



Progress of the five-year (2021-2025) and the proposed five-year plan (2026-2030) on natural resources and environment

Prepared by Phakkavanh PHISSAMAY
Director general of planning and finance department
Ministry of natural resources and environment

Progress of the five-year (2021-2025)

THE 9TH NSEDP (OUTCOME 4) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ENHANCED AND DISASTER RISKS REDUCED

Output 1: Natural resources sustainably used and managed

❖ Targets:

- Completed LUP & ISP at the provincial level in 19 provinces and Vientiane Capital (achieving 100% of five-year plan);
- A total of 597,000 land titles have been registered and issued across the nation, representing 37.31% of the five-year plan target of 1.6 million plots. Additionally, efforts are being made to modernize the land management system;
- Completed the construction of 10 air quality measurement stations, equivalent to 111% of the planned;
- Completed Integrated Water Management Plan for 14 large-scale river basin (achieving 100% of five-year plan).

WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND USE



Integrated Water Management Plan of River Basin

Legal instruments: Vision to 2040 and the National Strategy on Water Management, Use and Water Resources to 2023

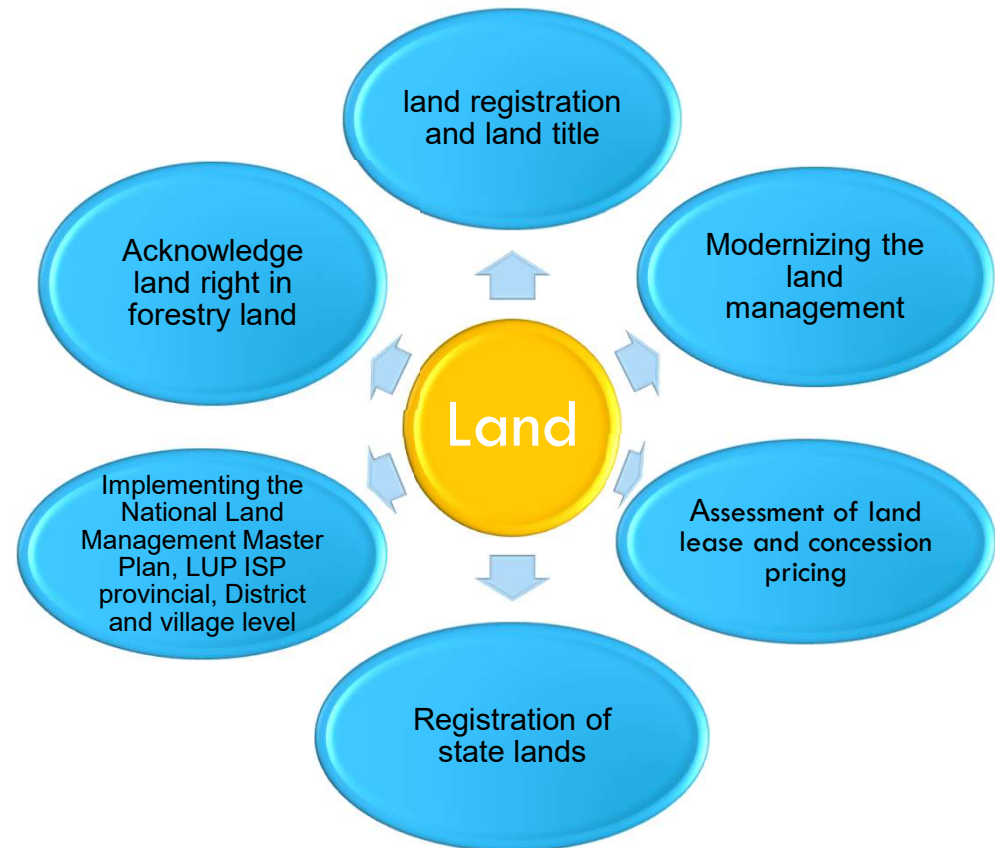
granting permits for the discharge of contaminated water to investment projects

Ensuring the minimum flow of hydropower projects

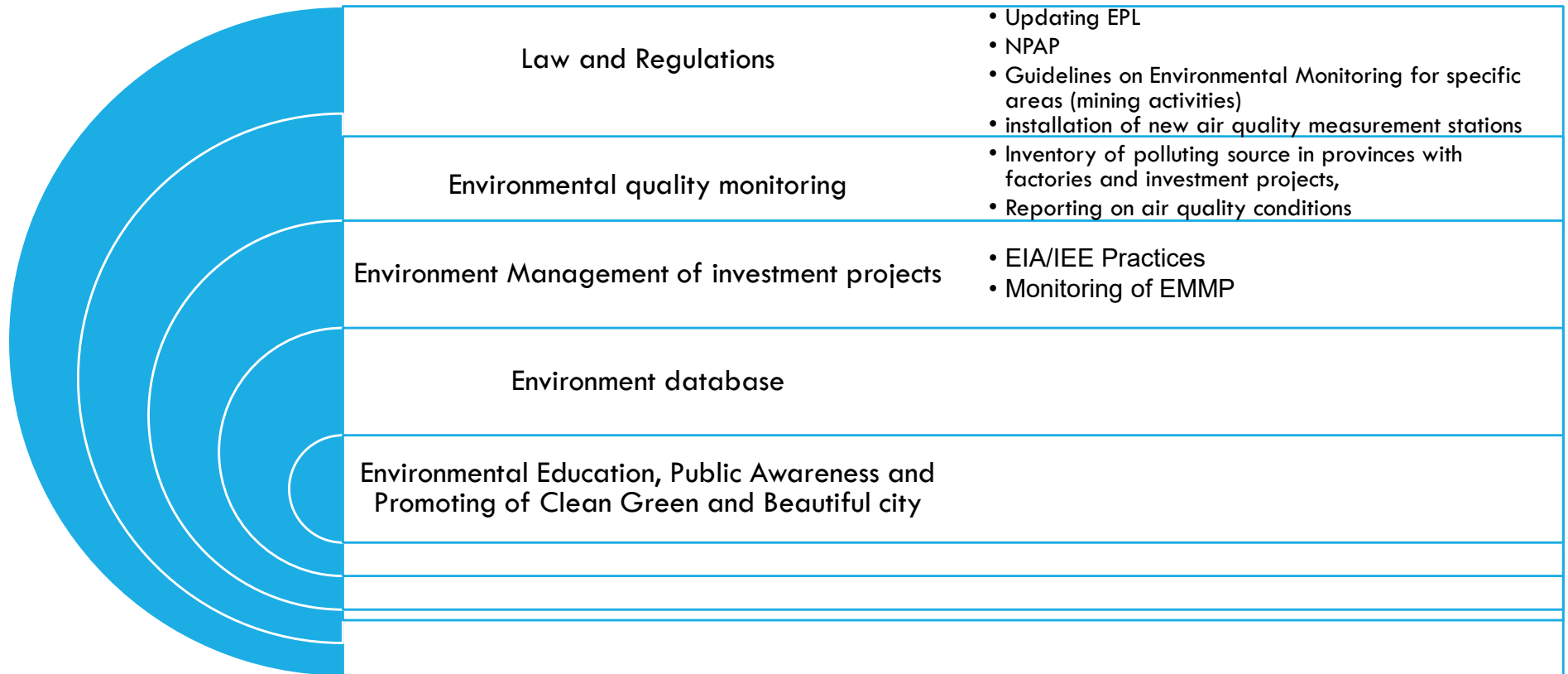
Establishing groundwater management plans

conducting water quality monitoring in rivers

LAND MANAGEMENT AND USE



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



THE 9TH NSEDP (OUTCOME 4) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ENHANCED AND DISASTER RISKS REDUCED

Output 2: Green growth promoted and actions taken towards climate change mitigation

❖ Targets:

- Conducting feasibility study of developing a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; formulation of the Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) as a development direction in the medium to 2030 and the long term to 2050 for the transition to a low-greenhouse gas emission economy;
- Completed the formulation of the 2nd edition of the National Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (NDC) and its Implementation Plan and completed the National Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (NAP);

THE 9TH NSEDP (OUTCOME 4) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ENHANCED AND DISASTER RISKS REDUCED

Output 3: Capacities for disaster prevention, management and recovery enhanced

❖ Targets:

- Build and upgrade the meteorological and hydrological station network nationwide in which 47 new meteorological stations have been completed, equivalent to 104% of the plan (5-year plan: 45) and 77 new meteorological stations, equivalent to 308% of the plan (5-year plan: 25);
- Completed low-level climate change risk and vulnerability assessments in 148 cities in 18 provinces nationwide and built resilience to climate change by using natural and ecological resources to help mitigate urban flooding in 6 cities in 6 provinces at risk of climate change

CURRENT CHALLENGES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Despite significant progress in implementing the economic-social development plans related to the National Agenda by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, some challenges remain that need attention for the upcoming National Plan:

Awareness and Dissemination:

- The dissemination of laws and regulations to relevant sectors at provincial and municipal levels is not yet widespread.

Budget Management:

- Budget implementation, both from state funds and international loans, is hindered by lengthy procedures, causing delays and inefficiencies in meeting planned timelines.

CURRENT CHALLENGES AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Environmental Management:

- Monitoring and enforcement of environmental management plans for investment projects are inadequate, leading to non-compliance and environmental impacts.
- Many pilot mining projects neglect environmental impact assessments and lack effective environmental management measures, resulting in issues like red muddy water and chemical contamination in natural waterways, affecting local livelihoods, especially during the rainy season.

LESSON LEARNT

Increase Efforts to Publicize Laws, Master Plans, Visions, Strategies, Action Plans, and Approved Legislation

- Enhance public awareness about natural resource management and environmental protection, ensuring widespread and comprehensive societal understanding across the country.

Develop and Enhance Foundational Infrastructure

- Create and upgrade tools for monitoring, inspecting, and evaluating natural resources and environmental impacts.
- Provide a clear basis for environmental condition assessments and efficient planning for natural resource and environmental management.

Enhance Internal, Regional and International Coordination

- Improve coordination within sectors, between different sectors, and between central and local levels.
- Effectively implement various commitments to improve connections with regional and international partners.
- Increase access to international funding sources to support the activities of the MONRE, ensuring efficiency, speed, and sustainability.

Lesson Learnt (Cont)

Increase Focus on Building Personnel

- Enhance the quantity and quality of personnel.
- Allocate staff based on actual job requirements.

Decentralize Responsibility to Local Authorities

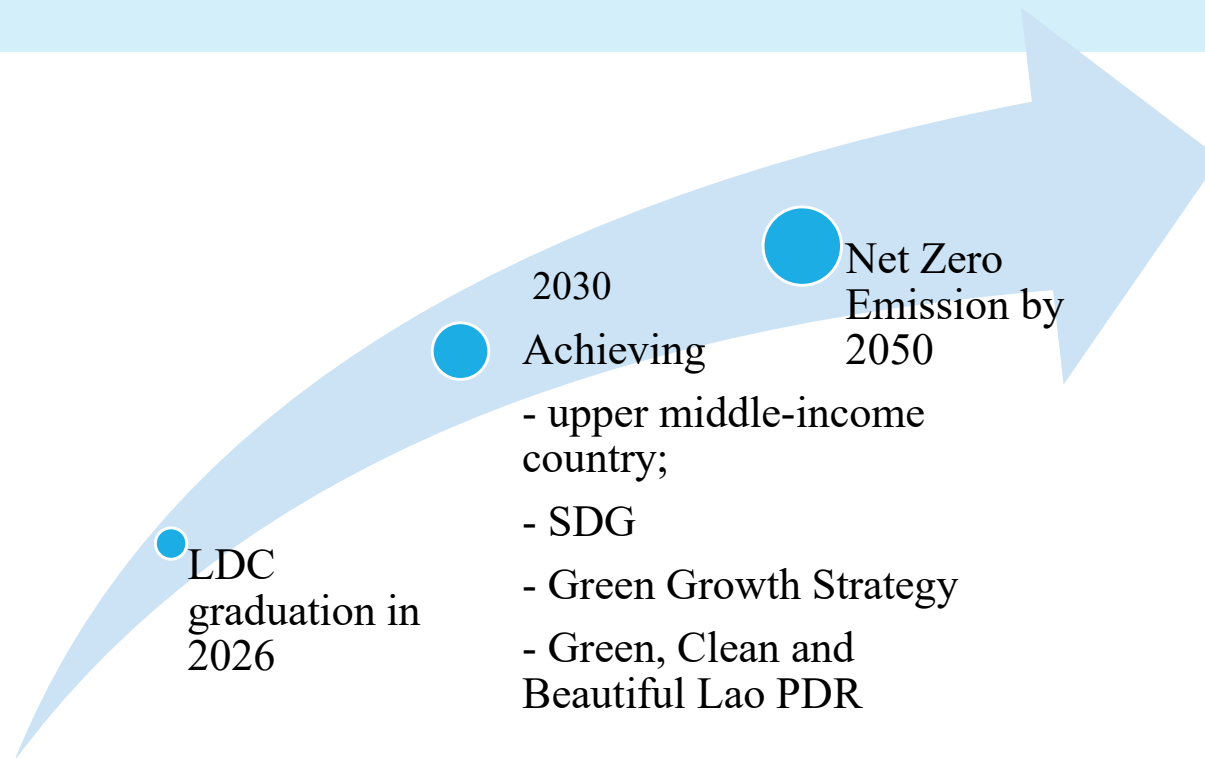
- Empower local authorities to implement laws and plans based on their responsibilities, with central authorities providing technical guidance, monitoring, training, and necessary resources to facilitate effective operation.

Enhance Financial Mechanisms

- Improve efficient financial mechanisms with stable revenue sources derived from contributions to development projects.
- Increase the revenue base of MONRE in accordance with the law.

**Proposed five-year plan (2026-2030)
on natural resources and environment**

COUNTRY'S GOALS AND VISIONS



AREAS TO FOCUS ON

Sustainable resources management

- Enhance the protection and management of natural resources according to the national land allocation master plan with high efficiency.
- Create a foundation for ensuring balanced socio-economic development between economic expansion, environmental protection, and continuous social development in line with green and sustainable principles.
- Promote the selection of environmentally friendly investments.
- Strictly manage investment projects to comply with environmental management tasks to prevent and reduce impacts on the environment and society.
- Establish an effective and efficient management mechanism for the use and development of natural resources.

AREAS TO FOCUS ON (CONT)

☐ **Pollution Control**

- Improve waste management systems, pollution control, and ensure environmental quality standards.
- Create more green and clean urban areas in each province.
- Promote the role of water resources in sustainable socio-economic development, balancing water usage for production and livelihoods;
- Promoting the use of clean technology.

☐ **Land Management**

- Strengthen mechanisms, procedures, and oversight for state land management;
- Focusing on leasing and concession compliance with laws and regulations to prevent land grabs;
- Create stable government revenue from land management,
- Modernization of land management.

AREAS TO FOCUS ON (CONT)

☐ Climate Change mitigation and adaptation

- Ensure international commitments on climate change are met, aiming for net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050;
- Study high-risk areas for climate vulnerability and build readiness for climate change adaptation;
- Expand the carbon credit market.

Expected Target

Expansion of National and Local Land Allocation Plans

- Complete the national survey and land allocation to categorize land into 8 types across the country by 2030. Specifically, survey and allocate land for conservation and preservation, including forest land, to **identify 3 types of forest land covering 16.5 million hectares or 70% of the total land area, and allocate 30% for development,** particularly agricultural land and other sectors by 2030.

Carbon Credit Creation and Climate Resilience

- Generate at least 28 million tons of carbon credits (tCO₂e) annually from forest lands, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% compared to normal levels.
- Enhance adaptation capabilities and build climate resilience in 6 cities across 6 provinces.

Expected Target (Cont.)

Water Management

- Establish a robust and effective basin management mechanism to support the implementation of large-scale basin management plans for 14 basins.
- Assess the water flow (minimum, maximum, average levels, and recurrence of flooding) in 10 basins.
- Establish and implement groundwater management plans according to approved maps in at least 12 provinces.

Environment management

- Monitor, evaluate, promote, and support one provincial or municipal area to become a model green, clean, and beautiful municipality in partnership with the Vientiane Capital Province or relevant sectors at central and local levels, according to regulations and standards.

Meteorology and Hydrology

- Expand meteorological stations in cities without them to achieve 35 stations and hydrological stations in flood-prone areas to achieve 25 stations.
- Improve and repair 40 degraded and non-functional meteorological stations, 40 hydrological stations and 5 earthquake monitoring stations as well as establishing 2 meteorological radar stations.

Measures, Policies, and Mechanisms for Implementing

Raise Awareness

- Foster a sense of ownership in society for environmental protection and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Enhance the Role of Natural Resource and Environmental Management

- Implement effective mechanisms and legal frameworks to support green and sustainable development.

Increase the Reporting of Weather, Meteorology, Hydrology, and Earthquakes

- Provide accurate, clear, timely, and relevant advance warnings about weather conditions to improve disaster preparedness, impact mitigation, and recovery efficiency.



Promote Circular Economy Models

- Promote circular economy models to reduce reliance on natural resource sectors and minimize environmental destruction.
- Examples include reducing waste and residues, cutting air and water pollution, and having systems in place for managing and recycling waste.

Promote the Implementation of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction

- Follow the national plan to contribute to solving climate change issues.
- Enhance the ability to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Continue Efforts to Increase Forest Area, Restore Forests, and Protect Endangered Biodiversity
- Strictly Enforce Environmental Laws and Regulations

FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION

To achieve the expected targets effectively, MONRE will focus on the following measures:

Ensure Alignment with National Economic-Social Development Plans

- Ensure the implementation of MONRE plans align with the 9th NSEDP (2021-2025) that remains, as well as with the 10th NSEDP and the implementation of the two National Agendas.

Increase Coordination with Relevant Central and Local Sectors

Enhance Collaboration and Fundraising

- Increase cooperation and fundraising with international organizations, internal and external development partners to support the implementation of comprehensive plans, targets, and focus areas of MONRE.

Increase Focused Task Implementation

- Delegate responsibilities to departments within MONRE for focused task execution.

Improve Financial and Specialized Operational Mechanisms

- Enhance financial and specialized work mechanisms to ensure efficiency and timely adaptation to current conditions.
- Support the seamless execution of comprehensive tasks

Enhance Monitoring and Evaluation

- Increase systematic and regular monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of targets and focus tasks, ensuring consistent reporting.

