



**13TH HIGH-LEVEL
ROUND TABLE MEETING**

Vientiane | 17 November 2021



Outcomes of the Multi-Stakeholder Consultations for the development of the COVID-19 Recovery Framework

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Updated Five Background Papers



Five Background Papers highlighting key impacts, key recommendations and relevant information

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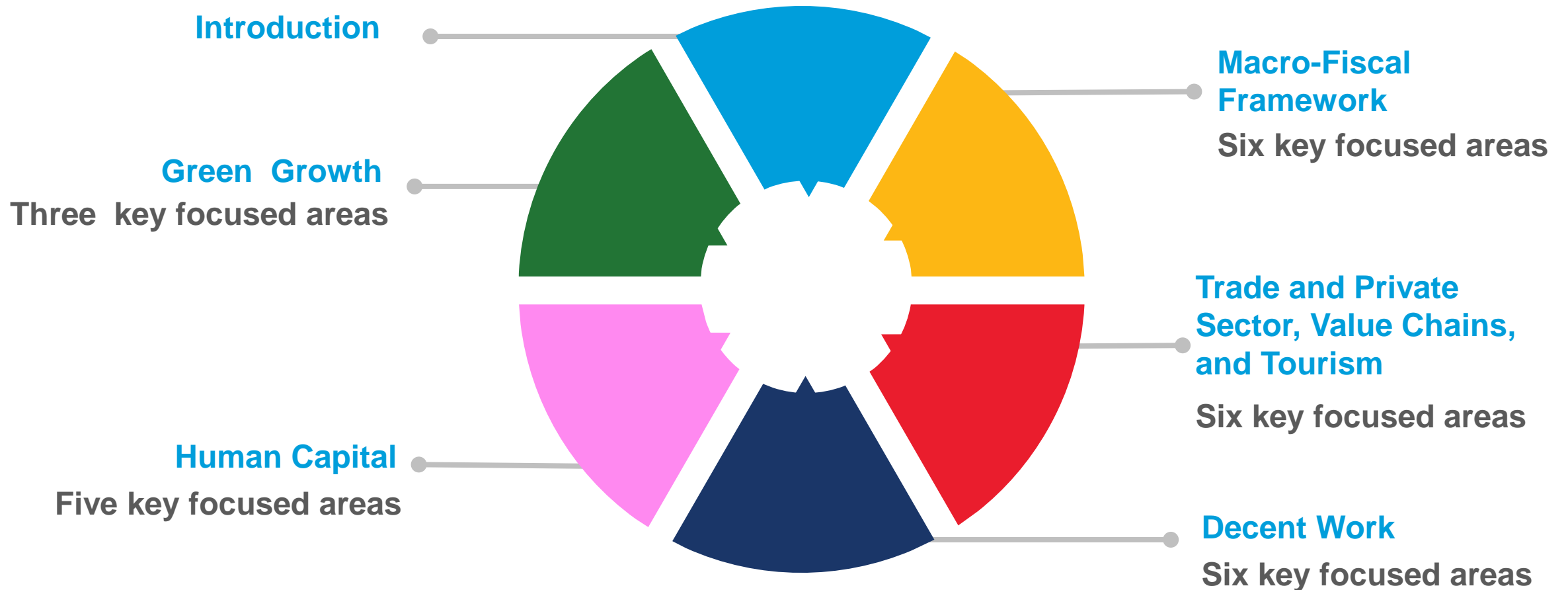
Way forwards (A plan for the development of the COVID-19 Recovery Framework)

Development of COVID-19 Recovery Framework

Proposed milestones from now till 2022

No	Action	Timing
1	National consultation with key stakeholder on key recommendations from the five background papers	Mid-Dec 2021
2	Availability of the first draft of the COVID19 Recovery Framework	End of March 2022
3	National consultation on the COVID19 Recovery Framework	April 2022
4	Validation workshop with all partners	Mid-April 2022
5	Finalization of the National COVID19 Recovery Framework	End of April 2022
6	Annual report on the implementation of the National COVID-19 Recovery Framework through the publication of the annual NSEDP (2022) during the 2022 RTIM	End of November 2022

The Lao National COVID-19 Recovery Framework 2021-2025



01

**Financing for Sustainable
Development and Effective
Development Cooperation
(Macro-fiscal Framework)**



Recommendations (1/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
1	Debt Management and Transparency: (1) Limit/stop non-concessional borrowing, (2) debt restructuring, (3) accelerate restructuring and privatization of SOEs and develop and (4) implement a debt management strategy, (5) ensure sustainable debt financing through the local currency (LCY) bond market.	2021-2025	MOF: EFCD, SOE Dept, MPI: DOP
2	Debt Management and Transparency: (1) Develop a clear legal framework for on-lending, public guarantee and contingent liabilities, (2) carefully assess lending and guarantees to SOE investment projects, (3) deepen domestic capital markets.	2022-2025	FPLD, EFCD, BOL
3	Fiscal Sustainability: (1) Improve monitoring and management of large taxpayers as well as expand coverage, (2) enhance audit and enforcement, (3) conduct a tax expenditure study and carefully assess public infrastructure projects.	2021-2025	EFCD, DOP, MoF, TD, BD, FPLD, MPI

Recommendations (2/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
4	Fiscal Sustainability: (1) Streamline and limit fiscal incentives and concessions for large investment projects, (2) develop capacity to forecast revenues effectively, (3) enforce the procurement law (4) align the expenditure with resources available.	2022-2025	MoF, FPLD, DOP, PMO
5	Financial Sector Stability: (1) Increase FOREX liquidity and reserve buffers, (2) increase FOREX liquidity and reserve buffers, (3) intensify monitoring of commercial bank performance, (4) unwind forbearance policies in a prudent manner.	2022-2025	MOIC, MPI, BOL MOF, BSD, all relevant ministries
6	Financial Sector Stability: (1) Adopting risk-based supervision, transit to the Basel II capital framework, (2) establish an early warning system for banking supervision, (3) strengthening operational and financial capacity in the deposit insurance scheme, (4) developing a crisis management framework.	2022-2025	BSD, DPO



Trade and Private Sector, Value Chains, and Tourism

Recommendations (1/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
1	Improving the business and investment environment including enhancing the public-private dialogues and partnerships as well as strengthening institutional coordination to streamline investment approvals and operating licenses.	2021-2023	MPI, MoIC, MoF, other line ministries, chambers of commerce
2	Fostering regional economic integration and related aspects such as improved infrastructure connectivity and border controls, better regulatory frameworks, and implementing further trade facilitation measures.	2021-2025	MoFA, MoF, MoIC, MPWT other line ministries
3	Providing economic relief to revive the tourism sector focusing on intensifying structured engagement between Government and private sector, deploying tourism support package and provide businesses with liquidity and implementing health protocols and a sound communication strategy.	2021-2025	MICT, MoLSW, MoES, BoL, MoH, chambers of commerce

Recommendations (2/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
4	Supporting smallholder farmers in the context of COVID-19 focusing on risk awareness raising, strengthening local capacities of farmers to restore agriculture production and facilitating transformation towards resilient and sustainable food systems.	2021-2025	MAF, provincial authorities
5	Establishing a sound e-commerce policy framework through the elaboration of a digital maturity assessment and a national e-commerce strategy focusing on ICT infrastructure and services, trade facilitation, logistics and payment solutions.	2021-2025	MoTC, MoIC, BoL
6	Providing special support systems and empowering women who are particularly affected by COVID-19 due to job loss or other impacts by employability programmes and offering new business opportunities e.g. e-commerce in handicraft.	2021-2025	MoIC, MoLSW and other line ministries, chambers of commerce



03

Managing Changes and Enhancing Policy Preparedness for Decent Work

Recommendations (1/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
1	Strengthening social dialogue on reopening businesses , development and enforcement of national policies and legislation on wage, labour and migration governance, integrated border management , in line with international labour standards and good practices.	2021-2025	MoLSW, LNCCI, LFTU, LWU
2	Strengthening and broadening inclusive shock responsive social protection system , continuation of essential services , with focus on vulnerable population and people at risk of exploitation.	2021-2025	MPI, MoLW, MoF, MoH, MoAF, MoES, MoHA, LNCCI, LFTU, LWU, MoPS, OSPP
3	Promoting and strengthening public-private partnership on digital skills, re-skilling and upskilling, employment services and labour market information system for employment.	2021-2025	MoLSW, MoES, LYU, LWU, LNCCI, LFTU, TVET, Skill Dev Institutions

Recommendations (2/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
4	Strengthening the implementation of the national rural employment promotion strategy for food security and income generation that facilitates greater access to formal and decent employment and climate change resilience .	2021-2025	MPI, MoLW, MoIC, MoAF, LNCCI, LFTU, LWU
5	Strengthening linkage of investment, trade and industrial policies and regulations to labour and employment policies to maximize spill-over effect of investments to local SMEs promotion, employment, migration and resource transfer .	2021-2025	MPI, MoLW, MoIC, MoAF, LNCCI, LFTU, LWU, MoPS
6	Inform response and recovery efforts by tracking the impact of COVID-19 on mobility and people on the move and strengthen evidence-based decision-making through data .	2021-2025	MoLSW, MPI, MOPS MOF, BOL, MoIC, LNCCI, LFTU



Human Capital

Recommendations: Short-term

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
1	<p>Education: (1) Safe reopening of schools and mitigate learning losses, (2) safeguard education budget, (3) address learning loss and support vulnerable groups to address lower enrolments and higher drop outs, (4) continue the development of a new national primary curriculum, teaching-learning materials, (5) Promoting digital skills and literacy and 21st century skills in basic education, TVET, and higher education, (6) plan teacher availability and access to teachers based on needs and per the demographic projections.</p>	2021-2025	MoES, NUoL, TVET institutions
2	<p>Health including RMNCAH and Nutrition: (1) Build resilience of health systems to respond to COVID-19 pandemic and for the future, including mental health and psychosocial support, (2) strengthen primary health care, (3) prioritize essential health service packages especially RMNCAH, (4) strengthen the capacity for treatment of acute malnutrition, (5) scale up BMS monitoring of retailers, (6) scale up remote care and telehealth approaches.</p>	2021-2025	MoH, DHHP (CN), DHR, FDD, MoLSW, MoES, NUoL, LYU, LWU
3	<p>Gender Equity: (1) Investments in the female workforce for equity, a Gender Equality Plan and ERAW plans and SRH/FP, (2) reduce disparities in sectors where women and girls are left behind, (3) improve access to social security, childcare, maternity leave, (4) consistently use sex disaggregated data.</p>	2021-2025	MPI, MoH, MoES, MoLSW, LWU, MoICT, private sector

Recommendation: Medium Term

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
4	Education: (1) Enhancing early child development, school readiness, reducing drop-out rate, and ensuring education quality and efficiency, (2) sustaining investments in the pre-service and in service professional development of teachers, (3) addressing quality of and high internet costs.	2023-2025	MoES, NUoL
5	Health & Nutrition: (1) Ensure uninterrupted supply chain to maintain essential health services (EHS) including nutrition and family planning interventions, (2) build capacity of healthcare workers to respond to public health emergencies effectively while sustaining EHS and improve quality and resilience especially at primary health care level, (3) strengthen sustainable health finance system, while ensuring equitable access to healthcare and financial protection, (4) ensure inclusion of breastfeeding counselling and development of virtual breastfeeding /infant feeding counselling service in relevant health workers scope of work.	2022-2025	MoH, NC (DHHP), FDD



05

Green Growth, Resilience, and Risk Management

Recommendations (1/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
1	Green growth: Aim for a low carbon economy; accelerate clean energy transition; promote green bonds for renewable energy; promote green budgeting and expenditure tagging; promote sustainable waste management; encourage green infrastructure and transitioning of industry; explore sources of green finance for MSMEs.	2021-2025	MOIC, MOF, MONRE, MAF, MPWT, LNCCI
2	Resilience building: Invest in local communities to protect ecosystems, biodiversity and wildlife; empower women and build community resilience to disaster risks and climate change; strengthen private sector resilience; invest in resilient infrastructure and supply chains; promote climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture and nature-based solutions.	2021-2025	MONRE, MAF, MAF, MOIC, MLSW, MPWT

Recommendations (2/2)

No	Recommendation / Action	Period	Implementing Entity
3	Risk management: Promote disaster risk financing; access climate finance; strengthen and mainstream DRR and climate resilience across ministries and sectors; use data to better determine risk; implement measures to reduce air pollution and improve air quality; support new national DRR policy and build capacities for disaster-responsive social protection and agriculture; improve fiscal risk management.	2021-2025	MLSW. MONRE



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THANK YOU!