

BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO

TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES IN THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC



International
Labour
Organization

MOST PEOPLE IN LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (PDR) HAVE NO ACCESS TO SOCIAL PROTECTION

Today, only workers employed in the formal Lao economy (less than 20 per cent of the labour force) benefit from comprehensive social security coverage, while workers in the informal economy lack basic coverage in the event of income loss due to maternity, sickness, unemployment, work injury, disability, old age, or death of the breadwinner. Health insurance coverage is also low, with total coverage estimated at only 27 per cent of the population in 2014 according to official sources (MOH, Lao PDR).

Furthermore, almost no comprehensive social transfer programmes are in place targeting the most vulnerable segments of the Lao population, which stands at just below 7 million, in particular the poor, the near poor, the elderly, and the disabled.

During the past 15 years, the ILO has supported the Government of Lao PDR (GOL) on the establishment of the Social Security Fund, which currently covers over 500,000 workers and their families in the formal economy, including the private sector, state-owned enterprises, and public administration. Participants benefit from comprehensive social security coverage including old-age pensions. Assistance was provided on the development of the legal framework, strengthening of the administrative capacity, and introducing social health insurance and income security benefits.

Assistance is continuing to support GOL in its efforts to extend social security in the private sector through mandatory enrolment and to promote voluntary coverage for self-employed workers. The ILO is also providing support on the harmonization and integration of social security funds and on national schemes to achieve Universal Health Coverage within the next decade.



FORMULATING A SOCIAL PROTECTION STRATEGY

The Government of Lao PDR is planning to formulate a social protection strategy and develop a strategic framework towards the progressive implementation of a social protection floor (SPF) for the people of Lao PDR. An Assessment-based National Dialogue on Social Protection has been completed with ILO support and the report is being finalized. The assessment provides an analysis of:

- policy gaps and implementation issues related to social protection
- a set of policy options with priorities agreed upon by all national stakeholders
- a cost-estimate of the policy options

ASEAN DECLARATION ON STRENGTHENING SOCIAL PROTECTION adopted by all member countries including Lao PDR (2013)

WE, the Heads of State/Government of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), hereby STRIVE to adhere to the following principle:

Everyone, especially those who are poor, at risk, persons with disabilities, older people, out-of-school youth, children, migrant workers, and other vulnerable groups, are entitled to have equitable access to social protection that is a basic human right.



FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Social protection is a priority area of the United National Partnership Framework (UNPF 2017-21) Lao PDR and the 8th Lao National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2016–2020).

You can help us to formulate and implement a comprehensive social protection strategy:

- Phase 1: Formulate a comprehensive social protection strategy and policy framework, including advocacy, capacity building of national stakeholders, and technical assistance on scheme design and costing.

US\$ 750.000

- Phase 2: Implement and evaluate pilot programmes in selected areas and/or for specific target groups, improve central and local capacities on delivery, develop a regulatory framework, draw lessons learned, and advocate for broader implementation.

US\$ 1.400.000

- Phase 3: Support the national implementation of some social protection programmes, develop central and local capacities on integrated benefit delivery, infrastructure systems, financial management, monitoring and evaluation.

US\$ 2.000.000

- Strengthen the institutional capacity of the National Social Security Fund to extend social security and health insurance coverage to the formal and informal sectors through awareness raising, inspection, system management, and actuarial reviews.

US\$ 1.200.000

- Document the country's experience through briefs and videos and contribute to ILO's how-to guides.

US\$ 50,000

LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS

As a donor, you receive regular reports on the progress made and have access to ongoing project activities and performance indicators.

To further discuss your objectives and the ways in which you can support stakeholders in Lao PDR and improve millions of lives, you can contact:



Nuno Meira Simoes Cunha, Senior Social Protection Specialist,
ILO Decent Work Team for East and South-east Asia
cunhan@ilo.org




Khemphone Phaokhamkeo, National Coordinator,
ILO Vientiane, Lao PDR
khemphone@ilo.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE


 <http://iloglobalprogramme.social-protection.org>



AND FOLLOW US ON

 www.facebook.com/SPplatform

 www.twitter.com/soc_protection

 www.youtube.com/user/Ilotv

 www.linkedin.com/company/social-protection-platform