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Lao Green Primary Care Project

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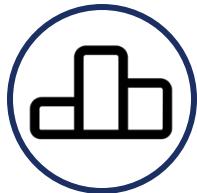
Ministry of Health, Lao People's Democratic Republic

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Lao PDR is highly sensitive to climate change



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Lao PDR **ranks 91st out of 191** countries in the INFORM 2022 Risk Index.¹



The temperature **will rise by 2.6 °C and 5.0 °C** under medium- and high-emission scenarios, increasing the risk of heat stress and vector-borne illnesses.²



Precipitation periods will be **shorter but more intense**, especially during the monsoon season, increasing the risk of landslides and flooding.²



Outside the monsoon season, the risk of droughts will increase, impacting sustenance agriculture, currently employing 70% of the population.³

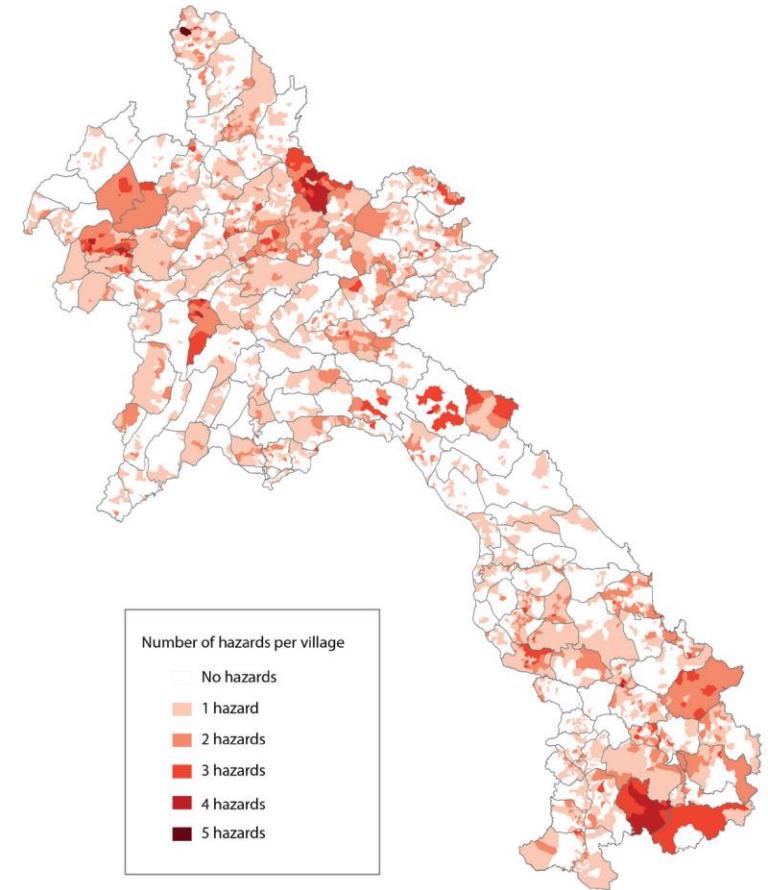


Figure 1: Village Level Vulnerability to climate change. Source: [Lao PDR National Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment](#)

1. European Commission. [Inform Climate Change Risk Index](#). (accessed 18 August 2024), 2. World Bank. [Climate Change Knowledge Portal: Lao People's Democratic Republic](#). (accessed 3 September 2024). 3. World Bank and ADB. 2021. [Climate Risk Country Profile: Lao PDR](#)

Lao PDR has Gaps in Climate Change Community Resilience



- Lao PDR's forthcoming HNAP identified key vulnerabilities.⁴
- Fragmented policy sectors which do not enable information sharing and policy
- coordination on cross-sectoral climate and health challenges.
- Limited capacity in service delivery due to poor infrastructure and low workforce capacity
- Poor community resilience to climate change impact on health, including limited early warning systems, and adaptation



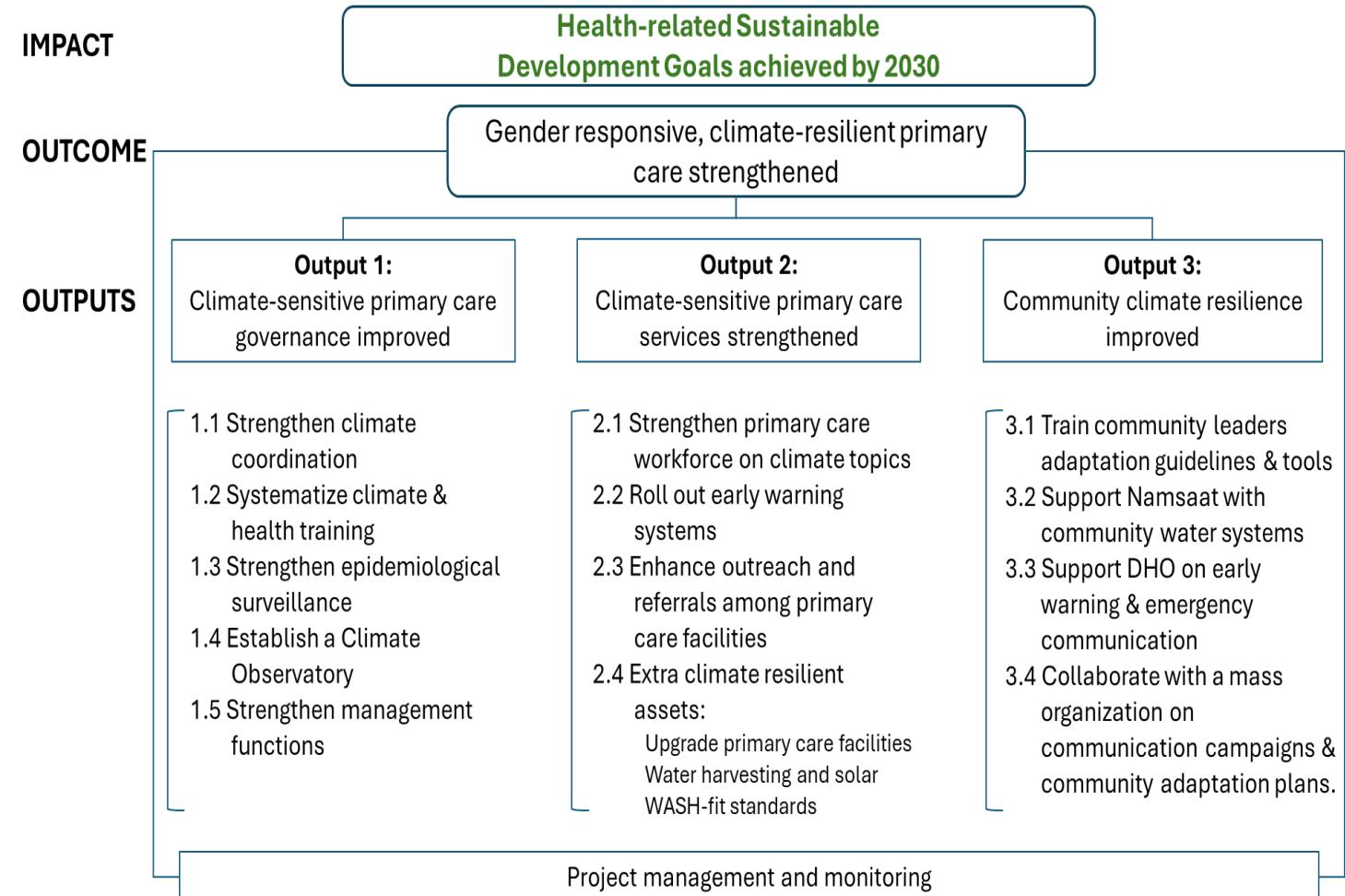
Figure 2: Operational Framework for Building Climate Resilient Health Systems. Source: [WHO](#)

The Green Primary Care Project Strengthens Climate Resilience



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- The Green Primary Care (GPC) Project **supports low-carbon, climate-resilient primary care** in rural, vulnerable districts of Lao PDR.
- Addresses key vulnerabilities at central (output 1), service delivery (output 2), and community (output 3) level





- **Impact:** Health-related Sustainable Development Goals achieved by 2030
- **Outcome:** Gender responsive, climate-resilient primary care strengthened
- **Outputs**

Output 1: Primary care governance improved

- Strengthening of primary care policies and plans at the national level (e.g. update of Policy on Primary Care)
- Strengthening of healthcare management functions, e.g. equipment, waste, supply chain, public financial management
- Strengthening of Provincial/District Health Office (PHO/DHO) primary care management capacity, through dedicated knowledge transfer and a primary care management fund

Output 2: Primary care services strengthened

- Building/refurbishing and equipping district hospitals and health centers
- Train workforce on primary care topics (MCH, NCDs, etc) and systematize through the health worker licensing and registration system
- Support for nurses and midwives to be at 85% of health centers by 2030, in alignment with government priorities
- Train, equip, and facilitate transport for outreach teams, and digitalize family health folders



Output 3: Primary care climate resilience improved

- National coordination on climate and health, including updating of policies (e.g., HNAP) and generation of data on climate-induced diseases (e.g., nutrition, heat stroke)
- Provincial communications campaigns on climate and health
- Climate resilience and **adaptation** interventions in highly vulnerable districts (levels 4 and 5 per HNAP),
For example:
 - i. early warning system for facilities;
 - ii. training of workforce on climate-induced diseases;
 - iii. climate-proofing of health facilities and community water systems;
 - iv. disaster risk management, and ensuring health care delivery during disasters (includes minimum services packages for women and girls in crises)
 - v. **Community health and climate education**



Green Primary Care Project: Type 2B Classification



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Design Principle	Implementation in GPCP
National Alignment	Fully aligned with Lao PDR's H-NAP, National Strategy on Climate Change, and NDCs
Evidence-Based	Informed by CRVA using CMIP6, ThinkHazard!, WHO frameworks — linking risks to design
Transformational Scope	System-wide interventions across governance, infrastructure, services, and community resilience
Measurable Outcomes	Indicators on service continuity, water system functionality, and infrastructure resilience
Finance-Eligible	100% of \$40M financing qualifies as adaptation finance under joint MDB methodology

Green Primary Care Project: Success factors



- **Strong Climate Logic:** Each activity responds to a specific climate risk (e.g., flooding → WASH upgrades)
- **Systems-Level Approach:** Strengthens governance, planning, health services, and community resilience
- **Multi-Hazard Response:** Addresses extreme heat, floods, drought, and vector-borne diseases
- **Building resilience pathway at the local level:** health-related climate change Education, early warning messages, and community adaptation planning.
- **Policy Foundation:** Enabled by an **extensive and current HNAP**.

