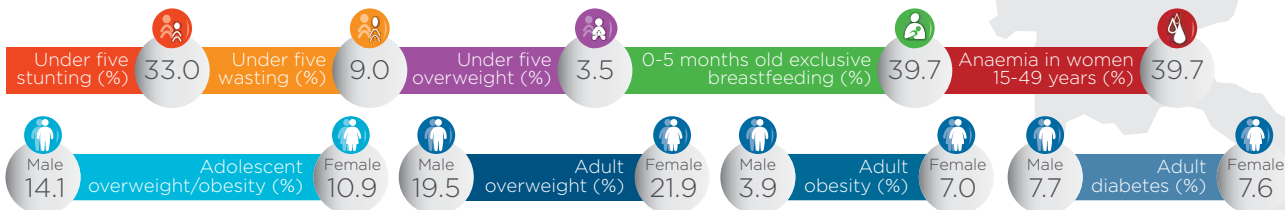


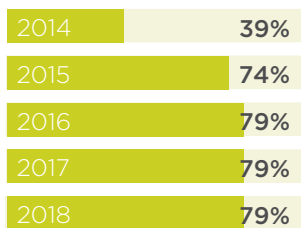


Joined: April 2011
Population: 6.86 million

Lao PDR



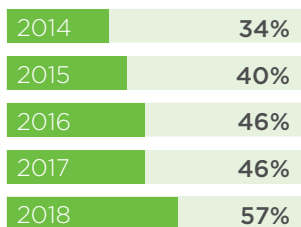
Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Lao PDR has various multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) operating at national and sub-national levels. The SUN Business Network was launched in June 2018 - with 220 participants and 19 businesses registered. All provinces have a nutrition committee and 10 provincial nutrition coordinators have been recruited to

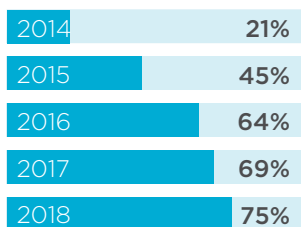
facilitate multi-stakeholder coordination at the sub-national level. Quarterly meetings are being held with representatives from different sectors: education, agriculture, planning, health and WASH. Updates on the nutrition situation are submitted biannually to the National Assembly.



Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Nutrition Committee Secretariat has facilitated the integration of nutrition priorities into national policy, plans and budgets. The Ministry of Health has facilitated the development of various specific nutrition guidelines, including the National Guideline of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition. Guidelines in support of the International Code on

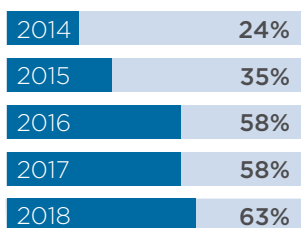
Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes have been developed with the support of various agencies and has been endorsed by the Government. Studies have been conducted to inform the Food Fortification Strategic Plan and mid-term review of the National Plan of Action on Nutrition (NPAN) 2016-2020.



Aligning actions around common results

The National Assembly has endorsed efforts to align national indicators with Sustainable Development Goal 2 on zero hunger. It has also prioritised preventing stunting and underweight in children under 5 in both the National Socio-Economic Development Plan and the Graduation from the Least Developed Country

plan. The Lao Social Indicator Survey has also been released in this period, the results of which will inform an update of the Common Results Framework. The National Nutrition Platform has been initiated, and the mapping of nutrition stakeholders and actions will be updated in 2018.



Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Lao PDR Government and key donors are increasing efforts to provide longer-term funding for nutrition. This can be seen in national budget allocations for some priority nutrition actions, such as for procurement of nutrition commodities, capacity building and monitoring. Budget allocations for nutrition-sensitive

agriculture have increased due to new projects, such as the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme. Efforts to improve disbursement tracking are ongoing. Donors have continued to support the development of the National Plan of Action on Nutrition 2016-2020.



2018-2019 PRIORITIES

SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LAOS

- Ensure domestic support is aligned with the NPAN 2016-2020;
- Launch the NPAN mid-term review and ensure it prioritises districts with a high prevalence of malnutrition, including the double burden;
- Establish an improved forum for sharing of good practices as well as evidence-based lessons learned;
- Strengthen routine nutrition information management systems and multi-sectoral surveillance systems.