

Who is Noi?

- Noi is a 10 year old girl and was launched on the International Day of the Girl Child in 2016
- Noi will be followed over the next 15 years along with the SDGs and by 2030 she will be 25
- Noi was created as an advocacy tool and entry point for dialogue
- Noi was created to raise awareness about adolescent issues, especially early marriage and early pregnancy in Lao PDR
- The overall objective is to increase investments in adolescent girls through multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships



Find out more about Noi at:
<http://lao.unfpa.org/en/video/animation-film-noi>

Current Situation of Adolescent Girls in Lao PDR

- In Lao PDR there are **700,230** adolescent girls aged 10-19 years*
- There is an estimated **29%** of girls 10-19 years being part of the most vulnerable group
- More than **1 in 5** girls have dropped out of school
- More than **1 in 20** girls have never attended school
- Nearly **1 in 5** girls aged 15-19 are married
- More than **1 in 10** girls aged 15-19 have begun childbearing



*Source: Population and Housing Census 2015

The Noi Vision 2030

By 2030, Noi will have gone through all her important life-cycle stages and will be a young adult woman of 25 who has reached her full potential.

By 2030, Noi will have the necessary life-skills to live a healthy, responsible, fulfilling life and be empowered to:

- choose when and with whom to marry
- choose whether, when and how many children she wants
- have a healthy family
- be educated and able to find decent employment
- contribute to the development of herself, her community, her nation and the world.

Each year on the International Day of the Girl Child it will be assessed how much progress Noi has made in order to stay on track for achieving the SDGs, aiming to leave nobody behind.



The Noi 2030 Framework



The **Noi 2030 Framework** selects a set of specific SDG targets and indicators relevant to adolescent's development in Lao PDR.

Aim:

- To act as a baseline to systematically monitor and visualize the specific progress of adolescent girls within the regular SDG monitoring
- It allows partners to work in a coherent manner and visualizes their contribution towards both the National and Global Development Goals
- It reflects adolescent issues and progress in a chapter or an annex of the **first National Voluntary SDG Report** that Lao PDR will present in 2018

The Noi Framework

an adolescent girl situation analysis

Aim:

- To establish a **Provincial Level Adolescent Girl Profile** to identify main areas requiring concerted efforts, investment and to inform policy and programming

- To develop and test a **replicable cost-effective methodology** that can measure adolescent girls' progress through a comprehensive list of indicators

- It will include data in relation to health, education, protection status and employment. It will also reflect assets, obstacles, the environment and behaviours that directly and indirectly affect girls



First International Day of the Girl Child 2016



Many participants signed up to partner with and support Noi

Call for action

Noi is 10 years old. Capable of rapidly absorbing wisdom and knowledge from those around her, she is poised to one day become an inspiring leader, a productive worker, an innovator, a caring parent or whatever she desires

The **economic and social impacts of investment** in adolescent health and wellbeing are among the best investments that the global community can make to achieve the SDGs

Concerted efforts are needed to create a **conductive environment** in which Noi can develop and that will have a positive influence on the outcomes of the SDG agenda

The Noi 2030 vision emphasises the importance of health but taps in to many other sectors. This includes **community sensitization** and **behaviour change** at an institutional level and on the ground

Further **campaigning, introducing Noi to the whole country** and beyond is crucial to make sure Noi's issues are being recognized and addressed.



First Adolescent Research Day 2016

Theme 'Transition to Adulthood: the Importance of Adolescent Reproductive Health' **linked to SDG 3:** Good Health and Well-Being, for everyone at all ages.



Outcomes:

- Adolescent pregnancy is linked to a high maternal mortality rate; there is a need to understand the root causes around early pregnancy in order to develop effective intervention strategies
- There is limited availability of data and research on adolescents' reproductive health in Lao PDR
- The development of an adolescent research agenda
- Launch of the online platform 'SDG4A' lead by the National Institute of Public Health (NIOPH) in Lao PDR

SDG4A The Adolescent Research Network

A network for researchers and stakeholders to collaborate and build a stronger body of evidence on adolescent issues

Aim:

- Fill the **knowledge gap** in regards to adolescent issues
- Reduce **scientific uncertainties** of what works in adolescent programming
- Go beyond the numbers and explore the **root causes** of issues, particularly in relation to adolescent sexual and reproductive health



Second International Day of the Girl Child 2017



These partners supported the International Day of the Girl Child event in 2017

Second Adolescent Research Day 2017

Theme 'Nutrition & Reproductive Health from a Life-Cycle Perspective - Closing the Adolescent Data Gap to Achieve Sustainable Development' **linked to SDG 2** which aims to end hunger, improve nutrition and increase food security.



Outcomes:

- Understand the crucial link between adolescent nutrition and reproductive health - adolescence is the critical time where there is an opportunity to intervene with family planning. This allows for girls to instead become pregnant later in life and are thus able to break the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition
- There is a need to address the behavioural underlying factors of adolescent nutrition and health through Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC)
- There is a need to involve adolescents directly in research and programming



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development aims for equitable and inclusive development that leaves no one behind.

This 15-year plan promises to help transform the futures of 10-year-old girls who have traditionally been left behind.

