

Proposed Structure of the SWG-ARD

Draft: 27 March 2017

Body	Position	Agency	Related Position
SWG-Agriculture & Rural Development (ARD)	Chair	Minister of Agriculture	Vice-Minister of Agriculture
	Co-Chairs	Government of France	Ambassador of France to Lao PDR
		UN-Food and Agriculture Organization	FAO Representative to Lao PDR
	Secretariat	MAF-Department of Planning and Finance (DoPF), with technical support from AFD and FAO	DG-DoPF
The SWG-ARD will support implementation of the Government of the Lao PDR's National Social Economic Development Plan (NSED) and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals—specifically SDGs 1, 2, 13, 15, and 17.			
SWG-ARD Core Working Group (task force)	Chair	SWG-Secretariat	DG-DoPF
	Co-Chairs	AFD & FAO	FAO Representative & Director AFD
	Secretariat	MAF-DoPF, Division of International Cooperation	With support from FAO & AFD
	The Core Working Group will comprise the chairs, co-chairs, and the secretariats of each of the SSWGs and will meet prior to all SWG meetings to prepare and coordinate reporting, work plans, and presentations for meetings.		
Policy Think Tank	Host Institution	MAF-National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute	
	Co-chair		
	Support		Mr. Manolak
SSWG-Farmers and Agribusiness (FAB)	Chair	MAF-Department of Agriculture Extension and Cooperatives (DAEC)	Deputy Director General
	Co-Chair	Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)	Deputy Director of Cooperation, Head of Domain Agriculture and Food Security
	Secretariat	MAF-DAEC-Division of Information and Extension	With support from LURAS
	The SSWG-FAB will '...synthesize the lessons that have been learned...and identify alternatives and opportunities for promoting the development of agribusiness in a way that will empower smallholders , including policy options and capacity building priorities.'		
SSWG-Forestry (F)	Chair	MAF-Department of Forestry	Director-General
	Co-Chair	Government of Japan, Japan International Cooperation Agency	Senior Representative of JICA
	Secretariat	DOF-Division of Planning and Cooperation (TBC)	With support from JICA
	The SSWG-F shall exchange information and facilitate policy dialog regarding: 'implementation of important forest-related issues and activities in order to contribute to implementation of the 8thNSED, SGDs, AGS 2025, NRES 2025 and FS 2020 including its successor strategy.'		
SSWG-Agrobiodiversity (ABD)	Chair	MAF-National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute	Director-General
	Co-Chair	FAO	FAO Representative to Lao PDR
	Secretariat	NAFRI-Division of Cooperation	With support from FAO
	The SSWG-ABD '...will focus on policy aspects regarding the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity and access and benefit sharing... '		

SSWG-Rural Development (RD)	Chair	MAF-Department of Rural Development	Director-General
	Co-Chair	Embassy of Luxembourg to Lao PDR (TBC)	Ambassador of Luxembourg to Lao PDR (TBC)
	Secretariat	MAF-DRD-Division International Cooperation	With support from Luxembourg Development Cooperation. (TBC)
	The SSWG-RD, will focus on issues relating to rural infrastructure, rural planning, and rural finance.		