Plan of Action
for
Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
in Agriculture

H. Savanh
DDG, DoPC, MAF and
National Project Director

CONTENT:
1. Why Plan of Action for DRRM in Agriculture?
2. Planning Process
3. Plan Vision and Goals
4. The Priority Areas for DRRM in Agriculture
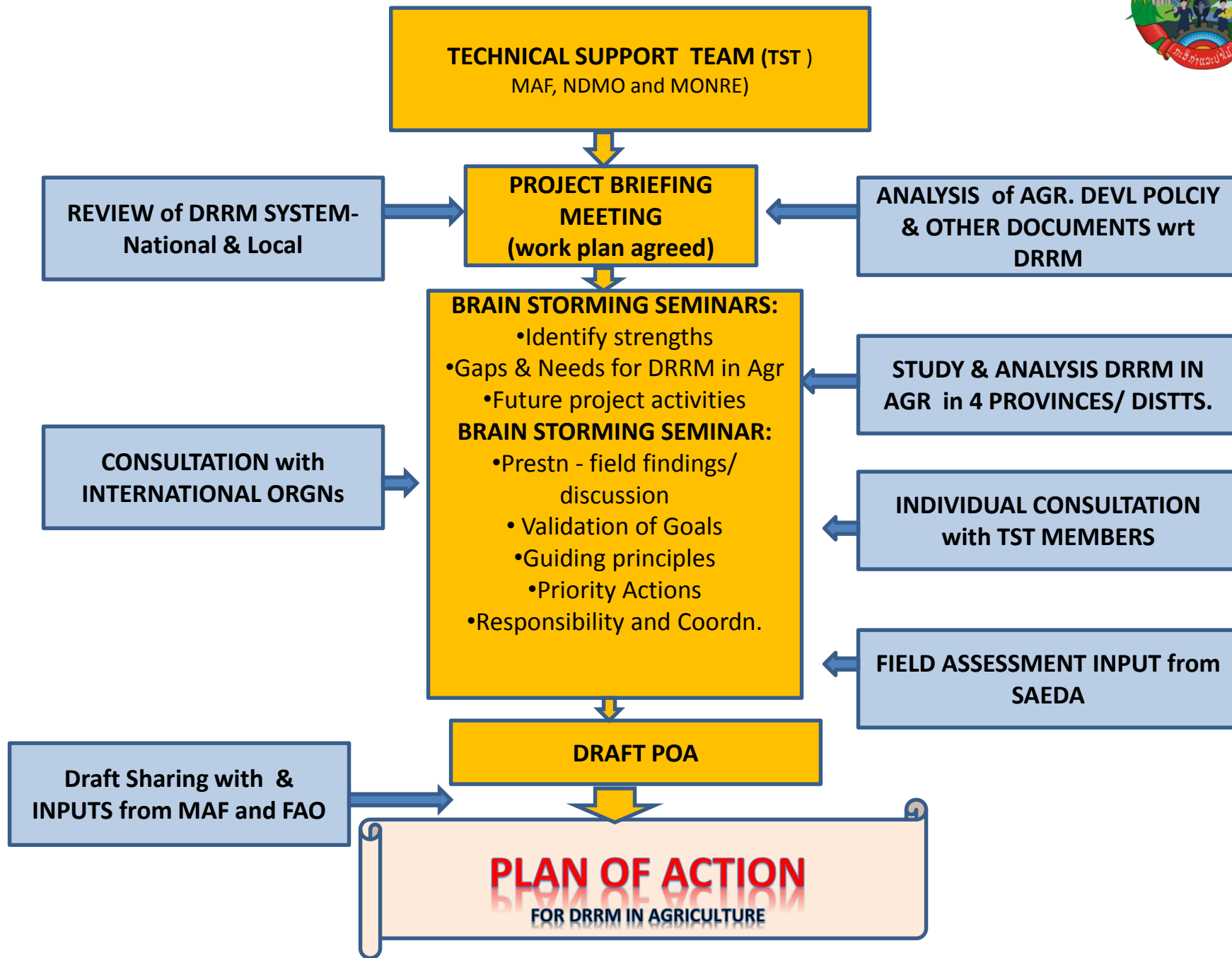5. Activities for Priority Areas.

WHY PLAN OF ACTION FOR DRRM IN AGRICULTURE

- Lao PDR is prone to various natural disasters i.e. floods, droughts, storms, landslides, forest fires, crop, pest and animal diseases.

- The intensity and frequency of hydro-meteriological disasters is supposed to increase due to climate change.

- Disasters affect each and every sector; but the poor, who are dependent on nature for livelihood are to suffer the worst.

- Lao PDR: among the least developed countries and about 80 % population dependent of agriculture and allied sectors for its livelihood.

- Over 95% of the farming systems in Lao PDR are vulnerable to common disasters like floods, droughts and late beginning of rainfall.

NEED

SYSTEMATIC PLANNING TO REDUCE RISK
(PROACTIVE APPROACH: PREPAREDNESS, PREVENTION & MITIGATION

PLAN of ACTION for DRRM IN AGRICULTURE

METHODOLOGY for DEVELOPING POA- DRRM

TECHNICAL SUPPORT TEAM (TST)
MAF, NDMO and MONRE)

REVIEW of DRRM SYSTEM-
National & Local

PROJECT BRIEFING
MEETING
(work plan agreed)

ANALYSIS of AGR. DEVL POLCIY
& OTHER DOCUMENTS wrt
DRRM

BRAIN STORMING SEMINARS:
•Identify strengths
•Gaps & Needs for DRRM in Agr
•Future project activities
BRAIN STORMING SEMINAR:
•Prestn - field findings/
discussion
• Validation of Goals
•Guiding principles
•Priority Actions
•Responsibility and Coordn.

STUDY & ANALYSIS DRRM IN
AGR in 4 PROVINCES/ DISTTS.

CONSULTATION with
INTERNATIONAL ORGNs

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATION
with TST MEMBERS

FIELD ASSESSMENT INPUT from
SAEDA

DRAFT POA

Draft Sharing with &
INPUTS from MAF and FAO

PLAN OF ACTION
FOR DRRM IN AGRICULTURE

The PoA for DRRM in Agriculture

The Guiding principles:

- Build on and seek synergies with existing processes
- Connect national and local priorities
- Link short to the medium and long-term targets.
- Ensure participation of concerned stakeholders and the public
- Provide supportive collaboration across agricultural sectors
- Give priority to information sharing and public awareness.
- Ensure the allocation of financial resources for DRR.
- Build mechanisms for monitoring, follow up, evaluation and feedback.

Plan of Action
for Disaster Risk Reduction and
Management in Agriculture (2014—2016)

**Lao PDR
2014**

Vision: To reduce the impact from natural disasters and climate change in agriculture sectors to build resilient livelihood for sustainable and fair food and nutrition security in Laos PDR.

GOALS:

i. Integrating DRRM into planning for sustainable agricultural devt .and foster synergies with related policies and strategies at all levels.

ii. Strengthen capacities of Institutions and communities for enhanced planning, coordination mechanism and implementation of DRRM for food and nutrition security

iii. Raise awareness and provide education at all levels on preserving the environment to prevent and reduce disaster risks
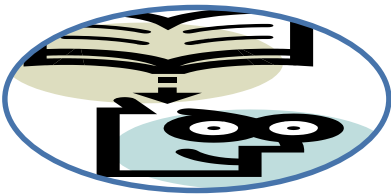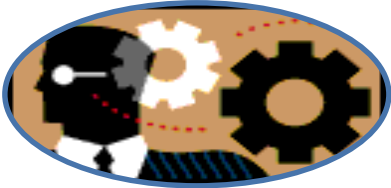
FIVE PRIORITY AREAS

Priority Area 1: Strengthening good governance, institutional and technical capacities for DRR and CCA in Agriculture

Priority Area 2: Assessing and monitoring climate risks and vulnerabilities and issuing early warnings, food and security issues

Priority Area3: Improving Knowledge mgt, awareness raising on DRR and **CCA.**

Priority Area 4: Reducing underlying risks and vulnerabilities by promoting technical options

Priority Area 5: Enhance capacities, facilities and procedures for effective disaster preparedness

PRIORITY AREA I: STRENGTHENING GOOD GOVERNANCE, INSTITUTIONAL AND TECHNICAL CAPACITIES FOR DRR AND CCA IN AGRICULTURE:

- Establish an inter-departmental technical working group for DRR/CCA within MAF with selected members from NDMO and the DDMCC and a nominated focal point on national level.

- Establish a national trainer team through Training of Trainers in MAF and MONRE on DRR/CCA planning and how to transfer/use climate data into/for sectoral planning.

- Integrate DRR and IWRM into Participatory Land Use Planning and Agricultural Development Plans at provincial and district level.

- Provide training to PAFOS and DAFOs, agriculture research centres on DRR/CCA

PRIORITY AREA II: ASSESSING AND MONITORING CLIMATE RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES AND ISSUING EARLY WARNINGS FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY AND TRANS-BOUNDARY THREATS

- Improve the availability of EW information for MAF through a bilateral agreement with DMH.

- Strengthen the capacity of the technical Agro-meteorological Division within DMH to translate climate and weather data into operational advice for agriculture.

- Identify enhanced communication and collaboration mechanism in MAF to disseminate agriculture specific weather information and early warnings to farm level.

- Test the effectiveness of different media and programmes for disseminating EWs and agro-climate advisory.

- Analysis of the impacts of previous floods in agricultural sectors for informing decision makers in DRR/CCA planning and adjusting crop calendars.

- Joint training for P/AFOs and P/DONREs and P/DMCs on vulnerability/resilience assessment and mapping, use of databases and GIS.

PRIORITY AREA III: IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE MGT, AWARENESS RAISING ON DRR AND CCA.

- Raise awareness within MAF and its key partners at all levels on preventing and mitigating disasters.

- Create an information network/ communication strategy within MAF by defining specific roles and tasks for information sharing and reporting on DRRM achievements in agriculture.

- Consolidate documented proven good agricultural practices for DRR/CCA of previous projects and make them online available for DRR key stakeholders.

- Raise awareness of rural households for disaster risks and impacts on agriculture through practical and simple guidelines and audio-visual information material targeted to the needs of farmers.

PRIORITY AREA IV: REDUCING UNDERLYING RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES BY PROMOTING TECHNICAL OPTIONS AND COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING FOR DRR/CCA IN AGRICULTURAL SECTORS.

- Identify location specific irrigation schemes to reduce risk and develop and distribute practical and simple irrigation guidelines for framers.
- Conduct an agriculture insurances and micro finance feasibility study including its costs and benefits.
- Promote secondary jobs less affected by disasters for additional income and safety nets.
- Establish a local to national feedback mechanism on policy and action plan implementation through improved communication and information sharing mechanisms between DAFOs, PAFOs and MAF and in collaboration with MONRE.
- Develop an alternative strategy for dissemination and replication (extension services) of good agricultural practices for CCA/DRR taking into account the new Lao Extension approach on pro-poor public private partnerships (PPPPP).
- Establish better collaboration mechanism and partnerships between local authorities and farmers.

PRIORITY ACTIONS AREA V: ENHANCE CAPACITIES, FACILITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR EFFECTIVE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE AND INTEGRATE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN RECOVERY INITIATIVES

- Built more and more safety livestock shelters on district level and/or define safe areas for evacuation.

- Provide technical advice, knowledge transfer, funding and other needs to villagers and the VDPUs to promote self-help mechanisms of farming communities for preparedness and recovery.

- Organize trainings for national, provincial and district staff about the methods of calculating and assessing loss, damage, and needs in agricultural sectors as well as the documentation of lessons learned from disasters and improve translation of collected data into decision-making and recovery planning.

- Integrate the forest sector stronger into recovery planning as an approach to build back better.

THANKS

PLAN OF ACTION for DRRM in AGRICULTURE: (Brief)

- Lao PDR is prone to various disasters: flood, drought, storm, forest fire, pest infection, landslide etc.

- Agriculture worst affected by hydro-metrological disasters; mainly the poor farmers

- For reducing risks of farming communities- there is need for systematic approach for disaster risk reduction and management at various levels.

- MAF developed POA for DRRM to act systematically/ in a planned manner to reduce the risk of agriculture community from natural disasters.

- POA for DRRM is nothing new; it is build on and seek synergies with existing processes of development in agriculture sector. POA is developed by MAF with technical support from FAO.

- It is output of: Literature review, inputs from Technical Support Team of MAF, number of brain storming seminars, meetings and group discussions at various levels, field observations and discussions with farmers and others at four provinces etc.

- The goals of the POA- DRRM are:
    i. Integrating DRRM into planning for sustainable agricultural devt .and foster synergies with related policies and strategies at all levels.
    ii. Strengthen capacities of Institutions and communities for enhanced planning, coordination mechanism and implementation of DRRM for food and nutrition security
    iii. Raise awareness and provide education at all levels on preserving the environment to prevent and reduce disaster risks

- There are five priority areas identified:
    I. Strengthening good governance, institutional and technical capacities for DRR and CCA in Agriculture
    II. Assessing and monitoring climate risks and vulnerabilities and issuing early warnings, food and security issues
    III. Improving Knowledge mgt, awareness raising on DRR and **CCA.**
    IV. Reducing underlying risks and vulnerabilities by promoting technical options
    V. Enhance capacities, facilities and procedures for effective disaster preparedness

- The present project "Capacitating and Institutionalizing DRRM in Agriculture" to implement part of POA on pilot basis.