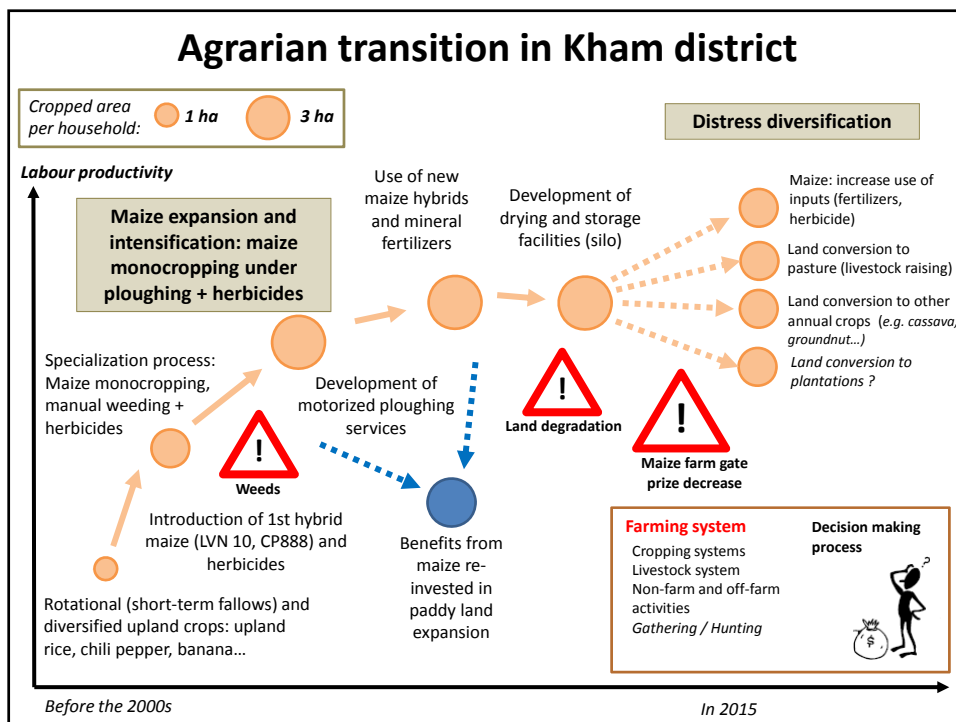


EFICAS project

cirad

Combining technical, organizational, and value-chain approaches for sustainable land management and agricultural development in Kham basin, Xieng Khouang Province

EFICAS project proposal in support to the Kham basin 'Land Regeneration Initiative', 11 March 2016



PAFO 'Land Regeneration Initiative'

Current activities in Kham basin

- (1) **Agricultural diversification:** Establishment of pasture plots for cattle fattening
- (2) **Improved soil fertility management:** Introduction of legume crops in association/rotation with maize
- (3) Sensitization on **residue management** (no burning) and **reduced tillage** (every 2-3 years)
- (4) **Subsidization of a mineral fertilizer** imported from Vietnam
- (5) Monitoring and sensitization on **safe use of pesticides**

PAFO 'Land Regeneration Initiative'

Key constraints / possible failure factors

- **Market:** Apparent absence of diversified market demand, notably for legume crops
- **Cropping systems:** Absence of adapted methods and tools to assess the sustainability (socio-economic, environmental) of alternative cropping systems
- **Organizational:** Local crop-livestock management unadapted to dry season legume crops cultivation
- **Policy:** need for law enforcement (e.g. agri-input suppliers contributing to promote misuse/overuse of banned pesticides amongst farmers)
- **Coordination:** limited communication between the different stakeholders (producers, traders, local GoL agencies, projects) to move forward more efficiently on the different issues (technical, organisational, value chains)

Current activities <-> Key constraints / failure factors



We need a more integrated intervention framework, with:

- **Enhanced coordination and information-sharing**
- **Complementary research and development activities, in order to:**
 1. Evaluate the potential for development of **value chains** for different commodities (to be defined: e.g. maize, complementary legume crops, cattle-forages)
 2. Engage village communities into **participatory landscape planning** (notably regarding 2 major topics: crop-livestock interactions & natural resources management)
 3. Define **multi-criteria assessment** methods and tools allowing to assess the sustainability (economic, environmental, social) of alternative cropping systems
 4. Develop **communication methods and tools** to facilitate information-sharing and negotiation processes between the different stakeholders
 5. Develop **outreach models** and advice for local government policy to support the adoption of more diversified maize-based farming systems in Kham district

Proposed activities

- 1. Coordination and information-sharing**
 - Organisation of regular roundtables and workshops involving development and private sector projects active in and around Kham basin
- 2. Value chain studies**
 - Participatory definition of the targeted commodities
 - Cross-border studies (Vietnam)
- 3. Village land-use planning**
 - Piloting of TABI FaLUPAM (8 pilot villages), with strengthened efforts to make use of the information produced by the various projects that have operated in Kham basin in recent years and fed by the above value chain studies
- 4. Multi-criteria assessment of alternative cropping systems**
 - Developing methods and tools to assess the sustainability (economic, environmental, social) of cropping systems
- 5. Negotiation platform**
 - Developing methods and tools (using e.g. role play games) to facilitate information-sharing and negotiation processes between stakeholders

Proposed activities

6. Structuring of farmer groups

- Technical trainings, farmer-to-farmer exchanges and field visits involving e.g. the emerging provincial maize traders association and large scale agribusinesses in order to facilitate interactions and information-sharing across villages and with the private sector

7. Agricultural information system

- Radio broadcasts and establishment of a mobile sensitization team dealing with safe use of pesticides, agricultural land management, market opportunities, contract farming, etc.

Proposed activities		Main partners involved
0. Current activities	0.1. Establishment of pasture plots for cattle fattening	Lead: PAFO
	0.2. Development of maize-legume crops associations/rotations	
	0.3. Sensitization on residue management/reduced tillage	
	0.4. Subsidized mineral fertilizer and credit schemes	
	0.5. Monitoring and sensitization on safe use pesticides	
1. Coordination and information-sharing	Roundtables and workshops involving development and private sector projects	Lead: PAFO Contributors: all interested organisations/projects
2. Value chain studies	Cross-border studies Laos-Vietnam on market opportunities for different commodities	Lead: EFICAS Key contributors: NUoL, ACIAR (study HP-SL), LURAS?
3. Village land-use planning	Piloting of TABI FaLUPAM (8 pilot villages)	Lead: TABI Key contributors: PAFO, DoNRE
4. Multi-criteria assessment of CS	Methods and tools to assess the sustainability (economic, environmental, social) of cropping systems	Lead: EFICAS (2 pilot villages) Key contributors: PAFO, ??
5. Negotiation platform	Methods and tools to facilitate information-sharing and negotiation between stakeholders	Lead: EFICAS Key contributors: PAFO, ??
6. Structuring of farmer groups	Technical trainings, farmer-to-farmer exchanges and field visits	Lead: PAFO Key contributors: LURAS, EFICAS
7. Agricultural information system	Radio broadcasts and establishment of a mobile sensitization team	Lead: PAFO Key contributors: LURAS?

Thank you for your attention...

