

**VIETNAM ELECTRICITY
TRUNGSON HYDROPOWER MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**RESETTLEMENT, LIVELIHOODS AND
ETHNIC MINORITIES DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM (RLDP)**

Trung Son Hydropower Project

Ha Noi, January 15, 2011

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List of Abbreviations

CLIP	Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan
CPC	Commune People's Committee
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
DCC	District Compensation and Resettlement Committee
DMS	Detailed Measurement Survey
DOC	Department of Construction
DOF	Department of Finance
DOLISA	Department of Labor, Invalids and Social Assistance
DONRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment
DP	Displaced Person
DPC	District People's Committee
DRCC	Development Research and Consultancy Center
EMDP	Ethnic Minorities Development Plan
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EVN	Vietnam Electricity
GOV	Government of Vietnam
HESDI	Health and Environment Stock Company on Development and Investment
HH	Household
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IGP	Independent Grievance Panel
IOL	Inventory Of Losses
LURC	Land Use Rights Certificate
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOLISA	Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Assistance
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OP	Operational Policy of the World Bank
PECC4	Power Engineering and Construction Company No. 4 under EVN
PoE	Environment and Social Panel of Experts
PPC	Provincial People's Committee
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
RLDP	Resettlement, Livelihoods and Ethnic Minorities Development Program
RP	Resettlement Plan
RPF	Policy Framework for Compensation, Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons
SESIA	Supplementary Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ST	Safeguard team
SWOT	Strengths and Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSHP	Trung Son Hydropower Project
TSHPMB	Trung Son Hydropower Project Management Board
USD	US Dollar
VHLSS	Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey
VND	Vietnam Dong
WB	World Bank

Definition of Technical Terms

Affected community: village impacted by (a) land acquisition due to any project activity, whether anyone will be relocated or not; (b) receiving relocated households or (c) in the vicinity and likely to be socially or culturally impacted by the project in a negative manner.

Alternative: design of infrastructure that has been analyzed to compare project impacts.

Agricultural land: land zoned for agriculture or forestry uses as defined in the land law. Land categories are (1) land for annual crops including (i) paddy fields, (ii) pasture, (iii) other land, (2) land for perennial crops, (3) production forest land, protection forest land, special-use forest land, (4) aquaculture land, (5) salt extraction land, and (6) other as stipulated by the government. See also productive land and unused land.

Assistance: support provided to project affected households losing assets, employment or livelihood sources, in addition to compensation payment for acquired assets provided, in order to restore livelihoods.

Back and up: people moving to a new location at a higher level within their existing living area.

Compensation payment: compensation in kind, in cash or both, at full replacement value, for lost assets.

Core RLDP area: the 7 communes and 1 town with villages and households upstream of and bordering the reservoir that will be created by the dam, or which are impacted by construction activities. They are eligible for support under one or more of the three RLDP plans.

Cut-off date: date prior to which occupation or use of any part of the project area makes residents or occupiers or users eligible to be recognized displaced persons. In this project, the cut-off date, December 10, 2008, is the date when the census of displaced persons and the compiling of the inventory of losses were completed.

Detailed measurement survey: validation of the inventory of losses, severity of impacts, and list of project affected households prepared for the resettlement plan. The final cost of compensation, assistance and resettlement is determined following completion of the DMS.

Displaced person: persons, households, communities and institutions defined as losing in full or in part land, residence and/or other assets or resources as a result of Trung Son HPP.

Entitlement: resettlement entitlements include compensation and assistance.

Host community: community already in residence at a proposed resettlement site.

Inventory of loss: process of identification, location, measurement and valuation of replacement cost of all fixed assets that will be recovered or adversely affected. It also includes the assessment of the severity of the impact on land and property and on livelihoods.

Land recovery: process by which land and property are compulsorily acquired by the State.

Livelihood: capabilities, assets and activities required to maintain living standards and quality of life, including cash incomes and self-consumption. This includes but is not limited to income generation activities.

Main project: the dam and its supporting sites. Impact from the main project is impact from the reservoir, the supporting sites (including construction worker camp), and downstream impacts.

Operational policy: policies of the World Bank.

Plan: set of principles, objectives, procedures and budget defined in advance to ensure sound and smooth operation of the project. Quantitative targets (land, persons) in the plan are foreseen targets. They will be adjusted as needed during the project.

Productive land: land actually used by households for crop production, animal production or perennial crops and trees. See also agricultural land.

Project: the Trung Son hydropower project includes (a) the main project (planning, construction and operation of the Trung Son dam), (b) an access road and bridges, and (c) power lines for supply of electricity during construction and to evacuate power during operation, (d) resettlement, livelihood and environment restoration.

Project area: the project area consists of the commune that is immediately upstream of the reservoir, and all communes bordering either the reservoir above the dam or the river below the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River approximately 65km downstream. It also includes the communes through which the power lines and access road are proposed to run.

Rehabilitation: provision of assistance to a level allowing full restoration of living standards and quality of life.

Relocation: physical resettlement of a project affected household from its pre-project place of residence and/or business.

Replacement cost study: study based on surveys and other data sources to determine the replacement cost of land, houses and other affected assets.

Replacement value: amount calculated before displacement which is needed to replace affected lands, crops, trees, houses and other assets.

Resettlement: loss of fixed assets (house, land, other productive assets) with or without relocation.

Resettlement site: location with planned investments into houses, infrastructure, agricultural land and irrigation for relocated households.

RLDP area: communities and households which have entitlements to at least one of the RLDP plans. In practice this means the 15 communes and 1 town with villages and households upstream of and bordering the reservoir that will be created by the dam, or which are impacted by construction activities or which lie on either side of the river downstream of the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River.

Severely affected household: project affected household that will, due to the project, (a) lose 10% or more of its productive land or assets or both, and/or (b) have to relocate.

Unit of entitlement: basis to provide compensation and assistance. In this project, the unit of entitlement is (a) the person, household or collective entity for the resettlement plan, (b) the household and community (villages) for the community livelihoods improvement plan,

and (c) communities (commune, village or hamlet) including all their members in the ethnic minorities development plan.

Unused land: land for which uses (agriculture, forestry, other) are not determined yet in land use plans.

Vulnerable groups: distinct groups of people who might suffer disproportionately or face the risk of being further marginalized by the effects of land and property recovery or other project impact. RLDP defines as vulnerable households (1) female headed households with dependents, (2) illiterate individuals, (3) households with disabled household heads, (4) households falling under the current Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) benchmark poverty line, (5) children and elderly households who are landless and with no other means of support, (6) landless households other than households with stable non-farm incomes, and (7) less-integrated ethnic minorities. Additional entitlements for livelihood restoration are made available to them.

Exchange Rate

1 USD = 19,500 VND 1 Million VND = 51.28 USD (January 2011)

Foreword

Background

The Trung Son Hydropower Project will generate important positive economic and social impacts for the whole society of Vietnam. Increased availability of electricity will support economic growth. The downstream population in Thanh Hoa Province will benefit from flood control. The project however necessitates resettlement of some local residents. It also generates risks of other negative social impact, particularly for the health, livelihoods and cultures of the local population. The affected population lives in remote and difficult communes and is almost fully from minority ethnic groups.

With any project of this size and complexity, all aspects of the work are phased. For Trung Son a 20.4km access road must first be built to allow the movement of construction materials and equipment to the dam site. Thereafter the dam and main civil works can proceed and a power supply line to the site constructed. Sometime after that, a transmission line to evacuate power will be constructed. Thereafter, reservoir impoundment and operation will take place. Each of these three main areas has specific impacts and these are addressed in separate resettlement instruments.

Current estimates are that a total of 10,591 people from 2,327 households will be affected by the whole project. Of this total, an estimated 1,954 people in 486 households are affected by the access road, 7,012 people in 1,516 households are affected by the construction of the main dam and associated works, the reservoir, and impacts upstream of the reservoir and downstream of the dam. As of October 2010, a preliminary estimate suggests that 1,625 people from 325 households will be affected by the power lines.

Scope of This RLDP

The RLDP primarily covers social (and environmental) impacts on communities residing in the project area, while the Environmental Management Plan covers environmental and social impacts generated by incomers, including public health. Because about 98 percent of the people residing in the project area are from ethnic minorities, this RLDP applies in its totality to ethnic minorities and has been designed in every part to address the vulnerabilities of the EMs.

This Resettlement, Livelihoods and Ethnic Minorities Development Program (RLDP) covers the impacts on the 17 communes and 1 town with villages and households upstream of and bordering the reservoir that will be created by the dam, or which are impacted by construction activities or which lie on either side of the river downstream of the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River.

A separate resettlement plan for the access road has been prepared, consulted, and disclosed and its implementation is now nearing completion. A separate resettlement policy framework for the power lines has been prepared, consulted and disclosed.

Purpose of This RLDP

Vietnam Electricity (EVN), through this RLDP, is committing to fully compensate resettlement impacts, to improve or at least restore livelihoods of local residents and to minimize or mitigate other negative social impacts. This document identifies the principles, measures and procedures that will be used to fulfill this commitment. The RLDP starts during planning, continues during construction and extends throughout operation of the dam.

EVN has proposed the Trung Son Hydropower Project for financing by an IBRD loan from the World Bank. The RLDP is the instrument ensuring full compliance with two of the World Bank's safeguard policies: for Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10) and for Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12).

Provincial People's Committees (PPCs) and District People's Committees (DPCs) have stated that they are aware of plan provisions and have agreed to implement them as they are, unless changes are approved by TSHPMB and the World Bank.

This document incorporates findings from a series of assessments. The RLDP has been prepared through intensive consultation with local residents. Earlier drafts have been made available for local consultation. This final version reflects comments received during consultation and will also be made available to the general public consistent with the World Bank's disclosure policy.

This document is also designed to serve as a guide during implementation for project staff, local government, communities and contractors.

RLDP Structure

The RLDP comprises three inter-related plans:

- The Resettlement Plan relates to losses of houses, land and other assets due to direct project impact. The plan makes provisions for full compensation and, where necessary, relocation of affected residents.
- The Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan is a livelihoods development plan for all villages affected by resettlement under the main project. Details are available for each participating village.
- The Ethnic Minorities Development Plan addresses impacts on ethnic minority communities that are not covered under other plans and is intended to ensure that the project is designed and implemented in a manner attentive to local cultural sensitivities.

Preparation Team

The RLDP was prepared by the Trung Son Hydropower Project Management Board, under the leadership of Mr. Hoang Ngoc Hien, the Manager of the Resettlement and Environment Department of Trung Son Hydropower Project Management Board, supported by Tercia Consultants of France, whose team was led by Ms. Claude Sainte Pierre and Development Research and Consulting Centre, whose team was led by Ms. Khuc Thi Thanh Van.

Executive Summary

Project Summary and RLDP Objective

The Project

The Trung Son Hydropower Project (TSHPP) is a multipurpose project on the Ma River, in Trung Son Commune, Quan Hoa District, Thanh Hoa Province of North-central Vietnam. The project builds a new 84.5 m high dam creating a reservoir with total area of 13.13 km², a volume of 348 million m³ at full supply level of 160 m. It will install 260MW of electric power generating capacity. The objective of the TSHPP is to supply least-cost electric power in a safe and environmentally and socially sustainable way. It is a multipurpose project, providing power generation, flood control and irrigation benefits. At completion, the project is expected to produce an average of 1,019 GWh of electricity a year, help control annual flooding in the river valley downstream, and supplement water supplies for agricultural use during the dry season. A 20.4 km access road from Co Luong in Hoa Binh Province to the dam site will be built that will reduce travel time to and from Hanoi to 4 hours. Power lines will be constructed to supply electricity to the site during construction and evacuate power during operation.

RLDP Objective and Components

This Resettlement, Livelihoods and Ethnic Minorities Development Program addresses impacts on livelihoods generated by the Trung Son Hydropower Project and other impacts and risks of impact on ethnic minority communities (villages). It covers communes upstream of and bordering the reservoir that will be created by the dam, or which are impacted by construction activities or which lie on either side of the river downstream of the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River. It covers those impacts that are not addressed under the environmental management plan. Other plans cover the impacts of the construction of the access road and power lines and these are not described in detail in this document.

The objective of the RLDP is **to improve, or at least restore, incomes and living standards of affected households and villages while allowing them to maintain their cultural identity.**

With this statement of objective, Vietnam Electricity (EVN), through the Trung Son Hydropower Project Management Board (TSHPMB), makes a commitment to address all types of social impact directly generated by the project until this objective is reached. The program is scheduled to start end-2010 and close end-2016. However there would be a continuation phase in the event that this objective is not reached by that time.

RLDP is structured as a set of three plans and a supporting activity:

- **The resettlement plan (RP)** of the main project (dam and support works) is designed to provide full compensation to all individuals losing houses, land or other assets due to construction, reservoir flooding or downstream impacts of the dam and to provide for effective relocation for households unable to stay in their current residence;
- **The community livelihoods improvement plan (CLIP)** enhances the capacity of communities affected by resettlement to restore and improve their livelihoods;

- **The ethnic minorities development plan (EMDP)** sets up a consultation and participation framework for use in all RLDP activities, and sets up measures to mitigate remaining risks for ethnic minorities¹, especially in health and culture; and
- **The management and communication activity** provides management capacity, communication, formal and informal grievance mechanisms and a monitoring and evaluation system.

The resettlement plan, the community livelihoods development plan and the ethnic minorities development plan form a single program because a significant proportion of project affected households are eligible for all three plans, and because implementation will be carried out in a largely integrated manner. The program includes measures for adaptive management, governed by a protocol to ensure that it does not conflict with the principles set out in the RPF, Bank Policies and the RLDP.

The RLDP is implemented separately from, but closely linked with, the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) of the project. The RLDP primarily covers impact on communities residing in the project area, while the EMP covers impacts generated by incomers. Because about 98 percent of the people residing in the project area are from ethnic minorities, this RLDP applies in its totality to ethnic minorities and has been designed in every part to address the vulnerabilities of the EMs.

Summary of Social Impacts

Location of Impacted Area

The TSHPP area consists of the commune that is immediately upstream of the reservoir, and all communes bordering either the reservoir above the dam or the river below the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River, approximately 65 km downstream. A total of 27 communes in 5 districts are impacted by one or several categories of impact among the reservoir, construction sites, downstream impacts, access road, and power lines. The RLDP covers the 17 communes and one town with impacts other than those caused by the access road or power lines.

39 existing villages and one hamlet in seven communes and one town have been identified as having livelihoods impacted by the reservoir and construction site. A further ten communes in two districts downstream of the dam are also impacted. Downstream impacts have only been partly identified as of October 2010 and these communes are included on a precautionary basis.

The villages/households with entitlements to the RP are all located in 7 communes and one town. This area is therefore designated as the core RLDP area. The core RLDP area is located in three very remote and mountainous districts that have poor infrastructure and limited access to social services. Livelihoods are mostly based on agriculture, including forestry and animal husbandry. Only a small number of households derive cash income from handicrafts or small businesses.

Risks of impact on ethnic minorities' health and culture are also higher in the core RLDP area. Such risks may also be present outside this area although it is not possible to delineate

¹ In Vietnam ethnic minorities is the preferred term for Indigenous Peoples.

their extent. RLDP therefore covers all ethnic minority villages in the project area and may extend beyond if social or cultural impacts are identified in other locations.

Muong Lat District in Thanh Hoa Province, in the North Central Coast region, where four core communes and the district town covered by the RLDP are located, is a border district listed as one of the poorest in the whole country. Village access from commune centers is difficult and prices for marketed agricultural products fall sharply away from the main road. There is a marked dry season and areas of paddy fields are very limited. Rotational agriculture with upland rice remains the basis of farming systems, although these systems are rapidly evolving towards permanent agriculture with the expansion of maize and cassava for the market.

Quan Hoa District in Thanh Hoa Province, where the dam itself and the downstream communes are located, benefits from a more humid climate and has access to boat transportation down the Ma River, while Moc Chau District in Son La Province, in the Northwest region, benefits from better markets, agricultural extension and other services. Luong bamboo has become a main commodity in these districts over the last decade, especially in two project-affected communes, Trung Son where the dam will be built, and Tan Xuan which is affected by the reservoir.

Project area communes elsewhere in Quan Hoa District and in Hoa Binh Province are affected by the access road, the power lines and the downstream impacts but have relatively better infrastructure and market access, and therefore relatively less difficult socio-economic conditions.

Impact Summary

The social assessment, the livelihoods assessment and the Supplementary Social and Environmental Impact Assessment have identified through consultation with affected people a range of impacts, or risks of impact, within the project area. They are summarized in [Table 1](#). Impact factors in italics are addressed through elements of the environment management plan other than the RLDP.

Table 1: Summary of Social Impacts

Project Element	Negative Impact
Dam	<i>Noise, dust, road safety</i> <i>Waste</i> <i>Safety at flooding</i> Downstream impact: fish resources for livelihoods, sand extraction Disruption of boat transportation
Reservoir flooded areas	Relocation Loss of agricultural land, especially land for bamboo plantation, need for livelihood restoration Threats to ethnic/cultural identities in resettlement sites
Construction worker camp	<i>Increased drug use and trade among workers</i> <i>Increased demand for local health services from camp followers</i> <i>Safety and reproductive health, especially among women</i>
Access road Power lines	Resettlement of affected households

Sources: SESIA and livelihoods assessment.

The cumulative number of households impacted by land acquisition under each project element is 2,327 (10,591 people), of which 1,516 households (7,012 people) would be

impacted by main project (Table 2). This number is not large considering the size of the project. The dam will be located in a narrow valley with steep slopes in a sparsely populated region. The majority of villages are located above the bottom of the valley. There is a modest area of paddy fields in the area that will be flooded.

Table 2: Households Affected In the RLDP Area as of October 2010

Source of Impact	No. Households	No. People
Reservoir flooded areas	1,059	5,038
Of which:		
Relocated	533	2,445
Agricultural land lost (but not relocated)	519	2,570
Productive assets other than land impacted (e.g. shops) but not relocated	7	23
Within the construction area (borrow pits, roads, construction site and construction camp)	100	439
Households losing land to incoming resettlers	357	1,535
Total	1,516	7,012

Note: This table does not account for people affected by downstream impacts. These can only be fully determined after the dam enters operation. Numbers of those affected by the road and the power lines are addressed in their respective RP and RPF.

A great effort has been made to minimize impacts. Three dam site alternatives were considered in a range of 19 km along the river. The most upstream alternative was selected partly to reduce the social and environmental impacts. Four alternatives for the effective water level, ranging from 158 to 164 meters, have been studied. The 160-meter level maximum was selected taking into account both technical requirements and its more limited social impact.

The planned resettlement sites are located in four of the communes affected by resettlement, so that most relocated households moving to a planned site will remain within their commune of current residence, and often within the boundaries of their village. The majority of households affected by the main project (533 households out of 1,059) will have to relocate. These households reside in 12 villages at present. People living in an additional 28 villages will lose land. After relocation, a total of 44 sites (32 villages and resettlement sites) in the core RLDP area including 12 planned resettlement sites will be in need of help in restoring their livelihoods². Around 2,700 households reside in these villages. Some of the households in the downstream villages may be identified as eligible for compensation under the main project RP, and some of the villages may be in need of receiving livelihood restoration support.

Vulnerability is high in villages affected by resettlement due to the main project. Overall poverty incidence is 79 percent in these villages, and 41 percent of households report grain deficits for 3 months or more each year. The proportion of these households, registered as “hungry households” under MOLISA, reaches 100 percent in 6 villages, all of them in Muong Lat District. Capacity to cope with livelihood impacts is also lower among less-integrated ethnic minority groups. Other vulnerable groups include female-headed households with

² Planned resettlement sites may be registered as new villages provided their population is higher than 30 households.

dependents, households with disabled or illiterate heads, and landless households with no stable source of livelihood. All these households are defined as vulnerable under RLDP.

In such a remote location as the project area, most quantitative information is subject to a margin of error. Land use right certificates have been fully allocated (except in one of the 7 communes) but most of them are not consistent with actual land use, land area data is particularly unreliable. All figures provided as a basis for the three parts of the RLDP will be readjusted as appropriate during implementation.

Seven risks of negative impact on ethnic minorities have been identified as not fully addressed through the RP, the CLIP or other elements in the EMP or as deserving enhanced attention during the implementation of these plans. These are addressed through the EMDP.

Consultation

Consultation During Planning

The principle of free, prior and informed consultation in ethnic minority villages has been pursued during project design. The social assessment undertaken in 2008 included a socio-economic survey with 511 participating households, focus group discussions, 30 in-depth household interviews and close to 30 interviews with district and commune officials. A participatory livelihoods assessment has identified issues and opportunities in the restoration and improvement of livelihoods.

Resettlement can only proceed after the affected community has indicated its broad support for resettlement arrangements. Together these assessments have elicited local feedback on the project, the draft compensation and resettlement policy, relocation plans and relocation assistance, livelihood restoration and improvement, and questions relating to ethnic minority cultures and other project impact.

One of the most significant outcomes of consultation with communities during preparation has been the revision, in two out of four communes, of the resettlement sites that had been initially planned. New, smaller sites have been selected with more fertile soils and higher water resources. Through consultation, all Hmong communities have expressed a preference for relocation within their village, so that the resettlement sites are currently planned for a wholly Thai/Muong population, with a few Kinh households. Consultation with local social organizations has led, among other elements, to include prevention of HIV/AIDS and women and child trafficking in impact mitigation measures.

A second round of consultation on the draft RLDP was completed in January-March 2010 to (a) inform affected households and communities, local authorities and civil society on potential impacts caused by the project and proposed measures to mitigate the impacts; (b) collect comments/feedback to finalize the RLDP and EIA/EMP, and (c) obtain initial agreement/collaboration commitment with local authorities for the implementation stage. Comments were received at community, district and national level. This final version incorporates adjustments in response to all relevant comments received.

Consultation and Participation Framework

Consultations will be undertaken during implementation in the event that a new community or new types of impact are identified.

Participation provides for the occasion and the process by which stakeholders influence and become co-responsible for development initiatives and decisions that affect them. RLDP

promotes participation through the use of best practice from relevant on-going projects. This includes land administration projects for the RP, and poverty reduction / livelihood improvement projects for CLIP and the EMDP. Participation guidelines from these projects are used to define critical steps in participation during RLDP implementation.

Mitigation of Social Impact

National Legal Framework and Safeguard Policies

Resettlement arrangements in the TSHPP are based on the laws of the Government of Vietnam and the World Bank Operational Policy 4.12 for Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12³). The policy of Government of Vietnam on compensation, assistance and relocation has improved significantly in recent years and is today broadly consistent with World Bank policy requirements. There are however still gaps between these policies.

Given the phasing in project implementation for the access road, main project and the power lines and nature of the components, resettlement in the TSHPP is arranged into three packages (resettlement plans, RPs): the access road RP has started first, the main project RP is included in the RLDP, and the power line RP will be finalized when design of the infrastructure is confirmed. A specific Policy Framework for Compensation, Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons (RPF) has been prepared for the main project. This RPF was approved by the Prime Minister on March 27, 2009 providing policy waivers to cover the gaps between the national legal framework and the World Bank Policy on Involuntary Resettlement. The RPF which has been developed for an on-going road sector project funded by the World Bank has been used for preparation of the RP for the access road and a separate RPF based on one for an ongoing power transmission project has been prepared for the power lines. In combination, these documents ensure compliance with Vietnamese law and regulations.

The Vietnamese legal system of land tenure and right to compensation fully applies in RLDP. Resettlement sites offer improved infrastructure and services and provide the basis for a higher standard of living. There is an institutional structure through which people are informed and can appeal decisions that affect them and can pursue grievances.

In application of the resettlement policy frameworks, project affected households have not only been informed but feedback has also been sought from those directly affected. Significantly affected households (defined in the RLDP as those losing more than ten percent of land or other productive assets, or those required to locate houses or businesses) will receive additional assistance. Assistance is provided to affected persons not engaged directly in agriculture. Users without official documentation and non-legal users, micro-enterprises not holding a business certificate and employees without a contract are eligible provided they have been in the project area prior to the cut-off date. The deductions from land and assets compensation provided by the land law and its implementation decrees are not applicable. Houses and structures are compensated at 100 percent of their replacement cost.

³ OP 4.12 is publicly available on www.worldbank.org and in Vietnamese at the Vietnam Development Information Center (VDIC) in Hanoi.

Consistent with the definition of ethnic minority groups in Vietnam and the World Bank Operational Policy 4.10 on Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10⁴), all ethnic minority villages are eligible to the EMDP regardless of the minority ethnic group they belong to. Laws of Government of Vietnam on grassroots democracy and OP 4.10 of the World Bank both require the project sponsor to engage in a process of free, prior, and informed consultation with ethnic minority communities, resulting in a pattern of broad community support for the project.

Entitlement to RLDP

Participation in RLDP is an entitlement for affected households and communities. The RLDP applies in villages where households or individuals who have entitlement to compensation for resettlement in the RP of the RLDP reside, and in all ethnic minority villages where risks of impact on communities in these villages may occur. Due to differentiated impacts, the unit of entitlement is not the same in the three parts:

- In the RP, persons, households or collective entities defined as displaced persons (DP) are eligible to compensation for lost assets, transitional allowances and relocation assistance;
- In the CLIP, each village with displaced persons is entitled to benefit from a community livelihoods improvement plan;
- In the EMDP, the unit of entitlement is the community, i.e., all members of an ethnic minority village (hamlet) in the project area.

Vulnerable households are entitled to additional support in the restoration of their livelihoods. Vulnerable households are defined as (1) female headed households with dependents, (2) illiterate individuals, (3) households with disabled household heads, (4) households falling under the current MOLISA benchmark poverty line, (5) children and elderly households who are landless and with no other means of support, (6) landless households other than households with stable non-farm incomes, and (7) less-integrated ethnic minorities.

Resettlement Plan

Principles and Entitlement Policy

Resettlement is implemented in the TSHPP on the basis of four overall principles: (a) every effort is made to minimize land acquisition and other adverse social impact; (b) if such impacts, with or without relocation, are unavoidable, affected people will receive compensation for all lost assets with compensation provided before land or other assets are acquired from DPs; (c) the project provides an opportunity for the local population to derive benefits from it, including opportunities to improve, or at least restore, incomes and living standards; and (d) the local population participates in planning and implementation.

The term “displaced persons” (DPs) refer to persons, households, communities and institutions defined as affected by losing in full or in part of land, residence, or other assets or resources as a result of the project. They include households isolated from their properties

⁴ OP 4.10 is publicly available on www.worldbank.org and in Vietnamese at the Vietnam Development Information Center (VDIC) in Hanoi

by the reservoir creation, and those who cannot continue to access natural resources used for livelihoods, such as fish. Those who are affected by land acquisition necessary for resettlement of other households have also been defined as displaced persons. Severely affected displaced persons are defined as affected households that will lose 10 percent or more of their total area of the landholding and/or productive assets, or have to relocate their house or shop.

December 10, 2008, is defined as the cut-off date. This date is when the census of affected people living in the project area was completed. It determines eligibility to the status of displaced persons.

The entitlement policy is fully defined by the related RPFs. The RPF of the main project includes several specific principles:

- Compensation for assets other than land is provided at full replacement cost, without deduction for depreciation or salvage materials for houses and other structures.
- Compensation for agricultural land is provided through land of equal productive capacity acceptable to the displaced person (DP), or in cash at replacement cost in accordance with DP preference. Replacement of residential/premise land is made through land of equal size and productive capacity acceptable to the DP, or in cash at replacement cost, in accordance with the DP's preference.
- Replacement of residential and agricultural land is as close as possible to the land that was lost, and is acceptable to the DP.
- The previous level of public infrastructure, community services and resources is maintained or improved.
- Plans for acquisition of land and other assets and provision of rehabilitation measures are carried out in consultation with the DPs.

A detailed entitlement matrix has been defined for (a) houses and other structures, (b) residential land, (c) agricultural and other productive land, (d) trees, perennial and annual crops, (e) graves, (f) public land used for businesses under a contract, (g) public facilities, (h) and temporary impact on businesses.

In addition to compensation for the acquisition of land and assets, the following allowances will be provided to enable DPs to maintain and/or improve their living standards and earning capacity: (a) a one-time allowance to affected businesses based on annual income, (b) a one-time allowance for transportation for those who opt to relocate outside the project area, within or outside the province, (c) a monthly cash allowance based on rice equivalent during a transition period of 24 months for relocated households and 18 months for households who lost land but do not have to relocate (d) a one-time allocation for those who select the option to relocate by themselves within or outside the project area, (e) a one-time allowance for healthcare, (f) subsidies for lighting during 6 months, (g) textbooks for schoolchildren, and (i) an additional allowance for households who are under state's preferential treatment policy. Depending on magnitude of impact, affected people will receive one or more than one type of allowance.

Timing has been defined for each category of compensation and allowance. Compensation will take place at least 5 months before land acquisition in most cases.

Specific activities to promote livelihoods improvement will be provided through the CLIP.

Results of Census and Inventory of Losses

The impact survey on land acquisition and other affected properties in the project area has been completed through (a) a census of affected households and people, and (b) an inventory of losses (IOL). All fixed assets of DPs, public works and collective assets located in the project-affected areas have been identified and measured, and their owners have been identified. The severity of impact on the affected assets, livelihood and productive capacity of DPs has also been determined.

Based on an assumption of 3.5% of annual population growth (which is the current level in the poorest communes), the number of relocated households in 2011 would be 584, with 2,570 persons. According to initial survey of 297 households among those will lose land only, 60% of the households (178 out of 297 households) are severely affected, i.e. affected by loss of more than 10% of their land. Actual number of severely affected households will be identified during the detailed measurement surveys.

Eleven percent of households living in three districts and 8 percent of agricultural land in these districts are expected to be directly affected by the dam and the reservoir flooded areas. By decreasing order, the main affected communes are Trung Son where the dam itself is located (34% of households in the commune would be affected), Tan Xuan, a low-lying area which includes a subsidiary on the left bank of the Ma River (26%), Muong Ly (11%), Ten Tan (10.5%), Trung Ly (4%), Tam Chung (2%), and Xuan Nha (0.15%). One village in Trung Son (Ta Ban) and one in Tan Xuan (Dong Tu Lao) will be fully relocated. These villages are the two villages in the project area endowed with relatively large areas of paddy fields and bamboo plantations.

The majority of households are losing houses, residential land and agricultural land (often with bamboo plantations) due to reservoir flooding. A small number of DPs have no residential land and houses in the flooded area, but houses and land that would be left isolated by the reservoir. Collective assets and public works are affected in four communes (Trung Son, Trung Ly, Muong Ly, Tan Xuan) including four schools, one commune health station, roads, water diversion pipes and power generators. 632 graves will be impacted. No project-affected land with collective land use rights allocated to a church, pagoda, temple or ethnic minority community has been identified during the inventory of losses.

The majority of DPs is from vulnerable groups. Sixty percent of them are poor households. A high proportion (36 percent) is aged with all their members above 60 years old, and 68 households have a disabled or seriously ill member.

Resettlement Implementation Arrangements

The inventory of losses (IOL) has determined that most project-affected households will be severely affected on their agricultural land. The capacity of these households to produce for their sustenance will be seriously impaired. Replacement agricultural land, the first priority stated in consultations, is an option that will be provided to both to relocated households and households affected by land loss only, in accordance with the resettlement policy framework.

Relocated DPs may choose a new location by themselves, or move to one of the planned resettlement sites. There are 12 resettlement sites planned for the main project in five communes. Detailed plans for the construction of improved infrastructure have been made. These include (a) classrooms, kindergartens, accommodation for teachers and cultural houses, (b) access roads, field access tracks, wharfs and a bridge, (c) power lines for the connection of villages and households to the national grid, (d) water supply for domestic use and irrigation and (e) 23 hectares of new paddy land development.

Each affected household will receive a detailed compensation and relocation summary recording the results of DMS, as well as draft and final compensation plans and payment (specifying cash or kind).

In both relocation and resettlement for land only, replacement land will be provided with a Land Use Rights Certificate (LURC) at no cost to the households and in the name of both husband and wife. DP and commune authorities will be clearly informed about site planning, site development and relocation schedules as well as plot allocation regulations and payments. Decisions of land recovery and compensation plan must be disclosed at the commune office and disseminated to DPs. Internal project monitoring and external monitoring is required during implementation and a comprehensive evaluation exercise will be undertaken before project completion. Community supervision of houses constructed by the project developer is required. Compensation will be paid directly to DPs under supervision of district and commune authorities.

Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan

Strategy

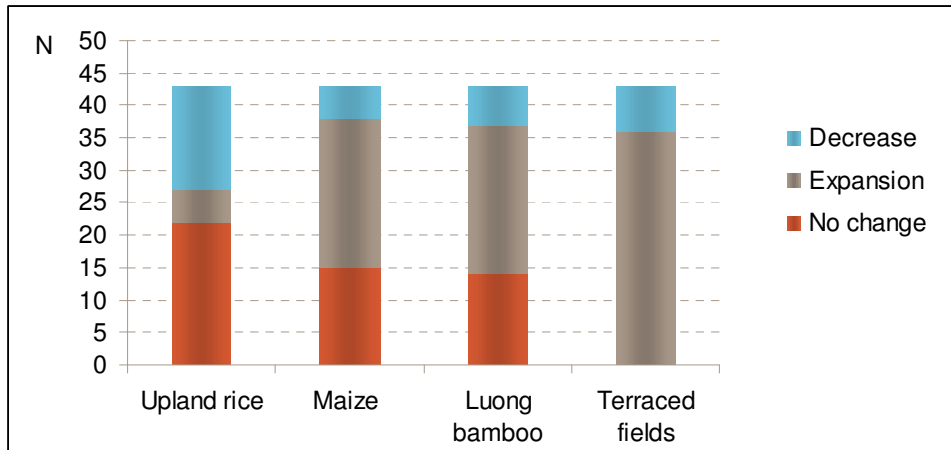
Restoring livelihoods means not only restoring incomes but also restoring capacity in relation to human, social, financial, natural and physical resources (or capital). The CLIP is designed to restore these resources both at household level and at community (village) level. Because local resources have important limitations, external resources (technical assistance, financial resources, new physical resources) are brought in through RLDP.

CLIP follows a **dual livelihood restoration strategy**:

- Enhancement and improvement of existing farming systems for most households. The majority of households has a preference for land-based livelihoods (Figure 1);
- Diversification into non-agricultural occupations through vocational training for some young people, and support to local microenterprises that will create local jobs. CLIP also pays attention to avoiding that the majority of relocated households with higher formal education levels move out of the area. It provides to these households opportunities to stay in the project area.

Resettled households will not be able to recreate similar land use systems since they will move to higher grounds where less water and flat land is available for paddy fields. They will have to adjust their farming practices. CLIP's vision is to help households recreate small areas of paddy fields and larger areas of bamboo, while accelerating the on-going transition towards more productive agriculture on slopes, encouraging a marked development of homegardens and supporting development of small and large livestock integrated with agriculture. Appropriate technology for sustainable cultivation of sloped lands will be tested. Full use of the reservoir water body will be made, although fishing resources are expected to decline after a few years of reservoir operation, and Luong bamboo production will be restored while avoiding land transfers from vulnerable groups to households replanting bamboo.

Figure 1: Stated Preferences for Land Use in Reservoir Flooded Areas (decrease, no change or expansion)



Source: livelihoods assessment, interviews with 43 households (GRET 2008).

In the selection of livelihood sources to be encouraged, adopting an environment friendly path will be critical not only for the environment but also for future livelihoods. Diversity of livelihood sources is currently high and this will be preserved consistent with expressed local preferences.

In the approach to implementation, an early start is key to the success of CLIP. Independent technical assistance will be combined with capacity building of local extension staff. All pre-project livelihood sources are recognized as feasible from a technical and marketing point of view.

Gender mainstreaming will be a key strategy for promoting gender equity, and for ensuring that women’s needs are explicitly addressed in the decision-making process for development activities. The CLIP is also designed to contribute positively to poverty reduction within the affected area: employment opportunities for the poor during construction will be maximized, new paddy fields will be opened, and skill training for handicrafts and access to non-farm employment will be provided.

In the approach to marketing, CLIP seeks to maintain initial successes in the development of a supply chain for Luong bamboo with diversified products and outlets. CLIP will also encourage households to maintain other productions that have a comparative regional advantage including sticky rice, upland rice and NTFPs. Construction workers will provide a sizeable but temporary outlet for meat and some vegetables. Handicrafts can be developed on a modest scale.

Measures

The CLIP is a community level (village or hamlet) entitlement: if the livelihood of any household in a village is impacted by the project, all households in the village are entitled to support from the CLIP. A set of three elements has been defined on the basis of a detailed analysis of expected project impacts on livelihoods and communities’ strengths and weaknesses:

The production improvement element takes place in each village. It aims to restore as soon as possible crop, animal and forest production at least to pre-project levels and to facilitate adoption of environmentally friendly techniques. New varieties and appropriate technology would be introduced through diversified pilots, while training and agricultural extension would be delivered to interest groups, paying attention to the needs of a largely

illiterate audience. Environment protection is promoted through village natural resource and irrigation management agreements.

The service center element organizes and provides non-technical services to households including individual advice and orientation courses, credit facilitation, access to vocational training and access to employment on the project, and facilitation of enterprise development. Services are provided in a center to be established in the project headquarters in Trung Son Commune, and in the villages.

The technical support element provides a technical assistance team over 4 years. Assistance is provided in priority within the villages. In addition, commune facilitators are based in the villages. Communities select, manage and monitor activities through the participatory framework. Extension and/or farmer association staff receive hands-on training so that they are able to take over after that period.

Village Community Livelihoods Improvement Plans

The production improvement element is structured into sets of activities (“village plans”) taking place in each village and/or a group of several villages. Initial plans have been prepared for the 44 existing or new villages/sites in need of restoring their livelihoods due to impact from the reservoir and construction sites. The number of villages which are eligible for CLIP will be adjusted during the implementation stage in order to include all villages with documented expected livelihood impact. The village CLIPs take into account weaknesses and opportunities in each village as well as preferences expressed during consultation. These are preliminary plans that will be refined through the participatory framework.

Pilots and advisory services will provide a body of technical and economic references on the most appropriate household models. The commune facilitators and household advisors will in turn use these models in their work with communities and affected households. Household models will fully take into account the diversity of income sources.

Three categories of village are defined, and a different livelihood restoration package has been budgeted in each type. Most category 1 villages will receive intensive RP support because they are planned resettlement sites. Some of the CLIP activities are equally open to Category 2 villages. The selection of livelihood restoration activities will be based on community preference. In category 2 villages, since paddy fields are very limited, more households may want to develop enriched home gardens, fish ponds or handicrafts, and more young people may want to turn to off-farm employment through vocational training. Support to Category 3 villages mainly focuses on cattle rearing for livestock interest groups and improved access to credit.

CLIP is designed to cover all households within a village. In practice, some households will start first. The actual selection of who starts first will be under the responsibility of village monitoring groups and commune workgroups through the participatory process. Relocated households, other severely affected households and vulnerable groups have priority to benefit from advice and training on the management of compensation and allowances. Households being both severely affected and from a vulnerable group are targeted for individual orientation in addition to orientation courses. All vulnerable households benefit from enhanced individual support in credit access facilitation and from more intensive monitoring visits in the villages. Commune workgroups are requested to include a specific proportion of vulnerable households in each training and agricultural extension activity.

Table 3: Livelihood Restoration Packages by Village Category

Village category	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Project impact	> 50 percent households relocated or severely affected on land	< 50 percent households relocated but more than 5 households severely affected on land only	No relocation and less than 5 households severely affected on land
1. Production improvement			
Pilots	5 villages	No	No
Cattle interest groups	1 head/ household	1 head/ household	1 head/ 5 households
Small livestock, fish	Yes	Yes	No
Public infrastructure	No	Yes	No
Terraces out of planned resettlement sites	No	Yes	No
Forest protection contracts	Yes	Yes	No
2. Service center activities			
Individual orientation	Priority to relocated households, other severely affected households and vulnerable groups	Priority to relocated households, other severely affected households and vulnerable groups	
Credit facilitation - microloan	Yes	Yes	
Credit facilitation - small enterprise	Around 20% of households	Some	Some
Vocational training	Around 20% of households	20%	Few
Business clubs	Around 5%	Some	Some
3. Technical support			
TA	Pilot year		
Commune facilitator	1 per 2 villages	1 per 2 villages	Visits

Ethnic Minorities Development Plan

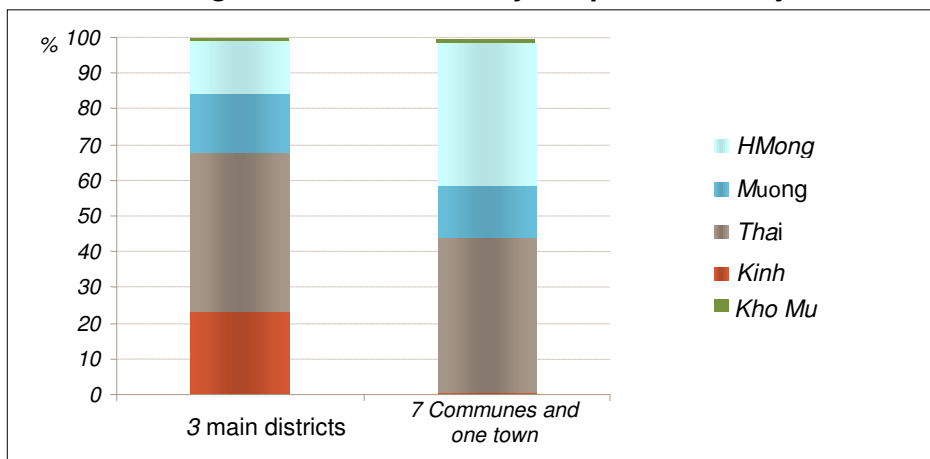
Ethnic Minority People in the Project Area

The project takes place in districts with a population that is almost fully (for Muong Lat District) or mostly (in other districts) from four ethnic minority groups: the Thai, from the Tay-Thai ethnolinguistic family, the Muong, from the Viet-Muong ethnolinguistic family the Hmong, from the Hmong-Dao ethnolinguistic family and the Kho Mu from the Mon-Khmer ethnolinguistic family. Two other ethnic minorities are reported in the districts affected by the project but not actually in the project area, the Dao and the Tho, but no members of either of these minorities are affected by the project. The Kinh majority accounts for less than 1 percent of population in the core RLDP area, but a higher percentage in downstream communes. Only 5 of the villages affected by reservoir flooding have some Kinh households, with a maximum of 6 households in Ta Ban village, one of the two villages that would be fully resettled.

The Hmong account for close to two thirds of the population in two communes, and more than one third in two other main communes in the core RLDP area (Muong Lat District). However there is only around 2 percent of Hmong among the relocated households (9 households out of 533) since most households currently living close to the future reservoir are Thai or Muong. The proportion of Hmong people with land affected by the reservoir is conversely significant, around 13 percent of those affected on land (127 households out of 976). All of them are in Muong Ly, Trung Ly and Tam Trung Communes in Muong Lat District.

Kho Mu people account for 159 households or 809 people in Muong Lat district, and are concentrated in Ten Tan commune, which is in the project area. The Kho Mu throughout Vietnam mix with other communities. They moved into the project area in about 1984; more than half of all Kho Mu households in Thanh Hoa province are settled in Doan Ket village. They share many cultural similarities with the Thai, building houses and arranging the interiors in the same way. The KM have their own costumes but nowadays dress in the Thai and Kinh styles, especially the men. A number have intermarried with Thai people. Although the Kho Mu and the Thai have different language families the Kho Mu are fluent in Thai and use it for daily communication and many of them can read and write Thai. Most are fluent in Vietnamese. Some 16 households are affected by land loss only resulting from upstream effects of the reservoir; no Kho Mu households are to be relocated.

Figure 2: Ethnic Minority People in the Project Affected Area



Sources: GSO population census (district population); social assessment (commune population).

Extremely high poverty incidence in the project area is correlated with the very high proportion of ethnic minority people. Within minority ethnic groups, the Hmong have significantly higher poverty levels than the other two groups as documented in the social assessment. The only village in the project area with shops is nevertheless a Hmong village. There is both a historic Hmong population in the project area, and a population that has recently migrated from northern provinces, mostly in the 1990s, and is considered as not fully settled yet. The government has initiated a large-scale program specifically for the development of the Hmong in Muong Lat District.

Ethnic minority cultures are changing. The practice of extended families has declined so that most houses now comprise a single household. The Thai and the Muong display a relatively small cultural gap with the mainstream Vietnamese society. They generally live in mixed villages, intermarriage is quite common and they have a good understanding of the Vietnamese language except for older people. They maintain strong traditions in terms of

social organization, roles of traditional leaders, housing preferences, and their animist religion. The Hmong retain a significant cultural gap both with the mainstream Vietnamese society and with the two other groups. They live in fully or mostly Hmong villages and no intermarriage is reported. Most Hmong women have very limited understanding of the Viet language. The Hmong maintain strong social networks within their own kin groups.

Remaining Risks and Mitigation Measures

The RP and CLIP provide measures to compensate all affected persons (most of whom are members of ethnic minority groups) for lost assets and to participate in activities intended to improve incomes and living standards. Seven additional factors generating risks of negative impact on ethnic minority communities have been identified through the social assessment and consultations. The EMPD sets up the following measures to avoid or minimize each of these risks:

1. Vulnerable communities in resettlement. Some aspects in the RP and CLIP might fail to be appropriate to the preferences of vulnerable communities, or these communities might be viewed as marginally affected and therefore participate less in CLIP. This applies in particular to Hmong villages. Hungry households might encounter a food security issue.

In order to prevent this risk, internal monitoring will be reinforced for Hmong villages. Coordination with the Muong Lat Hmong development program will be enhanced, and emergency grants will be available for 500 Hmong households.

In order to mitigate this risk, the management element of RLDP includes a communication activity to ensure that information is adapted in language, form and channel to the needs of each ethnic minority group.

2. Health and security. It is estimated that up to 4,000 people would be working for project construction, and up to 1,000 would come as camp followers. The presence of a large number of mostly male workers creates a risk of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), especially for women, compounded by the risk of more prevalent drug use. Two health plans will be implemented outside of the RLDP: (a) the Construction Workers' Health Plan, to be prepared and implemented under the responsibility of the main works contractor, with a dedicated hospital and disease control program; and (b) the Public Health Action Plan (PHAP) under the responsibility of TSHPMB and managed by a dedicated team. PHAP will combine two integrated activities, a Resettlement Health Program for relocated households and a Regional Health Program for the general public and camp followers. PHAP is planned to cover a ten-year period.

3. Language gap. Written information, even publicly posted, would not reach part of the targeted audience due to high illiteracy rates. Many of the elderly among all groups as well as most Hmong women are not able to understand information delivered in the Viet language.

4. Resettlement, local cultures, graves and graveyards. Consultation has demonstrated preference of relocated households for rebuilding by themselves houses with traditional styles. Newly relocated communities would not have the financial resources or a designated location to build a new community house. Moving graves and village relocation both require that communities hold ceremonies. At least one graveyard is at risk of impact from the construction worker camp that will be set up nearby.

The resettlement plan provides for several housing design options combining the traditional housing style on stilts with improved hygiene standards available without cost to all households that relocate. Each resettlement site will receive a grant for the construction of a

community house. The religious ceremonies when moving ancestors' graves will be financed by the project. A wall has been requested by the local community will be built to separate the village graveyard from the construction worker camp.

The PHAP will raise awareness through the basic healthcare system and schools. Poor households, and particularly young women, might however continue to have limited access to existing health services.

In order to further reduce the health and security risk, communication (Measure 1) will target both the resettled population and the general population and will cover health issues in relation to project impact. Women's groups in 8 communes will receive a grant to set up gender programs with an awareness raising purpose in relation to health and security. These community gender programs will be delivered in the form of functional literacy activities.

5. Management of land use right certificates and of savings and credit. In the competition for land that will arise, some households might transfer previously acquired LURCs to workers or to better-off households. Households receiving compensation and allowances in cash also need to build capacity in the management of cash amounts that many have not accessed before.

6. Disruption of basic education. School drop-out rates might increase among relocated households, particularly girls, due to income shock and the peak of labor during resettlement.

The resettlement plan provides a set of textbooks for all school-age children in relocated households. Further mitigating this risk will require in addition enhanced attention to timely reconstruction of schools and allocation of teachers, through coordination with district education. Waiving of school fees will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

7. Loss of traditional crafts. Villagers who have preserved hand weaving and brocade or bamboo weaving skills might not be able to continue or transmit their craft after resettlement.

This risk is mitigated through technical training and marketing support under the CLIP, with specific additional targeting to minority craft producers.

Individual advisory services will be available in CLIP to mitigate this latter risk, and both savings and credit will be facilitated through the service center. Resettlement compensation will be paid through the mobile branches of banks, thus allowing banking access to households receiving large amounts of cash.

Specific EMDP Activities

The EMDP funds and implements (a) household emergency grants in vulnerable communities, (b) ceremonies for relocation of villages and graves, as well as graveyard protection, and (c) grants for women groups in 8 communes focusing on women's awareness of security and health, with the participation of the Women's Union. A functional literacy approach is pursued in these gender programs.

Other risks are mitigated through RP, CLIP and communication measures as well as through enhanced coordination with district government and project contractors. Should these general measures be assessed as insufficient through monitoring, new specific measures would be set up and financed.

Communication

RLDP has defined a communication strategy, and communication is an important element in RLDP management with a specific budget. Communication will combine traditional communication channels with information leaflets, posters and multilingual DVDs to deliver information appropriate to local languages and to communication needs. Communication identifies critical immediate needs for information and key messages and delivers them in a form appropriate to local audiences. Mass organizations participate in public awareness campaigns with project financial support.

Implementation Schedule

Milestones in project impact are the arrival of construction workers (fourth quarter of 2011), the final cropping season in sites to be flooded (rainy season 2014), reservoir filling (third quarter of 2015) and start of downstream impact of the dam on fish resources (2016). Relocation in the reservoir-affected area would start in the second quarter of 2012 and continue until the fourth quarter of 2013.

RLDP is designed as a 5-year program (end 2010 - end 2015). An optional maintenance phase would start in 2016 if livelihood restoration requires additional support.

A detailed implementation schedule has been prepared (see Table 32). Resettlement is managed in three batches with one district per batch, starting with Quan Hoa District where impacts will start earlier. In CLIP, the first year is a pilot phase, years 2 to 4 are an expansion phase. Each village takes part in activities during at least 3 consecutive years. Service center activities are open to project DPs starting from Year 1, regardless of the villages where they reside. In EMDP, activities are scheduled in accordance with the period when risks are expected to occur.

Institutional Framework

Vietnam Electricity (EVN) as the project owner takes responsibility to ensure the RLDP is implemented in compliance with the commitments set out in this document. EVN approves the RLDP and will ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to implement the RLDP. EVN will oversee implementation of the RLDP by TSHPMB and coordinate with provinces and the World Bank on issues related to the RLDP.

The Provincial People's Committees (PPC) are responsible for reviewing and endorsing the RLDP. They will approve the Resettlement Plan or assign District People's Committees (DPCs) under them to approve it. The PPCs direct the DPC and other related departments or organizations to coordinate with TSHPMB and provide resources for implementation of the RLDP. The PPCs also monitor the implementation of the RLDP.

The District People's Committees (DPCs) coordinate with the TSHPMB in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the RLDP. They will review and endorse the RLDP before it is submitted to the PPC for its review. If authorized by the PPC, a DPC will review and approve the Resettlement Plan. DPCs will direct commune and village authorities and directly assign their own staff to work with TSHPMB and affected communities.

TSHPMB is assigned by EVN to implement the whole project, including planning, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the RLDP. TSHPMB will work directly with affected communities and will collaborate with other stakeholders including provincial, district and

commune authorities to implement the RLDP. It is the TSHPMB which has the responsibility to ensure the RLDP meets its objectives. The safeguard team under TSHPMB is in charge of all social aspects.

Each of the three plans of RLDP requires a specific institutional arrangement. Close collaboration between TSHPMB and local authorities is required. The detailed institutional framework charts show how administrative relationships, coordination relationships and contractual relationships are combined to allow smooth implementation of RLDP.

TSHPMB will closely coordinate with the District People's Committees and the District Compensation Committees (DCCs) established under them in the implementation of the resettlement plan.

A CLIP working group will be formed, including a dedicated technical assistance team recruited by TSHPMB, members of the TSHPMB safeguard team, district agricultural extension staff, and commune facilitators assisting all priority villages. The technical assistance team will comprise a chief technical assistant and full-time specialists. It will work in coordination with but in full independence from the District governments. It will undertake a structured program of village visits and coordinate all service center activities. An international consultant, working in collaboration with the Environment and Social Panel of Experts, will assist TSHPMB in devising final arrangements for CLIP implementation and monitoring its effectiveness.

An EMDP team will be established to implement the ethnic minorities' development plan. The team includes TSHPMB staff, assigned staff from DPC, and short-term TA providing capacity building. This team will implement the specific measures of EMDP and ensure close coordination with district bureaus in charge of health and education and with the main project contractor and the resettlement site contractor.

Given the limitations of capacity of TSHPMB and the districts, external resources will be mobilized to assist in implementation of RLDP. Qualified NGOs are eligible to provide a technical assistance team for CLIP, short-term technical assistance for EMDP and communication, and to carry out external monitoring. They will also be invited to support specific activities such as handicraft production in the CLIP.

Complaints and Grievances

Complaints and grievances related to any aspect of RP, CLIP and EMDP will be handled in the first instance through negotiation aimed at achieving consensual resolution of problems.

The internal monitoring system of RLDP will monitor complaints in order to improve quality of the resettlement process. Complaints are expected mainly to relate to dissatisfaction about matters such as process (time taken, complexity, lack of information, services provided, fees charged; demands for informal payments; damage to property) Complaints from ethnic minority villages about incidents relating to matters such as health and security will also be received through these channels. TSHPMB will maintain a register of complaints (as well as a register of grievances). Grievances relate to issues that cannot be solved immediately and may not be solved locally. Potentially this covers land issues related to project resettlement and access to natural resources or impacts on cultures for ethnic minorities.

In the legal system, in accordance with the land law and its implementation decree (197/2004/ND-CP), grievances relating to disputes on land and other resources, within or between communities, will pass through three stages before they are taken to a court as a

last resort. Similarly, ethnic minority communities can express grievance through this channel in relation to any other aspect of project impact including ethnic minority cultures.

Assistance from the project through TSHPMB will consist in (a) recording all grievance cases and following up each case to ensure timely resolution, and (b) exempting all persons registered as DPs (for resettlement issues) or who are members of an ethnic minority community (for ethnic minority related aspects) from administrative or legal fees associated with pursuit of grievances. TSHPMB managers will ensure that those seeking grievance redress are given the choice to accept mediation or to seek redress at a higher level.

An alternative grievance process will be accessible to all those affected by the project. At the first stage, a complainant may take up his case with the Community Relations Officer (CRO), a member of the Trung Son Safeguard Team. The complainant may be an individual or a group and may be assisted by others such as the village head, representatives of mass organizations, or an NGO. The CRO will take the matter up with the Trung Son Safeguard team and arrange for meetings with appropriate staff. If no solution satisfactory to the complainant can be achieved at this level, the complainant will be entitled to meet the head of the Trung Son Safeguards Team. If that also fails to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the complainant, the matter will be brought to the attention of the independent grievance panel (IGP).

The IGP is composed of the head of the Trung Son Safeguards Team, and at least one member of the independent Environment and Social Panel of Experts (PoE). It is chaired by the Director of TSHPMB. It may co-opt additional members as required including, for example, independent social and environment monitoring consultants or an NGO. It will hear evidence from any party wishing to make a submission, in oral or written form. If the panel cannot come to consensus, members will seek guidance from outside sources. Proceedings under the IGP may take place in parallel with the formal grievance process and do not in any way limit the right of either complainant or TSHPMB to proceed with the formal grievance process.

All complaints received by the IGP will be publicly disclosed at the time of their receipt, and the findings of the panel will also be published. The IGP will convene at least quarterly to deal with complaints brought before it, and to monitor all complaints and grievances. The IGP can be convened by any individual member to deal with urgent matters which cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting. An interim IGP, consisting of the head of the Trung Son Safeguards Team and the Director of TSHPMB has been put in place until the IGP is formally constituted.

Costs

As of January 2011, the budget of RLDP is 684.444,03 billion VND, equivalent to about 35.099,7 million USD. This budget covers the main project resettlement plan, CLIP, EMDP and management (including communication, capacity-building and M&E). A 10 percent contingency is budgeted for unexpected activities. The budget does not cover (a) resettlement plans for the access road and the power lines, (b) the public health action plan, (c) elements of the environmental management plan in relation to the project's other social impacts, such as the community forestry management plan, (d) any further activities that may take place beyond 2015. The RP constitutes 83 percent of base cost, while CLIP and EMDP respectively account for 9 percent and 1 percent of the plan. Within the RP, construction of infrastructure in the planned resettlement sites requires a budget of 222,685 million VND, 44 percent of base cost of the RP.

Table 4: RLDP Budget

	%	Million VND	USD equivalent
1. Base cost			
Main project RP		506,185.02	25,958,206
CLIP		39,000.00	2,000,000
EMDP		2,680.00	137,436
Total base cost		547,865.02	28,095,642
2. Management			
Main project RP (management and design)	9.00%	45,556.65	2,336,239
CLIP	2%	780.00	40,000
EMDP	2%	53.60	2,749
Communication		1,855.91	95,175
Capacity-building		1000	51,282
M&E		5,153.10	264,262
Total management		54,399.26	2,789,706
Depreciation	5%	27,393.25	1,404,782
Contingency	10%	54,786.50	2,809,564
Total RLDP		684,444.03	35,099,694

RLDP is funded through an IBRD loan except for compensation, which will be funded by EVN. Procedures for procurement and financial management of the overall project apply to RLDP.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in an integrated manner for all aspects of RLDP and in coordination with monitoring and evaluation of the Environmental Management Plan.

Definition of Indicators

The result indicator in the RLDP is defined as “% of affected households with living standards at start of dam operation, improved or at least restored compared with pre-project, and satisfaction on maintenance of cultural identity”. For periodic monitoring purposes, the objective of restored or improved livelihoods and living standards of affected villages while allowing them to maintain their cultural diversity will have been reached if this indicator has been reached for 100% of households.

The RLDP indicator framework also defines indicators in relation to inputs (financial and human resources made available to the plan), outputs (resettlement activities, livelihood improvement activities, specific ethnic minority measures), and outcome of each component. The detailed indicators of actual delivery of RP entitlements which are listed in the resettlement policy framework will also be monitored.

Monitoring and Evaluation Activities

The living standards improvement indicator will be assembled through three different means. First, the TSHPMB Safeguards Team will establish and maintain a household database showing baseline living standards information and bi-annual updates made through internal monitoring. The database will be a shared tool with the CLIP TA team for individual advisory

services to DPs. Second, in external monitoring, a social monitor will establish twice a year a living standards score through a survey of a sample of DPs, and undertake a qualitative survey on cultural diversity aspects. This living standard score covers the various dimensions of livelihoods: (production assets, household assets, financial assets, coping capacity) and living standards (health, human assets, access to services). Third, at RLDP mid-term and upon completion, an independent impact evaluation consultant will conduct a quantitative consumption and assets survey, and counterfactual evidence will be collected from villages outside the core RLDP area.

Internal monitoring by TSHPMB covers (a) quality monitoring, ensuring that any issue of compliance with the RLDP principles is solved promptly and dealing with complaints on quality, (b) process monitoring, recording project inputs and activities, and (c) support to impact monitoring. The safeguard team will complete monthly internal monitoring visits in each commune throughout RLDP implementation. Information will be gathered through systematic direct observation and communication with local communities and other stakeholders, as well as formal and informal complaint reports. One checklist will be used for each of RLDP plans. The safeguard team will maintain through internal monitoring two databases: a household database showing impacts, compensation and assistance and living standards criteria (baseline and current), and a village database.

External monitoring of the three RLDP plans will be carried out by an independent social monitoring team. It will take place twice a year or as required by the project throughout implementation and support a periodic assessment of RLDP progress towards the achievement of livelihood restoration. The independent social monitoring team will also undertake an independent review of actual delivery of RP compensation and allowances. It will review all social risks identified for ethnic minority villages and identify potential need for further mitigation measures. The independent social monitor will combine quantitative methods (assembling indicators) and qualitative methods (PRA or other participatory methodologies) to assess progress and timeliness of activities, effectiveness of the plans, consistency of financial and human resources, and impact.

External monitoring reports will be submitted twice a year to the Trung Son HPMB and the World Bank. They will provide conclusions on successes and failures, as well as recommendations for improvement. Managers of the PMB will take action to resolve any issue identified through monitoring.

Quantitative impact evaluation is scheduled for early 2014 (mid-term) and early 2016 (end of project). A consultant team will undertake a household sample survey covering 30 percent of CLIP villages and at least 25 percent of households. The mid-term survey will (a) quantify current livelihoods and incomes, and (b) predict livelihoods and incomes during the operation phase, i.e. at full project impact level. The final survey will confirm, jointly with external monitoring, that RLDP can be closed, or, if not, to contribute to identifying follow-up measures. The survey guide will be based on the latest VHLSS (Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey) at the time of the mid-term survey. The same sample will be surveyed at mid-term and completion as far as possible, with the inclusion of newly formed households. Terms of reference will be prepared by the external monitor jointly with TSHPMB.

Affected communities will take an active role in the monitoring of RLDP. Selected members including household representatives will form village monitoring groups for the three plans.

1. RLDP Objective and Principles

1.1. Trung Son Hydropower Project

Trung Son hydropower project will be constructed on the Ma River, in the territory of Trung Son commune, Quan Hoa district, Thanh Hoa province. The proposed project objective is to supply least-cost electric power in a safe and environmentally and socially sustainable way. The project will provide support for EVN's development of one of the country's medium-sized hydropower development projects. The goal is to provide a "good practice" case of sustainable hydropower development in this core part of Vietnam's power sector.

It is a multipurpose project providing mean annual energy of 1019 GWh, and in addition to power generation will help control annual flooding in the river valley downstream, and supplement water supplies for agricultural use during the dry season. The proposed dam is about 40 km downstream from Lao PDR, with the reservoir tail about 9.5km from the border. The roller compacted concrete dam will be 84.5 m high and have a crest length of 513 m. Full supply level is 160 m. The total reservoir volume will be about 348.5 million m³ including a flood control volume of about 112 million m³. It will cover an area of about 113.13 km², inundating mixed forest and agricultural land.

The construction work consists of the main dam, including the spillway, intake gate, penstock, power house discharge channel and emergency spillway. A switchyard at the dam site and a 220 kV line about 65 km long will evacuate power from the plant and connect it to the existing Hoa Binh to Nho Quan 220 kV in Tan Lac district in Hoa Binh province. A 35 kV line will provide power to the site during construction. An access road about 20.4 km long connecting the all weather road at Co Luong with the dam site will be constructed, as will about 13 km of road within the construction area. Four hydropower turbines and generators, control and other equipment will be installed, as will mechanical equipment including the spillway gates.

Total costs are estimated at \$ 411.57 million, of which about \$ 2.9 million is for environmental and health management and \$ 35.1 million for resettlement, compensation and restoration of livelihoods. Vietnam Electricity (EVN) has applied to the World Bank for a loan of \$ 330 million.

1.2. Project Impact Summary

1.2.1. Resettlement Impact

Types of Impact

The Trung Son Hydropower Project will generate resettlement, i.e., affect houses, land or other assets, through the following types of impact:

- The access road from Co Luong to Co Me is about 20.4 km long with two major bridges: Co Luong bridge to connect the project service road with national road 15 A and Co Me bridge crossing Ma River at the project construction site;
- The **main project**:

- The reservoir flooded areas, up to the maximum water level of 160 meters, and with a flood water level equivalent to a 100-year return period;
 - Construction supporting sites within the construction area. These will include (1) two borrow pits and (2) two construction worker camps and repair workshops. One borrow pit and a quarry are about 6 km upstream from the dam site, the other is about 10 km downstream of the dam site. The construction camps, workshops and construction material processing will be arranged on the flat area of both sides of the Ma River close to the dam site;
 - Dam and spillway, diversion works, power line (intake, penstocks, powerhouse), switchyard;
- The area upstream of the reservoir, potentially impacted by tail waters backing up, and the area downstream of the dam, impacted by sand exploitation on the left side and by potentially decreasing fish resources⁵. Downstream impact could occur up to 65 km downstream of the dam, as far as the Ma's confluence with the Luong River⁶. No upstream impact in Lao PDR and no impact further than 65 km downstream of the dam are expected to occur in conjunction with the project. Should such impact be identified at a later stage, it would also be covered under the RLDP.
 - The power supply line needed during the construction phase which will be initially routed from Ba Thuoc via Co Luong. The line from Co Luong to Co Me, about 1.5 km from the construction site is under construction, financed by a separate World Bank Project. When the load at the site increases, the supply will be switched from Ba Thuoc necessitating the construction of an additional 15 km 35 kV line from Mai Chau to Co Luong. A transmission line will be constructed to evacuate power from the plant to the nearest suitable connection point in the 220 kV system in Tan Lac district, Hoa Binh Province.
 - Land for land compensation and development of some resettlement sites, when taking place, affecting host communities.

Affected communes, by type of impact, are listed in [Table 5](#) below and shown on [Map 1](#). [Table 5](#) denotes the communes covered by this RLDP. Affected villages, by type of impact, are described in [Section 2.1](#) and listed in [Annex 1](#). Numbers of households affected by the main project are in [Section 4.5](#).

This RLDP covers only the impacts caused in the area upstream of the reservoir, the reservoir itself, the construction area and the effects on the river downstream of the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River. It does not cover the impacts of the road, which are addressed through a separate plan, or of the power lines which will be under a separate policy framework. The access road and power line resettlement plans are described in detail in documents other than this RLDP.

⁵ Other construction materials would be transported from Hoa Binh City to the project site.

⁶ The extent of downstream impact is still under review as of October 2010.

Table 5: List of Communes in Project Area

Commune	Impacted by	Covered by RLDP
Hoa Binh Province		
Mai Chau District		
Chieng Chau	Power lines	
Mai Chau town	Power lines	
Mai Ha	Power lines	
Mai Hich	Road, power lines	√
Thung Khe	Power lines	
Tong Dau	Power lines	
Van Mai	Road, power lines	√
Tan Lac District		
Dich Giao	Power lines	
Phu Cuong	Power lines	
Thanh Hoi	Power lines	
Tu Ne	Power lines	
Tuan Lo	Power lines	
Son La Province		
Moc Chau District		
Tan Xuan	Reservoir	√
Xuan Nha	Reservoir	√
Thanh Hoa Province		
Muong Lat District		
Muong Ly	Construction site, reservoir	√
Muong Lat town	Reservoir	√
Tam Chung	Reservoir	√
Trung Ly	Reservoir	√
Ten Tan	Reservoir/gauging station	√
Quan Hoa District		
Hoi Xuan	Downstream impacts	√
Phu Son	Downstream impacts	√
Phu Thanh	Downstream impacts	√
Phu Le	Downstream impacts	√
Phu Xuan	Downstream impacts	√
Thanh Son	Construction site downstream impacts, road, power lines	√ ¹
Thanh Xuan	Downstream impacts	√
Trung Son	Construction site, downstream impacts, road, power lines	√ ¹
Trung Thanh	Downstream impacts	√

¹ RLDP covers impacts of construction site and downstream effects only

Mechanisms Established to Minimize Resettlement

There are two main measures that minimize resettlement:

- The dam will be located in a narrow valley with steep slopes in a sparsely populated region. The majority of the villages are located above the bottom of the valley. A modest area of paddy fields will be flooded.
- The planned resettlement sites are located in four of the most affected communes so that almost all relocated households moving to a planned site will remain within their commune of current residence. Individual households retain the option to move to another location of their choice. In several instances, households will move “back-and-up” within their current village of residence.

Borrow pits and disposal sites are located on public land with no individual land use rights. They do not generate resettlement⁷.

Alternatives Considered to Minimize Resettlement

The dam was initially to be located in Ban Uon in Trung Son Commune, about 19 km downstream of the current dam site. During the pre-feasibility study, three dam site alternatives were considered in a range of 19 km along the river. The most upstream alternative at Trung Son commune was selected partly to reduce the social and environmental impacts.

Four alternatives to the effective (normal) water level were studied in 2004: 158 m; 160 m; 162 m; and 164 m. Each option would flood 92-95 hectares of additional land compared the immediately lower option. The option retained, 160 meters, generates relatively limited resettlement ([Annex 2.3](#): households and area flooded under each option).

1.2.2. Other Social Impact

The Trung Son Hydropower Project has an overall positive impact for the whole society of Vietnam and for residents of Thanh Hoa Province.

The road and reservoir will also bring opportunities for economic development to local residents. The access road will markedly improve access to/from Mai Chau and Quan Hoa districts and onwards to Hanoi. Boat transportation on the Ma River, which is expensive and dangerous, will be replaced by boat transportation on the reservoir and road transportation below the dam⁸. The body of water formed by the reservoir may bring other opportunities for income generation. Electricity supply, irrigation facilities and other infrastructure will be built, providing better living conditions than at present. Health services during construction of the dam will be improved both for construction workers and local residents.

These come however with negative social impacts that have to be compensated and mitigated, and risks of other negative impact that have to be minimized.

⁷ Borrow pits and disposal sites will be temporary. After the construction works are finished, land will be re-instated and trees will be planted.

⁸ A road is planned to run beside the reservoir, linking Moc Chau and Muong Lat which will complement river transport. It is not part of or linked in any way to the Trung Son Hydropower project.

Environmental and social impacts have been analyzed in a comprehensive manner. Some of them will be managed through the Environmental Management Plan, others through the RLDP. The following table lists all social impacts identified and shows the structure of mitigation plans. The EMDP, which is the instrument in RLDP to avoid or minimize and mitigate any remaining risk to ethnic minority people, includes a detailed review of remaining risks of project impact in ethnic minority villages (Section 6.5).

Table 6: Summary of Impacts of Interest to Local Residents and Mitigation Plans

Impact	Environmental Management Plan Public Health Action Plan	RLDP
Dam Noise, dust, road safety <u>Downstream impact</u> <u>Safety at flooding</u>	Schedules, speed limits, worker code of conduct Maintenance of water flow Community relations and safety plan	
Construction worker camp Social impact	Workers code of conduct Awareness training of workers and managers on local cultures Communication channel for communities with TSHPMB and contractor Incidents and grievance reporting and monitoring	Ethnic Minorities Development plan Management and Communication
Health Increased disease transmission rates from workers Increased drug use and trade among workers Increased demand for local health services <u>Health among local people</u>	Camp health management plan Camp follower management plan Awareness programs for workers and young villagers Regional health plan	Ethnic Minorities Development plan Management and Communication
Environment Loss of forest cover	Natural resources and biodiversity management plan Community forest management plan	
Cultural property Loss/alteration of cultural sites	Chance finds procedure for graves	Resettlement plan Ethnic Minorities Development plan Management and Communication
Social Resettlement of affected households/communities <u>Livelihoods affected</u> <u>Loss of ethnic/cultural identities</u>		Resettlement Plan Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan Ethnic Minorities Development Plan
<u>Cumulative effects from other projects</u>	To be determined	
<u>Increased impacts from lack of consultation</u>	Public consultation	Ethnic Minorities Development plan: consultation and participation framework

Source: environmental management plan. *RLDP. Measures for ethnic minority communities as defined in the ethnic minorities development plan below. Underlined: impacts continuing during the operation phase of the dam.

The construction worker camp is potentially an important source of negative social impact. Food prices on local markets might increase, security and smuggling issues might arise, and women from local communities might be at risk of STD transmission and unwanted pregnancies. It is one of the key social issues analyzed in the SESIA and addressed through the EMP as well as the EMDP ([Section 6.6](#)).

Downstream impact will occur during implementation and operation of the project. The project will monitor the project affected downstream area and implement mitigation measures for any identified impact.

1.2.3. Timeline

Construction of the dam is scheduled to start in the fourth quarter of 2011 and the reservoir would be filled in the second half of 2015. Milestones in project impact are listed in [Table 7](#).

The detailed RLDP implementation schedule is in [Section 7.5](#).

Table 7: Timeline of Project Impacts and Mitigation

Year	Quarter	Impact
2010		Construction of access road
2011	4th	Arrival of construction workers for 2 years
2013	3rd	Construction of power lines
2014	2d-3rd	Final cropping season in sites to be flooded
2015	3rd	Reservoir filling
2016	1st	Start of downstream impact

1.2.4. Cumulative impact

Two additional hydropower projects are to be developed close to Trung Son: Thanh Son, 42 MW, located 9.3 km downstream from Trung Son Hydropower Project; and Hoi Xuan, 102 MW, 38.5 km downstream from Trung Son Hydropower Project. Other dams on the Ma River are under operation or construction, including Ba Thuoc I in Thiet Ke Commune (60 MW), Ba Thuoc II in Dien Lu Commune and Luong Ngoai (80 MW). The need to take into consideration cumulative impacts from these dams is analyzed in the SESIA and the EMP.

1.3. RLDP Objective and Components

The RLDP is a program that addresses the impacts on livelihoods generated by the Trung Son hydropower project and other impacts (or risks of impact) not addressed under the environmental management plan.

The objective of RLDP is:

To improve, or at least restore, living standards of affected households and villages while allowing them to maintain their cultural identity.

A monitoring and evaluation system is set up to document progress towards this objective.

With this statement of objective, Vietnam Electricity (EVN), through the Trung Son Hydropower Project Management Board (TSHPMB), makes a commitment to address all types of social impact directly generated by the project until this objective is reached. The program is scheduled to start end 2010 and close end 2016. However there would be a continuation phase in the event that this objective is not reached by that time

Three specific plans form the RLDP. Each of these plans has a specific purpose:

The Resettlement Plan (RP) will provide full compensation to those losing houses, land or other assets due to impacts of the reservoir, dam construction and downstream of the dam. The RP also provides arrangements for effective relocation of households or shops when necessary.

The Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan (CLIP) that will take place in affected villages will enhance the community's capacity to restore, maintain and sustainably use its human, social, natural, financial and physical resources⁹ after being affected by the project.

The Ethnic Minorities Development Plan (EMDP) will ensure that the development process fosters full respect for cultural identities in the project affected area, and take into account their development needs and aspirations in preparing and implementing RLDP.

The management and communication activity provides management capacity and modern communication, formal and informal grievance mechanisms appropriate to local audiences, and sets up a full monitoring and evaluation system.

The RLDP primarily covers social (and environmental) impacts on communities residing in the project area, while the Environmental Management Plan covers environmental and social impacts generated by incomers, including public health. Because about 98 percent of the people residing in the project area are from ethnic minorities, this RLDP applies in its totality to ethnic minorities and has been designed in every part to address the vulnerabilities of the Ems

1.4. Entitlements

Those affected in their livelihoods, living standards and/or cultures due to direct project impact are entitled to benefit from one or several mitigation measures under RLDP. These measures are described in full detail in [Section 4](#) (Resettlement Plan), [Section 5](#) (Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan) and [Section 6](#) (Ethnic Minorities Development Plan). [Table 8](#) defines entitlements to RLDP.

Table 8: Entitlements to RLDP

RLDP Plan	Unit of Entitlement	Explanation
RP	Household	Any household, individual or enterprise with land, house or other

⁹ 'Capital' is often used instead of 'resources' to describe dimensions of livelihoods.

RLDP Plan	Unit of Entitlement	Explanation
		assets affected will be compensated. Resettlement sites and associated infrastructure to support the affected households/communities will also be provided by the project. Village collectives are compensated for impact on public infrastructure.
CLIP	Village	All residents of villages with livelihoods affected by the project are eligible to take part in a CLIP in their village. Criteria for priority apply (Section 5.2).
EMDP	Village	All residents of ethnic minority villages with direct social/cultural impact generated by the project are covered by EMDP measures.

In practice, the section of the project area covered under each plan has been identified and lists of households for the RP, and villages for the CLIP and EMDP, are available:

- Description of project area covered under each plan: [Section 2.1](#).
- List of villages covered under each plan: [Annex 1](#).
- Name list of households identified as entitled to compensation under the resettlement plan of the main project: [Annex 2.4](#).

Should new households / villages be identified as affected by the project, these lists will be modified.

Vulnerable households are entitled to additional support in the restoration of their livelihoods. Vulnerable households are defined as (1) female headed households with dependents, (2) household with only illiterate individuals, (3) households with disabled household heads, (4) households falling under the current MOLISA benchmark poverty line, (5) children and elderly households who are landless and with no other means of support, (6) landless households other than households with stable non-farm incomes, and (7) less-integrated ethnic minorities.

1.5. Adaptive Management Principle

Project impacts, and therefore mitigation measures, cannot be confirmed in advance in full detail in a large infrastructure project. The schedule of impacts may be modified if the schedule of construction works changes. In particular, impacts upstream of the reservoir, caused by tail waters backing up during floods, or downstream caused by changes to sedimentation patterns cannot be forecast. The RLDP is designed on the basis of impacts identified as of November 2009 and incorporates feedback received from the affected communities through consultation in January and February 2010. The following sections provide as much detail as possible regarding activities, schedule, management and costs.

During project implementation, TSHPMB will manage RLDP in a flexible manner in order to fully reach the objective of improving, or at least restoring, livelihoods and living standards of affected villages in the respect of cultural diversity. Adaptive management is expected to be important in at least five areas:

- Response to updates in the legal framework. In particular, Decree 69, issued after the resettlement policy framework of the Trung Son project; provides more favorable

conditions for affected people. RLDP will be updated to incorporate these improvements as they take effect.

- Actual compensation. As indicated in this document, any person affected, as defined in the resettlement policy framework, but not included in the census is eligible and will therefore be compensated. In application of the principle of compensation at full replacement cost, compensation will be based on market prices at time of compensation. Individual cases not foreseen in the entitlement matrix will be addressed.
- Budget. The RLDP budget is a cost estimate which will be adjusted as needed during implementation. Contingencies have been included to allow budget increases.
- Schedule. The schedule reflects the sequence of planned operations as of March 2010. It will be revised as frequently as needed during implementation. RLDP is planned for a five-year period from end-2010 until end-2015. RLDP will close at the end of 2015 if and only if the objective had been reached.
- CLIP arrangements. As implementation progresses and affected people become more aware of resettlement implications and opportunities, it is likely that communities and CLIP officials will want to reconsider options and priorities.

Adaptation will only take place if the outcome of this adaptation is conducive to better achievement of the RLDP objectives and principles. Adaptive management cannot be used to justify actions that would conflict with OP 4.12 principles as included in the RPF and this RLDP. Prohibited changes would include, among others:

- Restriction or elimination of entitlements and eligibility criteria.
- Reduction of compensation rates below the replacement cost standard.
- Lowering the RLDP objective to below the requirement to at least restore incomes or living standards to below pre-project levels (or accepting a substandard outcome as satisfactory).
- Imposing, through the RLDP, activities on ethnic minority communities without free, prior and informed consultation resulting in expression of broad community support.

It is essential that procedures are created for adaptive management, establishing how decisions are to be reached, how local communities are to be consulted regarding changes in implementation that may affect them, how costs associated with changes in implementation are to be allocated and who will be responsible for implementing agreed changes. TSHPMB and the World Bank will define and distinguish between (a) operational adaptation, to be carried out by TSHPMB, (b) other adaptation measures that would require prior concurrency of the World Bank. Arrangements for adaptive management will be outlined in the project Operations Manual.

2. Project Area and People

This section provides a summary picture of the current socioeconomic status and trends in the project-affected area. It describes the without project situation. The RLDP has been designed on the basis of this information.

All figures are approximate rather than exact, though every care has been taken to make them as accurate as possible. Data on population, land use, areas and newly formed communities are subject to a margin of error given the remote and difficult region that forms the project area and, in any case, are subject to change as circumstances evolve before implementation.

2.1. Project Area and Stakeholders

Project Area

The **Project area** is defined by the areas affected by environmental or social impact in the TSHPP. It consists of the commune that is immediately upstream of the reservoir, and all communes bordering either the reservoir above the dam or the river below the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River approximately 65km downstream. It also includes the communes through which the power lines and access road are proposed to run.

Table 5: List of communes in project area and type of impacts.

Map1: Communes and types of impact.

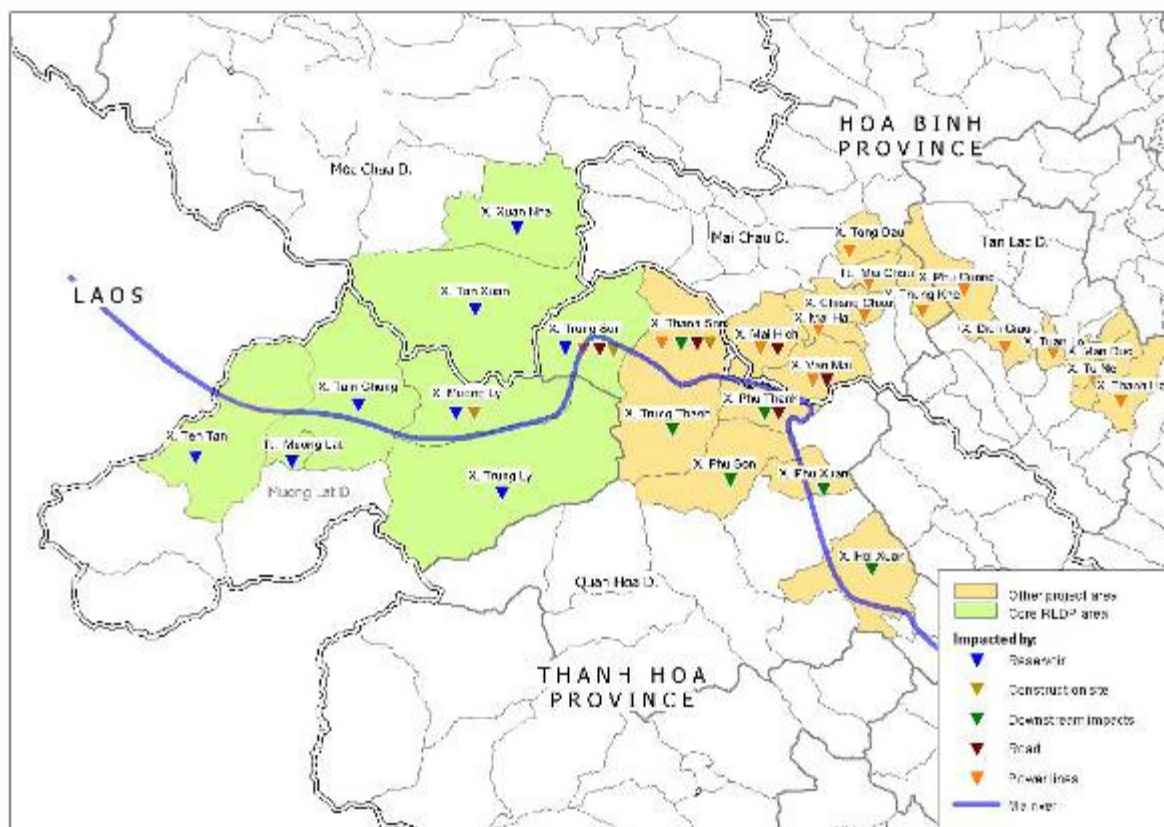
RLDP Area

This RLDP creates **entitlements** to participate in one or several of its three components. The RLDP area is defined as communities and households which have entitlements to at least one of the RLDP plans. In practice this means the 15 communes and a town with villages and households upstream of and bordering the reservoir that will be created by the dam, or which are impacted by construction activities or which lie on either side of the river downstream of the dam as far as the confluence with the Luong River.

The definition of the overall project area may evolve in the event that the location of impact is found to differ from the current assessment, and the area covered by RLDP may evolve to fully cover all villages and households with entitlements.

Specifically, the scope of EMDP may be extended to cover any village at risk of social or cultural impacts.

Map 1: Trung Son Hydropower Project Area



RLDP Area by Component

Because entitlements differ for the RP, CLIP and EMDP, the villages and households taking part in each component also differ:

- The RP covers all households entitled to compensation or requiring relocation. At this stage, 40 existing villages (+ 1 hamlet) and 12 new villages (resettlement sites) are identified for the resettlement plan of the RLDP;
- The CLIP takes place in all villages with resettlement impact from the main project. Impact sources include the reservoir, the construction sites and downstream impacts. At this stage, 44 villages (sites) are identified for a village CLIP including 32 of the 40 existing villages and 12 new resettlement sites. Village with downstream impacts may be added if livelihood impacts are confirmed.
- The EMDP covers all ethnic minority communities (villages) at risk of direct project impacts, including impacts on health, security and local cultures. At this stage, impacts are mostly foreseen in villages with easy road access upstream of the dam. However socio-cultural impacts may occur in other villages, and it is not possible to determine villages with or without risk of impact.

Village eligibility under each component is described in practical terms in each section and village names are listed in [Annex 1](#).

Stakeholders ([Table 9](#)) are categories of people that are taken into account in the design and implementation of RLDP because they interact with proposed activities. Stakeholders other than affected villages and households do not have RLDP entitlements. They are

therefore not eligible for any RLDP activity. For example, construction worker camps are located inside the project area but they are not defined as affected villages; construction workers and managers are not eligible; they only participate in the environmental management plan.

Table 9: RLDP Stakeholders within the Project Area

Households Village residents Collective entities in commune/village Commune People Committees, village leaders, community elders
EVN, TSHPMB Province-level Government (Thanh Hoa, Son La, Hoa Binh) District-level Government Mass organizations
Dam contractor Construction workers, managers Construction camp followers Resettlement site contractor
Management boards of Xuan Nha, Pu Hu and Hang Kia-Pa Co nature reserves Forest protection units Forestry companies (formerly State Forest Enterprises) Border guard stations
Local NGOs (Luong bamboo development, poverty reduction) Banks

Source: Social assessment, and World Bank January 2009

Core RLDP Area

The villages/households with entitlements to the RP are all located in 7 communes and one town, and risks of impacts on ethnic minorities are also expected to be higher in this area. This area is therefore designated as the core RLDP area. It includes:

- Thanh Hoa Province, North central coast region: 4 communes
 - Trung Son Commune, where the dam will be built;
 - Muong Ly, Trung Ly, Tam Trung, Ten Tan Communes and Muong Lat Town in Muong Lat District will be in the reservoir-flooded area on the Ma River. The flooded area will extend to Muong Lat Town.;
- Son La Province, Northwest region: 2 communes¹⁰:

¹⁰ Xuan Nha Commune was divided into two in 2007 with the creation of Tan Xuan Commune. Tables in the report for statistical data before the creation of Tan Xuan Commune show a total of five communes in the core RLDP area.

- Tan Xuan and Xuan Nha Communes in Moc Chau District will be in the reservoir-flooded area on a branch of the Ma River.

Map 2 shows districts, communes, villages with and without resettlement and ethnic minority groups in the core RLDP area.

Project Area Population

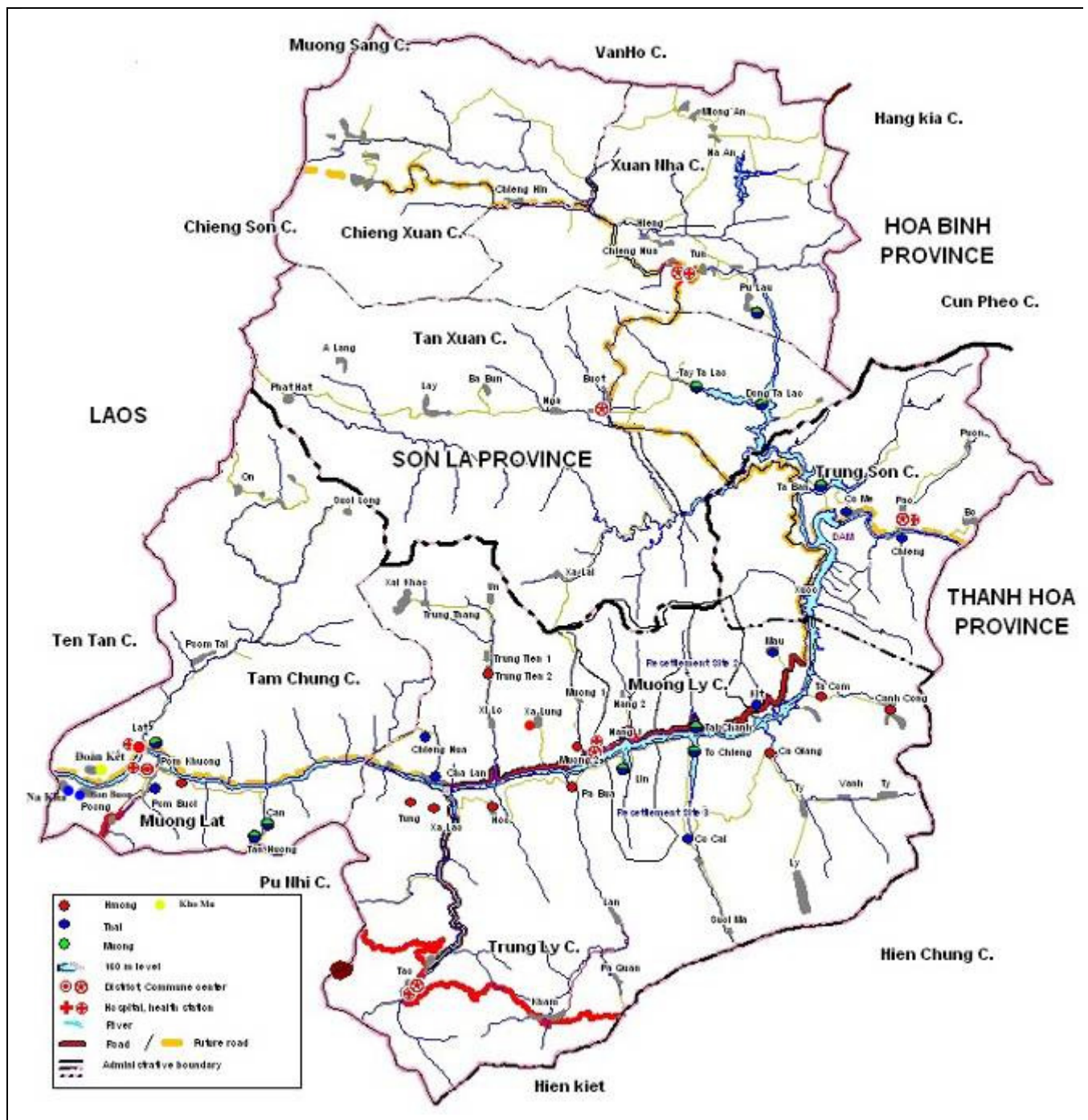
Quan Hoa and Muong Lat Districts have small populations, with around 42,000 and 29,000 people respectively. Population density is only 36 inhabitants per square kilometer in Muong Lat and 42 in Quan Hoa. Moc Chau has a larger population, 138,000 people, and its population density reaches 68 inhabitants per square kilometer ([Annex 1.2](#): District data).

The 7 communes in the core RLDP area have a total of around 71 villages, 4,982 households and 25,723 people ([Annex 1.3](#), Commune Data). Ethnic minority people comprise 90 percent of the population in Quan Hoa (where most of the area affected by downstream impact is located) and 99 percent of the population in Muong Lat. The proportion of ethnic minority population is 70 percent in Moc Chau District. There is an ethnic minority population of around 152,000 people overall in the three districts. Of these, around 22,100 people (4,200 households) live in the 7 communes of the core RLDP area; these include around 9,700 Thai people, 9,200 Hmong people, 3,300 Muong people and 810 Kho Mu people. The 7 communes account for 30 percent of the Hmong population in the three districts, 10 percent of the Thai and Muong population. The Kinh mostly live in Muong Lat Town or along the road. Only 1 percent of the population in the 6 communes in the RLDP core area is Kinh ([Annex 4](#): Ethnic minority data).

Part of the Hmong population has recently migrated from several northern provinces starting from 1989. In 2002, there were close to 9,500 recent illegal Hmong migrants in Thanh Hoa and they had all settled in Muong Lat and Quan Hoa Districts. 27 villages in 5 communes have recent migrants. In recent years, some have moved on to Laos and the Central Highlands of Vietnam or moved back to the provinces they had come from.

The Kho Mu people originally lived higher in the mountains but in 1984 moved down to the Ma valley, mainly into Doan Ket village in Ten Tan commune of Muong Lat district, where they have integrated into the largely Thai population. The Kho Mu are generally categorized as a separate ethnic minority but in this particular area are largely acculturating as ethnic Thais through intermarriage and language use, and may be considered as among Thais for practical purposes. Consultations confirm this view.

Map 2: Core RLDP Area



Color dots: existing villages affected by resettlement.

2.2. Livelihoods in the Project Area

Overview

The project area is mountainous with difficult conditions. Muong Lat District is a mountainous border district. It was created in 1996 and the district town is small. The remaining project area is fully rural. Four of the seven communes in the RLDP core area are border communes (Tam Chung, Trung Ly, Ten Tan and Tan Xuan).

Poverty is officially extremely high. Muong Lat District is recognized as one of the poorest districts of Viet Nam, and within it the three affected communes are among the most difficult communes in Vietnam. The other two districts are poor districts within the provinces. Infrastructure and services are underdeveloped. Income sources other than from agriculture and forestry are limited.

Variability within the project area is important. The Luong bamboo, an important commodity which has been increasing in value over the last decade, is mostly distributed in the lower section of the project area. Muong Lat District has a distinctly drier climate with a long dry season which is a constraint for water resources. Muong Ly and Trung Ly Communes grow small areas of bamboo, Tam Chung has almost none.

Limited quantitative information is available. Statistics are limited and hardly reliable. Actual cash incomes from diversified sources tend to be underestimated in official poverty records. In the 2008 livelihood survey, households have tended to overestimate areas to be flooded.

Infrastructure and Services

Roads. The main roads linking Quan Hoa and Muong Lat to Thanh Hoa and Hoa Binh are asphalted. The road is of relatively good quality up to Co Luong in Quan Hoa District, in poor state beyond that point to Muong Lat. Muong Lat is 280 km away from Hanoi and 160 km from Thanh Hoa. Commune centers do not have asphalted roads except for Tam Chung. Muong Ly has no commune access road. Commune to village roads are in very poor condition, sometimes being only paths along the Ma River, although a road now under construction will link Moc Chau and Muong Lat and will run along the northern side of the Ma River valley for much of the length of the reservoir. Each commune has remote villages among those affected by resettlement, the maximum distance from village to commune center ranging from 9 to 34 km. Mai Hich and Van Mai Communes where the access road is to be built have more favorable conditions in terms of geography and transportation system. The distance from these two communes to district centers is only 15 kilometers. These characteristics bring them concrete advantages in terms of social and economic development.

Waterway. The Ma River is an important link for boat transportation for commodities such as bamboo. In Tan Xuan Commune, the Ma River is the main means of transportation. Boat transportation is however dangerous most of the year.

Electricity. Fewer than 10 percent of households, mostly located in and around the Muong Lat district town and along the road east of the town, have electricity from the national power grid. However 56 percent of households have micro-hydropower turbines. These are used seasonally when there is enough water.

Market. The only market within the project area is in Muong Lat district town. Only one among the villages affected by resettlement is close to this market, the most remote one is

74 kilometers away. Other district towns are Moc Chau and Quan Hoa, at around 45 km from the dam site. There are shops run by local people in each village but, due to high transportation costs, prices for consumption products are higher than in the district market while the prices of agricultural commodities are distinctly low. Cassava is dried on site, post-harvest losses are high. There is a sizeable market for maize but contract conditions are biased: wholesale operators provide seed on credit but purchase the product at a low price.

Media. Three of the 7 communes in the RLDP core area are equipped with a loudspeaker system for daily dissemination of information. 80 percent of households have TV in Trung Son Commune and in the 2 project-affected communes of Son La Province; in other communes TV ownership is 15-25 percent. Some households are starting to have telephones in Muong Lat district town and in Trung Son Commune.

Commune offices. Tan Xuan, a commune which was only created one year ago, still only has a temporary commune office with no telephone.

Agriculture and Forestry¹¹

Limited resource base in Muong Lat and Quan Hoa. The project area has a mountainous topography with an average elevation of 400-800 meters. Farming systems in Muong Lat District are typical of the agroecological region extending over the westernmost sections of Vietnam uplands and much of Laos. Steep slopes (20-40° on average, more than 50° in some locations), fragile soils with low fertility and a climate with a long dry season are suitable for upland rice¹².

Paddy fields. Areas suitable for paddy cultivation are limited due to the abrupt slopes along the Ma River. Three villages along the Ma River in Tam Chung and Tan Xuan Communes account for most of the paddy fields and grow two crops a year. Paddy fields account for 5 percent on average of the area used for rice production, with a maximum of 14 percent in Trung Son Commune and a minimum of 2 percent in Muong Ly and Trung Ly.

Upland fields. A rice-maize-cassava rotation is practiced nowadays on upland fields, followed by 3-4 years of fallow. Rice is intercropped with various subsistence crops and vegetables. Homegardens (and the related “garden economy”) are absent or limited, with only some fruit trees. Upland fields make up most of agricultural land, and there is no significant natural forest left.

Luong bamboo (*Dendrocalamus* sp.) is by far the main forestry income source. It is mainly planted along the banks of the Ma River and Quanh River, mainly in Trung Son and Tan Xuan Communes. Bamboo is interplanted with cassava during the first three years of the plantation.

Livestock plays an important part in household incomes with 2.4 buffaloes or cattle per household on average. Only extensive grazing (called “free-grazing”) is practiced. No fodder grass or other fodder crops are grown. Households produce on average 2.7 pigs per year. Pigs are fully from the local black breed. Manure is generally not used as organic fertilizer.

Fish ponds are not frequent and are mostly located in the wider valleys of Tam Chung and Tan Xuan Communes. Fingerlings are brought in from the lowlands at a high cost. Fishing in the Ma River is an important income source in communes downstream of the Trung Son

¹¹ Source: livelihoods assessment.

¹² Synonym: hilly rice.

dam: fish species have high value on the market. Raising fish in cages has been tried and has partly failed. Only 4 households in Tam Chung currently practice this activity.

Non-timber forestry products (NTFPs) include various bamboo shoots and other diversified plant species. Rattan resources are exhausted. Forest protection contracts were in place under the 661 program until recently.

In Moc Chau District, the resource base is more favorable. The intended resettlement site already has terraced fields. Farmers plant vegetables around their houses in small (20-30 m²) fenced gardens.

Table 10: Main Livelihood Sources

Main Livelihood Sources		Sales or Self-consumption, Location
Farming	Paddy rice	Little, mainly for food
	Upland rice	Popular, preferred and main staple food
	Maize	All is sold for daily expenses
	Cassava	All is sold for daily expenses
	Vegetables, fruit trees	For daily food
	Other crops	Cotton newly planted in Tan Xuan, Tam Chung
Livestock	Buffalo, cow	Popular, increasing, income used to buy properties, equipments
	Pig	Little, local variety, taking full use to sell
	Chicken, poultry	Poor growth due to diseases, kept on upland fields
	Goat, horse	Little
	Fish	Kept in small ponds for food
Forestry	Luong	Best development in Trung Son, Tan Xuan, worst in Tam Chung
	NTFP	Bamboo shoots and various other products
Others	Fishing, snails	For food and sale. More developed in Tan Xuan
	Service, grinding	Collection of Luong bamboo, maize and cassava. Many rice grinding machines in villages. Grocery services
	Alcohol brewing	Rather popular, for home use and sale
	Hand cloth weaving	For home use

Source: livelihoods assessment.

Incomes are derived from four main sources: (a) crop production (70-80% of incomes), upland rice being the first income source in the seven communes in the core RLDP area, mostly for household self-consumption, (b) livestock (10% of incomes, mostly from cattle raising) (c) Luong bamboo and other forestry activities (10-25% of average commune incomes¹³, much higher in the main producing villages) and (d) collection of NTFPs, which provides additional income during the slack agricultural season.

Land Tenure and Land Use Planning

Allocation of land use right certificates (LURCs) on agricultural and forestry land in the project area is well advanced. Legally, land use rights have been allocated to each household, and households have received their titles. LURCs have been allocated with no time limit on residential land, for 50 years on production forest land, and for 20 years on paddy fields. The area of land allocated by household is very uneven, with a minimum of 1.5 hectare and a maximum of 50 hectares.

¹³ Source: livelihoods assessment.

In reality, demarcation is unclear, especially in upland fields. Few households hold a LURC for the plots of land that are affected by the project. LURCs have often been issued to groups of households, among which some may be affected households, some not. Limits are clearer between home plots, at least in part of the villages, and for paddy fields.

Land disputes are reported to occur seldom. Both the official land titling system of LURCs and the customary land tenure system are in place. In Thai communities, the latter remains strong and governs reallocation of paddy fields among households in a community.

Non-Agricultural Income Sources

There are bamboo and grain collectors in every village deriving relatively high incomes from this activity. An advance system from traders for these collectors is in place. Transportation on the Ma River is a profitable activity for the better-off families that own boats. Incomes from this activity are in the range of VND 15-20 Million a year.

Mechanized rice milling is available in every village. Maize is shelled mechanically. Alcohol brewing (mostly from cassava and rice) is very popular.

Health and Education¹⁴

Drinking water is from unsafe sources for 91 percent of the population. Households use water diverted through bamboo pipes from rivers, creeks, ponds, lakes, streams or rainwater without filter or treatment. Water is in short supply during the dry season and dirty during the rainy season. In total, only 9 percent of households are using improved water. 60 percent of households have simple toilets, the remaining 40 percent of the population are without toilet facilities ([Annex 1.3: Access to improved water and sanitation](#)).

Son La, Thanh Hoa and Hoa Binh Provinces have among the highest infant mortality rates in Northwest Vietnam (24-32 per thousand). Common health issues in Northwest provinces include tuberculosis (TB), malaria, HIV/AIDS, traffic accidents and mental disorder (schizophrenia and epilepsy). There is high prevalence of malaria in the 3 provinces. In the affected districts, the most common health problems are flu, food poisoning and diarrhea, and traffic accident consequences. Tuberculosis, malaria and goiter are frequent. HIV/AIDS is a concern although the reported numbers of affected persons is very limited at present, only 3 in Muong Lat district town for example. HIV/AIDS incidence in Son La Province is overall 2 per 1000 people, 40 percent more than the national average. It is 0.5 per 1000 in Thanh Hoa Province. There is high undernutrition among children below five years of age and comparatively low uptake of contraceptive methods for family planning.

Public health centers are present in each commune, except for the newly created Tan Xuan Commune, and there is a hospital in each district. Only Muong Lat has not set up a district health office. At least 90 percent of the population in communes with planned relocation have health insurance. Insurance coverage rate is distinctly lower in Mai Hich and Van Mai Communes in Hoa Binh Province. However, facilities are poor in the main project area and there is a lack of nurses as well as medicine. Only one out of 11 commune health centers has a medical doctor. There are also private health providers, mainly for traditional healthcare. Most ethnic minority women still give birth at their homes (with maternity clean bags). Remote villages have difficult access to the commune health care center especially during the rainy season. The health assessment revealed that over 50% of total resettlers

¹⁴ Health information is from the Health Impact Assessment.

living in Trung Ly, Phu Thanh, and Muong Ly Communes do not to visit health facilities when having a health problem.

Border districts in the project area are “hot spots” for illicit drugs. Drug use is of particular concern to local authorities. There are 284 drug users in the Muong Lat District rehabilitation center. Three of the 7 communes in the core RLDP area have 20-30 people using drugs. Most of them are 25-35 years old.

All communes have a school with primary and lower secondary levels and there are kindergartens in all 7 communes in the core RLDP area, except Trung Son. However school facilities are poor and many villages are far away from a school. Many adults have only completed 6, 4 or only 1 year of primary education. Illiteracy is high both for men and women, with women accounting for around 60% of illiterates. Functional literacy programs for adults are not locally available. Difficult economic conditions, remote location and inconvenient roads lead to high numbers of children dropping out of school. The lack of high school and of opportunities for non-agricultural employment leads to low motivation for study among the young.

Languages and Culture

Cultural aspects of relevance to the RLDP include:

History and Land Use Systems. Communities have strong attachment to land and natural resources. In Thai communities, graveyards are an important element in land use. The Thai moved into the project area at least 400-500 years ago. The Thai and Muong have historically had access to most of the small areas of paddy fields along the Ma River. NTFP collection remains important in Muong communities. The Hmong migrated into Vietnam 100-300 years ago. Unlike in other parts of Vietnam, they have settled at all elevations in the project area. Their land use systems tend to be based on sloped land agriculture, particularly upland rice, and livestock raising.

Languages. The language gap between ethnic minority people in the project area and the Kinh majority remains high mostly among the Hmong group, with women more affected than men. Hmong women cannot communicate in meetings using the Viet language. Most Thai and Muong women can speak Vietnamese. Most teachers are Kinh (Muong Ly is an exception with 50 percent of ethnic minority teachers).

Community structure. The Muong and Thai cultures have similarities. The two groups often live in mixed settlements. Inter-marriage is frequent. The Hmong live in fully or mostly Hmong communities and maintain strong links among ethnic group members regardless of village of residence. There is no inter-marriage between the Hmong and other ethnic groups in the project area.

Preferences for housing. Households have a preference for living in relatively large houses, above 70 m². Both the Thai and Muong in the project area continue to live in stilt houses made of wood and bamboo. After marriage, the husband stays with the wife's family for several years before the new couple settles in a house of their own, although this tradition is fading at present. The Hmong live in ground-level houses with wooden walls and earth floors. Extended families with several generations living in the same house are tending to disappear among all groups.

Staple crops. The Thai and Muong in the project area consume glutinous rice.

Religion, graveyards and tombs. The Thai and Muong are animists. The Thai and Muong protect graveyard areas in which trees or soil cannot be disturbed. The Thai have clearly

demarcated graveyards with tombstones for all those who died at the age of 8 and above. Half of the Hmong in the project area are protestants or catholics. Their graves are set in individual locations. Cattle and poultry are used among all groups for sacrifices during special events.

Elements of cultural heritage value are identified in the SESIA based on the Investigation of Tangible Cultural Resources in the Area of the Trung Son Hydropower. The Physical cultural resources management plan makes provision for mitigation of impact.

2.3. Coping Capacity

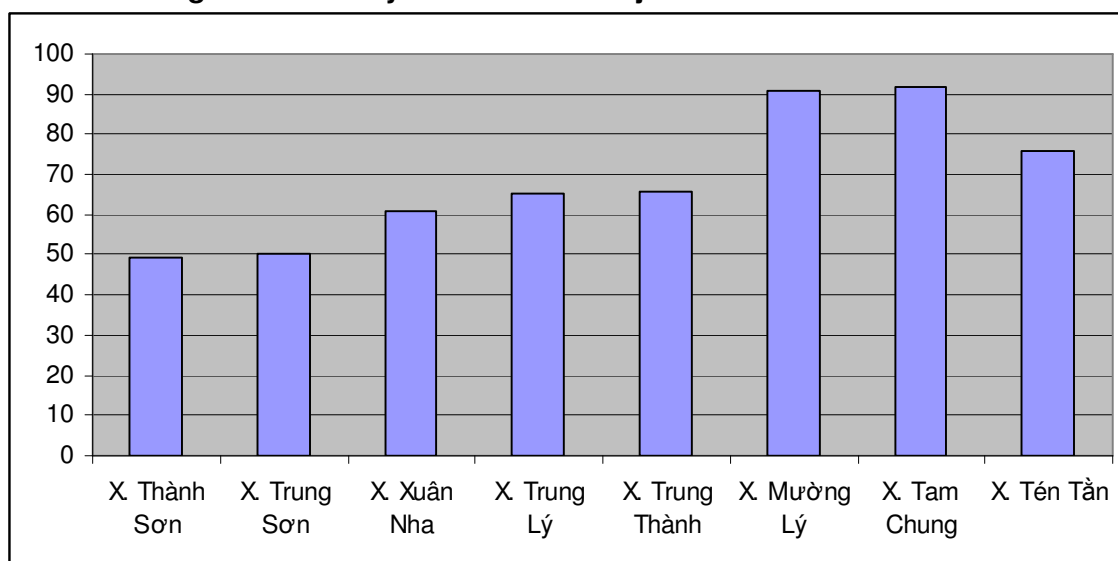
Poverty (MOLISA poverty line)

There are three groups of communes in terms of poverty incidence at commune level, defined as households registered as having incomes below the MOLISA poverty line of VND 200,000 per capita per month: (a) Trung Son Commune, where the dam will be located, has around 50 percent of poor households; (b) Trung Ly, a commune on the southern edge of the reservoir through which the main road to Muong Lat runs, as well as the two reservoir-affected communes in Son La Province, have poverty incidence rates ranging from 61 to 65 percent, and (c) Tam Chung and Muong Ly Communes have very high poverty incidence rates, at above 90 percent ([Figure 3](#)).

Reported average 2007 incomes are at 99 percent of the MOLISA poverty line in Trung Son Commune, 3-10 percent above that line in the two communes in Son La Province, and 12-29 percent below the poverty line in the communes of Muong Lat District. The proportion of brick houses, a widely used indicator of not being poor, is only 10%; and these are mostly houses located along the main road.

There is a correlation between poverty incidence and access to paddy fields. Among the poorest communes, Muong Ly and Trung Ly, only 2.4 percent of the area planted to rice is paddy fields. This proportion is at a maximum in Trung Son at 14.3 percent. Tam Chung is unusual: 9 percent of the area planted to rice is paddy fields, but the proportion of households registered as poor is very high.

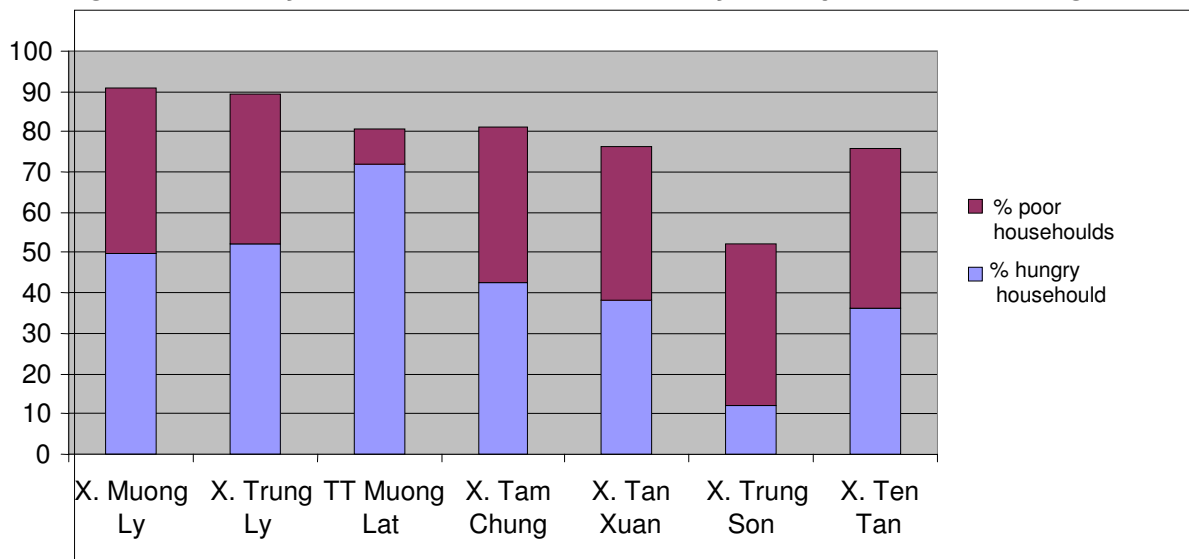
Figure 3: Poverty Incidence in Project Affected Communes



Source: social assessment.

Overall poverty incidence in villages affected by resettlement from the main project, i.e. in villages close to the Ma River, is 79 percent. Poverty in project affected villages above average commune poverty incidence in Trung Son Commune and in Son La Province, markedly above this average in Trung Ly, and below this average in Tam Chung (Figure 4:). In 11 among the 21 villages affected by resettlement in Muong Lat District, 100 percent of households are registered as poor.

Figure 4: Poverty Incidence and Food Insecurity in Project Affected Villages



Source: social assessment. Proportion of poor and hungry households by village and commune: *Annex 1.5*.

Poverty (Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey)

Poverty incidence is confirmed by the results of the 2006 Vietnam household living standard survey. Expenditure poverty (reflecting expenditure levels) is estimated at 81 percent in Muong Lat District, 64 percent in Quan Hoa District. It ranges from 43 to 55 percent in other districts in the project area.

Food Security

Food security is based on rice. Income sources are diversified but rice remains the focus of all attention during the cropping season. Average annual rice production (from paddy and upland rice) reported in the 2008 survey is 437 kg/capita. This amount is more than sufficient for self-consumption.

However, annual production levels are uneven and a significant part of households in project affected villages, 41 percent, report grain deficits for 3 months and more and are therefore accounted for as hungry households. The proportion of hungry households reaches 100 percent in 6 villages, all of them in Muong Lat District.

Very few households have vegetable gardens close to their house. Among almost all surveyed villagers, vegetables and food are transported from Moc Chau and sold at prices 2-3 times higher than prices at the place of origin. Vegetables that are easy to plant such as amaranth or betel leaf are not used in daily meals.

Vulnerable groups

All households with incomes below the MOLISA defined poverty line affected by the project are defined as vulnerable groups in RLDP.

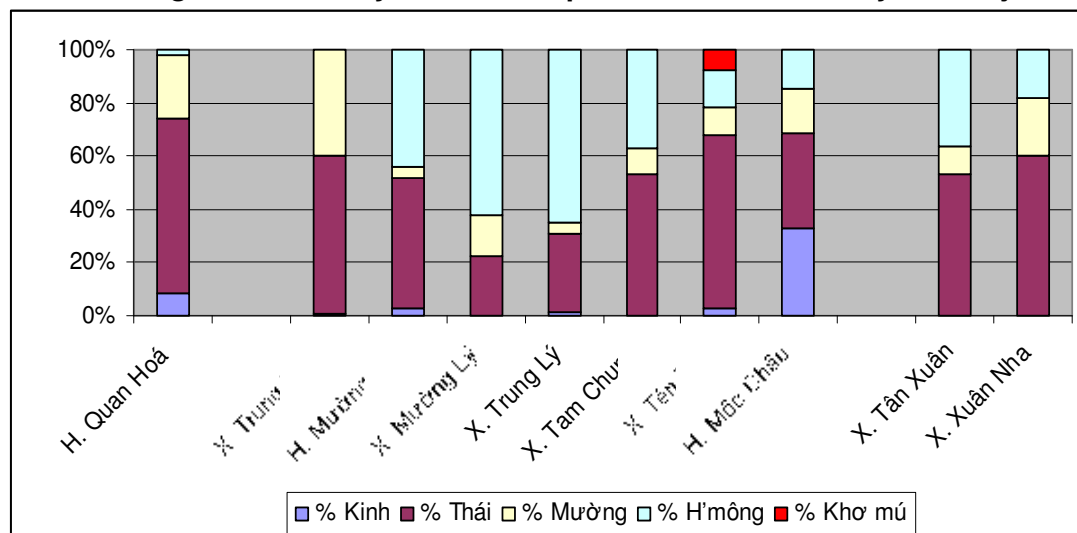
Among minority ethnic groups, the Hmong are particularly exposed to poverty in the project area based on the findings of the social assessment. They are therefore defined as a vulnerable group. Forty percent of the population in Muong Lat District is Hmong. The proportion of Hmong in the project-affected communes is high in all communes, except in Trung Son which is a fully Thai and Muong commune. The Hmong account for 62-65 percent of population in two of the affected communes in Muong Lat District, Muong Ly and Trung Ly, and for more than one third in Tam Chung and Tan Xuan Communes.

The following households are also defined as vulnerable regardless of their poverty status or ethnicity: (1) female headed households with dependents, (2) households with only illiterate individuals, (3) households with disabled household heads, (4) households falling under the current MOLISA benchmark poverty line, (5) children and elderly households who are landless and with no other means of support, and (6) landless households other than households with stable non-farm incomes.

Women who are household heads are an important vulnerable group in the project area. They include un-married women, women who have recently divorced and widows.

There is only around 2 percent of Hmong among the relocated households in the project (9 households out of 533) since most households currently living close to the future reservoir are Thai or Muong. The proportion of Hmong people with land affected by the reservoir is conversely significant, around 13 percent of households affected on land (127 households out of 976). All of them are in Muong Ly, Trung Ly and Tam Chung Commune in Muong Lat District.

Figure 5: Minority Ethnic Groups in Areas Affected by the Project



Sources: District population: 1999 census. Communes: social assessment. Population numbers by group at district, commune and village levels: [Annex 4](#).

Gender

There is a clear gender bias in local communities that impacts both women and the next generation that are raised by them. The gender gap is especially large in Hmong

communities. Most decisions are made by husbands in Hmong families. Lower school attendance among girls is an issue among all ethnic groups:

- Women get married at very young ages in all groups, even when girls are under 18 and commonly each couple has 4-5 children.
- There is a strict division of labor among men and women. Women spend 9-11 hours per day in farming and household chores, while men often work 2-3 hours less while specializing in heavy tasks such as soil preparation. Women raise animals and weave cloth.
- Very few women participate in community meetings or play leadership roles in the society. Women are not perceived as long-term members of their communities. Local authorities reportedly do not encourage their participation.
- Most girls only attend school up to class five, others drop out of school to work in their family. The fact that few teachers are women is a contributing problem. Some leaders of the Women's Union cannot read.
- Land use right certificates have mostly been granted in the names of husbands. Women are often in charge of managing cash income within the family but make few decisions themselves and decisions with important financial implications mostly depend on husbands.

Gender in mitigation of project impact: see Section 6.7: Mitigation of gender-specific risks.

Challenges in Livelihood Restoration and Improvement

A remote and difficult border area. With underdeveloped infrastructure, markets and services, farmers in the project area are exposed to high poverty incidence and to the risk of falling back into poverty when an income shock arises:

- Population growth is high in the poorer communes. The average household size in the project area is 5.1 compared to the national poorest quintile rural average of 4.6 (VHLSS). Statistics indicate uneven growth rates: 0.3 percent in the Son La communes, 0.6 percent in Trung Son, the dam site, and 2.5 to 3.6 percent in the remaining three communes.
- Gravity water systems do not provide a secure supply of water during the six-month long dry season. The issue is particularly marked in dry years.
- Environment is fragile. Maize has become a major cash crop in Son La. Households in the Son La communes often sell 3-5 tons of maize every year. Maize and cassava are also rapidly taking up as cash crops in the project area in Thanh Hoa. Farmers see this as an opportunity and a main strategy to generate cash income in the short term. However, over the longer term, the expansion of maize and cassava is encroaching over the remaining forest area and threatens the water resources which are needed for paddy fields and domestic water.
- Occurrence of natural disasters is high. Animal diseases are a major limitation to the development of animal husbandry in the absence of operational veterinary services.

Weak institutions in mountainous areas. Agricultural extension is present but weak in the project area, especially in the districts under Thanh Hoa Province. Mass organizations, with few exceptions, are also weak. There are however institutional resources outside the project

area: technical assistance for mountain agriculture at national level, vocational training centers in the provinces (Annex 3.2: training and technical assistance, including mass organizations, by district).

Adaptation Capacity

On-going adaptation. Farming communities are already engaged in a process of change. Rotational agriculture is in transition towards permanent agriculture. Fallow duration is now reduced to 3-4 years. In one village, for example, only 30% of households still practice fallow and only do so for two years. Plowing is increasingly used.

New farm-based income generation sources are emerging. Luong bamboo has taken off as an income generation opportunity. The area of Luong bamboo is close to 3000 Ha, with 2000 Ha in Trung Son Commune alone. Bamboo requires limited labor inputs. The income generated from harvesting bamboo timber and shoots has allowed the planters to buy motorcycles, televisions, furniture and manufacturing tools. Cash crops include sugarcane in Trung Son Commune (10% of incomes), soybeans in Muong Ly (an experiment with the General Corporation of Textiles), and cotton in Tan Xuan.

Ethnic cultures are changing. Ethnic minority communities have retained their traditional non-formal institutions. However, as ethnic cultures are changing, the capacity of these institutions is weakening. Decline in traditional handicrafts and increases in drug abuse are examples of weakening cultures. In Thai communities, traditional handicrafts, an important skill for girls' dowry, are less and less practiced. Only 2-3 women per village still weave cloth by hand, and then only in some villages. Most drug users in the project area are reportedly Thai. Indigenous knowledge that includes crop varieties and animal breeds are conversely a strength and deserve being preserved.

Climate change. The upper Ma River is one of the regions in Vietnam where climate change is expected to have substantial impact. Extreme climatic events might make the existing issue of landslides, flood and drought worse. In 2008, the road to Muong Lat town was blocked by a landslide for several months, barring access for food and other products from the lowlands.

Adapting to a new location. Local communities also have the capacity to recreate farm-based livelihoods when settling in a new location, as confirmed during consultation. However they can only do so when land and water resources are sufficient. Time is needed to set up sustainable livelihoods in a new location. It takes many years to develop the terraces, irrigation infrastructure and community management systems that allow cultivation of paddy fields. Bamboo provides short-term incomes after 4-5 years on fertile soils, 7-8 years on less fertile soils. Maintenance of community linkages is critical. For example, new houses can be built quickly provided relatives and neighbors team up to jointly build a house.

On-going Policies and Programs

Table 11 lists on-going development projects. All 6 communes in the RLDP core area are considered difficult and remote communes eligible for assistance under the 135 program.

There is a contrast between Moc Chau District, where agricultural policies and extension and forestry policies are more developed, and the rest of the project area. International development projects are present in Moc Chau and Quan Hoa. They are absent in Muong Lat. Muong Lat District has however recently launched an important national development program targeting the Hmong.

Table 11: Development Programs in Core RLDP Area¹⁵

Program Name	Main Activities
135 program 60 poor district program	Rural transport
Poverty alleviation and hunger eradication	Loans of VND 5-7 million per household from social banks Cattle promoted by 3 districts through this program
134 program	New houses for poor ethnic minority communities
139 program	Healthcare for the poor
Stabilization of lives of Hmong people in Muong Lat (ethnic minority department)	290 Billion VND (18 Million USD); activities not yet known
Agricultural extension	Subsidized hybrid maize seed
Cattle development (district governments and farmer association)	Credit for cattle raising
Microcredit (Women's Union with support from World Vision and Craftlink)	Microcredit for women, handwoven cloth
Fruit tree extension (Muong Lat)	Small-scale trials of fruit seedlings
Luong bamboo development project – 2005-2010. Funded by IFC and French Development Agency NGO center. Technical assistance: GRET	Sustainable development of Luong bamboo production and markets. Farmer groups, decentralized primary processing workshops in the lower Ma valley, village nurseries.
Northern mountains poverty reduction project phases I and II (World Bank)	Tan Xuan: comprehensive poverty reduction
HIV/AIDS in Muong Lat (World Bank)	
661 program	Community grants for protection forest management (VND 50,000/Ha, closed program)

Sources: social assessment, project documentation.

¹⁵ None of these activities are considered linked from the perspective of World Bank OP 4.12 since none are required to achieve the Trung Son project objective, including ensuring that people whose livelihoods are affected by the project are restored to pre-project levels. Nonetheless, TSPHMB will coordinate with program agencies to ensure that persons relocating to resettlement sites remain eligible for, and accessible to, program benefits.

3. Consultation and Participation

3.1. Consultation during Planning

Social Assessment

Assessments undertaken to prepare RLDP include studies carried out by consultants hired by TSHPMB and studies carried out by consultants contracted by the World Bank. A social assessment identified stakeholders, formal and informal community institutions, and challenges in compensation and in preservation of local cultures. A livelihood assessment was undertaken to specifically identify opportunities and challenges in the restoration of livelihoods. This has contributed to the CLIP strategy. A health consultation has served to prepare the health management plans for workers, for followers and supplementary measures for ethnic minority people. Consultations with additional villages were undertaken as the actual extent of the affected project area was confirmed.

The social assessment, based on a socio-economic survey, was carried out in 2008 during project planning. The purpose of the social assessment was (a) to ensure that ethnic minorities and all other stakeholders have their voice in decision-making in all issues related to their own interest, (b) to minimize adverse impacts caused by involuntary resettlement and (c) to avoid possible conflicts during project implementation. Attention was paid to respect the leadership patterns as well as religious beliefs and traditional powerful persons, while reflecting different ideas from small groups in the communities. The national consultant team worked in the 6 main affected communes as well as 3 communes affected by the access road. PRA methods and in-depth interviews were used, and findings were combined with the quantitative results of the household IOL questionnaire.

Other Consultation

Consultations during planning have used a range of different tools including meetings, individual interviews and group discussions. Public participation has been reported by the consultant teams as strong. People in the villages were ready to discuss and share opinions. Participation of women and the young has been invited. However participation of women was low, especially in Hmong communities.

All ethnic minority groups have been consulted in an even manner since consultation has taken place in every affected village. Ethnic minority groups present in the project area have their own representative organizations that have provided effective channels for communicating local preferences. Genuine representation of traditional community leaders has been sought.

Every village, CPC and DPC has taken part in a second round of consultation on the draft RLDP in January-February 2010. Several NGOs took it in turns to join the consultation. Posters and illustrated documents, as well as a leaflet introduction the project and answers to "Frequently asked questions" were provided to facilitate participation of local residents. A national consultation workshop with civil society organizations (NGOs, research institutes, retired experts) took place in Hanoi on March 3, 2010 and more than 70 people attended. This final version integrates feedback received during consultation at those various levels.

Table 12: Status of Consultations with Affected Communities

Date	Location / Participants	Purpose
2004	5 reservoir affected communes	Preparation of relocation master plan
2008 (January and April)	5 access road affected communes, 12 villages	Preparation of access road RP
2008 (March)	5 reservoir affected communes, 10 villages Systematic household sample (1 out of 7) and focus group discussions, 3 workshops (102 farmers), leaders, local institutions, local NGOs	Preparation of CLIP (analysis of livelihood challenges and opportunities)
2008 (April-June)	5 reservoir affected communes in core RLDP area and 1 road affected commune, 11 villages, 440 people of which 190 from relocated households, leaders and health sector staff	Health impact assessment
2008 (May-August)	6 reservoir affected communes, 499 persons in meetings, 30 in-depth interviews, 57 district and commune officials 3 access road affected communes	Social assessment
2008 (July)	14 villages in main project area affected by relocation	Additional round of consultation in communities to be relocated
2008 (October)	All related villages	Second round of consultation for CLIP, replacement cost study, host communities
2008 (December)	34 villages affected by access road, construction sites, reservoir, upstream and downstream impacts	Consulted about environmental impacts for affected villages and social impacts of the access road and land loss not involving relocation.
2010 (January-March)	RLDP consultation: - Community, commune and district level - National civil society consultation	Consultation on RLDP (jointly with EMP)

Awareness about the Project

At the time of the health assessment in 2008, 100 percent of people that will be resettled stated that they were informed about the project, except in Trung Son Commune where this proportion was 97 percent. Information about the project was low in the project area among population that will not be resettled (Health assessment, 2008): approximately 70% of the interviewed people knew that the dam would be built if they lived close to the site, but, less than 30 percent of interviewed people knew this fact in Trung Ly and Xuan Nha Communes.

The social assessment also revealed that the content of information received by the communities was not at a satisfactory level. Households that will be displaced were well aware of where they would go – they had been initially surveyed in 2004 - but had no information about the schedule or the probability to receive compensation. Additional consultation has been undertaken in July and December 2008 to ensure comprehensive feedback from local communities facing specific relocation challenges.

Consultation of district government and leaders showed that plans to manage impact were not under preparation since the dam had not been officially approved and announced. Some leaders were unaware of the impacts or stated they would rely on EVN to fully take charge of the impacts.

*Summary of Views Expressed*¹⁶

Land acquisition and resettlement sites

One of the most significant outcomes of consultation with communities during preparation has been the revision, in two communes out of four, of the resettlement sites that had been initially planned. New, smaller sites have been selected with more fertile soils and more abundant water resources. Through consultation, all the Hmong communities have expressed a preference for relocation within their village, so that the resettlement sites are currently planned for a fully Thai/Muong population, with a few Kinh households.

In the two villages of Tan Xuan Commune, consultations led to modification of the initial relocation plan designed in 2004 because of distance between houses and land, low soil quality, and unconfirmed area of land suitable for reclamation. Alternative sites have been identified including a nearby unforested military zone within a national protected area.

Other communities found that the land proposed for relocation was conveniently located relatively close to their current location so that restarting production would not raise substantial difficulties. Their main concern was in arrangements for accommodation. Villages where households from the hamlets would relocate by themselves said they were willing to transfer part of their land to these households.

Communities affected by the access road and bridge expressed broad support for the project and preference for “land for land” compensation, with land of equivalent quality to the land lost. They requested compensation at full replacement cost and compensation for properties in areas that would become economically unviable due to the project.

Livelihoods

Participants in consultations saw an opportunity in improved physical infrastructure in affected and host villages and in access roads to these villages.

All communities consulted expressed the view that they wanted to continue with farming and, if possible, to expand areas planted to paddy, maize and cassava in the new relocation sites and to intensify upland rice cultivation (Table 13). Close to 85 percent of households during the livelihood assessment expressed the hope to be allocated terraced fields. They were also interested in diversified animal husbandry, forestry (bamboo, timber species, rubber, eucalypt) and aquaculture in the reservoir. It was proposed through consultation that planting new areas to bamboo should be allowed around the reservoir after it is created.

¹⁶ Annex 5.2: Detailed feedback received during consultations.

Table 13: Preferences Expressed for Future Livelihoods

Land Use	Preference for expansion		Preference for preserving current area		Preference for decreasing current area or no information	
	No. households	%	No. households	%	No. households	%
Terraced fields	36	84	0	0	7	16
Luong bamboo	23	54	14	33	6	14
Maize	23	54	15	35	5	12
Upland rice	5	12	22	51	16	37
Cassava	21	49	8	19	14	33
Average		50		28		22

Source: livelihoods assessment (GRET 2008).

Households showed interest in support for credit access and marketing. They were also interested in vocational training for services or employment in factories, in running shops and in employment in dam construction and maintenance. They were concerned about the capacity of local institutions to implement development programs, especially agricultural extension, but they appreciated the role of the Farmers' Association and called for technical assistance to support the use of new agricultural inputs and in livestock development.

Health

During the health impact consultation, 75-88 percent of participants in each commune stated a concern about the health impact of the project. People in two communes were highly concerned about new diseases. Participants also highlighted their concern about the lack of access to health services, particularly in the two affected communes in Son La Province. Fears of prostitution, trafficking in women, drug use and dealing and HIV/AIDS were also mentioned by over 50 percent of interviewed people.

Environment

Households are well aware of natural resource management requirements in the national protected areas. Concerns have been expressed about competition between host and resettled communities, as well as between resettled communities, regarding access to common property resources (productive land, grazing areas). Downstream communities have expressed concern about the impact of the dam on their fishing incomes.

Cultural appropriateness

Relocated households have stated that they do not want the project to build houses with standard design. They prefer to move their house by themselves, and use a design and materials following their traditional customs.

None of the communities has identified sacred sites or spirit forests in the project's land acquisition area. Different ethnic groups have stated different preferences regarding graves that would be affected and rituals for ancestors. The Thai communities have stated they do not have a tradition of moving their ancestor graves when they move to another village. They were however willing to remove the graveyards that would be flooded, but expected full compensation including the costs of a ceremony. The Muong would prefer not to move the graves but to hold a prayer for their ancestors upon arrival to their new homes. The Hmong might want to move their ancestors' graves and the presence of a traditional priest would be required.

All groups stated that a religious ceremony would be needed upon arrival of relocated households to a new site. The temple of the hamlet god would have to be rebuilt. Prayers in the new location are made by the traditional priests in the community house (“than ban”) and at the water source. Expenses of VND 200 million are expected to hold these ceremonies.

Final RLDP consultation (2010)

Many comments at district, commune and village level related to compensation levels, with concerns that the value of the house would not be fully compensated or that those without a LURC on affected land would not be compensated. Many comments also related to the need for timely compensation and start for relocation construction works. Preference for cash compensation in one batch so that people can make plans for the future was expressed by several respondents.

Incorporation of Outcome into Project Design and Social Safeguard Plans

The RLDP has incorporated in its measures and institutional arrangements most elements from these consultations ([Annex 5.2](#)). Supplementary measures for ethnic minority communities in the EMDP have been developed in consultation with affected communities.

New, smaller sites have been identified for relocation.

Local social organizations have been consulted on HIV/AIDS and trafficking of women and children. This has resulted in the preparation of the gender strategy and in the incorporation of HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention and measures against trafficking of women and children in the EMDP (workers code of conduct) and in supplementary measures in this plan.

3.2. Consultation and Participation Framework

Participation versus Consultation

Public consultation and participation will be continued through entire period of implementation.

Consultation is a two-way process – information dissemination and gathering of feedback and suggestions. Plans proceed after communities have indicated their broad support for it. The objectives of consultation are:

- To fully share key information about the project with the affected people;
- To obtain information about the needs and proposed priorities of the affected people, as well as information about their reactions/feedback to activities during implementation of the three plans;
- To obtain the cooperation and participation of the affected people and host communities through all phases of RLDP;
- To ensure transparency in all activities related to land acquisition, resettlement, rehabilitation/improvement and supplementary measures for ethnic minorities.

Consultation on resettlement takes place in each of the communities affected by resettlement or planned to be a host community. Resettlement can only proceed when the community has indicated broad acceptance of the resettlement plan as recorded in the consultation meeting minutes.

Participation provides for the occasion and the process by which stakeholders influence and become co-responsible for development initiatives and decisions that affect them. Through participation, the needs and priorities of the local population are taken into account in project implementation.

Consultation and participation are undertaken in an integrated manner in the three RLDP plans to optimize resources allocated to these activities and enhance their effectiveness ([Table 14](#)).

Table 14: Consultation and Participation in the three RLDP Plans

Resettlement Plan	Community Livelihoods Development Plan	Ethnic Minorities Development Plan
<p>Consultation in the event of (a) new community identified as affected, (b) new types of impact identified</p>		<p>Consultation with ethnic minority representatives in the event of new types of risks identified</p>
<p>Consultation with all communities in random turns during internal and external monitoring</p>		
<p>Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Of the general public in the project area in communication ▪ Of ethnic minority representatives in District Compensation and Resettlement Committees (DCCs) ▪ Of commune workgroup in (a) selection of CLIP activities, (b) daily management of implementation, ▪ Of village monitoring group in monitoring land allocation, continuity and quality of infrastructure ▪ Of affected communities and households in information meetings and implementation of activities. 		

In addition, communities are consulted in the environmental management plan (including the public health action plan) and informed on construction progress through the community relations plan.

Use of ethnic minority languages in consultation and participation: EMDP, [Section 6.6](#).

Participation Levels

District level. Ethnic minority representatives from affected communes are formal members of District Compensation and Resettlement Committees (DCCs).

Commune level. The Land law defines CPCs as the administrative unit in charge of all land matters. The commune workgroup is the main body for daily implementation of the RP. All village heads are members of the workgroup.

CLIP is implemented at village level. The CPC, through its workgroup, plays a coordination role between villages. Important topics for coordination include (a) location of new bamboo plantations, households, terraces and (b) small infrastructure.

Village level. In the RP, the village has the key role of setting up priorities between households in allocation of fertile land and paddy fields.

The village is the level of implementation of CLIP and EMDP, and the level of community monitoring. Best practice from existing programs is used for the establishment of the village monitoring group. Village monitoring group members will be selected by the community with criteria as follows: (a) having good health; (b) some members with an education level of at least completion of lower secondary school; (c) truthful and having prestige; and (d) having time, and interest in social activities.

Local residents participate directly. Attention is paid to the participation of women and of representative of poor households.

Participation Steps

RLDP uses best practice from relevant on-going projects. This includes land administration projects for the RP, and poverty reduction / livelihood improvement projects for CLIP and the EMDP. Participation guidelines from these projects are used to define critical tasks in RLDP implementation.

In order to be meaningful, any participation step is undertaken in accordance with the EMDP measure of appropriate communication for local audiences.

Participation in Resettlement and Land Allocation¹⁷

Participation of land users in DMS, LURC issuance and resettlement has three specific purposes:

- To increase confidence among affected households that compensation and land allocation will be provided in accordance with their rights;
- To reduce errors, therefore complaints and land disputes;
- To ensure that all land users, especially the most vulnerable ones, make full use of their rights and fulfill their obligations.

The following participation steps are needed in land-related projects:

- (1) **Public Announcement.** The DMS team (or the resettlement site contractor) will hold public meetings at commune and village levels prior to the commencement of any survey. The CPC takes part in organizing this meeting.
- (2) **Resettlement site information.** Information on plans for construction of resettlement sites will be provided to affected households.
- (3) **Survey and Mapping.** Land users and their neighbors physically attend surveying.
- (4) **Plot allocation.** The village monitoring group will supervise plot layout, paying attention to both equity in attribution of the best lands and maintaining social linkages between neighbors.
- (5) **Information on compensation** of affected individuals and of public facilities is made available in a transparent manner through public postings or other appropriate means.
- (6) **Land Registration and Reception of LURC.** Survey results are publicly posted¹⁸. Land users are invited to collect their certificates.

¹⁷ Source: MONRE Vietnam Land Administration Project, Framework for land user participation, and Northern Mountains poverty reduction project.

¹⁸ In communities with high illiteracy, "public posting" takes the form of public announcements through loudspeakers or meetings.

- (7) **Transferring ownership of works.** Local communities become the project owners of all community infrastructure after acceptance of the works. Maintenance arrangements are part of the transfer process. Maintenance is especially important for domestic water.
- (8) **Making Good Use of LURCs.** Land users are encouraged to make full use of their LURCS in all land transactions.

Building consensus within a community on how to allocate fertile land and paddy fields among households will require a public announcement, meeting, consultation of commune workgroup with households, and public posting of results.

Participation in CLIP¹⁹

Community facilitators will support a flexible participatory process in the villages they are in charge of. The following cycle of implementation steps is completed every year:

- (1) **Establishment of annual menu of options.** The CLIP TA team will establish a menu based on existing diversified income generating activities and new activities successfully demonstrated in similar areas.
- (2) **Identification of Livelihood Improvement Priorities.** Community facilitators will support the identification of preferences for interest group and training course topics. Consensus in community must be built since these activities include groups.
- (3) **Interest Group Formation.** Interest groups pool together more “active” households with a special interest in agriculture (crop production, animal husbandry, forestry) and several neighbors. The latter including vulnerable households. Interest groups help build capacity of each group member.
- (4) **Participation in Training and Extension.** All interest group members are invited to visit field demonstrations and benefit from technical assistant visits. Training methods are appropriate to the needs of the audience.
- (5) **Annual wrap-up.** This takes place at community level with support from the facilitator.

Steps 2-5 are completed annually in each village with the participation of villages monitoring groups and other household representatives.

Community Resource Management Agreements are an immediate step to be completed prior to resettlement. Since the project leads to modified local uses of land, water and/or forestry, consensus must be built within the community on how to best manage these resources. Village agreements offer a good vehicle to do so.

¹⁹ Adapted from Northern Mountains poverty reduction project. The participation methodology will be defined by the technical assistance team.

4. Resettlement Plan

4.1. Coverage of RLDP Resettlement Plan

The resettlement plan provides a practical definition of steps and procedures that EVN will follow to undertake resettlement in the RLDP Area. It covers all phases of the project (planning, construction, operation) and all sources of impact on land, assets and livelihoods: dam, supporting sites, reservoir flooded area and downstream impacts. Should any discrepancy occur between the resettlement plan and the resettlement policy framework, the latter will prevail

The full text of the resettlement policy framework in [Annex 2.1](#).

4.2. Principles

Resettlement is implemented on the basis of four principles:

- Every effort is made to minimize land acquisition impact and other social adverse impact;
- If resettlement, with or without relocation, is unavoidable, affected people will receive compensation at full replacement values and with resettlement assistance so that their living standards and income-earning capacity will be at least as high as they would have been in the absence of the project; compensation is provided before land or other assets are acquired from DPs;
- The project provides an opportunity for the local population to derive benefits from it;
- The project should serve as an occasion for the local population to participate in its planning and implementation, thereby engendering a sense of ownership over this development undertaking.

4.3. Legal Framework

National Legal Framework on Land Acquisition and Resettlement

The Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (1992) confirms the right of citizens to own and protect the ownership of a house. The land law (2003) provides Vietnam with a comprehensive land administration law. Ownership of land in Vietnam resides with the State. The State exercises the right to assign and lease land to land users, including individuals, households and organizations. The State delegates to the Provincial People's Committees (PPCs) the authority to grant land use rights certificates (LURC) to land users.

In addition, the Government has enacted a number of laws, decrees, circulars and regulations that constitute the legal framework for land acquisition, compensation and resettlement as well as information disclosure, dissemination and policies for ethnic minorities. [Table 15](#) indicates key updates in this legal framework.

Table 15: Key Elements in the National Legal Framework for Resettlement

1992	Constitution of Vietnam
2003	Land law
2003	Construction law
2003	Decree No. 17/2003/ND-CP, on democracy in communes, including consultation and participation
2004	Vietnam's Agenda 21
2006	Decree 17/2006/ND-CP amending the 2004 Land law implementation decree
2006	Circular 69/2006/RR-BTC amending Circular 116/2004/TT-BTC guiding the implementation of Decree 197/2004/ND-CP on compensation, support and resettlement when land is recovered by the State
2007	Decree 84/2007/ND-CP dated May 25th 2007 on revision of issuing LURC, land acquisition, implementation of land use right, procedure for compensation, resettlement and grievance redress when land is acquired by the State
2007	Decree 123/2007/ND-CP amending decree 188/2004/ND-CP of November 16, 2004 on methods to determine land prices and assorted land price brackets
2007 & 2008	Decisions on compensation and resettlement policies of Thanh Hoa and Son La provinces
2009	Decree 69 provides for additional assistance, calculated as 1.5-5 times land compensation, to be paid when replacement of production land is not possible.

References of all legal documents are in [Annex 6.2](#).

Resolution of Gaps between National Legal Framework and World Bank Safeguard Policies through Resettlement Policy Frameworks

Decree No. 131/2006/ND-CP, on the management and use of Official Development Assistance, provides that in case of “gaps between any provision in an international treaty on Official Development Assistance, to which the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is a signatory, and the Vietnamese Law, the provision in the international treaty on ODA shall take precedence” (Article 2, Item 5).

Because of differences between Vietnamese and the World Bank's requirements for resettlement (defined under Operational Policy 4.12, December 2001), the borrower has prepared an RPF for the main project that has been approved by the Prime Minister. This means that the investment owner of the Trung Son hydropower project has obtained waivers from the Prime Minister of Vietnam, issued consistent with Decree 131, to implement resettlement in all elements of the Trung Son hydropower project on the basis of three policy frameworks: for the main project, which is the subject of this RP in the RLDP; for the road; and for the power lines.

The resettlement policy framework for the main project includes a detailed analysis of gaps between the national legal framework and the World Bank's safeguard policies.

As a result, first, the Vietnamese legal system of land tenure and right to compensation fully applies. Compensation is at replacement cost. Permanent residents are provided with options that include relocation to an improved site, or cash, or a combination of both. Resettlement sites offer not only improved infrastructure and services but represent a higher standard of living. Allowances are provided to help displaced persons in the transition period, and with an institutional structure through which people are informed and can appeal.

Second, the following provisions from the World Bank safeguard policies apply:

- Project affected households are not only informed but feedback is also sought from those directly affected.

- Resettlement impact is considered as significant when loss is 10 percent or above of total owned agricultural land/assets in the main project, instead of 30 percent in the national legal framework. Assistance for occupational change and job creation is provided to affected persons even when they are not engaged directly in agricultural production, and starting from ten per cent of their agricultural land being affected.
- Users without papers or documents and non-legal users are eligible if they have been using the land prior to the cut-off date (instead of 15 October, 1993 in the national legal framework). Houses and structures are compensated even in cases where they have been constructed without permission, constructed in contravention of a land use plan, or if they have encroached upon a demarcated safety protection corridor. Businesses and economic entities are eligible even if they do not hold a business certificate. Employment loss is recognized even in the absence of an employment contract or in case of employment by a business or economic entity not holding a business certificate.
- The deductions from land and assets compensation provided by the Land Law and Decree 197 in a number of circumstances are not applicable. Houses and structures are compensated to 100 per cent of their value or compensation rate instead of 80 percent in the national legal framework if they have been built on land that is ineligible for compensation. The price frame for land is not limited by an upper price for land. Machinery and production lines are compensated beyond the value of dismantling, transporting and re-installation to include any compensation for income lost or forgone associated with the impact.

Compensation rate shall be at replacement cost. Both unit costs issued by each province, and market prices in cases with a sufficient number of transactions, shall be used. Reference unit costs ([Annex 2.7](#)) are based on 2008 prices. During implementation, the latest unit prices of Thanh Hoa and Son La provinces and actual reference price observed in land transactions shall be updated and used.

The resettlement policy framework has made clear that absence of LURC does not prevent affected people from receiving land compensation. The project shall provide compensation for land value based on actually measured areas, provided there is absence of encroachment on land with another land user.

4.4. Entitlement Policy for the Main Project

Definition of Displaced Persons

Displaced persons (DPs) are defined as persons, households or collective entities that have land and/or with other properties affected by the project, either temporarily or permanently. DPs include (a) those whose houses and/or property are in part or in total affected by the project; or disconnected from unaffected properties by the reservoir creation, (b) those whose agricultural and/or residential land is in part or in total affected (permanently or temporarily, loss of assets or access to assets) by the project, (c) those whose crops (annual or perennial) or trees are affected in part or in total by the project or who cannot continue to use natural resources due to the project, and (d) those who are affected by land acquisition necessary to create opportunities for other DPs, in or out of the planned relocation sites.

DPs are categorized into non-severely and severely affected DPs. Severely affected DPs in the main project RP are the affected households who will (a) lose 10% or more of their total productive land and/or assets, or (b) have to relocate their house or shop.

Specific Principles for Compensation and Resettlement

Compensation for assets other than land is provided at full replacement cost, without deduction for depreciation or salvage materials for houses and other structures.

Compensation for agricultural land is provided through land of equal productive capacity acceptable to the displaced person (DP), or in cash at replacement cost in accordance with DP preference. Replacement of residential/premise land is made through land of equal size acceptable to the DP, or in cash at replacement cost, in accordance with DP's preference.

Replacement residential and agricultural land is as close as possible to the land that was lost, and is acceptable to the DP.

Assistance other than compensation includes transfer and subsistence allowances and any other measures as may be necessary to enable the DP to maintain or improve their living standards and earning capacity.

The previous level of public infrastructure, community services and resources is maintained or improved.

Plans for acquisition of land and other assets and provision of rehabilitation measures are carried out in consultation with the DPs.

Eligibility

DPs eligible for compensation and rehabilitation include (a) those who have formal legal rights to land or other assets, (b) those who initially do not have formal legal rights to land or other assets but have a claim to legal rights based upon the laws of the country; upon the possession of documents such as land tax receipts and residence certificates; or upon permission of local authorities to occupy or use the project affected plots, and (c) those who do not belong to (a) and (b) above but are certified by the Commune People's Committee as having been using the land and assets on land before the cut-off date of December 10, 2008.

Persons covered under (a) and (b) are provided with compensation at replacement cost for the land they lose, and other relocation assistance. Persons covered under (c) are provided with resettlement assistance, instead of formal compensation for the land they occupy, and other assistance, as necessary, to achieve RLDP objective.

The cut-off date of the project is the date of completion of the census of affected persons and the compiling of the inventory of losses (IOL). The cut-off date is December 10, 2008. Displaced persons that have become residents or collective entity in the project area after the cut-off date are not eligible for compensation. Households that have split after the cut-off date are eligible for compensation and relocation assistance provided (a) after splitting, there are at least two couples and not less than 6 persons in total, and (b) they have received permission of local authorities to split.

Eligible displaced persons have been covered in the census. Those not covered in the census are not eligible for compensation and other entitlements, unless they can show proof that (a) they have been inadvertently missed out during the census and the inventory of losses; or (b) they have lawfully acquired the affected assets following completion of the census and the inventory of losses and prior to the conduct of the detailed measurement survey.

Entitlement Matrix

The entitlement policy makes provisions for all cases including cases that have not been identified at present, such as households with partially affected residential land or house or non-severely affected households.

Displaced persons with more than one category of impact are eligible to compensation and assistance under each category of impact.

The entitlement matrix provides a framework for the most frequent cases. There will inevitably be special issues in compensation that have not been foreseen in this matrix. The implementation of the access road resettlement plan will be used as a source of lessons learnt for ways to address any special issues that arise..

1. Houses and other structures

Eligible DPs: all owners regardless of tenure status

1. Fully affected houses:

Compensation* for existing house and substructures and costs for reinstalling other attached facilities (telephone, water meter, electricity meter), without deduction for depreciation or salvage materials.

DPs have the choice between (i) cash for self-construction or (ii) receiving a new house built by the project at a new site.

The house design depends on DP's preference. The project will present a number of house samples including house on stilts and concrete house grade 4. Materials can be salvaged upon dismantling the affected house.

DPs wishing to build a resettlement house exceeding the technical standards bear the additional costs.

If DPs choose to build the resettlement house themselves, the house will meet (i) minimum area standard specified below; (ii) safety requirements: tile or steel sheet roofing or equivalent; and (iii) hygiene and environment conditions.

Area per each legal member of the relocating household:

- HH with 2 persons or less: 25 m²
- HH with 3 -5 persons: 45 m²
- HH with more than 5 persons: 65 m²

Each household will be provided with a 10 m² structure for kitchen and toilet.

Areas may differ from the above mentioned standards by 5%.

DPs who opt for a house constructed by the project at the resettlement sites (a) receive a house and a cash payment for the difference if the value of the affected house is more than the house at the resettlement site, and (b) do not have to pay for the difference if the technical standard of the house built by the project is of higher value than their lost one.

Relocation allowances:

Transportation: VND 3,000,000 per HH if relocation is within the province and VND 5,000,000 if relocation is to other provinces.

All households choosing not to relocate to a designated resettlement site shall receive this transportation allowance and a supplemental allowance for their administrative arrangements of VND1million if they remain within the province, VND 2million if they relocate to a different province.

Cash allowance of 20 kg of rice equivalent per person per month during transition period of 24 months.

Health care: 200,000 VND per household (only one-time)

Subsidy for lighting oil: VND 10,000 per head during 6 months.

Education (primary, secondary and high school): one set of school books (VND 100,000 per pupil).

Families with social policy, the single elderly, disabled persons: VND 1,000,000 per head.
Bonus/incentive for timely movement: maximum VND 5,000,000 per household.
Eligibility for CLIP.

2. Partially affected houses:

Compensation for the affected part at full replacement cost and costs for reinstalling other attached facilities (if required) such as water meter, electricity meter. DPs will repair their house themselves.

* = cash compensation is at full replacement cost (applies to boxes 1 to 8).

2. Residential land

Eligible DPs: all DPs having a LURC or, in absence of it, recognized as stable occupants by neighbors or local authorities, or simply DP included in census.

1. Fully affected on residential land

Land-for-land compensation provided with survey, permit, and joint title to husband and wife.

Each relocating household moving to the resettlement sites will be assigned a house site plot not smaller than 400 m². The project will either do the ground leveling for DP or pay them so that they can do it themselves, at DP's choice. DPs preferring to do the ground leveling have to comply with technical requirements for safety.

If the new land is of lower value than the current one, DP will be compensated in cash* for the difference. If the new land is of higher value than the current land, DP will not have to pay the difference.

Relocation allowances as described above.

2. Partially affected on residential land

If the remaining area is not smaller than 400 m², cash compensation* for the affected area.

If the remaining area is smaller than 400 m², depending on the request of DP, (a) entire residential land will be acquired by the project, DP will be compensated with either new residential land of equal size or (b) cash compensation* or (c) combination of both forms.

3. Agricultural and other productive land

Eligible DPs: all DPs having LURC or, in absence of it, recognized as stable occupants by neighbors, local authorities, or simply DP included in census.

The priority is land-for-land compensation, and to allocate paddy fields to DPs.

Where compensation is fully made in the form of land, (a) if land is priced lower than the price of the recovered land, apart from being assigned new land, DPs who have land recovered shall also receive monetary compensation equal to the difference value, (b) if land is priced higher than the price of the recovered land, DPs shall not have to pay for the difference.

If land availability in the locality does not allow compensation by land for the full lost area of equal productive capacity, DP will be compensated with land not less than the minimum standard which is necessary for their sustainable livelihoods, 1.5 ha. The difference will be compensated in cash*.

The replacement value of the land is the market value of the land in the year the compensation is paid.

If DP partially loses agriculture land

(a) If the remaining holding is less than the minimum standard of 1.5 ha but still meets conditions for continuing cultivation, the project will allocate supplementary land to ensure the total land holding of the DP is not less than the minimum standard.

(b) If the remaining holding doesn't meet conditions for continuing cultivation, the project will acquire the entire land holding and provide land for land with equal productive capacity, satisfactory to the DP.

(c) If the remaining area is not less than 1.5 ha:

(i) If land lost is more than 10% of holding: DP will be compensated for the lost area in cash* or by

land of equal productive capacity.

(ii) If land lost is less than 10 %, the affected person will receive cash compensation* for the land required.

If the DP prefers to receive cash instead of land, cash compensation* is applied.

DPs using public land will have no compensation for land but compensation* for all investment on land.

Depending on the availability of land in the resettlement sites, relocating HH might be assigned with forest production land, grass land, or water body for aquaculture production.

Each relocating household is assigned with garden land adjacent or not adjacent to the residential land, with an area not less than 300 m².

Households that do not lose agricultural land but have an area smaller than 1.5 ha will be supplemented for the difference.

Eligibility for CLIP if more than 10% of land affected.

Households losing productive land (which do not have to relocate) receive a rice allowance by cash during 18 months

following basis:

Less than 10% - 5 kg of rice per head per month.

10% to 30 % - 10 kg of rice per head per month.

30% to 50 % - 15 kg of rice per head per month.

More than 50% - 20 kg of rice per head per month.

Production disruption allowance

Relocating households involved in agricultural, forestry or fishing receive a one-time allowance, in cash or in kind at DP's preference, for their production inputs (seeds, seedlings, breeding animals, fertilizers and pesticides):

Households with 1 person: 3 Million VND

Household having more than 1 person: 2 Million VND for each additional person.

Garden land is defined as agricultural land adjacent to residential land which is used for trees and annual crops. Therefore, in addition to compensation for productive land, trees and perennial crops, garden land also gives entitlement to a support of 30% - 70% of residential land value for the land plot. The area of residential land to be provided with support shall not exceed 5 times of the local residential land allocation limit. Land is compensated on the basis of the "perennial land" category ([Annex 2.7](#)).

4. Trees, perennial crops including Luong bamboo and annual crops

Eligible DPs: all DPs with affected trees and annual crops.

Compensation at replacement cost for trees, at market price for annual crops (based on market value of trees, annual crops in the year the compensation is paid).

There are compensation unit costs for the first 4 years of plantation establishment from fruit trees and timber ([Annex 2.7](#)) but this does not cover Luong bamboo.

Separate compensation arrangements for Luong bamboo land have been prepared in accordance with national regulations as applied in Thanh Hoa and Son La provinces. Because Luong production is only feasible in suitable land areas, it may not be possible to find sufficient replacement land for all producers. If suitable land cannot be provided, those losing Luong production land will receive land compensation supplemented with Decree 69 livelihoods assistance as follows:

Thanh Hoa and Son La Province: Full land compensation plus 1.5 times the land compensation as livelihoods assistance under Decree 69. Provincial land compensation rates are subject to annual adjustment.

The above rates guarantee Luong production land replacement cost.

5. Graves

All DPs are eligible.

All costs of excavation, relocation and reburial will be reimbursed in cash to the affected family. Graves are to be exhumed and relocated in culturally sensitive and appropriate ways (ethnic minorities development plan)

6. Public land used for businesses under a contract

All DPs with contract

No compensation for land but compensation for investment on land or offer of new contract for forest protection at new sites where appropriate.

7. Public facilities

DPs are owners of assets.

Schools, factories, water sources, roads, sewage systems damaged are restored at no cost to the community when the community wishes to reuse them.
Host communes public structures and infrastructure. The assistance amount to be provided to host communes will not exceed VND30 million per eligible relocating household. This fund will be transferred to the commune's budget to be used on the upgrading, extension or rehabilitation of the public infrastructures.
Items to be upgraded at the host communities will be decided by host communities.

8. Businesses

All DPs running a business.

DPs with or without legal license but paid tax for the business
Allocation of replacement plots
Cash compensation* for lost business structure.
Cash compensation for the loss of income during transition period:
(i) 30% of annual income from affected business (after tax) based on three latest years.
(ii) Payment to employees of 6 months of their salaries.
Transport assistance to new place.
Tax to authorities unpaid
Allowance equivalent to three months of annual income from affected business (after tax) and based on three latest years.

9. Temporary impacts

All DPs occupying land and running a business (these are individual household businesses).

Cash compensation for a period of acquiring land and impact on businesses equivalent to income loss by affected time.
Cost based on values lost due to renting period.

Contractors or PMB directly negotiate with the property's owners.

The project will provide associated infrastructure facilities including road access, a market place, water supply and power network as appropriate to the resettlement sites (Section 4.6).

Entitlement Implementation

Each DP receives a compensation and relocation minute recording the results of DMS and draft and final compensation plans and payment (specifying cash or kind) will be recorded in the household's "pink book" issued by TSHPMB providing information on resettlement compensation entitlements.

Information on compensation of affected individuals and of public facilities is made available in a transparent manner through public postings or other appropriate means

Replacement land will be provided with a Land Use Rights Certificate at no cost to the households. Allocation of plots is made in accordance with allocation regulations approved by the District PC.

All cash compensation is at full replacement cost (marked * in boxes 1-8).

DP and commune authorities are clearly informed about site planning, site development and relocation schedules as well as plot allocation regulations and payments. Decisions of land recovery and compensation plan must be disclosed at the commune office and disseminated to DPs.

Monitoring and evaluation is an entitlement. Community supervision of houses constructed by the project developer is required.

Compensation is paid directly to DPs with the supervision of commune authorities.

Entitlement Timing

In accordance with the resettlement policy framework, compensation and necessary assistance must be provided to DPs before land or other assets are acquired and the resettlement transition period must be minimized. The minimum time between entitlement delivery and resettlement is as indicated in the following table.

Compensation is provided to DP only once. The schedule of payments to affected organizations and individuals shall be agreed between DCC and affected organizations and individuals through a detailed compensation method to be posted in public.

The DPs are notified through the commune authorities and village heads two weeks in advance of the final schedule of payment of compensation and other entitlements. If the DP is unavailable to claim the compensation payment on the scheduled date, he/she will inform local authorities as soon as possible with a written authorization for a representative to claim the amount on his/her behalf, or request the DCC to reschedule a later date.

Table 16: Minimum Advance Periods for Entitlement Delivery

Entitlement	Timing
Resettlement site ready for housing and with infrastructure and social services to national standard Allocation of replacement residential land	5 months before land clearance

Cash compensation for residential land Compensation for house types 1, 2 and 3	
Compensation for house type 4	4 months prior to displacement
Compensation for house partially demolished	3 months prior to demolition
Replacement agricultural land ready for farming Allocation of replacement agricultural land Cash compensation for land	3 months prior to displacement
Compensation for trees and crops Compensation for graves	Time of compensation or at least one month prior to land clearance
Allowances	Time of compensation or at least one month before displacement
Replacement value for compensation land	Paid in the year of compensation
Public facilities	Payment schedule proposed by owners in order to fit with reconstruction.

4.5. Survey of Displaced Persons and Impacts

This section provides findings from the census of displaced persons and inventory of losses and census of DPs that were jointly completed in 2008²⁰.

Detailed measurement for compensation will be conducted at an elevation consistent with a flood frequency of 1%, taking into account reservoir tail surge water. The project has already established a reservoir rim demarcation taking into account the surge water elevation. All public works; assets, structures, trees and crops of organizations and individuals within the demarcation (land acquisition area) shall be fully entitled to compensation, allowance and resettlement policy.

Outside this demarcation boundary, the risk of landslide is taken into account. Positions with an actual risk of landslide outside demarcation shall be identified.

Census

The total number of DPs identified in October 2010 for the main project and other project elements is 2,327, of which 1,516 households will be affected by main project. The census was started in 2004 and fully updated in 2008 and 2010. The name list of households identified through the census is in [Annex 2.4](#). Any household identified as displaced person at a later stage will be compensated regardless of whether it is included in this list or not.

²⁰ The census and IOL were completed using a socio-economic survey questionnaire and commune cadastral maps. The questionnaire dealt with basic household information, sources of income and socio-economic condition of the affected household, and affected assets and income, compensation and relocation options.

Table 17: Households Affected In the RLDP Area as of January 2011

Source of Impact	No. Households	No. People
Reservoir flooded areas	1,059	5,038
Of which:		
Relocated	533	2,445
Agricultural land lost (but not relocated)	519	2,570
Productive assets other than land impacted (e.g. shops) but not relocated	7	23
Within the construction area (borrow pits, roads, construction site and construction camp)	100	439
Households losing land to incoming resettlers	357	1,535
Total	1,516	7,012

Note: This table does not account for people affected by downstream impacts. Their numbers can only be assessed fully when dam enters operation.

533 DPs out of 1,516 are impacted on residential land, houses, infrastructures and agricultural land and would have to be relocated (Table 17). Others have productive land in the project affected area, but their houses are not affected. There are 40 DPs who have no residential land or house in the flooded area but are eligible because their land and house are isolated by the reservoir. No case of partially affected households on residential land and houses has been identified to date in the main project.²¹

The 357 households affected by the planned resettlement sites in host communities are only losing agricultural land for this purpose, not residential land or houses. All these households also have land in the reservoir flooded area ([Annex 2.3](#)).

All affected households have been granted a Land Use Right Certificate (LURC) for their land, except in Muong Ly Commune where only LURC applications have been completed.

In addition to the above table, 632 tombs and graves that would be affected have been surveyed (Trung Son: 228; Muong Ly: 6, Tan Xuan: 195, Xuan Nha: 4).

DPs with temporary impact on land used for their business by the project construction are not yet identified. They will be identified by the contractors when land will be rented.

Standard Household Characteristics

Houses. Although the traditional practice of several households living in one house as an extended family is vanishing, the number of houses remains lower than the number of households. Resettlement is planned on the basis of households, not houses.

²¹ Construction of a Western Thanh Hoa Road, which is not linked to TSHP, has caused displacement of 28 households within the Trung Son project area. These households received compensation for assets and transitional assistance in moving as a result of the road project. However, these household were not arranged to move to a resettlement site by the road project so they had moved to the Ta Ban village after the Trung Son project's 'cut off date' and will be required to move again for TSHP purposes. TSHPMB has confirmed that these 28 households are still eligible to receive resettlement plots in the resettlement sites for housing and they will review impacts imposed on these households, determine whether compensation and assistance provided them complies with provincial regulations, monitor their adaptation to new surroundings, and will arrange for their participation in the CLIP pilot phase so as to minimize the interim period prior to their secondary resettlement and to accelerate their eligibility for RLDP assistance

Household size. Average household size in the 8 main affected communes varies from a minimum of 4.4 members in Trung Son to a maximum of 5.8 in Muong Ly. In the census, household size varies from a minimum of 4.2 in Ta Ban (Trung Son Commune) to a maximum of 6.2 in Pu Lau (Xuan Nha).

Magnitude of Loss from Reservoir

The project affects three types of land: (a) land used for crop production (paddy fields, upland fields on slopes), (b) residential land and (c) forest land, and two types of assets other than land: (a) houses and (b) shops.

No project-affected land currently under community land use right certificates previously allocated to a church, pagoda, temple or ethnic minority community²² has been identified during the inventory of losses.

In the reservoir flooded areas, 1,864 Ha in total will be affected. Sloped land including forestry and other land account for 95 percent of this area. Among income sources, Luong bamboo is the most significantly affected because it is mostly planted along river banks.

Table 18: Types of Land Affected by the Main Project as of Cut-off Date

	Residential land	Perennial crop land	Paddy rice	Forestry land	Water body land	Grave-yards	Others	Total
Ha	57.3	12.2	23.6	1,165.3	2.8	10.8	592.4	1,864.4
%	3%	1%	1%	63%	0%	1%	32%	100%

Source: DRCC 2008, inventory of losses. Details by commune in *Annex 2.5*, by village in *Annex 2.9*. Other = sloped land not planned as forestry land ("unused land").

At the reservoir supporting sites, all land affected (198 Ha) is forestry land with Luong bamboo.

Among the 6 communes affected by the reservoir, Trung Son and Tan Xuan are most significantly affected with respectively 522 and 647 hectares flooded.

At the planned resettlement sites, 5490.60 Ha are planned for allocation to relocated households. Around 45 percent of land allocated to incoming households is mostly currently registered as other (unused) land, 21 percent as natural forest land:

Table 19: Types of Land Affected in Planned Resettlement Sites

Locality	Perennial crop land	One crop paddy	Hilly rice land	Other annual crop land	Natural forest land	Production forest land	'Other' land	Total
Area (Ha)	8.6	17.4	156	501	1165	1.9	2450.6	5490.6
%	0.2%	0.3%	2.8%	9.1%	21.2%	0%	44.6%	100%

²² LURCs for ethnic minority communities are a legal option in the land law but their allocation has not started in the project area.

The area of planned resettlement sites is 3852 Ha larger than the area affected. However there are net losses in several important land categories. They are equal to the difference between losses (Table 18) and land reclamation in planned resettlement sites (Table 19). By decreasing order of scale, net losses include 147 Ha of single-cropped paddy fields, 130 Ha of water bodies, 47 Ha of double-cropped paddy fields, 20 Ha of residential land and 19 Ha of perennial crop land. Losses of Luong bamboo are substantial.

The census has identified 37,863 fruit trees that would be lost. The census has recorded numbers by tree age (A = seedling to E = trees in full production stage).

Affected collective assets and public works have been identified in 5 communes: Trung Son, Trung Ly, Tam Chung, Muong Ly, Tan Xuan. They include (a) 4 schools, 2 teacher accommodation buildings, 1 commune health station; (b) 1 commune office, 2 cultural houses, 1 forest guard station, 1 collective accommodation; (c) 1 km of commune access road, 32 km of village access road, suspended bridge; (d) 5 km of water diversion pipe, 2 power generators.

Severely Affected DPs and Vulnerable Groups

In addition to households severely affected because they have to relocate, 46.5% of households affected on land only (371 out of 797 households) are severely affected, i.e. affected on more than 10% of their land. This proportion is above 50% in 27 villages.

The majority of DPs are from vulnerable groups as defined in Section 2.3. Data provided by the communes indicates that: (a) 60 percent of project affected households are poor; (b) highlights that a high proportion of affected households (291 households, 36 percent) are aged with all their members above 60 years old; (c) reports 68 head of households with a disability or seriously ill; and (d) all except at most 15 are from ethnic minority groups.

Information Update During Implementation

From now up to start of resettlement implementation, the number of DPs will increase due to population growth. A safe assumption has been retained of a growth rate of 3 percent per year. On this basis, 584 households (2,570 persons) are expected to be relocated in 2011.

During project implementation, changes in detailed project plans may result in additional households being affected.

4.6. Resettlement Arrangements

Options for Relocated Households

Three options are open to relocated households depending on their own choice: (a) to relocate to a planned resettlement site, (b) to move within the project area to a location of their choice other than a planned resettlement site, and (c) to move outside of the district or province with the support of an allowance.

During project planning, a majority of relocated households have indicated their preference to continue to live from the land and therefore remain in the project area. In the main project, all relocated Hmong households (9 in 2 villages) and 4 Thai households have indicated preference to move to a location of their choice. Some individual households in various communities may prefer to move to a location where they have relatives. Other households are expected to move a planned resettlement site.

In order to ensure equity among households in resettlement and replacement land allocation, there will be two options: (1) affected communities are allowed to agree among themselves on land plot selection on the basis of the approved land plan; and (2) a draw shall be organized in the presence of households, TSHPMB, DCC and CPC.

Location of homegardens in the design of the resettlement sites will take into account cultural preferences. Priority is given to garden land surrounding residential land. However, depending on actual terrain condition of each location, garden land may be provided in locations not surrounding residential land.

Location and Capacity of Planned Resettlement Sites

12 resettlement sites are planned for five communes: four villages in Trung Son Commune, three in Tan Xuan, two in Trung Ly, two in Muong Ly and one in Tam Chung ([Annex 2.6](#)). The resettlement sites have been identified in 2004 and modified in 2009 on the basis of feedback received through local consultation.

All planned resettlement sites are within the affected communes so that relocated households will be able to continue to manage their remaining land and other properties outside the project affected areas, and maintain social relationships. Average distance from affected site to resettlement site is 2 km (actual distance by village)

The capacity of the planned resettlement sites takes into account the forecast of households to be relocated in 2011, and the 40 households that would be isolated by the reservoir.

The current area of agricultural land and forestry land in resettlement sites is preserved. Overall, other land (unused land) decreases to allow the creation of residential land and new paddy fields (area by land category before and after relocation: [Annex 2.3](#)).

A detailed assessment of water resources was completed as part of the masterplan. The planned relocation sites can provide water through gravity systems to a total of 552 households. Available water flow is higher than 0.015 l/s/household served in all sites (Detail by site: [Annex 2.6](#)).

Each relocating household moving to the resettlement sites will be assigned a house site plot not smaller than 400 m². Depending on the availability of residential land in the resettlement sites, relocating households might be assigned a larger plot. The project will be responsible for ground leveling to ensure house construction as planned. The area of homegarden is not less than 300 m² per household. Agricultural land is not smaller than 1.5 hectare per household.

Each back-and-up relocating household will be assigned a home plot not smaller than 400 m². Depending on the availability of residential land in the resettlement sites, relocating households might be assigned a larger plot. The project will either do the ground leveling for DPs or pay them so that they can do it themselves, at the DPs' choice. If a DP prefers to do the ground leveling, the DP has to comply with technical requirements as necessary for safety purposes.

Land is made available in the relocation sites for communities to rebuild public ground such as a playground, a worship facility, a graveyard, a marketplace and a waste treatment area. Communities continue to use previous locations unaffected by flooding for animal grazing and NTFP collection. If these resources are flooded, access of relocated households to use new locations closer to relocation sites is clarified. See CLIP activity 1.5. Community resource use agreements.

Infrastructure

A detailed description of infrastructure planned in the relocation master plan is in Annex 2.6. Replacement public infrastructure includes electricity (access to national grid and allowance for connection), feeder roads (to commune, between villages, within villages, to fields), wharfs and one bridge, education and culture (kindergarten, primary classroom, cultural house), improved water for domestic uses and irrigation. The four planned resettlement sites (communes) are planned with irrigation systems for two crops per year and paddy fields will be developed in three of them.

The replacement public infrastructure will have equal or higher use value compared with what they replace. Public buildings in the resettlement sites will be built at grade 4 or equivalent with a design suitable to local natural conditions and cultural preferences and meeting the construction regulations of Vietnam.

Construction of a wharf and boat station to re-establish river transportation at dam site is planned.

Access to parts of the productive land of Pu Lau and Dong Tu Lao villages would be blocked by the flooded Suoi Quanh River. The solution is to build a bridge to connect Tay Tu Lao village to Tan Xuan commune center, and a wharf to reach farming sites in Ban Cam village by boat.

Environmental Impact Assessment of Resettlement Sites

The SESIA of the project includes a full review of the impact of the planned resettlement sites (PECC4 2008c). It describes (a) current environment status at the proposed sites; (b) potential impacts by site construction; and (c) adopted mitigation measures and (d) monitoring and evaluation. Infrastructure construction and land reclamation can generate erosion and waste. Relocated households may encroach on remaining forests. These environmental impacts will be avoided through proper management of works and cement waste, LURC allocation and a community forestry management plan.

LURCs on agricultural land will be allocated on land not steeper than regulated by the Land Law.

Water and forests in resettlement sites will be preserved through a combination of (1) for community resources, participatory management of community resources through CLIP, making full use of indigenous traditions, and (2) for protection forest and special use forest, the community forestry management plan under EMP.

The proposed relocation sites for the two affected villages in Tan Xuan Commune (Tham Ton 1 and Tham Ton 2 sites) are outside but very close (3 km) to the buffer zone of a protected area. TSHPMB will coordinate with Son La DARD to establish a regulation for natural forest protection by relocated households (a community forestry management plan, outside the scope of the RLDP).

Community forest management plans: Forest protection contracts will be signed in each resettlement site. They will be arranged by the commune authorities and the district forest protection service. Contract terms will follow standards of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The RP budget includes a dedicated budget line for mine and bomb clearance in order to ensure that there is no mine or bomb in locations where construction of resettlement sites will

take place. Clearance is a key step in resettlement site construction and is included in the contractual obligations of the contractor.

Integration with Host Populations

Households having expressed interest in planned relocation are all either Thai or Muong. They will relocate within their own communes. The host community is therefore the relocated community. Households having expressed interest in moving back and up will do so within their own community.

In cases where there are less than 30 resettling households in one resettlement site which is less than 1 km from the host community, the project will consider investing in extending or upgrading the existing structures and infrastructure to meet local demands. The scale, however, will not exceed the stipulated standards for the resettlement sites.

Implementation of Land for Land Compensation for Agricultural Land

Land for land compensation is the principle. Land will be allocated based on an average area of agricultural land for annual crops per household and an average area of forestry land. Land productivity will be taken into account when allocating land so that 20 kg of grain per month per capita can be derived from that land.

Land allocated to resettled households includes residential land and homegardens, newly reclaimed paddy fields and sloped land.

In cases where the land area is narrow and has lower quality than land previously used by the affected people, compensation in cash shall be paid at replacement cost prior to acquisition of the land. DCC and CPC shall take responsibility for compensation and assessment of impacts and land quality with participation of affected households.

At present, in the project area, provincial reference unit costs take into account land quality for residential land and for agricultural land. There are slight differences in the definition of land categories between Thanh Hoa and Son La Provinces ([Annex 2.7](#)).

Reference unit costs in the provinces: [Annex 2.7](#).

Outside planned resettlement sites where land has been set aside for relocated households, there are no public land reserves for land-for-land compensation. Land-for-land compensation therefore implies either: (a) transfer of land use rights to an affected household from another household; or (b) transfer of sloped land from the status of unused land (other land) to agricultural land.

Each village will participate in the selection of one of these options, taking into account the possibility for any displaced household to accept cash compensation. In option a, the selected plot of land should not affect any vulnerable households. In option b, reclamation of steeply sloped land will be prevented and construction of new terraces will be sought wherever possible. The consultation and participation framework provides the basis for the selection of one of these options.

Special Provision for Vulnerable Groups

Relocation assistance is part of the entitlement policy for households meeting social protection program eligibility criteria ([Section 4.4](#)).

All vulnerable households of the affected villages take part in CLIP and are a priority target group for some of the activities (Section 5.2). RLDP also facilitates their access to Government support through the on-going programs including Program 135, 134, Program 139 (health care for the poor), Muong Lat Hmong development program and the price subsidy program.

4.7. Implementation and Budget

RLDP is implemented as one integrated program. Definition of responsibilities, task force and equipment, training and capacity building, communication and implementation schedule for the main project RP are in Section 7. Costs and budget are provided in Section 8. The monitoring and evaluation plan is in Section 10.

The RLDP is implemented in each district as a sequence of 8 steps. Consistency of these steps with the participatory framework steps for resettlement is ensured (Section 3.2):

Step 1: Formation of District Compensation, assistance and resettlement Committee

Section 7.1: Composition of DCC.

Step 2: Preparation of implementation plan

Step 3: Organization, propaganda and information disclosure

Step 4: Enumeration, inventory and determination of land original, assets on land

Step 5: Preparation of compensation, assistance and resettlement plan

Step 6. Decision of land acquisition, approval and implementation of compensation, assistance and resettlement alternative

Step 7: Allocation of land plots in resettlement sites

Step 8: Organization for movement of local people to resettlement sites

Refer to TSHPMB draft document: description of resettlement steps.

5. Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan

5.1. Objective

CLIP contributes to the general objective of RLDP, to improve, or at least restore, livelihoods and living standards of affected villages in the respect of cultural diversity. Specifically, CLIP is designed to **enhance the community's capacity to restore, maintain and sustainably use its human, social, natural, financial and physical resources after being affected by the project.**

This statement of objective underlines that restoring livelihoods means not only restoring incomes but also restoring capacity in relation to various types of resources. The CLIP is designed to restore these resources both at household level and at community (village) level as indicated in the following box. Because local resources have important limitations, external resources (technical assistance, financial resources, new physical resources) are brought in through RLDP.

Box 1: Livelihood Resources in Affected Communities

Human resources: cultivation skills, indigenous knowledge, capacity to access non-farm income generation.

Social resources: supporting network of friends, relatives and neighbors; co-operative mechanism in production, savings and credit groups; village regulations; participation chances for all members in the community.

Natural resources: agricultural land, trees, forests and NTFPs, grazing land, land use rights, water.

Financial resources: household cash resources, capacity to get access to credit and to assistance funds from development programs.

Physical resources and services: home facilities in families, production tools, infrastructure, services (including health, education, extension).

The Trung Son hydropower project provides an opportunity for the local population to derive benefits from it. CLIP is designed to serve as an occasion for the local population to participate in its planning and implementation, thereby engendering a sense of ownership over this development undertaking.

5.2. Eligibility Criteria

Villages

Communities covered under the CLIP include all villages with at least one household severely impacted by resettlement from the main project (on land, house and land or other assets), including host villages where relocated households will settle.

As of October 2009, 44 villages have been identified as the target area for CLIP (Village names are in [Section 5.5](#) and [Annex 1](#)). These villages are all in the core RLDP area. Villages with households severely affected by downstream impact will be covered in the event that such villages are identified.

Table 20: Community Livelihoods Improvement Plans Prepared

District	Commune	CLIPs in new village/site (1)	CLIP in reservoir flooded villages	Number of CLIP prepared
Quan Hoa	Trung Son	4	2*	6*
Moc Chau	Tan Xuan	3	1*	4*
	Xuan Nha	0	2	2
Muong Lat	Trung Ly	0	10 + 1 hamlet	11
	Muong Ly	0	9	9
	Tam Chung	0	5	5
	Muong Lat Town	0	3	3
	Ten Tan	0	4	4
Total		7	37*	44

**Ta Ban in Trung Son and Dong Ta Lao in Tan Xuan, which are fully or almost fully relocated villages, do not have a CLIP.*

(1) *Trung Son and Tan Xuan have 3 new sites each which may remain subvillages or become independent villages.*

Three categories of villages have been identified as having a different degree of priority for CLIP. The inventory of losses defines which category each village is in:

- **Category 1:** severely-affected villages: 50 percent or more of households relocated OR severely affected on agricultural land; this includes the new sites for planned resettlement;
- **Category 2:** moderately affected villages: less than 50 percent of households relocated or 5 households or more severely affected on land only;
- **Category 3:** slightly affected villages: no relocation and fewer than 5 households that severely affected on land.

Table 21: Number of CLIP Villages by Priority

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Total
Number of villages	13	11	20	44

Source: classification by TSHPMB based on inventory of losses. List of villages in each category: Annex 1.

Several activities in CLIP are implemented as a priority for category 1 or 2 villages in order to facilitate livelihood restoration through an early start of activities. Category 3 villages may have access to these activities in the event that demand from priority villages is low, as is the case for vocational training. Pilot activities are exclusively for category 1 villages. Some activities are exclusively for category 2 villages because they do not have access to RP investment for planned resettlement sites such as irrigation. Agricultural training and extension covers all villages.

Households

The village is the entitlement unit to CLIP ([Section 1.4](#)). This means that all households within a village that is eligible to CLIP are eligible and invited to participate. This is because the resources developed by any household will benefit not only this household but also others (examples: new knowledge and varieties, grain availability in village, job opportunities in workshop). Project affected households are encouraged to actively participate in activities and would be eligible to receive specific support designed for directly affected households.

The community is entitled to receive support until livelihoods are at least restored to pre-project levels (as documented through monitoring and evaluation, [Section 10](#)). The duration and budget planned during project preparation will be increased if this objective is not reached by the end of the proposed duration.

Through community planning and monitoring, each household is invited to participate in at least one income generation activity, and young people are encouraged to apply for a vocational training course.

Household priority in individual orientation ([Activity 2.1](#) described below) is ranked on the basis of a cumulative index. This index remains to be confirmed based on actual prioritization needs. It could be the following: relocated household = 3, household severely affected on land only = 2, household from a vulnerable group (other than those under MOLISA line) = 1. For example, a female-headed household severely affected on land only would receive a priority index of 2.

In-village CLIP activities are designed to cover all households within a village. In practice, some households will start first. The actual selection of who starts first is under the responsibility of village monitoring groups and commune workgroups through the participatory process. Commune workgroups will report lists of participating households and reasons for their selection with full transparency to all households within a village, and to project management.

TSHPMB recognizes that the transitional nature of 28 households' livelihoods affected by construction of a Western Thanh Hoa Road, also by Trung Sơn project during their temporary stay in Ta Ban. In consequence, in addition to the support to be provided for livelihood transition, the households will be prioritized for piloting of the CLIP activities.

Vulnerable groups are entitled to special support as defined by the resettlement policy framework. First, relocated vulnerable groups are targeted for individual orientation in addition to orientation courses. Second, vulnerable households benefit from enhanced individual support in credit access facilitation so that their vulnerability is not an obstacle to benefit from a loan. They will also benefit from more intensive monitoring visits in the villages. Third, commune workgroups are requested to include a specific proportion of vulnerable households in each training and agricultural extension activity ([Section 5.4](#)).

5.3. Livelihood Restoration Strategy

Lessons Learnt from Similar Projects

The viewpoint of Government of Vietnam on resettlement may be summarized in four points: (a) resettlement preserves community features; (b) resettlement for farming households is based on farming activities; (c) the resettlement planning is consistent with local socio-economic development strategies; (d) and local community should benefit from resettlement plans.

EVN acknowledges experience from the World Bank about involuntary resettlement under development projects. Resettlement in the project can be considered as a shock to local people. Resettlement, if unmitigated, often gives rise to severe economic, social, and environmental risks: production systems are dismantled; people face impoverishment when their productive assets or income sources are lost; people are relocated to environments where their productive skills may be less applicable and the competition for resources greater; community institutions and social networks are weakened; kin groups are dispersed; and cultural identity, traditional authority, and the potential for mutual help are diminished or lost. Livelihoods development plans have a higher probability of success when they enhance existing activities bringing incomes and livelihoods; develop replacement livelihoods suitable to local conditions; and create a facilitating environment for a shift to more diversified job opportunities.

Overall Livelihood Restoration Strategy

CLIP follows a dual livelihood restoration strategy:

- Enhancement and improvement of existing farming systems for most households. The majority of households has a preference for land-based livelihoods. CLIP will provide options for households to adjust their farming systems to land and water resources in their new locations ([Section 5.4](#));
- Diversification into non-agricultural occupations through vocational training for some young people, and support to local microenterprises that will create local jobs. CLIP also pays attention to retain human resources, i.e. to avoid that the majority of relocated households with higher formal education levels move out of the area. It provides to these households opportunities to stay in the project area.

Resettled households will not be able to recreate similar land use systems since they will move to higher grounds where less water and flat land is available for paddy fields. They will have to adjust their farming practices. CLIP's vision is to help households recreate small areas of paddy fields and larger areas of bamboo, while accelerating the on-going transition towards more productive agriculture on slopes, encouraging a marked development of homegardens and supporting development of small and large livestock integrated with agriculture:

Terrace restoration and expansion. Most of the households that will be relocated have access to paddy fields and were therefore relatively less poor than average. The planned resettlement sites offer these households the opportunity to recreate their lifestyles in another location. This lifestyle is an integral part of their culture and will be preserved if this is the choice of these households. Surveys and infrastructure construction during resettlement is an opportunity to maximize the area of new paddy fields to allow other households to have access to them. Rainfed terraces are not practiced in the area but are a valid option that deserves to be tested (Livelihoods assessment).

Sloped Agricultural Land Technology. Wherever paddy fields are absent or too limited, farming systems in the project area are in the stage of transition from traditional shifting cultivation to annual cropping with no or reduced fallow periods. Improved technology, adapted to local soil and climate conditions and taking into account local knowledge, can be brought in provided strong technical assistance is available. Homegardens can be substantially enriched. Households must also learn to integrate better crop production with animal production to maintain soil fertility in the new farming systems.

The water body may not offer much opportunity to develop fishing. Preliminary studies indicate that fish resources would be abundant only during the first few years. Land located

on the future reservoir bank will have added value if water can be raised locally. The reservoir will offer a convenient transportation route when the wharf at the downstream end planned in the RP is built, allowing interchange to truck transportation.

Luong bamboo will be restored wherever feasible and can be expanded to new locations along the reservoir. However there will be competing demands for land close to the reservoir. Vulnerable households might lose land to better-off households or outsiders replanting bamboo. CLIP will encourage restoration of Luong production including providing quality seeds, training on bamboo plantation and harvesting, etc while avoiding competition for land that impacts vulnerable groups.

Importance of Environment and Diversified Livelihoods

Sustainable development: adopting an environment friendly path to develop agriculture is critical not only for the environment but also for future livelihoods. Annual crops (maize, cassava) provide short-term income but damage soils when grown on steep slopes. The construction of terraced fields is a preferred option for households. Terraced fields with improved crop production (paddy, other crops) will restore grain production while avoiding opening of new upland fields and destruction of remaining forests.

Diversified livelihood sources: diversity is currently high and this will be preserved to minimize risks and generate income for different ages, and for both women and men. Several new income sources (fresh products for local consumption, rattan) are feasible from a technical and marketing point of view²³.

Risks. Risks taken into account in CLIP include crop failure, landslides and failure of a drinking water supply. These risks are minimized through (a) diversification of sources of agricultural income and of varieties, (b) prevention of erosion through community resource use agreement and quality monitoring of infrastructure, and (c) community management of water systems. In the event of a natural disaster, RLDP contingencies will be used to restore livelihoods in addition to support secured through government channels.

Implementation Strategy

Early start: households and communities will be encouraged to have detailed plans for their post-resettlement livelihoods before they resettle. New bamboo plantations must be established before existing ones are flooded because it takes four years from planting to the first harvest.

Combining independent technical assistance with capacity building of local extension staff: national technical assistants will help introduce appropriate technology and liaise with on-going projects. CLIP takes into account on-going poverty reduction programs to avoid lack of consistency. However annual activities in CLIP are not determined by the annual plans of these programs. Instead CLIP invites households to select their preferred options from a broad menu of activities deemed feasible under local conditions. The planning process is simplified to allow timely and flexible implementation. No feasibility study is required for pre-project livelihood sources. Additionally, TSHPMB will obtain international consultant services to advise on CLIP implementation arrangements, participatory processes, and monitoring and evaluation activities. This CLIP advisor also will collaborate with the Environment and Social Panel of Experts in assessing overall CLIP effectiveness.

²³ Only fish rearing in cages raises a risk of non-adoption of new technology.

Addressing Gender and Poverty

The project adopts gender mainstreaming as a key strategy for promoting gender equity, and for ensuring that women participate and that their needs are explicitly addressed in the decision-making process for development activities. Both income-generation and employment opportunities for women will be developed. Awareness on trafficking of women and children – both internal and external trafficking – will be enhanced and specific HIV/AIDS prevention measures are set up in the ethnic minorities development plan in RLDP and in health management plans) (Section 6.7 in EMDP).

The project is designed to contribute positively to poverty reduction within the affected area. Vulnerable groups, that include the poor, have additional support in CLIP (Section 5.2). Employment opportunities for the poor will be maximized during construction, access of the poor to new paddy fields will be sought, and skill training for handicrafts and access to non-farm employment are pro-poor measures.

CLIP activities fully take into account the high proportion of illiterate audience. Intensive facilitation is provided through in-village meetings and face-to-face contacts. Training sessions are designed for such an audience and most activities take place in the field, not in the classroom. The communication strategy (Section 7.4) is also designed for such an audience

Marketing Strategy

A **bamboo supply chain** with diversified outlets (including local and international enterprises) has been developed in the Ma river basin. The CLIP seeks to maintain and expand this chain. Products to be developed should allow value to be added locally.

The project area has a regional comparative advantage for products adapted to its drier climate and for which quality varieties are locally available (**upland rice, sticky varieties of paddy rice, NTFPs**).

Construction workers will provide a sizeable outlet for **meat and some vegetable**. Local towns and increased access to the Hanoi market will provide a longer-term option.

Handicrafts in the project area have limited comparative advantage compared to other locations in Northwest Vietnam. Partnership between a producer group and an enterprise/NGO and local tourism can provide an outlet but scale is likely to remain limited.

Project Impacts on Livelihoods

The above strategy and the list of activities in CLIP have been defined on the basis of the following detailed analysis of direct project impacts on livelihoods, both positive and negative. CLIP has been designed to take advantage of opportunities for positive impact and avoid or mitigate risks of negative impacts of the project on livelihoods

Loss of land, houses and other assets is managed under the resettlement plan and is not repeated in this table. Local livelihoods might be significantly affected due to project **impacts on health or the environment**. Health impacts and related mitigation measures (through EMDP and through the public health action plan outside RLDP are described in Section 6.6. Environmental impacts are listed in Table 6 and addressed through the Environmental Management Plan.

Table 22: Project Impacts on Livelihoods

Positive impact	Risks of negative impact
Dam construction	
<p>Unskilled temporary jobs in construction sites</p> <p>Some potential for sightseeing tourism, handicraft</p> <p>National electricity grid in Trung Son, added value from processing</p>	<p>Elimination of waterway transportation of Luong bamboo and food downstream of the dam, impact on bamboo manufacturing (Muong Ly, Quan Hoa)</p> <p>Fishing incomes, mostly for downstream communities</p>
Reservoir flooded areas	
<p>New occupations: fishing and aquaculture, tourism</p> <p>Water availability for irrigation, animal raising</p> <p>Diversification, reduction of risks</p> <p>Access to new paddy fields and land for some households and villages</p> <p>Clearer land demarcation and clearer planning of land uses</p>	<p>Disruption of daily life, drinking water resources, micro-hydropower</p> <p>Luong bamboo income affected. High impact in some villages</p> <p>Disruption of agricultural techniques (paddy fields, crop rotation on slopes, animal sheds)</p> <p>Loss of common property resource for NTFP collection and grazing</p> <p>Competition between households (or with outsiders) over land, other natural resources</p>
Access road	
<p>Shift from waterway transportation to road transportation up to Trung Son: easier access to market and agricultural inputs, higher agricultural commodity prices, improved links with population centers</p> <p>More exchanges between communities</p>	<p>Higher transportation costs for bamboo</p>
Resettlement sites	
<p>Better residential planning, village infrastructure, school, new houses</p> <p>Some allowances available for production investment</p> <p>Increased access to services and social links from inter-village roads</p> <p>New or improved irrigation system</p> <p>Improved drinking water, sanitation, conducive to better health</p> <p>Job creation for shop keepers and small service providers</p>	<p>Longer distance from field to house</p> <p>Broken links between community members moving to different locations</p> <p>Social disorder and insecurity</p> <p>Poor households losing assets in future market-based land and house transactions, increased inequality</p> <p>Spontaneous outmigration outside planned sites</p>
Inflow of construction workers	
<p>Income from food sales and other services</p> <p>Social links between local communities and workers</p> <p>Local communities are familiarized with industrial, professional working style</p>	<p>Significant negative social and health impact: Section 6.5</p>

Sources: social assessment, livelihoods assessment (GRET 2008) and consultations with affected households. Impacts on Health and Livelihood Impacts from Potential Environmental Degradation are not included in this table.

CLIP is also based on strengths and weaknesses for livelihood improvement in the core RLDP area, which define opportunities and threats for livelihood restoration:

Table 23: SWOT Analysis for Livelihood Restoration and Development

Project Area Strengths for Livelihood Development	Project Area Weaknesses for Livelihood Development
<p>Human resources Indigenous knowledge and resources (upland rice varieties, animal breeds, bamboo shoots, handicraft traditions) Willingness of most households to continue land-based livelihoods</p> <p>Institutions Existing knowledge, supply chain and development project for Luong bamboo No significant land disputes among households Provincial vocational schools</p>	<p>Remote and difficult border area Underdeveloped infrastructure, markets and services High poverty incidence, gender bias, language gap</p> <p>Institutions Weakness of most mass organizations Weak agricultural extension (Thanh Hoa)</p>
Opportunities for CLIP	Threats to CLIP
<p>Institutions Small number of main affected communities, plans can be tailored to each village Intervention can be combined with 135 program and improved cattle raising program National TA Extension capacity building Enhancement of community capacity to participate in RLDP</p> <p>Transition period management Early planning and new skills before moving (e.g. vegetables and poultry)</p> <p>Future sustainable incomes Clear planning of various land uses More intensive cultivation on terraced fields Luong bamboo development along reservoir Reintroduction of rattan Extension of more sustainable technologies, appropriate crop varieties, organic fertilizer Access to off-farm employment: transportation, ecotourism</p>	<p>Timing, quality, participation *Delay in resettlement, drinking water supply, schools and medical centers *Lack of timely public information, of participation (government, households) *Lack of quality of new terraced fields, public infrastructure Delay in restoration of bamboo plantations Household labor availability during resettlement</p> <p>Local development strategy Short-term focus on annual crops to the expense of remaining forests Extension of electricity and road network beyond dam unconfirmed</p> <p>Institutions Difficult access to credit Absence of veterinary services</p> <p>Poverty Limited access of households with little agricultural land</p>

*Sources: livelihoods assessment (GRET 2008), social assessment
 Threats marked * are addressed under the resettlement plan (a well-functioning implementation schedule, quality monitoring), the EMDP (coordination with district health and education), the consultation and participation framework (Section 3.2).*

5.4. Planning for Livelihoods Restoration and Improvement

Elements

CLIP is structured into three elements, each with a set of activities.

The production improvement element takes place in each village. It aims to restore as soon as possible crop, animal and forest production at least to pre-project levels and to facilitate adoption of environmentally friendly techniques. New varieties and appropriate technology would be introduced through pilots, and training and agricultural extension would be delivered to interest groups. Environment protection is promoted through village community agreements.

The service center element organizes and provides non-technical services to households including orientation, credit facilitation, access to vocational training and access to employment on the project, and facilitation of enterprise development. Services are provided both in the villages and in the project headquarters in Trung Son Commune.

The technical support element provides a technical assistance team for 4 years, starting as soon as possible after project launch, around January 2011 and until end-2014. Assistance is provided in priority within the villages. In addition, facilitators will be based in the villages. Communities select, manage and monitor activities through the participatory framework ([Section 3.2](#)). Extension and/or farmer association staff receive hands-on training so that they are able to take over after that period (institutional framework: [Section 7.1](#)).

Element 1: Production Improvement Activities

Activity 1.1: Development of a menu of options for sustainable crop and animal production. It is planned that in about 5 severely-affected villages with sufficient human resources and interest to participate, interest groups are set up to try soil fertility enhancement techniques on newly-built terraces and slopes, to test new seed, to introduce livestock management techniques and enriched homegardens ([Table 24](#)). Cross-visits to areas with similar soil and climate conditions are organized for households participating in pilots. A district advisory board with relevant departments provides access to existing information and ensures that findings from successful trials can be extended through interest groups as soon as possible. Five villages have been identified for this activity ([Section 5.5](#)).

The project funds (a) all inputs and technical assistance, compensation for labor costs and potential loss of income, (b) local study tours, (c) workshops with provincial advisory boards.

Table 24: Examples for CLIP Pilots and Interest Groups

Appropriate Technology	To Avoid
Soil fertility restoration on new terraces. Mechanized terracing with preservation of topsoil. Rainfed terraces. Organic fertilizer.	Hand-made only terraces: poor households do not have labor resources.
Crop rotation intensification. Slope cultivation with appropriate solutions for weed control and soil nutrients.	Negative impact from maize and cassava. Use of chemical fertilizer only.

Appropriate Technology	To Avoid
New crop varieties. Paddy rice, upland rice, winter maize.	Testing Northern varieties only: they may not be appropriate to local climate. Testing hybrid rice only: local varieties, especially glutinous rice, are valuable varieties.
Homegardens and Integrated animal and crop production. Vegetable production in small areas, forage crops, grazing resources, animal manure.	To test commercial vegetables only. To test processed feed only.
Agricultural and processing tools. Small tools for the management of water, animal forage, animal manure, or for crop storage.	To test crop processing only.
Bamboo plantation restoration. Intercropping. Diversification of varieties.	Unclear land tenure

Sources: Northern Mountains poverty reduction project, Quan Hoa bamboo development project. The technical assistance team will determine priorities for pilots and menus for interest groups.

Activity 1.2: Agriculture, livestock and forestry training. The technical assistance team and extension staff will undertake a program of training activities taking place twice a year within the village or commune during three years. The form and duration of the training will be flexible, broken down into 6 training phases for people to get familiar with new skills. Activities will be appropriate to illiterate audiences, using best practice from poverty reduction projects (training through direct observation and practice, “field schools” to compare varieties before adoption...). Provision of technical leaflets will only be appropriate in villages with higher literacy rates.

Each community will decide between two options: (a) including at least one third of women in each training course and (b) setting up at least two courses with mostly women. Language and training materials will be adapted to the language and literacy skills in the villages ([EMDP, Section 6.6](#)). The duration of each course will be at least 4 half days. Timing will be adapted to the labor constraints of households.

The project funds (a) trainer fee and travel costs if other than technical assistance team, (b) production of training materials, (c) incentive and drinks for participants and (d) DVDs and information leaflets ([Section 7.4: Communication](#)).

Activity 1.3: Diversified interest groups. Small groups of households will be set up in each participating village. Each group will undertake an agricultural extension activity (‘model’) in crop production on slopes, on terraced fields, in animal husbandry, forestry or homegardens. Through this model, they will test a technical package including agricultural inputs and other improved practices that do not require purchase of inputs (e.g., organic fertilizer). The groups will select one activity from a production model menu prepared by the technical assistance team. Agricultural inputs provided will be appropriate to the project area and environmentally friendly.

Both crop production and animal husbandry are important to restore livelihoods. Animal husbandry requires the development of fodder resources. Only animals already vaccinated will be provided.

Interest groups will have 3-6 member households including one member who is knowledgeable in the related production, and several vulnerable households. Each community will decide between two options: (a) including at least two women in each interest group and (b) setting up at least one interest group with mostly women. In villages hosting relocated households, the host communities will set up the group and resettled households

will join at resettlement time. Interest groups for large livestock in marginally affected villages will be based on the animal bank model: a group of 5 households receives one animal and each household takes turns in caring for the animal and receiving young animals²⁴.

The project will provide (a) seed, young animals or tree seedlings, (b) a subsidy package for other production costs for two years, and (c) technical assistance in the form of seasonal visits to the group during three years.

Activity 1.4: small infrastructure²⁵. The villages that will host households relocating out of planned resettlement sites will receive a budget for small infrastructure. In other villages, communities will have the possibility to allocate part of the CLIP budget to build small infrastructure conducive to improved and more sustainable production, especially terraced fields. Infrastructure may require local labor, if available, or mechanized equipment. In the latter case, this activity will be planned as far as possible in parallel with other construction contracts in order to reduce costs.

Activity 1.5: village natural resource and irrigation management agreements²⁶. Each community will develop simple informal agreements to optimize the location of village forest around water source, other tree plantations, grazing land and other resources with support from the CLIP technical assistance team. Communities will be invited to make full use of their indigenous water management and forest protection systems. Plans will take into account the needs of various groups (bamboo belt around the reservoir, space for other reservoir-based activities, grazing land). Formal land use plans are not foreseen to be feasible. Existing village agreements will be updated and enhanced.

The project will provide facilitation for the preparation and monitoring of the agreements.

Refer to EMP for community forest management plan, in charge of protection forest and future framework for payment of environmental services.

Element 2: Service Center Activities

The following services are public services financed by RLDP and therefore available to households for free.

Activity 2.1: Individual advisory services. Household orientation will primarily take the form of individual advisory services. Households will meet their advisor in their village or in the service center. The advisor will help the household develop a comprehensive livelihood restoration plan over several years. For this purpose a household database will be maintained (Section 10.3: internal monitoring).

In addition, training courses on financial management in the household will be organized to help households manage the transition period. At the end of these courses, households will know how to save cash compensations, how to schedule investments, how to open a savings account in a bank and how to apply for a loan. They will also have improved knowledge about the importance of LURC and land transfer markets and procedures. They will be provided with examples of successful diversification into non-agricultural activities and

²⁴ There are several management models. The CLIP team will determine which one will be used.

²⁵ Villages with project impact on public infrastructure are eligible for infrastructure restoration. Restoration is budgeted under the RP. Villages may choose to use part of the CLIP budget to improve public infrastructure or develop terraces outside the planned resettlement sites.

²⁶ Forest protection contracts are due to be implemented through the community forestry management plan (part of the EMP).

small enterprises. Project support covers (a) design of representative livelihood examples with estimated incomes, costs and timeline, to be prepared by the technical assistants, (b) trainer costs, training materials and trainee travel and attendance, (c) individual advice to priority households by TSHPMB safeguard team, (d) DVDs and information leaflets (Section 7.4: communication).

Activity 2.2: Vocational training. Communities will identify, with the support of the district department of industry and trade (DDIT), candidates for vocational training. The project will facilitate applications at a training center within or outside the province. Participants will sign a training contract with the project. Vocational training in skills that will facilitate local employment during construction, such as mechanical repair, will be encouraged. The service center will help them identify employment opportunities (but will not be held liable for those participants failing to obtain a job).

Project support covers (a) travel expenses, (b) education costs, and (c) living expenses.

Activity 2.3: Credit facilitation. TSHPMB will establish a multi-annual contract with one of the banks with district presence²⁷. It will provide a loan guarantee fund and pay a service fee. In exchange, the bank will manage household savings and recognize all affected households in the project area as creditworthy for micro-loans, except in specific cases. In particular, being poor, disabled, female, illiterate, or there being drug addiction of a household member other than the applicant, will not be a cause of non-access to credit. In Quan Hoa District, the Women's Union has experience in managing micro-loan funds and the contract may be partly established with them. Other mass organizations may similarly apply to manage part of the fund. In accordance with best practice, the bank will be in charge of approving the purpose of the loan proposed by the household, and of deciding ceilings, interest rates and duration. It is however foreseen that micro-loans applications will be predominantly be for reestablishment of bamboo (hiring labor), and other activities. Households taking part in the project business clubs will be eligible to apply for a micro-enterprise development loan.

The project provides: (a) technical assistance for the establishment and management of the bank/mass organization contract scheme(s), (b) basic training in savings and credit (Activity 2.1), (c) a service fee to be negotiated with the bank, (d) a window for savings and credit at the service center at hours convenient for local households.

Activity 2.4: Handicrafts. A support study will be undertaken to (a) identify an NGO or enterprise interested in local crafts, (b) set up with this partner solutions to increase quality while ensuring satisfactory returns to labor (quality supplies, design), (c) prepare samples of an appropriate quality level, and (d) provide skill training. It is foreseen that one handicraft cooperative would be created in one village.

The project covers (a) the costs of the study and (b) the preparation and delivery of samples.

Activity 2.5: Microenterprise clubs. Local clubs are set up to foster micro-enterprise or producer association development and seize future opportunities. At this stage, two sectors, tourism development and Luong bamboo processing, are identified. Additional sectors will be identified.

The project provides (a) facilitation for establishment of the clubs, management assistance during the 4 years of CLIP, (b) individual advice on market potential and business plans.

²⁷ TSHPMB will also hire a local bank to assist with payment of compensation.

Activity 2.6: construction employment facilitation. The CLIP team in DCP will liaise with the contractor to organize local employment as stipulated in the bidding document. Schedules and minimum skill requirements will be planned. Information about job opportunities will be made available in the villages in a form accessible to all. Short pre-employment training courses will be organized.

Element 3: Technical Support

A CLIP team comprising a technical assistance team, safeguard team members, selected staff from district extension or farmer association, and young graduates serving as facilitators will be present during 4 years to implement the above activities (Section 7.1).

Best practice is available from existing livelihood improvement projects. These projects provide lessons and implementation guidelines in topics such as participation, formation of interest groups, small loan management, or attention to the environment. CLIP makes full use of this experience. Experience from these projects will be brought by technical assistants, mass organizations having experience in these projects, networking with these projects and study tours.

Activity 3.1: In-village activities. The team, including technical assistance engineers, will undertake a structured program of field trials, visits and stays within the villages.

Activity 3.2: Extension staff training. Through joint implementation of models, the national technical assistance team will provide hands-on training to local staff in crop and animal production including animal disease prevention.

Activity 3.3: Service center activities. CLIP team members will maintain an open window for households. This will allow close coordination, for example in the management of employment opportunities with the contractor, and convenient communications, for example in vocational training applications. Although most of the training will take place in the villages, the service center will have one equipped classroom. Training courses for which headquarters are a convenient location, compared to the villages, will take place in this classroom. At the end of the project, TSHPMB, DPC and CPC will see service center will be transferred to CPC and/or DPC at the end of the project to ensure continuation of activities in the longer term.

5.5. Village Community Livelihoods Development Plans

5.5.1. Livelihood Restoration Packages

Paths to livelihood restoration will vary among households within a village. Some trends are expected in each village category:

- In severely affected villages (category 1), where the RP provides intensive support in terms of infrastructure, electricity supply and irrigation, households that get access to paddy fields may want to restore their previous pattern of income generation. Some households are likely to want to create small businesses.
- In moderately affected villages (category 2), more households may want to develop enriched homegardens, fish ponds or handicrafts, and more young people may want to turn to off-farm employment through vocational training.

- In slightly affected villages (category 3), CLIP will encourage and support households in interest groups. More households are expected to want to obtain access to microloans and credits, and to receive vocational training.

Pilots (activity 1.1) and advisory services (activity 2.1) will provide a body of technical and economic references on the most appropriate household models. The commune facilitators and household advisors will in turn use these models in their work with communities and affected households. Household models will fully take into account the diversity of income sources.

CLIP provides three standard packages in each village category (Table 25). These are defined in terms of level of technical support and services, not in terms of actual income generation sources. These packages define priorities. They will be adjusted to meet the actual demand of affected households and take advantage of upcoming opportunities.

Table 25: Livelihood Restoration Packages by Village Category

Village category	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Project impact	> 50 percent % households relocated or severely affected on land	< 50 percent households relocated or more than 5 households severely affected on land only	No relocation and less than 5 households severely affected on land
1. Production improvement			
Pilots	5 villages	No	No
Cattle interest groups	1 head/ Household	1 head/ Household	1 head/ 5 households
Small livestock, fish	Yes	Yes	No
Public infrastructure	No	Yes	No
Terraces out of planned resettlement sites	No	Yes	No
Forest protection contracts	Yes	Yes	No
2. Service center activities			
Individual orientation	Priority to relocated households, other severely affected households and vulnerable groups	Priority to relocated households, other severely affected households and vulnerable groups	
Credit facilitation - microloan	Yes	Yes	
Credit facilitation - small enterprise	Around 20% of Households	Some	Some
Vocational training	Around 20% of Households	20%	Few
Business clubs	Around 5%	Some	Some
3. Technical support			
TA	Pilot year		
Commune facilitator	1 per 2 villages	1 per 2 villages	Visits

5.5.2. Status of Plans for Individual Villages

Challenges and opportunities have been identified in each village in consultation with the community. The summary by village, given below is based on detailed findings and proposals made during the consultations.

Village plans are flexible and are implemented in a dynamic manner to take into account local preferences and the results of pilots, and to optimize the management of transition. Plans will be fine-tuned through the participatory process described in [Section 3.2.](#)

Trung Son Commune, Quan Hoa District

1. Xuoc	
Location: dam site	Population: 24 HH. Thai/Muong.
Project impact and resettlement plan: All relocated to 1.5 km above within same village. 0/54 ha agricultural land, 64/187 ha bamboo affected. 2 existing ha of paddy fields improved.	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration activities: Interest groups: paddy rice, hilly rice/maize Bamboo restoration, timber plantations Fish cages in reservoir, cattle Tourism development project after dam construction Training
Challenges and opportunities: 60% population above 60 years old Lowest average income in commune Agricultural land not affected	
2. Co Me	
Location: worker camp and supporting sites	Population: 98 HH. 100% Thai.
Project impact and resettlement plan: Supporting sites. 38 HH affected on land of which 25 severely impacted 0.6/18 ha agricultural land, 9/43 ha bamboo affected	Category 1 Proposed pilot village. Proposed livelihood restoration activities: No food crops. Cattle, intensive pig raising, agricultural training. 1 bamboo processing workshop. Small enterprise development, vocation training.
Challenges and opportunities: Small land area, steep slopes Construction site: qualified employment and sales of meat products. Development of services	
3. Ban Chieng	
Location: worker camp and supporting sites	Population: 107 HH. Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 9 households temporarily affected by supporting sites	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Vocation training managed under Co Me CLIP
Challenges and opportunities: Large area of paddy fields. Close to Pu Hu protected forest, high incomes (NTFP, bamboo).	
4. Ta Puc	

4. Ta Puc	
Location: dam site, 5 km from Ta Ban village	Population: 50 relocated HH, Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: One of the 3 resettlement sites for Ta Ban 3.5 Ha of reclaimed paddy fields	Category 1 Proposed pilot village Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of reclaimed paddy fields Hilly rice, maize interest groups, training Forestry: bamboo and timber Cattle, pigs/sows, poultry, fish cages
Challenges and opportunities: 100% relocated households Relocated households can continue to use their hilly rice and bamboo land in Ta Ban	

5. Keo Dam	
Location: dam site, 3.5 Km from Ta Ban within same village	Population: 25 newly relocated HH, Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: One of the 3 resettlement sites for Ta Ban 3 Ha of reclaimed paddy fields	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of reclaimed paddy fields Hilly rice, maize interest groups, training Forestry. Cattle, pigs, fish cage Some candidates for vocational training
Challenges and opportunities: 100% relocated households Relocated households can continue to use their hilly rice and bamboo land in Ta Ban	

6. Co Tong - Ta Ma	
Location: dam site, 4 km to former Ta Ban within same village	Population: 83 newly relocated households, Thai/Muong.
Project impact and resettlement plan: One of the 3 resettlements site for Ta Ban 6.7 Ha of reclaimed paddy fields	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of reclaimed paddy Hilly rice, maize, soybeans, cattle & forage grass, sows, fish cage interest groups, training. Forestry. Microenterprise development, more than 10 candidates for vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% relocated households Relocated households can continue to use their hilly rice and bamboo land in Ta Ban	

Tan Xuan Commune, Moc Chau District

7. Poom Hien – Suoi Non	
Location: 4 km away from Dong Ta Lao.	Population: 50 newly relocated households, Thai/Muong.
Project impact and resettlement plan: One of the three resettlement villages for Dong Ta Lao and Tay Ta Lao.	Category 1 Proposed pilot village. Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of reclaimed sloped land. Hilly rice, maize, cassava, cattle, sows/pigs and poultry interest groups. Training. Forestry. Handicraft cloth weaving cooperative.
Challenges and opportunities: Tan Xuan is a recently created commune with few services. Little interest for vocational training.	

8. Tham Ton 1

Location: 3 km away from Tay Ta Lao.	Population: 113 newly relocated households; Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: One of the three resettlement villages for Dong Ta Lao and Tay Ta Lao.	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of reclaimed sloped land. Hilly rice, maize, cassava, cattle and forage grass, and poultry interest groups. Training. Forestry. Bamboo processing, starch mill
Challenges and opportunities: Tan Xuan is a recently created commune with few services. Little interest for vocational training. Large newly created community.	

9. Tham Ton 2

Location: 4 km away from Dong Ta Lao.	Population: 30 newly relocated households; Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: One of the three resettlement villages for Dong Ta Lao (4 km away)	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of reclaimed sloped land. Hilly rice, maize, cassava, cattle and forage grass, pigs and poultry interest groups. Training. Forestry. Cinnamon processing
Challenges and opportunities: Tan Xuan is a recently created commune with few services. Little interest for vocational training.	

10. Tay Ta Lao

Location: end of flooded area	Population: 112 HH - Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 58 HH relocated Small impact on remaining households	Category 3 for households remaining behind Proposed livelihood restoration: Only training planned so far. Interest groups remain to be planned.
Challenges and opportunities: Tan Xuan is a recently created commune with few services Major bamboo producer, diversified income sources	

Xuan Nha Commune, Moc Chau District

11. Pu Lau

Location: south of commune.	Population: 94 HH. Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 5 HH relocated 59/126 Ha agricultural land, 16/177 Ha bamboo affected	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of paddy. Hilly rice interest groups, cows, poultry training. Forestry. Several candidates for vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: Large area of agricultural land affected. Convenient traffic. Existing modern crop varieties.	

12. Tun

Location: south of commune.	Population: 80 HH. Thai/Muong
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12. Tun

Project impact and resettlement plan: 3/5 HH losing agricultural land. 129.0 m ² agricultural land. 2184.0 m ² production forest land.	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice interest groups, cows, poultry training.
Challenges and opportunities: Very small agricultural land affected.	

*Trung Ly Commune, Muong Lat District***13. Lin**

Location: river bank, south of Muong Ly commune center.	Population: 31 HH. Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 19 HH affected by land flooding 0/48 Ha agricultural land, 22/38 Ha bamboo affected Lin Zhong hamlet: resettlement site for Lin Ngoai hamlet, acquisition of 3.2 Ha of paddy	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Intensification of paddy. Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, fish cages; training. Forestry.
Challenges and opportunities: Only village in commune with some bamboo	

14. Co Cai Trong Hamlet (Co Cai Village)

Location: southeast of commune	Population: 89 HH, Muong.
Project impact and resettlement plan: 0/21 Ha agricultural land, 3/18 Ha bamboo affected	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: Marginal impact.	

15. To Chieng Hamlet (Co Cai Village)

Location: south bank of Ma River, east of commune center.	Population: 16 HH. Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 18 HH relocated 2 km west of current village. 0/40 Ha agricultural land, 20/20 Ha bamboo affected	Category 1 Proposed Pilot Village Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, fish cages; training. Forestry. Some candidates for vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: All bamboo affected.	

16. Pa Bua

Location: close to commune center.	Population: 85 HH. Hmong (+ 2 Thai, 1 Kinh HH)
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16. Pa Bua	
Project impact and resettlement plan: 16 relocated households within the village. 10/42 Ha paddy, 0/0 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: Degrade soils. Little potential for vocational training.	

17. Hoc	
Location: west of commune	Population: 39 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 7 HH with land affected Reservoir and borrow pit 10/39 Ha agricultural land, 0/0 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% of hungry households	

18. Tung	
Location: west of commune	Population: 30 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 10 HH with land affected Reservoir and borrow pit 6/35 Ha agricultural land, 1/1 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% of hungry households	

19. Ca Giang	
Location: east of commune.	Population: 78 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 17 HH with land affected Reservoir and borrow pit 17/58 Ha agricultural land, 1/1 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities:	

20. Canh Cong	
Location: east of commune.	Population: 40 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 2 HH with land affected Reservoir and borrow pit 0/4 Ha agricultural land, 2/2 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice interest groups, cows
Challenges and opportunities: Very limited agricultural land.	

21. Xa Lao	
Location: west of commune.	Population: 20 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 5 HH with land affected Reservoir and borrow pit 5/17 Ha agricultural land, 0/0 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: Very limited agricultural land. 100% of hungry households	

22. Ta Com	
Location: east of commune.	Population: 71 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 12 HH with land affected Reservoir and borrow pit 14/22 Ha agricultural land, 4/4 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: Very limited agricultural land.	

23. Na On	
Location: Three km from commune center.	Population: 71 HH, 100% Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: No relocation. 3/71 HH with land affected 3.85 Ha production forest land flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: Low income village. Very limited agricultural land affected.	

Muong Ly Commune, Muong Lat District (8 villages)

24. Nang 1	
Location: New Nang village, close to commune center	Population: 48 HH in pre-project community. Thai/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 100% HH relocated (reservoir and borrow pit), relocated within Nang 1 or Tai Chanh resettlement sites Creation of 4 ha of paddy	Category 1 Proposed pilot village Proposed livelihood restoration: Paddy rice intensification. Hilly rice, maize and soybeans interest groups, cows, pigs, fish cages, training, forestry (acacia and native tree species proposed)
Challenges and opportunities: Soils not appropriate for Luong bamboo. On-going cotton trial with enterprise. No candidates for vocational training	

25. Tai Chanh	
Location: north bank of Ma River, east of commune center.	Population: 48 HH in pre-project community. Thai/Muong

25. Tai Chanh

Project impact and resettlement plan: 34 HH relocated, relocated within Ban Nang 1 and Tai Chanh resettlement site 16 HH affected on land by relocation 0.1/118 Ha agricultural land, 35/109 Ha bamboo flooded. Creation of 3.5 Ha of paddy	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Paddy rice intensification. Hilly rice, maize and soybeans interest groups, cows, pigs, fish cages, training, forestry (acacia and native tree species proposed)
Challenges and opportunities: New Tai Chanh will be only 200 m away from the village to be flooded, close to water body. No candidates for vocational training.	

26. Muong 2

Location: close to commune center	Population: 46 HH, Hmong/Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: Marginal relocation: 5 HH relocating within village+ 12 non-Hmong arrived in 2008 out of census. 7 HH affected on agricultural land 10/14 Ha agricultural land, 24/38 Ha bamboo affected Only village in project area with shops affected (7)	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, cows, training. Hmong handicrafts Reorientation of 12 interrupted businesses No training (already provided under Hmong program)
Challenges and opportunities: Main village where businesses are located in the commune. Muong Lat Hmong program being launched	

27. Mau

Location: east of commune	Population: 33 HH. 100% Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 11 HH affected on agricultural land 0/19 Ha agricultural land, 5/20 Ha bamboo flooded No relocation	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, cows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% poor households. Mild slopes	

28. Kit

Location: east of commune	Population: 33 HH. Muong/Thai
Project impact and resettlement plan: 15 HH affected on agricultural land 0/35 Ha agricultural land, 12/130 Ha bamboo flooded Borrow pit. No relocation	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, poultry, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% poor households. Steep slopes. Already raise 150 cattle.	

29. Chieng Nua

Location: west of commune	Population: 47 HH, Thai.
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29. Chieng Nua

Project impact and resettlement plan: 14 HH affected on agricultural land. 4/33 Ha agricultural land, 1/51 Ha bamboo flooded. No relocation	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, training.
Challenges and opportunities:	

30. Trung Tien 2

Location: northwest of commune	Population: 28 HH. Hmong, 4 Thai HH
Project impact and resettlement plan: 2 HH affected on agricultural land 1/4 Ha agricultural land, 0/2 Ha bamboo flooded. No relocation	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups. The two affected households would participate in the extension program of other villages.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% hungry households. Marginal impact.	

31. Cha Lan

Location: north river bank	Population: 42 HH. Hmong, 7 Thai HH
Project impact and resettlement plan: 7 HH affected on agricultural land 1/12 Ha agricultural land, 2/11 Ha bamboo flooded Borrow pit. No relocation	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% hungry households.	

32. Sa Lung

Location: north west of commune	Population: 40 HH. Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 16/407 HH affected on agricultural land 23 Ha bamboo flooded Borrow pit. No relocation	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice, maize and poultry interest groups, training.
Challenges and opportunities: Limited agricultural land	

Tam Chung Commune, Muong Lat District

33. Pom Khuong

Location: close to Muong Lat Town	Population: 55 HH, Hmong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 7 HH affected on agricultural land 16/30 Ha agricultural land, 0.1/15 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups,

33. Pom Khuong

Challenges and opportunities: 100% poor households. No current income from forest products. No candidate for vocational training.	cattle, poultry, training.
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34. Can

Location: southeast of Muong Lat Town	Population: 67 HH, Muong/Thai
Project impact and resettlement plan: 50 HH affected on agricultural land 2/130 Ha agricultural, 15/289 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% poor households. No current income from forest products. Muong Lat Town is market outlet. No candidates for vocational training.	

35. Tan Huong

Location: southeast of Muong Lat Town	Population: 67 HH. Thai/Muong.
Project impact and resettlement plan: 16 HH affected on agricultural land 0/70 Ha agricultural land, 2/46 Ha bamboo flooded	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, training.
Challenges and opportunities: 100% hungry households. No current income from forest products. Muong Lat Town is market outlet. No candidates for vocational training.	

36. Lat

Location: close to district town.	Population: 119 HH, Thai.
Project impact and resettlement plan: 119 HH affected on agricultural land, of which 46 HH relocated.	Category 1 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows and vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: 40% of HH relocated. Limited agricultural land affected.	

37. Suoi Long

Location: close to Can village.	Population: 119 HH, Thai.
Project impact and resettlement plan: 3/35 HH be affected. No relocation. No agricultural land affected. Luong bamboo land affected: 42,169 m ² .	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, poultry and vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: Average income in the commune. Limited land affected..	

Muong Lat Town, Muong Lat District

38. Ban Puom Buoi (ward 3)	
Location: part of Muong Lat district town	Population: 97 HH. Thai, 3 Kinh HH
Project impact and resettlement plan: 3 HH affected on agricultural land	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Vocational training, micro-enterprise development.
Challenges and opportunities: non-farm activities.	

39. Ban Puom Buoi (ward 2)	
Location: part of Muong Lat district town	Population: 97 HH. Thai, Muong and Kinh.
Project impact and resettlement plan: 5/97 HH affected on production forest land: 8248 m ²	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Vocational training, micro-enterprise development..
Challenges and opportunities: No agricultural land affected.	

40. Ban Puom Buoi (ward 4)	
Location: part of Muong Lat district town	Population: 31 HH. Thai, Muong and Kinh.
Project impact and resettlement plan: 14/31 HH affected. Agricultural land affected: 4,700 m ² Production forest affected: 8,248 m ²	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Vocational training, micro-enterprise development.
Challenges and opportunities: No agricultural land affected.	

Ten Tan Commune, Muong Lat District

41. Doan Ket	
Location: About 4 km from Muong Lat district town	Population: 133 HH Kho Mu
Project impact and resettlement plan: 16/133 HH losing land. Agricultural land affected: 4,700 m ² Production forest affected: 8,248 m ²	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, poultry and vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: 98% HH are poor. No income from forest.	

42. Ban Buon	
Location: About 5 km from Muong Lat district town	Population: 105 HH Thai and Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 49/105 HH affected, of which 2 HH relocated. Of 52.5 ha of production forest land affected, 9 ha belong to affected HH	Category 2 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, poultry and vocational training. Forestation and tourist service.,
Challenges and opportunities: Opportunities for promotion of service activities. Limited agricultural land available.	

43. Na Khaa	
Location: About 4 km from Muong Lat district town	Population: 80 HH Thai and Muong
Project impact and resettlement plan: 8/80 HH affected 4,890 production forest land affected.	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, poultry and vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: Low income in the commune. No agricultural land affected.	

44. Chieng Cong	
Location: About 10 km from Muong Lat district town	Population: 50 HH Thai, Muong and Kinh
Project impact and resettlement plan: 4/50 HH affected on production forest land for gauging station	Category 3 Proposed livelihood restoration: Hilly rice and maize interest groups, sows, poultry and vocational training.
Challenges and opportunities: No agricultural land affected.	

5.6. Implementation and Budget

RLDP is implemented as one integrated program. Definition of responsibilities, task force and equipment, training and capacity building, communication and implementation schedule for CLIP are in [Section 7](#). Costs and budget are provided in [Section 8](#). The monitoring and evaluation plan is in [Section 10](#).

6. Ethnic Minorities Development Plan

6.1. Principles and Contents

When a development project funded by the World Bank causes impact to Indigenous Peoples (commonly called ethnic minorities in Vietnam), the World Bank policy on Indigenous Peoples OP 4.10 is triggered and an Ethnic Minorities Development Plan (EMDP) is required.

The principles of the EMDP are:

- To minimize and mitigate project impact on the livelihoods of ethnic minority people in the area affected by the TSHPP;
- To ensure that the development process fosters full respect for the dignity, human rights and cultural uniqueness of ethnic minorities in the project affected area, and takes into account their development needs and aspirations.

The EMDP:

- Provides a **consultation and participation framework** for RLDP implementation,
- Institutes **general measures** to minimize or manage project impact among ethnic minority communities, which are funded through the RP, CLIP or communications,
- Budgets three **specific measures** to manage remaining risks of project impact identified at this stage.
- **Documents** the process of free, prior and informed consultation with ethnic minority people in these communities about project impacts and mitigation measures under the three plans of RLDP during the planning stage, and demonstrates the broad level of community support,

6.2. Ethnic Minority People in the Project Area

Information on ethnic minority people in the project area is located in the following sections of the document:

- Executive summary, Ethnic minority people in the project area: overview of population, vulnerability, cultures
- Map 2: affected villages, by ethnic group
- Section 2.2. Livelihoods in the project area: languages and culture
- Section 2.3. Coping capacity: vulnerable groups.
- Annex 4: ethnic minority data.

6.3. Eligibility Criteria

Villages

The entitlement unit for EMDP is the ethnic minority community (village/hamlet). Villages eligible for the EMDP are villages at risk of impact from any element of the project. This includes livelihood impact, and impact on health and cultures.

In practice, the geographical scope of the plan is defined as all ethnic minority villages within the RLDP Area – any village other than fully Kinh villages. The core RLDP area is also the area of focus of the EMDP since this is the area where most of the risks listed hereafter will be located.

Villages fully inhabited by vulnerable groups are priority targets in the EMDP. This means that Hmong villages (or villages from other less-integrated ethnic minority groups – Table 26 below) and villages where 100% of households are poor are priority villages.

Households

Emergency grants are the only activity with a budget allocated to individual households. Eligible households are households assessed through internal monitoring as being in a state of food insecurity or other emergency.

6.4. Legal Framework

National Legal and Policy Framework for Ethnic Minority People

“Implement a policy on equality, unity and support for all ethnic groups, give supportive conditions to minority ethnic groups in the development of a civilized society, and respect benefits, traditional cultures, languages and religions of minority ethnic groups”: Constitutions of Vietnam of 1946, 1959, 1980 and 1992.

The ethnic groups present in the project area and districts ([Table 26](#)) are part of the 54 ethnic groups recognized in Vietnam.

The adaptation of economic and social policies to each region and each group, taking the needs of ethnic minorities into account, is a requirement. The Socio-Economic Development Plan and Socio-Economic Development Strategy of Vietnam specifically call for attention to ethnic minorities. Major programs targeting ethnic minority people include Program 135 (infrastructure in poor and remote areas) and Program 134 (eradication of poor quality houses). A policy on education and health care for ethnic minorities is in place. The legal framework has been updated in 2007 with several documents relating to regional planning, the 135 Phase 2 program and land administration and compensation. All legal document references are in [Annex 6.2](#).

Table 26: Importance of Ethnic Groups in Vietnam and in the Project Area

Ethnic group	Ethnolinguistic family	Population in Vietnam (Million people)	Communities identified
Kinh	Viet-Muong	65.8	No rural community
Thai	Tay-Thai	1.3	Yes
Muong	Viet-Muong	1.1	Yes
Hmong	Hmong-Dao	0.8	Yes
Kho Mu	Mon-Khmer	0.06	Yes
Dao	Hmong-Dao	0.6	Present in Moc Chau, Mai Chau and Muong Lat Districts, but not in project area
Tho	Viet-Muong	0.07	Present in Muong Lat, Moc Chau and Mai Chau Districts, but not in project area

Sources: 1999 population census, General Statistical Office of Vietnam, and social assessment.

Consistency of National Legal Framework and World Bank Safeguard Policies

Indigenous peoples are defined in OP 4.10 of the World Bank as groups with:

- (a) Self-identification as members of a distinct social group;
- (b) Vulnerability to being disadvantaged as social groups in the development process;
- (c) Close attachment to ancestral territories and natural resources; and
- (d) Often, use of a language that differs from the national language.

Consistent with this definition and with the definition of ethnic minority groups in Vietnam, all ethnic minority villages present in the project area are ethnic minority communities regardless of the minority ethnic group they belong to, and all their residents are as such eligible to the ethnic minorities development plan.

Laws of Government of Vietnam on grassroots democracy (“People know, people discuss, people do and people examine”) and OP 4.10 of the World Bank require the borrower to engage in a process of “free, prior, and informed consultation” with the indigenous peoples (ethnic minorities) communities:

Box 2: Ethnic Minorities in Projects Funded by the World Bank in Vietnam

The World Bank policy towards indigenous people forms parts of its wider objectives of poverty reduction and assistance to the most vulnerable groups within society through the promotion of sustainable development and participation.

Indigenous people are commonly among the poorest segments of society and in many cases they have not benefited from development projects. Experience shows that unless special measures are adopted that pay due attention to their rights, distinct languages, cultures, social organizations and modes of livelihood, indigenous peoples may be excluded from the benefits of Bank-financed development projects.

6.5. Risks to Ethnic Minority Communities

Ethnic minority communities are exposed to several risks of impact, described below.

1. Vulnerable Communities in Resettlement

Some aspects in the compensation and allowance framework or in the livelihood plans might fail to be appropriate to the preferences of ethnic minority communities, or these communities might be viewed as marginally affected and therefore participate less in CLIP. This applies in particular to Hmong households. Some of the Hmong households in the transition period might choose to outmigrate to other provinces or to Laos. Hungry households might encounter a food security problem.

2. Health and Security

During construction

More than 5,000 outsiders are expected to be living in the project area for project construction during 2 years, including (a) workers for the construction sites (numbers range from 1,500 to 4,000 people depending on the phase of construction), (b) workers for supporting components: 169 people, (c) managers and technical staff: 425 people; 130 of them will remain employed during operation; and (d) camp followers, including relatives of workers and other construction staff and opportunists who see seek to provide goods and services at the project sites: around 400 are expected, but there may be up to 1,000.

It is quite likely that Phu Thanh commune would become an eating and entertainment area for drivers and construction workers. Living closer to transportation roads with high volume of heavy traffic will bring about road traffic accidents and pollution from dust and emissions.

Many local residents will be exposed to outsiders for the first time. The presence of such a large number of mostly male workers with few followers creates a risk of HIV/AIDS and other STDs, especially for women, compounded by the risk of drug abuse, and unwanted pregnancies. The pressure of followers on the local health system might result in insufficient health services available to the local population.

The worker camp, in combination with the disruption of livelihoods during resettlement, also creates risks that might involve local residents of (a) prostitution, (b) higher illegal drug trade and illegal wildlife trade, (c) other offences and crime.

During operation

The reservoir is likely to increase the presence of disease vectors. The health system will encourage use of mosquito nets. However, vulnerable households so far unaffected by mosquitoes might fail to use them. Households using rivers for their livelihoods and hygiene might use the reservoir water body for these purposes and be affected by water-borne vectors.

Since relocated households prefer to build their house themselves, some of them might fail to build or use the sanitation facilities recommended by the government.

3. Language Gap

Illiteracy is high among both men and women. Written information, even publicly posted, will not reach part of the targeted audience. The elderly among all groups as well as most

Hmong women are not able to communicate in the Viet language. Staff of projects, communes and associations are mainly Muong, Thai and Kinh people. Meetings or loudspeakers announcements in the Viet or Thai language would only partly reach them. Not being able to understand information has implications in all aspects including safety and health impacts.

4. Resettlement, Local Cultures, Graves and Graveyards

Construction of houses of standard Vietnamese design (ground floor in cement) would not fit with the stated preference of relocated households. Houses built by the project would be seen as inappropriate to local cultures.

Newly relocated communities would not have the financial resources or a designated location to build a new community house. This house is a meeting space and a symbol of social links in the community.

The resettlement plan provides expenses for relocation of graves. However affected households would not have the financial resources for the religious ceremonies that are seen as necessary in their cultures when moving ancestors' graves. In one village which will be next to the worker camp, the vicinity of the camp is seen as disturbing the village graveyard.

5. Management of Land Use Right Certificates and of Savings and Credit

The land law provides security to avoid ethnic minority households transferring newly acquired LURCs and thus becoming landless. In the competition for land that will arise, some households might transfer previously acquired LURCs to workers (PECC4 2008c) or to better-off households.

Households will receive compensation and allowances in cash. They need to build capacity in the management of cash amounts that many have not accessed before. Formal saving accounts are difficult to access.

6. Disruption of Basic Education

School drop-out rates might increase among relocated households, due to income shock and the peak of labor during resettlement.

7. Loss of Traditional Crafts

Villagers who have preserved hand weaving and brocade or bamboo weaving skills might not be able to continue or transmit their craft after resettlement. Communities would not have the possibility to develop handicrafts in the future together with tourism. This risk has been highlighted for Thai and Muong handicrafts.

6.6. Measures for Ethnic Minority Communities

The remaining risks for ethnic minorities identified above are addressed through the following measures. Should external monitoring identify that the general measures listed below are not sufficient to address these risks, additional specific measures will be instituted and a related budget will be allocated.

Table 27: EMDP Measures

Risk identified	Measure Targeted area
1. Specific measures funded through the EMDP budget	
Vulnerable communities having emergency needs	Enhanced internal monitoring Emergency grants and emergency food aid <i>Communes with relocation or large area of land resettlement</i>
Health (a): women remaining out of health and security awareness campaigns	Grants for 8 commune gender programs <i>6 core RLDP communes + 2 other Muong Lat communes in project area</i>
Resettlement, local cultures, graves and graveyards (a)	Ceremonies <i>All communities with relocation to new site or moving grave</i> Wall for graveyard protection <i>1 village has requested assistance so far</i>
2. General measures achieved through communication, coordination, RP and CLIP	
Health (b): vectors and sanitation during operation	Health plan <i>Villages with enhanced contacts with construction worker camp</i> <i>Villages exposed to vectors during dam operation</i>
Resettlement local cultures, graves and graveyards (b)	RP: relocation of graves, households encouraged to build houses themselves, with improved design provided by project
Language gap	Communication through modern multilingual methods <i>Villages with women or other sections of community not fluent in Vietnamese</i>
Management of LURCS, savings and credit	Orientation courses and individual assistance in CLIP <i>Villages with households receiving LURCs and cash compensation, allowances</i>
Disruption of basic education	One set of textbooks provided under RP Continuity of service Coordination with district education <i>Villages with lower school attendance rate for girls</i>
Loss of traditional crafts	CLIP handicraft activity

Specific Measures Funded Through the EMDP Budget

Measure 1: Vulnerable Communities

The TSHPMB safeguard team will visit Hmong villages at a higher frequency and with a more in-depth agenda during internal monitoring. A Hmong-speaking staff will join the team. Separate group discussions with women will be held. Lessons learnt will be reported in the quarterly reports.

The safeguard team will liaise with the Hmong development program in Muong Lat District in order to resolve any inconsistency of activities.

Emergency grants are available for 500 households that will be identified in the process of relocation.

Measure 2: Commune Programs for Women

In 8 affected communes, a VND 500,000,000 grant is allocated for gender programs. The program will be discussed and proposed in each commune by the commune women's union and the safeguard team. Activities will be centered on raising awareness about health and security during construction and operation of the dam. Participation in small-income generating activities or small infrastructure may be an efficient way to raise awareness. The PMB will review and approve. The programs will then be implemented by the commune's Women Union under supervision of PMB.

Lessons learnt from poverty reduction projects and NGOs regarding the integration of functional literacy training into community development programs will be fully used. Activities on reproductive health, STD prevention and women's security can combine group discussions with the use of a booklet, facilitating first steps in literacy.

Measure 3: Ceremonies and Graveyards

Ceremonies for moving to resettlement sites are encouraged. They are based on the culture of each group, and costs will be covered.

Moving graves and graveyards will respect the culture of each community in the selection of suitable timing, the selection and design of new graveyards/individual graves. Prayer expenditures will be paid by the project.

A 1,500 m long wall will be built in Co Me village to protect the graveyard from the nearby worker camp.

Risks Addressed Through Communication, Coordination, RP and CLIP

Communication

Information in verbal form is made available in languages understandable to the participating ethnic minority people. Village meetings are held in both Viet language and the language spoken in the village. Loudspeaker and local TV announcements are prepared in the different languages used in the commune (Section 7.4: Communication).

This simple measure is critical for successful RLDP implementation.

Community Health and Security Awareness

The environmental management plan includes several measures to address impact of the worker camps, security and public health. Specifically, in response to the risk of impact from the worker camps, the EMP includes a security plan with the establishment of a police station and a workers' code of conduct. Contractors will be required to control construction workers' behavior, including limiting access to the local populations.

Two health plans will be implemented outside RLDP: (a) the Construction workers health program under the responsibility of the contractor with a dedicated hospital and disease control program and (b) the Public Health Action Plan (PHAP) under the responsibility of TSHPMB and managed by a specific team. The PHAP will combine two integrated plans, a Resettlement Health Program for relocated households and a Regional Health Program (for

the general public and camp followers. PHAP is planned to cover a ten-year period. Implementation will be through the government public health infrastructure.

Communication will cover health and security. Target groups include both the relocated population and the general population.

Adapting Resettlement to Ethnic Minority Cultures

Ethnic minority communities, including those that will be relocated and those that will receive DPs, will continue to be consulted about their preference for relocation sites in order to avoid any conflict between different groups.

The PMB will freely supply a design and cost estimate for houses appropriate to ethnic minority cultures of each group. The design provided for new houses will offer several options, covering both the areas on which compensation is based, and an option for a larger house based in line with local cultural preferences. A household wishing to build a house larger than compensation standards will pay for the extra cost of house construction.

Basic Education

The DCC EMDP team will ensure enhanced coordination with the education system to ensure continuity of schools, teachers and equipment.

Internal monitoring includes identifying any case of a child not attending school during relocation and finding a remedial action. Waiving of school fees may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Traditional Crafts

CLIP will support handicraft both as a means of income generation and as a vehicle to preserve local cultures of the various ethnic groups.

6.7. Mitigation of Gender-Specific Risks

The project's potential impact on women and mitigation through RLDP is described in this section in order to allow quick reference and enhanced attention to gender during project implementation. Actual measures are included into the RP, CLIP, EMDP, and in management and communication.

Gender in the resettlement plan

Bank accounts for the transfer of compensation and allowances are legally opened either in the name of the husband or the wife as of 2010. In families with a non-working or addicted husband, opening the account in the wife's name is the default option. The safeguard team identifies such families prior to compensation with the support of the commune's Women Union representative.

Special attention is paid to divorced women in resettlement. Divorced women form female-headed households, they are therefore part of a vulnerable group entitled to additional support. Divorced women may not hold land titles or may have returned to their village of origin after the cut-off date. Solutions allowing compensation are sought on a case-by-case basis.

LURCs on land allocated after resettlement are issued in the name of both husband and wife in accordance with the Land law.

Gender in CLIP

There is a balance between activities in which the main decision-makers in the household are generally men or women in all CLIP activities including (a) the annual menu of eligible activities, (b) animal / crop production models, (c) training courses and (d) vocational training and employment opportunities.

In individual advisory services, the advisors communicate with both husband and wife in a household, with a focus on women in families where they are the main adults involved in income generation.

Gender in EMDP

Measure 2, Section 6.6.

Health and security awareness: refer to Section 6.6, measure 2 and to the EMP.

Basic education: monitoring of attendance of children in school will focus on girls' attendance.

Gender in participation

Commune workgroups and village monitoring groups include at least one female representative in addition to the Women's Union representative.

Gender in management and communication

Women account for at least 30% of RLDP related technical staff including (a) the TSHPMB safeguard team, (b) the CLIP TA team and (c) commune facilitators.

In non-verbal communication (posters, videos), visuals and soundtracks reflect the productive roles of both men and women and avoid disseminating preconceived views on gender roles.

Women Union's representative from district level and selected communes are members of the EMDP workgroup.

6.8. Consultation and Community Support

Free, Prior and Informed Consultations: As described in Chapter Three, ethnic minority villages have been involved in various formal and informal consultation activities. The consultations have included a number of methodologies, and have been conducted in languages and locations accessible to local communities. They also have been conducted in a manner that encouraged local expression without interference or intimidation by local government or project officials. The consultations have occurred throughout the project formulation period, well in advance of decisions taken in project design and in advance of determination of RLDP measures and specific activities. Efforts have been taken to inform affected communities in advance of consultations – including extensive communications activities to inform potentially affected ethnic minority communities about draft RLDP provisions prior to formal communications on its provisions. In many cases, feedback

received through these consultation exercises has led to revision or reformulation of RLDP provisions.

Expression of Broad Community Support: Potentially affected ethnic minority communities have raised concerns typically encountered in hydropower development projects. Nonetheless, the communities understand that the project also has the potential to create significant opportunities for improvement of incomes and living standards. While local communities have an understandable interest in ensuring that they are able to continue ethnic and cultural practices, they also are interested in securing project benefits if consistent with their cultural preferences. No overt opposition to the project, or to general provisions of the RLDP, has occurred.

6.9. Implementation and Budget

RLDP is implemented as one integrated program. Definition of responsibilities, task force and equipment, training and capacity building, communication and implementation schedule for EMDP are in Section 7. Costs and budget are provided in Section 8. The monitoring and evaluation plan is in Section 10.

7. Implementation Arrangements

Management and communication is a component of RLDP with a specific budget (Section 8: Costs and Budget). This component includes:

- Staffing and equipment,
- Training,
- Communication,
- Assistance to complaints and grievances,
- Monitoring and Evaluation.

This section describes responsibilities for RLDP implementation. It then describes task force (including technical assistance, which is costed in the CLIP component) and equipment, training and communications. The complaints and grievance redress mechanism is described in Section 9, and monitoring and evaluation is presented in Section 10.

7.1. Institutional Framework

Overall Framework

EVN is the project owner. It takes responsibility to ensure to entire project is implemented according to both government and World Bank requirements. Included within this is the responsibility to ensure the RLDP is implemented in compliance with the commitments set out in it. EVN approves the RLDP and will ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to implement it. EVN will oversee implementation by **TSHPMB** of the RLDP and coordinate with provinces and the World Bank on issues related to the RLDP. EVN has entrusted TSHPMB with all aspects in relation to implementation of the project.

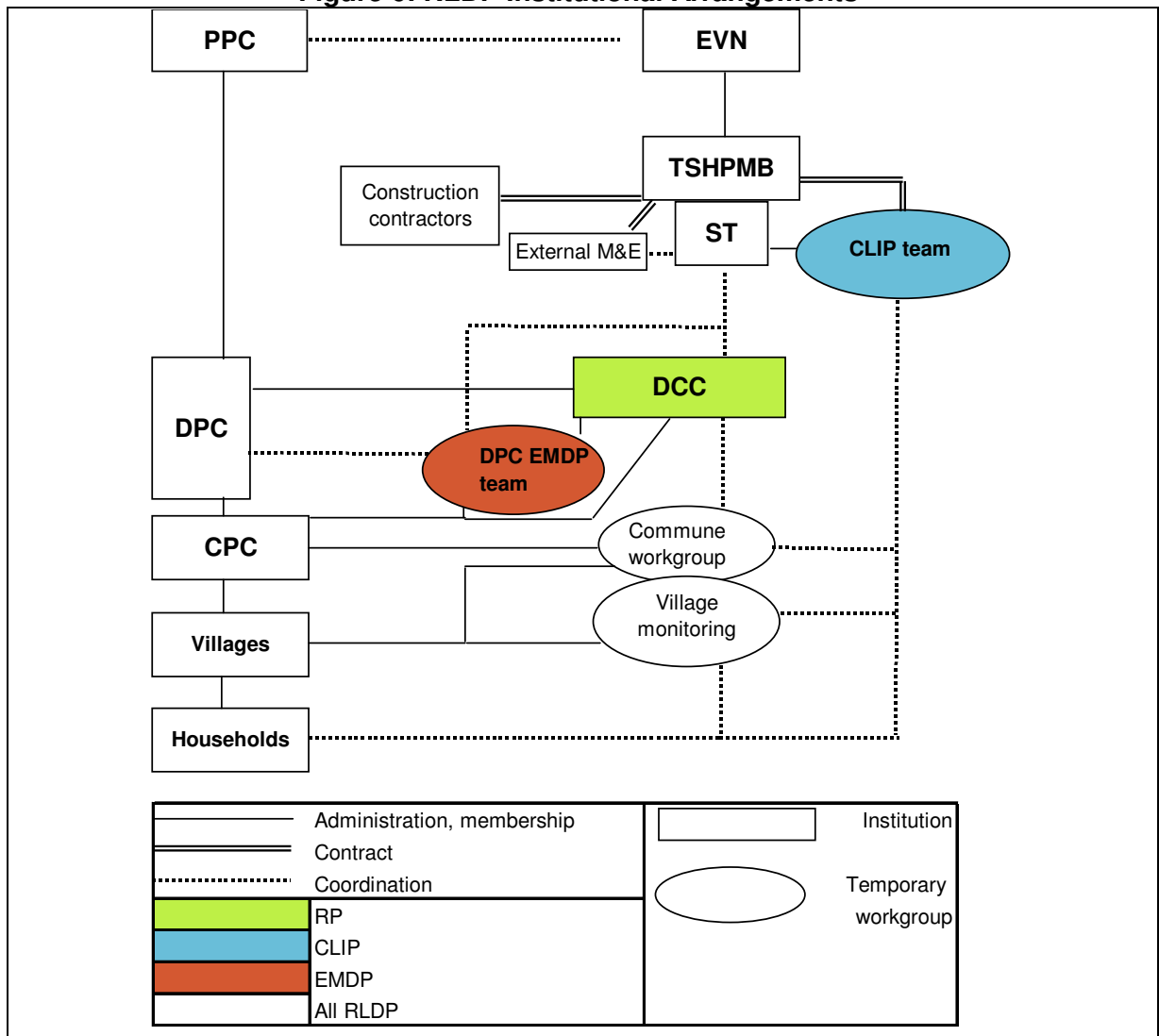
The PPCs are each responsible for reviewing and endorsing the RLDP in so far as it applies within the territory of the province. They will approve the Resettlement Plan or assign District People's Committees (DPCs) under them to approve it. The PPCs direct the DPCs and other related departments or organizations to coordinate with TSHPMB and provide resources for implementation of the RLDP. The PPCs also monitor the implementation of the RLDP.

The District People's Committees (DPC) coordinate with the TSHPMB in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the RLDP. They will review and endorse the RLDP before it is submitted to the PPC for its review. If authorized by the PPC, DPCs will review and approve the Resettlement Plan. DPCs will direct commune and village authorities and directly assign their own staff to work with TSHPMB and affected communities.

Commune People's Committees, villages, ethnic minority representatives and households: a commune workgroup is established to assist implementation and for participatory monitoring of the three plans. Each commune nominates an ethnic minority representative to District Compensation Committee and to its EMDP team. These representatives are village elders or prestigious people among the ethnic minority community. Each village sets up a monitoring group.

TSHPMB manages the project in such a way that it complies with RLDP principles. It implements and monitors RLDP, and assists in the resolution of complaints and grievances. Figure 6 shows how coordination is ensured through (a) an RLDP command chain parallel to government at each level, and (b) a combination of administrative relationships, coordination relationships and contractual relationships.

Figure 6: RLDP Institutional Arrangements



Within TSHPMB, a **safeguard team** is in charge of all social aspects, including but not limited to resettlement (as well as environmental management aspects: refer to environmental management plan). The safeguard team reports directly to the Director of TSHPMB. The safeguard team (a) implements the RP including the inventory of losses, preparation of compensation and allowance plans, contracts for construction of the resettlement sites and associated infrastructure, delivery of compensation and allowances, in particular by preparing detailed schedules and plans, and monitors progress; (b) takes part in the CLIP team under the coordination of the Chief Technical Assistant (CTA), particularly to manage activities in the service center, and (c) is a facilitator for the district ethnic minority development teams which oversee EMDP. It implements communication activities jointly with the TA team.

Consultants and contractors, hired by TSHPMB: (a) support the preparation and implementation of the individual plans within the RLDP, (b) carry out construction of

resettlement sites and associated infrastructure; (c) conduct independent monitoring of each of the plans within the RLDP.

Table 28: Primary Agency Responsible for Each Element of RLDP

Area of responsibility	PPC	TSH PMB	Contractor (1)	Safeguard team	DPC	DCC	CPC	Villages
Overall RLDP								
Compliance		√						
Management		√						
Coordination	√	√			√			
Communication			√	√				
Monitoring		√		√				
1. Resettlement Plan								
DCC coordination				√		√	√	
Compensation						√	√	
Participation								√
Resettlement sites			√			√	√	
2. Community Livelihoods Improvement Plan								
Participation in CLIP team			√	√	√			
Technical assistance			√					
Technical advisory board	√							
Service center			√	√				
Participation in activities							√	√
3. Ethnic Minorities Development Plan								
Coordination				√		√		
Participation in activities							√	√
Specific measures				√		√		

(1) Construction enterprise for resettlement sites; consulting firm or NGO for CLIP technical assistance.

Specific Institutional Arrangements in RP

EVN approves the RP and assigns TSHPMB to implement it.

Thanh Hoa and Son La Provincial People's Committees (PPC)²⁸ (a) raise the awareness of all relevant institutions and various administrative levels under the Province about RLDP in

²⁸ This section summarizes Chapter VI of Decree 197/2004-ND-CP and Chapter V of Decree 84/2007-ND-CP, in consistency with Thanh Hoa and Son La Province compensation and resettlement policies.

general, (b) direct relevant departments during compensation and resettlement. They direct district People's Committees on RP implementation. They approve replacement values and costs, (c) handle and solve complaints and grievance that have not been solved at lower levels.

Departments of construction, agriculture & rural development, transport and natural resources & environment are in charge of approving cadastral maps, plans for resettlement sites, annual compensation costs and compensation plans. DOF reviews and submits replacement values and costs for housing and land. Other departments participate as relevant.

The TSHPMB under EVN prepares and updates the RP in collaboration with the People's Committees at various levels and the District Compensation Committees and submits it to EVN for approval and the PPC of Thanh Hoa and Son La Provinces for endorsement. It also provides it to the World Bank for its clearance. It secures World Bank cooperation for any variations in the RPs.

It discloses the RPs. It disseminates in a timely manner all key information to relevant authorities and DPs.

It secures the budget for the implementation of RPs. To ensure that funds for compensation, assistance and resettlement are available wherever required and in a timely manner.

It coordinates with Thanh Hoa and Son La PPCs to direct their relevant Departments and various levels of authorities in implementing the RPs and linked plans.

It contracts as necessary with consultants and works contractors to carry out specialized tasks and has responsibility for ensuring those consultants and contractors complete their tasks to time, budget and required quality.

The TSHPMB Safeguard Team works as needed with the People's Committees of affected districts and communes, the District Compensation Committees (DCC) and related groups regarding the project and its compensation, assistance and resettlement.

It (a) prepares documents for the dissemination of project information and ensures DPs and other project stakeholders are consulted and participate, (b) develops detailed schedules to ensure that compensation and relocation activities fit well into construction progress, and (c) undertakes internal monitoring of the RPs and co-ordinates with external monitors.

It co-ordinates with the DPCs to establish the DCC and support organizations within each affected commune/village. Together with the DCCs, it leads field activities to prepare, update and implement the RPs. It co-ordinates with the District Natural Resources and Environment Offices for the timely allocation of replacement land to eligible DPs.

The DPCs establish a District Compensation Committee and direct it to implement compensation plans. It closely coordinates with TSHPMB to implement the RPs.

It coordinates with the CPCs on all land recovery, compensation, assistance and resettlement activities under this RP. It approves land recovery from each DP. It implements relocation.

It reviews and then proposes to Thanh Hoa and Son La PPCs any required adjustment in the planned relocation sites. It settles complaints and grievances at the district level in coordination with TSHPMB.

The DCC is chaired by a leader of the District People's Committee, and consists of following members: (i) Representative of Financial agency; (ii) Representative of Natural Resource and Environmental agency; (iii) Representative of Industrial and Trade agency; (iv) Project owner; (v) Ethnic division; (vi) Representative of Commune People's Committees with land acquired; (vii) Representative of households with land acquisition (from 1 to 2 persons); (viii) Other members, who will be decided by the Council Chairman to be suitable actual situation in the local area (responsible group). It consults with the representatives of the district Fatherland Front, Farmers' Association, Women's Union and representatives of the DPs (including women DPs).

It organizes, plans and carries out land recovery, compensation, assistance and other resettlement activities in the district on behalf of the DPC. It undertakes the IOL and DMS, prepares compensation plans for DPs and submits them to DOF for review.

It reviews requests for updates in the RPs in accordance with the provisions of the RLDP. It approves updates that comply with the RLDP. If a proposed update does not comply with this plan, it refers to the PMB and the World Bank for guidance.

It pays compensation and allowances to DPs. It ensures timely delivery of these payments and other DP entitlements.

It assists DPC in the resolution of grievances.

The CPCs assist the DCC in the day-to-day implementation of the RP. They participate actively in all land recovery, compensation payment, assistance and resettlement activities and concerns. It identifies replacement land for eligible DPs. It signs the DMS forms, certifies legal papers and history of land use, and completes land transfers for DPs. It receives complaints and grievances and settles grievances at the first level.

The CPC forms a commune workgroup including cadastral agent(s), other staff and household representatives. All village heads are members of the workgroup. The commune work group assists the DCC and PMB in conducting the DMS, preparing dossiers of land recovery for the project and updating of the RP.

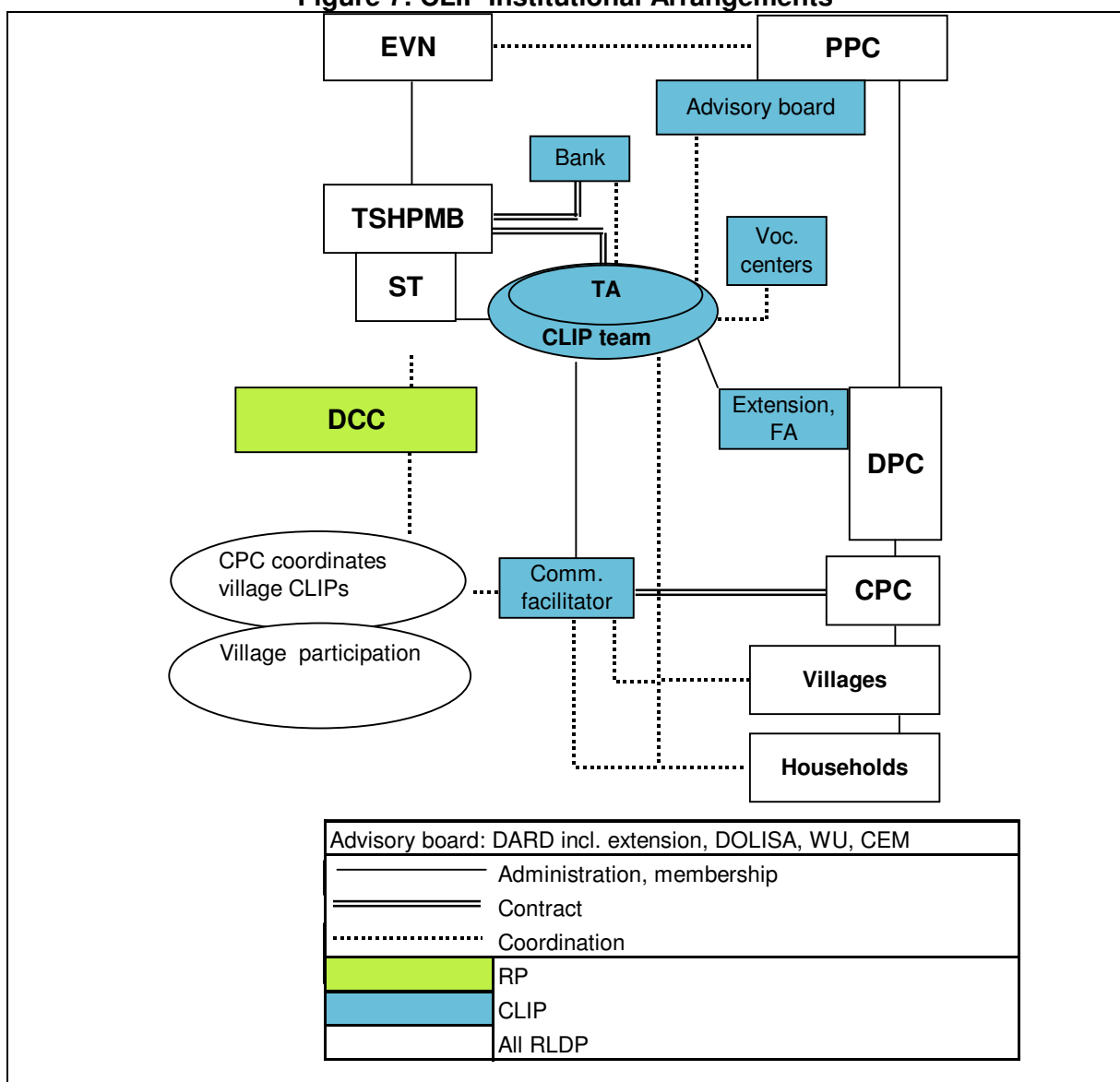
Project Displaced Persons (DPs)

The DPs are responsible for (a) coordinating with survey teams in carefully checking surveys of their affected land and other assets, as well as their entitlements and signing related documents, (b) participating in all phases of the RP preparation and implementation and providing feedback for improving quality of the RP and solutions for implementing the RP smoothly; and (c) moving to new sites in a timely manner after receiving full entitlements.

Consultants and contractors hired by TSPMB have overall responsibility in completing contracted tasks, within budget and to an acceptable quality level. This requires close communication with TSPMB, the TA team and the commune monitoring workgroups.

Specific Institutional Arrangements in CLIP

Figure 7: CLIP Institutional Arrangements



TSHPMB establishes a team focusing solely on the CLIP. This team includes (a) a TA team, which is coordinator of the CLIP team and assists TSHPMB, (b) members of the TSHPMB safeguard team, (c) district agricultural extension staff, and (d) commune facilitators working specifically in category 1 and 2 villages.

It ensures coordination with other on-going development programs in the district. It submits budgets and reports to the TSHPMB manager.

A technical assistance team headed by a chief technical assistant has overall implementation responsibility for the CLIP. It works in coordination with but independent from the District governments. Through a structured program of village visits, it (a) supports commune/village participation in the selection of pilots, income generation activities and training opportunities, (b) identifies appropriate seed, seedling and other appropriate technology helps set up and follow up pilots and interest groups, (c) helps identify market outlets and advises farmer groups and households creating businesses. It is also in charge of (d) facilitating the establishment of a loan guarantee contract between TSHPMB and a

local bank, (e) the service center activity program in close coordination with the safeguard team and (f) the design and dissemination of communication material.

An advisory board comprising provincial experts as well as appropriate specialists with experience of agriculture, animal husbandry and forestry in similar environments assembles once a year to review the menus of activities and technical standards and make recommendations.

Commune facilitators are hired by the TA team for CLIP implementation in villages. They work under a coordination contract with CPC.

District agricultural extension/forestry staff take part in the CLIP team, also under the coordination of the CTA. Throughout RLDP, district staff build capacity in training and extension.

During the last year of RLDP, district staff gradually take over from the CLIP team to continue any activity by themselves after RLDP closes. The district representative of the Commission for ethnic minorities heads an ethnic minority team to facilitate dialogue and coordination in any matter relevant to the EMDP.

The CPCs, commune mass organizations and the village level take part in the management and implementation of the CLIPs. The participation framework and the respective roles of the CPCs and village level in planning, implementation and monitoring are detailed in [Section 3.2](#).

Specific Institutional Arrangements in EMDP

The PPC in each province raises awareness of all relevant institutions and various administrative levels under the Province about the ethnic minority development plan. It directs its relevant departments to help lower levels in the implementation of the plan.

The Provincial Ethnic Minority Departments of Thanh Hoa and Son La Provinces will guide District Ethnic Minority Departments in implementing the ethnic minorities development plan. These departments have will also apply for any possible programs from the central and provincial governments to provide additional support to the affected communities.

The TSHPMB under EVN is responsible for including into its safeguard team specialists who are knowledgeable and experienced with ethnic minority issues and familiar with the requirements of the World Bank on Indigenous Peoples.

TSHPMB participates in updating the EMDP if needed in collaboration with the People's Committees at various levels. It discloses the plan and disseminates all key information to relevant authorities and ethnic minority communities in a timely manner during implementation. It coordinates with the PPC and the Provincial, District Ethnic Minority Departments of Thanh Hoa and Son La Provinces and all relevant Departments and various levels of authorities in implementing the plan.

The DPCs set up an district ethnic minority team including as members the Head of Ethnic Minority Department and representatives of affected and host ethnic minority communities, as well as representatives of the district Fatherland Front, Farmers' Association, Women's Union and representatives of the DPs (including women DPs). They provide feedback from their people, their communities to DPC, PMB and higher administrative levels. The senior official of the District Department for Ethnic Minorities oversees all measures with a small team of specialists in relevant fields. As many of them as possible are ethnic minority people themselves. The EMDP team also includes the technical assistants to EMDP.

The DPC EMDP teams ensure, with support from the safeguard team, close coordination with district health, education, the main project contractor, and the resettlement sites contractor.

The CPC and leaders of ethnic minority villages in the commune are key persons in the implementation of EMDP (Section 3.2: Consultation and Participation Framework).

Table 29: Coordination Needs in EMDP

Measure	Coordination between district EMDP team and
Communication	Safeguard team, TA
Culture in Relocation	DCCs, resettlement site contractor
Land & Financial Management Capacity Building	Service center, TA team
Health	Health department, main project contractor
Education	Education department, Women’s Union
Emergency Support	Safeguard team

7.2. Task Force and Equipment

The social team includes at least 10 full-time staff in charge of RLDP implementation and monitoring. Part of its staff are social specialists with experience in international and national requirements on involuntary resettlement, participation and consultation, community liaison, gender, ethnic minorities and poverty reduction/livelihood development projects. Some are engineers with skills in mapping, relocation site development and supervision, public works and social services, livelihood development and cost estimates. Others are team assistants.

The TSHPMB safeguard team members in charge of RLDP are under the management of a Senior Social Safeguards Officer. He or she will have a background in social sciences other relevant fields as well as experience in preparing, reviewing, implementing and monitoring compensation, assistance as implementing resettlement plans in lines with the international requirements on the social safeguards.

A consultant team with experienced international members assists PMB in implementing the RLDP. Its primary scope of work is CLIP implementation. The team would include one team leader with international qualifications, and at least 4 team members with a post-graduate degree. Each team member would be in charge of 1-2 of the 6 communes, and of one subject matter. The expertise of the TA team would cover regional upland farming systems, training and extension, livelihoods, credit, and social aspects. At least 2 of the TA would be women. The composition and scope of work for this team will be finalized by TSHPMB and reviewed for approval by EVN and the World Bank. The team would hire around 11 commune facilitators.

The District Compensation Committee is headed by the Vice-Chairman of the DPC. It includes at least the heads of the finance, natural resources and environment, transport, agriculture, ethnic minority department. Ethnic minority representatives from affected and host communes are members of the DCC.

The **commune workgroup** is a combination of non-traditional community institutions (CPC, commune staff, representatives of new resettlement sites, mass organizations) and traditional community institutions (village or hamlet, village or hamlet leader, elders, religious leaders, other important people).

Office Location and Logistics

The safeguard team is based in the Trung Son project headquarters in Trung Son commune where it operates the CLIP service center. The office facilities are planned to start operation in the fourth quarter of 2010.

TA equipment is costed in the TA budget. The following equipment is costed in management costs.

Table 30: Equipment to Be Procured for RLDP Implementation

Institution	Proposed working facility
TSHPMB Safeguard Team (RLDP Implementation)	- 6 desk computers - 4 laptops - 1 fax-telephone - 3 mobile phones - 2 photocopy machines - 10 Desks and 12 cupboards
Each DCC	- 3 desk computers. - 1 photocopy machine - 1 telephone
Commune working group	- Renting motorbikes

The CLIP technical assistance team is also based in the project headquarters. It spends at least 2/3 of its time in village activities. It is foreseen that a back-up office in Quan Hoa district will be useful to facilitate contracts with the banks, market operators and various services.

DCCs and their EMDP teams are located in district government.

Logistics are carefully organized to allow timely implementation of activities. Each CLIP team member has a motorbike.

7.3. Training and Capacity Building

A training and capacity building plan for all those involved in RLDP implementation is due to take place early during implementation.

Table 31: RLDP Capacity Building Plan

Training Contents <i>Target Group</i>	Responsible Agency <i>Trainers</i> Training method
Social safeguard policies of the World Bank and three RLDP components <i>Safeguard team of PMB, DCC, staff of relevant Departments of Thanh Hoa and Son La Provinces</i>	World Bank and TSHPMB <i>Consultants of WB or PMB</i> Training sessions Provision of written guidelines
DMS skills <i>DCCs and commune working groups</i>	TSHPMB <i>Resettlement specialists of DOF, DONRE and DOC of Thanh Hoa and Son La Provinces.</i>

Database management skills <i>DCCs, TSHPMB Safeguard team</i>	TSHPMB <i>PMB Senior Resettlement Specialists</i>
Internal monitoring requirements <i>TSHPMB Safeguard team</i>	TSHPMB <i>TSHPMB Senior Resettlement Specialists</i>
Community livelihood improvement programs <i>DCC, DPC extension staff, commune facilitators, Commune Peoples' Committees, Village leaders</i>	TSHPMB <i>TA and Safeguard Team</i>
Ethnic minority cultures including gender <i>Contractor, construction workers</i>	TSHPMB <i>Safeguard team</i>
Grievance mechanism <i>DPC, CPC, village monitoring groups</i>	TSHPMB <i>Safeguard team</i>

In the CLIP component, the main training method for district extension staff and commune facilitators is hands-on training in the course of in-village activities. During the fourth year of CLIP implementation (2014) the TA team transfers CLIP management capacity to the districts so that the districts can continue to implement CLIP if needed, or transfer activities into their own district government program.

In the EMDP component, a session on ethnic minority matters is included in training courses for construction managers and in construction workers' orientation training

Training is a core element of CLIP activities for households. Training is structured into (a) production improvement training, (b) orientation training, (c) vocational training (Section 5.4: Planning for Livelihoods Restoration and Improvement).

7.4. Communication

Communication is a crosscutting activity in RLDP management.

Communication and ethnic minority communities

Modern communication adapted to local audiences is one of the main measures of EMDP. All ethnic minority communities and their members will receive key information about the project, its compensation and relocation policy and ethnic minorities development plan measures. Information is provided in a consistent and timely manner. Communication combines pictorials (photographs, drawings, symbols) and non-technical Vietnamese language. Pictorials display characters from the Thai, Muong and Hmong ethnic groups, both men and women.

Local speakers of ethnic languages are used to ensure that only dialects in use in the project area and fully understandable to local residents are used.

Communication relates to all issues of relevance to ethnic communities in the project area. This includes (a) resettlement and CLIP, (b) health prevention and security, and (c) other risks identified in EMDP.

Communication strategy

Communication takes into account (a) the relatively high education levels in the eastern part of the project area, where community representatives at the national consultation have

requested access to written detailed information on resettlement entitlements and to detailed maps, and (b) conversely the need for non-written information, which is particularly present in the western part of the project area. Multiple communication channels are used in a combined manner to reach the various target groups.

Mass organizations, especially Youth Union and Women's Union, take part in public awareness campaigns at key steps of project implementation.

Communication channels include (a) traditional communication channels (loudspeakers and local meetings) and (b) improved communication channels with (i) information leaflets and posters adapted to the intended audience of households (ii) multilingual DVDs and (iii) village announcements in local languages made by people trained by commune facilitators.

Communication identifies critical immediate needs for information and key messages and delivers them in a form appropriate to local audiences. Critical immediate needs for information are (a) an entitlement matrix in non-technical language and (b) a figure showing implementation steps in the resettlement plan and in CLIP. This has started during consultation: Annex 2.10: forms and leaflets used in resettlement plan.

Budget and schedule

The project supports through a specific budget (Section 8): (a) equipment for each village cultural center including loudspeakers for villages without this equipment and DVD players, (b) production and dissemination of improved communication material for the TA team and (c) public awareness campaigns.

Communication through traditional channels starts as soon as DMS starts. Topics to be covered include (a) land survey and LURC issuance, (b) sound management of compensation and allowances, and savings.

Technical assistance

A short-term TA is hired to (a) produce the first DVDs, information leaflet and project posters using consultation posters as a reference, (b) produce an entitlement matrix and a sketch map showing resettlement implementations steps, and (c) provide hands-on training to the safeguard team of TSPHMB for production of subsequent information material.

The communication TA checks draft communication tools with targeted audiences and makes adjustments based on feedback received from these target groups.

7.5. Implementation Schedule

The implementation schedule is governed by the starting date of five critical steps in the project. It is adjusted when some of the dates differ from the originally planned dates.

The overall RLDP implementation schedule is presented below. As soon as one of the starting dates is confirmed, a detailed implementation schedule is prepared.

The implementation schedule (Table 32) is prepared to ensure full consistency with resettlement and livelihood improvement activities and the time when the impact is likely to occur:

- Information activities start as soon as the RP for the main project is approved and continue throughout implementation;

- Graves and graveyard activities start no later than 2011 and are completed by 2014.
- Community health and safety measures start as soon as the construction camp is set up and traffic increases;
- Women's group grants are provided before relocation to enhance women's participation. School drop-out grants are provided during relocation.
- Other measures take place throughout implementation.

Implementation Schedule

The three RLDP plans are implemented as a single program. Table 32 provides a detailed schedule for main project phases, project impact milestones, activities under each of RLDP three components and RLDP management including monitoring and evaluation.

RLDP implementation includes:

- **A preparation phase** (beginning in the first quarter of 2011: DMS, first batch of compensation in Quan Hoa District; communications in whole area covered by RLDP;
- **A main phase:** presence of full CLIP team;
- **A final evaluation phase** until first quarter of 2016.

After 5 years, if monitoring shows that livelihoods are not restored yet, a follow-up phase to CLIP will be designed.

Activities in villages are phased as follows:

- **Resettlement** is managed in three batches with one district per batch, starting with Quan Hoa District where impacts will start earlier;
- **CLIP** is implemented over a four year period, 2011-2 to 2015-1. Year 1 is a pilot phase, years 2 to 4 are an expansion phase. Each village takes part in activities during at least 3 consecutive years. The five pilot villages start trials on year 1. In-village activities other than pilots start in 50% of villages on Year 1; these villages are located in all 8 communes and include several category 2 villages and several category 3 villages. Service center activities are open to relocated households on Year 1 regardless of the villages where they reside. The dry/rainy season calendar and availability of households is taken into account in the detailed schedule;
- **In EMDP**, activities are scheduled in accordance with the period when risks are expected to occur.
- **In RLDP management**, communication starts before the arrival of the CLIP team.

8. Costs and Budget

8.1. Overall Budget

Financial resources allocated to the RLDP take into account (a) the TSHPP master plan approved by Government of Vietnam in 2008, and (b) the commitment to achieve the RLDP result.

With a contingency of 10% and a minimum cost for CLIP of 2 million USD, the RLDP budget, as of January 2011 is 648.5 billion, equivalent to about \$ 35.1 million. In application of the adaptive management principle ([Section 1.5](#)), budget items and amounts can be modified provided they do not reduce entitlements. Contingency provides flexibility in the implementation of RLDP.

Table 33: RLDP Cost Estimate

	%	Million VND	USD equivalent
1. Base cost			
Main project RP		506,185.02	25,958,206
CLIP		39,000.00	2,000,000
EMDP		2,680.00	137,436
Total base cost		547,865.02	28,095,642
2. Management			
Main project RP (management and design)	9.00%	45,556.65	2,336,239
CLIP	2%	780.00	40,000
EMDP	2%	53.60	2,749
Communication		1,855.91	95,175
Capacity-building		1000	51,282
M&E		5,153.10	264,262
Total management		54,399.26	2,789,706
Depreciation	5%	27,393.25	1,404,782
Contingency	10%	54,786.50	2,809,564
Total RLDP		684,444.03	35,099,694

8.2. RP Budget

The base cost of the resettlement plan for the main project is 506,185.02 Million VND, equivalent to 25.95 Million USD.

Total cost of the main project RP, including management and design, depreciation and contingency is 633,921.42 Million VND, equivalent to USD 32.5 Million. The details of cost estimate for each item are in the resettlement master plan.

This is a tentative budget based on existing provincial references, to be adjusted since compensation will be made based on actual replacement cost at time of compensation.

Table 34: Main Project Resettlement Plan Cost Estimate (Million VND)

Item	Total	Unit	Thanh Hoa Province			Son La Province		
			Quantity	Price Unit	Total	Unit	Quantity	Total
I. Cadastral maps	1,357.34				365,954.36			128,705.46
1. Reservoir area	1,080.98							
2. Relocation sites	171.36							
3. Supporting areas	105.00							
I. Compensation for construction sites	18,088.39				6,563.19			
Residential land	858.00	ha	0.66	1,300.00	858.00			
Annual production land	796.50	ha	2.66	300.00	796.50			
Perennial production land	423.60	ha	3.53	120.00	423.60			
Commercial forestry land	10,300.00	ha	206.00	50.00	10,300.00			
Aquaculture land	5.10	ha	0.02	300.00	5.10			
Trees and crops	5,705.19				5,705.19			
II. Compensation for replaced place	99,687.71				74,858.74			24,828.97
1 Compensation for losses caused by the difference between kinds of land	61,993.78		881.90		55,565.80	152.42		6,427.98
- Compensation for losses of land planted with annual plants	9,465.48	ha	31.43	300.00	9,429.00	0.76	48.00	36.48
- Compensation for losses of land planted with perennial plants	922.40	ha	5.94	120.00	712.80	5.24	40.00	209.60
- Compensation for losses of one crop paddy land	708.00	ha	2.36	300.00	708.00		50.00	-
- Compensation for losses of two crop paddy land	3,772.00	ha	9.40	300.00	2,820.00	11.90	80.00	952.00
- Compensation for losses of aquaculture land	448.20	ha	1.03	300.00	309.00	1.74	80.00	139.20
- Compensation for losses of planted forestry land	46,234.30	ha	831.74	50.00	41,587.00	132.78	35.00	4,647.30
- Compensation for losses of forest protection land	443.40	ha				22.17	20.00	443.40
2. Compensation for losses of assets on land	37,693.93				19,292.94			18,400.99
2.1- compensation for crops and tree	31,895.35				16,199.94			15,695.41
2.2. Secondary construction	1,666.92				721.94			944.98
2.3. Other assets	943.62				769.57			174.05
2.4 Displacing graves	414.40				255.20			159.20
2.5 Collective assets	2,773.64				1,346.29			1,427.35
III. Invest in building resettlement area	222,685.55				145,173.27			77,512.28
1. Compensation to build the resettlement area	16,625.90				10,747.40			5,878.50
1.1 Land acquisition to serve resettlement	13,597.00				9,722.00			3,875.00
1.1.1- Residential land and construction land	3,925.00	ha	61.00	50.00	3,050.00	25.00	35.00	875.00
1.1.2- Production land	9,672.00	ha	55.60	120.00	6,672.00	30.00	100.00	3,000.00
1.2 Plants and farm produce planted on the requisitioned land	3,028.90				1,025.40			2,003.50
2. Mine and bomb decontamination	2,550.00	ha	90.00	15.00	1,350.00	80.00	15.00	1,200.00

- Garden land, line, planting farm produce (0-0.3 m)	1,050.00	ha	40.00	15.00	600.00	30.00	15.00	450.00
- Residential land, paddy land, traffic (0-0.3m)	1,500.00	ha	50.00	15.00	750.00	50.00	15.00	750.00
3. Reclaiming land and build the fields	2,511.50	ha	41.23	50.00	1,771.50			740.00
- Reclaiming land	1,861.50	ha	35.43	50.00	1,771.50	9.00	10.00	90.00
- Building fields	650.00	km	5.80		-	13.00	50.00	650.00
4. Irrigation	23,144.00	ha	53.86	400.00	21,544.00	4.00	400.00	1,600.00
5. Traffic	40,015.00				12,315.00			27,700.00
Inter-village road type B	33,015.00	cái				1.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Submersible bridge	3,000.00				12,315.00			27,700.00
Suspended bridge	3,000.00	km	8.21	1,500.00	12,315.00	13.80	1,500.00	20,700.00
Wharf	1,000.00	Cái				1.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
6. Domestic electricity	37,190.15				31,280.37			5,909.78
Power line 35 KV	28,947.90	km	22.46		24,598.82	4.00		4,349.08
Power line 0.4 KV	2,825.00	km	7.60	250.00	1,900.00	3.70	250.00	925.00
Station 100KVA	346.20	Tram	-	396.46	-	1.00	346.20	346.20
Station 75 KVA	396.46	Tram	1.00	396.46	396.46		344.38	-
Station 50 KVA	280.31	Tram	1.00	280.31	280.31	1.00		-
Station 31.5 KVA	3,518.27	Tram	8.00	439.78	3,518.27	-		-
Household electricity	876.00	Hộ	391.00	1.50	586.50	193.00	1.50	289.50
7. Domestic water	11,680.00	Hộ	391.00	20.00	7,820.00	193.00	20.00	3,860.00
8. Public constructions	7,605.00				4,200.00			3,405.00
Subgrading public area	400.00				240.00			160.00
- Cultural house	1,550.00	m2	360.00	2.50	900.00	260.00	2.50	650.00
- Kindergarten	2,150.00	m2	560.00	2.50	1,400.00	300.00	2.50	750.00
- Village classroom	1,550.00	m2	200.00	2.50	500.00	420.00	2.50	1,050.00
- Teacher house	1,300.00	m2	320.00	2.50	800.00	200.00	2.50	500.00
- Appliance	655.00	%	10.00		360.00	10.00		295.00
9. Building resettlement house or resettlement compensation	81,364.00		227.00		54,145.00			27,219.00
25 m ² (1-2 people)	2,350.00	hộ	31.00	50.00	1,550.00	16.00	50.00	800.00
45 m ² (3-5 people) ²	30,420.00	hộ	196.00	90.00	17,640.00	142.00	90.00	12,780.00
65 m ² (above 5 people)	26,404.00	hộ	154.00	130.00	20,020.00	48.00	133.00	6,384.00
Secondary construction (kitchen, toilet)	8,760.00	Hộ	391.00	15.00	5,865.00	193.00	15.00	2,895.00
Subgrading	11,680.00	Hộ	391.00	20.00	7,820.00	193.00	20.00	3,860.00
Temporarily calculated difference (price of displaced house higher than destination)	1,750.00	Hộ	50.00	25.00	1,250.00	20.00	25.00	500.00
IV. Assistance	164,366.03				138,680.49			25,685.54
1. Assistance for relocation								
Relocation within province		hộ	391	3			3	

	1,752.00				1,173.00	193.00		579.00
2. Impacts on service business	35.00	hộ	7	5	35.00	-	5	-
3. Assistance in transition time:	-		0		-	-		-
- Assistance for households whose land and house were affected	11,688.00	khẩu	1667	4.8	8,001.60	768.00	4.8	3,686.40
- Assistance for households whose land was affected	-	khẩu	0		-	-		-
+ less than 10% of productive land	3,134.70	khẩu	2947.5	0.9	2,652.75	535.50	0.9	481.95
+ 10%-30% of productive land	4,374.00	khẩu	2025	1.8	3,645.00	405.00	1.8	729.00
+ 30-50% of productive land	2,065.50	khẩu	675	2.7	1,822.50	90.00	2.7	243.00
+ More than 50% of productive land	475.20	khẩu	54	3.6	194.40	59	4.8	280.80
4. Allowance for vocational training and job creations.	133,828.07							
- Aquaculture land	1,167.15	ha	1.05		471.15	1.74		696.00
- Annual production land	25,400.97	ha	89.69		25,346.25	0.76		54.72
- Perennial production land	6,519.00	ha	9.47		1,704.60	35.24		4,814.40
- One crop paddy land	1,062.00	ha	2.36		1,062.00			
- Two crop paddy land	8,990.00	ha	9.4		4,230.00	11.9		4,760.00
- Commercial forestry land	90,688.95	ha	1,098.74		82,405.50	157.78		8,283.45
5. Additional assistance for voluntary displaced households	45.00	hộ	45	1	45.00	0	1	-
6. Medical assistance	116.80	hộ	391	0.2	78.20	193.00	0.2	38.60
7. Assistance for lighting	35.04	hộ	391	0.06	23.46	193.00	0.06	11.58
8. Assistance for education (temporarily calculated)	105.12	hộ	391	0.18	70.38	193.00	0.18	34.74
9. Allowance for plantation new Luong bamboo	4,822.60	ha	831.74	5	4,158.70	132.78	5	663.90
10. Vulnerable groups:	-	hộ	0	1	-	-	1	-
Women-headed HH	67.00	hộ	45	1	45.00	22.00	1	22.00
People with disability	68.00	hộ	30	1	30.00	38.00	1	38.00
Single elderly		hộ						
11. Host communes	1,350.00	Hộ	40	30	1,200.00	5.00	30	150.00
12. HH receiving allowance with social policy (estimated 10% from total affected HH)	54.00	Hộ	36.00	1.00	36.00	18.00	1.00	18.00
13. Progress reward (temporary)	350.00	Hộ	50.00	5.00	250.00	20.00	5.00	100.00
Total	506,185.02							

8.3. CLIP Budget

The base cost of the community livelihoods improvement plan is estimated at 39,000 Million VND (2 Million USD equivalent). Specific activities have been identified for a total of 30,596.24 Million VND (1.57 Million USD equivalent).

Table 35: CLIP Budget

	Amount (M VND)	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost (VND)
1. Production improvement				
Pilot – crop production	212.50	HH	25	8,500,000
Pilot - large livestock	212.50	HH	25	8,500,000
Pilot - small livestock	212.50	HH	25	8,500,000
Pilot - small equipment, handicraft	212.50	HH	25	8,500,000
Inputs for interest groups - crop production	4,500.00	HH * year	1,500	3,000,000
Inputs for interest groups - large livestock	3,000.00	HH	750	4,000,000
Inputs for interest groups - large livestock	800.00	HH	1,000	800,000
Inputs for interest groups – small livestock or fish culture	750.00	HH	750	1,000,000
Small village infrastructure	0.00	Village		
Terraces out of planned resettlement	0.00	Ha		
Forest protection contracts	0.00	Village X year		
Agriculture training	180.00	Person X day	12,000	15,000
Agriculture trainer	80.00	Day	400	200,000
Agriculture training material duplication	40.00	Day	400	100,000
Workshops - province	40.00	Person X time	40	1,000,000
Study tours	12.00	Person X time	6	2,000,000
Sub-total: production improvement	10,252.00			
2. Service center activities				
Orientation - course	90.00	Person X day	3,000	30,000
Orientation - trainer	80.00	Day	400	200,000
Orientation training material duplication	40.00	Day	400	100,000
Credit guarantee fund – bamboo and agriculture	2,250.00	HH	750	3,000,000
Credit fund - off farm	2,400.00	HH	120	20,000,000
Credit service fee	250.00	%	5	50,000,000
Vocational training	600.00	Persons	120	5,000,000
Workshops - business clubs	600.00	Person X time	3,000	200,000
Sub-total: service center	6,310.00			
3. Technical support				
Service center operational costs	120.00	Month	48	2,500,000
Service center equipment	50.00	M ²	100	500,000
TA - national	4,101.12	Person X month	192	21,360,000
TA - international	4,272.00	Person X month	16	267,000,000
Commune facilitators	2,819.52	Person X month	528	5,340,000
Short-term TA	213.60	Person X month	4	53,400,000
District staff per diem	288.00	Person X month	2,880	100,000
Motorbikes - purchase	356.00	Person	20	17,800,000
Vehicles - operation	720.00	Vehicle X year	80	9,000,000
Commune workgroup motorbike rental	102.00	Vehicle	34	3,000,000
Sub-total technical support	13,042.24			
Contingency for CLIP	8,403.76			
Total	39,000.00			

8.4. EMDP Budget

The base cost of EMDP is estimated at 2,680 Million VND (137,436 USD equivalent). This covers specific measures and coordination costs.

Table 36: Ethnic Minorities Development Plan Budget

	Amount M VND	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost VND
1. Ceremonies and graveyard				
Ceremony for moving graves	200.00	Village	20	10,000,000
Ceremony for relocation	60.00	Village	12	5,000,000
Graveyard protection wall	300.00	Meter	1,500	200,000
Subtotal ceremonies	560.00			
2. Gender programs	500.00	Commune * year	50	10,000,000
3. Emergency grants	1,500.00	Household	500	3,000,000
4. Coordination by EM workgroup	120.00	Year	6	20,000,000
Total base cost	2,680.00			

8.5. Management and Communication Budget

The RLDP implementation budget includes (a) management fees for each component, (b) communications, (c) capacity building and (d) monitoring and evaluation.

District and commune staff taking part in RLDP implementation are eligible to reimbursement of travel costs and travel allowance (not to additional salary). TSHPMB determines a policy for these reimbursements. Travel costs and allowance of district staff taking part in CLIP are budgeted under CLIP technical support.

Table 37: Management and Communication Budget

		Amount M VND	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost VND
1. Management Fees					
Main project RP (management and design)	9%	45,556.65			
CLIP	2%	780			
EMDP	2%	53.6			
2. Communication					
Village equipment		1,750.00		35	50,000,000.00
Design (short term TA)		53.40	Person X month	2	26,700,000.00
Translation		21.36	Person X month	4	5,340,000.00
Duplication DVDs		15.58	Set X village x year	175	89,000.00
Duplication posters and leaflet		15.58	Set X village x year	175	89,000.00
Subtotal communication		1,855.91			
3. Capacity-building		1,000.00			
4. Monitoring and Evaluation					

Independent social monitor (team leader)		3,471.00	Person X month	13	267,000,000.00
Independent social monitor (team)		427.20	Person X month	20	21,360,000.00
Impact evaluation		320.40	Person X month	12	26,700,000.00
Community monitoring		934.50	Village x year	175	5,340,000.00
Subtotal M&E		5,153.10			
Total management		54,399.26			

8.6. Procurement and Financial Management

Procurement and financial management in RLDP is carried out in accordance with the financial management procedures of the entire World-Bank financed project except for items that would not be financed from the IBRD loan. These procedures define:

- Procurement categories (works, goods, services, community participation) and procurement methods;
- Financial management methods and responsibilities.

All expenditures will be audited in accordance with existing procedures of EVN and the World Bank, which includes external auditing.

9. Complaints and Grievance Redress Mechanism

Complaints and Grievances are distinguished in Vietnam as separate issues:

Complaints relate to dissatisfaction about matters that are likely to include:

- The process – time taken; complexity; lack of information;
- The service provided – poor service; inadequate or incorrect advice; fees charged; demands for informal payments; damage to property;
- Quality (completeness and accuracy) of the records;
- Health and security.

RLDP monitors complaints in order to improve quality of the resettlement process, and to ensure project compliance with the EMDP for ethnic minority issues.

Grievances relate to issues that cannot be solved immediately and may not be solved locally. In resettlement, the scope of the grievance procedure includes all land issues directly related to project impact including, if appropriate, clarification of boundaries between villages and communes. For ethnic minorities affected by the project, these issues may relate to (a) conflict between communities on access and management of natural resources, (b) any other matter for grievance in relation to ethnic minority cultures.

Complaints and grievances will be handled in a similar way and may be reported through two channels. First, a legal mediation channel formed by Peoples' committees from commune up to province level, is in place in Vietnam. This channel is distinct from the technical project implementation formed by the DCC and commune workgroup. Second, the project itself sets up an alternative channel, the independent grievance panel.

Formal Process. The formal national procedure of the Land law is based on four stages of mediation:

First step: if any person is aggrieved by any aspect of the resettlement and rehabilitation program, he/she can lodge an oral or written grievance with commune authorities. The CPC will resolve the issue within fifteen days from the date it receives the complaint.

Second step: if any aggrieved person is not satisfied with the decision in the first step, he/she can bring the complaint to the DPC within fifteen days from the date of the receipt of the first step decision. The DPC will reach a decision on the complaint within fifteen days.

Third step: if the aggrieved person is still not satisfied with the decision at district level, he/she can appeal to the Provincial People's Committee within 45 days of receiving the decision of the DPC. The Provincial People's Committee will reach a decision on the complaint within the timing regulated by Vietnamese law.

Fourth step: If the DP is not satisfied with the decision of the Provincial level, the case may be submitted for consideration by the District Court within 45 days of receiving the decision of the PPC. The District Court will reach a decision on the complaint within the timing regulated by the Vietnam's law.

Grievances are received orally (in the Vietnamese language or a local ethnic language) or in written form. Assistance provided by the TSHPM social team will include (a) recording all

grievance files and report them in the monthly monitoring process and follow up to ensure timely resolution, and (b) exempting persons registered as residents in project affected communities from administrative or legal fees associated with pursuit of grievances. Grievance resolution will take place within a set maximum number of days in accordance with regulations.

During the mediation process, TSHPMB managers ensure that grievance redress committees meet in a timely manner to resolve mediation at the second and third steps above. They ensure that those seeking grievance redress are actually given the choice to accept mediation or to seek redress at a higher level.

Independent Grievance Process

TSHPMB will establish a grievance panel independent of the legally-established grievance mechanism. The safeguard team in TSHPMB will provide a monthly monitoring report to the panel to allow it to monitor all complaints and grievances.

Complaints or grievances are received through a variety of sources, including, for example direct from either the individual or a group, or through a representative, such as the village head (or his or her appointee to serve as the village grievance focal point), a representative of a mass organization or an NGO. (in the Vietnamese language or a local ethnic language) or in written form. They may also be reported through the Commune People's Committee, which informs the safeguard team; or directly to the safeguard team during monthly compliance monitoring, which extends down to the village level.

The complainant may be assisted by others throughout the process. Key principles in the independent grievance process are: (a) to make the process accessible and responsive in all areas and to all groups within the affected population; (b) to deal with issues or problems at the lowest possible level; and (c) to address complaints as quickly as practicable to avoid minor issues becoming major ones.

The first point of contact for a complainant is the project Community Relations Officer (CRO), a member of the Trung Son Safeguards Team. The CRO will take up the matter with relevant members of the Trung Son Safeguards Team to try to reach a solution. If no solution satisfactory to the complainant can be achieved, the complainant meets the head of the Trung Son Safeguards Team, who addresses the issue in conjunction with heads of other departments in TSHPMB, contractors and, as necessary, local authorities. Records of meetings between complainants will be maintained and reviewed by the project IMCs. Meetings are conducted in a language acceptable to the complainant and in a setting appropriate to the needs of the meeting (which may include the site of the complaint, or the offices of TSHPP).

If the complainant is not satisfied with the solutions on offer from the head of the Trung Son Safeguards Team, the Independent Grievance Panel (IGP) will hear the case. The IGP is composed of the head of the Trung Son Safeguards Team, and at least one member of the independent Environment and Social Panel of Experts (PoE). It is chaired by the Director of TSHPPMB. It may co-opt additional members as required including, for example, independent social and environment monitoring consultants, a technical expert or an NGO. It may also take independent advice from consultants or other experts at its discretion.

Complaints received by the IGP will be publicly disclosed when they are received. The IGP will hear the complaint in a face-to-face meeting, at which the complainant and any advisor or representative may be present. The IGP will publish its findings promptly after it has completed its deliberations and one member of the IGP will be delegated to communicate the findings to the complainant in a suitable form and language.

The IGP will convene quarterly to review all complaints dealt with by either the CRO or the head of the Trung Son Safeguards team, and to discuss any ongoing complaints. The IGP can be convened by any individual member to deal with urgent matters which cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting.

Project information leaflets provide practical information about grievances to local residents such as contacts and addresses. They mention both the legal mechanism and the IGP, and provide information about how to get in touch with both.

An interim IGP will be formed, composed of the Head of the TSHPMB Safeguards Team and the Director of TSHPMB until the IGP can be formally constituted. The interim IGP will be replaced by the full IGP no later than World Bank loan effectiveness.

The overall effectiveness of the Independent Grievance Process and IGP will be assessed during the RLDP mid-term evaluation and, in accordance with adaptive management provisions, alternative arrangements may be instituted to improve system performance and responsiveness.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

10.1. Results Framework

Monitoring and evaluation have a dual purpose: (a) to optimize implementation of RLDP, and (b) to document when the result indicator of RLDP will have been successfully reached so that the RLDP program can be closed.

The result indicator is the main measure of RLDP performance. It defines the commitment of TSHPMB. Other indicators (Table 38) are necessary to optimize the management of RLDP.

Table 38: Main RLDP Indicators

Level	Result Indicator and Other Monitoring Indicators	Indicator Source
Outcome: Living standards of affected households at least restored and cultural identity maintained in affected villages	Result indicator: % of affected households with living standards at start of dam operation, improved or at least restored compared with pre-project, and satisfaction on maintenance of cultural identity. Target: 100% of households.	Mid-term and final household living standard survey Living standard scores: (1) household database, (2) bi-annual external monitoring of living standards and ethnic cultures
Specific outcomes:		
RP: households fully compensated	Number and % of DPs with full compensation before deadline. Target 100%	Household database
CLIP: capacity enhanced in all villages	Number and % of DPs with paddy fields or terraces or homegarden. Target: 50% above pre-project.	Household database
	Number and % of households in CLIP satisfied with training and interest groups.	External monitoring with village monitoring group
EMDP: effective awareness of all ethnic groups (1)	Proportion of households aware of health risks and measures	Bi-annual external monitoring: PRA scoring.
Outputs:		
RP: compensation, allowances, resettlement sites	RP: (1) Number of households with entitlements started / completed. (2) N villages with new infrastructure started/completed.	RP: (1) Household database, (2) village database

Level	Result Indicator and Other Monitoring Indicators	Indicator Source
CLIP: village CLIPs, service center activities	CLIP: (1) N villages with CLIP activities started/continuing. Target: 100% started and continuing from Year 2 to Year 5. (2) Number and % households in CLIP villages with at least 3 training days. Target 80% of households. (3) N households benefiting from CLIP services, by household category. Target: 100% of vulnerable and displaced persons from Year 2, 100% of DPs from Year 3.	CLIP: (1) and (2): village database, (3) household database
EMDP: Specific measures Communication	EMDP: N villages with started/completed measures, by measure Communication: N multilingual DVDs produced and disseminated	EMDP: village database Communication: DVD set procurement.
Inputs: Budget including contingency Human resources	% contingency/base cost. N PMB staff on social safeguards. Target: 10 % CLIP TA team members unchanged. Target: 100%.	RLDP budget revisions Staff records
Conditions for reaching outcome: TSHPMB/agencies coordination for mitigation of EM risks Continuity/quality of infrastructure and services at sites affected and new resettlement sites Community resource management in place	(1) 100% identified risks with on-going mitigation (2) 90% of core area villages satisfied (3) % core area affected villages with village agreement effective. Target 100%.	Annual external monitoring with village monitoring groups

(1) Proxy indicator for all risks in ethnic minority communities.

In addition to the results framework, the resettlement policy framework requires monitoring of a series of detailed indicators of resettlement progress and compensation ([Annex 2.1](#)).

“Vulnerable groups” in the result indicator is defined more narrowly than in the RP in order to better identify vulnerable households. They include: (a) female-headed households with dependents, (b) households in which all members are illiterate, (c) households with disabled heads and (d) landless elderly households or children with no stable source of non-farm

income . Households are listed as vulnerable based on their actual and current situation, not entitlements gained through existing benefit systems.

The detailed definition of living standards is in [Section 10.4](#) (living standard score) and [Section 10.5](#) (household living standard survey).

The rationale for the definition of the result indicator is as follows:

- Living standards (livelihoods) are better assessed by incorporating several dimensions of poverty. An aggregated livelihood indicator provides quality information in a time-efficient manner when quantitative incomes are difficult to measure.
- Due to the project timeline, affected households may have more favorable livelihoods up to 2013 until they stop farming the old areas, and may have difficulties to adjust at the time of full project impact on land and fishing resources (post-2015). It is therefore necessary to assess post-project living standards.
- Vulnerable groups are expected to have higher difficulties to adjust starting from 2015, after completion of CLIP.
- Living standards refer to basic education (school) and increase in health awareness (use of mosquito nets). Equal access of girls is important to assess due to the gender gap in these respects among the various ethnic groups.

The result indicator is assembled twice a year in the form of a livelihood and living standard score ([Section 10.4](#)) through external monitoring, and in quantified form at RLDP mid-term and upon completion with a comparison between the core RLDP area and non-affected villages.

The following definitions of the result indicator have been assessed as not appropriate to the project or the project area:

- Living standards restored for 100% of households: the RLDP commitment is to provide compensation through RP, capacity through CLIP and prevention of risks through EMDP. It is likely that a very small number of households will remain at the pre-project level.
- Restoration of living standards of a representative average of all groups in RLDP area: average data would lead to overestimate actual living standards since there are better-off households among displaced persons.
- Living standards to be raised above poverty line: most households are at present registered as poor, which gives them access to subsidies and programs. This indicator might be biased since households may be concerned about losing access to these benefits.

The contract with the CLIP TA team includes performance indicators. TA performance indicators relate to CLIP inputs and outputs only.

10.2. Activities and Responsibilities

Monitoring and evaluation is undertaken in an integrated manner for the RP, CLIP and EMDP. A combination of (a) internal monitoring, (b) external monitoring and (c) evaluation are needed to fully assess progress towards reaching the objective and identify any issues in

the implementation of RLDP (Table 39). Outside the RLDP, the panel of experts provides an independent review of any arising environmental or social issues.

Internal monitoring in a large infrastructure project such as the Trung Son hydropower project has three purposes:

(1) Quality monitoring. Internal monitoring is carried out first of all to ensure that any issue in implementation quality is solved promptly. It is based on frequent observation, recording and reporting of information. Information is from (a) structured direct observation and communication with local communities and other stakeholders, and (b) formal and informal complaint reports and grievance files.

Table 39: Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

M&E Activity	Internal Monitoring Safeguard Team	External Monitoring Independent Social Monitor	Evaluation Impact Evaluation Contractor
1. Process monitoring			
Quality	Monthly checklists	Spot checks 2/year	
Complaints and grievances	Monthly records		
Household database	Monthly update		
Village database	Monthly update		
Progress monitoring reports	2/year		
2. Impact monitoring and evaluation			
Livelihoods & living standards impact	Maintain DP household database	Household database sample 1/year in core area	Sample household survey mid-term & final in core / other project area
3. Risk monitoring			
Ethnic minority risks	Support	PRA 1/year	

The safeguard team is in charge of internal quality monitoring. It carries out internal monitoring once a month in each commune throughout implementation of RLDP before scheduled close of RLDP. Internal monitoring requires field checks in the villages of origin and the resettlement sites. Checklists are used for monthly internal monitoring. The main contents for the RP, CLIP and EMDP checklists are listed below. The safeguard team reports quality to TSHPMB and the World Bank on a quarterly basis during construction. It coordinates with relevant agencies/project stakeholders on minor issues that can be solved immediately. Issues requesting immediate action, either because of their magnitude or their immediate impact, are reported immediately.

(2) Process monitoring. Internal monitoring of inputs (financial resources, human resources) and outputs (RLDP activities) is carried out to inform managers about progress in RLDP implementation.

The safeguard team summarizes inputs and outputs twice a year in progress monitoring reports for review by TSHPMB and the World Bank. Input and output monitoring tables show coverage in terms of villages and households.

The safeguard team maintains a simple monitoring information system to carry out these tasks and to inform the work of the independent social monitor. The system includes (a) a

village database, (b) a household database, (c) the complaints and grievances database. The main contents of these databases are provided below ([Section 10.3](#)). The CLIP TA team contributes to the village and household databases in order to document the services provided to each household. This includes advisory services.

(3) Impact monitoring. The safeguard team is responsible for maintaining living standards data in the household database ([Section 10.3](#)).

External monitoring is undertaken to support a periodic review of RLDP results. The three main purposes of external monitoring are (a) to undertake an independent review of RLDP progress through spot checks of progress monitoring findings, (b) to assess progress towards the outcome and (c) to provide an independent review of all social risks identified, and to identify potential need for further mitigation measures.

A Social Monitor team, independent from TSHPMB and local government, will be recruited to undertake external monitoring. This consultant team, that may be from an academic or research institution, an NGO or independent consulting firm, operates under terms of reference acceptable to the World Bank. It includes one team leader with international-level qualifications and qualified members with experience in livelihood assessment and in ethnic minority issues in the region. The consultant is in charge of monitoring of the RP, CLIP and EMDP and preferably remains in this position throughout implementation or at least during several semesters.

External monitoring takes place twice a year or per requested by the project during the end-2010-end 2015 period. The first mission of the Social Monitor takes place immediately at RLDP launch to support the establishment of the household database and its baseline information.

The safeguard team is responsible for providing assistance to the independent social monitor in data collection. The safeguard team updates for this purpose the monitoring information system at least twice a year, prior to the visit of the external monitor.

The external monitor uses semi-quantitative methods (living standard scoring indicator) to assess progress towards reaching the objective. He/she uses PRA methods to monitor risks. This covers risks identified and any arising risks. External monitoring also covers the relevance of all RLDP activities, i.e. whether they are appropriate to minimize and mitigate the risks of impact occurring or foreseen, help manage the environment in an improved manner, and are consistent with other on-going rural development and poverty reduction initiatives.

Monitoring visits take place every year during the same months. One of the two annual external monitoring visits takes place at the end of the rainy season, which is the hungry season for vulnerable households, and one at the end of the dry season. The former focuses on risk monitoring, the latter on assessment of progress towards outcome. The first visit of the external monitor includes detailed design and field test of monitoring tools.

External monitoring reports are submitted twice a year to Trung Son HPMB and to the World Bank. They provide conclusions on successes and failures, and recommendations for improvement. Managers of the PMB will take action to resolve any issue identified through monitoring.

Evaluation is carried out to confirm effectiveness in reaching the outcome. A quantitative household sample survey with a comparison group. Evaluation takes place twice during RLDP implementation, at mid-term and completion of RLDP. The surveys are tentatively planned for end-2012 and early 2015.

An independent consultant team, qualified in quantitative household surveys, is hired to carry out impact evaluation under terms of reference acceptable to the World Bank.

Affected villages take an active role in the monitoring and evaluation of RLDP. The village monitoring group is in charge of community monitoring. The group specifically (a) confirms the list of households listed as vulnerable, (b) checks quality and continuity in infrastructure construction of CLIP and EMDP activities agreed for the village, and (c) monitors land allocation. It also participates in the monthly internal monitoring visits, and the annual PRAs.

Monitoring and evaluation in RLDP uses methods and tools which are parallel to those of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in order to facilitate joint management of environmental and social safeguards. The social and environment external monitors coordinate their activities and findings at least once a year.

10.3. Internal Monitoring

Monitoring Checklists for RP, CLIP and EMDP

The checklist for internal monitoring of the resettlement plans (main project, access road, power lines) is designed by the safeguard team to cover:

- For each DP, whether the baseline information collection, valuation of assets lost or damaged, provision of compensation, resettlement and other rehabilitation entitlements have been completed in accordance with the resettlement policy framework;
- Whether DPs, and before them DCCs and CPCs, have received cash compensation and allowances in a timely and accurate manner, and whether these are used in accordance with the provisions of the RP;
- A record of topics for which complaints have been made, or grievances have been filed.

The safeguard team works in close coordination with the CLIP technical assistants. It monitors non-technical issues that influence quality. The checklist for internal monitoring of the community livelihoods improvement plan covers:

- For each village and DP, whether access to CLIP has started;
- Timely provision of information, training, inputs, of a quality that is satisfactory to users, access to credit and subsidies;
- Adequacy of coordination between technical assistance team and local government.

The checklist for internal monitoring of EMDP covers:

- Whether affected villages have started supplementary ethnic minority measures;
- The food security situation in target villages, with a record of food prices on local markets and identification of any household at risk;
- Provision of information in a form appropriate to the languages spoken by local residents and their literacy levels;

- Timely provision of training and subsidies to the agreed amount;
- Complaints and grievances on (a) interaction with worker camp; (b) cultural aspects and (c) other.

Monitoring Information System

The **household database** is the key element of the monitoring information system. The database allows, for each DP, (1) monitoring and improved delivery of individual advisory services in CLIP, (2) monitoring of RP entitlements and (3) monitoring of the result indicator and comparison with a baseline. The household database is a set of files showing for each household: RP impact, compensation and allowances; participation in CLIP service center activities and training, as well as all living standards criteria forming the living standard score (Section 10.4). The MIS is updated twice a year prior to the external monitor visit. All versions including baseline are kept as part of a single database, using an Excel or Access-type software.

The **village database** shows RLDP activity progress for each village participating in RLDP. This includes (a) basic village data (number of households, ethnicity, project impact on households by type and severity, public infrastructure – before project situation, and project impact), (b) start and completion of stages in resettlement and relocation (c) planned and completed RP, CLIP and EMDP activities, including timing and scale of CLIP activities (hectares, animals, training days), and (d) number of households in village participating in each activity.

The **complaints and grievances database** documents all events. Both the process (entry and resolution) and the specific issue for which each complaint or grievance has been made are documented.

Confidentiality Aspects

Database information management preserves the privacy and rights of each household. For example, whether a household has a member with a drug addiction issue may be monitored for the purpose of facilitating credit access but is not displayed in an open manner.

The village monitoring group receives a copy of relevant sections of the village and household database contents to allow cross-checking of data and public postings in accordance with the Vietnamese legal framework. Confidential aspects are excluded.

10.4. External Monitoring

Assessment of Progress Towards Outcome

External monitoring provides an independent check of the household database information and a bi-annual report of the result indicator, based on visits to a sample of villages and households. This sample includes at least 12 villages and 120 households selected from the household database. The village sample covers the 7 core communes, with a minimum of 2 villages per commune, and at least 2 communes in the downstream area.

The household sample is designed in accordance with the result indicator. It is representative of:

- Relocated households moving into and outside of planned resettlement sites, households affected on land only (> and < 10%) and households with downstream impacts;
- Vulnerable groups, by subcategories.

A household living standards scoring indicator is assembled every year for various household categories in the core project area. This indicator is based on the following format:

Table 40: Example of Living Standards Score

Livelihood Dimension	Criteria	Value	Maximum value
Production assets	Paddy field / homegarden / fish pond area Luong bamboo area Livestock	From 0 (none) to 2 (highest level in commune)	6
Household assets	House type Transportation means TV set	From 0 (none) to 2 (highest category in commune)	6
Financial assets	Absence of indebtedness Savings	From 0 (none) to 2 (maximum level)	4
Human assets	Girls of school age in school 1 households member with non-farm skills/occupation	All = 2 2	4
Health	Domestic water Sanitation Mosquito net	From 0 (none) to 2 (highest category in commune)	6
Coping capacity	Clear plan for future livelihood Confidence in livelihood restoration	From 0 (none) to 2 (highest)	4
Food consumption	Number of meals per day in previous week (adults, women, children) Food purchases on market Access to protein sources	From 0 (none) to 2 (highest)	10
Total score			Maximum 40

Other Results Framework Indicators and Risk Monitoring

The independent social monitor uses the EMDP risk matrix to review risks of negative impact on ethnic minority communities identified at planning stage ([Section 6.5](#)). He/she reports on any previously unidentified impact. In this event, the matrix of risks is updated to reflect all existing risks.

Risk monitoring requires interaction with village monitoring groups, PRA activities in villages, including CLIP villages and other villages, and interviews with all relevant stakeholders.

The household sample of the social monitor includes households other than DPs in CLIP villages in order to provide an assessment of indicators other than DP living standards in the results framework.

Preparation of Impact Evaluation

Prior to the mid-term impact evaluation, the external social monitor, together with TSHPMB, defines terms of reference for the quantitative household survey and its analysis, on the basis of his/her knowledge of the project area and of the survey strategy described in [Section 10.5](#). These terms of reference describe minimum requirements in terms of sample size, schedule, output and team qualifications.

10.5. Impact Evaluation

The purpose of impact evaluation is to provide a fully quantitative measure of the result indicator. The mid-term survey (a) quantifies current livelihoods and incomes, and (b) predicts livelihoods and incomes during the operation phase, i.e. at full project impact level.

The purpose of the final survey is to confirm, jointly with external monitoring, that RLDP can be closed, or, if not, to contribute to identifying follow-up measures.

Living standards are measured through consumption and assets. The survey guide is based on the latest VHLSS (Vietnam Household Living Standard Survey) at the time of the mid-term survey. The VHLSS survey guide is simplified and adjusted to project area conditions. Variables strongly correlated to poverty in small area estimations of poverty incidence in the region are key variables in the survey ²⁹.

The sample will include at least 25 percent of DPs. These households will live in at least 30 percent of villages in the core RLDP area. The sample will be representative of the project area in terms of (a) relocated / resettled / host villages and households, (b) district location, and (c) vulnerable groups. The same sample will be surveyed at mid-term and completion as far as possible. The external social monitor will review the sample to check whether it is fully representative of the project area.

Best practice in impact evaluation will be used. A comparison group will be defined, based on international best practice in impact evaluation, and incorporated into the survey. Control variables include all criteria in the above living standards score matrix.

Similar sample structures are used at mid-term and in the final survey. Households surveyed in the final survey include a proportion of newly founded households.

The mid-term and final surveys take place at a similar time of the year in order to provide comparable data since consumption varies within a year. They take place towards the end of the dry season, in order to provide an intermediary picture of consumption levels while allowing easier road access to the households.

Only qualified interviewers will take part in the surveys. Translators into local languages will be trained prior to the survey.

²⁹ In 2006, these variables include: motorbike, color TV, refrigerator, size of living area in house, improved sanitation (Institute of Labor Science and Social Affairs and World Bank 2009. Poverty and Inequality in Vietnam).