

Framing of Governance of Climate Change Adaptation Projects in Lao PDR

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I. Introduction

- Background of project

- Significant impacts of climate change in Lao PDR, particularly, impact of flooding, drought, pest, etc.

- + 16 flood events, affecting 3.2 million people and damaging 228,610 hectare rice production areas during the period 1996-2002;

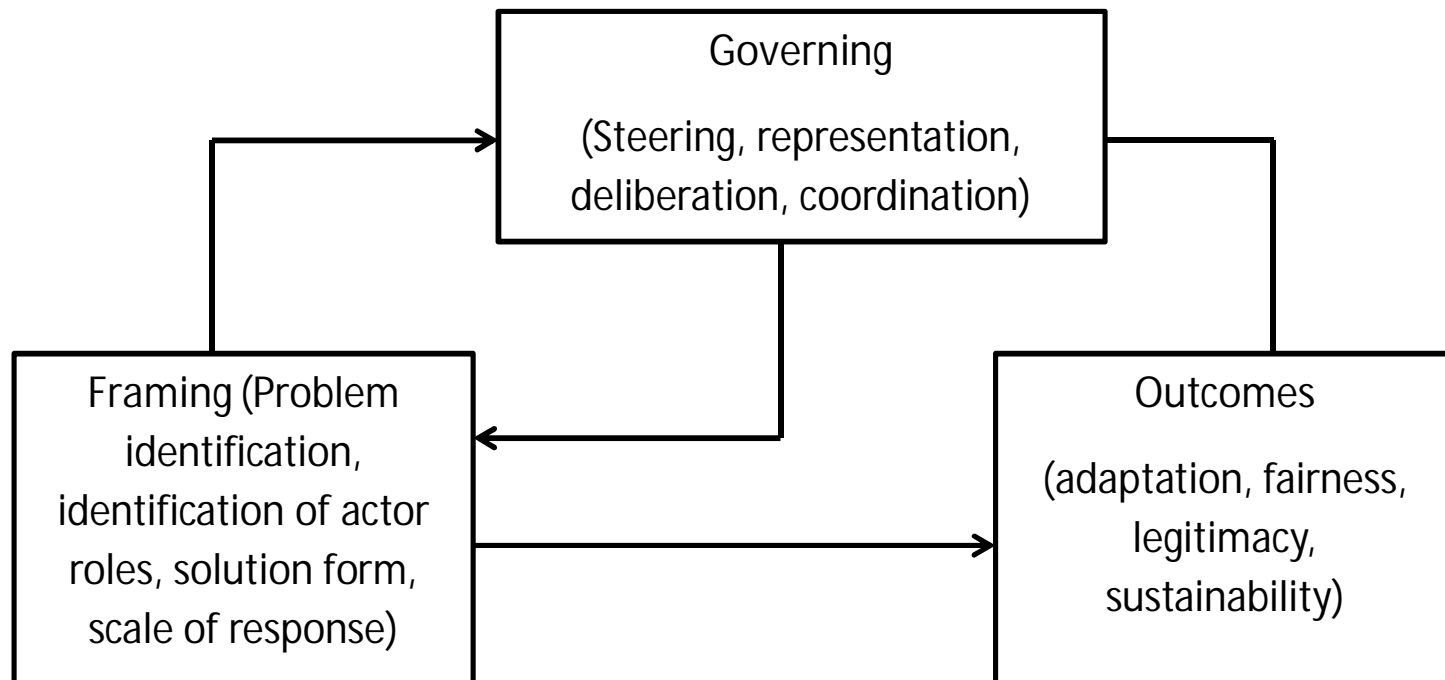
- + 5 drought events affecting 4.2 million people and over 300,000 hectares agriculture production areas

- The government of Lao PDR and its development partners identified climate change adaptation as an important area of socio-economic development and thus, they established institutional and policy frameworks as well as programs and projects for climate change adaptation (NSCCC, DMC, NAPA, NSCC, etc.)

-Limited information how the climate change adaptation policy, programs and projects are implemented

- Objective of project

-Examination of governance of climate change adaptation at project level with particular focus on project framing, steering and outcome as showing in figure below:



- Methodology

- In-depth study on three projects: MSAS, IRAS and Namang 3 hydro power and irrigation project

- Research activities: reviewing and analyzing documents and key informant interview

II. Key findings

- Project framing

- National policy frameworks such as NAPA, NSCC, NSEDP provide umbrella for framing climate change adaptation project;

- Additional demand survey is conducted for detailed project framing incase that projects are financed and led by international organization (IRAS) or government of foreign country (MSAS);

- The projects financed by internal organization and foreign government are approved at ministerial level (excepted very large scale ones)

-In case of project financed by GoL, concerning agency is responsible for project framing and submitting to MPI for considering and putting in NDEDP and passing to NA for considering and approving;

-Problem identification and decision on solution as well as regular mandate, experiences and capacity of existing agencies determine project stakeholders;

-For example, MSAS identifies limited capacity of farmer communities and the project aims to provide capacity building for farmer communities; hence the Department for Agriculture Extension is selected to join the project;

- Project governance

- Similar as stakeholders identification, problem identification and solution plays important role for designing project governance system;

- Based on findings from case study projects, the steering committee/project board, national project director (NPD) and project manager (PM) are appointed after project approval;

- Normally, high ranking officers, policy makers and representative of donor agencies occupy the project steering committee providing direction for project implementation;

-NPD is exclusive director project supervising PM based on direction provide by steering committee;

-PM is responsible for daily management work;

- Outcomes

- Case study projects have relatively good outcomes:

- +Namang 3 Hydro Power and Irrigation Project built irrigation system wit over 10 Km irrigation cannel, providing hundreds of hectares rice field.

- +MSAS: TDK₁₁ is most drought tolerant while TDK_{1sub1} is most flood tolerant.

- +IRAS: Production and dissemination of lot of advocacy mater and organizing number of training workshop for farmers

III. Limitation, knowledge gap and further research need

-Very small sample site makes conclusion on efficiency and effectiveness of climate adaptation project in Lao PDR impossible; further study on similar topic is needed;

-Cost-benefit of climate change adaptation measures

**Thank you very much
for your kind attention**

