# **Report on Indicators for Implementation of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment**

# Lao PDR, 08 April 2003

# 1. National Commitment and Action

# **1.1. Core Indicators**

No	Indicator	Value	Year	Source
1	Amount of national funds spent by government on HIV/AIDS	0.5 % of total health expenditure	2002-2003	Ministry of Health (MOH)
2	National Composite Policy Index			See separate questionnaire

# **1.2. Additional Indicators**

No	Indicator	Value	Year	Source
1	Total amount of national funds spent by the government on health	1-2 % expenditure on health	1980s	МОН
		3-4 % expenditure on health	1992-96	
		7 % expenditure on health	2002-03	
2	Total per capita spending on health	US\$12, including - 9% by Government - 35% by donors - 56% by population	1999-2000	MOH, GFATM CCM

# 2. National Programme and Behaviour 2.1. Core Indicators

No	Indicator	Value	Year	Source
	Prevention			
1	Percentage of schools with teachers who have been trained in the life skills based HIV/AIDS education and who taught it during the last academic year	7.70	2002	Ministry of Education
2	Percentage of large enterprises/factories that have HIV/AIDS workplace programme	97.26	2002	Lao Trade Union
3	Percentage of HIV positive pregnant women receiving a complete course of ARV prophylaxis to reduce the risk of MTCT	Not available (NA)		
	Care/Treatment			
1	Percentage of patients with sexually transmitted infections at health care facilities who are appropriately diagnosed, treated and counselled	NA		
2	Percentage of people with advanced HIV infection receiving ARV combination therapy	NA		
	Knowledge/Behaviour			
1	<ul> <li>Percentage of respondents 15-24</li> <li>years of age who both correctly</li> <li>identify ways of preventing the</li> <li>sexual transmission of HIV and who</li> <li>reject major misconceptions about</li> <li>HIV transmission or prevention</li> <li>(Target: 90% by 2005; 95% by</li> <li>2010)</li> <li>Service women (Sex workers)</li> <li>Female factory workers</li> <li>Female migrant workers</li> <li>Male migrant workers</li> <li>Long distance truck drivers</li> <li>Military</li> <li>Police</li> </ul>	20.0 18.0 19.5 17.6 22.0 31.0 45.7	2000	Lao PDR BSS, 2000

2	<ul> <li>Percentage of people aged 15-24</li> <li>reporting the use of a condom during sexual intercourse with a non-regular sexual partner</li> <li>Service women (sex workers)</li> <li>Female factory workers</li> <li>Female migrant workers</li> <li>Male migrant workers</li> <li>Long distance truck drivers</li> <li>Military</li> <li>Police</li> </ul>	44.7 9.0 0.0 11.8 11.5 11.1 25.0	2000	Lao PDR BSS, 2000
3	Percentage of injecting drug users who have adopted behaviours that reduce transmission on HIV (where applicable)	NA		
Impa	ct alleviation		-	
1	Ratio of orphaned to non-orphaned children 10-14 years of age who are currently attending school	NA		

# 2.2. Additional Indicators

No	Indicator	Value	Year	Source
	Prevention	·		
1	Percentage of school teachers who have been trained in the life skills based HIV/AIDS education and who taught it	0.46 2.13 2.59	1999/2000 2001/2002 1999-2002	Ministry of Education (MOE)
2	Percentage of school administrators and pedagogical advisers who have been trained in the life skills based HIV/AIDS education and who taught it	1.65 2.82 4.47	1999/2000 2001/2002 1999-2002	MOE
3	Percentage of school students who have been trained in the life skills based HIV/AIDS education	0.96 4.03 4.99	1999/2000 2001/2002 1999-2002	MOE
4	Percentage of middle enterprises/factories that have HIV/AIDS workplace programme	65.14	2002	Lao Trade Union

5	Percentage of small enterprises/factories that have HIV/AIDS workplace programme	44.26	2002	Lao Trade Union
	Care/Treatment	1		
	V			
1	Knowledge/BehaviourPercentage of People aged 15-45		2000	Lao PDR BSS,
	years who - know correctly mode of HIV transmission	68.9 %		2000
	<ul> <li>has misperception on insect bite</li> <li>has misconception on personal contact</li> </ul>	48.9 % 71.7 %		
2	<ul> <li>Percentage of youth aged 12-29 years who</li> <li>know correctly mode of HIV transmission</li> <li>has misconception on insect bite</li> <li>has misconception on personal contact</li> </ul>	72.4 % 70 % 81.5 %	2001	KAB survey on RH among adolescent using youth Center for Health and Development, Vientiane Municipality
3	Percentage of consistently condom used among sex workers with non regular partners Percentage of consistently condom used among sex workers with their client	25.4 % 60.1 %	2001	Lao PDR HSS/SPPS, 2001
4	Percentage of consistently condom used among sex workers with non- regular partners Percentage of consistently condom used among sex workers with their client	43.7 % 72.7 %	2000	Lao PDR BSS, 2000
5	Percentage of consistently condom used among male youth with non- regular partners Percentage of consistently condom used among male youth with sex workers	43 % 71 %	2001	KAB survey on RH among adolescent using youth Center for Health and Development, Vientiane Municipality

Impact alleviation		

# Impact Core Indicators

No	Indicator	Value	Year	Source
	<ul> <li>Percentage of young aged 15-24 years of age who are HIV infected (Target: 25% in most affected countries by 2005; 25% reduction globally by 2010)</li> <li>Service women (sex workers)</li> <li>Female factory workers</li> <li>Long distance truck drivers</li> </ul>	0.4 0.0 0.0	2001	Lao PDR HSS/SPPS, 2001
	Percentage of infants born to HIV infected mothers who are infected (Target: 20% reduction by 2005; 50% reduction by 2010)	NA		

# **3.2. Additional Indicators**

No	Indicator	Value	Year	Source

# **ANNEX 1**

# Preparation/consultation process for the National Report on monitoring the follow-up to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS Lao PDR, 08 April 2003

1)	Which institutions	/entities were responsible	e in filling	out the indicators forms?		
b) NAI c) Othe			Yes 🗸	Yes Yes	No	No No
2)	With inputs from:					
Ministr	cies:	Education Health Labour Foreign Affairs Others (please specify): Lao Tr	Yes ✔ Yes Yes Yes ✔ ade Union	Yes ✔ , Lao Red Cross	No No No No	No
People Private UN org Bilatera Interna Others	ganizations als ational NGOs	DS	Yes	Yes Yes Yes ✓ Yes ✓ Yes	No	No No No No
3) V	Was the report discus	ssed in a large forum?	Yes 🗸		No	
4) A	Are the survey results	stored centrally?	Yes 🗸		No	
5) Is	s data available for p	ublic consultation?	Yes 🗸		No	

Name/Title: Dr. Chansy Phimphachanh, Director of NCCAB

Date: 08 April 2003

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNEX 2 NATIONAL COMPOSITE POLICY INDEX QUESTIONNAIRE

#### Lao PDR, 08 April 2003

# Strategic plan

1. Has your country developed multisectoral strategies to combat HIV/AIDS? (Multisectoral strategies should include, but not be limited to, the health, education, labour, and agriculture sectors)

Yes 🗸	No	N/A	
Comments:			
approved by the Prime M organizations, including Transport and Communi National Construction, T chaired by the Minister of (NCCAB) acting as a se for HIV/AIDS, facilitate coordinate, monitor and	Minister consisting of 14 Health, Education, Inforication, Defense, Labour Frade Union, Lao Youth of Health, and National C cretary. The NCCA has t all activities related to F	e Control of AIDS (NCCA) has be members from different ministric rmation and Culture, Lao Red-Cr and Social Welfare, Security, La Union, Lao Women Union. The Committee for the Control of AIE the roles to develop strategic plar HIV/AIDS, mobilize and manage	es and mas oss, to Front for NCCA is DS Bureau to and policy funds,
response to HIV/AIDS. construction projects an Education has integrated peer education programm community based care for	Example, Ministry of Tr ad has trained peer educat d HIV/AIDS into school of me in the workplaces (fac or PLWHA. PLWHA ha	and provinces had already been ad ransport has integrated HIV/AID tor among truck drivers. The Mi curriculum and Trade Union has ctories). The Lao Red-Cross is lo ave participated in the World AII he national strategic planning pro-	S into road nistry of integrated poking into

2. Has your country integrated HIV/AIDS into its general development plans (such as its National Development Plans, United Nations Development Assistance Framework, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and Common Country Assessments)?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		
of the key components for Nat The United Nations Developm	ional Poverty Reduction Pla ent Assistance Framework . In Lao PDR, the UN syste	action Strategy. HIV/AIDS is one an for Health Sector 2003-2005. and Common Country Assessment em has made the efforts to develop AIDS to support the national

3. Does your country have a functional national multisectoral HIV/AIDS management/coordination body? (Such a body must have terms of reference or equivalent, defined membership, action plans and staffing support, and should have met at least once in the last 12 months.)

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
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#### Comments:

As mentioned above, the new structure of NCCA has been approved at the end of January 2003. The first meeting of the NCCA members is planned for the end of March ???. By early April, the National Advocacy Workshop will be organized to disseminate the key documents including National Policy, National Strategic and Action Plan in order to advocate policy maker as well as donors support. The NCCA should meet at least twice a year. The government has assigned certain number of staff to ensure the NCCA function and so far it has reached certain achievements. However, more qualified personnel are needed to ensure the smooth functions of the NCCA.

4. Does your country have a functional national HIV/AIDS body that promotes interaction among government, the private sector and civil society? (Such a body must have terms of reference or equivalent, defined membership, action plans and staffing support, and should have met at least once in the last 12 months.)

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		
The NCCAB has been a coord	inating body to promote interact	ion among the government,

The NCCAB has been a coordinating body to promote interaction among the government, the private sectors and civil society. In the past, the NCCA did not function and the NCCAB was established in late 1998 as a term of reference as coordinating board. All staff of the NCCAB are under the Ministry of Health. The Director of NCCAB is a chair of the Working Group on HIV/AIDS and a member of UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS, which convene every 3 months.

The private sectors and civil society are actively involved in many interventions such as World AIDS Day, peer education programme, national planning process and various research studies.

5. Does your country have a functional HIV/AIDS body that assists in the coordination of civil society organizations? (Such a body must have terms of reference or equivalent, defined membership, action plans and staffing support, and should have met at least once in the last 12 months.)

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		
and facilitation of c HIV/AIDS must be	oordination of civil society or coordinated by the NCCAB.	OS national response, this includes assistance rganizations. All activities related to . Since the NCCA have been revitalized, the ning HIV/AIDS interventions to the NCCA.

6. Has your country evaluated the impact of HIV/AIDS on its socioeconomic status for planning purposes?

Yes	No 🗸	N/A
Comments:		
	s been raised and discus	status has not been done directly, sed widely among national and provincial

7. Does your country have a strategy that addresses HIV/AIDS issues among its national uniformed services, including armed forces and civil defence forces?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		
Both police and army were inc Surveillance (in Behaviour Su with Burnet Institute (BI) to tr phase. It is expected that the r	ain TOT on strategic planning a new project – Lao Military and ported by the Humanitarian Ur	onal Second Generation ce and Army are direct partners and peer educators in the next Police Youth HIV/AIDS

### Prevention

1. Does your country have a general policy or strategy to promote information, education and communication (IEC) on HIV/AIDS?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		
behaviour i		is the main measure to promote safer sexual node of HIV infection in Lao PDR is through sexual behavior includes:
1. 2. 3.	Encouragement of the use of co	e
into accoun	t the cultural and societal values c	ar and frank messages about sexuality that take of the Lao PDR without compromising clarity. ssemination of HIV/AIDS/STD messages.
HIV/AIDS	will be achieved by 2005 and 201	n so that 85% and 100% awareness of 0 respectively. This is a challenge because the multiple languages and varied cultural

2. Does your country have a policy or strategy promoting reproductive and sexual health education for young people?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A	
Comments:			
Development Policy, including HIV/AIDS CHASPPAR and UN	which promotes healthy life awareness. The Ministry of FPA has integrated sexual h	as adopted a National Popula estyle of adolescent and youn f Education, supported by UN ealth education into school c ool, and throughout grade 3 a	g people, NICEF, urriculum as
skills, knowledge, an school and out-of-sch states that Laos will "	d attitudes to avoid HIV/All nool. The National Population incorporate primary health pricula of formal and non-fo	oned that Children will be eq OS/STDs through life skills e on and Development Policy o care, reproductive health and rmal education". <sup>1</sup> HIV/AIDS	ducation in of the Lao PDR sexuality
	nd subjects taught will be ap youth will be included for o	propriate for the ages and gra educational messages about	de level being
	n with supported by MBC has for the young people.	as developed the strategic pla	n on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> State Planning Committee, Lao PDR. National Population and Development Policy. 1999.

Cross border programme supported by ADB, UNESCO and SEMEO to promote the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in tackling HIV/AIDS in five counties of GMS including Lao PDR has targeted high risk behaviour groups, especially young people.

3. Does your country have a policy or strategy that promotes IEC and other health interventions for groups with high or increasing rates of HIV infection? (Such groups include, but are not limited to, IDUs, MSM, sex workers, youth, mobile populations and prison inmates.)

Yes 🗸	No	N/A	
Comments:			
As stated in the policy	document that some comm	nunity groups are particularly	vulnerable to
HIV infection by reaso	on of their sexual behaviou	r, including frequent partner o	change. HIV
infection usually appe	ars in such vulnerable grou	ps before it appears in the ger	neral
population. Focusing	HIV prevention efforts on	vulnerable groups has been sh	hown to be
effective in reducing the	ransmission of HIV to the	general population. Discrimin	nation against
vulnerable groups is c	ounterproductive to HIV/A	IDS/STD control. Community	ty groups in
the Lao PDR that are l	believed to be at increased	risk of infection include:	

- service workers in entertainment sites,
- internal and external migrants who are away from their families,
- long distance truck drivers and other transport workers,
- businessmen, traders, and government employees who travel frequently within the Lao PDR and internationally,
- youth who tend to experiment, and
- anyone with more than one sexual partner who does not use a condom.

The Lao PDR will focus intensive educational and behavioural change efforts on vulnerable groups as a priority, without encouraging discrimination or stigmatisation. Reassessment of which are the vulnerable groups will need to be done periodically.

4. Does your country have a policy or strategy that promotes IEC and other health interventions for cross-border migrants?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		

Cross border migrants are defined in the policy as internal and external migrants who are away from their families. The same policy will be applied as in three. For the first round of BSS, cross-border migrants have been included in the target groups. There are various interventions supported by different organisations for cross-border migrants such as CARE International, Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) and UNDP SEAHIV and Development Programme. Tool kits were developed supported by ADB through World Vision for GMS countries to be used as guideline for HIV prevention among mobile population including cross-border migrants. The project for cross-border school supported by ADB to be implemented by GMS countries, except Myanmar.

5. Does your country have a policy or strategy to expand access, including among vulnerable groups, to essential preventative commodities? (These commodities include, but are not limited to, condoms, sterile needles and HIV tests.)

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
If yes, please list		
Groups:	Commodities:	
Gloups.	Commodities.	

All Groups	Condoms, HIV test (Pre and Post counselling), IEC materials, revolving funds (for the youth)
Medical Personnel	Guideline for universal precaution, Sterile gloves, needle, disposable containers for some provinces
PLWHA	Traditional medicines, OI treatment medicines in target provinces, revolving funds for income generation
Service women	STI presumptive treatment drugs in some provinces
Drug users (ATS)	Drug withdrawal

Comments:

By 2005, HIV testing facilities will be covered in all provinces. 100 percent condom promotion will be piloting in collaboration with WHO and ADB in one province. Lao PDR will host the regional (WHO/SEARO/WPRO) workshop on 100 percent condom uses in August 2003. Condom social marketing implemented in collaboration with Population Service International (PSI) and national and provincial partners has covered throughout the country.

6. Does your country have a policy or strategy to reduce mother-to-child HIV transmission?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A	
Comments:			
groups is 0.9 percent HIV/AIDS. The pot age or women who established for volu	nt, the government considers blicy has stated that HIV testin are pregnant will be done on intary testing and counselling for HIV is not feasible and w	try and HIV prevalence among high risk PMCT issue as one of the priorities to figh ng and counselling of women of child bear a voluntary basis using the same criteria in general. Universal testing and counsel yould not be cost effective at this time. The	ring ling
<ul><li>counselled</li><li>counselled</li><li>given aded</li></ul>	about the full range of repro about contraception and chil quate information and referred to reduce the risk of materna	· ·	-

Counselling and testing for her partner should be encouraged.

Recently, Mother and Child hospital has just completed a rapid assessment on capacity of PMCT services funded by UNAIDS through HIV/AIDS Trust Fund

#### Human rights

1. Does your country have laws and regulations that protect against discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS (such as general non-discrimination provisions and those that focus on schooling, housing, employment, etc.)?

Yes	No 🗸	N/A
Comments:		
HIV/AIDS stated th with any other medi stigmatized. If univ in all medical institu	at AIDS patients should receive cal condition. People living wi ersal precautions are practiced,	people with AIDS can be safely cared for based care for people living with
on the part of comm PLWHA are not will on counselling servit they are not discrim	unity on knowledge on mode of lling to open themselves to the ces and the PLWHA do not see	ere problem. It tends to be an ignorance of HIV transmission. On the other hand, society because there is still a weakness e any benefits for their openness (at least disclosing themselves). Also, there is of PLWHA.

2. Does your country have laws and regulations that protect against discrimination of groups of people identified as being especially vulnerable to HIV/AIDS discrimination (i.e., groups such as IDUs, MSM, sex workers, youth, mobile populations, and prison inmates)?

Yes	No 🗸	N/A
If yes, please list groups:		
Comments:		
vulnerable groups is counterpr	but the national policy stated th oductive to HIV/AIDS/STD cor to be at increased risk of infecti	ntrol. Community groups in
• service workers in en	tertainment sites,	
	migrants who are away from the	·
e	rivers and other transport worker	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
<ul> <li>businessmen, traders, Lao PDR and internat</li> </ul>	and government employees wh tionally,	o travel frequently within the
<ul> <li>youth who tend to exp</li> </ul>	periment, and	
• any one with more that	an one sexual partner who does	not use a condom. <sup>2 3</sup>
	sive educational and behavioral neouraging discrimination or stig	6
Does your country have a policy	y to ensure equal access, for mer	n and women, to prevention and

3. Does your country have a policy to ensure equal access, for men and women, to prevention and care, with emphasis on vulnerable populations?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Population Services International. Research reports from selected studies. 1999-2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> NCCA. Behavioral sentinel surveillance - draft. 2001.

Comments:

The Lao constitution of 1991 has promulgated gender equality of Lao society. The establishment of the National Commission on Mother and Child by the Prime Ministerial Decree is an example of the government policy for protecting children and women.

The latest party congress has emphasized on the expansion network of health services to rural areas where there exists vulnerable people.

The Lao PDR constructs its HIV/AIDS/STD policy and control activities based on universal principles, including gender equity.

The current National Strategic Plan has addressed issues including women's employment conditions, men's attitude towards women and their roles, men's reluctance to use condom, knowledge of family law, capacity of women, and equality between women and men.

4. Does your country have a policy to ensure that HIV/AIDS research protocols involving human subjects are reviewed and approved by an ethics committee?

Yes 🗸	No	N/A
Comments:		

The national policy on HIV/AIDS stated that all research dealing with HIV/AIDS will be coordinated by the Ministry of Health through the NCCA. Research protocols will adhere to high levels of ethical standards including the informed consent of all participants.<sup>4</sup> All research conducted will have the potential of benefiting the people of the Lao PDR.

Strengthening surveillance and research is one among top priorities of the current national strategic plan. The research will be conducted in different fields e.g. HIV/STI prevalence, behaviour and socio-economic factors influencing HIV transmission, etc. The strategy will be developed to ensure the policy makers and program designers in different sectors make good use of the results of research that informs their areas of responsibility. National Ethical Committee for Health Sciences Research has been created in the Ministry of Health to ensure the human right and ethical issues are taken into the consideration when conducting research.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> World Medical Association. Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects, 2000.

#### Care and support

1. Does your country have a policy or strategy to promote comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and support, with emphasis on vulnerable groups? (Comprehensive care includes, but is not limited to, VCT, psychosocial care, access to medicines, and home and community-based care.)

Yes	No 🗸	N/A
If yes, please list		-
Groups:	Commodities:	
disclosed themselves to the addressed the need for car those affected by HIV/AI associated with AIDS will diarrhea, pain, and fever a the essential drug list. The practitioners to relieve the	valence country and a few he society, both national por re and support for the who DS. Symptomatic treatme Il be made available. Mediand for opportunistic infect he use of traditional medici e symptoms of AIDS will loriate. Care and support sh	olicy and strategy ole group of PLWHA and ent for conditions ications for itching, tions will be included on ines and traditional be explored and
capacity in the health care syst	IDS is not feasible at this time of tem, but if there is a need or any f there is access to anti-retrovira D4 count.	v external assistance there may
ARV project is going to be pill of PLWHA with the assistance	oted in one province in the year e of MSF.	2003 where there is a network

2. Does your country have a policy or strategy to ensure or improve access to HIV/AIDS-related medicines, with emphasis on vulnerable groups? (HIV/AIDS-related medicines include antiretrovirals and drugs for the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections and palliative care.)

Yes	No 🗸	N/A	
If yes, please list			
Groups:	Commoditie	s:	
Comments:			
See above answers.			

3. Does your country have a policy or strategy to address the additional needs of orphans and other vulnerable children?

Yes ✓ No N/A			
Comments:			
Children orphaned by the death of their parents from AIDS are not a			

significant problem in the Lao PDR currently. The care of any such orphans should be with extended families rather than institutions if at all possible.

However, the national strategy stresses a need to ensure non-discrimination against children whose parents have died from AIDS. This will include supportive environments, counselling needs, psychological support, enrolment in school, access to shelter; nutrition; health and social services, and protection from violence; abuse; trafficking and loss of inheritance.

Care and support project piloting in one province supported by UNICEF, NCA and Lao Red Cross, has taken into account orphans schooling and employment.

### ANNEX 4 COUNTRY M&E SHEET

#### COUNTRY: Lao PDR AS OF: 08 April 2003

1. Existence of national M&E	blan	
Yes:	In progress: 🗸	No:
Years covered:	Years covered: 2003	

# 2. Existence of a national M&E budget

Yes:	In progress: 🗸	No:
Amount:	Years covered: 2003	
Years covered:		

# 3. Amount secured as of today: US\$ 50,000<sup>5</sup>

# 4. Existence of an M&E unit for HIV/AIDS within\_

National AIDS Council	Ministry of Health	Elsewhere:
Yes: 🗸	Yes:	
No:	No:	

# 5. M&E focal point on HIV/AIDS within the government

Name: National Committee for the Control of AIDS Bureau (NCCAB) Telephone: 856 21 315500 Email: ncca@laotel.com

6. Existence of information systems:

### Health Information System

Yes: 🗸	No:
National level: Yes	
Sub-national*: Yes, at provincial and district levels	
* Knog plagge aposite the lovel is district	

\* If yes, please specify the level, i.e., district

### **Education Information System**

Yes: ✓	No:
National level: Yes	
Sub-national*: Yes, at provincial and district levels	

\* If yes, please specify the level, i.e., district

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Supported by UNAIDS PAF