



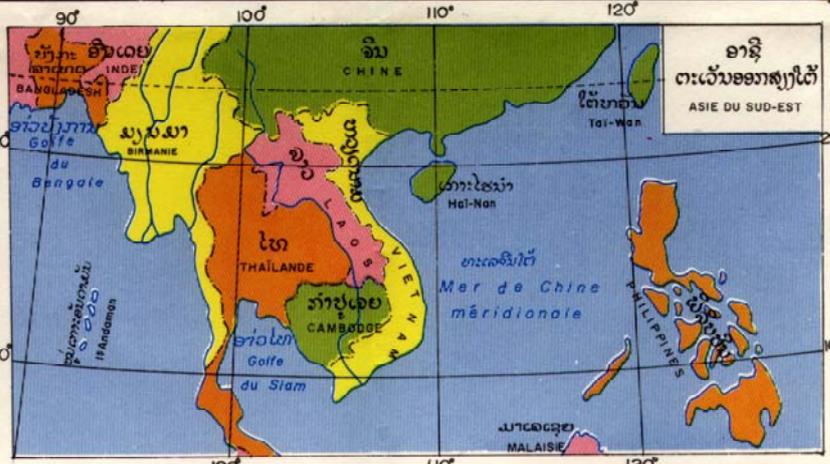
**Country Paper on  
Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**

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**Overview**

- \* **Country Profile**
- \* **Hazards and Disasters in Lao PDR**
- \* **National Disaster Management Framework**
- \* **Programs and activities on DRM in Laos.**
- \* **Lesson Learned**
- \* **Conclusion**



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ASIE DU SUD-EST

- ♦ *Population of 5,6 (2005 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.



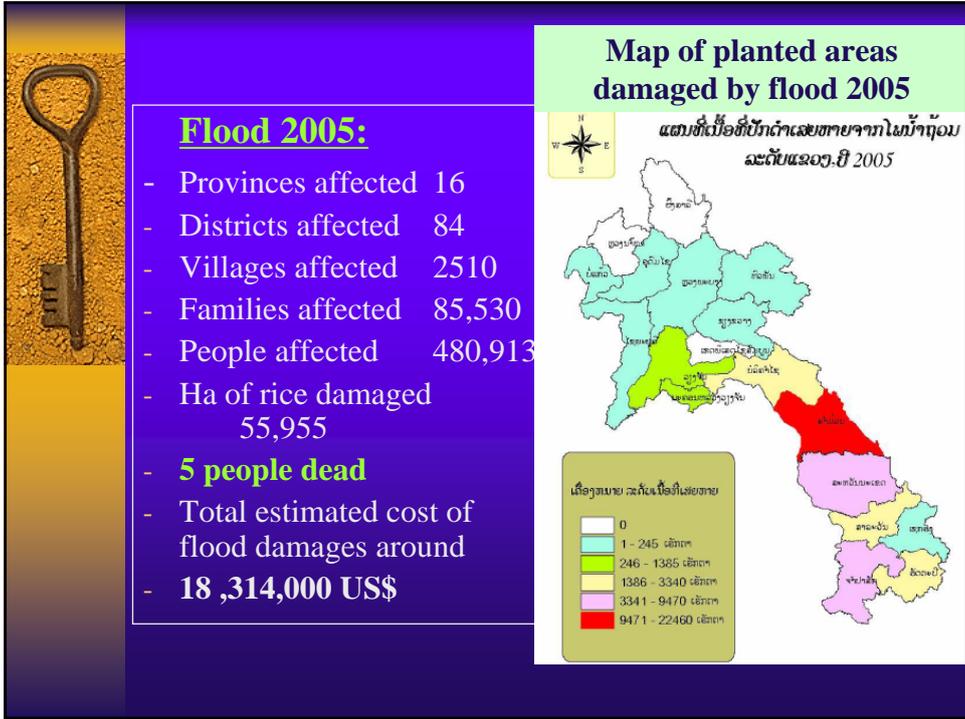
## Hazards and Disaster in Lao PDR

**Natural Disaster:**

- Flood ( river flood and flash flood)
- Drought
- Windstorm
- Landslide
- Epidemic (human and animal Disease), including Birth flu
- Pest
- Earthquake

**Man-made**

- UXO
- Fire
- Road Accidents



## Flood 2005

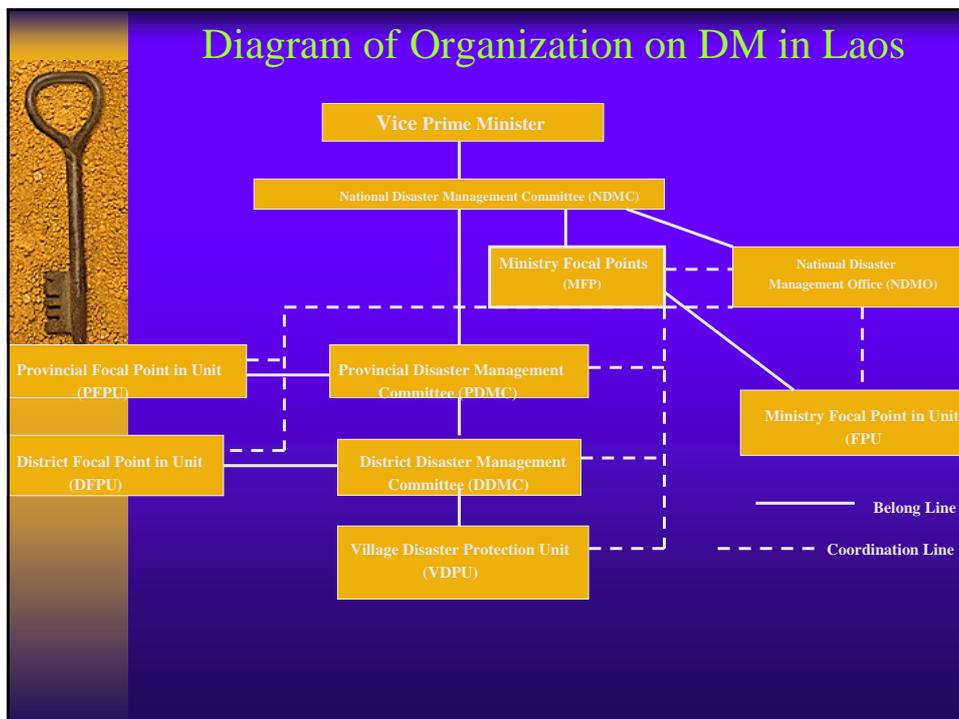


## National Disaster Management Framework in Lao PDR



### ◆ Legal Framework

National Disaster Management Committee  
National Disaster Management Office  
Provincial Disaster Management Committee  
District Disaster Management Committee  
Focal point at all levels  
Strategic Plan on Disaster Risk Management



- ## Policy-Strategy Aims:
- ◆ 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.



## Programs and Activities on DRM in Lao PDR

- ◆ In implementing National Strategy, NDMO has initiated, persuaded, convinced and helped to insert and integrate DM concept and main ideas of CSN into sector's works and projects
- ◆ Building strong Network with country's stakeholders and partners
- ◆ Actively participated in ARPD (ASEAN), regional and international activities on DM
- ◆ Working very closely with UN Agencies, InterNGOs, NGOs and others.....



## Capacity Building - Training

### Training Courses:

- Disaster Risk Management for PDMC, DDMC, Media, Army, Police, School Teachers, Women Unions, Education Senior Officials.
- ToT Training on CBDM for PDMC and DDMC.
- Community Based on DRM for DDMC and VDPU.
- Planning and Implementation of Flood Preparedness Programs at Provincial and District Levels.





## CBDM Projects - Project Cooperation with WVL

- ◆ To enhanced capabilities of local DMC and communities on DRM
- ◆ Reduced community vulnerabilities.
  - Structures and capacity in place - DDMC and VDPU to prepared for, and response to the natural disasters.
  - Increased awareness of the target population, in particular the most vulnerable groups - particularly women and children about disaster risk management.
  - Increased household food security of families in the 35 target communities, with better/ more coping mechanisms in place through increased options in agriculture and income-generating activities.



## Remote Areas Disaster Preparedness and Response Project - NDMO & CARE

- ◆ To reduce the disaster risk of the communities in the Mountainous and remote areas.
- ◆ Enhanced capacity of local DM and communities on DRM
- ◆ Promotion of livelihood activities.



## Disaster Risk Reduction Projects NDMO - Oxfam Australia

- ◆ To gradually reduce vulnerability of poor women and men to natural and man-made disasters through community-based approaches to disaster management
  - *Key risks and coping mechanisms specific to village and district identified in 30 villages*
  - *30 DMCs at village, 1 DMC at district and 1 DMC at provincial level strengthened and delivering effective DM services to and within the target communities*
  - *Risk mitigation strategies implemented by local bodies in 30 target villages*
  - *Local capacity to develop and manage DM activities is strengthened at OAus, village, district and provincial government levels*



## Public Awareness and Education

- ◆ Organized ASEAN Day and International Days on DRR (second week of October 2006).
- ◆ Integrate DRM into school curriculum.
- ◆ Work closely with Media: Lao National Radio and TV, etc.
- ◆ Print posters, brochures





## Up Coming Projects

- ◆ **LANGOCA PROGRAMS: SCA, ADPC, WVL and Oxfam Aus:**
  - SIHMP - Sayaboury Integrated Hazard Management Program (Long Term)
  - TDRA - Tools for District Risk Assessment (Short Term)DREC
  - - Disaster Risk Education for Children (Short Term)
  - **CBDRR project.**
  - **Remote Areas Disaster Risk Reduction Project.**
- ◆ **MRC-ADPC-NDMO:**
  - Flood Preparedness Response.
- ◆ **NDMO-MoE-ADPC:**
  - DRM into school curriculum



## Lesson Learned

- ◆ The structure of disaster management system is created from central to local and village level .
- ◆ The implementing of DRM activities, we have paid more attention on building strong partnerships at internal and external particularly the disaster management network.
- ◆ Currently the community at the hazard prone areas is regularly received needed information on disaster risk reduction counter measures to cope with disasters but it requires more expanding to wider areas, particularly to remote areas.
- ◆ Still many provincial disaster management committee (PDMC) and its contact persons are not been well trained and unclear on their roles and responsibilities in disaster management, district committee on DM, and village disaster protecting units have not improved and created, especially, the provinces where disaster management project is not functioning.



## Lesson Learned

- ◆ It requires disaster campaigns and awareness imparting to broader community areas not just only in the project site.
- ◆ Dissemination of early warning information from provincial to district and district to villages is still not well functioning.
- ◆ Perceptions on disaster preparedness of policy makers are still very limited this impact to allocating needed funding support to preparedness..
- ◆ Mainstreaming disaster risk management into policy development plan and implementing is still the challenge for disaster management work.
- ◆ Involve more community participation on the activities of disaster management in the project sites and country wide is the central focus of disaster management policy.
- ◆ International cooperation is the important factors on disaster risk management in Lao PDR.



## Conclusion

- ◆ Disaster Risk Reduction is essential and priorities to the national development plans and programs.
- ◆ Current systems and initiatives on DRM need to be enhanced and strengthened.
- ◆ Building community disaster preparedness and response capacity are particularly important.
- ◆ Government and non-government alike work together with clear goals, roles and designated responsibilities.
- ◆ Partnerships and linkages with the international community should be pursued to ensure a rapid and substantive response in the event of a major disaster that overwhelms Lao PDR' capacity.
- ◆ Training is an important aspect of disaster preparedness; as such it should be carried out at every level in a coordinated, standardized and consolidated manner, utilizing the considerable experience and expertise readily available in-country.
- ◆ Strategies prioritizing the acquisition and upgrading of current equipment will need to be developed.



Thank You for Your  
Attention