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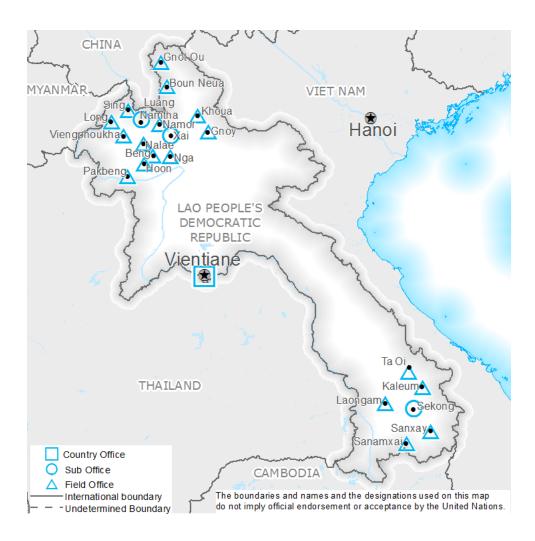
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Country Context and WFP Objectives



Country Context

Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) is moving towards middle-income country status. The country is home to 49 officially recognised ethnic groups with a total population of 6.5 million people.

While Lao PDR has managed to reduce the proportion of hungry poor people from 33 to 23 percent over the past decade (World Bank, 2014), the 2015 Global Hunger Index still rates hunger levels in the country as "serious". It is estimated that 70 percent of the population's household food and nutrition security relies on subsistence farming, and foraging is becoming less available because of over-harvesting and deforestation. Diet diversity continues to be low, and climate change is affecting the quantity and quality of agricultural production. Only 17 percent of the land is cultivable, which is mainly used for rice production. Lao PDR ranks 141 out of 188 in the 2015 Human Development Index (Human Development Report) and the Gross National Income per capita is USD 1,730 (World Bank, 2015).

The 2016 Comprehensive Food Security Assessment indicates that 14 percent of the rural population is food insecure, with rates as high as 25 percent in highland areas. Pockets of poverty and food insecurity also exist in the urban areas, with around 30 percent of the population living below the poverty line of USD 1.25 (World Bank, 2014). The rate of anaemia among women of reproductive age is 31 percent and 53 percent of children under 2 are anaemic. Households' food access is constrained by poverty, declining land availability, unstable farm-gate prices, low agricultural productivity, and changing climate patterns.

Although results from the 2015 Food and Nutrition Security Survey and the Lao Child Anthropometry Survey show a substantial decrease in stunting from 44 to 35.6 percent from 2012 to 2016, malnutrition remains a major challenge. Only 12.9 percent of children aged 6-23 months consume a minimum acceptable diet, and 40 percent of children



under 6 months of age are exclusively breastfed.

Lao PDR ranks 52 out of 145 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index 2015, and the adult literacy rate is 77.4 percent for men and 68.7 percent for women, reflecting widespread gender inequalities.

Response of the Government and Strategic Coordination

The country programme (CP) 2012-2016 is aligned with the 7th and 8th National Socio-economic Development Plans, with various sectoral strategies, as well as with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012-2016. The new United Nations Partnership Framework for 2017-2021 was finalised in 2016, and represents the collective response of the United Nations system to national development priorities. 2016 saw the implementation of the Vientiane Declaration on Partnerships for Effective Development (2016-2025), confirming a joint commitment to support the Government's efforts to graduate from least developed country status.

There is a strong commitment from the Government to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030. The National Nutrition Strategy to 2025 and Plan of Action 2016-2020 use a multi-sectoral and convergence approach, bringing together health, agriculture and education to achieve SDG2—end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. This approach includes 22 priority interventions across the three sectors, of which WFP contributes to 19 national priorities. One of the primary focuses is the reduction of stunting rate to 25 percent by 2025.

WFP has supported South-South cooperation between the Government and the Brazil Centre of Excellence against Hunger in order to provide technical expertise and promote a multi-dimensional approach to zero hunger, which links school meals, nutrition, and smallholder agriculture.

Under the overall leadership of the Ministry of Planning and Investment and led by an independent team of experts, the National Strategic Review of Food Security and Nutrition identified gaps and opportunities to achieve SDG2. The review involved consultations with stakeholders at the national level and in 17 provinces, including the Government, United Nations agencies, financial institutions, civil society, the private sector, academia and communities. The recommendations and process of the strategic review have been critical in formulating the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2017-2021.

WFP works in partnership with United Nations agencies, including the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), as well as non-governmental organizations such as *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ), Agrisud, Association for Aid and Relief Japan, Plan International, Catholic Relief Services and Population Services International. Partnerships have also been developed with the National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute, Big Brother Mouse and Lao Women's Union.

WFP takes part in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement, and together with the Government, the European Union and other partners, launched the SUN Business Network. WFP co-chairs, with FAO, the UNDAF working group for food and nutrition security, and plays an active role in other sectoral groups.

Summary of WFP Operational Objectives

The primary objective of WFP activities in Lao PDR was to reduce undernutrition and its impacts on individual well-being and national development, through a life-cycle approach. WFP supported the most vulnerable and rural populations, in particular young children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). WFP targeted the most remote and the least food-secure areas of the country.

Country programme: CP 200242 (2012-2016), approved budget USD 102 million, focused on: 1) preventing and reducing wasting; 2) reducing stunting; and 3) addressing micronutrient deficiencies. Activities included increasing school enrolment levels, and building long-term food and nutrition security through rural development activities.

An integrated approach was adopted to address these issues across the five components of the operation, with interventions at central and local levels: 1) emergency preparedness and response (EPR); 2) mother and child health and nutrition (MCHN); 3) school meals; 4) livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN); and 5) food fortification and marketing (FFM).

Lao People's Democratic Republic (LA)



Country Resources and Results

Resources for Results

The country programme was resourced through contributions from Government donors and the private sector. The overall funding for the year was USD 14 million, which covered 69 percent of the needs. Given this shortfall, resources were optimised to achieve results across four components of the programme, and to provide sufficient country and field office support. Through two budget revisions, the country programme was extended in time twice to align it with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) until December 2016, and ensure continuity until the start of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) in April 2017.

Multiyear earmarked funding has ensured consistency and continuity in the implementation of some activities. A small proportion of contributions were multi-lateral and were allocated to underfunded activities. Funding shortages affected four out of the five components. The emergency preparedness and response funding requirement was lower than planned. However, since there was no need for emergency assistance, funds received were sufficient to ensure that preparedness activities were carried out as planned. The school meals programme was fully funded, and witnessed an increase in collaborative partnerships which added value to the services and assistance provided to children and communities. Significant financial and technical resources were directed toward the shift from mid-morning snack to lunch modality. Contributions for the maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) programme have been low, and therefore WFP continued to limit its assistance to children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) in three provinces rather than in six provinces as originally planned. Livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN) projects have been critically underfunded, although some activities were carried out after some funding was allocated to this component. No food fortification or marketing activities were undertaken due to the lack of resources.

WFP has joined a joint United Nations agency initiative of carpooling, which aims to demonstrate the utility of information and communications technology (ICT) systems in improving vehicle utilisation. This has reduced costs for all participating agencies and increased the availability of transport, demonstrating cost-efficiency and effectiveness. The security level in Lao PDR remains at level 1, indicating a low risk environment. The country office and three field offices are compliant with the required minimum operating security standards.

There has been considerable investment in staff in 2016, especially in capacity development to ensure that staff have the necessary tools, knowledge and skills, and these efforts will continue in the future.

Achievements at Country Level

WFP has furthered the food and nutrition security landscape in Lao PDR through interventions in communities, schools, and health centres. The development of a community-centred approach in coordination with the Government at the sub-national level has led to greater engagement in and results from WFP's activities. The move towards the lunch modality for school meals encouraged community members to take part in improving their own food and nutrition security, through participation in WFP-led capacity development, knowledge sharing opportunities, the establishment of vegetable gardens and fish ponds, the construction of dining halls and the renovation of kitchens.

Under the maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) project, complementary interventions for the first 1,000 days of children's lives contributed to addressing malnutrition through the provision of specialised nutritious foods (Plumpy'Doz and Nutributter) to supplement the diet of young children as well as pregnant and lactating women. Beneficiaries and their families also received nutrition education from their village health volunteers. The creation of assets ensured the immediate food security of the most vulnerable households in over 100 communities, and contributed to their socioeconomic development.

In preparation for the start of the cash-based transfers (CBT) programme, a multi-sectoral assessment was conducted to gauge the appropriateness of this assistance modality and to identify the possibility of any adverse effects on markets in rural and remote areas.

The significant expansion of WFP's partnerships in 2016 has allowed WFP to further strengthen its collaboration with the Government and leverage its long-term relationship as a trusted partner, ensuring synergies, complementarity and efficiency in line with the Vientiane Declaration on Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation.

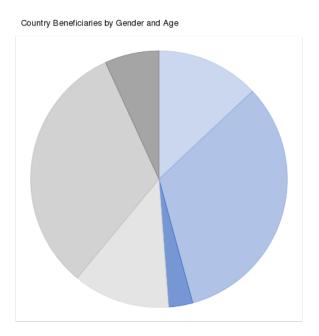


Consultations on the Country Strategic Plan (CSP, 2017-2021) were held throughout the year and provided a unique platform for further engagement with the Government and development partners on WFP's strategic direction for the coming years, including WFP's continued shift from direct implementation to capacity development and policy support.



Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	39,582	37,206	76,788
Children (5-18 years)	99,899	98,045	197,944
Adults (18 years plus)	9,273	20,853	30,126
Total number of beneficiaries in 2016	148,754	156,104	304,858











Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Country Programme	1,994	318	-	2,459	686	5,458
Total Food Distributed in 2016	1.994	318	-	2,459	686	5,458

Supply Chain

WFP's supply chain was well-established and able to respond to the needs of the country programme (CP). Food and non-food items were either in-kind donations, or were procured internationally or regionally, arriving at the port in Thailand. Food was then transported overland to Vientiane and to the warehouses located in the field, which were provided by the Government free of charge. Food and non-food items were then dispatched to final delivery points using commercial transporters. Food and non-food deliveries for all components of the CP was arranged in advance of the monsoon season when access becomes difficult, and in order to reduce transport costs.

The programme called for seven food items for the various activities: rice, oil, canned fish, Super Cereal Plus, sugar and two lipid-based supplements. In addition to 3,207 mt in stock in early 2016, 5,126 mt of rice, Super Cereal Plus, and oil arrived in the first quarter, an in-kind donation made in 2015 from the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

Losses remained below 2 percent of total commodities delivered, in compliance with corporate objectives. Stocks were moved following the first-in, first-out practice, and fumigation occurred on a regular basis to reduce the risk of infestation. Attention was given to 'best before' dates, which resulted in no loss of food caused by expiration.

Local procurement of food continued to be a challenge as suppliers could not meet WFP quality requirements, and prices remained high compared to regional purchases. In an effort to develop the local market and assist suppliers in understanding and meeting WFP's regulations and standards, a small quantity of sugar was purchased locally.

The procurement of non-food items—including cooking equipment, utensils, and water hoses—was handled locally, although many suppliers sourced their goods from Thailand. Other United Nations agencies agreed to share their lists of suppliers, which helped reduce the time required for the procurement process, and expanded the number of suppliers meeting WFP's standards.





Annual Food Purchases for the Country (mt)

Commodity	Local	Regional/International	Total
Canned Fish	-	129	129
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	129	129
Sugar	40	105	145
Total	40	363	403
Percentage	9.9%	90.1%	

Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

In 2016, two important evaluations were carried out: i) an impact review of school meals and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities; and ii) a mid-term evaluation of the McGovern-Dole supported school meals programme.

The impact review on school meals and WASH activities found that the WFP school meals programme had a positive effect on student enrolment, attendance and attentiveness. The greatest barrier identified to successfully implementing the programme was access to water. WFP partnered with *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) to install hand-washing stations and promoted hygiene practices, which contributed to an integrated programme implementation. The shift from the provision of mid-morning snacks to the lunch modality was implemented in conjunction with a complementary package of support including literacy, the establishment of vegetable gardens, facilities creation, water access and hygiene, fish pond construction, and community capacity strengthening.

All the recommendations of the 2014 country programme (CP) mid-term evaluation were implemented, and enhanced programme quality. Recommendations mainly focused on ensuring a more sustainable approach to WFP's engagement in Lao PDR by strengthening the alignment of WFP's activities with national plans, building the capacity of government counterparts at all levels, and providing an integrated programme of assistance. The findings of the 2016 mid-term evaluation of the McGovern-Dole supported school meals programme will be available in 2017.

Lao People's Democratic Republic (LA)



Story from the Field

Mrs. Chankham is a 36-year-old cook in Namyongkao Primary School, and is a mother of a 10-year-old girl in grade five and an 8-year-old boy in grade two. She explains her daily tasks as a cook:

"Every day, I prepare lunch for the students and I like doing it, as I love all of them as my own children. Although I am very busy with my work, I decided that cooking lunch for the students will be my first priority. Cooking for many children is hard work, but seeing the children enjoying lunch prepared with my own hands makes me happy, and I forget I am tired. WFP provides an incentive for me, but I do not do this work for that reason, although it is good for my family to receive a bag of rice. I am proud of what I am doing.

In the village, I am the head of the Lao Women's Union, and I was trained on how to cook and prepare lunch. After the training, I have tried to spread what I have learnt by teaching other women in the village, so that they can help prepare lunch for the students since they are also their children.

Preparing lunch can be challenging because there is a shortage of water for cooking and gardening, and we need to collect water every day.

We are really lucky to receive rice and oil for the school meals programme. Preparing lunch is different from preparing a mid-morning snack because it needs villagers' contribution in both time and effort. We have started, with the villagers who have understood the importance of having vegetable gardens, to diversify what children eat every day, and we will continue mobilising the others who will hopefully join us too!

Thank you to the school meals project for making our children lunch every day!"



Project Objectives and Results

Project Objectives

WFP supports the Government of Lao PDR to reduce stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, enhance access to education, improve resilience and government capacity to respond to emergencies, and ensure long-term food security. To this end, activities were planned in seven northern and southern provinces where malnutrition and food insecurity remain a challenge, and in 2016 included:

- 1. The emergency preparedness and response (EPR) component planned to increase national emergency response capacity, as well as provide direct support to beneficiaries in case of an emergency, through food distribution of canned fish and rice, and the construction of mobile storage units.
- 2. Maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) activities aimed to address high levels of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, through the implementation of a malnutrition prevention programme to provide pregnant and lactating women with Nutributter and rice, nutrition education, and counseling on infant and young child feeding practices. WFP also planned to distribute Plumpy'Doz for children aged 6-23 months in Oudomxay, Luang Namtha and Sekong provinces.
- 3. The school meals programme aimed to increase attendance, through the provision of nutritious meals to pre-primary and primary school children, and incentives for cooks. WFP continued the transition from mid-morning snacks to school lunches, as per the policy of the Government.
- 4. Asset creation activities provided communities with immediate food assistance, while building or repairing community assets and infrastructure such as roads, fishponds and irrigation schemes to ensure long-term food security.
- 5. Food fortification and marketing activities aimed to reduce micronutrient deficiencies through supporting the Government's policy and research on fortified goods and market opportunities for fortified foods. However, due to lack of funding, these activities were not carried out in 2016.



Approved Budget for Project Duration (USD)

Cost Category	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	6,380,056
Cash & Voucher and Related Costs	915,304
Direct Support Costs	15,662,025
Food and Related Costs	72,403,955
Indirect Support Costs	6,675,294
Total	102,036,633

Project Activities

Strategic Objective: Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures (SO2)

Outcome: 2.1 Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted households and 2.4 Capacity developed to address national food insecurity needs

Activity: Emergency preparedness and response (EPR)

The activities under this component, focused on strengthening the preparedness capacity of the Government at the central level, and assisting in developing a National Disaster Response Plan. Since there was no emergency in 2016, the canned fish received for this activity was not utilised, and was shifted to the livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN) programme.



In 2016, a simulation exercise was held with the Government at the central and provincial levels, United Nations (UN) agencies, and civil society, to test the in-country coordination system and assess its readiness to respond to natural disasters. In 2016, Lao PDR experienced small-scale flooding, which was within the Government's response capacity, and assistance from the international community was not requested.

The Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience was carried out by the Department for Disaster Management and Climate Change of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and WFP. The report was published in October 2016, and identified geographic areas least-resilient to climate change, which currently are or will be affected by the increased frequency of natural disasters in the future.

Strategic Objective: Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger (SO4)

Outcome: 4.1 Reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and school-aged children

Activity: Mother and child health and nutrition (MCHN)

The MCHN project supported the Government's efforts to reduce all forms of malnutrition, and to boost food and nutrition security from central to community levels. WFP focused on the first 1,000 days of a child's life by improving the nutritional intake of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children aged 6-23 months of age, through the provision of specialised nutritious foods (SNF). To encourage pregnant women to receive antenatal, delivery and post-natal care at health centres, a rice incentive was also provided.

This programme was planned to cover six provinces, however because of funding constraints, three provinces were prioritised. Under the UN joint programme on mother and neonatal child health and nutrition, complementary activities of micronutrient supplements, immunisations, and nutrition education were carried out jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNIFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

WFP provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Health to implement stunting prevention activities by strengthening the capacities of village health volunteers and health centre staff. The programme was entirely implemented by the Ministry of Health with no provision of incentives from WFP. A nutrition awareness campaign was disseminated to families and caregivers, which focused on messages about infant and young child feeding and hygiene promotion.

WFP, along with the Ministry of Health, the European Union, Population Services International and other development partners, joined efforts in raising awareness of malnutrition and encouraging the private sector's involvement in food and nutrition security through the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a project providing multiyear strategic support for food security and nutrition, funded through the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, started towards the end of the year. This project will provide technical support on establishing village development plans and farmer schools, as well as implementing social and behaviour change communication campaigns. WFP provided policy support to the National Nutrition Forum, together with development partners, including contributing to action statements and decision papers.

Strategic Objective: Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger (SO4)

Outcome: 4.2 Increased equitable access to and utilization of education and 4.3 Ownership and capacity strengthened to reduce undernutrition and increase access to education at regional, national and community levels

Activity: School meals

The schools meals component provided support to pre-primary and primary schools to meet education objectives. The programme reached 17 percent of all primary school children and 10 percent of pre-primary students through the provision of mid-morning snacks or lunch. Cooks and storekeepers also received a rice incentive for their contribution in preparing meals and managing food. In agreement with the Ministry of Education and Sports, assistance to 180,000 informal boarders in secondary school was stopped since support was provided by other partners, and the remaining food was given to students as take-home rations.

In line with the 2014 National Policy on Promoting School Lunches, WFP transitioned to the provision of lunches in 247 schools, which was complemented with a package of assistance, including the establishment of vegetable gardens, fish ponds, nutrition education, access to water and hygiene practices, and literacy.

The distribution of Super Cereal Plus in 2015 was low and therefore at the beginning of 2016, WFP had excess stocks in its warehouses. To use it before the expiry date, a decision was made to distribute the Super Cereal Plus and sugar to students and activity participants through take-home rations, which explains the higher distribution of Super Cereal Plus than planned in 2016.



In 2017, WFP will include lentils in school lunches. Although this addition was captured in a budget revision conducted in 2016, no distributions took place.

WFP provided technical assistance and capacity development to government counterparts at all levels, and capitalised on existing government knowledge by strengthening the network between provinces implementing the national school meals programme. WFP is a key stakeholder in the education sector working group, which promotes issues related to pre- and primary education, inclusive education and equal access. Together with the Ministry of Education and Sports and Catholic Relief Services, WFP co-chairs the technical working group on school meals.

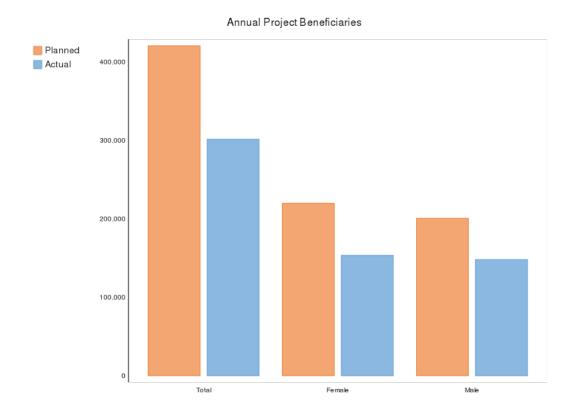
Strategic Objective: Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs (SO3)

Outcome: 3.1 Improved access to livelihood assets has contributed to enhanced resilience and reduced risks from disaster and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households and 3.2 Increased marketing opportunities for producers and traders of agricultural products and food at the regional, national and local levels

Activity: Livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN)

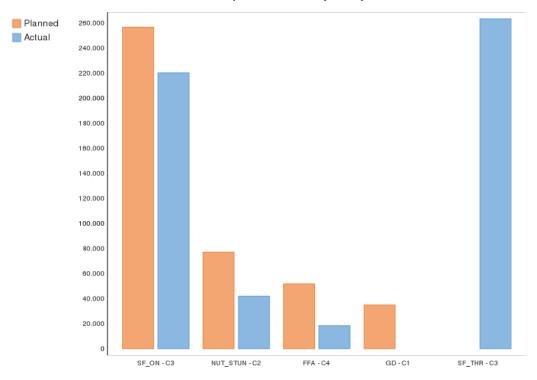
WFP implemented LIN in vulnerable and food-insecure areas, contributing to the socioeconomic development of communities through the creation of community infrastructure. The provision of food assistance for assets (FFA) improved household food security and enhanced the livelihoods of rural communities by providing road access between production and market areas, establishing local rice banks to build community resilience, and supplying water systems which improved hygiene and sanitation conditions. Communities were consulted in identifying their needs and priorities, thereby ensuring their ownership of and participation in the project.

WFP established an internal cash-based transfer (CBT) working group, and a pilot CBT intervention involving 70 schools under the school meals programme and a local and regional procurement programme is planned for the first guarter of 2017.



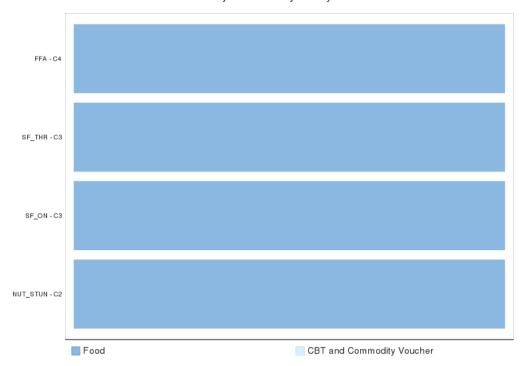


Annual Project Beneficiaries by Activity



SF_ON: School Feeding (on-site)
NUT_STUN: Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting
FFA: Food-Assistance-for-Assets
GD: General Distribution (GD)
SF_THR: School Feeding (take-home rations)

Modality of Transfer by Activity



NUT_STUN: Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting
SF_ON: School Feeding (on-site)
SF_THR: School Feeding (take-home rations)
FFA: Food-Assistance-for-Assets





Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and	d Respon		
Rice	1,032	-	-
Subtotal	1,032	-	-
Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and	Nutri		
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	1,062	227	21.4%
Rice	1,574	237	15.1%
Subtotal	2,636	464	17.6%
Comp.3-School Meals			
Canned Fish	333	299	89.9%
Corn Soya Blend	592	2,232	377.2%
Lentils	1,060	-	-
Rice	3,757	1,366	36.4%
Sugar	240	273	113.9%
Vegetable Oil	360	318	88.4%
Subtotal	6,342	4,489	70.8%
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutr	it		
Canned Fish	357	114	31.9%
Rice	609	391	64.2%
Subtotal	966	505	52.3%
Total	10,975	5,458	49.7%

Operational Partnerships

Partnerships were critical to WFP operations to ensure the successful implementation of the programme and complementarity with the activities of others.

With regard to the emergency preparedness and response (EPR) component, WFP worked closely with the Ministries of Natural Resources and Environment and Labour and Social Welfare. With support from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office, WFP led a simulation exercise, and an action plan was prepared based on gaps identified for the Government and humanitarian agencies to take forward.

The implementation of maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) component required complementary partnerships to successfully carry out activities in 2016. The United Nations joint programme, mother and neonatal child health and nutrition, involved the United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) family planning services, World Health Organization's (WHO) deworming campaign, iron and vitamin A supplementation and training for health centre staff, and United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) integrated outreach service and immunisation campaign. Additional nutrition education campaigns were undertaken in partnership with Population Services International. The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network was launched together with partners. The strategic support for the food security and nutrition project involved close collaboration with the International Fund for



Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Through the implementation of school meals, WFP capitalised on the expertise of partners to ensure complementary activities. The development of a package of assistance in communities, built around the schools, and the common objectives that each partner brought to the relationship made for strong, unified implementation.

WFP provided a package of assistance to schools through partnership with UNICEF and *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Ministry of Education and Sports in integrating nutrition and school gardening in primary schools; Plan International and Big Brother Mouse for literacy activities; and with the Association for Aid and Relief Japan for fish ponds. Lao Women's Union carried out village-level training in nutrition and cooking, ensuring the involvement in and ownership of programme implementation by village members. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry also played an important role in school garden training for communities.

Livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN) were implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry at the central level and with the Department of Labour and Social Welfare and Department of Rural Development and Poverty Eradication at the provincial level. Over 2,900 people participated in the asset creation programme and received food assistance for their work in building or repairing small-scale community infrastructure.

Collaboration with IFAD was expanded through the *SoumSonSeumJai* project. All asset creation activities, such as roads, cereal banks and water schemes improved long-term food security at the community level. Provincial partners also provided supervision and technical expertise to the projects.

Performance Monitoring

The WFP monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and vulnerability and analysis mapping (VAM) unit was responsible for managing the M&E system through a comprehensive strategy, which was updated regularly to enhance the quality of data and reporting. Operational performance was monitored to assess progress towards results, and findings were used to inform programme management and decision-making.

Regular data were collected by WFP staff from the local villages and project sites. The outcome data collected included the coping strategy index for food assistance for assets, minimum acceptable diet for children under 5 years, food distribution and management, record-keeping of village volunteers, community participation, student attendance and attentiveness, health and sanitation issues, frequency of cooking, kitchen cleanliness, and food consumption. The information was electronically captured in a database and compiled in real time. Output and outcome indicators were reported monthly and biannually, respectively, and findings were compared with the set targets.

At the end of 2016, 21 monitoring assistants were deployed in the field close to the project sites to ensure daily monitoring. Due to the remoteness of project locations, WFP faced challenges in recruiting female monitoring assistants (currently only four are female), and efforts will continue to encourage them to apply. A beneficiary feedback mechanism was established in May and rolled out in all villages. Staff in the country and field offices received gender and protection and accountability to affected populations training.

One of the main challenges faced during monitoring was the geographical terrain and the necessity to reach remote areas and highland villages where WFP operates. Monitoring assistants visit each operational site two to three times per year, where they collect monitoring data, mobilise the community to work and contribute, and strengthen their capacity through training. Outcome indicators were collected either through the periodical post-distribution monitoring or specific surveys.

Results/Outcomes

Throughout 2016, WFP worked with the Government to reduce stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, enhance access to education, and improve resilience and government capacity to respond to emergencies. Activities were implemented in seven provinces with high levels of malnutrition and persistent challenges in meeting food security needs.

Strategic Objective: Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures (SO2)

Outcome: 2.1 Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted households and 2.4 Capacity developed to address national food insecurity needs

Activity: Emergency preparedness and response (EPR)



Under the emergency preparedness and response (EPR) component of the operation, there was no need to provide emergency assistance in 2016, and therefore WFP reallocated some food stocks to the asset creation activities. Together with its partners, WFP developed government capacity at the central level through EPR consultations and a simulation exercise, which involved multiple ministries from the Government, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Lao Red Cross and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

In preparation for the assessment of the emergency preparedness capacity index (EPCI), WFP met with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and other stakeholders on disaster preparedness and response. The findings showed that the Government of Lao PDR was well aware of the need to conduct hazard analysis, early warning, food security and vulnerability analysis, and humanitarian supply chain management systems, but needed support to implement these activities. During the flooding in Oudomxay and Luangprabang provinces, the Government demonstrated they had the capacity to assess and respond to the needs of the affected populations without direct support from WFP or other United Nations agencies.

Strategic Objective: Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger (SO4)

Outcome: 4.1 Reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and school-aged children

Activity: Mother and child health and nutrition (MCHN)

In 2016, maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) activities, specifically stunting and micronutrient deficiency prevention, reached 41,967 beneficiaries, of which 34,455 were children, through the provision of specialised nutritious foods (SNF) to children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW), as well as nutrition education. The coverage estimate (91.5 percent) was based on the most recent Lao Child Anthropometry Assessment Survey, conducted in 2015.

The prevalence of stunting has reduced from 53.2 to 44 percent in Luang Namtha, from 54.9 to 46 percent in Oudomxay, and from 62.7 to 49 percent in Sekong provinces, compared to the 2012 baseline. The proportion of children aged 6-23 months who consumed a minimum acceptable diet (MAD), was 30.7 percent in provinces where WFP operates. An independent review of the MCHN programme by the University of British Columbia (2015) showed a substantial improvement in infant and young child feeding practices. The proportion of caregivers who could accurately identify the most nutritious food groups increased from 53.6 to 61.4 percent The proportion of mothers who believed colostrum should be fed to an infant increased from 72.4 to 92.9 percent. Similarly, the proportion of mothers reporting the correct meaning of exclusive breastfeeding increased from 67.5 to 76.5 percent, and the proportion of mothers who correctly identified the age at which complementary food should be introduced increased from 56.1 to 83.7 percent. In addition, WFP worked with the Government and development partners to develop a social and behaviour change communication strategy, which will be critical in improving infant and young child feeding practices.

WFP was one of the main stakeholders in food and nutrition security supporting the Government through the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement together with UNICEF, WHO, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). WFP was also increasingly engaged in providing policy support to the Ministry of Health.

Strategic Objective: Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger (SO4)

Outcome: 4.2 Increased equitable access to and utilization of education and 4.3 Ownership and capacity strengthened to reduce undernutrition and increase access to education at regional, national and community levels

Activity: School meals

In total, 260,000 beneficiaries were reached through school meals in 2016. While enrolment rates were high, the number of pre-primary and primary school children reached decreased in line with negative population growth. Although WFP did not include take-home rations in the country programme plan, a decision was taken to provide food items as take-home rations for students, cooks and storekeepers as a result of the items' upcoming expiry date.

In 2016, challenges remained regarding the quality of education, retention rates and understanding of the language of instruction in schools, and WFP worked with its partners to address these. However, school meals have contributed to increased school attendance and engagement levels in remote and food insecure areas. A workshop on the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) was jointly organised by the Ministry of Education and Sports and WFP. The initiative was part of an effort to help the Government identify the strengths and challenges of the existing school meals programme, and develop a clear road-map for improvement in preparation for the full handover to government management by 2021. Findings of the SABER analysis showed that while the policy framework for school meals was established, financial and institutional capacity, coordination and



implementation were still emerging.

Strategic Objective: Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs (SO3)

Outcome: 3.1 Improved access to livelihood assets has contributed to enhanced resilience and reduced risks from disaster and shocks faced by targeted food-insecure communities and households and 3.2 Increased marketing opportunities for producers and traders of agricultural products and food at the regional, national and local levels

Activity: Livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN)

To improve communities' food and nutrition security through livelihood initiatives for nutrition (LIN), 94 villages created 107 community assets, which included fish ponds, irrigation and gravity-fed water systems, road access and land development. WFP provided rice and fish to 17,000 participants involved in the construction work. The decline in the Diet Diversity Score may have resulted from community members consuming only WFP-provided commodities, and not supplementing their diet with food items from vegetable gardens, reflecting a short-term coping strategy to manage food insecurity.

The Community Asset Score (CAS), which measures the functionality and community maintenance of assets, increased to 48 percent. The increased CAS indicates a higher number and a wider variety of assets available in the community, which positively affects community livelihoods. This improvement also has a long-term effect, as community assets are multiyear and can help to increase the level of food security in the long term.

Fish ponds were established in schools to link LIN and the school meals programme, and provided a source of protein for school lunches in addition to the rice, oil and fresh vegetables from the school gardens.

Local procurement of food continued to be a challenge as suppliers could not meet WFP standards in terms of quality and competitive prices. In an effort to develop the local market and assist suppliers in understanding and meeting WFP's regulations and standards, a small quantity of sugar was purchased locally.

The beneficiary feedback mechanism significantly contributed to increasing communities' awareness of WFP's activities, and enabled improvements in programme implementation based on information received from beneficiaries.

Progress Towards Gender Equality

Lao PDR ranked 52 out of 145 countries according to the 2015 Global Gender Gap Index. The Government is making significant efforts to address gender gaps, with legislative and policy reform through its National Development Plan on Gender Equality (2016-2020). However, some of the main challenges for women remain, such as low influence on decision-making, the high burden of responsibilities (particularly for agricultural and domestic work), unequal access to food in the household, fewer economic opportunities, the wage gap, low literacy rates among ethnic minority females, early marriage, and high maternal mortality.

WFP continued its efforts towards gender equality in 2016. Sex and age disaggregated data were collected and analysed. In view of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP), a gender analysis was carried out and allowed for a better understanding of gender characteristics in Lao PDR, and was used to guide WFP's future interventions in addressing the different needs of men and women and different age groups. Over 90 percent of staff received training on gender and protection and accountability to affected populations. The country office volunteered to be a part of the WFP gender transformation programme, which integrates gender equality and women's empowerment, externally and internally, across several areas.

Pregnant and lactating women were encouraged to attend maternity consultations in order to receive appropriate antenatal care and specialised nutritious food, in addition to health and nutrition education.

Although there is significant diversity across the 40 ethnic groups that WFP serves in Lao PDR, women typically make decisions related to food utilisation, while men make decisions about the use of agricultural land. Thanks to the feedback mechanism in place, the proportion of beneficiaries aware of WFP's activities and gender equality policies increased from 20 to 90 percent for men and from 27 to 90 percent for women, compared to 2015. During data collection, WFP staff sensitised volunteers on how to conduct accurate sex- and age-disaggregated data reporting, which in turn contributed to greater gender equality.

A challenge for a gender-balanced participation in project management committees at the village level was the already set composition of the committees, where the Lao Women's Union's representative was often the only woman. Despite challenges, WFP continued its efforts to increase women's voices through alternative channels, such as focus group discussions, and encouraged their participation during community mobilisation. In addition, focus was put on capacity development and building women's confidence to take an active part in decision-making.



As a result, the proportion of women trained on modality distribution increased from 52 to 60 percent, and the percentage of women in project management committees increased from 47 to 60 percent.

As part of country office's gender action plan, multiple initiatives took place in 2016. WFP participated in inter-agency and government working groups including the gender inclusiveness and disabilities technical working group for the education sector, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) group on gender equality, and a new working group under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on gender inclusiveness, disaster risk reduction and climate change.

Under the school meals programme, schools were instructed that men and women should share tasks in the school gardens equally, to take and circulate photos of men cooking in schools, as well as to analyse gender dimensions of drop-out rates. WFP also considered women's unpaid workload in collecting community contributions, and ensured that participants in livelihoods initiatives for nutrition (LIN) adequately monitored who was doing the work; for example, that children were not working and that households headed by women had an equal opportunity to participate. WFP enumerators paid attention to gender balance in all activities to the extent possible, and if both men and women were present, considered interviewing them separately.

The feedback mechanism enabled female beneficiaries to directly contact WFP to ask about food entitlements or programme implementation. This bridged the information gap for women, raised their capacity to be proactive and increased their ability to plan. In turn, these qualities gradually encouraged women to participate in community activities, be part of the development committees, or become village volunteers. Beneficiaries were also encouraged to make more informed decisions over food utilisation and to incorporate a diversified diet into their daily meals.

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

Significant efforts have been made on accountability to affected populations. Two protection advisers (standby partners) were deployed for several months to develop a strategy, which included the design and distribution of posters on WFP's activities and entitlements, community mobilisation and the set-up of a beneficiary feedback mechanism in target villages.

The introduction of the feedback mechanism began with information sessions in the villages about WFP activities and beneficiary entitlements for immediate feedback. A hotline was established in all three field offices so that beneficiaries could communicate directly with WFP. Beneficiaries were advised either to call or leave a 'missed call' to the WFP number, and it would be returned at no cost. The majority of the beneficiaries who used the hotline wanted to learn what kind of services it could provide. Over 30 percent of callers asked questions related to programme implementation issues, such as food rations, proper procedures, and when the next food delivery would take place. Several beneficiaries also suggested that WFP assess the situation related to droughts, which caused local food insecurity.

In the long-term, the beneficiary feedback mechanism will inform programme decisions, allow beneficiaries to have two-way communication with WFP, and enhance the quality and results of the interventions for the people WFP serves.

To mitigate differences in beneficiaries' language and literacy, posters contained mainly visual information. Monitoring assistants either spoke the local language or used interpreters, often staying in villages overnight to include all members of the community in consultations once they were back from their fields at the end of the day. The beneficiary feedback mechanism has improved beneficiaries' understanding WFP programmes, and enhanced household practices, such as reducing the sharing of supplementary food rations between siblings.

Rice Banks for Increased Food Security

Every year, a number of families in Namdor village face a shortage of rice during the lean season, just before the harvest in November-December. For the first time, and in partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), WFP established rice banks with the objective of providing access to food for villages and enabling them to become more resilient during the lean season when food stocks are at their lowest level.

The village chief, Mr. Bounyang, explained: "Half of the population in this village is considered poor. Without this initial rice from WFP, we could not start a rice bank system. We did not have enough surplus rice to begin the bank."



The villagers started to borrow rice and some already paid it back immediately following the harvest. Previously, when the villagers ran out of food, they worked in the factory or on the plantations, which took them away from working their own fields. This year, thanks to the rice bank, the villagers no longer worried about rice shortages during this critical period.



Figures and Indicators

Data Notes

Cover page photo © WFP/Silke Buhr. Children in Luang Prabang Province enjoy lunch at WFP-supported school. The transition to the lunch modality under the school meals programme in Lao PDR has provided greater diet diversity and a more culturally-appropriate, tasty meal.

The country programme 200242 SPR also captures achievements for food distributed under Trust Fund 200564, which provided critically important resources for the achievement of outcomes under the country programme.

Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	200,755	219,822	420,577	148,049	153,371	301,420	73.7%	69.8%	71.7%
Total Beneficiaries (Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon)	17,500	17,500	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Beneficiaries (Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri)	27,598	49,529	77,127	17,290	24,677	41,967	62.6%	49.8%	54.4%
Total Beneficiaries (Comp.3-School Meals)	130,275	126,375	256,650	122,098	119,679	241,777	93.7%	94.7%	94.2%
Total Beneficiaries (Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit)	25,382	26,418	51,800	8,661	9,015	17,676	34.1%	34.1%	34.1%
Comp.1-Emergency Pr	eparedness an	d Respon						1	
By Age-group:									
Children (5-18 years)	8,750	8,750	17,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adults (18 years plus)	8,750	8,750	17,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
By Residence status:									
Residents	17,500	17,500	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Comp.2-Mother and Ch	nild Health and	Nutri							
By Age-group:									
Children (6-23 months)	27,598	26,516	54,114	17,290	17,165	34,455	62.6%	64.7%	63.7%
Adults (18 years plus)	-	23,013	23,013	-	7,512	7,512	-	32.6%	32.6%



Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)			
By Residence status:												
Residents	27,598	49,529	77,127	17,290	24,677	41,967	62.6%	49.8%	54.4%			
Comp.3-School Meals	Comp.3-School Meals											
By Age-group:	By Age-group:											
Children (under 5 years)	25,665	28,232	53,897	19,342	16,924	36,266	75.4%	59.9%	67.3%			
Children (5-18 years)	102,659	94,961	197,620	97,920	95,502	193,422	95.4%	100.6%	97.9%			
Adults (18 years plus)	1,951	3,182	5,133	4,836	7,253	12,089	247.9%	227.9%	235.5%			
By Residence status:	'	'										
Residents	130,276	126,374	256,650	122,097	119,680	241,777	93.7%	94.7%	94.2%			
Comp.4-Livelihood Init	iatives for Nutr	it										
By Age-group:												
Children (under 5 years)	7,770	7,770	15,540	2,651	2,651	5,302	34.1%	34.1%	34.1%			
Children (5-18 years)	8,806	9,324	18,130	3,005	3,182	6,187	34.1%	34.1%	34.1%			
Adults (18 years plus)	8,806	9,324	18,130	3,005	3,182	6,187	34.1%	34.1%	34.1%			
By Residence status:	1											
Residents	25,382	26,418	51,800	8,661	9,015	17,676	34.1%	34.1%	34.1%			

Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)			
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon												
General Distribution (GD)	35,000	-	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Comp.2-Mother and Child He	Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri											
Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting	77,127	-	77,127	41,967	-	41,967	54.4%	-	54.4%			
Comp.3-School Meals								I	I			
School Feeding (on-site)	256,650	-	256,650	220,207	-	220,207	85.8%	-	85.8%			
School Feeding (take-home rations)	-	-	-	263,347	-	263,347	-	-	-			
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiative	s for Nutrit		ı				1	ı	ı			



Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	51,800	-	51,800	18,426	-	18,426	35.6%	-	35.6%

Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)			
Comp.1-Emergency Prepare	Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon											
General Distribution (GD)	35,000	-	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Comp.2-Mother and Child He	Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri											
Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting	77,127	-	77,127	41,967	-	41,967	54.4%	-	54.4%			
Comp.3-School Meals												
School Feeding (on-site)	256,650	-	256,650	220,207	-	220,207	85.8%	-	85.8%			
School Feeding (take-home rations)	-	-	-	192,627	-	192,627	-	-	-			
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiative	Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit											
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	10,360	-	10,360	3,096	-	3,096	29.9%	-	29.9%			

Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)		
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon											
General Distribution (GD)											
People participating in general distributions	17,500	17,500	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Total participants	17,500	17,500	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Total beneficiaries	17,500	17,500	35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Comp.3-School Meals	1										
School Feeding (on-site)											
Children receiving school meals in pre-primary schools	24,843	25,857	50,700	16,266	15,628	31,894	65.5%	60.4%	62.9%		
Children receiving school meals in primary schools	75,148	72,202	147,350	96,040	92,273	188,313	127.8%	127.8%	127.8%		



Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)			
Activity supporters	20,510	38,090	58,600	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Total participants	120,501	136,149	256,650	112,306	107,901	220,207	93.2%	79.3%	85.8%			
Total beneficiaries	120,501	136,149	256,650	112,306	107,901	220,207	93.2%	79.3%	85.8%			
School Feeding (take-home rat	School Feeding (take-home rations)											
Children receiving take-home rations in primary schools	-	-	-	96,040	92,273	188,313	-	-	-			
Activity supporters	-	-	-	2,200	2,114	4,314	-	-	-			
Total participants	-	-	-	98,240	94,387	192,627	-	-	-			
Total beneficiaries	-	-	-	133,703	129,644	263,347	-	-	-			
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives f	or Nutrit	,						,				
Food-Assistance-for-Assets												
People participating in asset-creation activities	5,180	5,180	10,360	1,473	1,473	2,946	28.4%	28.4%	28.4%			
Activity supporters	-	-	-	78	72	150	-	-	-			
Total participants	5,180	5,180	10,360	1,551	1,545	3,096	29.9%	29.8%	29.9%			
Total beneficiaries	25,382	26,418	51,800	9,030	9,396	18,426	35.6%	35.6%	35.6%			

Nutrition Beneficiaries

Nutrition Beneficiaries

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Comp.2-Mother ar	nd Child Health	and Nutri							
Nutrition: Prevent	ion of Stunting								
Children (6-23 months)	27,598	26,516	54,114	12,015	11,543	23,558	43.5%	43.5%	43.5%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	23,013	23,013	-	18,409	18,409	-	80.0%	80.0%
Total beneficiaries	27,598	49,529	77,127	12,015	29,952	41,967	43.5%	60.5%	54.4%

Project Indicators

Outcome Indicators



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon				
SO2 Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in	fragile settings	and following	emergencies	
Adequate food consumption reached or maintained over assistance period for targeted h	ouseholds			
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=1.32	6.60	-	-
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=78.90	78.90	-	-
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=0.00	0.00	-	-
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=1.44	7.20	-	-
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=92.30	92.30	-	-
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	>77.70	77.70	-	-
Diet Diversity Score				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=4.34	4.34	-	-
Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=4.40	4.40	-	-
Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2017.02, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	>4.33	4.33	-	-
CSI (Food): Percentage of households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=2.61	2.61	-	-
CSI (Food): Percentage of female-headed households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=4.58	4.58	-	-
CSI (Food): Percentage of male-headed households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAOS, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2015.08, Joint survey	=2.44	2.44	-	-
Capacity developed to address national food insecurity needs				
EPCI: Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity Index				
LAOS, Project End Target : 2017.02, Base value : 2012.12, Joint survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Joint survey, Interview to each Line Ministries	=0.00	0.00	-	2.50
Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri				



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
SO4 Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger				
Reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-59 children	months, pregna	nt and lactating	g women, and s	chool-aged
Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, Desk review of records of all eligible children in target areas and children enrolled in target areas, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, Desk review of records	>70.00	72.80	91.50	91.50
Proportion of children who consume a minimum acceptable diet				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP PDM; Oct-Dec 2015, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, WFP PDM; January-November 2016	>70.00	35.00	31.30	30.70
Prevalence of stunting among targeted children under 2 (height-for-age as %)				
LUANG NAMTHA, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2012.01, Joint survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Joint survey, Lao Food and Nutrition Security Survey 2015	=43.09	53.20	-	44.00
Prevalence of stunting among targeted children under 2 (height-for-age as %)				
OUDOMXAY, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2012.01, Joint survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Joint survey, Lao Food and Nutrition Security Survey 2015	=44.47	54.90	-	46.00
Prevalence of stunting among targeted children under 2 (height-for-age as %)				
SEKONG, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2012.01, Joint survey, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, Joint survey, Lao Food and Nutrition Security Survey 2015	=50.79	62.70	-	49.00
Comp.3-School Meals				
SO4 Reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger				
Increased equitable access to and utilization of education				
Enrolment (girls): Average annual rate of change in number of girls enrolled in WFP-assisted pre-schools				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.05, Secondary data, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Secondary data, Survey	>3.00	-	13.24	1.08
Enrolment (boys): Average annual rate of change in number of boys enrolled in WFP-assisted pre-schools				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.05, Secondary data, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Secondary data, Survey	>3.00	-	14.82	0.61
Enrolment (girls): Average annual rate of change in number of girls enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.05, Secondary data, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Secondary data, Survey	>3.00	-	0.03	-2.60
Enrolment (boys): Average annual rate of change in number of boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.05, Secondary data, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Secondary data, Survey	>3.00	-	0.04	-2.70



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Gender ratio: ratio of girls to boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2011.05, Secondary data, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM and Impact Review	=0.90	0.95	0.98	0.92
Ownership and capacity strengthened to reduce undernutrition and increase access to e	education at reg	ional, national a	and community	levels
NCI: School Feeding National Capacity Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2012.03, Joint survey, NCI Workshop, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Joint survey, Joint workshop: WFP and CRS, January 2016 (for reporting years 2014 and 2015), Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, Joint survey, Joint workshop: MoES, WFP and World Bank workshop on 13 December 2016	>1.50	1.50	2.40	2.40
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit		1		1
SO3 Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food	and nutrition ne	eds		
Improved access to livelihood assets has contributed to enhanced resilience and reduce food-insecure communities and households	ed risks from dis	saster and shoc	ks faced by tar	geted
CAS: percentage of communities with an increased Asset Score				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP survey	=80.00	-	38.00	48.00
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2015.12, Base value : 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP survey	>50.00	50.00	61.11	55.20
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP survey	>50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
FCS: percentage of households with acceptable Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2015.12, Base value : 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP survey	>55.81	55.81	64.29	56.00
Diet Diversity Score				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2015.12, Base value : 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP survey	>4.10	4.10	4.02	3.57
Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2015.12, Base value : 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP survey	>4.20	4.20	4.17	3.25
Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2015.12, Base value : 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up : 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP survey	>4.09	4.09	3.98	3.62
CSI (Food): Percentage of male-headed households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous	<17.35	17.35	15.43	3.90



Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
CSI (Asset Depletion): Percentage of households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP survey	<2.46	2.46	2.13	17.20
CSI (Asset Depletion): Percentage of female-headed households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP survey	<4.00	4.00	1.83	37.50
CSI (Asset Depletion): Percentage of male-headed households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP survey	<2.28	2.28	2.21	14.00
CSI (Food): Percentage of households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, WFP programme monitoring, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP survey	<19.85	19.85	16.52	4.36
CSI (Food): Percentage of female-headed households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index				
LAO PDR, Project End Target: 2015.12, Base value: 2015.05, WFP survey, Previous Follow-up: 2015.11, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP survey	<41.40	41.40	20.33	7.00
Increased marketing opportunities for producers and traders of agricultural products and	I food at the reg	jional, national	and local levels	3
Food purchased from regional, national and local suppliers, as % of food distributed by WFP in-country				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2012.01, WFP programme monitoring, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, Procurement records, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, Procurement records	=50.00	29.00	18.51	0.00
Food purchased from aggregation systems in which smallholders are participating, as % of regional, national and local purchases				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2015.12, Base value : 2012.01, WFP programme monitoring, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, WFP survey, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring	>10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Comp.5-Food Fortification and Marketing				
SO3 Reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food a	and nutrition ne	eds		
Increased marketing opportunities for producers and traders of agricultural products and	I food at the reg	jional, national	and local levels	3
Fortified foods purchased from regional, national and local suppliers, as % of fortified food distributed by WFP in-country				
LAO PDR, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2012.01, WFP programme monitoring, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, WFP programme monitoring, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring	>30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Output Indicators



Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon				
SO2: Capacity Development - Emergency Preparedness				
Number of government staff members trained in emergency preparedness and reponse	individual	75	73	97.3%
Number of national response plans developed with WFP support	policy	1	-	-
Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri	'			<u>'</u>
SO4: Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	121	122	100.8%
Number of people exposed to nutrition messaging supported by WFP	individual	9,800	12,100	123.5%
Number of villages assisted	centre/site	1,089	1,089	100.0%
Comp.3-School Meals				ı
SO4: School Feeding (on-site)				
Number of primary schools assisted by WFP	school	1,436	1,436	100.0%
SO4: School Feeding (take-home rations)	1			I
Number of primary schools assisted by WFP	school	254	254	100.0%
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit				
SO3: Capacity Development - Emergency Preparedness				
Number of people trained (Skills: Livelihood technologies)	individual	1,600	1,600	100.0%
SO3: Food-Assistance-for-Assets				
Hectares (ha) of land cleared	На	60	57	95.0%
Kilometres (km) of feeder roads built and maintained	Km	35	25	70.0%
Kilometres (km) of feeder roads rehabilitated and maintained	Km	30	25	81.7%
Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted communities and individuals	asset	5	4	80.0%
Number of bridges rehabilitated	bridge	4	3	75.0%
Number of buildings rehabilitated / constructed (School Building, Facility Center, Community Building)	asset	5	1	20.0%
Number of classrooms constructed	classroom	8	8	100.0%
Number of fish ponds constructed (FFA) and maintained (self-help)	fish pond	25	25	100.0%
Number of villages assisted	centre/site	60	60	100.0%
Number of water springs developed	water spring	5	5	100.0%

Gender Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators		Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Comp.1-Emergency Preparednes	s and Respon				



Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=40.00	-	-	-
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=30.00	-	-	-
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=30.00	-	-	-
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=50.00	-	-	-
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=60.00	-	-	-
Comp.3-School Meals				
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=50.00	47.00	38.00	69.40
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=60.00	52.00	29.00	75.20
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit	1			
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=60.00	67.00	83.00	96.00
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=20.00	27.00	17.00	4.00
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=20.00	6.00	0.00	0.00
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=50.00	47.00	14.00	32.00



Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=60.00	52.00	30.00	44.00

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon				
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=90.00	-	-	-
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=100.00	-	-	-
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=90.00	-	-	-
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites				
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12	=100.00	-	-	-
Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri				
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=90.00	20.00	-	76.20
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
LAOS, Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12	=100.00	96.00	-	-
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=90.00	27.00	56.00	72.50
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites				
LAOS, Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=100.00	100.00	92.00	95.80
Comp.3-School Meals				



Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=90.00	20.00	22.00	58.10
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=100.00	96.00	97.00	94.20
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=90.00	27.00	20.00	58.30
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites				
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=100.00	100.00	97.00	95.20
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit		'	,	
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=90.00	20.00	28.00	92.00
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=100.00	100.00	100.00	96.00
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=90.00	27.00	0.00	92.00
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites				
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target : 2016.12, Base value : 2014.12, Previous Follow-up : 2015.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=100.00	100.00	100.00	96.00

Partnership Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Comp.1-Emergency Preparedness and Respon		
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
LAOS, Capacity Development - Emergency Preparedness, Project End Target : 2016.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=40,000.00	15.000.00



Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
LAOS, Capacity Development - Emergency Preparedness, Project End Target : 2016.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=31.00	31.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2015.12	=2.00	-
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
LAOS, Capacity Development - Emergency Preparedness, Project End Target : 2016.12, Latest Follow-up : 2016.12	=100.00	100.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
LAOS, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2015.12	=100.00	-
Comp.2-Mother and Child Health and Nutri		
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
LAOS, Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=6.00	9.00
Comp.3-School Meals		
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=250,000.00	16,280.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=2.00	11.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
LAOS, School Feeding, Project End Target: 2015.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=100.00	100.00
Comp.4-Livelihood Initiatives for Nutrit		
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=270,000.00	181,000.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=3.00	1.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
LAOS, Food-Assistance-for-Assets, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=70.00	64.70
Comp.5-Food Fortification and Marketing		
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
LAOS, Capacity Development - Food Fortification, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=0.00	0.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
LAOS, Capacity Development - Food Fortification, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=0.00	0.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
LAOS, Capacity Development - Food Fortification, Project End Target: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2016.12	=0.00	0.00



Resource Inputs from Donors

Resource Inputs from Donors

			Purchased in 2016 (mt)	
Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	In-Kind	Cash
Australia	AUL-C-00195-03	Sugar	-	105
Australia	AUL-C-00221-08	Sugar	-	40
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Canned Fish	-	129
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	23
UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF)	001-C-01428-01	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	106
		Total	-	403