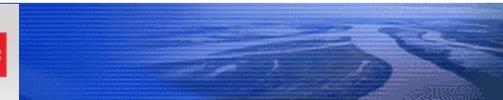




Disaster Risk Reduction interventions at national and local levels

Red Cross activities in Lao PDR





Presentation outline

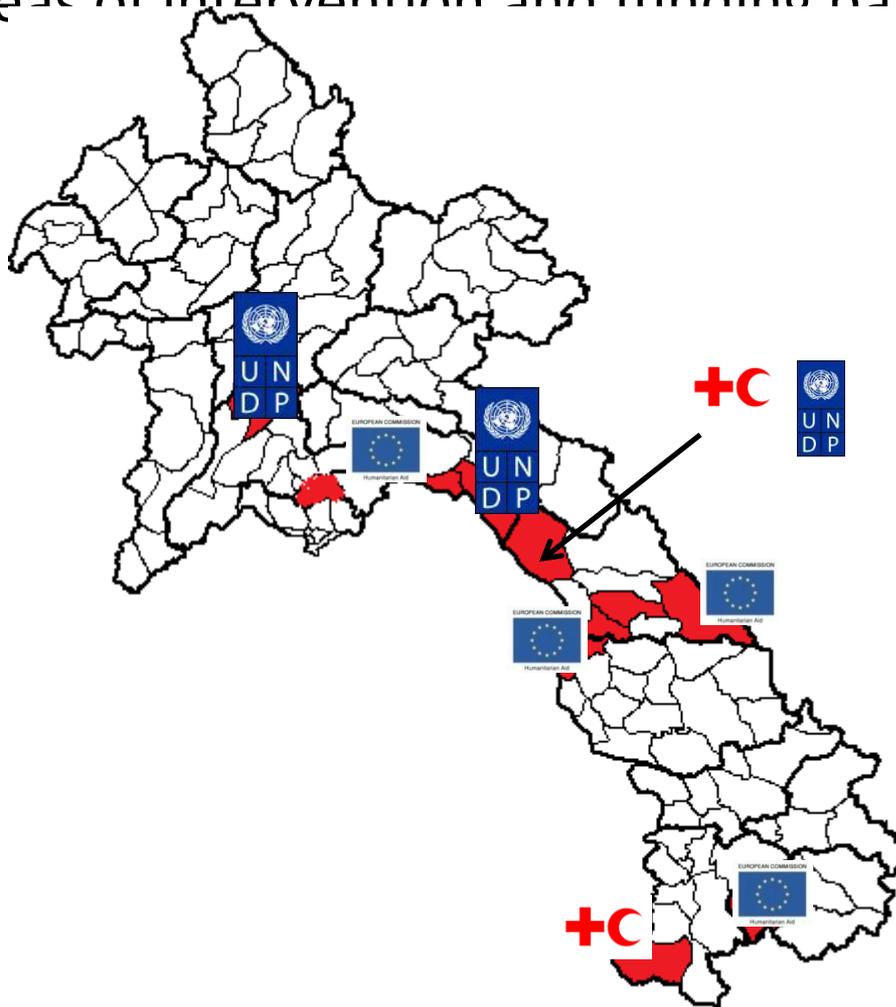
- A) DRR Components
- B) Achievements
- C) Lessons learnt and major challenges
- D) Sustainability and way forward





Lao Red Cross Disaster Management activities in Lao PDR

Areas of intervention and funding partners





Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction, Red Cross

Community Based approach:

- 68 villages supported since 2007, through Volunteers capacities empowerment;
 - Provincial authorities in DM (PDMC) supported in 6 provinces (namely Champassak, Attapeu, Bolikhamxay, Savannakhet, Khammouane and Vientiane provinces);
 - Districts authorities in DM (DDMC) supported in 11 districts;
- Hazard of reference:
- In all the areas where the Lao Red Cross implemented , the hazard of reference is slow onset flood.



Red Cross mission for Disaster Management

Objectives of the Red Cross DM programs:

To improve community awareness, preparedness, and response capacity to cope with disasters

To equip LRC with necessary preparedness, and response capacities and mechanisms to deal with, mitigate the impact, and gradually help reduce the risk of disasters.



Components of Disaster Management activities, Red Cross

At community level:

- Increase awareness for community members regarding risks faced;
- Train groups of VDPUs and RCvolunteers on Disaster Preparedness/ Disaster Response and First Aid;
- Develop a “risk culture” through school sensitizations;
- Mitigate risks through structural and non structural measures;
- Support the most vulnerable households to hazards through development activities, emphasis on livelihood or nutrition;

At institutional level:

- Provide support for Disaster response, through development of contingency plan, provision of materials at district level;
- Increase general DM knowledge of districts/provincial authorities through DRR trainings;
- Development of a database/GIS and training of local authorities for use in planning and Disaster Response;
- Districts officers (DDMC) conduct trainings of volunteers;



Achievements

Lao Red Cross capacity building:

- Development of a CBDRR Trainings curriculum packages, for use by local authorities;
- Development of IEC materials, **Before, During and After flood event**;
- Participative definitions and distribution of a Disaster Preparedness kits;

Training at villages level:

At least 340 VDPU's have followed trainings in Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Risk Reduction provided under RC DM programs.

VDPU's are organized and support CM to:	Districts are organized to and support villages to:
Be prepare to face disasters	Evaluate the intensity of the disaster;
Know how to react when it strikes	Provide support to assess the damages
Assess damages	Divide tasks/duties per sectors
Report and coordinate with DDMC	Have been equipped to be able to better respond to disasters



Lessons learnt and major challenges

- Short time implementation could not be done if agencies would like to ensure sustainability and ownership by the targeted communities;
- Build capacities of local institutions is also time consuming, and a real change could not be evaluate in short time project implementation;
- Importance for communities and local institutions to integrate DRR in the development plan for sustainability;
- Financial resources are an issue to continue to reinforce the local capacities, and to allow DDMC to monitor the DRR measures undertaken under the projects as well as the level of CM awareness;
- Effective DRR projects should rely on the local authorities, for ownership and sustainability;

Major challenge:

- Mandate between RC and NDMO are sometime overlapping, especially regarding training capacities and practical implementations in communities;
- Staffs from DDMC/PDMC are changing, which make it difficult to have a follow up and to build capacities on a long term frame;



Up scaling DRR activities

In the current context, the Red Cross movement is able to provide trainings and technical expertise related to CBDRR at community level.

The Red Cross movement has capacities to upscale CBDRR activities through provision of trainings toward local authorities (district level).

Training curriculum packages allow the Red Cross to propose trainings related to :

- Disaster Preparedness;
- Disaster Response;
- VCA, for community centered approach;
- Adapted measures (structural/non structural) for communities to mitigate risks;



Sustainability

Lao Red Cross, as auxiliary to the government, is involved in all the possibilities to ensure sustainability of the past, on going and future activities.

- Officers trained during programs/projects are able to continue, implement and monitor DM activities;
- LRC, through the provincial branches, has capacities to effectively conduct CBDRR activities, as a process of decentralization for the RC;

CBDRR activities are considered as sustainable if the “ownership” of the programme/project belong to Community members and institutional partners;



Way forward

LRC project will aim to demonstrate the followings:

- To provide sustainable livelihood and better quality to the vulnerable people living in disaster prone areas;

Regarding these, lessons learnt from the on going projects will be released and disseminated in the near future;

- Ensure a better coordination and linkages between districts and villages prone to disasters, through building capacities of the 2 stakeholders (villages and districts);
- Simulation exercise to demonstrate the linkages between villages and districts for disaster response;
- Upscale on going activity to new areas, or new context (such as different hazard);
- Continue to reinforce Lao Red Cross capacities (materials/technical) to fully undertake its mandate;



ຂອບໃຈຫລາຍໆ !

**Thank you very much
For your attention !**

