

## The PRF cycle of activities

*The villagers themselves plan, manage and implement their own development activities*



## PRF phasing of operations

Districts covered by the PRF:

PROVINCES	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
HUAPHANH	3	3	5	8	8
SAVANNAKHET	3	3	3	4	4
CHAMPASACK	4	4	4	4	4
PROVINCE 4	-	2	4	4	4
PROVINCE 5	-	2	4	4	4
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>



## Address of the PRF

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## POVERTY REDUCTION FUND (PRF)



**Addressing Poverty is Everyone's  
Responsibility**

## Background of the PRF

Among other innovative efforts, the Lao Government has established the Poverty Reduction Fund by the Prime Minister's Decree PM/073 on May 31 2002 in order to support one of the primary goals of the national socio-economic development plan and policy to eradicate poverty in the country and to quit the status of a Least Developed Country by the year 2020.

The PRF will deliver development resources at the village level targeted at the poorest districts in the country, and mediated through strong participatory and decentralized decision-making processes.



## The objectives of the PRF

The main objectives of the Fund are as follows:

- build capacity and empower poor villages in poor districts to plan, manage and implement their own public investments in a decentralized and transparent manner; and
- strengthen local institutions to support participatory decision-making and conflict resolution processes at the village, *khet*, and district levels, involving a broad range of villagers, including women, the poor and ethnic minorities.
- assist villagers to develop community infrastructure and gain improved access to services;

## The principles of the PRF

The PRF Project has 7 very important principles:

1. **Simplicity** : Methods and techniques used in the sub-projects should be simple. The villagers should be able to do things themselves and to maintain everything, according to the needs and potentials of the villagers.
2. **Village choice** : Many things/different kinds of sub-projects are possible, but some are prohibited.
3. **Participation** : Villagers should make decisions together and cooperate with each other to implement the sub-project. Villagers can make contributions of local materials, labour, etc., if they are able to do so, and they

should be willingly work with the PRF Project.

4. **Ownership** : The people will plan, implement, manage and maintain the sub-project.



5. **Transparency and accountability** : Among other things, regular meetings, will be held and an information board will be used to publish information about the project, so that the people can follow what is going on and avoid corruption in the project.
6. **Wise investment** : Allocate funds properly for real needs. Make sure that poor villagers benefit from the project, and that the outputs of the project are sustainable.
7. **Empathy** : Siding with the poor and disadvantaged. The poorest people in the village should get help.