

Enhancing Milled Rice Production in Lao PDR EMRIP

Increasing productivity through sustainable
partnership between rice millers and small
holder farmers

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Objectives

- To rapidly increase the quality and quantity of milled rice production by facilitating fair trading relations between the millers and smallholder farmers.



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Key constraints in rice sector

- use of low quality and inadequate input by the farmers;
- poor farming practices; and
- poor post-harvest handling including drying, storage and milling.



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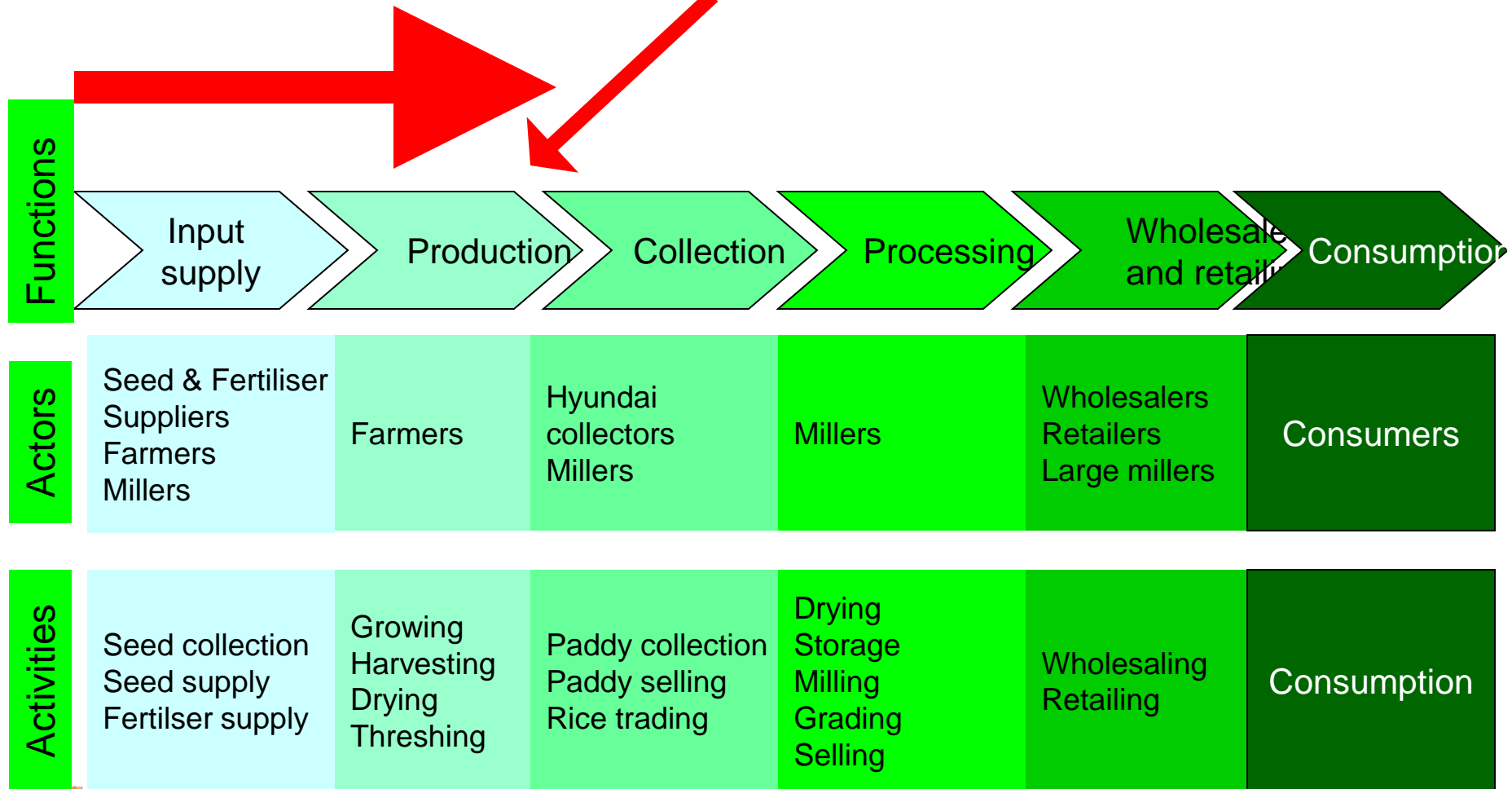


EMRIP Approach



Scope of typical project intervention

Entry point for typical project intervention



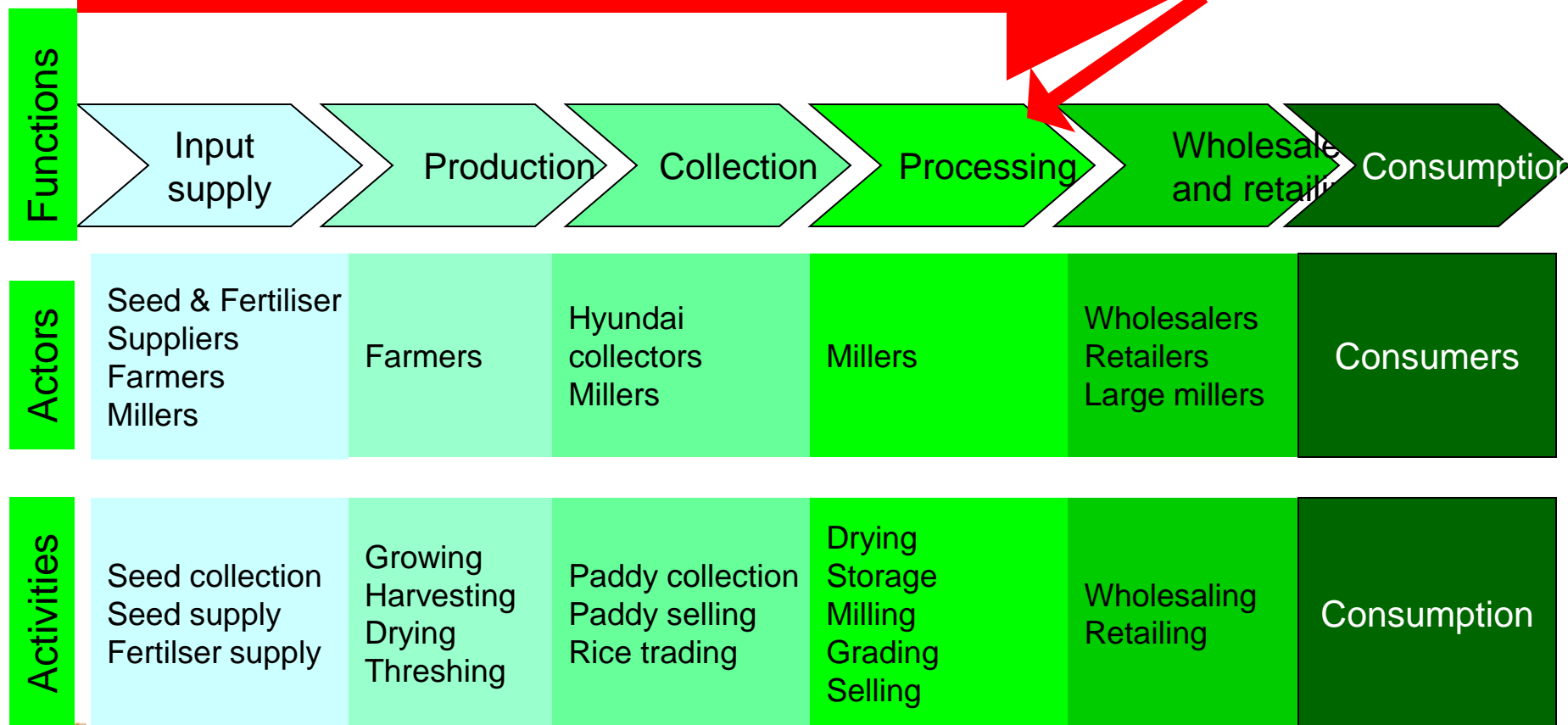
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Scope of our project intervention

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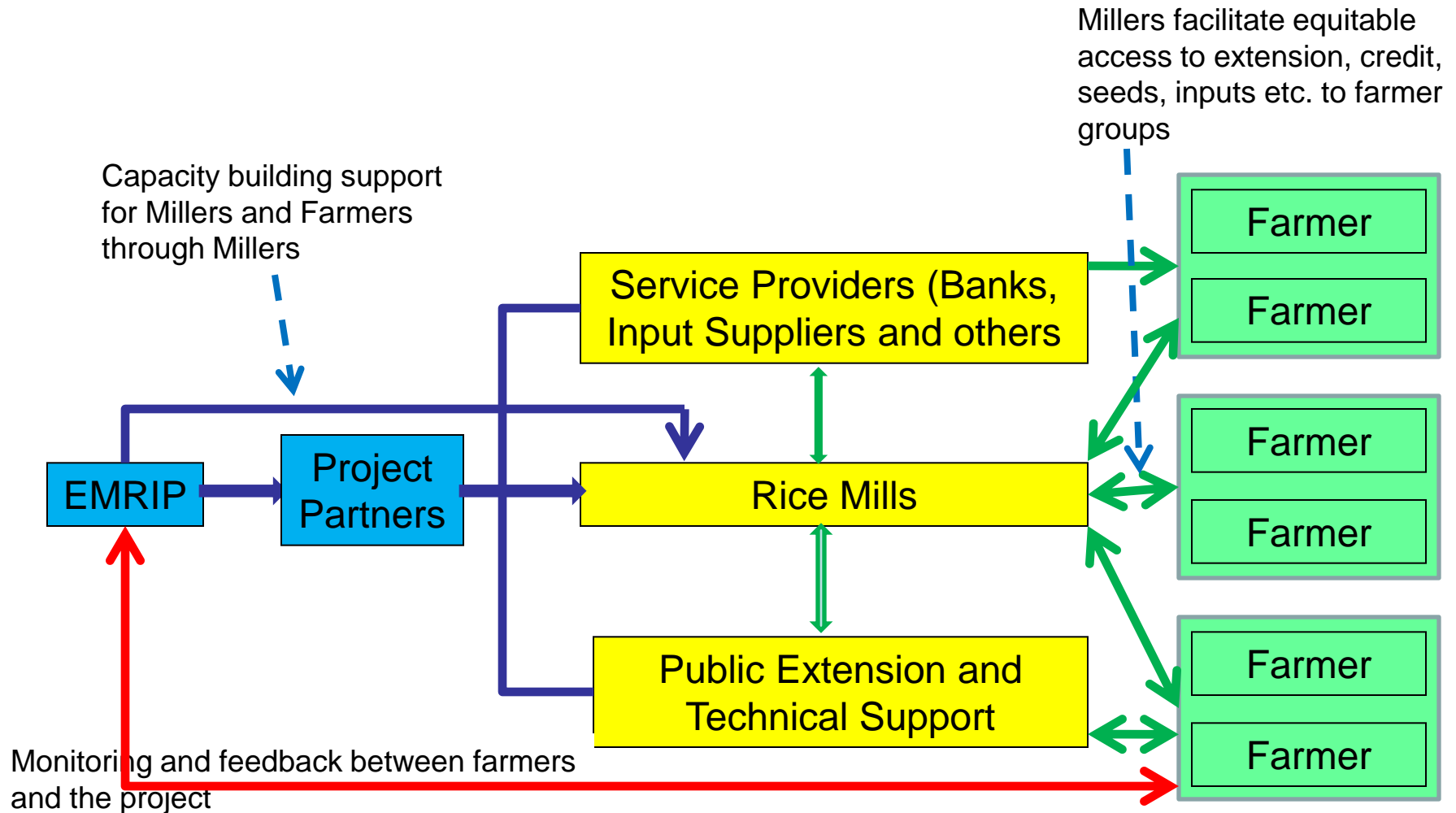


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EMRIP Value Chain Intervention Model



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Key results at farmer level

- 21 rice mills established producer networks in over 300 villages with 21,361 smallholder households
- Farmers crop yields increased by 30-50% by using good quality input and improved farming practices
- Income from rice increased due to high yield and premium prices by around 60%



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Key results at milling level

- Average milling capacity increased from 472 kg per hour to 1,100 kg per hour (+130%)
- Milled rice recovery increased from 57.7% to 63% (+9%)
- Paddy purchased increased from the mills increased from 12,400T to 36,523T



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Policy level results

- Streamlined rice trade procedures with less paper work
- Reduction of import tax on agriculture input
- EMRIP experiences being used in development of national rice strategy



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Lessons learned

- Private sector is the key entry point for the sustainability of development intervention . But there is always risk working with private sectors as the success and failure of these businesses will have positive or negative impact on project goal.
- Openness and transparency of the miller selection process is very important to the success of the project. Adequate attention should be given to check whether the miller is socially responsible, progressive and entrepreneurial or not.
- Investment by EMRIP in improving milling efficiency by reducing post harvest losses and storage system has had a major stimulating effect on private investment by millers participating in the project.
- Extension services systematically coordinated and provided by the millers to the farmer groups is one of the main factor in increasing yield and grain quality.
- Rice Miller Groups formed during the project period are the entry point to upscale the programme and stimulate peer learning in some project areas.



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Thank you

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