

**Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
in Lao PDR**

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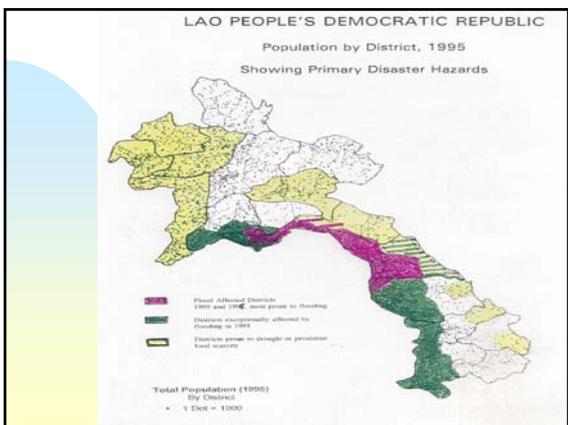
- Population of 5,777,180 (2002 est)
- Capital City – Vientiane
- Land area of 236,800 sq. km.
- Covered by forest 46%
- Mountainous 70 %

Two Seasons: (Dry and Rainy)

- Dry: Mid October to Mid April with low humidity and temperature (Northeast Monsoon Effect).
- Rainy: Mid May to Mid October with heavy rainfall and high humidity (Southwest monsoon).
- Annual rainfall ranges from 1,400 – 3,500 mm.

Hazards and Disaster in Lao PDR

- Natural Disaster:
 - ◆ Flood (river flood and flash flood)
 - ◆ Drought
 - ◆ Windstorm
 - ◆ Landslide
 - ◆ Epidemic (human and animal Disease)
 - ◆ Pest
- Man-made
 - ◆ UXO
 - ◆ Fire
 - ◆ Road Accidents



Disaster Impacts

Flood 2002:

- 33,702 hectares of the 432,900 hectares planted to different crops were damaged.
- 3 killed.
- 249,782 people in 50,342 families were affected.

Region	Affected People	Damaged areas (ha)
Northern	~20,000	~2,000
Centre	~150,000	~15,000
South	~250,000	~25,000

Disaster Impacts

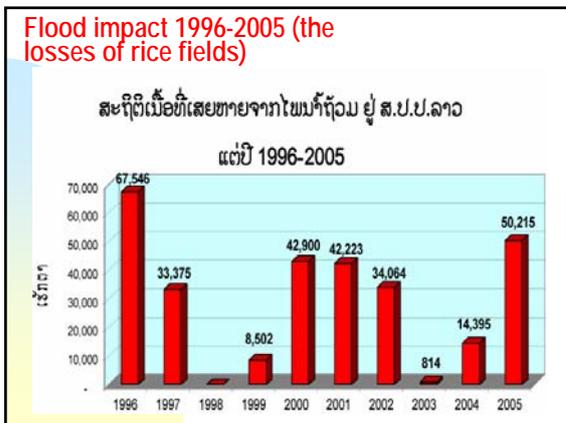
Flood 2005:

- 9 provinces were affected.
- 44,001 families and around 229,895 persons were affected.
- Around 52,215 hectares damaged.
- 5 persons dead (Flash flood).

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ເນື້ອງອາຍາ: ລາວ, ທີ່ເປັນເສຍຫາຍ

0
1 - 245 ເຮັກຕາ
246 - 1305 ເຮັກຕາ
1306 - 3340 ເຮັກຕາ
3341 - 9470 ເຮັກຕາ
9471 - 22460 ເຮັກຕາ



Disaster

Drought:

- ◆ The effects of drought particularly severe in 1977, 1988 and 1989.

Cost of Damage (US\$)

Year	Cost of Damage (US\$)
1977	~15,000,000
1988	~15,000,000
1989	~20,000,000

Disaster Impacts

Fires: (urban and rural)

- ◆ Other disasters include Fires that occur in some of the major cities and cause extensive damage due to the lack of sufficient fire fighting equipment
- ◆ From 2000-2002, fire caused damaged of 5,402,695 USD.

Fire caused damage from 2000-2002 (US\$)

Province	Damage (US\$)
MLV	~1,000,000
Ph.Ly	~1,000,000
Ph.K	~1,000,000
LN	~1,000,000
DX	~1,000,000
LB	~1,000,000
XR	~1,000,000
V	~1,000,000
BK	~1,000,000
OM	~1,000,000
SK	~1,000,000
CS	~1,000,000
BK	~1,000,000
HP	~1,000,000
SV	~1,000,000

Disaster Impacts

Unexploded Ordnance:

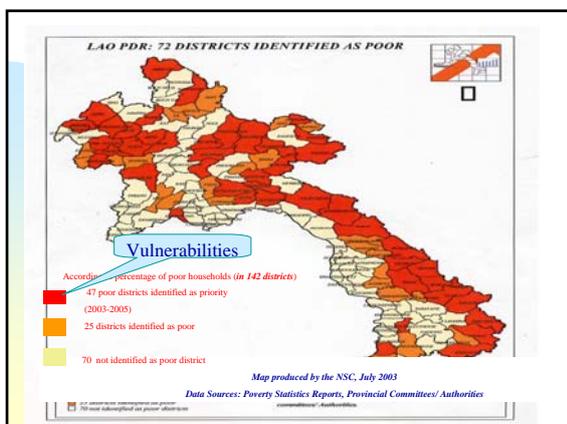
- UXO is a legacy of the Indochina war in 1960's and early 1970's.
- More than 2 million tons of ordnance dropped over the Lao PDR.
- 30% of this did not detonate on impact.
- 2001, 35 people were killed and 87 people were injured by UXO.

MAP of UXO Impact in Lao PDR

Why Disasters have occurred in Laos ?

The main problems to be consider on causes of disaster – Vulnerable:

- Environment degradation and deforestation.
- Problems of development.
- Contaminated large unexplored ordnance of Indochina war period.
- Persuading on Implementation of Strategic plans is not strong enough.
- Inadequate of equipment and sources.
- Problem of early warning and information management systems.



Government Policy on Disaster Risk Management

- Since Lao PDR Inaugurated 1975 - Govt.'s Policy on Social Welfare:
 - Help migration victims of post war conflict on resettlement.
 - Relief people affected by natural disaster (food, shelter and basic need).
- 1995, MLSW took responsibility – Mitigation and Relief Activities widely implemented with NGOs partners. (post Disaster).
- In the process of developing its capacity to perform this role, NDMO was established in 1999, supported from UNDP.

Government Policy on Disaster Risk Management

- Disaster Reduction work in Laos is based on some main documents;
 - The Govt. Decree No 158/PM dated 22 August 1999.
 - The National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) assignment No 097/MLSW dated 30 June 2000.
 - The Country Strategy Note on Disaster Management No 1139/MLSW dated 18 April 2003.

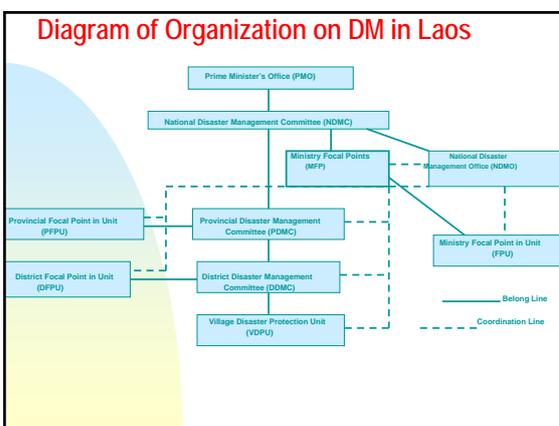
National Disaster Management Committee

- The NDMC consisting of representative from 13 key ministries:

Minister of MLSW	Chairman
Vice-Minister of MAF	Vice-Chairman
Chief of Cabinet of MFA	Vice-Chairman
Chief of Cabinet of MOD	Member
Chief of Cabinet of MOI	Member
Chief of Cabinet of MOE	Member
Director of Budget Dept. MOF	Member
Director of Transport Dept. MCTPC	Member
Director of Industry Dept. MIH	Member
Director of Hygiene Dept. MOH	Member
Director of Mass Media Dept. MIC	Member
Director of Social Welfare Dept. MLSW	Member
Chairman of Lao Red Cross	Member

Government Policy on Disaster Risk Management

- Function and Roles of NDMC:**
 - Coordinates and cooperates with INGOs, NGOs and all government Ministries and Agencies on Disaster Management in the phases of: preparedness, emergency assistance and mitigation.
 - NDMC is responsible for gathering data, statistic and information on impact of natural and manmade disasters and proposes resources for mitigation.
 - Develop policies, including national disaster management plan, and provides overall direction for provincial and district plans.
 - Raising public education and awareness on DM for all society aiming to enhance self-resilience capability to disaster for them, parallel with integrating DM and environmental protection concept into education.
 - Responsible for major operational decisions during an emergency.
 - Decides on allocation of relief resources.
 - Facilitation for establishing PDMC and DDMC by provincial governor and supporting on building capacity for those committees.



Policy-Strategy

The country strategic note:

- 1.1 Safeguard sustainable development and **reduce the damage** of natural or manmade disasters to **community, society and country economy**.
- 1.2 Shift strategy from relief and mitigation after disaster impact to **community, society and economy of government organizations to preparedness before disaster strike emphasizing on flood, drought, landslide and fire** parallel with continuing mitigate in post disaster period.
- 1.3 Turn from responsibility of only government agency to people centered in dealing with disaster by **building capability for community**
- 1.4 Promote **forever protection** of the **environment and country rich** such as: forest, land and water.

Government policy on Disaster Risk Reduction

- In dealing with natural disaster and to reduce the impacts of disasters, the Government is carried out different programs and projects:
 - ◆ Capacity building for Government and local people in affected and vulnerable area,
 - ◆ Public Awareness and Education through media,
 - ◆ Early Warning information dissemination,
 - ◆ CBDM with emphasis on empowering community to prepare for, response and mitigate disasters.
 - ◆ Building and improving embankments,
 - ◆ repairing road, irrigation, introducing innovative agricultural technique including new seeds.

NDMC and DMFP Meeting

Chairman, member of NDMC and Disaster Management Focal Point in line ministries meet together to consult and review the disaster management plans, activities and programs on DM and plan for the future.



Capacity Build on DRM through Training



Conducting the World Disaster Reduction Day at Lao National University



Project Cooperation NDMO-ADRC Building Capacity on Disaster Risk Management

For Media in the whole country

For PDMC and PDMFP



Raising Awareness on Disaster and Disaster Management for School Children

Fire Drill exercise



Teaching on DM in primary school



Art competition for road and fire accident reduction



Project Cooperation NDMO-CWW (Disaster Preparedness)

- * Aim to strengthen government disaster preparedness capacity in two provinces of KM and SVK through training.
- * District and Village Disaster Management Plans.
- * Research on Traditional Coping Mechanism on DM.



LUDMP NDMO-ADPC

Aims at reducing the disaster vulnerability of the population, infrastructure and economic assets in Lao urban areas.

(Vientiane, Pakse and Luangprabang pilot projects)

- * Training Activities
- * Hazard Risk Assessment and Mapping.
- * Community Participation on defining risk and set up village fire response plan.

First aid training for technical staff



First aid training for community



Building Capacity and Community Resilience on Disaster Preparedness

Objective is to Increase the disaster preparedness of poorer households through a variety of measures designed to increase annual household rice production

community planning activities



weir construction



community disaster risk analysis



small irrigation channel



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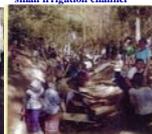
weir construction



community disaster risk analysis



small irrigation channel



Community Based Disaster Management

- Early warning and response capacity were enhanced.
- A system of small rain catchments weirs was constructed.
- Diversified flood and drought resilient agricultural practices were established.
- VDPU were established.

Training on CBDM

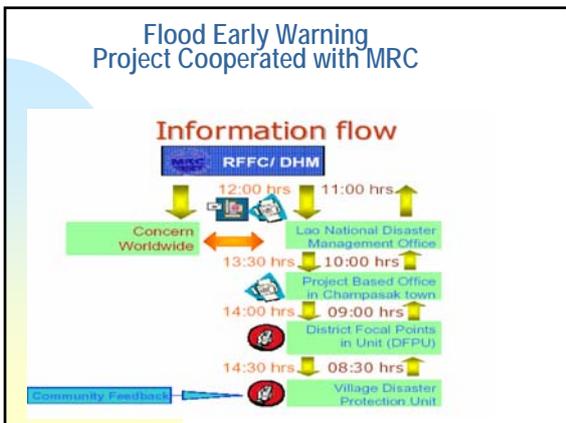


Hazard Map



weir construction





- ### Major Challenge
- Rapid Population growth.
 - More slash & burn for upland cultivation practices.
 - More cases of flash flood in mountainous areas.
 - Still remained large number of unexplored ordinance of war period.
 - Increasing incidents that flood and drought were happened in different locations of same area in one year.
 - Need more appropriate agricultural or economical solutions (options) for rural agricultural population.
 - Difficult to get out from the chain of disaster, as previous one was not yet recovered (2000) other disaster already came (2001,2002).

- ### Major Challenge
- Not enough fund for DM from Government budget , especially for disaster preparedness.
 - Need more & sustaining policy support from the Government.
 - Disaster Management Committee at provincial and district levels need more support on building their capacity.
 - Strengthening capacity of vulnerable community by CBDRM projects with partners are more needed .

Thank You