

# Noi Ecosystem: Progress in 2022

## Annual Summary results and highlights of Noi Ecosystem in Lao PDR

### DATA AND EVIDENCE

Technical support provided to Lao Statistics Bureau for *LSIS III*; review of available vital statistics (*CRVS strengthening*); and preparations for 5th Population and Housing Census 2025. A [UN Laos Bulletin](#) on status and vulnerabilities of women and girls in the financial and socio-economic challenges in Lao PDR was developed and disseminated. An [investment case](#) on reaching full coverage targets for Family Planning and Nutrition, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health in Lao PDR by 2030 was developed and disseminated. The UNFPA UNICEF Joint *Pathways of adolescent pregnancy study* results disseminated. *Adolescent research day* was organized in Vientiane that brought together 197 researchers and practitioners to present and discuss evidence on protecting adolescent girls in the post COVID19 context.

### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

*Nang-Noi Girls Groups curriculum for essential life skills* was delivered to 1,780 adolescent girls by 184 female mentors in Savanakheth, Bokeo and Oudomxay provinces. Boys engagement sessions were conducted for 1,200 boys by 126 male peer educators in Oudomxay province. *Over 9,100 parents and community members were sensitized on reproductive and sexual health and rights of adolescent girls* in Oudomxay, Bokeo and Savannakhet Provinces.

### KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

With a systems strengthening approach, *Comprehensive Sexuality Education integrated within the revised national primary curriculum grade 5*. Total 64,000 secondary students, 3,200 TVET students and 9,000 teacher trainee students received CSE through 554 *trained teachers in secondary schools, TVET and teacher training colleges*. 28 peer educators from young key population groups were trained on out of school CSE around Lao China Railway station in Vientiane and these peer educators delivered out of school CSE to 80 vulnerable youth including LGBTIQ+ and sex workers.

### COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Through the SNV and SFE partnerships, 641 adolescent girls received essential life skills through the Nang-Noi Girls Groups Curriculum delivered by 80 mentors in Beng and Nga districts in Oudomxay province; Viengxay district in Houaphan province and Dakchung, Laman and Kaleum in Sekong province. Partnership with the Crowne Plaza Hotel led to vocational skills training for 10 female NNGG mentors from Savannakhet province for economic empowerment.



### HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED & GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES

*The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on Social, Health, Coordination and Referral Pathways* for gender based violence prevention and response were endorsed and rolled out in the central and the selected provinces. The *male engagement manual* was revised and used to train selected facilitators, chiefs, elders as well as village health volunteers from 9 communities. The manual is being rolled out in 9 communities in Savannakhet province. *The Women's 3 Goods handbook* was implemented in 173 villages from 39 districts in 6 provinces, with a total of 15,200 households received information and knowledge on gender equality, violence against women and girls and early marriage. 14,100 people (11,280 female) received information and increased knowledge on gender equality, family planning, sexual & reproductive health and impacts of early marriage through *LWU outreach activities*. Approximately 1544, (1,326 M, 218 F) were sensitized on gender, power relations, and women's rights. Almost 4 million people reached under the *UNFPA-led joint advocacy campaign for 16 Days of Activism Against GBV* (76 partner entities). Communication means included but not limited to: loudspeakers and radio, social media and Lao Telecom text messages.

### ADVOCACY & POLICY DIALOGUE

Continued *evidence based advocacy with stakeholders* including national and provincial leaders, donors, private sector and mass organizations for *accelerating ICPD agenda, Noi 2030 Framework and increasing investments in adolescent girls and boys*. Deputy Prime Minister convened provincial vice governors for progress and next steps to integrate ICPD25 commitments and Noi Framework interventions within provincial plans. Over 350 participants attended the *International Day of the Girl Child celebration in Vientiane* organized jointly with the Lao Women's Union and 35 partner entities. Supported the Lao Youth Union for conducting consultations with members of national assembly on the Lao Young Pioneer Law and dissemination of the Lao Youth and Adolescent Development Strategy nationwide.

### SERVICE DELIVERY

140 *healthcare providers* from Champasak and Luangprabang provinces, including staff from district hospitals were trained to provide *Adolescents and Youth Friendly Services*. 165,946 young people from four provinces (Luangprabang, Champasak, Oudomxay, Savannakhet) accessed sexual and reproductive health services, both *in facilities and through outreach*. 18,775 received information and counseling on *mental health and psychosocial issues, sexual and reproductive health and gender based violence* through UNFPA supported VYC, LYU and LWU hotlines and telephone helplines.

### INNOVATION, DIGITALIZATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The Youth Innovation Challenge received 44 *submissions from young innovators to prevent unplanned pregnancies, promoting mental health and wellbeing and addressing climate change*. Awareness activities, workshops and virtual campaigns were organized under 'Me, My Body, My Planet, My Future' campaign with *active participation of 5,500 adolescents and youth* for advancing the sustainable development goals regarding their own health & well-being, climate change, protection of environment, HIV prevention and promoting gender equality. Total 9,200 young people accessed information through *Noi Yakhoo App* and over 1,000,000 young people were reached through social media.