



LAOS

# Solar Dryer Dome Technology to Improve Butterfly Pea Flowers Drying Process



## Relevance



Butterfly pea flower is a unique Lao commodity in the domestic and international tea market. With an all-year-round harvest a good production process is essential. In addition, it will require proper post-harvest handling and drying processes. However, its cultivation faces varying weather conditions, like frequent high rainfalls and less sunlight. Therefore, Nong Phay Ban Nonsavanh Organic Vegetable Farm Group proposed to use the solar dryer dome technology to improve the drying process. This technology will contribute to the quality and quantity of the dried butterfly pea flowers.

## Objective



The Nong Phay Ban Nonsavanh Organic Vegetable Farm Group, in partnership with the Agrinnovation Fund in ASEAN (AIF), will improve butterfly pea flower farming and the drying process to be more climate-friendly. In addition, it will provide capacity-building activities for smallholder farmers. From a socioeconomic perspective, a higher quantity and better quality of dried butterfly pea flowers will provide additional income for smallholder farmers selling them on the domestic and international market.

## Project Overview



Partner  
Nong Phay Ban Nonsavanh Organic Vegetable  
Farm Group

Duration  
May 2022 to  
July 2023

Total Volume  
18,260 EUR



## The Project at a Glance

Nong Phay Ban Nonsavanh Organic Vegetable Farm Group and the AIF are gearing up toward better and environment friendly farming to produce a higher quality and quantity of butterfly pea flowers. Butterfly pea flowers are known for herbal tea and medicinal purposes. The proposed process in this project will use the solar dryer dome technology, which is quite new in the Lao PDR. The activities will improve the farmers' capacity to produce good quality butterfly pea flowers and will help to promote a more sustainable butterfly pea flowers value chain in Lao PDR.



Nong Phay Ban Nonsavanh Organic Vegetable Farm Group will build a solar dryer dome for drying butterfly pea flowers and will improve the irrigation system for organic farming. Furthermore, the smallholder farmers in this project will receive training and support. The AIF support will include equipment procurement for the construction of eco-friendly drying technologies. Furthermore, capacity development for farmers and to facilitate learning and knowledge exchange for Nong Phay Ban Nonsavanh Organic Vegetable Farm Group will be supported.

**Published by**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für  
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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**As of**

November, 2022