United Nations Development Programme

PROJECT DOCUMENT
Country: Lao PDR

Project Title: Urban Risk Management and Resilience - Integrated Resilience Building for Lao PDR's Sustainable Growth

Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s):

UNPF (2017-2021) OUTCOME #1: All women and men have increased opportunities for decent livelihoods and jobs

UNPF (2017-2021) OUTCOME #3: Forests and other ecosystems are protected and enhanced, and people are less vulnerable to climate-related events and disasters

UNPF (2017-2021) OUTCOME #7: Institutions and policies at national and local levels support the delivery of quality services that better respond to people's needs.

Expected CPD Output(s):

UNDP CPD (2017-2021) OUTCOME #2 Forests and other ecosystems are protected and enhanced, and people are less vulnerable to climate-related events and disasters

Indicative Output(s): Output 2.1 Number of persons per 100,000 directly affected by natural disasters.

UNDP Strategic Plan:

Outcome #3: Building resilience to shocks and crises in order to safeguard development gains

Output-3.3.1: Evidence-based assessment and planning tools and mechanisms applied to enable implementation of gender sensitive and risk-informed prevention and preparedness to limit the impact of natural hazards and pandemics and promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies.

The project initiatives contribute to *SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 11 and SDG 13*, in reducing poverty through building resilience at the community level, ensuring that needs and concerns of women and socio-economically vulnerable segments of society related to risk mitigation and resilience are prioritized, their capacity for resilience through access to technology and information services is increased, and the impact of climate related disasters is reduced at the national, provincial, district, urban and community levels.

Project Start/End Dates: 24 October 2020 to 23 October 2021

Brief Description

In the Lao PDR at both macro-economic and human development levels, increasing exposure and vulnerability of people, communities and key socio-economic development sectors to disaster, climate risks and now COVID-19 poses an increasingly significant challenge to realizing the objectives of sustainable resilient development.

The Government of Lao (GOL) led Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in 2018 following the flood disaster, provided tangible evidence on the human losses, damage to physical assets, losses sustained across several economic activities, and its impact on the provincial and national economies in both rural and urban settings. This provided the impetus for a stronger government determination for policy responses to ensure that the recovery process in the affected regions introduces resilience measures to mitigate impacts from recurring disasters and climate risks. This contributed to the approval of a new Disaster Management (DM) Law in 2019 which, along with the DRR Roadmap developed with UNDP support, called for a paradigm shift towards disaster risk reduction and assigned accountability for the Prevention, Control and Recovery across government agencies and at multiple administrative levels.

The new DM law provides many opportunities and identifies significant challenges with regards to institutional, legislative and the policy context related to disaster risk management; including that the risk reduction objectives remain unfulfilled. Better clarity on roles and accountability of national agencies and stakeholders requires confirmation. Horizontal and vertical coordination requires considerable strengthening and systems and procedures for implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction/Management (DRR/DRM) activities remain limited and vague.

The aim of this project is to address these immediate needs and gaps while catalysing other policy and programmatic action across administrative levels and sectors to reduce, mitigate, prepare for and respond to disasters in a holistic manner, support new mandated roles of national and provincial agencies and stakeholders as per the new DM Law and the DRR Roadmap and move towards achievement of the SDGs.

The Outcome of the project is *Enhanced Urban Risk Management and Resilience to Disasters & Climate Risks*; with the three complementary Outputs, seeking to strengthen disaster/climate risk management systems through institutional focus, build capacities, foster horizontal and vertical administrative coordination and enhance data analysis for evidence-based risk-informed national and urban development planning, are:

- Implementation of the new DM law supported for sustainable development and urban risk management.

- Capacity at NDMO, relevant national agencies, and UNDP CO strengthened to advance climate and disaster risk-informed urban resilience portfolio for upscaling.

- Lao Disaster Information Platform (LaoDi) updated and institutionalized at NDMO to strengthen gender-responsive disaster preparedness, recovery, and urban resilience.

The project activities will directly address gender equality and Leave No One Behind (LNOB) considerations through enhanced focus on vulnerable groups, including women, and empowering them to play a pro-active role in managing and recovering from disasters such as floods, droughts and pandemics. The Project will advance the objective of LNOB by underscoring the need to reflect specific requirements and priorities of at-risk and vulnerable communities and their inclusion in planning and implementation at both the national as well as provincial and/or municipal administrative level. Structural causes of their exclusion will be analysed with a view to co-designing solutions.

Building upon the policy, legislative and programmatic initiatives taken by the Government and UNDP, the project will complement ongoing UNDP projects including: Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery Phase 2 (BCRRII) and 'Strengthening Early Warning Systems and incorporating Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Risk Education in Lao PDR', to provide enhanced support to NDMO in response to and recovery from recent disasters including Covid-19 at national, urban and community level. This project will also strongly complement ongoing UN wide activities being implemented on Disaster Risk Reduction, Management and Response (CERF) that are currently being implemented and or planned by UNICEF, WFP, UNEP (GCF EbA project) UNHABITAT, FAO, UNFPA, ILO, UNCDF, IOM, UNDRR, Korea (MoE) and two large scale urban resilience projects under development by UNDP (with funding from GCF and GEF).

The catalytic nature of this intervention is aligned with a long-term risk-informed development approach adopted by the Government and the upscaling of UNDPs position in the sector; which includes informing the preparation of the next (9th) National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) from both sustainability and resilience perspectives. This intention is based on addressing immediate gaps, building capacities for future, providing empirical evidence through disaster/climate data analysis and by providing practical examples for both the Government and UNDP to mobilize additional resources for an evidence-based long-term project that positions UNDP as a central partner in disaster risk reduction under the development of new multiyear interventions on Integrated Resilience Building for Lao PDR's Sustainable Growth.

Implementing Partner:

The project will be implemented by Department of Social Welfare , Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in close partnership with UNDP(UNDP acts as a responsible partner) using the national Implementation Modality (NIM), and will closely collaborate with the local government levels (provincial and district levels).

Programme Period:	2020 - 2021
Atlas Project Number:	_____
Atlas Output ID:	_____
Gender Marker:	Gen2
Covid Marker:	YES

Total resources required	$430,000
Total allocated resources:	$430,000
• Regular	$430,000
• Other (additional):	
o UNDP BRH	$10,000
[Output-3, Activity-3.6 and 3.7]	
o Donor	_____
o Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contribution by	
GoL (office space etc.)	$35,000

Agreed by:

Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare	United Nations Development Programme
Vilayphong SISOMVANG	
Name:	Name: Ricarda Rieger, Resident Representative
Date 10.4.2021	Date

I.   RATIONALE, PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

Rationale:

Nearly 70% of the population of Lao live in rural areas and are engaged in agriculture with high dependence on agro-forestry and waterways. This ecosystem services based socio-economic and livelihood construct makes people more susceptible to disaster/climate risks and sharpens existing vulnerabilities. Lao PDR's economy strives to become more competitive and diversified. The 2018 Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)[1], indicated that the agriculture sector – including sub-sectors like fisheries, corps, livestock, forestry and irrigation – suffered 57% of the total losses. People, especially women, engaged in informal productive sectors of the economy (more women than men are in informal employment in almost all the provinces in Lao PDR) saw reduced incomes and reduced access to health and education services and resources.

Economic growth in Lao PDR has slowed over the past 5 years falling from 6.3 percent in 2018 to 4.8 percent in 2019 due primarily to disasters and their effect on agricultural sector; while COVID-19 is further intensifying the country's social and macroeconomic vulnerabilities, with limited fiscal and foreign currency buffers constraining the ability to mitigate the economic impacts[2]. The need to address sustainable, equitable and inclusive growth by better understanding the needs and constraints experienced by vulnerable groups especially women and targeting them effectively through policy interventions is well acknowledged. Hence, the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) (2016-2020) details the nation's ambition to graduate to upper Middle-Income status and reflects the Socio-Economic development strategy for 2025 and vision for 2030 with focus on sectoral and provincial development.

The urban population growth rate was 5.3 percent over the period 2005-2010, with more than two-thirds of population growth in Vientiane having been caused, in recent years, by net in-migration. Indications are that most migration is rural to urban, primarily to Vientiane Capital. It is estimated that almost 60 percent of those who migrate for work are women *[PDNA, 2018]*. This exodus is causing family breakdowns and put those left behind in vulnerable situation There is also a significant movement across the border to Thailand, which has similar language and culture. However, reliable statistics are scarce, women generally occupy the lower rungs of the labour market and are predominate in the more vulnerable sectors of employment.[3]

Urbanization is already a real development challenge with higher population growth in urban areas as compared to the national average indicating higher rural-urban migration. With nearly 36% of the population in urban areas in 2019, socio economic activities and investment in growth sectors have largely been concentrated in urban centres leading to higher disaster impacts. An already evident pattern of disaster/climate hazards assuming the dimensions of systemic risks is undermining the realization of SDGs. As a result, inequality and poverty are deepening in cities. The Government acknowledges increasing *"disparities between urban and rural areas[4] "...issues pertaining to urbanization such as waste management, traffic safety, migration and other socio-economic issues associated with rapid urbanization are also challenges to be addressed."* The increasing risk context makes it imperative to shift towards a risk-informed development trajectory.

One of the significant bottlenecks in advancing a risk-informed and resilience building approach towards disaster/climate risk management as well as sustainable development is the lack of empirical evidence. The systems, capacities and institutional mechanisms required for collecting and analysing disaster/climate loss, damage and impact data as well as information related to emerging migration, urbanization, socio-economic needs etc. remain weak. The LaoDi platform conceived almost a decade ago has not realized its potential. As a result, many of the national, provincial and municipal investments continue to be risk-blind due to insufficient analytical information – especially related to the impacts of disasters on poor, at-risk, vulnerable and marginalized segments of society like women, elderly, children, disabled etc.

Recognizing this reality, the 8th NSEDP provides that *"Climate change-linked natural disasters such as droughts and floods are still occurring and remain as development impediments."* [page-83] while the 9th draft NSEDP has identified the need to *"ensure disaster and climate change preparedness"* as part of Outcome 4 on 'Environment' and seeks to

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[1] https://laopdr.un.org/en/12913-2018-floods-post-disaster-needs-assessment
[2] [https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/lao/overview]
[3]   Analysis   to   inform   the   Lao   People's   Democratic   Republic–   United   Nations   Partnership   Framework   (2017-2021) file:///C:/Users/UNDP/Downloads/Country%20Analysis%20Report%20Lao%20PDR%202015.pdf
[4] [8th NSEDP, page-83... SDG Goal-11 on 'Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable' has been identified as relevant for Lao

focus on *"improve government structures...."*, *"promote community participation"* and *"spatial planning and urban planning"* as part of Outcome-6 on 'Governance'.

Purpose:

The project will follow a human rights based approach to address the development challenges (including enhancing women's substantive engagement and their leadership role as well as effective transformative changes to the structural barriers) associated with disasters and enhance resilience to urban and increasing climate risks through improved policy, strengthened capacity and risk information. This will foster resilient and sustainable socio-economic development and contribute towards achievement of the SDGs.

Outcome: Enhanced Urban Risk Management and Resilience to Disasters & Climate Risks

The GOL led 2018 PDNA provided the recommendations to develop a National Disaster Recovery Framework, incorporating measures to reduce disaster/climate risks and to mainstream them into the development of the country's 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plans (NSEDP) (2021– 2025). UNDP, working closely with the Government, supported development of a Roadmap in 2019 which articulates a structured multi-year approach to address disaster management and recovery needs.

The 8th NSEDP[5] (2016–2020) asserts that the GOL program to further reduce poverty and boost prosperity in the country emphasizes social, economic, and environmental outcomes to meet its resilience building and sustainable development objectives. It is envisaged that these considerations will continue to inform the preparation of the 9th NSEDP and will be further strengthened. Aligning with these existing and emerging development priorities of GoL, the outcome of the project is to support the GOL with enhanced risk management and resilience to disasters and climate risks through strengthened institutions, capacities and information with specific reference to urban and community context.

Expected Outputs and Scaling-up Opportunities:

With a set of Outputs and Activities aimed at further augmenting the institutional structures, strengthening capacity, developing SOPs and protocols for better clarity of roles and responsibilities and facilitating horizontal and vertical coordination across administrative layers, the Project complements the ongoing DRR portfolio and is positioned to sharpen the national focus on risk reduction and resilience building issues and establish their centrality within the overall development context.

The UNDP CO Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) portfolio focusses on the flagship project Building Capacities for Resilient Recovery Phase 2 (BCRR)[6], which has been pivotal in positioning UNDP as a stakeholder in supporting the GOL with DRR initiatives and preparedness for disaster recovery. This experience in partnerships with other Development Partners (ADB, IFRC, MRC and World Bank) has helped support the development of the Disaster Management Law, Disaster Management Fund Decree (IFRC/ADB/UNDP) and the ongoing DRM and Recovery Strategies and National Guidelines for Recovery in Lao PDR.

Building upon the past and on-going UNDP support, the Project outputs identified below will directly enhance the capacity of the GOL, specifically the NDMO, to reduce, prepare for and respond to disasters and climate change hazards and at the same time, use the augmented DRR systems and capacities to advance the objective of risk-informed development with particular reference to socio-economic development sectors central to Laos's development trajectory. While focusing on a national capacity strengthening approach, this effort will involve national and provincial officials and other key stakeholders, such as the Lao Woman's Union (LWU), Disabled Persons Centre Lao PDR, Humanity & Inclusion (HI), ILO, FAO, and the GOL Department of Statistics and other key stakeholders drawn from private sector, community organizations and representative groups, in order to enable distributed capacity and increased adaptive capacity as well as overall disaster and climate risk resilience in cities and towns.

In line with the global and regional trend towards rapid urbanization, Lao is witnessing an increasing role of cities and urban centres within its socio-economic development trajectory. This has been recognized in the 8th NSEDP and is

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[5] 8th NSEDP https://www.la.undp.org/content/lao_pdr/en/home/library/poverty/the-8th-five-year-national-socio-economic-development-plan--2016.html

[6] https://www.la.undp.org/content/lao_pdr/en/home/projects/building-capacities-for-resilient-recovery.html

projected to receive accelerated focus as mentioned above in the 9th NSEDP. Increasing rural-urban migration, concentration of socio-economic development assets, focus on connectivity and technology, shift in gravity of development sectors towards urban areas are some of the key triggers mandating timely attention to addressing urban risk management and resilience building needs.

With this backdrop, it can be expected that an enhanced need for a climate and disaster risk-informed approach to urban planning and development as well as risk management and resilience building centred at the urban scale is required. Hence, preparing city administrations to better understand the risk context through analysis of disaster and climate data, how to integrate this data into planning and budgeting, identification of vulnerable segments of society like women, children, elderly, disabled and socio-economically marginalized will help orient development and social welfare interventions accordingly. This will also support designing systems to disseminate risk information to communities, foster better understanding of risks to urban services and infrastructure, strengthen capacities in urban administrative entities to manage risks and advance risk-informed development while facilitating linkages with knowledge and information resources from cities form Asia-Pacific and other regions facing similar risk management and resilience building challenges.

In context of national and urban risk management and resilience building needs, well-functioning disaster and climate data collection systems with data disaggregated by sex, age and disabilities, and statistical analysis capacities are essential. This Project will support institutionalization of the fledgling national Laos Disaster Information Management (LaoDi) system (based on the DesInventar system), which will be a repository for disaster information at the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. It will also support capacity strengthening of NDMO to collect, maintain, update and analyse disaster data for application, work with select city(ies) to understand disaster risks and implement contextual risk management interventions with particular focus on vulnerable communities and segments of society. The activities are intended to promote risk-informed urban planning and development with resilience building as a key outcome thereof and also support the government in meeting its commitments for monitoring and reporting the progress on the indicators of targets A, B, C, and D of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and associated indicators for SDGs 1,5, 11, and 13.

This project also aims to enhance the existing position of UNDP with its ongoing initiatives which includes BCRR2, and Strengthening Early Warning Systems, to operationalise the DM Law, the National Guideline for Recovery and the Specific Sectoral Guidelines for Recovery, and the DRR and Recovery Strategies.

Overall, the aim of this project is to address immediate needs and gaps while catalysing other policy and programmatic action across administrative levels and sectors. The intention is that this will lead to further resources and partner mobilization from various partners brought onboard under the development of a new multiyear initiatives on Integrated Resilience Building for Lao PDR's Sustainable Growth. Recognizing these imperatives, this project seeks to address these priorities with an objective to yield immediate benefits while laying the foundation for longer-term up-scaled risk-sensitive development and holistic risk management orientation from national to local level. The Project will highlight the centrality of the need to address the needs, concerns and priorities of vulnerable populations and traditionally discriminated against segments of society while promoting their active engagement in and contribution to resilience building.

Gender Dimensions *(Gen2 Gender Marker: Gender equality will be considered as a significant objective)*

This project will contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment in the implementation of all project activities and challenge existing structural barriers to gender equality. Gender empowerment objectives will inform all Outputs and activities envisaged thereunder. Under Output-1, all policy, institutional, legislative and coordination measures will integrate gender equality considerations and inevitably be gender responsive. They will ensure and advance active participation and engagement of women and their representative organizations and entities. Under Output-2, urban risk management and resilience building interventions will specifically address gendered dimensions of urban resilience building and facilitate an active decision-making role for women in their community and city risk management as well as resilience building processes. Under Output-3, the LaoDi disaster database, while already capturing sex-disaggregated and gender related data vis-à-vis impacts, will be further expanded to include context specific dimensions and parameters to provide a better understanding of gendered impacts as well as facilitate identification of risk management needs of women, girls, children, disabled and other marginalized segments of

society. The Output will ensure collection of sex-disaggregated data as an integral part of the disaster data collection form and use the analysis for gender-responsive indicators/targets as well as gendered policies, programmes and other interventions.

The 2018 Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report indicates that while the country has made significant progress in gender equality, yet inequalities persist particularly in development sectors and these are compounded by intersections with other marginalized identities like ethnic, disability, LGBTQI and others. Women with disabilities face more stigma and harassment than men especially with regard to obtaining services. *[PDNA, 2018]* Lao ranks 138th out of 188 on Human Development Index with a Gender Development Index of 0.934.

Taking note of gender disparities, the PDNA Report notes that *"The floods also exacerbated the pre-existing inequalities faced by poorer households, particularly the more vulnerable women, men, boys, girls, people with disabilities, and other marginalized groups, to varying degrees; impacts for these groups were observed on employment levels, income, food security, gender-based violence, and general safety and security. As in many other disaster situations, the floods increased women's workloads and risks of gender-based violence as a result of the breakdown of community protection systems and residence at overcrowded, unsecured camps with limited privacy….."*

Considering the increasing disaster/climate impacts, including that of Covid-19 Pandemic and other health hazards on women especially in the informal sector, dedicated attention will be accorded to sex disaggregated data including on benefit sharing, access to services, barriers for their equal participation, and impacts of investments. The findings derived from its analysis will be addressed during the project implementation and integrated into government data management systems where feasible. This project will directly address gender equality by enhancing the role of vulnerable groups including women in responding to and recovering from disasters through utilization of project resources to promote a dedicated attention to gender-responsive activities. The women's network (under the Lao Women's Union) will take a significant role in awareness activities and community service to enable themselves to contribute to the achievement of the outcome. Male members of the community in particular those with influence and leadership will be mobilized to engage themselves in the gender-responsive activities described above.

More than half the intended beneficiaries will be women and they will comprise half the membership of the committees. Recognizing that women are affected disproportionately during disasters and that incidence of domestic violence increases during disasters and crisis in the community as evidenced by the post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA) carried out after the 2018 flood disaster (page-4 above), the resources and activities under the Project will specifically support women and seek to address the barriers hindering their meaningful participation and empowerment.

II.   EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

Output 1: Implementation of the new DM law supported for sustainable development and urban risk management

For a number of years, the GOL has been working to improve its disaster and climate risk management frameworks, systems, and capacities to reduce disaster/climate risks and build resilience. A new DM Law, 2019 has been enacted. However, significant capacity, coordination and application gaps remain to enable NDMO and national entities to engage relevant national, provincial, and identified city administrative entities and other stakeholders.

This output supports capacity strengthening of the recently established NDMO, and Disaster Risk Reduction team of UNDP country office and other stakeholders through development and training on gender sensitive Standard Operations Procedures (SOPs) and Guidelines on managing disaster and climate risks. It will enable the NDMO and other nodal entities to fulfil their mandate through policy, legislative and institutional support and dedicated capacities as well as resources (human and financial) for risk reduction and recovery.

The strengthening of DRR capacities will support effective implementation of the DM law at all administrative levels. This will help augment risk management, response and recovery capacities while advancing risk-informed development objectives in line with the 8th NSEDP and its priorities as well as what is anticipated in the 9th NSEDP.

Key activities planned under this Output include:

- *Support development of SOP's, agreement on roles and responsibilities, training and dissemination through simulations and drills to advance gender sensitive DRM.* The activity will be based on a baseline survey of responsibilities and roles of males and females on DRM at all levels as well as the factors influencing gendered division of roles to help NDMO develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) (integrating gender equality considerations), for gender sensitive disaster/climate risk management i.e. for preparedness, response and recovery. This will help establish greater clarity of roles and responsibilities of different agencies within the overall disaster risk management framework. Based on trends on damages and losses, available climate impact scenario planning, vulnerability assessments, gender based assessment, human centered design as part of activities under Output-3, NDMO and identified sectoral agency(ies) will be supported to prepare their contingency plans, conduct simulation exercise and hold simulation exercises and drills to build their capacities to prepare for, manage, respond to and recovery from disaster events and their impacts. This activity will also support training on Recovery Guidelines which are being prepared under the Preparedness for Recovery Project funded by the Luxembourg Government.
- *Develop guidelines (integrating gender equality considerations) to integrate risks in development through national and sectoral development plans and programs* -- Guidelines will be developed for risk informed and gender responsive national development planning, budgeting and programming process as well as in identified development sector(s) most at risk. These Guidelines will be complemented by gender sensitive and risk informed urban planning and development Guidelines under Output-2. This objective will be pursued through guidelines development, trainings, and knowledge sharing as well as technical expertise to advance mainstreaming of disaster and climate risks in plans, policies, or programs. Good practices from global and regional perspective, especially from countries and sectors with successful approaches, will be brought to bear on the activities. UNDP shall ensure that UNCT are actively involved in specific sectors and will use the UN Resilience Guidance (Activity 3) as the basis of interagency collaboration.
- *Support the UNCT with dissemination and use of the UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient Societies:* With the aim to strengthen coherence in UN resilience building efforts at regional, country and local levels, the UNDSG directed the development of a UN resilience guidance covering all types of hazards and risks and promoting greater horizontal collaboration and joined-up efforts across the UN system. The Guidance supports UNCTs with integrating a resilience lens into UN programming processes and tools to be applicable in humanitarian and development contexts. Activities will also strongly complement ongoing UN wide activities being implemented on Disaster Risk Reduction, Management and Response (CERF) that are currently being implemented and or planned by UNICEF, WFP, UNEP (GCF EbA project) UNHABITAT, FAO, UNFPA, ILO, UNCDF, IOM, UNDRR, Korea (MoE) and two large scale urban resilience projects under development by UNDP (with funding from GCF and GEF).

Output 2: Capacity at NDMO, relevant national agencies, and UNDP CO strengthened to advance climate and disaster risk-informed urban resilience portfolio for upscaling

This Output will enable NDMO and relevant stakeholders at the national government level to build relevant skills to better integrate climate and disaster resilient urban planning into overall national and provincial DM plans/strategies. Activities will directly address gender equality and Leave No One Behind (LNOB) considerations through enhanced focus on vulnerable groups, including women, and empowering them to play a pro-active role in managing and recovering from disasters such as floods, droughts and pandemics. In addition, as there are several projects planned or underway in Lao focused on climate adaptation and disaster risk management in cities (for funding consideration from LDCF and the Government of Korea, among others),this effort will allow for relevant capacity in urban climate and disaster risk management to be strengthened at the UNDP CO *to help scale needed investment* in resilience at the sub-national level.

The scope of work with the NDMO and relevant national agencies will be focused on capacity strengthening to support risk-informed planning and development of a strategic portfolio of urban climate and disaster risk interventions. Specific activities will include:

- *Trainings and orientation programs* with NDMO members and urban development and planning stakeholders from the central government and development partners focused on use of climate and disaster risk and vulnerability data, methods of assessment of risks and systems analysis, methods to address challenges in existing structural barriers to gender-sensitive urban climate and disaster risk management, and master planning techniques to help them integrate disaster/climate risk considerations into sector policies as well as urban development plans and project portfolio development
- *Workshops and hands-on training to socialize tools, methodologies and information in relevant agencies* to facilitate this work into the future, focused on a training-of-trainers approach. These will have a consistent focus on understanding and integrating the needs of vulnerable, poor, women and youth, marginalized communities and informal settlements into risk management and development interventions. This effort will build upon the already increasing use of digital technologies and tools to conduct development needs and risk analysis to prioritize interventions. These trainings will include sessions covering innovative methods of engaging local municipal stakeholders (including vulnerable communities and women) in planning and risk assessment processes at both national and municipal scales (such as participatory planning and mapping techniques, futures mapping, use of digital communications tools, etc.).
- *Expanding and strengthening horizontal coordination within city-centric agencies at the national level via establishment of protocols, SOPs, and knowledge-sharing practices.* Following an analysis on user and government officials perceptions and 'pain points', activity is intended to help bring a needed integrated, multi-sector approach to not only DRR and recovery, but also aspects of future climate risk within their sectoral planning, budgeting and services as they relate to oversight and guidance of similar action at the sub-national/urban level. This will allow planning agencies and others directly overseeing Provincial and City-level planning and development to offer a more comprehensive expertise for approaching interventions that integrate considerations of health and disability, livelihoods and income generation, gender equality and children to 'Leave No One Behind" in the path to building lasting resilience.
- *Identification and development of longer-term resilience building interventions* based on needs and gaps identified. Based on the assessment and analysis of resilience building needs and priorities of at-risk and vulnerable urban communities, especially more vulnerable groups including women, elderly, children, disabled etc., the activity will seek to identify contextual risk reduction and resilience building interventions. Partnerships will be developed with key urban stakeholders including the private sector to support the same as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility agenda. Participation of community, religious and cultural organizations, including that of representative bodies, will be encouraged to advance a more inclusive urban development and resilience building approach (community outreach will be supported by the ongoing UNDP community radio project) . Pilot activities aimed at women and other marginalized groups will be implemented through these bodies to ensure their longevity and impact.
- *Investing in the construction of one model emergency evacuation centre/shelter* in Khongsedon district, Saravan Province equipped with basic amenities (water supplies, adequate toilet facilities, etc.) within the premises. This activity complements and supports the construction of an already existing structure, it will be considered a pilot project with selected masons, plumbers, carpenters in the target areas for the construction using a combined cash for work approach complemented by a skill development through hands-on training (with skilled and experienced participants) to empower women and youths for resilient recovery. Risk mitigations measures will be fully developed prior to any works, taking into consideration national building standards and for example building design (to ensure ability to withstand the impact of disasters). This activity will contribute to building resilience at community level and connects to the Sendai Framework for DRR Priority- 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience. It will promote engagement of women by establishing partnership with Lao Women's Union for capacity strengthening of women and persons with disability through livelihood empowerment projects e.g. cash transfers to the most vulnerable populations for Cash for work for recovery.

The activities under this Output will accord a simultaneous focus at the national as well as city/municipal (in identified locations) level. They will be deigned to help the agencies distribute this knowledge to the Provincial and Local City planners they work with and help support upcoming donor funded projects as well as future portfolio development of resilience interventions at the local level.

This Output will also support both the GOL and the UNDP CO to enhance its capacity in urban climate and disaster risk management to effectively complement the urban risk management and resilience building efforts of the NDMO. This

will further enable UNDP to connect this effort with other concurrent projects underway in Lao PDR and provide a consistent portfolio approach to a growing demand for future urban resilience interventions with the specific development of interventions for future programming.

Output 3: Lao Disaster Information Platform (LaoDi) updated and institutionalized at NDMO to strengthen gender-responsive disaster preparedness, recovery, and urban resilience

The existing LaoDi platform will be updated and institutionalized at NDMO under the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MoLSW). The LaoDi captures disaggregated data about disasters and their impacts at village levels. This facilitates assessment of disaggregated impacts of disasters at sub-national levels allowing government and other stakeholders to identify most disaster-prone areas for interventions for reducing disaster and climate risks. The LaoDi platform was initiated under UNDP supported project 'Integrated Disaster and Climate Risk Management Project in Lao PDR' (2013 -16) to help the government keep track to disasters and their impacts on at-risk populations and vulnerable sectors. The LaoDi was further updated with extensive data about the impacts of roads sector under an ADB supported regional project 'Enhanced use of Disaster Risk Information in South East Asia' (2015-17).

The LaoDi Platform began operations approximately 10 years ago. However, it became inactive due to changes in portfolio of the Ministries in charge of the Disaster Risk Management mandate, from the Ministry of Natural resources and Environment (MONRE) to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MoLSW). Due to changing mandates of Disaster Risk Management from MoLSW to MONRE and now again with MoLSW, the LaoDi has not been institutionalized effectively and the required capacities have not yet developed in the government.

The activities planned under this output will include:

- *Enhance the LaoDi reporting process and update the missing data* including disaggregation by gender and disability for the last several years in LaoDi. The effort through the project will support collection of missing data from recent disasters and to help generate risk information products such as: risk maps, risk profiles, capacity maps, post disaster assessment forms, disaster reports, monitoring and evaluation reports to be utilized by a broad spectrum of users to input, review, and analyze DRR related data. Risk assessments will also include the state of different vulnerabilities of different population groups.
- *Build capacities of NDMO to manage and update* data collection and reporting regularly of disaster/climate risk data from provincial and local/municipal administrations as well as its statistical analysis for generation, dissemination of risk information and its application across development sectors and to inform resilience building initiatives. With the dis-aggregated data collected and analysis will inform risk reduction and recovery efforts in the country and help monitor the results of various resilience building efforts.
- *Analyse and use data for policy-making, planning and decision-making* in the country including for selected urban area(s) to identify the risks and support development of contextual measures to build urban resilience, analyse disaster data to support comprehensive risk management and integrate risks into identified development sectors,
- *Help the Government meet the reporting obligations* for the targets and indicators of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the relevant SDGs (Goals-1, 5, 11, and 13) as well as other global agreements.
- *Produce information and knowledge products* that inform gender-sensitive disaster and climate risk management, sustainable development and resilience building related decision makers at national and provincial levels.

One of the challenges identified for sustainable urban development pertains to improved data collection and management specifically for urban areas. The Output will work with NDMO, national urban development department and other concerned stakeholders to support establishment of city-specific disaster/climate database to enable city administration(s) assess their disaster/climate risk exposure and vulnerability and take appropriate measures for reducing risks and planning response and recovery in the aftermath of any disaster event. This will help advance risk-aware urban planning and development with particular focus on vulnerable and at-risk communities and segments of population like women, children and elderly.

III.   MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

UNDP CO will support MLSW to establish a cross-thematic team composed of its own staff, partner institutions and stakeholders to work with the global and regional teams.

A Project Steering Committee with representatives from UNDP CO, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub and the GOL, Development Partners/NGOs will continue to guide the project as required. The committee meets once in six months in person and or via video to assess the progress of the project.

The Project Management Team in consultation with partners and national counterparts will identify the select provinces/cities for implementing the project activities. Project management team will consist of a National Project Director (NPD) and a Project Manager (PM) at the MLSW and 1 UNDP Project Focal Point based within NDMO at the MLSW. Other focal points from the Government side within NDMO will be identified.

The PM will oversee daily project operations and ensure that project activities comply to UNDP rules and regulations. He or she will be overall responsible for ensuring that the project remains on course to deliver the desired results and:
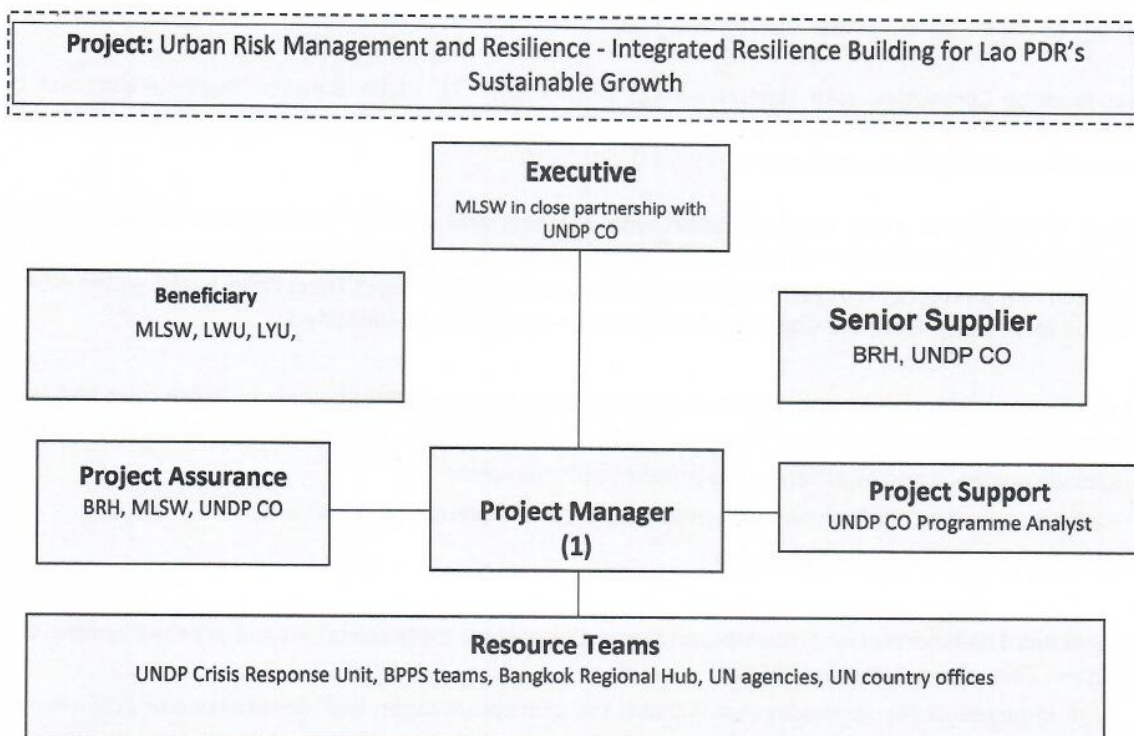
- Provide guidance and direction to the project implementation
- Reviews, approves, and concurs with proposed project implementation actions
- Addresses specific risks and solutions

Project Focal Point collaborates with counterparts regarding project implementation and activity planning, budgeting, and execution. They also support the PM to:

- Draft implementation strategies that includes the conceptualization and identification of activities, timelines, partners, resources, and project team
- Promote identifying (and proposal development) and unifying stakeholders and determining roles and responsibilities
- Collaborate with stakeholders on project monitoring, evaluation, and learning needs
- Forecast or identify project issues and support with troubleshooting
- Consolidate and disseminate information to stakeholders for analyzing and feedback
- Propose recommendations that may enhance project results
- Ensure project deliverables have been produced satisfactorily

Consultants will be recruited by UNDP to support with the HCD research and LaoDI database enhancements.

A wide range of partners and stakeholders, including Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, NDMO / Disaster Management Committee (MLSW, Ministry of Défense/ Ministry of Health/ Ministry of Education/ Ministry of Public Works & Transport/ Ministry of Planning and Investment /Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry/ Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment/ Ministry of Communication and Tourism/ Ministry of Post and Technology and Lao Women's Union), Non-Government Organisations, UN agencies and other development partners, will be engaged throughout the project.

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┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│ Project: Urban Risk Management and Resilience - Integrated Resilience │
│ Building for Lao PDR's Sustainable Growth                             │
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Executive
MLSW in close partnership with UNDP CO

Beneficiary
MLSW, LWU, LYU,

Senior Supplier
BRH, UNDP CO

Project Assurance
BRH, MLSW, UNDP CO

Project Manager (1)

Project Support
UNDP CO Programme Analyst

Resource Teams
UNDP Crisis Response Unit, BPPS teams, Bangkok Regional Hub, UN agencies, UN country offices

IV. MONITORING

Monitoring and reporting on project status against the Work Plan (Framework) will provide the project management with regular information on the project status. In addition, regular feedback will come from the Project Focal Points, to be established, once the project is operationalized. Collectively, this feedback will enable the project management to continuously learn lessons, formulate partnerships, identify risks/problems, modify approaches and strategies, overcome challenges, and capitalize on opportunities.

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the PIP will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	End of Project	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least quarterly	Performance data, risks, lessons, and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the CO RR and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	End of Project	

United Nations Development Programme

V.   WORK PLAN -   PERIOD: OCTOBER 2020 – SEPTEMBER 2021[7]

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020	2021			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
Output 1 ($50,000)	**1. Activity Result:** *Enhanced NDMO capacity and Identified needs for strengthening disaster risk reduction, recovery, and resilience programme.*					MLSW/UNDP	FW		20,000
Implementation of the new DM law supported for sustainable development and urban risk management	**1.1 Activity actions:** Conduct a baseline survey of the responsibilities and roles of male and female on DRM at the all levels and factors influencing the gendered division of roles and responsibilities and barriers to their equal participation. Support development of gender-sensitive official SOPs agreement on roles and responsibilities, training and dissemination through simulation and drills. ($20,000)	X	X						
Indicators	**1.2 Activity actions:** Develop guidelines (integrating gender equality considerations), to integrate risks in development through national and cross	X	X	X					15,000
# of gender-sensitive SOPs trainings completed									
% of female participation (at least 40%) in the trainings									

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020	2021			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
% of staff satisfied with trainings	cutting[8] sectoral development plans and programs with focus on Urban Risk Management for Floods: i.e. Urban Drainage and Flood Risk ($15,000)								
# of sectoral plans and programmes integrating the gender-sensitive guidelines for risk management	**1.3 Activity actions:** Support the UNCT with dissemination of gender mainstreaming SOPs/Handbook for practitioner and use of the UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient Societies ($15,000)	X	X	X	X				15,000
% proportion of objectives achieved to support initiatives aligned to the new DRR legislation and NDMO mandates.									
Baseline:									
Target: nationwide									
Output 1 Sub Total									**$50,000**
Output 2 ($262,800): Capacity at NDMO, relevant national agencies, and UNDP CO strengthened to advance climate and disaster risk-informed urban resilience portfolio and gender for upscaling.	**2A. Activity Result (USD 134,800):** Address immediate capacity needs and challenge existing structural barriers to gender equality; consultations in coordination with the NDMO on the national DRR/ Recovery strategy and integration of provincial/ city priorities though	X	X	X	X	UNDP	FW		

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8 Cross Cutting Sector Guideline comprises of Gender, Disability, Conflict Sensitivity, COVID19, Climate Change, DRM, UXOs, Governance and Protection

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020	2021			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	intersectoral coordination capacities.								
Indicators:	2.1A Activity action: Operationalise institutional relationship and arrangements (set-up and operationalisation) to improve the enhanced functioning of NDMO as per DM law/ Recovery Guideline ($,7000)	X	X	X	X				7,000
% proportion of functional and enhanced sectors in the NDMO governance systems	2.2A Activity action: Enhance capacity of government staff at local levels in regard to rapid assessments (Train on National assessment forms, provision of digitized forms). ($15,000)	X	X						15,000
Higher than 40% of female staff participation at local levels in trainings # of trainings with higher than 40% of female staff on DRR and Recovery technical capacity enhanced to ensure effective inter-cluster/sectoral coordination, gender mainstreaming and post disaster assessment.	2.3A Activity action: Production socialisation and dissemination of the guidelines for recovery (DM Law) at central and local levels with a training-of-trainers approach, and it will engage		X	X	X				8,000

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | 2020 | 2021 | | | RESPONSIBLE PARTY | PLANNED BUDGET | | |
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	local municipal stakeholders as well. ($8,000)								
% proportion of awareness and active participation of actors in NDMO policy mainstreaming. # of community outreach and awareness raising initiatives undertaken to foster greater community engagement with EOCs and their trainings Higher than 40% of female participants (or members of the Lao Women's Union).	**2.4A Activity action: undertake an analysis on user and government officials' perceptions and 'pain points'.** Review and enhance NDMO Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) through SOPs, training and equipment (including teleconferencing facilities at NDMO national and provincial levels,) ($74,800)	X	X						74,800
% proportion of the engagement of the most vulnerable population addressed (women minimum 40% and people with disabilities minimum 30% (including physical disabilities due to COVID-19, UXOs) (Human Centered Design).	**2.5A Activity action:** Recruit a national consultant and mentor current and new national staff to improve the quality of existing coordination based on HCD design and information exchange systems (integrating gender equality considerations) ($30,000)	X	X						30,000
Baseline:									

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020 Q4	2021 Q1	Q2	Q3	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
Target:	**2B. Activity Result: (USD 40,000)** *Support to additional DRR related emerging priorities and immediate needs in response to crisis (completion of the evacuation centre). (community outreach will be supported by the ongoing UNDP community radio project)*	X		X					
Indicators:									
One emergency evacuation centre built for the proportion of most vulnerable population (women, PWD, and the Covid-19 affected). % of women and youth engaged in the cash-for-work and skill development programmes to complete the emergency evaluation centre (40% women; 50% youth)	**2.1B Activity action** By using a combined cash for work and skill development approach (with skilled and experienced participants) to complete the already existing structure of the Emergency Evacuation Centre in Khongsedon District, Saravane for disaster preparedness, to empower women and youths for resilient recovery. *($20,000)*	X	X	X	X	UNDP	FW		20,000
# of partnership linkages established with Lao Women's Union and the Vocational Institutions for women's services and PWD	**2.2B Activity action:** Establish partnership with Lao Women's Union for capacity building of women and persons with disability through livelihood empowerment projects e.g. cash transfers to the most vulnerable	X	X	X	X				20,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020 Q4	2021 Q1	Q2	Q3	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	populations for Cash for work for recovery ($20,000)								
	2C. Activity Result (USD 88,000): UNDP CO to advance climate and disaster risk-informed urban resilience portfolio	X	X	X	X				
	2.1C. Activity actions: Programme development and strengthening by project advisory positioning, support and management ($88,000)	X	X	X	X				88,000
# of female & male, and PWD beneficiaries be trained; and # of gender-orientated activities completed.									
Baseline									
Targets: 4 target provinces: NDMO (nationwide) Cash for Work in Huaphanh, Saravane, Sekong, Oudomxay									
Sub Total Output 2									**$262,800**

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | 2020 | 2021 | | | RESPONSIBLE PARTY | PLANNED BUDGET | | |
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
Output 3: ($49,000) Lao Disaster Information Platform (LaoDi) updated and institutionalized at NDMO to support gender-responsive disaster preparedness, recovery and urban resilience *Targets:*	**3. Activity Result.:** Latest version of LaoDi located, updated with missing data and institutionalized at NDMO with trained staff to manage it and routinely update it new disaggregated data and share with all key stakeholders in the country	X	X	X	X	UNDP	FW		
Baseline: LaoDi was established at MONRE and not updated with disaggregated data for the last 5 years	**3.1 Activity action:** Review LaoDi and identify missing data gaps and current data collection template ($1,000) Organize stakeholder consultations to share a work plan and seek inputs on data collection form, missing data, training requirements ($1,000)	X							2,000
NDMO staff are not trained on managing and using LaoDi %female %male staff trained. The disaster data collection form is updated to include data by gender disaggregation and of vulnerable groups	**3.2 Activity action:** Upgrade LaoDi reporting template to meet the requirements of reporting for Sendai Framework and national development plan($2,000); Review and update the disaster data collection form to include gender disaggregated data and data for vulnerable groups (disability, etc.) ($2,000)	X	X						4,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020	2021			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
Few training workshops were organized on LaoDi in the past 5 years	**3.3 Activity action:** Use the finalized data collection form, collect missing data from different national, provincial, municipal/city and district agencies ($8,000)		X	X	X				8,000
The disaster data collection form is updated to include data by gender disaggregation and of vulnerable groups	**3.4 Activity action:** Impart training to identified NDMO staff for managing and administering LaoDi and entering data ($5,000) Complete LaoDi with missing data and update it with most recent available data ($2,000)		X	X	X				7,000
LaoDi is updated with missing data and made accessible to NDMO staff and other key stakeholders	**3.5 Activity action:** Host LaoDi online to ensure its wide access to all (or identify alternative arrangements) ($10,000) (Server is with MONRE)		X	X	X				10,000
NDMO staff, key sectoral agencies and identified stakeholders imparted training to manage, update and use LaoDi Reporting templates and process	**3.6 Activity action:** Impart trainings to key government and identified sectoral nodal agencies and other key stakeholders on Lao Di reporting template and process to derive data and generate data visualization through charts, maps and reports [($4,000]		X	X	X				4,000
LaoDi User Manual developed and disseminated.	**3.7 Activity action:** Develop and update necessary manual and/	X	X						8,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020	2021			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	or 'how-to' guide necessary for managing LaoDi ($8,000)								
Report on analyzing data for a city/ province completed and shared	**3.8 Activity action:** Produce an analytical report for the selected city/ province analyzing the past damages and losses and identifying potential risks ($3,000) Organize workshop to share the findings from the analytical report and identify potential geographical areas and sectors for future interventions for risk reduction and resilience building ($3,000)			x	x				6,000
Output 3 Subtotal									49,000
Output 1,2,3 Subtotal									361,800
Project Management/ Oversight									
Travel cost									2,500
Monitoring and Evaluation (including specific monitoring of gender-orientated activities)									2,500
DPC and UPL UNDP									33,100
GMS (7%)									30,100
Sub-Total									68,200

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	2020	2021		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
	Note: The initiative under Output-3, specifically Activities – 3.6 and 3.7 will be complemented with resource ($10k) and technical expertise support from under the BRH/DRR team led initiative on disaster data and statistics apart from the in-kind support from the Government of Lao to the overall project implementation.							
OVERALL TOTAL								430,000