

Aid partnership with Lao PDR

New Zealand supports Lao PDR to achieve sustainable economic growth, develop a highly skilled and educated workforce, and build resilience to disasters, and increase access to renewable energy.

Although economic growth in Lao PDR has been impressive, poverty and disparities remain widespread and Lao PDR ranks lowly at 139 out of 189 countries in the United Nation's Human Development Index.

Our development activities in Lao PDR focus on areas that Lao PDR has prioritised and where New Zealand's expertise is most valued, such as agriculture, knowledge and skills, and disaster risk management.

Total aid to Laos comprises country-specific activities, as well as scholarships, regional initiatives, Partnerships Fund activities, and when requested, humanitarian response.

What we're supporting

We're working closely with the Government of Laos and local partners on several development activities.

Priority	Activities and outcomes
Agriculture Increase economic and food security benefits from agriculture	<p>Strengthening control strategies for Foot and Mouth Disease to increase livestock-related income. This five-year \$7.5 million activity in Laos is in partnership with the World Organisation for Animal Health with support from Massey University and our Ministry for Primary Industries.</p> <p>Improving farm management and production technologies, meat processing and meat quality assurance systems that leads to increased farmer income and a commercially sustainable beef industry. This five-year \$5 million activity involves New Zealand's Agriculture Services Ltd partnering with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and private sector in Lao PDR.</p>
Renewable Energy Increase access to affordable, reliable, clean energy	<p>Providing technical assistance to support renewable energy and increase energy access, this five-year \$9 million technical facility is partnering with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and has an initial focus on improving dam safety.</p>
Resilience Strengthen resilience	<p>Reducing casualties and freeing up 1,050 hectares of land for productive use through a four-year investment of \$11.5 million in the Government of Lao PDR's programme of clearing Unexploded Ordnance in Xieng Khouang Province. This activity is supported by New Zealand's Quality Solutions International.</p> <p>Introducing disaster planning and school safety frameworks will enable 10,962 people across the Luang Prabang and Sayaboury Provinces to reduce risks, and prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. This is a four-year \$2.2 million Save the Children NZ project.</p>
Tourism Increase economic benefits from tourism	<p>Increasing tourism revenue through Lao PDR's Ministry of Information, Culture, and Tourism mainstreaming a destination management approach to tourism development and private sector investment in the sector. This five-year \$5.2 million activity is being implemented in four Provinces.</p>
Education Improve workforce skills and capabilities	<p>Providing 35 postgraduate and 36 short-term training scholarships in climate change, agriculture, renewable energy, disaster risk management, education, governance and public sector leadership and English language training to 20 Laotian officials in New Zealand and 25 participants in Lao PDR each year.</p>

Find out more about [New Zealand Aid Programme activities in other ASEAN countries](#).

Recent achievements

Priority	Activities and outcomes
Agriculture Increase economic and food security benefits from agriculture	<p>Over the past seven years, 567 people from Lao PDR participated in small business enterprise training, food safety, trade and agriculture training and capacity building activities through our support to the Mekong Institute.</p> <p>Our Foot and Mouth Disease control activity has seen 104,520 animals vaccinated and 349 villages in Lao PDR with documented disease control plans.</p>
Resilience Strengthen resilience	<p>New Zealand's strong legacy of supporting UXO clearance in Lao PDR has seen 4,500 hectares cleared in Xieng Khouang Province over the past 10 years.</p>
Education Improve workforce skills and capabilities	<p>Since 1996, 384 Lao PDR officials have participated in our English Language Training for Officials scheme in New Zealand.</p>



2018-2021
Development
funding

(NZD)
Where our
funding
goes