

Strategies

- FFS-HEPA engages youths and farmers to understand interactive relationships between Humans and Mother Nature through facilitating good practices and manner towards ecological farming;
- FFS-HEPA encourages farmers and youths in recording field data, field work, and other lessons that they learn from elders, family members, farmers in the network, and neighborhoods in order to promote cross learning and sharing. Youths are encouraged to document their daily learning journey;
- FFS-HEPA promotes networking and learning between youths and farmers of different generations, identities, and locations. These are the prospective social capital in shaping new paradigm of an alternative future;
- Information gathered from FFS-HEPA can assist SPERI's senior staff for policy lobby and analysis;



Social Policy Ecology Research Institute



Learning by Doing between Young Farmers

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Human Ecology Preservation Area (HEPA)

Farmers Field School (FFS)

Vision



Nurturing the Nature

FFS-HEPA empowers indigenous youths and farmers in the Mekong region to respect the spirit of Nature, learn the language of Landscape, and build a strong cross-cultural learning through offering Ecological Farming Hands-on Courses.

Mission

FFS-HEPA commits itself in making changes at the local level while addressing global concerns such as climate change, land degradation, biodiversity losses, and the role of community care for the nature. FFS-HEPA nurtures an environment where farmers and youths feel free to develop their knowledge, innovations and practices specific to their locality.

Location and Daily life



Young Farmers learn about stacking function in designing garden

FFS-HEPA is located on 420 hectares of the beautiful “Huyen Vi” waterfall and Rao An River surrounding by primary forests. We are 13 km away from Cau Treo international border between Ha Tinh province (Vietnam) and Bolikhamxay province (Laos) on the national highway No.8.

The land at the highest elevation of FFS-HEPA is sacred forest preserved for learning. The middle elevation is a natural museum for research and sharing. The lowland is an ecological farming areas for farming demonstration and youth hands-on learning.

The ancient wooden houses at FFS-HEPA are preserved from diverse traditional architecture styles of the Mekong region. These are used for learning, working, and living. Visitors can enjoy the unique landscape while enjoy local ecological food from FFS-HEPA’s garden.

The Future



*Young Farmers worship Spiritual Da Tree
Nature is Blessing us*

FFS-HEPA is developing into a premier facilitating headquarters in the Mekong region for practice, learning, research and demonstration of sustainable and harmonization between Humans and Nature.

FFS-HEPA is willing to host a diversity of people including kindergarten, kids all school levels, farmers, students, applied scientists, researchers, academics, environmentalists, social activists, governmental officials in all over the world to come and share with its vision and behavior towards Nature.

FFS-HEPA is coordinating interactive forums

and discussions between youths, students, applied researchers, scholars, local and national media, policy implementers and makers for lobbying strategy.

FFS-HEPA is contributing to the social awareness of hands-on learning and teaching of ecological farming system and local knowledge in good land use planning and practices.



Banana Ring and an engagement between organic garbage and dark water



Young farmers share plant identification and herbal values