

# PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	8022
Project Name:	Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process
Countr(ies):	Lao PDR
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

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## I. Overview

### A. Description

Project name

Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process

Country

Lao PDR

GEF ID

8022

Implementing Agency

UNEP

Executing Entity

Department of and Climate Change Management(DCCM),  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)

Trust Fund

LDCF

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/16/2025

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2025 , 4th PIR

Objective

To strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of stakeholders and the government in Lao PDR to advance the NAP process.

### B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Satisfactory

Development Objective

Satisfactory

Overall risk

Low Risk

Project Financing

3,890,501.00

Cumulative Disbursement

2,505,000.00

### C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

12/5/2020

Agency Approval

3/16/2021

Implementation Start

3/18/2021

First Disbursement

6/28/2021

Expected MTR 1/17/2025	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 2/28/2027	Actual Completion

## II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

### A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities

#### **The project progress made from July 2024 – June 2025 is summarized as below:**

##### **Summary of Status (July 2024 – June 2025)**

**Outcome 1:** The capacity of stakeholders to advance the NAP process has been strengthened at the national level and across 18 provinces of Lao PDR (50% achievement of the latter). Institutional coordination mechanisms for the NAP have been developed by the project which consists of key stakeholders from different departments of appropriate line ministries. Regarding technical level training events, the training programme, toolkits and manuals on the institutional coordination mechanism have been developed and delivered for 25 NAP focal points representing stakeholders from a number of sectors. In addition to this, the Training of Trainers (ToT) Manual and training for the national and provincial stakeholders within three regions (northern, central and southern) also commenced during this reporting period (May 2025).

**Outcome 2:** The system for developing, upgrading and sharing information to sustain, strengthen and advance the continuation of the NAP process remains on schedule (70% achievement). Since July 2023, 3 CRVA sharing workshop presenting climate storylines and adaptation for six provinces was conducted using information/data received from stakeholder workshops held at both national and provincial levels. The CRVA report has been finalized and was approved by the Government in December 2024. Training events have been conducted to assist in the collection of data and validation of the CRVA findings. To date the project only produced CRVAs for six provinces through the assignment of WSP, since 2024, to support building the institutional and technical capacity of stakeholders and the government to advance the NAP in Lao PDR. The purpose of the CRVA is to undertake a detailed climate risk analysis to better understand future climate vulnerabilities over the medium to long-term (up to circa 2100), there are 4 deliverable reports completed under the WSP consultancy: Task 1: Develop methodology for producing climate change scenarios, Task 2: Develop downscaled climate projections, Task 3: Develop climate risk assessments and Task 4: Summary for Policy Makers. All 4 deliverable reports have uploaded into NAP web portal. The additional CRVA reports for the remaining 12 provinces (covering information of 148 districts) are being undertaken by national consultants. WSP developed and transferred the standard CRVA methodology, tools and frameworks to the national consultants upon conclusion of their work (covering 6 Provinces) to ensure consistency for the remaining 12 provinces. Currently, the final version of these remaining 12 provincial CRVAs are under approval by MoNRE. Moreover, the final version of the NAP document has been submitted to the government for endorsement during this reporting period and this key document is expected to be officially endorsed by July 2025.

**Outcome 3:** Climate change adaptation is being mainstreamed and strengthened into Lao PDR socio and economic development planning within the medium- and long-term. although the implementation of this is slightly behind schedule (60% achievement). Guidelines on mainstreaming climate change

adaptation (CCA) priorities into the development plans for all 18 provinces have been drafted during this reporting period (including a document presenting a set of standardized guidelines that integrate both poverty and gender sensitive climate change adaptation into the NAP process. This national and sectoral development planning, is coupled with a Guideline document to integrate NAP adaptation priorities into the planning and budgeting processes of all 18 provinces, and a Guideline document outlining Climate Change Management Strategic Plans (CCMSP) for climate change vulnerable sectors and provinces, both of which are expected to be completed by Q3 2025. Regarding climate finance specific outputs, the climate public expenditure and institutional review (CPEIR) and NAP Finance Strategy are currently being developed by a National Climate Finance Consultant (since July 2024). This is expected to be completed in Q3 2025. In terms of technical training, materials relating to climate change mainstreaming and climate finance have been prepared and developed by a National Policy and Planning Consultant with support from the National Climate Finance Consultant. These outputs are supported by work from an International Climate Finance firm (Clima) whose responsibility is to produce the final Climate Finance Strategy and Action Plan in tandem with Business Concept Notes to better engage the private sector in the future implementation of the NAP. This work commenced in Q3 2025.

Outcome 4: The capacity to monitor and review the NAP process in Lao PDR is being strengthened and implemented (50% achievement). A report on Climate Information System (CIS) development has been produced by the national IT consultant to provide guidance and recommendations for the project on CIS platform/system development during Q3 of 2024. The CIS, including the NAP database system, has been underway since October 2024 with expectations that this shall be finalized and implemented by the end of the project. Regarding M&R, the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework has been underway since June 2024 through work produced by the National M&R consultant. The first draft of the MEL framework report, coupled with a set of national indicators and targets has been developed, and these shall be included into the final version of the NAP. Two validation workshops have also been organized that involve key stakeholders, during August and September 2024. Currently, the MEL framework report was officially approved by the project in November 2024.

The overall rating of the project is **satisfactory**. The project has made significant progress during this reporting period in advancing the NAP process. The project has made good progress under outcomes 1 and 2 while preparatory work is done to achieve targets under outcomes 3 and 4. The project has managed to address delays related to recruitment and procurement in this reporting period, although the international recruitment process remains slow, as demonstrated by the procurement of the International Climate Finance Consultancy firm. The project has nevertheless been able to hire national consultants to support project activity delivery from July 2024 to the end of this reporting period. This has included a national adaptation capacity development consultant, a national institutional development consultant, a national M&R and NAP Writing consultant, a national gender equality and social inclusion consultant, a national climate finance strategy consultant, a national IT consultant, a national capacity development consultant (ToT), a national policy and planning consultant (Mainstreaming), a national communication outreach, an IT support, a national consultant firm to develop database design and fully functional website and IT equipment, a national private sector consultant, and a national applied climate research support consultant .

The overall rating for outcomes is **satisfactory**. Most of the deliveries under outcomes 1 and 2 have been achieved, and the project has done preparatory work for outcomes 3 and 4. The procurement for international experts to develop the climate finance strategy and MRV (through an individual international consultancy) has been initiated (due to commence in Q3 of 2025) while national consultants (as outlined above) have all been hired. The project will report on these outcomes in the next PIR.

Similarly, the overall rating for output is also **satisfactory**. Most of the outputs related to outcomes 1 and 2 have been achieved, while the integration in sectoral plans will be completed once NAP has been finally endorsed by the government. The project has also completed preparatory work to achieve outputs related to outcomes 3 and 4.

**Overall risk rating:** The consolidated project risk is classified as being “low.” This is justified on the grounds of addressing risks raised during CEO endorsement, current/previous PIRs etc:

### B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

While the project has achieved significant progress across all four outcomes, several implementation challenges have been encountered during this reporting period:

- **Participation and Gender-related Challenges:** Low participation of women/female stakeholders in some training activities and workshops, which has impacted the achievement of the project's gender inclusivity targets and objectives. This may affect the comprehensiveness of capacity building efforts across all demographic groups. However, during this reporting period, the GAP was revisited to place more attention on how best to target gender engagement and enhancement for all project activities undertaken for 2024-2025. Hence, the GAP has been revised and updated accordingly by the GESI consultant to better address these participation gaps and strengthen gender-inclusive approaches in future activities.
- **Timeline and Scheduling Delays:** Training of Trainers (ToT) activities experienced significant delays, as these were originally scheduled to commence in the previous reporting period but only began implementation in May 2025. This delay had cascading effects on the overall capacity building timeline.
- **Consultant Recruitment Delays:** Climate finance-related outcomes and activities under Outcome 3 faced delays due to challenges in recruiting both national and international consultants. The National Climate Finance Consultant was not engaged until July 2024, and the International Climate Finance firm (Clima Partners) only commenced work in 2025, causing delays in the development of the Climate Finance Strategy and related outputs (including any efforts to produce a NAP implementation action plan).
- **Resource and Capacity Constraints:** The transition from international to national consultants for CRVA development (covering the remaining 12 provinces) has created some coordination challenges, though progress continues with final versions currently under MoNRE approval.

Despite these challenges, the project has maintained overall momentum with adaptive management strategies, and key deliverables remain on track for completion by the project's end date.

### C. Stakeholder Engagement

<b>Date of project steering committee meeting</b>	2023-09-22
Stakeholder engagement (will be)	The project has continued to ensure solid engagement from central government agencies and technical departments, particularly during the drafting of the NAP and the CRVA processes. Line ministries such as MONRE, MoH, and MPI have all

uploaded to GEF Portal)

actively contributed to consultations and training workshops, while universities like the National University of Laos were engaged for technical support, including for CRVA mapping and validation. The Project Steering Committee has also continued to function as a useful cross-sectoral platform.

Stakeholder engagement activities under the project are still on-going, which includes the involvement and engagement of participants and representatives from key stakeholders at both national and sub-national levels, including a combination of consultation meetings and workshops alike. For example, between July 2024 to June 2025, there have been 15 stakeholder consultation workshops and training were undertaken. and a total of 820 stakeholders (521 M and 299 F) have been involved in project-related stakeholder consultation and training events and activities to date (see Annex 1\_A and Annex1\_B).

The project has prepared a Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) which has represented the formal project document since it was created during Project Inception. To date, the SEP has been revised by the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Consultant, including the revision of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) in consultation with the project management team and stakeholders.

During this reporting period, a wide range of concerned stakeholders have been actively involved in different project activities including consultation workshops, training events and awareness raising events conducted by the project at both national and local levels. Multi-stakeholders are included from different institutions including national and local government agencies which include sectoral departments of line ministries and public civil society organizations such as Lao Women Union and Lao Youth Union; local government agencies in all 18 provinces; academia; private sector and international organizations.

In addition, sectoral and provincial level focal points have also been appointed since 2023. In total, there have been 27 national focal points/contacts officially appointed from different departments and ministries, and 18 provincial level focal points that have been assigned from all 18 provinces. The list of the national and local focal points is also expected to be updated for 2025 as some focal points have moved to other departments and hence have not been in charge of day-to-day project coordination responsibilities. (See details in Annex 1\_A and 1\_B))

Engagement has proven less effective at subnational levels however, efforts during this reporting period to improve coordination are beginning to improve through the identification of provincial focal points and increased participation in regional workshops.

Initial momentum to include organizations such as the Lao Women’s Union and youth groups remains a challenge to sustain and consultations with marginalized or vulnerable communities are not systematically conducted. Similarly, although engagement with the private sector is minimal during this reporting period, that will be changed significantly into the next reporting period through the start of the private sector consultancy which shall conclude early into 2026.

#### D. Gender Equality

<p><b>Does the project have a gender action plan?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):</b></p>	<p>The Gender Action Plan (GAP) was prepared during the project development phase, however the effective participation of women in project activities remains a challenge. To address this, during this reporting period, the GAP was revisited to place more attention on how best to target gender engagement and enhancement for all project activities undertaken for 2024-2025. Hence the GAP has been revised and updated accordingly by the GESI consultant. The project will continue towards the effective implementation of the recommendations set out within the GAP as well as monitoring their progress. Within this reporting period, the feedback, comments and input on GESI have crucially been incorporated into the latest version of the NAP (see Annex attached below), especially the Gender Situation Analysis work which was originally developed by the CTA and attached in the NAP latest version (English version). Moreover, the GESI training programme (with specific GESI related modules and material) has been completely redesigned and delivered by the GESI consultant. Training participants (both men and women) have importantly reported their inputs were valued, and some gender-sensitive adaptation measures are beginning to emerge in planning documents.</p> <p>The project treats the voice of members of both genders in a completely equal manner. The project implementation also has engaged women to participate and contribute to the project activity and consider the priority needs of women as well as support the agencies such as Lao Women Union, Lao Youth Union and others, to sharing ideas and inputs. In addition, the number of women participating in each meeting and workshop is almost 40% of the total participants (this observation here with efforts to balance the participation into 2024/25).</p> <p>During workshops and project specific national consultation events, women participants have raised the topic of women's engagement regularly and especially how women may best contribute to the project activities. They have importantly suggested some possible solution to address gender gaps in the process. The project has importantly enhanced the engagement of both male and female participants in all project activities, in particular female participants from different departments of line ministries and local government agencies have</p>



	<p>actively engaged in different consultation workshops and training events held by the project.</p> <p>The gender-related organizations and CSOs responsible for gender work have also engaged more widely on project related activities, including Lao Women Union and Lao Youth Union. All female participant voices and feedback have been captured through recordings and responses received during all meetings and workshops. According to meeting records, there have been 299 females in total that have participated in relevant project activities undertaken between July 2024 to June 2025. For all consultation and training workshops, it has been calculated that around 38 percent of participants are female (i.e: 217 women participating excluding the 82 women involved in training workshops). This low percentage is mainly due to ministry-level nomination practices.</p> <p>Finally, but of relevance, the Project Steering Committee has 50% members that are women (to agree upon). The project team has also 50% of the team members comprised of women (such as project coordinator, project assistant, GEF coordination specialist and national climate finance consultant).</p>
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## E. Knowledge Management

<p><b>Knowledge activities and products</b></p>	<p>A project specific Communication and Outreach Strategy (COS) was developed in July 2023 by the communication and outreach consultant. This was based on the project at the time. This was not updated during this reporting period, and the COS shall be updated during Q4 2025 onwards to reflect the project’s communication and outreach needs that may have changed since 2023. The COS strategy, when updated, shall remain as a short, medium and long-term strategic plan that shall be used to guide the project (and its exit strategy) to help encourage sustainable social and behavior change, together with the necessary communication tools, channel, and platform needed to strengthen public awareness and products accordingly.</p> <p>In spite of the COS not being formally updated during this reporting period, the project has made progresses, including the developing of the high-quality visual outputs and stories such as press releases, fact sheets, social media outputs, speeches and key messages, especially supporting the DCC for designing the media and key messages for the CoP 29 event (Baku, Azerbaijan, November 2024).</p> <p>In addition to this, the project has maintained a strong visibility in line with the NAP document development. This includes information provided for the news and media plus</p>
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	<p>regularly provided expert communication and media related advice provided on how to implement COS to both senior and junior project staff as well as the staff of DCC. This was achieved through an introductory workshop and subsequent training events held during Q3 and Q4 of 2024. (DRAFT COS in ANNEX 3). In addition to the COS strategy, general progress has been made between July 2024-June 2025 regarding communication work of the project. This includes the production of social media (Facebook Page), NAP document cover pages (final version), NAP document format and figures, posters for events and materials for awareness raising events with stakeholders.</p> <p>Additionally, the climate adaptation website (web portal) has been progressively developed since July 2024 by the national IT consultant. This web portal is expected to be used as the information and knowledge sharing platform on climate change adaptation and NAP process for the key stakeholders once it is completely developed by 2025.</p> <p>To improve effectiveness, however, the project (during the next PIR) needs to report an increase in media engagement, strengthen stakeholder outreach, and ensure institutional ownership of the knowledge platform beyond project implementation.</p> <p>The weblink for the knowledge products:</p> <p>The link of NAP official Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NAPLaopdr">https://www.facebook.com/NAPLaopdr</a></p> <p>The link of All NAP communicator materials <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14Jlc0s3irY8DmcqpSwY_O_Jt7pUeYYGg">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14Jlc0s3irY8DmcqpSwY_O_Jt7pUeYYGg</a></p> <p>The link of website: <a href="https://naplaos.com/">https://naplaos.com/</a></p>
<p><b>Main learning during the period</b></p>	<p>The development of knowledge and capacities remains crucial in support of the NAP process and its future development and more sectoral programs. Awareness raising is integral to the NAP process for 2023 as it helps catalyze and increase support for action, and mobilize local knowledge and resources, particularly among the private sector, communities, youth, women, and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>In addition, the project also engages diverse, gender-inclusive stakeholders, including senior officials from the respective divisions/departments of the line ministries, civil society organizations, and sector-specific experts. Stakeholder engagement in the project is further enhanced through the appointment of focal points for each sector. Presently, over 27 focal contacts/coordinators have been appointed from relevant departments of line ministries, and provincial level coordinators from 18 provinces have also been designated for the NAP formulation process. These focal contacts have been actively participated in project activities,</p>

validating climate information, and assessing sector-specific capacity gaps and needs, as well as climate risk and vulnerability assessment process and NAP finalization.

Moreover, sectoral officials, stakeholders, and local government officials from each province were actively engaged in project activities, especially during the data validation and finalizing for the climate risk and vulnerability assessment undertaken in 2024. Throughout the different project activities, a series of events, group work, and multi-stakeholder consultative and validation processes were organized with the active participation of all stakeholders for 2024-2025. And that progress on all activities has been achieved as a result on being open and available to all stakeholders, which has resulted in quicker decisions being able to be made on a range of reports/outputs.

Additionally, good coordination and maintaining regular communication, especially on CRVA process and during the M&E framework and indicator development with key stakeholders at both national and provincial levels is a good learning process for other activities to follow for 2025.

### III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	Procurement Management Plan has considered the necessary revised changes.
Implementation Schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	

Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

#### IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
LAO PDR-Vientiane	19.8563	102.4955	

Location Description:

**LAO PDR-Vientiane**

Activity Description:

#### V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	8022_Laos_PIR_UNEP_2025