



# Round Table Process Retreat Preparation for the 13<sup>th</sup> High-Level Round Table Meeting (13<sup>th</sup> HL-RTM)

8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Ministry of Planning and Investment

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Director General

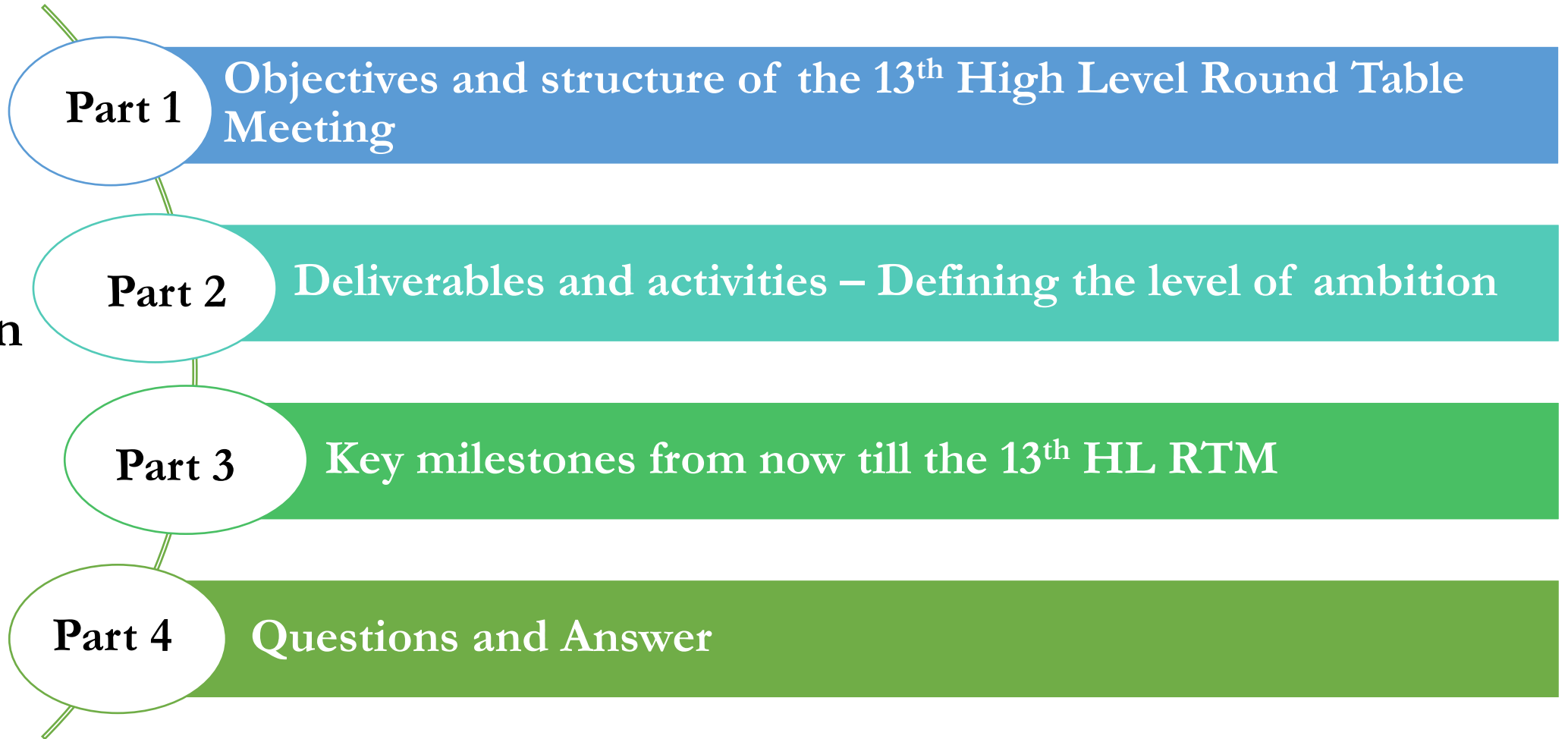
Department of International Cooperation

Ministry of Planning and Investment



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# Objectives and structure of the 13<sup>th</sup> HL-RTM

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# Overarching objectives



Discuss development challenges and opportunities with all relevant stakeholders:  
**“Lao PDR Development Forum”  
vision**

2. Reinforce the **coherence and cohesiveness of the various projects on national planning** led by various parts of government and supported by various DPs and other stakeholders

3. Present and discuss the **9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP** and prepare the foundations for the formulation of the **LDC Graduation Smooth Transition Strategy and COVID-19 Recovery Framework**

4. Present milestones on the **means of implementation of the national development priorities**, especially in the context of Lao PDR’s financial constraints

5. Provide a platform to discuss the **efficiency and quality of Official Development Assistance and development coordination mechanisms**

# Three workstreams

**1. Update on progress:** *“taking stocks”, a review of successes and shortcomings to inform national development priorities*

1.1 - 2021 SDG Voluntary National Review

**2. National planning:** *“looking forward”, a review of the national plan, plans for supporting national framework on COVID-19 and LDC graduation, and means of implementation*

2.1 - 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP conclusion and 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP

2.2 - 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP Implementation arrangements (M&E framework and Financing strategy)

2.3 - A plan for development of Covid-19 Recovery Framework

2.4 - LDC Graduation Smooth Transition Strategy (STS)

**3. Development cooperation:** *“thinking about how”, reviewing ways to improve the efficiency and reach of development coordination and cooperation*

- 3.1 Review of development cooperation (VDCAP Mid-Term Review)

# 13<sup>th</sup> High Level Round Table Meeting

One day – High Level Policy Dialogue  
(week of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021)

Within two weeks before the 13th HL-RTM – Pre-consultations

National Assembly Session (*End of November or Early December*)

## Key substantive documents

1. 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP conclusion, 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP & implementation arrangements

2. 2021 VNR

4. Updated COVID19 background papers

4. Work plan & elements of the LDC graduation STS

5. VDCAP review report and ODA report

## Key consultations leading up to RTIM

National and Provincial dissemination workshops – RTIM PM instruction (Jan-May)

Meeting of the NSC on RTP, NSEDP and SDGs (Feb & Oc)

Pre-consultations

1. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP and implementation arrangement
2. SDG VNR
3. LDC Graduation STS
4. COVID19 Recovery
5. VDCAP reporting

Sector Working Groups meetings and Field Visits  
(*through out the year to discuss and highlight priorities contained in the 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP and key recommendations from 2019 RTIM*)

# Twofold structure of the HL-RTM

## 1. Main HL-RTM

*One day, overarching,  
high-level*

- One-day structured across the three workstreams
- Streamlined presentations with time for HL interventions
- Opening by the PM and High-level participation (all Ministers/vice Ministers, Governors/Vice Governors, Ambassadors, Heads of International Organizations and others)

## 2. Series of Pre-consultations (side technical events)

*Dialogues, focused,  
technical*

- Specific pre-consultations within two weeks around the RTM
  - VNR main findings
  - COVID-19 recovery (background papers and workplan)
  - Financing strategy structured dialogue
  - LDC Graduation STS
  - VDCAP Mid-Term Review



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# Deliverables and activities

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## Defining the level of ambition

# 1. Update on progress

2021 SDG Voluntary  
National Review (VNR)

- Main findings and lessons learned to inform policy options per SDG
- Main data gaps to fill to improve the next VNR
- Visualizations/infographics of key SDGs progress

## 2. National planning

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### 2.1 - 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP Conclusion and 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP

- 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP Conclusion (Main findings and lessons learnt)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Document and executive summary
- 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP Outcomes and outputs presentation
- Leaflets

### 2.2 - 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP implementation arrangement (Financing strategy and M&E)

- **Financing Strategy**
- Background documents on diagnostics and on financing options;
- A clear process and timeline to finalise the financing strategy;
- A variety of communication products (e.g. Op-ed, Q&As, etc.) to sensitise relevant stakeholders and communicate technical knowledge.
- **M&E Framework**
- A visualisation (either in terms of slides or leaflet) of the M&E framework;
- A short briefing note on main challenges and gaps and potential ways to solve these.

## 2. National planning

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### 2.3 - COVID-19 Recovery Framework

- Updated background papers building on last year's Multi-Stakeholder Taskforce process;
- A workplan as well as a clear mapping of stakeholders that can contribute to the drafting of the COVID-19 recovery strategy.

### 2.4 - LDC Graduation Smooth Transition Strategy

- An updated review/summary of relevant literature, which could be translated into communication products to inform relevant stakeholders about LDC graduation and possible graduation support measures;
- Draft elements and process, including a workplan, to ensure the timely completion of a STS in 2022, and clearly mapping roles and responsibilities of relevant Government and development partners;
- Identification of priorities for monitoring/data/statistics during the preparatory period and after graduation.

## 3. Development cooperation

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### 3.1 - Review of the Development Cooperation

- A VDCAP review
- A short brief highlighting main policy recommendations based on the analytical review of development cooperation and coordination
- ODA implementation report (2016-2020) and estimation for 2021-2025



# Key Milestones from now leading up to the 13<sup>th</sup> HL-RTM



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Key milestones and consultations	Tentative Timeframe	Key agencies in charge
1. Preparation of the 9 <sup>th</sup> NSEDP implementation arrangement (M&E and Financial Strategy)	Through out the year	DOP/MPI
2. Dissemination of the final English translated 9 <sup>th</sup> NSEDP	Early October 2021	
3. Dissemination of the 13 <sup>th</sup> HL-RTM Guidance Note to all SWGs and relevant stakeholders and invitation to the RTP retreat	Early October 2021	DIC/MPI
4. Individual meetings with SWG Secretariats and follow up – preparation for the RTM and VDCAP review	mid-Sept – mid-October	RTP Secretariat/DIC/MPI
5. Submission of SWG progress report to DIC/MPI	15 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	SWG Secretariat
6. Meeting of the National Steering Committee on the Round Table Process chaired by the Prime Minister. Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of Planning and Investment	End of October 2021	DIC/MPI
7. Second VDCAP Secretariat Meeting to review draft VACAP review report	Mid-October 2021	VDCAP Secretariat
8. Meet the press	Early November 2021	DIC/MPI +
9. Meeting of Chairs and Co-Chairs of SWGs	End-October 2021	DIC/MPI
10. Series of SWG meetings	Throughout the years 2020 and 2021	SWG Secretariat

Key milestones and consultations	Tentative Timeframe	Key agencies in charge
11. HL RTM invitation and agenda sent out	Mid-October 2021	DIC/MPI
12. HL RTM Background Documents to be sent out to all participants <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SDG VNR</li> <li>2. 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP conclusion and 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP</li> <li>3. Updates on 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP implementation arrangement (Financing strategy (financial options for discussion) and (Final M&amp;E framework)</li> <li>4. LDC transition strategy work plan (draft)</li> <li>5. Updated background papers on COVID19 and a plan for development of recovery framework (draft)</li> <li>6. VDCAP mid-term review report (2016-2020)</li> <li>7. ODA implementation review report for the last five years (2016-2020) and ODA direction for the next five years contributing to the implementation of the 9<sup>th</sup> NSEDP (2021-2025) (draft)</li> </ol>	Early November	DIC/MPI

Key milestones and consultations	Tentative Timeframe	Key agencies in charge
13. HL-RTM pre-consultation and side events (outcomes to be reported back to the HL RTM)		
1. 8 <sup>th</sup> NSEDP conclusion and 9 <sup>th</sup> NSEDP implementation arrangement (Financing, costing and M&E) (Structure dialogue -one day)	1 <sup>st</sup> structured dialogue (14-15 October)  2 <sup>nd</sup> structured dialogue (Early November)	DOP/MPI
2. SDG VNR Dissemination Workshop/RTM pre-consultation (Plenary discussion – Half a day)	End of October	DIO/MOFA
3. LDC Graduation Smooth Transition Strategy (Plenary discussion – Half a day – side event)	Early November	DIO/MOFA
4. COVID 19 recovery plan (five thematic areas – updating background papers prepared in 2020 by COVID19 multi-stakeholder taskforce)	Late October (Thematic Discussions)  Early November (Plenary discussion – RTM Side Event)	MPI with line ministries concerned as per the Multi-Stakeholder Taskforce TOR
5. Dissemination of the VDCAP review report (Panel discussion - half a day)	Early November	VDCAP Secretariat
14. 13 <sup>th</sup> High Level Round Table Meeting (One day policy dialogue)	Week of 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	DIC/MPI
15. Debriefing with the President of Lao PDR	Few days after RTM	DIC/MPI



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**Thank you  
&  
Q&A**