

## NATIONAL GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM (GPAR) PROGRAMME - GOVERNANCE FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (GIDP)

### Background

The achievement of the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) and the national goals of Lao PDR to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status and make progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are dependent on inclusive and effective governance and administrative systems.

Inclusive and effective governance that is transparent, accountable and trusted by the people must be based on strong institutions and robust public sector management. This will require the strengthening of government capacities to plan, budget, coordinate, monitor and evaluate public sector programmes at national and sub-national levels.

### Project Description

The *Governance for Inclusive Development Programme* (GIDP) is a joint initiative between UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF). It supports the Government of Lao PDR's strong desire to strengthen its public administration's ability to achieve better service delivery, promote wider governance improvements and increase citizens' systematic engagement, especially at the local levels where basic services are coordinated, planned, tracked and reported.

The GIDP has been developed under the framework of the Government of Lao PDR's National Governance and Public Administration Reform Programme (NGPAR).

The programme will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs in Lao PDR and the UNDP's overarching goals of strengthening

### Project Summary:

- **Duration:** 2017-2021
- **Geographic coverage:** National level
- **Focus area:** Governance
- **Implementing partners:** Ministry of Home Affairs with cross-sector cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Investment and Provincial and District administrations.

institutions and policies to support the delivery of quality services that better respond to citizens' needs.

### Main Objectives and Outcomes

The GIDP, led by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) with linkages to the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), seeks to create a more enabling governance environment that would improve service delivery and local development, with a particular focus on social inclusion in local governmental planning efforts, in particular women and ethnic groups.



Education service delivery in Pakbeng Village, Bokeo Province. Photo: UNDP Lao PDR/Jim Buy

Another objective of the programme is to enhance partnerships at the national level through the Governance Sector Working Group (co-chaired by UNDP) to promote multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on good governance and gender policies.

To achieve this goal, three inter-related outputs:

**Output 1: Targeted local administrations are able to develop and finance the implementation of multi-sector work plans based on community priorities** – To achieve this output the programme will leverage the successful District Development Fund (DDF) model for the provision of financing for socio-economic infrastructure, e.g. health, education, agriculture, public works and transport and trade. GIDP will also provide an opportunity to test and establish the potential for complementary approaches to financing for better local public service delivery and development such as opening avenues for private investment and non-government funding for development partnerships. In addition, GIDP will explore opportunities for synergies through other available funds.

**Output 2: Accountability framework applied at the district level to capture and use citizens' feedback on provision of basic services** – Aims to assert citizens' voice in local decision-making structures where service provision is discussed and managed in order to elevate the social inclusion of people in local governmental planning efforts and to bolster the quality and use of information/data by governance structures, such as the new Peoples' Provincial Assemblies (PPAs) and Provincial Support Teams (PSTs). The institutional performance of districts will also be regularly assessed, as part of promoting a general shift to greater accountability and transparency.



Sayabouli Provincial Governor's Office. Photo: UNDP Lao PDR/Chelsey Parish

**Output 3: Enhanced multi-stakeholder governance processes promoting dialogue and feeding into good governance related policies including the delivery of basic services** – Link the use of information generated through

### Funding (2017-2021):

- **Total project budget:** USD 9,500,000 of which
- **Lao PDR:** USD 600,000
- **Development partners:** USD 4,050,000
- **UNCDF:** USD 1,000,000
- **UNDP:** USD 1,000,000

Output 2 for partnerships, policy dialogue and for accountability purposes. Through Output 3, new multi-stakeholder policy discussions will be facilitated under the Governance Sector Working Group (GSWG) to advance governance and gender issues at the national and provincial levels. The new Public Service Innovation Facility (PSIF) will encourage joint proposals from local administration and civil society that are positioned to assist in closing the gap when it comes to outreach services at the village level, as a practical way of promoting partnerships and an enabling work environment for non-government actors.

### Expected Results

The programme expects to work across targeted sectors and districts resulting in: Inclusive local service delivery and development; accountability framework and citizens' feedback; and the expansion of partnerships and policy dialogue, with civil society engagement, for development effectiveness.

The programme reflects a strategic shift from grants-driven general infrastructure development to an intervention that seeks to leverage resources from various sources for addressing priority SDG-related service delivery, increased citizens' and civil society engagement and facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnership.

Resources are to be mobilized from development partners, and complemented by resources of local authorities and potentially, domestic capital as well, thereby making local development sustainable.

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Sustainable  
Development  
Goals

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