



WWF

FACT SHEET

LAOS

2017

Management And Sustainable Use Of Fisheries And Aquatic Natural Resources In Siphandone - Phase II

© Adam Osweil / WWF

Project Background

The Mekong River supports the fisheries of Laos. It provides millions of tons of fish each year which makes up more than 75% of the animal, and 35% of the protein intake of the population. The people living along the Mekong are thus dependent on the River. The Mekong is also home to great fish biodiversity, supporting some of the world's largest freshwater species. However, the river has been impacted by economic development. This is having a significant effect on the spawning grounds of many species of fish, which become at risk due to changes in the ecology of the pools.

This project marks the second phase of the "Siphandone" initiative, which started in 2012 in the Khong and Mounlapamok districts of Champasak province, and ended in June 2016. The second phase will continue to focus on the Siphandone region, along the middle Mekong main stem in Champasak province. The main objective of the project is to increase and improve the stock of aquatic resources, through the establishment of fisheries co-management structures, and support the improvement of local livelihoods. Through partnerships with the Lao government and the local communities, this project will promote the economic development of the region through environmentally conscious means.

Key Achievements of Phase I

- Wrote and adopted a 10-year management plan for fisheries in Siphandone
- Created and/or improved 37 FCZs and 30 FMCs in 30 villages
- Created, equipped, and trained 4 river patrolling teams
- Diversified and improved the livelihoods of more than 800 households
- Created, trained, and equipped 5 green schools

Project Overall Objective

The overall objective is to contribute to the socio-economic development of the Lao PDR, particularly that of agriculture and forestry, through the management and sustainable use of fisheries and aquatic natural resources in the Mekong River. This will be achieved through the support of effective patrolling of the river, setting up Fish Conservation Zones and Fisheries Management Committees, raising awareness of Fisheries legislation, and to support in developing alternative sources of livelihoods, including aquaculture.



© Nicolas Avelrod / WWF-Greater Mekong



© Nicolas Avelrod / WWF-Greater Mekong



© Nicolas Avelrod / WWF-Greater Mekong



© Nicolas Azevedo / WWF-Greater Mekong

Project Specific Objectives

- Unsustainable fishing activities are effectively and permanently reduced through effective patrolling of the river.
- The local management of aquatic resources is strengthened through the creation of Fish Conservation Zones and Fisheries Management Committees and the raising of awareness of the Lao legislation with regards to fisheries.
- Alternative sources of livelihoods, with a special focus on aquaculture, are developed and contribute to the diversification of income of Siphandone inhabitants.

Project Activities

- Continue monitoring of fish catch and occurrence
- Strengthen law enforcement technical capacity through trainings on patrolling and purchasing patrolling equipment
- Support the deployment of rigorous patrol teams
- Select and officially set up 20 FCZs and FMC
- Build capacity for FMC through training and exchange visit within the country
- Develop and implement a monitoring system on FMC effectiveness
- Design and implement environmentally-friendly alternative income models
- Set up small scale aquaculture in 4 villages, provide material and equipment



© Nicolas Azevedo / WWF-Greater Mekong



© Nicolas Azevedo / WWF-Greater Mekong

Project Partners

The Department of Livestock and Fisheries (DLF), through its Fisheries Division and its office in Champasack province, will be the main partner for this project implementation. The DLF will coordinate with the Provincial Livestock and Fisheries Office for implementation of activities within the target province. The DLF will also be responsible for coordination of the project within the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA).

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) will provide the majority of the funding for this project.

Project Budget & Target

The project will be started from April 2017 to December 2019 with the budget of 506,809 USD (460,735 EUR).

The project will directly target 20 new villages, with a total population of roughly 12,000 people.

Contact US

WWF-Laos

House No. 39, Unit 5, Chanthabouly District, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR. PO Box: 7871
 E-mail: laos@wwfgreatermekong.org
 Website: www.wwflaos.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/wwflaosoffice
 Phone: +856 21 216080
 Fax: +856 21 251883

Amphone Phommachak
 Siphandone Phase II Project Manager
amphone.phommachak@wwf.panda.org
 Pakse office, Champasak Province, Lao PDR.
 Tel: 031 215204

