

ForHeal Forestry Higher Education Advancement in Laos

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Doing academic research

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Suggestion

- Is there development in rural Laos? How life of rural communities is changing in response to external stimulations
 - What has changed?
 - What have been the most important drivers?
 - How future will look like?
 - Are there chances for positive influence?

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Capturing Change

- **Categories of Change**
 - Level of well-being
 - Housing
 - Income
 - Consumption
 - Energy
 - Sanitation
 - Equity
 - Access to public services
 - Health
 - Education
 - Livelihood strategy
 - Land uses
 - Sources of income
 - Culture
 - Customs, traditions
- **Drivers**
 - Local organizations
 - Food, medicine
 - Environment
 - Deforestation, degradation, afforestation, conservation
 - Disasters, rainfall
 - Demography
 - Urban migration
 - Population growth
 - Gender
 - Public investments into road construction
 - Provision of technical assistance
 - Availability of financial services
 - Private investors into land (uses)
 - Markets (Products & Prizes)
 - Development programs
 - Remittances (payments from children)
 - Ageing population (labour shortage)
 - Media (Smartphones, television)

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Conceptual Framework

```

    graph LR
        subgraph Inputs
            A[Higher Prices]
            B[Technical Assistance]
            C[Credits]
            D[Private Investors]
            E[Road construction]
            F[Development Project]
            G[New Products]
            H[Climate Change]
            I[New Media]
            J[More jobs in urban centres]
        end
        subgraph Intermediate
            K[Concentration on cash crops]
            L[Intensification of NTFP and handicraft]
            M[Urban migration]
            N[Remittances]
        end
        subgraph Outcomes
            O[Enhanced Well-Being]
            P[Less differentiation]
            Q[Ageing Society]
            R[Environmental Degradation]
            S[Loss of traditional culture]
        end
        A --> K
        B --> L
        C --> L
        D --> L
        E --> L
        F --> L
        G --> L
        H --> M
        I --> M
        J --> M
        K --> O
        L --> O
        L --> P
        M --> Q
        N --> Q
        O --> R
        P --> R
        Q --> S
    
```

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Evidences

- Description and categorization of households regarding the change categories
- Identifying and quantifying change from the past to today
- Understanding the reasons (drivers)


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Methodological approach

- 1st step: Sampling
 - Accessibility
 - Environmental conditions
 - Size of the village and origin of the people
- 2nd step: Local experts
 - Interviews
 - Mapping
 - Participatory walk
 - Pebble distribution
 - Market analysis (monetary and material flows, stakeholders involved and their roles)
- 3rd step: Review
 - Statistics
 - GIS

ForHeal Analysis


- Documentation of qualitative and quantitative evidences in boxes
 - Situation
 - Changes
 - Drivers
- Interpretation of evidences
 - Telling a story
- Challenging Hypotheses
 - Structuring evidences in relation to the hypotheses
- Visualization
 - Generating figures and writing a text



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ForHeal Work plan


- Review about three topics
 - Rubber
 - Souphanouvong University
 - Development projects (governments & NGOs)
 - Savannaketh
 - Local livelihoods (Change, development, problem of migration)
 - National University
- Selection of literature
 - Keyword search and year of publication
 - Selection by title, selection by abstract
 - Analysing literature list for names and studies
- Review
 - Reading
 - Developing the argument (hypothesis)
- Writing a small text (1-2 pages)
 - Request for clarifications
- Sending to Benno
 - Request for clarifications
- Two options
 - Expansion of sample
 - Small paper
 - Elaboration of a first draft
 - Review of the draft
 - Finalization of the paper



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ForHeal Tasks

- Benno
 - Send everybody the package with presentations
- Everybody
 - Send me a photo
- Each University group
 - Define a contact person and stay in contact
 - Identify and review recent articles about the attributed topic
 - Send a 2 pager resuming the insights gained



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