

---

## Mailchimp Template Test - "UNFPA Lao PDR Apr - Jun 2024 Newsletter"

---

communication.unfpalaos@gmail.com <communication.unfpalaos@gmail.com>

### Lao PDR and UNFPA Commit to Working Together to Achieve the ICPD and SDGs



### What's up in Laos?

Towards achieving universal access to SRHR and implementation of the ICPD PoA

For **People** - through **Progress** - with **Partners**

Quarterly Newsletter: April - June 2024

### High-level delegation from the Lao PDR attends the 57 Session of Commission on Population and Development in the Headquarter of the United Nations in New York

A high-level delegation from the Lao PDR, composed of representatives from the Ministries of Health and Planning and Investments and the Permanent Mission in New York led by H.E Minister of Health, Dr. Bounfeng Phoummalaysith, attended the 57th Session of Commission on Population and Development (57th CPD) on 29 April -3 May 2024 at the Headquarter of the United Nations (UN) in New York, United States of America. On behalf of the Lao government, Dr. Bounfeng Phoummalaysith, Minister of Health delivered a national statement in line with the [key recommendations](#) of the National Conference on Population and Development.



[Read more](#)

## Courtesy visit to the Ministry of Health

UNFPA Lao PDR team had insightful discussion with the Minister of Health, H.E Dr. Bounfeng Phoummalaysith and Ministry of Health team on dimensions of sexual and reproductive health and rights towards climate change, landscape analysis of SRH commodities, advancing midwifery, partnership for SRHR and follow-up to national statement at Commission on Population and Development CPD57.



## Health

**Laos celebrates the International Days of the Nurse and the Midwife**

The Ministry of Health and partners celebrated the International Day of Midwife and International Nurses Day in Lao PDR to highlight the vital midwifery and nursing roles in promoting universal health coverage, including for sexual and reproductive health, maternal health and reaching the furthest behind in remote areas.

The leadership of the Lao Government saluted great investments made to advance the midwifery practices including the regulation, licensing and registration of midwives, and the continuous Professional Development to ensure every health center has at least one midwife by 2030.

A dedicated team of midwives, nurses, obstetricians, pediatricians, and dentists provided complimentary health checkups to the community.



### Expansion of Adolescents Youth Friendly Services in Lao PDR

30 participants from the Provincial Health Office, Provincial Hospital, and 9 district hospitals in Khammouane participated in the first Adolescent Youth Friendly training in the province, organized by UNFPA Laos and the Department of Healthcare and Rehabilitation (DHR) of the Ministry of Health.



### Mobile outreach to leave no one behind

Vientiane Women and Youth Center conducted a mobile outreach activity on sexual and reproductive health and rights at Garment Factories in Xaysettha Development Economic Zone in Laos to ensure that young employees receive universal access to information, counseling and services related to SRHR.



**Provision of SRH information and services to adolescent girls from ethnic communities**

In the beautiful province of Luang Prabang a group of young, tenacious girls hailing from many provinces and ethnicities are taking part in an amazing journey diving into a world of new skills. They are acquiring vocational skills such as tailoring, hairdressing, mushroom growing, and electric & motorbike repair in partnership between UNFPA and the private business: Mekong center. They joined an outreach session on SRH, organized by the village health volunteers and supported by UNFPA and the Ministry of Health.



As these inspirational girls weave their dreams into reality, they are also mastering soft skills and gaining crucial knowledge about their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

## Gender

### Assessment of male engagement activities

UNFPA visited Bolikhamxay province to monitor male engagement manual rollout. Interaction with village elders showed strong engagement to pave the way for change in the villages.

The community learns about positive male attitudes through loudspeakers, shared at community gatherings. The male engagement initiative helps inform decisions and counseling by the Village Mediation Unit.



---

## Youth

### Government, UNFPA & UNICEF Launch Groundbreaking Report on Adolescent Pregnancy in Lao PDR

The Government of Lao PDR, in partnership with UNFPA and UNICEF released a critical report, '[Understanding Pathways to Adolescent Pregnancy in Southeast Asia: Findings from Lao PDR](#)'. This collaborative effort marks a milestone in addressing the pressing issue of adolescent pregnancy through comprehensive research and analysis.



Read more

## "Me, My Body, My Planet and My Future" campaign

The Lao Youth organized a campaign to raise awareness about important information on the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, addictions, and gender-based violence in Oudomxay province.



## The first counseling unit in university opened its doors

A new Counseling Unit was launched at the National University of Laos. It is designed and equipped to provide comprehensive mental health and psychosocial support services.

This is the first-ever Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Counseling Unit at the university, and it complements ongoing programs to integrate Comprehensive Sexuality Education and MHPSS into the curriculum.



---

## Population and Development

### Provinces of Vientiane Capital, Houaphan, Bokeo and Sekong are hosting the pilot test of the upcoming Population and Housing Census of Lao PDR

Lao PDR's Population and Housing Census will take place in March 2025.

To ensure the success of this massive national statistical exercise, the Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB) has coordinated with relevant ministries and development partners to organize the pilot PHC from 27th May to 16th June 2024, with technical and financial support from UNFPA, Australian DFAT, USAID and China AID.



[Read more](#)

### Lao government to strengthen partnership with CSO for the census

30 participants from National and International civil society organizations in Lao PDR joined the 1st CSO meeting to discuss their role in supporting the 5th digital population & housing census. They saluted the complementarity, inclusive and cooperative approach engaging EVERYONE to count EVERYONE!



**In the news**  
(Images can be clicked to read more)

**Publications**  
(Images can be clicked to read more)





**Watch our recent videos**  
(Images can be clicked to watch)

**Celebrating the heros in pink: Lao midwives**



**Leeming's story on IDAHOBITI's Day 2024**



---

UNFPA Laos is grateful to the following donors for their assistance as we work towards delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled:



**Contact and follow us:**



laos.office@unfpa.org

*Copyright © 2023 UNFPA Lao PDR, All rights reserved.*  
Our mailing address is:

Lane Xang Avenue

P.O Box: 345, Vientiane, Lao PDR

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can update your preferences or unsubscribe