



Round Table Implementation Meeting aims to advance Lao PDR's development

The Government and its development partners intend to boost progress in development nationwide at the 2016 Round Table Implementation Meeting.

Vientiane 8 November 2016 – A press conference on the preparation of the Round Table Implementation Meeting 2016 took place at Ministry of Planning and Investment in Vientiane capital.

On 24-25 November, the Government and its partners will convene for a Round Table Implementation Meeting in Vientiane Province to take stock of achievements and challenges, and discuss their future collaboration on national development priorities.

Round Table Implementation Meetings are part of the national Round Table Process, a mechanism to ensure maximum impact of development efforts. Implementation Meetings are held to ensure that jointly agreed development priorities are put into action. The Round Table process also includes 10 Sector Working Groups to coordinate actions by theme. 2016 is a pivotal year, with the launch of the 8th NSEDP and of a new global development agenda, with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at its core.

At today's press briefing, Dr. Kikeo Chanthaboury, Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment, said: "This year, the ten Sector Working Groups have played an important role to support the Government and its development partners in jointly reviewing progress towards the objectives of the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP 2016-2020) at national and provincial levels."

In addition to reviewing progress made, Round Table participants will exchange views on emerging policy issues and priorities in 2017, and on ways for approaching these in a coordinated manner, while being mutually accountable, predictable and focused on results. Dedicated panel discussions will focus on the localisation of the global SDGs; effective development cooperation to translate the national development agenda into action; food and nutrition security; and green growth, climate change and disaster preparedness.

Ms. Kaarina Immonen, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator said "This year marks many significant achievements in Lao PDR, including the successful ASEAN Summit in Vientiane in September as well as the significant progress of integrating the global 2030 Development Agenda into the 8th NSEDP. This indicates that the partnership between the Government and the development community is becoming stronger, more diverse and more inclusive."

Ms Singkham Khongsavanh, the Deputy Governor of Vientiane Province emphasized "Vientiane Province is ready to receive all delegates to the RTIM 2016 with any logistic support and warm welcoming."

More information

- 12th High Level Round Table Meeting: <http://rtm.org.la/high-level-round-table-meeting-2015/>
- The Vientiane Partnership Declaration: <http://rtm.org.la/the-vientiane-declaration-2015/>
- Key documents for the Round Table Implementation: <http://rtm.org.la/resources/key-documents/>
- The Sustainable Development Goals: <http://rtm.org.la/sustainable-development-goals/>

Contacts

- **Mr. Morakot Vongxay, Director of UN Division at Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Planning and Investment:** Tel: 021-222214, Email: k_vongxay@hotmail.com
- **Ildiko Hamos-Sohlo, Communications Specialist, Head of Public Information Unit at UNDP:** Tel: 021 267 778, Email: ildiko.hamos@undp.org