**5th Asia Pacific Regional Conference on**

**Community Driven Development (CDD)**

**National Program Overview - PRF, MAF LAO PDR**

1. **Name of Project/Program:**

Lao PDR - The Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) Project,

1. **Total Project/Program $ Value (of which World Bank or other Development Partner funding):**With overall external and domestic financing of US$ 210.73 million, of which US$ 123.44 million (58.69%) is funded by the World Bank (US$ 83.44 million as loan and US$ 40.00 million as grant), a grant of US$ 43,42 million (20.45%) by SDC, a grant of US$ 16.90 million (8.03%) by DFAT, a contribution of US$ 16.02 million (7.62%) by Government of Laos, a grant of US$ 2.62 million (1.25%) by JSDF (Japan), and US$ 8.33 million (4%) by other development partners/organizations for disaster responded.
2. **Duration of Project/Program (since inception to current closing date):**

Since 2003-2022 the implementation of PRF Project divided into 3 phases:

* PRF Phase I: 2003-2011 (01 October 2002 – 30 June 2011), US$ 42.04 million.
* PRF Phase II: 2012-2016 (09 June 2011 – 31 December 2016), US$ 90.97 million.
* PRF Phase III: 2017-2019 (15 September 2016 – 30 June 2020), US$ 54 million.
* PRF Phase III AF: 2020-2024 (01 January 2020 – 30 June 2024), US$ 22.5 million.
1. **Coverage (by geographic/administrative areas and population):**

So far, PRF has been working in 11 provinces, 56 districts out of 148 poor districts (37.8%) in Lao PDR, the project has improved access to basic services for over 1.3 million rural beneficiaries via the support of more than 5,000 community infrastructure subprojects to 2,500 villages in those poor and the poorest districts, with greater than 70% benefitting ethnic populations and half of them are women.

1. **Project components (briefly described) and estimated $ value:**

Under PRF’s CDD, communities themselves will decide on how resources are allocated, prioritized their needs, plan, manage, implement, operates and maintain their own sub-projects, after 2020, the project prioritized on livelihood and nutrition activities as following 4 components:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project components and budget (US$ million)** | PRFI | PRFII | PRFIII | PRFIIIAF |
| Component1: Community Development Sub-grants  | 32.581 | 63.679 | 39.582 | 6.26 |
| Component 2: Local & Community Capacity Building  | 4.70848 | 10.9164 | 4.968 | 1.21 |
| Component 3: Project Management  | 4.75052 | 13.6455 | 8.1 | 2.9 |
| Component 4: Nutrition Enhancing Livelihood Development  |  | 2.7291 | 1.35 | 12.13 |
| Total | 42.04 | 90.97 | 54.00 | 22.5 |

1. **Main implementing agency/agencies:**

Poverty Reduction Fund, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

1. **Other key features:**

During 2003-2020, PRF was the basic infrastructure-oriented project., which aimed to improve access to basic infrastructure and services to target areas for poor community. After 2020, it has become livelihood oriented. PRF supports improving basic rural infrastructure (using a community force account (CFA) to enhance the production and consumption of nutritious foods in the project’s targeted poor communities. Furthermore, PRF provides financial and technical support to establish Self-Help Groups to strengthen social mobilization and financial management capacities, and the women-led multi-sectoral Village Nutrition Groups.PRF is an outstanding project that received an ASEAN Award in 2015*.*