We work alongside the government and partners to respond in crises including natural disasters and disease outbreaks by providing dignity kits, hygiene products, and essential supplies for safe motherhood, for protection, shelter and prevention of violence against women and girls; healthcare including mental and psychosocial services to women and girls.

How can you support making sexual and reproductive health information and services accessible to all women and girls in Laos?

Some itemised costs are below, efficiencies of scale are required for any implementation.

- Training 1 midwife who can support 1,003 women of reproductive age per year costs $3,000
- Training 1 health care provider on Family Planning who can provide information and service to 3,600 women of reproductive age annually costs $900 for a ten-day training.

Our main implementing partner is the Ministry of Health. The Government of Luxembourg has been a main in-country donor. We work in partnership with health partners including KOFIH, KOICA, PSI, CHAI, Plan International, ADRA, WB, SRC, PFHA, LaoPHA.

The health providers are the first point of contact who provide first-line support for survivors of GBV. We support the health sector response to GBV by building and strengthening the capacity of health providers to care for survivors and guide them through the referral system to claim their rights and access social justice. In the humanitarian context, we support the government to ensure that the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) is included in the response.

Response to Gender Based Violence (GBV)

The health providers are the first point of contact who provide first-line support for survivors of GBV. We support the health sector response to GBV by building and strengthening the capacity of health providers to care for survivors and guide them through the referral system to claim their rights and access social justice. In the humanitarian context, we support the government to ensure that the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) is included in the response.

Humanitarian response

We work alongside the government and partners to respond in crises including natural disasters and disease outbreaks by providing dignity kits, hygiene products, and essential supplies for safe motherhood, for protection, shelter and prevention of violence against women and girls; healthcare including mental and psychosocial services to women and girls.

How can you support making sexual and reproductive health information and services accessible to all women and girls in Laos?

Some itemised costs are below, efficiencies of scale are required for any implementation.

- Training 1 adolescent and youth-friendly service provider who can support adolescents and youth, costs $848.
- Training and equipping 1 health provider to provide services through telehealth who can reach out to women in remote areas with limited access to health facilities costs $2200.

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Sexual and Reproductive Health

Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) – including voluntary family planning and maternal health – for all women and young people is a human right and critical to saving lives, advancing development and promoting gender equality. It is at the core of sustainable development. The Lao Government has integrated this in national frameworks and for SDG Indicator 5.6.2 which seeks to measure the extent to which countries have national laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education, Lao PDR scores 96 out of 100.

Delivering a world where
Every pregnancy is wanted,
Every childbirth is safe, and
Every young person’s potential is fulfilled.
UNFPA’s Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) program assists the government to improve quality and use of integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health services, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, including ethnic groups and young people. We support the full implementation of the National Family Planning Action Plan and the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Strategy to address disparities in accessing Sexual and Reproductive Health and family planning. We support the country to build an effective midwifery programme towards safe motherhood and childbirth. Our interventions are heavy on prevention and where returns on investment are highest for cost effectiveness.

Our program works towards achieving the UNFPA Strategic Goal of universal access to sexual and reproductive health, to reduce preventable maternal deaths and unmet need for family planning with a focus on women and girls most left behind.

We support the government to accelerate action towards universal access to sexual and reproductive health, to reduce preventable maternal deaths and unmet need for family planning to meet the national commitment at the ICPD25 by:

- Strengthening the health system at national and subnational levels.
- Strengthening the capacity of health providers in priority provinces to deliver high-quality integrated comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information and services for all, focusing on women and girls, including those vulnerable and left behind.

- Access to safe, voluntary family planning is a human right. Family planning is central to gender equality and women’s empowerment, and it is a key factor in reducing poverty. We support the government to provide supply of quality contraceptives, gather data on family planning and advocate for policy support to increase access to family planning for all. One dollar invested in Family Planning could give a return of $7.

- As COVID-19 interrupted maternal health and SRH services, we innovated. Health providers’ capacity was strengthened to provide services remotely via telehealth and ensure continuity of essential reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services. Remote support for ensuring service providers own wellbeing is also being rolled out.

- We support the government to create a conducive environment for the provision of youth-friendly health services that address the needs of young people. We strengthen the capacity of service providers in providing SRH information and services to adolescents and youth, including the mental health psychosocial support through the Vientiane Youth Centre Hotlines.

**Towards the fulfillment of ICPD commitments**

We support the government to accelerate action towards universal access to sexual and reproductive health, to reduce preventable maternal deaths and unmet need for family planning to meet the national commitment at the ICPD25 by:

- Strengthening the health system at national and subnational levels.
- Strengthening the capacity of health providers in priority provinces to deliver high-quality integrated comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information and services for all, focusing on women and girls, including those vulnerable and left behind.

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