

Luxembourg experience in capacity development during COVID-19

Context:

- LaoPDR is supported by many countries:
 - Japan for remote sensing (Environment Ministry)
 - Germany on GIS (Environment Ministry)
 - Korea on SDG (LSB)
- Statistical cooperation project (2018-2020) between *NSI Luxembourg* and *Lao*

Statistical Bureau

- 4 components: first dedicated to *Environment statistics*
- Objective: *develop the full statistical compilation process*
- Organisation: *a national team (3) + a permanent senior expert on site + regular missions*

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Component 1 - Environment Statistics	
Objective: Develop Environment Statistics	
Specific objective 1.0	Produce the strategic documents for the development of environment statistics
Activity 1.0.1	Produce a Master Plan for the development of environment statistics
Activity 1.0.2	Develop a conceptual roadmap for the development of the statistical information system
Activity 1.0.3	Review and update the strategic documents based on gained experience
Specific objective 1.1	Develop a statistical information system on the environment
Activity 1.1.1	Inventory and collect the already existing environmental data in the different administrations and ministries
Activity 1.1.2	Evaluate the quality of existing environment statistics
Activity 1.1.3	Develop the tools to translate the concepts under effective methods
Activity 1.1.4	Construct the effective objects permitting to implement the selected methods (storage and analyse)
Activity 1.1.5	Support capacity development in environment statistics in the Lao NSS (FDES and SEEA)
Specific objective 1.2	Compile environmental-economic accounts
Activity 1.2.1	Identify the environmental-economic accounts which could be interesting and helpful for Ministries
Activity 1.2.2	Develop the methodologies permitting to compile selected environmental-economic accounts
Activity 1.2.3	Provide training for the compilation of environmental-economic accounts
Activity 1.2.4	Compile selected environmental-economic accounts
Activity 1.2.5	Test some environmental analysis or accounts, at provincial and/or watershed levels
Specific objective 1.3	Construct a core set of indicators on relevant environmental areas
Activity 1.3.1	Valorize the environment data by supplying the sustainable development goals with environmental indicators
Activity 1.3.2	Centralize and publish key indicators (Dashboard)
Activity 1.3.3	Establish a core set of environment statistics (Compendium)

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Before COVID:

- Follow-up by phone (1x/month)
- Face-to-face meeting (2x/year)
- Face-to-face mission (2x/year – 5 days)
- Review of reports (on expert's missions and on project progress)

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During COVID-19 :

- Quarterly meeting by video-conference
- Remote mission by video-conference (3 hours/day for 5 days)
 - Representatives of LSB, Environment Ministry, Agriculture Ministry, Energy Ministry
 - Presentation made by experts followed by exchanges between participants
- Review of reports (on expert's missions and on project progress)

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Difficulties:

- No equipment for video-conference (micro, camera, room for video-conference)
- Bad quality of internet connection
- No knowledge on video-conference softwares

Conclusions:

- Advantages: *skill development on new tools, better preparation, saving cost on travel expenditures, ...*
- Disadvantages: *less interactions with colleagues, ...*