



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

Vientiane | 17 November 2021

A blue silhouette of the Vientiane skyline, including various traditional Lao buildings, stupas, and a prominent tower on the right side.

VDCAP Mid-Term Implementation (2016-2020) Desk Review 2021

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Next Steps (Key Messages for the 13th HL RTM to be delivered by Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment)

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Background



VDCAP Implementation

Monitoring and Reporting

- GOL and more than 30 partners signed Vientiane Declaration at the 12th High Level Round Table Meeting (2015)
- VD Country Action Plan (2016-2025) adopted at the 2016 RTIM
- Monitoring and reporting on the VDCAP implementation – every three years inline with the global partnership for effective development cooperation
- Platform for monitoring and reporting on VDCAP implementation
 - Meetings of chairs and co-chairs of SWGs
 - VDCAP annual review meeting
 - Round Table (Implementation) Meetings
- Responsibility - VDCAP Secretariat (DIC/MPI (Lead), NA, MOF, BOL, LMs, EU, WB, ADB, Korea, UNRCO, and UNDP)

VDCAP Review

Key References

1. Foreign Aid Implementation Report (FAIR) – 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
2. Global monitoring survey on effective development cooperation (2019)
3. Mutual accountability survey (2019)
4. RTM Background Document 2015
5. RTIM Background Documents (2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019)
6. Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2011)
7. Paris Declaration Monitoring Survey 2008 and 2011
8. A Snapshot of the Implementation of the VDCAP (2012-2015)
9. Vientiane Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2006)

VDCAP Review

Consultations

- 1. May 2021 (VDCAP Secretariat First Meeting)** — Preparation, Decision on Content and Initial Desk Review Proposal
- 2. September 2021 (VDCAP Secretariat Second Meeting)** — Agreement and Desk Review Inception
- 3. October 2021 - Document Review and Discussions** with all 10 Sector Working Groups
- 4. 1st November 2021 (VDCAP Secretariat Third Meeting)** – Presentation of the First Draft of the VDCAP Desk Review
- 5. 12th November 2021 (HL RTM Pre-Consultation on the VDCAP Desk Review)** – Presentation of the Second Draft and Identification of Key Messages for the 13th HL RTM

2019

- Partnership global survey published
- 10 key actions
- Global High Level Forum

2020

- Revision of the VDCAP M&E framework
- 14 key actions

2021

- VDCAP Review
- HL RTM
- Global Partnership M&E framework revised
- Action Dialogue

2022

- New Global Partnership M&E framework to be adopted
- Global High Level Forum



02

Key Findings

VDCAP Principle 1 – Ownership

1. National Planning Framework
2. National planning and budgetary processes

Findings

1. The quality of national development planning in Lao PDR is high (87%) compared to 79% for all LDC countries
2. Outcome-output plan, costing and budget allocation, linked to SDGs, and regular reporting
3. A priority-setting framework to create a better link between planning and budgetary process – 8th and 9th NSEDP - DFA (2017) and DFAA (2021) – financing strategy

VDCAP Principle 2 – Alignment

1. Development cooperation on budget
2. Use of Country Systems

Findings

DPs' alignment with national development priorities	Global survey (Lao Scores)		Average LDCs
	2017	2019	2019
Objectives	95%	96%	83%
Indicators	63%	57%	63%
Data	56%	41%	52%

Aid on budget Global survey (Lao Scores)	
2017	2019
19%	24%

Findings

DP's use of country systems	Global survey (Lao score)		Average LDCs
	2017	2019	2019
Use of public financial management systems	22%	42%	48%
• Use of country's budget execution procedures	27%	47%	49%
• Use of country's financial reporting procedures	22%	63%	46%
• Use of country's auditing procedures	19%	28%	52%
• Use of country's procurement systems	21%	31%	45%

VDCAP Principle 3 – Harmonization and Simplification

1. Programme Based Approaches/Sector Wide Approaches
2. Donor joint efforts

Findings

Description	2017	2019
Evaluation planned with government involvement	92%	94%

1. Some of the basic building blocks of PBAs and SWAp are currently in place – UXO, trade and private sector, education, health, agriculture and rural development, governance, food and nutrition security and public financial management.
2. Joint programming among ‘like-minded’ groups of donors,

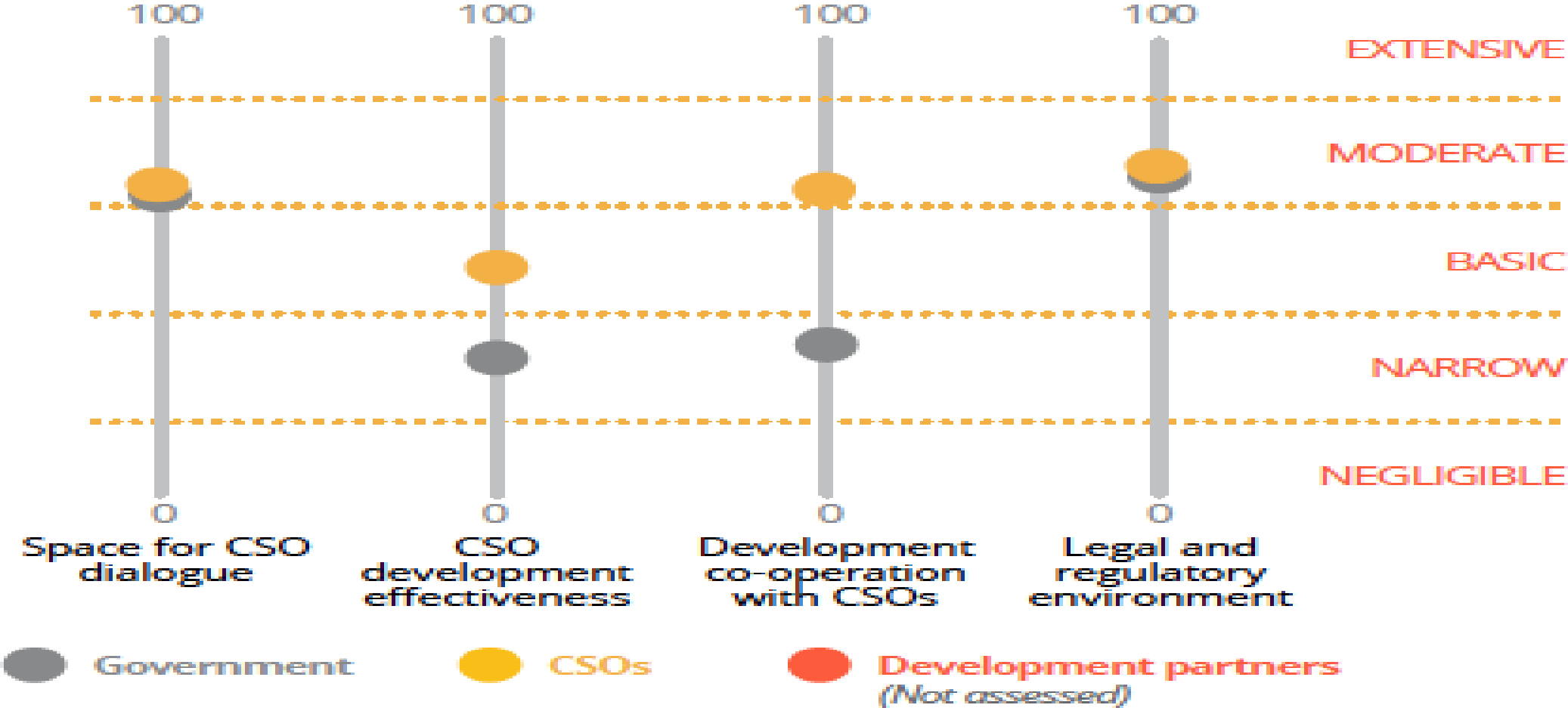
VDCAP Principle 4 – Inclusive Partnership for Development Results

1. Role of National Assembly and Provincial People Assemblies -
2. Development Cooperation Process (RTP and SWGs)
3. Engagement of Civil Society

Findings

1. Application of the Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP).
2. Evolving of Development Cooperation –RTP and SWG) – participation of all partners and linked to national planning process (policy recommendations)
3. Governments and civil society have diverging views on the enabling environment for CSOs.

Perceptions on enabling environment for civil society engagement in Lao PDR



VDCAP Principle 5 – Transparency, Predictability, & Mutual Accountability

1. National Budget
2. Development Cooperation Data

Findings

Description	2017	2019
Annual predictability of development cooperation: as scheduled	93 %	70%
Medium-term predictability of development cooperation	0	32%

Mutual accountability mechanisms, Laos has 4 of 5 components in place

- i) Comprehensive policy framework for development co-operation
- ii) Country-level targets for government and development partners,
- iii) Assessments are inclusive and involve non-state actors and
- iv) Timely, publicly available results of assessments.

VDCAP Principle 6 – Domestic Resource Mobilization

1. To the extent possible, percentage of government contribution to development activities funded by providers of development cooperation

Findings

1. Initial discussion with the Government has been made to identify if Government's contribution could be at minimal level in cash.
2. The current programme that the Government's contribution is in cash is the support from the Global Fund.
3. Some other key programmes that are on final discussions are those relating to environmental and natural resource management, transportation and public work.

VDCAP Principle 7 – South-South Cooperation, Triangular Cooperation & Knowledge Sharing

1. Coordination and reporting mechanism
2. Improving understanding an the nature and modalities through a clear coordination and reporting mechanism

Findings

1. In the process of building and strengthening an institutional arrangement and monitoring mechanism

VDCAP Principle 8 – Business as a Partner in Development

1. Public Private Dialogue - Coordination and reporting mechanism

Findings

PPD assessment (6 quality elements – 3 building blocks)	2017	2019
Government's assessment of public-private dialogue	60%	55%
Large firms' assessment of public-private dialogue	60%	NA
Small/medium firms' assessment of public-private dialogue	60%	NA
Trade unions' assessment of public-private dialogue	60%	NA



03

Next Steps

Three key messages to be highlighted during the 13th HL RTM

1. Reconfirm - the relevance, significance, effectiveness and important of the Vientiane Declaration Country Action Plan (General statement – 5 minutes)
2. Highlight – key progresses made (one key progress per each principle) (10 minutes)
3. Propose - key focuses from 2021-2025 for the remaining period of the VDCAP implementation (15 minutes)

Highlights

One key progress per each principle

Principle	One key progress per each principle
I. Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Planning Framework
II. Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of Country Systems
III. Harmonisation & Simplification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programme Based Approaches/Sector Wide Approaches
IV. Inclusive Partnership for Development Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development Cooperation Process (RTP/SWG)
V. Transparency, Predictability, ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development Cooperation Data
VI. Domestic Resource Mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A plan on government contribution
VII. South-South Cooperation, ..	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination and reporting mechanism
VIII. Business as a Partner in Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordination and reporting mechanism

Proposed key focuses from 2021-2025 for the remaining period of the VDCAP implementation

VDCAP Principle 1 – Ownerships

1. M&E framework and result based planning - Ensure common understanding of M&E framework and result based planning across stakeholders at national, sectoral and provincial levels.
2. Better link between planning and costing (national and sectoral) - Coordinating government-wide and sectoral plans and ensuring budget allocation to prioritized development priorities and programs
3. Consistency across sectoral plans - Greater consistency in ministerial sectoral plans

VDCAP Principle 2 – Alignment

1. Faster pace of PFM reforms
2. Quality assurance of the ODAMIS
3. Confidence in the national system -The use and strengthening of country systems should be placed within the overall context of national capacity development for sustainable outcomes

VDCAP Principle 3 – Harmonization and Simplification

1. Ensure a common understanding of PBAs - Line ministries, the Partners and other stakeholders in Lao PDR do not share a common understanding of PBAs. Different approaches and modalities that can make more wide use of PBAs and SWAp
2. Complementarity and a division of labour
3. SWGs to facilitate joint actions across sectors - The SWGs are an appropriate mechanism to ensure relevance and coordination of analytical work

VDCAP Principle 4 – Inclusive Partnerships for Development Results

1. Instituting broad-based and robust consultation mechanisms
2. Effectiveness and efficiency of the Round Table Process and SWGs (representation way of engagement vs systematic process)
3. Capacity development of ministries managing SWGs
4. Common tools and practical platforms for cross-sectoral coordination
- Other improvements that can help make SWGs more effective tools of collaboration.

VDCAP Principle 5 – Transparency, Predictability, & Mutual Accountability

1. Rule of engagement - clearly defined commitments on both sides (the Government and the Partners), the rules of engagement and how progress is monitored
2. Transparency and quality of budgetary information – systematic/digitalised publication of annual budget and budget execution reports, with disaggregated information
3. Different channel of mutual accountability – mutual accountability supports rather than undercuts domestic accountability institutions
4. Accuracy of ODA data recorded in the ODAMIS and to rethink what ODA should be spent on and how

VDCAP Principle 6 – Domestic Resource Mobilization

1. Agreed upon methodology to quantify Government's contribution of development cooperation projects and programmes.

VDCAP Principle 7 – South-South Cooperation

1. National ownership - Capacity development, learning and sustainability
2. Horizontality and solidarity – collaboration as equal partners.
3. Coordination and reporting mechanism – Transparency, accountability and information management
4. Inclusive partnerships
5. South-South Cooperation in the Global Arena

VDCAP Principle 8 – Business as Development Partners

1. Increasing stakeholders' readiness and ability to engage
2. Agreed upon mutual interests - ensuring that PPD focuses on issues relevant to all stakeholders remains a challenge
3. Full range of private sector actors - making a concerted effort for PPD to include the full range of private sector actors.
4. Long-term commitment to PPD – showing concrete results to foster long-term commitment.
5. Private sector involvement beyond PPD - Engaging the private sector beyond the mechanism of PPD



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THANK YOU!