

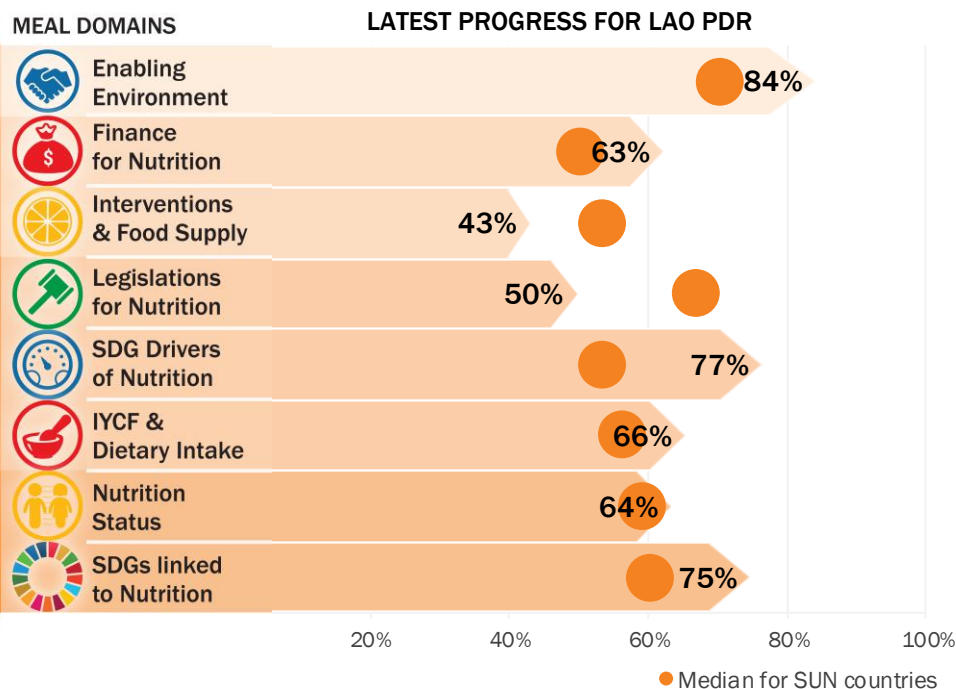
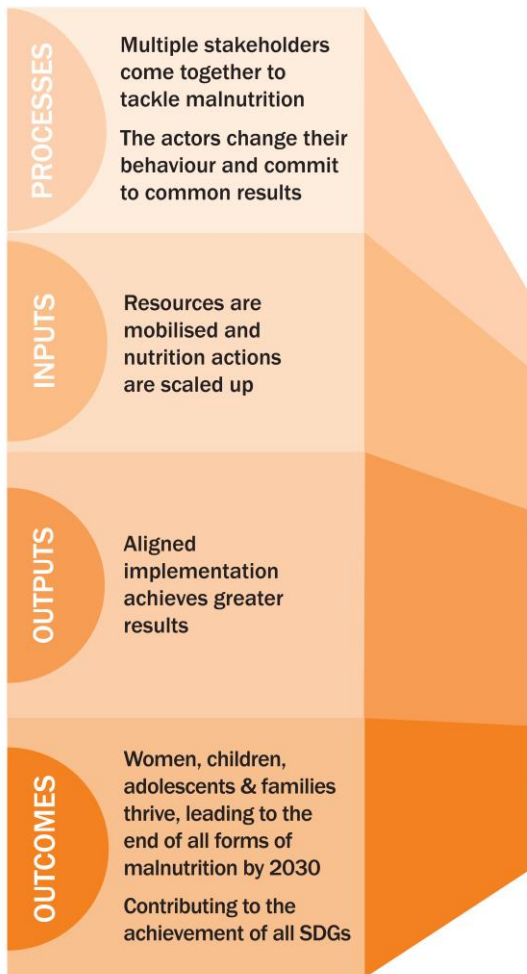


# Lao People's Democratic Republic

The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) System was developed for the SUN Strategy 2016-2020. It identifies a wide range of desired results and associated indicators of progress across eight domains in which the SUN Movement seeks to catalyze change and deliver nutrition impact. These results correspond to the steps in the SUN Movement Theory of Change.

The Country Dashboard provides an overview of progress using a set of indicators aligned with globally agreed frameworks for nutrition and the SDG Framework. It is designed to support SUN Movement stakeholders at all levels to assess performance and inform strategic decisions towards ending all forms of malnutrition.

**SUN MOVEMENT THEORY OF CHANGE**



## Lao PDR

Joined the SUN Movement in 2011

**Population** 6,858,000  
(UNPD 2017)

**Income class** Lower middle income  
(World Bank 2019)

**Humanitarian risk class** Medium  
(INFORM 2019)

Data for Lao PDR are available for 75/85 (88%) MEAL indicators, with most covering the timeframe 2017-2018. Based on the data, Lao PDR is progressing very well with strong performance in the enabling environment, underlying drivers of nutrition and nutrition-related SDG's, and moderate performance in finance for nutrition and low prevalence of over-nutrition in children and women. However, more could be done for legislation (particularly on the BMS Code and food fortification) and for scaling up coverage of interventions to address the high prevalence of child stunting, low birthweight, and anaemia among women. Missing data related to intervention coverage is also noted.



## Enabling Environment

As stakeholders from different sectors come together to build an enabling environment for improving nutrition, it results in a multi-stakeholder platform, functioning networks of nutrition actors, progress in the SUN Movement processes, integration of nutrition in development plans and improved nutrition information systems.

INDICATOR	SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
<i>Bringing people together</i>			
1.1 Existence of a Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP)	Yes	JAA 2019	Yes
1.2 Number of networks (UN, business, donor, civil society)	4	JAA 2019	3
A) UN Network Functionality Index (out of 6)	6	UNN 2019	6
B) SUN Business Network Functionality Index (out of 5)	5	SBN 2019	1
C) SUN Civil Society Network Functionality Index (out of 6)	6	CSN 2019	5
1.3 Mobilization of High-level Advocates for Nutrition (# of types)	2	JAA 2019	2
<i>Changing behaviours and committing to common results</i>			
1.4 SUN Movement Processes Total Score	68%	JAA 2019	68%
Process 1) Bringing people together into a shared space for action	90%	JAA 2019	75%
Process 2) Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework	58%	JAA 2019	73%
Process 3) Aligning actions around common results	75%	JAA 2019	69%
Process 4) Financing tracking and resource mobilisation	50%	JAA 2019	60%
1.5 WHA Targets included in National Nutrition Plans (out of 6)	6	NNS/PA 2016-2025	4
1.6 NCD Targets included in National Nutrition Plans (out of 4)	0	NNS/PA 2016-2025	0
1.7 Information Systems for Nutrition Index (score out of 9)	4.7	SMS 2019	6
1.8 Integration of Undernutrition in National Development Policies, rank	10 of 57	2016-2020	31
1.9 Integration of Overnutrition in National Development Policies, rank	15 of 41	2016-2020	31



## Finance for Nutrition












As multiple stakeholders mobilize resources, the results include increased spending for evidence-based high-impact nutrition actions from both national and external funding sources.

INDICATOR	SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
2.1 National Budget Spending for Nutrition			
A) Budget Analysis Completeness (out of 4 key elements)	4	SMS 2015	3
B) Budget spending per child U5 for nutrition-specific interventions	\$1.83	SMS 2015	\$1.13
C) Percentage budgeted for nutrition-specific spending	3.4%	SMS 2015	1.3%
2.2 Donor Funding for Nutrition			
A) Donor spending on nutrition-specific interventions per stunted child U5	\$14.95	R4D 2015-2017	\$9.02
B) Donor spending on nutrition-specific interventions per child U5	\$6.61	R4D 2015-2017	\$3.16
2.3 Agriculture Orientation Index	No data		0.19



## Interventions and Food Supply







As multiple stakeholders mobilize resources and align their actions, the results include increased coverage of nutrition actions, increased diversity and quality of food supply, and equitable geographic distribution of nationally agreed core actions and implementation capacity for nutrition.

INDICATOR	SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
3.1 Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative–certified Health Facilities	 2%	WHO 2017	3%
3.2 Severe Acute Malnutrition Treatment (children 6-59 mos)	No data		36%
3.3 Vitamin A Supplementation (children 6-59 mos)	 57%	UNICEF 2017	62%
3.4 Antenatal Iron Supplementation (90+ tablets)	No data		33%
3.5 Nutrition Professionals Density (per 100,000 population)	 0.1	WHO 2016-2017	0.8
3.6 Iodized Salt Availability	 80%	UNICEF 2012	80%
3.7 ORS and Zinc Treatment for Diarrhea (children 0–5 yrs)	 12.5%	UNICEF 2017	8%
3.8 Deworming Treatment (children 12–59 mos)	No data		42%
3.9 Insecticide Treated Net Use (children 0–5 yrs)	 50%	UNICEF 2017	48%
3.10 Vaccination Coverage (DTP3 in 1 yr olds)	 68%	WHO 2018	84%
3.11 Family Planning Needs Met (modern method)	 72%	UNPD 2017	50%
3.12 Non-staple Foods Availability (% of calories)	 31%	FAO 2012	39%
3.13 Fruits & Vegetables Availability (grams per capita)	 802	FAO 2013	281
3.14 Fortification Status of Food Vehicles	 Improve salt, build rice	GAIN 2016	N/A
3.15 Social Protection Programme Coverage	No data		13%
3.16 Government ministries involved in nutrition actions at national level	No data		9
3.17 Stakeholders involved in nutrition actions at subnational level	No data		8
3.18 High-impact nutrition-specific actions coverage at subnational level	No data		76%



## Enacted Legislations for Nutrition

Results achieved through better alignment include progress in the implementation and monitoring of legislations for nutrition.

INDICATOR	SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
4.1 International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes (level of implementation)	 Few provisions	WHO 2018	Many
4.2 Maternity Protection Legislation	 Partial	ILO 2013	Partial
4.3 Right to Food Legislation (level of constitutional recognition)	 Weak	FAO 2017	Moderate
4.4 Restrictions on Marketing of Food/Beverages to Children	 Not achieved	WHO 2017	Not achieved
4.5 Mandatory Food Fortification Legislation	 Salt	GFDx 2019	2 food vehicles
4.6 Fortification Standards	 Salt	GFDx 2019	2 food vehicles



## SDG Drivers of Nutrition

Results achieved through aligned implementation also include changes in key drivers of nutrition, which are embedded in relevant sectors such as health, WASH, food systems, education, social protection and gender.

	INDICATOR		SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
5.1	Diarrhoea in children U5		7%	MICS 2017	17%
5.2	Access to a basic drinking water service		82%	JMP 2017	69%
5.3	Access to a basic sanitation service		74%	JMP 2017	39%
5.4	Malaria incidence (per 1000 population)		6	WHO 2017	61
5.5	Measles cases reported (children U5)		10	WHO 2018	282
5.6	Adolescent fertility (per 1000 women 15–19 years)		83	UNPD 2017	87
5.7	New HIV infections (per 1000 uninfected population)		0.08	UNAIDS 2018	0.26
5.8	Tuberculosis incidence (per 100,000 population)		168	WHO 2017	176
5.9	Undernourishment prevalence		17%	FAO 2017	17%
5.10	Moderate/severe food insecurity prevalence (adults)		No data		54%
5.11	Early marriage (before age 18)		33%	UNICEF 2017	30%
5.12	Female secondary school enrollment (% gross)		65%	UNESCO 2017	51%
5.13	Violent discipline among children 2–14 years		69%	UNICEF 2017	82%
5.14	Growth in household income (shared prosperity premium)		-0.7%	WB 2007-12	0.6%
5.15	Urban population living in slums		31%	UN-HABITAT 2014	54%



## IYCF and Dietary Intake

Aligned implementation achieves results including improved infant and young child feeding practices, as well as improved dietary intake among various population groups.

	INDICATOR		SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
6.1	Exclusive breastfeeding (infants 0–5 mos)		44%	UNICEF 2017	47%
6.2	Early initiation of breastfeeding		50%	UNICEF 2017	55%
6.3	Minimum Acceptable Diet (children 6–23 mos)		27%	UNICEF 2017	13%
6.4	Minimum Diet Diversity (children 6–23 mos)		36%	UNICEF 2017	23%
6.5	Fruit and vegetable intake (g/day in adults)		307	GBD 2016	134
6.6	Sodium intake (g/day in adults)		2.9	GBD 2016	2.7
6.7	Iodine intake status (median urinary iodine concentration, µg/l)		103	IGN 2013	171
6.8	Population consumption of fortified food		No data		N/A



## Nutrition Status

The outcome of scaling up nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions is better nutrition for all – children, adolescents, women and men. Countries show progress towards achieving national nutrition targets, including WHA global nutrition and NCD diet-related targets.

	INDICATOR		SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
7.1	Stunting (children U5)		33%	JME 2017	31%
7.2	Low birthweight		17%	UNICEF 2015	14%
7.3	Overweight (children U5)		3.5%	JME 2017	3.7%
7.4	Wasting (children U5)		9%	JME 2017	7%
7.5	Anaemia among pregnant women		46%	WHO 2016	44%
7.6	Anaemia among non-pregnant women		39%	WHO 2016	37%
7.7	Low BMI (adult women)		11%	NCD-RisC 2016	9%
7.8	Overweight and obesity (adult women)		29%	NCD-RisC 2016	37%
7.9	Overweight and obesity (adolescent girls 10-19 years)		11%	NCD-RisC 2016	15%
7.10	Diabetes (adult women)		7.6%	NCD-RisC 2014	7.5%
7.11	Hypertension (adult women)		25%	NCD-RisC 2015	28%



## SDGs linked to Nutrition

Better nutrition contributes to the achievement of SDGs, including reduced mortality, increased cognitive ability and school attainment, increased economic productivity and reduced extreme poverty.

	INDICATOR		SCORE	DATA SOURCE	SUN MEDIAN
8.1	Population below the poverty line		23%	World Bank 2012	28%
8.2	U5 Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)		47	UNICEF 2018	54
8.3	NCD Mortality Rate (per 100,000 population)		781	WHO 2016	664
8.4	Early child development status (36–59 mos)		89%	UNICEF 2017	63%
8.5	Annual GDP growth per capita		6.5%	World Bank 2018	4.3%

## Colour Classification Legends

**TABLE 1 ENABLING ENVIRONMENT**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
1.1	Yes	Interim		No
1.2	3-4	2	1	0
1.2 a-c	5-6	3-4	1-2	0
1.3	All 3	2	1	None
1.4 all	≥70%	55-69%	40-54%	<40%
1.5	5-6	3-4	1-2	None
1.6	3	2	1	None
1.7	7.5-9.0	6.0-7.4	4.5-5.9	0-4.4
1.8	Top 15	16-30	31-45	46-56
1.9	Top 15	16-30	31-39	40

**TABLE 2 FINANCE FOR NUTRITION**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
2.1a	All 4	3 of 4	2 of 4	1 of 4
2.1b	≥\$8	\$5-7	\$1-4	<\$1
2.1c	>10%	5-10%	1-4%	<1%
2.2a	≥\$15	\$7.5-14	\$3.5-7.4	<\$3.50
2.2b	≥\$5	\$2.5-4.9	\$1-2.49	<\$1
2.3	≥1	0.5-0.9	0.2-0.5	0-0.1

**TABLE 3 INTERVENTIONS & FOOD SUPPLY**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
3.1	≥60%	30-59%	5-29%	0-4%
3.2	≥75%	40-74%	10-39%	<10%
3.3	≥90%	80-89%	60-79%	<60%
3.4	≥50%	30-49%	15-29%	<15%
3.5	≥2.0	0.8-1.9	0.2-0.7	<0.2
3.6	≥90%	75-89%	50-74%	<50%
3.7	≥20%	10-19%	5-9%	<5%
3.8	≥60%	40-59%	25-39%	<25%
3.9	≥55%	40-54%	20-39%	<20%
3.10	≥90%	80-89%	50-79%	<50%
3.11	≥65%	50-64%	35-49%	<35%
3.12	≥50%	40-50%	30-39%	<30%
3.13	≥400 g	250-399	100-249	<100%
3.14	Sustain 2+	Sustain 1	Improve	All build
3.15	≥60%	40-59%	15-39%	<15%
3.16	TBD			
3.17	TBD			
3.18	TBD			

**TABLE 4 ENACTED LEGISLATIONS FOR NUTRITION**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
4.1	Full	Many	Few	None
4.2	Yes	Partial		Not achieved
4.3	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
4.4	Fully achieved			Not achieved
4.5	≥1 staple food + salt + oil	≥1 staple food + salt/oil	≥1 food vehicle	None
4.6	3+ foods	2 foods	1 food	None

**TABLE 5 SDG DRIVERS OF NUTRITION**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
5.1	0-11%	12-17%	18-24%	≥25%
5.2	≥85%	70-84%	55-69%	<55%
5.3	≥60%	35-59%	20-34%	<20%
5.4	<10	10-99	100-249	≥250
5.5	<10	10-99	100-999	≥1000
5.6	<44	44-99	100-149	≥150
5.7	<.25	0.25-0.49	0.50-1.9	≥2.0
5.8	<100	100-199	200-349	≥350
5.9	<10%	10-19%	20-29%	≥30%
5.10	<30%	30-49%	50-59%	≥60%
5.11	<20%	20-29%	30-39%	≥40%
5.12	≥65%	50-64%	30-49%	<30%
5.13	<75%	75-79%	80-84%	≥85%
5.14	≥1		<1%	<0
5.15	<40%	40-54%	55-69%	≥70%

**TABLE 6 IYCF AND DIETARY INTAKE**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
6.1	≥50%	35-49%	15-34%	<15%
6.2	≥65%	50-64%	25-49%	<25%
6.3	≥40%	20-39%	10-19%	<10%
6.4	≥50%	25-49%	15-24%	<15%
6.5	≥400	200-399	100-199	<100 g
6.6	0-1.9	2.0-29	3.0-3.9	≥4.0 g
6.7	200-299	100-199	≥300	0-99 µg/L
6.8	≥70%	50-69%	10-49%	<10%

**TABLE 7 NUTRITION STATUS**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
7.1	<20%	20-29%	30-39%	≥40%
7.2	<10%	10-14%	15-19%	≥20%
7.3	<4%	4-6%	7-9%	≥10%
7.4	<5%	5-9%	10-14%	≥15%
7.5	<20%	20-29%	30-39%	≥40%
7.6	<20%	20-29%	30-39%	≥40%
7.7	<5%	5-9%	10-14%	≥15%
7.8	<30%	30-34%	35-39%	≥40%
7.9	<10%	10-14%	15-19%	≥20%
7.10	<6.0%	6.0-7.4%	7.5-8.9%	≥9%
7.11	<20%	20-24%	25-29%	≥30%

**TABLE 8 SDGS LINKED TO NUTRITION**

	Green	Blue	Yellow	Red
8.1	<15%	15-34%	35-49%	≥50%
8.2	0-39	40-69	70-99	≥100
8.3	0-600	601-700	701-800	≥801
8.4	≥75%	65-74%	60-64%	<60%
8.5	≥7%	3.5-6.9%	0-3.4%	<0%

Note: The classification is based on performance relative to other SUN countries except when established cut-offs are available. The "green" colour indicates "good" performance, intervention coverage or nutrition status in relative terms. It does not represent that this target has been fully met.

A detailed description of the MEAL Framework of Results and Lists of Indicators, including definitions and data sources, is available at <http://bit.ly/sunmeal>

Updated September 2019

This work was supported by Nutrition International under the Technical Assistance for Nutrition (TAN) project, funded with UK aid from the UK government.