

## **“The Regional Agrimarket Training”**

Written by sisavang

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### **EC-FAO Food Security Programme Linking Information and Decision-Making to Improve Food Security**

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**The Regional Training for the Agricultural Market on 10th – 13th of July 2012 is glad to all the regional participants from Cambodia and Thailand for your active participation in this training in Lao PDR. Also noticed with the impression that now the Government of Lao PDR, particularly the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and the International Organizations and NGOs, are keening on developing their market information systems.**

**The increasing exposure to fluctuating global, regional and domestic market prices, the pressure of prices and quality competitiveness will increase the risks that smallholder famers and agribusiness are exposed to. High food prices have had negative implications on the food security of vulnerable households living in low-income countries, but have also created opportunities for developing agricultural production. The market prices are important sources of information for policy-makers.**

**They combine the information held by millions of economic agents, including their expectations regarding possible short-term developments in supply and demand. For example, if farmers and traders in a particular region perceive that the crop is not developing well, they may try to increase stock levels in hope of further price increases. So price information is a strategic and very current topic for the Government of Lao PDR. Accurate and well-analyzed price information is an essential input in decision-making processes by farmers, agribusiness, government, and development partners. Price information can help farmers to access markets for their products, can contribute to the development of the agro-processing sector, can improve access to food by the rural and urban population, and can help government monitor developments in the domestic market, as well as the import and export trade. Understanding and making effective use of accurate, available market price information is therefore essential to enabling market participants, particularly farmers and traders within a target area, to better understand the market situation and adapt their production and marketing strategies in line with market demand.**

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