SDNSS

The Strategy for the Development of National Statistical System
2010-2020

Improving statistics and their quality requires a vision, strategy, harmony, clear responsibility and plan for implementation.

LAO DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)
Lao Department of Statistics (DoS)
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Lao People's Democratic Republic

Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Strategy for the Development of the National Statistical System (SD NSS) 2010-2020

Vientiane, May 2010

Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)

Lao Department of Statistics (DoS)

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Foreword

Developing a good, efficient and effective National Statistical System (NSS) is necessary and crucially important for the country to improve the quality of official statistics as according to statistical scientific approaches and methodologies with the appropriate production and dissemination processes. The formulation of the **Strategies for the Development of the National Statistical System (SDNSS), 2010-2020** is intended to serve as a long-term development guideline and to address limitations and obstacles that have emerged during recent decades. Therefore, improving statistics and their quality requires a vision, strategy, harmony, clear responsibility and plan for implementation. In addition, the SDNSS also serves the purpose of monitoring and evaluating the progress of the government's policies, the the Sixth to Eighth five-year National Socio-Economic Development Plans, and Millennium Development Goals in 2015; help the country graduate from least developed status in 2020; make available the necessary statistics to support regional and international integration (ASEAN and WTO); and serve as a foundation and framework for funding mobilization, support and assistance from every member in society, both domestically and internationally.

The Strategy for the Development of National Statistical System (SDNSS) aims to improve and strengthen the foundation for the development of statistical production both in term of quantity and quality, to ensure that the National Statistical System is comparable to international standards, and to increase credibility of the National Statistical System with best practices. Moreover, it is also to make comprehensively available economic, social and environment statistics for users with high quality, timeliness, transparency and credibility; to ensure that the production of official statistics is efficient by using modern information system and methods; and to involve all members in society to actively participate in statistical production with high commitment and responsibility.

Data collection is undertaken via two methods: obtaining data from administrative records and collecting data from surveys. These two methods are necessarily to be implemented concurrently and complement each other. To avoid duplication, various indicators are defined and responsibilities are allocated among statistical offices, ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, sectors, and local agencies. However, those statistical indicators must be further studied, developed and improved continuously taking into account needs in each period and when it finds necessary. Four strategy objectives and 12 work programs/outputs and key priority activities in each work program are defined as to enhance the National Statistical System Development: improving policy, regulatory and institutional framework (six work programs); developing statistical infrastructure (two work programs); Data development and management (two work programs); and ensuring activities of statistical networks (two work programs) with the overall objectives to improve and develop the national statistical system and activities to become efficient, effective and sustainable. To ensure this set of strategies will be implemented effectively, policy makers, plan formulators, statistics producers and users and all members in the society are urged to enthusiastically support statistical activities to achieve the greatest possible success.

Part I: Current Assessment of Statistical Works, 2005-2009

1. Brief Summary of Statistical Activities and Results

1.1. Legislative Framework and Implementation

1. Have continued disseminating Decree 140/PM of August 20, 2002 regarding the "organizational structure and operation of the National Statistical System" along with implementing the strategies and measures for the official statistical system development 2006-2010. More specifically, this means continuing collecting data through administrative records and surveys, organizing meetings and seminars, and distributing Decree 104/PM to various organizations to acknowledge and implement accordingly.

2. Have assessed and evaluated the implementation of Decree 140/PM regarding the organizational structure and operation of the National Statistical System. This serves as the basis for drafting Statistics Law which will involve broad discussion and consultation with all relevant stakeholders. The draft will then be proposed to the government and the national assembly to pass in 2010.

3. Statistical offices, ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, provincial authorities, which are players in the National Statistical System (vertical and horizontal organizational network), have improved organizational structure and strengthened statistical activities under their responsibility. Department of Statistics, Ministry of Planning and Investment, has streamlined some divisions and units according to their roles and responsibilities defined in Prime Ministerial Decree 374/PM dated on October 22, 2007 regarding Organizational Structure and Operations of Ministry of Planning and Investment. Though it is still insufficient for operational needs, number of statistical staff of Department of Statistics has increased from 15 staff in 1983 to 60 at present, and from 5 divisions in 2005 to 7 divisions at present.

1.2. Statistical Infrastructure Development

1. Have studied statistical principles and international standard economic activity classification system and potential adoption taking into account actual conditions of the country. At the same time, the application of economic activity classification system has been promoted in official statistical data collection, analysis and dissemination.

2. Have developed Information technology (IT) system by using moderately advanced computers to facilitate statistical activities such as: creating statistical data storage server, Department of Statistics homepage, and internal and external networks linking databases in central and local levels.

3. In addition, security protection and statistical IT equipment maintenance have gradually been improved, though there is still limitation in budget and staff's skill.

1.3. Data Management and Development

1. Have carried out activities specified in Strategies and Measures for Official Statistical Development 2006-2010, namely data collection, compilation, analysis, dissemination and report writing. Examples of statistical products resulted from above activities are Annual Statistics Year Book; monthly, quarterly and annual price statistics (Consumer Price Index and inflation); and also price survey to support international comparison in calculating Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) in 2005 and 2008-2009. In addition, there have also been estimates of annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and annual

poverty data collection and compilation according to the Prime Ministerial Decree No. 10/PM dated June 25, 2001.

2. Ministries and ministry-equivalent organizations have completed preparing annual reports and publishing annual magazines. All provinces have completed data collection and compilation to report to their high ranking authorities within their vertical and horizontal linkages; and at the same time they have also produced statistical yearbooks to use within that particular province.

3. Have completed large-scale and sample surveys including processing and analyzing data from the surveys, writing reports and disseminating results. Those surveys are: the third Population and Housing Census in 2005, first Economic Census in 2006, fourth Household consumption and Expenditure survey in fiscal year 2007-2008, annual household surveys from 2003 to 2005 and resumed again in 2008, annual enterprise surveys from 2002 to 2006, quarterly enterprise surveys from 2003 to 2004, reproductive health survey in 2005, third woman and child health survey in 2006, and poverty participatory survey in 2005.

4. Have built aggregate databank and database using LaoInfo program to disseminate all indicators related to Millennium Development Goals. Have contributed to preparing Millennium Development Goals Progress Report volume 2 year 2008 and so on.

5. Have contributed to drafting Decree 258/PM dated on October 13, 2009 regarding poverty standard and development from 2010 to 2015 and have completed preparing survey manual and questionnaire supporting the evaluation of the implementation of this decree. Have completed producing the third and fourth National Human Development Reports which focus on international trade and human development in 2006, and the status of employment and livelihood in Lao PDR in 2009 respectively.

1.4. Capacity Building and Cooperation

1. Have organized annual meetings on official statistics supply and demand from 2006 to present which serve as annual statistical meetings as well as forum for statistics producers and users to meet, discuss and plan statistical activities together. The coordination has gradually improved through mechanisms such as data collection, dissemination and annual meetings as well as various surveys in each period.

2. Some staff from central as well as local levels have enhanced their statistical expertise and skills as well as policy theories by participating in seminars, training, and study tours both domestically and internationally. Some district level staff have enhanced their basic statistical knowledge by attending three-month training in Vietnam in 2007-2009 and other in-house trainings.

3. Have attended statistical meetings and seminars held in the country and overseas such as: ASEAN Head of Statistical Offices Meeting, United Nations Statistical Commission meeting, Asian Pacific Statistics Committee meeting, and other international meetings. Have cooperated with international agencies, attracted financial and technical assistance, developed and boosted the national statistical system's capacity. The cooperation has been done through various forms such as: Lao-Sweden Cooperation on Statistics supported by SIDA, and through the support from United Nations, Financial Institutions, development partners, and other international organizations.

2. Overall Evaluation of Key Achievements

2.1. Outstanding Outcomes from implementing Strategies for National Statistical System Development

From implementing above-mentioned main activities, many outstanding results have been obtained such as those that follow:

1. Roles and awareness of statistics have increased through the implementation of Decree No. 140/PM on organizational structure and operations of national statistical system, dissemination of statistics, and national and international cooperation.

2. Coordination within the National Statistical System has progressed well and coordination among statistics producers and users has been improved.

3. Knowledge and competences of some staff in central and local levels have been enhanced, though the quantity or capacity is still limited.

4. Official statistics (economic, social, environment and poverty) have been successfully produced; and a national database was created to support the sixth five-year Socio-Economic Development plan (2006-2010) evaluation, Millennium Development Goals Progress Report preparation, and monitoring and evaluation of other national plans.

2.2. Strengths and Causes

1. Leaders in the Ministry of Planning and Investment have consistently provided guidelines and directions on the operations of national statistical work; the Department of Statistics has performed a central role in collecting, summarizing, analyzing and disseminating official statistics which are used to support socio-economic development planning of the government and for general domestic and international users.

2. Technical staff is skillful and knowledgeable that the quality of their works is guaranteed; and they are also highly decisive. There is a gender balance among staff. There is also a large number of young staff who can easily learn and be trained.

3. Staff in the National Statistical System possess great working and data collecting experience. In particular, statistical staff in central and local levels, ministries, and sectors have been well developed, though quantity as well as capacity level is still limited.

4. Statistics Decree was promulgated in 2002 which has become legislative reference to some extent, though implementation is not fully effective. At present, the Department of Statistics is drafting a Statistics Law and will submit to National Assembly in June 2010.

5. Investment in infrastructure in district and provincial level has been made. Technical consultative team resulting from collaboration among Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Finance, Bank of Lao PDR, and Department of Statistics in an area of macroeconomics has been established.

6. Causes of these strong points are (1) the leading party and government, more specifically leaders of Ministry of Planning and Investment, have recognized the importance of statistics; (2) people in society, enterprises in urban as well as rural areas have enthusiastically provided their responses to economic and social data collection and large-scale as well as sample surveys; (3) statistics producers and users understand to some extent, though not widely and deeply enough, the foundation

about roles of statistics in integration internationally and with development partners. International organizations are interested in, pay attention to, and provide support to statistical activities.

2.3. Limitations and Causes

1. In spite of the existence of Decree No. 140/PM concerning the organizational structure and operation of the national statistical system, the decree has not been fully and widely adopted. In addition, Laos has yet to adopt a statistics law while many ASEAN countries, other countries in the Asian region, and throughout the world have already been implementing such a law.

2. Staff competence does not effectively meet the needs of the national statistical system. Comparing with many countries and to statistical needs in this modern era, numbers of statistical staff are still small.

3. The application of new technology into statistical activities is still limited due to insufficient capacity and funds.

4. Technological equipment and tools that have been used in statistical activities in the past were mainly from donor assistance. However, at present the main assistance (SIDA) has come to an end, while demands for statistics from the government as well as international agencies have increased. This resulted in a big challenge to statistical works.

5. Statistics production and dissemination are still not fully comprehensive as follows:

   - The use of statistical concepts, standards, methodologies as well as classification systems is still not satisfactory.
   - Vital registration is not systematic and is limited in implementation. Enterprise registers are not monitored, evaluated, and updated to reflect the actual situation and to be consistent.
   - Statistics production is not comprehensive. For example, many main indicators cannot be produced such as real national income; many price statistics cannot be calculated such as Producer Price Index, Import/Export Price Index, Retail/Wholesale Price Index; Poverty statistics can only be produced for five-year time frame at the national and provincial levels; and the annual assessment is not continuous and lacks clear methodology and consistency particularly for assessing household poverty.
   - Most of the reports are produced on an annual basis; reports on quarterly basis and monthly basis are still limited; and the statistical newsletter is still unavailable. Lao PDR is the only country among ASEAN members that does not have international standard statistics dissemination system.

6. Causes of these limitations are (1) some staff understand the implication and importance of statistical works but lack responsibility and ability to deeply utilize their knowledge in actual works; statistical work has not been prioritized as shown by the fact that the budget allocation and numbers of staff are insufficient to meet statistical needs in these new decades; (2) organizational structure, human resources, and management of statistical works in the National Statistical System are not adequately effective and efficient; (3) coordinating system is not systematic and continuous; works are done separately without cooperation and technical consistency.

2.4. Lessons learnt

1. Boost the development of statistical production and raise awareness about the importance and priority of statistical production as well as use of statistics evidenced by actual uses in many national and international agencies.

2. Value and enhance the roles of relevant agencies such as: statistics departments, divisions, offices, units and teams of vertical and horizontal organizational system. Establish and develop statistics units and teams in each sector. Create coordination system and mechanism within the national statistical system (from central to local levels) by focusing on adequately improving organizational structure, supporting environment and human resources, particularly at the district level.

3. Upgrade the Statistics Decrees into law; increase ownership and responsibility of all stakeholders in strictly implementing statistical decrees, regulations, and principles. Make the dissemination and report systems more systematic with high enthusiasm and participation of stakeholders.

4. Develop Information Technology system, statistical infrastructure; expand widely the dissemination coverage; and promote the technically correct uses of statistics.

5. Take a leading role in attracting assistance, adequate domestic and international sources of funding to make available sufficient budget to support statistical activities at central and local levels.

6. Cooperate internationally on statistics in terms of concepts, methodologies, and international standards to integrate regionally according to party and government's direction.

7. Producing and endorsing the national statistical system development strategies in each period are crucially necessary. Therefore, once approved by the government, they are necessarily adopted into actual works to support other activities of the party-government.

8. Increase and support feasibility studies on how IT system can be employed in statistical production and dissemination to reduce numbers of staff and increase effectiveness.

Part II: Strategies for the Development of the National Statistical System 2010-2020

1. Vision

- Strengthen the development of the National Statistical System to attain the international Standard while maintaining coherence with the Party and the Government's polices to assure good national statistics.

- Ensure the comprehensive, timely, transparent and reliable supply of good quality socio-economic and environment statistics to meet the increasing demand from the party, government and other statistics users; to serve as an indication for monitoring, evaluation and formulation of socio-economic development; and for monitoring progress of Millennium Development goals (MDGs) by 2015 and graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2020.

2. Goals and Objectives

2.1. Goals

1. To provide good quality, reliable, and timely statistics to serve and facilitate planning and decision making activities of policy makers, plan formulators and domestic as well as foreign researchers.

2. To develop the national statistical system to guarantee that all statistical activities ranging from production to dissemination are comparable and in compliance with international standards. In other words, it is to ensure that actual situation of the country is reflected scientifically as a result of technical efforts.

3. To build and enhance knowledge and capacity of staff and statisticians in the nationwide national statistical system, so that they can become more skillful in statistics to meet statistical development needs in each time period.

4. To establish an efficient and effective coordination mechanism which will make the cooperation between horizontal and vertical organizational systems become realized and systematic particularly in term of collecting, summarizing, analyzing data, building databases, exchanging and disseminating data. In addition, this is to avoid duplication that can lead to a waste of time and budget, specifically those activities under government.

5. To encourage, support, and provide assistance to all data producers to produce high quality statistics through raising their awareness of the core value, role and duty, right and responsibility in supplying statistics to allow users make use of data most effectively, conveniently, and punctually. To encourage studies and analysis of data to avoid use inconsistent with statistical principles.

6. To expand statistical cooperation with neighboring countries and countries in ASEAN, the Asian region, and the rest of the world based on the direction given by the leading party and government in opening for mutually beneficial cooperation.

7. To encourage every member in the society to fulfill their obligation in providing cooperation and statistical data, financial contribution and contributing knowledge through giving feedback and comments on statistical works.

2.2. Objectives

1. Upgrade the Decree No. 140/PM dated on August 28, 2002 regarding organizational structure and operation of national statistical system into a Statistics Law in fiscal year 2010-2011.

2. Improve and develop the National Statistical System by improving its organizational structure and establish a comprehensive and systematic centralized system of vertical organizational networks, from central to village levels, by 2015. Establish a vertical, centralized statistical system in which the Department of Statistics (DoS) under the umbrella of the Ministry of Planning and Investment which will have statistical divisions, units, and teams in provincial and district levels and will have statistical staff at village level. At the same time, strengthen statistical works in the horizontal system of organizational network (provinces and sectors) for harmonized coordination.

3. In order to ascertain a successful implementation of the national statistical system, numbers of statistical staff need to be increased to 1,400 by 2020 (this includes statistical staff in various divisions and units at provincial level), in which

    -   Numbers of staff in Department of Statistics increase from 59 at present to 160 by 2015 and to 200 by 2020

    -   Numbers of statistical staff in each ministry should on average be 6 to 10 people, particularly in big ministries such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Public Health

    -   Numbers of statistical staff in each province should on average be 6 to 10 people at provincial level.

    -   Numbers of statistical staff in each district should on average be 4 to 6 staff at district level

4. Improve and develop a horizontal statistical system (ministries and ministry-equivalent organizations); create information exchange network with the coverage of 40% of all main statistical producers by 2015 and 70% by 2020.

5. Increase production of socio-economic and environment statistics to be more comprehensive with high quality and suitability, and to enable the production of official statistical indicators that have been determined. In addition, studies and consultation among relevant organizations on potential production of new types of statistics should be continuously carried out, taking into account sources, to meet the increasing demand of statistics in each period.

    5.1 National Indicators:
    -   Produce at least 200 main indicators by 2015
    -   Produce at least 300 main indicators by 2020

    5.2 Sector Indicators:
    -   Produce at least 400 main indicators by 2015
    -   Supply at least 550 main indicators by 2020.

    5.3 Provincial Indicators:
    -   Along with the production of national and sector indicators, it is crucially necessary that those indicators be appropriately broken down into provincial

level. To achieve this, all the production processes, namely survey design, data collection and sample design, must take into account assurance of accuracy of provincial statistics. Summary of number of core indicators are presented in Appendix III.

6. Strive to successfully conduct all planned large-scale and sample surveys which serve as the basis for the production of official statistics, which in turn facilitates Socio-economic development plan formulation, Millennium Development Goals progress evaluation and Poverty assessment in each period as follows:

   6.1. From 2010-2015

   - Fourth Population and Housing Census in 2015
   - Second Economic Census in 2012
   - Second Agricultural Census in 2011
   - Fifth Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey in fiscal year 2012/2013
   - Annual Household Survey from 2010 to 2015
   - Quarterly Enterprise Survey from 2010 to 2015
   - Labor Survey in 2010 and 2015
   - Lao PDR Social Indicator Survey which will be the result of combining two surveys (Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey and Reproductive Health Survey) in 2010 and 2015
   - Vital Registration from 2010 to 2015
   - Annual Village and Household Registration from 2010 to 2015
   - Population Count in 2010
   - Annual Village Statistics and Poverty Survey from 2010 to 2015
   - Annual Enterprise Registration Statistics
   - Conduct other surveys that are necessary, including Environment and Stability statistics. Additional detail should be obtained from consultation with relevant organizations during the actual implementation of strategy.

   6.2. From 2016 to 2020

Continue carrying out large-scale surveys that have been conducted during 2010-2020. If it is necessary, time frame as well as content might be adjusted according to the changing demand of the party and government in each period. The main surveys include:

   - Third Economic Census in 2017
   - Sixth Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey in fiscal year 2017/2018
   - Annual Household Surveys from 2016 to 2020
   - Quarterly Enterprise Surveys from 2016 to 2020
   - Labor Survey in 2020
   - Lao PDR Social Indicator Survey which will be the result of combining two surveys (Woman and Child Health Survey and Reproductive Health Survey) in 2020
   - Vital Registration from 2016 to 2020
   - Annual Village and Household Registration from 2016 to 2020
   - Population Count in 2020
   - Annual Village Statistics and Poverty Survey from 2016 to 2020
   - And other necessary surveys, particularly surveys that are related to Environment and Stability and their development status.

7. Formulate capacity building work plans to enhance, through various methods, staff's knowledge in basic statistics and statistical management throughout the whole national statistical system in two periods, 2010-2015 and 2015-2020. Encourage staff to enhance their educational qualification. At least three staff a year, or 30 staff in ten years, should upgrade to diploma, bachelor's degree and master's degree; and at least 3 staff should obtain doctoral degree in 10 years.

8. Registration statistics need to be improved and adjusted annually. By the end of the strategy's implementation period, the appropriate registration system should be established officially and will be an official registration system used in Lao PDR.

9. Develop technological infrastructure and communication equipment which are up-to-date, durable, and can link vertical and horizontal organizational networks taking into account the e-government project.

3. Strategies for the Development of the National Statistical System, 2010-2020

The main responsibility of statistical staff is to produce good quality, reliable, and timely statistics to facilitate the planning and decision-making process of policy makers and general national or international users; and to improve and support statistical activities according to ten statistical principles: statistical activities are operated under a legal and regulatory framework; statistics have clear and credible sources; information are made confidential and not disclosed to protect the privacy of individuals and any legal entities; data production is under technical consistency; dissemination is based on appropriate methodologies with wide coverage and technically transparent; international standards and classifications are used; statistical production is coordinated; and international cooperation and use of resources are effective. There are 4 strategies and 12 work programs, outlined as follows:

3.1. Strategies and Work Programs (WP): Improving Regulation and Institutional Frameworks

WP 1: Establish and implement Statistics Law, and move toward scientifically sound statistical production.

WP 2: Improve the National Statistical System's organizational structure both horizontally and vertically (i.e. at both central and local levels) including recruitments and placements of staff in all statistical offices at each level to ensure smooth statistical works in each period.

WP 3: Establish mechanisms and methods to improve statistical literacy and encourage every member in the society to participate, with high responsibility, in statistical activities.

WP 4: Upgrade knowledge, capacities, and skills of statisticians in order to enable them to become experts with experiences and skills that are comparable to international standards.

WP 5: Encourage and promote the allocation of financial resources into statistical production in order to secure a certain level of budget that allows statistical activities to take place.

WP 6: Recognize and value the roles of coordination in avoiding duplication, and waste of budget /resources and time.

3.2. Strategies and Work Programs (WP): Developing Statistical Infrastructure

WP 7: Create and develop infrastructure and supporting environment to facilitate all statistical works from a notion of necessary use to efficiently sufficient use. This also includes the construction of Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to support the implementation of the national statistical system's network system plan.

WP 8: Support the applications and adaptation of international standards, methodologies and classification systems according to actual conditions of the country.

3.3. Strategies and Work Programs (WP): Management and development of data

WP 9: Boost the production and development of sector and periodical indicators with high quality and creditability. Focus on statistical services to ensure, with high responsibility, the timely supply of data in various forms.

WP 10: Improve dissemination and exchange of statistics. Enlarge official statistics database, strengthen data protection, and increase varieties of formats to make it easy for users to understand and use them statistically correctly.

3.4. Strategies and Work Programs (WP): Ensuring Statistical Activities

WP 11: Create conditions and environment to facilitate statistical activities. Protect and preserve all statistical data in the networks to avoid loss of data and their confidentiality.

WP 12: Cooperate regionally and internationally to strengthen statistical management and expertise, to share experiences, to increase access to potential sources of financial and technical assistance, and to integrate into international standards.

4. Work Programs and Main Activities for National Statistical System Development

WP 1: Establish and implement Statistics Law, and move toward scientifically sound statistical production.

Activities:

- Draft Statistics Law and its implementation decrees.

- Organize and promote the dissemination of Statistics Law and its Implementation Decrees to ensure comprehensive and effective implementation.

- Establish National Statistical Advisory Committees to increase efficiency of the coordination among stakeholders in carrying out activities, namely awareness raising, priority allocating, fund seeking, and providing technical assistance in statistical methodologies, classification systems, and other statistical issues.

WP 2: Improve the National Statistical System's organizational structure both horizontally and vertically (i.e. at both central and local levels), which includes recruitments and placements of staff in all statistical offices at each level to ensure smooth statistical works in each period.

Activities:

- Activate the implementation assessment/evaluation system emphasizing roles, responsibilities, and competencies of the National Statistical System at local as well as central levels particularly the administrative records compiled from village level reports.

- Design a comprehensive information system and develop a registration system or specific surveys that are suitable to relevant Ministries.

- Harmonize all information systems among Ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, Vientiane Municipality and provinces through necessary revisions of roles and responsibilities.

WP 3: Establish mechanisms and methods to encourage every member in the society to participate, with high responsibility, in statistical activities.

Activities:

- Create and raise awareness of the importance of statistics through advertisements, and dissemination of works related to National Statistical System Development to ensure participation of every member in the society.

- Create an efficient coordination system which allows statistics producers, users, and relevant stakeholders to cooperate, exchange information, connect, and network.

- Establish a mechanism that allows statistics producers and users to meet through participating in meetings and seminars, and closely and regularly working together at the technical level. Organize annual statistics meetings and seminars for National Statistical System managers at all management levels.

- Promote statistical thinking and perception amongst government organizations through investing in trainings in the areas of statistical data analysis and documentation at the central level to allow users to evaluate quality and reliability of statistics.

WP 4: Upgrade knowledge, competences, and skills of statisticians in order to enable them to move forward to becoming experts with experiences and skills comparable to international standards.

Activities:

Considering that universities in Lao PDR do not currently offer majors in Statistics, human resource development for the national statistical system is crucially necessary. In implementing this, we need to put highest effort to increase efficiency and strengthen various aspects as illustrated by following main activities:

- Establish "Specific Training" teams to thoroughly implement training-related work plans at every level, from central to local levels. Utilize outputs from overseas trainings; this means those who participate in such training are obligated to perform this task.

- Provide training on statistical techniques and methodologies, economic statistics which include data analysis and macroeconomic model application,

and social statistics. In addition, training on sampling, estimation techniques, and general data analysis are also important and necessary.

- Formulate human resources development plans in the area of information technology, financial management, and marketing. Provide training on organization management to managers and management-level officials in all divisions, departments, and so on.

- Data processing such as: data entry, editing, coding, cleaning, imputing for non-response, and preparing result tables.

- Statistics analysis and writing reports.

- Statistical data documentation for general dissemination as well as dissemination of raw data collected from surveys according to official statistics dissemination policies.

- Provide training on how to apply and adopt various international statistical methodologies and classification systems.

- Upgrade staff/specialists' qualifications, from Bachelor's Degree to Master's Degree and from Master's Degree to Doctoral Degree.

WP 5: Encourage and promote the allocation of financial resources into statistical production in order to secure a certain level of budget that allows statistical activities to take place.

Activities:

- Promote financial resource mobilization from various sources to meet the budgetary target in order to begin relevant statistical activities and avoid any delay.

- Identify adequate sources of funds to support strategy implementation, that is, statistical activities. Funds are channeled through legal instruments from the government budget, technical funds and from contribution from society (state and private enterprises). This is also to ensure that necessary information is available and large-scale and sample surveys are conducted according to plans.

- Study and set budgets for statistical activities at each level, line ministries, provinces, and districts. Formulate budgetary plans and propose to relevant organizations.

- Strengthen interaction among statistics producers and users at both local and central levels for sharing and exchanging information and jointly participating in capacity building activities.

- Ensure that all departments, units, and offices in the National Statistical System meet their personnel needs. Identify appropriate career advancement and staff motivation policies to retain highly skillful staff.

WP 6: Recognize and value the role of coordination in avoiding duplication, and waste of budget and time. Ensure regular and continuous coordination among statistical networks within the National Statistical System through sharing information, knowledge, and experience and assisting each other.

Activities:

- Evaluate existing coordination mechanisms of national statistics organizations in the region, particularly in ASEAN countries.

- Determine feasible schedules of official statistical releases, taking into consideration government needs and actual conditions of statistical production.

- Establish statistical quality assurance system, particularly in the case that statistics users need to conduct official statistical activities. For that, survey design must be examined by Department of Statistics for technical aspects (such as: definition, coding, questionnaire design, sample design, survey plan) to ensure great utilization of resources and avoid inaccuracy of data.

- Establish technical teams in areas of National Accounts, International Trade, Fiscal, Monetary, Balance of Payment Accounts and other surveys statistics, and other technical areas. Those technical teams must be highly responsible and working on a regular basis to ensure appropriate statistical methods are employed. In addition, poverty analysis and writing Millennium Development reports can become one of various mechanisms to coordinate all organizations.

- Strengthen and improve coordination with international organizations in an area of statistics through cooperating with Department of International Cooperation under Ministry of Planning and Investment; establish technical teams supporting the cooperation between the government and international organizations in preparing and calculating development indicators particularly the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Indicators and Human Development Index (HDI).

- Identify means to reduce duplication of statistical production through plan formulation, responsibility allocation, and identification of sources and data collection methods.

WP 7: Create and develop infrastructure and supporting environment to facilitate all statistical works from a notion of necessary use to efficiently sufficient use. This also includes the construction of Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to support the implementation of work plan 11, that is, to construct network system.

Activities:

- Upgrade ICT throughout the whole National Statistical System from central to local levels to ensure efficient and effective statistical production.

- Upgrade information technology equipment and replace obsolete ones to ensure quality and being up-to-date according to the needs in each time period.

- Repair and maintain information technology (IT) equipment.

- Update all software that are used in supporting data compilation, process, analysis, presentation, and storage such as: firewall, anti-virus, SPSS, STATA, SQL server, Mail server, Arc view, Photoshop, Lao font...

- Prepare and supply equipment supporting network installation and development (LAN, Internet, Website, Mail...)

WP 8: Support the application and adaptation of international concepts, standards, methodologies, and classification systems according to actual conditions of the country and improve consistency of official statistics.

Activities:

- Boost official statistics production to meet demand not only nationally but also internationally. Ensure that the data produced are comparable to those under international standards by following all statistical methods and being consistent in terms of concepts, definitions, classifications, and other methodologies throughout the whole National Statistical System. Avoid loss of user confidence in quality/accuracy of statistics.

- Promote and expand, according to actual conditions of Lao PDR compared to international and regional conditions, the use of International Standard Industrial Classification Revision.4 (ISIC Rev4), Classification of the functions of government (COFOG), Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purposes (COICOP), Classification of the Purposes of Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households (COPNI) as well as the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993 and 2008.

WP 9: Boost the production and development of sector and periodical indicators with high quality and creditability. Focus on statistical services to ensure the timely supply, with high responsibility, of data in various forms.

To serve as the directions for and to increase effectiveness in performing activities of the National Statistical System under a decentralized system, the Department of Statistics in collaboration with line ministries, bureaus, sectors, and local agencies has conducted studies and research on various main indicators for different types of statistics such as: economic, social, environment, and stability statistics which are categorized into national, sector, and provincial levels (more detail is found in Appendix III). In addition, data collection methods and responsibilities are determined amongst producers, namely the Department of Statistics, ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, the Ministry of Finance, and the Bank of Lao PDR. All relevant organizations should further study all indicators and evaluate their sufficiency and quality.

Section 9.1 and 9.2 describe work plans and necessary activities in statistical production and services. Work programs plan 9 is related to statistical activities; therefore, it includes the largest number of activities among all 11 work plans. However, activities defined below are still broad and only serve as general guidelines. More specific activities, which clearly specify detailed work plans and projects, will be determined by consultation and discussion with relevant ministries and sectors.

9.1. Improve and strengthen Information System

- Improve data collection systems and methods by conducting feasibility studies on data collection through administrative records and surveys (large-scale and sample surveys) which aims to supply needed information to successfully produce indicators that have been determined (national, ministry and provincial levels) in each period.

- Improve and create an information system that is the most cost-saving and effective. Unify the reporting system by depending on village report.

- Improve information systems of other ministries with the emphasis on administrative records, and data collection and compilation tools.

– Besides collecting data through administrative records, suitable surveys should be studied and designed in order to achieve data collection goals specified in this document; and other surveys or case studies should be conducted if necessary. Necessary activities include:

  ▪ Perform all survey activities which are specified in Objective 6 (6.1 and 6.2) in each period.

  ▪ Evaluate relevant quarterly and annual surveys and improve sample design to ensure technical consistency and assure that results can be used in National Accounts calculation.

  ▪ Formulate quarterly, annual, and five-year sample design strategy, including increasing samples in Annual Household Survey and include sections on education, literacy, security, and demography which are necessary to be monitored in 4-6 year period.

  ▪ Determine appropriate survey designs for annual household survey and quarterly and annual enterprise surveys to guarantee the provision of necessary data supporting modified national accounts calculation.

  ▪ Improve quarterly and annual enterprise surveys. Create enterprise registration system via collaborating and working with line ministries taking into account the results from the Economic Survey in 2006.

– Detail of each survey should be well documented including any changes made (if there are any) ranking from sample to questionnaire, content, definition, and methodologies.

– Conduct research aimed at improving data collection.

9.2. Agricultural Statistics

– Produce statistics to support calculations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

– Collect data by various methods to ensure completeness and accuracy. Data collection is based on: administrative records, agricultural census and sample survey (households and enterprises involved in agricultural activities) and from informal sector statistics. Conduct ad-hoc surveys that are allowed by the government such as: impacts from natural disasters (flood or fire), or impacts from financial crisis and inflation, for example.

– Systematize data collection; harmonize methodologies, techniques, definitions and roles of agricultural statistics production.

– Conduct agricultural sample surveys that are necessary and can facilitate policy-making, development planning, agricultural sector researching. Some examples of those surveys are: rice and main crops survey, livestock and poultry survey, and forestry area and agricultural land survey.

– Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Establish a data transferring system from local to central levels to ensure that the transfer is done in a quick, timely, complete, accurate and statistically verifiable manner.

- Estimate crop, animal and forestry products including calculation of value added of the agricultural sector to meet the needs of policy-makers, planners as well as agricultural researchers.

- Improve coordination and cooperation among government organizations, from central to local levels, who are responsible in statistical production.

- Allocate sources of funds (financial support) for surveys specifically for agricultural census conducted every 10 years.

- Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.3. Industrial Statistics (Mining, industrial processing, handicraft and energy)

- Produce statistics to support calculations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Streamline the industrial statistical information system to make it more compact and effective based on international principle.

- Improve registration statistics and conduct enterprise and economic surveys.

- Systematize data collection; harmonize methodologies, techniques, definitions and roles of statistics production.

- Establish a data transferring system from local to central levels to ensure that the transfer is done in a quick, timely, complete, accurate and statistically verifiable manner.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Improve coordination and cooperation among government organizations, from central to local levels, who are responsible in statistical production.

- Play the main role in coordinating and identifying sources of funds to support industrial statistical production, that is, economic and enterprise surveys in each period.

- Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.4. Communication, transportation, postal, telecommunication, construction statistics

- Produce statistics to support calculations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Supply data on time, conduct in-depth analysis, and disseminate official statistics.

- Produce statistics of vehicle registrations.

- Play the main role in coordinating and identifying sources of funds to support statistical production, that is, economic and enterprise surveys in each period.

- Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.5. Tourism Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Continue creating a coordination mechanism between statistical organizations and National Tourism Board to set up tourism statistics improvement plan in the future.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Encourage the use of tourism-related data from Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey and Enterprise Survey to estimate supply of (domestic tourism) and demand for (international tourism).

- Compile the tourism satellite account and link with the Great Mekong Sub-region tourism network.

- Play the main role in coordinating and identifying sources of funds to support tourism statistics production, that is, tourist survey.

- Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.6. Investment Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Improve data collection, which facilitate investment monitoring and evaluation, through administrative records and surveys.

- Improve statistics of foreign investment, by redesigning questionnaire and collaborating with the Department of Statistics, in order to obtain data on foreign direct investment, international investment position, external debts for more consistent national account estimation.

- Establish coordination mechanism and tools among agencies involved in investment statistics to make available these data domestically and internationally.

- Improve and define relevant indicators taking into account Investment law, consistency and demand for foreign investment and actual investment statistics.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

− Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.7. International Technical Assistance Statistics

− Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

− Produce and publish information on technical assistance which covers all assistance projects provided by donors. Obtain and compile data on actual implementation of assistance projects by sector and by term of and condition of assistance, and on ration of assistance contributed to Trade-related Capacity Building which is one of the MDG indicators.

− Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

− Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.8. International Trade and Balance of Payments Statistics

− Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

− Improve data on exports and imports of goods and services; develop database through the coordination mechanism and through the technical cooperation team consisting of the Department of Statistics, Bank of Lao PDR, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and Ministry of Finance (Customs Department).

− Develop a system to reduce time lag of international trade statistics compilation and dissemination (reduce from 5-6 months to 2-3 months at most).

− Adopt ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature- 8 digit classification (at the present classification system used by the Department of Statistics is only 2 digits which only detail product division).

− Start using an international transactions reporting system and begin by organizing training on data collection methods and procedures.

− Start implementing the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual, 6th edition.

− Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

− Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.9. Fiscal and Monetary Statistics

− Produce statistics to support the preparation of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Streamline data collection and compilation of MOF and BOL to enable the production of quarterly data and ensure timely and systematic supply of data to support the estimation of GDP and other macroeconomic indicators.

- Conduct feasibility study on the adoption of international classification system in dissemination of fiscal data by coordinating with concerned agencies.

- Provide equipment, computers, training and technical assistance in various forms to increase effectiveness and reduce time lag in data compilation and report.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Systematize fiscal and monetary data collection to make available monthly, quarterly and annual data to meet national accounts and international needs.

- Build a database and create data documentation for general dissemination.

9.10. National Accounts Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Make every effort to produce comprehensive national accounts statistics to meet national, regional and international demand.

- Improve, step by step, national accounts estimation by adopting international system of national accounts namely SNA1993.

- Measure gross domestic products from both production and expenditure sides; make sure the estimation is systematic and consistent with international methodologies, and every five years base year should be revised (according to economic change and development).

- Estimate gross domestic product at provincial and regional levels by using the most appropriate methods such as: using national gross domestic products value as a benchmark to estimate provincial values and other methods might be combined to ensure consistency, harmony and accuracy.

- Make every effort to produce and disseminate national accounts quarterly and annual estimation by 2013.

- Improve data quality (from both administrative records as well as surveys) with overall objectives of improving quality of GDP estimation using constant and current prices, and promoting effective use of data.

- Coordinate with concerned agencies to address statistical issues (particularly the delay of data supply) in order to calculate GDP on a timely basis.

- Improve constant price estimates (price deflator) to make GDP calculation more accurate by adopting the International Standard Industrial Classifications Revision 4.0.

- Create National Accounts Manual.

- Create national accounts database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.11. Price Statistics

- Produce statistics to make available statistical indicators at provincial, national and international levels.

- Continue improving the consumer price index by revising basket of consumption of goods and services using the results from the fourth household consumption and expenditure survey (4th LECS) fiscal year 2007/2008.

- Expand the coverage of price index calculation from 8 provinces to 12 provinces by 2010/2011 and to all provinces by 2015.

- Strive to construct producer price index for main products, by coordinating with concerned agencies, by 2012.

- Expand the coverage of construction material price index (which is only calculated for Vientiane municipal) to include main provinces (5-8 provinces) by 2010.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.12. Population Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Formulate plans for population and housing census and other sample surveys including population count.

- Produce population projections by gender, by age and by province by collaborating and cooperating with every agency under the national statistical system.

- Improve population statistics administrative records with the emphasis on village-level statistics and the use of map-based methods.

- Improve village statistical system by assessing and evaluating past performance taking into account the aim to strengthen the system.

- Provide information technology infrastructure to support village statistical system. Begin by pilot test in two provinces in 2010-2011 and expand to eight provinces by 2015 and all provinces by 2020.

- Produce official annual population projection in collaboration with various technical agencies.

- Strengthen population registration system by coordinating with concerned agencies with the aim to also obtain vital registration statistics.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.13. Poverty, Gender, MDGs Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Actively participate in providing poverty statistics and preparing poverty and MDGs progress reports.

- Build capacity in estimating and analyzing poverty and MDGs indicators derived from various sources.

- Strengthen capacity on Purchasing Power Parity concepts by cooperating with international agencies.

- Produce statistics by gender at national and provincial levels for as many indicators as possible by taking this need into account while designing survey and questionnaire and performing other relevant activities.

- Address issues of statistical gap and lack of statistics by gender by cooperating with National Committee for Advancement of Women and Lao Women Union.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.14. Education Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Harmonize and/or unify data collection systems within the Ministry of Education through reviewing mandate, roles and responsibilities.

- Improve dissemination of education statistics through development of the Ministry of Education and IT center of Department of Statistics websites.

- Study demand for data to determine the need for data collection through administrative records and education-related surveys particularly survey on literacy.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.15. Public Health Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Improve data collection systems within the Ministry of Public Health through reviewing mandate, roles and responsibilities before providing appropriate training.

- Support the expansion of coverage of reproductive health and woman and child health surveys. If decision is to be made these surveys should not be combined and formed as population and health survey.

- Improve coordination system and public health statistics compilation from central to local levels.

- Play the main role in coordinating and attracting sources of funds to support statistical production, that is, survey in each period.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.16. Labor and Welfare Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Household consumption and expenditure survey should contain a dedicated section on labor in order to provide information on labor force characteristics.

- Increase analysis of labor market based on data from large-scale and sample surveys such as: population and housing census, and economic and enterprise surveys.

- Conduct labor survey (labor market survey) to provide information on labor supply-demand as well as human resource and labor force development to support jobs creation and industrialization according to the market needs.

- Play the main role in coordinating and attracting sources of funds to support statistical production, that is, labor survey in each period.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.17. Culture and Sport Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Support research and analysis based on surveys on culture and sport.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.18. Environment Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Determine environment indicators taking into account environmental strategy and consistency with international standard particularly the MDGs indicators.

- Conduct appropriate research and surveys to obtain environment statistics.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.19. Land Use Statistics

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Determine relevant indices based on Land Law and taking into consideration demand for statistics on land use, land rights and areas of land by type and so on.

- Systematize data collection; compile data on land areas by type as well as land market development in order to create map-based statistics which allows exchange of information among statistics producers and users.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

9.20. Other Statistics (Accident, Disability, Court, Criminal and so on)

- Produce statistics to support computations of the specified indicators which will be included in statistical datasets at national, provincial, sector and local levels in each period. At the same time, sector indicators should be developed.

- Determine relevant indicators by implementing the defined plans and objectives by each agency.

- Enhance knowledge and build capacity of staff at ministry, division and district levels particularly in data collection, data processing and data management.

- Create database and documentation for general dissemination.

WP 10: Improve dissemination and exchange of statistics. Enlarge official statistics database, strengthen data protection, and increase varieties of formats to make it easy for users to understand and use them in appropriate way.

Activities:

The government of Lao PDR aims to use the General Data Dissemination Standard (GDDS) which comprises four main properties ("dimensions") which serve as objectives when compiling and disseminating data. Those dimensions

are: data (coverage, periodicity, and timeliness), quality, integrity, and access by the public. Therefore, the Department of Statistics has played a core role in supporting and cooperating with other statistics producers within the national statistical system to employ GDDS in their data dissemination. The main activities undertaken are:

− Define and improve official statistics as well as raw data dissemination policies taking into account users' needs. Although currently we still cannot determine an appropriate statistical release schedule to allow universal access to the data by various users, we treat this as our long-term strategy.

− Produce manual on how to document data.

− Improve and expand modes of dissemination to increase variety and timeliness specifically through the use of website to disseminate various surveys' results. The Department of Statistics will determine schedules for statistical releases, publications and the release through the website. Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping will be used as one of dissemination methods; and LaoInfo software will be used to disseminate economic and social indicators. The dissemination will begin this year. In addition, the Department of Statistics will attempt to expand formats of statistics to make available data by province on the top of national data; this project is carried out from 2009-2014.

− Develop and establish statistical service (dissemination) team to efficiently provide information to users.

− Conduct users' satisfaction and data quality surveys by developing suitable questionnaire that can measure expectation, satisfaction, and opinion on timeliness, accuracy and reliability of data.

WP 11: Create supporting conditions and environment to facilitate statistical activities. Create computer network to link all statistical agencies as well as other relevant organizations, and gear toward linking to e-Government system in terme of database storage and protection. Protect and preserve all statistical data in the networks to avoid loss of data and their confidentiality.

Activities:

− Improve and establish networking communication mechanism among sector and local statistical offices to facilitate the coordination among them.

− Construct communication technology networks to store databases and allow exchanges of data among vertical and horizontal organizations (i.e. central and local offices).

− Organize technical meetings to exchange and share ideas and issues pertaining to network system in each period.

− Study and determine solutions to address problems pertaining to the delay of data collection, processing and publication. Strengthen the ownership and management in every process of statistical production.

− Resolve the delay problems in data compilation and dissemination in all levels.

- Recruit suitable staff. Provide them with short-term training particularly on data analysis and interpretation.

- Create data protection and preservation system in all statistical networks to avoid loss of data and their confidentiality.

- Create a server and link all databases in National Statistical System including Department of Statistics' data.

- Establish statistical linkage that is consistent with government-wide ICT networks by providing equipment, particularly computers, to districts and provinces to facility statistical linkage at village and community levels.

- Provide software and training to district level on a continuous basis. Study the feasibility of improving GDP calculation at the provincial level. Create GDP calculation manual to ensure consistency, that is, data are comparable across all provinces.

- In the short-term, conduct a pilot test and study on the consolidation of data collections performed by all relevant sectors at the village level (for some important indices related to production or output). Collections are based on administrative records by treating village as the core. Collected data are then compiled at district, provincial and central (ministry) levels.

WP 12:   Cooperate regionally and internationally to strengthen statistical management and expertise, to share experiences, increase access to potential sources of financial and technical assistances, and integrate international standards.

Activities:

- Establish cooperation mechanism and tighten technical cooperation with ASEAN, Asia-Pacific countries as well as the rest of the world which is considered essential for improving statistical activities and international integration.

- Cooperate with ASEAN member countries and attract assistance in capacity building and enhancing.

- Establish and tighten cooperation with International Organizations and domestic and international development partners to improve statistical data production, reporting and dissemination of National Statistical System outputs.

- Establish cooperative networks at regional and international levels particularly with ASEAN+3 member countries. Participate in statistical meetings held in ASEAN and Asia-Pacific regions to exchange experiences in statistical activities and contribute ideas and comments that are beneficial to increasing effectiveness of statistical production, information dissemination, statistical methodology development, and data collection tool development.

5. Budget Needs

This strategic plan has an estimated budget for implementing statistical activities in the coming years; **Appendix II.b** summarizes those budgetary needs. In addition to costs pertaining to conducting surveys, administrative expenses such as human resource

development costs, costs of repairing and upgrading statistical infrastructure and costs incurred throughout production process are also included. However, this budget does not cover all the technical needs. Therefore, this issue will become clearer when annual plans are formulated.

Nevertheless, it has been found that capacity of the national statistical system in fiscal year 2008/2009 in term of human and financial resources was much far behind as compared to the needs specified in this strategic document. Hence, some priority activities need to be included in annual plans if resources are adequate.

To address this problem, national statistical development is, therefore, urgently necessary. The budget for statistics works and development should be adequate from both the government budget and donor assistance; otherwise, quality might be limited or the worst case is no activity can be carried out.

From the estimation, the overall budgetary need for 2010-2020[1] is approximately 239.4 thousand billion kips or about 21.8 billion kips per year. In which, 38.8 billion, or 7.6 billion kips per year, is estimated to come from government budget. The estimation includes the administrative expenses and is based on the assumption that the administrative, statistical infrastructure, and coordination costs by 2020 are the same as those in 2008; in fact, those values might change. Appendix II.b. details the budgetary need by types of expenses such as: administrative expenses, salaries, human development expense and surveys.

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[1] This is based on the primary estimation. The budgetary need will be consulted and discussed further particularly for education and public health sectors.

Part III: Measures to Implement the Strategies for the Development of the National Statistical System, 2011-2020

To ensure that the objectives specified in the Strategies for Development of the National Statistical System (SDNSS) 2010-2020 are achieved, all stakeholders need to actively perform their responsible activities, strongly contribute to and coordinate with each other, clearly allocate responsibilities, and assess and evaluate the performance and outcomes in each period described in more detail as follows:

1. The Ministry of Planning and Investment issues the notification decree/letter to activate the implementation of the SDNSS particularly to make sure that the detail of this strategic document, more importantly the annual plans, are thoroughly adopted.

2. Every stakeholder has an obligation and duty to disseminate this set of strategies and integrate them into their work plans (all ministries, sectors, and local agencies need to produce, based on the SDNSS, their master, annual, work, and project plans which clearly define activities, objectives, human and financial resource needs and detailed measures) to ensure consistency and support from each other.

3. To ensure all goals and objectives are met, all stakeholders should give attention to human resource development, beginning with providing short-term training on basic statistics or training on the job and move forward to medium and long terms. Therefore, it is necessary to formulate the detailed human resources development plan.

4. Authorize the Department of Statistics, Ministry of Planning and Investment to serve as a coordinating body for the National Statistical System development, or more specifically for vertical organizational network. At the same time, the leaders of each organization in horizontal organizational network of NSS need to appropriately improve their organizational structure and budget to ensure successful statistical activities. It is also necessary that every agency take statistical works seriously and give priority to them accordingly.

5. Considering the current situation, statistical coordination is crucially necessary to achieve the goals and objectives specified in this strategy particularly statistical work management such as: works pertaining to organizational structure (Statistical Advisory board, statistical department, divisions, and units), works among vertical and horizontal organizational network, budget, and the need for statisticians to be mandated or certified or authorized.

6. In this new era advertising and awareness raising also play an important role in supporting statistical work to achieve determined goals and objectives. Therefore, it is necessary that every stakeholder participates in collaboration with ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, municipality, provinces and district.

7. To ensure successful implementation, a certain level of funds should be available; this issue is also mentioned in this document. Government budget allocations for statistical work should only be used for statistical activities, that is, to support all statistical activities carried out throughout the vertical and horizontal organizational network (from central to local levels). Besides government financial support, other sources of funds in the society and international sources should also be sought taking into account party and government's direction: solicit assistance from overseas and cooperation from various agencies particularly from civil society organizations as

well as general citizens. At the beginning, the proportion of international contribution might be relatively larger and then it should gradually decline and government contribution become proportionally larger; this is also consistent with the aim to graduate the country from the Least Developed Country status by 2020.

8. In order to secure adequate funding to support implementation of activities, two main sources should be combined: for the first five years, international sources of funding should be given priority with some contribution from government, then government budget should become the main source of funding when government revenue has been strengthened.

9. In order to successfully implement the directive policy of the party and government on fund mobilization, the Department of Statistics coordinates with other relevant and local agencies to assess demand for resources for statistical activities, and coordinates directly with department of international cooperation, MPI to determine potential supply of funding, experts as well as technical equipment from international donors.

10. The implementation of this strategy must be consistent with other plans of ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, municipality, provinces and districts with overall emphasis on working as a team with high individual responsibility.

11. Every stakeholder including the Department of Statistics, MPI is responsible for monitoring, assessing, evaluating and reporting the results of implementation of this strategy and other work plans in each period. These activities should be carried out twice a year (every six months).

12. Authorize the national statistical advisory committee in collaboration with the MPI to establish the evaluation team/committee to evaluate the implementation of strategies during the midterm and final period (2020) of the strategy. The mid-term evaluation focuses on: whether specified objectives are met, what activities have been implemented and which ones have not, what are the successful outcomes and limitations should there be any adjustment to the planned implementation of the rest of the strategy? More specifically the evaluation of the first five-year strategy implementation emphasizes overall outcomes, quality and factors that drive the outcomes.

Appendices

List of Appendices

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2. Appendix II.a: Summary of main work plans and activities for National Statistical System Development, 2010- 2020
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4. Appendix III: Summary of Indicators by types of statistics
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Appendix I. Types of Official Statistics in Lao P.D.R

Types of official statistics	Main Data Sources
I. Economic Statistics	
1. National Accounts Statistics	Economic and sector statistical data from administrative records and surveys
2. Price and Price Index Statistics	Price survey, Enterprise Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey and administrative records
3. Government Finance and Fiscal Statistics	Administrative records, Ministry of Finance
4. Monetary and Exchange Rate Statistics	Monetary and Banking System Survey, administrative records from Bank of Lao P.D.R and Ministry of Finance
5. Banking Statistics	Monetary and Banking System Survey, administrative records from Bank of Lao P.D.R and Ministry of Finance
6. Insurance Statistics	Enterprise survey
7. International Trade Statistics	Administrative records (Department of Customs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Bank of Lao P.D.R)
8. Balance of Payments Statistics	Administrative records (Department of Customs, Ministry of Finance, Banking Statistics), Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey and other specific surveys
9. Debt Statistics	Administrative records (Ministry of Finance, Bank of Lao P.D.R, Ministry of Planning and Investment)
10. Agriculture, forestry and fishery Statistics	Agricultural survey, Annual Household Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, Village statistical books, agricultural sample survey, administrative records
11. Industry and handicraft Statistics	Enterprise Survey, annual and quarterly enterprise sample surveys, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, administrative records
12. Mining and Energy Statistics	Enterprise survey, annual and quarterly enterprise sample surveys, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, administrative records
13. Domestic Trade and Service Statistics	Enterprise survey, annual and quarterly enterprise sample surveys, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, administrative records
14. Communication and Transportation Statistics	Vehicle register, transportation specific survey, Enterprise survey, Annual Household Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, administrative records
15. Postal, telecommunication and technological communication Statistics	Enterprise survey, Annual Household Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, administrative records
16. Tourism Statistics	Tourist spending and length of stay survey, Enterprise Survey, Annual Household Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, specific sample survey, administrative records (immigration records)
17. Investment Statistics	Enterprise survey, administrative records
18. Technical Assistant for Development Statistics	Administrative records (Ministry of Finance, Bank of Lao P.D.R and Ministry of Planning and Investment)

Types of official statistics	Main Data Sources
19. Enterprise and Vehicle Registration Statistics	Enterprise survey, annual registration records, administrative records from Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Industry and Commerce
20. Other Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
II. Cultural and Social Statistics	
1. Population Statistics	Population census, household survey, mid-term population count
2. Education Statistics	Administrative records, Population and Housing Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, School mapping survey
3. Public Health Statistics	Administrative records, Population and Housing Survey, Woman and Child Health Survey, National Health Survey, Reproductive Health Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey
4. Labor Statistics	Enterprise Survey, Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey
5. Poverty Statistics	Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey, and administrative records
6. Media and Cultural Statistics	Administrative records, Time-use Survey (Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey)
7. Sports Statistics	Administrative records
8. Disability Statistics	Population Census and administrative records
9. Crime and Justice Statistics	Administrative records
10. Accident Statistics	Administrative records
11. Ethnic and Social Organization Statistics	Population Census and administrative records
12. Province, district, village number registration Statistics	Administrative records (village level statistics), Population Census
13. Other Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
III. Environment and Natural Resource Statistics	
1. Meteorology Statistics	Administrative records
2. Hydrology Statistics -	Administrative records
3. Geographic Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
4. Geology Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
5. Disaster Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
6. Pollution Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
7. Waste Statistics	Administrative records and surveys
8. Other Statistics	Administrative records and surveys

Types of official statistics	Main Data Sources
IV. Security/Stability interms of Economic and Social Statistics	
1. Food security Statistics	Administrative records and Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey
2. Social Protection and Welfare Statistics	Administrative records and annual household survey
3. Living Condition (Nutrition)	household consumption and expenditure survey
4. Living condition Risk factor Statistics	Administrative records and annual household survey
5. Other Statistics	Administrative records and surveys

Appendix II.a: Summary of Work Programs and Main activities for National Statistical System Development, 2010-2020

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1. Establish and implement Statistics Law, and to move toward to scientifically sound statistical production.	i). Draft Statistics Law and its implementation decrees.	X										
	ii). Organize and promote the dissemination of Statistics Law and its Implementation Decrees to ensure comprehensive and effective implementation.	X										
	iii). Establish National Statistical Advisory Committees to increase coordination efficiency in implementation.	X										
	iv). Propose the promulgation of Statistics Law to the National Assembly.	X										

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
2. Improve the National Statistical System's organizational structure both horizontally and vertically (i.e. at both central and local levels), which includes recruitments and placements of staff in all statistical offices at each level to ensure smooth statistical works in each period.	i). Activate the implementation assessing-evaluating system emphasizing roles, responsibilities and competencies of the National Statistical System at local as well as central levels particularly the administrative records compiled from village level reports.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Design a comprehensive information system and develop registration system or specific surveys that are suitable to relevant Ministries.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iii). Harmonize all information systems among Ministries through necessary revisions of roles and responsibilities of each ministry after evaluation.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
3. Establish mechanisms and methods to encourage every member in the society to participate, with high responsibility, in statistical activities.	i). Create and raise awareness of the importance of statistics through advertisements, and dissemination of works that relate to National Statistical System Development to ensure participation of every member in the society.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Create an efficient coordination system which allows statistics producers, users and relevant parties to cooperate, share information, connect, and network.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iii). Establish a mechanism that allows statistics producers and users to meet through participating in meetings and seminars, and closely and regularly working together at the technical level. Organize annual statistics meetings and seminars for National Statistical System managers at all management levels.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iv). Promote statistical thinking and perception amongst government organizations through investing in trainings in the areas of statistical data analysis and documentation at the central level to allow users to evaluate quality and reliability of statistics.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	v). Celebrate Lao National Statistics day nationwide	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
4. Upgrade knowledge, capacities, and skills of statisticians in order to become experts with experiences and skills comparable to international standards.	i). Establish "Specific Training" teams to thoroughly implement training related work plans at every level, from central to local levels. Utilize results from overseas trainings.											
	ii). Provide training on statistical techniques and methodologies, more specifically on sampling, estimation techniques, data analysis and survey management.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
	iii). Formulate human resources development plans in the area of information technology, financial management, and marketing. Provide training on organization management to managers and management level officials in all divisions, departments and so on.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
	iv). Data processing such as: data entry, editing, coding, cleaning, imputing for non-response, and preparing result tables.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	v). Statistical data analysis and report writing. Provide training on economic statistics more particularly on time series data analysis and macroeconomic models application.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
	vi). Statistical data documentations for general dissemination as well as dissemination of raw data collected from surveys according to official statistics dissemination policies.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
	vii). Provide training on how to apply and adopt various international statistical methodologies and classifications.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
	viii). Statistical data presentation and dissemination.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
	ix). Upgrade staff/specialists' qualifications, from Bachelor Degree to Master Degree and from Master Degree to Doctoral Degree.		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
5. Encourage and promote the allocation of financial resources into statistical production in order to secure a certain level of budget that allows statistical activities to take place.	i). Promote financial resource mobilization from various sources to meet the budgetary target in order to begin relevant statistical activities and avoid any delay.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Identify adequate sources of funds to support strategy implementation, that is, statistical activities. Funds are channeled through legal instruments from the government budget, technical funds and from contribution from society (state and private enterprises). This is also to ensure that necessary information is available and large-scale and sample surveys are conducted according to plans.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iii). Study and set budgets for statistical activities at each level, line ministries, provinces and districts. Formulate budgetary plans and propose to relevant organizations.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	iv). Strengthen interaction among statistics producers and users at both local and central levels for sharing and exchanging information and jointly participating in capacity building activities.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	v). Ensure that each departments, units, and offices in National Statistical System meet their personnel needs. Identify appropriate career advancement and staff motivation policies to retain highly skilled staff.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	vi). Support and determine sources of funds for surveys that are important and necessary.		x			x	x	x	x		x	

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
6. Recognize and value the roles of coordination to avoid duplication, and waste of budget and time. Ensure regular and continuous coordination among statistical networks within the National Statistical System through exchanging information, knowledge and experience and assisting each other.	i). Evaluate existing coordination mechanisms of national statistics organizations in the region, particularly in ASEAN countries excluding the statistics users and producers meetings.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Determine feasible schedules of official statistical releases, taking into consideration government needs and actual conditions of statistical production.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iii). Establish statistical quality assurance system, particularly in the case that statistics users need to conduct official statistical activities. For that, survey design must be examined by Department of Statistics for technical aspects (such as: definition, coding, questionnaire design, sample design, survey plan) to ensure great utilization of resources and avoid inaccuracy of data.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	iv). Establish technical teams in areas of National Accounts, International Trade, Fiscal, Monetary, Balance of Payment Accounts, and other surveys statistics. Those technical teams must be highly responsible and working on a regular basis to ensure appropriate statistical methods. In addition, poverty analysis and writing Millennium Development reports can become one of various mechanisms to coordinate among all organizations.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	v). Strengthen and improve coordination with international organizations in an area of statistics through cooperating with Department of International Cooperation under the Ministry of Planning and Investment; establish technical teams supporting the cooperation between the government and international organizations in preparing and calculating development indicators particularly the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Indicators and Human Development Index (HDI).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	vi). Identify means to reduce duplication of statistical production through plan formulation, responsibility allocation, and identification of sources and data collection methods.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
7. Create and develop infrastructure and supporting environment to facilitate all statistical works from a notion of necessary use to efficiently sufficient use. This also includes the construction of Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to support the implementation of the national statistical system's network system strategic objective.	i). Upgrade ICT throughout the whole National Statistical System from central to local levels to ensure efficient and effective statistical production.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Upgrade information technology equipment and replace obsolete ones to ensure quality and being up-to-date according the needs in each time period.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	iii). Repair and maintain information technology (IT) equipment.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iv). Update all software that are used in supporting data compilation, process, analysis, presentation, and storage such as: firewall, anti-virus, SPSS, STATA, SQL server, Mail server, Arc view, Photoshop, Lao font…	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	v). Prepare and supply equipment supporting network installation and development (LAN, Internet, Website, Mail...)		x			x			x			x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
8. Support the applications and adaptation of international concepts, standards, methodologies and classification systems according to actual conditions of the country.	i). Boost official statistics production to meet demand not only nationally but also internationally. Ensure that the produced statistics are comparable to those under international standards by following all statistical methods and being consistent in terms of concepts, definitions, classifications, and other methodologies throughout the whole National Statistical System.	x					x					x
	ii). Promote and expand, according to actual conditions of Lao PDR compared to international and regional conditions, the use of International Standard Industrial Classification Revision.4 (ISIC Rev4), Classification of the functions of government (COFOG), Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purposes (COICOP), Classification of the Purposes of Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households (COPNI) as well as the System of National Accounts (SNA) 1993 and 2008.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
9. Boost the production and development of sector and periodical statistical indicators with high quality and creditability. Focus on statistical services to ensure, with high responsibility, the timely supply of data in various forms.	i). Provide training on survey methodology, data indexing and coding, and other data management to statistical staff in the whole National Statistical System.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Provide training to field staff.		x			x	x	x	x		x	
	iii). Provide training to survey respondents to enable provision of accurate and timely data.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iv). Carry out enterprise registration.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	v). Improve household survey accounts.		x			x		x			x	

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	vi). Improve survey mapping (digital system).		x			x		x			x	
	vii). Produce official statistics with appropriate categorization (broad or narrow definition)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	viii). Develop tools to support users' satisfaction assessment and conduct users' satisfaction study.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ix). Improve data management and data exchange system. Improve statistical publications.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x). Conduct large-scale and sample surveys specified in MDG 6 (6.1 and 6.2), please refer to Appendix IV.											

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
10. Improve dissemination and exchange of statistics. Enlarge official statistics database, strengthen data protection, and increase varieties of formats to make it easy for users to understand and use them statistically correctly.	i). Develop dissemination policies.	x					x					x
	ii). Define and improve official statistics dissemination policies which includes dissemination of raw data to meet users' needs.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iii). Create and provide data documentation manual.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iv). Improve and increase modes of dissemination to increase variety and timeliness specifically through the use of website, mapping system, and Lao Info System in dissemination of various surveys' results.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	v). Develop and improve statistical and information services to be more efficient to users.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	vi). Conduct users' satisfaction and data quality surveys by developing suitable questionnaire that can measure expectation, satisfaction, and opinion on timeliness, accuracy and reliability of data.	x	x				x					x
	vii). Build libraries	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
11. Create conditions and environment to facilitate statistical activities. Protect and preserve all statistical data in the networks to avoid loss of data and their confidentiality.	i). Improve and establish networking communication mechanism among sector and local statistical offices to facilitate the coordination among them.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Construct communication technology networks to store databases and allow exchanges of data among central and local offices.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iii). Organize technical meetings to exchange and share ideas and issues pertaining to the network system.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iv). Study and determine solutions to problems pertaining to the delay of data collection, processing and publication. Strengthen the ownership and management in every process of statistical production.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	v). Resolve the delay problems in information reporting and dissemination at all levels.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	vi). Recruit suitable staff. Provide them with short-term training particularly on data analysis and interpretation.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	vii). Create data protection and preservation system in all statistical networks to avoid loss of data and their confidentiality.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	viii). Create a server and link all databases in National Statistical System including Department of Statistics' data.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ix). Establish statistical integration that is consistent with government's long-distance network by providing equipment, particularly computers, to districts and provinces to facility statistical integration at village and community levels.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	x). Provide software and training to district level on a continuous basis. Study the feasibility in improving GDP calculation at the provincial level. Create GDP calculation manual to ensure consistency, that is, data are comparable across all provinces.		x		x		x		x		x	
	xi). Conduct a pilot test and study the consolidation of data collections performed by all relevant sectors at the village level (for some important indices related to production or output). Collections are based on administrative records by treating village as the core. Collected data are then compiled at district, provincial and central (ministry) levels.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
12. Cooperate regionally and internationally to strengthen statistical management and expertise, to share experiences, to increase access to potential sources of financial and technical assistance, and to integrate international standards.	i). Establish cooperation mechanism and tighten technical cooperation with ASEAN, Asia-Pacific countries as well as the rest of the world which is viewed as essential for improving statistical activities and for international integration.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	ii). Establish and tighten cooperation with International Organizations and domestic and international development partners to improve statistical data production, reporting and dissemination of National Statistical System outputs.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Work Plans	Activities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	iii). Establish cooperative networks at regional and international levels particularly with ASEAN+3 member countries. Participate in statistical meetings held in ASEAN and Asia-Pacific regions to share experiences in statistical activities and contribute ideas and comments that are beneficial to increasing effectiveness of statistical production, information dissemination, statistical methodology development, and data collection tool development.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	iv). Cooperate with ASEAN member countries and obtain their support and assistance in capacity building and upgrading.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X

Appendix II.b: Financial needs and budget for plan implementation, 2010-2020

No.	Description	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2010-2015
	Total (Kips)	21,751,211,030	11,313,436,995	23,122,026,519	16,914,316,105	19,724,195,295	36,025,864,245	128,851,050,189
	Total (bill. Kips)	21.75	11.31	23.12	16.91	19.72	36.03	128.85
	Total (US Dollars), 8500 kips/$	2,558,967	1,330,993	2,720,238	1,989,920	2,320,494	4,238,337	15,158,948
I	**Salary**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
II	**Operational and Human Resource Development and Upgrading Expenses**	4,206,194,400	5,899,351,900	6,014,249,800	5,308,749,800	7,648,241,500	5,422,165,300	34,498,952,700
2.1	Operational Expenses	2,762,214,400	3,538,646,900	3,653,544,800	2,948,044,800	5,287,536,500	3,061,460,300	21,251,447,400
2.2	Human Resource Development and Upgrading Expenses	1,443,980,000	2,360,705,000	2,360,705,000	2,360,705,000	2,360,705,000	2,360,705,000	13,247,505,000
III	**Survey Expenses**	16,509,254,200	4,875,350,000	16,006,727,837	10,800,122,681	11,136,706,400	28,888,181,600	88,216,342,718
	Survey Expenses to be proposed to International Agencies	16,259,254,200	1,787,290,000	9,814,293,837	6,040,476,681	8,048,646,400	25,800,121,600	67,750,082,718
	Survey Expenses to be proposed to Government	250,000,000	3,088,060,000	6,192,434,000	4,759,646,000	3,088,060,000	3,088,060,000	20,466,260,000
IV	**Administrative and other Expenses**	1,035,772,430	538,735,095	1,101,048,882	805,443,624	939,247,395	1,715,517,345	6,135,764,771

Appendix II.b: Financial needs and budget for plan implementation, 2010-2020 (cont'd)

No.	Description	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016-2020	2010-2020	Annual Average
	Total (Kips)	**10,622,752,665.00**	**26,385,228,803.71**	**16,709,888,980.46**	**33,626,288,740.96**	**23,205,455,175.00**	**110,549,614,365.12**	**239,400,674,554.29**	**21,763,697,686.75**
	Total (bill. Kips)	**10.62**	**26.39**	**16.71**	**33.63**	**23.21**	**11,055.00**	**239.40**	**21.76**
	Total (US Dollars), 8500 kips/$	**1,249,735.61**	**3,104,144.57**	**1,965,869.29**	**3,956,033.97**	**2,730,053.55**	**13,005,836.89**	**28,164,785.24**	**2,560,435.02**
I	**Salary**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
II	**Operational and Human Resource Development and Upgrading Expenses**	**5,241,557,300.00**	**7,344,961,500.00**	**5,114,057,300.00**	**4,944,057,300.00**	**5,591,179,300.00**	**28,235,812,700.00**	**62,734,765,400.00**	**5.70**
2.1	Operational Expenses	2,880,852,300.00	4,984,256,500.00	2,753,352,300.00	2,583,352,300.00	3,230,474,300.00	16,432,287,700.00	37,683,735,400.00	3.43
2.2	Human Resource Development and Upgrading Expenses	2,360,705,000.00	2,360,705,000.00	2,360,705,000.00	2,360,705,000.00	2,360,705,000.00	11,803,525,000.00	25,051,030,000.00	2.28
III	**Survey Expenses**	**4,875,350,000.00**	**17,783,827,836.86**	**10,800,122,681.39**	**27,080,979,596.15**	**16,509,254,200.00**	**77,049,534,314.40**	**165,265,877,032.65**	**15.02**
	Survey Expenses to be proposed to International Agencies	1,787,290,000.00	11,591,393,836.86	6,040,476,681.39	23,992,919,596.15	13,421,194,200.00	56,833,274,314.40	124,583,357,032.65	11.33
	Survey Expenses to be proposed to Government	3,088,060,000.00	6,192,434,000.00	4,759,646,000.00	3,088,060,000.00	3,088,060,000.00	20,216,260,000.00	40,682,520,000.00	3.70
IV	**Administrative and other Expenses**	**505,845,365.00**	**1,256,439,466.84**	**795,708,999.07**	**1,601,251,844.81**	**1,105,021,675.00**	**5,264,267,350.72**	**11,400,032,121.63**	**1.04**

Appendix III: Summary of Indicators by Types of Statistics

No.	Types of Statistics	National Indicators	Sector Indicators	Provincial Indicators	Total
I.	Economic Statistics	198	344	203	399
II.	Cultural and Social Statistics	114	211	126	316
III.	Environment and Natural Resource Statistics	16	53	21	57
IV.	**Security/Stability interms of Economic and Social Statistics**	29	29	23	63
	Total	**357**	**637**	**373**	**835**

Remark:

1. This is to serve as fundamental for <u>initiating discussions on feasibility and possibility of supplying</u> (statistical products) within the National Statistical System taking into account the scope of official statistics and overall needs of the government (particularly for Socio-economic development plan formulation, national poverty eradication plan evaluation, Millennium Development Goals progress report, Human Development in ASEAN and in Lao PDR). However, abovementioned indices will continuously be improved based on actual capacities of the National Statistical System in each period.

2. Detailed list of indices by types of statistics will be specified in the Strategy for the Development of National Statistical System 2010-2020 implementation mandate.

Appendix IV: Summary of survey and registration plans, 2010-2020

No.	Surveys	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Population and Housing Census						x					
2	Economic Census			x					x			
3	Agricultural Census		x									
4	Household Consumption and Expenditure Survey			x	x				x	x		
5	Annual Household Survey	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	Quarterly Enterprise Survey	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
7	Annual Enterprise Survey	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
8	Labor Survey	x					x					x
9	Lao Social Indicator Survey (National Woman and Child Health Survey, and Reproductive Health Survey)	x					x					x
10	Vital Registration Survey	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
11	Annual Village Registration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
12	Population Count	x										x
13	Annual village level statistics and poverty survey, from 2010-2015	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
14	Annual Enterprise Register	x	x	x	x	x	x					