SHIFTING CULTIVATION SYSTEMS
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THE LAO PDR

REPORT OF THE NABONG TECHNICAL MEETING
Nabong Agriculture College,
Lao People's Democratic Republic,
July 14-16, 1993

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements 1
Summary, conclusions and recommendations 2
Inaugural address: H.E. Dr Siene Saphangthong 16
Welcome speech: Dr. Sayamang Vongsack 18
Introductory speech: Dirk Van Gansbergh 20
Slash-and-burn agriculture: the continuing dilemma 22
  John P. Evenson
Approaches to slash-and-burn agriculture limitation A review 33
  John P. Evenson
Shifting cultivation practices in Laos: Present systems and their future 66
  Laurent Chazde
The diversity of the shifting cultivation systems in Laos Preliminary field observations from the Nabong area 98
  Dirk Van Gansbergh
An overview of the role of the Sustainable Agriculture Forum (S.A.F.) with regard to shifting cultivation practices in Lao PDR 110
  Denis Boutin
The Sustainable Upland Agriculture Project (S.U.A.P.) and how it relates to shifting cultivation 118
  Denis Boutin
Experiences of Mennonite Central Committee in alley cropping in the Lao PDR 121
  Khamhieng, Khamhoung and Paul Overgoor
Rice Integrated Farming Systems (R.I.E.S.) project's experience in alley cropping 125
  Khammone Keomukda and Denis Boutin
Rice banks and shifting cultivation: the experience of CIDSE 128
  Khaothong Luangchandavong and Denis Boutin
Summary of NGO approach to shifting cultivation 131
Sombath Somphone
The experience of the shifting cultivation stabilisation programme of the Department of Forestry 134

Bouahong Phanthanousy
Shifting ideas about shifting cultivation 143

Joost Foppe, Thong Fanh Phongsavath and Andrew Jenkings
Upland agriculture. Activities by the Lao IRRI project 152
W. Roder, B. Phouaravan, S. Phengchanh, B. Keoboualapha, S. Maniphone
Traditional upland rice varieties in Laos 170
B. Phouaravan, W. Roder, P. Inthapanya and K. Vannalath
Cotton and shifting cultivation in the Lao PDR 176

Somnuk Thirassack
NARC/IDRC mixed farming systems in the rolling hills of Bolikhamsay province 183
Viravanh Phannourath and Bounphavanh Kanyavong
Shifting cultivation systems in Muonhorn district, Lao PDR 193
Murl P. Upadhyay
A picture of shifting cultivation in the Palavek project zone 220
Leik Boonwaat
Shifting cultivation practice of XiengKhouang Province 237
Seng Hkum and Saypradeth Choulamany
The Lao-American Huaphanh project and shifting cultivation 252
Rex Dufour
Experiences from the Nong district development working with shifting cultivation farming systems 259
Rolf Samuelsson
Extension experiences for introduction of a systems for sustainable upland agriculture 262
John Connell and Phouvong Ravong

List of participants 269
Schedule of the meeting 271
Map of the Lao PDR 274