



General data of the country

a. Data

	Lao PDR	Cambodia	Vietnam	Denmark
Total population (in millions)	6.758	1.576	9.270	5.676
Population HCR	0	243	11000	36.748
IDHI	0.427	0.436	0.562	0.858
Gender Development Index	0.924	0.892	1.01	0.977
Maternal Mortality	197	161	54	5
Gini Index	37.89	30.76	37.59	29.08
Social Support	NA	0.746	0.876	0.959
INFORM RISK	4	4.7	3.5	1.1
Fragile State Index	82.4	85.7	70.2	21.5
Mines victims	59	83	9	0
Mines aid (in millions USD)	35.1	35.9	12.3	0
Development aid (in millions USD)	398	729	2893	0

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

→ Mine Ban Treaty / Status:	Not joined
→ Convention on Cluster Munitions / Status:	18/03/2009
→ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities / Status:	25/09/2009

c. Geopolitical analysis

General

Laos, like most of Southeast Asia, is an area of conflict of interests between Western powers and larger continental powers, like China. Traditional Western influence and Chinese influence are in a regular tug of war for the socio-political and economic direction of the country.

Unlike its neighbors: Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam, and China; Laos is a landlocked country. Therefore, in relation to foreign markets, most Laotian products are only accessed through third party countries. This situation significantly impedes the development of the country's economy. As a

consequence, Laos has a reputation for being an isolated country, with self-isolating government policies.

Ethnic Composition

There are around 70 different ethnicities in Laos. These are typically divided into 4 groups: Lao Lum, Lao Teng, Lao Sung and Thai or Lao/Thai.

Politics

In Laos there is a socialist, one-party political system. This single political party is called the Lao People’s Revolutionary Party (LPRP). The current head of state is President Bounnhang Vorachith who also is LPRP general secretary. The head of government is Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith.

Economy

The economy of Laos is predominantly agrarian with 72 percent of the total cultivated area being dedicated to rice and 80 percent of the population involved in subsistence farming. Most of the provinces that are deficit in rice are surplus maize producers. Other important economic crops include coffee, sugarcane, cassava, sweet potato and industrial tree crops. Copper, gold, and tin mining are also significant industries. The northwestern part of the country is part of the “Golden Triangle”, which includes mountainous areas of Laos, Thailand and Myanmar. It is second after the region around Afghanistan for the mass production of opiates. The export of drugs, especially opiates, is a big part of the shadow economy. Indeed, Laos is the third largest producer of raw opium in the world. Tourism is a growing sector, especially in and around Luang Prabang with a jump in tourists from 2.5 million in 2010 to 4.2 million in 2016

Presence of HI in the country

In Laos, HI performed an exploratory mission in 1983, and then officially launched in 1985 an orthopedic project with 7 disabled workers trained to build prostheses in the village of NongKhiao. This was the start of a long collaboration with the Government and some local partners. HI then conducts operations as UXO impact survey, Ban Advocates project, collaboration with 3 national hospitals in Vientiane and 4 provincial hospitals to support physiotherapy departments. HI also conducted road safety projects, disability right promotion, economic inclusion project and many others.

Projects

Project title	Sector of interventions	(Main) ongoing donors	Funding period
Enhanced Hospital-Based Screening and Early Intervention for Children with Disabilities	Prevention and Health	DGD	Jan 2017 to Dec 2018
Development of a model for medical rehabilitation and improvement of quality of medical	Rehabilitation	DGD	Jan 2017 to Dec 2018

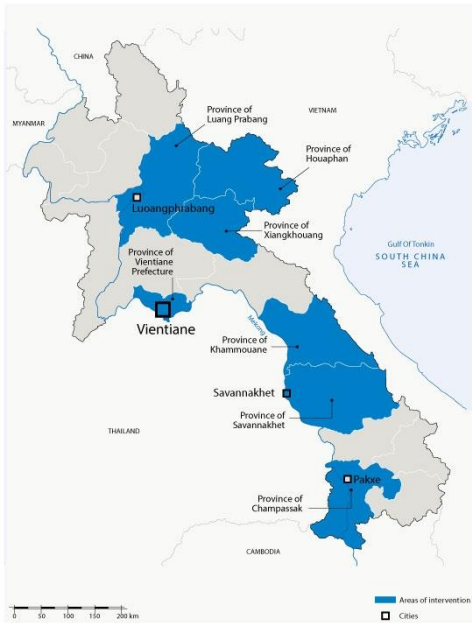
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rehabilitation services			
Support to DPOs/Local Inclusive Development	Inclusion/Support to Civil Society	EU	January 2015 to December 2018
Disability Strategy and Action Plan	Disability Rights and Policy	MoFA Norway 4	April 2017 to March 2018
USAID Okard- Disability Inclusive Development	Inclusion, Rehabilitation & Disability Rights and Policy	USAID	Oct 2017 to Sept 2022
CBID	Inclusion	AC5	January 2017 to December 2022
Comprehensive Approach to reduce the impact of UXO on human safety and rural livelihoods	Humanitarian Mine Action	European Union, Centre de Crise (French MOFA)	Dec 2017 to Dec 2020

<p>DGD</p> 	<p>UE</p> 
<p>MoFA Norway 4</p> 	<p>USAID</p>  <p>USAID Okard ໂອກາດ Disability Inclusive Development</p>
<p>MaE Lux</p>  <p>THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs</p> <p>Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs</p>	<p>European Union, Centre de Crise (French MOFA)</p> 




HI team in Laos

Laos




The number of national staff is 44 and will be increased up to more than 100 (progressive deployment of the UXO team). The number of expatriate staff is 7 + 1 consultant (EOD4)



Projects ongoing : Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on operational partnerships

Sector of intervention /of services	Objective/s of the project/s in this sector (thematic)	Type of intervention (main activities)	Beneficiaries (nature and numbers)	Operational partners	Location
 <p>Early Childhood Development (DGD + PEER)</p>	<p>-Develop national screening tool for integration into essential package of activities -Support the development of government child development centers for children with delays and impairment</p>	<p>Early childhood Screening/detection and intervention Awareness and training Research</p>	<p>10,000 new-borns and children screened (at least 40% female).</p>	<p>Ministry of Health, National Children’s Hospital</p>	<p>Vientiane Capital</p>
 <p>Support to Rehabilitation Sector (DGD + Okard)</p>	<p>-Support the development and implementation of National Rehabilitation strategy and Action Plan -Support MoH to integrate rehabilitation into the continuum of care within the healthcare department</p>	<p>Support improved management of rehabilitation service centers Continue professional development for physio therapists Support implementation and monitoring of National Rehabilitation Action Plan</p>	<p>31 staff of the CMR and 63 staff of PRCs will benefit from awareness on national rehab strategy 25 PT will benefit from continuing professional development</p>	<p>Ministry of Health, Center for Medical Rehabilitation (CMR)</p>	<p>Vientiane Capital, Xieng Khouang, Savannakhet, Champasack and Luang Prabang</p>
 <p>Support to DPOs/local Inclusion (DPO project +CBID+Okard)</p>	<p>The goal of the WEI-HI program is to improve and sustain the independent living and functional ability of persons with disabilities, regardless of factors such as age, sex, gender expression, ethnic origin, cause of impairment, or indigenous status, and their households</p>	<p>Three main components: Health, Economic Empowerment, and Stakeholder Engagement.</p>	<p>The ultimate target group is women, men, girls and boys with disabilities, and their households, with a focus on UXO victims, victims of war and conflict and persons with disabilities with mobility limitations. The program will also focus on</p>	<p>Consulted stakeholders include: MoH-CMR, MoLSW, MoES, NCDE, Xieng Khouang and Savannakhet Provincial Government, TVET, UNDP/UNFPA, WHO, SDC, GIZ, LDPA, COPE, QLA, CBM, CRS, SNV, FMT, University of Arizona, University of Melbourne-</p>	<p>In Phase 1 of the program, from 2017 to 2020, the Program will be implemented in Xieng Khouang, Savannakhet, and Vientiane Capital. In Phase 2 of the program, from 2020 to 2022, based on</p>

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	in Lao PDR.		communities and the public to engage their support in helping persons with disabilities achieve their full potential	Nossal Institute, University of Queensland, World Vision, ADDP, AAR, AIESIC, Cord	program results in Phase 1, the Program will consider expansion to Houaphan and Khammouane provinces
 Disability mainstreaming & Inclusion (WV + SCI)	Mainstream disability in Save the Children Primary Health Care Programme in Nan district, Luang Prabang Province Mainstream disability in World Vision Primary Education Programme in Xaybouathong District, Khammouane Province	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop the skills of VTE based HI and government partners for facilitation of Early Childhood Development (ECD) & Impairment Screening 2. Conduct a Childhood Development and Impairment Screening Workshop for district and health center MNCH health staff in Nan district 3. Conduct follow up monitoring for integration of ECD and impairment screening into routine work and provide Refresher Training & Health Center Screening Follow up in Nan District 4. Conduct a 2 day disability legislation dissemination workshop for multisector department staff in Nan 	Provision of technical support to SCI PHC team, provincial and district health teams and communities in LuangPrabang Province to increase awareness about disability, promote disability inclusion and build skills for planning and implementing actions to increase access to health services for persons with disabilities, with a specific focus on children with disabilities. World Vision and LDPA staff, school teachers and local authorities	SCI PHC team, provincial and district health teams and communities in LuangPrabang Province World Vision and LDPA staff, school teachers and local authorities	Luang Prabang Province Khammouane Province

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		<p>district</p> <p>Training for LDPA and WVL staff on how to use a Community Disability Mapping activity as part of the DRET training activity in villages</p> <p>2-day coaching event and focus group discussion to discuss and evaluate the inclusive education support needed by the teachers</p>			
 <p>Disability Rights and Policy (MoFA Norway + Okard)</p>	<p>To ensure an appropriate and comprehensive response to the needs of survivors of mine and explosive remnants of war, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable people, in situation of conflict, post conflict or protracted crisis.</p>	<p>Capacity building of DPOs</p> <p>Capacity building of the national authorities</p> <p>Quality collaboration amongst stakeholders working on VA and disability</p> <p>Advocacy for and awareness-raising on disability mainstreaming and VA approach</p>	<p>Persons with disabilities, DPOs and NCDE/MLSW</p>	<p>National Committee for Disabled People and the Elderly (NCDE) within Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare</p>	<p>Vientiane ; National Policy</p>
 <p>Mine Action</p>	<p>To reduce the humanitarian and socio-economic risk posed by ERW on rural livelihood in Houaphan Province</p>	<p>Survey & Clearance of Dangerous Areas</p> <p>Risk Education and implementation of Community Risk Management Strategy; Data collection on PwD and relevant follow-up services (first-aid, PSS, medical referral...)</p>	<p>18,365 people from 44 villages in Houamouang District</p>	<p>GRET, Oxfam, LDPA, National Regulatory Authorities (NRA), UXO Lao, Provincial and District Departments of Labor and Social Welfare, NCDE, Education and Sports</p>	<p>Houphan Province ; Houamouang District Northeast Laos</p>