"Start reducing food waste can also result in cost savings. At the Silver Naga Hotel, we have started by discontinuing the use of small plastic bags, and instead provide recycled plastic bags upon request from customers."

- Somchin Souvannaseng

Ms. Somchin Souvannaseng has been serving as a Resident Manager at the Silver Naga Hotel for several years, with her responsibilities including managing staff and overseeing the hotel's operations, as well as training on food waste reduction.

As a trainer, Somchin has gained valuable knowledge, training and teaching skills, and has become more confident in public speaking. She recognizes the importance of reducing food waste in reducing environmental pollution, which is a major issue in the town, especially for the tourism industry where the garbage collection system is not well-organized.

When Swisscontact invited her to participate in a training program, Somchin was initially hesitant, but upon reviewing the structure of the training, she realized it would provide valuable information for the hotel. She was eager to participate and was particularly interested in the section on preparing and managing ingredients.

One of the challenges that Somchin faces as a trainer is ensuring that staff comply with the food waste reduction system. To address this issue, she requires staff to sign each time they weigh or dispose of the garbage. Encouraging hotels and restaurants to adopt this practice can be difficult, as it requires a commitment from the owners and may incur some expenses.

Somchin has a message for other hotels and restaurants that "Start reducing food waste can also result in cost savings. At the Silver Naga Hotel, we have started by discontinuing the use of small plastic bags, and instead provide recycled plastic bags upon request from customers."

- Inception phase: December 2021 – December 2024
- Project duration: (3 Yrs) December 2021 – December 2024
- Funded by: Swisscontact in Switzerland
- Implementer: Swisscontact in Laos and Department of Pollution Control and Monitoring as leading agent for implementation
- Key implementing governmental partners:
  - Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- Target Groups:

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