



Handover Agriculture Center to boost agriculture production in Nakai District

Nakai Neua Agriculture Center, established by Nam Theun 2 Power Company (NTPC), has been handed over to Nakai District Authority to share gained experiences to local community to boost agriculture in the district.

The center, a part of Nam Theun 2 resettlement program, has served as tool to bring new techniques of agriculture and livestock to Nakai people in order to improve and change their livelihood from forest-based activities to commercial activities. The center is established in 1997 to be used for learning center, exchanging experiences, researching and demonstration for fruit trees and poultry breeding and other animals.

According Mr Khamstone Ounthavy, Director of Provincial Agriculture and Forest Office (PAFO), the handing over of the center will be useful to expand techniques and knowledge. "Thank you to Nam Theun 2 Power Company for handing over this center to government and thank you for the support of company so far. The center will change support strategy of Ministry of Agriculture and Forest and PAFO." Mr Khamstone said.

The handover ceremony was held on 21 September 2013 at Nakai Neua village, attended by Nakai District Governor, Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO), NTPC representatives (Nakai Resettlement Office), Resettlement Management Unit, and other government relevant organizations.

1,310 families on Nakai Plateau were relocated to resettlement villages to allow the creation of the reservoir. With new village infrastructure built by Nam Theun 2 Power Company (NTPC), the resettlement villages are equipped with new houses, water supply and sanitation, roads, electricity connections, community buildings, schools, and health centers. In addition to the new infrastructure, NTPC works closely with the Government of Laos to strengthen local institutional capacity and implement livelihood support programs to ensure sustainable incomes and improve living standards for resettled villagers.

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