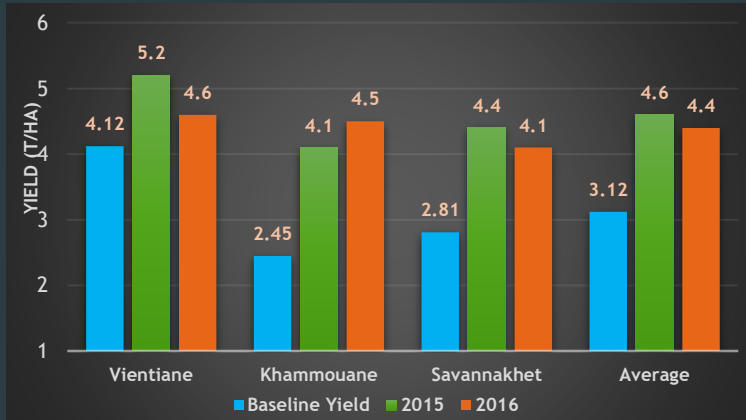


## Key results - Yield

The baseline study conducted for the project reported the average rice yield for the project province as 3.12 t/ha. Compared to it, average yield of SRI demonstrations during both 2015 and 2016 was higher. This was true for the average yields of SRI demonstrations at provincial level too.

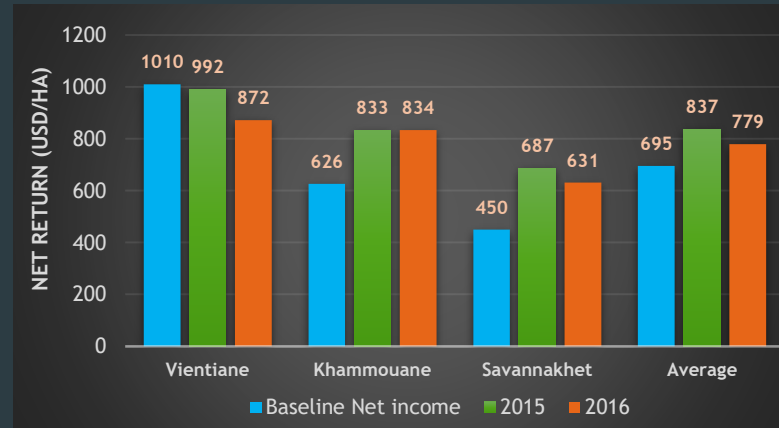


Average yield (tons/ha) from SRI demonstration plots



## Key results - Net return

The baseline study also reported the average net return from rice cultivation in three provinces of Lao PDR as USD 695/ha. Average net returns from SRI demonstrations in FPAR sites were higher than this in both 2015 and 2016 (837 and 779 US\$/ha respectively).



Comparing average net returns (USD/ha) from SRI demonstrations

## Recommendations for future work

- Activities to focus on National Green Growth Strategies (GGS): resource efficient, eco-friendly, climate resilient and socially inclusive growth. SRI is an entry point for this inclusive growth and should be promoted within the context of SSG.
- Reinforcement/adjustment of capacity of extension staff for improved training.
- Establishing a national-level farmer network which will advocate for better policies for farmers is essential and will be useful.



# SRI-LMB

*Sustaining and Enhancing the Momentum for Innovation and Learning around the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Lower Mekong River Basin (LMB)*



The project is funded by the European Union



The project is implemented by AIT

# SRI-LMB project in Lao PDR

Funded by the European Union, the implementation of the *'Sustaining and Enhancing the Momentum for Innovation and Learning around the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Lower Mekong River Basin'* (SRI-LMB) project began in 2014 and comes to completion in 2018.

## Project purpose

The purpose of the SRI-LMB project is to increase crop yield, productivity and profitability of the smallholders in rainfed areas of Lower Mekong Basin region on a sustainable basis. This is expected to contribute to their resilience to climate change and food security.

## Project approach

The project approach is based on the principles of SRI and Farmer Field School. The initial group of district and farmer trainers were trained on experimenting with SRI at provincial level at the Central Farmer Participatory Action Research (CFPAR) sites. They in turn conducted training for other farmers and led experimentation centered on local-specific problems at the Farmer Participatory Action Research (FPAR) sites in various districts.



## Project partners

- Programme Management Unit, Department of Technical Extension and Agro-Processing (DTEAP), Vientiane
- FAO IPM Office, Vientiane
- Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFOs) in Khammouane, Savannakhet and Vientiane
- District Agriculture and Forestry Office (DAFOs) in Mahaxay, Nakay, Yommalath, Champhone, Songkhone, Sonnabouly, Fouang, Meun and Vang Vieng
- Farmer Trainers and groups from Vientiane, Khammouane and Savannakhet

## Farmer outreach and capacity building

- 90 Farmer Trainers (FTs) trained
- 1945 farmers, more than half of them women, from 9 districts of 3 provinces directly involved during 2015-16 seasons
- Training focus on rice cultivation, SRI, Agro Eco System Analysis (AESAs) and, data collection and analysis, to strengthen their skills on crop management and decision making abilities
- SRI demonstrations conducted at 74 FPAR sites during 2015-16 seasons; 82 in 2017.

## Project experience - most widely adopted SRI practices

As per the independent Monitoring Evaluation and Learning study, the most widely adopted SRI practices by the FPAR farmers were transplanting using fewer seedlings (1 to 3) per hill, and wider spacing (>20 cm).



*SRI-LMB action research sites in 3 selected provinces of Lao PDR*