

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



# Lao People's Democratic Republic Annual Country Report 2018

Country Strategic Plan

2017 - 2021

ACR Reading Guidance



World Food  
Programme

# Table of contents

Summary	3
Context and Operations	5
Programme Performance - Resources for Results	7
Programme Performance	8
Strategic Outcome 01	8
Strategic Outcome 02	9
Strategic Outcome 03	9
Strategic Outcome 04	11
Cross-cutting Results	12
Progress towards gender equality	12
Protection	12
Accountability to affected populations	13
Environment	13
Stronger Second Child	15
Figures and Indicators	16
Data Notes	16
Beneficiaries by Age Group	16
Beneficiaries by Residence Status	17
Annual CBT and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)	17
Output Indicators	18
Outcome Indicators	20
Cross-cutting Indicators	36
Progress towards gender equality	36
Protection	37
Accountability to affected populations	38
Environment	39



# Summary

In 2018, WFP in Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) made great strides in school feeding and nutrition and responded effectively to two emergency flood situations.

Long-standing plans progressed well to develop national capacity for handover of WFP school feeding activities to the Government of Lao PDR, including the phased handover of school feeding implementation. Since the issuance of the National School Lunch Policy in 2014, work on the associated funding and implementation mechanisms had been underway. In 2018, following WFP efforts to promote the policy, two decrees were issued on the establishment of national, provincial and district committees on the handover as well as a circular to provincial Governors.

Four additional policy drafts were supported by WFP for consideration by parliament in 2019, relating to the implementation, financing and management of the program. These policies complete the package of support necessary for the national implementation of school feeding. The WFP school feeding program has focused on support to schools to implement the full program, including school gardens, fish ponds, and sanitary facilities.

WFP supported research and development of fortification in Lao PDR, including the launch of the Food Fortification Strategic Action Plan in May and subsequent establishment of the Task Force Working Group, which WFP co-chairs. Together with the Government, a workplan was established to develop i) Lao standards for food fortification including revision of the Lao Food Law, ii) legislation to enable and enforce fortification including imports from neighbouring countries, and iii) analysis on supply chains of oil and other fortifiable foods.

During an unusually heavy rainy season in 2018, Lao PDR suffered two flood emergencies which affected ten percent of the population and destroyed hundreds of thousands of acres of cultivation, leaving an estimated five percent of households severely food insecure. WFP responded to the floods and focused its response on the evacuation areas to meet the needs of those affected in two provinces, dispatching rice and small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement to the severely food insecure and cash to the moderately food insecure.

WFP's coordination of logistics services for donors and government offices assisted in reaching the affected population of the most severe flood areas within days. By working alongside the Government in responding to the needs of the affected and displaced, WFP has also provided capacity development in the coordination and distribution response in emergency situations.



**670,329**  
total beneficiaries  
in 2018

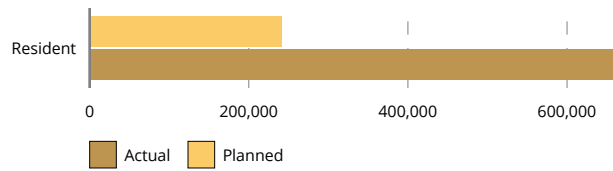


49%  
female

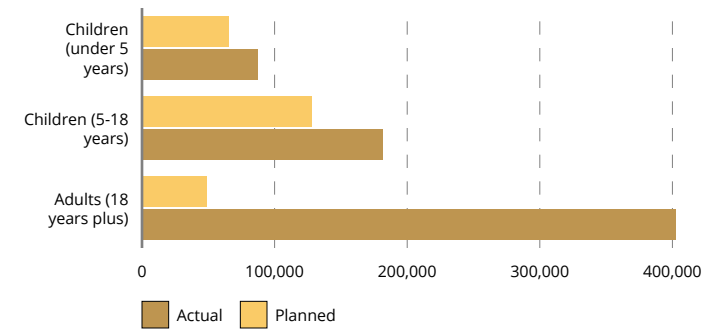


51%  
male

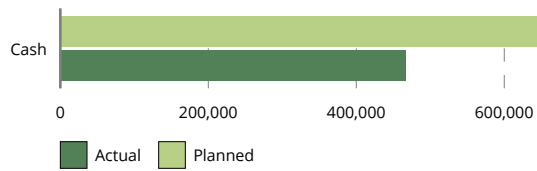
**Beneficiaries by Residence Status**



**Beneficiaries by Age Group**



**Annual CBT and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)**



# Context and Operations



Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) is a land-linked country bordering China, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia with a population of 6.8 million. Lao PDR has 17 provinces, plus a prefecture which is the capital, Vientiane.

Lao PDR has made significant strides in development over the last decade, particularly towards graduation from Least Developed Country status in 2024. The country has improved in the Global Gender Gap Index and ranked 26 out of 149 countries in 2018 [1].

Despite this overall progress, Lao PDR still has 'serious' hunger levels according to the 2018 Global Hunger Index [2]. The Human Development Index ranks Lao PDR 139 of 189 countries [3]. Stunting affects 33 percent of children under the age of five; in 8 provinces, prevalence is higher than 40 percent. Wasting has increased from 6 percent to 9 percent, still indicating a significant gap in family nutrition [4].

23 percent of the population live below the national poverty line [5] and the Gross National Income per capita is USD 1,996 [6]. Rice and subsistence farming accounts for 72 percent of total cultivated land in Lao PDR and subsistence farming is still a way of life for 80 percent of the rural population, supplemented with livestock and collection of non-timber forestry products and fish from local water supplies [7].

The Government is committed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has well-defined objectives and strategies guiding actions towards their achievement and graduation from Least Developed Country status. Lao PDR was among the first group to present a Voluntary National Review to the UN High-level Political Forum in July.

The mid-term sectoral reviews of the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2016-2020) showed appreciable progress toward the goals of the plan, which guides Lao PDR in its efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve sustainable human development, and ensure the effective management and utilization of natural resources. During the review, the prioritization of the Belt and Road Initiative with China challenged the budgetary assignments anticipated to achieve plan objectives, particularly in the education and health sectors.

National Nutrition Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2020) (NNSAP) mid-term review showed on-target gains in several areas, as well as numerous areas of need in the various sectors. Nutrition sector objectives under the NNSAP review show that gains have been made in stunting and low birth weight. However, community engagement and understanding of nutrition interventions is low and data collection continues to be a hindrance to development in the sector. The education sector review of the NNSAP found implementation of nutrition

objectives in the sector progressing slowly, specifically the breadth of the school feeding program, school garden implementation, nutrition curriculum development and sanitation facility construction.

The agriculture sector review of the NNSAP found that progress has been made in diversification of production, but this does not have a direct correlation to consumption. Therefore, additional emphasis is needed on multi-sector promotion of diverse diets. Additionally, though the objective is to improve household nutrition, farmer motivation has been linked to market value chains, therefore an additional focus on community consumption and market sales would influence household consumption of diverse diets.

The 2018 rainy season was characterized by extreme rains and numerous storms, with over 100,000 hectares of agriculture fields destroyed, along with roads and bridges. The harsh weather and its effects touched nearly ten percent of the population, principally within four provinces. The extreme weather also led to a dam failure and resulting flash flood affecting 13,200 people and displacing half of them [8]. The Post Disaster Needs Assessment estimated total damage of USD 371 million. Together with the Government, other UN organizations, and NGOs, WFP undertook an emergency response to address food security and resilience needs of households in the affected areas.

WFP supports the Government in addressing these challenges through its Country Strategic Plan 2017-2021, which works towards four Strategic Outcomes:

- 1) schoolchildren in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021;
- 2) stunting levels among children under two years of age in provinces with high levels of malnutrition meet national targets by 2025;
- 3) vulnerable households in climate-sensitive districts are more resilient to seasonal and long-term shocks and stresses;
- 4) national and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery for food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations, especially in hard-to-reach areas by 2025.



# Programme Performance - Resources for Results

Resourcing for 2018 was sustained by continuing allocations of multi-year funds earmarked to specific Strategic Outcomes and Activities. Strategic Outcomes 1, 2, and 3 were fully funded by the end of 2018, while Strategic Outcome 4 funding was slightly lower at 87 percent. With such strong support, WFP was able to make significant strides in achieving the results outlined in the Country Strategic Plan. Target outputs were exceeded on more than half of indicators and 82 percent annual outcomes were achieved.

With full funding of Strategic Outcome 1 in 2018, WFP was able to carry out the implementation of school feeding as planned and make significant progress in the development of capacity and supporting the national process for hand-over. The allocation for this Strategic Outcome reflects a cumulative value which includes food purchases to support the 2019 programme. Non Activity Specific funding was received as part of a service contract with the Government to assist in the monitoring and evaluation of school lunch activities implemented by the Government.

Strategic Outcome 2 funding included a multi-year allocation which offers WFP the stability to implement the program in phases to achieve the planned long-term objectives. Through multilateral allocations, WFP began offering technical assistance in policy development of fortified foods and the corresponding supply chain in Lao PDR. WFP continued efforts against malnutrition of children aged 6 to 23 months through distribution of small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement.

Strategic Outcome 3 was underfunded through the first half of the year, until funding was received late in the year allowing for activities to begin. Cash for work activities were planned, but not undertaken; these are scheduled for 2019 with funding received in 2018. Additionally, significant results were achieved in the response to two emergency situations. Immediate funding for the emergency situations permitted WFP to rapidly support the Government response to disastrous floods.

In Strategic Outcome 4, multi-year funding fully supported community led solutions for nutrition-sensitive planning. Multi-lateral funding provided the basis for the remaining activities under the Outcome, including capacity development of government counterparts in ministry of planning and investment. With some funding constraints, activities were implemented on a small-scale pilot projects were implemented together with the Government.

All the results achieved are thanks to the generous contributions received from traditional and new donors in 2018. Top donors to the Country Strategic Plan through 2018 were the United States, the World Bank, Japan, Australia, Private Donors, along with new donors, the Government of Lao PDR, the Government of Russia, and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund.



# Programme Performance

## Strategic Outcome 01

School children in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021.

Under Strategic Outcome 1, WFP worked to address the root causes of food insecurity and low education indicators in remote and ethnically diverse districts. WFP collaborated closely with the Ministry of Education and Sports and joined with several government offices and local and international NGOs to complement school feeding implementation. WFP closely collaborated with the Ministry on high-level policy development, particularly as the school feeding programme plans include a phased handover for complete implementation by local school communities. Seven official national legislative documents were collaboratively drafted in 2018, and three were fully approved and disseminated.

WFP supported the Ministry in revising the School Agriculture Guidelines, strengthening nutrition and gender aspects in the guidance and developing the Ministerial Directive on promoting school agriculture for all levels from kindergarten to university. Ministerial Decrees outlining the agreement on the official handover plan for 515 WFP-implemented school feeding locations were issued, resulting in the formation of handover committees on provincial, district and village levels, where workshops and information exchange continued. Additional dialogue led to the proposal of funds for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in national budgets for legislative consideration in 2019. The proposal amounted to approximately USD 0.10 per student per day for the purchase of supplementary fresh foods to complement local contributions. Ensuring strong policy and budget allocations are in place and enhancing school infrastructure is fundamental to the sustainability of the national school feeding program.

The cost-benefit analysis of school feeding programmes in Lao PDR, carried out jointly by the Ministry of Education, WFP and Mastercard in 2018, provided evidence of the economic relevance of the school meals programme to the country's development. For each USD 1 invested, it showed a USD 6.1 return over the lifetime of a beneficiary in the country's economy, predominantly attributed to improved education, increased productivity, additional income to impoverished households, and better health outcomes.

The school feeding programme utilizes a holistic and integrated approach to achieving sustainable access to food and nutrition, supported by United States Department of Agriculture McGovern-Dole Food for Education. The programme provides technical assistance and capacity strengthening for government partners and raises awareness on the importance of education and nutrition. The school feeding programme reached 131,227 pre-primary and primary school children in thirty of the most disadvantaged districts in the country, offering

lunch at school; resource transfers to schools promoting local fresh produce in the meals; support for local farmers by linking women and men smallholder farmers to schools; gardening support; promotion of improved, safe food storage; and promotion of improved health and hygiene.

Some 1,434 schools participated in the programme; 48 percent of the students were girls. WFP sent schools a ration of rice, oil, lentils, and canned fish twice each semester in 2018, which is cooked by local volunteers at the schools. Training for cooks and teaching staff, including recipe sharing and nutrition education, was carried out by the Lao Women's Union on an on-going basis to support continuity in the development of nutritious meals created locally. In the 236 schools where cash transfer activities were carried out, the Union holds additional sessions to train staff and volunteers on procedures and use. Because of the competing family and work commitments of volunteer cooks, meals are cooked three days per week on average. As the implementing partner had stocks remaining in June, this was given to beneficiaries to extend the benefit to family members. This caused actual beneficiary numbers to increase to well beyond the target in all age brackets, particularly adults.

Linking smallholder farmers to schools encourages a more sustainable means for school feeding to continue following the anticipated handover. In addition to training women and men smallholder farmers in better means of production and increasing crop variety, the United States Department of Agriculture-funded Local Regional Procurement (LRP) project disbursed cash, ten cents per student per day, to 47 primary schools. This cash transfer complemented the school feeding programme and allowed opportunities for schools to purchase fresh vegetables from the LRP-trained local smallholder farmers, nearly 30 percent of which are women. The cash transfer modality is also carried out in other non-LRP districts to encourage similar practices. However, it has been noted that the cash alone is not as successful as the full LRP project including training and investment for farmers.

WFP partnered with the Lao National Centre for Environmental Health and Water Supply to ensure facilities are adequate for the needs of each school for cooking, hygiene, school gardening, and hand washing. WFP also partnered with the Lao Front for National Development which has a village presence across the nation, thereby offering a full-time contact locally to WFP beneficiaries and reinforcing key WFP messages on literacy, nutrition, livelihood, and WASH. The Front worked with WFP to empower the community and develop ownership of activities and projects; they also monitor and report on WFP activities.

WFP worked with Plan International and Big Brother Mouse, a local non-profit publisher and literacy promoter, to support local literacy initiatives, particularly for girls and ethnic minorities, and provided learning materials and increased





equitable education opportunities. In 2018, the two partners delivered hundreds of books to each class in 80 schools. A partnership with World Education International Inc. was agreed in late 2018 to build the capacity of Big Brother Mouse and Ministry staff, with assessment of student reading accuracy and comprehension improvements as the goal. WFP also partnered with The Education Development Fund – Lao (EDF) to provide school meals in Khammouane Province, the eighth province (31st district). In addition to in-kind food assistance, EDF began training in the implementation of the full school feeding programme.

WFP's support to strengthen communities for school meals including WASH and Literacy activities are coordinated with other development partners like UNICEF through bilateral meetings and the school meals technical working group held twice in 2018.

### Strategic Outcome 02

Stunting levels among children under 2 in provinces with high levels of malnutrition meet national targets by 2025

Under Strategic Outcome 2, WFP worked to address the direct and underlying causes of malnutrition through institutional capacity development, coordination, surveillance, analysis of gender roles and scaling up of nutrition interventions through a multi-sector approach. WFP worked with the National Nutrition Secretariat (NNS) to implement the various activities to achieve this outcome. WFP provided policy support and engagement for nutrition intervention through the corresponding technical working group on Food and Nutrition Security.

The National Nutrition Strategy and Plan of Action (2016-2020) includes development of a 'nutrition surveillance system', led by UNICEF on the national level. WFP supported the development of the data methodology and WFP field presence provided the opportunity to carry out real-time testing of the application by which villagers provide data on services delivered at the local level.

The launch of the NNS Food Fortification Strategy: Action Plan led to the development of the task force working group, with WFP taking a support and facilitation role. WFP facilitated the development of objectives for the working groups, as well as facilitating stakeholder consultations and numerous workshops on various implementation aspects of the plan.

With WFP support, the Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network (SBN) officially launched in May 2018. Seventeen private sector organizations joined development partners, business associations, and representatives of the Government in the movement. WFP introduced SBN and stimulated interest in the network and supported the membership and the network's actions. In

addition to updates on policy development disseminated through the SBN, the members developed a strategy to drive their actions going forward; establishing strong membership and active participation, advocating corporate social responsibility programs, supporting development and availability of nutritious foods and fortified products, and also increasing nutrition awareness.

WFP's partnership with the Ministry worked towards to the goal of ending malnutrition through the stunting prevention programme. Small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement was distributed in 1,109 villages to an average 18,000 children aged 6-23 months in three provinces to help ensure optimal nutritional uptake. The latest national social indicator survey was published in 2018, in which gains have been noted in the Minimum Acceptable Diet scores in one of the provinces where WFP operates and maintenance in a second. The last province continues to struggle with only 11 percent of children receiving a minimum acceptable diet, with lack of diet diversity as the weighted factor in the study.

Additional contributions toward ending malnutrition include activities undertaken through the partnership with the Lao Front for National Development. The Front underwent training in community mobilization for nutrition activities and now carries out advocacy on these topics within the villages where WFP operates and reports on WFP activities.

Improving dietary diversity was a major undertaking in 203 villages through the Farmer Nutrition Schools (FNS) designed and delivered as part of the Agriculture for Nutrition project in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Health, and IFAD with financing from the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program. FNS enhance knowledge of and access to nutrient-rich crops, post-harvest handling, food storage and safety, processing and preservation. The schools empowered over 7,000 participants, including the 5,376 women participants, by increasing their ownership of and influence over household family nutrition. Based on feedback received, the FNS curriculum was revised during the year. Initially open only to pregnant and lactating women and mothers of children under 24 months old, FNS was extended to all villagers, with adolescent girls in particular encouraged to attend. This allowed for additional training for all family members on nutrition, with positive response from participants on gaining a new understanding of family nutrition needs.

### Strategic Outcome 03

Vulnerable households in climate sensitive districts are more resilient to seasonal and long-term shocks and stresses

Under Strategic Outcome 3, WFP worked with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and cooperating sister agencies the Food and Agriculture Organisation



of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to assist vulnerable communities in shock-prone areas to adapt to climate change and build long-term resilience against climate risks through technical assistance, capacity development and creation of assets.

With WFP support, the National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute division of the Ministry installed seven weather stations in climate-vulnerable target villages, utilizing the information for real-time weather forecasting activities, and developed a seasonal Dynamic Crop Calendar (DCC). The DCC is available as a mobile application and forms one of the three pillars of the curriculum developed for climate field schools, with the second being agro-climate advisory and the third being the economic impact of climate-sensitive crop management. The climate field schools rolled out to seven villages, with the 195 women and 245 men participants creating plans for the 2018 rainy season which adjusted livestock investments and crop planting methodology for improved economic gain.

WFP also worked to strengthen capacity of the Government and local farmers through the Disaster Risk Management in Agriculture (DRM) project with the Ministry. DRM addresses technical capacity to plan and implement disaster adaptation and mitigation plans in the agriculture sector through the development of agriculture guidelines and technical training. In the last quarter of 2018, DRM organized three workshops, one at national and two at provincial levels which aimed at enhancing knowledge of and planning for disaster reduction and management in agriculture and other sectors. The national level workshop comprised of 28 technical ministry staff and the two provincial workshops had a total of 78 participants, including district officers. Deliberations from the workshops produced the draft Guidelines for the Disaster Reduction and Management in the Agriculture Sector.

WFP joined the Food and Nutrition Security and Market Linkages project, managed by the Ministry and IFAD, which aims to build community resilience through establishing and training asset management committees in villages and to construct community assets related to local food and nutrition security and market linkages needs. WFP planned interventions under Cash for Work programmes including asset construction, particularly of rice banks and access roads.

Heavy seasonal rains and a dam failure caused disastrous flooding through 13 villages in the remote Sanamxay district of Attapeu Province in southern Lao PDR in mid-2018. In coordination with the Government, the UN Disaster Response Plan was activated, along with requests for working group coordinators to step in and assist the Government in a national response. WFP led the Logistics working group and co-led that of the Food Security and Nutrition. WFP supported the

government-led response by providing partners with logistics infrastructure information, coordination and warehouse storage. WFP also provided capacity development in logistics coordination for the Government. Two mobile storage units were provided to the Government four days after the dam break, one at the flood relief area and one centrally located in Vientiane. Rapid response supplies from the Government of Australia were cleared through customs and transported to the flood relief areas within days of the dam failure.

Six days after the dam break, WFP dispatched three tons of small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement for pregnant and lactating women and for children under five years of age for distribution through health teams on location. An additional three metric tons of canned fish was handed over to the Government at the same time. Government-deployed helicopters were made available for the health teams to distribute in unreachable locations where flooding had not yet subsided. In all, 1,707 pregnant and lactating women and children under five years of age were provided small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement to address immediate needs of food insecurity and micronutrient deficiency.

The Lao Women's Union supported school feeding in child-friendly spaces established by UNICEF in the relief area. The Government of Australia granted WFP's request for 236 tons of rice and seven tons of small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement and six tons of cooking oil for the flood victims. WFP food assistance was distributed by WFP's new partner, the Lao Red Cross, to the villages targeted, which are also supported by FAO in agriculture initiatives. WFP provided logistics services, including transporting and warehousing, to the Government for 1,000 tons of rice, donated by the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve.

Following the heavy seasonal rains which affected 16 of the 17 provinces, Central Emergency Response Fund resources were granted to WFP, FAO, the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to support flood-affected people in Khammouane Province. WFP coordinated closely with FAO to design and implement complementary interventions for the target population. WFP support for this activity focused on the three most severely affected districts of Khammouane where significant damage to agriculture and loss of livestock had created a situation of food insecurity and where prolonged consumption of undiversified food has brought on vitamin deficiency disease. To increase access to diversified foods and boost nutrition knowledge, WFP began cash transfers to 31,871 affected residents in 131 villages, coupled with nutrition messaging at distribution, through SMS and radio messages, and posters and flyers in the districts.



A hotline for accountability to affected populations was opened for this activity. WFP only received one call (male) requesting clarification about the emergency cash transfer eligibility criteria through the hotline for accountability of affected populations. A post-distribution follow up based on 116 households, showed that 94 percent purchased rice, meat, or livestock with the funds given; 15 percent purchased medicine or used funds for school-related expenses; nine percent utilized the money for crop and house improvements. The prevalence of food items being purchased confirmed the immediate food need.

#### **Strategic Outcome 04**

National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas by 2025

Under Strategic Outcome 4, WFP worked to address challenges in national governance structures and their application at the subnational level through a strengthened decentralization policy and a multi-sector coordinated approach. WFP worked closely with the Ministry of Planning and Investment, which is responsible for monitoring progress toward the SDGs and coordinating official development assistance in the country.

With WFP assistance, the Ministry established a joint field monitoring mechanism together with technical counterparts. WFP and the Ministry held workshops at the provincial and district level which integrated WFP-supported nutrition-sensitive activities into standard workplans, thereby building capacity and supporting long-term integration of SDG attainment. The Sam Sang decentralization policy, based on “Three Builds”, province, district, and village levels, supports capacity development at the community level to facilitate integrated rural development. WFP interventions in Lao PDR were fully integrated within the three levels, with a growing focus on village and district development and ownership.

The WFP-commissioned study on ‘Strengthening the capacity of ASEAN Member States to develop risk-informed and shock-responsive social protection for resilience’ included a case study on Lao PDR. According to the study, the different aspects of the Lao PDR social protection system that need to be shored up include technical assistance and capacity building, improved coordination and establishing systems to support household recovery from disasters.

During the emergency responses in 2018, WFP’s efforts alongside government counterparts in the three lead Ministries of Social Welfare, Agriculture and Natural Resources assisted in the development of a knowledge base of coordination mechanisms and response plans of the Government, as well as a base of cooperation for continued development of necessary skills. The WFP cash response to significant seasonal flooding stood as a valuable example of

how a government social system could work.

WFP also supported the establishment of district-level multi-sector planning groups to accelerate the implementation of the District nutrition plans. These groups aim to combine and leverage different nutrition-related investments and service-deliveries in one unified district plan, with particular attention to agricultural outcomes under the plan.

In partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and multi-sector stakeholders through the Agriculture for Nutrition Project (AFN), WFP worked to strengthen communities’ capacity in developing and owning nutrition-sensitive agriculture solutions in a collaborative Village Infrastructure Plan (VIP). The WFP-facilitated VIP brought together all stakeholders of the village, men and women alike, to identify challenges of development and together decide on a prioritized plan to address these needs. The planning groups engaged the district multi-sectoral planning teams, led by district officials and composed of representatives from the ministries of agriculture, health and planning and the Lao Women’s Union. The plan decisions prioritized improvement in nutrition for the village and include activities such as irrigation, access improvements, fish ponds, women’s empowerment in agriculture, and support to link farmers groups to markets; these plans are then forwarded to district officials who reviewed and approved them. The 223 villages which completed VIPs received funds from the Ministry of Agriculture to implement the plans. Through the AFN project, the engagement of local villagers offered a unique opportunity to develop capacity from the ground up, instilling ownership and strengthening local governance and decision-making.

WFP efforts in nutrition-sensitive agriculture extended to a land use planning pilot, in conjunction with the Department of Agricultural Land Management and supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The pilot Participatory Agriculture and Forest Land Use Planning led to a detailed land classification and zoning at village level with strong participation of the villagers and the results of the land use planning are presented on maps and in a short report which is then submitted to the district land management authorities for final approval. The project was piloted in 15 villages of two districts in Huaphanh Province, where overall, focus groups reported that land use procedures had strengthened village responsibilities for natural resources and land management as well as created an awareness on rights and responsibilities of villagers.



# Cross-cutting Results

## Progress towards gender equality

Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population

Lao PDR's ranking of 26 out of 149 countries in the 2018 Global Gender Gap Report reflects progress made, in particular in closing the gender gap in educational attainment. The Government has taken significant steps toward addressing gender gaps, but women continue to face challenges. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Lao PDR Country Gender Assessment on Agriculture in the Rural Sector (2018) confirms that women have low influence in decision-making, high burden of responsibility for agricultural and household work, and low literacy rates particularly among ethnic minorities. Given this context, WFP continues to mainstream gender considerations as a priority throughout programming and staffing.

In Lao PDR, women smallholder farmers carry out the most strenuous tasks of farming, such as weeding, in addition to other agricultural and domestic responsibilities. WFP has continuously made efforts to ensure that women smallholder farmers have equitable access to technical support and information on more productive agricultural techniques. Eighty-four percent of village facilitators of the Farmer Nutrition Schools were women; the schools were initially open only for women, ensuring not only attendance, but also participation in the discussion and leadership of the groups. The schools were subsequently opened to men; however, women averaged 76 percent of the participants and highlighted the importance of women in the nutrition decision-making in the household. One-quarter of the participants of the farmer training associated with school feedings were women. WFP continued to partner with Lao Women's Union on activities such as the training for cooks and teaching staff, the support to school feeding in child-friendly spaces during the flood relief, and as part of the Village Infrastructure Plan planning groups, to further strengthen the gender dimensions of our programming.

Monitoring of decision-making related to the nutrition activities under Strategic Outcome 2 showed a positive trend in increased joint decision-making. Sixty-three percent of nutrition-related decisions were made jointly by women and men, 17 percent were made by women and 20 percent were made by men. Monitoring of decision-making related to the flood relief response under Strategic Outcome 3 shows that the level of women's decision-making over cash increased, both jointly and individually: 33 percent of decisions were made jointly by women and men, 49 percent were made by women, and 18 percent were made by men.

WFP continued efforts to strengthen gender equality in 2018 across all WFP functions. The Gender Transformation Programme led to the development of a

number of processes and policies in 2017, including the gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation strategy, gender-balanced staff committees, and assessment of gender knowledge during recruitment interviews. This commitment has continued and now includes gender reporting by partners, counterparts and suppliers.

## Protection

Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity

In Lao PDR, the majority of beneficiaries are able to receive support with few or no protection risks. Due to prevailing cultural norms, some boys and girls assist on family farms for a few days during planting or harvest, and as such are unable to attend school. Occasionally, some pregnant and lactating women are unable to locate village health volunteers and are unable to access part of their entitlements. In such events, the volunteers are encouraged to regularly visit the beneficiaries to ensure regular distribution and consistent follow-up. Messaging delivered to all beneficiaries includes reinforcing the need to provide access to WFP assistance to all, including those who may have a disability, not attend school, or experience other barriers.

Given the rural and remote locations of WFP operations, safety considerations were made in distribution. Bags of rice for the emergency distributions were smaller, 25-kilogram bags and more easily carried over the rugged terrain. Additionally, cash distribution was undertaken in locations prearranged with community members to ensure beneficiaries did not travel long distances or alone with cash in hand.

The Ministry of Education and Sports formed the Inclusive Education Thematic Working Group, which WFP co-chairs with Humanity & Inclusion (HI). The group, chaired by the Inclusive Education Centre, works to support access to education for people with disability and inclusion in all areas of society. WFP extended School Feeding to the schools for children with disabilities; WFP has also supported school gardens at these locations.

The Lao People's Association for Disabled provided training for WFP staff during the year to increase awareness of disability and discuss equal rights and benefits of people with disabilities. The session was carried out in all WFP offices. Over 50 percent of staff attended, with 29 men and 28 women participants.

A significant step for protection of people with disability was the passing by the Lao PDR General Assembly of the Law on Disability (2018), which acknowledges the rights and protects the benefits of people with disabilities: free from discrimination and with full equality in legal, economic, cultural, social and family



issues.

### **Accountability to affected populations**

Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences

WFP utilizes various communication channels to ensure beneficiaries receive key messages on our activities. To do so effectively, WFP considers the key challenges of linguistic diversity and low literacy. In Lao PDR, there are 49 recognized ethnic groups and over 80 living languages. The official language, and that taught in schools, is Lao. However, it is estimated that only about half of the population speaks Lao in the household. Moreover, the literacy rate is 58 percent, with that of WFP beneficiaries even lower. These two factors create challenging barriers to effectively providing information to all beneficiaries. As such, multiple communication channels are used: distribution of posters that focus on illustration rather than written text, radio campaigns in local languages, and through meetings and verbal dissemination with community members by WFP or partner staff undertaken in local languages. 65 percent of WFP field staff speak at least one minority language in addition to Lao.

Feedback is collected throughout the year to inform programme design and implementation using focus groups discussions with communities and the complaint and feedback mechanism, comprising primarily of hotline numbers, which collectively cover all 2,578 locations where WFP operates. 161 calls were received by both men and women WFP senior staff members who promptly provided advice or took corrective action. Just over 20 percent of the calls were from female callers and 85 percent were inquiring about the School Feeding program.

Fifty percent of School Feeding related calls were requests for additional non-food items to construct assets; 38 percent were about implementation by the community volunteers: clarification of distribution, use of cash, incentive for volunteers, or requests to change and expand benefits. The remaining requested clarification of reporting mechanisms or reported food damage while in school storage. Fifteen percent of all calls were for clarification regarding small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement. These calls were regarding the beneficiary change or to inform that the product had run out, generally due to the misunderstanding of the change in target group. All concerns were resolved quickly, with clarification of programme objectives and target groups offered during the calls as well as plans for food and non-food item delivery.

Community mobilisation was carried out by Government partners, as well as advocacy and information dissemination. WFP facilitated stakeholder

consultations of the action plan of the Food Fortification Strategy.

Feedback received led to changes in programme implementation on two occasions. The first was in relation to a phase out of beneficiary target in the small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplement activities. A communication campaign reinforcing the target population was disseminated to the health volunteers and beneficiaries through the Ministry of Health and reiterated in workshops with provincial and district volunteers. The second change was brought about from focus group feedback, noting that the Farmer Nutrition School modules could be more focused on nutrition sensitive agriculture and cooking.

### **Environment**

Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment

Lao PDR has a notable range of natural and environmental resources, including forestry, minerals, water resources and biodiversity. These are valued for their direct contribution to recent economic development. However, pesticide and herbicide use in Lao PDR has risen and Global Forest Watch reports that approximately 7 percent of deforestation in the country is permanent. The Ministry for Natural Resources and the Environment is charged with managing, protecting, restoring and using Lao natural resources and environment in a sustainable manner.

WFP operations in Lao PDR have taken into consideration a number of environmental concerns in programme planning and implementation. WFP farmer schools encourage natural pesticide use and incorporate formulas and guidelines. The schools also discussed the benefits of crop rotation and fertilization, all low-risk activities. There were no activities under community resilience through productive assets and livelihood undertaken in 2018 due to funding restrictions.

The Participatory Agriculture and Forest Land Use Planning pilot in 15 villages led to detailed land classification and zoning maps which consider the appropriate use and conservation of resources in the design. The environmental impact of changes in land use as well as conservation issues were reviewed in the creation of the new plan and studied by district and provincial officers for approval. All plans were found to be within WFP category C - low environmental impact.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry holds responsibility for land use management in Lao PDR. As part of the WFP work on village plans, coordinated with the Ministry, evaluations for environmental impact were undertaken. The village self-evaluation followed the Government format, and all were categorized



as having negligible environmental impact risk.

The village-level plans are small scale with a focus on infrastructure development, market linkage and climate change mitigation. Most proposals included the establishment of small-scale animal raising lands with fencing and small-holder farm irrigation renovation along with improvement of earth roads, all evaluated as having low impact on the environment while significantly improving the nutrition needs and economic potential of the village.



# Stronger Second Child

The Farmer Nutrition Schools project has provided training for smallholder farmers on the growth and use of nutritious foods specific to the climate and growing region of the local area. Ms. Chan participated and, several months later, continued to apply what she learned about the nutrition practices and dietary needs of her family. Ms. Chan and her husband, Mr. Peet, share:

"In the past we didn't understand the connection between food and health. We just followed what our grandparents taught us. After attending the Farmer Nutrition School, we understood we had to change to protect the future of our family, and we were willing to break with tradition.

When my husband and I used to go to work in the fields, we would leave our children with my parents and leave some food for them. The health of my first child suffered and she was often sick. I wasn't breastfeeding because I was in the fields all day.

Now, with my second child, I know the importance of diverse and nutritious foods to prevent stunting. I decided to stay home so I could feed throughout the day and my husband managed the farm alone. I am also eating more and better foods, and I have more milk for the baby.

I would recommend this course for any breastfeeding woman and for mothers of young children. You can learn how to cook to avoid malnutrition and stunting. My family is eating better now, and we are all healthier. My husband understands the importance and time commitment to prepare good food to keep us strong and he supports me more now."

Her husband has been supportive of the changes. "When Ms. Chan was pregnant, we decided she should stay home to focus on resting and getting enough to eat," Mr. Peet says. "We can see our second child, Miew, is stronger than our first baby as a result. It is harder for me without Ms. Chan in the fields, but I am happy to do it because I love my wife and children and want them to be healthy and happy."

# Figures and Indicators

## Data Notes

### Summary

Cover page photo © WFP/Jake Herrle  
Children in Donethip Village, Luang Namtha Province eating school lunch

Planned/Actual Beneficiaries: Under the school feeding programme, the implementing partner had remaining stocks at the end of the school semester which was sent as a take-home ration. This increased the number of beneficiaries by all household members, therefore the numbers of adults and children under five reached were significantly more than planned, with secondary school-aged children also benefitting.

### Context and operations

[1] Gender Gap Report 2018 <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-report-2018/data-explorer/#economy=LAO>. [2] Global Hunger Index 2018 <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/laos.html>. [3] Human Development Index 2018 <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/LAO>. [4] Lao Social Indicator Survey II 2017, Published June 2018. [5] Asian Development Bank Development Indicators <https://www.adb.org/publications/basic-statistics-2018>. [6] ECOSOC Committee for Development Policy, 2018 Review GNI per capita 1,996 USD. [7] FAO Laos at a glance <http://www.fao.org/laos/fao-in-laos/laos-at-a-glance/en/>. [8] Lao PDR Floods: Humanitarian Country Team Information Bulletin No. 5.

### Strategic outcome 01

Output Indicator Clarification: 'Number of assisted schools that procure fresh food items' denotes those which receive cash-based transfers to encourage purchase of fresh foods.

## Beneficiaries by Age Group

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Total Beneficiaries	male	120,838	339,857	281.3%
	female	120,788	330,472	273.6%
	total	241,626	670,329	277.4%
By Age Group				
Adults (18 years plus)	male	23,438	204,450	872.3%
	female	24,887	197,747	794.6%
	total	48,325	402,197	832.3%



Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Children (5-18 years)	male	64,756	91,165	140.8%
	female	63,306	89,824	141.9%
	total	128,062	180,989	141.3%
Children (under 5 years)	male	32,644	44,242	135.5%
	female	32,595	42,901	131.6%
	total	65,239	87,143	133.6%

## Beneficiaries by Residence Status

Residence Status	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Resident	241,625	670,328	277.4%

## Annual CBT and Commodity Voucher Distribution (USD)

Modality	Planned Distribution (CBT)	Actual Distribution (CBT)	% Actual vs. Planned
<b>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</b>			
Strategic Outcome: School children in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021.			
Cash	358,663	168,334	46.9%
<b>Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable</b>			
Strategic Outcome: Vulnerable households in climate sensitive districts are more resilient to seasonal and long-term shocks and stresses			
Cash	362,171	298,231	82.3%

# Output Indicators

Detailed Indicator	Unit	Target Value	Actual Value	% Achieved
<b>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</b>				
Strategic Outcome 01: School children in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021.				
Output A: Food assistance to schools				
Act 03. Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities				
Number of assisted schools that procure fresh food items	school	237.0	236.0	99.6
Number of school-established fish ponds	fish pond	189.0	190.0	100.5
Number of school-established rice banks	Number	155.0	159.0	102.6
Output A: Food assistance to WFP targeted schools				
Act 02. Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme				
Number of school gardens established	garden	400.0	400.0	100.0
Number of students benefiting from campaign to promote literacy	individual	6000.0	6122.0	102.0
Number of WFP-assisted schools with adequate sanitary facilities	school	500.0	176.0	35.2
Number of textbooks and other teaching and learning materials provided	item	30000.0	35600.0	118.7
<b>Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition</b>				
Strategic Outcome 02: Stunting levels among children under 2 in provinces with high levels of malnutrition meet national targets by 2025				
Output F: Establish and strengthen access to local food farmers for communities				
Act 06. Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools				
Number of planned targeted villages	village	205.0	223.0	108.8
Number of PLW, mother with children under 2 who attended FNS session	individual	5125.0	5376.0	104.9
Number of Village facilitators trained	individual	615.0	612.0	99.5
<b>Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable</b>				
Strategic Outcome 03: Vulnerable households in climate sensitive districts are more resilient to seasonal and long-term shocks and stresses				
Output A: Food and cash assistance for assets creation				
Act 07. Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities				
Number of women-headed households that receive food assistance	individual	900.0	500.0	55.6
Output C: Capacity strengthening to enable community resilience				

Detailed Indicator	Unit	Target Value	Actual Value	% Achieved
Act 07. Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities				
Number of counterparts staff members trained in disaster and climate risk management	individual	230.0	106.0	46.1
Number of people trained (Skills: Livelihood technologies)	individual	160.0	440.0	275.0
Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs				
Strategic Outcome 04: National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas by 2025				
Output C: Technical assistance and capacity development				
Act 08. Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance				
Number of people trained	individual	600.0	981.0	163.5
Number of technical support activities provided on food security monitoring and food assistance	activity	30.0	18.0	60.0
Output C: Technical assistance provided				
Act 09. Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions				
Number of household which attended the planning session	household	17425.0	10709.0	61.5
Number of Villages which completed the Village Plan	village	205.0	223.0	108.8
Output K: Technical assistance and support to partners				
Act 10. Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters				
Number of partners supported	partner	2.0	3.0	150.0

# Outcome Indicators

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Strategic Result 1 - Everyone has access to food								
Strategic Outcome 01: School children in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021.								
Outcome Indicator: Attendance rate								
School Lunch programme	SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Cash, Food	male	87.50	98.00	≥98.00	≥90.00	Base Value: 2017.04, WFP programme monitoring, PDM Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP survey, Baseline Survey Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	87.00	98.00	≥98.00	≥90.00	
			overall	87.20	98.00	≥98.00	≥90.00	
Outcome Indicator: Enrolment rate								
School Lunch programme	SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Cash, Food	male	93.25	98.34	≥98.00	>98.00	Base Value: 2017.04, Secondary data, Desk-based Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	92.15	98.16	≥98.00	>98.00	
			overall	92.71	98.28	≥98.00	>98.00	

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along All Pathways (Full CCS portfolio)								
School Lunch programme	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	69.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 1 (Policies and legislation)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
School Lunch programme	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2018.01, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	28.00	73.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 2 (Institutional accountability)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
School Lunch programme	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2018.01, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	8	67.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 3 (Strategic planning and financing)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
School Lunch programme	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	61.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 4 (National programme design and delivery)								



Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
School Lunch programme	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	61.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 5 (Engagement and participation of non-state actors)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
School Lunch programme	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	75.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
<b>Strategic Result 2 - No one suffers from malnutrition</b>								
Strategic Outcome 02: Stunting levels among children under 2 in provinces with high levels of malnutrition meet national targets by 2025								
Outcome Indicator: Proportion of children 6--23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet								
Prevention to Stunting	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	Food	male	30.70	27.20	≥40.00	≥70.00	Base Value: 2017.04, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Monitoring Latest Follow-up: 2018.09, Secondary data, Desk-based Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	30.70	25.10	≥40.00	≥70.00	
			overall	30.70	26.20	≥40.00	≥70.00	
Outcome Indicator: Proportion of eligible population that participates in programme (coverage)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Prevention to Stunting	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	Food	male	91.50	92.00	≥91.50	≥100.00	Base Value: 2017.04, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Monitoring Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Monitoring Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	91.50	92.00	≥91.50	≥100.00	
			overall	91.50	92.00	≥91.50	≥100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along All Pathways (Full CCS portfolio)								
Prevention to Stunting	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools, CSI: Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	41.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 1 (Policies and legislation)								
Prevention to Stunting	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools, CSI: Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	80.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 2 (Institutional accountability)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Prevention to Stunting	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools, CSI: Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	0	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 3 (Strategic planning and financing)								
Prevention to Stunting	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools, CSI: Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	50.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 4 (National programme design and delivery)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Mean of Collection
Prevention to Stunting	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools, CSI: Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	47.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 5 (Engagement and participation of non-state actors)								
Prevention to Stunting	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools, CSI: Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2018.01, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	14.00	29.00	≥10.00	=100.00	
Strategic Result 5 - Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs								
Strategic Outcome 04: National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas by 2025								
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along All Pathways (Full CCS portfolio)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Mean of Collection
National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery	CSI: Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions, CSI: Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters, CSI: Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	67.00	≥25.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 1 (Policies and legislation)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery	CSI: Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions, CSI: Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters, CSI: Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2018.01, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	1	0	≥25.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 2 (Institutional accountability)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery	CSI: Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions, CSI: Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters, CSI: Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	60.00	≥25.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 3 (Strategic planning and financing)								



Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Mean of Collection
National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery	CSI: Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions, CSI: Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters, CSI: Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	50.00	≥25.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 4 (National programme design and delivery)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Mean of Collection
National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery	CSI: Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions, CSI: Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters, CSI: Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2018.01, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	1	73.00	≥25.00	=100.00	
Outcome Indicator: Zero Hunger Capacity Scorecard / % process milestones completed along Pathway 5 (Engagement and participation of non-state actors)								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Mean of Collection
National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery	CSI: Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions, CSI: Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters, CSI: Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	Capacity Strengthening	male	-	-	-	-	Latest Follow-up: 2018.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP Records Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	-	0	≥25.00	=100.00	

## Cross-cutting Indicators

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Mean of Collection
Progress towards gender equality								
Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population								
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of food assistance decision-making entity – committees, boards, teams, etc. – members who are women								
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	29.00	29.00	≥30.00	≥35.00	
School Lunch programme	Cash, Food	SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	29.00	29.00	≥30.00	≥35.00	
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality / Decisions jointly made by women and men								
Community Resilience through productive assets and livelihood	Cash	ACL: Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	15.00	33.00	≥34.00	≥34.00	
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	11.00	63.00	≥34.00	≥34.00	
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality / Decisions made by men								

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Community Resilience through productive assets and livelihood	Cash	ACL: Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	30.00	18.00	≥33.00	≥33.00	
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	20.00	20.00	≥33.00	≥33.00	
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality / Decisions made by women								
Community Resilience through productive assets and livelihood	Cash	ACL: Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	20.00	49.00	≥33.00	≥33.00	
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	69.00	17.00	≥33.00	≥33.00	
Protection								
Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity								
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of targeted people accessing assistance without protection challenges								
Agriculture for Nutrition	Capacity Strengthening	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools	male	96.00	96.00	≥90.00	≥90.00	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	98.00	98.00	≥90.00	≥90.00	
			overall	97.00	97.00	≥90.00	≥90.00	

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
Community Resilience through productive assets and livelihood	Capacity Strengthening, Cash, Food	ACL: Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	male	96.00	95.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	98.00	95.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	
			overall	97.00	95.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	89.00	91.00	≥90.00	≥90.00	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	88.00	90.00	≥90.00	≥90.00	
			overall	88.00	91.00	≥90.00	≥90.00	
School Lunch programme	Cash, Food	SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	male	96.00	92.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	98.00	92.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	
			overall	97.00	92.00	≥95.00	≥95.00	
<b>Accountability to affected populations</b>								
Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences								
<b>Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance)</b>								
Agriculture for Nutrition	Capacity Strengthening	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools	male	82.00	84.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	84.00	84.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	
			overall	83.00	84.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	
Community Resilience through productive assets and livelihood	Capacity Strengthening, Cash, Food	ACL: Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	male	82.00	86.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	84.00	86.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	
			overall	83.00	86.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	78.00	80.00	≥80.00	≥80.00	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	86.00	80.00	≥80.00	≥80.00	
			overall	84.00	80.00	≥80.00	≥80.00	

Target / Location	Modalities	Activities	Gender	Base Value	Latest Follow Up	Year End Target	CSP End Target	Date/Source/Means of Collection
School Lunch programme	Capacity Strengthening, Cash, Food	CSI: Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao, SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	male	82.00	88.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	Base Value: 2017.06 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	84.00	88.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	
			overall	83.00	88.00	≥85.00	≥85.00	
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of project activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements								
Community Resilience through productive assets and livelihood	Capacity Strengthening, Cash, Food	ACL: Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	75.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	
Prevention to Stunting	Food	NPA: Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	75.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	
School Lunch programme	Cash, Food	SMP: Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme, SMP: Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2017.04 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.12 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	75.00	100.00	=100.00	=100.00	
Environment								
Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment								
Cross-cutting Indicator: Proportion of activities for which environmental risks have been screened and, as required, mitigation actions identified								
Agriculture for Nutrition	Capacity Strengthening	CSB: Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools	male	-	-	-	-	Base Value: 2018.01 Latest Follow-up: 2018.12 Year end Target: 2018.01 CSP end Target: 2021.12
			female	-	-	-	-	
			overall	0	100.00	≥100.00	=100.00	

## **World Food Programme**

### **Contact info**

Vilakhone Sipaseuth  
vilakhone.sipaseuth@wfp.org

### **Country director**

Jan Delbaere

Cover page photo © © WFP/Jake Herrle  
Children in Donethip Village, Luang Namtha Province eating school lunch

<https://www1.wfp.org/countries/lao-peoples-democratic-republic>



# Annual Country Report - Donor Version

## Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2018 (2017-2021)

### Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2018 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
1	School children in remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2021.	Provide policy support, technical assistance and transfer of capacities to Government of Lao	1,357,304	1,163,508	0	1,163,508	661,124	502,384
		Accelerate the implementation of the Government of Lao's plan of action of the school meals programme	15,667,941	26,156,627	0	26,156,627	15,531,242	10,625,386
		Support a national process for the hand-over of school meals to communities	1,307,135	2,087,050	0	2,087,050	1,155,410	931,640
		Non Activity Specific	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Non Activity Specific	0	222,144	0	222,144	0	222,144
<b>Subtotal Strategic Result 1. Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)</b>			<b>18,332,379</b>	<b>29,629,329</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29,629,329</b>	<b>17,347,776</b>	<b>12,281,554</b>

# Annual Country Report - Donor Version

## Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2018 (2017-2021)

### Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2018 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
2	Stunting levels among children under 2 in provinces with high levels of malnutrition meet national targets by 2025	Develop a social behavior change communication and establish farmer nutrition schools	2,626,662	4,165,468	0	4,165,468	1,195,236	2,970,232
		Provide technical assistance for evidence based policy dialogue	859,315	339,631	0	339,631	222,663	116,968
		Stimulate access to local specialized nutritious food for children aged 6-23 months	2,287,238	1,994,379	0	1,994,379	1,684,078	310,302
<b>Subtotal Strategic Result 2. No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)</b>			<b>5,773,215</b>	<b>6,499,479</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,499,479</b>	<b>3,101,977</b>	<b>3,397,502</b>
4	Vulnerable households in climate sensitive districts are more resilient to seasonal and long-term shocks and stresses	Build community resilience through the creation of productive assets and sustainable livelihood opportunities	2,533,607	3,030,236	0	3,030,236	1,027,943	2,002,293
<b>Subtotal Strategic Result 4. Food systems are sustainable (SDG Target 2.4)</b>			<b>2,533,607</b>	<b>3,030,236</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,030,236</b>	<b>1,027,943</b>	<b>2,002,293</b>

# Annual Country Report - Donor Version

## Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2018 (2017-2021)

### Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2018 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
5	National and local governance institutions are strengthened to ensure improved service delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas by 2025	Invest in national capacity for food and nutrition security governance	934,995	69,246	0	69,246	39,122	30,123
		Enable communities to lead and own their food and nutrition security solutions	842,473	1,629,067	0	1,629,067	374,306	1,254,761
		Enhance government capacity at all levels to prepare for and efficiently respond to natural disasters	181,199	62,780	0	62,780	24,319	38,462
<b>Subtotal Strategic Result 5. Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG Target 17.9)</b>			<b>1,958,666</b>	<b>1,761,093</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,761,093</b>	<b>437,747</b>	<b>1,323,346</b>
		Non Activity Specific	0	1,442,561	0	1,442,561	0	1,442,561
<b>Subtotal Strategic Result</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>1,442,561</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,442,561</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,442,561</b>
<b>Total Direct Operational Cost</b>			<b>28,597,867</b>	<b>42,362,699</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42,362,699</b>	<b>21,915,443</b>	<b>20,447,255</b>
<b>Direct Support Cost (DSC)</b>			<b>2,881,478</b>	<b>3,902,505</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,902,505</b>	<b>2,252,977</b>	<b>1,649,528</b>
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>			<b>31,479,345</b>	<b>46,265,204</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46,265,204</b>	<b>24,168,420</b>	<b>22,096,783</b>
<b>Indirect Support Cost (ISC)</b>			<b>2,124,271</b>	<b>2,263,193</b>		<b>2,263,193</b>	<b>2,263,193</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>33,603,616</b>	<b>48,528,397</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48,528,397</b>	<b>26,431,614</b>	<b>22,096,783</b>

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (RMFC)

## Columns Definition

---

### Needs Based Plan

Latest Approved Version of Needs Based Plan in USD

### Allocated Contributions

Allocated contributions include confirmed contributions with exchange rate variations, multilateral allocations, miscellaneous income, resource transferred, cost recovery and other financial adjustments (e.g. refinancing); excludes: internal advances.

### Advance and allocation:

Internal advanced/allocated resources but not repaid in USD.

This includes different types of internal advance (IPL or MAF) and allocation (IRA).

### Allocated Resources

Sum of Allocated Contributions, Advance and Allocation

### Expenditures

Cumulative monetary value of goods and services received up to the reporting period.

### Balance of Resources

Allocated Resources minus Expenditures

# Annual Country Report - Donor Version

## Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2018 (2017-2021)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018 (Amount in USD)

	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan*	Expenditures
Laos	16,887,294	15,535,438	14,035,028
<i>*Original Implementation Plan as per the Management Plan 2018</i>			