

National Implementation Capacity Development

For more effective and efficient management of nationally implemented projects



Description

Improving the operational efficiency of development programmes and projects could save up to 20% of aid resources. These saved resources can be utilized for development activities, thus enriching the quality and scope of the project concerned. In this context, building and further developing national capacities for project implementation, including those for operational and administrative functions, is critical in successfully delivering desired development results. Especially so in Lao PDR, as all the development projects supported by UNDP are nationally implemented by the government institutions. A substantial increase in management capacity would be crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other planned national development goals.

The immediate objective of this project for **Capacity Development for National Implementation (NIM Project) Phase I** is to further develop the institutional and management capacities of the Implementing Partners, including UNDP's Government Coordinating Agency, the Department of International Cooperation of Ministry of Planning and Investment (DIC/MPI), in key areas ranging from results-based management including monitoring and evaluation, to financial management, human resources management, procurement and asset management, to international standards. The longer-term objective is to make it possible for development partners, in particular among UN Agencies but beyond, to fully use national systems, procedures and institutions for ODA management in line with the Vientiane Declaration on Aid Effectiveness as well as with the UN global initiative for Harmonized Approach for Cash Transfer (HACT) to the implementing partners.

Main Objectives and Activities in 2011

- Finalize a capacity development plan for DIC/MPI
- Soft launch the "ODA RBM One Stop Service Centre" equipped with necessary human resources and equipment within DIC/MPI by end 2011
- Approve and roll out a new NIM standard operating procedures (SOP) to guide the effective and results-based management of UNDP supported programmes and projects
- Enhance capacity of National Implementing Partners (NIPs) and project support staff for results-based project management, financial management, procurement and asset management, human resources management through NIM trainings and orientations
- Increase knowledge and skills of DIC staff for effective monitoring and project assurance (including Spot Checks) in support of better project implementation and follow-up to audit recommendations
- Ensure a proper closure of NIM Project, Phase I
- Formulate of NIM Project, Phase II, from 2012
- Support to the capacity development strategies of Implementing Partners on financial management as a follow-up to HACT Micro Assessment
- Conduct UN HACT Joint Spot Check

Duration

Ongoing: Jun 2009 - Dec 2011 (2.5 years)

Location

Various locations throughout the countries

Budget

Total needs:	USD 1,748,000
2009 budget:	USD 350,000
2010 budget:	USD 500,000
2011 budget:	USD 450,000

Contributing donor(s)

UNDP (from Regular Resources)	
2009:	USD 350,000
2010:	USD 430,000
2011:	USD 430,000

Funding shortfall

USD 538,000

Partners

Implementing Partner: Department of International Cooperation (DIC), Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)

Delivery

Expenditure from the project start date till the end of last fiscal year (2010): USD 818,799

Key Results to Date (June 2009 – March 2011)

- TOR for a “ODA RBM One Stop Service Centre” drafted
- A comprehensive capacity assessment of DIC/MPI undertaken, and a short- to longer-term capacity development plan drafted
- Successfully initiated and maintaining regular Spot Checks and other field monitoring visits to support the UNDP supported projects for better project assurance, and for following up with audit recommendations.
- HACT Micro Assessment of 19 IPs conducted, which contributed to making Lao PDR “HACT Compliance” in 2010
- Assisted the NIM audit exercises, which ended with less number of observations in FY2009 that indicated better project management capacities developed among the national implementing partners.
- Assisted the DIC/MPI to consolidate, review and certify all the projects’ annual procurement plans, for the first time, which contributed to further enhancing DIC’s capacity for ODA coordination in accordance with the ODA Decree.
- A new NIM SOP was drafted
- Supported youth internship at DIC/MPI as part of the national youth capacity development

Thematic Area

UNDAF Outcome: 3 - By 2011, strengthened capacities of public and private institutions to fulfil their duties and greater people’s participation in governance and advocacy for the promotion of human rights in conformity with the Millennium Declaration

UNDP corporate Focus Area: Democratic Governance

UNDP Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) Outcome: 8 - Increased efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of the public administration at both central and local levels

UNDP CPAP Output: 8.3 - Strengthened capacities of UNDP Implementing Partners to effectively plan, manage, implement and monitor ODA, including strengthened capacities of Financial Departments to manage ODA

Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1-7: through improved project management needed for MDG achievement

Contact

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