PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project focus is around the Lang Sen Wetland Reserve and three communes in Tan Hung district in Long An province. It is located in the northeastern part of the Mekong Delta, a few kilometers from the border between Cambodia and Vietnam.

Conservation Challenges:

- Change in the natural hydrological regime by hydraulic engineering infrastructure impacting the natural habitat of the wetland. Combined with current wetland management focusing on fire suppression, has resulted in unnaturally high water levels throughout the year changing habitats and subsequently the species that they have traditionally supported;

- Significant population declines of certain vulnerable species such as the Sarus Crane, due to loss of their natural habitat and feeding grounds;

- Impacts from climate change will change local rainfall and temperature patterns leading to water scarcity and frequent water shortages;

- Over-exploitation from local communities surrounding the wetland to support livelihoods;

- A lack of understanding of local populations in conservation and how climate change will impact their livelihoods;

- A decline in productivity from rice cultivation and growing impacts to the surrounding environment from the increased use of agrochemicals and fertilisers.

PROJECT LOCATION

Lang Sen Wetland Reserve, Tan Hung District, Long An Province

PROJECT TIMELINE

January 2014 - December 2017

OBJECTIVES

To restore and maintain the biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Lang Sen wetlands and increase resilience and adaptability of local communities in three communes in the buffer zone to impacts from climate change.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Restore wetland habitats in Lang Sen Wetland Reserve to maintain ecosystem services in the “Plain of Reeds”;

- Study and introduce new Climate Smart Agriculture models to communities around Lang Sen Wetland reserve;

- Study and implement a livelihood support fund for communities in the buffer zones linked to improved livelihood models such as Climate Smart Agriculture;

- Assess potential community co-management activities in Lang Sen Wetland Reserve;

- Raise awareness of communities about climate change and climate change adaptation measures that supports biodiversity conservation and local community livelihoods.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS

- Restoration of at least 100 ha of Lang Sen Wetlands contributing to food and income security of the local population;

- CSA (Climate Smart Agriculture) methods are introduced to 150 smallholder producer families and contribute to food and income diversification;

- A financing mechanism is established supporting local livelihoods and linked to activities to preserve the Lang Sen Wetlands and environmental education;

- 500 students from seven primary schools and 300 students in the high school in the 3 target communes and 35 teachers: participate in environmental education activities;

- 28 staffs of the reserve: trained and implement restoration and co-management measures and cooperate directly with small-scale farmers in the implementation of agricultural production models;

- Government employees: involved in the planning, technical and evaluation workshop.

KEY PARTICIPATIONS – THEIR ROLES

150 small-scale farming households and 30 households of fishermen (most of the latter without land tenure) with approximately 720 people who live in seven villages and three communes around the Lang Sen Wetlands:

- Test and apply CSA models;

- Participate in the livelihood support fund;

- Co-management activities in the Lang Sen Wetlands and environmental education;

500 students from seven primary schools and 300 students in the high school in the 3 target communes and 35 teachers: participate in environmental education activities;

28 staffs of the reserve: trained and implement restoration and co-management measures and cooperate directly with small-scale farmers in the implementation of agricultural production models;

Government employees: involved in the planning, technical and evaluation workshop.

Project progress and results are communicated to the interested public and the professional audience.
KEY PARTNERS – THEIR ROLES

Department of Agriculture & Rural development: steer Lang Sen Wetland Reserve on project activity implementation in the Reserve and coordinate project activities at provincial level.

Lang Sen Wetland Reserve: implement all project activities in the project area.

DONORS

BMZ – Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

WWF-Germany

LANG SEN

Wetland Reserve

Project: Avoidance of maladaptation through climate smart agriculture and restoration of Lang Sen wetlands in Vietnam

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Scan for more information