

World Bank – Vulnerability Study Fieldwork Report

Part I – Summary of fieldwork

Fieldwork Profile

First Stage – Fieldwork in Vientiane Capital

 Fieldwork starting date: 26/3/2008

 Fieldwork completion date: 11/4/2008

Second Stage – Fieldwork in Phongsaly and Attapeu

 Fieldwork starting date: 19/4/2008

 Fieldwork completion date: 6/6/2008

Surveyed Sample Summary

Province		District		Village		Qualitative		Quantitative	
Code	Name	Code	Name	Code	Name	FGDs	IDIs	Village	HH
02	Phongsaly	01	Phongsaly	095	Sensaly			1	20
02	Phongsaly	01	Phongsaly	075	Kordeng			1	20
02	Phongsaly	01	Phongsaly	035	WaTai	2	7	1	20
02	Phongsaly	04	Samphan	022	Phouxay	2	7	1	20
02	Phongsaly	03	Khua	004	Natoon			1	20
02	Phongsaly	06	Nhot Ou	080	Zel Ly Zoo	2	7	1	20
02	Phongsaly	03	Khua	039	Dongkham	2	7	1	20
02	Phongsaly	04	Samphan	038	Laophan 2			1	20
02	Phongsaly	06	Nhot Ou	082	Pin Jang Kang			1	20
02	Phongsaly	04	Samphan	069	Ja Zue			1	20
02	Phongsaly	03	Khua	015	Huay Pea Ou			1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	07	Hadxaifong	031	Nonghay	2	7	1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	07	Hadxaifong	036	Dongkhamxang	2	7	1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	06	Xaythany	032	Saphungmeuk	2	7	1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	03	Xaysetha	007	Phonesaat			1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	06	Xaythany	077	Na Ngaum Kao			1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	03	Xaysetha	037	Nasangphay			1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	05	Naxaithong	045	Tham			1	20
01	Viantiane Cap	09	Mayparkngum	013	Parkouang			1	20
17	Attapeu	02	Samakhixay	017	La Yao Tai			1	20
17	Attapeu	04	Sanxay	031	Vungxay	2	7	1	20
17	Attapeu	02	Samakhixay	004	Samakhi			1	20
17	Attapeu	01	Xaysettha	019	Had Sa Ty			1	20
17	Attapeu	01	Xaysettha	030	Sa Khae	2	7	1	20
17	Attapeu	01	Xaysettha	017	Phork			1	20
17	Attapeu	03	Sanamxay	042	Phonemany			1	20
17	Attapeu	02	Samakhixay	038	Sork	2	7	1	20
17	Attapeu	03	Sanamxay	028	Donemuang	2	7	1	20
17	Attapeu	03	Sanamxay	031	Mai			1	20
17	Attapeu	04	Sanxay	048	Chalernxay			1	20
Total						22	77	30	600
						Government IDIs	10		

Fieldwork Quality Control (QC) Results

Vientiane Capital

Random post-checking QC of 33% of completed interviews (77% by phone and 23% by visiting) to monitor interviewer's performance and confirm completeness of those interviews was undertaken.

Phongsaly and Attapue

Due to limitation of transportation and communication facility, post-checking QC was not conducted. Instead of post-checking, fieldwork supervisor conducted interview observation of total interviews to monitor interviewer's performance.

Part II – Summary of fieldwork Issues from Qualitative Team

2.1 Vientiane capital

Coordination with local authority issue:

Approval from Vientiane Authority was delay due to miss-understood by head's Vientiane rural development department. The delayed took about 3 weeks; the team had to complete survey Vientiane capital within 2 weeks to avoid the delay for Phongsaly and Attapue Province.

Logistic issue:

After the approval by Vientiane authority the team faced problem with Lao New Year festival, most of village's organized temple festival, villager were busy with festival. It was very difficult to get villagers to participate in the FGD.

2.1.1 Hatsayfong district Vientiane Capital

Coordination with local authority issue:

No problem with district authority

Availability of information:

We received annual report from Social welfare, Health and Agriculture office but not received from district rural development office due to the director was not in the office.

Logistic issue

No problem

Village cooperation:

- i) Nonghai village (qualitative team):
 - Village authority (VA) did not follow selection criteria requested by the team; due to Nonghai is big village. Village head handed over task required by the team to his assistant and his assistant did not receive information about selection criteria, she just selected the former military group to stay at home for the team.

- 70% of FGD representative are from the former military group with lacking of information on the purpose of meeting.
- ii) Dongkhamxang village (qualitative team):
- FGD representative did not well inform about the purposes of meeting,
 - Only one person in male group were selected as representative of Christian group
 - Female group was not well inform, only 2 persons came for meeting, the team went to seek for available person in different houses

Respondent cooperation:

Dongkhamxang village (qualitative team):

- Lack of support from VA for making appointment with respondents
- Most of household respondents did not want to talk to the team due to no notice by VA and no representative of VA went with survey team.
- Most of villagers work in day time.

Communication issue:

No problem.

2.1.2 Saythany district, Vientiane Capital

Coordination with local authority issue

No problem

Availability of information:

Received reports from district health

Logistic issue:

No problem

Village cooperation:

Sapangmeuak village:

- Postponed schedule 2 days due to village festival.
- Lack of explanation to villagers to attend the FDG
- FGD representatives was not fully follow the selection criteria

Village access:

No problem

Respondent selection and availability issue:

No big shocks found from FGD

Respondent cooperation:

No problem

Communication issue:

No problem

2.2 Phongsaly Province:

Coordination with local authority issue:

- No problem, we received very good support from authority at all level such as: Deputy Provincial Governor and District Governor and related sectors.

Road condition and transportation:

- No paved road for all 4 districts

Weather:

- it was raining almost every day during the survey conducted.

Others:

- There is no electricity at district and village level. In Phongsaly town someday there is no the electricity only accessible in the evening.
- Lack of reports/document. Most of report typed by type writer and they had no soft copy, only one set. Difficult to get it copy, there is only one private photo copy shop in town.
- Limitation on communication between qualitative and quantitative team, the contacting system was depended on mobile phone signal availability.

2.2.1. Vatai village, Phongsaly district:

Coordination with local authority issue:

- There is no telephone signal covered in Vatai village, the appointment with village authority could not be made.
- The New Year festival ceremony just completed one day before the team arrived,
- VA and most of men still drunk and not serious at work.
- Villagers went to rice field in day time; meeting could organize only evening time.

Logistic issue:

- No road access to village only by boat and is available only once a day from Hatsa to Vatai. The boat will leave when passenger is full, no limitation for number's passengers. There is no life jacket for passenger.

Respondent selection and availability issue:

- There was no problem for selection of respondents; the team found interesting shock on opium detoxification and sign effect from relapsed.

Respondent cooperation:

- There was no problem to make an appointment with respondent because it small village and most of respondent were very interested to share their experience with the team.

Communication issue:

- About 30% of the discussion with women respondent needs some translation. They understand 80% of Lao words but not very confident to speak in Lao therefore some words we used district and provincial staff as our interpreters.

2.2.2. Saelysuo village, Nhotou district:

Coordination with local authority issue:

- There is no telephone signal covered in Saelysuo village, the appointment with village authority could not be made in advance.
- District authority appointed two Khum Ban (cluster) officers to go to village to inform about the visit by the team.

Logistic issue:

- The road from Ban Thang conjunction to Saelysuo about 28 km just completed by February 2008 (3 months) before the team went there. Many parts of road collapsed due to rain and land slide.
- The road between Saelysuo and Talysuo (the neighbor village) was block due to spiritual ceremony. The ceremony do not allowed anyone get in and get out village for three days. The car and driver had been sent to wait outside Talysuo village about 6km from Saelusuo. The only way to get out of this village only by walking through the mountain part which more difficult and challenges.

Respondent selection and availability issue:

- There is no problem

Respondent cooperation:

- There is no problem to make an appointment with respondent due to the support from Khum Ban staff and the VA included villager were very excited to involve in the survey. This village had only one project works but mostly there is no visiting from outsider.

Communication issue:

- 100% of interview was done by interpreting. There are about 6 people in the village fully understand Lao Loum language. The team had to include one of Khum ban staff to be interpreter.

2.2.3. Dongkham village, Khua district:

Coordination with local authority issue:

- There was no problem on communication because the mobile phone accessible. We coordinated with Lao Red Cross staff to make appointment with VA of Dongkham.
- District authority was very interested in supporting the survey. We received annual reports from 4 sectors: Health, Social welfare, Agriculture and District cabinet office.

Logistic issue:

- No problem.

Respondent selection and availability issue:

- There is no problem for selection of respondents

Respondent cooperation:

- There was no problem to make an appointment with respondent due to small village only 34 hhs

Communication issue:

- No problem, they understand Lao Loum 100%

2.2.4. Phuxai village, Sampan district:

Coordination with local authority issue:

- The telephone in Sampan district broken during the visit, the appointment to district was not done. But district authority had received informed letter from province about the survey but did not mention the time and specific village.
- The meeting with district authority could not hold on according to the schedule due to district authority had to attend another meeting with provincial authority for 3 days. Therefore the meeting was held in the evening time after the team came back from Phuxai village and only 2 sectors (Health & Agriculture) could make the meeting with the survey team.
- Reporting available by hand writing and type writer with no copy. There was only CARE International office had photo copy machine, and it was broken at that time. We only received reports from district cabinet office. The other reports the survey team had to write down some keys information related to survey.
- There was no private guesthouse in Sampan district. There were only 2 rooms of district office guesthouse but it was fully booked by Provincial authority. The team got to chare the room with district officer family.

Logistic issue:

- There was no road from Khua district to Sampan, only by boat. From Sampan to Phuxai only motorbike can go. The team had to walk about 2hrs from Kana village to Phuxai.

Respondent selection and availability issue:

- There was no problem for selection of respondents

Communication issue (local language, etc)

- No problem, Most of them understand Lao Loum

2.3 Attapue

In general we did not face any big issue for all 4 districts. Just small issues faced.

Coordination with local authority issue:

- Provincial authority miss understood about the survey purposes, they worries that the team will find out the weakness issues and report to WB. At first day when the qualitative team arrived, the head of provincial rural development

was came up with other new plan (added new villages and canceled some village for qualitative team).

- The provincial coordinator was useless; he did not play his role as Coordinator.

Availability of information:

- No problem at district level, we received all reports from key sectors: Agriculture, Health, SW and district rural development office.

Logistic issue:

There was no problem about the road from Province to the districts. In every districts and villages (Skare, Solk & Vangxai) , the mobile phone was working and all selected villages were not far from provincial town.

Village cooperation:

- No problem, excepted Ban Don Moung, VA was drunk due to the closing ceremony for primary school fiscal year. The team had to postpone FGD meeting to next day and asked VA to arrange target group with selection criteria. But next morning village head was still totally drunk and he had not informed anyone yet.
- District Coordinator was very helpful, he gathered villagers who had not been to rice field to participate in the FDG. We were losing another half day waiting for villager in this village.

Village access:

- No problem

Respondent selection and availability issue:

- There was no serious shock found from FGD, mainly households respondent were selected based on health issued, thieves & poorest household. Except Vangxai village we found many households got damaged by storm.

Communication issue:

- There no problem, we did not use interpreter because most of women can speaks Lao Loum.

Others:

- No problem.

Part III – Summary of fieldwork Issues from Quantitative Team

3.1 Vientiane Capital

At the beginning, the capital office did not accept the authorization letter from the Prime Minister Office, due to the letter was not signed by Minister of Prime Minister Office. The quantitative team had to go ahead with fieldwork without permission from Capital Office. The team contacted each district and village directly for permission.

Finally, the Prime Minister Office reissued the letter and the problem was solved.

There was no issue on coordination with district and village level.

Overall, the main issue was village information management by village authority. The village authority had no an accurate households list. The team had to redo the list with each unit head.

- Nasangphy village, Xaysetha district, it is large village the village head had no up-to-date and accurate household and villager list. Households were allocated in separately in wide area, which made the team faced difficulty in listing households.
- Nangon, Xathany district, the team had to collect household list from each unit head.
- Tham, Naxaiting district, the team faced the problem on respondent selection. Village head had no list at all, and all unit heads were not available at the time of survey. The team had to wait to meet all at evening time to meet all unit head and do household listing.
- Nonghai, Hadxayphong district, no household list available, the team had to collect from each unit head.
- Pakkuang, Paknguim district, no household list available, village head had to call all households for meeting and do household listing.

3.2 Phongsaly province:

There was no issue on cooperation of provincial and district authorities. The team received very well cooperation.

The main issues were conditions for traveling and access to villages and communication with villagers who are ethnic minority and do not speak Lao language well, and availability of household list in each village.

There was also no issue on village authority cooperation in the north.

- Kodeng, Phongsaly district, Phou Noi ethnic, there was problem on communication issue. The team had to hire villagers of village nearby to be interpreter.
- Vatai, Phongsaly district, the date that the team arrived was new year celebration day of this village. There was strict religion ceremony, the team had to wait a day.
- Sensaly, Phongsaly district, there were 2 household replacement due to selected households moved out from the village. The majority of population in this village are government official and had no much time on daytime. Therefore, the team had to make interview in early morning, lunch time and after work time (17:00-20:00 pm). Daily raining was also difficulty which the team faced.
- Houyphe Ou, Khua district, no raod access, only access by boat 30 minutes.
- Dongkham, Khua district, the list of household was out of date. Moved out households were still in the list. This made difficulty in household selection.
- Natoum, Khua district, the household list was not available. The team used the list produced by head of student' parent committee. This list was the most up-to-date as it record all households in the village which provide rice for teacher. 2 Selected households were replaced due to 1. the household head was working in other province and 2. the respondents were to old to provide information. This village has 2 cluster, they are 4 km far away from each other and traveling between each custer must be by boat..
- Phouxay, Samphan district, access by boat 30 minutes then walk 1.5 hours. The team faced problem that villagers were not at home. At the time of survey it was

starting rice cultivation period, the villagers could not miss the season. The team had to wait.

- Laopan 2, Samphan district, access by car 1.5 hours, then taking boat 30 minutes and then walking 4 hours.
- Jasui, Samphan district, access by car 2.5 hours, then taking boat 35 minutes and then walking 3 hours. Majority of villagers did not understand Lao, the team had to hire local translators.
- Phimjangkang, Yot Ou district, access by car 5.5 hours, and then walking 4.5 hours. Villagers did not understand Lao well. Hired translators were used.
- Sell Lee Sou, Yot Ou district, Villagers did not understand Lao well. Hired translators were used.
- After completed fieldwork in Phimjangkang and Sell Lee Sou village, due to heavy raining land slide cut the road, the team had to stay overnight on the road. The next day, the team went back to Sell Lee Sou village and asked for help. All villagers came to help to clear the soil, then the team was able to come out from the village.

3.3 Attapue Province:

The big issue was occurred at the time of the arrived. The provincial office did not accept the target village list which was randomly selected and was sent by prime minister office. The provincial office was trying to replace those selected villages with villages in their own village development plan. The provincial office did not care about the list from central level with the reason of they know about their province and their need well. Even the project manager of IRL called to explain, but the provincial office seemed not to understand at all. Finally problem was solved, IRL suggested that IRL will do the survey in both original random selected villages and the province's suggested villages.

The major issue was the same with the north, that was traveling conditions and communication with villagers. There was also found that the team had received not so good cooperation from village authority.

The same with the north and Vientiane, accuracy and availability of households list in each village was also an issue.

- Phonemany, Sanamxay, some of selected households were not available. They had stayed in the rice field and some were working in other villages. The random replacement was made.
- Chalernsay, Xanxay district, traveling by car 45 km, then walking 13 hours. Village head did not understand Lao well, the district staff assisted the team on translation. Its cluster are located in different places, some clusters are 2 hours walking distance.
- Hadsaty, Xaysetha district, majority of selected households were stayed in rice field (about 3—6 km far from the village), heavy raining was difficulty to reach target respondents.
- Donemuang, Sanamxay district, the village head had no list of households, the team had to do all the listing. District staff and villagers who speaks Lao well were used for translation.
- Pork, Saysetha district, there was difficult on communication. District staff and villagers who speaks Lao were used as translators.
- Vangxai, Sansay district, village head did not understand Lao well, district staff assisted on translation. Translators were used for almost of interviews.

- Sakhe, Saysetha district, village head was not happy to provide cooperation. Provincial, district staff and supervisor had to try very hard to explain. There is no list of households, the team had to make it with village committee.
- Mai, Sanamxay district, village head had no household list to provide, the team had to do listing by asking each of unit head. Village head did not provide well cooperation.
- Samakkhy, Samakkhixay district, the list of households was not available, the team had to make it. Some selected households were not in the village and stayed at rice field for harvesting, the team had to wait in some cases and had to go to meet them at rice field.
- Layaotai, Samakkhixay district, it's urban village, village head was not in the office regularly. The team had to wait to meet village head.
- Sork, Samakkhixay district, village head had no accurate household list, the team had to redo listing. Households of this village were located far away from each other.