Laos Country Report

2019 KOICA-ESCAP Fellowship Programme

Capacity Building on Drought Monitoring and Early Warning

Presenting: Participants from Lao Statistics Bureau

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Introduction

- **Location:** Middle of South-East Asia;
- **Area:** 236,800 Square kilometers;
- **Border:** Vietnam, China, Myanmar, Thailand, and Cambodia;
- **Regions, Provinces and Districts:** 3 regions: North, Center and South,18 provinces and 149 districts;
- **Season:** 2 seasons such: rainy season and dry season;
- **Population:** 6.5 Mill (Census in 2015);
- **Density:** 29 persons per square kilometer;
- GDP: 6.9% in 2017;
- Poverty: 23.2% in 2013 (LECS 5);
- Unemployment rate: 9.4% in 2017 (Using new concept of ILO).

Major drought-related issues

Lao PDR for climate change impacts to the dry season is becoming longer, that droughts are more frequent and more severe, and that the incidence of unusual and extreme flood events are escalating. The projected changes in dry season precipitation are much smaller, but the median projection indicates small decreases (< 3 mm) in mean monthly precipitation in february, march and november. The drier extremes of the model projections indicate precipitation decreasing in all months in the dry season, with decreases of up to 25% from historic values.

• The country still faces many development challenges. The forests a nd their resources face amounting pressures from encroachment and degradation as a result of population growth, expanding agricultural frontiers, illegal hunting, illegal logging, over-harvesting and conces sion allocations to hydropower and mining projects, and mono-crop plantations such as rubber and eucalyptus trees.

Government plans, Strategy, policies or frameworks on disaster management

- Lao PDR ratified the United Nation frame work convention on climate change (UNFCCC) in 1995, and the Lao government has ratified (e.g., UN Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Framework Convention on Climate change, UN Convention on Combating Desertification);
- The First National Communication (FNC) to the UNFCC in 2000;
- Tokyo protocol in 2003;
- The National on climate change thus was approved in 2010;
- The National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES);
- the National Environment Strategy, Forestry Strategy, Agriculture Strategy, Strategy for Water Resources Management, and National Disaster Prevention Strategy, The National Steering Committee on Climate Change;
- To capable of mitigating and adapting to changing climatic reduce poverty, project public heath and safety, enhance quality of Lao PDR's natural environment and advance quality of life for all Laotians.

Disaster Trends and Climate Hazards

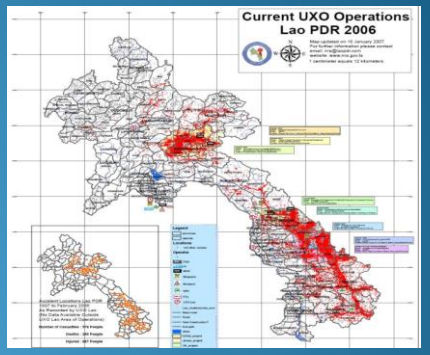
Disaster Types	Year	Provinces	People affected	Killed	Damaged Cost USD
Flood	2008	13	243,342	13	17,157,224
Typhoon Ketsana	2009	5	271,943	28	58,000,000
Ts Haima and Ts Nokten	2011	12	429,954	42	220,568,382
Flood	2013	12	353,966	25	280,375,000
Flood	2014	4	15,308	1	
Flood	2015	4	37,815	0	7,434,604
Drought	2016	1	NA	0	126200

Major disasters and climate change in lao pdr

Fire (Forest and Urban)

Flood

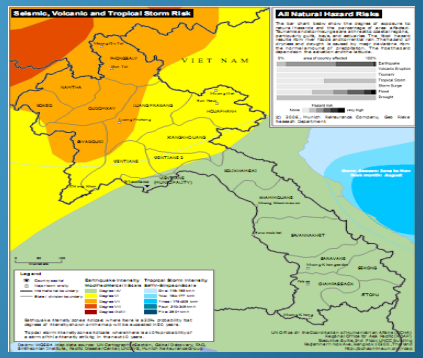
UXO



Drought

Storm

Earthquake



Flood and drought are the major natural disaster in Laos. Almost every year these major disasters occurred and killed people and damage

SDGs are related to the Climate Change

Targets and indicators on Climate Change

- **SDGs: 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11,12,13,15 and 18.**
- **Targets: 21**
- **Indicators: 47**

The three priorities indicators on climate change

- **1.5.1.** Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (Tier III);
- **1.5.2.** Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) (Tier III).

- **13.1.2.** Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (Tier III);

Definition and Metadata

- **1.5.1.** Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population; (Tier III)
  - Definition: The indicator measures the number of people deceased or missing due to climate-change related disasters (i.e. climatological, hydrological and meteorological disasters according to IRDR peril classification).

- **1.5.2.** Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) (Tier III).
- Definition: The indicator measures the direct economic loss due to climatological, hydrological and meteorological disasters (i.e. climatological, hydrological and meteorological disasters according to IRDR peril classification).

Challenges

- Remote sensing and thematic mapping:
  - requires geo-spatial literacy among officials responsible for environment statistics;
  - Requires sufficient resources to interpret images and build geospatial representations of data;
  - Lao PDR, due to the lack of long-term climate data to support projections of future climate trends;
- Monitoring systems:
  - Requires coordinating the flow of data from primary source in terms of periodicity, aggregation and format required for input into statistical production (series, indicators);
- Scientific research and special projects:
  - Requires close collaboration between statisticians and experts from the various scientific fields;
  - Scientific data/information systems and vulnerability and adaptation studies;
  - The challenges of insufficient institutional development, overlapping mandates and functions;
  - Access to Technical and financial assistance from multilateral, bilateral assistances is limited and also coordination among relevant line ministries and other stakeholders.

Khob Chai Lai Lai
Thank you very much
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