

Support for Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation into Sectoral Planning in Lao PDR



Project Location: Lao PDR

Project Period: Nov, 2022 - Aug, 2026

Project Funding: USD 1 million

Theme: Climate Action

Project Code: LA23

Partner Organizations



GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Project Summary

The project focuses on integrating climate risk and adaptation data and principles into three key sectors of the economy of Lao PDR, namely agriculture and forestry, urban development and transport, and water resources. This will boost the long-term resilience through the development of the Sectoral Adaptation Strategies and Action Plans. The project is led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Government of Lao PDR, with technical support from GGGI Lao PDR and financial assistance from the Green Climate Fund.

Project Objectives



Strengthen governance and institutional coordination for climate change adaptation



Strengthen the evidence base for the design of climate change adaptation solutions



Increase the flow of finance for climate change adaptation solutions

Strategic Approach

- **Strengthen embedded capacity** – The project builds and trains sectoral government teams on the key principles and tools of climate change adaptation.
- **Leveraging long-term planning** – The project leverages the opportunities for long-term planning which Lao PDR's 10th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED) 2026-2030 cycle presents, by integrating climate change adaptation into sectoral planning activities under the NSED.
- **Transitioning to implementation** – The project supports the adoption and implementation of priority technologies and solutions by designing investment proposals for financing.



A farmer harvests cabbage
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Fishermen at work on the Mekong River, Lao PDR
© Sutthong Somnam



That Dam Stupa, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR
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Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessments

The Government of Lao PDR, GGGI and project partners are undertaking detailed assessments to quantify the climate risk faced by the agriculture and forestry, urban development and transport, and water resources sectors in Lao PDR.

This work will enable the Government of Lao PDR and GGGI to identify evidence-based solutions, technologies and provisions to increase sectoral climate change adaptation and resilience. This is expected to enable long-term support to families, communities and businesses as they adjust to Lao PDR's changing climate.



Elevated housing helps households avoid floods, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR
© GGGI Lao PDR

Context and Background

In 2020, the Government of Lao PDR updated and enhanced its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), laying out a suite of policy priorities for tackling climate change. This included prioritizing increased adaptation in critical sectors, namely the agriculture and forestry, urban development and transport, and water resources sectors. In addition, Lao PDR's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) also lays out key priorities for these sectors.



A rice farmer plants rice in Lao PDR
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In Lao PDR, these sectors touch the lives of million of people, yet adaptation progress has been slow. Key challenges include:

- **An estimated 76% of Lao PDR's labor force engages in agriculture** – When droughts, floods or other disasters occur, farming families across the country suffer. Finding inclusive, sustainable opportunities to better manage climate risks within the sector is urgently needed.
- **Lao PDR is urbanizing, and some cities, such as Vientiane Capital, are growing quickly** – Urban infrastructure, such as waste management, transport, sanitation and energy systems need to be upgraded and enhanced to ensure that they can continue to operate despite extreme climate events.
- **Lao PDR is a country of rivers** – The Mekong River forms a key waterway with 14 main tributaries flowing into it. These play a critical role in hydropower production, irrigation for agriculture and drinking water, among others. Managing these and other water resources for the long-term requires an adequate understanding of climate change and possible impacts.

Expected Project Outcomes and Results

To enhance Lao PDR' capacity to adapt to climate change, this project is delivering a comprehensive approach to climate adaptation planning include training government officials, conducting sectoral vulnerability assessments, developing Sectoral Adaptation Plans, and new adaptation investment projects.

30 government officials
with increased capacity



100 policymakers
engaged with vulnerability assessment
information



USD 80 million
in unlocked adaptation finance



2 investment projects
designed for adaptation technologies



3 sectoral plans
enhanced for climate resilience



Rice fields in Lao PDR
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