Connections between countries: Replicating Bhutans approach in Laos PDR
What motivated LSB to start export and import index

- Demand from Public to produce GDPE particularly government and policy makers.
- NSDSS (National Strategy on Development Statistics System), Lao National Account 5 year plan and approved by LSB manager, that we will release GDPE once we can produce constant GDPE.
- In order to do so, XMPI is also one of the core indicators to estimate Import and Export value at base year price;
- By participate on Regional Programme on Economic Statistics (RPES) with ESCAP, we also learn that Buthans has successfully cooperate with ESCAP to produce XMPI;
- Therefore, LSB has decide to request TA support from ESCAP on produce XMPI
- XMPI develop series from 2016-2018 and add-in 2019-2020
The value of this index when completed to economic statistics in Lao

- As mention, most important is to support GDPE estimate,
- Second, it will be indicators to estimate and analysis on trade growth, better understand the trade status among time.
View of partnerships/external support in XMPI

• It is very important to build up partnership particularly for country that has lack expertise and experience
• RPES program is very useful for country like Laos, to bring expert who have experience in this region
What are key lessons learned including partnerships and how you look at the future

- Staff availability and capability also important;
- Long distant mission may not always work particularly to working with big time series data and also with many issues,
- The project is taking longer than we expect with many reason include covid pandemic
- We will continue working with ESCAP to improve XMPI until we can launch the result
- Thank you ESCAP for opportunity and kindly support, Thank you Chris Pike and Michael Morgant for your effort and patient. I hope that we can extend the support until we can launch XMPI result.