Report

Communes de La Hague

'Developing the Occupation of Raising Cows'



Village Vocational Training Centre
Nongkhai, Thailand
in partnership with
La Commune de La Hague, France
July 2018 – June 2019

Progress Report 'Developing the Occupation of Raising Cows' July 2018 – June 2019

Activities during this period of reporting:

1. Promoted and supported target groups who passed the training provided by the VVTC

The VVTC organized the "Cow Distribution Ceremony" to members of generation 37/2561 which took place on 30th August 2018. 6 families received 2 cows each ie. 12 cows altogether:

- Bann RongNo 3 families
- Bann Non Rung Ruang 3 families



Signing contracts and agreements before giving cows to members generation 37/2061 Ban Rongno.



Ms. Antonia Symonds, Assistant Director, presided over the cow distribution ceremony giving cows to members of generation 37/2561

Participation of the target group before receiving cows from VVTC

- 1.1 All members of the cow bank groups prepared a cow shed using their own money
- 1.2 All members of the cow bank groups signed contracts and made an agreement with the VVTC staff about responsibilities throughout the 4 year agreement period.
- 1.3 All members pooled resources to provide a truck to take cows back home.





2. Sharing calves and cows between VVTC and members of the cows bank.

For this period of reporting, the VVTC received 29 calves from cow bank members (12 female and 17 male) while the members of the cow bank kept 32 cows and calves altogether.



Yearlings shared by members with VVTC

3. Visitation and follow up of progress made in activities by by 8 generations

Generations 30-37, with 23 groups or 104 families in total, were visited twice during this period of Reporting to assess the progress made.

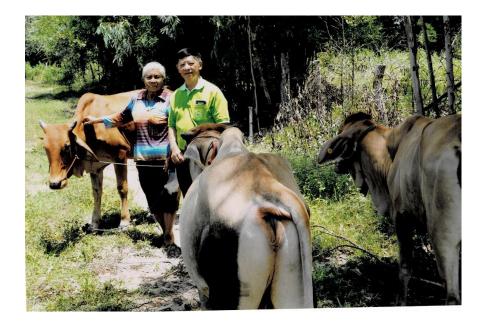
First: December 10th – 18th 2018

Second: June 6th -14th 2019

Outcome from visitation

- 3.1 More than 85% of the cows and calves of the members were in good health.
- 3.2 There were 47 calves born during the period of reporting, totalling 1,992 altogether.
- 3.3 67 pregnant cows were found waiting to give birth during this period of reporting.
- 3.4 Members who were supported with a fund to grow grass for feeding their cows totalled 134 families. All tended their grass fields by fertilizing, breaking up the ground to stimulate grass growth, so as to be able to feed cows throughout the year.

Last year, 8 families extended their areas to grow fresh grass, growing on average, 1 more rai.



Ms. Thongbank Chaoyod, member of cow bank group the generation 37/2561
Ban Khambon, was visited by Weerasak from the VVTC, who assessed the health of her cows and advised accordingly



Ms. Saengjan Baramee, member of the cow bank group the generation 34/2555 in Ban Huai Namyen

Rusy grass fieldgrown by Mr. Kul Konakan, member of the cow bank group the generation 35/2555 Ban Huai Nam yen.



VVTC staff held a meeting with members of cow bank groups from Ban Khambon, Ban RongNo and Ban Non Rungruang, to follow up the progress of their activities.

3.5 **Self-Help Animal Medicine Groups** are now established in nine villages. They provide vaccinations in order to prevent foot and mouth disease to cattle as well as anthelmintic to cows of members and their neighbours who have cows living nearby.

3.5.1 Gave vaccinations to all cows of the members in order to prevent foot and mouth.

3.5.2 Gave vaccinations to all cows of the members in order to prevent Hemorrhagic disease and Septicemia, once.

3.5.3 Gave anthelmintic and vitamin to cows of the members twice.

VVTC staff member, Weerasak, who takes responsibility to the cow bank project, gave advice about the use of medicine to the animal medicine group Ban Kok Kong.



- 3.6 Visitation and follow up of the activities of members (9 families) who were supported with Microcredit funds in target villages. (2 families stopped doing activities due to poor health.) Progress of the activities:
- 3.6.1 Each family raised between 6-8 cows
- 3.6.2 Each family has 2-3 new born calves born in this period
- 3.6.3 Families selling 1-2 cows, earned between 18,000 37,000 baht during this period
- 3.6.4 Some families have a supplementary income from selling manure that was between 2,000 3.000 baht.
- 3.6.5 Each family grew at least 3 rai of grass for feeding their cows
- 3.6.6 Members of the cow bank group used manure to improve their soil in their rice fields and their vegetable gardens. They reported a reduction of chemical fertilizer usage between 2,500 3,000 baht a year

4. Huai Sai Cattle Project

Activities during this period of reporting

- 4.1 Gave vaccinations to cow bank cattle
 - 4.1.1Gave vaccinations for foot and mount disease three times
 - 4.1.2 Gave vaccinations for Hemorrhagic fever and Septicemia once
- 4.2 Injected Anthelmintics and vitamins for improved health twice to all cows in the farm
- 4.3 Weeded, aerated and fertilized the fresh grazing pastures 18 rais altogether.
- 4.4 Grew 2 more rai of pangolar grass, Purple Ginny and Nepia Parkchong
- 4.5 Grew corn for feeding the cows on 6 rais.
- 4.6 Stored 24 tons (1,400 bales)rice straw for feeding cows in the farm
- 4.7 Prepared cows for distribution to members of the generation 37/2018 (group 2) 12 cows
- 4.8 Provided breeding service to cows by Charolais bull for the farmers who live nearby the farm on 8 occasions
- 4.9 Produced fermented straw enriched with urea, for feeding cows during February May 2019 approximately 4.5 tons
- 4.10 Repaired and carried out maintenance on the cow shed, water system and electricity system





Left: Collected Manure for grass fields in Huai Sai Above: Purple guinea grass growing beautifully at Huai Sai Cow Bank

Outcome from farm management throughout the year:

- 1. More than 90% of the cows in the farm are in good health
- 2. 8 new born calves during this period

- 3. 7 pregnant cows are waiting to give birth to their calf
- 4. Have enough fresh grass and rice straw to feed cows in the farm throughout the year.



A female calf was born at the Huai Sai Cow bank which was the result from breeding with the Charolaise bull in the farm.

Growing 1 more rai of Pangola grass fieldat Huai Sai Livestock.



5. Visitation by Acasea representative, France

We were happy to welcome representative of Acasea, France, Mr Christian Cauvin, on the 8th November 2018.

We held a meeting with him and the Director of VVTC, Sr Pranee Sitti, her assistant, Antonia Symonds, Mr Weerasak Tangsiriwatthana – responsible for the project and Ms Kuttaya Tangtrakool – co-ordinator of the VVTC. The progress of the activity was discussed as well as our shared history with Acasea, La Hague and the beneficiaries.



Mr. Christian Cauvin welcomed at the VVTC

Christian Cuavin's meeting with workers in the Huai sai Cow Bank.





Mr Cauvin had the chance to visit a family who are members of cow bank group at Ban Makue. Mr. Aree Panipad who has been successful in raising cows, was happy to welcome him

Plan for the next year

- 1. VVTC staff and the village committee will gather to select interested villagers to attend the training on "Health Care and First Aid for Cattle"
- 2. VVTC staff and the village committee will gather to select interested villagers to attend the training for "Raising Cows" Generation 38/2562.
- 3. Will organize a training on "Raising Cows" generation 38/2562
- 4. Will establish a group of those wishing to raise cows, holding a meeting for writing policy about the activity with generation 38/2562.
- 5. Organize the "Cow Distribution Ceremony" to the members of generation 38/2562
- 6. Will promote and support the activity "Growing grass for feeding cows"
- 7. Will promote and support cow bank members to establish "Self-Help Animal Medicine Group" in their communities.
- 8. Sharing calves and cows between VVTC and members of cow bank group.
- 9. VVTC staff will visit and follow up the progress of activities of all 8 generations (the generations 31-38) twice at least.
- 10. Activities at (Huai Sai Cattle Project)
 - 10.1 Store rice straw for feeding cows during dry season
 - 10.2 Get rid of weeds, aerate and fertilize fresh grazing pasture 18 rais altogether
 - 10.3 Giving vaccinations to all cows in the farm three times
 - 10.4 Inject Anthelmintics and vitamins for health nourishment twice to all cows in the farm
 - 10.5 Prepare cows, material and equipment to support the training on "Health Caring and First Aids for cows" as well as the training for "Raising Cow"
 - 10.6 Prepare cows to distribute to members of the cow bank group the generation 38/2562
 - 10.7 Provide bleeding service to cows of the farmers who live nearby using Charolais bull.
 - 10.8 On-going repairs and maintenance of cow shed, water system and electricity system.

Thank you