



Government
of Lao PDR



United
Nations

United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)

Lao PDR

2007-2011

June 2006

Foreword

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is committed to attain the internationally recognized development goals including the Millennium Development Goals, particularly those related to poverty eradication and sustainable development. In this effort, the United Nations through its enhanced harmonization and coordination among various UN agencies at the country level plays an essential role. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) constitutes an important platform for the United Nations Country Team to help the Government realize its goals set forth in its national socio-economic development plans and poverty eradication strategy.

This UNDAF (2007-2011) has been developed in an inclusive and participatory manner and based on the in-depth analyses of the Common Country Assessment (CCA) 2005 in the Lao PDR as well as the Mid-Term Review of UNDAF 2002-2006 with a view to enhancing its significance and effectiveness. Furthermore, this document focuses on the development priority areas identified in the Country's sixth five-year National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2006-2010 (NSEDP) and set out clear objectives to be attained in the implementation process.

This UNDAF is also significant for the Lao PDR in that it represents UN Country Team commitment towards the UN program of reform, and the simplification, harmonization, and alignment of the UN system. For the first time, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and World Food Programme (WFP) will prepare their country programmes stemming directly from this strategic framework, some with common funding cycles and joint programmes. These country programmes will be the strategic instruments to deliver the UNDAF.

The document has been a result of a joint and concerted effort by the UN system and the Government and represents our cooperation and commitments to eliminate poverty and improve the livelihood of Lao people. The full and effective implementation of this UNDAF would help ensure the attainment of the sixth five-year National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2006-2010).

In this context, we would like to extend our appreciation to all both the UN country team and the Government agencies for the inputs and contribution they have made to this UNDAF. We are committed to a strong cooperation and greater partnership between the UN, the Government and other development partners as we tackle development challenges and work towards the realization of our national development goals.

Finn Reske-Nielsen
UN Resident Coordinator
UNDP Resident Representative

Somsavat Lengsavad
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Vientiane
June 2006

Declaration of Commitment

The United Nations Country Team in the Lao People's Democratic Republic is committed to supporting the efforts of the Government to improve the life of all citizens, especially those most vulnerable. We shall continue to work closely with the Government and all development partners for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Our collective endeavour is to assist the people of Lao PDR to achieve progress and better standards of living for all.

Finn Reske-Nielsen
UN Resident Coordinator
UNDP Resident Representative

Nobuko Horibe
UNFPA Representative

Christa Räder
WFP Representative

Olivia Yambi
UNICEF Representative

Leik Boonwaat
UNODC Representative

Leena Kirjavainen
FAO Representative

Dongil Ahn
WHO Representative

James Nugent
ADB Country Director

Setsuko Yamazaki
UNDP DRR (Programme)

Patchamutu Illangovan
WB Country Manager

Michael Hahn
UNAIDS Country Coordinator

Sheldon Schaeffer
UNESCO Regional Director

Christine Evans-Klock
ILO Sub-Regional Director

Terje Skavdal
OCHA Regional Representative a.i.

Jean-Marc Deroy
UNIDO Regional Director

Irena Vojackova-Sollorano
IOM Regional Representative

Hasim Utkan
UNHCR Regional Representative

Jean D'Cunha
**UNIFEM Regional Programme
Director**

Homayoun Alizadeh
OHCHR Representative

Manuela Tortora
**UNCTAD Chief, Technical
Cooperation Service**

Alain Chevalier
**ITC Senior Regional Trade
Promotion Advise**

Astuko Toda
IFAD Country Portfolio Manager

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Executive Summary

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is the common strategic framework of the United Nations system at the country level. It provides a collective, coherent, and integrated United Nations response to national needs and priorities, including enhancing national capacity and ownership to implement national development priorities as outlined in the Government's five-year National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2006-2010 (NSEDP), the Common Country Assessment (CCA), and are in pursuit of reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In the Lao PDR the UNDAF is organized around three core pillars of governance, poverty and food security, and the social sector. These were identified by the UN system in 2004 as being critical sectors for the Lao PDR to reach the MDGs and as such formed a realignment of UNDAF 1 (2002-2006) during its mid-term review. The three outcome areas are:

1. By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development;
2. By 2011, increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services; and
3. By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfill their duties and greater people's participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration.

These broad expected outcomes are then elaborated by specific outputs under each core area, and will be measured by clear indicators specified in the monitoring and evaluation matrix. In each of these areas, the inputs of the UN system are part of the broader development assistance with a focus on the implementation of the NSEDP led by the Government in cooperation with its full complement of partners. The purpose of the UNDAF approach is to focus the UN around its "value added" or "UN niche". In this regard, it is important to recognise the critical role of other partners in the priority sectors.

In relation to poverty reduction the UNDAF centers on a number of key areas that include pro-poor policy reform, support to natural resource development and the environment, clearance of unexploded ordnance (UXO), nutrition and household food security, reproductive health, disaster management, promotion of trade and private sector development, and strengthening of donor and aid coordination and alignment. These are seen as critical components of the poverty reduction framework.

In the social sector, key dimensions of the UNDAF aim to increase access to quality primary education for girls and children from rural communities, integrate maternal and child health services, increase water and sanitation services and improve communicable disease control, and increase HIV and AIDS coverage of prevention and support.

The governance sector focuses on greater people's participation, increased access to justice and strengthened rule of law, improving public administration, and the realization of international treaty obligations in accordance with the Lao Constitution and the Millennium Declaration.

In each of these core areas, the UN system notes the specific needs of women, children, young people, and vulnerable groups, particularly in rural areas.

The total resources allocated for this UNDAF are USD\$219,350,310. This includes staffing and overhead costs that UN agencies estimate are necessary to deliver the specified outputs, but does not include the resource estimates of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

Introduction

In 2005 the UN system in cooperation with the Government of the Lao PDR, undertook a Common Country Assessment, and identified major development challenges faced by the country and their root causes. In doing so, the CCA indicates who are the most vulnerable, disaggregating where possible to capture the extent and location of need, and highlights gaps in capacity at various levels. This analysis was then used by the joint UN system and Government theme groups (and other partners) to define this strategic cooperation framework for the five-year period 2007-2011.

The ultimate goal of both the CCA and the UNDAF is to support the Lao PDR towards:

- *Realizing the values of the Millennium Declaration,*
- *Achieving the MDG's by 2015,*
- *Reaching national development goals and strategies and, ultimately*
- *Exiting Least Developed Country Status by 2020.*

Preparation Process

A mid-term review of the first UNDAF (2002-2006) recommended focusing on three core areas of assistance during the remainder of the current UNDAF cycle (to the end of 2006). Health, education, and HIV and AIDS were chosen, primarily as being critical to the Lao PDR achieving the MDGs. In early 2005, in consideration of prioritizing areas for assistance within the new UNDAF model, the UNCT then identified two additional priority areas – poverty and food security, and governance, with gender as a cross-cutting theme.

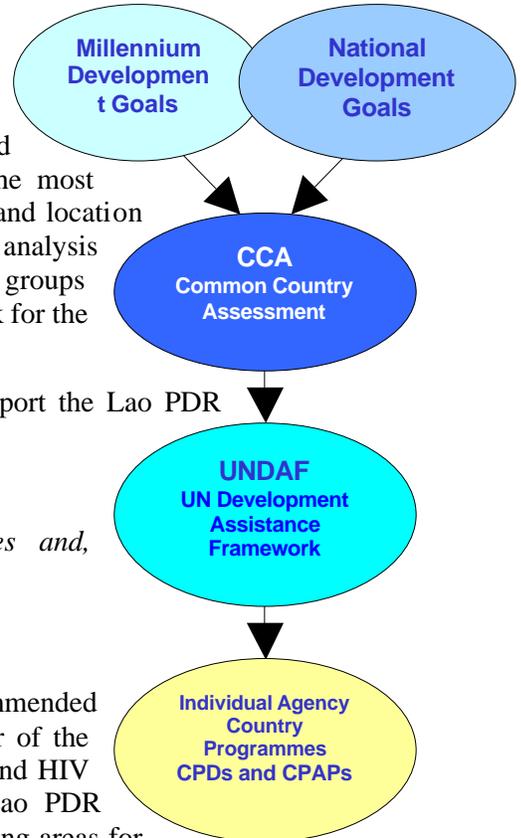
An UNDAF retreat was held in mid 2005 which brought together representatives from Government, the UN system and key partners, to begin the process of prioritizing the core elements of the UNDAF. The results of this retreat then fed into the work of the joint Government and UN system theme groups, created for each of the five priority sectors, and were supported by three cross-cutting working groups. The UN theme groups were reconstituted to form the Common Country Assessment analysis and drafting process, and further, to define the results and monitoring and evaluation frameworks for the UNDAF.

Role of Stakeholders

Theme groups and working groups were comprised of Government officials in technical areas, and senior UN programme staff. The Office of the Resident Coordinator and the Department of International Organizations in Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided the overall coordination and facilitation of the process. External partners including donors and international non-government organizations were invited to participate on the theme groups for both the preparation of the CCA and the UNDAF.

Rationale

The analysis undertaken through the CCA process highlighted some common areas and challenges for development progress in the Lao PDR. These include fostering enabling environments and increasing awareness; reviewing or building policy and increasing participation; overcoming capacity restraints such as limited financial resources and insufficient monitoring and evaluation; strengthening human resource capacity; and strengthening the implementation and enforcement of policies.



Furthermore, the MDGs and the Millennium Declaration provided the guiding context in the analysis that constituted the CCA, and the development of the UNDAF. The principles of the Millennium Declaration are that development is not limited to economic freedom and poverty reduction alone, and that we must strive together to foster an enabling environment of participation, equality, diversity, and governance, if true progress in human development is to be made.

Consultation with the Government and participation at the Round Table Meetings ensured dialogue between the UN system and the Government on priority setting.

The resulting priority sectors of the UNDAF are thus defined from the CCA analysis, through consideration of the expected inputs of others (including the Government, other Lao stakeholders, other partners in development, INGOs and the foreign private sector) and the comparative advantages of the UN system agencies.

Data

Availability of data is considered a major constraint in policymaking and progress monitoring in the Lao PDR. Data disaggregation by sex, location and ethnicity is improving but does not yet support adequate analysis and policy formulation. The CCA notes the data constraints, and also acknowledges the excellent leadership of the National Statistics Centre (NSC) in improving the quantity and quality of data. At the time of drafting this UNDAF, the results of the 2005 population census were just being made available, thus every effort to include the latest statistics has been made.

Expected Results

The development strategy for the Lao PDR is defined in the sixth National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2006-2010 (NSEDP) launched to international partners at the mini Round Table Meeting in Vientiane in January 2006. The NSEDP has incorporated the previous National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy¹ (NGPES), and prescribes the core development priorities for the country.

The overall direction for the NSEDP centres on transforming the multisectoral economy from uneven performance to fast and stable development within the market mechanism guided by the State. This objective is underpinned by a strong focus on promoting economic development, increasing competitiveness and effectively implementing international economic commitments (in the framework of ASEAN and other bilateral and multilateral commitments, such as the World Trade Organization accession) and strengthening the positive links between economic growth and social development to support socio-political stability.

Within this core focus of promoting poverty reduction through economic growth, trade, job creation and regional integration, the NSEDP also highlights thematic and cross cutting issues in the areas of gender equality, drug control, UXO, HIV and AIDS, governance, natural resources and the environment, private sector development, particularly micro, small and medium enterprise development, and science and technology.

The UN Country Team has ensured that the new UNDAF is directly complementary to the NSEDP. A map showing the 47 poorest districts and 25 poor districts of the Lao PDR, as defined in the NGPES, is included for reference in the annex, in order to demonstrate the areas of greatest need.

¹ also known as the localized Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

UNDAF Outcomes

As part of its mid-term review of UNDAF 1 and in consideration of the NSEDP and MDG priority sectors, the UNCT identified five core areas to be addressed in UNDAF 2: governance, health, education, HIV and AIDS, and poverty/ food security /and growth.

The following matrices for results, and monitoring and evaluation, have been elaborated in close partnership with the national authorities in response to the strategies, policies and priorities of the Lao PDR. Doing so has harmonized the UN vision for sustainable development with the vision of the Government of Lao PDR for its people.

UNDAF Outcome 1:

By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within the MDG framework)

Tackling poverty eradication requires a multifaceted approach and the provision of an enabling environment for growth and development. Over recent years, the Lao PDR has experienced periods of economic growth and made encouraging development gains. However, as in many other parts of the world, poverty in the Lao PDR is exacerbated by growing imbalance, particularly between rural and urban areas. Likewise, pockets of food insecurity remain. In addition, gender disparities and rapid population growth continue to exist. The results of the 2005 population census show that the population growth rate is 2.1 percent (considering births, deaths and migration) and that the natural growth rate is 2.5 percent (considering births and deaths), which continue to be one of the highest in the region.

Recognizing the sectoral inter-linkages in poverty reduction efforts, this core area of the UNDAF attempts to tackle a broad range of issues including pro-poor policy reform, support to natural resource development and the environment, clearance of unexploded ordnance (UXO), nutrition and household food security, reproductive health, disaster management, promotion of trade and private sector, particularly micro, small and medium enterprise development, and strengthening of donor and aid coordination and alignment.

Expected Country Programme Outcomes in the area of Poverty, Food Security and Livelihoods:

- 1.1 Improved and equitable access to land (between men and women) markets and social and economic services, environmentally sustainable utilization of natural resources, with balanced population growth;
- 1.2 Increased and more diversified agricultural production, and sustainable use of non-timber forest products;
- 1.3 Improved household food security;
- 1.4 Enhanced ownership and capacity for pro-poor planning and implementation, harmonized aid coordination, and disaster management; and
- 1.5 Enabled environment for growth with equity.

The UN system has identified a number of key issues through the CCA process as follows.

Data Quality and Monitoring: improving national capacity in data collection, research, and analysis and use of data; and ensuring quality of disaggregated data and projections for improved poverty planning and monitoring.

Policy Formulation and Implementation: improving national capacity to implement multi-sectoral programmes in linking equitable economic growth, population and reproductive health, nutrition, and poverty reduction issues; supporting sustainable diverse livelihoods that enhance resilience to shocks such as droughts and floods and increase household-level access to adequate food; ensuring the formulation of appropriate policies and incentives to promote sustainable,

intensified, and diversified food production and food consumption; increasing agricultural productivity and efficiency as well as more equitable division of labour between men and women, and to make efficient use of labour resources (especially in upland areas) to increase agricultural output, conserve agricultural biodiversity and enhance women's empowerment; supporting more efficient, effective and equitable UXO clearance for agricultural production and other development activities in accordance with the ten year UXO national strategic plan; improving implementation of sustainable forestry policies and national obligations under international conventions on environment, environmental impact assessment regulations (for infrastructure and industrial development); and improving the investment climate by the establishment of a regulatory framework for investment and impediments to investment.

Public Information and Awareness: increasing awareness of nutrition and food security, reproductive health, and its inter-linkages, including education and information on dietary practices, sound breast-feeding, food storage and preparation, and water, sanitation and health, with a particular focus on the needs of women and children.

Regionalization and Globalization: assisting WTO-accession and regional trade negotiations; increasing and improving trade-related infrastructure and enhancing trade facilitation with neighbouring countries in order to promote trade expansion; increasing private sector growth and encouraging export related activities (to take full advantage of regional economic dynamism and the more liberal trade environment).

Private Sector Development and Job Creation: outward-looking private sector development in a sustainable manner to increase per capita income, improve equal employment opportunities for women and men, and improve the quality of work such as improved working conditions; ensure greater transparency and accountability in decision-making processes to help generate business confidence and higher levels of equitable economic growth.

Financing and Resources: ensuring adequate financial allocation and long-term funding to the priority sectors of the NGPES and NSEDP, promoting gender-responsive budget mechanisms and establishing long-term investment strategies with particular provision for recurrent costs, promoting and developing financing mechanisms for the environment including enhancing private sector involvement in environmental issues.

Community Mobilization: encouraging small-scale and participatory development schemes, supporting rural savings mobilization and credit extension services, ensuring implementation of community health schemes (coverage of iodized salt, vitamin A, de-worming campaigns), promoting women's greater participation and ensuring cross-sectoral institutional and community participation.

Promoting Green Growth: promoting the sustainable use of natural resources and biodiversity to ensure the socio-economic development, poverty eradication and the protection of the environment, and enhancing local level involvement in resource planning and management.

The UN Country Team has prioritized a number of these areas for support in the results matrix.

UNDAF Outcome 2:
By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to, and utilization of, quality and prioritized social services

During the last decade the government of Lao PDR has clarified and developed its sectoral policies and plans for health and education and HIV and AIDS, adopting key strategic and planning instruments such as the Health Strategy up to the year 2020, National Strategy and Action Plan on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infection, National Education For All (EFA) Action Plan 2003-2015, the Health Master Plan, National Strategy for Environmental Health and Rural Water Supply, and the NGPES (which was later merged into the NSEDP). These strategies

identify the key interventions in the social sectors and their role in combating poverty. Importantly, education and health, as fundamentals for the socioeconomic welfare and for the development of society, have been re-emphasized in the NSEDP.

Expected UNDAF Country Programme Outcomes in the Social Sectors

- 2.1 Increased and equitable access to quality basic education;
- 2.2 Improved equity, efficiency and quality of health services with increasing health services coverage with an emphasis on maternal and child health, family planning, nutrition, communicable disease control, and water and sanitation; and
- 2.3 Increased coverage of quality HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, focusing on the most vulnerable groups (including children) as defined in the national strategy on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections.

Education

The Government of Lao PDR considers education a crucial priority and has identified it as one of the four pillars of the poverty reduction strategy. The Government has a vision of implementing compulsory primary education and progressively increasing participation at higher levels with particular emphasis on lower secondary level. Reduction of disparities related to gender, geographical location and ethnicity is a key concern of the government and its development partners. The UN Country Team appreciates the achievements made in the development of the education sector and stands ready to assist the Government in its efforts towards achieving the MDGs.

In line with the MDGs and the vision of the Government of Lao PDR to universalize compulsory primary education, the agreed focus of UN support is on primary education and to follow the Education for All National Plan of Action 2003-2015 as the guiding policy document. Key issues in the education sector include:

Policy: developing and implementing realistic, sector-wide development and planning strategies with strategic expenditure frameworks; enshrining and ensuring education rights across the sector; supporting the implementation of an equivalency education policy (primary, secondary and vocational); addressing gender and ethnic disparities; addressing rural disadvantages; addressing intake, repetition and drop outs; and improving the adequacy and timeliness of teacher and facilitator salaries.

Financing and Resources: increasing capital funding, particularly in isolated areas; increasing and sustaining recurrent funding across the sector; providing high level advocacy to increase local and ODA contributions and coordinating donor support; and improving financial management, accountability and controls.

Quality, Monitoring and Evaluation: Strengthening the Education Management Information System (EMIS) and its use in planning and monitoring at all levels; monitoring progress in reaching rural and ethnically diverse students.

Service Delivery: improving the quality and supply of students and teachers' materials; improving the relevance and consistency of formal and non-formal curriculum; improving the quality and capacity of Community Learning Centers to reach those out of school; improving the relevance and consistency of teacher and facilitator training; increasing the ethnic diversity and gender balance of teachers; addressing enrolment, repetition and drop-out at a school level; prioritizing the most remote and marginalized children, youth and adults, both in and out of school settings; and prioritizing gender equality across all education levels.

Health

The health policies of the Government of Lao PDR aim to promote an equitable society through the reduction of urban-rural health gaps, achieving lower maternal and child mortality, reducing health disparities between the poor and those better off, and higher living conditions for all Lao people. This recognizes the importance of family planning as a way to improve the health status of women and their families, and in achieving better living standards for communities, especially in the most vulnerable and needy areas. Meeting these goals requires focusing resources into prevention and curative measures for the conditions that feed poverty. Key issues for the health sector include:

Service Delivery and Access: Improving the quality of health care services with a focus on service delivery, and emphasis on maternal health, child/newborn health, and communicable disease control, improving the coordination and planning of health care services, utilizing both internal and external resources, and improving health care access and appropriate utilization of health services for all Lao people.

Planning, Financial, and Human Resources: Improving health care financing by moving towards financing systems that emphasize pre-payment, risk pooling and equity in financing, and improving human resources in the areas of quality, distribution, and motivation.

Awareness and Promotion: improving health promoting behaviours at all levels.

HIV and AIDS

The challenge in the Lao PDR is to keep the HIV epidemic at its current low level. This can only happen through an expanded response, including new partnerships, involvement of sectors other than health, and a focus on the most vulnerable groups. The new “National Strategy and Action Plan on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections 2006-2010” aims at scaling-up prevention and treatment towards universal access for all in need. The UN system in Lao PDR has identified four areas in which the UN has a comparative advantage to support the government in mounting an effective response. These areas comprise:

- a) coordination, management and implementation capacity,
- b) involvement of new sectors and new partnerships,
- c) Support to strategic information and interventions focusing on vulnerable groups including children, Young People and adults living with HIV and AIDS, and
- d) strengthening of service delivery in selected geographic areas.

The operationalization of the joint UN efforts to respond to HIV and AIDS will also be guided by the recommendations of the Global Task Team on HIV and AIDS, including the UNAIDS division of labour and the establishment of a joint UN HIV and AIDS team in Lao PDR, which, within the Resident Coordinator system, and facilitated by the UNAIDS Country Coordinator, will coordinate and monitor the implementation of UN HIV and AIDS related activities.

Financing and Resources: developing and costing a multi-year operational framework including yearly national programs with clear strategies and targets, moving from individual funded projects to result oriented program funding, and improving national reporting and accountability.

Leadership and Commitment: increasing, sustaining and broadening political commitment and leadership at all levels and including HIV and AIDS related activities into national development plans; increasing resource allocation, including new partners and stake-holders, actively engaging ministries and national authorities outside of the health sector, translating commitment into meaningful institutional mechanisms that can lead and coordinate an expanded national response, committing to a rights based response, involvement and inclusion of people living with HIV and AIDS, choosing supportive strategies rather than punitive approaches, addressing denial, stigma and discrimination, and providing an enabling environment and targeted interventions.

National Responses: rapidly scaling-up the response of well-prioritized and targeted interventions focusing on the most vulnerable and marginalized groups, improving the quality of interventions, establishing an effective system to track the epidemic, and to monitor and evaluate the response and impact, building capacity at all levels, establishing an effective and functioning national coordination mechanism, including the target population in all stages of the response, involving and including people living with HIV and AIDS, expanding the coverage of treatment services, facilitating access to the means of protection (i.e. condoms, clean injecting equipment), and integrating HIV and AIDS prevention (including voluntary testing and counselling, and prevention of mother to child transmission) and care activities into other nationwide systems (e.g. education, uniformed services).

The UN Country Team has prioritized a number of these education, health and HIV and AIDS key areas for support in the results matrix.

UNDAF Outcome 3:

By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfill their duties and greater people's participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration

Governance is a vehicle through which individuals, institutions, rules and political processes may contribute to economic growth, the realization of rights and the alleviation of poverty. In the Lao context this may be directly linked to achieving the MDGs. If realization of the MDGs is viewed as the desired *outcome*, good governance is central to the *process* by which such outcomes are derived.

Poverty reduction is directly linked to governance in that limited public resources must be used effectively and efficiently to reach out to the poor. Importantly, in the transition to a more market-based economy, the system of decision-making must be more community-based, transparent and accountable. For the past decade, the Government of the Lao PDR has embarked on wide-ranging public administration reforms, designed to create an effective, efficient and low-cost public administration, together with the requisite institutional and legal framework. The UN system is committed to supporting initiatives to ensure more efficient, accountable, transparent, policies and practices to protect the rights of citizens, especially the poorest and most vulnerable.

In 2003, the government presented a policy paper on governance at the Round Table Meeting, indicating its intention to pursue an ambitious reform agenda in this area. The policy paper provides a comprehensive overview of major governance activities including the four themes of public service reform, people's participation, the rule of law and sound financial management. These priority areas form the basis of the UN system's pillars of support in the UNDAF.

Expected UNDAF Country Programme Outcomes in Governance

- 3.1 Greater people's and community participation in and contribution to public policy, local development and nation building;
- 3.2 Increased and more equitable access to justice and strengthened rule of law;
- 3.3 Increased efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of the public administration at both central and local levels; and
- 3.4 Progressive realization of international treaty obligations, including protection of human rights, in accordance with the Lao Constitution and the Millennium Declaration.

The main governance issues to be addressed through the UNDAF may be summarized as follows:

Civil Society Participation: promoting the wider participation of citizens in the review of public policy and as partners in development.

Legislature and the Rule of Law: increasing the number and capacity of judges, lawyers and prosecutors; increasing public awareness and understanding of the legal system and pro-actively encouraging the development of the legal profession; promoting gender-balance in the legal sector, increasing equity in legal services access and improve the clarity of laws to ease implementation; improving enforcement legislation to maximize the effectiveness of existing laws and to develop a master plan for the legal sector in Lao PDR.

Public Administration and Decentralization: technical awareness and resource capacity to implement change; supporting the administrative decentralisation of public sector functions to enhance responsiveness and decision making at central, provincial, district, and village levels; improving management skills and administrative capacity in public organizations; continuing to tackle corruption and appropriate legislation; and continuing to promote the representation and capacity of women in the public sector.

Human Rights: ensuring national laws are consistent with the obligations under international treaties which Lao PDR has committed to and to provide support to the Government with the expertise and resources to realize human rights; promoting awareness of rights among Lao people and enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of mechanisms for investigation and redress of alleged human rights issues; celebrating progress and successes in recent human rights advances.

The UN Country Team has prioritized a number of these Governance areas for support in the results matrix.

UNDAF Implementation

The UN Country Team, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, is responsible for the implementation of the UNDAF, in partnership with the Government. Many of the strategies detailed in the Results Matrix (annex) will be absorbed into UN agencies existing country programmes, and importantly, as a key instrument of the UN reform process, the programmes of the EXCOM agencies (UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA and WFP) are required to show direct contribution to UNDAF outcomes.

Joint Programming

Effective implementation of the UNDAF will require greater harmonization among UN agencies as the UNCT moves towards greater synergy and alignment in pursuit of the UN programme of reform. The UNDAF prioritization and planning exercises have created unique opportunities for the UN system to identify areas to join together in more effective design and delivery of programmes at the country level. A number of joint programmes have already been identified, and it is expected that many more will emerge as the UNCT strives towards more cost-effective and efficient coordination and programming focused on greater impact. Some of these prospective areas for joint programming include integrated maternal and child health, education, strengthening of statistical capacity, gender, HIV and AIDS, trade, governance, food security, and private sector development.

Partnerships

The UNDAF also provides a strategic framework for the UN system to articulate its partnerships with a range of stakeholders. In addition to traditional partners in the Lao PDR, the UNDAF has articulated the emergence of new partnership opportunities such as the private sector and emerging civil society organizations, representing exciting developments for development interventions.

Role of Specialized Agencies and IFIs

Although the UNDAF primarily represents 80 percent of the substantive programmes of the four EXCOM agencies, the UN system as a whole is focused through the results framework and monitoring and evaluation matrix. The UN system in the Lao PDR is strongly committed to

presenting a unified and coordinated approach, while respecting the specific mandates of specialized agencies and the unique role of the International Finance Institutions. In particular, the IFIs are regular and substantive members of the UN Country Team and their country strategies form part of the total picture of UN assistance. The detailed country programmes of specialized agencies and the IFIs are annexed to the UNDAF.

It should be noted that although the UNDAF is presenting areas of proposed intervention, actual execution of such activities is dependent upon funds being mobilized, which for specialized agencies, cannot be known with certainty at the time of signature.

Coordination Modalities

A range of coordination mechanisms exist and will continue to drive the delivery of UNDAF outcomes and to promote an enabling environment of dialogue, feedback, and review towards greater results. Specific coordination modalities include:

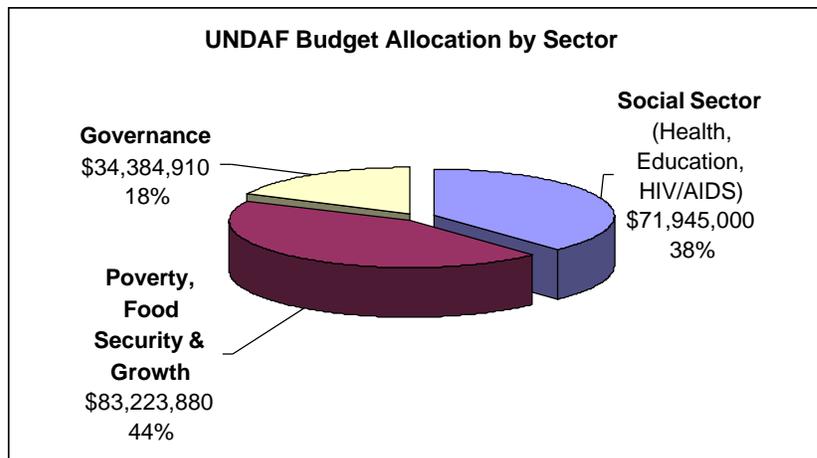
- UN Country Team to act as the overall quality control and monitoring mechanism of the UNDAF;
- UNDAF Theme Groups (joint Government and UN system) to monitor the implementation of the UNDAF and make recommendations for adjustment where necessary;
- Informal Quarterly Donor Coordination Meetings and Sectoral Working Groups (donor and government) to ensure dialogue with partners on development issues and to identify areas for joint programming and to avoid duplication; and
- UN System Administration Officers group to promote greater efficiency and cost effectiveness.

Estimated Resource Requirements

The total resources to be mobilized in support of UNDAF implementation for the period 2007-2011 are estimated at approximately **USD\$190,638,790**. This total includes resources that form part of the core funding of UN agencies operating in the Lao PDR as well as funds to be mobilized through external partners².

Of this total amount, it is estimated that **USD\$83,223,880** (44%) will be allocated on poverty, food security and growth initiatives, **USD\$71,945,000** (38%) on the social sector, and **USD\$34,384,910** (18%) will be spent on governance. This distribution reflects national development priorities. More detail on the amount to be realized for each UNDAF outcome area may be found in the UNDAF results matrix.

The resource framework of the UNDAF is indicative only, and each UN agency is responsible for financial planning, management and resource mobilization, specific to their country programmes. However for the first time, this UNDAF provides a guiding framework for joint programming and a number of areas have been identified where the UN system can share resources and thus increase impact.



² Note, this does not include resource estimates of WB and ADB

Resource Allocation by UN Agency:

UN Agency	Total Amount 2007-2011
UNDP	\$54,652,000*
UNICEF	\$33,450,000
WFP	\$37,100,000
UNODC	\$20,191,000
UNFPA	\$10,500,000
FAO	\$8,260,000
WHO	\$7,950,000
ITC	\$4,600,000
UNIDO	\$4,578,480
ILO	\$3,833,400
UNESCO	\$2,166,500
UNCDF	\$1,999,410
UNCTAD	\$600,000
UN HABITAT	\$385,000
UNIFEM (2007-08)	\$373,000
Total	\$190,638,790

Staffing and Overhead Cost estimated by UN Agency (for UNDAF period 2007-2011):

UN Agency	Estimated Cost
UNDP	\$8,000,000
UNICEF	\$5,700,000
WFP	\$2,500,000
UNODC	\$1,250,000
UNFPA	\$2,500,000
FAO	\$2,500,000
WHO	\$5,268,000
UNIDO	\$500,000
ILO (2006-07)	\$251,590
UNESCO (2006-07)	\$96,930
UNCDF	\$39,000
UNIFEM (2007-08)	\$106,000
Total	\$28,711,520

Note: these estimates are not included in programme costs in the results matrix nor in resource allocation table left, but are additional costs to the UN agencies and organizations in order to deliver the UNDAF

Monitoring and Evaluation

The UN Country Team and Government joint theme groups have worked together to define a series of realistic indicators to measure results for each UNDAF outcome, in the monitoring and evaluation matrix (annex). The UN Country Team will assume overall monitoring responsibility for the UNDAF and this will form a major part its annual work plans. Substantive support will be provided by the UNDAF theme groups as their role is expanded to include a monitoring function.

Availability of data is considered a major constraint in policy making and progress monitoring in the Lao PDR. Data disaggregation by sex, location and ethnicity is improving but does not yet support adequate analysis and policy formulation. The data collection carried out as part of the MDG reporting process in 2003 and 2004 highlighted a number of data gaps that remain unaddressed. There are a range of reasons for the data constraints including poor coordination between line ministries and agencies and between donors and development partners on data collection and analysis efforts. In addition, the Government lacks the human resources and financial capacity to undertake data collection, analysis and reporting. At this stage the decree on statistics is yet to be adequately implemented. Data collection and analysis requires continued and consistent financial and institutional support from international partners.

A number of initiatives have been put in place to strengthen data management capacity in the Lao PDR, linked to strengthening monitoring and reporting capacity. The National Statistics Centre is being supported to improve data collection, and line ministries are being supported to enhance their collection of primary data. Lao-Info (a localized version of DevInfo software) was introduced in November 2005, and this will provide significantly enhanced data management capacity for monitoring indicators at the outcome and impact level in the Lao PDR, including the UNDAF, as well as the NGPES, ASEAN indicators, the MDGs, the National Human Development Report, and other Government reporting needs. In consideration of strengthening data management capabilities in the future, it will be important for the UN in conjunction with its partners, to continue to explore ways to align and streamline efforts in data gathering and analysis with national systems and processes.

* Please note that the UNDP core resources shown are indicative only. These exclude other UNDP resources such as TRAC 2 (additional funding, especially for the national capacity development for the MDGs), TRAC3 (funding for emergency relief and rehabilitation as required), and thematic trust funds.

Annexes

- Results Matrix
- Monitoring & Evaluation Matrix
- Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations
- Map of 47 Poorest Districts in Lao PDR
- Country Strategies of Specialized Agencies
- UN Country Team

Results Matrix

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: ENHANCED LIVELIHOODS			
UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)			
COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
<p>CP Outcome 1.1: Improved and equitable access to land, markets and social and economic services, environmentally sustainable utilization of natural resources, with balanced population growth</p>	<p>1.1.1 Enhanced safety, awareness for risks, and more land cleared for productive use under the supervision of the National Regulatory Authority for the Mine Action Sector (UNDP, UNICEF)</p> <p>1.1.2 Improved and diversified incomes of rural households, with a focus on increased market accessibility, through implementation of human development and infrastructure initiatives (UNDP, WFP, UNODC, ILO, WB)</p> <p>1.1.3 Enhanced knowledge and management capacity of ecosystems, biodiversity, natural resources and environment, and population dynamics (UNDP, UNFPA, FAO, WB)</p>	<p>Government: Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Science, Technology and Environment Agency, Ministry of Industry and Handicraft, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Committee for Planning and Investment, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Information and Culture, Lao Assoc. of Parliamentarians for Population and Development, Lao Women's Union, National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children, Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Provincial Governments of Oudomxay and Attapeu</p> <p>Donors: European Union, USA Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Ireland, Luxembourg, UK, Netherlands, New Zealand, Finland</p> <p>International Organisations: Global Environment Facility, Netherlands Development Organization (SNV), World Conservation Union, World Wide Fund for Nature, Wildlife Conservation Society, Mekong River Commission, Mines Advisory Group, Norwegian People's Aid, Handicap International Belgium, Norwegian Church Aid, Vredeseilanden (VECO) Lao-American Project, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, Concern, Japan Mine Action Service, German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), German Agro-Action, Action Contre La Faim, Adventist Development Relief Agency</p>	<p>FAO: \$280,000</p> <p>UNIDO: \$1,200,000</p> <p>UNICEF: \$200,000 (other)</p> <p>UNDP : \$2,500,000 (core) \$17,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>WFP: \$3,000,000</p> <p>UNFPA: included in outcome 1.4</p> <p>ILO: \$190,000</p> <p>UNESCO: \$830,000</p> <p>WB: \$68,720,000 (IDA)</p>

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
<p>CP Outcome 1.2: Increased and more diversified agricultural production, and sustainable utilization and management of agricultural biodiversity</p>	<p>1.2.1 Enhanced capacity of the Government and rural communities to improve natural resource use and agricultural practices; increasing production, domestication, agro-processing, marketing skills and setting in place integrated farming systems in a gender-responsive manner (FAO, WFP, UNIDO)</p> <p>1.2.2 Expanded agricultural areas for more permanent agricultural production and development of community-based sustainable non-timber forest products, including alternatives to opium poppy cultivation and unsustainable cultivation practices (WFP, UNIDO, UNODC, WB)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Science, Technology and Environment Agency, Provincial Governments of Oudomxay and Attapeu</p> <p>Donors: Sida, Australia, USA, EU, Germany ADB, Japan and others</p> <p>Other Partners: Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV), International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Norwegian Church Aid, Vredeseilanden (VECO), German Agro-Action, Action Contre La Faim, Lao-American Project, Adventist Development Relief Agency, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee Concern International Rice Research Institute, Lao Swedish Upland Agricultural Forestry Research Project</p>	<p>FAO: \$280,000</p> <p>UNIDO: \$1,228,480</p> <p>UNODC: \$16,401,000</p> <p>WFP: \$3,000,000</p> <p>WB: \$16,690,000 (IDA)</p>
<p>CP Outcome 1.3: Improved household food security</p>	<p>1.3.1 Improved household food security and nutrition through development of strategies and policies based on improved disaggregated data and analytical capacity (FAO, UNICEF, WHO, UNODC, WFP)</p> <p>1.3.2 Improved capacity of rural households to increase their income, and diversify their food consumption, linked with information, education and communication related to nutrition, and gender equality (FAO, UNICEF, WFP)</p> <p>1.3.3 Increased resilience to shocks through relief and rehabilitation efforts and the creation of gender responsive community-based and individual productive assets (WFP)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, National Statistical Centre, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Education, Committee for Planning and Investment, Ministry of Information and Culture, Lao Women's Union, National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children, Provincial Governments of Oudomxay and Attapeu</p> <p>Donors: European Union, Japan, Australia, USA, EU, Germany, and others</p> <p>Other Partners: Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, World Conservation Union, Health Unlimited, German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Norwegian Church Aid Vredeseilanden (VECO) German Agro-Action, Action Contre La Faim, Lao-American Project, Adventist Development Relief Agency, Concern, Institute Francophone de la Medicine Tropicale (IFMT), and others</p>	<p>FAO: \$2,000,000</p> <p>UNICEF: \$200,000 (core) \$1,000,000 (other)</p> <p>WFP: \$8,000,000</p>

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
<p>CP Outcome 1.4: Enhanced ownership and capacity for pro-poor planning and implementation, harmonized aid coordination, and disaster management</p>	<p>1.4.1 Increased capacity at the central and local levels for MDG-based development strategies, policies, and planning that combine a pro-poor and equitable approach to development processes; and effective implementation of public investment programmes in poor areas (UNDP, ADB, WB, UNFPA)</p> <p>1.4.2 Increased capacity for ODA management and alignment of external aid with MDG-based national development priorities, through the Roundtable Process Mechanism (UNDP, ADB, WB)</p> <p>1.4.3 Increased capacity in disaggregated data collection and analysis, research, dissemination and utilization of data for improved (or evidence-based) advocacy, policy and strategy development, planning and monitoring for population, poverty reduction, labour market policy formulation and sustainable development (UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, ILO, WB, UNIFEM)</p> <p>1.4.4 Enhanced capacity at all levels of Government disaster management for preparedness, response and rehabilitation (FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Committee for Planning and Investment, National Statistics Center, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Public Health</p> <p>Donors: US, Germany</p>	<p>UNDP: \$2,000,000 (core) \$1,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$300,000 (core) \$500,000 (other)</p> <p>UNFPA: \$1,500,000 (core) \$500,000 (non-core)</p> <p>FAO: \$4,900,000 (core)</p> <p>WFP: \$1,000,000</p> <p>ILO: \$15,200</p> <p>WB: \$153,690,000 (IDA) \$1,060,000 (TA)</p> <p><i>Note: Resources for disaster and emergency situations: the UNCT is able to respond on an as needs basis, and according to requests from the Government</i></p>
<p>CP Outcome 1.5: Enabled environment for growth with equity</p>	<p>1.5.1 Improved advisory and service capability of public and private sector partners in the fields of institutional building and promotion of the domestic private sector with a focus on employment generation and pro-poor growth, and the long-term sustainability of micro, small and medium enterprises, towards a further transition to a market economy (ITC, UNIDO, UNDP, UNODC, ILO, UNIFEM)</p> <p>1.5.2 Enhanced capacity building for service delivery and strengthened negotiation skills, and policy advice on trade and poverty policies, including global and regional agreements such as the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA), accession to the World Trade Organization and investment promotion (UNCTAD, ITC, UNIDO, UNDP)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Commerce, Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Provincial Chambers of Commerce (PCCIs), Ministry of Industry and Handicraft, National Economic Research Institute, Small Medium Enterprise Promotion and Development Organization, Science, Technology and Environment Agency, ASEAN Secretariat, Lao Women's Union, National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children, Gender Resource and Information for Development Centres (GRID)</p> <p>Donors: European Union, Germany, India IF Facilitator (Australia), IF team (WB, UNDP, IMF, ITC, UNCTAD), US, Switzerland, UK</p> <p>Other Partners: Netherlands Development Organization (SNV), Mekong Private Sector Development Facility</p>	<p>UNDP: \$1,500,000 (core) \$5,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>ITC: \$1,600,000 (core) \$3,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNIDO: \$2,150,000</p> <p>UNCTAD: \$600,000</p> <p>ILO: \$176,200</p> <p>UNIFEM: \$173,000</p> <p>WB: \$250,000 (TA)</p> <p>ADB: \$10,000,000 (loan) \$800,000</p>

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL STATUS, HEALTH STATUS AND GENERAL SOCIAL WELL-BEING
UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
CP Outcome 2.1: Increased and equitable access to quality basic education	<p>2.1.1: Improved policies and strategies in place that ensure increased access to quality primary education for girls and children from disadvantaged communities (UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, WFP and all UNCT members)</p> <p>2.1.2: Improved access and quality of primary education services in the target districts, especially for girls and children from disadvantaged communities. (UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, WFP, ILO, WB, ADB)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Committee for Planning and Investment, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao Women's Union</p> <p>Donors: Other multilateral, bilateral and NGO partners represented in the Education Donor Working Group, Luxembourg, Australian Agency for International Development, European Union, JICA</p> <p>Other Partners: Save the Children, Shanti Volunteers, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, Handicap International Belgium</p>	<p>UNICEF: \$2,500,000 (core) \$9,000,000 (other)</p> <p>WFP: \$ 22,000,000</p> <p>UNESCO: \$ 538,000</p> <p>UNDP: \$300,000 (core) \$1,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>ADB: \$ 10,500,000 (grant)</p> <p>WB: \$13,800,000 (IDA)</p>
CP Outcome 2.2: Improved equity, efficiency and quality of health services with increasing health services coverage with an emphasis on maternal and child health, family planning, nutrition, communicable disease control, and water and sanitation	<p>2.2.1: Increased access to and utilization of integrated maternal and child health / family planning / nutrition services, with a focus on poor and rural populations (UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNESCO, ADB, WB)</p> <p>2.2.2: Increased access to, and utilization of, safe water and sanitation with a focus on poor and rural populations (UNICEF, WB, WHO, UNDP, ADB)</p> <p>2.2.3: Improved effective and prioritized communicable disease control (WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, WB, ADB)</p> <p>2.2.4: Improved health systems including health policy, planning, management, financing, logistics, information systems, and human resources development (WHO, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC, WB, ADB)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Information and Culture, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao Federation of Trade Unions and Bureau of Employers' Activities, and Mass Organisations</p> <p>Donors: Japan/JICA, Luxembourg, France, European Union, Belgium, Global Fund, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization</p> <p>Other Partners: Comité de Cooperation avec le Laos (CCL), Red Cross, Medicines Sans Frontières, Population Services International, Health Unlimited and Save the Children</p>	<p>UNFPA: \$4,800,000 (core) \$1,500,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$ 2,000,000 (core) \$ 11,800,000 (other)</p> <p>WHO: \$4,900,000 (core) \$2,500,000 (other)</p> <p>ILO: \$850,000</p> <p>ADB: \$26,000,000 (grants)</p> <p>WB: \$15,000,000 (IDA)</p>
CP Outcome 2.3: Increased coverage of quality HIV and AIDS	<p>2.3.1: Enhanced capacity for coordination, management, resource mobilisation and implementation of an expanded national response (All UN agencies)</p>	<p>Government: National Committee for the Control of AIDS, Ministry of Public Health, CHAS, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Information and</p>	<p>FAO: \$800,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNDP: \$200,000 (core) \$1,000,000 (non-core)</p>

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
<p>prevention, treatment, care and support, focusing on the most vulnerable groups³ as defined in the national strategy on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and of quality treatment, care, and support for all</p>	<p>2.3.2: At least 5 line ministries and/or mass organizations have mainstreamed the national HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections strategy 2006-2010 into their respective sectoral plans and are implementing with an increased proportion of government resources (UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, ILO, UNODC, WHO, UNDP)</p> <p>2.3.3: Increased capacity of men and women living with HIV and AIDS to participate in decision-making and implementation (UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, UNFPA, WFP)</p> <p>2.3.4: Increased use of evidence based information on vulnerable populations (as defined in the national strategy) to determine programme priorities within the national HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections strategy and action plan (UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UNDP, UNODC, ILO)</p> <p>2.3.5: Increased availability of comprehensive prevention, treatment, care and support, and strengthened prevention and care continuum in priority geographic areas (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UNODC, WHO, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WB, ADB)</p>	<p>Culture, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Committee for Planning and Investment, Lao Red Cross, Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Lao Federation of Trade Unions, Lao Women's Union, National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children, Lao Front for National Construction, Provincial Committee for the Control of AIDS, District Committee for the Control of AIDS</p> <p>Donors: Global Fund, ADB, Canadian International Development Agency, SIDA, WB</p> <p>Other Partners: Medicines Sans Frontières, Family Health International, Population Services International, CARE, Burnet Institute, Norwegian Church Aid, Australian Red Cross, Handicap International France, World Vision, Save the Children Norway, Concern Worldwide</p> <p>Community Based Organizations: Lao Youth AIDS Prevention, Lao Network of Positive People Participatory Development Training Centre, Youth Fighting AIDS Programme</p>	<p>WHO: \$125,000 (core) \$425,000 (other)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$ 500,000 (core) \$1,000,000 (other)</p> <p>UNFPA: \$500,000 (core) \$1,000,000 (other)</p> <p>UNODC: \$2,320,000</p> <p>ILO: \$45,000</p> <p>WFP: \$100,000</p> <p>UNESCO: \$242,000 (2006-07)</p> <p>WB: as part of resources in 2.1</p> <p>ADB: as part of resources in CDC project (CP outcome 2.1.3)</p>

³ Vulnerable Groups is defined as "young people, children, women, girls and different ethnic groups"

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: ENHANCED SYSTEMS OF GOVERNANCE AT ALL LEVELS IN SUPPORT OF EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SIXTH NATIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

UNDAF OUTCOME 3: By 2011, *strengthened capacities* of public and private institutions to fulfil their duties and *greater people's participation* in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
<p>CP Outcome 3.1: Greater people's and community participation in and contribution to public policy, local development and nation building</p>	<p>3.1.1: Increased mechanisms and opportunities to convey the rights and interests of citizens, (young people and women in particular) to decision-makers, through relevant and meaningful public participation (UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM)</p> <p>3.1.2: Strengthened community participation in the planning, management, implementation, and monitoring of gender-sensitive, child-friendly, local development activities (UNDP, UNICEF, WB, ILO, UNIFEM)</p> <p>3.1.3: Increased and more equal public access to timely and relevant information, especially in rural and remote areas and among poor, vulnerable populations, particularly women, youth, and children (UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM)</p>	<p>Government (Central and local levels): Committee for Planning and Investment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Information and Culture, Ministry of Justice, National Assembly, Lao Women's Union, Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, Lao Front for National Construction, Public Administration and Civil Service Authority Prime Minister's Office, Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children</p> <p>Donors: Australia, European Union, Ireland, Switzerland, Sweden, CIDA and others</p> <p>Other Partners: Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV), Handicap International Belgium, Friends International</p>	<p>UNDP: \$752,000 (core) \$3,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$500,000 (core) \$1,250,000 (other)</p> <p>UNESCO: \$556,500</p> <p>ILO: \$2,500,000</p> <p>UNIFEM: \$50,000</p> <p>WB: \$19,340,000 (IDA) Poverty Reduction Fund</p>
<p>CP Outcome 3.2: Increased and more equitable access to justice and strengthened rule of law</p>	<p>3.2.1: Enhanced institutional capacity development of the legal sector to improve the application of the law in an impartial, effective and predictable manner, particularly for women, low-income households and vulnerable groups (UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM)</p> <p>3.2.2: Improved law enforcement mechanisms particularly to build private sector confidence and stimulate growth (UNDP)</p> <p>3.2.3: Strengthened oversight functions of the National Assembly in holding government agencies accountable for improved performance, including more timely and predictable delivery of services and implementation of laws (UNDP)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Justice, Office of the Supreme People's Prosecutor, Supreme People's Court Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lao Women's Union, National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children, Public Administration and Civil Service Authority/Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Public Security, National Assembly, Lao Bar Association</p> <p>Donors: Australia, European Union, Switzerland, Sweden, CIDA, and others</p> <p>Other Partners: International Committee for the Red Cross, Bar Associations of other countries</p>	<p>UNDP: \$1,000,000 (core) \$7,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$100,000 (core) \$500,000 (other)</p> <p>UNODC: \$860,000</p> <p>UNIFEM: \$50,000</p>

COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES	COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	PRIMARY PARTNERS	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TARGETS
<p>CP Outcome 3.3: Increased efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of the public administration at both central and local levels</p>	<p>3.3.1: Strengthened capacities of central and local administrations for decentralized planning, management and service delivery (UNDP, UNICEF, UNCDF, WB)</p> <p>3.3.2: Enhanced capacities and incentive structures to facilitate more effective fiscal management in terms of stimulating greater domestic revenue collection and strengthened public expenditure management (WB, ADB, IMF, UNDP)</p> <p>3.3.3: Strengthened implementation of Anti-Corruption legislation and practices through reforms in administrative systems, public information dissemination and law enforcement (UNDP, UNODC)</p> <p>3.3.4: Increased number of line ministries and mass organizations that have mainstreamed the National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (2006-10) into their respective sectoral policies and implementation plans, and/or have formulated sector-specific gender mainstreaming policies (all UN agencies)</p>	<p>Government: Public Administration and Civil Service Authority, Committee for Planning and Investment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State Inspection Authority, State Audit Office, Ministry of Information and Culture, Ministry of Justice, Lao Women's Union, Public Administration and Civil Service Authority/ Prime Minister's Office, Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children</p> <p>Donors: European Union, Ireland, Switzerland, Sweden and others</p> <p>Other Partners: Transparency International, Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV)</p>	<p>UNDP: \$950,000 (core) \$5,500,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$400,000 (core) \$1,150,000 (other)</p> <p>UNIFEM: \$50,000</p> <p>UNCDF: \$1,999,410</p> <p>WB: Various projects overlap btw CP 1.4 and CP 3.3 (e.g. PRSO, Fin Man Cap Building, PRF)</p>
<p>CP Outcome 3.4: Progressive realization of international treaty obligations, including protection of human rights, in accordance with the Lao Constitution and the Millennium Declaration</p>	<p>3.4.1: Key international treaties, including Human Rights instruments, are acceded to, effectively transformed into national legislation, and increasingly observed, enforced, and monitored by appropriate government bodies (all UN agencies)</p> <p>3.4.2: Strengthened environment for law and policy reform to improve the situation of disadvantaged groups, such as women, children and ethnic groups, including legislation and provisions that contribute to protection of their rights (all UN agencies)</p>	<p>Government: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Information and Culture, Science, Technology and Environment Agency, Ministry of Justice, Lao Women's Union, Public Administration and Civil Service Authority/Prime Minister's Office, National Assembly, Office of the Supreme People's Prosecutor, Supreme People's Court, Lao National Commission for the Advancement of Women, National Commission for Mothers and Children,</p> <p>Donors: Australia, European Union, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, CIDA, and others</p> <p>Other Partners: International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC)</p>	<p>UNDP: \$950,000 (core) \$4,000,000 (non-core)</p> <p>UNICEF: \$ 250,000 (core) \$300,000 (other)</p> <p>ILO: \$57,000</p> <p>UNODC: \$610,000</p> <p>UNIFEM: \$50,000</p>

Monitoring & Evaluation Matrix

The Lao PDR UNDAF monitoring and evaluation matrix is a “work in progress”. The lack of available and quality data at the time of finalization of the UNDAF has meant that not all outputs can be quantified. Furthermore, intensive discussions around joint programming are also underway which will help determine realistic targets by sector and not by agency, while a range of surveys are due to be completed towards the end of 2006 that will provide valuable baselines from which to set specific targets. The UN Country Team also intends to update this M&E matrix on a regular basis to ensure it is a living and relevant tool to track progress.

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
	<p>OUTCOME INDICATORS</p> <p>Millennium Development Goal Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDG Indicator 001a: proportion of people living below the poverty line (<i>Baseline 1997: 39%</i>) • MDG Indicator 002: Poverty Gap Ratio⁴ (<i>Baseline 1997: 10%</i>) • MDG Indicator 004: Prevalence of Underweight Children (<i>Baseline 2000: 40%</i>) • MDG Indicator 005: Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption (<i>Baseline 1998: 29%</i>) • MDG Indicator 11: Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (<i>Baseline 1995: 37.5%</i>) • MDG indicator 025: Proportion of land forest cover (<i>Baseline: MAF, 2005, 41.5%</i>) • MDG Indicator 026: Area protected to maintain biological diversity as proportion of total surface area (<i>Baseline 2000: 14%</i>) • MDG Indicator 032: Proportion of households with access to secure tenure, urban and rural areas (disaggregated if possible) (<i>Baseline 1995: 90.7% urban</i>) <p>Additional National Core Indicators⁵:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Indicator 1: Net official development assistance (ODA) received • National Indicator 14: GDP per capita average annual growth rate (<i>Baseline: NHDR- 3.7 percent from 1990 to 2003</i>) • National Indicator 15: Inequality measures – gini index⁶ (<i>Baseline: NHDR- 32.6 [total], 30.3 [rural], 34.8 [urban] in 2002-03</i>) • National Indicator 16: Population size (<i>Baseline: Population and Housing Census - 5,622,000 in 2005</i>) • National Indicator 18: Poverty Headcount Ratio⁷ • National Indicator 25: Total fertility rate (<i>Baseline: Population and Housing Census - 4.5 per women in 2005</i>) • National Indicator 31: GDP per capita (<i>Baseline: CPI 2005 - \$450</i>) • National Indicator 32: Gender-related Development Index⁸ (calculated) • National Indicator 33: Human Development Index⁹ (calculated) (<i>Baseline: NHDR- 0.545 in 2003</i>) • National Indicator 34: Human Poverty Index¹⁰ (calculated) • National Indicator 36: Ratio of female to male earned income (calculated) • National Indicator 99: Proportion of Population below \$1 per day¹¹ 	<p>National Statistics Centre (Annual Reports)</p> <p>Asian Development Bank data</p> <p>Population and Housing Census</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</p> <p>World Bank data</p> <p>Bank of Lao data</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODA and Government budget will remain stable. <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural disasters, • Economic crisis/ stagnation

⁴ Poverty Gap Ratio is the mean distance separating the population from the poverty line (with the non-poor being given a distance of zero), expressed a percentage of the poverty line

⁵ The National Core Indicator Framework is a set of 100 core indicators developed by the National Statistics Centre to monitor progress at the outcome and output level, across all MDGs, and incorporating important ASEAN related information

⁶ Gini Index measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or consumption) among individuals or households within a country deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A value of 0 represents perfect equality, a value of 100, perfect inequality

⁷ Poverty Headcount Ratio is the proportion of the national population whose incomes are below the official threshold (or thresholds) set by the national government.

⁸ The gender related development index reflects inequalities between men and women in the average achievement of the 3 dimensions of human development - a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living

⁹ The human development index reflects the average achievement of the 3 dimensions of human development - a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living

¹⁰ the Human Poverty Index (HPI-1) for 94 developing countries measures the deprivation in the 3 dimensions of human poverty - a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living

¹¹ Based on World Bank estimates of income or consumption levels derived from household surveys.

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 1.1: Improved & equitable access to land, markets & social and economic services, environmentally sustainable utilization of natural resources, with balanced population growth			
<p>CP Output 1.1.1 Enhanced safety, awareness for risks, and more land cleared for productive use under the supervision of the National Regulatory Authority for the Mine Action Sector (UNDP, UNICEF)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in the number of casualties caused by UXO: less than 100 per year (<i>Baseline: 91 accidents and 145 casualties in 9 provinces where UXO Lao operates in 2005</i>) Land cleared of UXO for productive use: 18,000 hectares of priority land in 10 years (<i>Baseline: 1,566 hectares in 2005</i>) 	UXO Lao National Regulatory Authority	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources are available for UXO Lao to continue its operations
<p>CP Output 1.1.2 Improved and diversified incomes of rural households, with a focus on increased market accessibility, through implementation of human development and infrastructure initiatives (UNDP, WFP, UNODC, ILO, WB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in telephone lines and mobile phone subscribers per 100 population Percentage of rural villages with access to power/electricity (<i>Baseline: 43% and 11% with access to and without road, respectively in 2005</i>) Increases in household income strategies, consumption strategies and coping strategies Increased number of rural roads that make possible accessibility to market to help enhance livelihoods for poor villages. Share of women and men engaged in on-farm, off-farm and non-farm activities 	Least Developed Countries Program of Action Commitment / Indicator 64 NSEDP Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction- National Statistics Centre Ministry of Industry and Handicraft WFP – Baseline surveys Population and Housing Census 2005	
<p>CP Output 1.1.3 Enhanced knowledge and management capacity of ecosystems, biodiversity, natural resources and environment, and population dynamics (UNDP, UNFPA, FAO, WB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of multilateral environmental agreements to which the Lao PDR is a party (<i>Baseline 2006: 7</i>) Second national communication on climate change finalized and submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat (<i>Baseline: first communication available</i>) Increased availability of tools for implementation of the legislation relating to the environment and natural resource use (<i>Baseline: no tools currently available</i>) Proportion of key national and subnational stakeholders¹² who are knowledgeable about the population policy and its linkages to environment and poverty reduction 	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 2003 Science Technology and Environment Agency Ministry of Foreign Affairs UNFPA survey	

¹² National and sub-national stakeholders are defined in the UNFPA Country Program Document as parliamentarians, central and local government officials, provincial/district governors and village chiefs. They will be sampled in the baseline survey.

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 1.2: Increased and more diversified agricultural production, and sustainable utilization and management of agricultural biodiversity			
<p>CP Output 1.2.1 Enhanced capacity of the Government and rural communities to improve natural resource use and agricultural practices; increasing production, domestication, agro-processing, marketing skills and setting in place integrated farming systems in a gender-responsive manner (FAO, WFP, UNIDO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of rice growers by use of improved seeds, pesticides and fertilizers (disaggregated). (<i>Baseline: 1999</i>) Number of households engaged in other activities than rice production (permanent crops, temporary crops, livestock, aquaculture). (<i>Baseline: Agricultural Census, 1999</i>, disaggregated where possible) Number of Agro-processing businesses owned by women and men Trade flows of semi-processed agricultural products Land registered / owned by women and men Total harvested area (ha) and production (tons) of cereals (incl. rice), vegetables and beans and manufacturing productions (from agriculture). 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Agricultural Statistics Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Industry and Handicraft Ministry of Commerce, ITC</p>	<p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic crisis, decrease in ODA <p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GoL and ODA will increase spending on infrastructure development
<p>CP Output 1.2.2 Expanded agricultural areas for more permanent agricultural production and development of community-based sustainable non-timber forest products, including alternatives to opium poppy cultivation and unsustainable cultivation practices (WFP, UNIDO, UNODC, WB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of change from shifting cultivation to permanent/sedentary agriculture (Area of holdings by land use and province) (<i>Baseline: 1999</i>) 	<p>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Agricultural Statistics,</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources are available for UXO Lao to continue its operations
CP Outcome 1.3: Improved household food security			
<p>CP Output 1.3.1 Improved household food security and nutrition through development of strategies and policies based on improved disaggregated data and analytical capacity (FAO, UNICEF, WHO, UNODC, WFP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevalence of children under 5 with stunting - disaggregated Prevalence of women aged 15-49 who are anemic Prevalence of children who are vitamin-A deficient - disaggregated Proportion of household expenditure devoted to food items Proportion of household with a low Dietary Diversity 	<p>Ministry of Health, 2001 (National Health Survey) State of Food Insecurity in the World (FAO 2000) National Statistics Centre Population and Housing Census Multiple Cluster Indicators Survey 2006 Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Committee for Planning and Investment</p>	

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Output 1.3.2 Improved capacity of rural households to increase their income, and diversify their food consumption, linked with information, education and communication related to nutrition, and gender equality (FAO, UNICEF, WFP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of households engaged in other activities than rice production - disaggregated (permanent crops, temporary crops, livestock, aquaculture). (<i>Baseline: Agricultural census, 1999</i>) Number of schools providing nutrition education Number of Village Health Workers and District Health Staff providing nutrition education Average household size (<i>Baseline: average household size national level is 5.9 in 2005</i>) Proportion of female and male-headed households below national poverty line 	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Agricultural Statistics Ministry of Education Ministry of Public Health National Statistics Centre Reproductive Health Survey 2000 Population and Housing Census, 2005	
CP Output 1.3.3 Increased resilience to shocks through relief and rehabilitation efforts and the creation of gender responsive community-based and individual productive assets (WFP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of household expenditure devoted to food Proportion households with low Dietary Diversity Proportion households with high Coping Strategy Index 	WFP Vulnerability Analysis Mapping baseline surveys and follow-up	

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)

UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 1.4: Enhanced ownership and capacity for pro-poor planning and implementation, harmonized aid coordination, and disaster management			
<p>CP output 1.4.1: Increased capacity at the central and local levels for MDG-based development strategies, policies, and planning that combine a pro-poor and equitable approach to development processes; and effective implementation of public investment programmes in poor areas (UNDP, ADB, WB, UNFPA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The formulation and implementation of Lao PDRs sixth National Socioeconomic Development Plan is carried out in a an equitable and participatory manner and it reflects a strong pro-poor and MDG focus (<i>Baseline: Draft sixth National Socio-Economic Development Plan prepared</i>) Plan implementation and monitoring arrangements in CPI, Ministries, agencies and provinces are strengthened, in order to improve the quality of the implementation and reporting on the sixth National Socio-Economic Development Plan and annual plans The capacities for formulation and implementation of the Annual Plans within the framework of the Sixth national socio-economic development plan reflecting a strong pro-poor and MDG focus is enhanced at the central and provincial levels Consultations held with donors, private entrepreneurs, and academics on the implementation and monitoring plan for the sixth National Socio-Economic Development Plan, in order to reach broad based consensus Focal area development plans for 47 poorest districts prepared in participatory manner (<i>Baseline: Focal area development plans for 18 poorest districts completed</i>) Number of staff trained in improved gender-responsive participatory planning at centre and in the provinces Gender budget mechanism is introduced and adopted Proportion of sectoral working groups which mainstream gender in their work 	<p>Institutions, agencies, partners responsible</p> <p>CPI line ministries and agencies, and provinces</p> <p>Periodic (semi annual and annual) Plan implementation monitoring reports</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy level support, technical advice and aid flows facilitated by development partners is aligned to national priorities and is fully reflected within the Government's strategic plans and policies. Coordination and harmonization efforts of both the donors and Government partners serve to strengthen national capacities <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate coordination among development partners Governance hurdles to the sustainable generation of domestic revenues can lead to increased ODA dependence Central-local relations lack clarity at the moment and this hampers effective fiscal management The pro-poor focus of the nationalized PRS-process may not be fully comprehended, owned and implemented across all sectors of the Government Inter-ministerial and inter-departmental coordination is often weak, resulting in a lack of capacity to negotiate with development partners and to articulate a clear vision for the introduction of SWApS.

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)

UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 1.4: Enhanced ownership and capacity for pro-poor planning and implementation, harmonized aid coordination, and disaster management			
<p>CP output 1.4.2 Increased capacity for ODA management and alignment of external aid with MDG-based national development priorities, through the Roundtable Process Mechanism (UNDP, ADB, WB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The broad tenets of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness are entrenched in the harmonized programmes of donor and multilateral agencies. <i>(Baseline: 70% of public investment programmes are funded through ODA; agreement on the implementation of the ODA decree reached between Department of International Cooperation, Committee for Planning and Investment and Ministry of Finance, to improve ODA efficacy; Dependence on ODA for funding recurrent expenditures is reduced - current ODA receipts amount to approx. USD \$380 million)</i> A thorough analysis and impact assessment on ODA effectiveness is undertaken <i>(Baseline: Roundtable Meetings (RTMs) organized periodically in the Lao PDR)</i> RTM forums and Sectoral Working Groups (Government and Donor) meet regularly to discuss issues related to the alignment of ODA with national planning goals, MDGs and annual budget priorities of the Government <i>(Baseline: Since 2003, the nationalized poverty reduction strategy paper (NGPES) has served as the main document for discussion at the RTMs)</i> Capacity building is initiated for new aid instruments <i>(Baseline: During 2005-06, a process of fully incorporating the NGPES into the NSEDP was undertaken)</i> Review of the current Public Financial management systems is undertaken and recommendations for improvement and streamlining are identified and implemented <i>(Baseline: Consultations with a wide range of development and private sector partners was undertaken on the sixth National Socio Economic Development Plan).</i> 	<p>Foreign Aid Report Roundtable Meeting Background documents Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ Department for International Cooperation Official Development Assistance database Committee for Planning and Investment Reports Ministry of Finance Reports World Bank review documents public expenditure reviews, Public Expenditure Management Strengthening Program</p>	
<p>CP output 1.4.3: Increased capacity in disaggregated data collection and analysis, research, dissemination and utilization of data for improved (or evidence-based) advocacy, policy and strategy development, planning and monitoring for population, poverty reduction, labour market policy formulation and sustainable development (UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, ILO, WB, UNIFEM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and quantity of key indicators disaggregated by sex, urban-rural, province, district and socio-economic background <i>(Baseline: Currents trends in data collection indicate a lack of understanding of sex disaggregation)</i> Number of Government staff trained in Lao Info National Human Development Reports developed and published 	<p>National Statistical Centre, Committee for Planning and Investment LaoInfo database WB's poverty assessment WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping ADB supported Poverty assessment (PPA) Lao Expenditure and Consumption Surveys</p>	

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)

UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 1.4: Enhanced ownership and capacity for pro-poor planning and implementation, harmonized aid coordination, and disaster management			
<p>CP output 1.4.4: Enhanced capacity at all levels of Government disaster management for preparedness, response and rehabilitation (FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common UN/GoL framework for comprehensive disaster management (including prevention/mitigation, preparedness and response) agreed upon and operationalised, and mainstreamed in national and sub-national development activities, along with the following sub-indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ∅ Assessment of types and likelihood of emergencies in Laos conducted and agreed upon. ∅ Geographic areas (villages and districts) prone to emergencies mapped. ∅ Assessment of vulnerability in relation to socio-economic indicators such as ethnicities, gender, urban/rural, remote/non-remote conducted. <i>(Baseline: Currently, the Government of Lao PDR has not developed a comprehensive disaster management and preparedness plan; Responses to emerging threats are often ad-hoc and lack proper planning, management and resource mobilization)</i> Number of government officials trained in disaster preparedness and response. 	<p>NDMO (National Disaster Management Office), Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, NDMO flood assessment reports from 2005 impact of flood conference Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Ministry of Public Health WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping</p>	
CP Outcome 1.5: Enabled environment for growth with equity			
<p>CP output 1.5.1: Improved advisory and service capability of public and private sector partners in the fields of institutional building and promotion of the domestic private sector with a focus on employment generation and pro-poor growth, and the long-term sustainability of micro, small and medium enterprises, towards a further transition to a market economy (ITC, UNIDO, UNDP, UNODC, ILO, UNIFEM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and quantity of available courses and training on business related education (eg: MBA) is increased (through formulating needs-based modules etc) The percentage of women and men graduating from business courses (in Lao and/or from other countries), who set up or join the Lao private sector increases Improved administration of tax arrangements (and Government fees) at the provincial level <i>(baseline: currently, tends to be ad-hoc and this can undermine the capacity of central authorities to effectively implement macroeconomic management)</i> Formal consultation processes for formulating clear and enforceable business regulations is commenced <i>(Baseline: The conditions related to the business environment lack transparency and consistency, thereby lowering investor confidence and increasing the gaps between the legal framework and its implementation, which is often open to multiple interpretation (eg: exemption from import taxes, accounting systems etc)</i> Creation of a workers' database (incl. seasonal labourers) through systematic registration is undertaken and labour office focal points established to identify potential worker-pools. Provision of systematic and reliable market information through innovative use of IT (eg: mobile phones etc) Private sector advocacy is strengthened and available education modules on business studies are better aligned to the needs of the Lao domestic private sector Lao PDR's ranking in the 'Doing Business' index is improved and the number of days required for setting up a new business is decreased. <i>(Baseline: In 2005, Lao PDR was ranked 147th among 155 countries, in an index that ranks the 'ease of doing business' globally)</i> 	<p>National Economic Research Institute UNDP study on Private Sector Development ADB/WB Investment Climate study Ministry of Information and Culture Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Provincial Chambers of Commerce Committee for Planning and Investment Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare Mekong Private Sector Development Facility Private entrepreneurs; "Doing Business" index (WB) Small Medium Enterprise Promotion and Development Organization Ministry of Education National Statistics Centre</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefits of trade promotion and private sector development will accrue and be made available, to the poorest and marginalized sections of society. Sustained dialogue with the private sector is initiated, which improves the enabling environment and private sector confidence; Continuing improvements in competitiveness through human resource development and developing market institutions <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weaknesses in domestic PS institutions (capacity, resources); Lack of links with better-developed market institutions in neighbouring countries Existing dependence on informal institutions to enforce contracts, which leads to weak compliance and problems in ensuring a proper adherence to established regulations Limited institutional capacity to manage WTO accession negotiations; and limited knowledge of public policy management with a pro-poor focus within a market economy setting

UNDAF OUTCOME 1: By 2011, the livelihoods of poor, vulnerable and food insecure populations are enhanced through sustainable development (within MDG framework)

UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
<p>CP output 1.5.2: Enhanced capacity building for service delivery and strengthened negotiation skills and policy advice on trade and poverty policies, including global and regional agreements such as the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA), accession to the World Trade Organization and investment promotion (UNCTAD, ITC, UNIDO, UNDP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFTA implementation by 2008 (<i>Baseline: Existing negotiation capacities of Government stakeholders is weak, coupled with a weak comprehension of the processes and practices related to regional/bilateral/global trade agreements</i>) • The development, formulation and implementation of an integrated 'action-matrix' for trade integration (based on the findings of the IF-led Diagnostic Trade and Integration Study) is commenced and key partners are identified • Increase in equal employment opportunities for women and men in export-oriented industries, including tourism • A proportion of the revenue generated from the mining and electricity sectors is redistributed through social development channels/funds • Trading facilities and export logistics are improved at central and provincial levels; the development of provincial markets including those at border points, focus on improving the access of small scale producers (incl. farmers) to the market • Awareness raising forums are organized to encourage public-private consultations on the pros and cons of integration into AFTA, WTO and other bilateral and regional agreements (<i>Baseline: Dialogue on WTO accession processes has commenced and it has been found that several investment and trade laws in Lao PDR are not aligned with those of the international cooperation agreements, such as AFTA, WTO etc.</i>) (<i>Baseline: Even though GDP has increased in the 1990s at more than 6% a year, the Gini-coefficient has also risen, thereby indicating greater income inequality.</i>) • Mutual sharing of experiences related to regional integration among the ASEAN partners and others is organized. 	<p>Diagnostic Trade and Integration Study National Human Development Report Ministry of Commerce Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ASEAN Dept National Statistical Centre, Committee for Planning and Investment Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Banking sector Livelihood, Expenditure and Consumption Survey (LECS III) UNCTAD Report WB's annual "Doing Business" publication index</p>	

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services

UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
	<p>OUTCOME INDICATORS</p> <p>Millennium Development Goal Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDG Indicator 004: Prevalence of underweight children (under-five years of age, moderate and severe) (national average and by region and rural/urban, sex - disaggregated)- (Baseline: 40.0 (total); 33.2 (urban); 42.1 (rural); 37.0 (north); 35.4 (central); 48.2 (south) % (2000) • MDG Indicator 006: Net enrolment in primary school (Baseline: MOE annual report – 84.2% total, 82.1% [girls], 86.3% [boys] in 2005) • MDG Indicator 007: Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5 (Baseline: MOE EFA plan 2006 – 66.8% in 2003) • MDG Indicator 008: Literacy rate in the age group 15-24 years (Baseline: MDGR - 79% in 2001) • MDG Indicator 009: Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education (Baseline: MDG Progress Report 2004 - 84, 71 and 58:100 respectively in 2002) • MDG Indicator 010: Ratio of literate women to men 15-24 years of age (Baseline: Population and Housing Census - at age group 15-19: 80.8 [female], 89.7 [male]; at age group 20-24: 76.1 [female], 88.5 [male] in 2005) • MDG Indicator 013: Under five mortality rate (Baseline: 1 06.9 (total); 114.2 (rural); 48.6 (urban); 118 (north); 98.9 (central); 107 (south) per 1,000 live births (2000) (97.6 total, Population and Housing Census 2005 data) • MDG Indicator 014: Infant mortality rate (Baseline: 82.2 (total); 87.2 (rural); 41.7 (urban); 88.1 (north); 75.7 (central); 86.9 (south) per 1,000 live births (2000) (70 total, Population and Housing Census 2005 data) • MDG Indicator 015: Proportion of one-year old children immunized against measles (national average and by region/province and rural/urban, sex - disaggregated)¹³ – (Baseline: 42.0%(total) in 2005) • MDG Indicator 016: Maternal mortality ratio - 530 (total); 580 (rural); 170 (urban) ; 540 (north); 440 (central); 700 (south) per 100,000 live births (2000) (405 total, Population and Housing Census 2005 data) • MDG Indicator 016a: Contraceptive prevalence rate¹⁴ (national average and by region/province and rural/urban) –(Baseline: 28.9(total); 42.3(urban); 26.3 (rural); 29.3 (north); 33.3 (central); 17.7(south)% in 2000) • MDG Indicator 017: Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel¹⁵ (national average and by region/province and rural/urban) – (Baseline: 17.4(total); 63.4(urban); 11.6(rural); 11.9(north); 21.8(central); 16.4(south)% in 2000) • MDG Indicator 018a: HIV prevalence among 15-24 year old commercial service women (Baseline: MDGR - 0.4% in 2001) • MDG Indicator 019a: Proportion of 15-24 year old women who have ever used a condom during sexual intercourse (Baseline: MDGR - 0.7% in 2000) • MDG Indicator 019b: Proportion of 15-24 year old commercial service women reporting consistent use of condom with non-regular sexual partners in the past 12 months (Baseline: MDGR - 45% in 2000) • MDG Indicator 020a: Proportion of 15-24 year old women who know how to prevent RTIs/STDs (Baseline: MDGR - 32% using a condom in 2000) • MDG Indicator 020b: Proportion of 15-24 year old commercial service women who correctly identify ways of preventing sexual transmission of HIV and reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention (Baseline: MDGR - 20% using condom consistently in 2000) • MDG Indicator 021: Death rate associated with malaria (Baseline: MDGR - 3.5 per 100,000 in 2002) • MDG Indicator 021a: Morbidity rate due to malaria (Baseline: MDGR - 48 per 1,000 per year in 2002) • MDG Indicator 022: Proportion of population in malaria risk areas using effective malaria prevention (Baseline: MDGR - 24% treated bed nets in 2000) • MDG Indicator 022a: Proportion of population in malaria risk areas protected by impregnated bed nets (disaggregated data) – (Baseline: 85.03 % in 2005) • MDG Indicator 023: Prevalence associated with tuberculosis (Baseline: MDGR - 144 per 100,000 in 1990) 	<p>Ministry of Education Annual EMIS Bulletins Population and Housing Census Reproductive Health Survey (RHS) National Health Survey (NHS) (2000) and MICS 3 (from 2006 onward)</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macroeconomic sound management and stable economic growth. • Political stability. • Equitable redistribution of economic growth. • Increase and prioritization of budget/funding allocation according to outcome targets (MCF/FP/Nutrition, water and sanitation, CDC and sector development) in rural and remote areas <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural disasters • Endemic or pandemic major diseases outbreak • Continued decline of budget/funding

¹³ Desegregated data not available

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDG Indicator 024.1: Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected under directly observed treatment short course (DOTS) (<i>Baseline: MDGR - 70% in 2002</i>) • MDG Indicator 024.2: Proportion of tuberculosis cases cured under directly observed treatment short course (disaggregated data) – (<i>Baseline: DOTS – 79% in 2003</i>) • MDG Indicator 031a: Proportion of (urban) population with access to improved sanitation (<i>Baseline: MDGR - 42% in 1998</i>) • MDG Indicator 030: Proportion of households with sustainable access to and utilizing safe water supply sources¹⁶ (national average and by region/province and rural/urban) (<i>Baseline: 52.3[total]; 75.7%[urban]; 37.6 [rural]; 43.0 [north]; 54.3 [central]; 58.8[south] % in 2000</i>) • MDG Indicator 031a: Proportion of households with access to and utilizing improved sanitation facilities¹⁷ (national average and by region/province and rural/urban) (<i>Baseline: 37.3 [total]; 67.1 [urban]; 19.0 [rural]; 45.0 [north]; 43.9 [central]; 19.2% [south] % in 2000</i>) • MDG Indicator 030: Proportion of the population with access to improved water source (<i>Baseline: MDGR - 58% in 2000</i>) <p>Additional National Core Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Indicator 25: Total Fertility Rate (TFR) (national average and by region/province¹⁸ and rural/urban)– 4.9 (<i>total</i>); 5.4 (<i>rural</i>); 2.8 (<i>urban</i>); 5.1 (<i>north</i>); 4.5 (<i>central</i>); 5.4 (<i>south</i>) children (live births) per woman (15-49 years) (2000) Population and Housing Census 2005: 4.5 total) • National Indicator 51: Tertiary students in science, maths, and engineering (<i>Baseline: not available</i>) • National Indicator 56: Public expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP (<i>Baseline: not available</i>) • National Indicator 57: Public expenditure on education as a percentage of total government expenditure (<i>Baseline: NHDR – 11% in 2002</i>) • National Indicator 58: Public expenditure on health as a percentage of GDP • National Indicator 61: Life expectancy at birth • National Indicator 67: Proportion of 1 year old children immunized against TB 		

¹⁴ Percentage of married women, who are using a modern contraceptive method, including: pill, IUD, Injection, jelly, condom, sterilization and Norplant implant (definition used in RHS 2000)

¹⁵ Doctors, nurses, midwives and health workers.

¹⁶ Main sources of safe water: piped into dwelling, piped into yard or plot, public tap, tube well/bore-hole, protected dug well, bottled water, tanker truck vendor, rain water collection, and gravity fed system. (definition used in NHS 2000).

¹⁷ Types of latrines included: flush to sewage systems and septic tanks, pour flush latrines, improved pit latrines, and any other type of latrine (definition used in NHS 2000).

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP outcome 2.1: Increased and equitable access to quality basic education			
<p>CP output 2.1.1: Improved policies and strategies in place that ensure increased access to quality primary education for girls and children from disadvantaged communities (UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, WFP and all UNCT members)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of government expenditure on education compared to the budget approved by the National Assembly (<i>Baseline: not available</i>) A Common Policy Matrix jointly agreed and funded by the government and its development partners (<i>Baseline: not applicable</i>) Provincial Education for All (EFA) Action Plans with strategies to ensure increased access of girls and children from disadvantaged community to quality primary education (<i>Baseline: not applicable</i>) Ministry of Education approved National Criteria and process for Child Friendly Schools with demonstration models piloted (<i>Baseline: not applicable</i>) Ministry of Education publishes EMIS data of a given academic year before the end of the academic year (<i>Baseline: not within the academic year in 2005</i>) 	<p>Ministry of Education Annual EMIS Bulletins</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government and development Partners match their commitment to social development by resources. Government and development partners increased their resources to basic education and target additional resources to girls and children from disadvantaged groups and locations. Government takes leadership in donor coordination and partners commit to work towards SWAp and harmonization. Teachers' motivation is increased with increased recognition, support and financial incentives.
<p>CP Output 2.1.2: Improved access and quality of primary education services in the target districts, especially for girls and children from disadvantaged communities. (UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, WFP, WB, ADB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary level net enrollment rate and actual enrolment data segregated by sex and ethnic groups (<i>Baseline: district level data not available</i>) Grade-wise drop out rates disaggregated by sex and ethnic groups (<i>Baseline: district level data not available</i>) % of schools in the target districts with fundamental learning conditions (Qualified and trained teachers, adequate school building, water, sanitary facilities for boys, girls and disabled children, textbooks for all children, furniture, play and sports facility) (<i>Baseline: not available</i>) Primary school completion rates disaggregated by sex and ethnic groups (<i>Baseline: district level data not available</i>) Average Primary school repetition rates segregated by sex and ethnic groups (<i>Baseline: district level data not available</i>) Repetition and drop out rates for grade 1 disaggregated by sex and ethnic group (<i>Baseline: district level data not available</i>) 	<p>Ministry of Education Data Project Reports Population and Housing Census, 2005</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2005 Census and its projection would make it possible to get these indicators.

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 2.2: Improved equity, efficiency and quality of health services with increasing health services coverage with an emphasis on maternal and child health, family planning, nutrition, communicable disease control, and water and sanitation			
<p>CP Output 2.2.1: Increased access to and utilization of integrated maternal and child health / family planning / nutrition services, with a focus on poor and rural populations (UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNESCO, ADB, WB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of health facilities/points (district hospitals, health centers and drug kits managed by trained village health volunteers) providing integrated MCH services (national average and by poverty category and rural/urban) Proportion of population within 2 km of health facilities/points (district hospitals, health centers and drug kits managed by trained village health volunteers) providing integrated MCH services (national average and by poverty category and rural/urban) Number of clients receiving antenatal care, delivery services, postnatal care and immunization (national data and by poverty category and rural/urban) 	<p>Ministry of Public Health Reports</p> <p>UNICEF/WHO reports</p> <p>Reproductive Health Survey</p> <p>Health Management Information System</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase of health and MCH/ FP/ Nutrition national budget Continued deployment of health workers in rural and remote areas Increase of female health workers in MCH services/ facilities/ points Increase of ethnic minority health workers for deployment in their own communities health facilities <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in priority focus (on MCH/FP)
<p>CP Output 2.2.2: Increased access to, and utilization of, safe water and sanitation with a focus on poor and rural populations (UNICEF, WB, WHO, UNDP, ADB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of households that treat their water to make it safer to drink (national average and by region/province and rural/urban) – (<i>Baseline: to be provided by MICS 3 in 2006</i>) 	<p>National Health Survey (2000)</p> <p>Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS 3 2006)</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority given by Government to rural water supply and sanitation Increase in budget/funding for water supply and sanitation infrastructures in rural and remote areas Institutionalizing of created capacities by Government

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
<p>CP Output 2.2.3: Improved effective and prioritized communicable disease control (WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, WB, ADB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of weekly reports for Communicable Disease Surveillance submitted on due time by province and district Proportion of recognized outbreaks investigated promptly 	<p>Ministry of Public Health Department of Hygiene and Diseases Prevention - National Center for Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology (CMPE) reports</p> <p>Ministry of Public Health, Dept. of Hygiene and Diseases Prevention - National Tuberculosis Center (NTC) reports</p> <p>Ministry of Public Health, Dept. of Hygiene and Diseases Prevention- National Center Laboratory and Epidemiology</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion and strengthening of the national alert and response network for outbreaks Integration of awareness (IEC) instruments/mechanisms on major communicable diseases is maintained <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outbreak/emerging of high infectious and communicable diseases
<p>CP Output 2.2.4: Improved health systems including health policy, planning, management, financing, logistics, information systems, and human resources development (WHO, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC, WB, ADB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of health facilities (province hospitals, district hospitals, health centers and drug kits managed by trained village health volunteers) reporting in the national Health Management Information System (HMIS) and Logistics Management and Information System (LMIS) Proportion of population covered by health insurance (Community Base Health Insurance (CBHI) schemes, Social Security Organization (SSO) and Civil Servants scheme) and equity funds (<i>Baseline: disaggregated by male and female headed households – 191,430 total paying members in 2003</i>) Number of health workers receiving continuous education/training in integrated MCH, FP and nutrition [basic course to be elaborated and promoted by UN system and MCH/FP partners] – (<i>Baseline zero – disaggregated data to be collected</i>). Proportion of national health curricula that contain all¹⁹ elements of integrated MCH and FP 	<p>Ministry of Public Health – Dept. of Planning and Finance, Division of Health Statistics – HMIS and LMIS</p> <p>Ministry of Public Health –Department of Planning and Finance, Division of Health Statistics ;</p> <p>Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare</p> <p>Ministry of Public Health, Dept. of Personnel and Organization</p> <p>Ministry of Education</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of SWAp in Health Sector Continued support of donors to Community Base Health Insurance schemes for informal economy sector coverage Development of integrated policy framework for social health insurance and equity funds Harmonization of health workers curricula between Ministry of Education and Ministry of Public Health

¹⁹ To be defined by MCHC

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
CP Outcome 2.3: Increased coverage of quality HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, focusing on the most vulnerable groups²⁰ as defined in the national strategy on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and of quality treatment, care, and support for all			
CP Output 2.3.1: Enhanced capacity for coordination, management, resource mobilisation and implementation of an expanded national response (All UN agencies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant increase in the national composite policy index (<i>Baseline 2005 available UNGASS report</i>) 	Yearly joint review and scoring according national composite policy index	Risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main risk is the weak management and implementation capacity at all levels. The proposed UNDAF outputs address this in strengthening capacity, coordination, and in supporting
CP Output 2.3.2: At least 5 line ministries and/or mass organizations have mainstreamed the national HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections strategy 2006-2010 into their respective sectoral plans and are implementing with an increased proportion of government resources (UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, ILO, UNODC, WHO, UNDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased sectoral spending and resources devoted to HIV/AIDS in at least 5 ministries (<i>Baseline: National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA) 2005</i>) 	Yearly assessment	
CP Output 2.3.3: Increased capacity of men and women living with HIV and AIDS to participate in decision-making and implementation (UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, UNFPA, WFP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People living with HIV and AIDS are actively participating in decision making bodies (sex-disaggregated information if possible) People living with HIV and AIDS have formal membership in National Committee for the Control of AIDS, Country Coordinating Mechanism Provincial and District Committees for the Control of AIDS Number of self-reliant People Living with HIV and AIDS groups (<i>Baseline 2006: 0, sex-disaggregated information if possible</i>) 	Minutes of meetings Reports	

²⁰ Vulnerable Groups is defined as "young people, children, women, girls and different ethnic groups"

UNDAF OUTCOME 2: By 2011, Increased and more equitable access to and utilization of quality and prioritized social services			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines	Sources of verification	Risks & Assumptions
<p>CP Output 2.3.4: Increased use of evidence based information on vulnerable populations (as defined in the national strategy) to determine programme priorities within the national HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections strategy and action plan (UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UNDP, UNODC, ILO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effective and coordinated strategic information and second-generation surveillance system is implemented regularly and results are shared with all stakeholders. 	<p>Reports</p>	
<p>CP Output 2.3.5: Increased availability of comprehensive prevention, treatment, care and support, and strengthened prevention and care continuum in priority geographic areas (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, UNODC, WHO, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WB, ADB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Composite Index of Policies and Services (<i>disaggregated data from national surveillance</i>) HIV seroprevalence among sex workers (service women) < 5% (<i>disaggregated data from national surveillance</i>) Correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS among young people > 80% (<i>disaggregated data from national surveillance</i>) 80% of children, women and men in need who have access to treatment, care and support (<i>disaggregated data from national surveillance</i>) 	<p>Disaggregated data from national surveillance</p>	

UNDAF OUTCOME 3: By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfill their duties and greater people's participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines ²¹	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
	<p>OUTCOME INDICATORS</p> <p>Millennium Development Goal Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDG Indicator 012: Proportion of seats held by women in the national parliament <p>Additional National Core Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Indicator 89: Number of cellular subscribers National Indicator 90: Number of internet users National Indicator 91: Number of telephone lines National Indicator 97: Number of personal computers in use 	<p>Science, Technology, and Environment Agency Reports</p> <p>Ministry of Transport, Communication, Post, and Construction Reports</p>	
CP Outcome 3.1: Greater people's and community participation in and contribution to public policy, local development and nation building			
<p>CP Output 3.1.1: Increased mechanisms and opportunities to convey the rights and interests of citizens, (young people and women in particular) to decision-makers, through relevant and meaningful public participation (UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM)</p> <p>CP Output 3.1.2: Strengthened community participation in the planning, management, implementation, and monitoring of gender-sensitive, child-friendly, local development activities (UNDP, UNICEF, WB, ILO, UNIFEM)</p> <p>CP Output 3.1.3: Increased and more equal public access to timely and relevant information, especially in rural and remote areas and among poor, vulnerable populations, particularly women, youth, and children (UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater awareness and access by communities to the Village Development Funds (disaggregated data) Greater number and frequency of village/community meetings, involving the public, including women, youth and ethnic groups (disaggregated data) Legislation developed and adopted to enable the establishment of national civil society institutions as partners in rural and urban development (disaggregated data) Increased number of calls responded to through the telephone hotline established by the National Assembly (disaggregated data) Increased proportion of women represented in public institutions, including: <i>(Baseline: National Assembly- 22%, Ministerial cabinet level- 8.1%, Provincial cabinet level- to be defined, District Chief level- 21.3%, Village Chief level- 1.3%, Civil Service (DG and Deputy DG)- 8.9%- disaggregated data)</i> Increased proportion of media programming (radio, television and print) available to children and young people to enable them to participate and express themselves on the issues of concern to them (disaggregated data) Increased proportion of children and young people able to participate and express themselves on issues of concern to them (disaggregated data) 	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare</p> <p>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>National Assembly</p> <p>National Commission for Mothers and Children</p> <p>Public Administration and Civil Service Authority</p> <p>Ministry of Information and Culture</p> <p>Children's Cultural Centres</p>	<p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macroeconomic sound management and stable economic growth. Political stability. Equitable redistribution of economic growth. Information system, structures and mechanisms in place and functioning <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural disasters. Endemic or pandemic major diseases outbreak. Conflicts Availability of funds Opportunities for participation assured

²¹ Baselines in the Governance sector are difficult to ascertain due to a range of constraints, including but not limited to the more qualitative, rather than quantitative nature of most governance indicators. At the time of publishing the UNDAF work is underway to define baselines for the purposes of closer monitoring, and this work is ongoing

UNDAF OUTCOME 3: By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfill their duties and greater people's participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines ²²	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
CP Outcome 3.2: Increased and more equitable access to justice and strengthened rule of law			
<p>CP Output 3.2.1: Enhanced institutional capacity development of the legal sector to improve the application of the law in an impartial, effective and predictable manner, particularly for women, low-income households and vulnerable groups (UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM)</p> <p>CP Output 3.2.2: Improved law enforcement mechanisms particularly to build private sector confidence and stimulate growth (UNDP)</p> <p>CP Output 3.2.3: Strengthened oversight functions of the National Assembly in holding government agencies accountable for improved performance, including more timely and predictable delivery of services and implementation of laws (UNDP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Sector Master Plan finalized, with costing completed, resources mobilized, and implementation underway • Increase in the number and quality of laws passed/amended (<i>Baseline: 62 laws</i>) • Increase in the membership of the LBA (<i>Baseline - 66 members, including 4 women</i>) • Increased number of trained court officials (disaggregated data) • Increased number of newly appointed judges and prosecutors with relevant legal education training entering the judicial system (disaggregated data) • Case load turnover per judge per court (disaggregated data) • Monitoring system for enforcement of laws established / functioning 	<p>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>Office of the Supreme People's Prosecutor</p> <p>Supreme People's Court, Lao Bar Association</p> <p>Semi-Annual Governance Progress Report</p> <p>Public Administration and Civil Service Authority</p> <p>Public Service Commission</p>	

²² Baselines in the Governance sector are difficult to ascertain due to a range of constraints, including but not limited to the more qualitative, rather than quantitative nature of most governance indicators. At the time of publishing the UNDAF work is underway to define baselines for the purposes of closer monitoring, and this work is ongoing

UNDAF OUTCOME 3: By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfill their duties and greater people's participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines ²³	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
CP Outcome 3.3: Increased efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of the public administration at both central and local levels			
<p>CP Output 3.3.1: Strengthened capacities of central and local administrations for decentralized planning, management and service delivery (UNDP, UNICEF, UNCDF, WB)</p> <p>CP Output 3.3.2: Enhanced capacities and incentive structures to facilitate more effective fiscal management in terms of stimulating greater domestic revenue collection and strengthened public expenditure management (WB, ADB, IMF, UNDP)</p> <p>CP Output 3.3.3: Strengthened implementation of Anti-Corruption legislation and practices through reforms in administrative systems, public information dissemination and law enforcement (UNDP, UNODC)</p> <p>CP Output 3.3.4: Increased number of line ministries and mass organizations that have mainstreamed the National Strategy for the Advancement of Women (2006-10) into their respective sectoral policies and implementation plans, and/or have formulated sector-specific gender mainstreaming policies (all UN agencies)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional analysis of government departments, including job descriptions completed, resulting in enhanced pairing of staff skills with job requirements • National civil service training curriculum developed and implemented nationwide (ensuring CEDAW principles included) • Increased number of Annual Audits conducted by State Audit Organization • Increased number of Anti-Corruption cases brought before the State Inspection Authority number of investigations carried out and cases resolved • Establishment of a national tax and customs administration reporting to the central Ministry of Finance • Establishment of citizen information centres containing information on laws and policies, but also on budgetary allocation, public expenditure, audit results, and procurement contracts • Increased salary of civil servants on the basis of a merit and performance based system of evaluation • Increased number of line ministries and mass organizations who have mainstreamed gender and/or have formulated sectoral Action Plans on the Advancement of Women 	<p>Public Administration and Civil Service Authority</p> <p>Semi-Annual Governance Progress Report</p> <p>State Audit Authority</p> <p>State Inspection Authority</p>	

²³ Baselines in the Governance sector are difficult to ascertain due to a range of constraints, including but not limited to the more qualitative, rather than quantitative nature of most governance indicators. At the time of publishing the UNDAF work is underway to define baselines for the purposes of closer monitoring, and this work is ongoing

UNDAF OUTCOME 3: By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfill their duties and greater people's participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration			
UNDAF Outcomes	Indicator(s) and Baselines ²⁴	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
CP Outcome 3.4: Progressive realization of international treaty obligations, including protection of human rights, in accordance with the Lao Constitution and the Millennium Declaration			
<p>CP Output 3.4.1: Key international treaties, including Human Rights instruments, are acceded to, effectively transformed into national legislation, and increasingly observed, enforced, and monitored by appropriate government bodies (all UN agencies)</p> <p>CP Output 3.4.2: Strengthened environment for law and policy reform to improve the situation of disadvantaged groups, such as women, children and ethnic groups, including legislation and provisions that contribute to protection of their rights (all UN agencies)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of awareness/training workshops held in the field of international law, including all human rights conventions • Increased number of bilateral and multilaterally supported projects approved by the GoL incorporating a rights-based focus • Increased number of national laws passed/amended, citing compliance with international treaty obligations • Enhanced level of public service delivery and responsiveness by duty bearers including the establishment of One Door Services with clearly identified list of services, costs, eligibility criteria and timeframes for response • Increased number of complaints by citizens addressed in a timely manner by (disaggregated data) 	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Assembly</p> <p>National Assembly, Ministry of Justice (sample surveys)</p>	

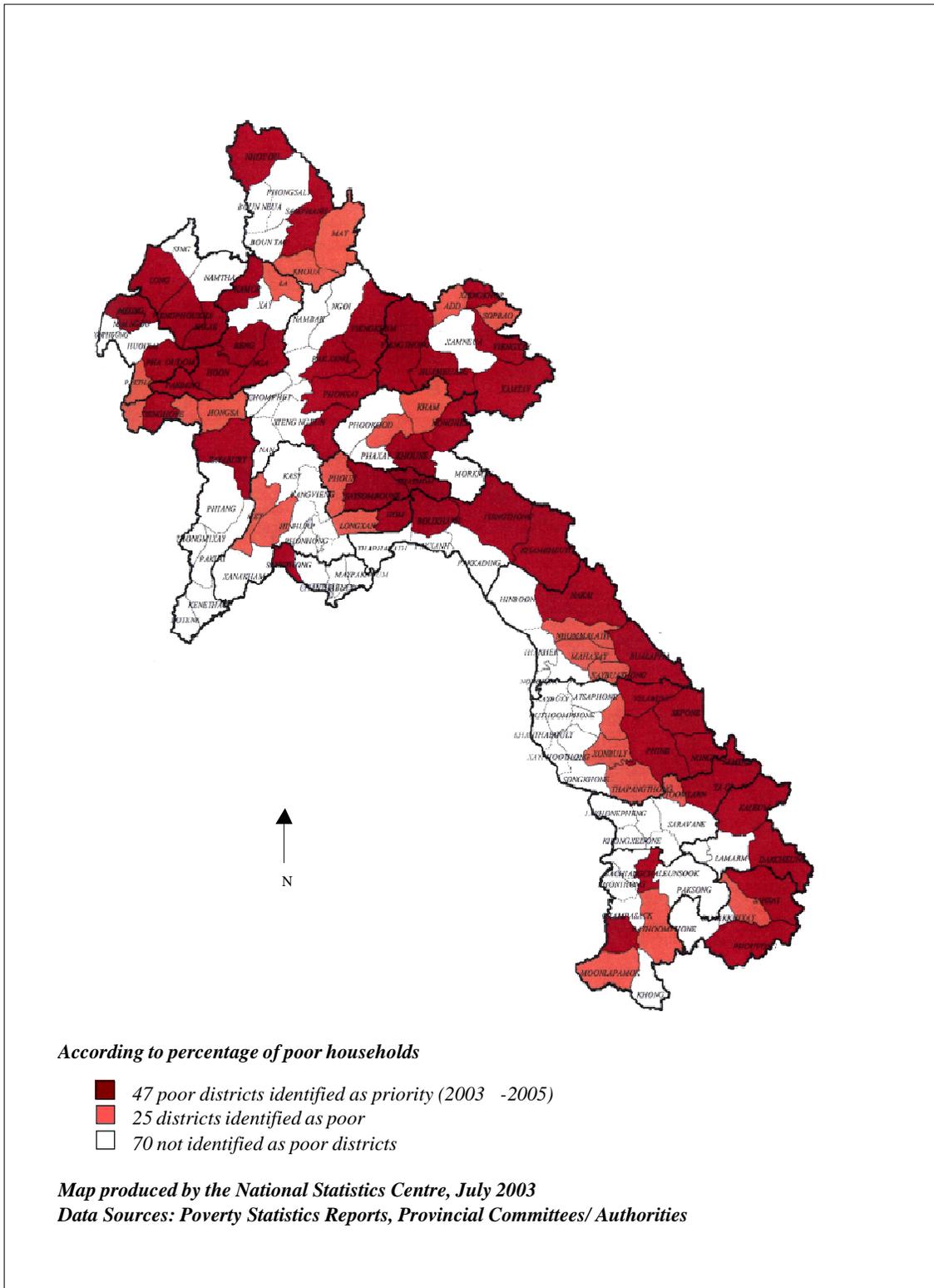
²⁴ Baselines in the Governance sector are difficult to ascertain due to a range of constraints, including but not limited to the more qualitative, rather than quantitative nature of most governance indicators. At the time of publishing the UNDAF work is underway to define baselines for the purposes of closer monitoring, and this work is ongoing

Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations

Term	Definition
ASEAN	The Association of Southeast Asian Nations was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok. Lao PDR became an ASEAN member in 1997. The aim of ASEAN is to accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the Southeast Asian region.
CDC - Communicable Diseases Control	Priority infectious disease control for Lao PDR are: malaria, dengue, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections (STI) and emerging diseases like Avian and Human Influenza and SARS.
CCA - Common Country Assessment	The Common Country Assessment or CCA, is the common instrument of the United Nations system to analyse the national development situation and identify key development issues with a focus on the MDGs and the other commitments, goals and targets of the Millennium Declaration and international instruments. Its objective is to achieve deeper knowledge of key challenges, based on a common analysis and understanding of the development situation in the Lao PDR.
CPD – Country Program Document	The Country Program Document is the strategic five-year plan for UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA stemming directly from the UNDAF. It is an instrument of coordination and harmonization as they share common funding and implementation cycles.
CPAP – Country Program Action Plan	The Country Program Action Plan is the implementation plan of the CPD. It shows how UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA will deliver their CPD and thus contribute to the UNDAF.
Disaggregated Data	Wherever possible, data should be disaggregated by sex, ethnicity, age etc, to ensure as much meaningful information can be obtained, and to enable appropriate policy development as a result of better information.
Effectiveness	Means the capability of, or success in, achieving a given goal. A measure of the extent to which a specific intervention, procedure, regimen, or service, when deployed in the field in routine circumstances, does what it is intended to do for a specified population. Contrary to efficiency, the focus of effectiveness is the achievement as such, not the resources spent, so not anything that is effective has to be efficient, but anything that is efficient also has to be effective.
Efficiency	Is the capability of acting or producing effectively with a minimum amount or quantity of waste, expense, or unnecessary effort. The capacity to produce the maximum output for a given input.
Equitable	Is the quality of being fair, just and right to men and women. It includes fairness and justice in the access to resources, control over resources and access to benefits and the distribution between men and women of responsibilities, level of decision making.
FP - Family Planning	Refers to the conscious effort of couples or individuals to plan their family and be able to conceive the desired number of children they want. Family planning is achieved through the availability of family planning services where contraceptive methods are available for all.
Gender Responsive Budget	Gender responsive budgets/ gender budgets refer to expected revenue and expenditures and respond to the budget impact on women and men, resulting in budgetary commitments that show a solid, accountable connection to a government's gender equality commitments.
Health System	The people, institutions and resources, arranged together in accordance with established policies, to improve the health of the population they serve, while responding to people's legitimate expectations and protecting them against the cost of ill-health through a variety of activities whose primary intent is to improve health. Set of elements and their relations in a complex whole, designed to serve the health needs of the population.
Healthy	A state of complete physical, social and mental well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Health is a resource for everyday life, not the object of living. It is a positive concept emphasizing social and personal resources as well as physical capabilities.
Human Rights	Human rights are the <i>minimum</i> civil, cultural, economic, political and social entitlements that <i>every</i> human being should be able to <i>claim</i> and enjoy because they are human. For more information visit www.ohchr.org

Term	Definition
Integrated MCH and FP services	In the health sector, this would mean merging and / or combining planning and management activities of the different Maternal and Child Health / Family Planning health and disease control programmes into one consolidated plan at all levels.
MCH - Maternal and Child Health	Is understood as bringing prevention and curative - treatment services together using a holistic view of health and illness; including prevention and treatment of common illness like diarrhea and acute respiratory infections, EPI, growth monitoring and nutritional and nutrient advice for -pregnant/ lactating women, infants (exclusive breastfeeding) and children; maternal health including antenatal care, delivery care including skilled delivery, essential obstetric care and emergency obstetrics, post -natal care and management of unsafe abortion and post abortion care.
MDGs – Millennium Development Goals	The Millennium Development Goals are a set of targets that address many dimensions of human development, including halving the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 2015. For more information go to www.unlao.org and http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/
NGPES	National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy, released in 2004, and subsequently assumed into the NSEDP.
NSEDP	National Socio -Economic Development Plan (2006 -2010) of the Government, released in January 2006. Download at www.unlao.org
Official Development Assistance (ODA)	Those financial flows to developing countries and multilateral institutions provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies, each transaction of which meets the following tests: (a) it is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective; and (b) it is concessional in character and conveys a grant element of at least 25 per cent.
Outcome	A change to a situation resulting from an action.
Output	A result of continuous and regular action or succession of actions, taking place or being carried out in a definite manner, and leading to the accomplishment of some results.
People	Includes men, women, children, and young people.
Quality Health Service	The degree of excellence of the health service in meeting the health needs of those most in need at the lowest cost, and within the limits, directives and/or regulations of the location (country, province, district). This means looking at issues including equity, accessibility, effectiveness, appropriateness and responsiveness. Baselines for quality of care include: setting national and local level standards, clinical audits, client satisfaction surveys, etc.
Rural Area	Areas sparsely settled places away from the influence of large cities and towns. Such areas are distinct from more intensively settled urban and suburban areas, and also from unsettled lands such as outback or wilderness . People live in villages, on farms and in other isolated houses.
Safe Water	Water that does not contain harmful bacteria, toxic materials, or chemicals and is considered safe for drinking even though it may have taste, odor, color and certain mineral problems.
Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) / Sector Wide Development	A sector wide approach can also be referred to as sector wide development and is loosely defined as all significant funding in the sector supports a single sector policy and expenditure program, under Government leadership, adopting common approaches across the sector, and progressing towards relying on government procedures to disburse and account for all funds.
UNDAF	The United Nations Development Assistance Framework, is the common strategic framework for the operational activities of the United Nations system at the country level. It provides a collective, coherent and integrated UN system response to national priorities and needs, including PRSPs and equivalent national strategies, within the framework of the MDGs and the commitments, goals and targets of the Millennium Declaration and other instruments of the UN system. The UNDAF emerges from the analyses of the CCA and is the next step in the preparation of United Nations system country programmes and projects of cooperation. The UNDAF aims for greater impact of UN system cooperation.
Urban Area	Urban area, a geographical area (including cities and towns) distinct from rural areas.
Vulnerable Groups	Defined as young people, children, women and girls, and ethnic groups.
WTO	World Trade Organization.

Map Showing 47 Poorest Districts, and 25 Poor Districts in Lao PDR



Cooperation Agreements / Country Strategies of Specialized Agencies

World Bank Country Assistance Strategy 2005 -2008

Dialogue and engagement between Lao PDR, and the Bank have strengthened since the last Country Assistance Strategy (CAS), catalyzed by the National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES), the Nam Theun 2 Hydropower Project, and government interest in regional integration. The present CAS has been designed to support the NGPES, and within same, key drivers of future growth, as well as better targeting of social outcomes and reductions in vulnerability. The Bank's analytical and advisory activities (AAA) program and Poverty Reduction Support Credit (PRSC) framework, will provide strategic support for strengthening the dialogue on the reform agenda.

This new CAS incorporates a stronger emphasis on building capacity, and its objectives seek to:

- 1) sustain growth through improved management of key drivers-regional integration and private sector development, rural development, and natural resource management;
- 2) improve social outcomes and reduce vulnerability, through strengthened public financial management and service delivery capacities, targeting poverty reduction programs;
- 3) adopt a strategic approach to capacity development and partnerships in support of better NGPES results;
- 4) support implementation of Nam Theun 2 (NT2) as an example of an area-based, sustainable natural resource development program that contributes to growth, social outcomes, capacity development, and stronger partnerships.

Investment operations in selected sectors will support NGPES priorities, and in collaboration with other donors, will complement the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) support to private sector development, while emphasizing sector-wide approaches (SWAps) where appropriate. During the first years of the CAS period, International Development Association (IDA) lending/grants will focus on key operations to support the NT2 development framework and associated social and environmental measures. The Bank will also continue to work closely with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on issues of macro-economic management and monitoring.

The full CAS may be downloaded at www.worldbank.org/lao

ADB Country Assistance Program 2007 -2011

At the time of finalizing the UNDAF, the ADB Country Assistance Strategy was being finalized with the Government. Broad areas of cooperation include the Government's priority sectors, lending, technical assistance, capacity building, policy dialogue and donor coordination/ coordinated approach. In addition, the ADB has its Greater Mekong Sub-Region Program that focuses on infrastructure. Further information is available at www.adb.org/LaoPDR

FAO National Medium -Term Programme Priorities Framework 2006 -2010

FAO provides assistance to the Lao Government and to both rural and urban populations, based on the Lao Government's vision of the National Socio-Economic Development Programme. FAO interventions are designed within the UN framework (UNDAF) in order to better coordinate actions within Lao PDR. Cross-cutting issues in the technical and policy assistance provided by FAO are the promotion of gender equality and the advancement of women as well as capacity building. The programme focuses on:

1. Improving household food security and the capacity to target the food insecurity through better information and policy interventions

Emphasis is given to interventions aimed at improving living standards at the village level and achieving household food security. The major projects being implemented are:

- Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS);
- National Programme for Food Security (NPFS);
- EC-FAO Food Security Programme;
- Coordination of the UN Nutrition and Food Security activities in Lao PDR;
- Promotion of home gardens for improved nutrition; and
- Improvement and Development of Fruits and Vegetables;

2. Sustainable natural resources management and poverty reduction

The thrust on sustainable natural resources management and poverty reduction contributes to the national priorities for Poverty Reduction Strategy, eradication of opium production, stabilization of shifting cultivation and natural resource management in association with agriculture production. The project being implemented is:

- Implementation of the National Agricultural Biodiversity Programme (FAO Netherlands Partnership Programme).

3. Transformation of subsistence agriculture to market oriented agriculture

FAO's activities include the development of an agricultural market information system and the promotion of market transparency (to the advantage of farmers, traders and consumers). The projects being implemented are:

- Introduction of alternative farming systems together with the development of new processing capacities and market opportunities, e.g. in relation to development and improvement of fruit and vegetable production; and
- Non-Wood Forest Product Marketing Information System.

4. Development of Disease free Avian Management System and Support for Information, Education and Community Action for Awareness Building on Human and Avian Influenza

FAO has had a key role in the fight against Avian Influenza in Lao PDR, providing financial and technical support for the active surveillance, procuring equipment for AI, strengthening diagnostic laboratory network coordination and capacity building, human resource development, and in Donor Coordination Support for the Animal Health Sector. Several Regional and National Projects have been implemented since 2004, including strategy development for AI Pandemic Preparedness Plan with the Government and the UN Cross-Sectoral Influenza Working Group.

WHO Biennial Budget 2006 -2007

WHO technical collaboration is focused on communicable disease control, health sector development, human resource development, and health promotion. The core government policies in health are the 'Health Strategy to the Year 2020', the 'Lao Health Master Planning Study', and "The National Socio-Economic Development Plan", and the WHO programme works within those frameworks. Technical assistance is a major focus as well as efforts at donor coordination and policy making. There is an increasing emphasis in Lao PDR on maternal and child health as well as an emphasis on improving the quality of health services, not just the quantity.

The WHO budget for activities in Laos for the 2006/07 biennium is US\$4,170,516. This does not include activities and consultants that are funded from the regional or HQ budget. Additional funds will be raised during the biennium. Core components of the WHO programme for the 2 year period are Immunization and vaccine development, Vectorborne and parasitic disease control, Malaria, Tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS, Communicable disease prevention and control, Food safety, Health promotion, Health and environment, Child and adolescent health, Making pregnancy safer, Mental health and substance abuse, Non-communicable disease control, Tobacco control, Health financing and social protection, Health system policies and service delivery, Essential medicines, Human resources for Health.

ILO Decent Work Country Programme 2006 –2010

The 2005 World Summit Outcome Document stated that "the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all...a central objective of our relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals". The overall goal of the International Labour Organization is to promote opportunities for decent work for women and men in all countries. The ILO provides technical and institutional assistance to Lao PDR to meet that goal. The primary means for the ILO to provide such assistance are the Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP).

Decent work concept calls for the integration of economic and social objectives and for a well-orchestrated combination of measures in the areas of employment promotion, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue. This coherent approach is proving its relevance to a wide-ranging policy agenda, from social dimensions of globalization to poverty reduction strategies. The focus of the decent work programme varies from country to country, reflecting different national priorities and conditions. Taken into account the key priority areas in the NGPES and the NSEDP, the ILO, in consultation with the Government and social partners identified priorities areas, which set the DWCP framework of action for the next four years from 2006 to 2010. The long-term objectives under the DWCP are set as follows:

1. More job opportunities are created for rural poor, youth, people with disabilities and other targeted group resulting in poverty reduction;
2. Further progress is made to realize fundamental principles and rights at work, and to ratify and apply fundamental ILO Conventions; and
3. Social protection extended to uncovered population.

Past and existing ILO activities in the Lao PDR have covered a wide range of labour-related fields from the provision of advisory services, establishment of social security system as well as the system to prevent and tackle the child labour and human trafficking to collection of labour-based data. These are devices that help the country gear towards the identification of major employment and labour issues arising in the course of the country's transition to a market economy. The international labour standards are an integral part of good governance advocacy, the concept of which was officially introduced to the Government with the rights-based Common Country Assessment (CCA) in 2005. While some of the workers rights are guaranteed by national laws and adopted international instruments, others have not yet been fully adopted and enforced. There is a need to further raising public awareness of rights.

To the effect that the government attaches much importance to the growing of private sector with a hope that the sector can make positive contribution to eradicate poverty, the ILO will continue its endeavour in promoting micro and small enterprise development with the government and social partners.

The better structured and functioned workers' and employers' organizations, of which its members and staff are equipped with knowledge on the organization's roles and function, will be conducive to the healthy social and economic development, thus to achieve the national long-term development goals. The ILO is assisting the capacity build up for workers' and employers' organizations and promoting social dialogue in the country.

UNODC Strategic Programme Framework 2006 -2009

UNODC 's Strategic Programme Framework for the Lao PDR 2006 – 2009 was formulated in light of the fact that from being the third largest producer of illicit opium in the world, the Lao PDR is close to reaching its goal of eliminating opium. In the context of UNGASS, opium cultivation has been reduced by 93% over the past seven years. While this is a very significant achievement, external alternative development assistance has reached less than 50% of former opium poppy cultivating communities and there is concern regarding the sustainability of elimination and the impact of elimination on former opium poppy cultivating communities. To address anticipated issues arising in the immediate post-opium setting, UNODC and the Government of the Lao PDR have drafted a new national programme strategy for the post-opium scenario entitled "*The Balanced Approach to Sustaining Opium Elimination in the Lao PDR*" (2006-2009). The aim is to integrate the latter with the Lao National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES). The Strategic Programme Framework supports the new national programme strategy, which is a national priority, and is being integrated with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), as well as the Millennium Development Goals.

Laos is at a critical juncture. The risk of not providing timely, sufficient, and appropriate assistance could result in the reversal of successes achieved. The possible scenario of opium poppy farmers and addicts reverting to opium cultivation in order to survive - together with increased cross-border ATS, heroin and human trafficking, leading to corruption and crime - could affect national security and stability that are prerequisites for poverty alleviation and development. Unchecked escalation of such a situation would threaten the development and economy of the region. Drug control has been identified as an important crosscutting issue in the upcoming UN Common Country Assessment for the Lao PDR.

The SPF has four strategic objectives:

1. Support the National Programme Strategy for the Post-Opium Scenario;
2. Reduced opium and ATS abuse, and increased substance abuse and HIV and AIDS awareness;
3. Support to strengthen penal dispositions and penal procedures relating to illicit drug activities, transnational crime, corruption and terrorism. Support to increase public law awareness; and
4. Support to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officials to fight illicit drug activities, transnational crime, corruption and terrorism. Support to improve the penitentiary system. Support activities to increase awareness on drug and crime issues.

UNODC will promote the Government's adherence to the drug, crime and terrorism conventions and protocols, and assist in bringing about a level of technical capability in the Lao PDR to sufficiently meet international standards and protocols.

Technical advice and resources will be provided on a targeted basis, ensuring synergy and complementarity with other organizations and bilateral donors, and maximizing the effect of UNODC resources on drugs and crime problems.

UNESCO Programme and Budget (33 C/5 Approved) 2006-2007

The Programme and Budget for 2006-2007, as approved by its Member States, allows UNESCO to be better equipped to increase its participation in joint United Nations systems activities, especially at the country level. It will seek to bring to bear its core competencies in support of national development priorities in furthering international cooperation. In the process, UNESCO will benefit from synergies and contribute to the United Nations system's agenda of simplification, harmonization and quality enhancement, as outlined by the Paris High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness. This will find its expression in a more pronounced and widespread contribution of UNESCO to the preparation of national planning processes and documents aimed at poverty reduction as well as United Nations system programming frameworks such as Common Country Assessment (CCA), United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF) with their results-based matrixes, and Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRS). UNESCO will equally seek to promote the adoption of sector-wide approaches by countries, especially in the areas of education, culture and science. Overall, UNESCO will strive to improve the quality of its assistance to countries, this contributing to the paramount objective of improving the life of the people. In this context, the following activities will be undertaken by UNESCO in Lao PDR during 2006-2007:

- Capacity building for monitoring and evaluation of education;
- Strengthening national capacities, networks and partnerships for EFA plan implementation;
- Cultural Survival and Revival in the Buddhist Sangha: Documentation, Education and Training to Revitalize; Traditional Decorative Arts and Building Crafts in the Buddhist Temples of Asia (Luang Prabang, Champasak, Bokeo and Savannakhet);
- UNESCO-LNTA Nam Ha Ecotourism Project Phase II (until April 2008);
- Trafficking and HIV and AIDS project;
- Fighting Poverty at the Plain of Jars: UXO Clearance, Pro-poor Tourism and Sustainable Resource Management in Xieng Khouang;
- Seal of Excellence (SEAL) programme;
- Needs assessment and vulnerability reduction through cultural mapping; and
- Several projects on HIV and AIDS with funds from OPEC, CDC and UBW and in partnership with Ministry of Education.

The UN Country Team Lao PDR

www.unlao.org

Executive Committee (EXCOM) Agencies

These four UN funds and programmes report directly to the UN Secretary General and the General Assembly

 <p>www.undp.org www.undplao.org</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)</p> <p>UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP is working on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. UNDP has worked in Vientiane since 1957.</p> <p>UNDP works in partnership with the Lao Government, assisting it to fulfill the nationally stated goal of lifting the country out of the ranks of least developed nations by the year 2020, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which include halving extreme poverty by the year 2015. UNDP focus is helping in Lao PDR on building and sharing solutions to the challenges of: democratic governance, poverty reduction, the environment, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) clearance, and HIV and AIDS.</p>
 <p>www.unicef.org</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)</p> <p>UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. UNICEF established initial cooperation in Lao PDR in 1952 and opened a country office in Vientiane in 1973. In 1981, the Government and UNICEF established their first Basic Cooperation Agreement. In 1990, the Government participated in the World Summit for Children and signed the World Summit Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children. The following year they ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child.</p> <p>A National Commission for Mothers and Children (NCMC) was established in 1992 to monitor the implementation of the convention and the National Programmes of Action for Children. Provincial, district and village commissions for mothers and children were established in 1993. The goal of the current Country Programme is to enable the Government, communities and families to progressively realize the rights to survival, development, protection and participation of Lao children.</p>
 <p>www.unfpa.org http://lao.unfpa.org</p>  <p>www.wfp.org</p>	<p>THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)</p> <p>UNFPA promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV and AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.</p> <p>UNFPA has been working with the Lao Government since 1976 to achieve universal access to reproductive health, to realize gender equality and women's empowerment and to help monitor, analyze and respond to rapidly changing population trends.</p> <p>WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)</p> <p>WFP is the frontline United Nations organization fighting to eradicate world hunger – whether it is the hunger that suddenly afflicts people fleeing ethnic conflict, victims of natural disasters or the chronic hunger that affects the hungry poor in so many countries. WFP kick-starts development by paying workers with rations to build vital infrastructure and offering children food aid as a reward for going to school. WFP became operational in 1963 and is now the world's largest international food aid organization.</p> <p>WFP has operated in Lao PDR since 1976. Until the end of the 1990s it has mainly provided emergency food assistance following floods and droughts. Since the year 2000 WFP provides regular food assistance to the creation of rural community infrastructure (mainly rural access roads and paddy land expansions) in areas most vulnerable to food insecurity. Since 2001 it also provides a food incentive to primary school children, particularly girls and their families in the three most northern provinces of Lao PDR.</p>

Other UN Programmes and Funds

These UN organizations work under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to carry out the UN's economic and social mandate

 <p>www.unv.org www.undplao.org/unv</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS (UNV)</p> <p>UNV has had an office in the Lao People's Democratic Republic since 1973, and currently has one of the largest International UN Volunteer programmes in the sub-region. UNVs are experienced, mid-career professionals from across the globe who devote their time and energy to achieving the goal of improving life for the people in one of the world's poorest nations.</p> <p>Administered by UNDP, UNVs work cooperatively with Government, UN agencies and other partners. UN Volunteers Lao PDR has executed projects in several areas in partnership with the Lao government including in Public Administration and Civil Service Reform, with the Lao Youth Union, the Ministry of Education, UXO Lao, and the Ministry of Health. All projects put into action the strategic goals of UNV and support the achievement of the millennium development goals.</p>
 <p>www.unifem.org</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN (UNIFEM)</p> <p>UNIFEM works to promote gender equality between women and men and to advance the status of women. In particular, UNIFEM focus on implementing the Beijing Platform for Action and other UN global commitments through political and economic empowerment of women, and through the full realization of women's human rights. We work with governments, NGOs, community and other organizations, as well as individuals. The East and Southeast Asia Regional Office covers 13 countries including the Lao PDR.</p>

 www.unctad.org	<p>UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)</p> <p>Established in 1964, UNCTAD promotes the development-friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy. UNCTAD's work aims to ensure that domestic policies and international action are mutually supportive in bringing about sustainable development in three key ways: It functions as a forum for intergovernmental deliberations, supported by discussions with experts and exchanges of experience, aimed at consensus building; It undertakes research, policy analysis and data collection for the debates of government representatives and experts; and it provides technical assistance tailored to the specific requirements of developing countries, with special attention to the needs of the least developed countries and of economies in transition. In the Lao PDR UNCTAD cooperates with other organizations and donor countries in the delivery of technical assistance. UNCTAD participates actively in the Integrated Framework process, which aims to mainstream trade into national development and poverty reduction strategies and enhance the coordination of trade-related assistance delivery.</p>
 www.intracen.org	<p>THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC)</p> <p>The International Trade Centre (ITC) is the joint technical cooperation agency of UNCTAD and WTO for business aspects of trade development. UNCTAD is the global forum for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the related issues of finance, investment, technology and sustainable development; WTO is the platform to negotiate multilateral trade rules, monitor their implementation and handle trade disputes; while ITC handles strategic and operational aspects of trade development, focusing on exports. While UNCTAD and WTO work principally with governments, ITC works with the business community.</p>
 www.unhabitat.org	<p>UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAM (UN-HABITAT)</p> <p>UN-HABITAT, is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. The main documents outlining the mandate of the organization are the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, Habitat Agenda, Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and Resolution 56/206. UN-HABITAT has supported the preparation of an integrated urban planning and institution building for local authorities and introduced community participation models for in-situ upgrading during 90s. More recently, UN-HABITAT assisted the Ministry of Communication, Transport Post and Construction (MCTPC) in developing a programme "Support to Participatory Decision Making in Urban Centres in LAO PDR for Poverty Reduction" for 4 secondary towns.</p>
 www.uncdf.org	<p>UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (UNCDF)</p> <p>Established in 1966 as a special purpose fund primarily for small-scale investment in the poorest countries, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) has come in recent years through intense, necessary and far-reaching changes. Today, UNCDF works to help eradicate poverty through local development programmes and microfinance operations. Through its focus on two areas of concentration, UNCDF has strengthened its identity and competence. That was the principal conclusion of the 1999 external evaluation of the Fund, subsequently endorsed by its Executive Board in September 1999.</p> <p>UNCDF is a member of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) group, and reports to UNDP's Executive Board. As such, UNCDF works in close partnership with UNDP in areas ranging from joint programming to administrative and logistical support. The UNDP Resident Representative represents UNCDF at the country level.</p>
 www.unhcr.org	<p>UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE AGENCY (UNHCR)</p> <p>The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on December 14, 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country.</p> <p>UNHCR's main role in the Lao PDR has been to ensure that repatriated returnees are settled and reintegrated in conditions of safety and dignity. Since UNHCR established a presence in Vientiane in October 1974 it has assisted the repatriation and reintegration of close to 30,000 returnees, the last 1,162 of which returned during the last quarter of 1999. UNHCR closed its office in the Lao PDR in 2001 but continues to cover issues from its regional office in Thailand.</p>

Specialized UN Agencies

These are autonomous organizations joined to the UN through special agreements, coordinated by the Economic and Social Council at the intergovernmental level

 <p>www.ilo.org</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)</p> <p>Lao PDR became a member of the International Labour Organization in January 1964. The ILO delegates for Lao PDR are the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MoLSW); the Lao Federation of Trade Unions, and the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.</p> <p>In the first year of membership, the national government ratified four ILO Conventions, namely: Convention No. 4 on Night Work (Women), 1919; No. 6 on Night Work of Young Persons (Industry), 1919; No. 13 on White Lead Painting, 1921; and No. 29 on Forced Labour, 1930. In 2005, the Government has ratified the fundamental ILO Conventions on child labour (C.138 and C.182).</p> <p>ILO main activities in Lao PDR include: Integrated Small Enterprise Development Project; Social Security and Health Insurance; Migration Management, Prevention of Child Labour and Human Trafficking; Women's Entrepreneurship and Development; Micro-Finance; Occupational Health and Safety; HIV and AIDS Prevention for Workers; and rural infrastructure.</p>
 <p>www.fao.org www.fao.org/waicent</p>	<p>THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)</p> <p>FAO has, since its establishment in 1945, lead international efforts to defeat hunger and assisted its members in achieving national and household food security for all. Its mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy.</p> <p>FAO serves as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements, debate policies, develop international norms, standards and conventions to improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices. FAO assists in devising agricultural policies, supporting planning, drafting legislation and creating national strategies to achieve rural development and hunger alleviation goals.</p> <p>FAO has served the Lao Government over thirty years by providing technical expertise of agronomists, foresters, fishery and livestock specialists, nutritionists, social scientists, economists, statisticians and other professionals - to collect, analyze and disseminate data and information that aid development. FAO brings technical know-how and information to the field, and manages project operations in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Food and Drug Department of the Ministry of Health, in the following areas: agricultural services for farmers, crop and livestock production, animal health, prevention systems for trans-boundary animal diseases, forest development, watershed management, fisheries and aquaculture, nutrition and food standards, production technologies and emergency operations and rehabilitation.</p>
 <p>www.unesco.org</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)</p> <p>The main objective of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication.</p> <p>The mandate of UNESCO is the promotion of peace and human and sustainable development through its operational strategies in education, science, culture and communication and information. UNESCO programmes focus on promoting education for all; supporting the expression of cultural identities; protecting and enhancing the world's natural heritage; engaging in a new social contract between science and society at all levels; developing and promoting social policies; promoting the free flow of information, press freedom and the development of a pluralistic media; and strengthening communication capacities in developing countries. UNESCO also promotes literacy as a basic human right and as a necessity for development. It is the coordinating agency for the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003-2012), Education for All (EFA) and the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).</p> <p>UNESCO's activities globally concentrate on three priority groups: women, African countries and the least developed countries. The Organization is, above all, committed to ensuring that the people of the world are able to live together in peace with respect for cultural diversity. UNESCO there insists that education for good citizenship and for values which promotes peace and the fulfillment of human rights is at the core of UNESCO's work.</p>
 <p>www.who.int</p>  <p>www.unido.org</p>	<p>THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)</p> <p>The World Health Organization is the United Nations specialized agency for health. It was established on 7 April 1948. WHO's objective is the attainment by all peoples of the world of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease. WHO is governed through the World Health Assembly and its 192 members.</p> <p>WHO in Lao PDR supports the government and the Ministry of Health in improving health for the Lao people. The WHO programme in Lao PDR focuses on three main areas: (1) the control of communicable diseases; (2) health promotion and non-communicable disease control; and (3) health systems development.</p> <p>Specific activities include support to immunization, infectious disease surveillance and control, maternal and child health, school health and deworming, health care financing and planning, tobacco control, environmental health, and human resource development.</p> <p>UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)</p> <p>UNIDO was established in 1966, and in 1985 became a specialized UN Agency with the mandate to promote industrialization through the developing world. It currently has 171 Member States, including Lao PDR, and its Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Currently, UNIDO focuses on providing technical assistance to developing and least developed countries as well as economies in transition in three areas: (i) enhancing productive activities, (ii) trade capacity building, and (iii) Environment and energy for the overarching goals of poverty alleviation and environmental safeguard. UNIDO has been providing technical assistance to Lao PDR since more than 20 years ago. The main objective of UNIDO's cooperation with Lao PDR is to promote</p>

	<p>sustainable industrial development as a way to alleviate the poverty. From 2004 to 2008, UNIDO interventions will focus on four components: (i) industrial governance and enabling environment, (ii) private sector development and small medium enterprise development, (iii) manufacturing productivity and environmental soundness, and (iv) investment promotion and trade capacity building.</p>
 www.ifad.org	<p>INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)</p> <p>The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialized agency of the United Nations, was established as an international financial institution in 1977 as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference. The Conference was organized in response to the food crises of the early 1970s that primarily affected the Sahelian countries of Africa. The conference resolved that "an International Fund for Agricultural Development should be established immediately to finance agricultural development projects primarily for food production in the developing countries". One of the most important insights emerging from the conference was that the causes of food insecurity and famine were not so much failures in food production, but structural problems relating to poverty and to the fact that the majority of the developing world's poor populations were concentrated in rural areas.</p>
 www.worldbank.org www.worldbank.org/lao	<p>WORLD BANK</p> <p>The World Bank has been working in Lao PDR since 1977 in supporting Lao's development objectives with a special emphasis on reducing poverty. The Bank's assistance strategy is aimed at supporting the implementation of the National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy in two substantive priority areas: sustain growth through improved management of key drivers: regional integration, private sector development and natural resource management; and improve social outcomes and reduce vulnerability through strengthened public financial management and service delivery capacities, and targeted poverty reduction programs.</p> <p>The World Bank has provided more than US \$711 million in credits and US\$31 million in grants, as well as technical support and policy dialogue.</p>
 www.imf.org	<p>INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF)</p> <p>The IMF is an international organization of 184 member countries. It was established to promote international monetary cooperation, exchange stability, and orderly exchange arrangements; to foster economic growth and high levels of employment; and to provide temporary financial assistance to countries to help ease balance of payments adjustment. Lao PDR joined the IMF on 5 July 1961.</p> <p>The office of the IMF Resident Representative in Lao PDR was established in 1990, soon after the launch of the New Economic Mechanism. It has been continuously in operation since then. The IMF has provided financial assistance to Lao PDR in the context of economic and financial programs designed to strengthen the country's external position, while promoting sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction.</p>

Other UN Entities

 www.unaids.org	<p>JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS)</p> <p>Established in 1996, the Joint United Nations Programme strives to maximize the United Nation's efficiency and impact in the field of HIV/AIDS by pooling the experience, efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations: UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO, and the World Bank.</p> <p>UNAIDS is the main advocate for global action on the HIV and AIDS epidemic. It leads, strengthens and supports an expanded response aimed at preventing transmission of HIV, providing care and support, reducing the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV and AIDS, and alleviating the impact of the epidemic.</p>
 www.uncrd.or.jp	<p>UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (UNCRD)</p> <p>The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) was founded in 1971 as an instrument to help achieve the strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. UNCRD was created by an agreement between the UN and the Government of Japan, and has worked to promote the following objectives for more than thirty years: (1) Serve as a training and research centre in regional development; (2) Provide advisory services in regional development; (3) Assist developing countries in promoting the exchange of information, experience, and teaching in regional development; and (4) Assist and cooperate with other organizations, national or international, concerned with regional development.</p> <p>To meet these goals, the Centre targets its programmes towards socially and environmentally sustainable development. The three multidisciplinary themes of human security, environment, and disaster management serve as a guide for the Centre's training and research activities.</p>
 www.unhchr.ch	<p>OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)</p> <p>The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is a department of the United Nations Secretariat. It is mandated to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and in international human rights laws and treaties. The mandate includes preventing human rights violations, securing respect for all human rights, promoting international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations, and strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights. In addition to its mandated responsibilities, the Office leads efforts to integrate a human rights approach within all work carried out by United Nations agencies.</p> <p>OHCHR's priorities are set by the General Assembly and are contained in the Medium-Term Plan for 2002-2005. The plan follows the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which was developed out of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, and the Charter of the United Nations.</p>

UN Secretariat

These organizations work under the direct mandate of the UN Secretariat

 <p>www.unodc.org www.unodc.org/laopdr</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)</p> <p>The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was established by the Secretary-General to address the interrelated issues of drug control, crime prevention and international terrorism in all its forms. The three main features of the UNODC work programme are: (1) research to increase knowledge and understanding of drug and crime issues; (2) assisting states in the ratification and implementation of international treaties and the development of domestic policies; (3) field-based technical assistance to enhance the capacity of governments to counteract illicit drugs, crime and terrorism.</p> <p>In close collaboration with the Lao National Commission on Drug Control and Supervision (LCDC), UNODC assists the Government with a range of initiatives including putting in place a comprehensive drug control programme for Laos (since 1994), which has resulted in 93% reduction of opium poppy cultivation and 68% reduction in Opium abuse since 1998, and helping the Government in the ratification of the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (in 2004) and accession to the UN Convention on Trans-national Organized Crime in 2003.</p>
 <p>http://ochaonline.un.org</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (OCHA)</p> <p>OCHA was established in 1991 to strengthen the United Nation's response to both complex emergencies and natural disasters, and to improve the overall effectiveness of the UN's humanitarian operations in the field. The high level position of Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) was established to combine into a single UN focal point the functions carried out by representatives of the Secretary-General for major and complex emergencies, as well as the UN's natural disaster functions carried out by the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator, UNDRO. OCHA carries out its coordination function primarily through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, chaired by the ERC. Participants include all humanitarian partners, from UN agencies, funds and programmes to the Red Cross Movement and NGOs. The IASC ensures inter-agency decision-making in response to complex emergencies. These responses include needs assessments, consolidated appeals, field coordination arrangements and the development of humanitarian policies.</p>

Regional Commission

Part of the Economic and Social Council

 <p>www.unescap.org</p>	<p>UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (UNESCAP)</p> <p>UNESCAP was established in Shanghai, China in 1947 and has 62 members. Of the UN's five regional commissions it is the biggest in terms of population served and area covered. UNESCAP functions have been defined by the Secretary-General as follows: Promoting economic and social development through regional and subregional cooperation and integration; Serving as the main economic and social development forum within the United Nations system for the UNESCAP region; Formulating and promoting development assistance activities and projects commensurate with the needs and priorities of the region while acting as an executing agency for relevant operational projects; Providing substantive and secretariat services and documentation for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; Carrying out studies, research and other activities within the terms of reference of the Commission; Providing advisory services to governments at their request; Developing and executing programmes of technical cooperation; Coordinating UNESCAP activities with those of the major departments/offices of the United Nations at Headquarters and specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations.</p>
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Other

 <p>www.adb.org www.a.db.org/laopdr</p>	<p>ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)</p> <p>ADB's vision is an Asia and Pacific region free of poverty. Its mission is to help its developing member countries reduce poverty and improve their living conditions and quality of life. ADB pursues a strategic agenda - sustainable economic growth, inclusive social development, and governance for effective policies and institutions - with three cross-cutting themes: private sector development, regional cooperation, and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>ADB's main instruments in providing help to its developing member countries are policy dialogues, loans, technical assistance, grants, guarantees, and equity investments. ADB was established in 1966. The Lao PDR was one of its 31 founding members. Although it has no formal role within the UN, in the Lao PDR the ADB is considered a full and participating member of the UN Country Team.</p>
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