

The ABD Curricula has been approved by the Ministry of Education and has been successfully used and ready for expansion into other district schools. It is met by enthusiasm by teachers, students and parents.

Current Program

- There are two ABD curricula developed and printed for teachers, all approved by the Ministry of Education.
- It is currently being taught in 31 schools in 4 districts and 5 Non-Formal Education classes.
- To date 3,778 children have been taught using the curricula of which 2,074 were girls.
- The Non-Normal Education curriculum was taught to 183 adults including 92 women.
- 120 teachers have been trained on the curricula and teaching methods, including 71 women teachers.

Curriculum Content

- Primary School curricula focuses on the importance of agro-biodiversity.
- Secondary School curricula focuses on the challenges facing agro-biodiversity conservation.
- Teaching materials, drawings and handbooks are found in the curricula for teachers.
- The curricula are taught 2 hours per week covering both theory and practice.
- 8 ABD resource centers have been set up in the district schools including 5 in Phoukoud and 1 in each of the other 3 districts.

Opportunities

- Expansion of the curricula into other schools and districts.
- Continual improvements in the curriculum.
- Provision of additional teaching materials and facilities.
- Expansion into the Non-Formal Education system for young adults.



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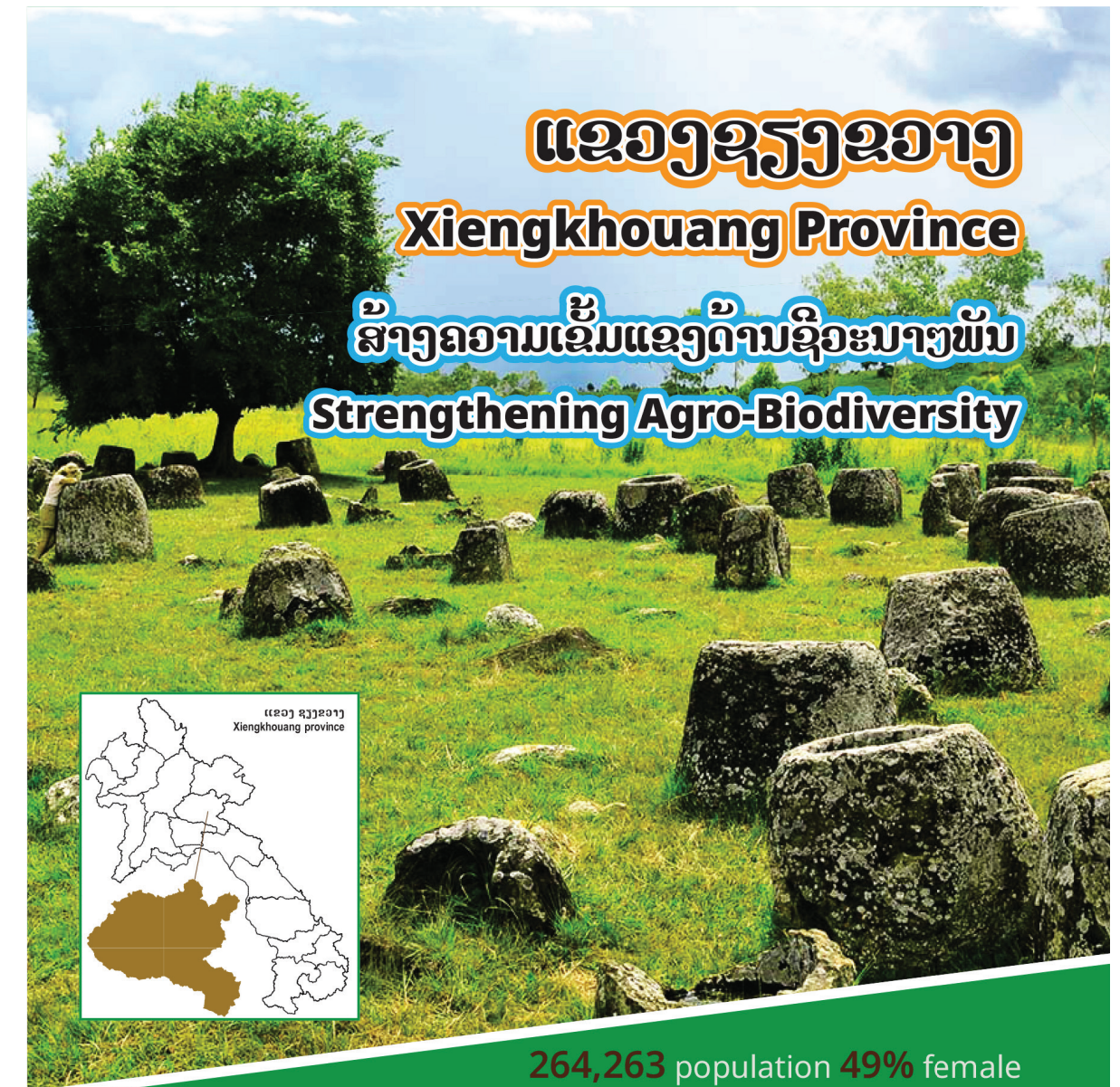
In addition to the priority activities the province also support efforts to promote:

- **Traditional medicines:** Support for conservation in key habitats, community agreements on management and harvesting, processing and equitable markets is needed.
- **Fish-rice cultivation:** This is an age old practice in Asia and part of Laos. Increases in fish production can be made via adoption of practices used in other countries in Asia, and can be combined with IPM practices in rice.
- **Village forestry:** Being connected to many NTFPs, village forestry needs support for conservation, management and marketing of products.
- **Mushrooms:** Wild mushrooms are lucrative but need support for habitat protection, farmer organization and marketing.
- **FCZ:** Fish conservation zones need to be extended, adjacent riparian habitats included and linked to tourism opportunities.
- **Wild Tea:** The ancient tea trees are now sources of tea expansion which need protection, farmer organization strengthening and equitable market support.
- **Local chicken production:** Local varieties of chickens are popular in the market and can be more profitable using a number of improved management practices.

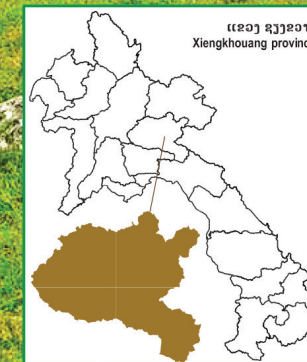
FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Department of Agriculture and Forestry
- Department of Education and Sport
- Department of Industries and Commerce

ພາຂ້າລາວ
Pha-Khao-Lao
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ແຂວງຊຽງຂວາງ Xiengkhouang Province ສ້າງຄວາມເຂັ້ມແຂງດ້ານຊີວະນາໆພັນ Strengthening Agro-Biodiversity



264,263 population 49% female
47,161 household
6 ethnic groups
7 districts
54.9 % forest cover
3.35 % cultivation land
87.9 % of population are farmers



ສະຖາບັນຄົ້ນຄວ້າກະສິກໍາ, ປ່າໄມ້ ແລະ ພັດທະນາຊຸມນະບົດ
National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute

KHAOKAINOI

Khao Kai Noi is composed of 7 glutinous rice strains grown only in special environments in Xiengkhouang and Houaphanh Provinces. The rice is known for its unique eating qualities, is growing in demand and is a priority crop of the province.

Production

- There are 7 distinct varieties making up Khao Khai Noi each with different color, taste and aromas.
- KKN is only produced in 5 districts: Paek, Phoukhout, Phaxay, Kham, Khoun.
- Currently there is approximately 51,300 tons of KKN produced each year on about 12,000 hectares of land.
- Current production of quality KKN seed production is approximately 21,710 kg including:123 kg breeder seed, 1,300 kg of foundation seed, 2,000 kg of registered seed and 17,500 kg of certified seed for farmers to plant.

Marketing

- Total amount of KKN sold outside of Xiengkhouang Province is 10,300 tons. Another 10 tons is sold locally.
- There are 5 local traders buying and selling KKN: Viengsod, Bounnam, Vone, Vanh and Phimphone.
- The farmgate price of KKN is 3,500-4,000 Kip/kg, the local market price is from 5,000-8,000Kip/kg and the supermarket prices range from 8,000-11,000Kip/kg.

Opportunities

- Increasing productivity of existing areas.
- Increasing the amount of land cultivating KKN.
- Utilize the GI registration for market improvements.
- Increase the availability of quality seed.
- Improve the purity of the 7 KKN strains.
- Expand marketing efforts.



BEEKEEPING

A Significant potential for Lao honey exists if marketing, quality control and expansion of beekeeping can be achieved

Production

- There are approximately 500 beekeepers active in the province organized in 15 groups.
- There are 3,163 beehives in the province, with Apis Cerana bees.
- Total provincial honey production is approximately 12,000kg worth over 500 million Kip per year.
- Only 4% of honey is currently processed at collection/processing centers.
- Only a limited amount of wax and other bee products are produced.
- Technical support for beekeepers is limited to one provincial government staff member and 3 expert farmers.

Marketing

- There is only one major provincial buyer/trader in honey.
- There are two known buyers from outside the province and ten retail shops/minimarts in Vientiane.
- To date, there are no international buyers of honey.
- There are two organizations (GCDA and TERRA) and one project (TABI) supporting beekeeping.

Opportunities

- Strengthening the capacity of current beekeeping groups and development of a provincial association.
- Support for additional honey processing for quality improvements
- Expand market linkages including increased awareness of Xiengkhouang honey and more buyers.
- Develop a greater cadre of beekeeping expertise.



LOCAL ORANGES VARIETIES

Local orange varieties have a strong market demand. To meet the demand improved planting material, improved tree management by growers, improved marketing strategies and orange farmer organizations are necessary.

Production

- There are 2 main local varieties of native oranges in high demand in the market: Huajook and Peuakbang.
- There are 4 districts (Phaxay, Phoukhoud, Khoun and Mok) involved in native orange production.
- Production is limited to 15 villages, 142 households and 79 hectares
- Annual production is approximately 121.5 Tons.
- There are six private nurseries that provide farmers with orange tree seedlings.
- Production is constrained by poor tree quality and management, disease, insects, fertilization and irrigation.

Marketing

- Almost all oranges are sold directly to buyers at the farm or at 5 roadside locations.
- Oranges can be found for sale in the district and provincial town markets being sold by traders who purchase the oranges at the farm.
- Prices for oranges fluctuate considerably due to poor marketing collaboration of growers.
- The Provincial and District Agriculture and Forestry Office provide marketing support to orange growers.

Opportunities

- Improvements are needed in tree management and seedling quality.
- Better knowledge and use of organic cultivation methods including promotion of beneficial insects.
- Improve marketing strategies including advertising, presentation and farmer collaboration.
- Expand into other high potential citrus varieties.

