

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021



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CONTENTS	PAGE(S)
Statement of the Project Management	1 - 3
Independence auditor's report	4 - 6
Statement of cash receipts and disbursements	7 - 8
Statement of fund balance	9
Notes to the financial statements	10 - 17

STATEMENT OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT

On 17 May 2018, the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (GOL) had agreements with International Development Association (IDA) as below:

Credit No. IDA 62050-LA

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (GOL), through its Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Provincial Government of each of the Project provinces, is implementing the Project with financial assistance from International Development Association (IDA) under Financing Agreement Credit No. 6205-LA in an original approved amount of SDR 17,200,000 (Seventeen Millions Two Hundred Thousand Special Drawing Rights). The Project was declared effective on 25 June 2018 and expected to be closed by 28 June 2024.

The objective of the project is to increase the competitiveness of selected agricultural value chains in the project areas. The project consists of the following parts:

- Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability
- Component 2: Enhanced Agricultural Commercialization
- Component 3: Project management

The project components performances for the period from 25 June 2018 to 28 June 2024 are as below:

• Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability:

- Promoting adoption of good varieties and quality seeds, carrying out of a program of activities designed to promote the adoption of good varieties and quality seeds, including the provision of: (a) technical assistance for the establishment of SMGs and building their capacity to adopt good varieties and quality seeds; (b) matching grants to selected SMGs to carry out Sub-projects for improving the production and postharvest handling, packaging and storage of quality seeds; (c) technical and material assistance to build the capacity of PAFOs, DAFOs, MAF technical departments and research institutions to conduct training for SMGs and carryout seed quality monitoring and certification; and (d) technical assistance to link SMGs with FPGs and agribusinesses in marketing certified seeds.
- Promoting good agricultural practices, carrying out of a program of activities designed to promote good agricultural practices, including the provision of; (a) technical assistance for the establishment of FPGs and building their capacity to adopt good agricultural practices,; (b) Matching grants to selected FPGs to carry out sub-projects that implement good agricultural practices; (c) technical and material assistance to build the capacity of PAFOs, DAFOs, and MAF technical departments to conduct training for FPGs on good agricultural practices and to carry out related extension and certification activities including soil analysis, organic fertilizer production and organic farming; and (d) technical assistance to link FPGs with agribusinesses in marketing farm product.
- Providing critical productive infrastructure, carry out of a program of activities designed to improve critical irrigation infrastructure and water use practices, including; (a) rehabilitation of selected irrigation schemes; and (b) provision of technical assistance to establish water user groups and to build their capacity to adopt improved water use models.

STATEMENT OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability (Continue):

- Strengthening public services delivery, carry out of a program of activities designed to strengthen agriculture and nutrition service delivery, including the provision of technical and material assistance to; (a) improve the overall extension service capacity of PAFOs, DAFOs, and MAF technical departments; (b) develop and implement mapping and demarcation pilots for agricultural land in irrigation areas; (c) conduct studies on integrated farming systems and diversification for nutrition, and carry out social behavioural change communication activities related to dietary diversity, adequate care practices, and processing and cooking for improved nutrition.

Component 2: Enhanced Agricultural Commercialization

- Establishing an agricultural value chain facility, establishment and operation of an agricultural value chain facility for the purpose of extending technical and financial services to agribusinesses, including the provision of: (a) technical assistance to establish and operate the facility and provide advisory and sub-project implementation support to agribusinesses; and (b) matching grants to selected agribusinesses to carry out sub-projects for upgrading their processing and postharvest handling facilities and their management capacities to improve product quality, increase operational efficiency, reduce physical losses and link agribusinesses with FPGs to improve the marketing of farm produce.
- Linking farmers to markets, carry out of a program of activities designed to link farmers to markets, including the provision of technical assistance to: (a) strengthen the horizontal links of farmers within FPGs for implementing procurement, marketing and other collective actions, and the vertical link of FPGs and agribusiness in productive partnerships undertake further processing and marketing of the produce; and (b) develop an improved agriculture market information system to provide reliable market information for productive partnerships.
- Improving the enabling environment, carrying out of a program of activities by MAF technical departments, MOIC and other relevant agencies to improve the enabling legal, policy and institutional environment for supporting agribusiness investment and agriculture trade policies, including the development of improved sanitary and phytosanitary standards, rice standards and rice export policies, and improved import and export legislation focusing on agriculture inputs and farm machinery.

Component 3: Project management

- Project management, carry out of the day-to-day implementation, coordination, and management of project activities including planning and execution, financial management, procurement, internal and external audits, and environmental and social safeguards management.
- Project monitoring and evaluation, carry out of the day-to-day monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the project activities.

STATEMENT OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

The Financial statements are the responsibility of project management. The following are components of the financial statements summarize the Project's position and performance:

- Statement of cash receipts and disbursements;
- Statement of fund balance; and
- Statement of designated accounts (note 4)
- Note to the financial statement

As the responsible officials, we do hereby state that the financial statements to the best of our knowledge and belief:

- have been prepared in accordance with IDA's requirements; and
- have been prepared, in all material respects, of the fund balance of the Project as at 31 December 2021 and its receipts and disbursements for the year ended 31 December 2021 in accordance with the basis of accounting set out in Note 2 to the financial statements.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Phouthone SIRIPHANTHONG

We hereby approve the accompanying financial statements which are prepared in accordance with the accounting policies as described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared to assist the Project in meeting the reporting requirements of the Project. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

On behalf of the management of the Project:

Mr. Phouthone SIRIPHANTHONG

National Project Coordinator



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF LAO PDR (GOL), THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT AND THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (IDA) ON THE **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF** THE LAO **AGRICULTURE COMPETITIVENESS PROJECT FUNDED** BYTHE **INTERNATIONAL** DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (IDA) UNDER CREDIT NO. 6205-LA

Our opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Lao Agriculture Competitiveness Project (LACP or the Project) for the year ended 31 December 2021 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

What we have audited

The Project's financial statements comprise:

- The statements of cash receipts and disbursements for the year ended 31 December 2021;
- The statement of fund balance as at 31 December 2021; and
- The notes to the financial statement, which include a summary of significant accounting
 policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Project in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code). We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code.

Emphasis of matter - Basis of accounting and restriction on distribution and use

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.



Our report is intended solely for the project and donor and shouldn't be distributed to or used by parties other than the project and donor. Our opinion isn't modified in respect of this matter

Responsibilities of the director for the financial statements

The director is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements, and for such internal control as the director determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the director is responsible for assessing the Project's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the director either intends to liquidate the Project or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but isn't a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also

- Identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtained audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtained an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of
 expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Project's internal control.
- Evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Concluded on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Project's ability to continue as a going concern. If we concluded that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Project to cease to continue as a going concern.



We communicate with the director regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

For PricewaterhouseCoopers (Lao) Sole Company Limited

By Apisit Thiengtrongpinyo 3

Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR Date: 7 June 2022

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Cumulative to 31 December 2020 USD	For the year ended 31 December 2021 USD	Cumulative to 31 December 2021 USD
RECEIPTS			
Designated account replenishment	8,765,587	3,074,778	11,840,365
	8,765,587	3,074,778	11,840,365
DISBURSEMENTS			•
Component 1:	3,099,347	3,567,073	6,666,420
Component 2:	541,230	514,064	1,055,294
Component 3:	2,444,056	756,437	3,200,493
	6,084,633	4,837,574	10,922,207
	2,680,954	(1,762,796)	918,158



Mr. Phouthone SIRIPHANTHONG National Project Coordinator

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 USD	2020 USD
RECEIPTS			
Designated account replenishment	6	3,074,778	260,478
	-	3,074,778	260,478
DISBURSEMENTS			
Component 1:	7.1/7.2	3,567,073	1,349,477
Component 2:	7.1/7.2	514,064	430,261
Component 3:	7.1/7.2	756,437	963,287
	-	4,837,574	2,743,025
Deficit of disbursements over receipts	-	(1,762,796)	(2,482,547)



Mr. Phouthone SIRIPHANTHONG National Project Coordinator

STATEMENT OF FUND BALANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Fund balance	Note	2021 USD	2020 USD
Opening balance		2,680,954	5,163,501
Deficit of disbursements over receipts			(2,482,547)
Fund balance, end		918,158	2,680,954
Represented by: Cash on hand and cash at banks Advance	3	918,158 - 918,158	2,660,177 20,777 2,680,954



Mr. Phouthone SIRIPHANTHONG National Project Coordinator

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

On 17 May 2018, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (GOL) had agreements with International Development Association (IDA) as below:

Credit No. 6205-LA

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (GOL), through its Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Provincial Government of each of the Project provinces, is implementing the Project with financial assistance from International Development Association (IDA) under Financing Agreement Credit No. 6205-LA in an original approved amount of SDR 17,200,000 (Seventeen Millions Two Hundred Thousand Special Drawing Rights). The Project was declared effective on 25 June 2018 and expected to be closed by 28 June 2024. In project implementation activities comprises national level cost centres such as: National Project Management Office (NPMO), Ministry of Agriculture and forestry (MAF), Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Offices (PAFO), District Agriculture and Forestry Offices (DAFO), National Agriculture and Forestry Research (NAFRI), Ministry of Industry and Commerce. (MOIC), Provincial Industry and Commerce Office (PICO), Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE), Ministry of Finance (MOF) and 5 provincial level cost centres such as: Xayabouly, Vientiane province, Vientiane Capital, Bolikhamxay province and Khammouane province.

The objective of the project is to increase the competitiveness of selected agricultural value chains in the project areas. The project consists of the following parts:

- Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability
- Component 2: Enhanced Agricultural Commercialization
- Component 3: Project management

The project components performances for the period from 25 June 2018 to 28 June 2024 as re as below

- Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability:
 - Promoting adoption of good varieties and quality seeds
 - Promoting good agricultural practices
 - Providing critical productive infrastructure
 - Strengthening public services delivery
- Component 2: Enhanced Agricultural Commercialization
 - Establishing an agricultural value chain facility
 - Linking farmers to markets,
 - Improving the enabling environment
- Component 3: Project management
 - Project management.
 - Project monitoring and evaluation

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Accounting convention

The statements of receipts, disbursements and fund balance, expressed in United State Dollar (USD), have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Under the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, transactions are recorded when cash is paid or received by the Project. Advances are included in the Project's disbursements in according with Note 2. The Project maintains its accounting records in USD, as this is the currency in which the majority of its transactions are denominated and settled.

B. Cash receipts

Receipts consist of the authorized allocation of the association fund, direct payments made by Association and eligible expenditure refunded to date. These funds are accounted for when received or, in the case of direct payments made by Association, when notified as having been paid to the Project's funds by Association.

C. Cash disbursements

Disbursements represent all the Project's cash costs paid in line with the Program's objectives and approved budgets.

D. Advance

Advances are representing amounts paid in advance to the Project staff for the purpose of travel to the province, district or overseas or meetings, workshops or conferences. Advances are included in the Project's available fund and presented as "advance payment outstanding" in the statement of fund balance. The expenses related to advanced amounts will only be classified to the related expenditure activity line on the date of liquidation.

E. Fixed assets

The cost of fixed assets is charged as expenditure at the time of purchase. Fixed assets purchased are charged to the expenditure categories to which they relate. The Project maintains a fixed asset register, which includes only vehicles, office equipment and furniture, for control purposes only.

F. Foreign currency translation

The measurement and presentation currency of the Project is USD. Transactions arising in currencies other than USD are translated to USD using the rate prevailing at the transaction dates. Cash balances in currencies other than USD are translated into USD using the rate at the period end. All foreign exchange differences arising are included in the statement of receipts and disbursements.

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

G. Direct disbursements

Direct disbursements relate to payments made by the Association direct to suppliers, contractors and consultants. These payments are accounted for when the payments are notified by Association to the project.

H. Designated account replenishment

The Designated Account replenishment represents cash received by the Project under the Financing Agreement, which is maintained in a special deposit account and is used exclusively to cover the Association's share of eligible expenses (Note 4.1).

3. CASH ON HAND AND CASH AT BANKS

	2021 USD	2020 USD
Cash at Designated Account (Note 4.1)	724,377	2,311,392
Cash at Project Accounts (Note 5)	193,781 918,158	348,785 2,660,1 77

4. STATEMENT OF DESIGNATED ACCOUNTS

4.1 Cash at Designated Account

	USD	USD
Account No. 0000010121330165	724,377 7 24,3 77	2,311,392 2,311,392

Account No. : 0000010121330165
Depository Bank : Bank of Lao PDR
Type of account : Current account

Interest rate : Nil

Address : Yonet Road P.O. Box 2925 Vientiane, Lao P.D.R

Related Credit : Credit No. 6205-LA

Currency : USD

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

4. STATEMENT OF DESIGNATED ACCOUNTS

4.1 Cash at Designated Account

Reconciliation of cash from Designated Accounts;

	2021 USD	2020 USD
Part A - Account Activities		
Opening balance	2,680,954	5,163,501
Add: fund receipts (Note 6)	3,074,778	260,478
Less:	0,-71,77-	
Total disbursements	(4,837,574)	(2,743,025)
Cash at Project's accounts (Note 5)	(193,781)	(348,785)
Amount advance to staff		(20,777)
Closing balance	724,377	2,311,392
	2021	2020
	USD	USD
Part B - Account reconciliation		
Opening statement of fund balance	2,680,954	5,163,501
Add additional advance	3,074,778	260,478
Less:	. ,	
Amount recovered by World Bank	(3,350,713)	(1,141,466)
Amount claimed in application No.0017	_	(1,601,505)
Amount claimed in application No.0023	(451,092)	_
Amount claimed in application No.0024	(341,329)	-
Amount claimed in application No.0025 Amount withdraw and claimed in	(621,615)	-
application No.0027	(72,825)	_
Difference on exchange rate	-	(54)
Total Outstanding advanced amount	918,158	2,680,954
Closing balance on DA	724,377	2,311,392
Cash at Project's accounts (Note 5)	193,781	348,785
Amount advance to staff	-	20,777
Total Outstanding advanced amount	918,158	2,680,954

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5. CASH AT PROJECT ACCOUNTS

Cash at bank;	2021 USD	2020 USD
Project Management Office (NPMO)	136,799	147,184
Xayabouly	17,418	30,244
Vientiane Province	5,066	80,942
Vientiane Capital	5,024	58,160
Bolikhamxay	23,006	19,890
Khammouane	5,579	11,445
Total cash at bank	192,892	347,865
Cash on hand;	2021 USD	2020 USD
Project Management Office (NPMO)	173	447
Xayabouly	141	29
Vientiane Province	125	28
Vientiane Capital	165	8
Bolikhamxay	54	224
Khammouane	231	184
Total cash on hand	889	920
Total cash at project accounts	193,781	348,785

6. DESIGNATED ACCOUNT REPLENISHMENT

Replenishment for the year ended 31 December 2021 consists of;

	2021	2020
	USD	USD
Designated account replenishment	3,074,778	260,478
	3,074,778	260,478

Withdrawal application (W/A) and project preparation fund (PPF) for the program will be submitted to International Development Association (IDA) by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) through the Ministry of Finance. Fund at the designated bank account will be used for implementing activities. It will be managed by the Ministry of Finance, day by day management and submission of withdrawal application will be done by the Project Steering Committee including expenditures incurred by component 1, 2 and 3. (Note 7.1 and 7.2)

Application number	Date of application	2021 USD	2020 USD
WA0015	26 August 2020		260,478
WA0026	4 August 2021	3,074,778	-
		3,074,778	260,478

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7. DISBURSEMENTS

7.1 Disbursements by project's component activities category are as follows:

Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability

	2021 USD	2020 USD
Promoting Adoption of Good Varieties and Quality		
Seeds	465,035	561,608
Promoting Good Agricultural Practices	2,219,757	276,187
Providing Critical Productive Infrastructure	535,827	180,610
Strengthening Public Services Delivery	346,454	331,072
	3,567,073	1,349,477
Component 2: Enhanced Agricultural Comm	ercialization	
	2021 USD	2020 USD
Establishing Agricultural Value Chain Facility	138,931	155,381
Linking Farmers to Markets	229,050	200,260
Improving the Enabling Environment	146,083	74,620
	514,064	430,261
Component 3: Project Management		
	2021 USD	2020 USD
Project Management	673,203	828,967
Monitoring and Evaluation	83,234	134,320
	756,437	963,287
Grand total:	4,837,574	2,743,025

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7. DISBURSEMENTS (CONTINUED)

7.2 Disbursements by expenditures cost category as follows:

Component 1: Improved Agricultural Efficiency and Sustainability

Category	2021 USD	2020 USD
Matching Fund	2,286,526	256,271
Civil works	393,107	-
Goods	-	174,102
Consultant services*	350,837	328,970
Training and workshops**	169,699	235,679
Incremental Operational Cost***	366,904	354,455
	3,567,073	1,349,477

Component 2: Enhanced Agricultural Commercialization

Category	2021 USD	2020 USD
Consultant services*	398,036	323,349
Training and workshops**	18,929	37,360
Incremental Operational Cost***	97,099	69,552
	514,064	430,261

Component 3: Project Management

Category	2021 USD	2020 USD
Civil works	-	4,595
Goods	-	120,432
Consultant services*	516,296	518,556
Training and workshops**	29,037	29,546
Incremental operational cost***	211,104	290,158
	756,437	963,287
Grand total:	4,837,574	2,743,025

^{*}Consultant services the mainly include expenses related to local and international consultant for agriculture and financing.

^{**}Training and workshops the mainly include expenses related to per-diem, accommodation, rent and other expense.

^{***}Incremental operating cost mainly include expenditures for the repair and maintenance expenses, traveling costs and offices supplies.

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

8. COMMITMENTS

The Project has obligation to pay to international and local consultants (staff salary and audit fee) when received services in the future, according to the contractual agreement signed by both parties. The commitment represents the remaining balance after deduct payment from total balance in the signed contract.

As at 31 December 2021, the significant committed expenditure of the Project, are as follows:

	2021 USD	2020 USD
- Consultant services	1,702,030	1,748,782
- Other consultant	78,791	113,000
	1,780,821	1,861,782