

Formulating a Financing Strategy for the national plan: successes and challenges of the INFF experience in Lao PDR

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Development and financing context of Lao PDR



Development situation

- LDC Graduation expected in 2026
- COVID-19 socioeconomic impacts: learning loss, fragile health systems, stunted private sector
- Fuel, food, finance, fertilizer crisis
- Climate change and environmental degradation



Financing difficulties

- Limited fiscal space
- Insufficient revenue, esp. tax base
- Misalignment budget & public investment with national development priorities
- Private finance not in support of SDGs
- Additional needs from crises

The 9th NSEDP Financing Strategy: key policies

20+ days of workshops between 10 ministries, UN system, IFIs, more DPs

- Broaden the tax base and delink revenue gen & resource extraction
- Review and limit tax exemptions
- Reduce debt levels
- Increase volumes of public and private climate and social sector finance
- Dedicated policies addressing LDC graduation financing impacts



3 successes and achievements



1. Increased policy coherence and arbitrage on trade-offs



2. Evidence-based policymaking



3. Effective tracking and M&E of progress of integration of planning and financing functions

3 shortcomings and challenges



1. Difficult translation of agreed financing policies at sectoral and local levels



2. Limited realignment of development programmes and projects to new policies



3. Insufficient financial and human resources for joint and coordinated implementation







Thank you.

