



World Food Programme McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program

WFP/Jim Neale

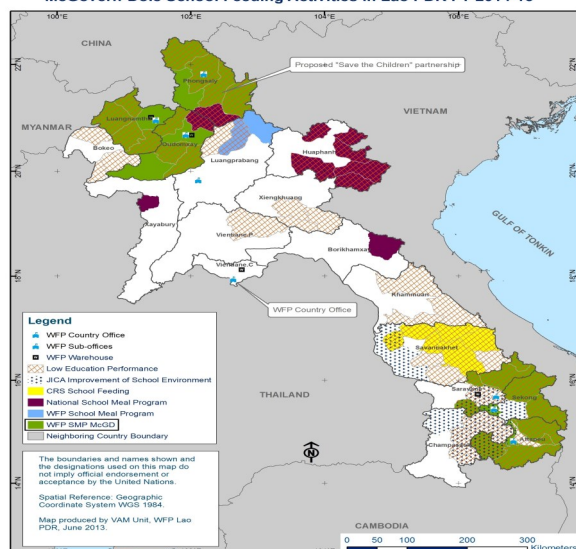
Lao PDR

In Numbers

USDA McGovern-Dole (MGD) Award (2017-2021)

- \$27.4 million over 4 years
- Follow-on project from a FY2014 \$27 million 3 year award
- 140,000 school children per day will receive a mid morning snack or hot lunch consisting of lentils and white rice with fortified vegetable oil served every school day (175 days/year)
- 15,608,536 school meals provided in 1,446 schools to children in MGD supported regions in the last year ending in April 2016

McGovern-Dole School Feeding Activities in Lao PDR FY 2014-16



Country Need

- A Least Developed Country (LDC) and Low Income Food Deficit Country (LIFDC), Lao PDR ranks 141 out of 188 on the 2015 UNDP Human Development Index.
- Lowest literacy rate and highest stunting rate among ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries.
- Over 40% of children under 5 are stunted due to malnutrition and 14% of rural households are food insecure.
- Fewer than half of primary schools have access to water and toilet facilities.
- Has a national School Lunch Policy (2014) and a School Meals Action Plan 2016-2020.

WFP-MGD Highlights

- With USDA MGD support, WFP provides school meals to 17% of all pre-primary and primary school children in Lao PDR.
- In USDA MGD supported regions, net enrollment increased from 75% to 97% from 2005 to 2013.
- WFP has handed over school meals programs for 66 schools within 2 MGD supported districts since 2012.
- In USDA MGD supported schools, repetition and dropout rates declined from 20.1% to 12.6% and from 14.6% to 8.9% respectively from 2005 to 2013.



World Food Programme

Fighting Hunger Worldwide



Local and Regional Procurement

USDA awarded WFP Laos \$1 million in LRP funds to strengthen the capacity of communities and farmer groups to produce high quality food products that complement MGD school meals programs and improve the livelihoods of farmers in rural communities. LRP funds are instrumental in graduating school meals programs from in-kind food aid to nationally owned programs

- WFP is improving school lunches in 50 communities in Luangnamtha Province, **Laos** through agriculture trainings to smallholder farmers and a small cash stipend for purchase of local fruits and vegetables

Increased Attendance

- Between Oct. 2016 and Feb. 2017, 90% of students receiving mid morning snacks and 87% of students receiving hot lunches regularly attended school in USDA supported classrooms

Increased Access to Food

- 63,356 individuals received take-home rations as a result of USDA assistance

Increased Access to Food Preparation Tools

- 580 educational facilities were renovated/ constructed since October 2016

- 26 schools received storage renovations and 67 kitchens were renovated

Increased Knowledge of Nutrition

- WFP provided nutrition information for the development of school garden and nutrition centered curriculum

- 130 workshops and trainings were provided on good nutrition, health, and hygiene since October 2016

- 18,000 posters created and distributed throughout all 1,446 villages with USDA logo to raise awareness of the importance of education and healthy practices

Capacity Building

- WFP provided a study tour for the Lao PDR Ministry of Education & Sports (MoES) to the Center of Excellence in Brazil for training on best practices in school meals

"It is very good for me, my brothers, and classmates to have the mid-morning snack, as we could not concentrate on our studies without a filled stomach"

~ Somsy, 11, Luang Namtha Province

Government Handover

- Graduated 2 districts with 66 schools in to the Government of Lao PDR since 2012

Partnerships

- Partnering with local organization Big Brother Mouse, MGD funding established book corners and organizes book parties in approximately 100 schools
- Partnership with Plan International, MGD funding provides reading materials, establishes book clubs, promotes the importance of education and has set up handwashing stations at 10 schools
- Partnership with FAO to pilot nutrition and agriculture into the primary curriculum

