

## Concept Note

### **Progress made in integrating the SDGs into the national development agenda, monitoring and statistical frameworks, including plans for SDG integration into Provincial Development Plans.**

#### **2016 Round Table Implementation Meeting (RTIM) Pre-consultation 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 – Don Chan Palace**

### **1. Introduction**

- Lao PDR actively participated in the design of the new global agenda 2030. The national consultations that inputted into the sustainable development agenda built not only on the views of Government, but also those of civil society, private sector, and citizens from across the country.
- In September 2015, the Lao delegation at the highest level participated in the UN Sustainable Development Summit, where the world adopted the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Immediately after the SDG adoption in New York, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Chair of the UN Development Group (UNDG), Ms. Helen Clark announced during the 12<sup>th</sup> HL RTM that Lao PDR has also been selected as a pilot for SDG localization.
- In order to keep up the good momentum, the Round Table Implementation Meeting (RTIM) on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016 will feature a dedicated panel discussion and a plenary policy dialogue on **SDG integration** and the preparation of a roadmap towards SDG achievement.
  - **Taking stock and identifying priorities for implementation** within the framework of the 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP, which, if implemented successfully, will drive graduation from LDC status, address Lao PDR's unfinished business related to the MDGs, and deliver early progress on the SDGs.
  - The SDGs have been integrated into the NSEDP's M&E Framework, with **60% of NSEDP indicators linked to SDG indicators**. They will now need to be integrated into sector strategies and provincial development plans. Furthermore, a proposal for national SDG indicators has been drafted.
  - **Preparation of a national SDG roadmap** has been initiated. The main activities on this include:
    - Conducting needs assessment and costing: conducting needs assessments to determine the volume of public and private investment required for SDG achievement. To start the process, Laos could for instance consider six major investment areas that cover the principal investments needed to achieve the goals: health, education, social protection, food security and sustainable agriculture, infrastructure, and ecosystem services and biodiversity.
    - Preparing to monitor SDGs (i) finalising the national SDG indicators for monitoring purposes as integral to the M&E framework of the NSEDP, selecting a limited number of indicators, with focus on tier I indicators, for which there is a clear methodology and available data, ii) strengthening the national statistical capacity and iii) capitalizing on the data revolution, harnessing new technologies and new sources of data; and,
    - Promoting issue-based partnerships, given effective partnerships are not centrally planned, and they do not require one actor that oversees all activities.

- The integrated nature of the SDGs requires corresponding **institutional arrangements**, within and across national and local governments, involving multiple ministries, departments, and other government institutions. Currently, **the Prime Minister’s decree on MDGs is being revised** to provide the legal basis for SDG implementation. The **different roles of main government actors** have been discussed

In addition, the Government has recently finalised a [Development Finance and Aid Assessment \(DFAA\)](#) highlighting the dynamic development finance landscape in Lao PDR and providing recommendations for effective management of development finance for sustainable development.

## 2. Objectives

- The pre-consultation will provide an important and timely platform for all national and international stakeholders for **dialogue on how SDG achievement can be accelerated**, beyond the ongoing SDGs integration into national plans and systems. It will help generate a common understanding of current conditions, challenges, priorities and opportunities ahead.
- This will also be a forum for **the Government to receive the feedback from various stakeholders** on needs assessments and costing, monitoring, acceleration, institutional arrangements and issue-based partnerships.
- It will help **develop key messages** to be conveyed by the Government and lead development partners at the panel discussion and plenary policy dialogue during the RTIM 2016.
- Provide an opportunity for the Government to launch the Development Finance and Aid Assessment, with its recommendations for effective management of development finance for sustainable development.

## 3. Date and focused areas for discussions

- Date and Venue: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Don Chan Palace.
- **Focused areas for discussions:**
  1. Update on the current conditions, status and related activities on SDG implementation (moving the dialogue from SDG integration to SDG implementation).
  2. Plan for developing SDG strategies and roadmap – needs assessment and costing, SDGs monitoring (national indicators, statistical capacity and data revolution), goal based partnership and institutional arrangement.
  3. Launch of Development Finance and Aid Assessment Report
  4. Next Steps – key messages for the 2016 RTIM and key priorities for 2017.

## 2016 Round Table Implementation Meeting (RTIM) SDG Pre-consultation

10<sup>th</sup> November 2015, Don Chan Palace

### Provisional agenda

- 08:30 – 09:00 **Registration**
- 09:00 – 09:10 **Opening remarks – Chair of the Meeting**  
By H.E. Mr. Thongphane Savanphet, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 09:10 – 09:20 **Remarks – Co-Chair of the Meeting**  
Ms. Kaarina Immonen, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative
- 09:20 – 09:35 **Main presentation - Progress made in integrating the SDGs into the national development agenda, monitoring and statistical frameworks**  
By Ms. Phonevanh Outhavong, Acting Director General, Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning and Investment
- 09:35 – 10:00 **Presentation – DFAA regional experience followed by key findings of DFAA in Lao PDR**  
By Dr. Arounyadeth Rasphone, Deputy Director General, DIC, MPI  
By Ms. Ashley Palmer, Governance and Development Effectiveness Specialist, UNDP Bangkok's Regional Hub
- 10:00 – 10:05 **Launch/handover of DFAA report**
- Ms. Sisomboun Ounavong, Director General, Department of International Cooperation/Ministry of Planning and Investment
  - Ms. Kaarina Immonen, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative
- 10:05 – 10:15 Coffee Break
- 10:15 – 11:00 **Panel discussion – SDG integration and implementation – from global and regional perspectives to national and provincial implementation**
1. Madam Endah Murniningtyas, Former Vice Minister of Natural Resources, and an expert in SDG localisation in Indonesia (Regional and South-South perspectives)
  2. Ms. Sengdavone Bangonesengdet, Secretary General of the Lao Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Private sector perspectives)
  3. Mr. Chris Herink, World Vision (a representative from INGOs and NPAs) (TBC)
  4. A representative from Lao Statistic Bureau (statistical perspectives) (TBC)
  5. Global perspectives (TBC)
- Moderator – Dr. Yin-Yin Nwe
- 11:00 – 11:50 **Open Discussion**
- 11:50 – 11:55 **Closing remarks – Co-Chair of the Meeting**  
Ms. Kaarina Immonen, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative
- 11:55 – 12:00 **Closing remarks – Chair of the Meeting**  
By H.E. Mr. Thongphane Savanphet, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs