

1 **A SOCIAL SCIENCE PERSPECTIVE ON ENHANCEMENT OUTCOMES:**  
2 **LESSONS LEARNED FROM INLAND FISHERIES IN SOUTHERN LAO PDR**

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16

17 **Abstract**

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19 Stocking initiatives have become an increasingly popular intervention in inland rural  
20 fisheries development, and stocking has been a high priority on inland fisheries  
21 development agendas over the past two decades. However, experiences of stocking  
22 ventures have shown that whilst stocking has the potential to yield substantial benefits,  
23 the actual outcomes (in terms of for example, yields, benefit distribution and institutional  
24 sustainability), are often different from those initially expected. One reason for this is the  
25 complexity of the environments into which enhancements are introduced, involving  
26 dynamic interactions between the biological characteristics of the resource, the technical  
27 intervention of enhancement and, crucially, the people who utilise or manage it.

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