

Landcang-Mekong Cooperation Special Funs

Concept Note

Project Title: Join Research Program on the Impact of Community Driven Development Approach on Rural Development of LMC countries

October 2019 - February 2020
Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR

Background

Under the fund of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation project (LMC), funded by the Chinese government, this project aims to strength the economic and social development of the member countries, through minimizing the development gap among those countries under LMC. One of highlight topic, discussed so far is rural development and poverty eradication policy in practical work, particularly, to reach the target of sustainable development goal by 2030.

Different approaches of rural development had been used by different countries, especially, the countries under LMC, including: Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. One of the approaches is the community driven development (CDD), which is the community participation in development, by applying the bottom up planning to understand the real needs of villagers at grassroots level. Many those mentioned countries are considered to be a great successful story on rural development and poverty eradication, such China, Vietnam and Thailand.

In the case of Laos, even, this CDD approach has implemented several years (since 2003), through the implementation of the Poverty Reduction Fund Project (PRF), scaling up to national program is still being the challenge for the country, especially to integrate with government policy, needed to consider and adapt carefully. Therefore, to ensure the consistence of CDD activities in the context of Laos as well as other Mekong-sub regional countries, the Lao representative proposed a proposal to request the fund from LMC to organize a join research program on the impact of CDD to their home countries.

Each country will join in conduction at least one research paper (based on data and information of the country) based on available time and budget proposed by host country. Then, the researchers (2-3) of each country will share their experience including achievement and challenges had faced during the implementation of CDD. The research paper will analyze the consistent between the theory and actually implementation done by those mentioned countries, that would capture the progressive performance, achievement, challenges and propose for future improvement. They might be able to use both quantitative and qualitative analysis, just to detail clear methodology and mechanism to get such the outcomes.

Objective

1. To discuss about new approach of CDD model that would apply for all countries in this region, the research topic will base on the impact of Community Driven Development Approach on rural development of CLMV plus China and Thailand.

2. To develop useful steps and activities that will advance the concept of a regional CDD community of practice that would revise an approach/model that is community-based/community-driven based on CDD strategy, which may apply for individual country, which will be published as office document that all countries can use.
3. Additionally, this is also to exchange and share best practices on community driven development and capacity building for community leaders among LMC countries as well as to provide documentation of said best practices for further promotion and implementation;
4. Optionally, developing a CDD-based development models that principally branches out from and uses community-driven framework and to carve out new development approach/model that is community-based/community-driven based on CDD strategy.

Expected Outcomes

- The expected end-results after completion join research paper: it would be to 1) find an appropriate and functional criterion for evaluating the Community-Driven Development and how to apply to the Government system; 2) to test a common model and theoretical aspect to practical work of all LMC countries; and 3) To establish a professional network for LMC countries for future research and future cooperation.
- In addition, the research results will be used as evident to prompt about the actual impact of CDD and what the key factors influencing the sustainability of this work, all these information will be used for further integrating CDD to the national development program of individual country.

Selection researchers

Based on the budget plan, each country will have 3 researchers who will help each other to conduct a specific research of their home countries (method development, data survey, theoretical review, analysis and complete the final report. The concerned country can select the most appropriate researchers and send the name and position at their current work. The research paper must analyze the national policy perspective and project policy that can be adapted and developed to be a manual that can suggest applying for national policy.

Work content:

- Presentation about the research topic and its objectives as well as expected outcomes;
- Present country paper based on the experience of each invited country.
- Divide the delegates into smaller groups for in-depth discussions on specific topics.
- Present the outcomes of the group discussion and content of research outcomes.

Activities

- **First meeting to discuss about the join research (In Laos or China)**
 - Present briefly about the purpose of regional research.
 - Discussion about the concerned topic.
 - Present about the research methodology and structure.
- **Cross visiting (China or Vietnam)**
 - To see the most successful story at village level.

- A study visit will be arranged for the all selected researchers to engage in and evaluate any possible CDD characteristics that may appear in visiting village(s) of China or Vietnam.
- To meet and share experience with local authority that would be useful for this research.
- **Research paper preparation**
 - After first meeting, all researchers of each country should start to prepare all activities related to research paper.
 - Finalize the paper and ready to present the outcome.
 - Share the draft of report for feedback and improvement.
- **Second meeting/Workshop (Last meeting)**
 - To present the final paper of each country
 - To discuss and share experience
- **Final work**
 - Peer review, editing, and finalize the paper
 - Paper combination and publication.

Venue

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Period of project: August 2019- February 2020

Tentative Research paper template

Project title: *Join Research Program on the Impact of Community Driven Development Approach on Rural Development*

Implementing agency:

Abstract

Context Background

- Situation of the area including basic information of the village/community/project site

Theoretical Debate

- Experience of many countries using CDD approach and confirmed the impact by professional experts and researchers.

Research objective

- Objective of the study and expected outcomes that you can share with other LMC countries.

Analytical Framework

In which approach that we can use for analysis

Methodology (Based on time and budget)

- Results chain documentation: Inputs, outputs, outcomes, and impact of government, and other donor efforts were gathered (bar chart, regression, or comparison, etc).
- Multiple-stage approach will be used for data collection (available data and field data collection, through random sampling).

Research Findings

- Compare with the economic development of Laos (compare with the approach of Vietnam or Chinese cases)
- Gender and Ethnic people involved in development
- People empowerment in development (Compare to national wide)
- Impact on social capital and sustainability,
- Impact on poverty targeting and rural development (before and after)
- Risks and factors that affect effectiveness analysis

- Lesson learnt

Conclusion and implication

Summarize the result and suggestion for future development

Basic Submission Rules

Language	English
Paper length	Abstract: less than 800 words within 2 pages Full paper: within 30 pages, including references, tables/ charts/regression and keywords (5 key words).
Key words	3-5 words
Font	12-point Times New Roman(body)
Paragraph	Single-spaced
Margin	Normal (Top :2.54 cm , Bottom: 2.54 cm; Left : 3.18cm , Right: 3.18cm)
Page numbers	bottom-centered
Layout	One-column Portrait
Format	MS Word-compatible file