



World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES

CHANGING
LIVES

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Annual Country Report 2023

Country Strategic Plan
2022 - 2026

Table of contents

Overview	3
Operational context	8
Searching for connection	12
Programme performance	14
Strategic outcome 01	14
Strategic outcome 02	17
Strategic outcome 03	20
Strategic outcome 04	23
Cross-cutting results	25
Gender equality and women's empowerment	25
Protection and accountability to affected populations	27
Environmental sustainability	29
Nutrition integration	31
Partnerships	32
Financial Overview	34
Data Notes	38
Annex	42
Reporting on beneficiary information in WFP's annual country reports	42
Figures and Indicators	43
Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group	43
Beneficiaries by Residence Status	43
Beneficiaries by Programme Area	43
Annual Food Transfer (mt)	44
Annual Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher (USD)	44
Strategic Outcome and Output Results	44
Cross-cutting Indicators	61

Overview

WFP supports vulnerable populations amidst global crisis

The Lao People's Democratic Republic faced economic, social and climate-related headwinds in 2023, compromising its recovery from the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and progress towards becoming a middle-income country. The country's macroeconomic environment deteriorated amid a global food, fuel, finance and fertilizer crisis, leading to soaring inflation, currency depreciation, high external debt and dwindling fiscal revenues. As a result, public social sector spending decreased, affecting access to health, education and social assistance, while the increased cost of living pushed a sizeable part of the population to use negative coping strategies to make ends meet, such as spending savings, borrowing money, or eating less preferred foods. The 2023 monsoon season compounded the degraded economic and social environments by bringing floods and landslides to parts of the country, affecting the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of people in twelve provinces.

Under its five-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2022-26), WFP pursued a twin track of strengthening the Government's policies and systems to address the root causes of hunger and malnutrition, while developing community-based programmes tackling their underlying causes and meeting immediate food needs.

Throughout the year, WFP assisted over 390,000 people with food (4,600 mt), cash (USD 246,863), technical support on nutrition and other forms of assistance, representing 37 percent more direct beneficiaries than the previous year. The expansion of WFP's assistance in 2023 mirrors the deterioration of the food and nutrition situation and was made possible through donor and partner support and the Government's trust in WFP's ability to deliver.

The significant increase in the number of beneficiaries was a result of the lean season response and new nutrition-sensitive agriculture projects. Actual cash-based transfer (CBT) beneficiaries are lower than planned as funds for planned activities were not yet received and some activities were postponed into 2024.

Support for the National School Meals Programme (NSMP) remained the foundation of WFP's engagement in the country. With a national coverage of 25 percent, the NSMP offers daily nutritious meals to 198,000 schoolchildren, of which 69,000 attend 705 schools directly supplied and supported by WFP. In schools where the NSMP is managed by the Government, WFP provided 1,150 mt of food to offset costs for communities and public finances in times of hardship. Additionally, 250 mt of rice was distributed to 8,479 students in ethnic boarding schools and schools for persons with disabilities. Notwithstanding, the Government of Lao PDR issued a landmark Prime Minister's Decree for the promotion of the NSMP, committing significant domestic resources to the development of the largest national safety net. With support from WFP, a shift was initiated toward a home-grown school feeding model, where direct food commodity supply is complemented and gradually phased out by introducing and integrating more locally-produced food for school meals.

Nutrition programming saw a sizable increase in 2023 with several multi-year programmes initiated.[1] Community-based approaches to preventing all forms of malnutrition in women and children in marginalized and remote communities were linked to agriculture production, food diversification and environmental sustainability. The Farmer Nutrition School (FNS) approach proved to be a best practice and will be replicated in 642 communities. Participants saw a 94 percent increase in crop production and a 92 percent increase in livestock ownership. Results also indicated improvement in dietary diversity among women and children. In Phongsaly Province, an acute malnutrition project was implemented, while in Luang Prabang Province a joint venture with the private sector examined developing business opportunities while improving the food and nutrition security of communities engaged in the coffee value chain.

Considering the vulnerability of the country to natural hazards, WFP remained committed to strengthening the capacity of communities and government institutions to improve resilience against climate and disaster-related shocks. Systems to anticipate shocks and respond faster and better to emergencies were developed with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare respectively. At the community level, WFP supported the construction and rehabilitation of 98 community assets in villages affected by, and prone to, hazards. Meanwhile, WFP partnered with the Lao Red Cross in supporting the Government's response to the effects of the global food crisis by undertaking emergency food distributions during the lean season[2], allowing 109,000 vulnerable people to bridge the food gap before the next harvest of the main rice crop.

Gender, protection, and accountability to affected populations were mainstreamed in all of WFP's programmes. In-person consultations with programme participants, particularly women, triggered operational adjustments to ensure the safety and dignity of the people WFP serves. By providing training on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse to cooperating partners and the Government in conjunction with the lean season emergency response, WFP raised awareness of the rights of programme participants and the zero-tolerance approach to exploitation and abuse. WFP also participated in a study on inclusive programming for school meals and formulated a Disability Inclusion Action Plan in partnership with Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) to gradually implement such inclusive programming.

WFP integrated its environmental and social sustainability framework into agreements with cooperating partners and provided relevant training to partners and activity participants to bolster environmental safeguards and mitigate any potential environmental harm.

These achievements required close cooperation with the Government and development actors and were only made possible thanks to strong donor support. WFP has formal collaboration agreements with four technical line ministries under the auspices of the Ministry of Planning and Investment and in close collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Field implementation was done in close collaboration with provincial and district authorities. WFP's partnership with Lao Red Cross proved instrumental during the lean season emergency response while cooperation with Catholic Relief Services and SNV significantly improved the quality and capacity of WFP's school meals and nutrition programming respectively.

By aligning its programmes to national priorities, and fully contributing to Government and UN coordination mechanisms, WFP made a significant contribution to the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in 2023.

397,563

Total beneficiaries in 2023



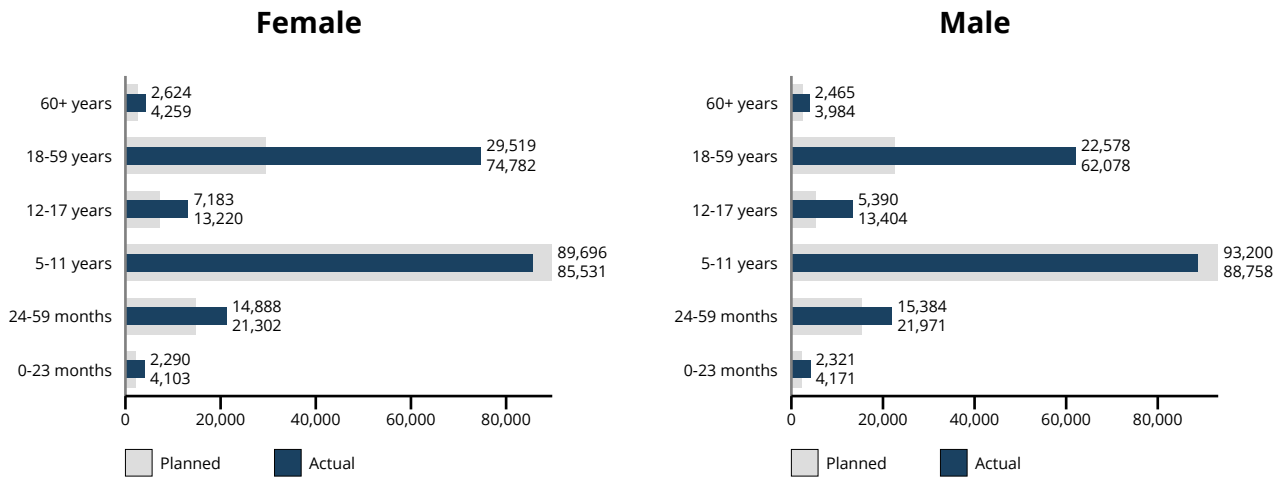
51% female



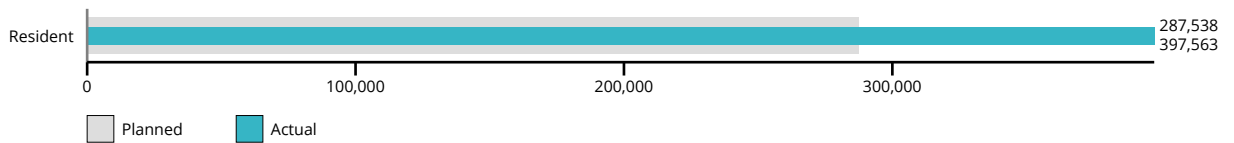
49% male

Estimated number of persons with disabilities: 32,835 (52% Female, 48% Male)

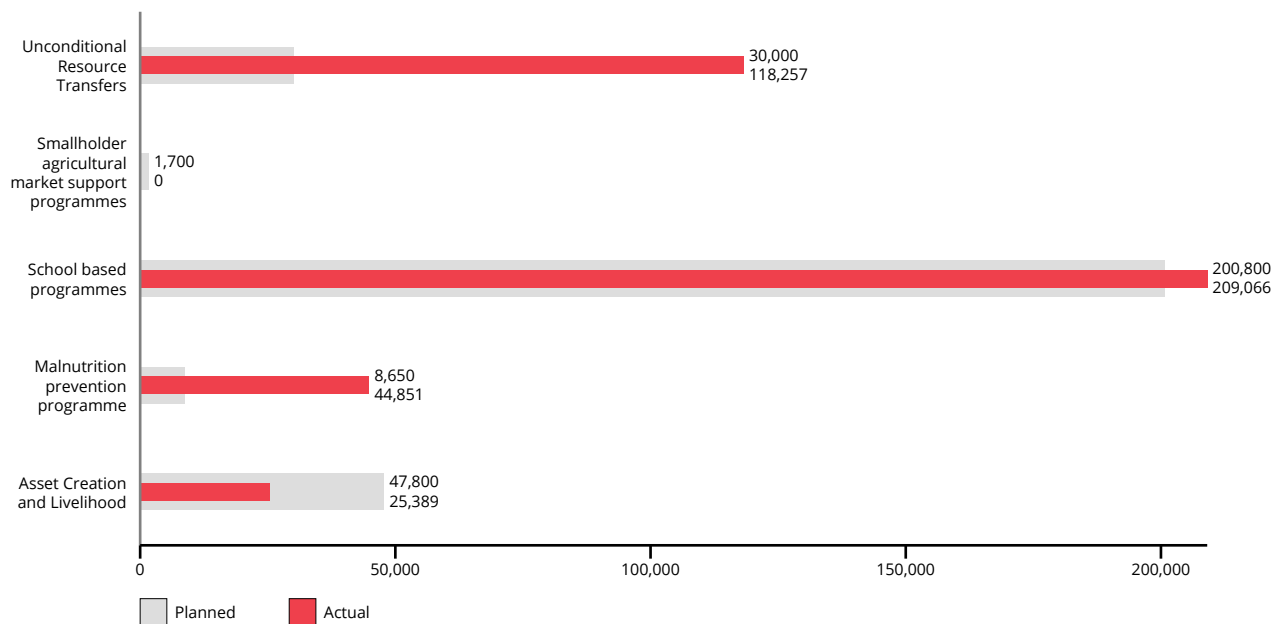
Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group



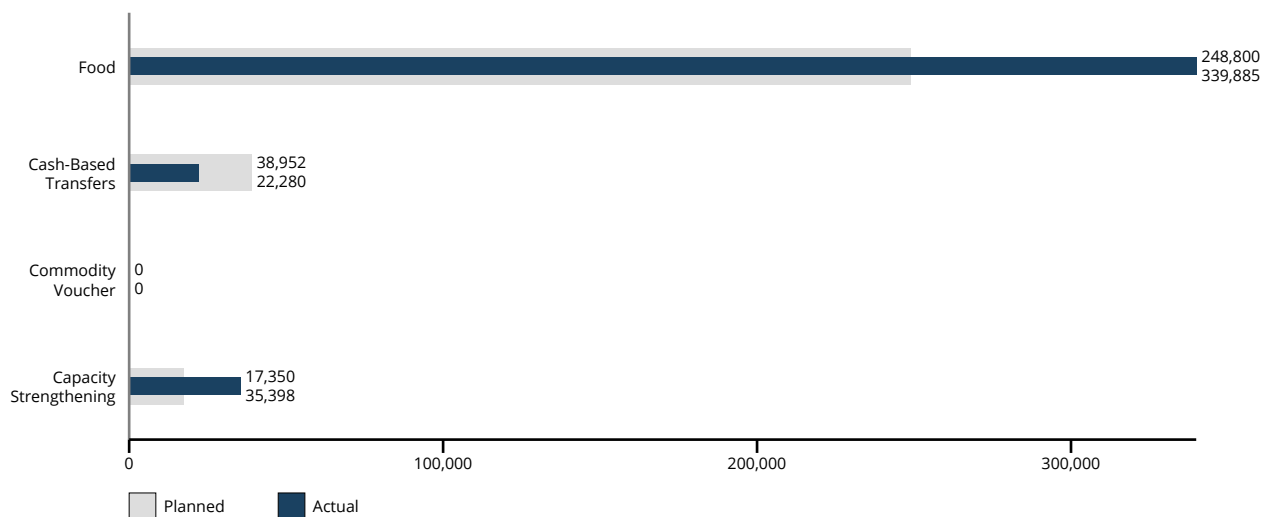
Beneficiaries by Residence Status



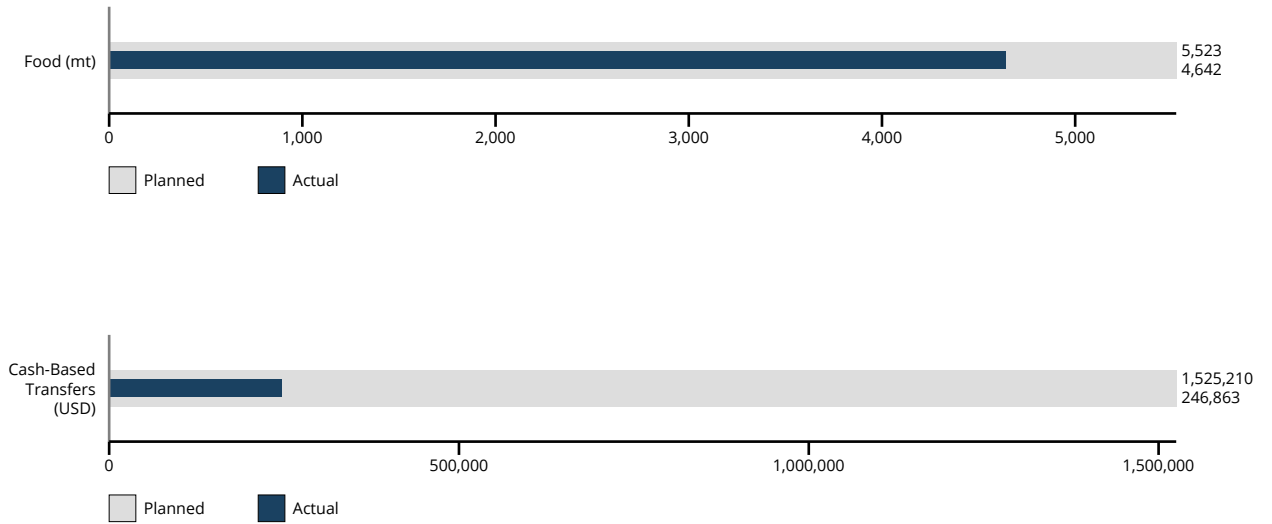
Beneficiaries by Programme Area



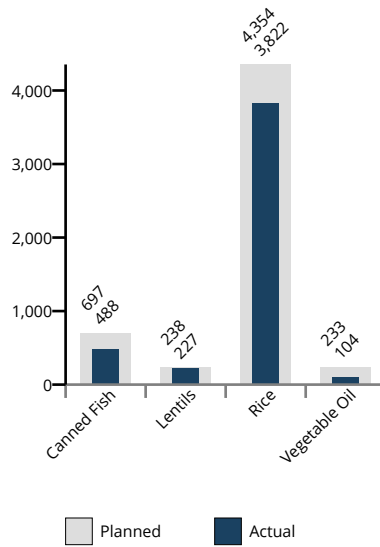
Beneficiaries by Modality



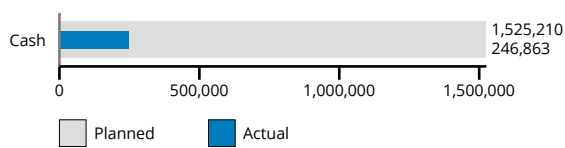
Total Transfers by Modality



Annual Food Transfer (mt)



Annual Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher (USD)



Operational context

Economic hardship threatens food security and livelihoods



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

Lao People's Democratic Republic Presence Map



Date Created: 18 Dec 2023 - Contact: hq.gis@wfp.org
 Website: www.wfp.org - Prepared by: HQ, EME GIS
 Map Reference: LAO_WFP_PRES_A3P_2023

Data sources: WFP offices; WFP - Boundaries: OCHA
 Roads: ©OpenStreetMap Contributors
 Populated places: GeoNames

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

© World Food Programme 2023

In 2023, Lao PDR experienced economic instability due to unsustainable debt levels and high global food, fuel, and fertilizer prices. Combined, these things translated into record inflation rates and a marked increase in the cost of living. In February 2023, inflation peaked at 41 percent, while the food inflation rate reached an all-time high of 52 percent year-on-year in May 2023, disproportionately affecting urban poor households.[3] Inflation remained elevated throughout the year and was among the highest in the world, easing, however, to around 24 percent by December 2023.[4] Families and businesses led by women report the greatest impact from inflation.[5] The price of goods and services increased by 38 percent in the first half of 2023.[6] The price for grade A rice spiked by 67 percent in February

2023 compared to the price 12 months before.[7] Around 87 percent of the population reported being somewhat or significantly affected by the increased cost of living.[8] The Lao kip (LAK) continued to rapidly depreciate, reaching a record low at LAK 20,000 per USD 1 in September 2023, compared to LAK 15,000 a year ago, largely driven by high debt servicing payments and sizeable current account deficits, amid high global commodity prices.[9] As in other developing countries, economic and financial hardships raise concerns over the loss of development progress made in the past decade and the subsequent impact on human capital in areas such as poverty reduction, education, health, food security and the fight against malnutrition.

WFP conducted quarterly remote surveys to approximately 2,100 respondents in all provinces to monitor food insecurity trends in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis and the development of the economic crisis in Lao PDR. Amid rising food prices, around one in seven households was food insecure according to WFP's food security monitoring conducted in 2023, with female-headed households, rural households, and those with limited education being more likely to experience food insecurity.[10] Around 60 percent of the surveyed population relied on coping strategies to buy food, such as reducing meals or portions, or tapping into savings and selling assets to buy food.[11] Dietary diversity remained extremely low, with only one in four children aged 6-23 months meeting the minimum acceptable diet,[12] and 80 percent of the population unable to afford a healthy diet.[13]

Lao PDR's nutrition markers continue to be concerning: the national average for stunting among children under 5 is at 33 percent and wasting is at 9 percent. Meanwhile, 21 percent of children aged 6-59 months are underweight. Micronutrient deficiency is present, especially iron-deficiency anaemia, with 40 percent of women of reproductive age and 44 percent of children aged 6-59 months suffering from it.[14]

With families heavily impacted by the high cost of living, an education crisis is developing: the proportion of youth aged 6-17 not enrolled in school has risen from 6.5 percent in December 2022 to 11 percent in June 2023.[15] Reduced education spending is being reported by families, with 7 percent of school-aged children in low-income families dropping out of school between September 2022 and September 2023, compared to 2.4 percent of dropouts from wealthier families.[16] This may increase child protection concerns, including child labour, as children support their parents at work and child marriage.[17] Additionally, reading, writing and math skills at grade-appropriate levels are critically low in Lao PDR. UNICEF found that in grade 3, only 23 percent of students met the criteria for promotion to lower secondary education in reading, 16 percent in writing and only 1 percent in mathematics.[18] Volunteer teachers, an important backbone of education in remote areas, are reported to be leaving the country, as formal employment within the education sector in Lao PDR has become a seemingly hopeless prospect for them, with the Government struggling to disburse salaries for teachers even in the regular teacher pool.

Climate change impacts and climate-related hazards added threats to the food and nutrition security of vulnerable households. Lao PDR experienced extreme heatwaves with an all-time, national record-breaking temperature of 43.5C in Luang Prabang Province in May 2023.[19] The country also faced heightened risks of drought associated with the El Niño phenomenon observed in the Western Pacific since July 2023.[20] Between September to December 2023, below-average rainfall was experienced in Northern Lao PDR. While the harvesting of wet-season rice continued under good weather conditions, crop production for maize was estimated at below average for 2023. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall during the monsoon season of 2023 resulted in flooding and landslides across the country. More than 110,000 people were affected by flooding in over 550 villages across 50 districts and 12 provinces.[21] The agriculture sector was heavily affected by floods and landslides causing damage to 190,467 hectares of agriculture, 154 roads, 79 irrigation systems, 10 schools, 3 district hospitals, 12 electric poles, and 310 vehicles.[22] In addition to responding to the flooding and landslides, the Government officially requested WFP's assistance in the delivery of in-kind food rations to the most vulnerable populations affected by the lean season crisis. WFP responded to the above challenges by increasing the transfer value of its cash assistance grants, increasing the number and the scale of its projects focusing on community nutrition and resilience, as well as by distributing emergency food assistance to more than 107,000 highly food insecure people during the lean season.

WFP's operations supported Lao PDR's expected graduation from Least Developed Country Status (LDC) in 2026. Amid a challenging macroeconomic environment, WFP focused on helping the Government invest in human capital by ensuring social spending in the areas of WFP's mandate. As Lao PDR will assume the chairmanship of ASEAN in 2024, sustainability in the country's development trajectory will be crucial for greater regional integration for connectivity and resilience - the theme of the chairmanship.

Risk management

In 2023, the key risk areas were associated with the global food, fuel, finance and fertilizer crisis, high inflation, and poor harvests due to the rising cost of agricultural inputs and fuel, which increased food security concerns in vulnerable areas. Climate-related hazards, in particular floods and consecutive storms, were also anticipated risks during the lean

season. Limited government resources to support WFP projects remained a key risk, in particular funding constraints to sustain the school meal programme, respond to emergencies, and undertake monitoring activities. Further, limitations in government staffing, institutional capacity, and ownership also remained risk areas. The risk of limited availability of suitable cooperating partners persisted, given the operational context where NGOs face restrictions and institutional capacities are low.

During the ongoing global crisis, WFP monitored the food security situation in Lao PDR through remote household food security surveys to understand changes in food security and its underlying factors across the country. As a mitigation measure to soften the impacts of food and fuel price hikes on vulnerable households, WFP implemented a lean season emergency response in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, the Lao Red Cross, and the Swiss Red Cross. Likewise, WFP continued to work closely with government counterparts on funding and capacity issues and remained responsive to the Government's requests for additional assistance.

To counteract risks in the areas of capacity and ownership, WFP engaged in strengthening the capacities of government counterparts at all levels to ensure knowledge transfer. Cooperation with existing partners was enhanced and cooperating partners' capacity on fraud and corruption, sexual exploitation and abuse, and feedback mechanisms was strengthened. In addition, WFP explored the potential for new collaboration and strategic partnerships by conducting a cooperating partner mapping exercise.

Lessons learned

Recommendations from the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) exercise, a tool that helps governments measure the progress of school meal programmes, highlighted the need for strengthening national capacities for school meals and including all stakeholders in the decision-making process.

Baseline evaluation results of the WFP school meal programme financed by the US Department of Agriculture's McGovern-Dole Program suggested a necessity to intensify community mobilization and awareness raising activities, particularly around introducing nutritious food items not consumed traditionally by certain communities.[23]

Assessments of the first phase of the Agriculture for Nutrition project, a cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), showed the benefit of the Farmer Nutrition School (FNS) approach especially for women. Based on the findings, the targeting for the next phase of the project was broadened to include the participation of all community members.

An after-action review of WFP's lean season emergency response in 2023 noted that improved food security monitoring will enable more accurate targeting and allow WFP and partners to be more responsive to the needs of vulnerable populations in the country. Accordingly, WFP will continue to develop the frequency and quality of its monitoring.

Searching for connection



© WFP/Lee Sipaseuth

In the Farmer Nutrition School, Mai has learned how to feed her children so they stay healthy.

Nestled in the mountains of Lao PDR's northern Oudomxay Province, Park Pui village is home to 54 ethnic Khmu households. The Khmu traditionally live in the high mountains of the north, cultivating upland rice, in a world populated as much by spirits as by ordinary humans.

The small hamlet of houses encircled by high mountains, lush green forests and fresh air belies a harsh reality: 52 punishing kilometres on a bumpy and winding dirt road lead to the district capital, where access to healthcare, markets, electricity and telecommunication is available. Park Pui is largely cut off from such services. Most villagers struggle to put enough food on the table. Their harvests are continuously threatened by extreme weather events and wild animals. Villagers burn mountain slopes to acquire agricultural lands, thus degrading the soil, leading to erosion and landslides. Many face poor nutrition and health. In search of an easier life, young people leave the village to find work in seasonal, low-paying jobs, exposing themselves to the risks of exploitation and human trafficking.

Yet, Park Pui's story is not one of despair.

"I've seen big changes in our village since my childhood," says Mr. Sommai, who at age 30 is the Deputy Village Chief. "Several international organizations have been working in our village since the late 2000s. WFP and IFAD have helped to build dirt roads to our fields and to the next, larger village, which meant that our isolation was eased a little."

The roads were the first step. Once they were established, other international organizations started to come in to help villagers develop their livelihoods. But poor quality primary education with low enrolment and retention rates in Park Pui kept families trapped in the cycle of poverty.

In an effort to address this issue, the Government put Park Pui on its list of primary schools to target with support, asking WFP to introduce school meals in the village in 2016. With hot lunches provided to the students, parents started feeling more motivated to send their children to school.

"The school meals programme is a blessing. Our students are more attentive, energetic and eager to learn. We hope that our government will be able to continue WFP's work, as without lunch at school, our school will not function properly, and our village will not thrive," says School Principal Mr. Bounheung.

Good nutrition, however, starts with the very first day of life. As part of a partnership with IFAD under government leadership, WFP initiated a Farmer Nutrition School in Park Pui in 2019. There, women and young mothers receive information on how to improve the nutrition of their families. Small grants for home gardens increase food diversity and quality, taking pressure off the environment as villagers learn how to grow food without burning mountain slopes for agriculture. At the same time, the new knowledge empowers women to make better choices and have a bigger say in the village. "We didn't just learn about nutrition - we learned from each other and from the facilitator how to make our soil better, grow different crops, use natural pesticides and cook healthy meals. They even showed us how to check our kids' growth. I have my own garden now, my crops are better, and my family is healthier," says Mai, a 23-year-old mother of two.

Vulnerable villages such as Park Pui are hit hard when disasters strike. Floods in 2022 and a hailstorm in 2023 destroyed fields and gardens and damaged homes. Lately, the villagers also feel the impact of the high living costs resulting from record inflation in the country. "Every day, I wake up to the challenge of having to put food on the table. Fuel costs have doubled. Without fuel, how can I go to the market to buy seeds or sell the little surplus we grow ourselves?" 45-year-old farmer and shop owner, Mr. Bounmee, who has seven mouths to feed, wonders. To help families such as Mr. Bounmee's, WFP and partners distributed emergency rice to villagers who did not have enough food to bridge the gap to the next harvest in 2023.

The goal, of course, is long-term resilience and independence. While WFP is working on enhancing a steady food supply for the villagers around the year, the harsh reality remains that every year, when the rains set in, Park Pui is completely cut off from the outside world. "WFP and its partners have been like a family to us, guiding us towards a better life. Now, we must take the necessary steps to emerge from our isolation, at least with the help of online information. We need to get connected to the internet. Connection is knowledge, opportunity and, ultimately, the only possible future," Deputy Village Chief Sommai says.

Programme performance

Strategic outcome 01: School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026



191,109 primary and pre-primary students (51 percent girls) in 705 schools received school meals



128,600 students (48 percent girls) received supplementary food under the Government's school meals programme



214 government-managed schools were selected to receive support for **school gardening** via the **promotion** of the **home-grown school feeding model**



Over **3,000 mt** of **food commodities** were distributed to schools

Strategic Outcome 1 worked towards a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP), aiming to increase its coverage and improve food security, nutrition, and learning results for the benefit of schoolchildren, as part of a national social protection system. In 2023, WFP provided in-kind food support to schoolchildren and technical assistance to communities and government counterparts. Global evidence shows that school meals contribute to an improved intake of nutritious foods and learning outcomes, increased enrolment, attendance, retention, students' abilities to learn, and reduced dropout rates. WFP worked with the Ministry of Education and Sports to provide technical assistance to strengthen the national systems and support an enabling policy environment for the NSMP and focused on strengthening the monitoring system, promoting nutrition education, and community capacity building. WFP continued to support handed over schools with supplementary food assistance, technical support for promoting home-grown school feeding (HGSF), and enhancement of the monitoring system for school meals. WFP remains aligned with the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plan to ensure a coordinated approach with the Government of Lao PDR.

To alleviate the effects of inflation and the food, fuel, finance, and fertilizer crisis, WFP implemented a school meals programme with daily in-kind food assistance to 191,109 primary and pre-primary students (51 percent girls), in 705 schools. In addition to this, supplementary food support was provided for 1,423 schools serving daily school lunches under the NSMP to 128,600 students (48 percent girls) through multiple donor funding sources.

Resourcing Overview

Strategic Outcome 1 constitutes the largest portion of WFP Lao PDR's budget, totalling 56 percent of its need-based plan for 2023. Funding requirements were predominately covered by multi-year contributions from a diverse pool of government donors, as well as some private sector contributors. Forty-one percent of the available resources, which included multi-year funding, were consumed. The total expenditure for this outcome against the annual implementation plan was 77 percent. No funding restrictions were experienced during the reporting year for the implementation of this Strategic Outcome. This was crucial, as the country was experiencing increases in food and transport prices. New funding opportunities were secured for school meals in 2023, including multi-year grants to develop an HGSF model. No pipeline breaks occurred throughout 2023.

Outputs

In 2023 WFP food assistance reached a higher number of children than planned due to supplementary food support managed by the Government's NSMP. One hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred students (128,600) (48

percent girls) in government-supported schools were reached with supplemental support, per the Government's request, until the end of the 2022/23 school year. Direct implementation and technical assistance also reached the planned number of people.

Endorsement and dissemination of key policy documents occurred, including the Prime Minister's Decree on School Lunch Promotion, which was disseminated in all 17 provinces[24], and four other ministerial decrees for school lunch promotion that were key to ensuring the government is well equipped with policy guidance to effectively implement the NSMP.

WFP continued to provide technical assistance to strengthen the NSMP national coordination mechanism at the ministerial, provincial, district and local levels. WFP organized and co-chaired the annual School Meals Technical Working Group meeting and supported national and provincial level reflection meetings and exchange visits to increase knowledge on school lunch implementation with high-level officials from the Ministry of Education and Sports.

WFP conducted the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) exercise and held a workshop with key stakeholders[25], all of whom agreed on key findings.[26] The validation of the SABER was a crucial step, ensuring that the Government is aware of which policies and systems need to be strengthened going forward. The results and recommendations from the SABER exercise will lead to the development of a capacity strengthening plan for the NSMP. Lastly, WFP-supported capacity strengthening training sessions to shape the Government's implementation of the programme [27] took place at all levels of the government and in communities to further develop the NSMP.

Two technical review workshops were organized to understand the barriers to using the Lao School Meal App for reporting at the field level, with an action plan developed to upgrade the app.

In 2023, WFP promoted the HGFSF model, which aims to improve the nutrition of schoolchildren while boosting the local economy. Field assessments were completed to identify the level of HGFSF support required by smallholder farmers. Findings from the field assessments will be used to develop farmer support packages to promote area-specific HGFSF models aligned to local agriculture.

Access to water is necessary for regular cooking and a main concern for school cooks, most of whom are women. Therefore, WFP supported the construction of 30 water systems and renovated 42 existing ones.

WFP completed pending activities, including training sessions on school gardens and teacher training sessions led by Catholic Relief Services (CRS), targeting literacy skills development under the school curriculum. WFP was able to start support for the teacher training sessions in 2023, once the delayed formative research was completed WFP expects to support the teachers who were not able to join the 2023 training session next year.

Outcomes

In 2023, WFP brought the NSMP to the top of the Government's priority list of social protection interventions, with the dissemination of the Prime Minister's Decree and the development of key ministerial decrees for NSMP promotion. This created a strong policy environment, which in turn attracted more donors to support the school meals programme and opened a path for a multi-sectoral approach.

Strong and progressive collaboration between WFP and the Government during 2023 helped strengthen the Government's commitment to the school meal handover process. Improving school infrastructure and digital monitoring systems were examples of activities jointly implemented with the Ministry of Education and Sports that strengthened the system and fostered national commitment to the handover. In addition, WFP advocated for the Government of Lao PDR to join the School Meals Coalition, which would provide support to the Government for the NSMP through access to a global network.

Partnerships

To implement HGFSF activities, WFP also expanded its partner base and began working more closely with additional ministries, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

WFP continued to have a strong relationship with its cooperating partner CRS, who supported the implementation of literacy and WASH activities, as well as the implementation of the school meal programme in Khammouane and Savannakhet Provinces.

WFP established a partnership with a private rice miller to locally blend fortified rice for the school meals programme. A portion of this fortified local rice will be used for an acceptability study, while the rest will be distributed in selected schools.

Lessons Learned and Next Steps

Regarding lessons learned from assessments and implementation, the SABER report highlighted recommendations for the Government at all levels to create a sustainable NSMP programme, which WFP will use to continue supporting the

government's capacity building and policy support.[28]

WFP also found that extra focus needed to be paid to schools' commodity consumption rates, which led WFP to conduct an analysis of food stock balances and consumption patterns in schools. In addition, WFP supported schools in introducing new recipes to increase the consumption of lentils, which are not regularly consumed in Lao PDR, but are a part of the programme.

WFP took part in a regional study on Barriers to Access to Education and School Feeding for Children with Disabilities, as well as research on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment through School Feeding, the results of which will be incorporated in the School Feeding implementation.

Gender and Age Marker Monitoring

Under Strategic Outcome 1, Gender and Age were fully integrated leading to a GAM score of 4. School meal activities emphasize equal service provision to girls and boys in primary school and prioritize women farmers for agriculture training sessions.

WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.	4 - Fully integrates gender and age

Strategic outcome 02: Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026



WFP provided **cash assistance** to **15,815 people** (58 percent women) in **2,671 households**



WFP trained **640 government staff** (38 percent women)



29,037 people (64 percent women) reached through **Social & Behaviour Change** sessions on knowledge and attitude on **nutrition & gardening**



9,128 children under five (60 percent girls) were **screened for malnutrition** using the Mid Upper Arm Circumference methodology



833 children under five (52 percent girls) were referred for **malnutrition treatment** to the local inpatient and outpatient health facilities

Strategic Outcome 2 aims to facilitate the prevention of all forms of malnutrition and improve the nutritional status of vulnerable people, aligned with the Government's strategies and policies on poverty reduction, agriculture development, and nutrition. Implemented activities included nutrition-sensitive agriculture, community-based management of acute malnutrition and other activities. To this end, women from communities were trained to become nutrition champions and in turn provided training to fellow villagers. This approach also involved the provision of cash grants combined with intensive and targeted training and learning events for a wide range of local stakeholders. WFP has seen clear improvements in the nutrition of smallholder farmers -- especially pregnant and breastfeeding women, women and girls of reproductive age, caretakers of children aged 6-59 months and their families -- and increased livelihood opportunities.[29] WFP has further enhanced collection of Washington Group Questions under Strategic Outcome 2 and identified households with persons with disability as one of the priority target groups for interventions.

In light of the unfavourable pre-existing food and nutrition security situation, the effects of the ongoing global crisis, and economic impacts from COVID-19 on vulnerable households, nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers to households helped families meet their food, nutrition and other essential needs. The value of the transfer was calculated to cover 30 percent of a nutritious food basket for two months.

Resourcing Overview

In 2023, Strategic Outcome 2 received an additional multi-year grant for the next phase of the Agriculture for Nutrition programme, following the successful implementation of its first phase. This success allowed WFP to access resources for the replication of the Farmer Nutrition Schools (FNS) model in other provinces and districts of the country and to add gender-transformative methodologies, with the support of various donors. The project aims to enable 108,000 vulnerable people to improve their food and nutrition security through knowledge sharing and improved access to nutritious food with the help of household gardens.

Strategic Outcome 2 spent 59 percent against the annual implementation plan for 2023. The outcome remained fully funded in 2023 and allowed WFP to deliver results as planned, including providing conditional cash grants intended to support the purchase of small livestock and agricultural inputs to construct and develop household-level food gardens, providing a foundation for nutrition-sensitive agriculture knowledge through practical, hands-on household nutrition

education.

Outputs

Capacity strengthening activities under Strategic Outcome 2 focused on encouraging local communities to participate in their own nutrition solutions, including through sensitization and knowledge-sharing initiatives. WFP also worked with government staff at the subnational level, such as training 633 (women) government staff in using and delivering the Agriculture for Nutrition training modules. These government officials will become master trainers with the necessary knowledge and skills to deliver training of trainers (ToT) to village facilitators (85 percent women) who, in turn, will conduct community consultations and choose assets to be included in the village nutrition plans to be implemented in 2024.

WFP introduced interventions to address food and nutrition insecurity in the southern part of the country through cash-based transfers of USD 159,709 to over 15,800 people (58 percent women) to mitigate the impacts of inflation resulting in increased food and living costs in Lao PDR, specifically in rural non-Lao ethnic areas.

With UNICEF, WFP supported the Ministry of Health with the identification and referral of 833 children (435 girls) suffering from moderate and severe acute malnutrition. The children were referred for treatment in the target districts of Phongsaly Province. In addition, village facilitators sensitized communities on acute malnutrition, as well as infant and young children feeding practices with the involvement of the heads of villages, religious leaders, and other community-level influencers.

One hundred and fifty tons of locally produced rice were fortified with the imported rice kernels enriched with vitamins and minerals in partnership with the country's milling industry for use in the school lunch programmes under Strategic Outcome 1. Fortified rice contributes to preventing micronutrient deficiencies, in particular iron-deficiency anaemia, in children.

Outcomes

WFP projects demonstrated a clear improvement in dietary diversity among women and children and increased food security. Eighty-nine percent of women and girls (34,750) in the project areas achieved minimum dietary diversity and 55 percent of children between 6-23 months met the minimum acceptable diet, versus only 35 percent in non-WFP supported villages. In addition, participating households saw a 94 percent increase in on-farm crop production and a 92 percent increase in livestock ownership.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic and the concurrent economic crisis may have slowed or even slightly reversed positive trends in reduction of malnutrition at the national level in the recent past.

Preliminary findings from post-distribution monitoring indicated the positive impact of cash-based transfers on vulnerable people in non-Lao ethnic areas at risk of malnutrition in Sekong Province in Southern part of the country, particularly women and girls of reproductive age and children aged 6-59 months. This intervention complemented the in-kind distribution provided by WFP earlier and directly contributes to the overall long-term goal of ending hunger, achieving food and nutrition security, and promoting sustainable agriculture (SDG 2); as well as undertaking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (SDG 13) and contributing to gender equality (SDG 5).

Partnerships

In 2023, WFP partnered with UNICEF and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and supported line ministries such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Health for the implementation of nutrition-sensitive and specific activities. WFP also enhanced national ownership of programmes with relevant structures at various levels, taking a leadership role in the coordination and implementation of programme activities and empowering local communities to identify and address their own nutrition challenges.

WFP partnered with the INGO SNV for the implementation of nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Houaphan Province and initiated a new approach with the private companies Saka no Tochu Co. Ltd. and Saffron Coffee to help smallholder coffee growers develop their business while improving the nutrition and food security situation amongst their communities in Luang Prabang Province. Additionally, a partnership with a rice blending company - Indochina Development Partners Lao (IPD) - was established to implement the first blending operation to fortify locally produced rice.

Lessons Learned and Next Steps

Analysis upon completion of the first phase of the Agriculture for Nutrition project provided several best practices and lessons learnt. The Farmer Nutrition Schools (FNS) approach emerged as a highly successful best practice with strong potential for replication and scaling up. In the early phase, the FNS was targeting only pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, but this was broadened to encourage participation of all community members. The pathway of

addressing undernutrition through integrated agriculture and nutrition communication has been validated and a replicable model for implementation has been developed and demonstrated as effective. This was also fully recognized by government counterparts.

Gender and Age Marker Monitoring

Gender and age were fully integrated in all interventions under Strategic Outcome 2, with a GAM score of 4. All activities consistently collected data relevant to pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, caregivers of children aged 6-59 months, and provided analysis for additional intersectionality, such as ethnicity, remoteness, and poverty.

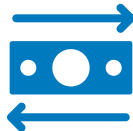
WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
Provide nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.	4 - Fully integrates gender and age

Strategic outcome 03: Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026



19,028 people (51 percent women) received **222 metric tons of food transfers** through food assistance for assets



USD 87,154 cash transferred to 1,220 participating households in food assistance for assets activities



7,154 community members (40 percent women) and **230 government staff (36 percent women)** received climate resilience **capacity strengthening support**

Lao PDR remains highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change due to limited adaptive capacities and a high reliance on natural resources and rainfed agriculture. Climate change and climate-related hazards continue to be a key challenge faced by vulnerable households in the country. In addition, the global food, fuel, finance, and fertilizer crises exposed vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas to increased threats of food and nutrition insecurity.

Under Strategic Outcome 3, WFP continued to provide technical assistance to national and sub-national government entities to strengthen their capacities to manage climate and disaster risks and worked with vulnerable communities to enhance their resilience against climate and other shocks. WFP provided food and cash-based transfers for the construction and rehabilitation of community assets through participatory and gender-inclusive community consultation processes. WFP also supported the operationalization of national and local strategies and plans to effectively mitigate and manage the risks associated with the impacts of climate-related hazards. In particular, in 2023, WFP in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, as lead of the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), focused its efforts on developing standard operating procedures for the import of humanitarian relief items.

Resourcing Overview

In 2023, traditional government donors continued to support resilience-building activities through existing and new multi-year contributions. Strategic Outcome 3 was fully funded against the 2023 needs-based plan, including multi-year funding carried over into 2024. WFP's total expenditure for Strategic Outcome 3 was 56 percent against the annual implementation plan for 2023, which was largely due to adjustments made to the annual implementation plan in the fourth quarter to accommodate a yet unconfirmed grant for cash-based transfers and the reallocation of resources. However, with the funding available for 2023, WFP was able to implement most planned activities, resulting in the achievement of the majority of output targets.

Outputs

WFP and its partners delivered most results as planned for 2023. The exception was for the total quantity of food delivered and cash-based transfers for which funding was expected but not confirmed in 2023. Through food assistance-for-asset activities in Phongsaly and Savannakhet Provinces, WFP and partners supported the construction and rehabilitation of assets that protect communities against climate-related shocks with a focus on drought and flood hazards. Assets included 421 household gardens, 20 water systems for household water use, 23 cereal banks, 70.5 kilometres of feeder roads, 5 kilometres of irrigation canals, and 11,578 tree seedlings planted in agroforestry activities. WFP delivered on more household gardens than planned, since these were originally planned to be community gardens, however, community consultations identified the preference for household gardens leading to this reported overachievement. Assets were selected during participatory community consultations, which were preferred by women and provided accessible participation methods for persons with disabilities. In Phongsaly Province, WFP provided cash-based transfers to participants of food assistance for asset activities, distributing USD 87,154 to 6,466 project participants (3,168 women). Additionally, 222 mt of rice was distributed to 19,028 beneficiaries (9,652 women), with 130 mt of rice delivered as conditional payments for participating in food assistance-for-assets activities and 92 mt of rice to establish rice banks, helping to ensure the availability of rice during lean season periods.

WFP and partners provided community asset management and maintenance training sessions to village asset management committees. Additionally, WFP conducted a hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment (HVCA)[30] and delivered community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) training sessions to enhance communities' capacities in disaster preparedness, risk reduction and management. As a result, 7,154 direct beneficiaries and 43,264 indirect

beneficiaries received capacity strengthening support.

Further, WFP provided capacity strengthening support to 230 Government staff (83 women). Government officials were engaged in ToT sessions to conduct HVCA and CBDRM trainings to communities. Furthermore, WFP enabled the Government to strengthen its capacities in emergency assessments, warehouse management, and humanitarian logistics preparedness leading to more efficient warehouse management practices and improved coordination of disaster preparedness and response.

Outcomes

Post-distribution monitoring in food assistance for assets locations in Phongsaly Province identified that households with acceptable food consumption increased from 15 percent (August 2021 baseline) to 73 percent (March 2023), indicating target households' access to food increased following WFP's cash assistance. Additionally, WFP found that the percentage of households using negative food-based coping strategies^[31] reduced from 41 percent in August 2021 to 6 percent in March 2023, meaning that the level of stress faced by households due to food shortages reduced, partly as a result of WFP assistance.

In 2023, food consumption patterns remained a concern in Savannakhet Province according to post-distribution monitoring of food assistance for assets activities. Food consumption patterns worsened from 59 percent acceptable food consumption in January 2022 to 39 percent in February 2023. Households with poor food consumption increased from 1 percent in January 2022 to 24 percent in February 2023. A high percentage (46 percent) of households relied on livelihood coping strategies due to a lack of food, with 21 percent of households engaging in emergency coping strategies.^[32] WFP provided in-kind rice support, but the chronic food insecurity situation indicates the need for additional in-kind or cash-based assistance. WFP conducts regular monitoring of the food security situation through mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping to consider additional or targeted support.

In 2023, WFP and partners strengthened government capacities by initiating an anticipatory action feasibility study, aimed at improving an understanding of whether anticipatory action is feasible in Lao PDR, and what opportunities and challenges present themselves in the south of the country. WFP also initiated a climate vulnerability analysis to support government preparedness planning, early action, and risk reduction.

Partnerships

WFP engaged with the ministries of Labour and Social Welfare, Agriculture and Forestry, and Natural Resources and Environment to implement resilience-building activities and maintained partnerships with World Vision for food assistance-for-asset activities. It also partnered with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) to carry forward the EW4All^[33] initiative and continued to engage with the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative^[34] to strengthen government and communities' capacities to manage disaster risks. WFP worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through the Food Security Cluster and the Anticipatory Action technical working group established in 2023. WFP continues to co-chair the Cash Working Group and the Logistics Preparedness Working Group together with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

Lessons Learned and Next Steps

In 2023, the global crisis and macroeconomic challenges affected people's livelihoods and eroded food and nutrition security. These concerns will continue into 2024. To mitigate these impacts as well as respond to lessons learned from resilience-building activities in Savannakhet Province, WFP will consider providing nutritious food baskets when using in-kind food assistance. WFP will also promote cash-based transfers to empower people with the choice to purchase what they need. The transfer value should continue to be adjusted to reflect inflation and currency depreciations, with the minimum expenditure basket^[35] updated accordingly.

Additionally, given the limited fiscal space and increasing risks of climate-related hazards and disasters, WFP should continue to promote capacity strengthening on disaster risk management and social protection within the Government, as well as explore innovative climate and disaster risk financing mechanisms.

Gender and Age Marker Monitoring

Gender was fully integrated under Strategic Outcome 3, with a GAM score of 3. WFP prioritized asset creation activities that alleviate women's workloads and time spent on unpaid labour, and which ensure equal representation on management committees.

WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.	3 - Fully integrates gender

Strategic outcome 04: Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters



948 mt of rice distributed to **109,778 people (49 percent women)** through the **lean season emergency response**



255 mt of rice distributed to **ethnic boarding schools and schools for students with disabilities** to complement school meals

In 2023, at the request of the Government, WFP delivered a lean season emergency response, providing in-kind food assistance to help meet the essential needs of 109,778 people affected by the global food, fuel, finance, and fertilizer crises. While WFP planned to reach 30,000 beneficiaries, the actual needs were significantly higher and WFP was able to reach over 100,000 people. WFP implemented the response during the lean season period (July-September 2023), when access to food is at its lowest. Among those assisted included 54,888 women and 992 persons with disabilities. The response provided a punctual injection of in-kind rice to help households bridge the gap in their immediate food needs during the rainy period when access to food is constrained and helped to mitigate the impact of the high cost of living across the country. WFP distributed 948 mt of rice in 221 villages across 16 districts of Luang Namtha, Oudomxay, Sekong, and Salavanh Provinces.

Resourcing Overview

The successfully implemented 2023 lean season response was one of the largest emergency distributions undertaken by WFP in Lao PDR since the inception of Country Strategic Plans in 2017. Notwithstanding, it fell short of being able to reach all those persons identified as at risk of / being in crisis situations, due to funding limitations. The lean season response was funded through existing multi-year and new contributions (both in-kind and cash). Strategic Outcome 4 was 57 percent funded against the annual implementation plan, requiring WFP to prioritize its response to the most critical locations - with fewer beneficiaries than planned.

Outputs

To mitigate operational delays in the delivery of food to some affected communities due to heavy rains and poor road conditions, WFP used boats, light vehicles, and community labour to ensure the food reached distribution points within the timeline. WFP engaged partner staff and community volunteers to support distribution to persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and other groups facing barriers to distribution points.

Additionally, at the request of the Ministry of Education and Sports amid the peaking inflation rate, WFP provided 255 mt of rice to 26 ethnic boarding schools and two schools for persons with disabilities to complement school meals for 4,690 boys and 3,789 girls.

Outcome data was not collected as the activity was a short-term emergency response.

Partnerships

WFP partnered with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, the Lao Red Cross, and the Swiss Red Cross to assist vulnerable households in accessing food during the 2023 lean season. WFP's lean season response was implemented in coordination with the Government for planning, beneficiary targeting and registration, as well as for the monitoring of food distributions. Beneficiary registration and food distribution activities were implemented through the Lao Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross as cooperating partners. Distribution monitoring identified that 67 percent of distributions by partners complied with WFP's programme requirements at a satisfactory level, 23 percent at an excellent level and only 10 percent required further improvement. Further, it was found that persons with disabilities, women with children, pregnant women and the elderly were prioritized during the distributions. Importantly, no adverse incidents, interference or disruptions were observed during the food distributions.

WFP strengthened the emergency response capacities of 196 representatives (55 women) from government counterparts and cooperating partners by providing emergency food distribution training including sessions on beneficiary registration, distribution arrangement, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) to enable locally-led accountable humanitarian delivery.

WFP continued to co-lead the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) on Food Security and Agriculture, ICT and Logistics, and participated in the IASC cluster meeting to endorse the Inter-Agency Contingency Plan (IACP) Lao PDR 2023.

Lessons Learned and Next Steps

An after-action review for the 2023 lean season response in Lao PDR suggested that the intervention was well-managed. The partnership with local humanitarian actors and the Government proved to be an effective approach to supporting vulnerable populations affected by disasters. Each partner played a complementing role throughout the service delivery, ensuring food assistance reached the people in need during the critical lean season period.

The lack of availability of data from the Government, particularly around food security and nutrition, remained a key challenge in identifying target areas. Improved food security monitoring will enable accurate targeting and allow WFP and partners to be more responsive to the needs of vulnerable populations.

Gender and Age Marker Monitoring

Strategic Outcome 4 fully integrated Gender, with a GAM score of 3. WFP considered the needs of vulnerable populations, including women, in the capacity strengthening of partners, community engagement and in the delivery of services.

WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.	3 - Fully integrates gender

Cross-cutting results

Gender equality and women's empowerment

Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population

Lao PDR ranked 120 out of 177 countries in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Gender Inequality Index for 2021 and 54 out of 146 nations in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2023. The Government has made significant efforts in addressing gender gaps through legislative and policy reform. The acceptance of women in education, business, and village leadership positions has improved. However, COVID-19 and the global food, fuel, finance and fertilizer crises have adversely impacted progress toward gender equality, and the national helpline service has reported intensified violence against women and girls. In addition, sectors with an over-representation of women, such as tourism, agriculture, and garment manufacturing, were disproportionately affected by income and job losses. Women also bear heavy household and unpaid care workloads, which further increased in the aftermath of COVID-19.

Women, rural people, and non-Lao/Tai ethnic groups have higher rates of illiteracy. In addition, women have less education than men, which often results in less involvement in decision making, access to technical skills training and agricultural extension services, market engagement, and access to credit. Moderate and severe food insecurity are more pronounced in women-headed households.

In Lao PDR girls continue to have less access to secondary education. Literacy rates among girls are lower than boys, especially in rural areas in Lao PDR and among non-Lao/Thai ethnic groups, as well as persons with disabilities. Teenage pregnancy and early marriage are also quite common.

The school meals programmes are taking steps to ensure essential WASH infrastructure is in place in schools for girls and boys. In addition, WFP participated in a regional operational study on gender transformative approaches for WFP-supported school-based health and nutrition programmes in Asia and the Pacific. Findings and recommendations will provide entry points for integrating gender aspects into school meals programmes.

Through the home-grown school feeding (HGSF) programmes, WFP continued to target women farmers in communities with school feeding programmes to boost their production and support the school feeding programme, which kicked off with the orientation workshops in 2023. In addition, through cooperating partners, the Gender Action Plan was developed, which includes topics such as women's empowerment, and a participatory approach to engage communities to understand the root causes and barriers to the implementation of different school lunch programme components.

Pregnant and breastfeeding women and adolescent girls, as well as children aged 6-59 months, are the most nutritionally-insecure groups in Lao PDR and often adhere to food taboos, which involve the restriction of food intake during pregnancy in the belief that it will ensure an easier birth. WFP addressed harmful practices such as these through active engagement with women, adolescent girls, and community leaders. WFP promoted regular health checks and healthy eating practices by providing these groups with learning modules on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and infant and young child feeding practices, as well as supporting food-insecure populations with agriculture and livestock grants to enhance household nutrition.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and IFAD, WFP conducted a gender assessment of its Agriculture for Nutrition project. In the framework of the project, WFP supports the Government in setting up farmer nutrition schools (FNS) to teach women and adolescent girls (including pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls) and caretakers of children aged 6-59 months about nutrition-sensitive agriculture and provide them with grants to create or develop home gardens and invest in small livestock raising. The assessment found significant improvements in gender dynamics in the communities. Women and men noted an improved understanding of nutrition and childcare; 80 percent of women enhanced their skills and 90 percent sold more products. A majority (96 percent) of women indicated increased support from family members on unpaid household chores and 89 percent of women reported increased involvement with decision making at both household and village levels. In the second phase of the project which started in Quarter 3 of 2023, WFP began building on these achievements by piloting a Gender Action

Learning System and a Business Action Learning for Innovation methodologies. These approaches are household methodologies that support families in achieving their goals by addressing challenges, including gender inequality, through behavioural change and peer learning.

In its resilience-related activities, WFP conducted gender-responsive participatory community consultations, which consider the cultural and linguistic needs of communities by providing gender-segregated consultations, where needed, to ensure that women can be engaged in the design, implementation, and monitoring process. WFP also ensured equal representation of women in village asset management committees. The consultations allow WFP to identify, and where possible prioritize, assets selected by women, such as seeds for home gardens and fruit trees to reduce their workload and time spent on unpaid labour.

WFP has actively taken part in interagency gender mechanisms, as well as the civil society/INGO-led Gender Network. WFP also restructured its Gender Result Network to implement WFP's new two-year Gender, Protection and Inclusion Action Plan to enhance organizational and programmatic efforts on mainstreaming and transformative change.

Under Strategic Outcome 2, the percentage of households where women and men make joint decisions achieved the target, with 94 percent of households in this category. Similar findings emerged in Strategic Outcome 3, where 84 percent of households make decisions jointly.

Protection and accountability to affected populations

Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity. Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences

Lao PDR is generally considered a politically stable and peaceful country, with 42 officially recognized ethnic groups. The Government has increased its focus on social protection through the development of a social registry on gender-based violence and of a comprehensive framework for a survivor-centred support mechanism.[36] Nevertheless, protection challenges remain and impede the full realization of human rights, particularly for women and girls, non-Lao/Tai ethnic groups, persons with disabilities, older persons, the LGBTIQ+ community, and migrants.[37] Gender-based violence, in particular intimate partner violence and child marriage, are common, with one in three girls getting married before age 18.[38]

Throughout 2023, Lao PDR faced an increase in regional and transnational organized drug-related crime and trafficking. This is due to its geographical location within the golden triangle, an area known for criminal activities, its limited law enforcement capacities, and the impacts of economic hardship.[39]

People face a lack of access to information, challenges with languages and literacy, particularly in rural and non-Lao/Tai ethnic groups, and lack access to legal aid, with customary law systems operating in parallel to the formal legal system.[40]

The rate of disabilities in Lao PDR is 2.8 percent according to the 2015 census. Persons with disabilities continue to face institutional, attitudinal, and environmental barriers that limit the full realization of their rights.[41]

WFP implemented monitoring exercises to assess the safety, dignity, and integrity of affected populations at distribution sites and post-distribution monitoring to assess beneficiaries' experiences on accessibility, accountability, safety and security concerns. WFP improved its community feedback mechanism (CFM), with the addition of helpdesks at major distribution sites, to support beneficiaries. The CFM continued operating the hotline, receiving 16 calls, compared to 7 calls in 2022. 19 percent of callers were women. WFP responded to information requests from communities and addressed issues such as delays in the delivery of food and non-food items or missing entries in beneficiary lists. The feedback received through the hotline continued to be limited due to a cultural preference for in-person engagement with WFP staff and partners and engagement through community leaders. Feedback from other channels will be integrated into the centralized system in 2024. WFP has started the development of community engagement materials to raise awareness about its CFM, which will be rolled out in 2024 at all project sites to enhance beneficiary awareness of their rights and available feedback channels.

WFP piloted direct engagement with women's groups in remote communities to document feedback through the in-person pathway identified as the preferred engagement method by women. Through this exercise, WFP was able to identify protection risks, such as gender-based violence, which were referred to the Lao Women's Union. In addition, the need for enhanced protection assessments and monitoring in at-risk areas was identified. Other challenges identified by women were related to limited disaster risk management capacities and WASH concerns in flood- and drought-prone areas, which WFP will continue to address in its disaster risk reduction programming.

In 2023, WFP provided training on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) to representatives of the Lao Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare to support its lean season emergency response. The training sessions provide cooperating partners with a general understanding of PSEA and with specific information on contractual obligations under agreements signed with WFP. Training partners also received guidance on how to share information with communities on PSEA and WFP's PSEA reporting mechanisms. WFP provided refresher training sessions on PSEA and gender-based violence to its staff and engaged in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, together with over 50 development partners in Lao PDR.

In partnership with Humanity & Inclusion and a local organization for persons with disabilities (OPD) - Disability Mainstreaming Advisory Service Centre (DMAS) - WFP developed a Disability Inclusion Action Plan in 2023, which was integrated in the Gender, Protection and Inclusion Action Plan to ensure operationalization across units. This built on the disability inclusion accessibility assessment of WFP's programmes, operations, human resources and admin structures that had been undertaken in 2022. WFP signed an additional agreement with DMAS to continue training

staff, sensitizing management on disability inclusion and to provide reasonable accommodation to staff with disabilities. Furthermore, WFP's management engaged with the Network for OPD to discuss common priorities. The Network's interest to further engage in disaster risk reduction and the need for inclusive information provision on emergency response and preparedness was identified.

WFP has further increased the application of SCOPE and KOBO/MODA in its beneficiary data management practices, moving away from Excel and paper-based data management, to ensure beneficiary personal data protection and privacy. Furthermore, under school feeding, WFP is supporting the Government with the Lao School Meal application, which allows for gender, age and disability disaggregated data.

WFP will continue to strengthen its community engagement and accountability to affected populations (AAP) efforts in 2024 by improving the centralization of beneficiary feedback to support effective programme adaptation and by implementing recommendations from disability and gender studies conducted into existing and new programmes.

Overall, beneficiaries reported safe, barrier-free, and respectful access to WFP programmes, with 100 percent of beneficiaries under Strategic Outcome 2, 3, and 4 reporting no safety concerns due to their engagement in WFP programmes, no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance, and respectful treatment as a result of their engagement in the programmes. Under Strategic Outcome 2, the number of beneficiaries that had accessible information about WFP programmes exceeded the 2023 target at 73 percent. More than 100 persons with disabilities, including 54 women, accessed food and cash-based transfers under Strategic Outcome 3. Regarding Strategic Outcome 1, WFP is working to strengthen government monitoring systems to improve the availability and quality of disaggregated data related to the school meal programme. Across all Strategic Outcomes, over 300,000 people (51 percent women and girls) had access to safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse.

Environmental sustainability

Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment

Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF)

Lao PDR is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including increased seasonal droughts caused by the reduction of precipitation, and seasonal floods due to increased precipitation in other areas. The country is prone to experiencing additional severe weather events, including landslides, typhoons, riverbank erosion, and the destruction of crops and livelihoods due to storms. These climate-induced disasters are compounded by unsustainable natural resource management practices. While forest cover is one of the highest in the region, it is facing rapid depletion at a rate of 1 percent per year, mainly through hydropower and mining-related land concessions, timber harvesting, slash-and-burn agriculture and the high use of pesticides. While Lao PDR is experiencing fewer natural hazards than other countries in the region, the vulnerability to those disasters is high due to limited disaster risk reduction practices and emergency risk preparedness structures. The impact of natural disasters and climate change disproportionately affects women and persons with disabilities, caused by unequal decision making, lack of access to productive resources, services, income-generating opportunities and education, as well as social and gender norms.

WFP integrated environmental considerations into its resilience programmes by implementing ecosystem and community-based approaches to its climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction interventions. This involved selecting food assistance for assets activities with specific adaptation and disaster risk reduction objectives, such as social safety nets, erosion prevention and control measures, feeder roads and water resource management.

To avoid and mitigate environmental risks, WFP is implementing environmental and social risk screening for its activities. In 2023, 60 percent of activities under Strategic Outcome 2 and 100 percent of activities under Strategic Outcomes 3 and 4 were screened for these risks, with all activities categorized as 'low risk'. Not all activities under Strategic Outcome 1 could be screened in 2023 due to challenges in monitoring mechanisms. WFP programme staff were provided with refresher training on implementing environmental and social risk screenings to continue the improvement of risk screening and management practices.

WFP's nutrition activities followed environmental guidelines. No negative impact on the environment was identified. All home garden activities involved the use of organic agriculture practices, such as composting and using organic pesticides.

Moderate improvements were found in the environment or the natural resource base in project areas. The pressure on the natural resource base was slightly reduced and non-timber forest products collection was found to be gradually replaced by agriculture production.

Environmental Management System (EMS)

WFP has begun implementation of the Environmental Management System, a management tool used to identify, manage and reduce the organisation's impact on the environment in a systematic and consistent way. A regional environmental expert assisted with the design of an environmental sustainability strategy plan.

The WFP office has implemented a number of environmentally-friendly initiatives, including changing all light bulbs to LEDs; promoting zero plastic waste by providing a water filter machine and jugs for clean drinking water for all staff in order to decrease their use of plastic water bottles; strengthening the waste management system by dividing waste into different categories; composting to fertilize the plants in the office gardens; training office cleaners to replace plastic waste bags with homemade newspaper bin liners; placing solar cell lights on the outer front of office buildings; and the procurement of one hybrid car.

WFP works toward a sustainable school lunch programme and encourages communities to use local sustainable practices, such as compost for school gardens, electric rice cookers in some schools as a more environmentally friendly cooking method, and where possible, collecting rainwater to water gardens. WFP relies on local purchases of

construction materials for its community asset creation and rehabilitation activities to reduce costs and emissions caused by transport. In 2023, WFP purchased 150 mt of rice produced locally for its school feeding programme, boosting the local economy and reducing the carbon footprint caused by the international transport of food products across long distances.

In 2023, WFP cooperated with an OPD to recycle unused, empty food commodity bags with donor and WFP logos printed on them into shopping bags with donor visibility. This has reduced the amount of waste going toward landfills while also promoting inclusivity within society and creating visibility for persons with disabilities.

Nutrition integration

Communities, households and individuals supported by WFP are able to meet their nutritional needs and protect their nutrition status in the face of shocks and long-term stressors, through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification

WFP has strategically integrated nutrition considerations across its programmes and activities to reduce malnutrition in Lao PDR. In its school meal activities, WFP identified nutrient-dense vegetables to ensure that school children receive nutritious meals through community gardens established in schools and to support community contributions to the school lunch programme. WFP also supported nutrition education in schools by providing training to teachers on using educational tools and materials on nutrition developed by WFP. Additionally, WFP initiated an acceptability study for fortified rice in partnership with a research institute and promoted the scaling up of locally blended fortified rice through its school meal programme.

In Oudomxay and Phongsaly Provinces, WFP focused on malnutrition prevention and climate resilience-building through integrated programming for better nutritional outcomes, particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescent girls, and children aged 6-59 months. Specifically, WFP facilitated village nutrition planning, established Farmer Nutrition Schools (FNS) [42], and delivered social and behaviour change (SBC) activities. Simultaneously, WFP is supporting the creation of nutrition-sensitive community assets through food assistance-for-asset activities. Villagers participating in the FNS and food assistance-for-asset activities received conditional cash-based transfers for active participation, with the adjustment of cash-based transfers in consideration of the minimum expenditure basket[43] to meet nutritional needs, as well as inflation and currency depreciations. In early 2024, WFP plans to conduct formative research in collaboration with government partners that will inform WFP's SBC strategy and provide tools for further nutrition integration. The research will look at various behaviours impacting the nutrition indicators in Lao PDR.

In coordination with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and UNICEF, WFP contributed to the development of the National Plan of Action on Food Systems Transformation in Lao PDR. In leading the development of the Plan's track on ensuring safe and nutritious food for all, WFP collaborated with partners to emphasize the nutrition component of the national plan of action, focusing on redressing current imbalances and ensuring access to nutritious food, particularly for children, adolescent girls and boys, and women.

Additionally, WFP focused its efforts on improving the capacity and skills of WFP staff involved in nutrition activities. In 2023, WFP recruited dedicated international and national staff with expertise in social and behaviour change communication. Such appointments are expected to bring improvements in integrated nutrition programming, in terms of training on nutrition knowledge as well as accuracy and specificity of nutrition-related data collection and analysis.

Partnerships

IFI engagement and enhanced national ownership drive results

In 2023, WFP expanded and consolidated its partnership base to deliver on its mandate, aligned to the Government's priorities and the UN's Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. In fostering existing partnerships, while exploring and forging new collaborations, WFP maintained its support to the Government of Lao PDR, working towards its goals of reducing malnutrition and protecting food security. The Government's increased collaboration with WFP in policymaking, its commitment to funds for sustainability and local governance of school meals programmes, as well as decision making in favour of investing in WFP's initiatives are all testimony to the growth of national ownership and the recognition of WFP as a partner of choice.

The Ministry of Education and Sports continued to focus on expanding a sustainable NSMP, showing clear ownership and commitment to implementing the Prime Minister's Decree on the promotion of school lunches, including increasing national funds for school meals. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry continued to act as WFP's lead implementer for nutrition-sensitive agriculture, livelihoods and resilience-related programming, while the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare coordinated WFP's work in emergency response and disaster risk reduction. The Ministry of Health, specifically the National Center for Nutrition, continued to be the key interlocutor for nutrition programming, while the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment guided WFP's work in anticipatory action.

WFP continued to draw on its convening power to bring together partners for results, notably in the limited civil society space. Three INGOs^[44] continued their engagement as WFP's partners in implementation, while WFP signed a new implementation agreement with SNV. These collaborations bring complementary technical capacities and, in some areas, additional implementation capacity. WFP's partnership with the Lao Red Cross brings an element of sustainability, and WFP also engaged in capacity strengthening of this national disaster response actor. In the areas of advocacy and knowledge sharing, international and national OPDs were WFP's notable new partners.

Relationships with international financial institutions deepened and widened during 2023. Since the committed funds constitute concessional loans and grants to the Government, the Government played a crucial role in facilitating WFP's role in implementation.

WFP's five-year Country Strategic Plan was resourced to about 80 percent at the end of its second year of implementation. WFP signed 12 new funding agreements in 2023, including two large multi-year contributions.^[45] Solidifying the diversification of the donor base was notable within strategic pillars, such as in school meals and in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, where programmes benefitted from commitments from donors who were earlier committing only smaller funds, in other areas -- mainly emergency response.

WFP's development portfolio enjoyed steady growth and support from donors, pointing to successful long-term engagement efforts. Fundraising for emergency response interventions presented a challenge in 2023. Unearmarked, top-level multilateral funding was maintained at the same level as the year before (around USD 0.5 million).

WFP maintained its collaboration with UN agencies regarding joint programming and collaboration in the sectoral working groups of the Round Table Process, a national platform for development coordination. In 2023, WFP strengthened its efforts for closer collaboration with UNICEF on harmonizing data and evidence for nutrition surveillance as well as on prevention and management of acute malnutrition, continued collaboration with IFAD in support of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and engaged with UNDRR to build government capacity concerning disaster preparedness and response.

Private sector engagement remained modest in 2023. WFP continued to receive support from private donations via its fundraising platform and started a collaboration with a Japanese and a Lao coffee production company, as mentioned earlier. WFP has also engaged with local rice milling companies to trial the blending of fortified rice kernels with local rice variants.

Joint submission of project proposals has fostered collaboration and learning with other WFP country offices in the region, notably with Sri Lanka and Cambodia. WFP supported South-South and regional cooperation around warehousing and logistics services for ASEAN Plus 3 Rice Reserve (APTERR) emergency rice stocks.

Focus on localization

WFP has focused on capacity strengthening^[46] since it first started working in Lao PDR in 1975^[47], and shifts are now recognizable. There has now been independent government action exemplified by its response to the floods of the monsoon season in 2023, as well as a clear shift toward national ownership in the school meal sector throughout the year.

WFP drew on local implementing partners, including the Lao Red Cross for implementing its Lean Season Emergency Response. Capacity strengthening for the Lao Red Cross, tasked as the national responder to emergencies was a key element in this cooperation.

In 2023, WFP engaged with local OPDs to build their capacities for disability inclusion in programming, while contributing to strengthening the capacity and visibility of these organizations, advocating for societal inclusion.

WFP worked with local companies around livelihoods and food fortification. WFP procured 150 mt of locally produced rice, to be fortified by a local rice mill, for use in the school feeding programme - a step towards using WFP's purchase power to boost the economy of Lao PDR. The local private sector has grown in significance for retaining capacities in the country, as macroeconomic challenges increasingly threatened local human capital throughout 2023.

Focus on UN inter-agency collaboration

The Government of Lao PDR recognizes the value of complementary partnerships in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, management of acute malnutrition, and disaster preparedness and response. WFP's partnerships with IFAD, UNICEF and UNDRR bring comparative advantages due to the complementarity of mandates and capacities, cost-effective delivery of programmes, and mutual accountability and monitoring of impact. With FAO, WFP collaborates on the sustainable transformation of food systems, in the Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group, as well as in jointly co-chairing the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Food Security Cluster.

Strategic policy discussions with the Government through the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and joint advocacy in the areas of WFP's core mandate helped national institutional development and focus on nutrition and food security-related targets set by national frameworks.

In 2023, WFP coordinated with the World Bank and UNICEF around enhanced harmonization of data and evidence for nutrition and food security, as well as in the implementation of a joint project on the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition. Throughout 2023, WFP continued tripartite discussions with IFIs and the Government of Lao PDR, exploring opportunities to add value at project design and implementation stages regarding nutrition and climate change programming.

WFP engaged in gender equality and women's empowerment as a part of the Interagency Assessment Team for the UN Country Team-United Nations System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) Gender Equality scorecard, measuring the UN Country Team's (UNCT) progress towards Gender Equality and providing guidance on improving practices. WFP co-chairs the UN PSEA group and initiated discussions on joint training for government partners. WFP actively contributes to the UNCT Disability Working Group to support the implementation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy.

Financial Overview

Overall, in the second year of implementing its five-year Country Strategic Plan (CSP), WFP is more than 80 percent funded for the duration of the CSP, translating the trust of its donors and partners into resources. New funding was mobilized in 2023 for multi-year contributions for Strategic Outcomes 1, 2 and 3, enabling WFP to strategically plan and implement its programme interventions. WFP had its programme needs well-resourced for 2023 with most contributions earmarked to a Strategic Outcome. All Strategic Outcomes were fully funded, except Strategic Outcome 4 which was 30 percent funded against needs.

Regarding expenditures, Strategic Outcome 1 spent 77 percent, Strategic Outcome 2 expended 59 percent, Strategic Outcome 3 spent 56 percent, and Strategic Outcome 4 disbursed 57 percent compared to the 2023 implementation plan. The level of programme implementation was mainly due to the long-term impacts of COVID-19, the food, fuel, finance, and fertilizer crises, and the ongoing economic crisis in the country. The inflation rate rose significantly, resulting in a lower USD value compared to the same amount in local currency in previous years. Additionally, several large contributions were received in the second half of the calendar year, resulting in a higher level of available resources, the majority of which will be implemented in 2024.













Most of the funds received in 2023 were confirmed at the Strategic Outcome level and earmarked for particular activities, thus posing the challenge of decreasing spending flexibility. Specifically, WFP Lao PDR faced challenges in allocating funds to implement a lean season emergency response under Strategic Outcome 4, as only 30 percent of its funding needs for 2023 were met.

The majority of resources (98 percent) for the entire Country Strategic Plan were received from direct multilateral funding, while 2 percent were delivered from multilateral contributions. Notable is the share of the host Government's funds in WFP's resourcing, which constitutes a new trend, as contributions are received from IFIs via tripartite agreements with the Government.

Annual CSP Financial Overview by Strategic Outcome (Amount in USD)

	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditure
SDG Target 1. Access to Food	12,394,107	11,181,235	19,584,148	8,328,273
SO01: School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026	9,738,311	9,943,111	18,783,246	7,626,848
Activity 01: Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.	9,738,311	9,943,111	18,221,730	7,626,848
Non-activity specific	0	0	561,515	0
SO04: Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters	2,655,796	1,238,123	800,902	701,425
Activity 04: Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.	2,655,796	1,238,123	800,902	701,425
SDG Target 2. End Malnutrition	2,723,745	2,605,825	12,826,119	1,532,496
SO02: Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026	2,723,745	2,605,825	12,826,119	1,532,496

Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.	2,723,745	2,605,825	12,826,119	1,532,496
SDG Target 4. Sustainable Food System	2,333,918	1,779,362	3,125,429	1,003,114
SO03: Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026	2,333,918	1,779,362	3,125,429	1,003,114
Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.	2,333,918	1,779,362	2,857,741	1,003,114
Non-activity specific	0	0	267,688	0
Non-SDG Target	0	0	1,000,103	0
Total Direct Operational Costs	17,451,771	15,566,423	36,535,800	10,863,884
Direct Support Costs (DSC)	1,846,655	1,846,655	3,642,809	1,961,726

Total Direct Costs	 19,298,427	 17,413,079	 40,178,610	 12,825,611
Indirect Support Costs (ISC)	 1,254,397	 1,131,850	 839,114	 839,114
Grand Total	 20,552,825	 18,544,929	 41,017,724	 13,664,725

Data Notes

Overview

[1] Agriculture for Nutrition phase 2, Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Watershed Management Sector Project (output 2 on nutrition), Cash Assistance and Resilient Livelihoods for Improved Food Security and Nutrition

[2] 948 mt of rice distributed to 109,778 people across four provinces (Luang Namtha, Oudomxay, Sekong, Salavanh)

Operational context

[3] The World Bank, Lao Economic Monitor, May 2023

[4] Bank of the Lao PDR, Inflation Rate, 2023

[5] Reliefweb, 19 September 2023

[6] Lao News Agency, Laos strengthens measures to curb inflation, July 2023

[7] Vientiane Times, Inflation hits new high of 41.3 percent, 7 March 2023

[8] The World Bank, Household Welfare Monitoring in the Lao PDR, September 2023

[9] The Laotian Times, Lao Kip Drops to Record Low, Breaches 20,000 to US Dollar, September 2023

[10] WFP Lao PDR Food Security Monitoring, Jan-Oct 2023

[11] Ibid.

[12] ASEAN, UNICEF and WFP, ASEAN Food and Nutrition Security Report 2021

[13] FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO, The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022

[14] Lao Social Indicator Survey II, 2017

[15] World Bank Household Welfare Monitoring, last updated 12 September 2023

[16] Ibid.

[17] Protection Report, WFP Lao PDR, 2023

[18] Summary of 2023 Grade 5 Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes Results

[19] The Laotian Times, Laos Records Highest Ever Temperature Amid Sweltering Southeast Asian Heatwave, May 2023

[20] OCHA, Asia and the Pacific: El Niño Humanitarian Snapshot (As of 20 July 2023)

[21] IFRC, Laos Flood 2023 - DREF Operational Update, MDRLA009

[22] Ibid.

[23] Lao PDR, USDA McGovern-Dole School Feeding Programme 2020-2025: Evaluations, 13 September 2023

Strategic outcome 01

[24] The dissemination workshops for the Prime Minister's Decree, were completed in all 17 provinces and dissemination to communities is ongoing, ensuring the population is aware that the Ministry of Education and Sports manages and leads the NSMP implementation

[25] Key stakeholders that the SABER workshop included government counterparts, cooperating partners and community members.

[26] The key findings from the SABER showed that the policy and regulatory framework is established and financial capacity, institutional capacity and coordination, programme design and implementation, as well as the role of communities and other non-state actors is emerging.

[27] The capacity strengthening trainings included agriculture trainings, school garden trainings, green house trainings, school agriculture trainings, digital monitoring training, green box trainings, VEDC school lunch development plan, roles and monitoring training, trainings for school cooks, and WASH and literacy trainings, various on-the-job trainings, as well as joint problem solving and community mobilisation initiatives.

[28] The recommendations from the SABER highlight the need to take action to build the national capacity, including the review and revision of established government documents on the school meal programme, the need to develop additional relevant policies, documents and context-specific guidelines, the need to analyse the current budget against actual needs, ensuring all relevant stakeholders are brought into the decision making process, the establishment of government-led trainings for each level of the school lunch programme, and a clearly defined role of communities in the school meal programme, amongst others.

* Indicators 'Number of complementary school health and nutrition interventions delivered alongside school feeding delivered by WFP' and 'Percentage of students who by end of two grades of primary schooling demonstrate ability to read and understand grade-level text' are not reported this year and will be reported in the 2024 Annual Country Report.

* Indicators 'Number of people receiving assistance unconditionally or conditionally (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)' and 'Total value of cash transferred to people' are not reported as the cash-based transfer (CBT) activities were not implemented in 2023, hence no actual values.

Strategic outcome 02

[29] Agriculture for Nutrition Project Completion Report. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 2023

* Data on Minimum Diet Diversity 6-23 months (MDD) was not collected in 2023.

* Indicator 'Number of nutritionally vulnerable people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)' for beneficiary group 'Activity supporters' and sub-activity 'Prevention of stunting' has no planned figures as stunting prevention support for activity supporters was not initially planned for during the CSP planning. However, in 2023, WFP implemented cash-based transfers to vulnerable households to support stunting prevention.

* For indicator 'Number of nutritionally vulnerable people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)' with beneficiary group 'Children' and sub-activity 'Prevention of micronutrient deficiencies', during the original planning, country office planned to support adolescent girls, but in the actual implementation, cash was provided to support both girls and boys.

* For indicator 'Number of teachers/educators/teaching assistants trained or certified', the actual figure is lower than planned because the project start was delayed and the activity is expected to be completed in 2024.

* Indicator 'Number of tools or products developed or revised to enhance national systems contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs as part of WFP capacity strengthening' is not reported this year as the tool/product is under development.

Strategic outcome 03

[30] Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment is a participatory process of identifying local disaster risk profiles and solutions to reduce disaster risks and increase resilience.

[31] Use of high coping strategies indicates the high frequency and severity of food-based coping strategies that households engaged in order to cope with lack of food or money to buy food. Food-based coping strategies include relying on less preferred and less expensive food, borrowing food or relying on help from relative(s) or friend(s), limiting portion size at meals, etc.

[32] Households relying on livelihood coping strategies due to a lack of food are classified based on the severity associated with the strategies applied. The application of crisis and emergency mechanisms reduce the future household productivity with an increasing intensity passing from former (i.e., crisis) to the latter (i.e., emergency).

[33] Early Warning for All is an initiative to ensure everyone on Earth is protected from hazardous weather, water, or climate events through early warning systems by the end of 2027.

[34] The Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative (CREWS) is a mechanism that provides financial support to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to establish risk-informed early warning services.

[35] The Minimum Expenditure Basket captures the monthly costs for a family of 5.3 to cover the basic needs they access through the market in Lao PDR.

* No baseline data is available for food security indicators for Location: Phongsaly/NhotOu, Location: Phongsaly, and Location: Savannakhet due to lack of data collection. As this population cohort will not be further assisted into 2024, the available data is reported as 2023 follow-up to show the food security status after project implementation start.

Strategic outcome 04

* For Output indicator A.1.4. Beneficiary Group 'Activity supporters', 'Children (pre-primary)', Students (primary schools)' - the related activity was not planned under SO4 so there is no planned figure. There was a food dispatch from SO4 to SO1 for supplementary food basket support for school feeding programme.

* For Output indicator A.1.7. Beneficiary Group 'Children' - there is no planned figure as this was not included in the need-based plan (NBP), but WFP has responded to Government's request to top up food for the ethnic boarding school where the daily ration was cut off.

* There are no actual figures for 'Total value of cash transferred to people' and 'Quantity of fortified food provided unconditionally or to restore infrastructure and community assets' as the chosen modality for lean season emergency response was in kind food (unfortified rice) distribution.

Protection and accountability to affected populations

[36] Standard Operating Procedures for Coordination, Governance of Coordination and Referral Pathways for Women and Girls Subject to Violence, 2022, The National Commission for the Advancement of Women, Mothers and Children, UNFPA

[37] Protection Analysis, 2022, WFP Lao PDR

[38] Lao National Survey on Women's Health and Life Experiences 2014: A Study on Violence against Women, 2014, WFO, UNFPA, UN Women

[39] 2022 Common Country Analysis Update, 2023, UNCT Lao PDR

[40] Protection Analysis, 2022, WFP Lao PDR

[41] Submission Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Lao PDR, 2022, OPD Network Lao PDR

* No 2023 follow-up data is available for indicators: "Number of children and adults who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian, development, protection and/or other personnel who provide assistance to affected populations (IOM, OHCHR, UNDP)" and "Percentage of beneficiaries reporting they were provided with accessible information about WFP programmes, including PSEA", as the first available value is reported as baseline value and will be reference for follow-up data collections as of 2024.

Nutrition integration

[42] Farmer Nutrition Schools (FNS) are semi-structured get-togethers in villages, focusing on providing basic information and interactive discussions about nutrition. Through FNS sessions, WFP provides nutrition-sensitive agriculture knowledge and helps participants to apply their newly acquired knowledge to improve their nutrition.

[43] Minimum food basket contains the minimum food required to meet a daily diet of 2,100 Kcal.

* First available values are reported as baseline, hence no 2023 follow-up values are being reported.

Partnerships

[44] Catholic Relief Services (CRS), World Vision, Swiss Red Cross

[45] Donors to WFP Lao PDR are: Asian Development Bank (ADB), China, European Union, France, Germany, Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (World Bank), Ireland, Japan, Lao PDR, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Russia, United States of America, as well as multilateral and private donors

[46] In 2023, capacity strengthening happened across all strategic outcomes, as well as related to cross-cutting priorities. WFP worked with its partner line ministries at central level to build policies and help implementation of legislature. Authorities at decentralized, provincial and district level, as well as cooperating partners received input through ToT initiatives and workshops from WFP related to the local implementation of programmes. Finally, WFP worked directly with communities through its network of field staff and implementation partners.

[47] WFP works with the Ministry of Planning and Investment as the main coordinator for official development assistance funding for Lao PDR. In addition, WFP works with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for coordination within the Government at all levels and externally with development partners. WFP also engages with mass organisations affiliated with the Government around consulting and mobilizing local communities, such as the Lao Women's Union and the Lao Front for National Development, with an aim to effect systematic and lasting change at the community level.

Annex

Reporting on beneficiary information in WFP's annual country reports

To produce estimates of the total number of unique beneficiaries WFP has assisted yearly, the data from all activities and transfer modalities must be adjusted to eliminate overlaps and add new beneficiaries. Further background information is provided in the summary tables annex of the ACR.

The final estimated number of beneficiaries assisted in each country is validated by country offices and entered in COMET at the end of every year:

- the total number of beneficiaries, which is the sum of all direct beneficiaries reached under all country level activities and outputs, based on the adjusted totals that seek to eliminate overlap;
- the total number of beneficiaries receiving food transfers, cash-based transfers and commodity vouchers or capacity strengthening, the sum of all direct beneficiaries reached under the activities and outputs for each of these transfer modalities, based on the adjusted estimates that seek to eliminate overlap;
- the total number of beneficiaries assisted under outputs defined by country offices and specific to their operations;
- the total number of beneficiaries assisted under each programme area, the sum of all direct beneficiaries reached under WFP's eight programme areas at the country level;
- the number of schoolchildren assisted under school-based programmes, the sum of all participants assisted under the school-based programmes, adjusted to exclude overlaps and activity supporters such as teachers and cooks.

Although WFP conducts quality assurance to provide beneficiary data which are as accurate as possible, numerous challenges remain regarding data collection, verification, entry and processing. Beneficiary numbers in ACRs should be considered "best estimates", subject to over- and under- estimation.

Figures and Indicators

Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Total Beneficiaries	male	141,338	194,366	138%
	female	146,200	203,197	139%
	total	287,538	397,563	138%
By Age Group				
0-23 months	male	2,321	4,171	180%
	female	2,290	4,103	179%
	total	4,611	8,274	179%
24-59 months	male	15,384	21,971	143%
	female	14,888	21,302	143%
	total	30,272	43,273	143%
5-11 years	male	93,200	88,758	95%
	female	89,696	85,531	95%
	total	182,896	174,289	95%
12-17 years	male	5,390	13,404	249%
	female	7,183	13,220	184%
	total	12,573	26,624	212%
18-59 years	male	22,578	62,078	275%
	female	29,519	74,782	253%
	total	52,097	136,860	263%
60+ years	male	2,465	3,984	162%
	female	2,624	4,259	162%
	total	5,089	8,243	162%

Beneficiaries by Residence Status

Residence Status	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Resident	287,538	397,563	138%

Beneficiaries by Programme Area

Programme Area	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Asset Creation and Livelihood	47,800	25,389	53%
Malnutrition prevention programme	8,650	44,851	518%
School based programmes	200,800	209,066	104%

Programme Area	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Smallholder agricultural market support programmes	1,700	0	0%
Unconditional Resource Transfers	30,000	118,257	394%

Annual Food Transfer (mt)

Commodities	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual vs. Planned
Access to Food			
Strategic Outcome 01			
Canned Fish	429	488	114%
Lentils	238	227	96%
Rice	2,290	2,207	96%
Vegetable Oil	116	93	81%
Strategic Outcome 04			
Canned Fish	269	0	0%
Rice	1,344	1,393	104%
Vegetable Oil	118	0	0%
Sustainable Food System			
Strategic Outcome 03			
Rice	720	222	31%
Vegetable Oil	0	11	-

Annual Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher (USD)

Modality	Planned Distribution (CBT)	Actual Distribution (CBT)	% Actual vs. Planned
Access to Food			
Strategic Outcome 01			
Cash	115,560	0	0%
Strategic Outcome 04			
Cash	128,400	0	0%
End Malnutrition			
Strategic Outcome 02			
Cash	880,000	159,709	18%
Sustainable Food System			
Strategic Outcome 03			
Cash	401,250	87,154	22%

Strategic Outcome and Output Results

Strategic Outcome 01: School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026	Root Causes
Output Results	

Activity 01: Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.

Corporate output 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs

CSP Output 03: Rural communities and local food producers, particularly women, benefit from reliable and predictable food sales to home-grown school-feeding initiatives, which foster increased agricultural productivity of nutritious crops, improved income-earning opportunities, and increased affordability of diverse diets.

Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1.6 Number of people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers under food assistance for assets (complementary with ILO, UNDP, World Bank, UNHCR, UNICEF)	Activity supporters	Food assistance for asset	Female	2,250	
			Male	2,250	
			Total	4,500	
A.3.1 Total value of cash transferred to people			USD	115,560	
F.1 Number of smallholder farmers supported with training, inputs, equipment and infrastructure	Activity supporters	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	Female	852	
			Male	848	
			Total	1,700	

Corporate output 2.3: School-age children and adolescents have access to school-based health and nutrition packages

CSP Output 01: Targeted schoolchildren benefit from nutritious meals throughout the school year to enhance their dietary intake.

Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1.3 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through school-based programmes	Activity supporters	School feeding (take-home rations)	Female	1,645	12,570
			Male	705	5,387
			Total	2,350	17,957
A.1.3 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through school-based programmes	Children (pre-primary)	School feeding (on-site)	Female	12,294	16,848
			Male	12,796	17,536
			Total	25,090	34,384
A.1.3 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through school-based programmes	Students (primary schools)	School feeding (on-site)	Female	84,946	76,795
			Male	88,414	79,930
			Total	173,360	156,725
A.2.3 Quantity of food provided to girls and boys through school-based programmes			MT	3,072	3,016.23
B.1.3 Quantity of fortified food provided for girls and boys benefiting from school-based programming			MT	1,270	93.4

Other Output

Activity 01: Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.

Corporate Output 2.1: Food-insecure populations have increased and sustained access to nutritious food, cash-based assistance, new or improved skills and services to meet their food and nutrition needs

CSP Output 03: Rural communities and local food producers, particularly women, benefit from reliable and predictable food sales to home-grown school-feeding initiatives, which foster increased agricultural productivity of nutritious crops, improved income-earning opportunities, and increased affordability of diverse diets.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.11: Number of water points (ponds, shallow wells, weirs, dams) constructed or rehabilitated	School feeding (on-site)	Number	72	72

D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.8: Number of community infrastructure	School feeding (on-site)	Number	3,192	3,010
Corporate Output 2.3: School-age children and adolescents have access to school-based health and nutrition packages					
CSP Output 01: Targeted schoolchildren benefit from nutritious meals throughout the school year to enhance their dietary intake.					
Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.6.2: Number of schools or institutional sites reached through school-based programming	A.6.2.1: Total number of schools assisted by WFP	School feeding (on-site)	school	2,128	2,125
B.3.2: Percentage of fortified staple commodities (out of total staple commodities) distributed to girls and boys benefitting from school-based programming	B.3.2.3: Percentage of fortified staple commodities (out of total staple commodities) distributed to girls and boys benefitting from school-based programming (Rice)	School feeding (on-site)	% %	56.19 0	0 0
N.1.1: Feeding days as percentage of total school days	N.1.1.1: Feeding days as percentage of total school days	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	%	100	86
N.2: Average number of school days per month on which multi-fortified or at least 4 food groups were provided (nutrition-sensitive indicator)	N.2.1: Average number of school days per month on which multi-fortified or at least 4 food groups were provided (nutrition-sensitive indicator)	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	%	19	17
N.6: Number of children covered by HGSF based programmes	N.6.1: Number of children covered by HGSF based programmes	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	Individual	203,232	203,232
CSP Output 04: Schoolchildren in vulnerable areas benefit from the Government's strengthened capacities, improved institutions, and adequate resources to lead and manage a sustainable NSMP, in order to improve their nutrition and food security, and to contribute to improved educational outcomes (SDG 4).					
Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
C.16: Number of national institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities at national and subnational levels	C.16.g.3: Number of governmental institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	3	3
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.1: Number of government and national partners staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives provided through WFP-facilitated South-South Cooperation	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	5	5
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.3: Number of national partner staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	61	61
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.4: Number of school administrators and officials trained or certified	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	705	454

C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.5: Number of teachers/educators/teaching assistants trained or certified	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	2,820	2,808
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.1: Number of advocacy and information exchange initiatives facilitated or implemented	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	1	1
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.4: Number of South-South exchanges facilitated between provider country and host government	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	1	1
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.5: Number of training series organized	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	13	10
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.6: Number of training sessions/workshops organized	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	230	318
C.6: Number of tools or products developed or revised to enhance national systems contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs as part of WFP capacity strengthening	C.6.g.1: Number of tools or products developed	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	1	1

Outcome Results

Activity 01: Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Primary school student - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: School feeding (on-site)						
Annual change in enrolment	Female	-0.8	≥0.08	≥-0.58	-0.18	Secondary data
	Male	-0.5	≥0.38	≥-0.28	-0.19	Secondary data
	Overall	-0.65	≥0.23	≥-0.43	-0.19	Secondary data
Attendance rate	Female	97	≥99	≥98	87.3	WFP survey
	Male	97	≥99	≥98	86.6	WFP survey
	Overall	97	≥99	≥98	86.9	WFP survey
Graduation rate	Female	93.7	≥94.3	≥94.5	93.05	Secondary data
	Male	91.7	≥93.7	≥92.5	90.95	Secondary data
	Overall	92.7	≥94	≥93.5	91.97	Secondary data
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	2	=13	=3	4	WFP programme monitoring

Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP-facilitated South-South and triangular cooperation support	Overall	1	=5	=1	1	WFP programme monitoring
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components relating to school health and nutrition/including school feeding enhanced/developed with WFP capacity strengthening support and/or advocacy	Overall	1	≥4	≥1	0	Secondary data
Resources mobilized (USD value) for national systems contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs with WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	2,510,053	=2,123,000	=1,469,000	1,095,594	Secondary data
Retention rate, by grade: Retention rate	Female	90.05	≥99.63	≥94.9	91.65	Secondary data
	Male	89.22	≥97.82	≥94.4	90.59	Secondary data
	Overall	89.63	≥98.72	≥94.65	91.11	Secondary data

Strategic Outcome 02: Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026					Root Causes
Output Results					
Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.					
Corporate output 2.2: Children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and improve diets					
CSP Output 05: Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under 5, and school-aged children, receive an integrated package of assistance, including social and behaviour change communication, to improve diets.					
Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1.2 Number of nutritionally vulnerable people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)	Activity supporters	Prevention of acute malnutrition	Female	4,171	9,597
			Male	129	5,082
			Total	4,300	14,679
A.1.2 Number of nutritionally vulnerable people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)	Activity supporters	Prevention of stunting	Female		7,750
			Male		12,344
			Total		20,094
A.1.2 Number of nutritionally vulnerable people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)	Children	Prevention of micronutrient deficiencies	Female	2,000	1,979
			Male	0	1,045
			Total	2,000	3,024
A.1.2 Number of nutritionally vulnerable people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through malnutrition treatment and prevention programmes (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WHO)	Pregnant Breastfeeding Women and Girls	Prevention of stunting	Female	2,350	7,054
			Male	0	
			Total	2,350	7,054
A.3.1 Total value of cash transferred to people			USD	880,000	159,709

Other Output

Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.

Corporate Output 2.2: Children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and improve diets

CSP Output 05: Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under 5, and school-aged children, receive an integrated package of assistance, including social and behaviour change communication, to improve diets.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
E.4: Number of people reached through interpersonal social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) approaches (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WFP, WHO)	E.4.1: Number of people reached through interpersonal social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) approaches (complementary with UNICEF, FAO, WFP, WHO)	Prevention of stunting	Individual	26,000	29,037

CSP Output 06: Vulnerable groups benefit from strengthened government and partners' capacity, including private sector, to design, implement and partner for multisectoral nutrition programmes to prevent malnutrition.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
C.16: Number of national institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities at national and subnational levels	C.16.g.1: Number of academic institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities	Malnutrition Prevention (CCS)	Number	89	13
C.16: Number of national institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities at national and subnational levels	C.16.g.6: Number of national/sub-national institutions benefitting from embedded or seconded expertise as a result of WFP capacity strengthening support	Malnutrition Prevention (CCS)	Number	4	4
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.2: Number of government and public sector staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives	Malnutrition Prevention (CCS)	Number	202	130
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.3: Number of national partner staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives	Malnutrition Prevention (CCS)	Number	192	44
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.5: Number of teachers/educators/teaching assistants trained or certified	Malnutrition Prevention (CCS)	Number	2,367	1,464
C.6: Number of tools or products developed or revised to enhance national systems contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs as part of WFP capacity strengthening	C.6.g.1: Number of tools or products developed	Malnutrition Prevention (CCS)	Number	20	0

Outcome Results

Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
-------------------	-----	----------	----------------	-------------	----------------	--------

Target Group: Children under 05 - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet: Minimum Diet Diversity 6-23 months (MDD)	Female	57	≥74	≥62		WFP survey
	Male	51	≥67	≥55		WFP survey
	Overall	54	≥70	≥58		WFP survey
Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet: Minimum Meal Frequency 6-23 months (MMF)	Female	57	≥74	≥62		WFP survey
	Male	51	≥67	≥55		WFP survey
	Overall	54	≥70	≥58		WFP survey
Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet: Minimum Milk Feeding Frequency for Non-Breastfed children 6-23 months (MMFF)	Female	13	≥16	≥14		WFP survey
	Male	15	≥20	≥16		WFP survey
	Overall	14	≥17	≥15		WFP survey
Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet: Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet	Female	38	≥50	≥41		WFP survey
	Male	37	≥48	≥40		WFP survey
	Overall	37	≥48	≥40		WFP survey
Target Group: Children under 05/PBW/Caretaker/Reproductive Age Women - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	0	≥6	≥6	6	WFP programme monitoring
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components relating to school health and nutrition/including school feeding enhanced/developed with WFP capacity strengthening support and/or advocacy	Overall	0	≥1	≥1	1	WFP programme monitoring
Proportion of eligible population reached by nutrition preventive programme (coverage)	Female		≥70	≥70	80	Joint survey
	Male		≥70	≥70	80	Joint survey
	Overall		≥70	≥70	80	Joint survey
Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions (adherence)	Female		=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring
	Male		=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring
	Overall		=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: PBW/Reproductive Age Women - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Minimum diet diversity for women and girls of reproductive age	Overall	52	≥74.1	≥57	59	WFP survey
Target Group: Small Holder Farmer & Vendors - Location: Attapeu - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Percentage increase in production of high-quality and nutrition-dense foods	Overall	0	≥800	≥150	0	WFP programme monitoring

Strategic Outcome 03: Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026					Resilience Building
Output Results					
Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.					
Corporate output 3.1: People and communities have access to productive assets to better cope with shocks and stressors					
CSP Output 07: Vulnerable communities benefit from assistance for asset creation and other sustainable livelihood support interventions that meet their food and nutrition needs and improve their resilience to climate-related and other shocks.					
Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1.3 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through school-based programmes	All	School feeding (on-site)	Female		31,188
			Male		36,397
			Total		67,585
A.1.6 Number of people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers under food assistance for assets (complementary with ILO, UNDP, World Bank, UNHCR, UNICEF)	Activity supporters	Food assistance for asset	Female		2,275
			Male		4,086
			Total		6,361
A.1.6 Number of people receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers under food assistance for assets (complementary with ILO, UNDP, World Bank, UNHCR, UNICEF)	All	Food assistance for asset	Female	22,499	9,652
			Male	22,501	9,376
			Total	45,000	19,028
A.2.3 Quantity of food provided to girls and boys through school-based programmes			MT		10.95
A.2.6 Quantity of food provided to people enrolled in food assistance for assets activities			MT	720	222
A.3.4 Total value of cash transferred to people enrolled in food assistance for assets activities			USD	401,250	87,154

Other Output

Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.

Corporate Output 3.1: People and communities have access to productive assets to better cope with shocks and stressors

CSP Output 07: Vulnerable communities benefit from assistance for asset creation and other sustainable livelihood support interventions that meet their food and nutrition needs and improve their resilience to climate-related and other shocks.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.10: Number of Household and School Gardens	Food assistance for asset	Number	100	421
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.11: Number of water points (ponds, shallow wells, weirs, dams) constructed or rehabilitated	Food assistance for asset	Number	20	20
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.1: Hectares of community gardens and orchards established/rehabilitated	Food assistance for asset	Ha	2.6	6.5
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.4: Kilometers of feeder roads and trails constructed/repared	Food assistance for asset	Km	21	70.5
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.6: Kilometres of irrigation canals	Food assistance for asset	Km	6	5
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.7: Number of bridges constructed/rehabilitated	Food assistance for asset	Number	2	2
D.1.1: Number of assets built, restored or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.1.g.8: Number of community infrastructure	Food assistance for asset	Number	20	23
D.1.3: Number of additional country specific assets constructed, rebuilt or maintained by targeted households and communities, by type and unit of measure	D.1.3.15: Number of tree seedlings produced/provided	Food assistance for asset	Number	12,280	11,578

Corporate Output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods

CSP Output 08: Vulnerable communities benefit from the operationalization of local and national strategies and programmes to effectively anticipate, prepare for, manage, and mitigate the risks to food and nutrition security associated with the impact of climate or other shocks.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
C.16: Number of national institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities at national and subnational levels	C.16.g.3: Number of governmental institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities	Climate and weather risk information services (CCS)	Number	18	18
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.6: Number of training sessions/workshops organized	Climate and weather risk information services (CCS)	Number	10	22
G.7: Percentage of tools developed or reviewed to strengthen national systems for forecast based anticipatory action	G.7.g.1: Percentage of tools developed or reviewed to strengthen national capacities for Forecast-based Anticipatory Action	Forecast-based Anticipatory Actions	%	16.67	16.67

Outcome Results

Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash, Food - Subactivity: Other Climate adaptation and risk management Activities						
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	0	=5	=2	2	WFP survey
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly / NhotOu - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Other Climate adaptation and risk management Activities						
Consumption-based coping strategy index (average)	Female		<4	<4	1.1	WFP
	Male		<4	<4	0.93	programme monitoring
	Overall		<4	<4	0.93	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score	Female		≥63	>60	57	WFP
	Male		≥75	>70	74	programme monitoring
	Overall		≥67.5	>65	74	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score	Female		≤38	<35	43	WFP
	Male		≤22	<25	22	programme monitoring
	Overall		≤30	<30	22	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score	Female		≤2	<5	0	WFP
	Male		≤3	<5	4	programme monitoring
	Overall		≤2.5	<5	4	WFP programme monitoring

Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using crisis coping strategies	Female		<5	<5	14	WFP
	Male		<5	<5	1	programme monitoring
	Overall		<5	<5	2	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using emergency coping strategies	Female		<5	<5	0	WFP
	Male		<5	<5	0	programme monitoring
	Overall		<5	<5	0	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using stress coping strategies	Female		<10	<10	0	WFP
	Male		<10	<10	15	programme monitoring
	Overall		<10	<10	14	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households not using livelihood based coping strategies	Female		>80	>80	86	WFP
	Male		>80	>80	84	programme monitoring
	Overall		>80	>80	84	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base	Female		≥60	≥60	36	WFP
	Male		≥60	≥60	41	programme monitoring
	Overall		≥60	≥60	41	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Other Climate adaptation and risk management Activities						
Consumption-based coping strategy index (average)	Female		<4	<4	1.29	WFP
	Male		<4	<4	1.1	programme monitoring
	Overall		<4	<4	1.1	WFP programme monitoring

Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score	Female		≥65	≥65	59	WFP
	Male		≥70	≥70	65	programme monitoring
	Overall		≥67.5	≥67.5	64	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score	Female		≤30	≤30	35	WFP
	Male		≤25	≤25	33	programme monitoring
	Overall		≤27.5	≤27.5	33	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score	Female		≤5	≤5	6	WFP
	Male		≤5	≤5	2	programme monitoring
	Overall		≤5	≤5	2	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using crisis coping strategies	Female		<5	<5	6	WFP
	Male		<5	<5	0	programme monitoring
	Overall		<5	<5	1	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using emergency coping strategies	Female		<5	<5	0	WFP
	Male		<5	<5	1	programme monitoring
	Overall		<5	<5	1	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using stress coping strategies	Female		<15	<15	6	WFP
	Male		<15	<15	3	programme monitoring
	Overall		<15	<15	4	WFP programme monitoring

Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households not using livelihood based coping strategies	Female		>75	>75	88	WFP
	Male		>75	>75	96	programme monitoring
	Overall		>75	>75	95	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Household - Location: Savannakhet - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Other Climate adaptation and risk management Activities						
Consumption-based coping strategy index (average)	Female		<4	<4	2.94	WFP
	Male		<4	<4	3.96	programme monitoring
	Overall		<4	<4	3.96	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score	Female		≥58	≥58	35	WFP
	Male		≥60	≥60	39	programme monitoring
	Overall		≥59	≥59	39	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score	Female		≤37	≤37	45	WFP
	Male		≤35	≤35	36	programme monitoring
	Overall		≤36	≤36	37	WFP programme monitoring
Food consumption score: Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score	Female		≤5	≤5	20	WFP
	Male		≤5	≤5	25	programme monitoring
	Overall		≤5	≤5	24	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using crisis coping strategies	Female		<5	<4.5	0	WFP
	Male		<5	<5.5	7	programme monitoring
	Overall		<5	<5	6	WFP programme monitoring

Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using emergency coping strategies	Female		<5	<4	23	WFP
	Male		<5	<3	21	programme monitoring
	Overall		<5	<3.5	23	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households using stress coping strategies	Female		<15	<16.5	10	WFP
	Male		<15	<16.5	21	programme monitoring
	Overall		<15	<16.5	19	WFP programme monitoring
Livelihood coping strategies for food security: Percentage of households not using livelihood based coping strategies	Female		<75	>75	68	WFP
	Male		<75	>75	51	programme monitoring
	Overall		<75	>75	54	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base	Female		≥60	≥60	53	WFP
	Male		≥60	≥60	56	programme monitoring
	Overall		≥60	≥60	55	WFP programme monitoring

Strategic Outcome 04: Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters					Crisis Response
Output Results					
Activity 04: Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.					
Corporate output 1.1: Food insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs					
CSP Output 09: Targeted girls, boys, women, and men affected by natural hazards or human-induced shocks and disruptions receive food and/or cash assistance to help meet their essential needs.					
Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1.4 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through emergency school-based programmes (complementary with UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP)	Activity supporters	School feeding (take-home rations)	Female		217
			Male		47
			Total		264
A.1.4 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through emergency school-based programmes (complementary with UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP)	Children (pre-primary)	School feeding (on-site)	Female		10,714
			Male		11,151
			Total		21,865
A.1.4 Number of girls and boys receiving food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening transfers through emergency school-based programmes (complementary with UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP)	Students (primary schools)	School feeding (on-site)	Female		21,143
			Male		24,577
			Total		45,720
A.1.7 Number of people in emergency contexts receiving assistance unconditionally or to restore infrastructure and community assets (complementary with UNICEF, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), WFP)	All	General Distribution	Female	15,000	54,888
			Male	15,000	54,890
			Total	30,000	109,778
A.1.7 Number of people in emergency contexts receiving assistance unconditionally or to restore infrastructure and community assets (complementary with UNICEF, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), WFP)	Children	General Distribution	Female		3,789
			Male		4,690
			Total		8,479
A.2.4 Quantity of food provided to girls and boys through emergency school-based programmes			MT		187.42
A.2.7 Quantity of food provided unconditionally or to restore infrastructure and community assets			MT	1,730	1,205.46
A.3.1 Total value of cash transferred to people			USD	128,400	
B.1.5 Quantity of fortified food provided unconditionally or to restore infrastructure and community assets			MT	118	

Other Output

Activity 04: Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.

Corporate Output 1.1: Food insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs

CSP Output 09: Targeted girls, boys, women, and men affected by natural hazards or human-induced shocks and disruptions receive food and/or cash assistance to help meet their essential needs.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
B.3.1: Percentage of fortified staple commodities (out of total staple commodities) distributed to nutritionally vulnerable people	B.3.1.3: Percentage of fortified staple commodities (out of total staple commodities) distributed to nutritionally vulnerable people (Rice)	General Distribution	%	0	0
H.1: Number of shared services, data and analytics platforms provided by type	H.1.2: Number of supply chain solutions and services provided to the government and partners by WFP	Service Delivery	Number	1	1

Cross-cutting Indicators

Nutrition integration indicators

Nutrition integration indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level						
Activity 01: Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Primary school student - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: School feeding (on-site)						
Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	88	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	95	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	91	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	88	≥80	≥41		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	95	≥80	≥41		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	91	≥80	≥41		WFP programme monitoring
Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Children (Adolescence boy & girl) - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of micronutrient deficiencies						
Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Pregnant & breastfeeding Women - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						

Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	100	=100	=100		
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	100	=100	=100		
Target Group: Supporter - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of acute malnutrition						
Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100		
	Overall	100	=100	=100		
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100		
	Overall	100	=100	=100		
Target Group: Supporter - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of micronutrient deficiencies						
Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100		
	Overall	100	=100	=100		
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	100	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100		
	Overall	100	=100	=100		
Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash, Food - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						

Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	60	=100	=100		WFP
	Male	60	=100	=100		programme monitoring
	Overall	60	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	60	≥80	≥60		WFP
	Male	60	≥80	≥60		programme monitoring
	Overall	60	≥80	≥60		WFP programme monitoring
Activity 04: Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Laos - Modality: Food - Subactivity: General Distribution						
Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component	Female	0	=100	=100		WFP
	Male	0	=100	=100		programme monitoring
	Overall	0	=100	=100		WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification	Female	0	≥10	≥7		WFP
	Male	0	≥10	≥7		programme monitoring
	Overall	0	≥10	≥7		WFP programme monitoring

Environmental sustainability indicators

Environmental sustainability indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Country office implements environmental management systems	Overall		Yes	Yes	Yes	WFP programme monitoring

Environmental sustainability indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level						
Activity 01: Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Primary school student - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: School feeding (on-site)						
Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks	Overall	0	=100	=100	0	WFP programme monitoring
Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Laos / Laos / Pregnant & Breastfeeding Women / NPA1 / STUN / NPA1 / STUN - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks	Overall	0	=100	=100	60	WFP programme monitoring
Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: All - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Other Climate adaptation and risk management Activities						
Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks	Overall	0	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring
Activity 04: Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Laos - Modality: Cash, Food - Subactivity: General Distribution						
Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks	Overall	0	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring

Gender equality and women's empowerment indicators

Gender equality and women's empowerment indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Percentage of food assistance decision making entity members who are women	Overall		≥50	≥30	29.32	WFP programme monitoring

Gender equality and women's empowerment indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level						
Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Laos / Laos / Pregnant & Breastfeeding Women / NPA1 / STUN / NPA1 / STUN - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions jointly made by women and men</i>	Overall	95	≥95	≥94	94	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by men</i>	Overall	1	≤1	≤4	4	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by women</i>	Overall	4	≤4	≤4	2	WFP programme monitoring
Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly / NhotOu - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions jointly made by women and men</i>	Overall	73	≥80	≥80	87	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by men</i>	Overall	21	≤10	≤10	11	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by women</i>	Overall	6	≤10	≤10	2	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions jointly made by women and men</i>	Overall	73	≥80	≥80	79.4	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by men</i>	Overall	21	≤10	≤10	17.61	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by women</i>	Overall	6	≤10	≤10	2.99	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Household - Location: Savannakhet - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						

Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions jointly made by women and men</i>	Overall	73	≥80	≥80	85	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by men</i>	Overall	21	≤10	≤10	6	WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - <i>Decisions made by women</i>	Overall	6	≤10	≤10	9	WFP programme monitoring

Protection indicators

Protection indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Country office meets or exceeds UNDIS entity accountability framework standards concerning accessibility (QCPR)	Overall	Missing	Meeting	Approaching	Missing	WFP programme monitoring
Number of women, men, boys and girls with disabilities accessing food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening services	Female				17,024	WFP programme monitoring
	Male				15,811	WFP programme monitoring
	Overall				32,835	WFP programme monitoring

Protection indicators

Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level

Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.

CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Pregnant & Breastfeeding Women / NPA1 / STUN - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes	Female	88	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	88	=100	=100	100	
Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	
Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	

Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.

CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly / NhotOu - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						
Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	
Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	

Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						
Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Household - Location: Savannakhet - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						
Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring

Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance	Female	100	=100	=100	100	WFP
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	programme
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	monitoring
						WFP
						programme
						monitoring
						WFP
						programme
						monitoring

Accountability to Affected Population indicators

Accountability indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Country office has a functioning community feedback mechanism	Overall	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	WFP survey
Country office has an action plan on community engagement	Overall	No	Yes	No	No	WFP survey
Country office meets or exceeds United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) standards on consulting organizations of persons with disabilities (QCPR)	Overall	Approaching	Meeting	Approaching	Approaching	WFP programme monitoring
Number of children and adults who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian, development, protection and/or other personnel who provide assistance to affected populations (IOM, OHCHR, UNDP)	Female	162,557	≥280860	≥117,730		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	155,492	≥262826	≥113,430		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	318,050	≥543687	≥231,160		WFP programme monitoring

Accountability indicators						
Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level						
Activity 02: Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Pregnant & breastfeeding Women - Location: Laos - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Cash - Subactivity: Prevention of stunting						
Percentage of beneficiaries reporting they were provided with accessible information about WFP programmes, including PSEA	Female	72.89	≥80	≥70		Joint survey
	Overall	72.89	≥80	≥70		Joint survey
Activity 03: Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.						
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2023 Target	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Household - Location: Phongsaly - Modality: Capacity Strengthening, Food - Subactivity: Food assistance for asset						
Percentage of beneficiaries reporting they were provided with accessible information about WFP programmes, including PSEA	Female	76.63	≥80	≥70		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	78.24	≥80	≥70		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	77.27	≥80	≥70		WFP programme monitoring

Cover page photo © WFP/Lee Sipaseuth

School girls harvesting leafy greens for their school lunch in Naxiengdee Primary School in Lao PDR's northern Oudomxay province

World Food Programme

Contact info
Marc-andré Prost
wfp.lao@wfp.org

Financial Section

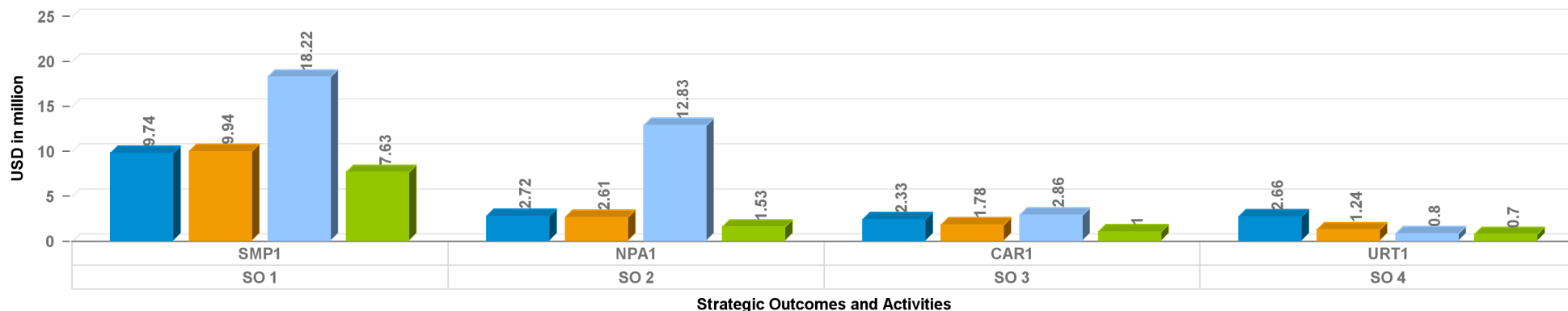
Financial information is taken from WFP's financial records which have been submitted to WFP's auditors.

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

Annual CPB Overview



■ Needs Based Plan ■ Implementation Plan ■ Available Resources ■ Expenditures

Code	Strategic Outcome	
SO 1		School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026
SO 2		Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026
SO 3		Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026
SO 4		Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters
Code	Activity Code	Country Activity Long Description
SO 1	SMP1	Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.
SO 2	NPA1	Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.
SO 3	CAR1	Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.
SO 4	URT1	Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
2.1	Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters	Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.	2,655,797	1,238,124	800,902	701,425
		Non Activity Specific	0	0	0	0
	School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026	Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.	9,738,311	9,943,112	18,221,730	7,626,848
		Non Activity Specific	0	0	561,516	0
Subtotal SDG Target 2.1 Access to Food (SDG Target 2.1)			12,394,108	11,181,236	19,584,149	8,328,273
2.2	Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026	Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.	2,723,745	2,605,826	12,826,120	1,532,497
Subtotal SDG Target 2.2 End Malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)			2,723,745	2,605,826	12,826,120	1,532,497

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (FINC)

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
2.4	Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026	Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.	2,333,918	1,779,362	2,857,742	1,003,115
		Non Activity Specific	0	0	267,688	0
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific			0	
2.4)	Subtotal SDG Target 2.4 Sustainable Food System (SDG Target		2,333,918	1,779,362	3,125,430	1,003,115
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	0	1,000,103	0
	Subtotal SDG Target		0	0	1,000,103	0
	Total Direct Operational Cost		17,451,772	15,566,423	36,535,801	10,863,885
	Direct Support Cost (DSC)		1,846,656	1,846,656	3,642,809	1,961,727
	Total Direct Costs		19,298,427	17,413,079	40,178,610	12,825,612
	Indirect Support Cost (ISC)		1,254,398	1,131,850	839,114	839,114
	Grand Total		20,552,825	18,544,929	41,017,724	13,664,726



Wannee Piyabongkarn

Chief

Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest annual approved version of operational needs as of December of the reporting year. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Implementation Plan

Implementation Plan as of January of the reporting period which represents original operational prioritized needs taking into account funding forecasts of available resources and operational challenges

Available Resources

Unspent Balance of Resources carried forward, Allocated contribution in the current year, Advances and Other resources in the current year. It excludes contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years

Expenditures

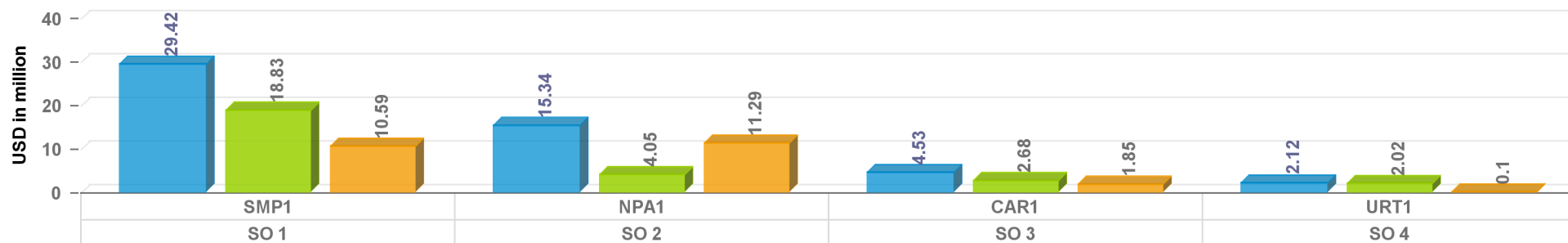
Monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting year

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

Cumulative CPB Overview



Strategic Outcomes and Activities

■ Allocated Resources ■ Expenditures ■ Balance of Resources

Code	Strategic Outcome	
SO 1	School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026	
SO 2	Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026	
SO 3	Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026	
SO 4	Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters	

Code	Activity Code	Country Activity - Long Description
SO 1	SMP1	Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.
SO 2	NPA1	Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.
SO 3	CAR1	Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.
SO 4	URT1	Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
2.1	Crisis-affected populations in Lao PDR are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other essential needs during and after disasters	Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected populations.	5,964,695	2,116,799	0	2,116,799	2,017,322	99,477
	School children in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition, and learning results through a sustainable National School Meals Programme (NSMP) by 2026	Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the National School Meals Programme and to facilitate a sustainable transition to the Government.	21,991,453	29,421,167	0	29,421,167	18,826,284	10,594,882
		Non Activity Specific	0	561,516	0	561,516	0	561,516
Subtotal SDG Target 2.1 Access to Food (SDG Target 2.1)			27,956,148	32,099,482	0	32,099,482	20,843,606	11,255,876

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (FINC)

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
2.2	Vulnerable groups, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under five, and school-aged children, at risk of any form of malnutrition, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets, by 2026	Provide universally accessible nutrition support services to targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy, and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.	5,675,025	15,340,982	0	15,340,982	4,047,360	11,293,623
Subtotal SDG Target 2.2 End Malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)			5,675,025	15,340,982	0	15,340,982	4,047,360	11,293,623

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (FINC)

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
2.4	Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacities to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026	Provide assistance and technical support to target communities and government entities to build their resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacities in disaster and climate risk management and social protection.	5,174,641	4,534,874	0	4,534,874	2,680,247	1,854,627
		Non Activity Specific	0	267,688	0	267,688	0	267,688
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal SDG Target 2.4 Sustainable Food System (SDG Target 2.4)			5,174,641	4,802,562	0	4,802,562	2,680,247	2,122,315
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	1,000,103	0	1,000,103	0	1,000,103
Subtotal SDG Target			0	1,000,103	0	1,000,103	0	1,000,103
Total Direct Operational Cost			38,805,814	53,243,129	0	53,243,129	27,571,213	25,671,916
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			3,639,885	5,109,602	0	5,109,602	3,428,519	1,681,083
Total Direct Costs			42,445,699	58,352,731	0	58,352,731	30,999,733	27,352,998

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (FINC)

Annual Country Report

Laos Country Portfolio Budget 2023 (2022-2026)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2023 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
		Indirect Support Cost (ISC)	2,758,970	1,825,413		1,825,413	1,825,413	0
		Grand Total	45,204,670	60,178,145	0	60,178,145	32,825,146	27,352,998

This donor financial report is interim



Wanee Piyabongkarn
Chief

Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest approved version of operational needs. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Allocated Contributions

Allocated contributions include confirmed contributions with exchange rate variations, multilateral contributions, miscellaneous income, resource transferred, cost recovery and other financial adjustments (e.g. refinancing). It excludes internal advance and allocation and contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years.

Advance and allocation

Internal advanced/allocated resources but not repaid. This includes different types of internal advance (Internal Project Lending or Macro-advance Financing) and allocation (Immediate Response Account)

Allocated Resources

Sum of Allocated Contributions, Advance and Allocation

Expenditures

Cumulative monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting period

Balance of Resources

Allocated Resources minus Expenditures