



**WFP2030**

# **Lao PDR Country Strategic Plan (2017–2021)**



**World Food Programme**

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# World Food Programme

## Lao PDR 2017-2021

CHANGING HOW WE PLAN AND IMPLEMENT TO ACHIEVE  
THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Lao People's Democratic Republic is moving towards Middle Income Country status. Economic growth is strong, with a reduction in poverty, and a decline in the proportion of hungry people. However, the country is off track on targets for reduced stunting, and one-fifth of the population consumes less than the minimum dietary energy requirements.

The Country Strategic Plan (CSP) will contribute to the achievement of the Government's 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2016-2020), sectoral strategies and plans of action, the United Nations Partnership Framework (2017-2021), and the Sustainable Development Goals 2, 4, 5, 13 and 17.

### Shift to Government Ownership

The CSP supports the Lao Government's vision of "a prosperous country, with a healthy population, free from food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty". The vision is for WFP to shift from provision of food assistance to policy engagement

and capacity development for a gradual handover of food assistance under this CSP.

The Plan takes important steps towards WFP's strategic direction for a strengthened national and local capacity, whereby the Government and communities independently own, manage and implement food and nutrition security programmes by 2030.

WFP will invest in sustainable food and nutrition security programmes to support Lao PDR's progress towards Middle Income Country status.

### Whole-of-Society Consultations

The CSP aims to address challenges and proposes actions based on consultations with the Government, development partners and beneficiaries, contextual and

THE CSP ADOPTS A  
LONG-TERM VISION TO  
2030, AND THIS PLAN IS  
THE FIRST STEP  
TOWARDS THAT  
DIRECTION.

gender analysis, as well as gaps identified and recommendations made in the Strategic Review on Food and Nutrition Security, and independent study conducted by sectoral experts in 2016.

The strategic review identified six priority actions to: i) strengthen the coordination mechanisms and provide technical assistance; ii) ensure funding and implementation of the plan of action of the national nutrition strategy; iii) provide social benefits for the most vulnerable; iv) promote diet diversity through consumption of locally available nutrient rich food; v) support small-scale farmers along the value chain; and vi) increase awareness of climate risks in agriculture.

## **Focus on Four Key Challenges**

The four strategic outcomes of the CSP will focus on key challenges faced by Lao PDR: food insecurity, malnutrition, low resilience to climate change, and the governance structure that is needed to address these priorities.

Over the next five years, WFP will continue direct implementation with in-kind food assistance decreasing, introducing cash-based transfers, and increasingly providing policy support and capacity development.

Taking into consideration the crucial role women play in food and nutrition security, all strategic

## **THE CSP IS A COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT- CENTRED PLAN.**

outcomes have been designed based on a gender analysis, and the different needs and capacities of women, men, girls and boys have been integrated into the activities.

## **Partnerships are Key**

Within the frameworks of the Vientiane Declaration on Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2016-2025), WFP will leverage its relationship as a trusted partner of the Government to achieve maximum impact towards a shared vision for 2030.

WFP will strengthen synergies, coherence and efficiency, and expand strategic and operational partnerships with the UN agencies, Financial Institutions, civil society, and private sector to achieve common objectives and ensure cost-effective, sustainable, and gender-sensitive implementation of food security and nutrition initiatives.

WFP will facilitate exchange of knowledge, skills and expertise through South-South cooperation with Centres of Excellence and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

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SDG Target	SDG 2.1	SDG 2.2	SDG 2.4	SDG 17.9
	End hunger and ensure access to food	End all forms of malnutrition	Resilient ecosystems for adaptation to climate change and disasters	Enhance international support for capacity development to support national plans to implement all SDGs
OUTCOMES				
WFP Strategic Outcome	STRATEGIC OUTCOME 1	STRATEGIC OUTCOME 2	STRATEGIC OUTCOME 3	STRATEGIC OUTCOME 4
	School children in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021	Stunting levels among children under 2 in provinces with high levels of malnutrition meet national targets by 2025	Vulnerable households in climate-sensitive districts are more resilient to seasonal and long-term shocks and stresses	National and local governance institutions are strengthened to improve service delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas, by 2025
Activity	ACTIVITY 1	ACTIVITY 4	ACTIVITY 7	ACTIVITY 8
	Provide policy support, technical assistance and capacity transfer	Provide technical assistance for evidence-based policy dialogue	Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	Invest in national governance capacity for food and nutrition security
	ACTIVITY 2	ACTIVITY 5		ACTIVITY 9
	Accelerate implementation of the Government's plan of action for the school meals programme	Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6–23 months		Enable communities to lead and own food and nutrition security solutions
	ACTIVITY 3	ACTIVITY 6		ACTIVITY 10
	Support a national process for hand-over of the school meals programme to communities and the Government	Develop a social behaviour change communication strategy and nutrition schools for farmers		Enhance the capacity of government at all levels to prepare for and respond to natural disasters



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