

Quick Surveys: A Form for Village Profiles

Forms are often needed as tools for quick village surveys when formulating rural development projects. Different formats can be prepared according to the specific needs of each exercise, but here is an example of a two-page form that was field-tested and used in 30 villages of Savannakhet province during the formulation of the Lao-Belgian Village Development Programme in 2001. This form should not be considered as a blueprint but may serve as a source of inspiration for those who need to plan a quick village survey for multi-sectoral development.

GENERAL

Date of visit: _____

Village name: _____ Ethnic/sub-ethnic group: _____

District: _____ Sub-district: _____

Altitude & location: _____

Year of establishment & brief history: _____

Number of Households: _____ Number of people (total & women): _____

Economic category (rich or poor?): _____

Number of months with rice shortage: _____

Main farming system (lowland, upland or mixed lowland/upland): _____

Village committee composition: _____

HEALTH

Major health problems: _____

Water boiling (proportion of families): _____

Birth spacing (proportion of families): _____

Mosquito nets (proportion of families): _____

Mothers who died giving birth during last 4 years (number): _____

Children under 12 months who died during last 4 years (number): _____

WATER

Water supply type (well/bore hole/spring/gravity/stream/river/rain water): _____
_____ Distance to water source: _____

Sufficient water supply all year round? _____

Type(s) of containers used for carrying water? _____

Who carries the water in the family? (+ daily amount of water used): _____

How often do villagers take a bath (per day, per week)? : _____

Number of latrines (wet or dry, donors): _____

EDUCATION

School in this village or neighbouring village? (yes/no, type, where?): _____

What grades? _____

Number of students from this village (total, male/female): _____

Number of teachers (total, male/female): _____

Total number of school age children in village? (between 6 and 14): _____

Non-Formal Education activities (number of pupils/volunteer teachers/when is literacy class held/how long have they been doing it/ number of graduates/learning materials/incentives for teachers): _____

OTHERS

Access to main road: _____ Access to market: _____

Access to credit: _____

Access to district extension services: _____

Access to electricity: _____ Number of rice mills: _____

Number of TVs: _____ Number of bicycles: _____

Number of motorbikes: _____

Number of families weaving (cotton/silk, use?): _____

Hiring out labour (proportion of families/Where/For what?): _____

CROPS

Wet season lowland rice (total area *Na Pi*/average yield): _____

Upland rice (total area *hai*/fallow period): _____

Irrigation scheme (yes/no, size, WS/DS?): _____

Other important crops: _____

Use of agricultural inputs? (yes/no, fertilisers/insecticides?): _____
Number of handtractors: _____
Main problems and potential in crop production: _____

LIVESTOCK

Cattle (Number, use): _____
Buffaloes (Number, use): _____
Pigs (Number, use): _____
Goats (Number, use): _____
Chickens (Number, use): _____
Using vaccines: _____ ; Feeding some animals? _____
Main animal diseases and problems: _____

FISHERIES/AQUACULTURE

Fishing from river (how much?): _____
Fishponds (number/main fish species): _____
Problems and potential for more fishponds: _____

FORESTRY, AGROFORESTRY & NTFPS

Main timber & bamboo species exploited by villagers: _____

Main NTFPs collected by villagers (names, quantity, uses): _____

Land allocation (completed or not?): _____
Wildlife (how much? main species?): _____

MAIN REPORTED PROBLEMS & PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT:

ADDITIONAL USEFUL INFORMATION, REMARKS & COMMENTS:

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