



The Lao People's Democratic Republic

From Millennium Development Goals to Sustainable Development Goals: Laying the base for 2030



The United Nations in Lao PDR

Vientiane, November 2017



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Foreword by the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Lao PDR

I am pleased to present the Review 'From Millennium Development Goals to Sustainable Development Goals: Laying the base for 2030.'

Lao PDR has achieved considerable progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Between 1990 and the MDG target date of 2015, Lao PDR has more than halved poverty and undernourishment and brought net enrolment in primary schools from 59 to 99 percent. In the same period, the under-5 mortality rate has dropped from 170 to 86 per 1,000 live births, the proportion of births attended by trained health personnel has more than tripled from 14 to 54 percent, and the proportion of the population using an improved drinking water source has increased from 28 to 76 percent. However, as this review shows, significant challenges remain. Resulting from over two years of inclusive public consultations throughout the world, the Agenda 2030 with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seeks to address the unfinished business of the MDGs.

The Agenda 2030 sets global priorities for people, planet and prosperity, and seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. Going beyond the largely social focus of the MDGs, its SDGs balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. In addition to the social goals, they include five economic goals, five environmental goals and a new goal on peace, justice and strong institutions. The SDGs are universal and thus apply to the entire world - developed and developing countries alike. They are integrated and indivisible, calling for coherent and integrated solutions and multi-stakeholder partnerships to address the complex development challenges we face. And they call for systematically and explicitly reducing inequality, putting a focus on those left behind on the path to sustainable development.


Lao PDR has been at the forefront of SDG localization, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, who chairs the national SDG Steering Committee, and with lead support by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the Ministry of Planning and Investment and the Lao Statistics Bureau. Nearly 60 percent of the indicators of the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2016-2020) are linked to the SDG indicators. Lao PDR was also the first country worldwide to adopt an 18th national SDG on removing the unexploded ordnance obstacle to national development.

To achieve sustainable development, the Agenda 2030 underlines the fundamental importance of reliable, timely and disaggregated data and statistics. These are indispensable to analyse development challenges, measure progress achieved and make decisions that are based on evidence. In this regard, coordinated capacity development of the statistical system led by the Lao Statistics Bureau and continued support to the reporting on SDG indicators will be essential.

This review provides an overview of MDG progress, compiles potential baseline data for the SDGs and highlights SDG localization and monitoring issues. With different data sources currently available through various channels, this review aims to provide a technical foundation for Lao PDR's National Voluntary Review on the Sustainable Development Goals, which will be presented to the High-Level Political Forum in July 2018. Updating on progress across all 18 SDGs, the state-

led National Voluntary Review will provide a platform for partnerships, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, to promote coherence, accountability and development effectiveness. I am pleased this review was also led by the Government and developed in close consultation with key stakeholders, including all relevant government ministries and departments, UN Agencies and development partners.

I would like to thank Madame Phetsamone Sone, Deputy Director of the Lao Statistics Bureau, and her team for the technical guidance; the lead author, Dr. Yin-Yin Nwe, for carefully compiling all data and inputs; and the many experts from the Government, UN agencies and other partners for their contributions to this review.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'K' followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small dot.

Kaarina Immonen
UN Resident Coordinator in Lao PDR

Executive Summary

This Report has been prepared to provide technical support for Lao PDR's SDG localization, monitoring and reporting, including for Lao PDR's Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2018, which will be part of the United Nations' High Level Political Forum for that year. It is important to emphasize that the Report uses three kinds of data: (i) data from government administrative systems and from surveys conducted by government entities, (ii) calculations for this report based on publicly available government data, and (iii) data drawn from international agencies' databases and projects, which include data from government sources, but may also include modifications and estimations made by that agency to ensure that the data is internationally comparable. For the VNR, the government will decide on and validate the data source on a case-by-case basis.

In 2015 and 2016, Lao PDR went through a comprehensive national planning process.

This included (i) preparing a summary overview of its progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, (ii) developing a monitoring and evaluation framework for its Eighth National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) 2016–2020, ensuring harmonization between the NSEDP indicators and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators to the extent possible, and (iii) conducting the localization of the international SDG indicators by selecting and adapting the most relevant ones for in-country use during the current NSEDP cycle. This Report is based on the outcomes from these processes. Most indicators have been agreed upon; however, a few are still under consideration.

The first part of the Report provides an overview of progress towards the MDGs. This is summed up below (see also Table 1).

- **MDG 1:** Two years ahead of the target date, Lao PDR had already achieved the MDG target 1A of halving poverty. The poor on average have become less poor. However, disparities remain significant and have increased in some instances, with a widening gap between the poorest and richest quintiles. In terms of full and productive employment and decent work (target 1B), Lao PDR's labour productivity grew significantly. This is due to the country's largely resource-driven and capital-intensive growth which made the GDP per person employed grow as high economic growth outstripped employment growth. However, the growth in labour productivity did not generate sufficient decent employment opportunities. Among those who are employed, the share of vulnerable employment (own-account workers and unpaid family workers) remains high. On Target 1C, Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target of halving the proportion of hungry people. However, the country still has a significant level of hunger, and despite progress in the past two years, Lao PDR is still off-track on the MDG target of reducing underweight and stunting.
- **MDG 2:** Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target on primary net enrolment but not the target on primary school survival and completion. The national gross enrolment ratio (GER) target for lower secondary education has been achieved. Further improvements in secondary enrolment will require improving survival rates in primary education. The literacy target for youth remains to be achieved, indicating among others the need to improve survival rates and the overall quality of teaching and learning.

- **MDG 3:** The gender equality gap has narrowed in all levels of education enrolment, with gender parity at both primary and secondary levels. At tertiary level, the gender equality gap is still below parity. In employment, women generally occupy the lower rungs of the labour market. Women are generally less likely to be employed in decent work and more likely to be found in the vulnerable informal sectors such as unpaid family workers, and therefore more excluded from social protection. While Lao PDR has one of the highest proportions of women in national parliaments, the proportion of women is still very low in other decision-making positions in government.
- **MDG 4:** Lao PDR has made significant progress in reducing under-five and infant mortality, with UN estimates projecting the achievement of MDG 4. However, the 2015 census showed that both national and international targets have not yet been achieved. The 2018 LSIS results should provide a definitive answer, since this survey will calculate child mortality rates using the same methodology used across the years. Immunization programmes have made good progress, although still below levels required to induce herd immunity/ community immunity and reduce the threat of outbreaks.
- **MDG 5:** Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target of reducing its maternal mortality ratio (MMR) by three-quarters from 1990 levels. However, both MMR and adolescent birth rate are still among the highest in the region, with great disparities within the population. The high MMR is explained by the low coverage and inadequate quality of services. Modern contraceptive prevalence rate among married women continues to rise, but the unmet need for modern contraceptives is still high.
- **MDG 6:** HIV prevalence is still low in the general population, but HIV incidence is increasing. In sub-groups of key populations such as sex workers, people who inject drugs and men having sex with men, HIV prevalence is also increasing. The overall knowledge on HIV remains low, and lower still among women. Lao PDR lags behind in two out of three global targets for HIV treatment scale-up (the percentage of people living with HIV who know their HIV status; and among those who know their HIV status, the percentage receiving antiretroviral therapy). In malaria, Lao PDR is facing a resurgence that threatens the steady progress made against the disease in the previous decade. While treatment rates among young children with confirmed malaria remains high, the use of insecticide-treated bednets needs to increase. Tuberculosis (TB) prevalence, although declining, is much higher than previously estimated. TB detection needs to be urgently improved, although once detected, TB treatment success rate is high.
- **MDG 7:** Processes and institutions for limiting the loss of forests have improved. However, the country is not yet on track to achieving MDG targets 7A and 7B on reversing the loss of environmental resources and reducing biodiversity loss. Greenhouse gas emissions have doubled in ten years. Lao PDR recorded a net sink of CO₂ in 1990 and a net emission by year 2000. On the other hand, the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances is on track. Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target 7C on safe water and sanitation, although the high prevalence of open defecation is still a concern.
- **MDG 8:** Lao PDR's integration into the regional and global economy continues. Lao PDR still relies on official development assistance for a significant share of its socio-economic development investments. While the country's risk of external debt distress is categorized as moderate, with a significant part of the external debt related to viable, large resource

projects, the Government of Lao PDR does not foresee difficulties in servicing debt, especially since energy sector projects are expected to generate high and stable economic returns. Lao PDR continues to show rapid progress in improving access to information and communication technologies.

- **MDG 9:** Addressing the impact of UXOs remains a challenge. Despite this, there have been some achievements, with a sharp reduction in UXO casualties over the last decade, integration of risk awareness on mines and explosive remnants of war in the school curricula and the adoption of a more effective new methodology for finding and clearing bombs, which has led to a sharp increase in the land area being released.





The second part of the Report focuses on SDG localization. It provides the outcomes of work over the past 12 months on SDG localization. Under each SDG, the Report provides (i) the list of “localized” SDG indicators initially selected and refined in a series of workshops coordinated by the Ministry of Planning and Investment over the later part of 2016 to mid-2017 (final agreement has not yet been reached on all the indicators, but these are the indicators proposed by this Report following the workshops); (ii) indicative baseline data on the selected indicators (available as of September 2017) based on the three sources described in paragraph 1; (iii) a summary of indicator localization and monitoring issues; and (iv) a brief overview of development issues and challenges.

Key lessons from MDG implementation should inform the planning and implementation of SDGs. Specific improvements need to be made in existing information systems. The planning of periodic surveys needs to take into account the need for better coordination and application of harmonized definitions among development partners supporting such surveys. Special support is required for SDGs that have not been part of the usual MDG reporting process.

2018 is a crucial year for national development planning and SDGs. The Mid-Term Review of NSEDP is scheduled for 2018. This is also the year when results from a number of surveys will be available. The VNR reporting process to the United Nations in 2018 provides an opportunity for Lao PDR to make the necessary adjustments in baseline data, the SDG indicators and NSEDP indicators. The process should then inform the design of the next NSEDP and its monitoring framework.

Table 1. Summary review: progress towards MDG targets and selected indicators

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger		
Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day		
Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people		
Growth of GDP per person employed		
Vulnerable employment		
Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger		
Hunger/Undernourished population		
Child undernutrition: stunting		
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education		
Target 2.A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling		
Primary net enrolment		
Secondary gross enrolment		
Primary survival/completion		
Youth literacy		
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women		
Target 3.A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015		
Gender parity in education		
Women in employment		
Women in National Parliament		
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality		
Target 4.A: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate		
Under five and infant mortality		
Immunization		
Goal 5: Improve maternal health		
Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio		
Maternal mortality ratio		
Delivery care coverage		
Target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health		
Contraceptive prevalence & unmet needs		
Adolescent birth rate		
Antenatal care coverage		
Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases		
Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS		
Target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it		
Target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases		
Malaria		
Tuberculosis		
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability		
Target 7.A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources		
Land area covered by forest		
Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss		
Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation		
Improved drinking water source		
Improved sanitation facility		
Goal 9: Reduce the impact of UXO in Lao PDR		
Target 9A: Ensure the complete clearance of UXO from priority / high value agricultural land by 2020		
Target 9B: Reduce substantially the number of casualties as a result of UXO incidents		
Target 9C: Ensure that medical & rehabilitation needs of all UXO survivors are met in line with treaty obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munitions		

Key	
Achieved	
Not yet achieved, but slow progress	
Not yet achieved, off track	
No information/not measured	

Introduction

1. **This Report has been prepared to provide technical support for Lao PDR's SDG localization, monitoring and reporting**, including for Lao PDR's Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2018, which will be part of the United Nations' High Level Political Forum for that year. It is important to emphasize that the Report uses three kinds of data: (i) data from government administrative systems and from surveys conducted by government entities, (ii) calculations for this report based on publicly available government data, and (iii) data drawn from international agencies' databases and projects, which include data from government sources, but may also include modifications and estimations made by that agency to ensure that the data is internationally comparable. For the VNR, the government will decide on and validate the data source on a case-by-case basis.

2. **In 2015 and 2016, Lao PDR went through a comprehensive national planning process.** This included (i) preparing a summary overview of its progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, (ii) developing a monitoring and evaluation framework for its Eighth National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) 2016–2020, ensuring harmonization between the NSEDP indicators and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators to the extent possible, and (iii) conducting the localization of the international SDG indicators by selecting and adapting the most relevant ones for in-country use during the current NSEDP cycle. This Report is based on the outcomes from these processes.

3. **Most indicators have been agreed upon; however, a few are still under consideration.** The first part of the Report provides an overview of progress towards the MDGs, while the second part provides the outcomes of the work on SDG localization. Under each SDG, the Report provides (i) the list of “localized” SDG indicators initially selected and refined in a series of workshops coordinated by the Ministry of Planning and Investment over the later part of 2016 to mid-2017 (final agreement has not yet been reached on all the indicators, but these are the indicators proposed by this Report following the workshops); (ii) indicative baseline data on the selected indicators (available as of September 2017) based on the three sources described in paragraph 1; (iii) a summary of indicator localization and monitoring issues; and (iv) a brief overview of development issues and challenges.

Part I. Millennium Development Goals: Progress and Unfinished Agenda



MDG 1

ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER



MDG 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

MDG 1.1. Halve poverty

4. Two years ahead of the target date, Lao PDR had already achieved the MDG target 1A of halving poverty. The poverty headcount ratio dropped from 46 per cent in 1992/93 to 23 per cent by 2012/13. Household welfare has improved in terms of ownership of assets, condition of housing and access to services. The durability of housing materials showed significant improvement. Over the same period, access to electricity among poor households increased by 18.5 percentage points to 58.7 percent.¹ Some 86 per cent of poor households in 2015 owned mobile phones, 77 per cent owned a television and 80 per cent owned a motor bike.² Poverty reduction and consumption growth lag behind the country's GDP growth. From 2007/08 to 2012/13, Lao PDR's annualized growth in real per capita consumption was 2 percent, which lagged behind the rate of per capita GDP growth by 4 percentage points.³

5. The poor on average have become less poor. The country has seen a steady reduction in the poverty gap and poverty severity over time.⁴ The poverty gap has come down from 11.2 per cent in 1992/93 to 5.5 per cent of the national poverty line in 2012/13, while the squared poverty gap (poverty severity index) has declined from 3.9 to 1.9 over the same period.⁵ By 2015, national estimates showed that the poverty rate had declined even further. The percentage of all households defined as "poor" by the National Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (NCRDPE) declined from 18.9 per cent in 2011 and 13 per cent in 2012 to 6.6 per cent of all households in 2015. Over the same period, the proportion of villages defined as "poor" declined from 36.7 per cent in 2011 and 30.3 per cent in 2012 to 20.5 per cent in 2015.^a

6. Disparities remain significant. The rural-urban gap remains significant at 18.6 percentage points. The poverty rate in rural areas is 2.9 times that of the urban areas. Even so, over the past two decades, the rural poverty headcount ratio fell from 51.8 to 28.6. The progress in poverty reduction also varies by altitude and location. One-third of the population in upland areas is still below the poverty line, while in lowland areas, about one-fifth of the population is poor (18.8 percent). Poverty reduction in midland areas has proceeded relatively steadily: with a poverty rate of 22 per cent in 2012/13, the midland areas appear to be catching up with the lowland areas.⁶

7. The growth in consumption has benefited the richer quintiles more than the poorer segments of the population. Over the 20-year period from 1992/93 to 2012/13, the difference in the share of national consumption between the poorest and richest quintiles has widened by about 6 percentage points. In 2012/13, consumption of the richest quintile was 6.4 times that of the poorest. Two decades ago, the difference was 4.7 times.⁷

^a The NCRDPE's definition of poverty is from the perspectives of income and access to basic services. It is therefore not comparable with household consumption surveys. The NCRDPE produces annual monitoring reports while the Lao Expenditure and Consumption Surveys (LECS) produce data only once every five years.

8. Ethnicity, education and employment of the household head play determinant roles. The Lao-Tai, with the highest levels of education, have the lowest poverty rate (15.4 percent), continuing the trend of the previous two decades. The poverty rate among the Chine-Tibetan group has declined dramatically (from 42.2 per cent in 2007/08 to 16.4 per cent in 2012/13), and is comparable with that of the Lao-Tai. Poverty remains high among the Mon-Khmer and Hmong-Lu Mien, at 42.3 per cent and 39.8 per cent respectively. The poverty headcount rate is much higher among households where the household head has no education (41.7 percent) or only some primary education (32.4 percent). Non-Lao-Tai groups traditionally live in upland or more remote areas difficult to access, and this factor is important, since location and access affect education and livelihoods. Employment and agriculture produce prices also influence poverty patterns. The slowdown in rural poverty reduction over the most recent five-year period for which there is data (2007/08 to 2012/13) is attributed to the decline in prices of agricultural produce over this period, which reduced large farmers' welfare, but raised the welfare of wage-workers, who are net food buyers.

9. Three provinces saw poverty rise from 2007/08 to 2012/13. These were Bokeo, Champasack and Saravane. Bokeo has seen a continuing rise in poverty from 21.1 per cent in 2002/03 to 44.4 per cent in 2012/13. Among the remaining 14 provinces, poverty declined at varying rates. Vientiane Capital, Attapeu and Phongsaly made the fastest progress in terms of percentage reduction from 2007/08 to 2012/13.⁸

MDG 1.2. Achieve full productive employment and decent work

10. The picture is mixed on productive employment and decent work. Three indicators show Lao PDR's progress and challenges in achieving MDG 1.2.

- Lao PDR's labour productivity⁹ grew significantly from 1995 to 2010 but remains low (see below).
- Among those who are employed, the share of vulnerable employment (own-account workers and unpaid family workers) remains high.
- The high employment to population ratio (ETPR), in contrast to that of richer countries,^a shows that people have to work to survive and that too many young people are not in education or training.

11. The growth in labour productivity did not generate sufficient decent employment opportunities. The largely resource-driven and capital-intensive growth meant that GDP per person employed grew, since the high economic growth outstripped employment growth. However, the high growth did not have sufficient impact on the agriculture and fishery sectors,¹⁰ which account for about 70 per cent of employed persons.¹¹ The agriculture sector still has low productivity (4 to 10 times lower than non-agricultural sectors in 2010)¹² with a lack of domestic value-added. Overall, agricultural productivity in Lao PDR is still less than half of Thailand's, although it has increased over the past few years to overtake that in Vietnam and Cambodia.^b

^a 2016 estimates by the International Labour Organization for ETPR were 71% for Thailand and 66% for Singapore.

^b In 2016, the average agricultural value added per worker (in constant 2010 US\$ prices) in Lao PDR was US\$ 927, compared to US\$ 801 in Cambodia, US\$ 813 in Vietnam, US\$ 1,071 in Myanmar and US\$ 2,085 in Thailand. Source: World Bank Databank.

12. The majority of the population are employed, but decent work opportunities are limited. Some 84 per cent of those who work are in vulnerable employment, as defined by the ILO, since they are own-account workers and unpaid family workers. The high level of vulnerable employment is driven by the agriculture and fishery sector, sales workers, and elementary occupations.^{a13} The bulk of agricultural work is characterized by low incomes,^b poor working conditions and deficits in access to both social protection and workplace representation. Vulnerable employment is not confined to agriculture, since informal employment is widespread, and this often means low paying jobs and poor working conditions. Lao migrants – a large source of income for families in southern Lao PDR – are also a vulnerable group. These migrants make up around 8 per cent of the working population,¹⁴ mostly in low-paid, labour intensive work in neighbouring Thailand.

13. The employment-to-population ratio (ETPR) reflects poverty patterns. Lao PDR's relatively high ETPR is simply because the poor cannot afford not to work, regardless of the quality of work. For example, the ETPR is highest in the remote rural areas without road access and lowest in urban areas. The poorest quintile of the household population has a high ETPR of 85 per cent (against 71 per cent for the richest).

MDG 1.3. End hunger and improve nutrition

14. Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target of halving the proportion of hungry people.¹⁵ The proportion of undernourished in the population¹⁶ has declined from 42.8 per cent in 1990 to around 18.5 per cent in 2015.¹⁷ However, the country still has a significant level of hunger, as measured by the Global Hunger Index. Around one-fifth of the population consumes less than the minimum dietary energy requirements. Among 119 countries measured by the Global Hunger Index (GHI) in 2017, Lao PDR scored 27.5 placing it among the 25% of countries with “serious” hunger.^{18,19}

15. Despite progress in the past two years, Lao PDR is still off-track on the MDG target of reducing underweight and stunting. In 2015, some 35.6 per cent of children under five years of age were stunted, 25.5 per cent were underweight and 9.6 per cent were wasted.^c Since the early 1990s, the decline in stunting has been slow and national targets have not been met in 2015. The country is still some distance from meeting the international targets for halving underweight and stunting prevalence relative to the baseline values in the early 1990s.

16. Undernutrition in Lao PDR shows strong inequalities across regions and groups, associated with poverty patterns. In rural areas without road access, stunting and underweight prevalence are twice those in urban areas. Stunting prevalence rates in children from Hmong-Lu Mien and Sino-Tibetan ethno-linguistic groups exceed 60 percent, nearly double those of children from the Lao-Tai group. The prevalence of stunting among children from the poorest households is three times higher than that in the richest households. This gap has widened in recent years, with little progress among the poorest children. Even amongst the richest households, 20 per cent of children suffer from stunting.²⁰

^a Elementary occupations include cleaners, roadside vendors, messengers, etc. ILO's full definition is given in the notes.

^b This is 'incomes' rather than wages, since the majority are not wage-workers.

^c 2015 Lao Child Anthropometry Assessment Survey (LCAAS), MoH and LSB. This survey may not be comparable with previous LSIS (2011/12) results. The 2017 LSIS should be able to confirm that stunting has indeed declined significantly from 44% in 2011/12.

17. Lao PDR is off-track on stunting and underweight because the causes have not been adequately addressed.²¹ Infant and young child feeding practices are poor, and low dietary diversity for both mothers and children.²² The main issues are the relatively low rates of exclusive breastfeeding under the age of 6 months, the alarming increase in the use of baby formula and inappropriate complementary feeding.^{23,24} Iron deficiency anaemia and vitamin A deficiency are high in young children (42 and 45 per cent respectively).^{25,26} Maternal nutrition, a crucial determinant in child stunting, remains poor. High anaemia rates,²⁷ low contraceptive use²⁸ and high fertility rates contribute to poor maternal nutrition. High adolescent birth rates among the non-Lao-Tai groups (22- 39 per cent)²⁹ are another contributor to child stunting.³⁰ Female education, which strongly influences child nutrition, is still poor. Stunting rates are four times higher among children of uneducated women than among children of mothers with secondary or higher education.³¹ Cultural beliefs and food taboos that may have a negative impact on nutrition also need to be addressed.^{32,33}

18. Food insecurity is still significant. While 89 per cent of the population has acceptable food consumption patterns, around 11 per cent of rural households have poor and borderline food consumption.³⁴ Households most vulnerable to food insecurity are those living in remote areas with little access to basic infrastructure, households with low engagement in fishing and hunting or unskilled labours, those practicing upland farming on small slopes, and those without kitchen gardens. Fishing, hunting and gathering of wild foods are central to food procurement and increasingly to cash generation for a large number of households, particularly in the northern uplands.

19. Progress on addressing immediate and long-term threats to food security remains slow. These threats cut across many sectors. The key threat is soil degradation and decreasing yields,³⁵ which are related to land pressure resulting from population and large-scale investment projects,³⁶ rainfall-dependent agricultural practices and limited access to irrigation. Other threats include disease outbreaks among livestock, the difficulties for farmers to find economically attractive legal alternatives to opium growing,³⁷ low resilience to natural disasters, and unexploded ordnance (UXO) that makes farmland unsafe.

20. Spending patterns need improvement among some urban dwellers. In Vientiane Capital, an estimated one in ten people who live in households that are not poor do not spend enough on food.³⁸ Even though these households are above the poverty line, they do not spend enough on food, preferring instead to spend on other items, such as consumer goods



MDG 2

ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION



MDG 2. Achieve universal primary education

21. Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target on primary net enrolment but not the target on primary school completion. While the primary net enrolment ratio (NER) was 98.5 per cent by 2014,³⁹ the survival rate to grade 5⁴⁰ remains low, at around 78 per cent in 2014/15.⁴¹ This is because most children drop out in the first year of school or do not progress to the next grade level. The construction of “complete primary schools” has enabled many more children to go to school. The proportion of complete schools rose from 48 per cent in 2007/08⁴² to 80 per cent in 2015⁴³ of all primary schools.

22. Disparities in primary enrolment have decreased, but disparities in attendance are still significant. The interprovincial disparities in primary NER have decreased over the years⁴⁴ from 30 percentage points in 2007 to around 3.5 percentage points in 2014.⁴⁵ However, the primary adjusted net attendance ratios (ANAR)⁴⁶ between provinces varied by as much as 22 percentage points in 2011/12.

23. Large disparities persist in survival rates. While survival rates have improved since 2012, the difference between provinces in 2015 remain significant at 28 percentage points.⁴⁷ Around 10,000 primary students drop out from primary education every year.⁴⁸ Children’s lack of school readiness is a key factor. The access to early childhood education is limited. Around half the new entrants to grade one had preschool experience in 2014/15, with most of these enrolments in urban areas.⁴⁹

24. The national gross enrolment ratio (GER) target for lower secondary education has been achieved. Upper secondary GER has also increased from below 20 per cent in the early 1990s to 45.8 in 2014/15. Overall, secondary gross enrolment ratio (GER) had increased to 64.6 per cent by 2014/15. Further improvements in secondary enrolment will require improving survival rates in primary education. The dropout rates and disparities in attendance during the secondary cycle are significant. Secondary education gross graduation rates⁵⁰ are much lower than gross enrolment rates, indicating high dropout rates.^{51,52} In 2012, the secondary ANAR differed by as much as 54 percentage points across provinces (Vientiane Capital and Saravane).⁵³

25. The literacy target for youth remains to be achieved. In recent years, progress in literacy rates have stagnated or possibly even reversed.⁵⁴ Lao PDR has a low literacy rate, even among youth, possibly because of the large proportion of children not continuing to secondary education. The number of learners within the non-formal education for the lower secondary level has increased rapidly. However, the quality and efficiency of such learning programs need improvement.

26. Early grade literacy and the overall quality of teaching and learning need improvement. Assessments of Grade 5 students in 2006 and 2009⁵⁵ highlighted the low language learning outcomes achieved by students. In 2009, only 19 per cent of Grade 4 students had a level of independent functioning in Lao language. A more recent assessment in 2011/12 showed the need to improve in both language and mathematics. In the fourth grade, one quarter of pupils do not have a good command of reading; 10.6 per cent cannot manage to read simple text and 41.4% per cent do not master the minimum skills expected at the end of primary education.⁵⁶

MDG 3

PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN



MDG 3. Promote gender equality and empower women

27. The gender equality gap has narrowed in all levels of education enrolment. Enrolment at primary level is close to gender parity.^{57 58} Once in primary school, girls generally do better than do boys. Girls stay longer, have less repetition, and are more likely to complete primary schooling than are boys.^a Girls have better school attendance rates, although their enrolment is lower than that of boys. ANAR in 2012 showed gender parity at both primary and secondary level. At tertiary level, the gender equality gap is still well below parity. However, the gap at tertiary level is narrowing at a faster rate than that at secondary level. This is probably because young women who make it to tertiary level are likely to come from families where gender is less of a barrier.

28. There is less progress on gender equality at higher levels of education and in poor rural areas. Gender disparity in enrolment progressively widens in favour of boys going up to lower secondary, upper secondary and tertiary. The gender gap in school attendance is also much wider in remote rural areas and among children whose mothers are uneducated.

29. Women generally occupy the lower rungs of the labour market.⁵⁹ The share of women in wage employment is low in all sectors (35 percent), including non-agricultural sectors (34 percent).⁶⁰ The low share of women in wage employment, relative to men, is associated with lower education levels. An estimated 67 per cent of employed females have no education or only primary education, in contrast to 54 per cent of employed males.

30. Women are generally less likely to be employed in decent work. Although an equal share of men and women make up the working population,^b women are more excluded from formal sectors and the social protection that this entails. Some 64 per cent of workers in the elementary occupations⁶¹ and 65 per cent of unpaid family workers are women. Those classified as service, shop and market sales workers are largely women. Men account for the majority of civil servants, professionals, technicians and other sectors. Although women have significant roles in agriculture, they have less access to and control of farming inputs and credit.⁶² Women account for only 23 per cent of all employers,⁶³ more often of small enterprises, rather than medium to large firms.⁶⁴

31. Women's participation in the parliament is relatively high, but not in other government institutions. Lao PDR has one of the highest proportions of women in national parliaments, well above the world average. However, the proportion of women is still too low in other decision-making positions in government institutions (5 percent, 2012) The Government's goal to have women in at least 15 per cent of decision-making positions by 2015 and 30 per cent women in the national parliament following the 2016 election has not been achieved. At local level, 98 per cent of village chiefs are men, although the Lao Women's Union (LWU) is represented in village councils.⁶⁵ There are no data on the private sector.

^a The GPI calculated with survival rate, repetition rate and completion rate is respectively 1.04, 0.80 and 1.06.

^b Females form 49.8 per cent and males form 50.2 per cent of those employed.

MDG 4 REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY



MDG 4. Reduce child mortality

32. Lao PDR has made significant progress in reducing under-five and infant mortality. The projections from LSIS results in 2012 showed that Lao PDR was on track to meet its national targets. However, the 2015 census figures show that national targets for under-five and infant mortality (set respectively at 70 and 45 per thousand live births) are still not achieved.⁶⁶ The country has still some way to go before it can achieve international targets (reduction by two-thirds of 1990 levels).⁶⁷ However, no firm conclusions should be drawn until the new LSIS results (expected in 2017/2018), to ensure that child mortality rates are calculated using the same methodology across the years.⁶⁸

33. Immunization programmes have made good progress, although still below the levels required to induce herd immunity or community immunity and reduce the threat of outbreaks. On the other hand, household survey data show lower coverage: 55 per cent in 2012, compared to 72 per cent from administrative data. Coverage by the combined DTP-HBV-HIB^a vaccine was 52% in 2012 and only one-third of all children received the full complement of recommended vaccinations by one year of age.⁶⁹

34. Disparities in young child mortality are marked across socio-economic groups. Mortality rates are much higher among children from the poorest households, those living in remote rural areas without road access, and those born of mothers with no education, mothers who are older (above 34) or too-young (below age 20), and mothers from non-Lao-Tai groups. Some of the highest mortality rates are among children born to mothers having births less than two years apart and too-frequent births.⁷⁰

35. The coverage and quality of maternal and child health services are still too low, especially among disadvantaged groups.⁷¹ Such communities have inadequate water and sanitation facilities and poor hygiene practices. Saravane and Phongsaly, for example, have very high rates of open defecation (78 and 62 per cent respectively).⁷² Even where health services are available, other factors linked to poor education and poverty (such as the lack of health awareness and lack of time) lead to low utilization rates. The quality of health services offered in poor and remote areas is inadequate, with staff shortages, poorly trained staff, and shortages of essential supplies and antibiotics.⁷³

^a For prevention of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae B.

MDG 5

IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH



MDG 5. Improve maternal Health

36. Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target of reducing its maternal mortality ratio (MMR) by three-quarters from 1990 levels. Over the past two decades, MMR has declined from 1,100 per 100,000 live births in 1990 to around 220 in 2013 (estimated by United Nations agencies⁷⁴) and 206 in 2015 according to the census. However, the MMR is still among the highest in the region, with great disparities within the population. Early pregnancy is still common and increases the risk of maternal mortality, particularly among women with no education or those living in areas without road access. Despite achieving the national target for adolescent birth rate of 76 per 1000 live births,⁷⁵ this rate also remains one of the highest in the region.

37. The high MMR is explained by the low coverage and inadequate quality of services. The proportion of births assisted by trained health personnel⁷⁶ continues to increase, but is still low (42 per cent according to survey data). Modern contraceptive prevalence rate among married women is only 42% and the unmet need for modern contraceptives is still high (20% in 2011/2012). Only 38 per cent of deliveries took place in health facilities (2011/12). The antenatal care (ANC) coverage⁷⁷ was an estimated 69 per cent in 2014,^a but this was only for one visit by trained health personnel, while the WHO recommends many more.⁷⁸ ANC service quality is inadequate.⁷⁹ While major hospitals can provide caesarean services, and basic emergency obstetric and newborn care (BEmONC) services are available in every district, service quality and referral systems still need improvement.⁸⁰

38. Disparities in maternal health service coverage are pronounced. Maternal health service indicators are lowest in rural areas without road access, among women with primary or no education, women from the poorest households, and women from non-Lao-Tai groups. The disparities are starkest between poverty quintiles: the richest and poorest quintiles have up to 80 percentage points difference in maternal health services coverage. The caesarean section rate is still low, at 4 per cent of all births, indicating that some women who needed a caesarean delivery were not able to have one.⁸¹

^a Note, however, that the 2006 and 2011/12 data (35 and 54 per cent respectively) are from surveys, while 2014 is from MoH administrative data, and the datasets are not comparable.

MDG 6

COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES



MDG 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

MDG 6.1. Respond to HIV/AIDS

39. **HIV prevalence has been generally low over the past 15 years, but Lao PDR cannot afford complacency.** HIV incidence is increasing, unlike in some neighbouring countries, with an estimated 1,096 cases of new infections in 2015,⁸² up from 957 new cases in 2014⁸³ and 617 new cases in 2012. HIV prevalence also is increasing in sub-groups of key populations such as sex workers, people who inject drugs (PWID) and men having sex with men (MSM) classified as transgender who reported selling sex. Heterosexual contact (88%) and MSM (8%) account for the majority of HIV transmission from 1990 to 2013. Transmission from mother to child (4%) and injecting drug use (less than 1%) account for only a small proportion of cases.⁸⁴

40. **The overall knowledge on HIV remains low, and lower still among women.** Knowledge levels have not increased significantly from 2000. Knowledge of HIV/AIDS is much lower among those living in rural areas without road access, those with no education, those from the poorest quintile and amongst the ethnic groups living in remote areas. The knowledge differentials between rich and poor, and educated and uneducated are much starker than those between men and women.⁸⁵ Condom use rates are reported to be high in commercial sex, but are lower in casual sex. Nationally representative data on condom use is lacking.

41. **The country lags behind in two out of three global targets for HIV treatment scale-up beyond 2015.**^a In 2015,

- Around 71 per cent of the estimated number of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Lao PDR currently know their HIV status, against the 2020 global target of 90 percent.
- 47 per cent of PLHIV in Lao PDR who know their status are receiving ART, while the 2020 global target is 90 percent.
- 78 per cent of those on ART have suppressed viral load.⁸⁶

MDG 6.2. Address malaria and other major diseases

42. **Lao PDR is facing a resurgence in malaria that threatens the steady progress made against the disease in the previous decade.** From 2000 to 2011, malaria cases and deaths declined by around 50%, but from December 2011, malaria outbreaks in the south of the country led to a sharp rise of confirmed cases and deaths. Case incidence increase since 2011 is associated with an influx of migrant workers in the south of the country.⁸⁷ The increasing trend in malaria cases continues. There were 50,663 confirmed cases in 2014, although the number of recorded deaths dropped to four for the entire country in 2014.⁸⁸ Bednet coverage still needs to improve. Surveys⁸⁹ in 2012 in selected areas found that over 80 per cent of children under age 5 slept under a bednet of some kind.⁹⁰ A 2016 survey in the three high malaria burden provinces of

^a The new targets for the HIV treatment scale-up beyond 2015 are (i) by 2020, 90 per cent of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status, (ii) by 2020, 90 per cent of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy and (iii) by 2020, 90 per cent of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.

Champasack, Sekong and Attapeu found 74.3% of children under age 5 sleeping under long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs).⁹¹ Treatment rates among young children with confirmed malaria remains high, generally well over 90 per cent.⁹²

43. Tuberculosis (TB) prevalence, although declining, is much higher than previously estimated. Following the results of the first national TB prevalence survey (2010-2011),⁹³ the WHO re-estimated TB statistics for Lao PDR. The new estimates showed the prevalence of all cases of TB to be 1.9 times higher than previous estimations. The revised WHO trend model⁹⁴ indicates that Lao PDR had more than halved the prevalence of all forms of TB from 1990 to 2014. TB incidence has also declined; mortality due to TB, however, does not seem to have declined.⁹⁵ TB detection needs to be urgently improved. The TB survey and the programme review suggest that many TB cases remain undiagnosed and untreated, and that only around one-third of all TB cases are detected. However, the TB treatment success rate is high, at over 90%.

MDG 7

ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



MDG 7. Ensure environmental sustainability

MDG 7.1. Protect environmental resources and biodiversity

44. Processes and institutions for limiting the loss of forests have improved, but Lao PDR is not yet on track to achieving targets 7A and 7B. The government has designated 20 areas covering 3,390,700 hectares or 14.3 per cent of the country⁹⁶ as National Protected Areas (also called National Biodiversity Conservation Areas).⁹⁷ If the areas under provincial and district protection are added, the coverage increases to around 20.2 per cent of the land area.⁹⁸ The government is promoting community participation, sustainable forest management and payment for ecosystems services.

45. Forest cover has decreased significantly over the past decade. Forest cover in 2012 stood at 9.5 million hectares or an estimated 40 per cent of the area of the country.⁹⁹ The forest cover is declining at an estimated rate of 1.4 per cent per annum.¹⁰⁰ Agricultural expansion, hydropower, mining, infrastructure and urban expansion have led to deforestation while illegal logging, poorly regulated harvesting and shifting cultivation continue to cause forest degradation. Reforestation has not met the previous Five-Year Plan target of 3.9 million hectares: only 8.5 per cent of that target was achieved, amounting to 329,941 hectares.¹⁰¹

46. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have doubled in ten years. Lao PDR recorded a net sink of CO₂ in 1990 and a net emission by year 2000.¹⁰² Of the total CO₂ emissions, nearly all were emitted by land-use change and forestry. The agriculture sector produced the greatest share of methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O).

47. Phase-out of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) is on track. These have declined to near-zero in 2014.¹⁰³ The remaining ODS, which are hydro-chlorofluorocarbons (HCFC), are scheduled to phase out by 2030.¹⁰⁴

48. Freshwater resources show a declining trend. Lao PDR's per-capita volume of internal renewable water resources is among the fastest in the region, having decreased by 34 per cent from 1990 to 2014.¹⁰⁵

49. Animal and plant species threatened with extinction have nearly doubled. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) recorded the number of threatened species in Lao PDR increasing from 115 in 2008, to 213 in 2016.¹⁰⁶ The degradation and disappearance of habitat, poaching and wildlife trade are continuing threats to biodiversity.¹⁰⁷

MDG 7.2. Improve sustainable access to water and sanitation

50. Lao PDR has achieved the MDG target on improved water and sanitation.¹⁰⁸ In 2015, 76 percent¹⁰⁹ of the population are estimated to have access to improved sources of drinking water. The estimate of coverage by improved sanitation is 71 percent.^{110,111} However, the high prevalence of open defecation is still a concern (38 per cent in 2011/12, and an estimated 23 per cent in 2015).¹¹²

51. The rural-urban gap in access to safe water has narrowed but disparities remain significant. At national level, the gap is now estimated as 17 percentage points in 2015.¹¹³ However, the gap between uneducated families and better-educated families, and between the richest and poorest quintiles is estimated to be much larger (over 30 percentage points in 2011/12).¹¹⁴

52. Disparities in safe sanitation are far greater than are those in safe water coverage; hygiene practices are generally poor. The difference was estimated to be 38 percentage points between rural and urban areas in 2015.¹¹⁵ Sanitation coverage is 8 times better among the rich than among the poor. Sanitation coverage among the Lao-Tai is 2.6 times that of the Chine-Tibetan and the Mon-Khmer. Among these disadvantaged groups, more than half still practice open defecation.¹¹⁶ 81 per cent of children under 2 years live in households that do not dispose of children's faeces hygienically.¹¹⁷ Open defecation remains a challenge.

MDG 8

DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT



MDG 8. Develop a global partnership for development

MDG 8.1. Improve trading systems

53. **Lao PDR's integration into the regional and global economy continues.** Over the past decade and following the 2001 Doha Decision on Least-Developed Countries, developed economies have substantially reduced tariffs and given greater market access for the least developed countries' exports, including those of Lao PDR. In 2010, Lao PDR signed the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) and in 2013, it became a formal member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Both agreements required modifications on tariffs, non-tariff measures, customs reforms, and trade facilitation. On 22 June 2012, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce launched the Lao PDR Trade Portal,¹¹⁸ which enables traders to cut down on time for carrying out cross-border trade transactions.¹¹⁹

MDG 8.2. Achieve effective development cooperation

54. **Lao PDR relies on official development assistance for a significant share of its socio-economic development investments.** Development assistance accounted for about 14 per cent of total investment for the fiscal year 2012-13 and 10 per cent for 2013-14.¹²⁰ The alignment of external support with national priorities and goals is discussed between the Government and development partners in the Round Table Process, which forms an important national forum for meaningful dialogue on strategic development planning, aid effectiveness and ownership issues.

55. **The Vientiane Declaration on Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2016-2025) is the overarching framework for development cooperation in Lao PDR.** It was adopted during the November 2015 High-level Round Table Meeting, which renewed the commitments from the government and development partners to effective development cooperation. The Declaration aligns Lao PDR's cooperation principles with the global agenda on effective development cooperation, including the 2012 Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, the 2014 Mexico High Level Meeting Communiqué, the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the SDGs.

56. **The Lao PDR–United Nations Partnership Framework (2017-2021) articulates the collective response of the UN system to national development priorities.** The Partnership Framework aims to identify strategic focus areas, promote synergy, improve coordination and ensure transparency and predictability of resources. It also aims to make the knowledge networks and expertise of the UN system more systematically accessible to the Government of Lao PDR.

MDG 8.3. Improve debt sustainability

57. **Lao PDR's risk of external debt distress is categorized as moderate.** A Debt Sustainability Analysis conducted by the IMF and IDA at the end of 2014 found Lao PDR to be on the cusp of a transition to high risk, with heightened vulnerabilities for public debt. Given the considerable share of foreign currency denominated debt, large and sudden exchange rate depreciation could

significantly raise the debt-to-GDP and the debt service-to-revenue trajectories for external and public debt. The Debt Sustainability Analysis recommended addressing vulnerabilities through fiscal consolidation and by strengthening public investment management capacity.¹²¹

58. The Government of Lao PDR does not foresee difficulties in servicing debt. A significant part of the external debt is related to viable, large resource projects. Energy sector projects are expected to generate high and stable economic returns upon completion. Given the expected strong royalty, dividends and profits, the authorities do not anticipate any difficulty finding creditors and servicing outstanding loans. A relatively long maturity profile of loans, as well as U.S. dollar returns of the exporting sectors, would help mitigate the risks of debt distress. The Government anticipates an increase in disbursements of new funds from some bilateral donors between 2014 and 2019 and, therefore, it expects lower new borrowing than that assumed by the Debt Sustainability Analysis. Borrowing is expected to shift from external to domestic sources over time, as domestic financing becomes cheaper. Better access to non-concessional loans is also expected in the future.¹²²

MDG 8.4. Promote information and communication technologies

Table 2. Penetration of information communication technologies

	Female	Male
1. Percentage of population of age 15-49 years, 2011/12:		
- Read a newspaper at least once a week	12.6	17.6
- Listened to the radio at least once a week	34.3	42.4
- Watched television at least once a week	75.7	76.3
2. Percentage of youth (age 15-24 years), 2011/12:		
- Used a computer during the preceding 12 months	13.9	15.9
- Used the internet during the preceding 12 months	7.5	9.4
	2007/8	2012/13
3. Percentage of households that possess:		
- Mobile phone	48.1	76
- Television	60.2	75.1
- Computer	2.0	7.5
Data sources and notes:		
Indicators 1-2: Lao Social Indicators Survey, 2011/12, Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB).		
Indicator 3: Population and Housing Census, 2015, LSB. Lao Expenditure and Consumption Surveys, 2007/8 and 2012/13, LSB.		

59. Lao PDR continues to show rapid progress in improving access to information and communication technologies (ICT). The access to mobile telephony and internet seems to have expanded rapidly, although the data shows a decline in the years following 2011.^a In 2015, 86% of households had a mobile telephone.¹²³ In 2011, around 8% of women and 9% of men in the age group 15–24 years used the internet during the preceding 12 months. Even in the poorest two quintiles, a small proportion of young people was able to use the internet.¹²⁴

^a The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications reports that the decrease in 2012 was due to “registration of SIMs.” Previously bought and used anonymously, user details are now required for registration of Lao SIMs.

60. Among mass media channels, television has the highest penetration, reaching 76% of the population. A small proportion of the total population (5% of women and 9% of men) do not have access to any channel of mass communication (radio, TV or newspapers). In most cases, men have slightly greater access to media than do women; however, the patterns are not consistent across different socio-economic groups, and may reflect disinclination or desire (which are influenced by culture and tradition), rather than physical access.

MDG 9

REDUCE THE IMPACT OF UXO



MDG 9. Reduce the impact of UXO in Lao PDR

61. Lao PDR adopted its own ninth Millennium Development Goal on 20 October 2010 at the Vientiane High Level Round Table Meeting. This was the goal of “*Reducing the impact of unexploded ordnance (UXO) in Lao PDR in accordance with the National Strategic Plan for the UXO sector ‘The Safe Path Forward II.’*” Lao PDR had signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008 and ratified it on 18 March 2009, making Lao PDR amongst the first 30 ratifications that triggered the entry into force of the CCM on 1 August 2010. When establishing MDG 9, the Government of Lao PDR and Development Partners acknowledged that many affected communities could achieve progress and well-being only if the issue of unexploded ordnance was resolved. Effective action in this area will not only achieve MDG 9, but will also contribute significantly to the achievement of several other MDGs as well.

62. **Addressing the impact of UXOs remains a challenge.**^a With an estimate of 8.7 million hectares contaminated by UXO, Lao PDR has cleared over 55,000 hectares since 1996. Over 50,000 casualties¹²⁵ were reported from 1964 to 2012, meaning an average of 997 people a year killed, injured or maimed by UXOs. The bulk of victims were of active working age between ages 15 and 35 years. In recent years, effective mine risk education and the clearance of high risk areas have seen the number of casualties dropping from 302 casualties in 2008 to 42 casualties in 2015.¹²⁶ More men and boys are affected compared to women and girls, as the men and boys are more likely to venture further outside village limits into the forest. A significant proportion of UXO casualties are children (about 40% over the past decade¹²⁷). Children represented 62 per cent of all reported UXO victims (dead and injured) in 2014, 61 per cent in 2013, 41 per cent in 2012 and 57 per cent in 2011.

63. **The needs of survivors are still largely unmet.** The 2010 survey found that among the several thousands of injuries sustained by survivors that required a prosthesis, only 583 survivors claimed to have received one.¹²⁸ A victim assistance strategy and programme have been adopted for the period 2014-2020. There are no further updates on indicator 9.3 on assistance to survivors, although it is generally recognized that the survivor tracking system needs to be operationalized.

64. **Despite the challenges, the past few years have seen a number of achievements:**

- The number of UXO casualties has been reduced by 85 per cent over the last decade. In recent years, with less than 50 casualties reported annually, the national target of less than 75 casualties a year has been met.
- Risk awareness on mines and explosive remnants of war have been integrated into school curricula.
- The Government has adopted a new methodology for finding and clearing bombs that is expected to enhance the effectiveness of UXO clearance operations, which has also resulted in a sharp increase in the land area being released. This has led to an improved focus of resources on areas with confirmed contamination, as shown by an increase of over 460 per cent in the number of explosive remnants of war removed per hectare. The methodology is more results-oriented and future reporting will reflect this focus.

^a The term UXO is used generically for both unexploded ordnance and abandoned explosive ordnance.

Part II. Sustainable Development Goals: Key Issues to Inform Implementation



SDG1 NO POVERTY



SDG 1. Ending poverty

Localization and monitoring issues

65. Poverty prevalence is measured through two different approaches. First, the data on standard poverty indicators are largely collected in five-yearly household surveys on expenditures and consumption (LECS). Some development partners have highlighted the need for LECS data to be disaggregated by households with children and women-headed households. In the second approach, the government monitors poverty annually by using administrative data on income and access to basic services collected by the National Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (NCRDPE), the smallest unit being the household.

66. Social protection data has significant gaps. Lao PDR, with support from development partners, is making efforts to expand the currently narrow scope of the country's social protection system. This is due to the high proportion of informal sector workers, who are still largely unprotected. Government spending on essential services can be measured for the health and education sectors but is more difficult to measure for social protection.

67. Administrative data systems need to be strengthened to routinely track access to basic services and economic resources. These are the indicators for Target 1.4, which include access indicators for health (SDG 3), education (SDG 4), improved water supply and sanitation facilities (SDG 6), electricity (SDG 7), and access to an account at a bank or financial institution (SDG 8). MoNRE data systems monitor secure tenure rights to land.

68. Resilience indicators need improvement. Target 1.5 aims at “building the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations” and reducing vulnerability relating to natural disasters (repeated under target 13.1). However, the globally recommended SDG indicators for this target do not really measure resilience, but only the impact of disasters and availability of disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies.^a Since resilience measures are country-specific, Lao PDR needs to ensure that its national and subnational DRR systems are strong on resilience and adaptive capacity in relation to climate-related hazards and natural disasters, and that DRR strategies are developed in such a way to facilitate robust monitoring with clear timelines and action points.

Development issues and challenges

69. A large part of the population is at risk of falling into poverty due by frequent shocks and the absence of a safety net and risk mitigation measures. Half of the poor people in 2012/13 were not poor half a decade before. Households in agriculture are twice more likely than non-farm households to fall back into poverty due to their exposure to shocks from farm produce price fluctuations, loss of land and adverse weather. In addition, with fragmented health financing programs and limited health insurance coverage, health shocks and catastrophic out-of-pocket expenditures pose a significant risk. Low financial inclusion and the absence of safety nets limit the ability of households to mitigate risks. The non-Lao-Tai groups have seen slower progress in poverty reduction (see Section on MDG 1.1)¹²⁹

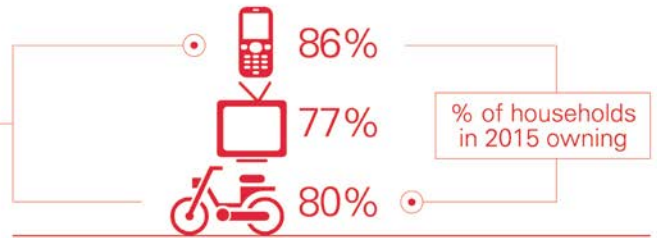
^a SDG 11 is supposed to measure impact (see SDG Target 11.5).

1 NO POVERTY

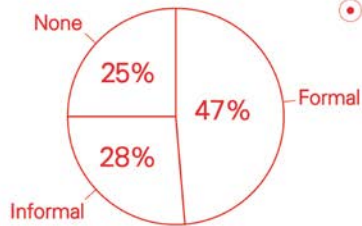


From 1992 to 2015
Lao National Poverty Rate

46% 23%



Adults using financial services



Lao population below the POVERTY LINE



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; Lao Expenditure and Culture Survey 2015

SDG2 ZERO HUNGER



SDG 2. Achieving food security and improved nutrition

Development issues and challenges

70. **Lao PDR's progress in reducing child stunting remains slow.** Appropriate policy and programme frameworks have been developed but implementation lags behind. The National Nutrition Strategy to 2025 and Plan of Action (2016–2020)¹³⁰ identified the strategies and actions required to make progress.^a The challenge is to accelerate the implementation of the recommended approach, which involves a multisector geographic focus, strengthened vertical and horizontal coordination, improved local and institutional capacities for delivering interventions to disadvantaged communities, and behaviour change interventions.¹³¹ To enable timely corrective action, a food and nutrition surveillance system that allows more frequent measurements at local level would be needed (see above).

71. **The implementation of the Agricultural Development Strategy 2020 needs to be accelerated.** To ensure food security and improve the livelihoods of rural communities, the country needs to make the necessary shift from a subsistence to market-oriented agricultural production that is adapted to climate change and focused on smallholder farmers. At the same time, measures to increase agriculture productivity and diversify crops are needed.

72. **Inadequate prioritization, suboptimal information sharing and insufficient funding are recurring challenges.** The Government relies heavily on external funds to improve nutrition and food security, which undermines sustainability and makes planning unpredictable. Inadequate information sharing among development partners has also slowed down coordination and planning.

Localization and monitoring issues

73. **More than one approach is used to monitor food access in Lao PDR.** First, the prevalence of undernourishment in the population is calculated for each country by FAO¹³² for three-year periods from food balance sheets and the food consumed in that country. Second, undernourishment is also tracked by measuring the percentage of population under the Food Poverty Line, that is, those consuming less than the minimum dietary energy requirements of 2,100 kcal/ person/day, as defined by the Government. This is measured in household consumption surveys, notably LECS, which take place every five years. In addition to these two approaches, an indicator involving the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) which requires inclusion of a FIES module in surveys, will be available in the LECS 2017/18. The Food Consumption Score has also been added to the LECS 2017-18.

74. **Mechanisms need to be put in place for tracking child malnutrition more frequently than at present.** Child stunting is a serious problem in Lao PDR and development partners are supporting the government in coordinated programmes to bring down the prevalence. Child

^a These frameworks are in line with international commitments, notably, the Zero Hunger Challenge (launched by Lao PDR in May 2015) and the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement (which it joined in April 2011)

anthropometry surveys generate the data for indicators on stunting, wasting and overweight among children under five years of age. However, such surveys are not conducted annually and Lao PDR needs a different but complementary approach for tracking malnutrition more frequently, such as sentinel surveillance and/or rapid assessment methods.

75. Much more data is needed on adolescent nutrition in Lao PDR. It is well-known that the nutrition of adolescent girls has a significant impact on biological development and reproductive outcomes. The high rate of malnutrition in girls not only contributes to increased morbidity and mortality associated with pregnancy and delivery, but also to increased risk of delivering low birth-weight babies. This contributes to the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition.¹³³

76. Efforts to raise agricultural productivity and increase incomes of small-scale food producers need better measurement methods. At present, the proxy indicator *agricultural value added per labour unit* is used to measure agricultural productivity. However, this is not sensitive enough. FAO notes that the original SDG indicator (*volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size*) could be computed from microdata from household budget surveys and recent agricultural surveys, at least on an experimental basis. The *average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status* is key to poverty reduction and could be measured in the same process. Future design of surveys and agricultural censuses will need to incorporate these concerns.

2 ZERO HUNGER



From 1990 to 2015
Proportion of undernourished
42.8% 18.5%



nearly $\frac{1}{5}$ of the Lao population are undernourished



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015

SDG3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



SDG 3. Ensuring healthy lives and well-being

Localization and monitoring issues

77. Systems to report on the older (MDG) targets need review and those for new SDG targets need further development. SDG 3 encompasses MDGs 4, 5 and 6, notably on maternal and child health, reproductive and sexual health, HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB, for which monitoring systems are already established. SDG 3 also introduces a set of targets that go beyond the MDGs, such as targets related to neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), hepatitis, water-borne diseases, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), mental health, substance abuse, road traffic deaths and injuries, universal health coverage (UHC), pollution-related deaths and illness, tobacco use, access to affordable medicines and vaccines, and health emergency preparedness. WHO produces global reports providing data estimates for most health-related SDG targets, including those relating to water-related diseases, NTDs, NCDs, suicide, injury, alcohol and tobacco use, and health emergency preparedness. The Government will need to decide whether to use such estimates in its official SDG reports.

78. The Government's health information systems and the civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system need strengthening. Inadequacies in these systems affect the quality of service data. Well-designed surveys such as LSIS, which provide a useful countercheck of the administrative data, show substantial differences with health service data on some indicators, such as immunization and antenatal care. Improvement of country monitoring systems also requires identifying and including SDG indicators that currently lie outside existing administrative reports. Hepatitis B incidence, for example, is not currently available and hepatitis B immunization is used as a proxy indicator. The established monitoring systems also make it difficult to monitor indicators specific to adolescent girls.

Development issues and challenges

79. Improving service availability and quality remains a challenge. The high adolescent birth rate requires prioritizing the availability and use of contraceptives, especially among unmarried adolescents who still have difficulties in accessing such services, despite the national policy on birth spacing.¹³⁴ Another challenge is to strengthen outreach so that vulnerable groups are reached with preventive and promotive maternal and child health interventions. Improvement on many SDG 3 areas require interventions outside the health sector, such as programmes that improve livelihoods, educate women, ensure clean water supply, improve transportation and communication for referral, and address financial constraints among the poor.

80. Health system financing and health system reform are priorities. Many health commodities and outreach activities are still funded by external sources. Increased and sustained levels of funding are required to accelerate interventions in poorer and remote areas. In rural and remote areas where levels of child mortality are the highest, many health centres lack the required quality and composition of staff, and are unable to offer basic services. Frequent stockouts¹³⁵ of essential drugs underscore the need to improve management and logistics systems. Lao PDR will need to accelerate its health sector reform strategy to address such gaps and challenges.

81. Financial, behavioural and institutional factors hamper efforts to combat HIV. Funding for the HIV/AIDS response is not sustainable, being largely from external sources, which is declining. Allocations from the national budget are required for HIV response. Other challenges impeding progress towards the global targets for addressing HIV beyond 2015¹³⁶ include cultural taboos, the illegality of drug use and sex work, difficulties in reaching the key high-risk populations, and the mobility of young migrant populations and their partners/clients. The integration of HIV testing and treatment into the health care system is constrained by the limited capacity of service providers and the low coverage of health services, especially antenatal care coverage.

82. Communicable diseases are still a major challenge. Despite a reduced share in total deaths,^a recent years have seen a high incidence and outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases, zoonotic diseases, and newly emerging diseases. Such diseases, together with endemic infections, the use of counterfeit drugs and rising antimicrobial resistance, pose a serious threat to global public health. The resurgence of malaria with a confirmed artemisinin-resistant strain risks undermining the efficacy of artemisinin-based combination therapies. Lao PDR has committed to achieving malaria elimination by 2030, which highlights the need for greater efforts in this area. The first national tuberculosis prevalence survey in Lao PDR (2010-2011) revealed weaknesses in TB control services, such as stagnating notification rates, weak drug resistance surveillance, inadequate access, and poor quality services that lead to missed opportunities for diagnosis and treatment of TB – especially among children and the elderly.¹³⁷

83. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) pose a growing threat. An estimated 48 per cent of total deaths in Lao PDR in 2014 were due to NCDs.¹³⁸ Cases of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer have multiplied, particularly in urban areas and, increasingly, in rural areas. WHO has identified adult risk factors, among them a high rate of tobacco use.¹³⁹ The ageing of the population will see NCDs grow in importance within the health sector.

84. Injuries have increased in frequency and severity. An estimated 9 per cent of total deaths in the Lao PDR were attributed to injury, according to a WHO report.¹⁴⁰ Road accident statistics show a rise of the death rate from road accidents, from 8.6 per 100,000 in 2006 to 15.3 per 100,000 in 2015.¹⁴¹ The increase is largely associated with unsafe road conditions, rapid expansion of roads, the growth of motorbikes and vehicles, and young inexperienced motorists.

^a The reduced share is due to the rise of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and injury as causes of mortality.

3 GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING



From 2005 to 2015
maternal deaths
405 **206**
for every 100,000 live births



1990-2015:
Under - 5 mortality rate
more than halved



Malaria cases on the rise
in Southern Laos



$\frac{2}{3}$ of tuberculosis cases
are undiagnosed &
untreated



Increasing number of new HIV cases:
Over 900 in 2014



Polio outbreak in 2015,
contained

Current
health risks

Road Accidents
death rate

x2
since 2006



SDG4 QUALITY EDUCATION



SDG 4. Ensuring inclusive and quality education

Localization and monitoring issues

85. **Lao PDR has an effective education management information system (EMIS), which produces data robust enough for annual planning.** The SDG 4 indicators relating to access, completion, gender parity and education infrastructure and facilities can be monitored through EMIS. Others relating to ICT, literacy and numeracy are measured through periodic surveys. While EMIS has information on technical and vocational education and training (TVET), this will need strengthening and linkage with employment outcomes. EMIS already produces data routinely disaggregated by sex. Additionally, the system needs to expand to include disability status.^a

86. **The education system currently lacks mechanisms to regularly assess and report on the quality and outcome of services.** Current data on learning outcomes in primary school is obtained through one-off or infrequent assessments such as the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM¹⁴²), Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA),¹⁴³ Early Grade Math Assessment (EGMA) and Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (ASLO).¹⁴⁴ The MoES will need to take a lead in instituting such mechanisms for its own measurement of learning outcomes, using consistent standards across time (see below).

87. **Survey standards need to be harmonized for longitudinal tracking.** Some indicators, by their very nature, can only be measured in surveys (e.g., ICT skills and literacy). Successive surveys, censuses and assessments, therefore, need to follow the same standards for a given indicator. For example, discrepancies between self-reported and tested literacy rates in different surveys over the past decade make it difficult to interpret the trends. While the SDG indicator on literacy specifies tested literacy, the MDG indicator did not. Similarly, assessments of learning outcomes for primary and lower secondary education and the outcomes of TVET will need to follow standards that can be tracked across time.

Development issues and challenges

88. **Less accessible areas continue to lag behind.** School attendance, survival and literacy are lowest among children and young people living in rural areas difficult to access, those with uneducated mothers, those living in households that are in the poorest quintile, and those in the non-Lao-Tai ethnic groups (although this last is narrowing or changed for some indicators¹⁴⁵). These are also the communities where the demand for education, especially secondary education, is low. Children's lack of school readiness is a key factor. Pregnant adolescents have to discontinue school and are not encouraged to return to school after delivery.

89. **The country's shortage of skilled workers stems largely from the poor quality of basic education.** Poor literacy and numeracy skills make it difficult to ensure a workforce that is able to meet the changing demands of the economy and benefit fully from ASEAN integration. The poor outcomes of basic education are linked to the shortage of appropriately qualified teachers,¹⁴⁶

^a The 2015 census recorded an overall prevalence of disability of 2.8 per cent among the population of age 5 years and above.

weaknesses in curricula and teaching-learning materials, and insufficient facilities and infrastructure. Those from non-Lao-Tai communities face the additional difficulty of being educated in a language that is not their mother tongue, which has a direct impact on their ability to learn the foundational skills required to graduate from primary education.

90. Education infrastructure is still an issue. As of 2015, an estimated 1,500 primary schools were incomplete,¹⁴⁷ mostly in remote rural areas, forcing children to leave school before finishing their primary education. Children in remote areas find it even more difficult to access secondary schools. To address this, the government is expanding the construction of secondary schools with dormitories for children.¹⁴⁸

91. Teacher training and deployment need to be addressed.^a Remote areas, usually non-Lao-Tai communities, face difficulties in attracting and maintaining qualified teachers. Assessments suggest that teachers may not be delivering the high-quality teaching to develop problem solving or independent thinking skills. The existing curricula and limited teacher resources tend to reinforce rote learning as a teaching methodology.^{149,150} District education offices have insufficient budgets for supervision visits, which undermines in-service development. Continuous professional development is infrequent.¹⁵¹

92. Learning environments are often inadequate. The majority of schools are unable to meet the 1:1 student-textbook ratio set out in education policy.¹⁵² Nearly half the primary schools lack basic water and sanitation facilities that meet national standards (see SDG 6). School Block Grants are not always disbursed in a timely manner, or do not always provide adequate funding for schools that need it most.

^a The primary teacher-school ratio in Vientiane Capital is 6.4 per school, but only 2.4 in Phongsaly.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



98.8%
of children enrolled
in primary school



61% lower secondary completion rate in 2015



< $\frac{1}{3}$ of all Grade 3 students understand what they read in 2012

51% of primary students have received early childhood education



Children of ages 6-16 not in school in 2015



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; UNESCO Institute for Statistics; 2012 Early Grades Learning Assessment, Lao PDR; Ministry of Education and Sports; Education Management Information System; Ministry of Education Statistic Report 2014-2015/2015-2016; Education and Sports Statistic Center; Lao Population and Housing Census 2015

SDG5 GENDER EQUALITY



SDG 5. Achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls

Localization and monitoring issues

93. **More frequent and systematic data updates are needed for gender indicators.** The indicators relating to early marriage, reproductive health access, and unpaid domestic and care work are collected through household surveys, such as LSIS and LECS, which are currently implemented every five years. Incorporating relevant indicators into more than one survey (e.g., unpaid domestic and care work in LSIS, LECS and LFS) would provide more frequent data updates, providing the same definitions are used. The SDG targets on gender discrimination in legal frameworks are being monitored by qualitative reviews of the legislation. All ministries and entities in the country need to systematically implement disaggregation of all relevant data by sex.

94. **Administrative systems need to be tailored to measure indicators on adolescent pregnancy and political empowerment.** At present, the health administrative data system is not set up to monitor adolescent pregnancy, but this needs to be done to annually monitor the priority issue of adolescent pregnancy, which is a proxy for early marriage.¹⁵³ The National Assembly and the Ministry of Home Affairs generates data at least annually on the share of women in leadership positions. Apart from data on women in the National Assembly, however, data on other positions is not easily available. Systems to standardize and report on these indicators (for example, which levels of leadership should be reported on) will need to be developed.

95. **Data on violence and access to land resources need more attention.** Data on violence against women and girls is not regularly collected, as measurement of prevalence has to rely on special surveys.^a The design of such surveys have to take into account the socially taboo, complex and hidden nature of abuse and violence.¹⁵⁴ Safety and ethical issues complicate data collection, and interpretation needs to take account of the tendency to under-report violence. Lao PDR cannot currently report on female ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, but nonetheless, these indicators should be retained as the UN plans to issue guidelines on incorporating these indicators into existing survey

Development issues and challenges

96. **The institutions with mandates to promote gender equality and women's empowerment need to be strengthened.** The operational capacities of the Lao Women's Union (LWU) and National Committee for the Advancement of Women, Mothers and Children (NCAWMC) need to be enhanced at all levels, and their membership and networks expanded, including into the private sector. While LWU and NCAWMC are not directly responsible for most actions required to achieve the different SDG 5 targets, they should be able to play a key role in monitoring the programmes and actions of other ministries and working with those ministries to advise on corrective strategies as required. However, this requires sufficient operating budgets for LWU and NCAWMC.

^a This is because many abused women do not report violence and those who do, tend to be only the most serious cases.

97. The share of women in leadership and management-level positions is still unsatisfactory, despite the goals set at each level. The NSEDP stipulates that the share of women should increase to 20 per cent of leading management-level positions at provincial/capital and district level, 10 per cent at village level, 30 per cent at central level, 30 per cent for the members of the 8th National Assembly.

98. Women and girls lag behind in having access to education, health, and legal services. The gender parity indices for secondary education and literacy, in particular, shows that females lag behind males (Section on SDG 4), despite the overall progress of education in the country. Lao PDR has one of the highest rates of early marriage in the region. The demand for contraception among women and adolescent girls has yet to be fully met. Women need to have access to legal and counselling services, especially in cases of domestic violence. The social welfare system still lacks appropriate prevention, detection, response and protection mechanisms that protect women and children from violence (SDG 16).

99. Women are still constrained in livelihood options and economic opportunities. Mainly due to their lower education levels, women constitute the majority of workers in the informal sectors and among unpaid family workers, and have less access to and control of farming inputs and credit. For women to penetrate and fully interact with markets, women-centric strategies need to be implemented. These include promoting female entrepreneurs, developing fairer labour policies, ensuring that young mothers can stay employed and expanding the role of women in vocational education, skills development and income generation programmes.

100. Marginalized women require special attention. Policies relating to each sectoral programme need to promote inclusion of marginalized women and girls, such as female migrant workers, women in unpaid or underpaid employment, and women and girls from ethnic minorities. Targeting women in such groups is essential to achieve sustainable progress in other SDG areas (such as prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls, child nutrition, maternal health, secondary education, HIV/AIDS, trafficking in persons, and employment).

5 GENDER EQUALITY



High proportion of female members of Parliament

27.5%



5%

of women in decision-making positions in the government



65% of unpaid family workers are women in 2010

20.2%

women and girls aged 15 and above reported to have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by partner and non-partner in 2015

For every 100, 88 men are literate in 2014, 88 women

Lao women in 2012

<18 years

$\frac{1}{3}$

marry



19.4% give birth

<15 years

$\frac{1}{10}$

marry



3.6% give birth

Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; Lao Social Indicator Survey 2011/12; Lao National Survey on Women's Health and Life Experiences 2014; Labour Force Survey 2010

SDG6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



SDG 6. Ensuring sustainable water and sanitation

Localization and monitoring issues

101. **Measuring access to “safely managed services” will require new efforts.** “Safely managed drinking water services” and “safely managed sanitation services” include assurances of the availability and quality of drinking water (faecal and chemical), and regulation by appropriate authorities, as well as a hand- washing facility with soap and water. These still pose measurement challenges. The specification of a “hand- washing facility with soap and water” is additional and means that access to “safely managed sanitation services” would be much lower than access to improved sanitation facilities (the MDG indicator), because the SDG target would include only the population using both improved sanitation facilities *and* a handwashing facility with soap. The indicator on open defecation still needs to be monitored since this remains a priority issue.

102. **Water quality, water use efficiency and water resource management pose measurement challenges.** While freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources is already reported for the MDGs, data collection systems in Lao PDR are currently not set up to monitor the SDG indicators on safely treated wastewater, bodies of water with good ambient water quality, and water use efficiency. WHO notes that it is possible to monitor the percentage of urban population using water from sources with zero e-coli, as a proxy; however, data on rural water quality is not systematically available. The degree of integrated water resources management implementation is calculated from special surveys with international support, with the last report from Lao PDR in 2006. Better ways of monitoring will be needed as Lao PDR's extensive and rapid development of hydropower is affecting the country's water resources.

103. **Systems are not yet in place for tracking financing and policies for water and sanitation.** It is critical for sanitation and water expenditure to be reported separately, and to track both international and national commitments.^a The coordinated government spending plan for the WASH sector needs to include domestic spending. Policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management cannot be tracked, since monitoring systems for rural WASH services are still incomplete.

Development issues and challenges

104. **Lao PDR is rich in water resources, mainly good quality fresh water, which needs to be managed well.** Water resources in the country are used in several sectors including irrigation, hydro-power, navigation, fisheries, urban water supply, and rural water supply. Water usage is predominantly agricultural.¹⁵⁵ More attention is needed to water stress, water use efficiency^b and water management. An integrated approach to water management would provide a more careful hydropower project selection process and identify operating rules that avoid conflicts between facilities and among water users, including transboundary priorities. While this may reduce the pace of hydropower expansion, it will still allow for sizeable growth and will better match the growth in installed capacity with infrastructure improvements and demand.¹⁵⁶

^a Notably, the commitments made by Lao PDR at the Sanitation and Water for All High Level Meeting.

^b Standard methodologies are being developed, according to FAO.

105. Water safety and quality need increased attention and systematic monitoring. Water pollution from agricultural and industrial sectors, including mineral exploitation, is a growing problem, especially in the northern provinces, due to poor management by local administrations and concerned sectors. Groundwater is and will probably remain the main source of potential rural and small town water supply, especially in the areas located far from surface water sources. The water is not routinely tested, although arsenic contamination is a significant problem in some areas.

106. Poor hygiene and sanitation continue to pose challenges, especially in rural areas. Tackling these challenges will require dedicated funding, a sanitation monitoring system and behaviour change interventions to stop open defecation. Urban sanitation is also poor, with inadequate drainage and sewerage systems, and untreated effluent from households and industries running into low-lying areas, posing a threat to public health and the environment. Lack of access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and lack of hygiene awareness has a negative impact on girls' education, girls' and women's sexual and reproductive health, and dignity. Lack of adequate facilities and materials for menstrual hygiene has been linked to absenteeism and even drop-out of girls from school. Menstruation is a taboo subject creating stigma, shame, and silence among young girls, which often continues into adulthood and perpetuates the cycle of gender inequality.

6 CLEAN WATER & SANITATION



Lao PDR has made impressive achievements in safe water & sanitation



In households without water, 79% of water collectors are women



Sanitation coverage in rural areas in 2015

60% behind urban sanitation



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015, Joint Monitoring Programme of UNICEF/WHO 2015

SDG7

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



SDG 7. Ensuring sustainable energy access

Localization and monitoring issues

107. **Data on electricity access and household energy sources may be derived from administrative systems and surveys or census.** Energy access is measured by the electrification ratio and by the use of clean fuels and technology.^a The electrification ratio is available from administrative data systems in the Ministry of Energy and Mines and from census /survey data, although the latter has to be recalculated by population instead of households. The second indicator, the proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology, is obtained only from census or survey data on the use of firewood, charcoal and electricity at household level.

108. **SDG 7 also uses international estimates calculated from the Government's energy balance statistics.** Renewable energy share and energy intensity are calculated from national energy balances and statistics produced by the Ministry of Energy and Mines. The International Energy Agency recalculates the renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption, and the primary energy intensity to produce internationally comparable statistics.¹⁵⁷ Primary energy intensity is obtained by dividing total primary energy supply over gross domestic product, which indicates how much energy is used to produce one unit of economic output. It therefore indicates the efficiency with which an economy is able to use energy to produce economic output. A lower ratio indicates that less energy is used to produce one unit of output.

Development issues and challenges

109. **Meeting domestic demand for energy is one of the national priorities.** Domestic demand for electricity is expected to increase rapidly, reflecting the government's policy on the acceleration of rural electrification and industrial development. The planned expansion of mining activities, cement production, and special economic zones are expected to lead to a four- to six-fold increase in domestic demand for energy. Since the supply sources are largely in the north and south, while the growth in demand will be most rapid in the central region, heavy investment in transmission and distribution systems will need to accompany major investments in power generation. All of this will require substantial increase in financial resources.¹⁵⁸

110. **Optimal development of hydropower resources will require harnessing the potential on a sustainable basis and addressing the associated challenges.** This means retaining ample electricity for rural electrification and using revenues generated from electricity exports to decrease the dependence on natural resource-intensive sectors. The challenges associated with large hydropower projects will need to be addressed, by properly assessing and minimizing negative social and environmental impacts, balancing domestic consumption needs and export opportunities, optimizing trade-offs between short-term benefits (such as dividends from independent power producers) and longer-term benefits (e.g., unified transmission network with interconnection to GMS countries), and mobilizing and managing financial resources in a manner that avoids damage to other components of the economy, such as exchange rate effects on agriculture and other exports.¹⁵⁹

^a Non-solid fuels are generally defined as clean fuels.

111. Addressing the above issues will require institutional strengthening in the energy sector. Planning for the sector will need to go beyond the development of the Lao PDR's hydropower export potential, to the efficient utilization and development of all energy resources. Institutional strengthening is also needed to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency, in particular, to facilitate on-grid and off-grid electricity generation, plan and develop pricing policies, and establish procedures for streamlined review of private investment proposals. Furthermore, the capacity for energy demand-side management (DSM), energy auditing, and regulatory interventions needs to be strengthened.¹⁶⁰

7 AFFORDABLE & CLEAN ENERGY



Percentage of population with access to electricity



84%



Over 90% of the energy consumed
93% of the electricity produced

FROM

Renewable energy sources in 2014

Lao PDR aims to establish mini electricity grids (hydro/solar)



Mini grids target



Rural Communities



Schools & literacy centers



Agricultural Facilities



Health Centers



Tourism

Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; UN Energy Statistics 2014; S64ALL database, World Bank; Lao Population and Housing Census 2015



SDG8

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



SDG 8. Promoting inclusive economic growth and decent work

Localization and monitoring issues

112. **Data systems on employment are generally weak.** Most data are obtained from labour force surveys and censuses, since most workers are in the informal sector. The components of decent work are the quality of employment, and the universality or inclusiveness of the benefits. The quality of employment in Lao PDR is monitored by the average hourly earnings, unemployment rate and the share of own account workers and unpaid family workers in total employment. (The last is a proxy for the global indicator of the *proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment*.^a) However, this is not fully satisfactory and future surveys may need to revisit the definition of informal sector employment for Lao PDR.¹⁶¹ The inclusiveness of benefits is monitored by disaggregated data for these indicators, for example to see if women are receiving equal pay for equal work. Currently, however, disaggregation by sex and by disability status, as required by the SDG target, is not possible.

113. **Census or special surveys are required for collecting data on youth and on child labour.** Administrative systems lack age-disaggregated data and data on informal sector employment, although MoES records can provide estimates of youth who are not in education or training (however, there is no corresponding figures for employment). Child labour data is only available from special surveys. The definition of child labour in Lao PDR does not exactly correspond to international definitions. Lao PDR defines and measures separately the proportion of children in prohibited hazardous occupations and tasks by sex and age.

114. **Financial services access indicators are best monitored by the Bank of Lao (BoL) through its existing administrative systems.** While the 2014 FinScope survey¹⁶² collected comprehensive data on this target, such surveys are not annual, since future funding cannot be guaranteed. The BoL should be used for regular reporting while survey data, if relevant and available, can be used to complement the analysis. The localized indicator includes access to automated teller machines (ATMs), bank branches, service units and microfinance institutions, as recommended by BoL.^b

115. **Lao PDR has the capacity to monitor other SDG 8 indicators with administrative systems; however, such systems need strengthening.** Indicators 8.a.1 and 8.a.2 are tracked by the MoIC (mean number of days to clear imports and the number of days to obtain an operating license). Indicator 8.b.1 will require the MoF and MoLSW to agree on the definition of social protection and employment expenditure and to set up administrative systems to monitor this regularly. Systems for monitoring occupational safety and health need to be built up. The MoLSW's systems have data on the number of cases of occupational injury but not frequency rates.¹⁶³ Initially, therefore the MoLSW will only be able to monitor the number of cases of fatal and non-fatal occupational injury reported during the reference year, in collaboration with the MoH. Given the large share of informal sector workers, underreporting is likely.

^a In Lao PDR, non-agriculture employment accounted for only 30 per cent of the overall employment in 2010.

^b The original SDG indicator is limited to "Number of commercial bank branches and automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults"

116. Sustainable tourism is measured through a proxy indicator, as the system for national accounts is not yet fully developed. The NSEDP prioritizes green growth, including revenue from the tourism sector. The globally recommended SDG indicators are tourism direct GDP and number of jobs in tourism industries. In 2015, the ADB reported that tourism's direct contribution to gross domestic product was 4.6% for Lao PDR, while tourism direct employment was reported as 122,900 with a 50% share of women in such jobs.¹⁶⁴ The government has opted to use the revenue from tourism as a proxy indicator. The ongoing support from development partners to strengthen the national accounts system will need to address SDG and NSEDP reporting needs.

Development issues and challenges

117. Lao PDR's growth pattern is resource intensive, without a commensurate number of decent work opportunities. Competitiveness outside of natural resources is low. Agriculture, where two thirds of the labour force is engaged, grew at 3.7 per cent on average in the past decade, just slightly faster than the growth in hours worked and mainly driven by an increase in acreage, rather than productivity.¹⁶⁵

118. Training and skills development of the labour force is a priority, especially for those engaged in subsistence agriculture or in the informal sector. The informal workforce remains the backbone of the Lao economy. Improved skills and knowledge would contribute towards increasing the value of their work.¹⁶⁶ Training small-holder farmers on organic production methods and Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS)^a can provide valuable skills to expand economic opportunities, vitalize enterprises and businesses related to organic products, and help them cope with challenges posed by the rise of regional and global competition. Policy support is required for scaling up TVET programmes and strengthening linkages with the private sector, such as programmes that provide skills training for SME workers as interns or apprentices in a given enterprise. Such partnerships will require guidelines and legislation, including on institutional agreements and apprenticeship practices.¹⁶⁷ For Lao to fully benefit from its entry into the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), TVET programmes also need to improve the employability of Lao workers in higher-wage jobs.

119. Resettled, landless and remote rural communities will require support in skills development, training, and access to credit. The resettlement of rural communities may be related to the granting of land concessions for development projects, or to policies to curb shifting cultivation and improve livelihood opportunities. Moreover, most jobs in the non-farm economic enterprises sector require fluency in Lao, which small ethnic groups may not have. Groups who remain in their remote rural communities will need to have a stake in the sustainable management and use of forests, including the production, processing and marketing non-timber forest products.¹⁶⁸

^a Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS), more commonly known as eco-labels, are sustainability metrics which ensure that products are manufactured and produced in a more sustainable way.

120. **Capacity strengthening of the MoLSW is a priority.** Areas where support is required include labour market information and analysis, institutional data systems (especially to incorporate the data issues identified above) and the design and implementation of a social protection floor. The majority of the Lao population have no access to social protection. Only workers employed in the formal Lao economy (less than 20 per cent of the labour force) benefit from comprehensive social security coverage, while workers in the informal economy lack basic coverage in the event of income loss due to maternity, sickness, unemployment, work injury, disability, old age, or death of the income earner. Health insurance coverage is still quite low. Furthermore, a large proportion of the population in Lao PDR still lacks access to adequate social protection.¹⁶⁹

8 DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH



Per capita annual economic growth

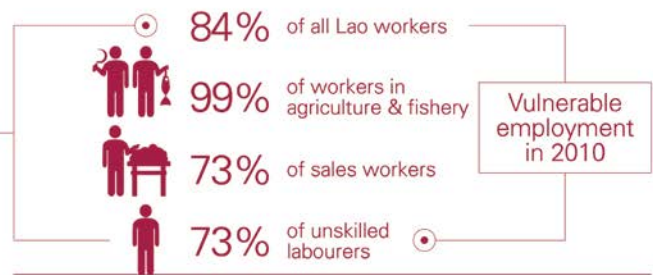
5.5%

1.7x of East Asia & Pacific growth
4.3x of global growth

in 2016

GDP annual growth rate
7%

70% of workers in agriculture & fishery



Travel & Tourism in Lao PDR, 2014

Total contribution to **14.7%** of GDP

Directly supported **129,500** jobs

Indirectly supported **396,000** jobs



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; World Bank; The Economic Impact of Travel & Tourism 2015: Laos, World Travel & Tourism Council

SDG9

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



SDG 9. Promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization

Localization and monitoring issues

121. **Lao PDR is able to track progress towards SDG 9 infrastructure targets with existing systems.** Road access is tracked through the country's NCRDPE, which counts only the villages that are accessible with all-weather roads, a standard higher than the global SDG indicator which specifies only that the population live within 2 km of an all-season road. Data on passenger and freight volumes is collected annually by the Ministry of Transport. ICT infrastructure is measured by the share of population covered by a mobile network.¹⁷⁰ The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications collects the data from internet service providers and can monitor the indicator using LSB population estimates.

122. **Monitoring ODA and other official flows to infrastructure will require agreement on definitions.** The indicator for Target 9 a was adapted to include both ODA and foreign direct investment (FDI) earmarked for infrastructure projects. However, the government will need to define the scope of "infrastructure" – whether it means ODA to Ministry of Public Works and Transport only, or whether it is a broader term, since in Lao PDR, there is no functional classification, but only sectoral budget allocation. The government also needs to decide on whether this would cover only on-budget ODA or all ODA to infrastructure, since much of the ODA goes outside the Government budget system, making it hard to monitor total inflows.

123. **The indicators for inclusive and sustainable industrialization requires special surveys and calculations.** The MoIC, with UNIDO support, is strengthening its capacity through a survey of manufacturing establishments, which is planned to be annual. The survey is expected to produce data on indicators 9.3.1 and 9.b.1, which should provide baseline data. However, the survey will need to be repeated by MoIC at agreed intervals for SDG reporting. Employment data in the informal sector needs to be collected by labour force surveys. Only international estimates are currently available for the indicator on CO₂ emission.¹⁷¹

Development issues and challenges

124. **Continued efforts are needed to further develop transport infrastructure.** Regional transport linkages have improved connectivity to neighbouring countries, leading to increased intraregional trade. Road transport accounts for nearly 90% of passengers, and some 81% of freight volumes.¹⁷² However, the length and quality of the road infrastructure is inadequate,¹⁷³ especially the roads in provincial districts and rural areas, affecting linkages between the domestic and regional road transport systems. Roads in urban areas need to be maintained and upgraded. Insufficient transport infrastructure and poor services hold back sustainable and more inclusive growth by discouraging private investment (e.g., in tourism) and by perpetuating the current patterns of imbalanced growth.¹⁷⁴

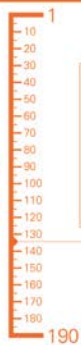
125. Outside of major cities, infrastructure improvements for services have not kept pace with demand. The reasons include funding and capacity constraints for construction and maintenance, low population density in rural areas, and limited decentralized planning.¹⁷⁵ Quality environmental infrastructure and services are needed to support the collection, treatment, and storage of solid waste and wastewater; availability of piped clean water supply; and access to reliable electricity in all municipalities. The telecommunication infrastructure also needs further development with the use of up-to-date technology.¹⁷⁶

126. SMEs are potentially the backbone of the non-resources private sector, but are hampered by skill shortages, lack of access to technology, finance and markets. Skill shortages are cited by businesses as the most serious constraint. Although company investments in training are significant, retention rates are low and skilled labour tends to migrate to neighbouring countries. Difficulty in accessing finance, especially for domestic companies, is cited as the second most serious constraint faced by the private sector. SMEs are also affected by a difficult business environment, despite improvements in recent years. Cross-border trade facilitation, including sanitary and phytosanitary measures, remains to be improved. Access to technology is especially required for the development of agro-industries and food industries. Finally, without addressing issues of product quality and productivity, SMEs will not be able to face increasing competition within ASEAN.¹⁷⁷

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION & INFRASTRUCTURE



Percentage of villages with all-season road access:
84.5%



139
out of
190

Lao PDR's rank in ease of doing business in 2016

Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; International Telecommunication Union; World Bank; National Committee on Poverty Reduction; Lao Labour Force Survey 2010

53% of population registered as mobile phone users in 2015

Manufacturing $\frac{1}{10}$ of the Lao economy

Agriculture $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Lao economy

7 out of 10 workers are in agriculture, forestry or fishing while

1 out of 10 workers is in manufacturing, construction or transportation

Low agricultural productivity

Rice sector problems:



Low-quality seeds



Limited technical skills & advice



Limited infrastructure



Limited resilience to climate variations



SDG10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



SDG 10. Reducing inequality

Localization and monitoring issues

127. **Systems are already in place to track the status of the left behind population, but the administrative data may need some retooling.** Consumption surveys (LECS) and administrative data from the NCRDPE Poverty Monitoring Programme can be used (see SDG 1). Both approaches are useful, but not comparable, and the NCRDPE approach may need revisiting to produce regular data on income for the SDG indicators.

128. **Lao PDR has localized the indicators for the target on financial regulation and monitoring.** The indicator will track the revision and enactment of four laws and related regulations in compliance with international standards. The Bank of Lao is undertaking this process, with World Bank support, on the following: i) Law on Bank of Lao PDR, ii) Law on Commercial Bank, iii) Securities Law and (iv) Payment System Law. The National Assembly has to approve the revision after which it has to promulgate the new Law.

129. **Other SDG 10 indicators face measurement challenges.** The impact of sound fiscal, wage and social protection policies is meant to be tracked through the labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers. However, the government noted that measuring social protection transfers would be a challenge. The adapted indicator therefore measures only the labour (wages) share of GDP. Another data gap relates to discrimination: it is currently not possible to measure the global indicator on the proportion of population who “personally felt discriminated against or harassed.” Reporting on migration (Targets 10.7 and 10.c) also faces data gaps (notably on recruitment costs borne by employees, yearly income earned in country of destination, and remittance costs).

Development issues and challenges

130. **Tracking the inclusiveness of growth in Lao PDR is crucial.** Lao PDR has a high GDP growth rates. Yet it is estimated that each per cent increase in GDP per capita contributed to a 0.4 per cent reduction in poverty in Lao PDR, less than that of some neighbours. Inequality has widened, with an increase in Gini coefficient and the gains for the bottom 40 per cent lower than those for the rest of the population.¹⁷⁸ The absence of a safety net and risk mitigation measures expose a large part of the population to the risk of falling into poverty. Households in agriculture are twice more likely than non-farm households to fall back into poverty due to their exposure to shocks from farm produce price fluctuations, loss of land and adverse weather. Health shocks and catastrophic out-of-pocket expenditures pose a significant risk due to fragmented health financing programs and limited health insurance coverage.¹⁷⁹ Lao PDR lacks comprehensive social transfer programmes for the most vulnerable segments of the Lao population.¹⁸⁰

131. **Non-monetary dimensions of deprivation add to the impact of poverty on vulnerable groups.** These include persistently high malnutrition, low female literacy and education, high rates of adolescent pregnancies, lack of access and uneven quality of basic services. The majority of working age people from these groups have incomplete primary education or no formal education, limiting their livelihood options.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Lao PDR's rapid economic growth has not sufficiently resulted in reduction of poverty



x4 faster poverty reduction in urban than in rural areas

From 2008 to 2013:

- ➔ 16% decline in poverty in whole country
- But poverty increased in Bokeo, Champassak and Saravane
- Widening development gap between urban and rural areas

23% national poverty rate



Factors influencing poverty rate



Ethnicity



Education



Geographic location



Gender

Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015

SDG11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



SDG 11. Making cities and settlements inclusive, safe and resilient

Localization and monitoring issues

132. Lao PDR lacks an official definition of inadequate housing although this is an MDG 7 indicator. The UN definition notes that this SDG indicator is the proportion of people living in households, which lack one or more of the following: durable housing, sufficient living space, easy access to safe water, access to adequate sanitation, and security of tenure. However, in Lao PDR, non-durable housing materials are culturally acceptable and should not be defined as “slum” or “inadequate.” In the Lao context, the 2013 MDG Progress Report defined “inadequate housing” as houses with any one of the following: unsafe water, inadequate sanitation, and earthen floor (or floor with “fundamental materials”). The same approach should be taken for SDG 11.

133. Protection of cultural and natural heritage is measured by the number of sites and state budget support to these sites. Lao PDR has more than 2,100 tourist sites, of which there are 1,200 ecotourism sites, over 600 cultural sites and almost 300 historical sites and two world heritage towns.¹⁸¹ Ecotourism sites will need to be measured separately from cultural and historical sites, as this was one of the green growth indicators adopted for the NSEDP. Moreover, the “state budget support” to these sites will need to be defined.

134. The national system for measuring disaster impact needs to be harmonized with international standards. Currently, government data and international data from EM-DAT are not the same.¹⁸² Additionally, the procedures for measuring direct economic losses need to be in line with international methodologies, such as Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA).^{a,183} The UN guidelines on this SDG define direct economic losses as agriculture loss, damage to industrial and commercial facilities, damage to housings and critical infrastructures. This group of indicators also include reporting on national and district disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework (see also targets 1.5 and 13.1).

135. Data for measuring progress towards sustainable cities is patchy. MoNRE can provide estimates on the coverage of waste collection services in cities; for recycling, this is possible only for Vientiane Capital (see SDG 12). It will be important to strengthen these systems and ensure the consistency of definitions. MoNRE can report on the air quality in selected cities (i.e., the annual mean levels of fine particulate matter), but only on PM10 and not on PM2.5, although both are required. The indicator should be weighted by population;¹⁸⁴ however, since air quality is measured only in certain cities, it may not be possible to do nationwide population weighting. Currently, Lao PDR cannot report on the global indicators related to sustainable transport systems, urban planning and management.

^a PDNA is a government-led exercise, with integrated support from the United Nations, the European Commission, the World Bank and other national and international actors.

Development issues and challenges

136. **Urbanization is acquiring increasing importance in Lao PDR.** While urbanization is still low compared to the global average, available information shows a significant rural-urban migration.¹⁸⁵ Lao PDR will need to invest in services and infrastructure that use design principles and technologies to develop sustainable and liveable cities. Setting the right policies and standards from the start will provide the opportunity to achieve good urban outcomes. As cities are also the places that lead the way in lifestyle and consumption, embarking on policies and practices to facilitate environmentally sustainable consumption would be beneficial for the country.

137. **Protection of heritage sites will require strengthened management controls to prevent degradation.** Tourism in protected areas needs to be properly managed to generate opportunities for local economic diversification, and raise public revenue for the preservation of assets. Key threats to natural heritage sites include weak enforcement of laws and regulations, development of extractive industries, expansion of commercial agriculture, and wildlife poaching. Cultural and historical sites will need more stringent use and enforcement of cultural heritage impact assessments as part of development planning, strengthened conservation planning, heritage education for residents and tourists, promotion of cultural industries, and reinvestment of taxes and fees into heritage conservation.¹⁸⁶

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES



Share of urban population
 $\frac{1}{3}$ of total population

Global average: 54%



4.5%

$\frac{2}{3}$

of population growth in
Vientiane Capital caused
by net migration

Urban
population
growth
2005-2015



In Vientiane Capital, provision of
basic urban amenities is lagging
behind population growth



Urban air pollution
2nd highest in ASEAN
countries

82% of urban population burn wood &
charcoal for cooking

High levels of fine particles in the air: 33.6 g/m³

To meet national targets,
investments needed until
2020

US\$ 19 m
for urban water supply

US\$ 12 m
for urban sanitation



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; WHO: World Health Statistics 2016; Hayes, G. Country Population Assessment: Lao PDR, Vientiane 2015, UNFPA; Lao PDR Census; UN-ESCAP & UN-Habitat: The State of Asian and Pacific Cities 2015



SDG12

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



SDG 12. Ensuring sustainable consumption and production

Localization and monitoring issues

138. **Most targets under SDG 12 still lack robust measurement systems.** UNEP will provide support to MoNRE to set up systems for measuring indicators such as the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), National Action Plan, material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP.¹⁸⁷ FAO will provide support in estimating post-harvest losses, but other food waste and food losses cannot be measured. Hazardous waste data is available only for Vientiane Capital. Similarly, the rate of recycling solid waste is available only for Vientiane Capital.

139. **Process indicators will track awareness-raising and education on sustainable development, and the development of sustainable tourism.** The process indicators are the development of primary and secondary curricula and teacher education programmes on sustainable development, the number of universities with sustainability campus plans, and the adoption and implementation of the Lao PDR Action Plan for Pakse Declaration (ASEAN Roadmap for Strategic Development of Ecotourism Clusters & Tourism Corridors).

Development issues and challenges

140. **The relative newness of SCP in Lao PDR^a means that effective policy and operational frameworks are lacking.** Lao PDR needs to formulate a national policy framework on SCP. SMEs will need to develop their human resources and skills to practise SCP. Both policy makers and the public will need to be made aware of SCP. Government entities and SMEs also information on and access to the best available technologies and environmental practices, technology innovations, and marketing and tools for new market development.¹⁸⁸

^a The SCP concept was introduced to Lao PDR in 2005 (Phonsavath, 2017).

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION









Waste collection services are incomplete:

Vientiane Capital	Luang Prabang	Savannakhet	Champasak
60%	60%	70%	42%



10% Estimated recycling rate of solid waste



-  46% organic
-  6% paper
-  10% plastic
-  8% glass
-  12% metal
-  21% other

Waste from Lao city dwellers

Waste

Each Lao city dweller produces **256 kg** of waste annually.



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; Hoornweg, D. & Bhada-Tata, P. What A Waste: A Global Review of Solid Waste Management. Washington DC, 2012 World Bank; Climate and Clean Air Coalition Municipal Solid Waste Initiative; Solid Waste Management City Profile: Vientiane Capital; Sang-Arun, J. & Pasomsouk, K. A guide for improving municipal solid waste management and promoting urban organic waste utilization in Lao PDR. Japan, 2012, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

SDG13 CLIMATE ACTION



SDG 13. Combat climate change and its impacts

Localization and monitoring issues

141. **The global indicators for SDG 13 do not adequately capture Target 13.1 on resilience and adaptive capacity.** Instead, these indicators cover the impact of disaster, and the establishment of disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies and plans of action.^a Lao PDR, therefore, needs to develop national and subnational DRR systems that are strong on resilience and adaptive capacity in relation to climate-related hazards and natural disasters. Its DRR strategies should also facilitate robust monitoring, with clear timelines and action points.

142. **Process indicators for Target 13.2 are meant to monitor the integration of climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.** The most recent climate change instrument is the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which Lao PDR submitted to the UNFCCC in 2015.¹⁸⁹ The NDC was the basis of Lao PDR's ratification of the Paris Agreement in 2016. The NDC lists five priority sectors for climate action – agriculture, forestry, health, water, transport/urban development. Lao PDR will report on the progress of its Intended NDC implementation, which also includes progress on previous commitments such as the 2009 National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)¹⁹⁰ and the National Strategy on Climate Change. Qualitative reviews will be required to assess the integration of mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into Lao PDR's education curricula at primary, secondary and tertiary level. The MoES, in cooperation with other ministries, will need to take stock of all the SDG issues that need to be integrated into education curricula (e.g., SDG target 13.3, SDG target 12.8 on sustainable development and lifestyles).

Development issues and challenges

143. **Climate change in Lao PDR is predicted to have severe impacts.** Studies indicate that Lao PDR will experience pronounced changes in rainfall and temperature patterns by 2050, with significant ramifications for ecosystems, and communities and the livelihoods that depend on them. The central and northern Annamites region of Lao PDR will experience some of the largest relative increases in precipitation that are projected for the Lower Mekong Basin. More precipitation during the traditional growing season will impact crops through increased flooding, waterlogging of soils, and higher incidence of fungal disease and pests. Large rainfall events (i.e., greater than 100 mm/day) will occur more frequently, triggering floods and landslides. The projected increase in both average and extreme temperatures is projected to have severe impacts on crops, livestock, fisheries, and human health.¹⁹¹

144. **Vulnerabilities due to climate change need to be addressed in every sector.** Regardless of the livelihood sector, successful adaptation will require flexibility and a diversity of approaches to adapt to shifting conditions. The poor will be most affected as they have least options to mitigate risks. Vulnerability towards climate change is high when a country like Laos depends on natural resources for its development, such as rain-fed rice cultivation and hydro-power generation.

^a The global indicators are 13.1.1: Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and 13.1.2. Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people

Secondary livelihood options need to be promoted in order for farmers and others likely to be affected by natural disaster induced by climate change. Adapting agriculture and livestock to climate change will require strategies that promote agricultural diversification and mixed farming systems and increase resilience. Lao PDR's capture fisheries in their current form are highly vulnerable to climate change and a shift towards aquaculture should be promoted (SDG 14).

145. Increased frequency of floods and droughts will bring greater health challenges. These include increased outbreaks of vector-borne infectious diseases. To enhance resilience, the public health system will require strengthening through improved surveillance and warning systems and enhanced infectious disease control programs (vaccines, vector control, case detection, and treatment), and better maintenance of infrastructure.¹⁹²

146. Reforestation, afforestation, improved forest management will continue to be priorities. Better managed forests and improved use of land help reduce vulnerability to climate change and advance both mitigation and adaptation objectives. On the other hand, climate change threatens forests by making forest fires, pest and disease infestations more likely and by generating extreme events such as increased precipitation and flooding. These cause slope instability and landslides. All these are exacerbated by the degradation of watersheds resulting from unsustainable practices such as illegal logging, slash-and-burn and shifting cultivation.

147. Lao PDR will also need to protect its water resources against the worst effect of climate change. Adaptation measures will need to be put in place, such as improved flood control facilities, protection and rehabilitation of existing irrigation and drainage systems, creation of multi-purpose reservoirs, dams and water-impounding systems, surveys of underground water sources in drought-prone areas; and development of integrated management plans for river basin and water catchment areas. Water sector institutions will require strengthening, and water management improved with strong monitoring and information systems as a basis for more efficient and equitable use of water resources in all sectors.¹⁹³

148. Governance, institutional and policy gaps need to be addressed. The mandate for disaster risk reduction and climate change is split between the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and this will require strong inter-ministerial coordination and promotion of a multi-sectoral approach. Clearly defined leaders for climate action and disaster risk management are needed at local and community level. Experience elsewhere shows that communities with strong local actors come through disasters better than those managed from the central level.¹⁹⁴

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Lao PDR is on track to phase out ozone-depleting substances

The use of these chemical agents has declined to near-zero in 2014



increase in extreme weather events, such as droughts & floods



11 big floods & storms

430,000

people affected in each major event

From 1990 to 2015

US\$ 560 million

total estimated damages

Greenhouse gas inventories 1990 - 2000

Greenhouse gas emissions x2

CO₂

CH₄

N₂O

due to logging & agriculture

Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT), Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Belgium

SDG14 LIFE BELOW WATER



SDG 14. Conserve and sustainably use aquatic resources

Localization and monitoring issues

149. **SDG 14 needs to be renamed and adapted to the Lao PDR context.** The global list of SDGs lacks freshwater resources as a separate goal, although freshwater resources form part of SDG 15. Lao PDR is a land-locked country, but certain targets under SDG 14 are relevant to freshwater resources. Lao PDR, therefore, has replaced the “oceans, seas and marine resources” in the original formulation of SDG 14 with “aquatic resources,” which means lakes, rivers and streams. Indicators for the three relevant targets under SDG 14 have been adapted for use by Lao PDR.

150. **The management of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels is a priority for Lao PDR.** The country is able to use the kilometres and numbers of fish conservation zones as a proxy indicator. The globally recommended indicator “*Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels*” cannot be used, as stock assessments of each stock are currently not available.^a It is also not feasible at present to monitor changes in total catch or catch rates.

151. **Combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing requires a national framework.** Lao PDR will need to develop and implement a national plan of action (NPOA) to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in line with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU). Milestones in the NPOA process could then be used to report on Lao PDR’s alignment with the IPOA-IUU.

Access for small-scale artisanal fishers to resources and markets can be monitored through the FAO’s Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF).¹⁹⁵ The three indicators related to small-scale fisheries (SSFs) are (i) the existence of instruments that specifically target or address the SSF sector, (ii) ongoing specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines, and (iii) the existence of mechanisms enabling small-scale fishers and fish workers to contribute to decision-making processes. These three indicators apply equally to marine and inland small-scale fisheries. These are part of an FAO survey on CCRF Implementation.

Development issues and challenges

152. **Lao PDR’s diverse freshwater ecosystem provides food and livelihood security.** The Lao population rely mainly on subsistence fisheries. Aquaculture is increasing but remains less important than capture fisheries for food security. The fisheries also support businesses, ranging from shops and food stalls for fishing families to boat builders and fishing gear suppliers.

153. **The country’s aquatic resources are facing threats on multiple fronts.** Developments that cause habitat degradation, water pollution or restrict migration affect fisheries. These include urban development, industrialization, deforestation, agricultural intensification, and dam construction. While large reservoirs may provide opportunities for new fisheries, the impact of large hydropower and irrigation projects need to be managed, for example, through rigorous

^a Stock assessments will require an examination of stock by stock to see if a stock is overfished.

environmental assessments, sound environmental management plans, appropriate construction with flow control regimes, and the provision of fish passage facilities.¹⁹⁶ Other threats arise from overfishing,¹⁹⁷ illegal fishing and the introduction of exotic species. Stringent controls are difficult to enforce, given the multitude of small fisheries and the strong reliance of the population on fishery.

154. In Lao PDR, community and co-management schemes for aquatic resources offer hope as some of these have been effective in conserving stocks. Community-based fisheries or co-management programmes have been supporting Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs), which are protected areas, usually in deep pools. Additional measures such as total allowable catch limits, transferable or non-transferable quotas, and economic incentives may be needed.

155. Inadequate information on the economic significance of the fisheries sector has undermined their importance and subsequent management. The fisheries value is estimated to be around 7 per cent of the country's GDP.¹⁹⁸ The importance of fisheries in Lao PDR requires more effective planning and management of the sector, which in turn requires better information on catches and aquaculture. Better information and data systems need to be developed.

156. Constraints to aquaculture need to be addressed to realize its full potential for commercial development and poverty alleviation. From a financial perspective, aquaculture compares well with alternative traditional enterprises such as rice and capture fishery, and new enterprises, such as fruit and coffee production. Aquaculture is constrained by the lack of good inputs (e.g., fish seed, supplemental feed and manures), lack of access to capital inputs including credit, poor access to technical information and extension services, and lack of awareness among farmers of the potential of aquaculture.¹⁹⁹

157. Fishing communities around lakes and reservoirs need public health education. Human liver fluke infection caused by *Opisthorchis viverrini*, a dangerous parasite found in fish, is endemic in Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, and central Vietnam and is a major public health problem among people living around reservoirs and other permanent still water bodies. The spread of these parasites is closely related to the traditional consumption of raw fish, and some fermented or dried fish products. Opisthorchiasis can have serious consequences.^{200, 201}

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Lao PDR's diverse freshwater ecosystem provides food & livelihood security



but is also under threat



34% volume of water in rivers and groundwater, per person from 1990 to 2014

Capture fisheries cover 1.2 million ha of water resources which constitutes 7% of GDP value



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; Phonvisay Singkham: An introduction to the Fisheries of Lao PDR, Mekong Development Series No. 6, Mekong River Commission, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 2013

SDG15

LIFE ON LAND



SDG 15. Protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity

Localization and monitoring issues

158. **Definitions are key in monitoring forest cover and sustainable management plans.** Lao PDR’s definition of forest set a higher standard for tree crown cover than does the international definition (Box 15.1).²⁰² Lao PDR will also need to define clear criteria for what is considered “sustainable management” of forests (Indicator 15.2.3). On the other hand, land degradation is measured through the Agricultural Census, which is supported by FAO and largely harmonized with international definitions.

159. **The data source for reporting on forest cover has changed, leading to a new coverage figure.** The new data source is now the forest cover maps being developed by the Department of Forestry of MAF in a five-year cycle. These are proposed to be the basis for reporting on efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+) as well as for the National Communications Reports to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Accordingly, forest coverage data is now different from that used in 2011, when forest cover was reported to be 40.3%,²⁰³ the figure used by the 2013 MDG Progress Report. Table 3 and Table 4 capture the changes made in forest coverage. The current forest area, according to the new data source and definitions, is 58% of the land area in Lao PDR.

Table 3. Forest and land use in Lao PDR

Land use type	Area	
	Million hectare	Per cent
Current forest area	13.4	58%
Potential forest area (<20 per cent canopy, including areas classified as regenerating vegetation)	6.2	27%
Other land uses (including agriculture, urban areas, etc.)	3.5	15%

Source: FIPD Forest cover map 2015 (supported through JICA F-REDD), presented at the 5th REL/TWG under the national REDD+ Task Force in Aug 2017. 5th REL/TWG under national REDD+ Task Force in Aug 2017

Table 4. Proportion of land covered by forest

Forest Categories	Total Area (million ha)	Forest cover (Forested area)		
		Million Hectare	Percentage within Category	Percentage of total land area
Protection Forest Area	7.98	4.62	57.9%	20.0%
Conservation Forest Area	4.66	3.47	74.4%	15.1%
Production Forest Area	3.10	2.14	69.2%	9.3%
Areas outside the above three forest categories	7.31	3.14	40.5%	13.6%
Plantation (included in the forest areas inside and outside the above three forest categories)	-	0.14		0.6%
Total, all land types	23.05 ^[a]	--	--	--
Total, forest cover		13.37		58.0% ^[b]
Source: FIPD Forest cover map 2015 (supported through JICA F-REDD), presented at the 5th REL/TWG under the national REDD+ Task Force in Aug 2017.				
^[a] The total land area lying within Lao PDR's internationally established boundaries is revised to 23.05 million hectares, as provided by the National Geographic Department, based on their remote sensing survey.				
^[b] The forest coverage of 58% includes 0.14 million hectare of forest plantation.				

160. Measurement approaches are a related issue. For target 15.2 on sustainable management of all types of forests, some development partners noted that an indicator on production forest certification may not be appropriate, since the government's 2012 ban on logging from production forests still holds. Development partners suggest that target 15.2 should be monitored using data on forest area change, above ground biomass stock, area designated for biodiversity conservation, forest management plans and independent certification of forest management. Nonetheless, the indicator on production forest certification is already an NSEDP indicator and has been retained. The proportion of land area covered by conservation forests is a well-accepted indicator for both targets 15.2 and 15.4. An indicator on net value of biodiversity offsets per year has been proposed for the government's consideration; however, consensus was not obtained among development partners on biodiversity offsets.

161. Monitoring systems to track SDG 15 are urgently required, given the importance of Lao PDR's forests and ecosystems. Currently information is hard to obtain, not always consistent, and dispersed throughout different reports. Forest coverage requires standardized approaches to measurement. Data availability influences the formulation of indicators, which is not always desirable. For example, Lao PDR cannot currently report on the SDG indicator 15.1.2 *Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas*, since not all "important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity" have been listed. This is, therefore, replaced by a proxy indicator on the percentage of land area covered by protected areas. Systems need to be set up for tracking ODA and public expenditure for forests, biodiversity and ecosystems. Assistance will be needed from UNODC on reporting on the trafficking of protected flora and fauna.

Box 15.1. Forest cover definitions

FAO's definition of forest

The FAO's definition of "Forest" is "Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use."

The definition includes areas with young trees that have not yet reached but which are expected to reach a canopy cover of at least 10 per cent and tree height of 5 meters or more. It also includes areas that are temporarily unstocked due to clear-cutting as part of a forest management practice or natural disasters, and which are expected to be regenerated within 5 years. Local conditions may, in exceptional cases, justify that a longer time frame is used. It includes abandoned shifting cultivation land with a regeneration of trees that have, or are expected to reach, a canopy cover of at least 10 per cent and tree height of at least 5 meters.

While some plantations are included (rubberwood, cork oak and Christmas tree plantations), and areas with bamboo and palms are included (provided that land use, height and canopy cover criteria are met), the definition excludes tree stands in agricultural production systems, such as fruit tree plantations, oil palm plantations, olive orchards and agroforestry systems when crops are grown under tree cover.

Lao PDR's definition of forest

Current Forest includes natural forests and plantation forests. It refers to land with a tree canopy cover of more than 20 per cent and an area of more than 0.5 hectare. The trees should be able to reach a minimum diameter breast height of 10 cm. The basis for the distinction between forest and other land use groups is the crown density. Oil palm plantations and bamboo forests, however, are not considered as forests.

Potential Forest is a previous forest area where the crown cover has been reduced below 20 per cent for one reason or another, such as logging or shifting cultivation. It includes regenerating vegetation (below) and bamboo.

Regenerating Vegetation are previously forested areas where the crown density has been reduced to less than 20 per cent because of logging, shifting cultivation or other reasons. If the area is left to grow undisturbed, it will become a forest again. Regenerating Vegetation include abandoned fallow and disturbed stands with a crown density less than 20 per cent.

Plantation Forests include all sustainable plantations, including young ones with a crown density less than 20 per cent. Rubber plantations are also classified as Plantation Forest. However, coffee, tea and shade-providing trees for coffee and tea, as well as fruit trees, are not classified as Plantation Forest.

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Presentation on forest/land use maps made in the 5th REL/Technical Working Group under the National REDD+ Task Force, August 2017

Development issues and challenges

162. Lao PDR has used its resources to advance growth; however, current practices may contribute to excessive resource use, which may undermine future growth prospects.

Deforestation rates were estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest as 0.26 per cent per annum between 2010 and 2015.²⁰⁴ The rate seems to have accelerated from that between 2005 and 2010, based on wall-to-wall maps of the Department of Forestry.^{205,206} Continued environmental degradation will negatively affect livelihoods, especially for the poor.

163. Despite progress, governance of the natural resource sectors still needs strengthening.

Reversing the process of deforestation and forest degradation, and reversing biodiversity loss are key priorities for Lao PDR. This would include ensuring stronger oversight arrangements over salvage logging, enforcing the ban on illegal timber trade, combating poaching and wildlife trafficking, and preventing illegal mining. At the same time, the capacity to manage forests needs to be strengthened.

15 LIFE ON LAND



Lao PDR 's economy is driven by forestry, agriculture, hydropower & minerals



50% of national wealth

The number of species threatened with extinction

115 in 2008  209 in 2017

2012: 9.5 million hectares

49% in 1982  40% in 2012

Forest cover

Lao PDR aims to achieve 70% forest cover by 2020

14.3% of the country are National Protected Areas

29% of all rural villages } report land degradation
37% of upland rural villages }



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; IUCN Red List, 2017; Lao Census of Agriculture 2010/11

SDG16

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



SDG 16. Promoting justice, safe and peaceful societies

Localization and monitoring issues

164. **Administrative systems for SDG 16 indicators need strengthening to produce regular and robust reports.** These are the indicators on homicide victims (16.1.1), human trafficking (16.2.3), the handling of cases by the Ministry of Justice and the People's Supreme Court (16.3.1), transparency in budget planning and execution (16.6.1 – 16.6.5), the composition of public sector employees (by gender and ethnicity, 16.7.1 and 16.7.2), and birth registration (16.9.1). In the case of trafficking, specific technical support is needed to apply the standards and methodology developed by the UNODC to measure the detected victims of trafficking in persons per 100,000 population. The methodology to measure undetected victims of trafficking in persons is still under development.

165. **The group of indicators on violence and abuse against children require specially designed surveys at periodic intervals.** Such surveys cannot be integrated with normal household surveys as a special methodology has to be applied to protect the safety and confidentiality of respondents and ensure that practices and protections are ethically sound and in line with WHO guidelines on safety and ethics in studies of violence against women.²⁰⁷ Several precautions are used to ensure privacy. A survey response plan has to be put in place to provide services for respondents who need and want help for past or current experiences of violence.²⁰⁸

166. **Some SDG indicators have not been included, due to lack of data or lack of consensus on the indicator.** For example, the methodology for indicators on illicit financial flows is still being developed. Indicators related to Target 16.5 on corruption and bribery have been dropped. The first indicator (*percentage of persons who had paid a bribe or were asked for a bribe*) could not realistically be measured. The second indicator on bribery incidence has been measured through the World Bank's Enterprise Survey.²⁰⁹ However, there was no consensus on this indicator. There was also no consensus on the indicators related to public access to information and fundamental freedoms, as Lao PDR does not have an "access to information" law. Other indicators were deemed too difficult to measure.

Development issues and challenges

167. **Engaging local administrations in systematic measurement efforts is critical.** The effectiveness of monitoring the SDGs depends on a wide range of issues relating to local-specific contexts and challenges. These challenges require the government and local administrations to develop local SDGs monitoring initiatives that will enable them to identify gaps and improve service delivery to accelerate progress on off-track SDGs.

168. **The greater openness of borders poses both opportunities and challenges for realizing SDG 16.** Increased and affordable access to regular migration channels protects migrant workers, while reducing exploitation and trafficking. However, without effective law enforcement and protection mechanisms, the greater openness brought about by the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) will have a negative impact. Looser customs and border control procedures could lead to a

rise in illegal trade, trafficking and crime. Increased connectivity is beneficial for trade and economic growth, but it also opens the way for transnational crime syndicates. More than ever, Lao PDR's close collaboration with other countries will need to continue within regional frameworks, such as the ASEAN Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the ASEAN Convention Against Trafficking in Persons.

169. Corruption impedes the economy from becoming more competitive. Corruption is not inevitable. Lao PDR has publicly committed to tackling corruption in its statement at the Universal Periodic Review.²¹⁰ In 2016, Lao PDR ranked 123 out of 176 countries and territories, with a score of 30 (zero being highly corrupt and 100 very clean) in the Corruption Perception Index calculated by the international NGO Transparency International. This is an improvement from the past two years.²¹¹

170. Poorly managed tourism growth may lead to exploitation of children. Increasing numbers of children in Southeast Asia are sexually exploited by local and foreign visitors who make use of facilities developed for tourism to gain access to children.²¹² In Lao PDR, the government is already working to address these risks through collaboration between the Lao National Tourism Administration and the police (Ministry of Public Security). Addressing sexual exploitation of children by tourists requires specific efforts to (i) educate visitors and industry stakeholders about the factors that make children susceptible to abuse, (ii) strengthen legal frameworks to allow increased criminal prosecution of traveling sex offenders in tourist destinations and countries of origin, (iii) improve the cooperation with international law enforcement agencies, and (iv) promote tourism products and services that align with child-safe tourism principles.²¹³

171. Addressing child trafficking and exploitation needs to start with preventive measures at community level, backed by government services. These include awareness raising and education of vulnerable communities, since many trafficking rings often recruit familiar persons to persuade the child to leave home, initially voluntarily. It also requires community focal points and professional social services who are able to identify children in risky situations and intervene as required. The Government's programme to produce qualified and trained professional social workers from tertiary education institutes^a will need to be backed up by laws and regulations to empower social workers with the budget, competencies and legal authority to intervene at community and household level. Universal coverage of services providing birth registration and other identification documents will be required.

172. Steady progress has been made towards establishing rule of law, but significant challenges remain. These include insufficiencies in the number and capacity of judicial professionals in the country, the weak implementation and enforcement of laws, and the need to harmonize domestic legislation with international obligations.²¹⁴ The expansion of legal services is constrained by human and financial factors, such as the costs of running legal aid facilities, the low number of qualified lawyers and the limited understanding about access to justice among men and women.

^a In 2011, the National University of Lao PDR began offering a full four-year Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Work and started developing a para-professional social work training course.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS



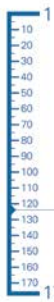
Lao PDR has publicly committed to tackling corruption



Low homicide rate (7 in 100,000)

in 2012-2014, 455 victims of trafficking were repatriated from Thailand to Lao PDR

4 out of 5 of these victims were under 18 years of age



123 out of 176

Lao PDR's rank in the Corruption Perception Index 2016

countries & territories
1 = very clean
176 = highly corrupt



75% of Lao children <5 years officially registered at birth

Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; Reply of Lao People's Democratic Republic to the list of issues (in relation to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography), Lao PDR, 2015; UNODC International Homicide Statistics database; UNICEF State of the World's Children 2016



SDG17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



SDG 17. Revitalizing partnerships

Localization and monitoring issues

173. **Indicators proposed for SDG 17 capture the crosscutting elements that can be currently monitored.** These include indicators on aid effectiveness and financing for development, workers' remittances, debt service, technology and statistical capacities. Clear official definitions are needed for some indicators, such as what counts as foreign direct investment (FDI) and south-south cooperation (SSC). Others will require adding questions to existing surveys. For example, the proportion of individuals using the Internet is an established indicator but can only be accurately gauged through surveys,²¹⁵ as internet subscriptions recorded by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication do not reflect internet use through mobile phones, especially among the young.

Development issues and challenges

174. **Funding predictability and sustainability remain a challenge.** Budget allocations and spending need to be adequate and guaranteed for core services such as provision of basic health and nutrition commodities, health outreach services, HIV/AIDS response interventions, UXO activities and important components of education and sanitation programmes. Currently some of these critical interventions are dependent on external funding.

175. **Tackling the measurement and data challenges identified in this report will be necessary to strengthen statistical capacities to track SDGs.** This will require close collaboration between LSB and all sectoral ministries. Among the gaps that have been identified are the lack of systematic disaggregation of data by gender and other characteristics relevant to the target and national context. Data disaggregated by gender is still not possible for a number of indicators and should be a priority. Disaggregation by disability status is lacking and a start needs to be made with relevant indicators, such as access to basic services. Other priorities include strengthening and expanding the coverage of the civil registration and vital statistics system and strengthening administrative information systems to be able to reliably track key service coverage and outcome indicators

17

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Official Development Assistance remains important for the development of Lao PDR



14% of total investment for 2012/13

10% of total investment for 2013/14

Development assistance

The Vientiane Declaration on Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, endorsed by the government and its development partners in 2015, ensures that all funds, efforts and knowledge for development bring about maximum impact.

Lao PDR in 2015

4%

Net official development assistance and official aid received as proportion of GDP

US\$ 73

Net official development assistance and official aid received per capita



SDG18 LIVES SAFE FROM UXO



SDG 18. Remove the UXO obstacle to national development

Localization and monitoring issues

176. **The National Regulatory Authority has adopted new indicators to reflect the shift to new UXO survey procedures.** The focus on hectares clearance has shifted to efficiency of clearance. The indicator on UXO casualties has been kept. Most of the new indicators are process indicators, on which data can be collected during implementation of procedures. Lao PDR has a Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database, but this needs to be linked to systems in other sectors to enable monitoring of income, health, education and employment status. The term “active-age” survivors will also need clear definition in SDG reporting. As the indicator is related to employment, Lao PDR could use the age of 15 years and above, as for Labour Force Surveys.

SDG 18: Development issues and challenges

177. **Long-term strategies will need to strengthen national capacities as well as provide institutional support to the UXO sector.** The new Lao PDR UXO Survey Procedures, adopted on 15 January 2015, have already contributed to greater efficiencies in the sector. Together with the system for prioritization of clearance tasks, announced at the 6th State Party Meeting,^a it is expected that these new procedures will accelerate clearance. The scale and scope of the issue lie well beyond the national capacity to cope, and support from development partners continues to be required.

178. **Resources are one of the constraints to expanding UXO clearance.**²¹⁶ Line Ministries and development partners are required to ensure UXO survey and clearance as necessary for all development projects they undertake in contaminated areas, and to build the cost into their budgets.²¹⁷ In 2015, the total costs of the UXO sector amounted to US\$ 37.77 million, of which the Government contribution was US\$ 4.82 million in kind.²¹⁸

179. **Substantial long-term support will be required for UXO survivors.** The UXO sector needs to be better integrated into social services, such as the health, education and social welfare systems and the disability programme. The Eighth NSEDP has made a start in this regard, with the UXO component within the national development framework. Even so, UXO continues to be a stand-alone area in practice. Protocols and procedures will need to be developed for the “mainstreaming” of UXO survivors into health, education and employment programmes. Longitudinal tracking systems are needed to ensure that UXO survivors receive the required support.

^a Statement by Lao PDR: Clearance and Risk Reduction Education. 6th Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, 5-7 September 2016, Geneva. <http://www.clusterconvention.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Lao-PDR-1.pdf>

18 LIVES SAFE FROM UXO



Lao PDR is one of the most heavily bombed nations in the world



Over **2,000,000** tonnes of ordnance/bombs dropped

From 1964 to 1973

In 2015

42 victims, including **19** children

80,000,000 bombs remain unexploded



Lao PDR's achievements on explosive remnants of war 2005 - 2015

85% reduction in casualties

460% removed UXO per hectare



Source: Lao PDR Country Analysis Report 2015; UXO annual report 2015, NRA

Conclusions

180. Lessons from MDG implementation will need to be incorporated into the planning and implementation of SDGs. While preceding sections have set out issues and challenges specific to each SDG, certain common elements are worth repeating here. Special efforts are still needed to reach vulnerable groups, given the widening disparities in more than one goal area. Service delivery outreach to such communities will need to be backed up by strengthening of local governance institutions, expanding community education and implementing measures to enhance participation from both men and women. Sectoral interventions will need to converge at local level, which will require both horizontal and vertical coordination in planning and implementation from central to village level. Cross-border programming is increasingly necessary for issues ranging from disease and crime to trade and environment. The reliance on external funding for outreach activities will need to be reduced over time.

181. Improvements need to be made in existing information systems to track the SDGs. Given the significant extent of convergence in focus areas of the MDGs, SDGs and the NSEDP, Lao PDR's existing systems and institutions monitoring the MDGs and NSEDP will continue to be useful and relevant for tracking the SDGs, but will need significant strengthening. Administrative data systems will need strengthening, more so in certain sectors, and will need to incorporate new indicators. Data disaggregation by sex, age group and disability status will need to be better implemented in administrative systems.

182. The planning of periodic surveys will need to address a number of issues. First, more sustainable sources of funding are required for surveys that are of national priority. Second, the surveys will need to incorporate new modules and indicators, especially for areas related to the non-formal sector. Third, in survey design, the government and the concerned development partner should continue and even scale-up the practice of adding other “piggy-back” modules and conducting oversampling in specific geographic areas where more detailed information or more data disaggregation is needed. This would enable specific partners who desire the extra information to participate in both the cost and design of the survey. Fourth, surveys will need to address the issue of standard definitions. At present, some household surveys collect data on indicators that are also collected by other surveys (e.g., data on access to water and sanitation and on employment and education status of household heads are collected by more than one survey in Lao PDR). However, data on the same indicator will not be comparable between different surveys unless the same definitions are used. Better coordination is needed among development partners supporting such surveys, and agreement needs to be reached on using the same definition across all surveys. One benefit is that the same indicators would be measured more frequently.

183. Five of the SDGs and their corresponding sectors have not been part of the usual MDG reporting (Table 5). In some cases, the ministry responsible for the SDG already has its own reporting system, such as that for electrification. Others will require significant external support to adapt their systems to new requirements for monitoring and reporting (such as on sustainable consumption and production). In some cases, special surveys may be required on a periodic basis.

184. **2018 will be a crucial year for national development planning and SDGs.** The Mid-Term Review of NSEDP is scheduled for 2018. This is also the year when results from a number of surveys become available. The VNR reporting process to the United Nations in 2018 provides an opportunity for Lao PDR to make validate baseline data and make the necessary adjustments in the SDG indicators and NSEDP indicators. The process should then inform the design of the next NSEDP and its monitoring framework.

Table 5. SDG areas previously monitored at country level as part of the MDGs

Sustainable Development Goals (Summary description)	Equivalent or overlapping MDG target
SDG 1 Ending poverty	MDG 1A
SDG 2 Achieving food security and improved nutrition	MDG 1C
SDG 3 Ensuring healthy lives and well-being	MDG 4A, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 6C
SDG 4 Ensuring inclusive and quality education	MDG 2A
SDG 5 Achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls	MDG 3A
SDG 6 Ensuring sustainable water and sanitation	MDG 7C
SDG 7 Ensuring sustainable energy access	
SDG 8 Promoting inclusive economic growth and decent work	MDG 1B
SDG 9 Promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization	
SDG 10 Reducing inequality	MDG 1A
SDG 11 Making cities and settlements inclusive, safe and resilient	MDG 7D but only at global level
SDG 12 Ensuring sustainable consumption and production	
SDG 13 Combat climate change and its impacts	MDG 7A
SDG 14 Conserve and sustainably use aquatic resources	MDG 7A
SDG 15 Protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity	MDG 7B
SDG 16 Promoting justice, safe and peaceful societies	
SDG 17 Revitalizing partnerships	MDG 8
SDG 18 Remove the UXO obstacle to national development	MDG 9 (Lao PDR only)

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACT: artemisinin combination therapy	MDG: Millennium Development Goal
ADB: Asian Development Bank	MoES: Ministry of Education and Sports
AEM: ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting	MoF: Ministry of Finance
ANAR: adjusted net attendance ratio	MoH: Ministry of Health
ANC1: antenatal care, one visit	MoHA: Ministry of Home Affairs
ANC4: antenatal care, four visits	MoIC: Ministry of Industry and Commerce
ASFR: Age-Specific Fertility Rate	MOICT: Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism
ASLO: Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes	MoJ: Ministry of Justice
ATIGA: ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement	MoLSW: Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
BEmONC: Basic Emergency Obstetric and newborn care	LDC: Least Developed Country
BoL: Bank of Lao People's Democratic Republic	LECS: Lao Expenditure & Consumption Survey
CCM: Convention on Cluster Munitions	LFS: Labour Force Survey
CCRF: Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries	LLIN: Long-lasting insecticidal net
CMPE: <i>Center</i> for malariology, parasitology, and entomology.	LNLS: Lao National Literacy Survey
CRVS: civil registration and vital statistics system	LSB: Lao Statistics Bureau
UN DESA: United Nations Department for Economic Social Affairs	LWU: Lao Women's Union
DHIS2: Ministry of Health's District Health Information System 2	MoNRE: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
DOTS: directly observed treatment, short-course	MPI: Ministry of Planning and Investment
DRR: disaster risk reduction	MPT: Ministry of Post and Telecommunication
ECD: Early childhood development	MPWT: Ministry of Public Works and Transport
EFA: Education for All	MSM: men having sex with men
EGMA: Early Grade Math Assessment	MSME: Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
EGRA: Early Grade Reading Assessment	NCAWMC: National Committee for the Advancement of Women, Mothers and Children
EMIS: Education management information system, Ministry of Education and Sports	NCCA: National Committee for the Control of AIDS
ETPR: employment to population ratio	NCDs: non-communicable diseases
FCZ: Fish Conservation Zones	NCHS: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA
FDI: Foreign direct investment	NCRDPE: National Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication
FIES: Food Insecurity Experience Scale	NDC: Nationally Determined Contribution
FIP: Forest Investment Programme	NER: net enrolment rate
FIPD: Forest Inventory and Planning Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	NHSR: National Health Statistics Report FY 2014 - 2015
FLEGT: Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade	NNS: National Nutrition Strategy
FSC: Forest Stewardship Council	NPAN: National Plan of Action on Nutrition
FSI: <i>Financial Soundness Indicators</i>	NPOA: National Plan of Action (NPOA) to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
FSW: female sex worker	NSEDP: National Socio-Economic Development Plan
GARP: Global AIDS Response Progress	NTD: neglected tropical diseases
GBD: Global Burden of Disease	PDNA: Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
GER: gross enrolment ratio	PLHIV: People living with HIV
Gg: Gigagram	PoU: prevalence of undernourishment
GHG: Greenhouse gas	
GHI: Global Hunger Index	

GIZ GmbH: Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Development Agency)	PWID: people who inject drugs
GLAAS: <i>UN-Water Global Analysis And Assessment Of Sanitation And Drinking-Water</i>	REL: <i>Forest Reference Emission Level</i>
GNI: Gross national income	RIES: Research Institute for Education Sciences, Ministry of Education and Sports,
GOL: Government of Lao PDR	RMNCH: Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Strategy
HCFC: hydro-chlorofluorocarbons	SEAMEO: Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization
IFRC: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	SSC: South-South Cooperation
IMSMA: Information Management System for Mine Action	SSF: small-scale fisheries
IPEC: International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour	STI: Sexually transmitted infections
IPOA-IUU: International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	TVET: Technical and vocational education and training
ISCO: International Standard Classification of Occupations	TWG: Technical Working Group
ITU: International Telecommunication Union	UHC: universal health coverage
IUCN: International Union for the Conservation of Nature	UNAIDS: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
JICA: Japan International Cooperation Agency	UNCDF: <i>United Nations Capital Development Fund</i>
JMP: Joint Monitoring Programme: UNICEF- WHO Joint Monitoring Programme	UNCTAD: <i>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</i>
LaoWEN: Lao Wildlife Enforcement Network	UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund
LCAAS: 2015 Lao Child Anthropometry Assessment Survey	UNIDO: <i>United Nations Industrial Development Organization</i>
M&E: monitoring and evaluation	UNODC: <i>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</i>
MAF: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	UXO: unexploded ordnance
	VNR: Voluntary National Review
	VSS: Voluntary Sustainability Standards

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Annex: MDG and SDG Tables

Table A1. Progress towards MDG Target 1A

Target 1A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day	1992	1997	2002/03	2007/08	2012/13	2015 Target
1.1. Proportion of population below national poverty line (%)	46.0	39.1	33.5	27.6	23.2	24
1.2. Poverty gap ratio (% of poverty line)	11.2	10.3	8.0	6.5	5.5	6
1.3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption (%)	1992/93 8.8	1997/98 7.7	2002/03 8.5	2007/08 7.9	2012/13 7.2	

Data sources:
Indicators 1.1 to 1.3: Lao Expenditure & Consumption Surveys, 1992/93, 1997/98, 2002/03, 2007/08, 2012/13 (LECS 1-5), Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB), Ministry of Planning & Investment (MPI).

Table A2. Progress towards MDG Target 1B

Target 1B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people	1995-2005	2005-2010	2010-2015	2015 Target	
1.4. Average annual growth rate of GDP per person employed (%)	3.8	5.9	5.4	–	
1.5. Employment-to-population ratio (%)	1995 84.9	2005 80.4	2010 77.7	2015 77.1	–
1.6. Proportion of employed people belonging to the two poorest quintiles (%)			2010 37	–	
1.7. Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment (%)	2005 91	2010 84	2015 80.5	–	

Data sources and notes:
Indicator 1.4: Labour Force Survey (LFS 2010), LSB. 1995, 2005 and 2015 Population and Housing Censuses, LSB. Following ILO recommendations, the methodology for calculating labour productivity growth is described in the 2013 MDG Progress Report.²¹⁹ In line with the 2010 Labour Force Survey, employment from the 2015 census is re-calculated for the age group 15 years and above.
Indicator 1.5: 2015 Population and Housing Census, LSB (recalculated). Labour Force Survey 2010, LSB. 1995 and 2005 Population and Housing Censuses, LSB.
Following the 2010 Labour Force Survey, employment from the 2015 census is re-calculated for the age group 15 years and above.
Indicator 1.6: Labour Force Survey 2010, LSB. This indicator is a proxy for the international MDG indicator “Proportion of employed people living below \$1 (PPP) per day” as consumption data for this indicator is not available at the time of this report.
Indicator 1.7: 2015 and 2005 Population and Housing Censuses. Labour Force Survey 2010, LSB.

Table A3. Progress towards MDG Target 1C

Target 1C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger							2015 target
	1993	1994	2000	2006	2011/12	2015	
1.8. Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age (%)							22
Calculated with NCHS standards	44	40	40	37	32		
Calculated with WHO standards	39.8	35.9	36.4	31.6	26.5	25.5	
	1993	1994	2000	2006	2011/12	2015	
1.9. Prevalence of stunting in children under-five years of age (%)							
Calculated with NCHS Standards:	48	47	41	40	38		
Calculated with WHO Standards:	53.6	52.9	48.2	47.6	44	35.6	34
		1990-92	2000-02	2005-07	2010-12	2014-16	
1.10. Percentage of undernourished population (%)		42.8	37.9	26.9	21.4	18.5	21.4
		1997/98	2002/03	2007/08	2012/13		
1.11. Proportion of population below food poverty line (%)		32.5	19.8	24.6	20.1		
Data sources and notes:							
Indicators 1.8 and 1.9: 2015 Lao Child Anthropometry Assessment Survey (LCAAS), MoH and LSB. 2011/12 Lao Social Indicators Survey, LSB. 2006 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, LSB.							
Indicator 1.9 now has a new 2020 target of 36% as per NNS/NPAN 2016-2020. The targets are national targets. The international MDG targets for 2015 would have been 39.8% for underweight and 26.8% for stunting (if calculated with WHO standards as half of 1993 values).							
Indicator 1.10: Calculated by FAO. ²²⁰							
Indicator 1.11. Lao Expenditure & Consumption Surveys (LECS 1-5), 1992/93, 1997/98, 2002/03, 2007/08, 2012/13, LSB.							

Table A4. Progress towards MDG Target 2A

Target 2A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling							2015 Target
	1992	1995	2000	2012	2014/15	2016	
2.1. Net enrolment ratio, primary education (%)	58.8	65.2	77.3	95.2	98.7	98.8	98
	1992	1998	2007	2009	2013	2014/15	
2.2. Gross enrolment ratio, secondary education (%)	20.6	29.6	44.1	45.7	50.5	64.6	
	1992	1998	2007	2009	2012	2014/15	
Lower secondary education	28.9	39.3	53.3	62.7	64.7	78	75
Upper secondary education	11.0	17.4	34.6	36.8	34.7	45.8	43
	1992	2000	2005	2009	2014/15	2016	
2.3. Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary (%)	47.7	52.3	62.0	68.4	78	79.6	95
	1995	2000	2001	2005	2011/12	2015	
2.4. Literacy rate (youth), 15-24 year-olds (%)	71.1	80.6	78.5	83.9			99
Total					73.1	92.5	
Women					68.7	90.5	
Men					77.4	94.4	

Data sources and notes:

Indicators 2.1 and 2.2: Ministry of Education and Sports, Education Management Information System (MoES-EMIS) and UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UNESCO-UIS). 2013 and 2014 data from National EFA 2015 Review Report.²²¹ 2016 value is from the Ministry of Education's Management Information System (EMIS). 2014/15 for Indicator 2.2 are from UNESCO recalculations of Ministry of Education data.

Indicator 2.3: MoES-EMIS.

Indicator 2.4: Lao Social Indicators Survey (LSIS 2011/12), Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB). Population and Housing Censuses, 1995, 2005 and 2015, LSB. Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS 2000), LSB. Lao National Literacy Survey (LNLS 2001), MoES.

For youth literacy, 1995, 2001, 2005 and 2015 values here are reported (self-declared) values, while 2000 and 2011/12 values are tested values. Older age groups have lower literacy rates: **the literacy rate of the country's total population 15 years and above was 84.7% in 2015 (Census).**

Table A5. Progress towards MDG Target 3A

Target 3A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015								2015 Target
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2012	2014	2015	
3.1. Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education enrolment								1.00
Primary	0.79	0.81	0.85	0.88	0.91	0.96	0.96	
	1998	2000	2005	2008	2012	2014	2015	
Lower Secondary	0.70	0.72	0.79	0.84	0.89	0.94	0.94	
Upper Secondary	0.67	0.67	0.71	0.78	0.83		0.90	
Tertiary	0.42	0.52	0.7	0.71	0.77		0.96	
		1995	2005	2006	2010			
3.2. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (%)		38	44		34			
	1990	1997	2000	2005	2012	2013	2015	30 ^a
3.3. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (%)	6.3	9.4	21.2	22.9	25.0		25.0	
Data sources and notes:								
Indicator 3.1: Ministry of Education & Sports, Education Management Information System (MoES-EMIS), UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UNESCO-UIS), and Education for All 2015 National Review Report. ²²²								
Indicator 3.2: Labour Force Survey (LFS 2010), Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB). Population and Housing Censuses, 1995 & 2005, LSB.								
Indicator 3.3: Inter-Parliamentary Union, based on reports from the National Assembly of Lao PDR.								
Target for 2020 set by the Lao National Action Plan for Gender Equality is 30%.								

^a 2020 target is 30% (Lao National Action Plan for Gender Equality, NCAWMC).

Table A6. Progress towards MDG Target 4A

Target 4A: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate							2015 Target
	1993	1997	2003	2007	2011	2015	
4.1. Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	170	150	131	106	79	86	70
	1993	1997	2003	2007	2011	2015	
4.2. Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	114	118	104	87	68	57	45
				2006	2012		
4.3.(a) Proportion of 1-year-old children immunized against measles (%) (survey)				33	55		90
	1997	2003	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
4.3.(b) Proportion of 1-year-old children immunized against measles (%) (administrative data)	67*	42*	72*	82*	87*	88*	76*
4.3.(c) Measles and rubella coverage among 9-12 months old children (%) (administrative data)					66.5*	80*	

Data sources and notes:
 * Asterisks indicate administrative data, which is not comparable with survey or census data.
 Indicators 4.1 and 4.2: Population and Housing Census 2015, Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB). The international 2015 targets for these indicators, calculated from a 1993 baseline and LSIS data are respectively 57 and 38 per thousand live births.
 Indicator 4.3. (a): Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, LSB.
 Indicator 4.3. (b): Ministry of Health data, as reported by WHO-UNICEF estimates.
 Indicator 4.3. (c): Ministry of Health National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014 -2015

Table A7. Progress towards MDG Targets 5A and 5B

Target 5A: Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio							2015 Target
5.1. Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)	1995	2000	2003	2005	2009	2015	260
	1994	2000	2005	2011/12	2012*	2014*	2015*
5.2. Proportion of births attended by trained health personnel (% of live births)	14	17	23	42	36*	51*	54*
Target 5B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health							2015 Target
5.3. Contraceptive prevalence rate among married women (%)	1990	1994	2000	2005	2011		55
(a) any method	13	20	32	38	50		
(b) modern methods			29	35	42		
5.4. Adolescent birth rate (per 1000), national		1992	1997	2005	2011	2015	90
Rural w/out road access		115	102	110	94	76	
Rural w/road access					137	121	
Urban					112	89	
	2000	2006	2011/12	2012	2013	2014	2015
5.5. Antenatal care coverage (% of live births)							
(a) at least one visit by trained health personnel (ANC1)	21	35	54	64*	68*	76*	91*
(b) at least four visits by trained health personnel (ANC4)						36*	52*
5.6. Unmet need for family planning (%)			2000	2005	2011		
			40	27	20		
Data sources and notes:							
* Asterisks indicate administrative data, which is not comparable with survey or census data.							
Indicator 5.1: Population and Housing Censuses, 1995, 2005, 2015. Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB) (for the seven year period preceding the survey). LSB. Lao Health Survey, 2003, LSB. Lao Reproductive Health Survey 2000, LSB. The 2015 target is from the 2013 MDG Progress Report. The Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) Strategy set the 2016 target for this indicator at 200 deaths per 100,000 live births.							
Indicator 5.2: Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, LSB (for the two-year period preceding the survey). Lao Reproductive Health Survey, 2000 & 2005, MoH & LSB. Lao Fertility and Birth Spacing Survey, 1994, MoH & LSB. Administrative data from Ministry of Health and National Health Statistics Report, 2014 -2015 for the years 2012, 2014, 2015. The 2016 target was set at 50% by the RMNCH Strategy. The definition of "Trained health personnel" does not include traditional birth attendants. The Ministry of Health and the UN adapted "skilled health workers" to "trained health workers" to fit the Lao PDR context at the MDG Report Workshop in Vientiane, 17 December 2012 (see 2013 MDG Progress Report).							
Indicator 5.3: Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, LSB. Lao Reproductive Health Survey, 2000 & 2005, MoH & LSB. Lao Fertility and Birth Spacing Survey, 1994, MoH & LSB. The 1990 value was cited at the Round Table Implementation Meeting in 2012. The contraceptive prevalence rate is measured by LSIS only among women who are currently married or in union.							
Indicator 5.4: Population and Housing Census 2015, LSB. Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, LSB. UN Statistical Division for earlier years. The RMNCH Strategy set a 2016 target of 90 births per 1,000 adolescent girls aged 15-19.							
Indicator 5.5: Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, LSB. Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2006, LSB. Lao Reproductive Health Survey, 2000 & 2005, MoH & LSB. Administrative data from Ministry of Health/ DHIS2 Core Indicators 2014 and National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014 -2015 for the years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. The RMNCH Strategy set the 2016 targets for Indicator 5.5 (a) at 60% and for indicator 5.6(b) at 44%.							
Indicator 5.6: Lao Social Indicators Survey 2011/12, LSB. Lao Reproductive Health Survey, 2000 & 2005, MoH & LSB. 2016 target set by RMNCH Strategy was 17%.							

Table A8. Progress towards MDG Targets 6A and 6B

Target 6A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS							2015 Target
	2010	2011	2012	2014			
6.1 (a) HIV prevalence in general population aged 15-49 years (%)	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.3			<1
	2000	2005	2009	2010	2012	2014/ 15	
6.1 (b) HIV prevalence in female sex workers (FSWs) aged 15-49 years (%)	0.03	1.83		1.4	1.20	1.4	<5
6.1 (c) HIV prevalence in men having sex with men (MSM) aged 15-49 years (%)	0.38	1.26		2.1	2.44	1.6	<5
	2000	2005		2010	2012	2014	
6.2. Condom use at last high-risk sex: Percentage of female sex workers aged 15-49 years reporting the use of a condom with their most recent client (%)	91.4	78		95	92.5	92.7	95
					2012		
6.3. Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS (%)							
Young women aged 15-24					24		
Young men aged 15-24					28		
Women aged 15-49					23		
Men aged 15-49					30		
Target 6B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it							2015 Target
	2005	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	
6.4.(a) Percentage of eligible adults and children currently receiving antiretroviral therapy (or) Percentage of adults and children with advanced HIV infection receiving ART (%)	40.8	50.8	55.4	58.2	60.6	54.8	>90
6.4.(b) Percentage of adults and children currently receiving ART among all adults and children living with HIV (%)						34	
Data sources and notes:							
Data was unavailable for some MDG indicators. The indicator on the ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years was dropped as AIDS orphans are less of an issue for Lao PDR compared to other types of orphans or abandoned children.							
Indicator 6.1. a) AEM Projection, Centre for HIV/AIDS/STI (CHAS), Ministry of Health (MoH), 2014.							
Indicators 6.1 b) and c) 2014/15 data as reported by the National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014-2015. Source for earlier data: Lao PDR Integrated Behavioural Biological Surveillance, MoH, for 6 programme provinces. Data constraints led to the modification of MDG indicator 6.1 "HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years," to HIV prevalence in the general population of reproductive age.							
Indicator 6.2. Lao PDR Integrated Behavioural Biological Surveillance, 2014, MoH, for 6 programme provinces. Due to data unavailability, Indicator 6.2 on condom use at last high-risk sex was limited to measurement among sex workers.							
Indicator 6.3. Lao Social Indicators Survey, 2011/12, LSB.							
Indicator 6.4 (a). 2005-2013 Source: Programme Report & Spectrum projection of country data, UNAIDS, up to 2013. 2014 and 2015 data from CHAS as reported by the National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014 -2015.							
The 2013 MDG progress report used the indicator "Percentage of eligible adults and children currently receiving ART." The eligibility is based on the 2010 recommendations by WHO, which raised the CD4 threshold from 200 to 350 cells per mm³, at which antiretroviral therapy was deemed necessary for adults. This indicator is therefore the same as "Percentage of adults and children with advanced HIV infection receiving ARV" reported by CHAS.							
Indicator 6.4 (b). Source: MoH, Global AIDS Response Progress Report, 2016.							
Since WHO has revised the eligibility criteria for ART administration, the indicator for HIV treatment is now redefined as "Percentage of adults and children currently receiving antiretroviral therapy among all adults and children living with HIV." The 2015 treatment coverage is lower since the denominator is larger.							

Table A9. Progress towards MDG Target 6C

Target 6C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases									2015 Target
	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2013	2014	2015	
6.5. Incidence and death rates associated with malaria									
6.5(a) Malaria incidence (per 1,000)	11.3	7.69	2.42	3.54	2.66	5.84	7.1	4.92	0.6
6.5(b) Death rate associated with malaria (per 100,000)	13.5	7.16	1.37	3.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.2
				2000	2006	2011	2012	2016	
6.6. Proportion of children under 5 (%):									
Sleeping under insecticide-treated bed net				18	41	81.2	-	74.3	90
Sleeping under any bed net				82	87	97.9	83		
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
6.7. Proportion of children under age 5 testing positive for malaria who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs (%)		98	95	93	92.7	97.2	97.6	99.2	
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2011	2013	2014	2015	
6.8. Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis (per 100,000)									
6.8(a) Tuberculosis incidence	492	403	330	270	213	197	190	189	240
6.8(b) Tuberculosis prevalence	1500	1200	900	700	540	488	462	461	750
6.8(c) Mortality due to tuberculosis	41	29	21	16	11	62	-	55	22.5
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2015	
6.9a Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected under directly observed treatment (DOTS) short course (%)	8.7	4.2	13	24	29	31	30	35	70
		1994	2000	2005	2007	2010	2014	2015	
6.9b Proportion of tuberculosis cases cured under directly observed treatment (DOTS) short course (%)		48	77	90	92	91	90	87	85

Data sources and notes:

Indicator 6.5. National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014 -2015, and Centre for Malariaology, Parasitology and Entomology, Ministry of Health (CMPE-MoH).

Indicator 6.6. Second Malaria Community Survey of Ethnic Minority Groups in Selected Areas in Lao PDR, CMPE-MoH, 2012 (Luangnamtha, Savannakhet, Saravan, Sekong and Attapeu, and covering 11 districts). National Bed Net Survey, December 2010, CMPE-MoH. Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS 2000 & 2006), LSB. 2016 data from Center for Malariaology, Parasitology, and Entomology (CPME) covers only 3 provinces (see text).

Surveys conducted by CMPE (2011 and 2012 data) are not comparable with MICS, since CPME surveys have a sampling design stratified according to the malaria risk and disease burden. New malaria data will be available in 2018.

Indicator 6.7. Malaria Information System (MIS), CMPE-MoH.

For treatment coverage, CPME counts only the cases treated with artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs) due to the rise in drug resistance of *P. falciparum* to chloroquine and the antifolates.

Indicator 6.8. National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014 -2015. WHO Global TB report 2013 and WHO country profile 2014 for earlier years.

Indicator 6.9 a and b: National Health Statistics Report, FY 2014 -2015 and National Tuberculosis Control, Ministry of Health, Lao PDR. The case detection rate (for TB all forms) was revised following the national TB survey (2010), which measured higher prevalence and incidence than estimated previously. Additionally, the MDG indicator was the case detection rate of smear microscopy positive pulmonary TB only, whereas WHO Global TB Programme is now reporting the case detection rate for all forms of TB.

Table A10. Progress towards MDG Targets 7A and 7B

Target 7A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources					2015 Target
Target 7B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss					
	1982	1992	2002	2012	
7.1. Proportion of land area covered by forest (%)	49.10	47.20	41.50	40	65
	1990		2000		
7.2(a) Net CO ₂ emissions in gigagram (Gg)	-104,570		+41,764		
7.2(b) CO ₂ emissions (Gg)	+10,291		+43,811		
7.2(c) CO ₂ emissions removal /sink (Gg)	-121,614		-2,047		
	1995	2003	2006	2010	2015
7.3. Consumption of ozone-depleting substances (in ozone-depleting potential-weighted metric tons)	43.3	23.1	19.4	2.5	2
				2011	
7.4. Number of fish conservation zones				197	
				2011	
7.5. Total freshwater withdrawal as a percentage of total renewable freshwater resources (%)				1.3	
			2008	2011	2016
7.6. Proportion of land area under protection (%):					
a) Conservation forests (national, provincial, district), of which:				20.18	
b) National Biodiversity Conservation Areas				15	
			2008		2016
7.7. Number of species threatened with extinction			115		215
Data sources and notes:					
Indicator 7.1. Data provided for the 2013 MDG Progress Report from the Department of Forest Resource Management, Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources (MoNRE). Target update (65%) was provided by JICA.					
Indicator 7.2. Lao PDR Second Communication Report (24 June 2013) and First Communication Report (2 November 2000), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - National Reports database.					
Indicator 7.3. UNEP Ozone Secretariat, based on country reports.					
Indicator 7.4. Department of Livestock and Fishery, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (MAF).					
Indicator 7.4, which is adapted to the Lao PDR context, replaces "Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits," as agreed by Government and UN representatives at the MDG Report workshop, 17 December 2012.					
Indicator 7.5. FAO estimate based on 2005 data. FAO (2012a) ²²³					
Indicator 7.6. MoNRE data for 2013 MDG Progress Report, and MONRE: Lao Environmental Outlook 2012. ²²⁴					
Indicator 7.6 replaces "Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected" as agreed by participants at the MDG Report workshop, 17 December 2012, to adapt to the Lao PDR context.					
Indicator 7.7. IUCN Red List, 2016 and 2008.					
The "number of species threatened with extinction" refers to the number known to be threatened within those species that have been assessed to date, but not the overall total number of threatened species for each group. "Threatened" refers to the species classified under the IUCN Red List categories of Vulnerable, Endangered, or Critically Endangered.					

Table A11. Progress towards MDG Targets 7C and 7D

Target 7C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation							2015 target
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2011	2015	
7.8. Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source (%)	28	39	45	57	70	76	80
		1995	2000	2005	2011	2015	
7.9. Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility (%)		17	26	45	57	71	60
Target 7D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers							
					2011		
7.10. Proportion of urban population living in inadequate housing (%)					20		
Data sources and notes:							
Indicator 7.8. Estimations by Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) of UNICEF and WHO, based on country reports. 2011 data from Lao Social Indicator Survey, 2011/12, LSB. Earlier data from the JMP.							
Indicator 7.9. Estimations by Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) of UNICEF and WHO, based on country reports. 2011 data from Lao Social Indicator Survey, 2011/12, LSB. Earlier data from the JMP.							
Indicator 7.10. Recalculated by LSB with data from Lao Social Indicator Survey, 2011/12, LSB. Indicator 7.10 was measured by the proportion of urban population living in households lacking one or more of the following: an improved drinking water source; improved sanitation facilities; a roof and proper flooring.							
Lao PDR's indicator 7.10 replaces the global indicator "Proportion of people living in slums."							

Table A12. Progress towards MDG Target 8A

Target 8A: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system						
	1996	2000	2005	2010	2012	2014
8.1. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from Lao PDR that were admitted free of duty for agricultural, clothing and textile products (%)	85.48	91.88	98.67	89.09	95.45	96.07
	1996	2000	2004	2010	2012	2014
8.2. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from Lao PDR that were admitted free of duty, all product categories (%)	83.82	90.20	97.39	84.01	94.47	93.83
	1996	2003	2004	2011	2012	2013
8.3. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products, textiles and clothing from Lao PDR (%)						
a) Most favoured nation tariff	23.80	22.59	7.24	7.06	7.19	7.17
	1996	2001	2004	2011	2012	2013
b) Preferential tariff	19.64	19.09	3.49	3.28	3.27	3.28
Data sources and notes:						
Indicators 8.1–8.3: UNCTAD database. http://www.mdg-trade.org/38.Table.aspx						
"Developed" countries, as defined by the data source, are Japan, Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and the European Union countries. The data source provides calculation details.						
Only selected indicators are shown here due to the unavailability of data updates, including data previously obtained from national sources.						

Table A13. Progress towards MDG Targets 8B and 8C

Target 8B/ 8C: Address the special needs of the least developed countries / landlocked developing countries						
	1995	2000	2005	2010-11	2011-12	2015
8.4 (a) Net official development assistance and official aid received, as proportion of GDP (%)	20.6	20.7	13.6	7.7	8.0	
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
8.4 (b) Net ODA receipts as proportion of GNI (%)		5.6	4.9	4.3	4.3	4.0
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
8.4 (c) Net ODA receipts per capita (current US\$)		63	63	64	71	72
Data sources and notes:						
Indicator 8.4(a) Data from the Government of Lao PDR (Aid Management Platform) for the 2013 MDG Progress Report.						
Indicators 8.4b and 8.4(c) Calculated from OECD development finance data. ²²⁵						
ODA receipts are total net ODA flows from DAC countries, multilateral organisations, and non-DAC countries that have available data. 2015 data is calculated with population obtained from 2015 Census						
Only selected indicators are shown here due to unavailability of data updates, including data previously obtained from national sources such as the Aid Management Platform.						

Table A14. Progress towards MDG Target 8D

Target 8D. Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term						
	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015
8.5. Total debt service as proportion of exports of goods, services and primary income (%)	8.60	6.14	7.99	17.61	13.04	10.851

Data source:
Indicator 8.5. World Bank International Debt Statistics.²²⁶

Table A15. Progress towards MDG Target 8F

Target 8F. In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications						
	1990	2000	2007	2008	2010	2015
8.6. Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 population	0.163	0.759	1.577	2.082	1.612	1.651
	2000	2007	2009	2010	2011	2015
8.7. Mobile cellular subscribers per 100 population	0.2	24.6	51.6	62.6	84	57
	2000	2003	2007	2008	2010	2015
8.8. Internet users per 100 population	0.1	0.3	1.6	3.55	7	18.2

Data sources and notes:
Indicators 8.6 and 8.8: International Telecommunication Union estimates.
ITU data on internet use underestimates internet use since internet use through mobile phones is not reflected. See SDG 17.
Indicator 8.7: Ministry of Post & Telecommunications report for the NSEDP. See SDG 17.

Table A16. Progress towards MDG Targets 9A, 9B and 9C

Target 9A: Ensure the complete clearance of UXO from priority / high value agricultural land by 2020								2015 Target
	1999	2007	2009	2011	2012	2013	2015	
9.1. Number of hectares released from UXO contamination (hectares per year)	581	2,557	7,834	6,034	6,040	6,927	4,522	20,000/ year
Target 9B: Reduce substantially the number of casualties as a result of UXO incidents								
	1999	2008	2010	2011	2012	2014	2015	
9.2. Number of casualties reported as result of UXO incidents (casualties per year)	257	302	119	99	56	45	42	<75
Target 9C: Ensure that the medical and rehabilitation needs of all UXO survivors are met in line with treaty obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munitions								
					2012	2013	2015	
9.3. Provision of proper assistance to UXO survivors: Percentage of UXO survivors having received immediate medical treatment (%)						NA		100%
Data source: Indicators 9.1 □ 9.3: National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action in Lao PDR.								

Table A17. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 1

SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
1.1. Extreme poverty	1.1.1. **% of population below the international poverty line (\$1.90 a day (2011 PPP) ²²⁷	2012/13	15.3	LSB/ World Bank recalculation, LECS ²²⁸
1.2. Poverty reduction	1.2.1. ***% of population living below the national poverty line	2012/13	23.2	LSB/LECS
	1.2.2. ***% families defined as poor by the National Committee on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication	2015	6.6	NCRDPE
1.3. Social protection systems & coverage	1.3.1. ***% population covered by National Social Security Fund	--	--	MoLSW
	1.3.2. ***% population covered by all social health protection schemes	2015	30.36	Published in NSEDP (see also 3.8.4)
	1.3.3. Population covered by all social protection schemes	--	--	Data not available, MoLSW
1.4. Equal rights to resources & services	1.4.1. ***% of population living in households with access to basic services: (selected indicators from SDGs 3, 6, 4, 7, 8)			See relevant SDGs.
	1.4.2. Ratio of bank accounts to adult population ^a			See Indicator 8.10.2. Accepted by BOL as formulated
	1.4.3. % of adults with secure tenure rights to land	--	--	MoNRE
1.5. Resilience & reduced vulnerability to shocks & disasters	1.5.1. *** Persons per 100,000 directly affected (dead, missing, homeless/displaced) by natural disasters	2015	738 per 100,000	EM-DAT ²²⁹ See 11.5.1 and 13.1.2. MoNRE to update
	1.5.2. Establishment of disaster risk reduction strategies at national and sub-national levels: National: Yes/No Provincial: Number of provinces with DRR strategies	2016	-- --	MoNRE will provide
	1.5.3. Enhanced early warning system and climate information system: Yes/No	2016	No	World Bank MoNRE/ MoLSW to confirm
	1.a. Resources to end poverty	1.a.1. *** General government expenditure on health % of total government expenditure % of GDP	2014 2014	3.443 0.943
	1.a.2. *** General government expenditure on education % of total government expenditure % of GDP	2014 2014	12.19 ^b 4.19	UNESCO MoES/MoF to update
	1.a.3. *** General government expenditure on social protection % of total government expenditure % of GDP	-- 2010	--- 1.74 ^c	ILO, 2014. ²³⁰ MOLSW/MoF to update

^a Replaces "Percentage of adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution"

^b Total general government expenditure on education as % of total general government expenditure on all sectors. It includes expenditure funded by transfers from international sources to government.

^c The percentage includes total public social protection expenditure and health expenditure (health is 1.22% of GDP for that year). Without health, public social expenditure is less than 1% of GDP.

Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²³¹ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.

Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.

Table A18. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 2

SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.					
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment	
2.1. Access to safe, nutritious & sufficient food all year round	2.1.1. *** Prevalence of undernourishment in the population (%)	2014-16	18.5	FAO ^a	
	2.1.2. *** Proportion of population consuming less than the minimum dietary energy requirements of 2100 kcal/person/day (under the Food Poverty Line defined by the Government)(%)	2012/13	20.1	LSB/LECS	
	2.1.3. Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) and the Food Consumption Score (%)		--	FIES will be available in LECS 2017/18	
2.2. End malnutrition, including child stunting, wasting & overweight	2.2.1. *** Prevalence of stunting ^b among children under 5 years of age (%)	2015 2011/12	35.6 44.2	LSB: 2015 data from Lao Child Anthropometry Assessment Survey.	
	2.2.1.a. Prevalence of stunting among under 2 year olds (for Lao PDR's commitment to SUN 1,000 days programme)	2011/12	42	2011/12 data from LSIS	
	2.2.2. *** Prevalence of wasting ^c among children under 5 (%)	2015 2011/12	9.6 5.9		
	2.2.3. *** Prevalence of overweight ^d among children under 5 (%)	2015 2011/12	2.5 2.0		
2.3. Agricultural productivity & incomes of small-scale food producers	2.3.1. Agricultural value added per worker ^e (USD)	2016	927.3	World Bank database, from its national accounts & FAO data ^f	
2.a. Investment to enhance agricultural productive capacity	2.a.1. *** Share of agricultural spending in GDP, where agriculture includes crops, livestock, fisheries, productive forestry, and hunting sectors (%)	2016	19.476 ^g	World Bank national accounts data	
	2.a.2. *** Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) disbursed to the agriculture sector (USD)	--	--	MPI/LSB	
Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework. ²³² ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.					
<u>Numbering system:</u> The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.					

^a FAO global reporting based on country data on food balance sheets.

^b Height for age <-2 standard deviations from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

^c Weight for height <-2 standard deviations from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

^d Weight for height >+2 standard deviations from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

^e Constant 2010 US\$, proxy indicator for overall agricultural productivity.

^f To be obtained from MPI and LSB, with National Accounts data & employment estimates from Census or Labour Force Survey

^g Agriculture, value added (% of GDP) includes forestry, hunting, and fishing, cultivation of crops and livestock production

Table A19. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 3

SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages					
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment	
3.1. Maternal mortality reduction	3.1.1. *** Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)	2015	206	LSB, Population and Housing Census 2015	
	3.1.2. *** Proportion of births attended by trained health personnel	2015	54	MoH, NHR 2014-15 administrative data	
3.2. Neonatal and under-5 mortality reduction	3.2.1. *** Under-five mortality rate (per thousand live births)	2015	86	LSB, Population and Housing Census 2015	
	3.2.2. Neonatal mortality rate (per thousand live births)	2011/12	32	LSB/ LSIS & MoH	
3.3. Fighting AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria & neglected tropical diseases, hepatitis, water-borne and other communicable diseases	3.3.1. *** Estimated number of new HIV infections ^a : Total Male Female	2015	800-1,000	MoH estimation for the National Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2020	
	3.3.2. *** % of people with diagnosed HIV receiving sustained ART	2015	47		
	3.3.3. *** Incidence of TB (all forms) per 100,000 population	2014	189	MoH, NHR 2014-15	
	3.3.4a. *** Malaria incidence rate per 1000, Lao PDR	2015	4.9	WHO (for all of Lao PDR)	
	3.3.4b. *** Malaria incidence rate per 1000 among the population living in areas where malaria transmission occurs	2015	--	This is the globally recommended indicator	
	3.3.5. Infants receiving three doses of hepatitis B vaccine (%)	2015	89	WHO ^b	
	3.4. Reduction of NCDs mortality and promotion of mental health	3.4.1. Probability of dying from any of the following cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease between age 30 and exact age 70 (%)		--	Global estimates available ^c
3.4.2. Suicide mortality rate, per 100,000 population			--	Global estimates available ^d	
3.5. Substance abuse prevention & treatment	3.5.1. Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol		--	Not an MoH indicator, as it is based on alcohol industry statistics by WHO ^e	
3.6. Reduction of road traffic deaths & injuries	3.6.1. Number of road traffic deaths a year per 100,000 population	2015	15.3	Ministry of Transport statistics and 2015 census data. ^f	
3.7. Sexual and reproductive health-care services	3.7.1. *** Percentage of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49) whose demand for contraception is satisfied with modern methods	2011/12	61.3	LSB/LSIS See Indicator 5.6.1.	
	3.7.2. *** Adolescent birth rate (aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group	2015	76	LSB/ Population & Housing Census 2015 ^g	
3.8. Universal health	3.8.1. Coverage of essential health services ²³³ :				

^a Needs recalculation. The internationally recommended indicator is number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population.

^b Available from: http://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring_surveillance/routine/coverage/en/index4.html

^c The World Health Statistics 2016 report by WHO estimates this to be 24.2% for 2000–2012

^d The World Health Statistics 2016 report by WHO estimates this to be 6.4 per 100,000 for 2000–2012

^e The WHO Global Information System on Alcohol and Health estimates this to be 7.5 litres per capita. Calculation methods are available from: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-03-05-02.pdf>

^f ASEAN Japan Transport Partnership Information Center. Statistics. Available from: <https://www.ajtpweb.org/ajtp/statistics/Laos/data/road-transport-of-lao-pdr.html>

^g Age-Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR): number of live births per 1000 women in a specific age group.

SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
coverage	Prevention:			
	** % Antenatal care coverage (at least 4 visits) (%)	2015	52	MoH, NHSR 2014-15 administrative data
	** % Measles & rubella (MR) coverage (%) among 9-12 months old children	2014/15	80	MoH, 2014-15 administrative data
	** Family planning coverage (Indicator 3.7.1),	2011/12	61.3	See relevant indicators.
	Non-use of tobacco (subtracted from Indicator 3.a.1),	2015	69	
	** Improved water source (Indicator 6.1.1),	2015	76	
	** Adequate sanitation (indicator 6.2.1).	2015	71	
	Treatment			
	** % of tuberculosis cases detected under DOTS	2015	35	MoH, NHSR 2014-15
	** % of tuberculosis cases cured under DOTS	2015	87	MoH, NHSR 2014-15
	** Skilled birth attendance (Indicator 3.1.2)%	2015	54	MoH, NHSR 2014-15
	** Antiretroviral therapy (Indicator 3.3.2)%	2015	47	MoH/ GARP
	3.8.2. *** Out of pocket health expenditure as % of total health expenditure	2014	38.98	WHO Global Health Expenditure database
	3.8.3. *** Out of pocket health expenditure per capita (USD)	2014	13	
3.8.4. *** % population covered by social health protection schemes (national health insurance scheme)	2015	30.36	NSEDP. See Indicator 1.3.2.	
3.9. Reduction of mortality/morbidity from hazardous chemicals, pollution & contamination	3.9.1. Deaths per year due to air pollution: Indoor Outdoor			Global estimations available. ^a
	3.9.2. Estimated deaths/year attributable to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (diarrhoea only)	2009	2300	WHO ^b
3.a. Implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control	3.a.1. Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 and above (%) Total/female/male	2015	31.3 T 8.8 F 54.6 M	WHO ^c
	3.a.2. Prevalence of current tobacco use among adolescents age 13-15 years (%) Female/male	2011	6 F 18.7 M	
3.b. Research & development of vaccines and medicines, access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	3.b.1. Percentage of health facilities with essential medicines available based on MoH essential drug list	--	--	MoH
	3.b.2. *** Total net official development assistance disbursed to the basic health sector	--	--	MoH/ MPI/MoF
	3.b.3. Total net official development assistance for health as % of total health expenditure	--	--	MoH/ MPI/MoF
3.c. Health financing and health workforce	3.c.1. Health workers per 1000 population, by urban/rural/ province/doctors/ nurses/ midwives	2014/15	2.87	NHSR 2014-15 (needs disaggregation)

Notes: ******* indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²³⁴ ****** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.
Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.

^a WHO's World Health Statistics 2016 estimates the mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution to be 107.6 per 100,000 population in 2012.

^b WHO, 2009 estimates: Country profile of Environmental Burden of Disease. Available from: http://www.who.int/quantifying_ehimpacts/national/countryprofile/laopeodemrep.pdf?ua=1

^c WHO, 2015. WHO global report on trends in prevalence of tobacco smoking 2015. Geneva

Table A20. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 4

SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
4.1. Completion of free, equitable & quality primary and secondary education, leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	*** 4.1.1. Proportion of students at each education level having achieved minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics, at end of: - primary - lower secondary	--	--	(To be measured by MoES learning assessment surveys of grades 5 and 9)
	4.1.2. Percentage of children age 6-16 years out of school: ^a total/ female / male(% of total age group)	2015	17.2 T 16.3 F 18.3 M	Census, 2015, table 7.2
	** 4.1.2.a Survival rate, primary (%)	2016	79.6	MoES-EMIS
	*** 4.1.3. Completion rate, primary education ²³⁵ (%) Total Female Male	2015	T 100.2 F 98.9 M 101.4	UNESCO/ UIS (MoES to update)
	*** 4.1.4. Completion rate, lower secondary education ²³⁶ (%) Total Female Male	2015	T 60.7 F 58.4 M 62.9	UNESCO/ UIS (MoES to update)
	*** 4.1.5. Completion rate, upper secondary education ²³⁷ (%) Total Female Male	2011/12	T 24.6 F 24.2 M 25	UNESCO/ UIS (MoES to update)
	4.2. Equal access to quality ECD, care & pre-primary education	*** 4.2.2. Gross enrolment ratio in pre-primary education(%) Total Female Male	2015	T 33.1 F 33.9 M 32.4
4.3. Equal access to affordable and quality technical, vocational & tertiary education, including university	4.3.1. ***Number of male/female students enrolled in vocational education & training: Total Female Male	2015	T 65,000 -- --	Draft NSEDP M&E Framework (MoES to update)
	4.3.2. ***Percentage of male/female graduates from Lower Secondary Upper Secondary enrolled in vocational education	2015	2.2. 56	Draft NSEDP M&E Framework (MoES to update)
4.4. Youth and adults with relevant skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship	** 4.4.1. Percentage of youth (15-24) having used the computer/ internet: (female/male) (%) Computer during last 12 months Internet during last 12 months	2011/12	F 13.9/ M 15.9 F 7.5/M 9.4	LSB/ LSIS
4.5. Elimination of gender disparities in education, equal access for all vulnerable groups, (disabilities, indigenous	*** 4.5.1. Female/Male Gender parity indices for enrolment (gross) Primary Lower Secondary Upper Secondary	2015	0.96 0.94 0.90	UNESCO/ UIS (MoES to update)

^a Those who never attended school plus those who are no longer attending school (dropouts). Numbers may be calculated from Table P2.1 in the 2015 census report.

SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
and children in vulnerable situations)	*** 4.5.2. Female/Male Gender parity indices for completion Primary, Lower Secondary Upper Secondary	2015	0.98 0.93 0.97	UNESCO/ UIS (MoES to update)
4.6. Youth and adult literacy and numeracy	*** 4.6.1. Percentage of adult (15+ years) population reporting ability to read and write (Total/Female/Male)	2015	T 84.7 F 79.4 M 90	LSB/Census (self-declared literacy rate only), not comparable with LSIS (tested literacy)
	*** 4.6.2. Percentage of youth 15-24 years old reporting ability to read and write (Total/Female/Male): Age 15 □ 19 years	2015	92.5/ 90.5/ 94.4 T 93.3/ F 91.7/M 94.8	
	Age 20 □ 24 years		T 91.6 F 89.2/ M 94	
4.a. Child-, disability- and gender-sensitive education facilities for safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments	4.a.1.1. % schools with access to safe and adequate handwashing water facilities based on national standards.	--	--	MoES with DP support ^a
	4.a.1.2. % schools with adequate sanitation facilities (toilets) segregated by sex	--	--	
	4.a.1.3. % schools with access to electricity	--	--	
	4.a.1.4. % of schools with access to computers for pedagogical purposes	--	--	
	4 a.1.5. % of primary schools that have WASH facilities meeting national standards	2015	53	MoES.
4.c. Increased supply of qualified teachers	4.c.1.1. % of teachers having completed teacher-education programme "trained teachers" ^b (Female/ Male) Primary Lower Secondary Upper Secondary	2015	F98.1/ M 98.7 F99.6/ M 99.4 F98.8/ M 99.2	.UNESCO/ UIS (MoES to update)
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²³⁸ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system</u>: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a Data not available on the following SDG indicators: % schools with hand washing facilities as per national standard, % schools with access to internet for pedagogical purposes, and % of schools with adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disability.

^b No data on "% Teachers Qualified" or on suggested "minimum required organized teacher training"

Table A21. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 5

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls					
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment	
5.1. Discrimination against women and girls ended	5.1.1. Whether national laws exist to promote gender equality and non-discrimination against women and girls	2017	--	To be assessed by NCAWMC, LWU,	
	5.1.2. Whether mechanisms are operational in 'enforcing and monitoring' the implementation of legal frameworks for each area of law.	2017	--	Women's Caucus in National Assembly in qualitative reviews	
5.2. Violence against women and girls in public and private spheres eliminated	** 5.2.1. Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older who report having been subject to physical or sexual violence (%)	2014		15.3	LSB/ NCAWMC: Lao National Survey on Women's Health and Life Experiences
	- by current/former intimate partner		20.2		
	- by partner or non-partner	2014	5.3		
5.3. All harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, eliminated	5.3.1. *** Adolescent pregnancy as % of total pregnancy				(Currently MoH does not collect this data. This is an NSEDP indicator)
	** 5.3.2 Percentage of women aged 15-49 who gave birth	2011/		3.6	LSB/LSIS
	By age 15	12		19.4	
	** % of women aged 20-24 years who gave birth			2.5	
	by age 15			18.2	
	** 5.3.3. % of women age 15-49 married before age 15 years	2011	9.3		LSB/LSIS
	** % of women age 20-49 married before age 18 years	/1 2	37.0		
	** % of women aged 20-24 years married by age 15		8.9		
married by age 18		35.4			
5.4. Unpaid care and domestic work recognized	5.4.1. *** Percentage of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work (Female/Male)	2012	F 28.6 M 4.9	LECS 2012/13	
5.5. Women's effective participation & leadership at all levels of decision-making	5.5.1. *** % women in National Assembly	2017	27.5	LWU	
	5.5.2. *** % of women in decision-making positions /leadership positions (political, economic and public life).	2012	5	MoHA	
5.6. Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	5.6.1. *** Percentage of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49) whose demand for contraception is satisfied with modern methods	2011 /12	61.3	LSB/LSIS. See Indicator 3.7.1.	
5.a. Equal rights/access to economic resources in accordance with national laws	5.a.1. The legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control			Qualitative review NCAWMC & LWU	
5.b Information and communications technology to promote women's empowerment	5.b.1. *** % of population registered as mobile phone users disaggregated by sex ^a	2015	Total 53.10 Female -- Male --	International Telecommunication Union ²³⁹ (sex disaggregation not available)	

^a The formulation used by ITU is % mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants.

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Selected Targets,
summarized

Localized SDG Indicators

Year

Available
value

Current source used
/comment

Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁴⁰ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.

Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.

Table A22. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 6

SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
6.1. Access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	***6.1.1. Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source (%) Total/ Rural/ Urban	2015	76/ 69/ 86	JMP (WHO & UNICEF) ²⁴¹
6.2. Access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all: open defecation ended.	***6.2.1. Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility (%) Total/ Rural/ Urban	2015	71/ 56 / 94	JMP (WHO & UNICEF)
	**6.2.2. Proportion of population practicing open defecation: Total/ Rural/ Urban	2015	23/ 37/ 1	JMP (WHO & UNICEF)
6.3. Improved water quality, reduced pollution and untreated wastewater.	6.3.1. % of urban population using water from sources with zero <i>e-coli</i>	--	--	MoH with WHO assistance (no data on rural water quality)
6.4. Water-use efficiency ^a and sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater	**6.4.1. Water stress: Freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	2005	1.3%	AQUASTAT ²⁴² (FAO to provide more recent data, if available)
6.a. International cooperation and capacity-building support to water- and sanitation sector	***6.a.1. Net official development assistance and official aid from all sources for the water & sanitation sector (million US\$): Total for sector:	2015	38.150503	OECD QWIDS database ²⁴³ (MPI to update)
	Water sector & resources	2015	21.955998	
	Sanitation & waste management)	2015	11.674827	
	For both water and sanitation (e.g., systems)	2015	4.519678	
	***Total expenditure for the water sector ^b 244	--	--	(MoNRE / MPWT/ MPI to provide. ^c A harmonized definition of "water sector" is needed.)
	***Total expenditure for the sanitation/ hygiene sector ^d	--	--	MoH / MPWT/ MPI to provide
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁴⁵ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system:</u> The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a FAO is developing a standardized methodology to measure percentage change in water use efficiency.

^b In 2012/13, the percentage of official donor capital commitments utilized in the water sector (three-year average) is estimated as 50–75%. (WHO, 2014)

^c The NSEDP includes an indicator on budget expenditure disaggregated by sector.

^d In 2012/13, the percentage of official donor capital commitments utilized in the sanitation sector (three-year average) is estimated as 50–75% (WHO, 2014)

Table A23. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 7

SDG 7: Ensure access too affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
7.1. Universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	**7.1.1. Percentage of population with access to electricity (rural/urban)	--	--	MEM & LSB (to recalculate by population) ^a
	**7.1.2. Percentage of households connected to the national electricity grid: Total Rural without road Rural with road Urban	2015	84	MEM LSB/ Census 2015
			37.3	
			82.2	
	2017	97 91		
7.1. Universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	**7.1.3. % of households using energy for cooking: Wood Charcoal Electricity ^b	2015	66.9	LSB/ Census 2015
			23.9	
			4.2	
7.2. Increased share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2.1. Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	2014	90.3	World Bank database (Ministry of Energy & Mines has agreed to report on this)
7.3. Improved energy efficiency	7.3.1. Energy intensity level of primary energy (ratio between energy supply and gross domestic product) (MJ/\$2011 PPP)	2014	2.302	
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁴⁶ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system</u>: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a For 2015, percentage of population needs to be recalculated, since census data on electricity access of households excludes the collective or institutional population, which accounts for 3% of population. Data on electricity access of this population is not available.

^b Replaces "Percentage of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology". Non-solid fuels are considered clean, while solid fuels are considered polluting and non-modern.

Table A24. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 8

SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
8.1. Sustained per capita economic growth (at least 7 % in LDCs).	8.1.1. ***Real GDP Growth Rate (annual %)	2015	7.35 ²⁴⁷	MPI
8.2. Increased economic productivity.	8.2.1. ***Growth in labour productivity (GDP/per person employed)(%)	2010-2015	5.4	Calculated from Labour Force Survey 2010 and Census 2015 following methodology recommended by ILO for MDG reporting in 2013 ²⁴⁸
8.3. Policies to support decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and MSMEs	8.3.1. ***Proportion of own-account workers and contributing family workers in total employment, by sex (%)	2015	T 80.5 F 86.3 M 75.0	For ages 15 and above. ^a Recalculated from census, tables P6.1 & P6.5
8.4. Improved resource efficiency in consumption and production.	8.4.1. Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP	--	--	MoNRE with UNEP assistance
	8.4.2. Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP	--	--	MoNRE with UNEP assistance
8.5. Full and productive employment and decent work for all, with equal pay for work of equal value	8.5.1. Average hourly earnings of employees ^b by sector	--	--	LSB/Labour Force Survey and MoLSW
	8.5.2. ***Unemployment rate (% of labour force), ages 15 and above: Total/Female/ Male	2015	T 2.0 F 2.0 M 2.0	Recalculated from 2015 Census ²⁴⁹
	**8.5.3. Share of employed persons in the informal sector, ²⁵⁰ ages 15 and above (Total/Female/ Male)	2015	T 80.5 F 86.3 M 75.0	2015 Census. ²⁵¹ This is only a proxy (see footnote)
8.6. Reduced proportion of youth not in employment, education or training	**8.6.1. Percentage of youth (aged 15-24) not in education, employment or training (%)	2015	Total 7.4 Female 7.3 Male 7.6	Calculated from census ²⁵²
8.7. Forced labour, human trafficking and child labour ended.	**8.7.1. Percentage of children aged 5-17 in employment ("Working Children"), Total/Female/ Male	2010	Total 15 Female 17 Male 13	"Working children" as defined by the Lao Child Labour Survey ²⁵³
	**8.7.2. Percentage of children aged 5-17 in hazardous labour	2010	Total 7.4 Female 8.2 Male 6.6	Child labour survey ^c
8.8. Labour rights and occupational safety	8.8.1. Number of cases of fatal and non-fatal occupational injury reported during the reference year ^d	--	--	MoLSW will provide.

^a Relevant employment indicators from the census have been recalculated for ages 15 years and above to ensure comparability with the 2010 Labour Force Survey.

^b "Employees" mean paid employees only, not own-account workers or employers. MoLSW notes that disaggregation by sex and disability status is currently not possible.

^c Definitions of child labour may need adjustment to harmonize with the education law approved in July 2015.

^d Proxy indicator for *Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries*, which is currently not available.

SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.					
8.9. Sustainable tourism creating jobs, and promoting local culture and products	8.9.1. Revenue from tourism (million US\$) ^a	2014	641.6	World Tourism Organization ²⁵⁴	
8.10. Expanded access to banking, insurance and financial services	8.10.1. ** Number per 100,000 population (age 15 and above) of:			BOL 2016 data ²⁵⁵ calculated with census population data 2015. LSB to provide 2016 population data	
	- Automated teller machines (ATMs)	2016	24.5		
	- Bank branches, service units & microfinance institutions ^b	2016	16.7		
	8.10.2. ** Percentage of adults (18 years & older) (Total/ Female/ Male):%				BoL □ LSB □ UNCDF–FinMark Trust: <i>FinScope Lao PDR 2014 Survey</i> (BOL to provide data for calculation with LSB population data.)
	- having a Savings Book/Savings account	2014	T 24		
	- having/used banked products/services offered by commercial or agricultural banks (“Banked adults”) ^c	2014	T36/F35/M36		
	- having used other formal non-bank products/services	2014	T11/F12/M10		
	8.10.3. Ratio of bank accounts to adult population	2015/16		BOL to provide data on # bank accounts	
8.a. Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries	8.a.1. Mean number of days to clear imports	2016	2 ²⁵⁶	Enterprise surveys, World Bank	
	8.a.2. Number of days to obtain an operating license	2016	16.3		
8.b. Global Jobs Pact of the ILO implemented	8.b.1. Total government spending in social protection and employment programmes as a percentage of the national budget and GDP	--	--	Ministry of Finance/MoLSW	
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁵⁷ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system:</u> The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>					

^a This is a proxy indicator for *Number of jobs in tourism industries as a proportion of total jobs and growth rate of jobs, by sex.*

^b The SDG indicator is “Number of commercial bank branches and automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults”

^c Excludes over-the-counter transfers (occasional usage)

Table A25. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 9

SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
9.1. Quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure with affordable and equitable access for all	9.1.1. ***Share of the rural population who live in villages with all-weather road access ^a	2015	84.5	NCRDPE
	**9.1.2. Passenger volumes (million passenger-km) ^b	2013 ²⁵⁹	2,740	Min Transport to update/provide. Current source: ADB ²⁶⁰
	- Road	2014	--	
	- Rail ²⁵⁸	2014	242	
	- Air	2014	80	
	**9.1.3. Freight/goods volumes (million ton-km) ^c :	2014	395	
	- Road	--	--	
	- Rail	2013	0.5	
	- Air		95	
	9.2. Inclusive and sustainable industrialization, increased industry's share in employment and GDP	9.2.1. ***Manufacturing value added:	2016	
- as a percentage of GDP (%)			8.785	
- as per capita ²⁶¹ (constant 2010 USD)			112.3	
9.2.2. ***Manufacturing employment as a percentage of total employment (%)		2010 2015	5.07 3.54	Labour Force Survey Census Table 9.6
9.3. Access of small-scale industries to financial services and integration into value chains and markets	9.3.1. Percentage share of small-scale industries in total industry value added	--	--	MoIC survey (ongoing) with UNIDO support
	9.3.2. Percentage of firms with a bank loan/line of credit	2016	12.4	Enterprise surveys, World Bank (MoIC to update)
9.4. Upgraded and sustainable industries, with increased resource-use efficiency and cleaner technologies.	9.4.1. CO ₂ emissions per unit of value added (kg per PPP \$ of GDP)	2013	0.067	Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee. ^d
9.a. Financial, technological and technical support to sustainable and resilient infrastructure	9.a.1. Total value of ODA and foreign direct investment (FDI) earmarked for infrastructure projects	--	--	MPI to define scope of infrastructure projects & provide data
9.b. Industrial diversification and value addition to commodities	9.b.1. Percentage of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added	--	--	MoIC survey (ongoing) with UNIDO support
9.c. Access to ICT and to the internet	9.c.1. Percentage of population covered by a mobile network, regardless of use, disaggregated by technology	--	--	MPT
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁶² ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system:</u> The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a Replaces Share of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road, to harmonize with the NCRDPE programme.

^b Passenger-km is the number of passengers transported (by road/rail/air/water) times the number of kilometres travelled

^c Million ton-km is volume of the goods (transported by road vehicles/railways/waterways), measured in millions of metric tons times kilometres travelled. Air freight is the volume of freight, express, and diplomatic bags carried on each flight stage (operation of an aircraft from take-off to its next landing), measured in metric tons times kilometres travelled.

^d World Bank statistics. Available from: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PP.GD>

Table A26. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 10

SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
10.1. Income growth of bottom 40 per cent	10.1.1. *** Mean annualized percentile growth rate in consumption, total population (%) ^a	2007/8–2012/13	1.7	LECS
	- Annualized growth rate of average consumption among the bottom 40 per cent of population		1.3	
10.2. Social, economic & political inclusion	10.2.1. Income share held by lowest 20%	2012/13	7.25	World Bank calculation from LSB/LECS
	10.2.2. *** % of households living below 50% of median income	--	--	NCRDPE to confirm
10.4. Fiscal, wage & social protection policies	10.4.1. Labour share of GDP, comprising wages ^b (%)	--	--	LSB/ National accounts data
10.5. Financial regulation & monitoring	10.5.1. Bank of Lao PDR laws and related regulations revised and enacted toward compliance with international standards: ^c	2016		Bank of Lao with World Bank support.
	• i) Law on Bank of Lao PDR		Started	
	• ii) Law on Commercial Bank		Started	
	• iii) Securities Law		--	
	• (iv) Payment System Law		--	
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁶³ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports. Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a The global SDG indicator formulation is *Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population.*

^b Replaces the global SDG indicator *Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers*, as MoLSW informs that data on social protection transfers is currently not available for reporting.

^c The SDG target 10.5 is meant to be tracked with *Financial Soundness Indicators (FSI)*. The World Bank and BOL developed the current formulation. BOL specifies that “*Revised*” means National Assembly approves the revision, while “*Enacted*” means the National Assembly promulgates the new Law.

Table A27. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 11

SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
11.1. Adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services	11.1.1. ** Proportion of urban population living in inadequate housing ^a	2011	20	Calculated by LSB from LSIS 2011/12 for the 2013 MDG Report.
11.4. Protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage	11.4.1. *** Number of national cultural (& historical) heritage sites	--	--	NSEDP/MOICT
	11.4.2. *** Number of natural tourist attraction sites/natural heritage sites	--	--	NSEDP/MOICT
	11.4.3. Number of UNESCO World Heritage sites	2017	2	UNESCO ²⁶⁴
	11.4.4. State Budget support to above sites: - amount - expenditure	-- --	-- --	MPI
11.5. Disaster impact (on people & economy) reduced.	11.5.1. *** Number of deaths/ missing/ persons directly affected by natural disasters per 100,000 people	2015	738 per 100,000	EM-DAT. See 1.5.1 and 13.1.2. (MoNRE to update)
11.6. Adverse per capita environmental impact of cities reduced, especially on air quality and waste management	11.6.1 Coverage of waste collection services (%) in urban areas ^{b265}	--	--	MoNRE to provide.
	11.6.3. Annual mean concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM 10) in selected cities (µg/m3): - PM10 - PM2.5	-- 2015	-- 32.6	MoNRE has data on PM10 only. PM2.5 data from GBD study as reported by the World Bank ²⁶⁶
	11b. Climate-friendly and resilient cities and settlements	11.b.1. % of district governments with local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with Sendai Framework 11.b.2. Establishment of national disaster risk reduction strategy and plan, including local disaster risk reduction strategies and plans of action	-- --	-- --
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁶⁷ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports. <u>Numbering system:</u> The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a The UN notes that this SDG indicator is the proportion of people living in households, which lack one or more of the following: durable housing, sufficient living space, easy access to safe water, access to adequate sanitation, and security of tenure. However, in Lao PDR, some non-durable housing materials are culturally acceptable and cannot be defined as slums. LSB will, therefore, need to define "inadequate housing." In the 2013 MDG report, inadequate housing in the urban context was defined as a house that lacks one or more of the following: an improved drinking water source, improved sanitation facilities, a roof and proper flooring (e.g., an earthen floor is considered as lack of proper flooring).

^b The SDG indicator is *Percentage of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge with regard to the total waste generated by the city.*

Table A28. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 12

SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
12.1. 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns implemented	12.1.1 Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) National Action Plan adopted or mainstreamed into national policies	--	--	MoNRE supported by UNEP
12.2. Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources	12.2.1. Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP	--	--	MoNRE supported by UNEP
12.3. Food waste and food losses reduced	12.3.1. Food loss index ^a	--	--	MAF supported by FAO
12.4. Environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle	12.4.1. Volume of hazardous waste generated from Vientiane Capital ^b	--	--	MoNRE
12.5. Prevention, reduction, recycling of waste	12.5.1. ** Rate of recycling: % of solid waste generated in Vientiane Capital ^{c,d}	--	--	MoNRE ²⁶⁸
12.8. Relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles	12.8.1. Mainstreaming of sustainable development into education:			MoES, qualitative reports See 13.3.1
	- Primary and secondary curricula development on sustainable development - Teacher Education Programmes, primary/secondary related to new curricula ^e	--	--	
	12.8.2. Number of universities with sustainability campus plan	2017	5	MoES
12.b. Tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism	12.b.1. Lao PDR Action Plan for Pakse Declaration (ASEAN Roadmap for Strategic Development of Ecotourism Clusters & Tourism Corridors)			MOICT. See also indicator 8.9.1.
	(i) adopted, (ii) implemented ^f	--	--	
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁶⁹ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system</u>: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a Data may be available only on post-harvest losses.

^b Proxy indicator for *Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment*.

^c Proxy indicator for *National recycling rate, tons of material recycled*.

^d Proxy indicator for *National recycling rate, tons of material recycled*, and only for Vientiane Capital, as MoNRE notes it would be not possible to currently measure the national rate. Recycling in Lao PDR overall is estimated at about 10% of solid waste generated and collected (Ministry of Public Works and Transport, 2015).

^e Proxy indicators for the SDG indicator *extent to which education for sustainable development is mainstreamed into primary/secondary curricula and teacher training*.

^f The global indicator for this target is: *Number of sustainable tourism strategies or policies and implemented action plans with agreed monitoring and evaluation tools*.

Table A29. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 13

SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
13.1. Resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters	13.1.1. Establishment of national disaster risk reduction strategy and plan, including local disaster risk reduction strategies and plans of action			See 1.5.2 and 11.b.2
	13.1.2. *** Persons per 100,000 directly affected (dead, missing, homeless/displaced) by natural disasters	2015	738 per 100,000	Data from EM-DAT ^a . See 1.5.1 and 13.1.2. MoNRE/MoLSW to update
13.2. Climate change measures integrated into national policies, strategies and planning	13.2.1. Regular progress reports on implementation of Lao PDR's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution	--	--	MoNRE with UNDP support
13.3. Education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change	13.3.1. Integration of mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into Lao PDR's education curricula at primary, secondary and tertiary level	--	--	MoES, qualitative report
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁷⁰ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system</u>: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a EM-DAT: International Disaster Database. Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters – CRED, School of Public Health, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels. Available from: <http://www.emdat.be/database>

Table A30. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 14

SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use aquatic resources for sustainable development				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
14.4. Fish stocks restored to produce maximum sustainable yield.	14.4.1. Kilometres of fish conservation zones ^a	--	--	MAF with FAO support 2013 MDG Report
	***Number of fish conservation zones	2011	197	
14.6. Fisheries subsidies contributing to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing eliminated	14.6.1. Development and implementation of national plan of action (NPOA) to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in line with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU)	--	--	MAF to report on IPOA-IUU with FAO support
14.b. Access for small-scale artisanal fishers to resources and markets	14.b.1. Existence of instruments that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries (SSF) sector	--	--	MAF to report on survey on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) Implementation with FAO assistance
	14.b.2. Ongoing specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines	--	--	
	14.b.3. Existence of mechanisms enabling small-scale fishers and fish workers to contribute to decision-making processes ^b	--	--	
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁷¹ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system:</u> The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a Proxy indicator for the SDG indicator “*Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels*”, as stock assessments of each stock are currently not available.

^b The three indicators under 14.b. are based on the FAO survey questionnaire on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) Implementation, which all FAO members can respond to. These three indicators apply equally to marine and inland small-scale fisheries, including inland fisheries in Lao PDR.

Table A31. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 15

SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
15.1. Conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and services.	15.1.1. ***Forest area (% of total land area) of which:	2015	58.0	MAF (FIPD Forest cover map 2015 supported through JICA F-REDD), presented at the 5th REL/TWG under the national REDD+ Task Force, Aug 2017).
	- relatively undisturbed old growth natural forests,		--	
	- degraded or logged-over natural forests,		--	
	- plantations ^a		0.007	
	15.1.2. % of land area covered by protection forest area ^b	2015	20	
15.2. Sustainable management of all types of forests	15.2.1. ***Production forest area with certification (hectares)(e.g., FSC ^c) ^d	--	--	NSEDP/MAF. However, see footnote.
	15.2.2. ** Proportion of land area covered by conservation forests ^e	2015	15.1	Same source as 15.1.1. and same indicator as 15.4.1
	15.2.3. Forest area with management plans (hectares):	2017	--	MAF with FAO support
	- Production forest			
	- Conservation forest			
	- Protection forest			
15.3. Degraded land and soil restored	15.3.1. **Percentage of rural villages reporting land degradation	2010/11	Total 29 ²⁷²	MAF: Lao Census of Agriculture 2010/11: To be updated in 2018/19
	Light		20	
	Moderate		8	
	Severe		1	
15.4. Conservation of mountain ecosystems and biodiversity	15.4.1. **Proportion of land area covered by conservation forests			See indicator 15.2.2.
15.5. Biodiversity and protection of threatened species	15.5.1. ***Number of species threatened with extinction	2017	210	IUCN Red List ²⁷³
15.7. Poaching and trafficking of protected flora and fauna ended.	15.7.1. Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked (total wildlife seizures to total wildlife traded, as evidenced by export permits issued) (ratio) ²⁷⁴	--	--	UNODC/ Lao Wildlife Enforcement Network (LaoWEN)
15.9. Ecosystem and biodiversity values in national /local planning & development	15.9.1. Progress towards biodiversity national targets, as reported by the NSEDP and other national reports	--	--	MoNRE
15.a. Financial resources for biodiversity and ecosystems ^f	15.a.1. ***Net official development assistance provided for biodiversity/ ecosystems (US\$)	--	--	MPI
	15.a.2. Public expenditure on biodiversity/ ecosystems			MoF
15b. Resources for sustainable forest management	15.b.1. ***Net official development assistance provided for forestry/forest development (US\$)	--	--	MPI
	15.b.2. Public expenditure on forestry/forest development	--	--	MAF/MoF

^a Disaggregation by forest type suggested by the World Bank. Available classifications are presented in Tables 3 and 4 in text.

^b Proxy for *Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas*.

^c Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) should be left out as it is not an indicator for sustainable management of forests.

^d Development partners note that this may not be an appropriate indicator for target 15.2. See text on why it has been retained.

^e Proxy for *Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity*.

^f The OECD has developed standards on measuring aid to forestry and to biodiversity. The indicator on *net value of biodiversity offsets per year* has been proposed for the government's consideration.

SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

15.c. Poaching and trafficking of protected species ended and sustainable livelihood promoted	15.c.1. Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked	See 15.7.1.
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Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁷⁵ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.

Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.

Table A32. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 16

SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators ^a	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
16.1. All forms of violence and related death rates reduced	16.1.1. Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population	2012	7.1	WHO World Health Statistics 2016. MoH/MPS to update
	16.1.2. ** % of young women and men aged 18-24 who experienced physical violence by age 18 (Total/ Female/ Male)	2015	T 16 F 15 M 17	
	16.1.3. ** % of young women and men aged 18-24 who experienced emotional violence by age 18 (Total/ Female/ Male)	2015	T 21.1 F 24 M 17.7	LSB / Violence Against Children (VAC) survey, 2016
16.2. Abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children ended	16.2.1. ** % of children (1-17) who reported having been subject to physical violence over the past year (Total/ Female/ Male)	2015	T 6.6 F 8.2 M 7.4	
	16.2.2. ** % of children who reported having been subject to emotional violence over the past year, (Total/ Female/ Male)	2015	T 9.6 F 10.1 M 9.8	
	16.2.3. *** Number of victims (detected/undetected) of human trafficking per 100,000 population (Total/ Female/ Male) ^b	--	--	Ministry of Public Security (MPS)
	16.2.4. ** Percentage of young women and men aged 18-24 who experienced sexual abuse by age 18 (Total/ Female/ Male)	2015	T 9.5 F 7.3 M 12.0	LSB / VAC survey
16.3. Rule of law and equal access to justice for all	16.3.1. Ratio of cases successfully enforced by Ministry of Justice to total cases submitted by courts ^c	2016	1:3.5	People's Supreme Court and MoJ
16.6. Effective, accountable and transparent institutions ^d	16.6.1. Primary government expenditures as a percentage of original approved budget, disaggregated by sector (or by budget codes or similar)	2016	--	MoF & MPI
	16.6.2. Number of days after the start of financial year when public planned budget becomes publicly available ^e (target: 30 days)	2016	--	Revised formulation following World Bank and JICA suggestions.
	16.6.3. Number of months after the end of the financial year when Ministry of Finance issues the preliminary annual budget execution report. (Target 6 months)	2016	24 months	Baseline data from the World Bank.
	16.6.4. Number of months after the end of the financial year when the audited budget execution report approved by the National Assembly becomes publicly available (target: 12 months (target: 6 months)	2016	Not published	

^a See SDG 5 also on violence against women and girls. Targets 16.4, 16.5 and 16.10 have been dropped during the interministerial workshops.

^b Current data availability is limited to detected victims of trafficking. UNODC support may be required for reporting on detected victims of trafficking in persons, as there is a well-developed methodology and international standards. The methodology to measure undetected victims is still under development.

^c This is the formulation accepted at the government workshop. Currently, data disaggregated by sex is not available.

^d Indicators 16.6.1 to 16.6.5 together cover SDG target 16.6 and to some extent reflect Target 16.10 on public access to information.

^e The scope and level of details of the report and "publicly available" are to be defined in consultation with the relevant authorities.

SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels				
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators ^a	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
	16.6.5. Number of ministries/provinces with budget submission within MOF/H-issued expenditure ceilings. (target: all Ministries / provinces) ^a	2016		
16.7 Responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making	16.7.1. ** Share of women among public institution employees (%)	2015	32 ^b	MoHA.
	16.7.2. Public institution employees disaggregated by ethnic group	--	--	MoHA will provide (also by sex)
16.9 Legal identity for all, including birth registration	16.9.1. *** Percentage of children under 5 whose births have been registered with a civil authority (Total/ Female/ Male)	2011/12	T 74.8 F 75.2 M 74.3	LSIS – MoHA will provide updates
<p>Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁷⁶ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.</p> <p><u>Numbering system</u>: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.</p>				

^a The Budget Law requires ceilings to be prescribed by MOF / GOL for the total budget. This also covers all ministries/provinces.

^b Recalculated from Census 2015

Table A33. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 17

SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development					
Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment	
17.1. Domestic resource mobilization including tax and other revenue	17.1.1. *** Total government revenue (by source) as a percentage of GDP (domestic revenue/ grants/ loans)	--	--	MPI/ NSEDP	
	17.1.2. ***% of expenditure financed by domestic revenue	--	--	MPI/ NSEDP	
17.3. Additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources	17.3.1. *** Foreign direct investments (FDI), *** official development assistance (ODA) & South-South Cooperation (SSC)	--	--	NSEDP indicators. Official estimations of FDI & SSC are needed from MPI & MoF	
	- Amount (US\$) FDI /ODA/ SSC	--	--		
	- % of total domestic budget FDI /ODA/ SSC	--	--		
	17.3.2. Delivery on the Vientiane Declaration & Country Action Plan (VD-CAP)	--	--	Qualitative review	
	17.3.3. Personal remittances received as a proportion of GDP (%)	2016	0.6	World Bank Databank. ²⁷⁷ MoF to confirm	
17.4. Long-term debt sustainability	17.4.1. *** Total debt service as % of exports of goods, services and primary income	2015	10.851	World Bank Databank. ²⁷⁸ MoF to confirm	
17.6. Access to science, technology, and innovation	17.6.1. Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 people, by speed ^a	2015	0.525	International Telecommunication Union, based on MPT reports ²⁷⁹	
		2016	0.342		
17.8. Enhanced use of enabling technology, in particular, ICT	17.8.1. ***% of population registered as internet users through landline & wireless.	2015	7	MPT report for NSEDP	
	17.8.2. *** Percentage of population registered as mobile phone users ^b	2015	57	MPT report for NSEDP	
	17.8.3. Percentage of households owning a mobile phone	2015	86	Census	
	17.8.4. *** Percentage of population registered as landline and wireless home phone users	2015	14	MPT report for NSEDP	
	17.8.3. Percentage of Individuals using the Internet (%)	2016	21.87	ITU estimate only. See text	
17.18. High-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other relevant characteristics	17.18.1. Proportion of SDG indicators adopted by Lao PDR that are produced with full disaggregation when relevant to the target, in accordance with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	--	--	LSB	
	17.18.2. Adoption of national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	--	--	LSB	
	17.18.3. Establishment/ Implementation of Lao PDR national statistical plan	--	--	LSB	
17.19. Statistical capacity-building to enable measurements of progress on sustainable development	17.19.1. Completion of at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years	2015	Yes	LSB	
	17.19.2. . *** % birth registration achieved (Total/ Female/ Male)	2011/12	T 74.8/ F 75.2 M 74.3	LSIS, see Indicator 16.9.1.	
	17.19.3. % death registration achieved	--	--	MoH/LSB	

^a Fixed broadband subscriptions refers to fixed subscriptions to high-speed access to the public Internet (a TCP/IP connection), at downstream speeds equal to, or greater than, 256 kbit/s.

^b This is an NSEDP indicator that MPT is able to report on. It replaces the *percentage and number of mobile phone users with internet access*, on which data is unavailable.

SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Selected Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
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Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁸⁰ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.

Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.

Table A34. Indicators and currently available data for SDG 18

SDG 18: Remove the UXO obstacle to human development				
Selected SDG 18 Targets, summarized	Localized SDG Indicators	Year	Available value	Current source used /comment
18.1: Zero annual casualties from UXO accidents.	*** 18.1.1 Number of reported UXO casualties (disaggregated by age group and sex)	2015	42	NRA: UXO Sector Annual Report 2015
	18.1.2. Percentage of contaminated villages where the population has received information on UXO-Confirmed Hazardous Areas	--	--	NRA has confirmed indicator revision. ^a
18.2: UXO contamination cleared from high priority areas and villages defined as 'poor'.	18.2.1. Percentage of high priority hazardous areas remaining to be cleared (disaggregated by high priority villages).	--	--	NRA
	18.2.2. Number of villages defined as 'poor' with Confirmed Hazardous Areas remaining to be cleared.	--	--	NRA
18.3: Identified UXO survivors' health and livelihoods needs met	18.3.1. Proportion of registered active-age UXO survivors unable to earn sufficient income with access to basic income security ^b	--	--	NRA "active-age" to be specified further
	18.3.2. Percentage of registered UXO survivors mainstreamed into health, education and employment services.	--	--	NRA "mainstreamed" to be specified further.

Notes: *** indicates linkages with indicators in the NSEDP M&E framework.²⁸¹ ** indicates indicators already reported by Government as part of MDGs or other official reports, such as LSB survey reports and census reports.

Numbering system: The target numbers correspond to those for the global SDG targets. The first two digits of the indicator numbers are from the global SDG targets and the last digit is sequential numbering.

^a Original formulation was *Percentage of population in contaminated villages with information on Confirmed Hazardous Areas in their village*. This would require extensive surveys; it has, therefore, been modified.

^b The number and percentage of active age UXO survivors cannot be known unless they are registered; this provides the denominator.

Notes

- ¹ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014. LECS 5, 2012/13
- ² LSB: Population and Housing Census, 2015
- ³ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014.
- ⁴ The poverty gap ratio is the mean shortfall of the total population from the poverty line (counting the non-poor as having zero shortfall), expressed as a percentage of the poverty line. It measures the “poverty deficit” of the entire population, where the poverty deficit is the per capita amount of resources needed to bring all poor people above the poverty line through perfectly targeted cash transfers. The poverty severity index applies an increasing weight to greater distances below the poverty line and is therefore sensitive to the severity of poverty.
- ⁵ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014 and Lindelow et al., 2010.
- ⁶ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014 and Lindelow et al., 2010.
- ⁷ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014 and Lindelow et al., 2010.
- ⁸ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014
- ⁹ Labour productivity is defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO) as GDP per person employed.
- ¹⁰ The 2010 Labour Force Survey classified occupations according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO 2008) of the ILO.
- ¹¹ 2010 Labour Force Survey
- ¹² International Labour Organization, 2010.
- ¹³ Elementary occupations involve the performance of simple and routine tasks which may require the use of hand-held tools and considerable physical effort. Most occupations in this major group require skills at the first ISCO skill level. Tasks performed by workers in elementary occupations usually include: cleaning, restocking supplies and performing basic maintenance in apartments, houses, kitchens, hotels, offices and other buildings; washing cars and windows, helping in kitchens, delivering messages or goods, carrying luggage and handling baggage and freight, collecting and sorting refuse, sweeping streets and similar places, performing various simple farming, fishing or trapping tasks; performing simple tasks connected with mining, construction and manufacturing, etc. (Extract from ILO: International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO 08, 2012). Available from: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/-dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_172572.pdf
- ¹⁴ There are an estimated 200,000 Lao men and women working in Thailand, mostly in construction, plantations, domestic work and services (International Labour Organization, 2014a).
- ¹⁵ Food and Agricultural Organization et al, 2015
- ¹⁶ The FAO prevalence of undernourishment (PoU) indicator measures the probability that a randomly selected individual from the reference population is found to consume less than his/her calorie requirement for an active and healthy life.
- ¹⁷ FAO projection for 2014-2016.
- ¹⁸ The GHI combines three equally weighted indicators in one index. These are (i) the proportion of undernourished people as a percentage of the population, (ii) the proportion of children under five who are underweight, and (iii) the mortality rate of children under five. By using a range of indicators, the GHI reflects the multi-faceted nature of hunger. The GHI is measured only if data are available and measuring hunger is relevant for the country.
- ¹⁹ von Grebmer et al., 2017.
- ²⁰ Lao Statistics Bureau 2012
- ²¹ The causes include food and nutrient intake, linked to feeding and care practices, and a high burden of infectious diseases, especially diarrhoea and parasitic infections. Underlying these are the mother’s health and nutrition, adolescent pregnancy, women’s knowledge and education, food availability and diversity, dietary practices, health care services, water, sanitation and hygiene practices. Determinants at a deeper level include cultural beliefs, food taboos, women’s status, farming practices, and prevailing power structures (Humphrey, 2009, Black et al., 2013)
- ²² Lao Statistics Bureau 2012
- ²³ Lao Statistics Bureau 2012
- ²⁴ Barennes, et al., 2007.
- ²⁵ Lao Statistics Bureau 2006
- ²⁶ Ministry of Health, 2000.
- ²⁷ Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Health and UNICEF, 2006
- ²⁸ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.
- ²⁹ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.
- ³⁰ World Health Organization, 2014a.
- ³¹ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.
- ³² Barennes et al., 2007
- ³³ Holmes, et al., 2007
- ³⁴ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 2013
- ³⁵ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 2012.
- ³⁶ World Bank, 2010.
- ³⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization and Ministry of

Agriculture and Forestry, 2013.

³⁸ Pimhidzai, et al., 2014.

³⁹ Ministry of Education and Sports, Education Management Information System (EMIS)

⁴⁰ Survival rate: Percentage of a cohort of students enrolled in the first grade of a given level or cycle of education in a given school year who are expected to reach a given grade, regardless of repetition.

⁴¹ Ministry of Education and Sports: Education Management Information System (EMIS)

⁴² Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2014.

⁴³ Ministry of Education data provided for the 2015 MDG summary review (Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2015).

⁴⁴ Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2014.

⁴⁵ Lao EMIS data: Xaysoumboon Province has the lowest primary NER at 96.5 per cent and two provinces have 100 per cent primary NER (Sekong, Vientiane Capital)

⁴⁶ Primary adjusted net attendance ratio (ANAR): Percentage of children of primary school age attending primary or secondary school.

⁴⁷ 65.4 per cent in Saravane to 93.3 per cent in Xayabury.

⁴⁸ Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2014

⁴⁹ Ministry of Education and Sports: Education Management Information System (EMIS)

⁵⁰ UNESCO definition: Number of graduates regardless of age in a given level or programme, expressed as a percentage of the population at the theoretical graduation age for that level or programme.

⁵¹ Gross graduation rates provided by UNICEF-Lao PDR, as EMIS data on these were not available at the time of the 2015 MDG Summary Review Report.

⁵² In 2014, the lower secondary gross graduation rate was approximately 56 percent, while the upper secondary gross graduation rate was around 34 percent.

⁵³ In 2012, there was a difference of 54 percentage points between Vientiane Capital (76.4 percent) and Saravane (22.3 percent).

⁵⁴ While the drop in literacy rate from 84 per cent in 2005 (census) to around 73 per cent in 2011 (survey) may be explained by a change in measuring methods (reported versus tested literacy rates), the drop from 79 per cent in 2001 to 73% in 2011/12 is likely to reflect the real situation, as both were measured by testing in surveys.

⁵⁵ Ministry of Education and Sports, Research Institute

for Education Sciences (RIES), 2010

⁵⁶ PASEC, 2014.

⁵⁷ UNESCO defines the achievement of gender parity as having reached a GPI of 0.97–1.03. Available from: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/factsheets/documents/fs4-2010-en.pdf>

⁵⁸ GPI in education enrolment is obtained by dividing female GER by male GER. Gender disparities may also be analysed in other areas (e.g., survival, transition, graduation, etc.) by dividing the relevant indicator for females by that for males. For all indicators, a GPI of 1 means equality, GPI below 1 means a greater proportion of boys relative to girls. GPI above 1 means a greater proportion of girls relative to boys.

⁵⁹ All the employment indicators in this chapter, unless stated otherwise, are based on the 2010 Labour Force Survey (Lao Statistics Bureau, 2010).

⁶⁰ The MDG indicator, *the share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sectors* is expressed as a percentage of female workers within the total wage employment in the non-agricultural sector. Wage employment refers only to wage earners and salaried employees, or persons in paid employment jobs. It does not include employers. (ILO definition for the MDGs). In Lao PDR, this is 34 percent. However, this is not appreciably different from *the share of women in wage employment in all sectors*, which is calculated to be around 35 percent. Although this last is not an MDG, it is just as relevant to this analysis.

⁶¹ Elementary occupations involve the performance of simple and routine tasks which may require the use of hand-held tools and considerable physical effort. Most occupations in this major group require skills at the first ISCO skill level. Tasks performed by workers in elementary occupations usually include: cleaning, restocking supplies and performing basic maintenance in apartments, houses, kitchens, hotels, offices and other buildings; washing cars and windows, helping in kitchens, delivering messages or goods, carrying luggage and handling baggage and freight, collecting and sorting refuse, sweeping streets and similar places, performing various simple farming, fishing or trapping tasks; performing simple tasks connected with mining, construction and manufacturing, etc. (Extract from ILO: International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO 08, 2012). Available from: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/-dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_172572.pdf

⁶² ADB and World Bank, 2012

⁶³ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2010.

⁶⁴ International Labour Organization, 2010.

⁶⁵ Ministry of Home Affairs and Central Party Bureau, July 2012, provided for the 2013 MDG Report

⁶⁶ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2015 (Population and Housing Census).

⁶⁷ United Nations Children's Fund et al., 2015

⁶⁸ LSIS, Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012

⁶⁹ LSIS, Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012

⁷⁰LSIS, Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012

⁷¹ LSIS, Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012

⁷² Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.

⁷³ United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 2014.

⁷⁴ WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank, and the United Nations Population Division, 2014

⁷⁵ LSB: Population and Housing Census, 2015

⁷⁶ Trained health professional means a doctor, nurse or midwife only, as determined by LSIS 2011/12. (Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012)

⁷⁷ For Lao PDR, antenatal care coverage (at least one visit) is the percentage of women aged 15 to 49 with a live birth in a given time period that received antenatal care provided by *trained* health personnel (doctor, nurse or midwife) at least once during pregnancy. Lao PDR has adopted "trained" health personnel instead of "skilled" health personnel.

⁷⁸ WHO now recommends eight visits, up from the previous four antenatal visits. Available from: <http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/news/antenatal-care/en/>

⁷⁹ Among those women who had a live birth during the two years preceding the survey, 47 per cent reported that their blood pressure was checked, 23 per cent reported that a urine specimen was taken, and 23 per cent reported that a blood sample was taken during an ANC visit. Only 18 per cent of women reported that they received all three types of ANC services. Nearly one half (48 per cent) did not take any iron pills during their pregnancy, a quarter took fewer than 90 iron pills and one quarter took the recommended number of 90 iron pills or more. (LSIS, 2011/12)

⁸⁰ Government of the Lao PDR and United Nations, 2013.

⁸¹ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.

⁸² National Committee for the Control of AIDS (NCCA), 2016.

⁸³ National Committee for the Control of AIDS (NCCA), 2015.

⁸⁴ National Committee for the Control of AIDS (NCCA), 2016.

⁸⁵ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2000 (MICS). Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012 (LSIS).

⁸⁶ Updated statistics from Global AIDS monitoring, UNAIDS.

⁸⁷ World Health Organization (WHO), 2015b

⁸⁸ All malaria data are from the Ministry of Health's Center for Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology (CMPE)

⁸⁹ Comparisons of Bed Net Survey data with those from the LSIS or MICS surveys are not valid because the National Bed Net Survey used a sampling design stratified according to the malaria risk and disease burden. This was to avoid the weakness of most national surveys with regard to malaria-related data, since the sampling frame for most national surveys does not consider the malaria burden.

⁹⁰ The survey covered five provinces across the country: Luangnamtha, Savannakhet, Saravan, Sekong and Attapeu) and 11 districts in total. (Ministry of Health CMPE, 2012).

⁹¹ The survey was conducted by the Centre for Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology, Ministry of Health (CMPE) after a national campaign to promote the use of LLINs..

⁹² Source: CPME

⁹³ National TB Programme, 2011. National TB prevalence survey 2010-2011.

⁹⁴ World Health Organization (WHO), 2012.

⁹⁵ The estimates include the deaths from TB of HIV positive patients: 53/100 000 for non-HIV, plus 8.9/100 000 for HIV positive patients.

⁹⁶ Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), 2012a.

⁹⁷ International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), 2011.

⁹⁸ Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, 2012b.

⁹⁹ "The current forest area which has more than 20 per cent of canopy density, according to national definition, is 9.5 million hectares, about 40 per cent of total land area compared to 47 per cent in 1992. ..." (MoNRE, 2012. Environmental Outlook).

¹⁰⁰ Estimate from the Government for the 2013 MDG report

¹⁰¹ Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), 2015.

¹⁰² Government of Lao PDR, 2000; Government of Lao PDR, 2013

¹⁰³ UNEP Ozone Secretariat

¹⁰⁴ Decision XIX/6, List of Parties categorized as operating under Article 5 paragraph 1 of the Montreal Protocol (considered as developing countries) (United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2007)

¹⁰⁵ FAO Aquastat online database.

¹⁰⁶ That is, the number of species known to be threatened within those species that have been assessed to date, but not the overall total number of

threatened species for each group. Threatened refers to those species classified under the IUCN Red List categories of Vulnerable, Endangered, or Critically Endangered. Available from:
<http://www.iucnredlist.org/initiatives/mammals/analysis/red-list-status>

¹⁰⁷ IUCN Red List. Available from:
http://cmsdocs.s3.amazonaws.com/summarystats/2016-2_Summary_Stats_Page_Documents/2016_2_RL_Stats_Table_5_CORRECTED.pdf and
<https://www.iucn.org/theme/species/publications/iucn-red-list-publications> (2008 data)

¹⁰⁸ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012 (LSIS 2011/12) and UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), June 2015. Note that LECS 5 (2012/13) is not strictly comparable (Pimhidzai et al., 2014)

¹⁰⁹ UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP).

¹¹⁰ The MDG definition of safe sanitation does not include shared toilets.

¹¹¹ The proportion of the population using an improved sanitation facility, total, urban, rural, is the percentage of the population with access to facilities that hygienically separate human excreta from human contact. Improved facilities include flush/pour flush toilets or latrines connected to a sewer, -septic tank, or -pit, ventilated improved pit latrines, pit latrines with a slab or platform of any material that covers the pit entirely, except for the drop hole and composting toilets/latrines. **Unimproved facilities include public or shared facilities of an otherwise acceptable type**, flush/pour-flush toilets or latrines which discharge directly into an open sewer or ditch, pit latrines without a slab, bucket latrines, hanging toilets or latrines which directly discharge in water bodies or in the open and the practice of open defecation in the bush, field or bodies or water.

Available from:
<http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Metadata.aspx?IndicatorId=31>

¹¹² UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP).

¹¹³ UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP)

¹¹⁴ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.

¹¹⁵ UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme

¹¹⁶ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012

¹¹⁷ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012

¹¹⁸ Lao PDR Trade Portal. www.laotradeportal.gov.la

¹¹⁹ World Bank, 2016b. A Comparative Overview of the Incidence of Non-Tariff Measures on Trade in Lao PDR. Report No: AUS9097. February 2016. Washington: World Bank.

¹²⁰ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016. NSEDP

¹²¹ International Monetary Fund, 2015.

¹²² International Monetary Fund, 2015.

¹²³ LSB: Population and Housing Census, 2015

¹²⁴ Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012.

¹²⁵ National Regulatory Authority (NRA) 2010, and updates from the NRA for the 2013 MDG Report.

¹²⁶ Figures from the NRA provided for MDG Review Report (Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2015).

¹²⁷ National Regulatory Authority for UXO, 2016

¹²⁸ Source: National Regulatory Authority on UXO, 25 August 2014.

¹²⁹ World Bank, 2016.

¹³⁰ The Action Plan requires nutrition-specific interventions, coming together with nutrition sensitive interventions in health, water, sanitation, agriculture, education and social protection sectors in a convergent, coordinated approach targeted at the high-risk districts. Nutrition-specific interventions include appropriate infant and young child feeding and counselling, micronutrient supplementation of women and children, and management of acute malnutrition.

¹³¹ Antenatal care coverage increased from 46 to 75 per cent in a project in Lao PDR where cash transfers were provided to pregnant women in exchange for their seeking antenatal care, delivery and postnatal care at a health facility. Source: World Bank, Vientiane.

¹³² The FAO methodology in fact combines available microdata on food consumption derived from surveys with macrodata from food balance sheets. Food balance sheets provide information on the amount of food that is available for consumption after taking into account all possible alternative uses of the food items; hence, they provide approximate measures of per capita consumption (FAO, 2015).

¹³³ WHO, 2006.

¹³⁴ Vanphanom et al., 2014.

¹³⁵ United Nations Population Fund, 2014.

¹³⁶ The new targets for the HIV treatment scale-up beyond 2015 are (i) by 2020, 90 per cent of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status, (ii) by 2020, 90 per cent of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy and (iii) by 2020, 90 per cent of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.

¹³⁷ National TB Centre (NTC), 2013.

¹³⁸ World Health Organization (WHO) 2014b.

¹³⁹ World Health Organization (WHO), 2015a.

¹⁴⁰ World Health Organization (WHO), 2014b.

¹⁴¹ Calculations based on population data provided by

the Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB) in 2015 and traffic deaths data from Ministry of Public Works and Transportation cited by the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership. Available from:

<https://www.ajtpweb.org/ajtp/statistics/index.html>

¹⁴² SEAMEO Secretariat and UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO): Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM). Available from: <http://www.seaplmm.org/seaplmm/>

¹⁴³ RTI International, 2009. Early Grade Reading Assessment Toolkit. Washington DC: World Bank Group. Available from:

http://s3.amazonaws.com/inee-assets/resources/EGRA_Toolkit_Mar09.pdf

¹⁴⁴ Ministry of Education and Sports, Research Institute for Educational Sciences (RIES), 2015.

¹⁴⁵ Chine-Tibetan children had the highest primary survival rate (87 per cent in 2012), higher than did Lao-Tai children (67 per cent in 2012), while the Mon-Khmer had the lowest survival rate (59 per cent in 2012).

¹⁴⁶ Government of the Lao PDR, 2014.

¹⁴⁷ Incomplete schools do not have sufficient facilities for children to complete the primary cycle up to grade 5.

¹⁴⁸ Government of the Lao PDR, 2014.

¹⁴⁹ Education Sector Development Plan 2013 Mid-Term Review Evaluation

¹⁵⁰ Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2014

¹⁵¹ Benveniste et al., 2007.

¹⁵² National review of primary school textbook availability, 2011

¹⁵³ 37 per cent of women aged 20-49 were married before age 18, while 9.3 per cent of women aged 15-49 were married before age 15 (Lao Statistics Bureau, 2012).

¹⁵⁴ UN-DESA, 2014.

¹⁵⁵ Water usage is estimated as 82% by the agricultural sector, followed by industrial 10%, and domestic 8%. Water Environment Partnership in Asia. Available from: <http://www.wepa-db.net/database.html>

¹⁵⁶ World Bank Group, 2017.

¹⁵⁷ IAEG-SDGs Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators Compilation of Metadata for the Proposed Global Indicators for the Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Updated on 30 March 2016. Available from:

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/metadata-compilation/Metadata-Goal-7.pdf>

¹⁵⁸ Asian Development Bank, 2013. energy

¹⁵⁹ Asian Development Bank, 2013.

¹⁶⁰ Asian Development Bank, 2013.

¹⁶¹ Using own-account workers and contributing family workers as proxies for informal sector employment is not fully satisfactory, as the proxy may exclude employees of informal sector enterprises and other definitions of informal sector workers adopted by the Seventeenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians.

¹⁶² Bank of Lao et al., 2014

¹⁶³ Frequency rate is defined by ILO as the number of cases of fatal/non-fatal occupational injury reported during the calendar year, divided by the total number of hours worked by workers in the reference group during the year, multiplied by 1,000,000.

¹⁶⁴ Asian Development Bank, 2017.

¹⁶⁵ World Bank Group, 2017.

¹⁶⁶ Ahn, Pong-Sul, 2015.

¹⁶⁷ International Labour Organization 2016.

¹⁶⁸ Dhir, 2015.

¹⁶⁹ Theil, S., 2015.

¹⁷⁰ Indicator 9.c.1 measures the percentage of inhabitants living within range of a mobile-cellular signal, irrespective of whether or not they are mobile phone subscribers or users. When there are multiple operators offering the service, the maximum population number covered should be reported. Coverage should refer to broadband (3G and more) and narrowband (2G) mobile-cellular technologies UN metadata on SDG 9: Updated on 3 March 2016. Available from:

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/metadata-compilation/Metadata-Goal-9.pdf>

¹⁷¹ Currently, estimates of CO₂ emissions by country are available from the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee, USA, the primary climate-change data and information analysis centre of the U.S. Department of Energy. Data from this source is used by the World Bank to report on this indicator. Available from:

<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PP.GD?locations=LA>

¹⁷² Recalculated from Asian Development Bank, 2016.

¹⁷³ OECD, 2013.

¹⁷⁴ Asian Development Bank, 2017.

¹⁷⁵ Asian Development Bank, 2017.

¹⁷⁶ OECD, 2013.

¹⁷⁷ GIZ, 2014

¹⁷⁸ World Bank Group, 2017.

- ¹⁷⁹ World Bank Group, 2017.
- ¹⁸⁰ Building social protection floors with the ILO: Together, to change millions of lives in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Available from: <http://www.social-protection.org/gimi/gess/ShowProject.action?id=3000>
- ¹⁸¹ Manythone Keolangsy, 2017.
- ¹⁸² EM-DAT: International Disaster Database.
- ¹⁸³ International Recovery Platform: Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Methodology. Available from: <http://www.recoveryplatform.org/pdna/>
- ¹⁸⁴ Population-weighted exposure to ambient pollution is defined as the average level of exposure of a nation's population to concentrations of suspended particles. Exposure is calculated by weighting mean annual concentrations of PM_{2.5} by population in both urban and rural areas.
- ¹⁸⁵ Hayes, 2015
- ¹⁸⁶ Asian Development Bank, 2017.
- ¹⁸⁷ UNEP is supporting MoNRE in measuring the associated indicators on material footprint and domestic material consumption (in tonnes, tonnes per capita, and tonnes per GDP unit). The domestic material consumption reports the amount of materials that are used in a national economy. The material footprint of consumption reflects the amount of primary materials required to serve the final demand of a country. Resource efficiency is obtained by dividing these by units of GDP.
- ¹⁸⁸ T. Phonsavath, 2017.
- ¹⁸⁹ Lao PDR, 2015. Intended Nationally Determined Contribution.
- ¹⁹⁰ National Environment Committee, 2009.
- ¹⁹¹ United States Agency for International Development (USAID), 2014.
- ¹⁹² World Bank Group 2011.
- ¹⁹³ World Bank Group 2011.
- ¹⁹⁴ International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 2015.
- ¹⁹⁵ Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO): Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Available from: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/code/en>
- ¹⁹⁶ Phonvisay Singkham, 2013.
- ¹⁹⁷ FAO, 2006. Fishery Country Profile.
- ¹⁹⁸ Mekong River Commission, Available from: <http://www.mrcmekong.org/topics/fisheries/>
- ¹⁹⁹ FAO, 2006. Fishery Country Profile.
- ²⁰⁰ Liver fluke infections are associated with several hepatobiliary diseases, among them including cholangitis (an infection of the bile duct), cholecystitis (inflammation of the gallbladder), gallstones, hepatomegaly (enlarged liver), and cholangiocarcinoma or bile duct cancer.
- ²⁰¹ Sripa B, 2008. Concerted Action Is Needed to Tackle Liver Fluke Infections in Asia. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* 2(5): e232. doi:10.1371/journal.pntd.0000232
- ²⁰² FAO, 2012b.
- ²⁰³ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 2011.
- ²⁰⁴ FIPD Forest cover map 2015 (supported through JICA F-REDD), presented at the 5th REL/TWG under the national REDD+ Task Force in Aug 2017
- ²⁰⁵ Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), 2012a
- ²⁰⁶ FIPD Forest cover map 2015.
- ²⁰⁷ WHO, 2001.
- ²⁰⁸ National Commission for Mothers and Children et al., 2016.
- ²⁰⁹ World Bank Group, 2016a. *Enterprise Surveys: Lao PDR 2016 Country Profile*. www.enterprisesurveys.org
- ²¹⁰ United Nations, 2015a and 2015b.
- ²¹¹ The Corruption Perception Index is a composite index of the opinions of mainly "internationally focused experts, typically from a corporate background and/or with higher education levels." Compare with 2015 results (139 out of 167 countries, score 25) and 2014 results: (145 out of 175 countries, score 25). Available from: <https://www.transparency.org/>
- ²¹² ECPAT International. 2014.
- ²¹³ World Vision Australia. 2013.
- ²¹⁴ United Nations, 2014.
- ²¹⁵ UN Metadata for Indicator 17.8.1.
- ²¹⁶ Lao PDR's report to the CCM, January to December 2013. Available from: <http://www.clusterconvention.org/files/2011/01/Lao-PDR.pdf>
- ²¹⁷ Notification No. 093/NRA, dated 19/11/2012 on UXO Clearance for socio-economic development projects in Lao PDR. This was reaffirmed in late 2016, when the Prime Minister issued Order No. 43/PM, stipulating that development projects in provinces and districts affected by UXO must undergo survey and clearance before project implementation, and these development projects must also allocate funding for survey and clearance.
- ²¹⁸ National Regulatory Authority for UXO/Mine Action in Lao PDR, 2016.
- ²¹⁹ The total number of employed people was obtained from the 1995, 2005 and 2015 censuses (to be comparable with the 2010 Labour Force Survey, census data was recalculated to obtain values for the

population 15 years and older). Employment data from the three censuses and 2010 Labour Force Survey produced four data points (1995, 2005, 2010 and 2015) for the number of people employed over a 20-year period. The standard formula for Compound Annual Growth Rates was applied to these four data points, yielding average annual growth rates in labour productivity for the periods 1995-2005, 2005-2010 and 2010-2015:

$$\frac{P_{2005}}{P_{1995}} = \left(\frac{P_{2005}/P_{2005}}{P_{1995}/P_{1995}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2005-1995}} - 1$$

$$\frac{P_{2010}}{P_{2005}} = \left(\frac{P_{2010}/P_{2010}}{P_{2005}/P_{2005}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2010-2005}} - 1$$

$$\frac{P_{2015}}{P_{2010}} = \left(\frac{P_{2015}/P_{2015}}{P_{2010}/P_{2010}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2015-2010}} - 1$$

²²⁰ Projection for 2014-2016 (Food and Agricultural Organization et al, 2015)

²²¹ Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2014.

²²² Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2014

²²³ FAO, 2012a.

²²⁴ Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), 2012.

²²⁵ OECD Development finance data: ODA Receipts and Selected Indicators for Developing Countries and Territories. Available from: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/>

²²⁶ World Bank International Debt Statistics, Available from: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/DT.TDS.DECT.EX.ZS>

²²⁷ Within each country, the country defines who is poor and who is not poor by using national standards to construct the national poverty line. However, different national standards cannot be used as a basis for comparing poverty across countries. The World Bank derived its international poverty line of \$1.90 in 2011 PPP (adopted from October 2015) from the average of national poverty lines of the 15 poorest countries in the world. This means that the new global line is now \$1.90 using 2011 prices, and using purchasing power parity (PPP) exchange rates, to ensure that the same quantity of goods and services are priced equivalently across countries. As differences in the cost of living across the world evolve, the global poverty line is periodically updated to reflect these changes.

²²⁸ Pimhidzai, et al, 2014.

²²⁹ EM-DAT: International Disaster Database. Available from: <http://www.emdat.be/database>

²³⁰ International Labour Organization, 2014b

²³¹ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.

²³² Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.

²³³ Tracer interventions for promotion and prevention services include: family planning coverage (need satisfied), antenatal care (at least four visits), vaccination, non-use of tobacco, improved water source, adequate sanitation and other locally relevant coverage indicators. Tracer interventions for treatment services include: skilled birth attendance, antiretroviral therapy, tuberculosis treatment (case detection and treatment success), hypertension treatment, diabetes treatment, pneumonia treatment in children and other locally relevant indicators. Source: Metadata for SDG 3, 11 May 2016. Available from: <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/metadata-compilation/Metadata-Goal-3.pdf>

²³⁴ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.

²³⁵ UNESCO definition: Total number of new entrants in the last grade of primary education, regardless of age, as a percentage of the total population of the theoretical entrance age to the last grade of primary education. In the Lao context, with 5-4-3 formal education structure since 2010, this means grade 5 and children of age 10.

²³⁶ UNESCO definition: Total number of new entrants in the last grade of lower secondary education, regardless of age, as a percentage of the total population of the theoretical entrance age to the last grade of lower secondary education (grade 9 and children of age 14).

²³⁷ UNESCO definition: Total number of new entrants in the last grade of upper secondary education, regardless of age, as a percentage of the total population of the theoretical entrance age to the last grade of upper secondary education (grade 12 and children of age 17).

²³⁸ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.

²³⁹ International Telecommunication Union. Available from: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/stat/default.aspx>

²⁴⁰ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016..

²⁴¹ JMP (WHO & UNICEF). Available from: [https://www.wssinfo.org/documents/?tx_displaycontroller\[type\]=country_files](https://www.wssinfo.org/documents/?tx_displaycontroller[type]=country_files)

²⁴² Based on 2005 data. FAO: Available from: <http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/data/query/index.html?lang=en>

²⁴³ OECD QWIDS database. Available from: <http://stats.oecd.org/qwids/>

- ²⁴⁴ World Health Organization (WHO), 2014c.
- ²⁴⁵ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁴⁶ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁴⁷ World Bank. Constant 2010 US dollars
- ²⁴⁸ The methodology for calculating labour productivity growth is described in the 2013 MDG Progress Report, which followed ILO recommendations. To ensure comparability with the 2010 Labour Force Survey, employment from the 2015 census is recalculated for the age group 15 years and above.
- ²⁴⁹ To ensure comparability with the Labour Force Survey, unemployment rate is recalculated for the age group 15 years and above, and is by definition the percentage of the labour force (economically active population, employed and unemployed) (Census, Table P6.1)
- ²⁵⁰ ILO definition: Share of employed persons in the informal sector (%)=(Persons employed in the informal sector x 100)/Total employment. Available from: http://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/description_IFL_EN.pdf
- ²⁵¹ Recalculated for the 15+ age group from the 2015 census (Tables P6.1, P6.5) to ensure comparability with the Labour Force Survey. This only includes own account workers and unpaid family workers and does not include employees of informal sector enterprises, etc. and others adopted by the Seventeenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians.
- ²⁵² Tables P6.1 and P6.5. The numerator is the sum of those who are not employed and those who are not reported as “students”. Not possible to calculate “training” separately.
- ²⁵³ ILO, IPEC & LSB, 2012.
- ²⁵⁴ World Tourism Organization, as reported in <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ST.INT.RCPT.CD?locations=LA>
- ²⁵⁵ 2016 data received from BOL: 96 bank branches, 485 bank service units, 158 financial institutions (microfinance) and 1,079 ATMs.
- ²⁵⁶ Enterprise surveys, World Bank. Available from: <http://www.enterprisesurveys.org/data/explore/economies/2016/lao-pdr>
- ²⁵⁷ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁵⁸ Lao PDR only has a 3.5-kilometre railway linking Vientiane with Thailand’s Nong Khai province.
- ²⁵⁹ For indicator 9.1.2 *Passenger volumes*, 2014 data seems to be incomplete or is an outlier. See source.
- ²⁶⁰ Asian Development Bank, 2016. Infrastructure
- ²⁶¹ Calculated with 2015 census population data and World Bank data on *Manufacturing, value added (constant 2010 US\$)* for 2015.
- ²⁶² Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁶³ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁶⁴ (i)Town of Luang Prabang, (ii) Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape
- ²⁶⁵ Sang-Arun, J. & Pasomsouk, K., 2012.
- ²⁶⁶ The annual mean concentration of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in urban areas for Lao PDR was reported as 32.569 µg/m³ (micrograms per cubic metre) in 2015 (data source: Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington. Available from: <http://vizhub.healthdata.org/sdg/> and as also reported by the World Bank. Available from: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.PM25.MC.M3?locations=LA>). The World Health Statistics 2016 report showed that in 2014, Lao PDR and Myanmar had the highest concentrations in the ASEAN region (33.6 µg/m³ and 56.7 µg/m³ respectively).
- ²⁶⁷ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁶⁸ Ministry of Public Works and Transport, 2015.
- ²⁶⁹ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016..
- ²⁷⁰ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁷¹ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016..
- ²⁷² Totals may not add up due to rounding of decimals
- ²⁷³ International Union for Conservation of Nature, 2016.
- ²⁷⁴ The weight and number of seizures cannot be used as an indicator of poaching, because it is meaningless to compare or add the different wildlife products. Since legal trade does occur among all species products, standard prices/values associated with each species are computed (UN Metadata on target 15.7 indicators).
- ²⁷⁵ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁷⁶ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁷⁷ World Bank formulation is used for the SDG indicator *Volume of remittances as a percentage of total GDP*. Available from:<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWK.R.DT.GD.ZS?locations=LA>
- ²⁷⁸ The SDG indicator is “Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services”. The World Bank’s formulation is used here for Lao PDR. Available from: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/DT.TDS.DECT.EX.ZS?locations=LA>
- ²⁷⁹ There are 4 main operators: LTC, BEELINE, UNITEL, ETL. Available from: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/stat/default.aspx>
- ²⁸⁰ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.
- ²⁸¹ Ministry of Planning and Investment, 2016.



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