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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**

SECOND QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting Period: *April – June 2014*

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 (SDC); and The Government of Luxembourg |

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

| Summary of Budget and Expenditure for the Q2 of 2014 (IPOA + Direct Payments) (April - June 2014) (US\$) | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------------|
| | Comp1 | Comp2 | Comp3 | Comp4 | Total |
| Total budget | 121,896.00 | 43,309.00 | 117,025.00 | 24,350.00 | 306,580.00 |
| Total expenditure | 104,325.04 | 5,050.14 | 88,598.07 | 13,298.31 | 211,271.56 |
| Total balance | 17,570.96 | 38,258.86 | 28,426.93 | 11,051.69 | 95,308.44 |
| Delivery rate | 86% | 12% | 76% | 45% | 69% |

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 will help the Government achieving the following outputs:

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

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)
2. Macroeconomic analysis and management conducted to contribute to the macroeconomic achievements outlined in the NSED
3. Capacity for local planning and implementation improved at the central and local levels
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

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)

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

1. A Common data base (LaolInfo) supports evidence-based reporting, planning and decision making at the national and sub-national to help guide implementation of NSEDP/MDGs;
2. 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;
3. 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

1. 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;
2. 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;
3. 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;
4. Provided quality assurance and support to national implementation management through audit and spot checks.

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

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

Key priorities/targets of the programme for the quarter:

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

- 1.2. Draft 8th NSEDP with incorporation of the results from MTR recommendation produced.
- 1.3. Manual for formulation of the NSEDP finalized.

- 2.1. At least 5 research studies to support the formulation of the 8th plan are commissioned by concerned sectors.
- 4.1. A set of 7th NSEDP monitoring indicators identified and approved.
- 4.2. 7th NSEDP M&E framework is finalized.
- 4.4. Application of the outcome basis M&E framework is tested in Vientiane Province.
- 5.1. Findings of the third MDGs report is disseminated to students and young government official through workshops.
- 5.2. Reference materials of the Almaty Programme of Action 2014 produced.

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

- 1. Production of 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
- 2. Updated the MDG and National Socio-economic Database and publish it through LaolInfo offline and website
- 3. Organization of dissemination workshop/training on Notification on Statistical Dissemination and Use of Official Statistics and Statistical Literacy Guide for management level of LMs
- 4. Organization of dissemination workshop/training on Notification on Statistical Dissemination and Use of Official Statistics and Statistical Literacy Guide for Technical level of LMs

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

- 1.1.1 The implementation of 11th HLRTM recommendations/action points is properly followed up.
- 1.1.2 The Roadmap including key milestones for the 2014 results-based RTIM that focuses on the 7th NSEDP implementation progress and 8th plan preparation, is prepared, consulted, finalised and approved by the Government through a National RTP Steering Committee Meeting.
- 1.1.3 The Provincial Consultation Meeting with an effective link between local level challenges and the 2014 RTIM's Agenda, is organised and followed up accordingly.
- 1.2.1 The coordination, lessons learned and experience exchange among SWGs, as well as between SWGs and local authorities are strengthened.
- 1.2.2 The issues that contribute to NSEDP annual formulation and implementation are focused by respective SWGs meetings/consultations.
- 1.2.3 The ability of SWG secretariat to prepare and effectively implement the RTP related works is enhanced.
- 1.3.1 The VDCAP Monitoring Framework is prepared and circulated for effective implementation with a quarterly update on progress through SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs Meeting.
- 1.3.2 The Government actively engaged in the regional and global aid effectiveness forums.
- 1.3.3 The development financing gaps are addressed to ensure greater achievement of the 7th NSEDP/MDGs by 2015 towards LDC graduation in 2020.
- 2.1.1 All ODA related programmes/projects data and information are included in the Aid Management Platform (AMP) System.
- 2.1.2 DIC is able to effectively use the AMP for ODA data collection, storage and analysis to

- support reporting particularly Semi-Annual and Annual ODA related Reports.
- 2.1.3 AMP Users including DIC admins, LMs, DPs/DFAs have well understood and are able to use AMP system.
- 2.1.4 ODA related data and information is easily and publicly accessible.
- 3.1.1 NIM Manual (Lao version) is finalised and officially shared with IPs with adequate training for Government officials and UNDP supported project personnel.
- 3.1.2 Coordination among MPI programme components is strengthened.
- 4.1. Annual 2013 Audit recommendations are regularly followed up and implemented properly.

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

- 1.1.1 Revising and improving Human Development text book
- 1.1.2 Preparation for pre-test of Human Development text book before teaching at University of Laos.
- 2.1.1 Revised Concept note that agreed by both NERI and UNDP which will be used for resource mobilization in the Human Development Report 2014 Launching
- 2.1.3 Identify tentative three research papers (or TBPs) that support the production of the 5th NHDR
- 3.1.1 Quarterly Macro-Economic Updates Produced and the Semi-Annual Result-Sharing Conference Organised.

Key results/deliverables of the programme for the quarter:

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

- 1.2. Draft 8th NSEDP with incorporation of the results from MTR recommendation produced.
- 1.3. Manual for formulation of the NSEDP is available in draft, further improvement is still required.
- 2.1. Four research areas have been identified together with NERI to support the formulation of the 8th plan. However, implementing researches in these areas will be subject to capacity and resource availability.
- 4.1. A set of 7th NSEDP monitoring indicators identified and being cleared by DOP.
- 4.2. 7th NSEDP M&E framework is underway to finalization as indicators are being cleared by DOP.
- 4.4. Application of the outcome basis M&E framework is tested in Vientiane Province needs to be postponed as awaiting the framework to be finalized.
- 5.1. Findings of the third MDGs report is disseminated to students and young government official through workshops.
- 5.2. Reference materials of the Almaty Programme of Action 2014 have not yet been produced due to complexity in fund allocation from different sources.

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

- 1. Draft statistical report on national socio-economic development trend of the country using LaoInfo database system has been produced.
- 2. MDG and National Socio-economic Database has been being updated.
- 3. Dissemination workshops/trainings on Notification on Statistical Dissemination and Use of

Official Statistics and Statistical Literacy Guide have been organized for both management level and technical staff of LMs. The training proved to be very useful for the participants and LSB has been requested to organize this kind of training regularly.

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

- 1.1.1 A follow up matrix for the 16 action points/recommendations of the 11th HLRTM 2013 has been developed for discussion and follow up. This was also included in the draft 2014 RTIM roadmap that was already shared and discussed at the RTP Retreat, as well as attached in the Retreat report for reference and further processes
- 1.1.2 The draft roadmap of the 2014 RTIM has been prepared by the RTP secretariat and consulted with both Government ministries and DPs especially SWGs via the RTP Retreat conducted in April 2014.
- 1.1.3 The draft concept note of RTP provincial consultation, including tentative agenda and programme have been prepared and shared with both Government and development partners for comments. As a result, The FNS Secretariat (MAF, MOES and MOH) have in principle agreed with the theme, objectives and focused areas of the consultation. Due to the inappropriate time of original plan to organise the provincial consultation in July, it is eventually postponed to take place in September in Saravan province. Therefore, the substantive and logistic arrangements for this consultation are continually prepared and followed up during quarter 2 and upcoming quarter.
- 1.2.1 A part from regularly attending a number of SWG meetings at both technical and executive levels organised by various sectors, the SWGs/Sub-SWGs Chair and Co-Chair list are regularly updated, as well as the SWGs meeting calendar, ToR and SWGs' reports are collected and uploaded in the RTP Website for easy reference.
- 1.2.2 The letter updating the preparation of the 2014 RTIM, including the following up 16 points recommendations from 2013 RTM, 2014 RTIM Roadmap and provincial consultation concept note were sent to all SWGs (both government and DPs).
- 1.2.3 The guideline note on the concept for SWGs to prepare and contribute inputs/progress reports for the background document of 2014 RTIM was developed and will be sent to all SWGs by the end of July. This is one of the effective approaches to enhance ability and better collaboration between RTP and SWG secretariat to prepare and effectively implement the RTP-related works.
- 1.3.1 In order to ensure effective implementation of the VDCAP (2012-2015), a monitoring framework has been developed, consulted within the VDCAP secretariat and widely circulated/launched to all stakeholders in June 2014 for joining the monitoring and reporting the progress of VDCAP implementation.
- 1.3.2 The Government has effectively participated in the First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation held in Mexico City during 15-16 April 2014.
- 1.3.3 To address the development financing gaps and to inform the financing strategy of the next 8th NSEDP, the Government under the leadership of DIC/MPI is in the process of preparing a study on development finance and aid assessment (DFAA). This is the analysis of source of development finance to provide an overview of the current and future flows of development finance in particular ODA trend including a mapping of South-South Cooperation (SSC) in Lao PDR. A generic TOR for this study has been prepared and finalised in consultation with government and DPs concerned, including MPI (DIC, NERI and DOP), MOF, UNDP and ADB regional centre and Lao PDR.
- 2.1.1 Since the official launch of AMP system with newly established public portal in

November 2013, a number of dissemination workshops on using AMP have been conducted for the government ministries and provincial authorities, especially in this quarter AED/AMP team was invited to a brief session on AMP management at the Consultation Meeting on the project implementation management organised by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC) in May. In addition, a brief session was also made by the team for Saravane and Savannakhet Provincial Planning and Investment Department and Cooperation Division relevant staffs in June.

The ODA related programmes/projects data and information are entered and regularly updated in the Aid Management Platform (AMP) System by the Aid Effectiveness Division (AED/DIC) and Data Focal Agents (up to 33 DFAs from 26 DPs).

- 2.1.2 The AED/DIC regularly and effectively use the AMP for ODA data collection, storage and analysis to use data of six months generating a raw data report feeding into the 2014 Semi-Annual ODA report.
- 2.1.3 AMP Users including DIC admins, LMs, DPs/DFAs have well understood and are able to use AMP system through training and regular communication and discussions if there are any issues occurred.
- 2.1.4 ODA related data and information is easily and publicly accessible through ODA report publication and RTP Website.
- 3.1.1 The NIM Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) Manual both Lao and English versions are now ready for circulating to all IPs for further implementation, and there were trainings for UNDP supported programmes and projects' personnel held during this quarter. In addition, there were some discussions and consultations between DIC and UNDP to have common understandings and agreement on the use of new NIM SOP. Therefore, there will be a formal letter from DIC to inform all IPs for the implementation and clear guideline of NIM SOP implementation.
- 3.1.2 A quarterly meeting of MPI programme was conducted in early June to follow-up the updated implementation progress and key challenges/issues of all four components the programme implementation and management, as well as to strengthen coordination and reporting mechanisms among the programme components.
- 4.1.1 After receiving the 2013 audit reports from auditors in May, the project has discussed the key issues from audit during the RTP monthly meeting, prepared an Audit Follow-up Action Plan and implemented the recommendations accordingly.

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

- 1.1.2 Revise and improve Human Development text book before teaching at University of Laos and Training Centre of MPI.
- 2.1.1 Revising the concept note that agreed by both NERI and UNDP will be used for resource mobilization.
- 2.1.2 Availability of draft three research topics (or TBPs) that support to the production of the 5th NHDR.
- 3.1.1 Availability of Quarterly Macro-Economic Updates for the Government and the relevant Semi-Annual result-sharing conference.

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

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|---|---|---|--|
| <u>Component 1 - Support to Consultative Planning, Implementing, Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting on the NSEDP/MDGs</u> | | | |
| <u>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)</u> | | | |
| <p><u>Output 1.1:</u> The 7th NSEDP is converted into annual plans and PIPs through a consultative manner that emphasizes poverty reduction/MDGs</p> | <p>1.1.3-b Assist DoP to formulate 8th NSEDP by providing critical technical assistance and ensuring PEI and green growth economy concept are mainstreamed into the plan</p> | <p>8th NSEDP preparation has been carried out on outcome basis with reference made to the government's agreement in the executive level consultation meeting that taken place on 15th May 2014. As a result, 12 proposed outcomes have been developed to achieve the main goal of LDC graduation of the 8th NSEDP. Of which, continued pursuance to the sustainable development and environmental production are integrated in the proposed outcomes (Outcome 4 - Living standard of people is improved as a result from poverty reduction and sustainable development).</p> | <p>In supporting to this, an official letter was sent to</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| | | <p>respect development partners for comments on the proposed 8th plan concepts including overall goal, main objectives, outcomes and priorities of the 8th plan.</p> <p>The key themes of comments from the DPs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link between 8th Plan and long-term vision • Quality, sustainability and inclusiveness of growth • Management of Lao PDR's natural resources • Stronger macroeconomic management • Emphasis on skills development • Greater emphasis on the social sectors • Role of civil society in the planning and implementing process <p>Next step toward improvement of draft 8th NSEDP is to incorporate these comments and share the draft with involved stakeholders through a consultation meeting.</p> | |
| | <p>1.1.3-c Assist DoP to formulate 8th NSEDP by providing critical technical assistance and ensuring PEI and green</p> | <p>Due to DOP was advised to concentrate on the 8th plan preparation and formulating of the Annual NSEDP and PIP 2014-2015 as well as reporting on progress of Annual NSEDP and PIP 2013-2014; provincial officials were invited to the</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|---|---|---|--|
| | <p>growth economy concept are mainstreamed into the plan at provincial level (linking with 3.1.2)</p> | <p>consultation meeting at the central.</p> <p>Hence, 8th NSEDP indicated goals and objectives, and the proposed 12 outcomes that were mainstreamed by poverty-environment linkage (Outcome 4) have been informed to the provincial planners for reference of the local planning.</p> <p>Apart from this, involving wide participation from all has been promoted and extended to women and children to raise their awareness of the 8th plan formulation progress at the “seminar on mother & child”, held in Vientiane, 30/5/2014.</p> <p>To effectively guide the provincial planning progress on outcome approach, enhancing understanding on linkages between the central and local government towards the outcome based approach has been identified as the key to succeed. Therefore, a study visit to an advanced country was determined for capacity building of DOP staffs who are key writers of the 8th plan (UK study visit).</p> | |
| <p>1.1.4 Finalize National Manual on Formulation of the National Socio-Economic</p> | | <p>There has been limited progress on this activity. It is found that the draft manual in Lao needs great improvement after compiling all inputs from different departments and thus, English</p> | <p>Further improvement on the Lao draft is needed. Organization of consultation meeting to seek feedback and comments from stakeholders on the</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|--|---|--|--|
| | <p>Development Plan of Lao PDR</p> <p>1.1.5 Prepare monthly, quarterly, and annual reports on 2013-14 NSEDP & PIP implementation</p> | <p>translation has not yet been able to begin.</p> <p>A series of meetings with line sectors were organized individually and multilaterally throughout the quarter to collect inputs and validate the information and data on the Annual NSEDP and PIP 2013-14. The meetings allowed the participants who represent different line sectors to report their progress and achievements on the implementation of the annual plan. This contributed in regular updates on the progress of 7th plan implementation on monthly and quarterly basis in the form of meeting in-person and will be an on-going activity to support the follow up action.</p> | <p>draft manual are set to the plan in Q3.</p> |
| <p>Output 1.2: Targeted actions to address off-track MDGs and key environment issues incorporated in annual plans</p> | <p>1.2.1 Support monitoring, analysis and developing of recommendations on off-track MDG and PE linkages</p> <p>1.2.2 Follow up MTR recommendations</p> | <p>This activity was postponed.</p> <p>The activity was carried out hand-in-hand with the 8thNSEDP preparation as MTR is used as reference for reporting on progress of Annual NSEDP and PIP 2013-2014, and formulating the Annual NSEDP and PIP 2014-2015 as well as</p> | <p>Due to DOP was advised to concentrate on the 8th plan preparation during the quarter. However, follow up action and organization of consultation are set to the plan in Q3</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|--|---|---|----------------------------------|
| | | <p>the 8th plan.</p> <p>Key recommendation areas that have been referred in the plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion on quality growth as part of the macro targets of the plans - Promotion on non-resource sector for socio-economic development as priority direction in the proposed draft 8th NSEDP - Poverty reduction and environmental protection as part of sustainable development direction in the plans - LDC graduation criteria as the main theme of the 8th NSEDP - Further alignment on budgeting and planning as priority direction in the proposed draft 8th NSEDP - Improvement on entrepreneurs' capacity and labor skills as part of directions in the plans toward the integration - Labor force development identified as part of key research areas to support 8th plan formulation (see Activity 2.1.2) | |
| Output 2: Macroeconomic analysis and management conducted to contribute to the macroeconomic achievements outlined in the NSEDP | | | |
| <u>Output 2.1:</u> The result from the analysis and reports are | 2.1.1 Conduct monthly consultation meetings with | Mainly the monthly consultations made through unofficial means of communications such as email, fax and telephone. As a result, some data | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|--|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <p>incorporated into annual plans through a consultative manner which emphasizes on macro-level management to achieve NSEDG and MDGs</p> | <p>key sectors (BoL, MoF) in charge of macroeconomic management</p> <p>2.1.2 Facilitate commission of at least five studies under MTR priorities areas by concerned sectors to support the formulation of the 8th NSEDG.</p> | <p>on macro indicators have been collected and monitored regularly including GDP, inflation rate, exchange rate, money supply M2, BoP.</p> <p>The initial research areas were identified in the internal meeting with NERI as following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Macroeconomics: economic growth (supporting sectors: agriculture, processing industry and services), economic stability 2. Integration: labor skills (labor migration, quality and readiness of labor force under the integration condition), priority industries 3. Urbanization: urbanization of the target districts 4. Investment climate: procedure, cost, political situation, enabling investment climate in rural areas <p>Implementation of these areas are subject to capability and resource availability and yet awaiting for NERI develop concepts for each topic before submitting to the high ranking people at MPI for decision.</p> | |
| | <p>2.1.3 Support on providing substantive inputs to</p> | <p>Advice and feedback have been provided on macro economic framework especially to set a less ambitious target for the growth rate,</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|---|---|--|---|
| | macroeconomic analysis | <p>emphasis on non-resource sectors to support sustainable development and economic stability, consideration on the rolling plan (2-3 years) to enable resource availability and timely projection on the demand for achieving the plan smoothly, increase in public saving as a proactive policy toward the external shock.</p> <p>Additionally, inputs were gathered collectively from through the sector working group channel (two meetings mentioned in Activity 2.1.1). As a result, key issues and possible solutions as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relax target for the growth rate to relax prioritization on growth and focus more on quality growth - Further focus on savings to as proactive policy toward external shock - Fiscal policy to further protect pro-poor expenditure | |
| <p>Output 3: Capacity for local planning and implementation improved at the central and local levels</p> <p>Output 3.1: Increased understanding on kumban planning experiences on the ground to further improve the process</p> | <p>3.1.1 Publishing of Participatory Planning Manual</p> | <p>This activity is postponed.</p> | <p>Due to DOP was advised to concentrate on the 8th plan preparation during the quarter. However, additional printing of the manual is set to the plan in Q3</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | <p>3.1.2 Conduct dissemination (linking with 1.1.2) and training workshops for planning facilitators at central and provincial levels using the Participatory Planning Manual</p> | <p>Fund for this activity was used for study visit in UK as to enhance capacity for the government staffs who are key writers of the 8th NSEDP. Main objectives of the study visit include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of central government in the promotion of sustainable economic growth • Balancing equality and economic growth: growth in the regions versus growth in London and the more prosperous regions • Central government - local government coordination for sustainable economic growth and the split between their responsibilities • Inter-sectoral coordination at national level • Integration of national planning and budgeting • How the Cabinet, line ministries, the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Finance work together in determining policies, setting outcomes and ensuring adequate public financing • Planning, appraisal, selection and implementation of national infrastructure development | <p>Due to more concentration on further understanding of outcome based planning is highly essential in prior to be able to guide the planning process at the local level. Therefore, utilization of allocated fund in this activity is made for the study visit for the time being. Hence, development of the concept note for this activity is required in details to mobilize fund for this activity.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory national and local development planning • The role of non-State actors in the planning process: the community and the private sector in planning <p>After the study visit, a set of recommendations were drawn for Lao PDR on the future steps on the national socio-economic planning, which can be summarized as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify clear framework and clear tasks to ensure correct understanding and harmonization in the planning and implementation processes. • Developing the national significant investments or Investment Type I and II should go through joint decision making between the public, private and academia • Investment planning should be carried out along with the budget projection 3-5 year rolling • Further involvement of private sector and academia in the planning process. • Further increase fund mobilization from economic sectors to sustain the national development <p>In the next quarter, experiences from this study</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | <p>essentially need to be shared with the planning stakeholders to put forward a guiding on the 8th NSEDP formulation at the central and local levels.</p> <p>However, fund mobilization is required to support a guiding of local planning as to reallocate the fund that has been used.</p> | |
| | <p>3.1.4 Strengthen local capacity on project prioritization and management in target districts with mindful of poverty-environment concerns and off-track MDGs (linking with 3-build activities)</p> | <p>Due to DOP was advised to concentrate on the 8th plan preparation and formulating of the Annual NSEDP and PIP 2014-2015 as well as reporting on progress of Annual NSEDP and PIP 2013-2014; provincial officials were invited to the consultation meeting at the central. Hence, proposed priority areas for post-MDGs were generated at early stage.</p> <p>However, in the next quarter the field visit to monitor off-track MDGs is planned to be conducted.</p> | |
| <p>Output 3.2: Capacity for local level planners enhanced to promote the use of participatory approaches, incorporate poverty-environment issues and</p> | <p>3.2.1-a Strengthen capacity of government officials on sustainable/green growth economy concepts at central level</p> | <p>This activity was postponed.</p> | <p>Due to DOP was advised to concentrate on the 8th plan preparation during the quarter. However, it is planned in Q3.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| <p>off-track MDGs</p> | <p>3.2.3 Consultation workshop with development partners on green growth proposals for three pilot provinces</p> | <p>The activity is postponed</p> | <p>Due to awaiting the completion of the investment profile (please see 3.2.5 for more information)</p> |
| | <p>3.2.4 Follow up workshop and present the findings of accessed priority PIP and one district one product plan for Oudomxay, Saravane and Houaphanh</p> | <p>The activity is postponed. However, there are some projects in PIPs that can be identified as the projects with integration of the green growth projects in the PIP. They provide trainings and knowledge transfer for the farmers in the project areas to do organic cultivation and involve them in the community-based environmental protection.</p> | <p>Due to awaiting the completion of the investment profile(please see 3.2.5 for more information)</p> |
| | <p>3.2.5 Investment profile development for Oudomxay province</p> | <p>The investment list on ODOP was gathered as reference for selecting the green growth projects in PIP. The PIP list of related green economy sectors was prepared for three pilot provinces (Houaphanh, Saravane and Oudomxay). To enlarge opportunities for mobilizing fund to support green growth project, PEI STA has reviewed the lists and suggested expanding PIP information in different provinces by collecting full list of PIPs to identify 3-5 green growth projects in the most suitable areas. At present, the full list is being requested from responsible division under DOP.</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| 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 | | | |
| Output 4.1: Strengthen monitoring and reporting capacity of MPI and planners with the use of improved and updated data from LaoInfo | <p>4.1.2 Conduct consultation workshop to finalize 7th NSEDP M&E Framework with stakeholders</p> | <p>7th NSEDP M&E has been improved and finalized with inputs from DOP team. In consultation with UNDP, M&E indicators have been revised and cleared by DOP. As a result, only indicators that are measurable and direct to the 7th plan targets remained in the framework. Some sectors with qualitative targets left without indicators but will still be required to report the progress and achievements in the text form.</p> | |
| | <p>4.1.3 Testing outcome based reporting for the implementation of the 7th NSEDP 2013/2014 against 7th NSEDP M&E framework that includes PE indicators and pilot outcome based reporting in Vientiane province.</p> | <p>This activity is postponed to the next quarter.</p> | <p>Due to awaiting the approval on the M&E framework from the line sectors which needs to be drawn from organization of a consultation meeting</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) | | | |
| Output 5.1: Increased MDG advocacy | <p>5.1.1 Provide administrative and</p> | <p>This activity is an on-going activity that supporting the secretariat daily operation.</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| and awareness of the LDC Plan of Action at provincial levels | <p>Logistic support to the MDG Secretariat</p> <p>5.1.4 Attend MDG Regional Meeting and 70th Annual Session of UNESCAP</p> <p>5.1.5 Workshops on the Finding of the Third MDGs Report for University Students</p> | <p>The meeting was successfully organized in Vientiane, with participants from country members of the region. Through this meeting, the post-MDG concept was presented and priority areas were identified for each country member at early stage</p> <p>The awareness raised for university students on the results from the 3rd MDG Progress Report was organized through a consultation meeting which organized at NUOL, Vientiane. Through this meeting, the new approach of outcome planning was also informed to the NUOL students and the teachers in order to raise their awareness on the government's policies.</p> | |
| Component 2 - Support to Effective Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress towards Goals of NSEDP/MDGs via LaoInfo | | | |
| 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. | | | |
| Output 1.1: Shared database for MPI departments and other users upgraded and regularly updated with data needed to support effective implementation | 1.1 Production of statistical report to present the status of national socio-economic development of the country using LaoInfo database system and publish it to | This activity is partially done. Particularly on development of the report content and format. The report consisted of 7 parts including introduction, education, health, labour and poverty, natural resource and environment, agriculture, and post and communication. The data was track from 1992 up to now. | The reasons for not completed is due to the printing of the report will be completed in July, so it cannot be disseminated. However it planned to do in this July. |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| of NSEDP/MDGs | support effective implementation of NSEDP/MDG | <p>The printing of this report was on going and hope to complete and share with the project teams and public in July.</p> <p>The dissemination of this report will be done after the report is printed.</p> <p>This activity is partially done.</p> | <p>The updating is completed, but not yet disseminated. In cooperation with DSG the team is still asking for the recommendation from DSG if it is standardized.</p> <p>It expected to do in Q3.</p> <p>LSB is going to consult with UNDP on how to resolve this problem.</p> |
| 1.4 | Updating the MDG and National Socio-economic Database and publish it through LaoInfo offline and website | <p>This activity aims to support the dissemination of NSEDP M&E framework under planning department, but this M&E framework is not finalized yet. So, the development of DI monitoring tool and dashboard could not be done.</p> | |
| 1.5 | TA support from DSA to develop DI monitoring tool and dashboard to 7th NSEDP and necessary training to the operation of LaoInfo | | |
| Output 2: Increased stakeholder awareness and participation, improved advocacy and dissemination to ensure the best use of official statistics; | | | |
| Output 2.1: Capacity building support established for statistics users, planners and | 2.1.b Dissemination of the Notification on Statistical Dissemination and Use of | This activity was implemented on 23/06/2014 at Vientiane Capital with 37 participants (management level) from Lao Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| <p>administrators</p> | <p>Official Statistics and Statistical Literacy Guide for <u>management level</u> of LMs in Vientiane Capital.</p> | <p>Public Health, Ministry of Public Works and Transports, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Energy and Mine, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Education and Sport, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Cultural and Tourist, Ministry of labour and Social Welfare and Bank of Lao PDR.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To disseminate Notification on Statistical Dissemination • To enhance government leaders' capacity on basic statistical knowledge through statistical literacy training. <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 70% get good understanding on Notification on Statistical Dissemination; the production process and use of statistics in planning and analysis. Participants appreciated LSB initiative in producing the first statistical literacy manual which will be a useful reference for statistical users. | |
| | <p>2.1.c Dissemination of the</p> | <p>This activity was implemented on 24/06/2014 at Vientiane Capital with 37 participants (technical</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | <p>Notification on Statistical Dissemination and Use of Official Statistics and Statistical Literacy Guide for <u>technical staff</u> of LMs in Vientiane Capital.</p> | <p>level) from Lao Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Energy and Mine, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Education and Sport, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Cultural and Tourist, Ministry of labour and Social Welfare and Bank of Lao PDR.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To disseminate Notification on Statistical Dissemination • To enhance government leaders' capacity on basic statistical knowledge through statistical literacy training. <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 70% get good understanding on Notification on Statistical Dissemination; the production process and use of statistics in planning and analysis. Participants appreciated LSB initiative in producing the first statistical literacy manual which will be a useful reference for statistical users. They requested LSB to organize this kindly training regularly. | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| Output 3: Improved networking and statistical cooperation at the national, regional and international levels. | | | |
| Output 3.1. Improved domestic, regional and international statistical cooperation | 3.1 b Operation and management | This budget has been spent for regular operational costs such as: fuel, telephone bill, water, newspapers, internet charge and etc | |
| Component 3 - Support to Strengthening the Round Table Process for Achievement of NSEDP/MDGs | | | |
| Output 1 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 for facilitating effective implementation of NSEDP and VDCAP towards achieving the MDGs in Lao PDR | | | |
| Output 1.1 Effective meetings and 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 | 1.1.a Organisation of the 2013 RTP Retreat and finalisation of its report. | The Retreat on the round table process was organised on 1 st of April 2014 at the Santi Resort in Luang Prabang with the participation of total 60 representatives from both government ministries and development partners especially those are SWG secretariats. The objective of the retreat was to reflect on last year's RTP implementation including the follow up of the 11 th HLRTM recommendations/action points. In addition, the retreat also aimed to present the draft 2014 RTIM roadmap for feedbacks before finalising and sharing at the National RTP Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting for further guidance and approval. | It appears that there was a delay in organizing the retreat which was originally scheduled to take place in February, but it was held on 1 st of April given the time constraint and unavailability of meeting chair and co-chair. |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | | <p>The retreat was organised with successful results given that the participants actively provided constructive comments and suggestions on the 2013 RTP reflection especially on how to effectively implement the 11th HLRTM 2013 recommendations, as well as on the 2014 RTIM preparation plan through both plenary and group discussion sessions.</p> <p>The RTP Retreat report has been prepared, finalised and uploaded to the RTM website for further information and reference.</p> | |
| | <p>1.1.b Revision of the draft 2014 RTIM roadmap based on suggestions and recommendations made during the RTP Retreat</p> | <p>Following the RTP Retreat conducted in early April, there is a need for the RTP Secretariat to revise the draft roadmap of the 2014 RTIM, especially its key milestones to reflect actual activities that have already been implemented and those to be implemented in the upcoming months. Also, to add some more relevant activities based on suggestions and recommendations made during the Retreat. In this connection, this draft roadmap has now been revised and attached to an official letter signed by MPI Deputy Minister to update all Development Partners on the progress of the 2014 RTIM preparation.</p> | <p>Since there was no meeting of the chairs and co-chairs of SWGs conducted during the quarter, the RTP Secretariat send out an official letter to update both LMs and DPs on the 2014 RTIM preparation progress and plan for the upcoming months to ensure common understandings and all stakeholders are on the same pace.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | <p>1.1. d Organisation of the National RTP Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting</p> | <p>The National RTP Steering Committee Meeting is normally organised twice a year to firstly present and seek the Government's guidance on and approval of the prepared annual RTIM roadmap and key milestones, and also secondly to report on the progress and challenges of the annual RTIM preparation process, as well as to seek further guidance on any specific issues related to the RTIM preparation. In this connection, the RTP NSC Meeting has been postponed from the first quarter to take place at the end of April or early May. However, this event could not be happened again due to the time constraint and unavailability of a chairing person.</p> | <p>It has been observed that this RTP NSC meeting has always been postponed from the first quarter to the second quarter, and then to the third quarter. This leads to the delay in the implementation of other subsequent activities leading up to the annual 2014 RTIM which will take place in November. For instance, the provincial consultation meeting is postponed to be during September. Therefore, a more realistic plan is required to ensure greater time management and effectiveness resource utilization. In addition, as all RTP-leading activities are interrelated and needed agreement from NSC, it is crucial to take more efforts to have NSC meeting in early stage or a second plan to have specific guidance from NSC on a specific activities to avoid any delay.</p> |
| | <p>1.1.c and e Preparation and organisation of the provincial consultation meeting in a selected province.</p> | <p>In order to prepare for the Annual RTIM, the provincial consultation meeting has been organised in a selected province depending on each year's meeting theme and focused areas/topics. In 2014, it has been advised by MPI Senior Management that this year RTIM provincial consultation meeting will be organised</p> | <p>It is noted that there was a delay in organising the provincial consultation meeting which should be already done in June according to the work plan. However, this has been rescheduled to take place in September given the time constraint for both substantive and</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | | <p>in Saravane province and the meeting theme will be again focusing on the follow up implementation progress of the Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Convergence Programme that has been developed as a result of the LNT provincial consultation in 2013. In this regards, the RTP Secretariat in consultation with UNDP has discussed and come up with an initial draft concept note including tentative programme of the provincial consultation meeting and already shared with the FNS Secretariat (both the government agencies and development partners) for feedbacks and comments. As a result, the objective and general concept of the draft concept note were agreed by all agencies concerned. However, there will be further consultations with National Secretariat on FNS on the revised concept note before sharing at the National RTP Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting for further guidance and approval, which has been rescheduled to take place in mid-July.</p> | <p>logistic preparations. However, organising the provincial consultation in September would also give a good benefits and opportunities for the RTP Secretariat to bring the fresh results/recommendations/issues to the discussions in the upcoming 2014 RTIM in November. In addition, this will ensure the effective and efficient preparations of substantive and logistic for both meetings.</p> |
| | <p>1.1.f Preparation and distribution of a Guidance Note on the 2014 RTIM preparation</p> | <p>In order to facilitate and guide SWGs in preparing and providing both substantive and logistic inputs for the 2014 RTIM preparation, a draft Guidance Note for the concept of the preparation of the Background Document for the 2014 RTIM has been prepared by the RTP Secretariat and this will be then distributed to all SWGs for further</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | | preparation once it is finalised. | |
| | <p>1.1.e Capacity building for local authorities in area of aid coordination and management (3 build directive, ODA Decree, etc)</p> | <p>The project had provided support to MPI team leading by the Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment to perform a five-day mission between 15-19 June 2014 in the two southern provinces such as Saravane and Savannakhet in the implementation of the Government's 3 build directive especially in the area of effective ODA management and development cooperation.</p> | |
| <p>Output 1.2 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>1.2. a Revision and Submission of SWGs' revised ToR, calendar of events and consultations, and updated list of their focal persons' contact</p> | <p>SWGs have been requested to prepare/revise and send their revised ToR, calendar of events and consultations/reports, and updated list of their focal persons' contact to the RTP Secretariat for uploading to the RTM website for information and reference. In this regards, seven SWGs (<i>inc. Education, Governance, Trade and Private, Infrastructure, UXO, Agriculture and Rural Development, and Natural Resource and Environment</i>) have already submitted all the required documents. However, some of SWGs have not yet submitted all the documents as required such as <i>Health and Macroeconomics</i> have provided only ToR and updated list of their focal persons' contact while nothing is provided by <i>Illicit Drug Control SWG</i>.</p> | <p>The delay in submission of SWGs' inputs was due to the insufficient coordination between DIC/MPI and SWGs and limited capacity of the SWG focal points in responding to DIC/MPI's request, as well as postponement/changing the date of the planned meetings/consultations. Therefore, it is necessary for DIC/MPI to provide dedicated training for SWG secretariat in order to address this capacity issue. In addition, there should be a regular communication between DIC or RTP and SWGs focal points to provide updated information in a monthly basis.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | <p>1.2.b</p> <p>Coordination and participation of a series of SWG meetings/consultations ensuring greater compliance with the agreed theme and focused areas/topics of 2014 RTIM</p> | <p>To ensure the linkage between SWGs and RTIM/RTM especially in terms of both substantive and logistic arrangements, DIC/MPI focal persons from relevant divisions have been coordinating and participating in a number of technical meetings organised by various SWGs during the 2nd Quarter of 2014. For instance, technical meetings conducted by <i>Health, Education, Governance, Macroeconomics, Trade and Private, Agriculture and Rural Development, Natural Resource Management and Environment</i> SWGs. In this connection, DICMPI relevant focal persons have ascertained that all issues discussed in SWG meetings are in line with the 2013 RTM recommendations (16 points) and the 2014 RTIM theme and focused areas/topics, and also encouraged SWGs to have an exchange among SWGs in relation to activity expansion to provincial level and CSOs, as well as private sector involvement.</p> | <p>In order to ensure effective coordination between DIC/MPI and SWGs, DIC/MPI should have been regularly coordinating and obtaining updated calendar of events and consultations and attending accordingly. In this regard, it would be more manageable and helpful if the DIC focal points could share the calendar, information and report back to the DIC/MPI Senior Management and staff concerned from each meeting they have attended. Then, the RTP could cross check the information and upload on the RTP website.</p> |
| | <p>1.2.c and d</p> <p>Preparation and organisation of SWG Secretariat Meeting and SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs Meeting</p> | <p>Both SWG Secretariat Meeting and SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs Meeting have been postponed to conduct in the third quarter.</p> | <p>As mentioned in 1.1.d that the postponement of the RTP NSC meeting leads to the delay of other RTP activities. Due to the fact that the draft 2014 RTIM Roadmap and VDCAP Monitoring Framework to be shared and discussed at these two meetings needed to be approved by the</p> |

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| | | | <p>Government through NSC first. Therefore, it is recommended that the project should consider and develop more realistic plan in the early stage and regularly follow-up the plan if any issues and potential solutions to move activities forward.</p> <p>In addition, it has also 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>1.2.e Update a SWG mailing list</p> | <p>A SWG Mailing List has been updated regularly, but still not systematic.</p> | <p>Systematic coordination between DIC/MPI and SWGs is required to ensure all the changes made by each SWG are properly updated to each other and relevant documents are thereby to be revised accordingly.</p> |
| <p>Output 1.3 Progressively measurable implementation of</p> | <p>1.3.a and b Development and distribution of the VDCAP</p> | <p>The VDCAP Secretariat has planned to carry out a monitoring and reporting exercise to reflect on how we have engaged ourselves to ensure aid</p> | <p>The critical action now is to begin using the guidance to gather data and other relevant qualitative information. The</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| <p>VDCAP, promoting and strengthening capacities of the Government to increase effective implementation of aid effectiveness agenda at national, regional and global levels</p> | <p>Monitoring Framework.</p> | <p>and development effectiveness in Lao PDR in light of the global monitoring framework. In doing this effective monitoring process, the VDCAP Secretariat has developed the VDCAP Monitoring Framework that builds on previous data collection work during the first review and also brings in some new elements as per the Busan commitments. This has been consulted and shared with both the Government and DPs for further reporting system of the VDCAP (2012-2015) implementation.</p> | <p>VDCAP Secretariat will get in touch with both Government and DPs in due course to ensure that there are common understandings of all stakeholders to provide inputs/reports and eventually the annual VDCAP progress report will be ready before the upcoming Round Table Implementation Meeting in November 2014.</p> |
| <p>1.3.c and d Finalisation of the revised draft ToR of Development Finance and Aid Assessment (DFAA) Study, and organisation of its inception workshop</p> | <p>The Government under the leadership of MPI plans to conduct a comprehensive assessment of current and future flows of development finance particularly the ODA trend, as well as SSC and PPP flows in Lao PDR, which is called the Development Finance and Aid Assessment (DFAA). In this connection, a draft Generic ToR of the DFAA Study was developed and consulted with LMs and DPs concerned, including MPI, MOF, UNDP and ADB. . Together with this, the ToR of International and National Consultant teams were also developed and the recruitment process has proceeded through the UNDP regional center and UNDP Lao PDR. In addition, the TOR of DFAA committee, including focal point of agencies</p> | <p>According to the Q2 work plan, an inception workshop on this DFAA study was planned to be conducted in June. However, this has been postponed to take place in August given the delay in finalizing and approving the DFAA TOR by the government, as well as it takes time to form the DFAA Committee and the recruitment processes for international and national consultants. However, it is crucial to have DFAA Committee for management and quality assurance of the DFAA reports, as well as the consultation team to develop and implement the DFAA work plan to have the findings/report of this study.</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | | <p>concerned was developed and the letter will be formally sent to all agencies, including MPI (DIC, DOP, DOIP, NERI), MOF, MOIC, UNDP, ADB and WB as the members of committee, Therefore, the consultation team is expected to start working with DIC and DFAA Committee in early August.</p> | |
| | <p>1.3.e Effective participation of global and regional development and aid effectiveness forums</p> | <p>In line with global and regional development cooperation effectiveness agendas and ensuring their reflection and effective implementation at country level, the Lao PDR delegations had participated in the First High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in Mexico during 15-16 April 2014.</p> <p>The results of this meeting have been very useful information for the country in preparing itself for the Fourth Biennial High Level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum in New York during 10-11 July 2014. Moreover, the key results and information of this forum was also shared and benefited to the DIC/MPI staffs and UNDP staffs to strengthen government capacity, better collaboration and implementation of works related to development effectiveness and aid coordination.</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| <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>Output 2.1</u> The Aid Management Platform (ODA Database) is in place and fully operational as a tool to effectively analyse and plan ODA needs</p> | <p>2.1.a and c Regular online updates into the AMP system made by DPs/DFAs</p> | <p>The AMP system, with public portal launched during the 11th HLRTM in November 2013, is in the process of gathering DP data and information to update and populate in the system with current activities under the Lao Fiscal Year 2013-14.</p> | <p>In terms of system management, despite good progress made thus far, DIC/MPI has been encountering some technical problems in managing and producing ODA related reports from the system given some issues/difficulties in the system occurred, which AED/DIC is not able to solve/manage data. Therefore, it is in the process of finding the technical problems and contacting/requesting the Development Gateway (DG) to help in solving these issues. In this connection, DIC/AED prefers have a user name and password from DG to then be able to get access to the system and independently do back up remotely. However, as the service contract with DG was ended since end of 2013. Therefore, it is crucial to have further discussions between AED/DIC and UNDP to identify the issues of AMP system and what are the needs for next steps to have some parts of supports by DG or other potential solutions.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | <p>2.1.b Preparation and publication of Quarterly ODA Snapshot</p> | <p>According to the project work plan, DIC/AED will produce and publish a Quarterly ODA Snapshot. However, this could not be completed on time given the time constraint and also the need of more sufficient data and information provided by donors/DFAs.</p> <p>Therefore, it is agreed to produce a Semi-Annual Foreign Aid Report with hope to complete by mid-July after all the data for six months are entered into the system by donors. When this is done, DIC/AED will generate a raw data report. Then, it will be validated and verified before the proper report can be finalised.</p> | |
| <p><u>Output 2.2</u> Regular communication and publication of quality related ODA analytical reports/documents</p> | <p>2.2.a Regular maintenance and update of the RTM Website</p> | <p>The content and structure of the RTM website were already revamped and a new outlook is available for public access since November 2013.</p> <p>In addition, the DIC and UNDP regularly visited and monitor the RTP website to provide some suggestions and comments on the structure and any issues with list of updated documents for the website.</p> | <p>Although the website was revamped, its content and structure are still required to regularly revisited and revised/updated accordingly to ensure that it is functioning regularly and up-to-date information and relevant figures/photos are properly uploaded to the website for further information and reference. DIC/AED has to clearly assign a responsible person and clear approval process with regards to the RTM website management.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
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| | <p>2.2.b Participation in a workshop on communication and publication at UN House</p> | <p>In order to enhance communication skills, DIC and UNDP have planned to provide a kind of training/workshop on the communication and publication related topics by communication specialist. This activity will help the DIC and RTP staffs to have better understanding and strengthened capacities in developing RTP publications, brochures, booklets, press release and other advocacy materials which will be used for the RTP-related activities and RTP website. However, this activity has not yet been organised due to the time constraint and difficulties in finding the resource persons/trainers for this activity.</p> | |
| Output_3 Strengthened capacity of DIC and its Implementing Partners in effectively managing ODA related programmes and projects | | | |
| <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>3.1.a, b and c Finalisation of the Lao version of NIM (SOP) Manual, and development of training calendar and curriculum/materials</p> | <p>An English version of the NIM (SOP) Manual was finalised and already launched in November 2013 for further implementation. In order to ensure all the UNDP supported programmes/projects personnel have clearly understood all policies stated in the Manual, it has been translated into Lao version and shared with all projects during the workshop in June 2014 for further reference.</p> | <p>Although the NIM SOP Manual both Lao and English versions were already shared with all UNDP supported programmes and projects for further implementation, some rules and procedures are still not clear in terms of both terminologies used and their calculation methodology, and these need common understanding between DIC/MPI and UNDP before officially informing all implementing partners for further implementation.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | <p>3.1.d Organisation of a two-day training on NIM (SOP) Manual for UNDP supported programmes/project personnel including the two hours audit debriefing</p> | <p>In order to ensure greater understanding on the use of the new NIM (SOP) Manual, DIC/MPI in collaboration with UNDP/PSU has organised a two-day training course on NIM Manual for all UNDP supported programmes/projects personnel on 19-20 June 2014 at Lao Plaza Hotel with the participation of total 150 persons from UNDP supported programmes and projects as well as UNDP Country Office. The objective of the training was to review the project implementation especially related to monitoring and evaluation of the programme and project implementation for 2013, and to present on the NIM (SOP) Manual and guidelines for all implementing partners to ensure greater ownership and capacity building for national staffs.</p> <p>Apart from DIC and UNDP resource persons, the organising team also invited resource persons from the Social Security Organisation (SSO) and the Procurement and Monitoring Office (ProMO) of Ministry of Finance to present and explain more on the new requirements of SSO and the Government procurement procedures to ensure all projects' procurement activities have been done in compliance with the Government's rules and procedures.</p> <p>The training was done with successful results. All</p> | <p>Although the Manual is relatively clear and covers almost all issues/ difficulties encountered by the project management teams in the past years, there are still a number of issues and questions related to human resource, finance and procurement management raised and discussed during the training sessions.</p> <p>For more details, please refer to the training report.</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| | | <p>participants were very active in providing useful and constructive comments and suggestions on various policies and relevant issues for further improvements.</p> <p>The report of this training has been prepared and will be shared with all participants once it is finalised.</p> | |
| | <p>3.1.e Organisation of a quarterly meeting of MPI programme components</p> | <p>A quarterly meeting of MPI programme components was held on 5th of June 2014 to follow-up component's progress against key annual priorities and deliverables of the 2014 AWP and discusses key issues/challenges of the programme implementation and management, as well as to strengthen coordination and reporting mechanisms among the programme components.</p> <p>The minutes of meeting has been prepared and shared with other components as well as their relevant implementing agencies for further reference and follow-up.</p> | |
| | <p>3.1.f The project implementation and management</p> | <p>The project has recruited a National Consultant in May to provide technical support for the project management team and relevant support staffs in the implementation of the project activities to ensure effective delivery results.</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|--|---|---|--|
| | | In addition, the project is now in the process of advertising for recruitment of both International and National Consultants to carry out the DFAA Study which is expected to start their mission in mid August 2014 onwards till end of October. | |
| <u>Output 4</u> Provided quality assurance and support to national implementation management through audit, spot checks and HACT | | | |
| <u>Output 4.1:</u> NIM implementing partners increasingly complied to UNDP rule and regulations | 4.1.a Follow-up actions of the 2013 audit recommendations | After receiving the 2013 audit reports from auditors in May, the project has prepared an Audit Follow-up Action Plan and implemented accordingly. | Refer to No. 5 regarding the update on 2013 audit recommendations in page 18 |
| <u>Component 4 - Support to Advancing Human Development Through Policy-Informing Applied Research on Human Development Issues, especially relevant for Achieving NSEDP/MDGs</u> | | | |
| <u>Output 1:</u> Further enhanced awareness of the concept of Human Development (HD), and capacity for MDG and Human Development reporting at national and sub-national levels; | | | |
| <u>Output 1.1</u> National Level awareness and capacity building for Human Development reporting and MDGs among the ministry staff and educational institutions | 1.1.1 Testing and preparing of TOT of Hunam Development Module | Revising and updating existing HD textbook base on consultation meeting before starting special lecture in new semester which will begin in September of this year. | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Output 2: One High-Quality National Human Development Report, or/and Provincial Human Development Reports Produced</p> <p>Output 2.1 Research Support for NHDR Established</p> | <p>2.1.1 Two Consultation workshops to update NHDR Concept Note and discussed three researches and scope</p> | <p>Research Topics (to support the formulation of the 8th NSEDP and nation long term development strategy): technical meeting among NERI, DOP and UNDP was organized in May 2014 to discuss theme that are necessary to the 8th NSEDP. Based on the results of the discussion, DOP has formally informed NERI on the theme that would be benefited to the 8th Plan which based on the discussion and note from NERI national consultant on possible studies to support the plan.</p> <p>Next step is NERI to work on the proposed topic by sharpening clear focus areas of the studies.</p> <p>Concept Note of the 5th NHDR: the latest concept note on "Youth Development –has been proposed by national consultant as an alternative topic together with previous proposed topics which he provided and other topics which prepared by earlier International Consultants, which planned to be presented at a consultative meeting. However, due to schedule of the chair and co-chair of the advisory board during last quarter were very tied so we could not find time to organize the consultative workshop. Instead of that, we directly requested for advice from Dr.</p> | <p>The themes are quite broad need to be narrowed down and technical discussion</p> |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|---|--|---|----------------------------------|
| | | <p>Bounthavy Sisouphanthong as the chair of the Advisory board, and it was confirmed that the theme of NHDR should still be focused on LDC graduation. Therefore, the concept note will need to be elaborated on the focus. NERI will re-visit on previous concept notes and provide brief note soon.</p> | |
| | <p>2.1.2 Conducting Research Papers supported to the Production of the 5th NHDR(Traing Questioners and pretest Questioners)</p> | <p>Pending. This activity will be implemented after the identification of research topic and finalization of research methodology.</p> | |
| <p>Output 3: Evidence-based research and analysis to support the implementation of the NSEDP/MDGs.</p> | | | |
| <p>Output 3.1 Practical/applied research to support macroeconomic performance and advance effective implementation of NSEDP conducted and integrated into planning implementation procedures within relevant MPI departments</p> | <p>3.1.1 Produce High Quality Macroeconomic Quality Reports with Practical Results-Oriented Focus on Achieving NSEDP/MDGs and organized Semi-Annual Result-Sharing Conference</p> | <p>-Successfully prepared the quarterly macro two surveys were conducted in Q2.2014, ,economic report Collect perceptions of households on their consumption as well as opinion on performance of economy in each quarter (.1 Collect perceptions of business peration on their investment and overall assessment of .performance .e economy the data from the survey was use as inputs to produce report on consumer sentiment index and business sentiment index for technical background .2014 .2economic report Q-paper of NERI's macro</p> | |

| Component outputs to be implemented | Key activities | Achievements/progress towards achieving outputs and targets against indicators | Reasons if progress below target |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| | <p>3.1.2 Operation and Management.</p> | <p>monthly salary for project accountant and coordinator Office Supplies- Utilities - Maintenance and operation of Project Vehicle - Sundry -</p> | |

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

- The programme objective is to support the achievement of the 7th NSEDP with a more inclusive and equitable growth, the MDGs and substantial further progress towards LDC graduation;
- The programme components have been taking an ownership and leadership in leading the formulation and implementation processes of the 7th NSEDP/MDGs and the 8th NSEDP preparation, including annual NSEDPs and relevant consultation meetings towards achieving national development goals and priorities;
- The programme activities aim at aligning the national priorities through streamlining activities into relevant departments' work plans;
- The VDCAP 2012-2015 and its Monitoring Framework have been finalised and endorsed based on global monitoring framework arose from the Busan High Level forum on Aid Effectiveness, and emerging aid and development effectiveness agenda;
- The programme has supported the use of HACT/common reporting system which is the FACE form, ICE form and IPOA to keep track of records and follow-up daily transactions occurred during the project implementation;
- The implementation of programme activities has been monitored closely by both the Government and UNDP through a regularly reporting and meetings. However, the collaboration among components is still required an improvement.
- NSEDP M&E framework, LaolInfo, 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;
- Though implementing at MPI, the programme activities regularly involved consultation with line ministries. For instance, through the Round Table mechanism especially via Sector Working Groups, partnerships are being strengthened between the GoL and Development Partners to mobilize resources, ensure better utilization of these resources and push forward the development process. Building these partnerships is a collegial responsibility of all government agencies and their international 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/LSB tried to involve all the related organizations, LMs and DPs in the process. Furthermore, the LaoInfo team has received 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;
- In this quarter the component 4 continued strengthening its partnership with National University of Laos in introducing the HD course to the university. In addition to that the component has been involved with private sector (Lao Chamber of Commerce) through dissemination of the results of its survey on Business Tendency Index (BTI) and Consumer Sentimental Index (CSI).

4. Update on gender mainstreaming

- Gender mainstreamed in the preparation process of the 8th NSEDP (2016-2020) as well as annual reporting process on implementation of Annual NSEDP&PIP 2013-2014 and preparation of Annual NSEDP 2014-2015. For instance, involving wide participation in the planning process from all has been promoted and extended to women and children to raise their awareness of the 8th plan formulation progress at the “seminar on mother & child”, held in Vientiane.
- The Gender is mainstreamed into the work of individual groups and considered as a cross cutting issue in their ToR. The component has supported DIC in facilitating and coordinating with all 10 SWGs to mainstream Gender into the work of SWGs. 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.
- The project will ensure gender aspect is properly mainstreamed into all its research. 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;

5. Update on audit recommendations

- All the programme components were audited in March 2014 with some recommendations for further improvement especially related to human resources, finance, procurement and asset management as follows:

- Properly calculate Personal Income Tax
 - Obtain adequate information in preparing reports
 - Use correct expenditure account code when posting entries
 - Obtain receipts of goods and services
 - Record reason for selecting suppliers accurately
 - Obtain appropriate guidance and approval for activities outside the work plan
 - Obtain appropriate guidance and approval for payments outside the NIM Manual
 - Follow-up UNDP recruitment process
 - Record budget analytical review accordingly
 - Record correct recipient on cheques
 - Record payments accurately
 - Record reason for selecting suppliers accurately
 - All purchases over USD 625 (LAK 5 million) require at least three quotations
 - Recorded incorrectly in chart of account
 - Reconcile the IPOA and CDR of Q4, 2013 not performed correctly
 - No surprise cash count was conducted in July, August, and September and November 2013
 - No proper record of daily log book with actual meter readings from the vehicle.
- It is noted that some of the 2013 audit recommendations have been repeated with the 2012 ones, especially related to wrong record of financial transactions for example. This is due to human errors.
 - After having received the 2013 audit reports from auditors in May 2014, each component has developed an audit action plan for easy follow-up the implementation of audit recommendations. This implementation progress has been regularly updated at the component monthly meetings.
 - During the second quarter, many recommendations were already implemented while some of them are still in the process of implementation. However, the programme components will ensure that this all will be implemented within the following quarter taking into account the requirements of NIM (SOP) Manual. Nevertheless, adequate training on NIM Manual application is required for the programme components personnel to ensure all policies and procedures have been followed properly.

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

- Effective implementation of the planned programme activities and budget with high delivery results is challenging the programme components. Meeting the requirement of NIM (SOP) Manual particularly in term of project delivery rate (80%) is critical for the programme activity and budget implementation and necessary for requesting for new advance.

- Inter-Governmental coordination and involvement of all stakeholders require a more systematic improvement. A full collaboration with all government agencies in line ministries and provincial authorities is essential to achieve the objectives and outcomes attached to each component. Over the quarter, the collaboration and partnership with all stakeholders particularly the line ministries and local authorities have been improved through the participatory planning process, the RTP including the SWG mechanism and the VDCAP revision process for instance. This momentum needs to be sustained in a proper manner.
- Capacity development for MPI relevant departments is essential for effective programme implementation. The integration of all the programme activities into the work of MPI departments/relevant divisions has been put in place and become the key efforts to ensure greater sustainability of programme activities and capacity building/knowledge transfer for national staff. More efforts are also foreseen in the near future to cope with the requirements of each MPI department's mandate especially related to planning, monitoring and evaluation processes, aid coordination and management as well as policy researching process. Coordinated approach for the capacity development will need to be enhanced in order to ensure, in the spirit of the Vientiane Declaration, the full implementation of effective development cooperation related agendas in Lao PDR.
- As there were continuing challenges of time constraints/arrangement, unavailable of the senior management team and senior government to chair the meeting like NSC meeting to give guidance and approval of each component related activities. As a result, although the programme component staff had regular communication with the UNDP POs/PAs on the planned activities, some planned activities/outputs have been delayed and postponed to next quarter, which reflecting the low delivery rate of 2014 budget after the 2014 mid-year. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure that the quarterly workplan is realistic and some solutions for unexpected issues in place to effectively implement the planned activities in a timely manner.
- Limited understanding of the responsible staff and inadequate training on new NIM guideline especially in the financial and procurement areas caused errors. Although SOP training has been organized recently, specific areas still need to be put on the future trainings to prevent potential errors such as new policy on project staff benefits (so called "bonus"), etc.
- In order to promote greater sustainability and national ownership over the programme activities implementation, the programme components especially LSB has assigned relevant staff to be responsible for project implementation. As a result, LSB has always been delay in submission of quarterly reports to DIC for further actions given the time constraints. This has been internally discussed by the project management team and UNDP, and in this connection, the component will ensure this issue is addressed urgently.

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

Component 1:

- A study visit to UK in supporting to the 8th NSEDP preparation was conducted in the end of June to strengthen capacity and in-depth understanding on the outcome based planning, implementing and reporting as well as realization on essential partnerships in formulating the plan for the government staff who are the key writers of the 8th NSEDP. In achieving this activity, the supporting fund was extracted from local planning activities and printing costs of the Annual NSEDP and PIP 2014-15.

Component 2:

- N/A

Component 3:

- N/A

Component 4:

- Organizing workshop on long-term social economic development strategy experience between Laos and Vietnam. The workshop aim at learning the experiences on long term social economic development strategy formation from Vietnamese experts from the Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam. NERI's staffs understand how to formulate long term strategy more clearly. For example, in identify any target indicator it should have a concept behind. Long term strategy does not need to determine exact number. The Knowledge from the workshop will be applied in 2025 long term social economic development strategy and 2030 vision of Lao PDR. The Lao PDR should re-consider and revise some content of existing fraft long term strategy in order to make the strategy close to the internal potential and external for sustainable growth.

V. FUTURE WORK PLAN

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

Component 1:

- Continue assisting DoP to formulate 8th NSEDP by providing critical technical assistance and ensuring PEI and green growth economy concept are mainstreamed into the plan at central level. This is attempting to organize consultation workshop to mainstream PE issues and green economy into the Long-term National Development

Strategy 2016-2025 and link it to the 8th NSEDP)

- Conduct seminar to share lessons learned from UK study visit to support the 8th NSEDP formulation and to present revised draft of 8th plan with incorporation of DP comments
- Finalize National Manual on Formulation of the National Socio-Economic Development Plan of Lao PDR
- Prepare Annual NSEDP and PIP 2014-15
- Continue supporting on providing substantive inputs to macroeconomic analysis
- Facilitate commission of at least five studies under MTR priorities areas by concerned sectors to support the formulation of the 8th NSEDP.
- Consultation workshop with development partners on green growth proposals for three pilot provinces.
- Develop investment profile for potential projects on green growth.
- Continue supporting activities/processes leading to the finalization of the NSEDP M&E framework.
- Testing outcome based reporting for the implementation of the 7th NSEDP 2013/2014 against 7th NSEDP M&E framework that includes PE indicators and pilot outcome based reporting in Vientiane province.

Component 2:

- Produce statistical report to present the status of national socio-economic development of the country using LaoInfo database system and publish it to support effective implementation of NSEDP/MDGs.
- Produce statistical report to present the status of national socio-economic development of the country using LaoInfo database system and publish it to support effective implementation of NSEDP/MDGs.
- Organizing training workshop on LaoInfo application for high level government official staffs.
- TA support from DSA to develop DI monitoring tool and dashboard to 7th NSEDP and necessary trainings to the operation of LaoInfo.
- Preparation and Printing of Main Statistics Booklet Operation and management.

Component 3:

- To ensure the milestones of the 2014 RTIM Roadmap have been updated before sharing at the RTP NSC Meeting in mid July
- Consult with the FNS Secretariat on the preparation of the 2014 RTIM Provincial Consultation Meeting which will take in place in September in Saravane province
- Hold the RTP NSC Meeting to report on progress of the 2014 RTIM preparation and seek the Government's guidance on any particular issues
- Organise the 2014 RTIM Provincial Consultation Meeting focusing on the

implementation progress of the FNS Convergence Programme

- Prepare a quality substantive Background Document for informing the discussion in the upcoming 2014 RTIM
- Complete the Study on Development Finance and Aid Assessment with stakeholder consultations and clear preliminary findings
- Closely coordinate with all SWGs ensuring all data and information required by the RTP are updated and submitted on a timely manner
- Closely coordinate and attend both executive and technical meetings held by various SWGs and ensure all issues discussed are in line with the agreed theme and focused areas/topics of the 2014 RTIM
- To ensure all stakeholders including both the Government agencies and development partners are updated regularly on the progress of the 2014 RTIM preparation including the VDCAP implementation via either SWG Chairs and Co-Chairs Meetings, or mailing/emailing.
- To ensure all the regional and global development cooperation effectiveness agendas have been reflected and implemented at the national level through actively participating in the global and regional development cooperation forums
- To ensure full operationalization of the AMP system that can generate ODA related reports
- To ensure the RTM website has been regularly updated in terms of both content and structure
- To ensure NIM (SOP) Manual both Lao and English versions have been properly finalised with proper training for all UNDP Supported programmes and projects personnel to ensure effective implementation of the programme and project activities with better delivery results.
- To ensure coordination among the MPI programme components is strengthened through next quarterly meeting, regular communication/coordination and joint activity implementation
- To ensure all the projects' 2013 audit recommendations including the RTP project's ones have been properly implemented on a timely manner through a regular follow-up and update at project monthly meetings, and spot checks by DIC-UNDP team.

Component 4:

- Resource mobilising to ensure the project achieves its overall objectives.
- Consultation meeting on HD text book of NUOL, before having special lecture of any subject, the subject should be tested or have at least one consultation meeting. Furthermore, special lecture can only start in new semester which will begin in September of this year.
- Identify three research topics support to NHDR production
- Organizing 2014 Human Development Report Launching
- Strengthening website maintenance and improvement capacity for NERI's staff

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

N/A for components 1, 2 & 4

Component 3:

- In order to ensure greater national ownership and capacity building, it has been agreed between DIC/MPI and UNDP to include NIM activities and budget in the work plan of RTP Component especially under the Output 3 related to capacity development. Therefore, all NIM activities will be directly implemented by DIC/MPI in consultation with UNDP/PSU. In this regard, the RTP will prepare the revised 2014 RTP Workplan, including additional budget of NIM-related activities, and have the signed workplan during next quarter.

3. Estimated total budget required for the following year: US\$ 421,189.00

| Programme Components | Amount in US\$ |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Component 1 | 121,004.00 |
| Component 2 | 103,039.00 |
| Component 3 | 172,675.00 |
| Component 4 | 24,471.00 |

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ACKNOWLEDGED BY:



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