



# WFP Lao PDR



COUNTRY BRIEF

April 2026

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP Lao PDR has published its [2025 Annual Country Report](#), highlighting assistance to 332,086 people in 2025.
- WFP participated in the Asian Development Bank's Asia Pacific Food Systems Forum 2026, presenting an evidence-based nutrition model implemented in Laos, through expanding access to nutritious foods, strengthening knowledge through social and behaviour change communication, and building partnerships.
- WFP organised its annual Media Breakfast with national journalists to present its 2025 achievements and receive feedback from media.

## IN NUMBERS



**172,300** people assisted in March 2026



**48%**  
Male



**52%**  
Female



**201 mt** food distributed, benefiting 157,000 students and supporters in schools

**Photo Caption & Credit:** Ambassadors of Germany and France serve hot meals to students at Chakamyai school in Sekong province. WFP/Vilakhone Sipaseuth

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

- The Lao People's Democratic Republic is a landlocked, least developed nation with a population of 7.8 million. As of 2024/2025, about 15 percent of its people live below the national poverty line of USD 1.10 per day. Despite poverty dropping by over half in the past twenty years, the 2024 Global Hunger Index rates the country's hunger as "moderate."
- Climate change is a major challenge facing the rural population and the country is vulnerable due to its low adaptability and heavy dependence on climate-sensitive natural resources. Changing climate patterns, limited access to markets and varied livelihoods, further worsen the situation in remote upland areas, where over 20 percent of households are food insecure (national average: 10 percent). Chronic malnutrition affects 33 percent of children under five, while micronutrient deficiencies are high and overnutrition is on the rise in urban areas.
- WFP has been present in Lao PDR since 1976.



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## OPERATIONAL UPDATES

### School meals and nutrition

- WFP organised two ambassador-level donor field trips to assess progress on initiatives linking local farmers to school meals. The Regional Director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea visited schools and farmers in northern Oudomxay province to observe how jointly funded projects promote climate-smart agriculture practices, supplying schools with fresh, nutritious food. They also assessed infrastructure and capacity-building activities that support improved school attendance and children's well-being. The Ambassadors of Germany and France visited southern Sekong province, where they examined how their support is strengthening the linkages between nutrition, agriculture, and school meals programmes.

### Nutrition and resilience

- WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment held a workshop to take stock of a completed project supporting smallholder coffee farmers in Luang Prabang province. Funded by the Government of Japan and the private sector, the project's endline evaluation showed that nutrition-integrated activities and livelihood support helped more than 250 households establish home gardens and raise poultry. Women's dietary diversity improved from 51 percent to 76 percent, and the number of children consuming an acceptable diet nearly doubled. Progress in developing the coffee value chain has enhanced farmers' incomes and strengthened overall resilience.

### Social protection and resilience

- WFP and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare jointly held a workshop in Pakse city to support the design of the *Family Support Programme*, a shock-responsive national safety net. Participants discussed how to build on existing tools and experience, including the National Social Registry, the Helping Hand Programme, and data on household needs and transfer amounts, to develop the programme. Discussion also covered how disaster-related insurance payouts could be structured under a planned Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance facility.
- WFP conducted trainings for district agriculture officers and the Lao Women's Union in Houaphan province, building their understanding of basic financial concepts and knowledge on investing agriculture grants effectively. These newly trained officers will in turn deliver training to community members across targeted areas within the province.

- WFP, in partnership with the Lao Farmers Association and local agriculture offices, supports smallholder farmers in Houaphan and Oudomxay provinces. Trainings held in March strengthened 36 agricultural production groups with business and financial skills to connect them with traders, improving their market access.
- WFP participated in a national stakeholder workshop on advancing disability inclusion in climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, and water governance.

## Story from the field



Douy mixes rice husk, young banana trunk and local plants to feed her chicken. WFP/Vilakhone Sipaseuth

Douy is a farmer from Chakamyai village in Sekong province. When the cost of commercial feed became expensive and resources were limited, many farmers in her community struggled to raise their livestock. Douy found a practical solution, creating her own recipe for feeding her layer chickens.

"I am trying to keep my chickens healthy, so they can lay eggs which I can contribute to children's school lunches." Douy says proudly.

WFP is working closely with communities to supply locally produced food to schools, helping ensure children have nutritious meals at school to support their growth and learning.

## FUNDING OVERVIEW

### Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

|  |              |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| CSP FUNDING                                  | US\$123.79 M | US\$116.41 M |
| 6-MONTHS NFR                                 | US\$1.51 M   |              |
| REQUIREMENT RECEIVED NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT |              |              |

### Donors:

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australia, European Union, France, Germany, Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, India, Ireland, Japan, Lao PDR, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States of America, Switzerland and private donors.