Chantanaphone Vongsay 2014: The Agrarian Systems Management for Food Security at Pialad Community in Sangthong District of Vientiane Capital LAO. P.D.R. Doctor of Philosophy (Human and Community Resource Development). Major Field: Human and Community Resource Development, Department of Human and Community Resource Development. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Prasong Tanpichai, Ph.D. 348 pages.

This qualitative research focused on the potential and the roles of government and agriculturists in order to manage an agricultural system favorable for producing food security of the community of Pialad village, Sangthong district, Vientiane Capital. To achieve this, it analyzed the community context and changes of agricultural system in that community during the period of the implementation of the first year of Lao national social-economic development plan and the 7th five-year plan (B.C. 1975-2013) at three different levels: national level, community level and family level. The thesis utilized different methods of data collection and analysis based on triangulation analysis for all level.

The outcomes of study demonstrated that people in Pialad community have had simple ways of living, earning incomes through agricultural farming. They familiarized with natural resources and environment consisting of variety of plants, organic food and animals, which provide them with fundamental basis of livings and job creation. The main sources of food for people in this community are from nature, community production as well as some import food from outside its community. As a result of continuous agricultural development based on the social-economic development plans for more than thirty years, which has been influenced by a state policy, and factors from ecology and technology, the agricultural system of Pialad has been transformed from a self-sufficient agriculture practice to a semi-commercial agriculture oriented at seen in present time. In addition, the study also discovered the effective way for soil, water, forestry allocation, food production and distribution method, and an access to food processing, which could secure food safety and quality, as well as food reserves for community and market integration in order to manage agricultural system suitable for producing food security for the community of Pialad, Sangthong district, Vientiane Capital of Laos.

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