educated than men.

According to the female group discussion, women are mainly stay at home for houseworks, they only cultivate in sowing season. Men are in charge of taking care of upland fields and collecting woods. Women also participate in production, however they only go to the forest to collect vegetables and get snails in the stream.

Children in the Village are go to school, even boys and girls.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

Village head has the most important role. Other organizations such as Women’s Union, Farmer Association, Agricultural Extension Organization, have representatives, however these people do not involve in village activities. The village head is voted by people and will be responsible for participating in District and propose wishes of villagers to district authorities and carry out the work which district authorities want people to know. Besides, elder is also elected by villagers, he participates in reconciliation of dispute, grievances between households. He also preserves traditional customs in marriage and funeral. If needed, he will be the person who carries out the ritual to leave the graves if the village is relocated.

In addition to solar power and clean water programmes, no development programmes are conducted in the Village.

Quan District also implements some activities related to poverty reduction by provide seedlings for people such as hybrid maize and fruit trees.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

- Villagers are acknowledged on HPP information. However, they do not know when the planned HPP will be implemented
- People were informed by the communal officials and project staffs inform to village management board.
- People want to know the detailed plan on construction progress and when will commence to the Village.
- When implementing HPP, will DMS and compensation be conducted? When compensate, have new plan to cultivate and where the land?
- If cultivation land is flooded, the project will provide productive land and resettlement or not?
- Resettlement and compensation will be conducted by Vietnam or Laos authorities, request Vietnam to conduct compensation
- If displacement occurs, we want Vietnam will construct infrastructures as resettlement site, access road, and school.
- Some households want to move to live with relatives (Sam To, Xieng Khoang, Vientiante…) or buy land for resettlement
- The Project must conduct meetings with the participation of villagers to disseminate, inform detailed information on HPP. The information must be presented in written, documents, layouts so they can easily see, read and understand.

1.12. Additional Issues
- According to the group discussion, Sopkang Village is one of few villages have aquaculture ponds with a large number (60 ponds), the area of each pond is not small. This is indeed an important advantage in the fisheries development of local people.
- Beside the aquaculture pond, the natural marine product resources are also relatively abundant, villagers can get fish easily, they just have to spend a few hours in the day that there will be fish for dinner daily.
- If hydropower is commenced, there will have a large effect to fishery development trend, they are afraid that the pond will be flooded out while there will be a negative impact to the fishing exploitation in natural environment.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

FGD summary
The Focus Group Discussion was held on 17/1/2017 at Sopkang village with 08 participants, 4 men, 4 women. All of participants are Lao Lum ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

FGD participant knew about the HPP, but they do not know specifically. They wish to know in detail the construction schedule and when it will come to the village. How is the compensation, where is resettlement site, is there any upland field for them to do cultivation? How and where cultivation land is allocated? They wish that the project will organize meetings with participation of all villagers to inform them specific information of the HPP. They expect the HPP information will be in writing, map so they can visual and read easily.

2.2. Forest use

Villagers, both men and women go to forest frequently. But purposes are different between them:
- Men go to forest every day, in free time, for hunting, cutting timber, visiting upland field, visiting livestock, cultivating and harvesting crops.
- Women go to forest every day to collect firewood, sometimes they go to forest 2-3 times. They go to forest to collect vegetable, bamboo shoot, herb, spice vegetable, harvest too.

The village is surrounded by forest so it is favourable for villagers to get to forest, taking only 5-10 minutes to be there. The village has production forest and protection forest:
- Protection forest is allocated to the village by the Government. IN this forest, villagers are not allowed to exploit timber, if someone breaks the rule, he will be punished under the law. Annually, the Government will pay the village an amount for forest protection. This amount
will be added partially to the village fund, the rest is divided evenly to household per members.

- Production forest is where villagers cultivate rice, corn, cassava, peanut, banana which are food source feeding them. Production forest has not been allocated specifically to them and has not been furnished with land use right certificate. Whole village is now cultivating on that land. Rice is only enough for family using, not abundant for sale. Those cultivate lot of corn will sell to trader who come with truck and buy right at the village. Cassava is used for human and livestock breeding. Timber is exploited also from production land, not allow exploiting from protection land. Fields are protected with fence to keep livestock and boar from destroying.

Forest products are diversified and used in many different purposes:

- Smilax is collected for food or using as herbs;
- Bamboo shoot is food, which is quite plenty, to be collected in rainy season, between July and August, bitter bamboo shoot is collected in February and March annually. Bamboo is processed and used fresh. If they collect many they will dry it to use in family meal or to sell to other in and outside the village when they need cash.
- Wild vegetable is collected daily for family demand; some of wild vegetable is plenty the most in rainy season.
- Mushroom is abundant including: wood ear mushroom, lingzhi mushroom, etc... are used for daily food, some is put in wine for health strengthening. When they collect lot they will sell to people in and outside the village or trader. Mushroom is plenty in rainy season between July and August every year.
- There are many people know about herbs in the village. Many collect herbs for using for sale if they collect lot. It depends on each type of illness so herbs will be process differently.
- Timber is exploited when household needs, no extra for sale. When a household need timber to build house, they go to forest to collect timber without permission from forest guard or commune People's committee. They inform to the village head only. But timber exploitation is allowable from production forest only.

Illegal timber logging happens rarely. They villagers detect a case, they will inform to authorities for promptly interruption and treatment.

Pasture only appears when villagers leave fallow a land plot, this is where they breed livestock.

2.3. **Hunting**

Wild animal is plenty in forest. Rare and endangered animal is in deep forest and prohibited for hunting. Wild animal hunted by villagers are: bird, wild chicken, weasel, deer, boar, rat. Hunted animal is used for family demand, only sell to people in and outside village when they hunt lot. They will have meat to eat when they go to forest hunting. Animal is hunting Year-round. Tools for hunting are crossbow, trap, catapult.
List of timber and non-timber products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Significance (1=very important, 2=second important, 3=the least important)</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price//Kg or per product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-15,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herb</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber for house building</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1,500,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Mr. Nguyen Van Hai

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 17/01/2017 with 08 participants, 6 men, 2 women. All of participants are Thai ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. Knowledge about the planned HPP

- Villagers have known about hydropower project but not exactly when and how it is planned.
The project information was supplied by commune officers and project staff to the village management board.

They wish to know in detail the construction schedule and when it will come to the village. How is the compensation, where is resettlement site, is there any upland field for them to do cultivation? How and where cultivation land is allocated?

If upland field is submerged, does hydropower project give new production land and resettle them or not?

Resettlement and compensation will be done by Vietnamese side or by Laos authorities? They expect the Vietnamese side to perform all compensation.

They expect that when the village is relocated, works such as school, road shall be constructed and supported by Vietnamese side.

If relocation is unavoidable, they expect the Vietnamese side to construct all infrastructures in resettlement site such as road to the village, village school.

Some households want to move to other place (Sam To, Xieng Khuoang, Vientiane, etc...) to live with relatives or to buy land for resettlement themselves.

3.2. Land use

Cultivation land of the village is near, some of 100m from the village running in some of 3km along the river bank. It takes some of 30 minutes on foot to the furthest location.

Average upland area per household is 2.0-3.0 ha/household/year depending on number of household member. They use some of 150 kg rice seed per household, 3-7 kg corn seed/household/year for some of 2000-3000 m².

Cassava is planted depending on households, some plant 100-200 cassava bushes, some plant 1500-2500 bushes up to the number of working member in the household.

Each household cultivates on 2-3 upland field plots a year depending on number of household member and weather conditions.

All of cultivation land area is upland field on sloping topography, no paddy rice area.

There is no irrigation for upland cultivation, mainly depends on weather.

Cultivation land has no land use right certificate, only a planning for village. The village cultivation plan is managed by the community under direct control of the village management board and elders council.

The cultivation land of the village is large, enough for cultivation, so there is no land conflict between households in the village.

New set up household will use land of their big family or within land area of the village because upland area of the village is a lot and they use as other in the community.

There is no more land for reclamation because all forest is protection forest where Government prohibits exploiting. Moreover, there are 16 households in the village so cultivation land is plenty because fallow interval lasts in 4-5 years.

Cultivation land area on river bank is located approximately 50m from the river which is potentially submerged. If water raises high, the affected land area may be up to 20-30% land area owned by the village or more.

They plant no crop along river because there is forest mainly there, some fruit trees such as guava, pomelo along river bank and in village are wild growing.

3.3. Crops

Main crops
### Crops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rain-fed rice</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Rain-fed rice is the most important crop playing an important role in daily living, household plant lot will sell, corn is planted mainly for sale, and cassava is planted for livestock breeding. Rice, corn, and cassava after harvesting is sold mainly to traders from Vietnam.

- Households in the village plant rain-fed rice, corn, cassava, of which rain-fed rice and corn are planted with only one crop a year. Cassava is harvested after 2 years. They harvest cassava when they need.

- Cassava is planted depending on households, some plant 100-200 cassava bushes, some plant 1500-2500 bushes up to the number of working member in the household, yield 3-6 ton/year.

- Most of household has enough rice to eat, except 1-2 households lacking rice for 1-2 months a year, mainly for May and June annually. When they do not have rice to eat they borrow from other households in the village. Besides, they borrow from Vietnamese traders and then earning cash from collecting timber from forest or they pay in kind by means of pig, chicken or cow if the owed amount is large.

- Rice can sell at cost of 5000 VND per kg, corn 2500VND/kg. All of products are sold at the village, but there is few household has extra amount to sell, the rest has only enough for family using.

- They do not sell cassava, which is used for breeding pig, chicken.

- They cultivate with traditional way: hoing, seeding, no machine or cattle pulling force is applied because of sloping topography.

#### 3.4. Livestock

- **Main livestock at the time of survey**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow, Buffalo</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>20-30 chicken/household</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silkworm</td>
<td>Each household 5-10 cages</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- On average, each household has 3-4 cows; some have 25-30 cows. In 2015, some cows were ill but household bought medicine from Vietnam to cure and asked veterinary from district to the village for injection. Cost of injection is high. But thanks to promptly curing, in that year, only 2 died.

- There are some of 500 pigs in the village, each household on average has 3-5 pigs, mainly are local race.

- Poultry including chicken, duck, with 20-30 each household. Annually disease occurs in March, June but death rate is low because households ask veterinary staff from district to cure in case of disease or for injection. Household will pay for medicine and fee.

- Cow is raised with local race, for reproduction, free grazing. Villagers breed cattle in upland field where fence is built to protect crops or free in natural forest. After harvesting cow is breeding freely.
• Each household sell 1-2 cattle a year, but if they need cash for family event such as house building, buying motorbike they will sell 4-5 cattle a year, each cost 18-20 million VND. Cattle are mainly sold to Vietnamese trader who comes to the village to buy.

• Pig is breeding freely too, using corn and cassava, mainly for family using. Annually each household sell 2-3 pigs, mainly to Vietnamese trader or to people from other village. Pig price is 70-100 thousand VND/kg depending on size, pig less than 20kg is sold at price 100 thousand VND per kg, and 70 thousand VND per kg for pig of more than 30kg.

• Chicken is raised mainly for family demand. Household raising lot will sell to Vietnamese traders with price of 80-100 thousand VND per kg.

• Households raise lot poultry and pig, so they regularly have meat to eat.

• Water sources for livestock breeding are from stream.

• When disease happens on cow, pig, chicken, households will buy medicine and ask veterinary staff from commune to cure, so the death ratio is limited and controlled.

4 Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 17/01/2017 with 8 female participants. All of them are Lao Lum; all of them know how to read, how to write Lao language.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Information about HPP was heard from the village head, then officer in Laos, then officer from Vietnam too. But long time ago. They do not know when the project will be constructed. If the HPP is done, whether they are compensated, how the compensation will be. They wish to know that but nothing yet so they are worry. If the HPP is constructed, villagers must be told about plant, extent of impact, policy they are benefited. If relocation, whether whole village is relocated? Where to? Is there any land for them to cultivate? Such information shall be told in meeting so everyone will know.

4.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

In the village, mainly is Lao Lum ethnicity. Young men and women in the village marry to each other, and marry to people from other village too. Some women married to Vietnamese men and moved there. There is no distinguishing about ethnicity in marriage unless they love each other. There are many women from outside married men in the village. Children will be named and followed ethnicity of their father.

Household master is men, widow in stay at her son house, and her son is household master. There is only one household mastered by woman, she is widow, no child (about 50). No single mother with small child in the village.

Women from the village go to other place to work, near and far. They work for foot ware company, construction company of Lao in Vientiane, sometime come back to visit family.

Young people usually go out, with friend, because they can ride motorbike. Other goes out only when they have work to do. It is only 7-8km from the village to the commune center, but 40km to the district. The closest village in Vietnam is 1-2km far, so there is no difficulty in visting relatives, going wedding in other village in surround or in commune center, even to the district. Elder goes less frequent.

No women in the village work as leader, there are only 4 women taking part in women union by voting. Women union sometime goes for meeting then back and tells others. Women union also
mobilizes women in village events. Besides they instruct other how to weave skirt, plant mulberry bush for silkworm raising and to do economy.

4.3. Health and nutrition

Domestic water resource of the village is from river, ravine. Ravine is close to the village so they go there and take water home for drinking, eating; bathing and washing use water from ravine or in river. It depends on each household; some take water to bath home, some bath in the river. Older children bath in the river, small one bath at home.

Before women usually deliver at home but now they deliver at hospital, only those are urgently who have not enough time will deliver at home, but very few. Recently, there is no case dying during delivery or new born child died.

Common illness suffered by women in the village is stomach ache, tired while children suffer cough, flue, and fever. They use herbs in not severe case, but in severe case they use medicine or go to hospital in Vietnam for curing.

The village has no health care officer though they wish there is one to help them in first aid inspection before going to hospital because they cannot afford to pay such one (it is may be that in Laos there is no regulation on training health care officer for villages as in Vietnam).

There is no clinic in commune either, so in case of illness, if curing at home does not work, they must go to hospital in district in some of 40km far. It happens the same to women. Poor households certified by the village will be reduced with health inspection fee.

Children now live better than before. Some malnutrition children are assumed because they are visually smaller than the same age, but not so sure whether they are malnutrition or not because there is no inspection to confirm.

4.4. Education

Villagers communicate in Laos, Kho Mu, Mong. The highest eduction of women in the village is grade 5. Most of elder people in the village are literate, but young one all know how to read, how to write Laos.

There is primary school, secondary school at the village so children at school age all go to school. No children drop school in middle, there are At present 50-60 children studying at the village. Some of 10-15 children study at high school in Muong Duong district.

Men is higher educated than women.

4.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Every household in the village has upland field for cultivating rice, corn, cassava, bamboo, bead tree. Rice is cultivate one crop a year because it is depending on weather so every year each household On average use 100-200 kg of seed. Upland rice yield is 4.5 ton/ha using 100 g of seed.

It depends on each household, but On average each household plant 5-6 kg of corn seed and harvest 1-2 ton of corn. Same to cassava, household plant lot will harvest 2-3 ton, those plants less can harvest 500kg cassava. Rice is mainly for family demand while corn, cassava are for livestock breeding, those having lot will sell. For cultivation, men and women do the same. Big event of family will be decided by both husband and wife.

Households raise cattle, poultry, pig to use when they need. When they need cash they will sell buffalo, cow, pig, and chicken depending on the demand to decide which animal to sell. When they need small amount they can sell crop, livestock to other household in the same village, when they need big amount they will sell to Vietnamese trader.

Cultivation area is mainly in forest, but also there is some close to the river. Area close to the river is planted with mustard green, onion, sugar cane. Every household raise pig, chicken freely so planting there requires fence.

Products collected from forest are stemona tuberosae, bamboo shoot, mushroom, wild vegetable. These products are more available in rainy season. They will sell if they collect lot. There are many herbs in the forest too. Villagers when collecting lot of herbs will sell too.
Besides, in free time villagers go to forest for hunting bird, wild chicken, weasel, rat, deer, boar for their demand. If they hunt lot they will sell.

There are some households having fishing ponds for their demand and selling when they need cash. Households living near the river use net, casting net, rod, etc... to fish to. Women use basket to catch shrimp, crab, tadpole... When moss season comes, they collect moss for eating. They sell only when they collect lot or they dry eat to save, rarely sell because not many.

5 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 17/01/2017 at Sopkang village with 8 participants, all men. Participants are Thai ethnicity. Their ages vary between 50 and 63.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

We all heard about HPP, but there was no information when the compensation will be, what will be affected. If the HPP causes impacts, we wish: to have land for cultivation, for residence, school, power supply, road, etc... We receive compensation amount then we move to live with children and grand children in other place. Compensation for house must be satisfied and fare so we will agree.

5.2. Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders

The village moved back here to establish in 1954, because of the war we scattered, then we back to set up again. There is only Lao Lum ethnicity here. Laos has 49 ethnicities. Lao Lum is the most crowded ethnicity (Thai ethnicity).

In recent years, some households left to Vientiane because they do not like remote area, they moved there with brother and relative who have more money.

The village has an elder person who does many jobs. He solves fighting, he know rules. Elder person of the village is voted, not passing from generation.

5.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Cultivation land is planned and they cultivate together in different areas which are marked by stream, big tree, etc... On average each household cultivate some of 4ha. Every one plants under a common rule of the whole village.

Forest is surrounding the village where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting, but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

Land allocation system, decision making, land allocation to new household

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating within the area planned for the village, because the planned land of the village is still large which can satisfy demand of villagers.

Role of elders/leader in land system

No role in land system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Ritual: before seeding, Thai worship land god at the field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and offer new rice worship (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

The first organized ceremony “Te tong” (field worship). Before seeding, they offer "hach ma" worship. When rice grows in ear they offer "hau cam" (or an khem) custom. Before and after
harvesting, Thai offer thankful worship to spirit of the rice and invite rice spirit home. The offering things always are sticky rice, fish, egg and “wine jar” (wine drunk out of a jar through pipes). One among important ceremonies which Thai organize annually is “pha ma” worship (heaven back), or known as ceremony to welcome the very first thunder of spring. The first thunder in custom of Thai is a sign for a good moment for production and seeding. This is when rice spirit wake up after a long cold winter. Because of that conception, annually, whenever the first thunder, all families offer their own worship. Family of the head of a clan (Kahu Dam) must offer a bigger ceremony than others. Because he must be on behalf of the whole big family (clan) to pray heaven for a good year and a yield full crop. The “rain pray” " cau mua” is also a popular custom in Thai community and occurs annually.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values
There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays villagers stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

5.4. Spirits, graves and other sacred places

Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river
The village has a temple which is common worship place of the whole village. If it is displaced, villagers must offer worship to invite gods and they must offer a cow. The worship is offered by wizard and the village elder.

When cutting tree to prepare field, they insert “ta leo” and offer worship to mountain god, tree god. Offered things include a couple of chicken, one wine jar and betel. Offered things are put on a small altar made of bamboo and set at the field. The household master will offer things and pray mountain god blessing them a good harvest year. When seeding, Thai set up some “xa” (which can stand drought condition), some bamboo sticks and egg cover to wish rice growing well as same as “xa” and rice will be as big as the egg.

When grassing on rice field, Thai offer things to worship “po cho lam sang hay” (who is available all the time at the field to protect rice from insect). When harvesting, the household master’s wife will go round the land plot and offer worship similar as while harvesting rice at field.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants
The village worship is performed in twice every year, in August and November, representatives from families will take part.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

The village has ghost forest where no one is allowed to cut tree. No one go there. Graveyard is located close to the river where burying some of 500-600 graves in 5 different sections including 1 section close to the river, one location by a stream in 2km distance.

If submergence happens, they do not displace graves, they only offer worship with 1 pig, 1 chicken, 1 wine jar and sticky rice.

Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.

Displacement of the village and the village temples must be done with consultant with a fortune teller. They must offer worship to say farewell to the village with a cow and worship in new place with a pig. Household who must relocate, must offer worship which take a whole day to do. Day of movement should be consulted with wizard who will do the worship.
Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition

Each household worships their ancestor, if they are relocated they must offer worship in each household.

6 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung

FGD summary

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 17/01/2017 at Sopsan village with 9 participants, all men. They are Thai ethnicity. Among them no one is illiterate; one finished the 3rd grade, three the 4th grade, one the 5th grade, two the 7th grade and the two last ones the 9th grade.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- Villagers heard about the HPP from neighbor, friend;
- If there is information, they wish to be informed from authorities or by meeting so they will know when the project will compensate them, is there any new replacement land for them to cultivate, if they are relocated where they will be relocated to?

6.2. Boat use

- Only 5 households in the village have boat; 3 among which are rowing boat, no motor, for fishing.
- 2 motor boats are used to transport goods, passenger.
- Boat is private properties, no household share;
- But other households can borrow from each other for travelling, transporting goods and go fishing.
- Villagers can borrow boat easily from each other because they are from the same village, to be neighbor of each other, they borrow this time, next time they will let neighbor borrow something else.

6.3. Fishing

- There are up to 60 ponds in the village, almost all households have pond.
- Each pond On average is some of 600m2, at ravine.
- If hydropower causes submergence, all ponds will be submerged.
- Fish species commonly catch by villagers are: Hemibagrus, bagarius rutilus, turtles, carp, grass carp…
- Villagers usually go fishing.
- All family members go fishing, anyone can go, except small children who cannot.

6.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

- Fishing tools used normally by villagers are basket, net, casting net.
- Villagers usually go fishing in ravine, river, and stream.
- Fish species caught normally are: carp, grass carp, hemibagrus, and bagarius rutilus.
- It cannot tell how often they go fishing, they go fishing whenever they have no food, may be every 1-2 day, they catch fish every go fishing, many or little.
- They go fishing in vicinity of the village, not out, never go too far.
- They go fishing Year-round, regardless to season, whenever lack of food, any time in a year.
- Fish is more abundant in rainy season.
- Spawning time is also in rainy season.
- There is an area where prohibiting villagers to fish. That is a stream ravine of the village. No net shall be trapped there at night time because it will kill lot of fish.
- Each fishing, villagers can catch 1-3 kg, they fish until they think it is enough for family.
- They never go home without fish, if they cannot catch fish, they go a little bit further to catch.
- Caught fish is for family demand, not for sale. If they fish lot, they dry eat for latter using.
- They plant no crop on river bank. Some villagers sometimes go there to collect wild vegetable, Vietnamese name unknown.

6.5. Other information and reflections
- By discussion, it is revealed that Sopkang village is one among not many villages having fish pond. Number of fish pond is lot (60 ponds), on a large area. This is important advantages in fishery development in local.
- Besides fish pond, natural fishery is also plenty. Villagers can find fish for eating without any struggle. They spend few hours a day for fish of their daily meal.
- If the HPP is constructed, it will cause remarkable impact to fishery of local villagers. They are afraid that ponds will be all submerged while there are also negative impacts to fishing in natural environment.

3.6.3.5 Kengkor Village – 14 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date 1/14/17
Village Kengkor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Agriculture and Livestock Breeding</td>
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<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>Use of Forest</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Ven Si Tha</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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III. Aquaculture - Use of River

<table>
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<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

IV. Woman Group

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<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
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<td>Farmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ut Thi Phai</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Luong Thi May Phon</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ven Thi Xi Tha</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ven Thi Du</td>
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<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
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V. Elder - Ethnic Minority Group

<table>
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<th>No</th>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<td>Farmer/Village vice chief</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lo Canh Phet</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Farmer/Party secretary, Village patriarch</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sai Kham</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Farmer/Village chief</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Son Sai</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Health worker</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Son Kham</td>
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<td>Teacher</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Som Chay</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

1.1. Location and General Conditions of the Village

Kengkor Village belongs to Nongcan village group, Kouan District, Houaphan Province, Laos PDR and is located on the bank of Nam Non River and about 5m higher than the water level in January. Opposite it and across the river is Xop Duong Village of My Ly Commune, Ky Son District, Vietnam.

There are only 27 houses standing uphill. The house closest to the river stands is the village head’s. All houses are numbered; the number sign has the full address with the names of village, district, and province. According to the village head, this is like the household’s ID and is written in the permanent residence booklet.

It is possible to access the village by waterway. Vietnamese travel this way to trade in Kengkor, and Kengkor villagers travel this way to Vietnam for business or check-ups.

There is a road to Nongcan and Kouan District. It takes about 30 minutes by motorbike to Nongcan and about 2 hours to Kouan District (50km). It is actually a footpath being under construction. As a result, it can be used by motorbike during dry season only, not in rainy season.

The village has not had national electricity grid yet. There is a solar power system provided by Laotian government under sponsorship of a Chinese company.

Water is transported to the village through a system coming from the mountain gully. Both children and adults bathe themselves by the tanks. There are no bathrooms or toilets. They zoned some small areas to use as toilets which are in very poor conditions.

Livestock is free range. Waste can be seen along the road and in the village.

1.2. Population

There are 26 households with 135 persons, 57 of them are women. There are 20 Khomu

There are two Vietnamese households. They are relatives of the wife of the village deputy. They have come and lived here for about 2 years.

The number of poor households in the village in 2016 was 100%. There used to be 20 poor households. The main causes of poverty are disadvantageous weather and shortage of labour. When they suffer from hunger, they sell maize, wood or cows, buffaloes to earn some money for rice.

There is no women-headed household or household headed by a single mother. There are no women marrying Chinese. There are some boys and girls aged 12-15 going to Xiangkhoang to work. The exact number is unknown.

1.3. Village History and Migration

This village has been established in 1955. There were only 8 households left when a number of villagers moved to Vientiane in 1998 and 1999. A number of Khomu people later came here to live. One household moved to Vientiane in 2013, and two others moved to Vientiane in 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
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<td>Bun Lien</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
<td>Kho Mu</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Some households have children going to Vientiane to live and work. The village head said that there are more old people in the village than young people. All young people want to work outside the village because they lack of many things.

There are two households of Vietnamese Khomu people coming here for business. Both are renting the village head’s land to build houses. They buy forest productions, products of agriculture and livestock breeding to sell.

1.4. Land Availability and Land Use

Agricultural land of the village remains plenty. The population is, however, small. Thus, only about 50-55ha of land is cultivated regularly every year. They cultivate one crop on one plot per year and then move to a new one. After 3-4 years they go back to the first one.

Swidden land lies around the village. The villagers do not have to go far. Swidden land is about 500m far from the village. The farthest distance is about 5km. It takes about 2 hours on foot. There are no households going to the field by motorbike because the path is not accessible by motorbike. Each household has 2-3 plots to cultivate. There is no irrigation system. They practice rain-fed agriculture.

All households have land use right certificates (LURC) for residential land but not for production land. The village’s production land is under the management of the community, particularly, under the supervision of management board and the group of elderly. Each household has about 7ha of forest land.

Newly established households have land to use. The village management board including village head, deputy and police have the authority to allocate land to households.

The riverine area is small and narrow, cannot be used for cultivation or livestock breeding.

1.5. Livelihoods and Labour

Agriculture

Main crops are rice, maize, cassava, peanuts.

Upland rice: The total swidden area is about 50ha. The yield of each ha is about 3-4tons/year. It might be only 1.5tons in 2017 due to loss of harvest. The production of upland rice is mainly for the households’ consumption. When the harvest is good, the people can sell some. The selling price is 7,000VND/kg.

Maize: Each household cultivates 3-40kg of seeds and harvests about 3-4 tons/year. Maize is used for livestock breeding or sale.

Cassava: Each household plants 300-400roots. The production is used for livestock breeding.

Peanuts: The production of the whole village is about 300kg. It is for domestic consumption. Some households produce a large amount and can sell to traders.

Livestock breeding

Livestock in the village are buffaloes, cows, pigs, goats, chickens and ducks.

- Cows: Only one household raises 2-3 buffaloes. There are about 100 cows, a large number of which are reproductive cows. The villagers use local breeds and practice free range method to raise cows on the fields or along the river. When cows grow up, they sell to Vietnamese traders. The selling price is 26 million VND.

- Buffaloes: The whole village has 50-60 cows. When they need money, they sell buffaloes. One costs 38 million VND.

- Pigs: The village has 2-3 pigs. Pigs are used for domestic consumption.

- Goats: The whole village has about 23 goats. The selling price is about 130,000VND/month.
- Chickens: Chickens are raised for domestic consumption. They rarely can sell because of diseases.

The households' main food is vegetables and river fish. They seldom have meat, only when the families have some ceremonies.

Stream water is used for livestock breeding.

Agricultural extension worker goes to the village to give seasonal instruction and technique in cultivation and livestock breeding. When livestock is sick, a vet will come to help. Only when there is an outbreak of disease and it spreads very fast, there will be a high death rate of livestock.

Use of river resources

The village has no boat. There are only about 5 households fishing. They use nets along the bank. They go fishing once a week. The average catch is 3-5 grams. They usually catch fish in dry season.

Fish, however, is not the main food. The villagers' staple food is sticky rice.

They collect wild vegetables along the river or streams but do not know the names in Vietnamese.

Forest resources use

Kengkor is located in the conservation forests of Kouan District. The people usually come here to collect timber to build houses or pens and also for sale.

The common timbers are Syringa, Melia azedarach, and Dalbergia tonkinensis. The households normally collect to have some cash – about 20 million VND/month, equal to 3 m3 of timber.

Wild animals are caught for domestic consumption or sale. They eat birds, squirrels and mice. The bigger ones such as wild boars are sold to Vietnamese traders.

There are many herbal plants in the forests. The villagers sell when they can collect much. Stemona tuberosa, for example, is collectable year-round.

There are many people that know about herbal plants and go to collect them. Some pass the knowledge on to the other family members. Some can use herbal plants to cure liver infection and stomach diseases.

Table of forest products and their uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale</th>
<th>Selling price/Kg or /item (if for sale)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Once to twice a day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild vegetables</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
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<td>5-10,000/bunch</td>
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<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>One-two weeks</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
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<td>Herbal plants</td>
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<td>Timber</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>500,000-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Products</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Significance 1=the most important 2=the second most important 3=the least important</td>
<td>For sale Yes/No</td>
<td>Selling price/Kg or /item (if for sale)</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>Firewood</td>
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<td>10-50.000/bunch</td>
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<td>10-50,000/item</td>
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<td>Birds</td>
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<td>All seasons</td>
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<td>Snakes</td>
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<td>70-90,000/kg</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1.6. Education

The villagers communicate in Kho Mu language and Thai language. Even Vietnamese traders coming here also have to speak either in Khomu or Thai. Otherwise, no one would understand them.

There is one Vietnamese woman coming here for marriage. She speaks little Vietnamese because she is also Khomu.

There are about 10% of women that can read and write in Lao, aged 20-30. The rest can only read and sign their names.

There are no students in the 12th grade. There are 3 students in the 9th grade. There are 3 classes but only one teacher. The students of the 4th and 5th grades have to go quite far. It takes about 2 hours to get to school. There are 22 students in the three first grades. There are 5 in the 5th grade, one in the 6th and 2 in the 7th.

The secondary school is located in Sopkang. Children go home once a week. They come buy boat or on foot. They receive subsidy when staying in boarding school. If they rent out accommodation, the parents have to pay on their own.

There are no children in high school in Muong Kouan. Children aged 13-15 go to Vientiane to earn a living. They usually work in textile or work in some restaurants.

3 students in the 6th grade dropped out in 2016 because of poor performance at school.

There are 3 people that graduated high school in the village. All were man.

1.7. Health and Health Care

There are 3 small water tanks. Water is transported to the big water tank for the villagers to use. Children are bathed by the tank. When it is cold, children are bathed indoors.

Kengkor villagers usually suffer from fever, cough and diarrhoea. Women usually suffer from infection. They do not use herbal medicine but go to My Ly to buy western medicine.

Vaccination for children, gynaecological examinations, and general check-ups are usually combined. There is no individual program. The diseases diagnosed are usually hard to cure. Thus, the patients are usually invited to come back. Therefore, they need to have money in
order to cure diseases. When they cannot afford it, they use southern herbology. Children get vaccinated every month.

There are two malnourished children and one below-10-aged disabled.

There are no healers, no midwives in the village. The village head deputy knows some about southern herbology so goes to the forests to collect medicine to help the others when they have headache or stomach-ache. When it is serious, they go to Vietnam for check-ups and treatments.

Women usually give birth at home if they have good health with the help of some experienced people. There was a case of premature baby death a year ago.

In addition, the villagers can also go to Muong Kouan to buy medicine. It takes about 2 hours by motorbike. Therefore, they usually travel by boat to My Ly, Vietnam.

There have been no programs on HIV/AIDS, drug addiction or gender equality. The topics are rarely mentioned in public meetings. Women only attend these meetings when their husbands do not have time. There are no HIV/AIDS victims in the village. There are 6 male drug users, particularly, 3 aged over 40 and 3 other aged 20+.

1.8. Ethnic Culture and Leadership

The graveyard is located about 15 minutes on foot far from the village. According to the villagers, if the village is affected by the HPP, and so is the graveyard, they will have to hold a celebration for the village divinity and ghosts so that they agree with the new place. Ceremonial objects include pigs or cows or buffaloes. The village head and the shaman do some divination what the spirits want and they will offer that object. There is no shaman in the village. Thus, they have to invite one from the other village when there is a celebration. The remuneration is 1-1.5 million VND per time.

The village has a specific place – a temple at a tree whose name is not remembered to worship the village divinity. In front of the tree, there is a small temple which looks similar to a stilt house but it is made from bamboo and has no wall. The tree and temple are located in the upstream and stands 30km far from the nearest house. The annual celebration takes place in September and December in the front of the village with the participation of representatives of all households. There it is forbidden to cut, destroy or throw waste. The villagers slaughter a pig during the celebration. If they harvest well, they slaughter a cow.

Each household will worship with a chicken when they build a new house. They choose the building date on an even day of the beginning of the months of the lunar calendar.

1.9. Gender Issues

Most female villagers rarely go. All decisions are made by men. They do not or rarely participate in public meetings. The rarely talk to strangers. One possible reason is the language barrier.

They all can speak Lao, but only 10% can read and write. They know little about reproduction health and nutrition during pregnancy and nutrition for children. Gynaecological diseases are treated by herbal plants.

1.10. Community Organization and Development

There are village head and deputy of village head. The village head is responsible for almost everything in the village, such as a bridge between the villagers and the district authority. Though the village belongs to Nong Can village group, there has been no public infrastructure such as high school or clinic in this area. Thus, the villagers have to go to Kouan District when they need some public services.

There is also member of Women’s Union, agricultural extension worker and health worker, but they do mainly propagation.

Shamans play a significant role in the village because they can connect the community to the divinity and communicate with the divinity. As a result, they can be considered as the guard of the village soul in a community, such as Thai and Khomu, where it is believed that everything has a soul. In Kengkor, the shaman is the village head.
Apart from the program on clean water which has been implemented for a long time, there is also a program on solar energy at present.

There are no programs in health care, education or economic development that are carried out here.

Kouan District is building a road connecting Kouan District and Nonghed District of Xiangkhoang Province. This will facilitate the mobility of Kengkor villagers.

Kouan District’s program on rural electricity is implemented in the villages along Nam Non river.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

The villagers know about the project because there were consultants coming to do some surveys. They said that the project would have impacts on the village; however, they do not know how the impacts are.

The villagers are not much worried about resettlement. They will move if it is the case.

They will need to know more about the impacts, the commencement date as well as compensation if the project takes place.

There should be public meetings.

1.12. Additional Issues

According to the village head, the relocation is not very complicated. They need to do some rituals to inform the divinities when they move to the new place and that they will leave the graves.

2 Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Kengkor village with 08 participants, all men.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers heard about the HPP (rumor). They heard about the project for 4 years, but sometime they said will do, sometimes said will not do. Mr. Thanh, the village party secretary head about the project information from some meetings at the commune and from officers of district. But there is no official direction so no meeting yet done with villagers.

2.2. Forest use

The FGD participants said that, the village has protection forest and production forest. Men and women in the village go to foist daily, but purposes are different:

- Men go to forest to find timber for house building, for hunting, cultivating and harvesting crops, protecting fields, visiting livestock, collecting forest products.

- Women go to forest to collect bamboo shoot, wild vegetable, herbs, firewood for their daily demand; to cultivate and harvest crops, visit field, etc...

- Protection forest is large, there lot of big tree available. Villagers are not allowed to exploit timber, cutting tree there. Protection forest is estimated with abundant forestry resources. Last year the village was paid 9 million VND for forest protection. Part of this amount will be added to the village fund, the rest is divided evenly to household by number of household individual.

- Upland field is located within production forest area: general own by whole village, On average each year a household cultivate on 1-2 ha. One individual need 8-10 kg rice seed. Villagers plant mainly sticky rice on upland field (90-95%) and very few normal rice. Rice
yield is 2-2.5 ton/ha. Villagers plant hybrid maize and local corn races. The hybrid maize is sold. The local corn race is for family demand and livestock breeding. 1 kg seed of hybrid maize yields 7 quintal of corncob (almost dry). They do not count productivity of local corn race.

- Cassava: it depends on each household to plant lot or less cassava. Cassava yield is 15kg/bush (2 year).

- Besides, households plant sweet potato, taro, peanut, bean on upland field, but in small quantity and for family demand only. Agricultural products are sold at the village. Some of 70% households lack of food for 3 months a year due to weather. Besides, cultivation land in the area is sloping, difficult to cultivate, grass develops faster than rice.

- Land along river: plant short-term crops such as hybrid maize, peanut, sweet potato. But sometime villager has not harvest when flood come and lost all. Productivity depends on weather, season. Villagers usually plant rice, maize, cassava, sweet potato, vegetable.

Common forest products hunted are bird, rat, bamboo rat, wild chicken, boar, snake, deer, squirrel. Wild vegetable, bamboo shoot, mushroom, herbs are plenty too.

- Timber is exploited for house building, making barn. Decay timber or branches are used as firewood. Now there is not many timber in the forest so timber exploitation is limited. Those in need of timber must buy, can not exploit as before.

- Hunted wild animal is mainly for food, only sell when hunt lots. Wild animal is sold to villagers in and outside the village. Animal is hunted daily depending on the villagers demand.

- There are many types of herbs in the forest, they are used for curing or sell when villagers collect many. Herbs will be processed differently depending on each type of illness such as drying, grinding, cooking. Some types are boiled, some are put in wine, some are used to cover on the hurt, etc... Herbs are available Year-round and plenty in the forest: balanophora fungosa, stemona tuberosa root, which are for diarrhea, fever; linzi mushroom... There are many villagers know about herbs and they collect too. Many of them pass to their children, but people not from the same family must offer things if they want to know. There is people in the village know how to use herb to cure illness such as stomach ache, hepatitis, etc...

- Graveyard is located not far from the village. This is where burying the death. Villagers can not remember how many grave are there. This is sacred place of the village where no one is allowed to encroach. They do not have exhumation custom and never move the grave once burying.

2.3. Hunting

Most of the FGD participant said that wild animal in forest is quite abundant, including rat, deer, bird, boar, snake, wild chicken, squirrels, etc... Hunted animal is normally rat, bamboo rat, because they are a lot in the forest. Those hunt lot will sell to those in need in and outside the village. Sometime they sell to trader. Tools for hunting is trap, net, crossbow, catapult. Gun is now prohibited in using.

Who go frequent to the forest will have meat to eat daily. Those go sometimes will have less meat to eat.
List of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-10.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20-350.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-500.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>500-35 million VND/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30-1.500.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>snake</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-150.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50-300.000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-50.000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>70-90.000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Kengkor village on 14/1/2017 with 08 participants, all men. The ethnicity of the participants was Kho Mu. They are at age of 50 to 63.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

All of attendants knew about the planned hydropower project from previous meetings held on the project. However, men know better because they were invited to meetings. They suggested that there should be more meetings and other mode of information propagandas such as by
means of louder speaker in their language. Every one expressed their worries about potential relocation and disturbance in their living.

3.2. **Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders**

The village has 26 households with 135 individual, including 57 women. 26 households among them are Kho Mu, 6 households are Lao. Number of people at working age is 132 people.

The village was establish since 1955 from people living surrounding the area. In 1998-1999 villagers from the village immigrated to Vientiane and left 8 households, then Kho Mu in surround moved here. In 2013, there was a Kho Mu household migrated to Vientiane and two others moved out in 2015 to Vientiane.

Two Vietnamese households who are children and nephew of deputy village head’s wife has moved here and hired house to live for trading for 2 years.

There is no children at 12 grade, 3 at 9 grade. The village has 3 classes but only one teacher. Children at 4-5 grade must go to the commune and it takes 2 hours on food to get to class. There are 22 children at grades 1-3, grade 5 has 5 children, grade 6 has 1 child, grade 7 has 2 children.

There are two drug dependence in the village.

Family name of Kho Mu has many names of totemistic meaning. The name can be an animal such as “Rvai” (tiger), “Moong” (weasel), “Hoa” (monkey), etc... or a bird such as “Lang tu” (nightingale), “Dit” (sparrow), “Khut loc” (water hen). In each clan, higher branch person is distinguished with lower one by traditional custom such as younger brother of mother makes proposal for his nephew, the rule regulates his position when performing ritual ceremonies, etc...

Trace of 3 clans union is shown in “ati hem” relationship (brother and sister of the same ancestor), “dong em mai em” (on mother blood of Ego), “ma cuu dong quynh” (on husband blood of Ego). There are many custom from matriarchic society. Role of the mother’s younger brother is appreciated in family of new married couple. His decision will be the last and final in his female nephew wedding. When custom of husband staying at his wife family is governed, he is “ku dup” (khau cut), set up kitchen to worship ancestor, fire up, giving seed, name the first child born, etc... One other residual from matriarchic society is that when husband stays with his wife’s family, he will be named with his wife’s family name, daughter is named with mother’s family name, until they come to live with husband family then they will named following the husband’s family name, etc.

3.3. **Land and forest**

**Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.**

**Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new separated household**

When a new household is formed, they keep cultivating on the same plot which has been used by the whole family but not specially allocating to them. 5 years after the formation of new household then will be cultivate in separate and do it in other plot but somehow must within the defined cultivation land area.

**Role of elders/leader in land system**

Head of clans has no role in land system.

**Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition**

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Ritual: before seeding, Thai offer worship to land god at the field (end of April, early May of lunar year) and offer New Rice Ceremony (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has a temple where worshipping gods and ancestor who helped them setting up the village. The village worship is performed twice a year at the temple.
The village worship is performed twice a year in September and December, representatives from households will join. The village ghost worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year.

Each village has a temple where worshiping gods and ancestor who helped them setting up the village. When offering worship they will invite water god, forest god, etc...to join. In custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

**Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values**

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays they stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...

3.4. **Spirits, graves and other sacred places**

**Sacred place in village/near village, forest where gods live or where worship, ceremonies are organized, location and distance from the river**

Each village has temple for general worship of the whole village, where they worship many gods including ancestor who helped them set up the village. Besides are gods such as river god, mountain god, rain god, thunder god, etc... When offering worship, witch will invite all gods to enjoy offered things and bless villagers.

**Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near village, time, location and participants**

Village worship is performed in May and October every year, representatives from households will join. The worship is performed at the village gate (village ghost) where tree cutting, making mess activities are prohibited. Worship offers pig or a cow in a good harvest year. First worship is offered in May of lunar year with fruit, the second is offered in October of lunar year to close the year.

**Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded; compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.**

Graveyard is some of 15 minutes on foot away. If the village is submerged, villagers must offer worship to ghosts. The village has been here for long time so there are many ghost living there. It will cost 15 million VND for the whole village to offer a general worship to ghosts. Households will offer separately themselves.

Ghost worship requires pig and drug if the death father used drug when he was alive. Death will be similar as the alive. Wealthy family will offer ghost with buffalo.

**Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.**

If the village is submerged, they have selected residential land, but there is no water there. Before doing anything, the village must inform the village god first.

**Belief relating to god and position of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential land, how these issues will be considered in relationship to the hydropower project, if relocation required, what to do by cultural tradition**

Villagers should be supported in performing the community rituals (offering worship at temple, graveyard area) and of family when they are displacing because this is unavoidable custom of Kho Mu.
4 Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held with 08 participants, all men. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

Villagers knew about the planned HPP since 2015. They knew that the planned HPP will be constructed in Vietnam. They heard about the information from Vietnamese who came here to visit friend/relatives or working, not official information. The village management board told them that Lao authorities have said about the project, but they do not know any more, nothing clear.

If the HPP is constructed, they wish to know what will impact them, because they live close to the river, do they need to displace. Now villagers live stably here, but if the Government tell them to displace, so they will.

They wish to know when the project is implemented. They wish to know more information about the project, where it is constructed, which villages will be affected, what are impacts, do villagers need to relocate to other place, how is their living after the project, is it better?

4.2. Land use

Cultivation land of the village is plenty, but few people do so there are some of 50-55 ha of upland field which are regularly used annually. They cultivate 1 crop a year then leaving fallow for 3-4 years and moving to other land plot before reassuming.

Upland field is surrounding the village, not far away, some field is 500m far, some 5km far. It may take 2 hour on foot. No household go to the field by motorbike because road is difficult for vehicles. Each household has 2-3 land plots for cultivation each year. Such land is not irrigated, mainly depends on weather.

All of cultivation land of villagers has no land use right certificate. Recently villagers are furnished with land use right certificate. Cultivation land of the village is managed by the community under direct management of the village management board and the village council. Each household has some of 7ha of planted forest.

New household uses land of the village because land is plenty. They use under community rule. The village management board has the right to allocate cultivation land to new household.

4.3. Crops

Main crops of villagers are rice, corn, cassava, peanut, etc…

All of households plant rice, maize, cassava and peanut. Yields of various crops are:

- Rice: whole village has some of 50ha, each ha gives some of 3-4 ton a year, but this year 2017, may be yield 1.5 ha due to a bad harvest year. Rice price is some of 7,000 VND/kg. But only household having lot rice will sell, most of them are used for family demand only.

- Maize: 3-4 quintal/household, whole village harvest some of 3-4 ton of corn per year. Corn is used for livestock breeding and to sell.

- Cassava: each household in the village has some of 3-4 hundred of cassava bushes. Cassava is used in livestock breeding.

- Peanut: On average the whole village harvest some of 300kg of peanut, most is for family demand, some households have lot will sell to trader.
Every year, there are 20 households lack of food, only some of 3-4 household enough food. When food is lack, they must buy from goods seller who come to the village or go to Vietnam to buy. They buy and pay latter after they sell cattle or timber log to Vietnamese companies. Hunger households are given with rice by the Government.

Cultivation is done by traditional way, hole, seeding, harvesting. Because of sloping topography, no machine or cattle pulling force is used.

4.4. Livestock

Livestock in the village are cow, buffalo, pig, duck, goat, and chicken, as below:

- **Cow**: On average, each household has 2-3 cows, there are 100 cows in the village, many of which are productive cow, local race. Livestock is free grazing on upland field and along the river bank. Mature cows are sold to Vietnamese trader. Cow is only killed for village event. A cow costs 26 million VND.

- **Buffalo**: there are some of 50-60 buffalo in the village, when they need cash, they sell at price of some 38 million VND a buffalo.

- **Pig**: each household has 2-3 pigs. Villagers use mainly in family event or for family food.

- **Goat**: there are some of 23 goats in the village. Goat price is 130,000 VND per kg.

- **Poultry**: for family demand mainly, very few selling because disease usually occurs in the village.

Main food of households are vegetable and fish caught from the river. Few cases with meat, except worship or event of the family or the village.

Water resources for livestock breeding are river, ravine.

Agricultural extension staff come to the village to instruct villagers about season and technique in cultivation and livestock breeding. When cattle, poultry are ill, veterinary staff come to the village to cure so few cases when cattle and poultry in the village die, only when disease breaks out with promptly curing and prevention livestock will die.

5 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

*Mr. Le Manh Hung*

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 14/1/2017 with 06 participants, 4 men, 2 women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity of Laos.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- Villagers knew about the HPP from a survey team who came for investigation and told them that the planned HPP may cause impact to the villagers. But they are not sure how it will impact.

- Villagers did not paid much attention, if HPP cause displacement, they will do.

- If there is more information, they wish to know how they will be affected, when the HPP is constructed, whether relocation will be compensated. Officers shall organize meeting to public the information to villagers.

5.2. Boat use

- No household in the village has boat. All goods are supplied by Vietnamese traders who come to buy, sell and exchange goods.
- Sometimes, if villagers need to go to Vietnam, they will pay ticket price to Vietnamese boat owner.
- Villagers travel by motorbike or on foot.

5.3. Fishing

- Most of villagers do upland cultivation, no fishery. Fishing is only do when they need food for family.
- They go fishing using net, but not regular, sometime only.
- There are some of 5-6 households in the village having fish net. Sometimes they go 2-3 times a month, once a week On average, sometime they do go for month, because no fish. But sometimes they go twice a week because nothing to do home, but not many fish caught.
- Each fishing lasts some of 1 hour, with 3--50 gram only. There are many type of fish such as hemibagrus guttatus, goby, but many species they do not know Vietnamese name.
- Men go fishing using net, women sometime go fishing with basket but women catch only small fish, snail, moss, not big fish.
- They go fishing regardless to season, any time they like. In rainy season, fish is big but rapid water make it hard to fish, while in cold season, they do not know where fish goes.
- Households in village go fishing for family demand only not for sale. They go fishing when they have nothing to eat. They eat sticky rice most of the time, few meat and fish. Sometimes they hunt rat, chicken or boar and they keep it for later using. They raise pig, chicken, cow, goat mainly for sale. Livestock is killed only for ghost worship, rarely for eat with no reason.
- They do not eat fish regularly, only once a month, or even once in two months. But sometimes they eat fish twice a week, depending whether they go fishing and catch fish or not. But generally, it can be said that they eat fish very few.

5.4. Equipment, Fish species and Habitats

- Fishing is done by small net along river bank, women go fishing using basket. Common is net and basket along river bank.
- Villagers go fishing in the river section near their village, not far. They said that they do not pay attention where is the fish spawn, how fish reproduces. They catch what ever fish they can, mainly small one along river bank. They go fishing any time, regardless to season. Fish is more available in high water season then in low water season. Low water season is easier to catch fish but not many and weather is cold too.
- Villagers of Kieng Kor village do n ot plant along river bank, sometimes they collect wild vegetable there to eat, but rarely. There are some types of vegetable by they do not know Vietnamese name.

5.5. Other information and reflections

- If the village is submerged, they have selected another place for residence, but that area has no water. The whole village expects that what ever project is done, they need to be informed.
- Each year, the village offers two worships, one in July, when seeding, and one in November, when harvesting.
- Villagers do not have any rituals, custom relating to the river. They only have custom, rituals relating to village god, house ghost, forest god.
- Daily food is from upland field and forest, fish and aquatic is only in addition and takes a small rate in the meal structure of the villagers.
Report from FGD with Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Kengkor village on 14/1/2017 with 10 participants. The ethnicity of the participants is Kho Mu. One of them is illiterate; 1 finished grade 4; 4 finished grade 5; one finished grade 6, 1 finished grade 8, and 1 finished grade 9.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

The village heard about a HPP once about 2 years ago by project management board, but do not know which one is that. To day is the second time hearing about the project.

They wish to know more information about the project, policy. They need to know whether they are displaced. What will they be supported by the Government or the project in new relocation area.

They wish to hear the project information in Kho Mu language so they can understand and ask.

6.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

There are Thai, Laos and Kho Mu (Vietnam) women married to men in the village (including 4 Vietnamese). All are treated equal. Villagers live solidarity. There are men from other places in Vietnam live in the village, they married to Lao women and stay. There are two women got married to Vietnamese men in My Ly and Keng Du commune.

There is no woman as household leader, no single mother with small child. No woman got married to Chinese man. There are some young male and female at age 12-15 go to Xiengkhuoang to work as laborer (do not remember exact how many).

Women go out to commune center or to district, to Vietnam. Most of villages along the river go to Vietnam for shopping, checking health or visiting relatives. Each trip takes 2 hours, by boat to Xop Cang village of Vietnam takes 30 minutes. On average women in the village go out of the village 2-6 times. There are 12 motorbike in the whole village.

The village has women union with one leader and vice leader of the village women union. No other work as leader or social works or teacher because knowledge of the villagers here is low. Officers of women union are responsible for uniting women in the village, breeding livestock together, showing each other how to take care children, sharing experience in checking, curing illness of children.

There is no market in the commune, so when they need to go to market, they go to Xop Cang village in Vietnam, to buy things for family or to by thread for weaving. Things for daily using such as cloth, washing powder or other for daily live are supplied by Vietnamese seller who bring goods to sell at the village.

6.3. Health and nutrition

The village is constructed by the Government 3 small water tanks, 1 big water tank to contain water from ravine for villagers to use. They bath children daily at the tank. In cold weather they warm water and batch children at home, sometime children go bathing in the river with adults.

Common illness in the village are: fever, cough, diarrhea due to eating. Women suffer from gynecological trouble which can not cure by herb so they must go to My Ly to buy medicine for curing.

Health care officer usually combine with other activities such as vaccine injection to children, checking gynecological trouble to women and basic health inspection, not specific health care program. In such regular inspection, most of detected illness can not cure, and villagers are consulted by health care officers to inspect in hospital for better curing. Therefore only wealthy
villagers can afford to curing, those cannot afford will cure by herbs at the village. Vaccine injection to children is done according to schedule by health care officers.

There are 2-3 malnutrition children in the village because of hunger and 1 born invalid child at 10 years old.

There is no quack in the village, no midwife. The village deputy head knows a little about herbs who collect herbs from forest to help villagers when they have head ache, stomach ache. Severe cases will go to Vietnam for inspection and curing.

Women usually deliver at home if they find they are strong enough and normal. Women at birth will be helped by 1, 2 neighbor or relatives. Last year there was one child died at birth because of premature case. There is no woman died during delivery.

Medicine is bought from Muong Quan commune, taking 2 hours travelling on motorbike so villagers usually go by boat in 30 minutes to My Ly commune in Vietnam to buy, which is closer.

There is no training course, or propaganda on HIV, drug, gender equality to women or villagers. There is few village meeting not to such mentioned topics. Normally women go meeting when their husbands are not home or when meeting is specifically for them. There is no HIV case in the village, but there are 6 male drug dependence including 3 at age of 40 and above, 3 at age of 20 and above.

6.4. Education

Villagers communicate in Thai and Kho Mu languages. Traders and sellers, who are Kinh, come to the village also communicate in Thai or Kho Mu languages, very few speaking Vietnamese because no one know.

There are 4 Vietnamese women married to men here can speak Vietnamese but very few because they are Kho Mu.

There are some of 10% women in the village can read and write Lao fluently. They are at age of 20 to 30, the rest can only read number and sign.

There is primary school at the village, teaching from grade 1 to grade 5, in which grades 2, 3 share one teacher, each one teacher teaches 2 to 3 classes every year.

Secondary school is located at Xop Cang village: children come home once a week from school. They go by boat or on foot. Boarding children is raised by the Government. Household hire house for their children must pay that expenses.

There is no children in the village attend to high school which is in Muong Quan district. Children leave school at age of 13-15 and normally go to Vientiane to work. They mainly work as clothing laborer or in restaurant.

In 2016, there were 3 children dropping school at grade 6 because of bad studying and of far distance from home, so they dropped.

6.5. Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization

Land for residence and cultivation is large but they can not do much. Upland field is far, taking 1-1.5 hours on foot to be there. The closest distance takes 20 minutes on foot and motorbike is impossible. Women do not know how to ride motorbike. They work on field in period between May and October of lunar year.

Women and men go to the field every day, on foot and come home in the evening. Every household has a hut at field. Sometimes there is household staying at the field for a week. They cultivate rice, corn, peanut. Besides, they breed buffalo, cow, pig, chicken, goat and plant vegetable such as mustard green, egg plant, chili, sweet potato, etc... Very few household plant vegetable surrounding house or on river bank because it will be stolen.

Estimated number of livestock in the village is:

- Chicken: every household raise chicken but it is usually affected with disease so each household has some of 10-20 chicken.
- Pig: they raise for family eating or to contribute to the village in case of ceremony or event (pig is suffered with disease too).
- Goat: 7 – 10 goats/household
- Buffalo: 5 – 8 buffalo/household
- Cow: 2 – 3 cow/household

Besides, women collect wild vegetable every day from river bank, and moss during moss period, or they go to forest to collect wild vegetable for family meal.

Mean sometime go to forest to collect timber: syringa, pine tree, etc… to sell to people from Vietnam. Men go fishing on the river (except where is prohibited by custom of Laos) for eating and selling if they catch lot. They can hunt bird, rat, squirrel, deer, weasel from forest or the field.

It takes 1 hour on foot to get to the forest where they can collect timber, herbs such as stemona tuberosa, linzhi mushroom, etc.. Every week they go to forest 3-4 times.

Selling of timber, buffalo, cow, goat, rice, corn, peanut and fruits is men’s job. Sometime women go with their husband to buy things for family using. However, when there is family event, the couple will discuss and decide together and they decide together how to raise children.

Annually there are some households in the village suffering with hunger, some of 4-5 households. When suffering with hunger they can buy from trader and pay back in the next crop to trader.

6.6. Other information and reflections

Recommendation by women group to the hydropower project:

- They need to know soon whether the project is implemented.
- How is the project impact, what is the submergence extent, must they relocate, what is the resettlement program by the Government, they need to know soon because in the custom of Laos, before moving house, graves, they must ask fortune teller to tell them how before displacing.

3.6.3.6 Phiangthat Village – 11 January 2017

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF GROUP DISCUSSION

Date 1/12/17

Village Phiangthat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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II. Use of Forest
### Village Summary Report

Village baseline reports are based on the data and information collected through focus group discussions and key informant interviews in villages to be affected by the My Ly HPP in January 2017. Each village report summarizes the information given in Village FGD Reports and achieved from key informants.

<table>
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Age</th>
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<td>III.</td>
<td>Aquaculture - Use of River</td>
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<td>IV.</td>
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<td>V.</td>
<td>Elder - Ethnic Minority Group</td>
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</table>
1.1. **Location and General Conditions of the Village**

Phiangthat village is one of the villages of the Muong Duong group in Kouan District, Houaphanh Province. The Village is 4km far from the Nam Non River, 15km from the District centre. In order to go to the Village from the Nam Non River, people have to walk and pass through Duong stream with a large wide. Villagers invested in a small wooden bridge across the Duong stream; travellers crossing the bridge have to pay a fee. The access road is wide but winding and steep, people can only use motorbike. From Vietnam, people can go by car.

The Village was founded in 1992 from 3 small villages: Hu Huoi, Hu He and Hu Co.

100% villagers are Khomu people with stilt houses. People usually grow vegetables in the area around the house or along the stream.

The Village does not have electricity. Some households use micro hydropower generators; some use oil lamps.

The water sources are from the stream and stored in the public tank and to households. Most of households have private toilet as there is a toilet construction programme of Laos Government.

The Village has public board to inform necessary information to people.

Households breed livestock by free ranger method so the cattle manure are scattered in the village.

The educational attainment of the people in the village is very low, expressed through the cases of illness, people often do not go to the medical clinic but get help from the shaman by holding a ceremony.

The Village management board is structured adequately but ineffective. Village heath worker has low qualification, he/she cannot perform examination or treatment for people, her/his main role is write an application to transfer patient to district hospital for treatment.

1.2. **Population**

There are 42 households with 289 persons. There are 12 poor households.

Cause of poverty here is due to roads are difficult so if it makes the product is difficult to sell to other people with the market price.

The main ethnic is Khomu. In marriages, ethnic groups are free to marry, without distinction of ethnic. Therefore, men and women in the village are also free to marry in another village or another place if the two of them are in love. There are also many other women from other places married into the village. People do not have prejudice on other ethnic so the statistic on marriage of different ethnics is not conducted.

There are no female-headed households. The head of household is male, if any husband dies, they stay with son, son will be head of household. However, there are no women have husband died. No elder over 60 years old living alone. No single women with dependents in the village.
1.3. **Village History and Migration**

The Village is founded in 1992 from 3 small villages: Hu Huoi, Hu He and Hu Co. These villages used to live in an area is about 6km far from the current place in Muong Duong, then they moved to current place and all villagers are siblings or relatives.

Since the establishment of the village, many households have moved to other places to live and work, mainly moving to Vientiane. Sometimes it is just a small family moved away, not all siblings in a big family. So they also have people to visit. Many young people go to other places to work such as Xieng Kham and Vientiane. There are more than 10 young men and women working. The exact figures can not be remembered, because some people go away for a few months, there are also people go for a year.

1.4. **Land Availability and Land Use**

The total area of productive land is not known exactly. However, the productive land is near the village, about 500m ad it takes 15-20 minutes to get there or 1 hour to get the furthest. Average area of upland fields is 1,5-2,5ha/household/year. All cultivate area is upland fields with sloping terrain, no paddy fields and water for production, only depending on nature. Therefore, people had a bad crop in 2016.

There have been no land use right certificates for arable land. Cultivation land of the village is managed by the community under the direct management of the village management board and village elder council. Newly households will use the village land as land is abundant. No one reclaims more land or cultivates in the forest as the Government does not allow people to slash the forests (the Village is located in the area of protection forests).

Although agricultural land use under management of Kouan District authority, land is still under use of villagers and they exploit and allocate according to tradition of Laos’s Khomu people in Phiangthat in particular and neighboring areas in general, which means each household use and exploit the land area they reclaimed with the respect of community.

Residential land has been granted a land use right certificate. All village is located near the stream so they will have to resettle if the village get flooded.

Forests are not allocated to the village for management purposes but belongs to protected forest. People can get timber for building houses if they get permission in advance. However, people still get timber then sell it to Vietnamese traders.

1.5. **Livelihoods and Labour**

**Agriculture**

The people apply slash-and-burn as well as “dig holes, plant seeds” methods. They do not use machines or cattle on the fields due to the high slope of the area. The main crops are rice, maize, and cassava. All households grow upland one crop of rice and maize per year. Cassava is harvested within two years. The average yields as well as the significance of each crop is indicated in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upland rice</td>
<td>2,0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>7,0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>20,0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some households plant vegetables along streams, namely Brassica, Lactuca sativa, onions in an area of 15-20 m². Some also plant fruit trees such as guava, papaya, and banana trees. However, the area is undetermined. The rice production is merely enough for domestic consumption, not for sale. 100% of maize production is sold to Vietnam. Traders come and buy right in the village. The selling price is 6,000 KIP/kg.

**Livestock breeding**

The livestock of the village during the survey are indicated in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Significance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickens</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each household has 2-3 cows on average. Some have 15-20. The total number of cows in 2015 is 300; however, a significant number has died due to disease outbreaks and incapacity of treatment.

There are no pigs and poultry at the moment of the survey also for the same reasons.

The villagers raise mostly reproductive cows, using the local breeds. They apply free range method. Cows are raised on the fields or in the forests. The people also fence an area during harvest. After harvest, livestock are free-range again. Grown up cows are sold to Vietnamese traders. The households slaughter cows only when there are funerals or weddings. The selling price ranges 5-7 million kip/cow, equal to 15-20 million VND/ cow depending on the weight of the cow. They sell cows usually when they need to buy rice, a family member is sick, or they need to build a house.

They use stream water for livestock breeding.

When diseases break out, the vet just comes to inform the people about the incident rather than give livestock treatment. The villagers have to buy medicine for livestock on their own.

**River based livelihoods**

There is no boat in the village. The villagers travel on foot or by motorbike. Fishery is to add more nutrients to the meals. All households and all members participate in fishing.

The fishing place is Duong stream, which is about 15-20 minutes far from the village. The popular fish in this area are Rachycentron canadum, Cyprinus carpio, Anguilliformes, tadpoles, crabs. There is one area which are only opened for public fishing when district officers come. It is about 1km far from the village and under the management of the village head and the supervision of all villagers. Who wants to fish for sale has to pay a fee. It depends on the fishing time that one has to pay tens or hundreds of thousand kips. The payment is kept by the management board for public activities of the village later.

The villagers also collect mosses during moss season. Normally there are mosses in the end of the year.

**Forest based livelihoods**

The villagers are much dependent on the forests to collect food and earn some money.
It is usually the case that men go to the forests to collect wood to sell to Vietnamese. The common timbers are Syringa and Melia azedarach.

The NFPs include many types of mushrooms, bamboo shoots, medicinal herbs. The villagers also hunt. The common animals caught are squirrels, Muntiacus, wild chickens, wild boars, and monkeys. The products are then sold to Vietnamese traders. Small animals such as mice, squirrels, and chickens are usually used for domestic consumption. Other bigger animals are usually used for exchange for advanced devices that Vietnamese traders bring along with.

1.6. Education

Villagers communicate by different languages such as: Khomu, standard Lao language, Mong or Thai language.

About 80% of women can read, write. The whole Village has 90% of villagers are literate. Elders are illiterate. Man are higher educated than women and their ability in trading is also better.

There is a primary school in the village with all children study, only disabled ones can go to the school.

The secondary school is located in the group of villages, 7km far from the Village. Thus, the number of children going to secondary school is not as high as that of primary pupils. There is a high school in the District which is 40km far from the Village.

In 2016, 31 students went to primary school, and 12 students studied in secondary school in the group of villages. All tuition fees of primary school and secondary school students are paid by the Lao Government.

There are 5 students studying in the high school in the District. When the children go to boarding high school, they receive no subsidy from the government. Therefore, only the households that have money can send their children to high school.

1.7. Health and Health Care

Most of households do not have bathhouse so they must go to Duong stream for bathing. In rainy season, water is taken from the tank. In the dry season, women get the water and bathe themselves at home. They use stream water or rainfall for cooking. They use river water for washing clothes.

Women in the village often suffer from headaches, sore throats, flu, malaria, stomach ache.

There are two health workers in the village. These people studied medical care. The tuition fees were paid by the district. They receive no salary from the State. If someone is sick, they give them treatment using herbs in the forests.

There are 4 traditional healers that often help people cure the diseases.

The villagers sometimes ask health workers for advice, if the disease gets more server, then they go to the hospital in Muong Duong, or Muong Quan or in Vietnam for treatment.

Mostly women give birth at home. If family members do not have skill in delivery, they will ask for help from health workers. In cases when it is difficult to deliver, they go to hospitals.

There used to be some cases of maternal deaths during child delivery.
People also have heard about HIV / AIDS but no one in the village suffers from this disease.

1.8. **Ethnic Culture and Leadership**

Villagers are Khomu people and they have close relationship with Khomu and Thai people in Vietnam. These ethnics can communicate in Thai or Khomu language, however they do not know the letters of each other.

Khomu people in Laos are similar to Khomu people in Vietnam, they are polytheist. They think that all have ghost. The Good Ghost will bring good luck and the Bad Ghost will bring bad luck. There are ancestor spirits in the house, forest spirits in the forest, river spirits in the river and land spirits in the land. Therefore, they hold ceremony to worship to the land and rice twice a year, i.e. before planting season and harvest (January and September). People also worship to ancestor on New Year (April). The ceremony for worship to ancestor is taken in the house of each household after worshipping to the Village God in the temple.

The Temple for Village God is located in the front of the Village and upstream of the river, under a big tree.

In the case of displacement, villagers have to invite a shaman from Muong Duong (since there is no shaman in the Village) to perform a ceremony to leave the land in the temple. Then, they will go to the resettlement place and perform another ceremony there to ask whether the Village God agrees on the new area. They will only move there when there is such an agreement. In order to know the opinion of the Village God, people get the information through the shaman. The entire villagers cannot get the message on their own.

The village has a graveyard that is located near the Duong stream with 3200 graves. It is said that the villagers have to do some rituals to ask the graveyard guard what he/she wants when the villagers leave the place. Then they will prepare some offerings including wine, about 20 liters, and heroine. After that, the villagers have to do other rituals to ask the guard where in the new area the graveyard should be located. It is usually a place surrounded by trees or in deep forests.

Houses are usually built on first days of March.

1.9. **Gender Issues**

The Kho Mu in Laos is a patriarchal community, and all decision-making rights belong to the husband and father of the family. In the cases that the father dies, the eldest son will make all decisions related to the economy and production of the whole family.

Women are mostly at home to weave skirts and occasionally go to the forests to collect bamboo shoots, cloud ear fungus or vegetables. They take care of housework. They are less communicative; however, they can speak Lao Lum language which is the main language in Lao PDR.

1.10. **Community Organization and Development**

Although the Village has Women’s Union, they are not active. In general, besides the village head, other organizations are not quite active. According to some villagers participating in FGD, the Village has village head and his deputy, police, health worker, women’s union; however, when asking about the important role of these people, villagers only mention the village head. The village head is voted by people and will be responsible for participating in
meetings in the District and proposing wishes of villagers to district authorities and disseminating the information that district authorities want people to know.

Besides the programmes such as clean water and solar power that were commenced, no development programmes are conducted in the Village.

Kouan District also implements some activities related to poverty reduction by providing the villagers with seedlings such as hybrid maize and fruit trees.

Currently, all villagers plant hybrid maize seeds for high productivity.

1.11. Awareness about the Planned HPP

- Villagers were informed on the HPP by project surveyors a few years ago. The project staffs said that HPP would be constructed to provide electricity for the people.

- The information that people have heard is that they will get compensated for the loss. The village can be flooded if the water is rising, their residential and production land can be affected. People must move to higher place.

- If they can get more information, people want to know how much they can get compensated and when the HPP will commence. Where will people be resettled and are there upland fields for them to cultivate?

- People want to get information by project staff who should go to each household or organize meetings to disseminate information to people.

1.12. Additional Issues

This is a remote village and near Vietnam with difficult traffic; only travel by waterways is the quickest way to get here. The main income is generated from agricultural and forestry activities. Agricultural and forestry productions are quite difficult; some villagers are employed to cut trees and grass on upland fields, and collect timber for 30,000-60,000 kip/day to make a living. The villagers usually buy utensils from Vietnamese traders; sometimes they just get the products and will pay later without responsibilities to pay any interests.

Water for daily activities and livestock breeding is taken from the stream. According to the villagers, the water quality is quite clean as people do not use pesticides when cultivating.

Timber is the high or main income source of the villagers. Households can earn 30-40 million VND (equivalent to 10-13 million kip) if selling timber to Vietnamese traders. The period that people can get timber is quite long, about 7 months per year and except 4 months in rainy season.

2 Report from FGD with Ethnic Women

Ms. Tran Tuy Hoa & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Huong

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 12th January 2017 with 8 female participants. All of them are Laos; Most of participants know how to read, how to write Laos language. There was no one know Vietnamese. Discussion was done with help from translator. Therefore, information is only references.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.
2.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

They heard about the planned HPP, from the village head, long time ago. Then also Laos officer told, Vietnamese officer told, but long ago. They heard that if the HPP is implemented they will have electricity to use. The project impacts will be compensated. Water will rise up and they will have to move to higher.

Villagers did not know when the project is done. They do not know whether their house, crop, tree will be compensated, how is the price? How much the compensation, where water will go? Where the village move too, when it is done? Whether they can bring the house with them? Is there land for them to cultivate?

They wish to have meeting where villagers will be informed in details. When they understand they will follow. The best way is meeting again and again so as they can understand thoroughly.

2.2. Population, ethnicity and women leaders

The village was established in 1992 from three villages namely Hu Huoi, Hu He and Hu Co in Muong Duong some of 6km far away.

Main ethnicity in the village is Kho Mu, but people from various ethnicities are free to get married. Love and marry, there is no distinguish about ethnicities. So young people in the village are free to marry to people from other villages if they love each other. There are many women from outside married men here. Because there is no distinguish so no one list how many people other than their ethnicity get married to people here.

There is no women as household leader in the village. Household leader is men only. Widow stays with her son who is the household leader. No elder people above 60 must live alone. There is no single mother with small children.

There are women from the village go outside for business, near and far, sometime come back visiting home.

Young people usually go out, with friend, because they can ride motorbike. It is only 7km from the village to the commune center so there is no difficult in travelling by motorbike. But elders go less.

There is no women works as leader. There is only women union voted by women in the village. The women union leader sometime goes for training and come back to propaganda to the women union members. The women union also mobilize women in the village to take part in general work of the village.

2.3. Health and nutrition

Most of family has no bathroom so they usually bath in Duong stream which is close to the village. In winter, women take water home to batch. Drinking water is taken from ravine or from rain. The water resources are near the village so households take water home for eating, drinking, but they use water from river to bath. It is up to household, some take water home to bath, some bath on the river. Children bath on the river, only small one bath at home.

Common illness of women in the village are headache, throat ache, flue, malaria, stomachache.

There are two health care officers in the village. These two study themselves how to cure villagers. Their school fee is paid by district, but they work without payment. Not severe illness will be cured by herbs from forest. There are 4 quacks in the village helping villagers to cure. There are some illness villagers ask health care officers for advice, initial inspection or the village health care officer sell medicine. Severe illness will go to Muong Duong hospital or Muong Quan district hospital or they go to Vietnam for curing.

Women usually deliver at home. Family who does not know how to help in delivery can ask the village health care officer to help. Hard delivering case will go to hospital, some go to Vietnam.

Sometime there is case of hard delivery but cannot go to hospital and therefore die during delivery. There was many before, but now is fewer.

Before there was child death at birth, but no case recently.

They heard about HIV.AIDS but no such case in the village.
2.4. **Education**

Villagers communicate in Kho Mu, Laos languages, some speak H'Mong, Thai languages too. Some of 80% women in the village know how to read, to write, the rate is up to 90% for the whole village. Illiterate people are mainly elder people. But in the village rate of literate men is higher than women and their communication ability is better too.

There is primary school at the village so children at school age all go to school, except invalid case who cannot go to school.

Secondary school is 7km away from the village so number of children go to secondary school is less because of far distance. High school is at district, some of 40km from the village.

In 2016, the village has 31 children at grade 1, 12 children study at secondary school in the commune and 5 study at high school at the district.

High school is boarding school but they are not supported by the Government. Their family must pay for that; therefore, only wealthy family can afford high school children.

2.5. **Cultivation, forest and river resources utilization**

Every villager cultivates upland rice, upland field is close, near the ravine next to the village so cultivation is not difficult because it is located low. Some of 20% upland field of the villagers is located higher and it takes 2-3 hours on foot to be there. Beside rain-fed rice cultivation, households cultivate other crops such as corn, cassava, sugar cane, mango, guava, peanut so they work all the time.

Products collected from forest are bamboo shoot, mushroom, herbs, rat, bird, squirrel, wild chicken, boar, deer, etc... In sunny day women go to upland field to collect vegetable, mushroom, bamboo shoot, harvesting fruit, catching small animal such as bird, squirrel... Bamboo shoot is collected in rainy season, about August, September. In rainy day, they stay at home weaving.

They go fishing in Duong stream in free time. Household having no boat, use net, rod to catch fresh, women use basket to catch shrimp, crab, etc. They collect moss, algae for family meal when season comes. They sell too but only when they have many so very rarely because it is enough for family only.

3. **Report from FGD with Ethnic Minority Leaders/Elders**

**General about the FGD**

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 12/1/2017 in Phiangthat village with 8 participants, 4 men, 4 women. The ethnicity of the participants is Kho Mu, ages varies between 20 and 52.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

3.1. **Awareness about the planned HPP**

They have heard about the planned HPP, but did not know whether it is constructed or not. Information is from Vietnamese, Laos officers who said the HPP is constructed to supply power to villagers. Villagers wish to know about compensation, how much they will be compensated, when they will be compensated, where, is there any land for cultivation?

3.2. **Population, ethnic minority and ethnic minority leaders**

The village was establish in 1992 from 3 villages namely Hu Huoi, Hu He and Hu Co which was 6km from here, in Muong Duong. They migrated here. They are relatives, when they came to this location they stayed to work with each other. 100% villagers are Kho Mu.

There are 65 households and 254 individual, including 121 men and 133 women and 39 poor households.

The village has village head who is voted under the Government regulation.
Marriage of Kho Mu is in direct principles, particularly within a clan. In marriage, many matriarchy customs are remained such as matrilocat in which the husband stays at his wife's house, husband will be named following his wife, marriage with sister, brother in law, etc... The wedding is performed by proposal marriage, staying at the wife’s family, wedding party at the wife’s family and bringing the bride home. Young men, young women are free to love but decision is on parents, particularly the mother's younger brother. The mother's younger brother will decide how much the wedding present must be, how many betrothal gifts must be offered.

3.3. Land and forest

Land ownership, community or household, decision making in the matter of land acquisition and land use.

Villagers do reclaim new land. Before reclamation they offer a simple worship on the 30th or 15th of January or September. They cultivate in that land plot for 1 crop then leaving fallow in 5-6 years before reassuming.

Land allocation, decision making, and land allocation to new household

Role of elders/leader in land system

Head of village have no role in land allocation system.

Tradition/ritualism in relating to land acquisition

Tradition/ritualism/cultural issues/special ceremonies relating to land, forest, river

Besides Vietnamese Tet holiday, Kho Mu have New Rice Holiday. The New Rice Holiday is performed after harvesting in October of lunar year. This is a holiday of the whole village after a hard working period. The New Rice Holiday of Kho Mu reflects its cultural characteristics. They remains many custom and ritual habits relating to agriculture and cultivation.

In the custom of Kho Mu, there are 5 important gods: heaven god, land god, water god, ancestor ghost and house ghost. Those are ghosts bringing back good luck to people but sometime can punish people at their anger.

Besides village group worship, Kho Mu offer village worship and especially the house ghost worship during Tet holiday and when a family member is ill. The altar of house ghost is located above kitchen while altar of ancestor is placed in a separated and private room where guests and stranger are prohibited. Each clan still keeps the custom of worshiping family ghosts with special characters.

Sacred forest is closed to the village where prohibiting to exploit, cut tree and hunting but animal grazing is allowable in this area.

Ritual: Before seedling, Kho Mu offer worship to land god at upland field area (end of April or early May in lunar year) and offer new rice worship (before harvesting) in October of lunar year.

Each village has temple to worship Kho Mu ancestor. Annually Kho Mu offer worship at the village twice at the temple.

The village worship is offered in January and September every year, representatives from households will joint. The worship is offered right at the village gate (village ghost), where tree cutting, making mess, etc.. are prohibited. Sometime they offer pig, in good harvest year they offer cow.

Ghost forest (graveyard): in custom of local people they will not move grave, if water causes submergence, they will organize a worship at the village temple to inform the god of ghost forest and offer a worship at the ghost forest and invite spirits to a new place.

Animal/trees/crops of cultural/spirit values

There is no animal, tree or crops of economic or spirit values need to be protected in the village.

In case of forest, every month, villagers go to forest once to exploit products such as taking timber for building house, taking bamboo shoot and trapping animal. Nowadays Thai stop using gun in hunting because it is prohibited by the authority, they use only trap to hunt animal and therefore they can trap animal like rat, squirrel, bird, etc...
3.4. **Spirits, graves and other sacred places**

*Spirit gods, graves and other sacred places*

Sacred places in village/near village, forest where spirit gods stay or where ceremonies are performed, location and distance from the river.

The village has graveyard. Wizard offers a worship with things offered by households in the village. The graveyard is located close to Duong stream where some of 3200 graves are located.

Annual ceremonies/cultural rituals in the village/near the village, time, location, participant

There is one big tree in the village where the village god is located. The village holidays are in January and September. The Lao Tet holiday is in April. Ceremony worship is offered by wizard with things offered by households in the village.

Location of graves, distance to village and the river. How many graves? what to do with the graves if flooded: compensation, custom for relocating grave, custom/rituals/cultural ceremonies required, cost and payment, negotiation on compensation, participation of villager/household – who takes part in? Potential location to move grave to.

Whose graves they all remember. When the project is implemented which effect to graveyard, villagers must move and offer worship to each graves there. If the family can do it themselves then the family will do it, if not they have to ask a wizard to do. Each worship costs 1-3 million VND, offered things must be wine, chicken, pig.

*Other important works/area which may be affected by hydropower project, how this issue is solved, how it should be done according to cultural custom.*

Affected works includes cultural house, worship area of the village.

Rituals relating to god and location of god, in forest, on river, in house/residential habitat, how these things will be considered in the case of the HPP, if relocation is required, what must be done under cultural tradition.

Villagers should be supported in performing the community rituals (offering worship at Pho Hung temple, graveyard area) and of family when they are displacing because this is unavoidable custom of Kho Mu.

3.5. **Other information and reflections**

Because of time table which is tight and due to the village location where accessibility is difficult. There was no notice in prior about the survey team, when we came, villagers have gone, the discussion was performed with participation of men only, no women therefore no comments from women were collected.

4. **Report from FGD with Households Using Forest Resources**

*General about the FGD*

The Focus Group Discussion was held in Phiangthat village with 8 participants, 4 men and 4 women. The ethnicity of the participants is Lao Lum.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

4.1. **Awareness about the planned HPP**

Villagers knew that the project will be constructed to supply power for them to use and they will be compensated for affected properties. Rising water causes submergence which means they have to relocate to higher to live. Information about the planned HPP was made available to them from meeting which was attended by project staff held at the village. But such information is not enough to villagers. They wish to know more such as how much they will be compensated, when the project is done, where do they relocate to, is there any new land given
for residential house and cultivation. Besides, they expect that the project information will be
made available to them in writing and diagram, scheme for easy remembering.

4.2. Forest use

Forest here is abundant. Products from forest are plenty and are the most important source to
villagers. They go to the forest every day with different purposes:

- Men go to forest to find timber for building house, hunting, protecting field, and visiting
  livestock.
- Women go to forest regularly to collect bamboo shoot, firewood, wild vegetable, mushroom,
  herbs, banana flower, etc...

Forest is close and surrounding the village. It takes unremarkably time to get to the forest. There
are production forest and protection forest.

- Production forest or pastureland is where villagers cultivate rice, corn, cassava, peanut,
  banana which are main food source of villagers. Production forest under comments by FGD
  participant has not been allocated and furnished with land use right certificate to each
  household yet. At present the whole village share that land area. Production area is visited
  regularly by villagers. Men and women visit upland field to prevent livestock and wild animal
  from destroying crop particularly during harvest time. Rice cultivated is only enough for
  family demand, no residual for sale. Household cultivates lot of corn will sell to trader who
  bring truck to the village to buy. Cassava is used for human and for livestock breeding.
  Timber is only allowable for exploiting from production forest.

- Protection forest is the forest protecting villagers from storm, flood, keeping them from
  drought. No timber exploitation is allowed from this forest, if there is the violated person will
  be punished by authority.

Products collected from forest are: mushroom of all type, bamboo shoot, herbs. Villagers also
hunt various animals such as bird, squirrels, deer, wild chicken, boar, and monkey. But they are
allowed to collect forest product and hunting in pastureland only. They hunt bamboo rat too.
Products collected and hunted from forest are used in different purposes:

- Hunted animal is used for family food, but they will sell to those in need in and outside the
  village if they hunt lot. Wild animal is hunted Year-round. Boar appears only during
  harvesting time when they come to destroy the crop.

- Wild vegetable, mushroom and herbs are collected for using as vegetable or processed by
drying for latter using or to sell in and outside the village if they collect lot. Herbs are used
for curing, which can use fresh or dried, boiling, depending on each type of illness. Vegetable,
mushroom, bamboo shoot are abundant in rainy season, in July and August. Herbs are available
Year-round, but some species is plenty in rainy season.

- There are lots of timbers in the forest, however, when a villager in need of timber, he shall
  inform to the village head before exploiting. The exploitation is only allowed in pastureland
  area, not in protection forest land area. Villagers are allowed to take firewood only from
  protection forest. Illegal logging is not many. Any detected illegal logging will be reported to
  forest guard and authority for punishment.

4.3. Hunting

FGD participants said that wild animal in forest is abundant in types including rat, bird, bamboo
rat, chicken, squirrel, deer, boar and monkey too. However hunting is allowable only in
pastureland area not in protection forest. Monkey hunting is prohibited in some places in
pastureland, only allowable if authority find there are too many. Hunted animal is used for family
demand, only sell to villagers in and outside the village when they hunt lots. Hunting is done
every day during free time or when the family is in need. Household go hunting regularly will
have meat for every day. Those go less will have meat to eat every 2-3 days.

Tools for hunting are crossbow and trap. Gun for hunting is rarely and is used illegally. If it is
detected by the authorities, they will take.
4.4. Other information and reflections

This is remote village locating at the border with Vietnam. Accessibility is difficult. Navigation is the best means of transport to people living there. Income of local resident comes mainly from agriculture product. Agricultural and forestry production are quite difficult. Some household must work as laborer such as preparing upland field or go logging to ensure daily living. They earn 30-60,000 KIP a working day. Necessary things are supplied by Vietnamese traders with high price. Many of them buy things but pay later. The later paying is not applied with interest.

Water for domestic living and for livestock is taken from ravine and stream. Local people said that the water there is quite of good quality because they do not use insecticide in cultivation.

Timber is quite large income source. In other word it is main income source of people there. Household have lot of timber will sell to traders. It costs about 10-13 million KIP or 30-40 million VND. Time spending by villagers in logging is 7 months a year, except 4 month of rainy season when logging is difficult.

### List of forest products and their usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collected forest products</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quantity (if available, please note)</th>
<th>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=least important</th>
<th>For sale Y/N</th>
<th>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo shoot</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild vegetable</td>
<td>once-3 times a day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>5-10,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>20-350,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thysanolaena latifolia</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>5-15,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood ear mushroom</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Rainy season</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spicy herb</td>
<td>once-twice/week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbs</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-500,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber for house building</td>
<td>1-3 weeks</td>
<td>When building house</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>500-35 million/m3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collected forest products</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Season</td>
<td>Quantity (if available, please note)</td>
<td>Significance 1=very important 2=second important 3=least important</td>
<td>For sale Y/N</td>
<td>Price/Kg or/product (if sold)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>once a day/in two days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-50,000/bundle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-1,500,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1-3 month/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>once-twice/ week</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boar</td>
<td>6-12 month/time</td>
<td>Harvest season</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>100-150,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamboo rat</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>50-300,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>once-twice/day</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-200,000/kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrels</td>
<td>once in 2-4 days</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>30-50,000/item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild chicken</td>
<td>1-2 week/time</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>70-90,000/kg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 Report from FGD with Fishing Households

Mr. Le Manh Hung

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 12th January 2017 with 9 participants, all of them were men and 0 was women. The ethnicity of the participants is Thai. Among them there are none illiterate, 1 finished grade 3, 3 finished grade 4, 1 finished grade 5 and 2 finished grade 7, 2 finished grade 9.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

5.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- Villagers knew about the planned HPP from the project staff that came for a survey. They said that they will construct a hydropower project to supply local resident power. Villagers have heard about the project for few years;

- Information to villagers is: if the HPP is constructed, the affected villagers will be compensated. If water rises up, they have to relocate to higher. The impacts may include residential land, cultivation land.

- The villagers wish to know more details about the project such as, how much they will be compensated, when the project is constructed, where they will be relocated to, is there land for upland cultivation?

- They expect Government officer to inform official information to them, to each household, to by meeting with whole village to public the information to all of them.
5.2. **Boat use**
- There is no boat in the village, villagers travel on foot or by motorbike. Fishing is additional work to find food for family demand. They go fishing in free time, and caught fish is for their own demand so they do not hire boat to fish.

5.3. **Fishing**
- Though having no boat, but all villagers go fishing.
- Most of family member go fishing, regardless father, mother or children.
- The go fishing in free time or when there is nothing else to eat at home, so they go fishing to improve the family meal.
- They usually go fishing in Duong stream, some of 15-20 minutes on foot.
- Normally fishing is only enough for daily eating, fishing in 1-3 hours gives some 0.5-1kg of fish. In lucky day, it can be 2-3kg, sometime only few. Very few chances with many fish to sell. When no fish left to eat, they go fishing again. Villagers go fishing to improve their daily meals; it is good with fish, no fish to find rat and other wild animal to eat. Comparing to before, nothing change in the way fishing. Villagers pay more attention to food from upland field, from forest other than fish, crab or shrimp. But in free time when they do not go to the field, they go fishing instead to find food. When they fish lot, they sell, but rarely.

5.4. **Equipment, Fish species and Habitats**
- Fishing tools are net, rod, using basket.
- Common fish species caught are: goby, carp, and crab.
- Fishing area of villager is limited in some places where fishing will be allowed by day, only when district officer some then they will be allowed to fish there. That area is some of 1km far from the village.
- Manager to the fishing restricted area is village head and to be under supervision of all villagers. Who can afford to buy right of fishing there to sell then they can buy. It costs from few thousand to few hundred depending on time of fishing.
- Cash from selling fish will be kept by the village management board, which is used in the village works.
- Caught fish is used mainly for eating. Only selling when they catch lot.
- Villagers do not know the spawning season; they only know that turbid water gives lot fish, shallow water makes it easy to fish. But not many in cold weather.
- Besides fishing, villagers collect moss and algae from the river too, but not any season. There is moss and algae season. It is normally by the end of year when moss and algae is available. This is time villagers collect for eating.

5.5. **Other information and reflections**
- When water rises up, villagers can still fishing on the river;
- When water rises up, there will be no more fish in ravine;
- Villagers wish that if water rises up due to the hydropower, a bridge will be constructed for easier travelling.
Report from FGD with Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Households

Mr. Nguyen Duy Phuong & Mr. Nguyen Van Hai

General about the FGD

The Focus Group Discussion was held on 12/01/2017 with 09 participants, of which 6 were men and 3 were women. All of participants are Kho Mu ethnicity.

List of participants, names, sex, age, ethnicities, occupations and notes of the FGD in Vietnamese prepared by the Facilitator and Note Taker is enclosed to this report as an attachment.

6.1. Awareness about the planned HPP

- The village knew about the planned HPP but they did not know when it will be constructed. No one know exactly.
- Information about the HPP was supplied by a Lao survey team and PECC1 survey team from Vietnam.
- Whole village did not know exactly when and how is the plan.
- They wish to know in detail the construction schedule and when it will come to the village. How is the compensation, where is resettlement site, is there any upland field for them to do cultivation? How cultivation land is allocated?
- They expect that when the village is relocated, works such as school, road shall be constructed and supported.

6.2. Land use

- Cultivation land of the village is near, some of 500m from the village. It takes some of 15-20 minutes but some location takes up to 1 hour on foot.
- Average upland area per household is 1.5-2.5 ha/household/year. They use between 100 and 200 kg rice seed per household, 3-7 kg corn seed/household/year. Each household cultivates on 2-3 upland field plots a year.
- All of cultivation land area is upland field on sloping topography, no paddy rice area.
- There is no irrigation for upland cultivation, mainly depends on weather.
- Cultivation land has no land use right certificate, only a planning for village. The village cultivation plan is managed by the community under direct control of the village management board and elders committee.
- New set up household will use land of the village because upland area of the village is a lot and they use as other in the community.
- There is no more land for reclamation because all forest is protection forest where Government prohibit exploiting.
- Cultivation land area is located near the river which is potentially submerged. If water raises high, the affected land area may be up to 40% land area owned by the village.
- Besides, they plants fruit trees such as papaya, guava along the stream bank.
- The whole village is located along the stream, if water rises up, they have to displace.

6.3. Crops

- Main crops are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>Average yield (ton/ha)</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rain-fed rice</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Upland rice is main crop which plays important role in daily life. Corn is planted mainly to sell for cash and for livestock breeding. Corn product after harvesting is sold to Vietnamese traders.

Households in the village plant rain-fed rice, corn, cassava, of which rain-fed rice and corn are planted with only one crop a year. Cassava is harvested after 2 years. They harvest cassava when they need.

39/65 household in the village are lack of rice for 2-3 months a year, mainly from April to June annually. During such period, they buy without paying from Vietnamese traders or they collect timber from the forest under management of the village to sell for money to buy rice and the amount earned from selling timber must share evenly with the community.

Besides, some households plant vegetable along the river, mainly are lettuce, onion, in area 15-20 m².

Some households plant fruit trees along river, stream including guava, papaya, banana but scattering, cannot define the area.

Rice is for family demand only, not for sale, 100% corn is sold to Vietnam with price of 6,000 KIP/kg. All of corn is sold at the village.

Cultivation is done on upland field, hilling, seeding, no machine is used, no cattle for pulling force is used because of sloping topography.

6.4. Livestock

Livestock at the village at the time of survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>80 cow</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average, each household has 2-3 cow, some have 15-20 cows. In 2015, total number of cow in the village was 300 cows, but due to disease, cow died in series, no possibility of curing.

At the time of survey, no pig in the village. They died all because of disease. In 2015 each household has 1-2 pigs, some has 5-7 pigs. They raise local pig race.

At the time of survey, no chicken in the village. They died all because of disease. Annually, chicken dies in March and June.

Cow is local race, to be breeding by free grazing method. The village raise cattle on upland field or free grazing in natural forest. Livestock breeding on upland field is done using fence surrounding the land plot during Harvest. When the harvest is over, livestock is breeding freely. Mature cow is sold to Vietnamese traders. They kill cow only for family events such as funeral or wedding. A cow costs 5-7 million KIP each, equivalent to 15-20 million VND each depending on size. Cow is sold only when they need cash to buy rice or when illness, building house, ceremonies, etc...

Pig is sold too when there is someone in need, or to sell pork to villagers. Pig costs 30,000 KIP each. They sell pig to Vietnamese trader at the village.

Poultry breeding is for family demand, rare sell.

Food of family is mainly vegetable, very few chance having chicken and pork because livestock has died all due to disease. They eat chicken and pork when someone in the family ill, or when the village performs ceremonies.
• Water resources for livestock are from streams.
• When livestock is ill, there is no curing at all, the commune veterinary staff comes to the village only when they are reported about disease, but no cure in most of cases. If a cow ill, villagers must by medicine for injection or pay commune veterinary officer for injection, but rate of curing is very low.