

Country strategic plan revision

Date of this revision: 9 September 2025

Laos country strategic plan, revision 03

Gender and age marker code: 4

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	01.01.2022 – 31.12.2026	No change	01.01.2022 – 31.12.2026
Beneficiaries	937,449	62,320	999,769
Total cost (USD)	100,718,127	15,687,637	116,405,763

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL: CD

1. RATIONALE

1. This country strategic plan (CSP revision) expands and adjusts programmes under every CSP pillar and CSP outcome while incorporating newly confirmed donor contributions.
2. The Lao People's Democratic Republic continues to face economic and fiscal pressures, with high inflation and currency depreciation constraining public investment. While inflation remained above 20 percent in 2024, the World Bank notes a modest easing due to a more stable kip and tighter monetary policy and forecasts the country's economic growth to soften to 3.5 percent for 2025.¹ While the current acute food insecurity rate stands at 7 percent nationwide from 11 percent in 2024,² food insecurity persists in hard-to-reach rural areas affected by natural hazards while chronic malnutrition remains prevalent (32.8 percent), especially in rural and remote areas, underscoring the need for sustained, coordinated multi-sectoral action to address the underlying drivers of food and nutrition insecurity.
3. Severe flooding linked to seasonal typhoon and tropical storm activity impacted over 1,400 villages across 133 northern and central districts in September and October 2024, damaging homes, schools, and health facilities. The rising frequency and severity of natural shocks highlights the need to strengthen crisis response systems at national and sub-national levels.
4. This revision reinforces the Government's investment in strengthening governance and ownership of the National School Lunch Programme, disaster preparedness and response capacity, and nutrition-sensitive food systems transformation. It also incorporates newly confirmed donor support across the CSP outcomes for the period January 2025 to December 2026.

¹ World Bank. 2025. [Lao PDR Economic Monitor - Weathering Risks : Thematic Section - Unlocking Finance for Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises](#).

² WFP. 2025. [Lao PDR Food Security Monitoring Brief, March 2025](#).

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

5. The overall strategic orientation of the CSP remains unchanged, however, the revision reflects the evolving needs and confirmed funding across all Strategic Outcomes, reinforces WFP's shift in Laos PDR towards national ownership, sustainable solutions and system strengthening.

CSP outcomes

6. **Under CSP Outcome 1**, an overall budget increase is required based on confirmed contributions, while beneficiaries including smallholder farmers are adjusted to reflect funding realities and complementary support from the government and partners such as International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). School feeding rations have been revised to align with dietary preferences and nutritional requirements, replacing lentils with canned fish to provide 26 percent of daily energy needs, with over 30 percent coming from community contributions. Smallholder engagement to support home-grown school feeding is being strengthened through tripartite agreements with the Government and partners. WFP will also scale up SBC activities to assist 100,000 beneficiaries in 2026 to promote healthier eating habits and improved community nutrition, through integrated programming informed by stakeholder-driven formative research and aligned with national priorities.

7. **Under CSP Outcome 2**, this revision adjusts the 2025 cash-based transfer beneficiaries to reflect available resources and the Government's increased ownership in previously supported areas. In 2025, WFP will also engage in joint planning with the Government to identify new high-need areas for future support, ensuring continued alignment with national priorities. Simultaneously, this revision increases the budget for capacity strengthening activities to implement new projects supported by confirmed contributions. In partnership with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the Government of India, WFP will prioritize efforts to strengthen national capacity in rice fortification. This initiative will be launched in 2025 and is expected to continue beyond the current CSP.

Under CSP Outcome 3, this revision reflects an increase of 5,500 women smallholder farmers receiving cash-based transfers in 2025-2026, following the confirmation and expansion of programmes aimed at enhancing market access and livelihoods. To effectively monitor progress, WFP introduces updated output and outcome indicators aligned with its integrated programming approach. Additionally, this revision removes the forecast-based anticipatory action component, based on the results of a feasibility study that recommended to allocate resources and focus on strengthening national disaster risk management systems.

8. **Under CSP Outcome 4**, the revision strengthens preparedness and contingency planning in response to increasingly frequent and severe impacts of natural hazards. WFP expands its planned beneficiaries by pre-positioning food (463 mt of rice and 85 mt of canned fish) and also adjusts cash-based transfer beneficiaries for potential emergency responses in 2026. To address the multiple shocks the country is facing, WFP plans for 50,000 beneficiaries for flood response and 45,000 beneficiaries under the lean season and drought response, totalling 95,000 beneficiaries with in-kind and 10,000 beneficiaries with cash-based transfers. Targeting will be carried out in close coordination with the Government and partners, using impact assessments and nationally-defined vulnerability criteria.

9. **Under CSP Outcome 5**, this revision accommodates logistics services for newly confirmed and received in-kind rice by the Government through the 2025 ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) contribution. WFP will support the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare by providing on-demand logistics services, including storage, transport, and handling, leveraging its nationwide transporter contracts and warehouse network. This support will help ensure the timely mobilization of the national emergency rice reserve in response to future shocks.
10. **Country office staffing.** In 2025, the country office undertook a strategic workforce review to ensure adequate staff capacity to implement the expansion of existing and new programmes.

Beneficiary analysis

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY CSP OUTCOME, ACTIVITY & MODALITY								
CSP Outcome	Activity	Modality	Period	Boys	Girls	Men	Women	Total
01	01	Capacity Strengthening	Current	30,600	29,400	8,636	19,024	87,660
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	14,025	13,475	-6,354	-14,826	6,320
			Revised	44,625	42,875	2,282	4,198	93,980
		Cash-Based Transfer	Current	878	862	1,372	1,388	4,500
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	0	0	0	0
			Revised	878	862	1,372	1,388	4,500
		Food	Current	187,955	180,585	705	1,645	370,890
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	-29,070	-27,930	32	75	-56,893
			Revised	158,885	152,655	737	1,720	313,997
02	02	Capacity Strengthening	Current	0	2,000	4,328	33,496	39,824
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	0	0	0	0
			Revised	0	2,000	4,328	33,496	39,824
		Cash-Based Transfer	Current	0	8,000	3,032	20,968	32,000
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	-1,363	-58	-1,932	-3,353
			Revised	0	6,637	2,974	19,036	28,647
03	03	Capacity Strengthening	Current	0	0	25,079	25,221	50,300
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	0	- 2,012	- 2,004	- 4,016
			Revised	0	0	23,067	23,217	46,284
		Cash-Based Transfer	Current	34,795	34,154	54,286	41,024	164,259

		Food	Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	0	0	5,500	5,500
			Revised	34,795	34,154	54,286	46,524	169,759
			Current	8,789	8,627	13,712	13,872	45,000
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	0	0	0	0
			Revised	8,789	8,627	13,712	13,872	45,000
04	04	Capacity Strengthening	Current	0	0	0	0	0
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	0	0	0	0	0
			Revised	0	0	0	0	0
		Cash-Based Transfer	Current	6,250	6,134	21,943	2,1673	56,000
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	1,953	1,917	3,047	3,083	10,000
			Revised	8,203	8,051	24,990	24,756	66,000
		Food	Current	26,747	26,256	41,733	42,224	136,960
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	18,554	18,212	28,947	29,287	95,000
			Revised	45,301	44,468	70,680	71,511	231,960
TOTAL without overlap at CSP Level			Current	303,011	299,944	139,225	195,269	937,449
			Calculated Increase/Decrease	-5,696	-5,491	38,427	35,080	62,320
			Revised	297,315	294,453	177,652	230,349	999,769

Transfers

CSP Outcome	Strategic outcome 1		Strategic outcome 2		Strategic outcome 3	Strategic outcome 4
Activity	Activity 1		Activity 2		Activity 3	Activity 4
Beneficiary type	Schoolchildren	Supporter	PLWG*	Care giver supporter	Participants	Shock-affected people
Modality (food** or cash)	Food	Food	Cash-based transfers	Cash-based transfers	Food/cash-based transfers	Food/cash-based transfers
cereals	100	570			400	400
pulses	0					
oil	5					35
Fish (canned)	25					85
Total kcal/day	633.2					
% kcal from protein	23.4	-	-	-	-	-
Cash (USD/person/day; use average as needed)	-		120	15.6	1.07/28.30	1.07
Number of feeding days per year	175	87	1	1	15	90

3. COST BREAKDOWN

11. Increases in Outcomes 1, 2, and 4 reflect the successful mobilization of additional funding from key development partners, enabling program scale-up and reinforcing operational impact. Meanwhile, the increases in Outcome 5 allow the CSP to absorb more resources and assist the Government in managing emergency food reserves, promoting agility and long-term sustainability.

TABLE 2: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)

CSP outcomes	1	2	3	4	5	
Focus area	Root Causes	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Crisis Response	
Transfer	7,742,731	1,368,194	143,136	4,133,846	150,000	13,537,906
Implementation	231,199	107,162	-11,764	406,565	6,750	739,912
Direct support costs						460,573
Subtotal						14,738,391
Indirect support costs						949,245
TOTAL						15,687,637

TABLE 3: OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN FOLLOWING THE REVISION (USD)

CSP outcome	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Focus area	Root Causes	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Crisis Response	
Transfer	43,685,919	15,018,975	12,672,980	13,210,076	1,001,248	85,589,198
Implementation	6,888,717	2,209,748	1,915,833	1,291,638	113,939	12,419,875
Direct support costs	5,807,621	2,049,177	1,744,997	1,623,897	143,225	11,368,918
Subtotal	56,382,257	19,277,900	16,333,810	16,125,611	1,258,412	109,377,991
Indirect support costs	3,664,847	1,253,063	1,061,698	1,048,165	0	7,027,773
TOTAL	60,047,104	20,530,963	17,395,508	17,173,776	1,258,412	116,405,763