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LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Planning and Investment

United Nations Development Programme

Programme ID (00061662) and Title:
The Programme for Realizing the MDGs in Lao
PDR - Consolidated Programme of Support to MPI
for the Achievement of the Valuable Goals of
the 7th NSEDP/MDGs

ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT

2013

Reporting Period: *January – December 2013*

I. PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Programme ID and title:	00061662 - The Programme for realising the MDGs in Lao PDR - Consolidated Programme of Support to MPI for the Achievement of the Valuable Goals of the 7 th NSEDP/MDGs.
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Planning and Investment [Department of Planning (DOP), Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB), Department of International Cooperation (DIC) and National Economic Research Institute (NERI)].
Responsible Parties (if applicable):	Department of Investment Promotion (DPI), Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI); Department of International Organisation (DIO), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA); and Pilot Provinces.
Donors:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Swiss Development Cooperation (through the PEI programme) and Government of Luxembourg.

Programme Starting date		Programme completion date	
Originally planned	Actual	Originally planned	Current estimate
January 2011	June 2011	December 2015	December 2015

Period covered by this report	January - December 2013
Date of Annual Programme Review	12 th February 2014

Summary of Budget and Expenditures for the whole programme (January - December 2013)	
	Total (US \$)
Total budget	1,894,000
Total expenditure	1,723,459
Total balance to be forwarded	170,541
Delivery rate	91%

II. PURPOSE

The main purpose of this consolidated five-year programme (2011-2015) is to provide more efficient and results-based support to help the Government of Lao PDR achieve the valuable goals of the 7th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED 2011-2015), especially more inclusive and equitable growth, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and substantial progress towards graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status.

The consolidated support programme consists of four mutually supportive components, including (i) support to consultative planning, implementation, monitoring, assessment and reporting on the NSED/MDGs; (ii) support to strengthening effective monitoring and evaluation of progress towards goals of NSED/MDGs via LaoInfo; (iii) support to strengthening the Round Table Process for the Achievement of NSED/MDGs; and (iv) support to advancing Human Development through policy-informing research on Human Development Issues, especially relevant for achieving NSED/MDGs.

Although all programme components aim at assisting the Government of Lao PDR to achieve the valuable goals within NSED, each has differently specific objectives, outputs and activities, and responsible parties. The main objective of the first component, implemented by DOP, is to strengthen the capacity of MPI to translate the five-year NSED into effective results-based annual implementation plans, including public investment programmes, aiming at securing continual progress towards the valuable goals of NSED. The second component, implemented by LSB, aims to strengthen the monitoring of the 7th plan implementation and progress towards the MDGs, which will be achieved through improvement of the common database (LaoInfo) that contains updated data disaggregated by sex, age group, region and ethnicity to support evidence-based planning and decision-making at both national and sub-national levels in a timely manner. The third component that is executed by DIC aims at further strengthening the capacity of MPI, including the DIC in helping the Government lead and facilitate the effective mobilisation, coordination and management of Official Development Assistance (ODA) provided by the Lao PDR's growing number of Development Partners (DPs). The last component's main objective is to help further develop government capacity to undertake applied policy research on strategically-selected human development issues for achieving the valuable goals of NSED/MDGs and advancing the country towards LDC graduation.

The programme has been assisting the Government in achieving the following key priorities/outputs:

Component 1: Support to consultative planning, implementation, monitoring, assessing and reporting on the NSED/MDGs

1. Poverty reduction and MDG priorities incorporated in annual plans and budgets, and prioritized in public investment programme (PIPs);
2. Macroeconomic analysis conducted on a regular basis to inform the Government on key macroeconomic issues that may have implications for the 7th NSED focusing on its annual work plan;
3. With an effective implementation of the Participatory Planning Manual, capacity for local planning and implementation improved at the central and local levels;
4. Enhanced capacity of MPI and planners at the selected provinces/districts to monitor and

report on the plan implementation and MDGs through an improved monitoring framework and tools;

5. Strengthened capacity of the MDG and LDC secretariats to coordinate, advocate and facilitate progress towards the MDGs and implementation of the LDC and LLDC Action Plan, including the Almaty Programme of Action.

Component 2: Support to effective monitoring and evaluation of progress towards goals of NSEDP/MDGs via LaoInfo

6. A Common data base (LaoInfo) supports evidence-based reporting, planning and decision making at the national and sub-national to help guide implementation of NSEDP/MDGs;
7. Increased stakeholder awareness and participation, improved advocacy and dissemination to ensure the best use of official statistics and a synchronisation with planning process is increasingly enhanced;
8. Improved networking and statistical cooperation and knowledge sharing at the national, regional and international levels.

Component 3: Support to strengthening the Round Table Process for achievement of NSEDP/MDGs

9. Enhanced greater substantive dialogues and closer partnership with DPs, and effective resource mobilisation and management through the Round Table Process, including improving Sector Working Group Mechanism, in particular the SWG Secretariats for facilitating effective implementation of NSEDP and VDCAP towards achieving the MDGs in Lao PDR;
10. Through implementation of the Aid Management Platform (AMP), enhanced reliability, accessibility and transparency of ODA related data, information and results through the established ODA database management system and related quality ODA analytical reports/documents;
11. Through the launched of new NIM Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), strengthened capacity of DIC and its Implementing Partners in effectively managing ODA related programmes and projects;
12. Provided quality assurance and support to national implementation management through audit, spot checks and HACT.

Component 4: Support to advancing human development through policy-informing research on human development issues especially relevant for achieving NSEDP/MDGs

13. Further enhanced awareness of the concept of Human Development (HD), and capacity for MDG and Human Development reporting at national and sub-national levels;
14. Produced one high quality National Human Development Report (NHDR), and/or Human Development aspects at provincial dimension;
15. Evidence-based research and analysis to support the implementation of the NSEDP/MDGs.

In accordance to the key priorities/outputs specified above, the key deliverables for each priority/output of the programme are as follows:

Component 1: Support to consultative planning, implementation, monitoring, assessing and

reporting on the NSEDP/MDGs

- 1.1.1 Annual Instruction on formulation and implementation of the annual plan and provincial plans for fiscal year 2013-14 mainstreamed by the MDGs and poverty reduction
- 1.1.2 Green growth projects are approved and included in the two selected provincial plans
- 1.1.3 NSEDP brochure produced and periodical publish a series of NSEDP on the local newspapers
- 1.2.1 Mid Term Review conducted to evaluate the progress of NSEDP VII implementation
- 2.1.1 Quality quarterly reports on macroeconomic analysis produced
- 2.1.2 Supporting documents provided to the Macroeconomic SWG meetings and pre-consultation meetings of the Round Table Meeting
- 3.1.1 Participatory Planning Manual (PPM) is published and implemented during the local level planning process at the selected poorest districts
- 3.2.1 Training of trainers conducted for local planning facilitators on application of the PPM
- 3.2.2 Line ministries and local authorities fully aware of the official PPM
- 4.1.1 A set of 7th NSEDP Monitoring Framework is finalised
- 5.1.1 Successful host Regional Review Meeting on implementation of Almaty Programme of Action (APoP)
- 5.1.2 Public access on MDG advocacy materials
- 5.1.3 A review on implementation of Almaty Programme of Action is completed
- 5.1.4 MDG Progress assessed for production of 3rd Report on MDG Progress

Component 2: Support to effective monitoring and evaluation of progress towards goals of NSEDP/MDGs via LaolInfo

- 1.1. Metadata of key NSEDP indicators is developed
- 1.2. Online DI monitoring tool for NSEDP framework is completed
- 1.3. 7th NSEDP DI monitoring tools are established and disseminated to concerned LMs
- 1.4. IT and training need assessment report is finalised
- 1.5. The issues, gaps and challenges on data utilisation for NSEDP and MDG monitoring including a concept of development M&E framework at provincial level will be discussed and shared among local authorities
- 2.1. Assessment report of data users' needs and capacity is produced
- 2.2. Statistical literacy guide/manual is produced
- 2.3. ToR of technical network/group on LaolInfo and statistical dissemination is prepared
- 2.4. Statistical dissemination strategy is finalised and disseminated
- 3.1. Updated donor coordination ToR
- 3.2. Reports of the workshops/training participated are produced and disseminated in LBS office

Component 3: Support to strengthening the Round Table Process for achievement of NSEDP/MDGs

- 1.1.1 Roadmap and theme of the 11th High Level Round Table Meeting 2013 is prepared based on consultations from sector working groups and relevant stakeholders by Q1 2013
- 1.1.2 Through the successful RT Provincial Consultation conducted in Luang Namtha province, the Provincial development issues are included in the RTM's agenda for discussions
- 1.1.3 Successful organisation of the 11th HL-RTM 2013 held on 19-21 November 2013, including field visit to Luang Prabang province, which facilitate the result-oriented discussions

focused on the acceleration of the off-track MDGs and the mid-term review of 7th NSEDP.

1.1.4 One high quality analytical document which supports the key discussions issues at the RTM was produced and delivered in a timely manner to all development partners and LMs.

1.2.1 SWG secretariat ability to prepare for the work of Round Table Process is increased in accordance to the active engagement in providing reports/information to the analytical document, and contributing to number of SWG meetings and/or trainings organised before the HL RTM.

1.3.1 The revised VDCAP is finalised integrating new action plans from Busan HLF-4 and related aid effectiveness agenda based on the consultation/discussions with concerned LMs and VDCAP Secretariat.

1.3.2 Action plan for following up recommendations of the study on current use of National System is prepared

2.1.1 Enhanced effectively use of AMP for DIC on ODA data collection, storage and analysis to support reporting, e.g., FAIR, Semi-Annual Report and Donor Profile Report

2.2.1 The RTM website has been regularly updated for the public to get access to information related to RTM, especially the reports and other documents of HL RTM available in a timely manner

3.1.1 CDF ToR was prepared and the roadmap to further develop capacity in aid effectiveness area

3.1.2 Finalisation of the NIM SOP in both Lao and English versions

3.1.3 Training curriculum and calendar were prepared for the NIM training course for the IPs and project staffs.

4.1. Annual 2012 NIM Audit reports are prepared

4.2. Facilitated the spot check activities conducted during the year 2013 for all projects supported by UNDP by coordinating and assisting the processes with both UNDP and Implementing Partners.

Component 4: Support to advancing human development through policy-informing research on human development issues especially relevant for achieving NSEDP/MDGs

1.1.1 Draft HD/HDI modules for national university of Laos and training modules for government official prepared

1.1.2 First local Human Development (HD) Journal launched

1.4.1 HD Advocacy and materials are available in ethnic languages

1.4.2 HDR Webpage under NERI Website is created

2.1.1 The 5th NHDR National Advisory Board and Technical Working Group are established

2.1.2 The Concept Note and the Scope of the 5th NHDR is developed

2.1.3 Technical Background Papers (TBPs) are produced

3.2.1 Quality Macroeconomic Updates produced

3.2.2 Research on NSEDP/MDG/LDC graduation related issues produced by research network

The programme is closely linked to the core UNDP mandate in the Lao PDR as well as the UNDAF/CP outcome 1 "By 2015, the Government of Lao PDR has effectively implemented the MDG-based NSEDP for more inclusive, equitable and sustainable development.", and expected CP output 1.1 "Substantially strengthened capacities for NSEDP implementation and increased aid effectiveness."

The programme builds upon earlier capacity building support to several separately implemented UNDP supported projects at MPI in order to generate greater synergies, reduce

overhead and transactions costs, and further increase managerial and administrative efficiency. In addition, the programme will develop more systematic linkages with other UNDP programme activities and those of other UN agencies and development partners. Clearly, this more programmatic approach better conforms to the commitments of the Paris and Vientiane Declarations on Aid Effectiveness.

III. PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS

1. CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRATEGIC GOALS

Country Programme/UNDAF Outcome: By 2015, more equitable and sustainable growth promoted for poor people in Lao PDR

Outcome indicators: % of annual government budget allocated to poverty reduction programmes; % of government revenue from FDI which are invested in health and education sectors per year

Related Strategic Plan focused areas: Poverty Reduction

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
Component 1 - Support to Consultative Planning, Implementing, Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting on the NSEDP/MDGs		
<p>Output 1: Poverty reduction and MDG priorities and programmes in the 7th Plan (2011-2015) are incorporated in annual plans, budgets and public investment programmes (PIPs)</p> <p>Baseline: 1-1. Instruction to focus more on the MDGs and poverty reduction in the annual plan and provincial plans not available yet 1-2. Draft green growth</p>	<p>Output 1.1: The 7th NSEDP is converted into annual plans and PIPs through a consultative manner that emphasizes poverty reduction/MDGs</p>	<p>Annual NSEDP 2013-2014 published both Lao and English versions (300 copies/each).</p> <p>Public Investment Programs 2013-14 printed (100 copies)</p> <p>Mid-term Review in Lao and English versions have been published (300 copies/each) and distributed to the stakeholders and development partners at the 11th High Level Round Table Meeting on 19th November 2013.</p> <p>The Prime Minister's Order No. 14/PM, dated 20/3/2013 regarding the summary of the first 6 months implementation of Annual NSEDP 2012-2013 and formulation of the Annual NSEDP 2013-2014 was endorsed and disseminated to</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>project proposals were prepared for provincial consideration in including them into PIP list.</p> <p>1-3. Mid-term and end-term review of the 6th NSEDP conducted and published</p> <p>Indicator:</p> <p>1-1. Availability of instruction to focus more on the MDGs and poverty reduction in the annual plan and provincial plans</p> <p>1-2. Number of green growth proposals included in the Public Investment Programmes (PIPs)</p> <p>1-3. Availability of mid-term and end-term review of the 7th NSEDP</p> <p>Targets:</p> <p>1-1. Annual instruction on formulation and implementation of the annual plan and provincial plans mainstreamed by the</p>	<p>the line sectors and provincial authorities through the Provincial Department of Planning and Investment.</p> <p>The project provided a support to conduct a meeting at the central level. However, at the provincial level, this activity was carried out with MPI joint funding.</p> <p>The monitoring of PIP & dissemination of Annual NSEDP & PIP 2013-2014 were conducted in Savannakhet province and in other parts, the activity has been conducted in concurrent with workshop activity to guide how to report implementation of NSEDP 2012-2013 plan at provincial level.</p> <p>DoP conducted a series of meetings with concerned sectors at central and provincial levels on identifying PIP 2013-2014 as well as preparing of the Annual NSEDP 2013-2014.</p> <p>This activity has been conducted in concurrent with workshop activity to guide how to report implementation of NSEDP 2012-2013 plan at central level, as mentioned below.</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>MDGs and poverty reduction</p> <p>1-2. Two Green growth projects are approved and included in the two selected provincial plans</p> <p>1-3. NSEDP is mid-term review is conducted and published</p>	<p>Additionally, an internal meeting consultation meeting was organized to draw lessons learnt from the result of the National Planning Meeting which held on 18/09/2013.</p> <p>Brochure on key performance of the Mid-term Review on the 7th NSEDP implementation (including PE concerns) was developed and distributed at the 11th High Level Round Table Meeting (100 copies of Lao versions and 100 copies of English version).</p>	
	<p>An internal consultation meeting at technical level on Decree on PIP Budgeting was organized between 3-5/7/2013; followed by a consultation meeting on PIP budgeting meeting with broader participants was held on 26/7/2013 to guide concerned sector referring to the decree; and thus through line sectors, the local government are informed.</p> <p>In relation to this, special consultation meetings conducted twice to address effective use of the revenue collection from Hydropower sector (Namtheun 2) into the socio-economic development with concerned sectors.</p>	
	<p>The government instruction to guide formulation of annual plan 2013-2014 has been disseminated</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>to line sectors at the central level.</p> <p>At provincial level, DoP has joined a dissemination workshop on instruction for formulation of NSEDP 2013-14 was held between 22-28/9/2013 in Luang Prabang Province organized by MPI. Through this meeting, DoP took initiative in providing guidance to the provincial official from the Northern part in preparing, monitoring and implementing the provincial SEDP 2013-14.</p> <p>In addition to the workshop in the North that organized in the previous Q3, the consultation workshops to provide guidance for Annual Planning, monitoring and Implementation at the provincial level was organized for the Southern Part, in Khammouane between 25th -27th November 2013.</p>	
	<p>The green growth proposals have been briefly completed for Huaphanh and Saravane. However, the DoP will further revise the budget allocation and simplify the proposals to be more practical for small-scale demonstration on green growth projects.</p> <p>Oudomxay province was added as a new pilot province in the green growth planning at local</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>level in addition to Huaphanh and Saravane. Thus, a consultation workshop on "Realizing poverty & Environment linkages and MDGs in the local planning" was organized in Oudomxay between 25-28/9/2013. In this workshop, there are about 70 participants attended from provincial and district levels; of which, about 45% are female.</p> <p>As a result, the participants were involved in the group work activity to demonstrate the planning process that taking into consideration of green/sustainable economy and poverty reduction. Additionally, they were also involved in a demonstration of green growth project determination process to mitigate negative impacts on environment while focusing on socio-economic development.</p>	
<p>Output 1.2: Targeted actions to address off-track MDGs and key environment issues incorporated in annual plans</p>	<p>The Mid-Term Review of 7th NSEDP has been completed through a series of consultation meetings with concerned sectors and development partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15th February, Preliminary Draft of MTR - 3rd April, 1st draft MTR - 17th May, 2nd draft MTR - Content of MTR approved by NA in July 2013. - 23rd August, final draft of MTR in Lao 	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - November, final draft of MTR in English <p>The DoP Taskforce carried out internal reviewing process of MTR under the guidance of Vice Minister of MPI in collaboration with STA and Consultant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 internal consultation meetings on the progress report of 5 years NSEDP (2011-2015) and midterm review carried out - Finally, an internal meeting for finalizing MTR Lao Version was held between 22-23/8/2013. As a result, the final draft of MTR Lao version has been completed and signed by the Minister of MPI. Thus, the English translation of the MTR was also completed in November. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A consultation meeting with concerned sectors and DPs organized on preliminary draft MTR organized on 15th Feb - A consultation on the 1st draft 7th NSEDP mid-term implementation review, held on 3/4/2013. There are 64 participants attended to this meeting including both key government officers and representatives from key development partners - The ultimate consultation workshop was organized with the line ministries, social organizations and Development Partners on 	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>17th May 2013 to obtain comments and recommendations in improving the Draft MTR in the view to broaden participation from relevant stakeholders.</p>	
	<p>Consultation workshop on Draft MTR with members of NA is carried out under the support from MPI Cabinet. The workshop was organized in mid July to discuss on various issues including MTR progress. The NA members generally agreed with the content of MTR and provided comments on some improvements needed especially on further elaborating the progress on MDGs and further reflect effects from kip appreciation, disparity between rural and urban development, labour balance, commercialization and industrialization.</p>	
	<p>The final draft of MTR Lao Version was disseminated to the line government organizations in the National Planning Workshop which was held between 12-13/9/2013. However, the decent printings of both Lao and English versions will be prepared with an aim at distributing and disseminating the MTR to the government agencies and international stakeholders in the next step.</p>	
	<p>The Preliminary Draft National Manual on</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>Formulation of the National Socio-Economic Development Plan of Lao PDR is currently available in English and Lao. It is currently, in the process of improvement.</p> <p>A series of consultations at technical and high level is still needed for finalization.</p>	
	<p>Preparation of monthly, quarterly, mid-term and annual reports on 2012-13 NSEDP implementation was carried out in concurrent with the Mid-term Review on the Implementation of the 7th NSEDP as monthly, quarterly, and annual reports are inputs for the MTR.</p>	
	<p>Development of analysis and pilot demonstrations of targeted actions to address off track MDGs and to support inclusion into annual planning in Oudomxay links to Activity 1.1 “Conduct consultation workshop in Huaphanh and Saravane to follow-up on green growth project listing for two pilot districts into the provincial PIP 2013-2014 and discuss the roll-out plan for the next step implementation”.</p> <p>As a result, key documents for the analysis have been gathered from the local planning and investment authority (Oudomxay Department of Planning and Investment, and Houn District</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>Planning and Investment Office), which include Oudomxay SEDP and Public Investment Programme 2013-14; Houn District SEDP and PIP 2013-14. These will be inputs for the assessment on the priority PIP and ODOP in the pilot district in the next step.</p>	
	<p>Consultation meeting focusing on strengthening PE and MDG linkages into the NSEDP. The DoP participated in the PEI Retreat 2013 in Luang Prabang between 03-05/12/2013, which was organized by Department of Investment Promotion to provide opportunity for all the component of PEI to share achievements, challenges and lessons learnt and discuss 2014 PEI priorities.</p>	
<p>Output 2: Macroeconomic analysis and management conducted to contribute to the macroeconomic achievements outlined in the NSEDP</p> <p>Baseline: 2-1. Quarterly reports on macroeconomic analysis</p>	<p>Output 2.1: The result from the analysis and reports are incorporated into annual plans through a consultative manner which emphasizes on macro-level management to achieve NSEDP and MDGs</p> <p>Conducted monthly consultation meetings with key sectors in charge of macroeconomic management</p> <p>Pre-consultation between the DoP and concerned government agencies have been carried out through unofficial communication modes (telephone, emails)</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>produced</p> <p>2-2. SWGs organized quarterly</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <p>2-1. Availability of quality quarterly reports on macroeconomic analysis</p> <p>2-2. Number of macroeconomic analysis and/or supporting documents provided to the SWG meetings and pre-consultation meetings of the RTMs/RTIMs</p> <p>Targets:</p> <p>2-1. Quality quarterly reports on macroeconomic analysis produced (2011 onward)</p> <p>2-2. At least 2 macroeconomic analysis or supporting documents provided to the SWG meetings and pre-consultation meetings of the RTIM</p>	<p>A Technical Meeting on Macroeconomic SWG was organized on 19/9/2013. There are 35 participants attended from the concerned government agencies and development partners to present on the progress of implementing the 7th NSEDP by referring to the results from the Mid-term Review and discuss about inclusion of the Lao Statistic Bureau as additional component in the Macroeconomic SWG.</p> <p>Executive Meeting of the Macroeconomic Working Group at Lao Plaza on 12 November 2013. There were about 60 people attended in the meeting, about 20 are female, represent MoF, BoL, MPI, other concerned government agencies and DPs.</p> <p>The meeting opened the floor for clear identification on macro issues, especially financial status and the way forward of the government to overcome the relevant issues. Additionally, the introduction to the main concept for the 8th NSEDP preparation was also presented to the meeting for comments.</p>	
	<p>The retreat on Macroeconomic Management organized on 26-28th December 2013, to discuss and summarize key achievements, challenges, and draft annual work plan of the NSEDP project</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Output 3: Capacity for local planning and implementation improved at the central and local levels</p> <p>Baseline: 3-1. Draft participatory planning manual finalized but not yet shared with Development Partners and not yet approved. 3-2. No evaluation of kumban experience conducted by MPI 3-3. Limited capacity building exercises on off-</p>	<p>in supporting the DoP on planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of the 7th NSEDP in the coming 2.5 years and preparation for the formulation of the 8th NSEDP (2016-2020). The result of the retreat will then be incorporated into the draft work plan 2014 for the project and will be presented at the Annual Review Meeting of the UNDP Supporting Programme for MPI components in the 3rd week of January 2014 for approval.</p>	
<p>Output 3.1: Increased understanding on kumban planning experiences on the ground to further improve the process</p>	<p>The launching of PP Manual was postponed to beginning of Q1/2014, the DoP has printed the final draft of the manual aiming at distributing at the launch and disseminating to the local users.</p>	<p>This due to a request from the Vice Minister to launch PPM together with the District Level Planning Manual (supported by GIZ) at the same time to save cost and avoid confusion in implementation. However, as the district level manual still is under the process of printing and will be ready by the beginning of January 2014. The launching is therefore postponed accordingly.</p> <p>In connection to this, the UNDP Programme Analyst has expressed no pressure on organizing the official launching as in reality the PPM has already been applied in some area.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>track MDGs, environment and gender issues, and human development concepts for local planning exercises</p> <p>Indicators: 3-1. Official approval and application of participatory planning manual during the local level planning process at the selected poorest districts</p> <p>3-2. Availability of evaluation of kumban experience</p> <p>3-3. Number of capacity building exercises on off-track MDGs, environment issues, human development concepts and gender issues</p>	<p>Output 3.2: Capacity for local level planners enhanced to promote the use of participatory approaches, incorporate poverty-environment issues and off-track MDGs</p> <p>Training of Trainers for local planning facilitators at the central using the PPM was conducted in Meuan and Vangvieng Districts, Vientiane Province to evaluate implementation of the 3-builds. There are 120 participants from both central and provincial level took part in this event. Additionally, the training of planning & Evaluation related to the implementation of 3 level also conducted from Feb-Mar 2013 in Oudomxay Province. There are 176 participants took part in this training, about 40% were female.</p> <p>In addition, PPM applied in collaboration with the Northern Upland Development Programme that supported by GIZ. PPM has been piloted in the training for the local users, especially at the district and village level in the target provinces under this programme. Up to present, there were more than 200 participants trained and there were about 40% female.</p>	<p>Awaiting to be conducted immediately after the launching of PPM.</p>
<p>Targets: 3-1. Consultation meeting for participatory planning manual approved and officially applied during the local level planning process in selected poorest districts</p>	<p>Workshop to disseminate Participatory Planning Manual and its experience from pilot planning exercise was postponed to Q1/2014.</p> <p>This activity can be immediately conducted once the PPM is launched.</p>	<p>Awaiting to be conducted immediately after the launching of PPM.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>3-2. Evaluation of kumban experience conducted and draft report circulated to stakeholders</p> <p>3-3. At least two capacity building exercises on off-track MDGs, environment issues, human development concepts and gender issues conducted</p>	<p>Monitor Kumban Planning Implementation. In fact, this activity has no financial support but some activities were carried out in concurrent with the pilot Training of Trainers for local planning facilitators at the central using the PPM in collaboration with GIZ Northern Upland Development Programme</p>	
	<p>Evaluation of kumban experience.</p> <p>This activity was on hold and thus postponed to the Work Plan 2014.</p>	<p>The activity was left unfunded due to limited budget in NSEDP Project basket.</p>
<p>Output 4: Substantially improved monitoring, assessment and reporting framework and enhanced capacity of MPI and three provinces to monitor and report on plan implementation using LaoInfo</p> <p>Baseline: 4-1. Key NSEDP monitoring indicators being finalised by LSB 4-2. LaoInfo partly populated but is not yet able to support the NSEDP</p>	<p>Output 4.1: Strengthen monitoring and reporting capacity of MPI and planners with the use of improved and updated data from LaoInfo</p> <p>Coordinate with LSB on synchronizing planning cycle and data collection cycle (DI Monitoring workshop).</p> <p>NSEDP STA has gather information from the concerned sectors to identify the refinement needed for the Draft Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the 7th NSEDP.</p> <p>The NSEDP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Formulation Plan has been produced by STA to assess the Draft NSEDP M&E Framework and provide recommendation for improvement which consist of (i) synchronization is needed with the Statistics Law and the Strategy for National Statistical System Development; (ii) M&E needs to be included in</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p><i>monitoring</i></p> <p>Indicators: 4-1. Availability of a set of approved 7th NSEDP monitoring indicators 4-2. Availability of 7th NSEDP annual progress report generated from Laolnfo every year</p> <p>Targets: 4-1. A set of 7th NSEDP monitoring identified and approved 4-2. Progress report of 7th NSEDP with key indicators and harmonized metadata published</p>	<p>the NSEDP planning process; and (iii) a clearer mandate for NSEDP M&E needs to be made for significant strengthening of the NSEDP M&E system</p> <p>In connection to this, as moving towards the 8th plan preparation, it is proposed by DoP that the M&E framework for 8th NSEDP is equally important and needed to be developed concurrently.</p> <p>The M&E framework is currently being reviewed by the STA in order to improve it in line with the result from the MTR for the 7th plan monitoring and considering developing the 8th plan M&E framework on the outcome basis.</p>	
	<p>Training/Consultation on project prioritization in 3-build pilot districts with focus on poverty reduction and environmental issues was conducted in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meuan and Vangvieng Districts, Vientiane Province: 120 participants from both central and provincial level; - Oudomxay Province: 176 participants, about 40% were female - Sepone District, Savannakhet: 131 participants, about 30% are female. - Champhone District, Savannakhet 	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>province. 145 participants attended from line provincial departments and concerned district offices. The training did not only build awareness and evaluate implementation of the 3 build directive, but also emphasized on the importance of PE and MDG linkages in the planning process.</p>	
	<p>Finalise 7th NSEDP M&E framework to disseminate at within MPI, with line ministries and DPs.</p> <p>The framework is being revised by the project STA. The new structure of the M&E has been proposed to the PM for approval on overall changes on the framework to link the framework more clearly with the main goals of 7th NSEDP.</p> <p>Therefore, the framework is proposed to be finalized internally between UNDP and STA by January 2014. After that, a series of consultations are to be organized with concerned stakeholders in the next step.</p>	
	<p>Consultation workshop to finalize 7th NSEDP M&E Framework with all stakeholders was postponed.</p>	<p>Due to delay in finalizing M&E framework. This activity and immediately conducted once the M&E Framework is finalized.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Output 5: Strengthened capacity of the MDG and LDC Secretariats to coordinate, advocate and facilitate progress towards the MDGs and implementation of the LDC Plan of Action (MOFA)</p> <p>Baseline: 5.1. 2008 Second MDG Progress Report available 5.2. MDG advocacy materials not available for public</p> <p>Indicators: 5.1. Availability of draft report on Brussels LDCs Plan of Action 5.2. Production of new MDG advocacy materials for public</p> <p>Targets: 5.1. New LDC Plan of</p>	<p>Output 5.1: Increased MDG advocacy and awareness of the LDC Plan of Action at provincial levels</p> <p>Strengthen English skills for DIO officials in preparation of the MDG Progress Report.</p> <p>Lao delegation joined the workshop in Geneva on LDC graduation in July 2013. The workshop was a greatly a useful source of information for the delegation on LDC and way forward its graduation by 2020, as the key 2020 vision of the Government of Lao PDR.</p> <p>Additionally, the project has also support Lao delegation to attend the 68th UNGA Workshop in New York between 21st Sept – 1st Oct 2013. The workshop did not only provide opportunity for Lao delegation to present the progress of Lao PDR towards LDC, LLDC, and MDG; but also allowed the delegation to learn lesson from experience sharing from other country members in order to adopt the best practice into implementation of development agenda of Lao PDR.</p>	
	<p>Study visit to LDCs was postponed.</p>	<p>Due to difficulty in identifying the meeting country venue where there is proximity in the development pattern and pace with Lao PDR.</p>
	<p>Internal Preparatory Meeting on the LLDCs Regional Review was conducted.</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Action drafted</p> <p>5.2. MDG advocacy materials produced and disseminated</p>	<p>Supported DIO in necessary activities to prepare for hosting the Almaty Programme of Action Final Regional Review (LLDCs) held on 5-7 March 2013 in Vientiane.</p>	
	<p>Participated in the Workshop for the National Focal Points of the Least developed Countries in Geneva.</p> <p>Lao delegation joined the workshop in Geneva on LDC graduation in July 2013. The workshop was a greatly a useful source of information for the delegation on LDC and way forward its graduation by 2020, as the key 2020 vision of the Government of Lao PDR.</p>	
	<p>Inter Ministerial Meetings on Draft of MDGR3. The MDGR3 completed and embedded overall remarkable achievements in economic and social sectors over the past two decades or so.</p>	
	<p>The MDGR3 was launched.</p>	
	<p>Lao delegation attended the MDG Regional Meeting and 69th Annual Session of UNESCAP between 25th April 2013 – 1st May 2013 Bangkok, Thailand to exchange experience and presented the country report on MDG implementation progress.</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
Component 2 - Support to Effective Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress towards Goals of NSEDP/MDGs via LaoInfo		
<p>Output 1: An effective Common data base established to support evidence-based reporting, planning and decision making at the national and sub-national to help guide implementation of NSEDP/MDGs.</p> <p>Baseline: 1.1. Draft of NSEDP metadata 1.2. Draft of NSEDP indicators 1.3 NA 1.4. Di monitoring tool 1.5. Statistical law, Degree, MDG database and village book and CBMS report</p> <p>Indicators: 1.1. Availability of metadata of key NSEDP indicators</p>	<p>Output 1.1: Shared database for MPI departments and other users upgraded and regularly updated with data needed to support effective implementation of NSEDP/MDGs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Development of metadata for key NSEDP indicators: "metadata handbook (Lao and English version)" was produced. The handbook provides introduction on what is metadata and how is it used. It also provides metadata of key NSEDP indicators. It is expected that the handbook will support government officials to get a common understanding on key NSEDP indicators and consistency in data collection and interpretation. The handbook also provides an introduction of the application of LaoInfo database, an official data dissemination tool of the government, which stores social and economic indicators from various surveys and census, e.g 2012 LSIS, 2005 population census. To enhance public access and understanding on LaoInfo, LaoInfo booklet was produced and distributed to LMs.</i> • <i>Develop DI Monitoring tool and dashboard to 7th NSEDP monitoring framework. The activity closely linked to the finalization of the 7th NSEDP M&E framework which under the responsibility of the Department of Planning/MPI. The activity will be carried out</i>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>1.2. Availability of DI monitoring framework for NSEDP</p> <p>1.3. 7th NSEDP DI monitoring tool are Established and disseminated to concerned LMs.</p> <p>1.4. Capacity and IT needs assessment of LSB and LMs on the use of LaoInfo as the common data base to monitor the implementation of the 7th NSEDP is finalized</p> <p>1.5. Availability of report of the workshop on improving Local Statistical Utilization for NSEDP monitoring and raising awareness to achieve MDG goals</p> <p>Targets:</p> <p>1.1. Metadata of key NSEDP indicators are developed.</p> <p>1.2. Online DI monitoring tool for NSEDP framework.</p> <p>1.3. 7th NSEDP DI</p>	<p>after the finalization of M&E framework by DOP in Q1 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity and IT needs assessment of LSB and LMs on the use of LaoInfo as the common data base to monitor the implementation of the 7th NSEDP: the two assessments were conducted and completed, through it took much longer time than expected due to the capacity to the consulting firm. It is expected that the assessment will be a useful reference for LSB to development concrete strategy for the improvement of the LaoInfo database and maintain the sustainability of the database. Workshop on Improving Local Statistical Utilization for NSEDP monitoring and raising awareness on MDGs: The consultation Workshop was conducted in Huaphanh Province on 25-30/3/2013. The participants are the Provincial Head of Government Office, District Governor and Deputy district Governor from Huaphanh, Xiengkhuang, Xayabouly, Luangprabang Provinces with the total of 63 participants. The workshop aimed to investigate and explore the issues, gaps, and challenges on production and 	

Annual outputs/ output targets		Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>monitoring tool are Established and disseminated to concerned LMs.</p> <p>1.4. IT and training need assessment report is finalized.</p> <p>1.5 The issues, gaps and challenges on data utilization for NSEDP and MDG monitoring including a concept of development M&E framework at provincial level will be discussed and shared among local authorities.</p>		<p>utilization of statistical information for NSEDP and MDG monitoring and identify the local needs for development the national statistical system at local level in order to improve the local authorities' understandings and capacities in using the available information; the workshop gave opportunities for LSB to share the statistical information/documents such as statistical law, SD, and NSS to the participants during the workshop; participants to share experiences on producing village statistics for local planning and policy making. For example, the experiences on using the Community Based Monitoring System project (CBMS); LSB to share key statistical information/documents such as statistical law, SD, and NSS; and both parties to discuss the needs and important of 7th NSEDP M&E framework; Based on the evaluation of the workshop, it was indicated that 90% of participants has improved their understandings and has been aware of the relevant statistical documents and other relevant national documents such as the strategy of National Socio-economic Development 2010-2020</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Output 2: Increased stakeholder awareness and participation, improved advocacy and dissemination to ensure the best use of official statistics;</p> <p>Baseline: 2.1 and 2.2 International consultant to carry out the assessment and to produce the manual was recruited but fail to deliver the output.</p> <p>Indicators: 2.1 Availability of Assessment of Data users' needs and capacity 2.2 Availability of statistical literacy guide/manual in accordance to the results of the assessment</p> <p>Targets: 2.1 Assessment report of Data Users' Need and Capacity is produced.</p>	<p>Output 2.1: Capacity building support established for statistics users, planners and administrators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of Data users' needs and capacity: the first data users' needs and capacity assessment was conducted with the technical support from an international consultant under the leadership of LSB. The assessment has provided clear picture on the gap between data users' needs and producer (LSB) data supply; and provide suggestions and priority to improve LSB data services to users as well as provide concrete suggestions on improvement of data users' capacity. Statistical literacy guide/manual in accordance to the results of the assessment: based on the results of assessment of Data users' needs and capacity the literacy guide for data users was produced under the leadership of LSB through series of consultations and inputs from LMs. The guide aims to explain and illustrate some important issues from official statistics, which is the type of information that is gathered and by national statistical organizations. Based on the guidebook TOT trainings was conducted for key statistical officials at LMs. It is expected that participants of the training will be able to provide similar training to wider audience. 	

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<p>2.2 Statistical Literacy Guide/manual is produced</p> <p>Output 3: Improved networking and statistical cooperation at the national, regional and international levels.</p> <p>Baseline: 3.1 Workshop reports have been shared among LSB staff</p> <p>Indicators: 3.1 Availability of workshop reports indicating how the Lao participants have benefited from the workshop.</p> <p>Targets: 3.1 Workshop reports indicating how the Lao participants have benefited from the attended workshop prepared.</p>	<p>Output 3.1: Enhanced capacity of LSB to coordinate work on statistics with line ministries and development partners.</p> <p>The project supported two LaoInfo focal points from LSB to attend the training on DevInfo Advanced Lab conducted on 13-17th may 2013 in India. As consequence, the LaoInfo focal points have learnt and gained more knowledge and skills on DevInfo advanced technology topics, including Database management, Mapping management, Web master and Emergency Info in the DevInfo lab setting. In addition, the LaoInfo focal points had opportunities to interact one-on-one with the training and technical support team during the training, which helps them to build relationships and partnerships with both national and regional network</p> <p>Furthermore, the LaoInfo focal points would be able to apply the lessons learnt & gained from the training into the Lao PDR context, especially into the LaoInfo-related works such as an efficient approach to update data, the DevInfo Web application, and how to maintain and develop customized DevInfo adaptations.</p>	<p>The project supported some LSB senior and technical staffs to attend the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Conference conducted</p>

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	<p>in Brunei on 10-12 September 2013. As a result, the representatives who attended this conference have opportunities to contribute to the discussions on various topics related to Statistical rural and outcomes from the statistic works of Asian countries members. For example, there are interesting discussions on the implementation of Asian Statistics Rule (ASEAM Code of Practice), the annual implementation plan of networking statistics, the implementation of building strengths of implementation and follow up of ASEAM Statistics Committee, and of cooperation with negotiation and development partners.</p> <p>At the end of the conference, the Conference agreed and approved the Asian Statistical Indicator (ASI), approved the policy and guideline of data adaptation, keeping confidentiality, and Asian Statistics Dissemination, importantly prioritized and gave an important direction for improving Statistical work among Asian members to networking to be the ASEAM Statistics Community.</p>	
Component 3 - Support to Strengthening the Round Table Process for Achievement of NSEDP/MDGs		
<u>Output 1</u> Enhanced greater	<u>Output 1.1</u> Effective meetings and	In terms of preparations for the 11 th HL-RTM 2013, DIC in collaboration with UNDP had

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>substantive dialogues and closer partnership with DPs, and effective resource mobilisation and management through the Round Table Process, including improving Sector Working Group Mechanism for facilitating effective implementation of NSEDP and VDCAP towards achieving the MDGs in Lao PDR</p> <p><u>Targets:</u></p> <p>1.1. Roadmap and theme for RTIM/RTM is prepared annually.</p> <p>1.2. At least one provincial development issues are included in the list of RTIM/RTM pre-consultation.</p> <p>1.3. Results-oriented RTIMs/RTMs focused on most important issues and recommended actions needed to advance effective implementation of NSEDP/MDGs organised.</p>	<p>consultations organised to increase common understanding on national development priorities and mobilise necessary support to NSEDP implementation, and increased quality, practical focus and coherence of documentation for RTIMs/HLRTMs and pre-consultation meetings</p> <p>developed the 2013 RTM Roadmap which includes the meeting theme, focused areas and timelines. This draft roadmap was shared in advance with all LMs and DPs concerned particularly those who are chairs and co-chairs of SWGs for information and further comments/ feedbacks before its finalisation.</p> <p>The RTP Retreat was held on 27-28 February 2013 at the Riverside Boutique Resort in Vang Vieng to specifically discuss the draft roadmap including the preparation plan for the 11th HL-RTM. The Retreat was actively participated by approximately 50 representatives from both the Government ministries/agencies and development partners especially those are chairs and co-chairs of SWGs. In particular, all participants actively participated in the plenary and group discussions of various issues especially related to structure of the RTP, nature of stakeholder involvement, expected outcomes/common expectations of the RTP and future direction of the RTP. As a result, the roadmap was revised based on discussions and agreements, and then reported to the Government for guidance and further actions.</p>	<p>It is noted that there was a delay in organizing NSC Meetings if compared</p>
	<p>The National RTP Steering Committee (NSC)</p> <p>Meeting was organised twice in 2013. One was</p>	

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<p>1.4. At least one high quality analytical documents which support RTP produced and delivered in a timely manner.</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <p>1.1. Theme, consultation topics and roadmap are drafted, consulted and prepared at least by Q1 2013.</p> <p>1.2. Number of provincial development issues included in the pre-consultation topics for RTIM/RTM.</p> <p>1.3. Existence of the RTIM/RTM and related meetings that are organised according to the meeting framework and agreed theme.</p> <p>1.4. Analytical background document for RTIM/RTM is available and delivered one month prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented</p> <p>on 3rd May and another on 8th November 2013 at the MPI's Conference Hall.</p> <p>The revised roadmap of RTM 2013 as well as some of significant issues were presented and discussed at the first meeting, and in this connection, the Government has initially agreed with the proposed RTM roadmap and preparation plan, and instructed relevant ministries to take into consideration and implement accordingly. Key issues discussed and agreed at the meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future direction of the RTP that there will be RTIM organised annually; next RTM organised after the completion of 8th NSEDP; and after that the RTM will be held every 5 years • Organisation of Provincial Consultation Meeting: focus on provinces where there were difficulties in implementing MDGs • CSO involvement in the RTP mechanism: NGOs could be invited to attend the provincial consultation meeting as a pilot, and then selection criteria will be considered whether they can self-select their representatives to attend RTIM/RTM • Focus and purpose of sensitization missions to donor countries: further discussion is required 	<p>to the plan. This should be held in early Q1 and end of Q3 in order to ensure that roadmap is approved by the Government with guidance on relevant significant issues.</p>

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	<p>The second NSC meeting was organised in November to report on progress of RTM preparation including key issues that might be raised by development partners during the RTM for guidance.</p>	
	<p>As part of the preparatory process for the 11th HL-RTM in November, Ministry of Planning and Investment in collaboration with Luang Namtha Provincial Authorities had organized a Local Round Table Consultation Meeting in Luang Namtha province between 27-28 June 2013 under the theme and focus of "Addressing Food and Nutrition Security Issues for the Northern provinces". The meeting was participated by more than 180 representatives from Government agencies, line Ministries and northern provincial authorities as well as representatives from Development Partners, including non-resident DPs, international organizations, private sector, INGOs and NPAs.</p> <p>The key objective of this consultation was to provide an important forum of exchange to discuss and address malnutrition issues in a more innovative and practical manners, expecting to gather inputs and ideas from all parties concerned at all levels as to build an</p>	<p>Although the goal of this provincial consultation is to come up with elements of provincial/regional action plan on food and nutrition security, just a first step of the discussion was accomplished. Therefore, there is a need to move forward with this first step.</p> <p>In this connection, some further action areas are highlighted such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a clear need for targeted interventions to implement the entire national strategy plan. However, targeting interventions require availability of reliable data, and this can be relying on the Lao Social Indicator Survey (LSIS) in order to estimate financial implication, so it is critical that the LSIS is to be released as soon as possible.

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	<p>agreement towards a concrete action plan to tackle the poverty and hunger and malnutrition problems in Lao PDR and successfully achieve this goal by 2015.</p> <p>Remarkably, the consultation meeting was held with satisfactory results as it allowed all participants, especially those from central level and provinces as well as development partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A better understanding of regional (provincial) malnutrition issues including strengths and challenges as well as the needs from localities; (ii) Strengthened coordination within provincial stakeholders as well as between the provincial authorities and central government and donors especially on supports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite resource constraints and limitation, addressing food and nutrition security is priority. Therefore, low cost for low cost interventions within the targeted interventions should be considered. • Greater coordination mechanism at all levels is required to help address food and nutrition security in a coordinated approach. • Commitments and support from DPS especially the UN agencies are needed in following up, preparing and finalizing the regional action plan for the Northern Provinces.
	<p>A donor mission/collective meeting with non-residential DPs was conducted in Bangkok and Hanoi in September and October 2013 to present /share with DPs the Government's progress and achievements in the implementation of its 7th NSEDP/MDGs for the first two and a half years, based on results of Mid-Term Review conducted.</p>	<p>As planned this kind of mission should have been conducted in the Q2. Unfortunately, it was postponed to be done at the end of Q3 and beginning of Q4 due to the time constraint and unavailability of the full team during the planned mission period.</p> <p>In terms of programme and approach, it is recommended that donor mission</p>

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	<p>In order to serve as a very important reference for informing the key discussions at the 11th HL-RTM 2013, the Background Document was prepared based on inputs from SWGs, concerned ministries and development partners focusing on results of Mid Term Review of the 7th NSEDP 2011-2015 and 3rd MDGs Progress Report. The Document was finalized and shared with registered participants prior to the RTM in November.</p>	<p>should be organised in the way that the Government can present DPs its development plans and priorities, especially progress and challenges in the implementation, as well as resource requirements, etc. The mission/collective meeting should take at least half day to discuss and ensure mutual understanding of development issues and as a result DPs can make commitments and provide support.</p>
	<p>The 11th High Level Round Table Meeting (HL-RTM), chaired by His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and co-chaired by Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director of</p>	<p>Despite 11th HL-RTM's successful results, there are a number of issues and actions to be considered and further undertaken by relevant LMs and DPs.</p>

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	<p>UNDP Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, was organised on 19th November 2013 at National Convention Center in Vientiane. Lao PDR with the participation of total 300 representatives from both Government agencies in line ministries and provincial authorities, and development partners including representatives of private sector and CSOs such as INGOs and NPAs.</p> <p>The meeting was organised with successful outcomes. Notably, in terms of substantive dialogue, the discussions were more focused and constructive on key development issues especially related to macroeconomic management and growth, off-track MDGs and related action plans, governance reforms, and effective development cooperation; and their action plans.</p> <p>After the RTM, heads of delegation paid a courtesy call on His Excellency Choummaly Sayasone, President of the Lao PDR on 20th November 2013 to report on the outcomes of the 11th HL-RTM, and followed by field visit to Luang Prabang province.</p> <p>The full report of the meeting was produced and uploaded to the RTM Website.</p>	<p>In terms of macroeconomic management and growth, the Government will need to sustain the growth with adequate measures to cope with potential economic shocks by allocating sufficient budget for MDGs related sectors. In this connection, effective coordination mechanism is needed to ensure greater coherence of macroeconomic policies.</p> <p>In addition, Public Finance Management reforms, including integration of budget and plan processes should be implemented moving towards a MTEF approach to public investments. Furthermore, to ensure economic diversification, non resource sectors need to be strengthened while adhering to social and environmental safeguards, and enhancing human resources development including capacity building for statistical agencies to ensure data consistency and reliability.</p> <p>In relation to implementation of off-track MDGs which include MDGs 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9; wider consultation and participation</p>

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		<p>of all stakeholders are required to accelerate the progress towards MDG achievement. In particular, discussion should be focusing on formulation and effective implementation of MDG off-tracks related actions plan with sufficient financial supports.</p> <p>In terms of governance reforms, people's participation including CSO and private sector involvement, as well as access to laws and regulations and their implementation on the ground should be enhancing through the National Assembly's role, including capacity development for national and local authorities to implement the 3-build directive and issues related to land management.</p> <p>Apart from this, development cooperation for better results is another issue that the Government has encouraged Development Partners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide full support to AMP ensuring greater transparency and full use of its capacities. - increase the level of budget support and enhance alignment

Annual outputs/ output targets		Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
		Train local staff working on development cooperation in provinces such as Houaphanh, Xiengkhouang, and Vientiane in 2013 to disseminate and guide the implementation of the Government's 3-Build Directive especially in the area of ODA management.	through programme based approaches. - integrate PIUs, increase the use of national systems and the number of joint reviews and evaluations.
<p><u>Targets:</u></p> <p>1.2.1. At least two meetings and dialogue per SWG per year are focused on their sectoral issues which contribute to NSEDP annual formulation and implementation.</p> <p>1.2.2. SWG benchmarks to measure their progress developed.</p> <p><u>Indicators:</u></p> <p>1.2.1. Number of SWG meetings focus on their sectoral issues which</p>	<p><u>Output 1.2</u></p> <p>DIC capacities strengthened to more effectively guide, support and facilitate the work of Sector Working Groups, ensuring more effective SWGs to better respond to the Government's needs in implementing the 7th NSEDP and VDCAP towards achieving the MDGs</p>	<p>SWG submitted their ToR and structure/composition based on a Generic ToR and structural template of SWG provided, and then to officially inform DIC/MPI for further information and monitoring purpose. However, just eight SWGs submitted on a timely basis and not all were in accordance with requirements.</p> <p>DIC focal persons from relevant divisions had coordinated and attended a series of SWG meetings leading up to the 11th HL-RTIM in order to ensure issues discussed in such meetings were in line with the selected RTM theme and focused areas.</p>	<p>More guidance from DIC on the revision is required. Therefore, it is essential that DIC plans for a dedicated training for SWG secretariat in order to address this capacity issue.</p> <p>In order to ensure greater coordination between DIC and SWGs, DIC relevant focal points are recommended to keep closely coordinate and obtain updated calendar of events or meeting schedule and then reflect them in the RTM Website for information. In addition, it is important that the focal points reported</p>

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<p>contribute to NSEDP annual formulation and implementation. 1.2.2. Clear guidance that includes benchmarks and review mechanism for SWGs are available.</p>	<p>As planned, meetings of SWG Secretariats to review and discuss their strengths, weaknesses and actions plans were scheduled to conduct in Q2 and Q4 of 2013. Yet, this kind of meetings had not been held as planned due to the time constraints. In this connection, however, SWG Secretariats were always invited to join a number of meetings on the preparation of RTP related meetings and pre-consultations, especially the Provincial Round Table Consultation Meeting held in Luang Namtha province in June, the 11th HL-RTM held in Vientiane in November, as well as involve in the whole process of revising the Vientiane Declaration on Aid Effectiveness Country Action Plan (VDCAP) and other aid and development effectiveness agendas.</p> <p>Apart from this, an email correspondence between DIC/MPI and SWGs has been in place to coordinate and update each other on the plans and event calendar in order to prepare for the RTM. This way is considered more effective in terms of time consumption but still needs greater</p>	<p>back to the DIC management on the key issues arose from each meeting they have attended to ensure greater information/knowledge sharing within DIC/MPI.</p> <p>It is recommended that SWG Secretariats should have been meeting on a quarterly basis to update and share progress and challenges of sector plan implementation, exchange view and idea on how to implement their relevant planned activities smoothly and effectively.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>coordination and follow-up from DIC/MPI.</p> <p>SWG Chairs and Co-chairs normally meet on a quarterly basis to exchange ideas and discuss specific agenda items. In 2013, the meeting was just organised twice in February and June to discuss the roadmap of 11th HL-RTM, including updates on progress of the preparation for the provincial round table consultation, and other key activities leading to the RTM such as finalization of the SWG structure, and VDCAP revision.</p> <p>Although the 3rd Quarterly Meeting of SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs was postponed to take place at the end of October or early November, this had not been organised as scheduled due to the time constraint. In this regard, however, an official letter was sent to all line ministries/ agencies concerned and development partners to update them on progress of the 11th HL-RTM preparation including other leading up activities.</p>	<p>It has been noted that it is quite difficult to hold SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs Meeting quarterly due to the time constraint. Therefore, it is recommended that the meeting should be organised at least twice a year.. Nevertheless, closer coordination among DIC/MPI and SWGs is strongly required to ensure things are updated and on track.</p>
	<p>SWG mailing list and event calendar for sharing information and coordination have not yet been systematically set up and regularly updated due to the lack of SWGs' information and realistic plans/schedules.</p>	<p>Information about SWGs is not consistently shared with DIC/MPI. So updating the calendar is quite difficult. However, DIC will show the event calendar of as many Round Table relevant meetings as the secretariat can in the RTM Website.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets		Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Targets:</p> <p>1.3.1. The VDCAP is updated and new action plans from Busan HLF-4 and related aid effectiveness agenda are integrated into it.</p> <p>1.3.2. VDCAP implementation progress is updated quarterly through SWG Chair and Co-Chair Meeting.</p> <p>1.3.3. A study on current use of National Systems is prepared.</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <p>1.3.1. Availability of the updated version of VDCAP which integrated new aid effectiveness commitments.</p> <p>1.3.2. Availability of VDCAP monitoring system and tools.</p> <p>1.3.3. Availability of the assessment study on the status of using Country</p>	<p>Output 1.3</p> <p>Progressively measurable implementation of VDCAP, promoting and strengthening capacities of the Government to increase effective implementation of aid effectiveness agenda at national, regional and global levels</p>	<p>In line with global and regional requirements, Ministry of Planning and Investment in collaboration with Government ministries/agencies concerned and development partners especially Co-Chairs of SWGs and all signatories on Vientiane Declaration (VD) on Aid Effectiveness, has revised the VD Country Action Plan (VDCAP) based on global monitoring framework, assessment study on the use of national systems, and other emerging aid effectiveness agenda. The pre-final version of VDCAP has been shared with both Government ministries/agencies and development partners by Email for confirmation and further suggestions on how to develop the monitoring tools to monitor the progress of VDCAP implementation.</p>	<p>It has been noted that the revision process of VDCAP took too long due to the fact that the revised versions are hardly to be recognised by relevant parties although a series of consultation meetings were conducted to discuss and validate such revised versions. The delay was also caused by an ineffective communication among the secretariat in terms of the process required for finalisation and endorsement of the VDCAP.</p> <p>In this connection, it is recommended that there is a need for VDCAP secretariat to review and discuss the way forward and relevant stakeholders are encouraged to report on their VDCAP implementation progress to DIC/MPI on quarterly basis.</p>
		<p>In order to enhance South-South cooperation, DIC/MPI representatives have participated in the following regional workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aid Information Management System (AIMS) Workshop on 3rd May 2013 in Yangon, Myanmar. In this workshop, DIC 	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>System in Lao PDR.</p> <p>Output 2 Enhanced reliability, accessibility and transparency of ODA related data, information and results through the established ODA database management system and related quality ODA analytical reports/documents</p>	<p>Output 2.1 The Aid Management Platform (ODA Database) is in place and fully operational as a tool to effectively analyse and plan ODA needs</p> <p>The ODA Database/AMP System that was established within DIC/MPI since 2010 has been regularly functioned and populated data. In 2013, the system was lately upgraded to a version 2.3 with public portal and geocoding features, and is in the process of gathering DP data and information to update and populate in AMP system with current activities under the Lao Fiscal Year 2012-13. This system with new features was just launched during the 11th HL-RTM in November 2013.</p>	<p>In terms of system management, despite good progress made thus far, DIC/MPI has been encountering some technical difficulties in implementing AMP system in Lao PDR, especially related to the capacity to manage the system. Apart from system maintenance skill, it is advised that there is a need for DIC to perform an analytical review and/or reconciliation between ODA commitments and disbursements on a quarterly basis to ensure greater management of ODA flows.</p>
<p>Output 2 Enhanced reliability, accessibility and transparency of ODA related data, information and results through the established ODA database management system and related quality ODA analytical reports/documents</p> <p><u>Targets:</u> 2.1.1. DIC is able to effectively use AMP for ODA Data Collection, Storage and Analysis to support reporting, e.g FAIR 2010-11, Semi-Annual</p>	<p>The sustainability paper including data management plan, as well as data entry and report generation manuals have been developed by Development Gateway (DG) for DIC relevant</p>	<p>The late finalisation of AMP related documentation was due to the fact that some activities do not meet DIC's actual requirements. In addition, there was a</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Report, and Donor Profile Report.</p> <p>2.1.2. After a study visit, DIC has a better understanding of key strategy and technical capacity required for achieving the AMP implementation.</p> <p>2.1.3. AMP System Manuals are developed and disseminated.</p> <p>2.1.4. Sustainability Paper including Data Management Plan which indicates clear roles and responsibilities of the core Ministries over AMP is completed.</p>	<p>administrators and operators as well as Donor Focal Agents (DFAs). These need to be revisited and finalised based new direction.</p> <p>A regular data support had been provided to DFAs by DIC relevant AMP Admin Team. Also, training on AMP implementation and management was conducted for DIC AMP Users and appointed DFAs in February 2013 to ensure greater understanding of AMP usage and management by DFAs particularly related to information/data entry.</p> <p>Apart from this, two persons from DIC also participated in the Workshop on AIMS in May 2013 in Yangon, Myanmar.</p>	<p>change within the Development Gateway AMP team in charge of Lao PDR and was not properly handed over on the pending tasks, therefore causing delay in the delivery. Thus, further revision is needed prior to finalisation.</p> <p>Some workshops/consultation meetings to review progress, share lessons learned, exchange view and experience in using the AMP system were postponed due to unclear objectives and budget constraint.</p>
	<p>A study visit to Nepal to exchange lessons learned on AMP implementation and management was cancelled.</p>	<p>This activity was cancelled due to the time constraint of both Lao and Nepalese AMP teams, as well as at that time the Lao AMP system was more advance than the Nepalese one.</p>
	<p>The ODA Semi-Annual Report 2012/13 was produced and published, as well as draft Foreign Aid Implementation Report (FAIR 2012/13) was</p>	<p>It is noted that the process of drafting FAIR 2012/13 started a bit late, resulting in a delay in finalization of the</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	also prepared and shared during the 11 th HL-RTM on 19 th November 2013.	draft until the date of RTM 2013. This is due to the fact that there were limited discussions among stakeholders early on in the process of report preparation and as a result the draft still lacked significant analysis. There is a need to also agree on the methodology and source of data before the report is produced.
<p>Output 2.2 Regular communication and publication of quality related ODA analytical reports/documents</p>	The content and structure of RTM Website were already revised and its new outlook has been available for public access since November 2013.	It is recommended that the RTM Website should be updated and ensure that it is functioning regularly to ensure that up-to-date information is properly uploaded to the site for further information and reference. DIC has to clearly assign a responsible person and clear approval process with regards to the RTM website management.
	The RTP Booklet with both Lao and English languages has been published and distributed at the 11 th HL-RTM 2013 in November.	
	A Special Edition on ODA Review 2013 was produced and distributed during the 11 th HL-RTM in November.	ODA newsletter could not be published quarterly in 2013 due to the fact that the DIC Communication Person was resigned and there was a gap during the transition.

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Output 3 Strengthened capacity of DIC and its Implementing Partners in effectively managing ODA related programmes and projects</p> <p>Targets: 3.1.1. CDF TOR prepared; 3.1.2. DIC pool of trainers/experts team established; 3.1.3. Trainings menu for DIC in managing ODA prepared; 3.1.4. Government officials and NIM project staff capacity is enhanced through trainings.</p> <p>Indicators: 3.1.1. Availability of CDF TOR; 3.1.2. Availability of DIC pool of trainers/experts team; 3.1.3. Availability of trainings menu for DIC in managing ODA;</p>	<p>Output 3.1 DIC has increased capacity and resources to identify key capacity gaps and address them through establishing a capacity development facility</p> <p>After reviewing all capacity development facility (CDF) related documents, it is noted that the CDF recommended for Lao PDR is very comprehensive system that covers all DPs active in Lao PDR. In this connection, DIC/MPI views that a simple capacity development plan is more suitable. But to go with a big facility, more consultation will be required.</p> <p>DIC/MPI in collaboration with UNDP has developed the NIM Guidelines (Standard Operational Procedures/SOP) to be used as a manual for project management. Draft SOP was presented at the workshops for all UNDP supported programme and project management teams, including support staffs for comments in February 2013. This SOP was finalised based on comments/feedbacks from project management teams, translated into Lao language, and already launched in December 2013 for further implementation.</p>	<p>Delay in finalising and rolling out the NIM guidelines (SOP) resulted in a postponement of all activities related to training and workshops for DIC and implementing partners (IPs) relevant staff, especially related to creation of trainers/resource persons list, and training calendar and curriculums.</p>
	<p>A Joint Annual Review Meeting of the MPI Programme was organised on 1st February 2013 at Lao Plaza Hotel to review progress and challenges of the programme implementation as well as discuss future priorities. The meeting was followed by a Programme Board Meeting to discuss and endorse the programme annual work</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>3.1.4. Government officials and NIM project staff capacity is enhanced through trainings.</p>	<p>plan and budget 2013.</p>	
<p>Output 4 Provided quality assurance and support to national implementation management through audit, spot checks and HACT</p>	<p>Quarterly meeting of the MPI programme components had not been organised in 2013 due to the time constraint and unavailability of component managers at the same time.</p>	<p>The activity was done as planned due to the availability of all components. However, it is recommended that MPI programme components managers should have met regularly, or at least twice a year to review and discuss progress and challenges of each component's activity implementation, as well as management related issues, etc.</p>
<p>Output 4 Provided quality assurance and support to national implementation management through audit, spot checks and HACT</p>	<p>2012 NIM Audit field works were performed by KPMG Lao Ltd in March 2013 with proper audit reports. Follow-up action plans were prepared and updated regularly to ensure action points were properly implemented.</p>	
<p>Indicators: 1. Availability of Annual NIM audit report. 2. Regular spot check is conducted.</p> <p>Targets:</p>	<p>Spot checks to all UNDP supported projects were carried out by DIC and UNDP teams during the Q3 and Q4 of 2012. The report was also prepared for every project with recommendations for further improvement.</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>1. Annual 2012 NIM audit report prepared.</p> <p>2. Regular spot check is conducted.</p> <p>Baselines:</p> <p>1. 2011 NIM audit reports.</p> <p>2. The 6th round spot check was conducted in Q3 2011</p>		
<p>Component 4 - Support to Advancing Human Development Through Policy-Informing Applied Research on Human Development Issues, especially relevant for Achieving NSEDP/MDGs</p>		
<p>Output 1:</p> <p>Further enhanced awareness of the concept of Human Development (HD), and capacity for MDG and Human Development reporting at national and sub-national levels;</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <p>1.1.1) Availability of HD/HDI Modules (Subject to Availability of Funding)</p> <p>1.1.2) Availability of 2 Development Reviews.</p>	<p>Output 1.1</p> <p>National Level awareness and capacity building for Human Development reporting and MDGs among the ministry staff and educational institutions</p>	<p>HD/HDI Modules Developed for National University of Laos and Training Modules for Government Officials at Training Center of Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)</p> <p>Early in the year, this activity was left unfunded due to limited funding.</p> <p>Later in late Quarter 2, it was foreseeable that there were some annual fundings such as from hiring international lead advisor and international LDC advisor that were not needed in this year. It was, therefore, decided to move those budgets to carry on developing HD Modules for National University of Laos (NUOL) instead (This, as a result leaded to a 2013 Annual Workplan Revision in early Q3, 2013).</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>Targets: 1.1.1) Finalized HD/HDI Modules 1.1.2) Local Development Reviews published and distributed</p> <p>Baselines: - The Need Assessment of the MPI Training Center and National University of Laos on Delivery Human Development Training/Course was organized and UNDP APPRC Mission Report was prepared; - One Development Reviews were produced, published and distributed in 2012</p>	<p>The HD textbook for NUOL will developed based on exist HD materials from HD website and references from HD trainings and workshop that project team has participated and organized. The textbook has been prepared by NUOL of Laos with closed guidance from NERI and UNDP Laos.</p> <p>The textbook was completed in Q4, 2013, and TOT of HD textbook will be organised in Q1, 2014 and it will be taught followingly.</p> <p>For the Training Center of MPI, the textbook will be used as a training tools after the training center finishes its administrative restructuring.</p> <p>TOT of HD/HDI Modules</p> <p>This activity will be carried out in 2014 after the completion of the HD textbook.</p>	<p>Pilot HD/HDI Modules Taught at National University of Laos and Training Center of Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)</p> <p>This activity will be carried in 2014 for NUOL only, as MPI training center is under re-structuring.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets		Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
		<p>Semi-Annual Production of Local Development Reviews</p> <p>Completed the second local development journal.</p>	
<p>Indicators:</p> <p>1.4.1) Availability of HD Advocacy and materials in ethnic languages as appropriate to target provinces</p> <p>1.4.2) Availability of NHDR Webpage under NERI Website</p>	<p>Output 1.4: National/Provincial dissemination Strategy and Advocacy Tools Developed and Implemented</p>	<p>Translate the HD Advocacy and Material into Ethnic Languages as Appropriate to Target provinces (Khimu, Hmong) - Production of HD Documentary (Video)</p> <p>HD Documentary was finally completed in Lao and Ethnic Lanuages and was broadcasted for 12 times in total on Lao TV Channel from 17/05/2013 to 16/06/2013.</p>	
<p>Targets:</p> <p>1.4.1) HD Advocacy and materials are available in ethnic languages</p> <p>1.4.2) NHDR Webpage under NERI Website is created</p> <p>Baselines:</p> <p>- HD advocacy materials; pen, bag, calendar, brochure and notebook were produced ;</p>		<p>Produce Advocacy Materials (Website, Calendars, etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website: NERI website has been completed and uploaded for use (service provided by IT Pedia company). Currently NERI information team is in the stage of uploading information, research and study that conducted by NERI to the website. it is expected that the website will provide useful reference for socio-economic development. • Calendars and notebooks for 2014: as part of HD dissemination channel, HD 	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>- HD Drawing Contest was organized; - First draft of HD Documentary was prepared.</p>	<p>notebook and calendars which content reader friendly information on HD and LDC were produced for distribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HD Dissemination Workshop titled "Education and Human Development" was organised at Vang Vieng Upper Secondary School and NHDR 2013 component review meeting (see more details on page 13 point IV titled "Additional activities which contribute to the outcome and/or outputs") 	
<p>Output 2: Produced one high quality National Human Development Report (NHDR), and/or Provincial Human Development Reports;</p> <p><u>Indicators:</u> 2.1.1) Availability of the 5th NHDR National Advisory Board and Technical Working Group; 2.1.2) Availability of Technical Background Papers (TBPs); 2.1.3) Availability of the first</p>	<p>Support to the NHDR productions, including: International TA support, National Advisory Board (NAB) and Technical Working Groups (TWGs) Meetings and Stakeholders Meetings.</p> <p>National Advisory Board (NAB) for production of the 5th NHDR was established which consists of related stakeholders from line-ministries, academic intitutes and chaired by Dr. Bounthavy Sisouphanthong, Vice Minister of MPI.</p> <p>Technical Working Group (TWB) for the production of the 5th NHDR was also established which consists of members from related key agencies. Members of the group are responsible for reviewing issues related to their own sector.</p>	<p>The recruitment of the international lead author was started since beginning of 2013, interview was conducted in March, contract was finalized in mid-May. After the contract signed, the advisor was working from home and couldn't be in Lao until mid-August.</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>draft of the 5th NHDR.</p> <p>Targets:</p> <p>2.1.1) The 5th NHDR National Advisory Board and Technical Working Group are Established;</p> <p>2.1.2) TBPs are produced;</p> <p>2.1.3) First draft of the 5th NHDR is produced.</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tentative List of NAB members is available; - Concept Note of the 5th NHDR including themes and sub-themes were prepared and discussed in the stakeholder meeting; - Possible themes of TBPs are prepared; - Four NHDRs produced and disseminated. 	<p>The first National Advisory Board Meeting was organised in July, 2013. The meeting reviewed and confirmed the scope of the 5th NHDR and its TBPs and advised on management arrangement of the production process resulted in expansion of the management structure. The meeting also agreed that the focus of the the 5th NHDR will be on: how MDG progress has been translated into Human Development Progress. Based on the results of the 1st NAB meeting, it was expected that the selected lead advisor would support NERI and UNDP to prepare practical report structure/outline and do detailed planning for necessary TBP to support the NHDR.</p>	
	<p>Prepare Technical Background Papers (TBPs) by local experts; conduct surveys in provincial level, when required and Organize Meetings and Training with/for Stakeholders on TBPs</p> <p>the project spent more than two quarters of 2013 to wait for the lead advisor. During his work in Laos (19 Aug – 06 Sep), the concept note was revised (according to comments from the NAB meeting, Human development training was organised for the technical working group and potential technical background paper writers, and field trip was conducted to study on health,</p>	<p>Production process of the 5th NHDR was behind the project workplan due to absence of the qualified international lead author.</p> <p>Due to termination of the contract of the lead author and delay in the production of the NHDR as a consequence; some activities related to the preparation of the NHDR couldnot be carried out. Hence, the total expenditure of NHDR in 2013 was estimated to be only US156, 045 and thus remaining balance was US143,955. In the mean</p>

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>education, labour, and gender equality in Savahnakhet province to support for the production of the report. Unfortunately, performance of the lead advisor did not meet expectations as per indicated in the TOR, resulted termination of the contract in Sep, 2013.</p> <p>In the mean time, National Co-author was recruited in September, 2013, that is Mr. Syviengxay Oraboune, Deputy Director General of NERI, Former NHDR Project Manger, and Mr. Saykham Voradeth, head of Policy Research Division, was assigned as the new Project Manager of NHDR, effective from September, 2013.</p> <p>In the mean time, Mr. Syviengxay Oraboune, as a national consultant has revised the concept note and submitted to the project for consideration. The new proposed concept note will be discussed between the National Consultant, NERI, and UNDP in detailed in January 2014 to finalise the concept note in order to carry on the remaining activities of the 5th NHDR production.</p>	<p>time, Round Table project was short of money, and NHDR decided to transfer US\$ 135,000 to Roundtable, advised by UNDP project team that it will be returned to NHDR nextyear, otherwise that amount of money cannot be carried forward to 2014. In order to do so, NHDR needed to revise the annual workplan, and second annual workplan revision was carried out in Q4, 2013</p>
<p>Output 3: Evidence-based research and analysis to support</p>	<p>Output 3.1 Practical/applied research to support</p>	
	<p>Produce High Quality Macroeconomic Quarterly Reports with Practical Results-Oriented Focus on Achieving NSEDPI/MDGs</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>the implementation of the NSEDP/MDGs.</p> <p><u>Indicators:</u> 3.1.1) Availability of quarterly Macro-Economic Updates for the government and the relevant quarterly result sharing conference; 3.1.2) Availability of research topic for Research Network.</p> <p><u>Targets:</u> 3.1.1) Quarterly Macro-Economic Updates produced and the result sharing conference organised; 3.1.2) Research on NSEDP/MDG/LDC graduation related issues produced by research network.</p> <p><u>Baseline:</u> - Four quarterly macroeconomic reports produced in 2012.</p>	<p>macroeconomic performance and advance effective implementation of NSEDP conducted and integrated into planning implementation procedures within relevant MPI departments</p> <p>and Organise Quarterly Result Sharing Conference. Four Macroeconomic Quarterly Reports were produced regularly. The surveys aim to:</p> <p>1.) Collect perceptions of households on their financial stance, consumption as well as opinion on performance of economy in each quarter; 2.) Collect perceptions of business operation on their performance, investment and overall assessment of the economy.</p> <p>Expected Outcomes:</p> <p>1.) To produce report on consumer sentiment index and business sentiment index as technical background paper for NERI's macro-economic report Q1, 2013. 2.) Strengthening Short-Term macro-economic monitoring tools.</p> <p>The surveys and monitoring tools help provide information, analysis and short term forecasts in Macro-economic Quarterly Report to the Government as well as governors of provinces in Lao P.D.R and especially policy makers in planning related agencies, this is to assist the formulation and re-adjustment of policy over</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
<p>- A research on Lao PDR Vision 2020 on LDC graduation</p>	<p>time in order to support the implementation of the seventh NSEFP in particular.</p> <p>Since Quarter 2, 2013, Macroeconomic Quarterly Reports result sharing conference was organised quarterly with cooperation from Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LNCCI). Participants were from relevant ministries, LNCCI and private business sectors. The aim is to share the research results to both the government and business sectors for reference in policy making and business settings.</p> <p>For Quarter 2, it was carried out on 11 June, 2013 and the second one was organised on 01st October, 2013. They all went very successfully and caught full interest of both the government and business sector. The meeting will continued to be organised quarterly.</p>	
	<p>Organize Monthly Research Dissemination Meeting at MPI Regularly</p> <p>Monthly Research Dissemination Meetings were organised at MPI regularly.</p>	
	<p>Organize Two Practical/Applied Research</p>	

Annual outputs/ output targets	Update on outputs/output targets, based on activities implemented	Reasons if progress below target
	<p>Network Workshops a Year to Support NSEDP/MDGs/LDC Graduation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultative Workshop on the 7th Lao Research Network's Theme/Topic to support NSEDP VII (2011-2015) and the Production of the 5th NHDR Production of Lao PDR was held in June 7th, 2013. • 7th Lao Research Network's Conference titled "Some Research Findings-Supporting NSEDP VII (2011-2015)" was organised on 10th December, 2013. 	
	<p>Operation and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The previous project coordinator, Dalivanh Souksavath was resigned from the project in February, 2013 and the project recruited the new coordinator, Keovina Kingvongsa in March, 2013. • Recruited the driver in March, 2013. • The previous project accountant, Manilath Phimmasan was resigned from the project in Oct, 2013 and the project recruited the new one, Davone Sisakhoun in September, 2013. 	

2. Update on implementation of the Vientiane Declaration and its Action Plan

- The programme objective is to support the achievement of the 7th NSEDP;
- The programme components have been taking an ownership and leadership in leading the formulation and implementation processes of the 7th NSEDP/MDGs including annual NSEDPs and relevant consultation meetings towards achieving national development goals and priorities;
- All of the programme activities are aimed at aligning the priorities of the Government through streamlining activities into relevant departments' work plans;
- The VDCAP revision has been finalised based on global monitoring framework arose from the Busan High Level forum on Aid Effectiveness, and emerging aid and development effectiveness agenda;
- This programme supported the use of HACT/common reporting system which is the FACE form, ICE form and IPOA to keep track of record and follow-up daily transactions occurred during the project implementation;
- The programme activities implementation was monitored closely by both the Government and UNDP through a regularly reporting and meeting. However, the collaboration among components is still required an improvement.
- NSEDP M&E framework, LaoInfo, LSIS, ODA Database/AMP system and other relevant monitoring tools have been established under relevant departments to be used in monitoring the programme implementation in order to ensure greater aid and development effectiveness.

3. Update on partnerships

- In terms of planning, the component worked in close collaboration with its strategic partners (both government and non-government) for development cooperation and strove to strengthen and build on those partnerships which included developing further relationships with key development partners;
- The work on M&E framework requires the LSB team to work closely with line Ministries and other partners. For example on the development of NSEDP monitoring framework, the project team/DoS tried to involve all the related organizations, LMs and DPs in the process. Furthermore, the LaoInfo team has received support from different UN agencies, LaoInfo has advocated for a joint work plan from UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP;
- In addition to the Contribution from Luxembourg to the MPI programme, Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) also provided a funding support through the joint activities of the PEI programme;
- The 5th NHDR production will require the component 4 to work closely with the existing research network as well as line departments of MPI, as well as the National

Academy of Politics and Public Administration (NAPPA), Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union (LPRYU) and MoIC, and partnership with university and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the work related to MDG and LDC graduation.

- In terms of the 5th NHDR production, the component 4 has been working closely Government line ministries/agencies (Government's Office, MOH, MOES, MoIC, MOFA, MAF, MOF, MLSW, and LWU), UN agencies (UNICEF, UNFPA), research network members. In this connection, the component also attempted to create new partnership whenever possible to expand its strategic partner network and future collaboration with private business sectors, ASEAN project, Savannakhet government departments and local authorities, and local school authorities.

4. Update on gender mainstreaming

- In the preparation of annual plans, the programme encouraged the participation of poor and other vulnerable groups (particularly women) and identified their needs using the draft participatory planning manual, which provided a special focus to addressing the equal participation of men and women as well as people from different ethnic groups in planning process. The project also involved the Lao Women's Union in the review of the Participatory Planning Manual to provide input from a gender perspective;
- MDGs have become central to planning and national priorities in the 7th NSEDP. This suggests that gender is becoming widely mainstreamed and all activities within the project are analysed and executed in a gender-sensitive and/or gender responsive manner;
- Gender equality is strong taken into account in implementing pilot projects on green growth planning which emphasizes mainstreaming of PE linkages as well as MDGs in the planning process at the local level especially in Houaphanh, Oudomxay and Saravane;
- The emerging 3-builds programme was conducted in the view of gender empowerment. Thus, the training conducted in Vientiane and Oudomxay Provinces with a large number of participants and it is reported that 40% of the total participants were female.
- At the SWG level, the Gender is to be mainstreamed into the work of individual groups and considered as a cross cutting issue in their ToR. The project has supported DIC in facilitating and coordinating with all 10 SWGs to mainstream Gender issues into the work of SWGs, as well as the engagement and involvement of LWU and Lao NCAW into the SWGs meetings and other related preparation processes of RTM;
- Currently, gender mainstreaming is being realized and integrated into practice which demonstrated through the updating of VDCAP. Some targets and actions stipulated in the VDCAP have primarily focused on how gender is effectively mainstreamed into

work at all sector levels;

- Gender aspects were taken into account when drafting the concept note of the 5th NHDR. For instance, women are encouraged to attend schools and continue their higher education in college and university despite their family's financial difficulty and problems;
- In the recruitment process of project staff, it was stated clearly in the job vacancy that women were encouraged to apply and the process of short-listing also ensure that women cover at least 50 percents of the shortlisted candidates for the interview.

5. Update on audit recommendations

- All components except NERI were audited in March 2013 with some recommendations for improvement as follows:
 - more frequency on cash count need to be conducted (twice a month),
 - discrepancy between bank statement and bank conciliation, and
 - reimbursement of the family allowance for the project staff;
 - some payment vouchers were recorded incorrectly in the IPOA,
 - reasons for selecting suppliers should be accurately recorded, and
 - CDRs should be obtained from UNDP and reconciled with project's records on a timely basis
 - PIT calculation should be done correctly and declared to the Tax Office
 - Analytical review of budget and expenditures should be prepared quarterly
 - Double check is required for all the bank statements and voucher numbers ensuring they are reconciled with the project's bank books and IPOA respectively.
 - Cash count should be performed monthly and their minutes should be certified by PM
- These recommendations have been properly followed up through reporting to the UNDP Programme Officers during their monthly meeting and consequently updated the matrix.
- Apart from annual audit, spot check was also carried out by the Joint Spot Check Teams during September and October 2013 with some recommendations and suggestions for further improvement. In this connection, the programme components will ensure that spot check recommendations are strictly implemented, as well as NIM SOP will be taken into account and applied for programme activities implementation. However, NIM SOP training/workshops are strong required to ensure all programme staff have clearly understood all relevant rules and procedures.

6. List main challenges and issues (if any) faced during reporting period

Component 1:

- Limited funds. Many activities in the project annual work plan have no fund allocated and those funded activities have limited budget.
- of the MTR preparation and finalisation process took longer expected and has caused difficulty in finalization of MTR especially in incorporating DP's comments.

Component 2:

- One week TOT on Statistical Literacy Guides for users was quite short to complete all lessons in the literacy guide. So one more week is required to ensure all trainers can understand and be able to train other users.
- M&E Framework has not yet been finalized by DOP, so there are some activities of LaoInfo that have not been implemented either in 2013.
- Close collaboration with DoP is crucial for the preparation of M&E framework and DI monitoring.
- Capacity of LSB & project staffs in providing comprehensive planning and reporting in terms of substantive and financial tasks in a timely manner. As a result, this led to the delay of budget request and financial report of this consolidated programme.

Component 3:

- Greater coordination among the government agencies in line ministries and provincial authorities, as well as strong involvement of all stakeholders is essential for DIC to achieve the RTP objectives and outcomes.
- Capacity development for DIC officials in coordinating and managing ODA more effectively, including conducting the RTP as well as monitoring and facilitating the working of SWGs.
- Capacity of SWG secretariat and partnership building among DIC relevant focal points and SWG Secretariats is needed since these are critical for the success of the Round Table Process in Lao PDR and also the implementation of Vientiane Declaration and its Country Action Plan.
- More efforts are needed to coordinate all inputs from all DIC relevant divisions in implementing project activities. Therefore, planning and reporting capacities are required to ensure accelerating the progress of all project activities implementation under the guidance of DIC management with technical supports from key project staff.
- Sufficient resources especially in terms of financial requirement for the coming year are more challenging given the declining trend of aid provided by traditional donors, which has significant impact on funding. Therefore, development finance and aid assessment should be done to mobilize more resources and could potentially

approach emerging donors.

Component 4:

- The production of the 5th NHDR is significantly behind the project work plan due to absence of qualified international lead advisor, unclear focus/scope of the 5th NHDR, and limited production timeframe.

IV. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE OUTCOME AND/OR OUTPUTS

Component 1:

- Participated in the workshop for the National Focal Points of the LDCs in the event of 68th United Nations General Assembly where Lao delegation, including DoP/MPI, had a chance to attend three themes in this event which consisting of LDC, MDG, and LLDC. The event allowed the delegation to share progress of Lao PDR towards LDC graduation and also draw lessons from other countries' experiences. Hence, experiences from this workshop are deemed to greatly contribute in the 8th NSEDP preparation in the way to ensure consistency with the international development.

Component 2:

- The component has provided financial support to Provincial Statistics Divisions by organising a seminar on statistics management for Provincial Heads of Statistics Divisions aiming at strengthening their knowledge, understanding and skills in terms of statistics management.

Component 3:

- Conducted a training session for DIC focal points on how to facilitate the work of SWG secretariat in April.
- Participated and shared experience on the RTP including the AMP management in Lao PDR in the workshop on Aid Information Management System (AIMS) in May 2013 in Yangon, Myanmar.
- Performed a midterm review of the 7th NSEDP particularly related to ODA disbursements in June.
- Conducted a briefing session on global partnership and the possibility for Lao PDR's participation in July.
- Attended and made a presentation on RTP Mechanism in Lao PDR at a briefing session for NPAs organised by MOHA in August.

Component 4:

- The project organised HD Dissemination workshop titled 'Education and Human Development' in Vangvieng Upper secondary School and NHDR 2013 component

review meeting from 19-22 December, 2013 in Vangvieng, Vientiane Province.

- The first event allowed the project to present advocacy materials for human development (Human Development Documentary, HD and LDC Brochures, etc) to students and get their attention and participation via activities and games. Experience from this school activities are deemed to greatly disseminate the concept of human development particularly in the aspect of promoting education to the new generation which consequently believed to be greatly contributing to the progress of achieving Goal 2 of MDGs.
- The NHDR 2013 Annual review meeting of NHDR invited representatives from each division of NERI who work closely with NHDR to exchange their experience in working with NHDR and exchange ideas of the potential coordination mechanism between NERI and NHDR. The project also took this opportunity to inform NERI about the budget allocation of NHDR in 2014 which is significantly limited and its workplan in 2014 to ensure common knowledge of NHDR activities within NERI and seek ideas on the strategies to achieve the overall objective of the project under this budget-constraint circumstances.

V. FUTURE WORK PLAN

1. What are the priority actions planned for the following year to overcome constraints, build on achievements and partnership, and use of the lessons learned during the previous year?

Component 1:

- Publish and disseminate widely the Annual NSEDP 2014-15 & PIPs 2014-15
- Prepare and publish NSEDP VII & MTR Vocational tools with mainstreaming of P-E linkages (expectedly a policy brief in a form of booklet and press releases)
- PE linkages will also be mainstreamed in the 8th NSEDP formulation guideline and the draft 8th NSEDP itself to ensure sustainable development plan
- Conduct monthly consultation meetings with key sectors (BoL, MoF) in charge of macroeconomic management to collect and analyse economics data
- Organise a consultation workshop at executive level for macroeconomic SWG to focus more on financial issues.
- Organize an annual internal meeting of DoP on Macroeconomic Management to report on the performance of DoP towards formulation of the NSEDP, monitoring system and draw lessons learnt from through all the year implementation.
- Launch the Participatory Planning Manual at the beginning of Quarter 1/2014
- Provide pilot Trainings of Trainers for local level planning facilitators at the central and provincial levels in using the PP Manual
- Carry out dissemination and evaluation on pilot application of the Participatory Planning Manual
- Conduct capacity building on mainstreaming of green growth concept into the

planning process at central and local levels

- Perform an assessment on priority PIPs and ODOP in the three pilot provinces of PEI green growth planning; and develop potential green growth project proposals and present to the seminar meeting with the interested donor communities to support the project implementation
- In close collaboration with LSB, improve and refine the current draft of M&E indicators in order to enable data synchronization with DI monitoring, which is the database developed at LSB to support NSEDP M&E Framework.
- Hold the dissemination workshops and trainings broadly to the users at both central and local levels.
- Organize trainings and evaluation on implementation of 3 builds directive, focusing on poverty reduction and environmental issues.
- Strengthen capacity of MDG and LDC Secretariats and facilitate progress towards MDGs and LDC through strengthening English skills for DIO officials in preparation of the MDG Progress Report, and study visit to LDCs.

Component 2:

- Produce statistical report to present the status of national socio-economic development of the country using LaolInfo database system and publish it to support effective implementation of NSEDP/MDG.
- Update the MDG and National Socio-economic Database and publish it through LaolInfo offline and website.
- Develop DI monitoring tool and dashboard to 7th NSEDP, MDP and HD monitoring framework.
- Conduct two week ToT training for on Statistical Literacy Guide for users for trainers and LMs.
- Disseminate the Notification on Statistical Dissemination and Use of Official Statistics and Statistical Literacy Guide for leader level and technical staff of LMs in Vientiane Capital.
- Develop proposal funding for resource mobilization

Component 3:

- Finalise follow-up matrix and recommendations and actions of the 11th HL RTM
- Conduct RTP Retreat to discuss the roadmap for the 2014 RTIM
- Organise Round Table Provincial Consultation, with proper report as well as follow-up issues
- Conduct an Evaluation of Round Table Process
- Mobilize supports to the implementation of the 7th NSEDP
- Organise Annual RTIM 2014 with proper report
- Coordinate and attend SWG meetings at both technical and executive levels, and

report on attendance as the back-to-office report

- Conduct SWG Secretariat meetings and trainings
- Facilitate an exchange among SWGs in relation to activity expansion to provincial level and CSOs and private sector involvement
- Hold SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs Meetings to report on follow-up recommendations implementation based on SWGs, and follow-up the VDCAP implementation
- Develop manual or generic guidelines for RTP management to help the RTP secretariat and SWGs better prepare for the RTIM
- Develop a Guideline to monitor the implementation progress of the VDCAP
- Conduct and review VDCAP implementation progress and challenges
- Complete the 3rd Global Accountability Survey in preparation for the 2014 Development Cooperation Forum
- Effectively participate in the development and aid effectiveness forums: (1) DCF Germany High-Level Symposium in March; (2) Ministerial Meeting in Mexico City in April; and (3) Ministerial level meeting of the DCF in New York in July 2014
- Conduct Development Financing Aid Assistance (DFAA)
- Check and ensure regular online updates into the AMP system made by DPs/DFAs, including training
- Produce Quarterly, Semi-Annual and Annual ODA Reports (FAIR) using the AMP
- Organize trainings on communication for DIC officers so that they can produce RTP promotional materials, and regular articles of RTP's key achievements and highlighted activities for advocacy materials, and ensure these advocacy materials will be disseminated through radio, TV, newspapers and other media channels.
- Conduct a Joint Annual Review Meeting of the MPI programme Implementation, and followed by Programme Board Meeting
- Conduct a regular quarterly meeting among IPs of MPI programme to exchange lessons learnt and identified needs
- Conduct an Internal Retreat to evaluate the past performance and lessons learnt

Component 4:

- TOT of HD course at the NUoL
- Finalizing the 5th NHDR concept note and the concept notes for its TBPs
- Resource Mobilising to ensure the project achieve the overall objective of the project.
- Commissioning the technical background papers for the 5th NHDR based on the given funding.
- As encouraged by the International Center for Human Development (IC4HD) during the capacity building workshop in New Delhi in October 2013, the project is planning to focus on National Consultant as the lead for 5th NHDR production with technical support from IC4HD.

2. List major adjustments in the strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs planned.

N/A for components 1 & 3

Component 2:

- Develop DI monitoring tool and dashboard to 7th NSEDP, MDP and HD monitoring framework has not been implemented due to the M&E Framework has not been finalized in 2013. However, this activity has been shifted to implement in 2014.

Component 4:

- Under discussion with UNDP on the possible approach of National-leading NHDR production in close collaboration with UNDP, IC4HD in terms of technical supports as part of enhancing Vientiane Declaration Principle.

3. Estimated total budget required for the following year: US\$ 1,311,000.00

Programme Components	Amount in US\$
Component 1	538,000.00
Component 2	124,000.00
Component 3	499,000.00
Component 4	150,000.00

CONSOLIDATED BY:



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H.E. Mr. Somchith Inthamith
Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment
Programme Executive Board

report on attendance as the back-to-office report

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