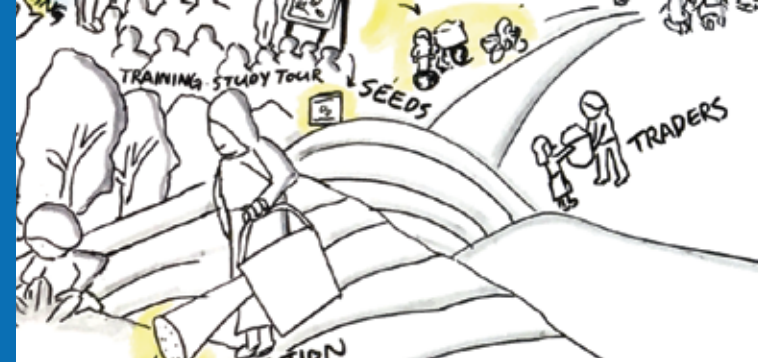


Summary of Validation Workshop of USDA Local and Regional Procurement Project in Nalae District, Luang Namtha Province in Lao PDR



WFP Lao PDR conducted two validation workshops on the 18 and 20 of December 2019 of the evaluation findings of the USDA Local and Regional Procurement (LRP) project in Nalae District, Luang Namtha Province end line evaluation.

To reach relevant users and ensure buy-in from different stakeholders, two workshops took place:

1. Nalae district workshop

Purpose: to validate the end line evaluation findings and to provide feedback from the evaluation to the communities themselves.

Participants: farmers, local and national level officials including those from agriculture and forestry, Women's union, planning and investment, district development agencies. A total of 41 people participated.

2. Vientiane workshop

Purpose: to validate the findings from the evaluation and having in depth discussion on its recommendations.

Participants: relevant officials from relevant ministries, NGOs, USDA, and WFP staff. A total of 21 people participated.

The workshops were designed and conducted by WFP regional evaluation officer, WFP's Lao PDR evaluation manager, project staff, visual facilitator, and evaluation consultants from NR Management Consultants India.

This workshop was built on experience and recommendations from a previous validation workshop held in Bangladesh in November 2019 including a graphic expert to take an active role in facilitation, and present and discuss the finding in the local language.

Key learning points

1: Having skilled facilitators who are familiar with the local context and language is an asset. They can co-facilitate the workshops and make sure the dialogue is inclusive and culturally sensitive.

2: Holding the workshop on the project site is worthwhile despite the time and effort it requires. It helps facilitators to deeply understand the context and ask more relevant questions. It also enhances community's engagement and ownership of the evaluation and the project itself.

3: Ensuring presence from ministries at the national level requires thorough planning and persuasion. The workshop coincided with several key meetings including annual reviews, resulting in limited participation.

4: USDA representatives also actively participated in the Vientiane workshop.



Power of illustration:

Human beings receive 90% of information visually. People receive information visually six times more than textual information. Research also shows that 80% of memories come from visual information.

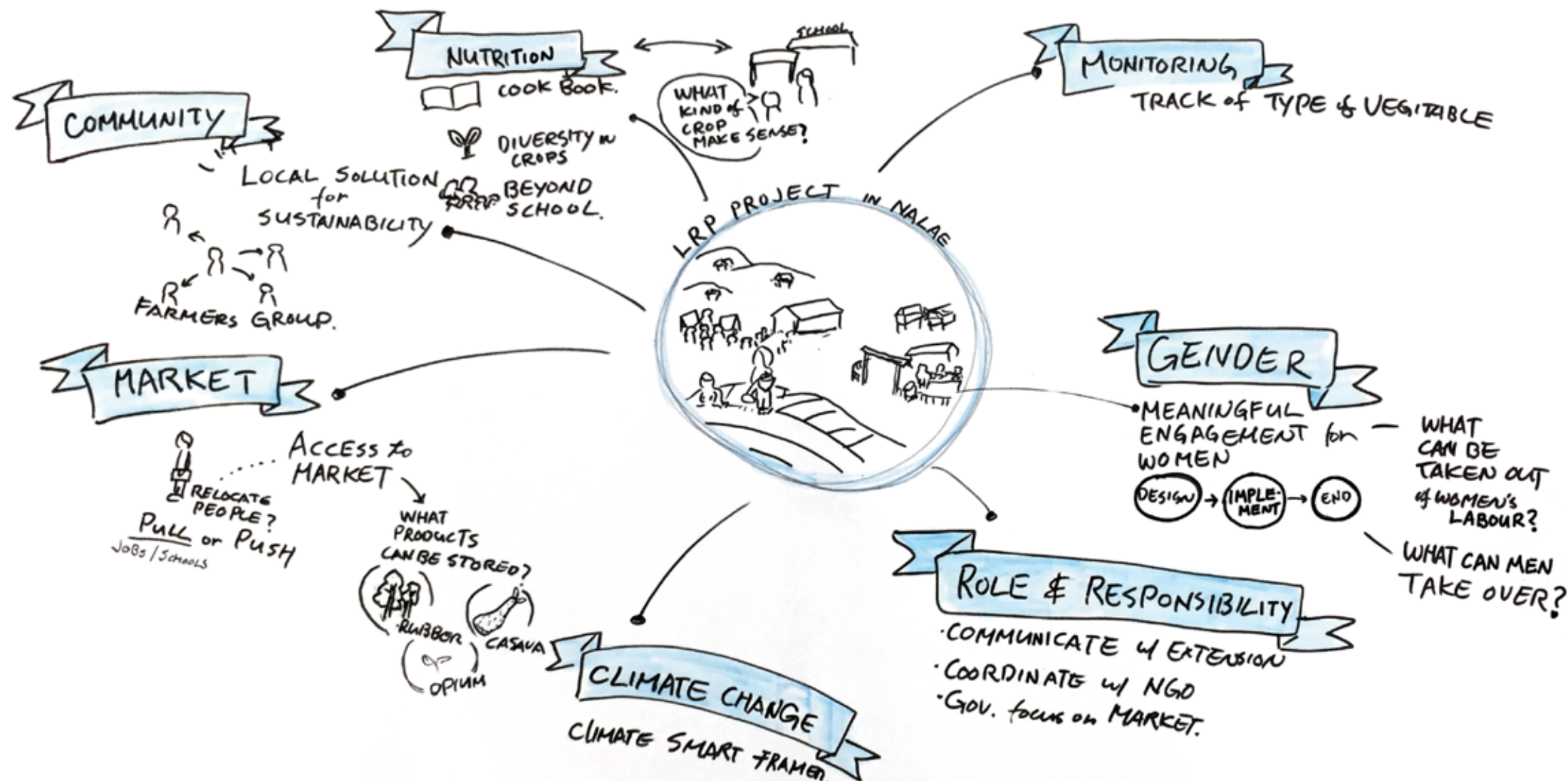
An experiment was conducted to memorize what has been explained and repeat what they memorized in 72 hours. 65% of people with visual and oral information could articulate the memories, while 10% of people with only oral information could do so.

Source: Shion Kabasawa (2018) *The Power Of Output*



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