Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Department of Planning and Cooperation

The Summary Report

Workshop for demonstration of the INAHOR utilization for Wet Season Rice 2023 on 31st July to 1st August 2023 at The Grand Riverside Hotel 2, Vangieng District, Vientiane Province, Lao PDR.

Workshop for demonstration of the INAHOR utilization for Wet Season Rice 2023 was held from 31st July to 1st August 2023 at The Grand Riverside Hotel 2, Vangvieng District, Vientiane Province, Lao PDR under the chairman of Dr. Soulaphone INTHAVONG, Deputy Director of the Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Lao PDR and co-chairman as Dr. Kei Oyoshi, a representative from the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and Dr. Sumanya Ngandee, Manager of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS). There were 33 participants from related departments such as the Department of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Land Management, and Department of Agriculture and Forestry of eighteen provinces. (For the detail attached the list of participants here). This joint conference is financially and technically supported by the JAXA (AROS2 and SAFE projects) and AFSIS (under the project for Strengthening ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Function for Emergency (SAFER). The details of the workshop are as follows:

1. Objective:

- To build capacity of agricultural statistics staff to know how to use modern tools and new technology (Satellite images) to estimate wet season rice planted area in 2023;
- To demonstrate the INAHOR system utilization for Wet Season Rice 2023 to improve agricultural statistics data.

2. The Content of the workshop:

The workshop was held for one and a half days, starting from July 31 to August 1, 2023. The detailed agenda for each day are as follows:

First day:

After the opening speech of the chairman and the co-chairmen's remarks, the meeting had the presentation of each topic:

1). Introduction to Japanese Earth Observation Satellites and SAFE Project, Overview of INAHOR by JAXA;
2). Overview of 2023 wet season rice planted area estimation results by INAHOR prototyping activity;
3). Utilization of remote sensing in agricultural statistics by MAFF Japan;
4). Discussion: INAHOR utilization and dissemination by the SEAA research LLC., International Consultant of SAFER project; and presenting an overview of the whole country results of the Wet season rice planted area in 2022 estimated by using the INAHOR software that has been developing by using training data of 2 provinces: Vientiane and Champasak in the past and opened up for discussion;
5). Tutorial for demonstration of the new framework for 2023 Wet Season Rice.

On the 1st day, the chairman summarized the results of the workshop on the 1st as well as gave directions for the next day's workshop.

Second day:

In the Morning: Continued from the workshop on the 1st day by dividing the research group to discuss the estimate and confirmation of Wet Season Rice planted area in 2023, which methods are as follows:

- Divided participants into 3 research groups to discuss the training data in each part of Lao PDR: 1st group for northern provinces, 2nd group for central provinces, and 3rd group for southern provinces.
- Preparation for training data: Install Google Earth Pro
- Checking 6.000 points (kml) classify into 6 groups in an Excel file (Crop Land, grass, forest, water, settlement, and other land)
- Judgment points (Paddy rice or non-Paddy rice) There are 158 points that can't be identified by Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO).

3. Conclusion

The workshop was conducted for one and a half days and unanimously agreed as follows:

- The Japanese experts will anlyze the data from this workshop to dissemination the results to the provinces and CAS to use the information and data for planning and another purpose;
- The seminarians from the Department of Agriculture and Forestry of the provinces and the capital bring the mental content of this meeting to report and develop it in their field to bring about the maximum benefits to report their high-ranking policymakers;
- CAS proposed that the JAXA, MAFF, Japan, and AFSIS to continue providing the financial support for training in the use of the INAHOR tool to analyze and estimate the planted area of rice and other crops to build capacity agricultural Statistics staff at the central and provincial levels.

4. Future Plan

- The Japanese expert will share the results for dissemination of the Wet Season Rice planted area of this workshop to CAS in October 2023.
- AFSIS will hold a Reginal Workshop for activity under the SAFER project for Agricultural Statistics staff of all member countries at the end of 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand;

The meeting was closed at 12:00 on August 1, 2023, with a beautiful atmosphere and high unity.