



SUMMARY

European Joint Programming for Lao People's Democratic Republic 2016-2020

Governance



OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The governance sector in Lao PDR refers to the National Socio Economic Development Plan priority of public service effectiveness, particularly at sub-national level. It also relates to the Government of Lao PDR's priority of becoming a 'Rule of Law State,' particularly the pillars on 'people's voice' and on oversight by the National Assembly.



The overall objective is to contribute to good governance, the rule of law and human rights in Lao PDR. The legislative and regulatory framework is evolving, albeit slowly, to enable greater people's participation, on the basis of the rights and obligations established in the constitution and currently valid legislation. European Joint Programming supports economic governance through initiatives promoting sound and robust public financial management.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

SO1 – Support improvements in government services

- European Joint Programming support focuses on:
- Strengthening planning capacity and service delivery of authorities at province/district level
 - Reinforcing citizens' access to justice, and benchmarking public service delivery and citizen feedback
 - Strengthening citizens' engagement in planning, resource allocations and monitoring of development
 - Increasing Public Finance Management (PFM) capacity at central level in areas of domestic tax systems, domestic revenue mobilisation and procurement
 - Capacity building of oversight bodies

SO 2 – Contribute to an environment that promotes citizens' engagement for sustainable development and good governance

European support focuses on:

- Reinforcing practical cooperation between government and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).
 - Enabling CSOs to engage in service delivery and address good governance at all levels.
 - Furthering engagement with citizens by the National Assembly (including through the provincial assemblies)
- SO 3 – Support the consolidation of the rule of law**
- European Joint Programming support focuses on:
- Consolidating the formal justice system and semi-formal arbitration mechanisms at community level and improving dissemination of legal information and advice to citizens.
 - Training civil servants at all in the 'Rule of Law State by 2020' approach, and strengthening judicial and legal training institutions' capacity.
 - Providing support and legal training to the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to coordinate, monitor and reinforce compliance with international human rights obligations.
 - Drafting, scrutinising and monitoring the enactment of laws by the National Assembly.

BILATERAL FUNDING BY PARTNERS

	2 PROJECTS	€22.5 MILLION
	4 PROJECTS	€27.6 MILLION
	1 PROJECT	€10 MILLION <small>As part of €20 million tied aid loan</small>
	5 PROJECTS	€7.7 MILLION
	8 PROJECTS	€6.8 MILLION
	5 PROJECTS	€2.6 MILLION
	5 PROJECTS	€0.58 MILLION

UPDATE

The Government of Lao PDR has made progress towards modernisation and re-organisation of the national and local administrations, and in expanding government services' delivery to citizens.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Recommendations after 2nd Universal Periodical Review (UPR)



ADOPTED

116 of 196 recommendations

Transparency International Corruption Perception Index

2017 135/180

2018 132/180



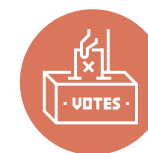
ACCESS TO JUSTICE

11
legal aid offices in
7
provinces

MAIN SUBSECTORS



CIVIL SOCIETY



DEMOCRACY & HUMAN RIGHTS



RESEARCH & INNOVATION



RULE OF LAW



PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY



GENDER

JOINT PROGRAMMING CONTRIBUTION IN THIS SECTOR FROM 2016 TO 2020



European Joint Programming has provided an important platform for internal coordination and complementarity, while minimising risks of duplication.

 Of the European partners, the **EU** is the biggest contributor to the Legal Sector Master Plan's implementation.

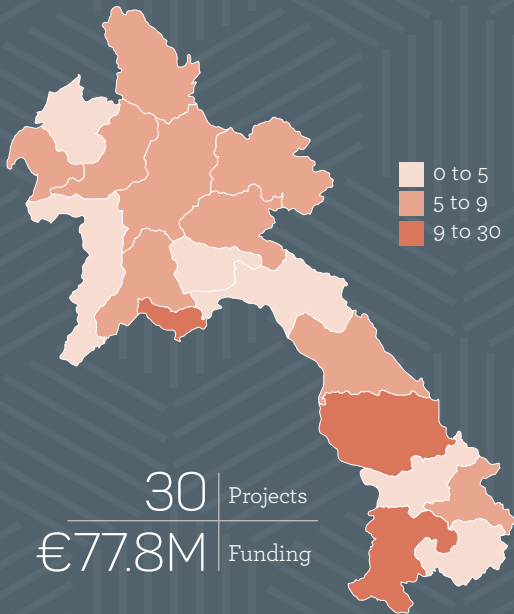
 **Switzerland** is the chair of the Governance Sector Working Group.

  **France** and **Luxembourg** are most active in legal sector reform and training of legal professionals

   **Germany, Switzerland** and the **UK** are active in support to the National Assembly.

     **France, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland** and the **UK** are active in support to Lao CSOs.

The map below shows the geographical distribution of Agriculture and Rural Development programmes funded by European Partners through Joint Programming. Projects with national coverage are reported in Vientiane Capital.



IN FOCUS

Lao Population Management Project

In order to modernise ID issuance in Laos, Hungary has granted an aid loan to build a population registration and electronic identification card system. Supported by a database system and specific population management application, this will enable faster, easier and more accurate population management by the Ministry of Public Security.

IN FOCUS

Citizen Engagement for Good Governance, Accountability and the Rule of Law (CEGGA)

The objective of this €18 million project, implemented by GIZ and co-financed by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the EU, is to strengthen an inclusive development process in Lao PDR that is based on increased civil participation and established rule of law. The project has three components:

- 1. Strengthening engagement of Lao civil society organisations (CSOs)** within the national development process, primarily through awarding of small grants to finance local grassroots projects, to develop the CSOs' capacities and to implement an enabling legal framework for civil society.
- 2. Strengthening the legislative, representative and oversight functions of the Lao National Assembly and the Provincial People's Assemblies.**
- 3. Supporting rule of law and access to justice** as well as the implementation of human rights obligations into national law. The project further supports access to justice by assisting the Ministry of Justice in disseminating and improving legal services nationwide, especially in the remote rural areas.

