

What's up in Laos?

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

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

Bi-monthly Newsletter: July - August 2023

Deputy Foreign Minister receives new UNFPA Resident Representative

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UNFPA Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Phouay Khaykhamphouthan received in Vientiane on July 25 a courtesy call from new Resident Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to the Lao PDR Mr. Bakhtiyor Kadyrov.



New UNFPA Representative Presents Credentials To The Govt Of Lao PDR

26 July 2023 - Dr. Bakhtiyor Kadyrov presented credentials as the new UNFPA Representative to Lao PDR. He pledged to accelerate ICPD implementation, support SDGs, and graduation from LDC status...

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Celebration of International Days: advocacy and participation

**Laos Celebrates World Population Day With Focus On Human
Capital And Demographic Dividend**



3 August 2023 - WPD was celebrated in Laos under the theme: "Reaching 8 million: Rights and Choices for Laos to Realize Human Capital and Demographic Dividend".



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International Youth Day Celebrated Under The Theme: "Green Skills For Youth: Towards A Sustainable World"



11 August 2023 - With the participation of more than 500 young men and women, Lao Youth Union (LYU), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Delegation of the European Union to Laos (EU) jointly organized the celebration of International Youth Day at LAO-ITECC in an atmosphere of creativity, artistic performances and youth leadership to advance social and environmental



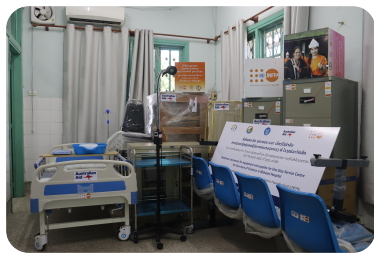
responsibility and put youth at the heart of development policies and actions...



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Quality of care and services

Operationalizing Shelters To Provide Care And Support To Survivors Of Violence



Under the Project "Improving Social/Health Services for Gender Based Violence Response" generously funded by Australian Government and implemented by Lao Women's Union (LWU) with UNFPA Lao PDR support, equipment & supplies were handed over for 5 LWU shelters to equip 5 One-Stop Service Units, aiming to ensure dignity & care for survivors of violence on the path to zero Gender Based Violence...

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Hospital Opens Doors To “One-stop” Services For Survivors Of Violence For First Time In Lao PDR

7 August 2023 – The Ministry of Health unveiled the nation's first hospital-based One-Stop Service Unit (OSSU) for survivors of violence in Mahosot Hospital.

integrated essential services to survivors of violence. Managed by the Ministry of Health with technical support from UNFPA, the OSSU will provide an integrated package of services including acute health services, mental health and psychosocial support and forensic evidence collection, as well as collaborating with other sectors to provide services to the survivor whilst they are in hospital, such as legal counseling, social services, police assistance etc...

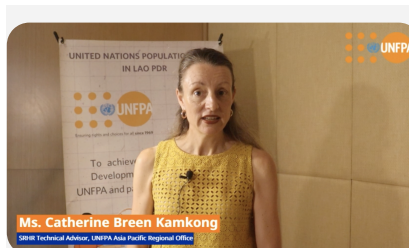


Officially opened by the Honourable Dr Sanong Thongsana, Vice Minister of Health, Australia's Gender Equality Ambassador, Ms Stephanie Copus Campbell AM, and UNFPA Representative Dr Bakhtiyor Kadyrov, the confidentially located center will provide



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Every maternal death has a story to tell: Regional workshop brought together Laos and Cambodia to continue building national capacities on Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response



[Video](#)



UNFPA and health ministry officials gather at a regional capacity-building workshop.

Ministry vows to do more to lower maternal mortality rate

Phetphoxay Sengpaseth and complications, he added. Bounfeng said. Knowing

28 August 2023 - A 4-day regional workshop on MPDSR took place in Vientiane Capital (Laos), under the leadership of the Ministry of Health of

Lao PDR, with support from UNFPA and the Australian Government and with the participation of health providers from Laos and Cambodia. The aim of the workshop was to train health staff personnel, as core trainers on MPDSR data collection, analysis and systems strengthening guidelines, as well as to receive training on the roll-out and implementation of the MPDSR system at national and subnational level...

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Youth empowerment



20 young people gathered at a Camping in July 2023 to empower their knowledge and skills through training provided by UNFPA in collaboration with the Faculty of Education (National University of Laos).

Trained young people will be engaged in sexual reproductive health, comprehensive sexuality education, mental health/psychosocial support and "Me, My Body, My Planet, My Future" Campaign as part of Noi eco-system at various major events including youth Innovation and youth led activities.



UNFPA, Ministry of Education and Sports, National University of Laos and CHIAS Laos visited the province of Luang Prabang to meet out of school adolescents and youth and community and village leaders to promote access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education and discuss way forward to strengthen out-of-school education and inclusion programs.

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Population change and data



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03 July 2023 - The first meeting of the 5th Population and Housing Census steering committee took place in Vientiane chaired by H.E. Kikeo Khaykhampithoun, Deputy Prime Minister.

Attended by high officials, provincial governors, and representatives of relevant authorities, The meeting was an opportunity to discuss and approve key documents related to the implementation of the census in 2025...

10 August 2023 - UNFPA and UNHCR hold a joint advocacy and capacity building workshop on statelessness statistics in Lao PDR.



Participants deepened their understanding about the key legal concepts of statelessness and heard from regional experiences on how to collect statelessness data. The workshop served as an advocacy platform for the inclusion of relevant questions on statelessness in the upcoming population and housing census in 2025...

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Humanitarian response - Flood and landslide in Lao PDR

In response to the recent floods that severely hit the provinces of Khammouane, Savannakhet, Champasack and Bolikhamxay, affecting women and girls, especially pregnant women.



UNFPA and the Australian Government procured, shipped and handed over five clean safe birthing kits to the Ministry of Health.

The clean delivery kits will contain essential medical items to support up to 1000 safe deliveries in the most difficult circumstances. Through Lao Women's Union and Ministry of Health 381 dignity kits were distributed in Khammouan and Savannakhet provinces benefiting more than 500 affected people.



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How is it going?

Strengthening Blood Donation Services

Earlier this year, blood storage and blood analysis equipment were handed over by UNFPA to the Lao National Blood



Institute. Since then, the materials were installed and administered by the Blood Donation and Storage Unit in Meung District, Bokeo Province. The appliances are operating to support the district's safe blood supply, blood storage, and blood donation services under the leadership of the Red Cross.

For more details on the handover ceremony of the blood storage and blood analysis equipment.

[Read more](#)

Nang Noi Girls' Group Programme

In 2022, Sengchanh, Seo, Mone, Loy and Phouvieng joined Crowne Plaza hotel for 3 months training on baking and cooking to build their vocational skills as part of out of school Nang Noi Girls' Group



activities supported by UNFPA and the Ministry of Education and Sports. Since then, they went back to their villages and received support from Crowne Plaza to open their small shops and sell their products. In a recent visit, they expressed gratitude for the opportunity they received to be trained in the capital. In the future, they hope to get further support to cope with the inflation and continue to share their cooking talent.

[Learn more](#)

Strengthening and expanding Partnerships

Ministry of Planning and Investment



UNFPA and 3 others

UNFPA Representative met with the Vice Minister of Planning & Investment to explore ways of taking stock of the progress in the implementation of Lao PDR's Population & Development Policy (2019-2030) & ICPD25 commitments in support of the 9th NSEDP.

The two parties discussed the preparation of the National Conference On Population and Development to be held in Vientiane (Laos) late October. The goal of the conference is to secure high level and multisectoral commitment for the demographic dividend and ensure practical recommendations from all counterparts are included in the statement of Lao PDR in the upcoming 7th APPC.

World Vision Laos



UNFPA and 2 others

UNFPA and World Vision Laos signed a memorandum of understanding to join efforts aiming to advance access to Adolescent Youth Friendly Services. World Vision will use their own funds to integrate in their ongoing projects, AYFS interventions using the standards and guidelines developed by UNFPA and the Ministry of Health.

Network of Persons with Disabilities



Value added contributions and roles of persons with disabilities must be recognized! UNFPA and the Network of Persons with Disabilities ([PWD](#)) had an engaging meeting to jointly advance the roles of [PWD](#) to fulfill their rights of being full members of the society as champions, initiators, innovators & advocates for the [ICPD](#) PoA & [SDGs](#).

Banque Franco-Lao



UNFPA Lao and Banque Franco-Lao met to discuss their ongoing partnership aiming to strengthen the engagement of the private sector as a key actor in supporting the empowerment of women, girls and youth in Laos. In the previous years, the cooperation between UNFPA Lao and BFL helped boost the confidence and knowledge, including financial literacy of many Nang Noi Girls who were out of school without access to life skills and capacity building.

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:



From
the People of Japan

Contact and follow us:



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