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Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs)

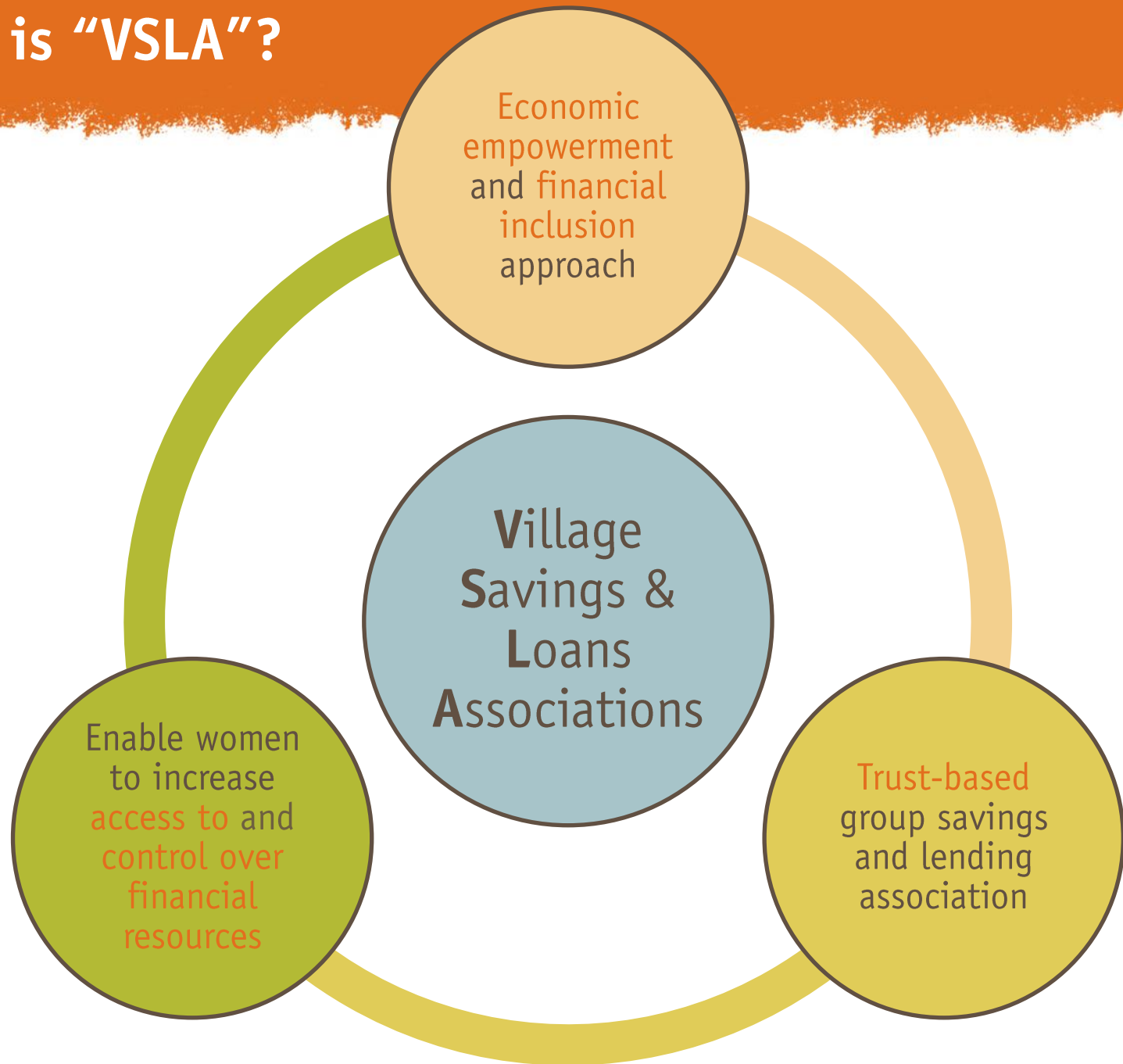
Phetsavanh Chanthavong
Health Manager



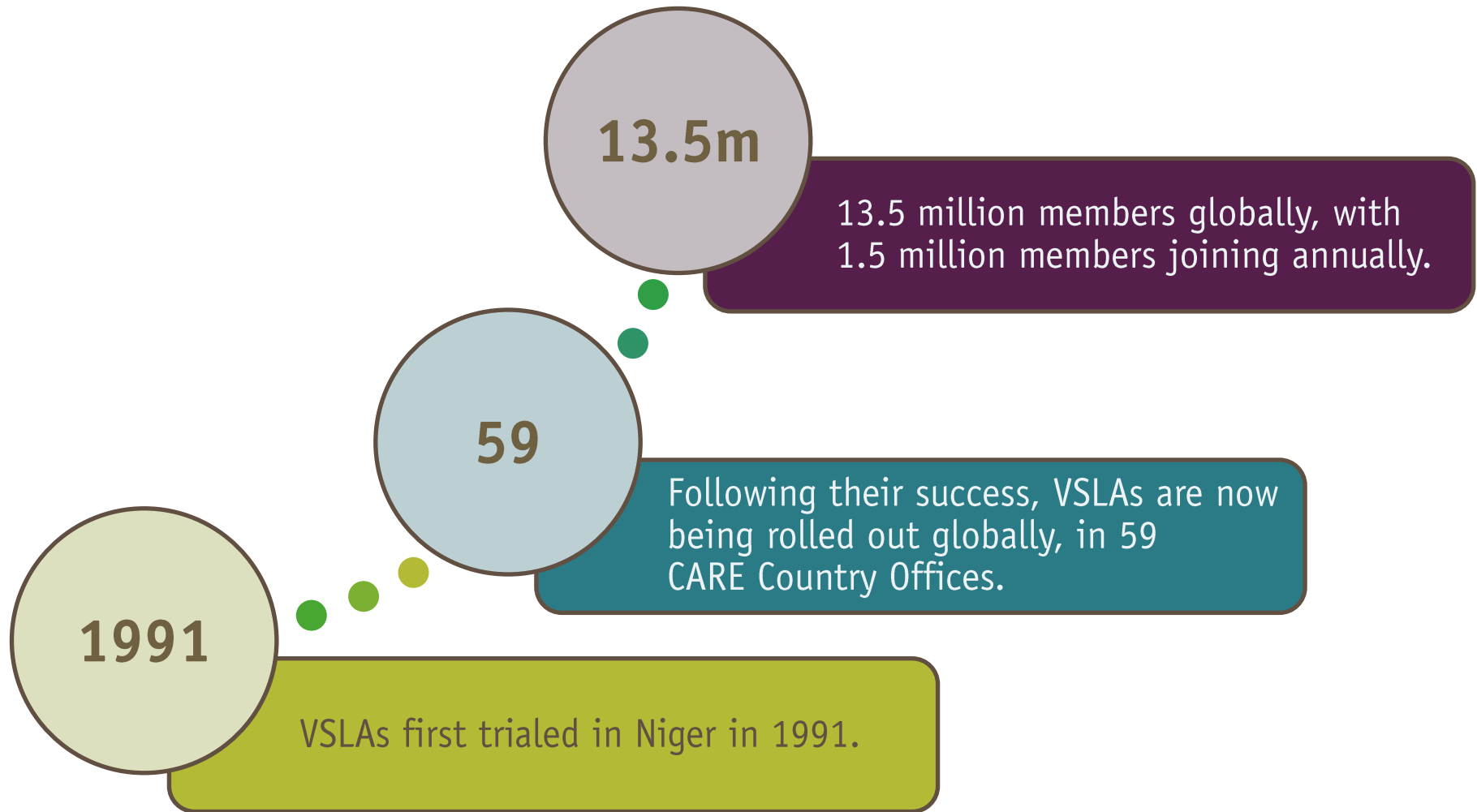
What is “VSLA”?



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VSLAs around the world



VSLAs in Laos

2015

CARE Laos began to integrate VSLAs into projects.

205

VSLAs active in 205 villages as of last assessment in 2021.

25.2m

An average of 25.2 million LAK was accumulated.



VSLA impacts for women





Financial

- Safer savings
- Lower borrowing cost
- Flexibility
- Increase in women's literacy and numeracy

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Social

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- Provides safe space for discussion and rest with other women
- Increase in self-confidence

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Family

- Better communication between husbands and wives on money matters
- Husbands valued wives more
- Strong support from local authorities and husbands

Enablers of VSLAs



**Regular attendance
of members**



Time to participate



**Husband/guardians'
support**



**Trust in the VSLA
process**



Financial literacy

Limitations of VSLAs



- It is important to recognize that VSLAs **cannot** address systemic poverty, especially the lack of income generation opportunities.
- Therefore, it is important for NGOs to also identify **new markets and economic opportunities**, and generate relationships between the savings groups and potential trade partners.

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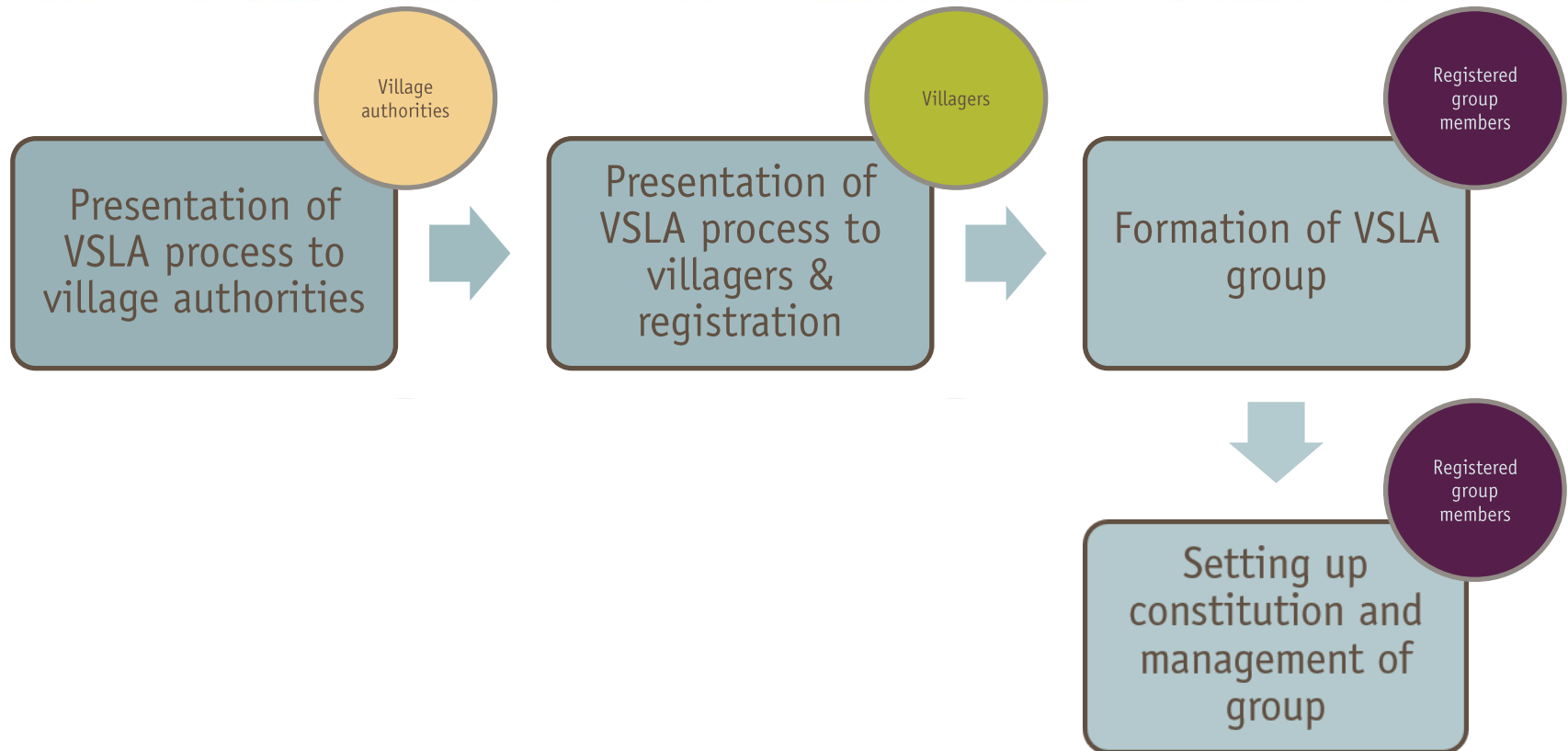
 What VSLAs can aim to address	 What VSLAs cannot aim to address
- Lack of savings due to family expenses, - Lack of savings for hardship, - Lack of savings for family events, - Lack of unity and solidarity among women in community, - Husbands' perception/belief that women cannot contribute financially.	- Lack of safety net for hardships hitting the whole community, - Lack of business opportunities, - Lack of access to market, - Lack of road infrastructure, - Structural cost of education and healthcare.



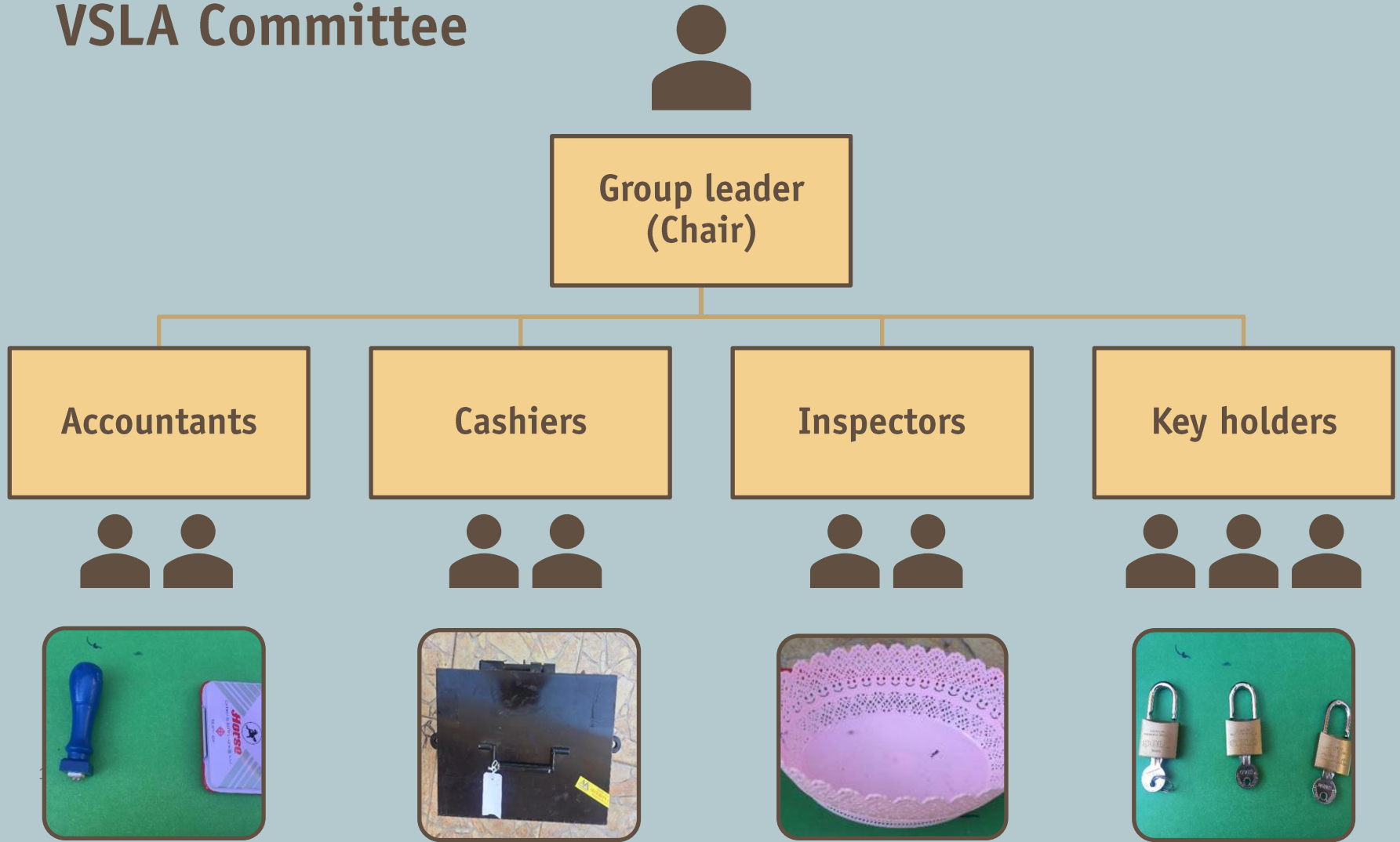
Setting up VSLAs



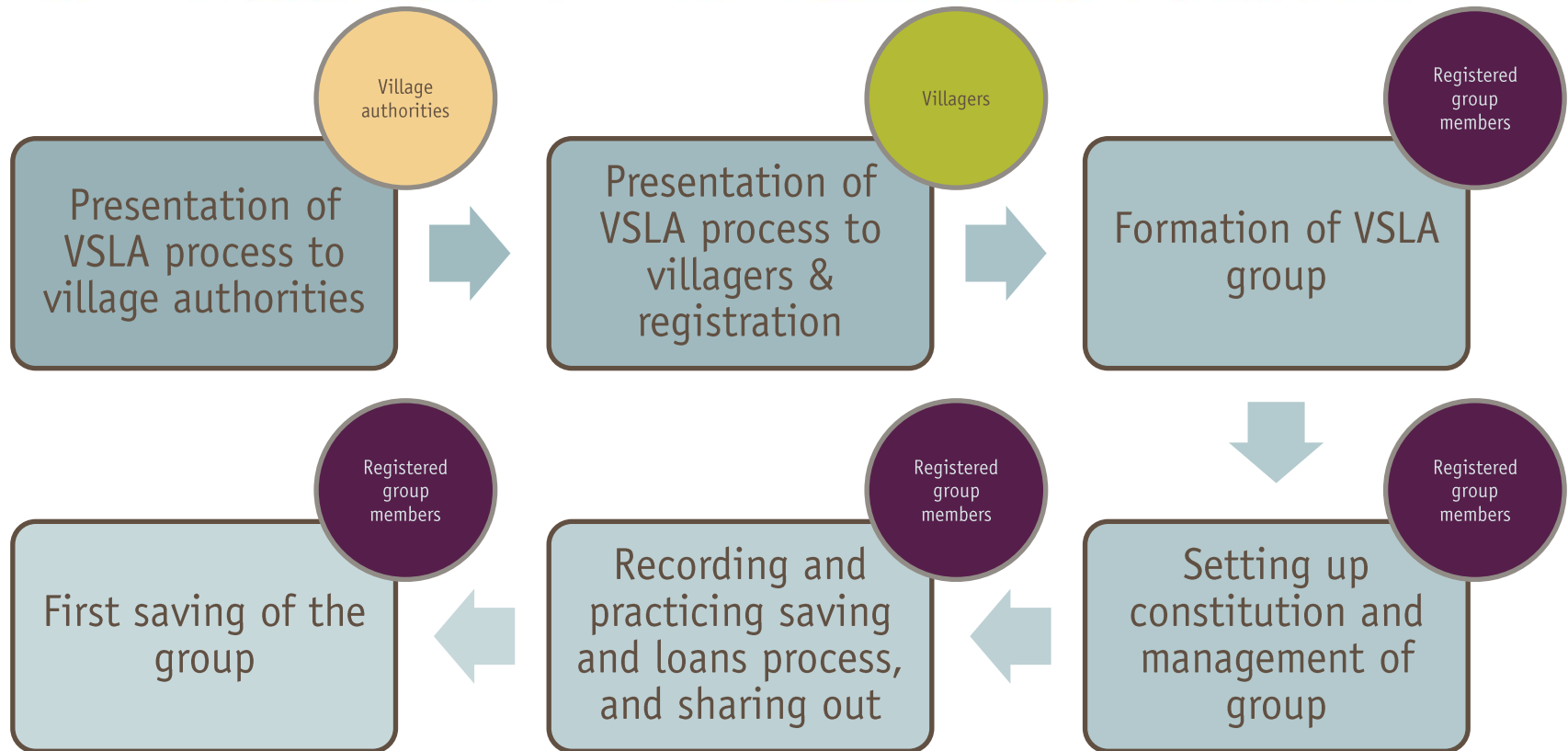
Setting up VSLAs



VSLA Committee



Setting up VSLAs



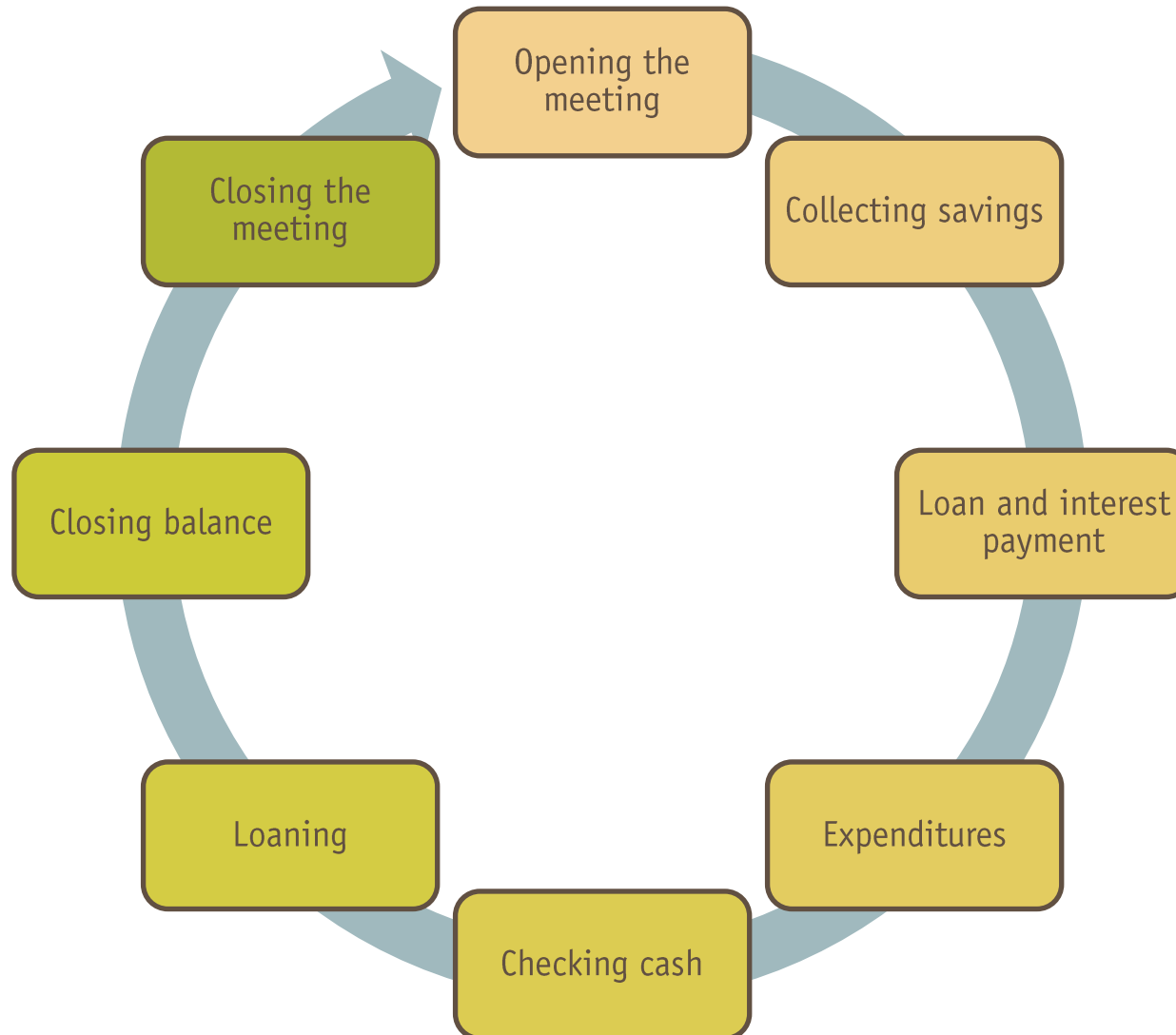
This process takes up to 12 months, costing approx. \$4,000 per village



Process of savings and loans



Process of savings and loans



Process of savings and loans

Opening the
meeting



Process of savings and loans



Collecting savings

Opening the

Loan and interest



ສົງຄາມແຕ່ລະ ນານາຊາດ ປະຈຳ ສປປ ລາວ
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ບົນບັນທຶກປາກ ແລະ ຍົມເງິນຂອງສະມາຊິກກຸ່ມ



ຊື່ບ້ານ:.....

ຊື່ ແລະ ນາມສະກຸນ:.....

ລະຫັດບ້ານ:.....

ເບີໂທພະນັກງານ:.....



Process of savings and loans

Loan and interest
payment



Process of savings and loans



Process of savings and loans

Checking cash



Process of savings and loans

Loaning



Process of savings and loans

Closing balance



Process of savings and loans

Closing the
meeting

Opening the





Questions?





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Thank you!

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Email
Number

