



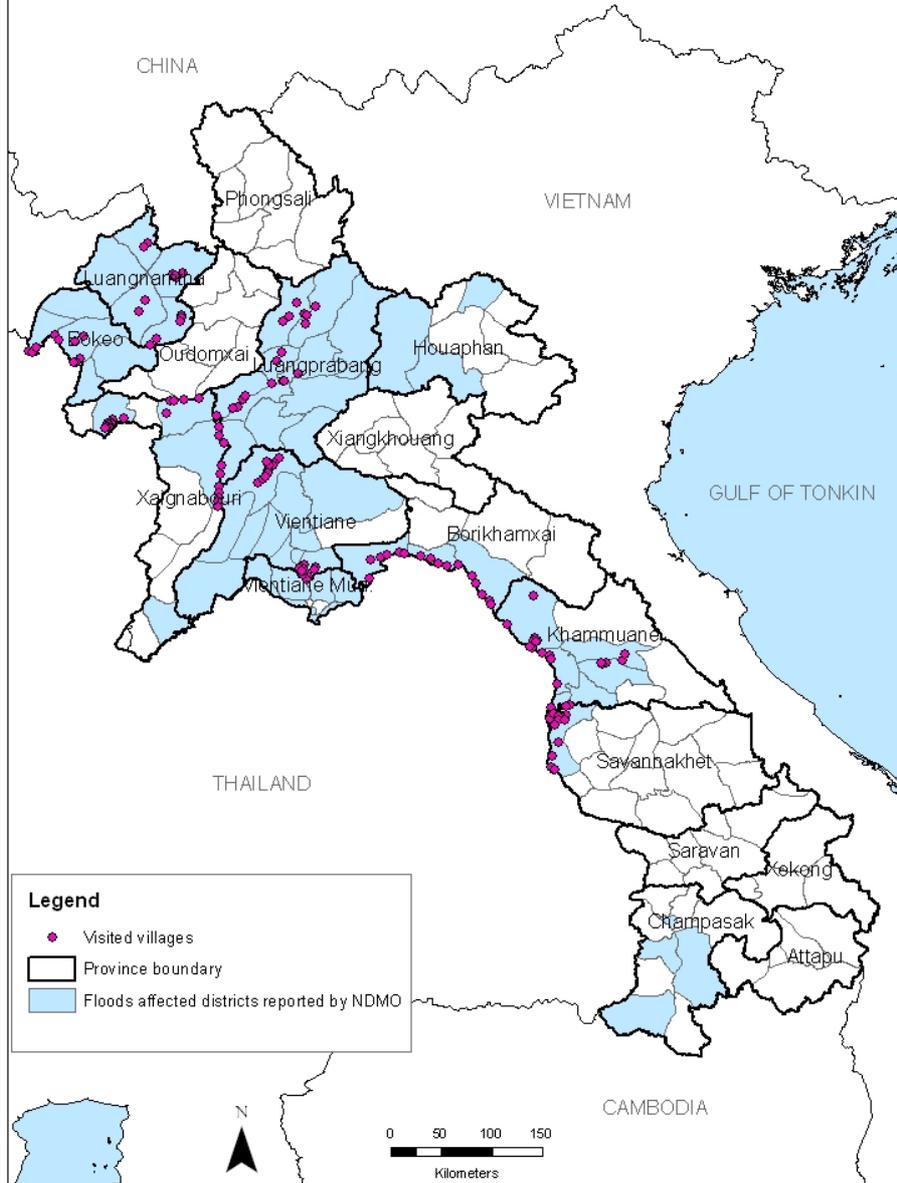
Joint Appeal for Flood Recovery and Rehabilitation in Lao PDR

September 2008

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Floods affected districts and visited villages



Affected districts and villages visited by the Rapid Assessment teams

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Heavy rainfall in and around the Mekong watershed caused the most severe floods in living memory in Lao PDR between 12 and 18 August. The Northern and Central regions of Laos were particularly severely affected, according to the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), with flash floods reported which caused eleven deaths. Across the entire country, the NDMO estimates that a total of 204,189 people were affected in 866 villages of 53 districts across eleven provinces. Preliminary Government estimates indicate that a total of 74,989 hectares of agricultural land was inundated during the peak of the floods. Nearly 50,000 hectares out of the total inundated area have suffered damages. Thousands of households have lost their assets, livelihoods and, in some cases, their dwellings.

A Rapid Impact and Needs Assessment that was conducted under the leadership of the NDMO with support from partners in the Inter Agency Standing Committee on Natural Disaster Response Preparedness (IASC), provides feedback on the impact of and needs arising from the disaster, building upon available data. The exact magnitude of the damage will be quantified by a follow-up in-depth assessment planned as part of the early recovery initiative.

The Rapid Assessment found that damage and contamination of water systems and wells have caused an acute shortage of safe drinking water in affected areas. Water must be supplied while efforts are made to repair water sources. Ensuring adequate access to sanitation and hygiene will prevent outbreaks of water-borne diseases. Support must also be provided to ensure access to primary health, especially to essential medicines and other health and nutrition services, for the most vulnerable, in particular mothers and children. In addition, disease surveillance and reporting systems need to be reinforced in order to detect outbreaks and control vector borne and vaccine preventable diseases, and access to life-saving information and communication materials enhanced for affected populations.

While relief operations are necessary to stave off hunger during the immediate aftermath of the floods, rehabilitation of livelihoods and enabling households to resume their productive activities are of paramount importance to ensure food security and avoid destitution. The recent global surge in food prices, which also affects Laos, had already strained household coping strategies, and access to food by many households has been limited. The loss of crops, livestock and other sources of livelihoods due to the August flood is likely to further compromise household food security in Laos. Damage to crops, fishponds, food stocks and livestock has a negative impact on medium- to long-term food security. Urgent measures must be taken now to prevent already existing malnutrition from worsening. Furthermore, as most of the population relies on farming for food and for their livelihoods, early recovery actions should begin now to help affected communities restore livelihoods and regain normal living conditions.

In addition, there has been widespread damage to infrastructure such as irrigation systems, bridges, roads and footpaths, hampering the agricultural productive capacity of affected communities as well as

their access to services and markets. Education and health infrastructure was also affected by the flood, adversely impacting people's access to services. People in areas that were hit by the flood, and in particular children and women, are highly vulnerable to different levels of exploitation, given the breakdown in family and community based safety and protection nets.

In sum, the floods in August 2008 have significantly impacted the lives of affected communities and compromised their main source of livelihoods. The agricultural sector, including crops, aquaculture, livestock and agro-forestry, has been impacted negatively. In addition, damages to health, nutrition, housing and sanitation have also been severe. If not addressed immediately, the impact of the floods may pose serious immediate and medium- to long-term threats to the health, food security, welfare and livelihoods of the affected population, especially the resource-poor and vulnerable households. Poor families will be impoverished further due to the loss of rice paddy, food stocks and other assets. Care-givers struggling to feed their children, many of whom are already malnourished, will find the task even harder. Health services that could barely ensure minimal care to the community's needs before the emergency now face having to deal with a range of disease outbreaks triggered by the floods, especially if food and clean water supplies are not made available as a matter of urgency. The damage to roads and other infrastructure has further marginalised isolated and poor communities. The personal, social and economic consequences of this year's floods have dealt a severe blow not only to the affected people, but also the overall resilience and coping strategy of Lao communities.

This Joint Appeal proposes 15 projects in eight sectors, submitted by United Nations agencies in partnership with the Government of Lao PDR and other development partners. The Appeal requests a total amount of US\$ 9,945,998, to provide immediate resources to support the Government in addressing key humanitarian and essential early recovery needs of the affected population over the next twelve months. The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has already provided US\$ 2,024,378 as a jump start for immediate activities in priority sectors including Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Food Security and Agriculture, Protection, and Education. These initiatives need further support as presented in this Joint Appeal. The Appeal will be reviewed and revised following an in-depth medium to longer-term needs assessment quantifying damage and loss. The United Nations seeks the urgent support of the international donor community for this Joint Appeal in this time of crisis and recovery for Laos. The humanitarian impact of this disaster must be urgently addressed. The Joint Appeal will ensure that the response is effectively coordinated amongst humanitarian partners and the Government, and that the most affected and vulnerable receive the assistance and protection they need to restore their lives.

TABLE I: SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS PER SECTOR

Sector	Full requirements (US\$)	Funding received to date (US\$) ¹	Remaining unfunded requirements (US\$)
1. Food Security	3,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
2. Agricultural Recovery	2,199,873	199,873	2,000,000
3. Health and Nutrition	1,569,718	424,127	1,145,591
4. Water and Sanitation	1,335,028	200,608	1,134,420
5. Shelter	131,610	0	131,610
6. Education	350,045	100,045	250,000
7. Protection	388,724	99,724	289,000
8. Early Recovery	971,000	110,000 ²	861,000
Grand Total	9,945,998	2,134,377	7,811,621

TABLE II: SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS PER ORGANISATION

Organisation	Full requirements (US\$)	Funding received to date (US\$) ³	Remaining unfunded requirements (US\$)
1. FAO	2,199,873	199,873	2,000,000
2. UN-HABITAT	766,610	100,580	666,030
3. UNDP	1,110,000	110,000 ⁴	1,000,000
4. UNICEF	2,300,294	500,294	1,800,000
5. WFP	3,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
6. WHO	569,221	223,630	345,591
Grand Total	9,945,998	2,134,377	7,811,621

¹ From CERF, unless otherwise indicated.

² From UNDP core resources.

³ From CERF, unless otherwise indicated.

⁴ From UNDP core resources.

2. CONTEXT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

2.1 CONTEXT

Heavy rainfall in and around the Mekong watershed caused the most severe floods in living memory in Lao PDR between 12 and 18 August. According to the Mekong River Commission Secretariat, the flooding was the result of localised severe rainfall associated with the tropical storm Kumarri and higher than average monsoon rains from May to July, which had led to saturated catchment areas and very high surface run-off levels in the days preceding the storm. Central and Northern Laos recorded the highest flood water levels in the whole basin: in the capital Vientiane for example, flood levels were more than a metre higher than during the 1966 flood. Flash floods were also reported in Northern and Central provinces causing five deaths. By the end of August, most affected areas gradually became accessible again.

In response to the rising waters, the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) enacted immediate flood mitigation measures. National authorities evacuated communities at risk of flooding to higher ground and provided emergency supplies by boat to cut-off villages. On 13 August, a request for financial assistance in flood mitigation was sent to all development partners and investors in the country by the Ministry of Planning and Investment. This was followed by an individual request for assistance from the United Nations sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Resident Coordinator on 17 August, specifying that medical supplies, drinking water and food were most urgently needed. United Nations agencies responded immediately by mobilising US\$ 280,000 and advancing resources in cash and kind from other programmes, to cover immediate humanitarian needs.

To coordinate the response to the disaster, the IASC activated a system of sectoral lead agencies for food security, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, and early recovery, and a cross-cutting sector for logistics. It was decided that agencies would use the existing coordination mechanisms for the education and protection sectors. The sectors have been involved in needs analysis in the context of the Rapid Needs Assessment, and response planning for the immediate and medium-to longer term.

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocated US\$ 2,024,378 to actions in response to the disaster on 9 September 2008. Funding is targeted at immediate life-saving activities in key sectors including food security, agriculture, health and nutrition, water and sanitation, education and protection. These projects are also included in the Joint Appeal, with CERF funding deducted from current requirements. This Joint Appeal is intended to address the most pressing needs arising from this emergency during the next twelve months, ensuring that assistance is provided in a coherent, rights-based and participatory manner. There is concern that new rainfalls could lead to a second flood peak during the current rainy season. This appeal will be revised in line with the findings of upcoming in-depth flood damage and needs assessments.

2.2 NEEDS ANALYSIS

The NDMO estimates that across the eleven provinces, a total of 204,189 people in 866 villages in 53 districts were affected. Sex- or age-disaggregated data is not available. Provinces in the North and Centre of the country, namely Luangprabang, Luangnamtha, Bokeo, Khammuane, Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province and Borikhamxay, are the worst hit. Other areas affected by floods are Huaphanh, Xayabury, Savannakhet and Champasack provinces.

From 21 to 29 August 2008, a Joint Rapid Needs Assessment was undertaken in 29 districts in eight of the most affected provinces. In the three remaining provinces, meetings were held with the local authorities to collect existing information on the extent and impact of the floods. The results of this assessment are complementary to those of other assessments that line ministries conducted simultaneously and independently on the damage of the floods on agriculture, infrastructure and schools, and form the basis of this Joint Appeal. The launch of the Appeal was timed in order to allow the assessment results to be reflected in the analysis of needs.

The most urgent humanitarian needs are relating to food, water and sanitation and health. It is estimated that one fifth of the affected population are in severe need of food relief. Some of these people and additional households - usually characterised as food and nutrition insecure - will need support for livelihood recovery activities until the next cropping season in October-November 2009. While most main district markets had been re-established and were functioning at the time of the assessment, price increases of foodstuffs were observed, which is likely to have a negative impact on household access to food and therefore on households' food consumption.

There is an acute shortage of safe water due to damage and contamination of water systems and wells. From the assessment data, it is estimated that up to one third of villages in the affected districts are in need of clean water supply. While no data is available on the quality or infection load of the water from wells, it is feared that the water quality may have further deteriorated as a result of the floods. Contaminated wells need to be rehabilitated by pumping out flood waters and/or by treatment with chlorine solution. Inadequate sanitary conditions are raising health concerns and there are fears that the population is vulnerable to outbreaks of water-borne diseases. Besides this, there are concerns relating to the potential threat from vector-borne diseases, as well as vaccine preventable diseases due to crowded unhygienic conditions and due to the fact that routine immunisation coverage was very low prior to the floods. A significant number of children were considered malnourished prior to the flooding of the affected areas. The damage to crops and livestock and the disruption of water/sanitation systems leading to a possible increase in diarrhoeal diseases and loss of income may result in increased rates of malnutrition. Loss of vegetable and fruit crops will lessen the amount of available micronutrients and increase susceptibility to infection in the affected population.

Besides the immediate needs, the assessment confirms that the flood caused extensive damage affecting infrastructure, agriculture, livestock and livelihoods. Throughout the visited areas, extensive

damage to bridges, roads and footpaths hampers access to affected villages. Damage and loss of paddy land, cash crops, fish ponds, losses of livestock as well as damage to irrigation systems were widespread in all locations visited. As a result, low or poor yields are expected this year, affecting livelihoods of the population in the affected communities in the medium- to long-term. The flood-affected areas are the most productive and normally supply surplus rice for the rest of the country. The combined impact of rising food prices and drastic decline in production may have severe implications for national and household food security, with far reaching consequences if not addressed. The negative impact on the long-term livelihoods of many communities and expected drop in household income is likely to affect families' investments in healthcare and education. Many households have already exhausted their coping mechanisms following rising food and agricultural input prices and there may not be much room to absorb this new shock. In order to reduce the need for a protracted relief operation and the likelihood of destitution among the affected population, efforts to rehabilitate the livelihoods and productive assets of the households are imperative. A combination of employment generating public works and agricultural interventions are necessary to restore the livelihoods of the affected population, under the umbrella of early recovery.

Many schools have been affected by the flooding, with important damage caused to buildings and equipment. Repairs are urgent, as the new school year has already begun.

The rapid assessment shows that sporadic incidents of theft, violence and abuse have happened, as a result of the aftermath of the flood. Efforts to strengthen the protection safety nets for vulnerable populations, in particular against violence, trafficking and abuse, have to be accelerated to prevent a longer-term negative impact on the well-being of individuals and communities.

3. RESPONSE PLANS

Response activities under this Joint Appeal will be undertaken in two phases: immediate (up to three months) and medium- to longer term (up to one year). Because of the harvest cycle, the implementation time-frame of some of the planned interventions for agricultural recovery will go beyond September 2009.

Based on findings and recommendations of the upcoming in-depth assessment of damage and loss, which will become available some time during 2009, agencies will review their programmes and determine what is required to ensure the longer term viability of interventions.

Phase 1: September – November 2008

Phase 2: December 2008 – September 2009

3.1 FOOD SECURITY (Lead: WFP)

Objectives

- *Immediate:* To help the Government meet the immediate food needs of flood affected people and to prevent malnutrition associated with loss of and/or damage to assets.
- *Medium to longer term:* To help restore and strengthen the food security and livelihoods of the most vulnerable among the flood-affected.

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

The floods occurred during the traditional lean season when families were relying heavily on other coping mechanisms as most food stocks were already low or depleted. Although remaining food stocks were mostly saved, some families reported rice stock losses due to the floods. During the Rapid Assessment, current coping mechanisms were reported to include reduction or change in food consumption, borrowing from relatives and friends, consumption of wild foods and use of credit. Support to these communities is required to prevent their situation from getting worse.

The Rapid Assessment estimates that approximately 40,000 or 20 percent of the over 200,000 flood affected people are in need of immediate food assistance to prevent further deterioration of their livelihoods and nutrition status. Emergency food distributions are needed for the initial three months of the flood response and after this time, early recovery activities should set in with activities aimed at rehabilitating livelihoods.

In over 50% of assessed villages, agricultural land was severely damaged or destroyed, and large numbers of fish ponds, irrigation structures and other assets were affected or lost. Damage to critical infrastructure (roads, bridges, footpaths etc.) also limits access to affected villages and negatively impacts people's livelihoods. The medium to longer-term sectoral strategy includes WFP-led interventions to help people rebuild their livelihoods, using food-for-work schemes to repair damaged roads and access tracks, eroded river banks, damaged rice fields and irrigation systems. Non food

items such as concrete culverts, tools, concrete rings for wells and other materials will be provided to improve the quality of the work and to ensure that communities are able to 'build back better'. An estimated 66,000 people will be targeted by for participation in these medium/longer term recovery activities until the next harvest in October/November 2009.

WFP will implement its response in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MoLSW) with whom it already has an agreement for the PRRO (Protracted Relief and Recovery operation). WFP has 10 field offices around the country and 85 staff mainly based in the field. WFP staff work jointly with Government district officials on project implementation. Where possible, WFP will partner with FAO, the Red Cross and INGOs. Rice for this operation will be procured locally as much as possible.

Expected outputs and impact

- Communities who face severe food shortages have their immediate food needs met
- Flood-affected communities have recovered their livelihoods and improved their food security through rehabilitated assets and infrastructure

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

A total of US\$ 4,000,000 is required for the food security sector. US\$ 3,000,000 of this is being requested through this Appeal, of which US\$ 1,000,000 has already been received from the CERF. The funding gap stands at US\$ 2,000,000.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

FOOD SECURITY		US\$
WFP LAO-08/FS01	<p>Project title: Food assistance to people affected by floods</p> <p>Objective: To provide relief food assistance to people who are unable to meet their immediate food needs and who will face rice shortages and to help people recover their livelihoods by rehabilitating damaged/destroyed rural infrastructure.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 40,000 people with immediate food assistance and 66,000 people through food-for-work activities.</p> <p>Partners: MoLSW, Lao Red Cross</p>	3,000,000

3.2 AGRICULTURAL RECOVERY (Lead: FAO)

Objectives

- *Immediate:* To resuscitate and improve the livelihoods of the most vulnerable and food insecure households in the flood affected areas by providing emergency assistance in the form of necessary and appropriate inputs and training in the shortest time feasible before the planting and fisheries restocking season comes to an end.

- *Medium to longer term:* To improve the livelihoods of the affected households in support of the Sixth National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2006 – 2011), the Millennium Development Goals and the FAO-Government National Medium-Term Priority Framework 2007-2011. Strong synergies will be built between all proposed activities and the aforementioned plans and strategies such that medium to long term objectives are achieved.

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

The combined impact of drought, rising food and input prices as well as the August floods have severely compromised household food security and exhausted household coping capacities. While relief operations are necessary to stave off hunger and hardship during the immediate aftermath of the floods, rehabilitation of livelihoods and enabling households to commence their productive activities are of paramount importance to ensure food security and avoid destitution.

The agricultural sector, including fisheries and forestry, contributes to more than 45 percent of the GDP and employs some 77 percent of the workforce. It is of paramount importance to ensure that emergency rehabilitation is in conformity with medium to long term strategies and policies, and the proposed rehabilitation interventions are in support of the delicate ecology of the affected areas. In view of its technical expertise, mandate and track record in the country, FAO as a technical organisation is best placed to provide technical assistance to rehabilitate the agricultural sector and provide linkages between immediate rehabilitation and medium to long term sustainable livelihoods and agricultural development.

Preliminary Government estimates indicate that a total of 75,000 hectares of agricultural land was inundated during the peak of the floods. Nearly 50,000 hectares out of the total inundated area have suffered damages. In addition a large number of fish ponds have been partially damaged and completely de-stocked. A number of irrigation channels have also been damaged, which may prevent dry season crop cultivation. Livestock population have also been affected and some are very weak and vulnerable to diseases. Some households have also lost their food stocks and seeds for cultivation during the dry season.

Immediate assistance is necessary to enable farmers to plant dry season crops within the next couple of months. In addition, other rehabilitation efforts are necessary to rehabilitate household productive assets and ensure that farmers are able to engage in their productive activities and livelihoods.

Therefore, the proposed implementation strategy envisages a combination of immediate and medium term activities. However, all activities will be linked across time and space, regardless of the activity duration, stakeholders and financing sources. The synergies will not only be utilised across the various proposed activities but also other projects, programmes and medium term strategies.

The final list of damage assessment in each of the districts together with their food security profile prior to floods will guide geographic targeting, which will be combined with other beneficiary targeting within the flood affected areas.

The proposed activities will be implemented through existing institutional capacities and structures. In addition to the national and international partners with adequate implementation capacity in the field, the implementation strategy envisages significant roles for the Village Authorities, the Lao Women's Union (LWU) and the Lao Youth Union (LYU), and provide for participation from INGOs and other development partners. Where feasible, FAO will closely liaise and collaborate with other UN, national and international partners to improve the efficacy and impact of the proposed activities.

The following activities have been proposed as initial emergency response to the affected areas. While these activities cannot fully meet the needs of the affected population in the very short term or their rehabilitation needs over a 12-month period, it is expected that they will mitigate the impact of the floods on affected households as well as diminish the need for a protracted relief operation. In view of the apparent limited resources, a number of areas that require immediate attention have been left out such as irrigation infrastructure rehabilitation, on-farm water management and homestead horticulture.

Activities include:

- Provision of emergency rice seed and appropriate mineral fertilisers for dry season cultivation together with training on improved cereal cultivation, water and farm management;
- Provision of emergency vegetable seeds and mineral fertiliser for dry season cultivation together with training in improved vegetable cultivation and kitchen garden management;
- Provision of emergency vaccination, de-worming and vitamin capsules for weak and vulnerable livestock together with training in improved livestock management;
- Rehabilitation and restocking of household fish ponds together with appropriate training in aquaculture and improved pond management; and
- Developing frog farming among the resource-poor and vulnerable households in the flood-affected areas.

Expected outputs and impact

A large number of flood-affected households and those affected by the surge in food and agricultural input prices would have been able to produce their own food and not seek extreme measures to resume their livelihoods in the near future. Exact figures on the number of beneficiaries, quantity of food produced and livestock saved will be provided when project profiles are developed. FAO has collected and collated sufficient data and information to guide emergency and immediate rehabilitation activities. More specific project documents to ensure synergies with other initiatives, plans and policies as well as a detailed plan of implementation are under preparation.

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

A total of US\$ 2,199,874 is immediately required for the sector of agricultural recovery under this Joint Appeal. Out of this, US\$ 199,874 was provided by the CERF. The funding gap is US\$ 2,000,000.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

AGRICULTURAL RECOVERY		US\$
<p>FAO LAO-08/AR02</p>	<p>Project Title: Emergency Supply of Cereal and Vegetable Seeds, Mineral Fertilisers, Veterinary Assistance and Technical Support to Flood-affected Vulnerable Households</p> <p>Objectives: To resuscitate and strengthen the livelihoods and food security of flood-affected vulnerable rural households.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 12,000 households (72,000 persons).</p> <p>Partners: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), LWU, LYU, Village Committees and INGOs.</p>	<p>1,600,000</p>
<p>FAO LAO-08/AR02</p>	<p>Project Title: Emergency Assistance to Aquaculture Rehabilitation in Flood-affected Areas</p> <p>Objectives: To immediately restore and improve aquaculture production in flood affected among vulnerable, resource-poor and food-insecure rural households.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 4,660 households (27,960 persons)</p> <p>Partners: MAF, LWU, LYU, Village Committees and INGOs.</p>	<p>599,874</p>

3.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION (Lead: WHO/UNICEF)

Objectives

- *Immediate:* To provide immediate response to basic health and nutrition service needs for children under five years of age, and pregnant and lactating women; and reduce the risk of water-borne and other diseases in all districts affected by floods.
- *Medium to longer term:* To provide appropriate health and nutrition services to children under five years of age, and pregnant and lactating women through close monitoring of their nutrition status; and to ensure epidemiologic surveillance of all the population of the affected districts.

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

Out of the total of about 200,000 people affected by the storms and floods, it is estimated that 25,000 are children under five years of age and 10,500 are pregnant and lactating women, who need health and nutrition assistance. A significant number of children in Lao PDR, including in the flood affected areas, were considered malnourished prior to the flooding. Generally, the underlying causes of poor nutritional status include food insecurity, poor child feeding and care practices, poor sanitation and hygiene conditions, and poor health environment. These factors have been exacerbated by the impact of the floods, which have caused increased food insecurity with a change in food consumption towards less nutritious foods, concentration of defecation area on foot paths near to communities and a higher incidence of diarrhoea among the population. Deficiency of micronutrients is also a problem.

For the general population in the affected areas, there is a potential threat of water borne and vector borne diseases such as cholera, severe diarrhoea, leptospirosis, cholera, typhoid, dengue fever and malaria in the aftermath of the flooding. Isolated cases of these diseases have been reported. There is also concern about vaccine preventable diseases such as measles, polio, and tetanus due to unsanitary conditions and due to the fact that routine immunisation coverage was very low prior to the

floods. Moreover, dermatitis and conjunctivitis caused by exposure to flood water and close contact with others as a result of overcrowding, as well as respiratory infections may arise.

According to the Rapid Assessment and upon request by the Government, emphasis should be placed on detection and prevention of communicable disease and vector related outbreaks, as well as mitigation of the nutritional consequences of the flood. The Rapid Assessment also noted that since routine immunisation coverage has not reached the entire population for many years, the prevention and control of vaccine-preventable diseases is urgently required. Therefore the Ministry of Health (MoH), WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and other partners have agreed on a strategy that provides for simultaneous gathering of reliable disease surveillance information and maximising access to treatment and prevention, as well as basic health and nutrition services particularly for children, and pregnant and lactating women.

The health and nutrition services will be provided as part of an integrated cross sectoral approach. UNICEF and WHO will work in close collaboration with the MoH, other UN agencies and other partners to provide training, monitoring and evaluation for the proposed emergency health and nutrition services.

Expected outputs and impact

- 25,000 of children under five years of age and 10,500 pregnant and lactating women in the flood affected provinces have received immunisation, health and nutrition services for child survival
- The nutritional status of the 25,000 children under five years of age and 10,500 pregnant and lactating women is improved
- Affected communities and families are empowered and children under five years of age with severe acute malnutrition are treated adequately including with therapeutic food
- Nutrition and epidemiological surveillance and monitoring are in place and strengthened
- Flood-affected children and women use insecticide treated bed nets for malaria prevention
- Health and nutrition Government staff and other key stakeholders are provided with the necessary skills to be able to respond to natural disasters
- Drugs are in place to respond to curative health needs and potential disease outbreaks
- 250,000 children aged 0-59 months in affected districts receive immunisation against polio and 200,000 receive vitamin A and mebendazole

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

A total of US\$ 1,569,718 is required for the sector of health and nutrition. Out of this, US\$ 424,127 was committed by the CERF. The funding gap is US\$ 1,145,591.

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Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

HEALTH AND NUTRITION		US\$
<p>UNICEF LAO-08/HN01</p>	<p>Project title: Flood Emergency Response for Health and Nutrition</p> <p>Objectives: To ensure appropriate preventive, curative and nutrition services for children under five, and pregnant and lactating women (including strengthening nutrition monitoring and malaria prevention); and to provide life saving communication activities in the affected areas in order to mitigate the impact of the flooding.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 35,500 children and pregnant and lactating women in flood-affected areas (children under five: 25,000; pregnant and lactating women: 10,500)</p> <p>Partners: MoH, WHO, UNFPA and partners</p>	1,000,497
<p>WHO LAO-08/HN02</p>	<p>Project title: Active surveillance and information management</p> <p>Objectives: a) To assess major health threats, local capacities and operational constraints; b) to improve surveillance of communicable diseases ; c) To have an early warning and response to epidemics</p> <p>Beneficiaries: a and b) 178,329 flood affected and displaced population; c) population living in the affected districts</p> <p>Partners: MoH</p>	123,500
<p>WHO LAO-08/HN03</p>	<p>Project title: Provide medicine and vector control supplies, IEC for Mobile Health Check Teams</p> <p>Objectives: a) Give guidance and monitoring of Health Check teams visiting 679 affected villages to provide treatment and prevention interventions; b) To improve access to basic health services of displaced populations and c) To reduce the risk by water borne and other diseases in all districts affected by floods d) To reduce the incidence of dengue fever and hygiene related communicable diseases</p> <p>Beneficiaries: a) 178,329 people from 679 villages in flood affected areas and displaced population; b) population living in the affected districts</p> <p>Partners: MoH, UNICEF, UNFPA, INGOs</p>	304,721
<p>WHO LAO-08/HN04</p>	<p>Project title: Capacity Building and Technical Support for Nutritional Surveillance and Therapeutic Feeding</p> <p>Objective: To provide training to selected health staff and emergency response workers in the areas of anthropometric measurement of children, management of severe malnutrition, health promotion, and reproductive health</p> <p>Beneficiaries: Health and Emergency response staff</p> <p>Partners: MoH, UNICEF</p>	30,000
<p>WHO LAO-08/HN05</p>	<p>Project title: Provide Oral Polio Vaccine during Child Health Days to Prevent Importation of Wild Poliovirus</p> <p>Objectives: a) To prevent importation of wild poliovirus through provision of OPV during Child Health Days for children in affected districts and b) to prevent micro-nutrient deficiencies through provision of vitamin A and mebendazole</p> <p>Beneficiaries: a) 250,000 children aged 0-59 months in flood-affected districts; b) population living in the affected districts</p> <p>Partners: MoH, UNICEF, INGOs</p>	111,000

3.4 WATER AND SANITATION (Lead: UNICEF)

Objectives

- *Immediate:* To ensure provision of immediate needs of potable water and sanitation to 200,000 persons affected by the flooding; and to ensure that flood-affected population receives life saving and other appropriate information on water and sanitation
- *Medium to longer term:* To ensure rehabilitation/restoration of water and sanitation facilities in schools, health centres and communities damaged by the floods in eleven affected provinces; and to ensure the effective coordination of the Water and Sanitation sector on emergency preparedness and response, and strengthen the capacity building of national counterparts and key stakeholders at all levels on disaster preparedness and response.

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

After some of the worst flooding in many years, it has been reported that drinking water is either contaminated or not available. Data from the Rapid Assessment indicates that many sanitation facilities cannot be used. The Mekong flood has also caused damage to water and sanitation facilities in schools and health centres, which urgently need assistance. The lack of clean water and poor sanitary conditions are putting the health of the affected communities at great risk.

The emergency situation has called for partners working in water and sanitation to participate in the Rapid Needs Assessment and plan intervention responses. UNICEF as global UN sector focal point for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) has been designated by the UN system in Lao PDR to lead the sectoral response to the flood. UNICEF and UN-Habitat are closely coordinating their interventions with other stakeholders in support to the Government's efforts to effectively respond to the water and sanitation needs in the wake of the flooding. Effective and strengthened coordination will enable the UN agencies and other key partners to provide both immediate and recovery assistance for the water and sanitation needs in the country. In order to ensure that partners' efforts are complementary and to ascertain that there is no duplication, the two agencies have jointly developed an action plan to cover the 11 affected provinces identified in the Rapid Assessment. UNICEF and UN-Habitat will focus on five and six affected provinces respectively, and are working closely with other key stakeholders, in particular INGOs.

The immediate response strategy focuses on the prevention of diseases when the water remains at flood level as well as after it recedes. The short and medium term responses will address the urgent need for restoration of broken-down water and sanitation facilities in communities, school and health centres. Necessary supplies, life saving materials and support for rehabilitation and construction of water supply and sanitation will be provided to affected population through the MoH, provincial and district authorities. UNICEF, UN-Habitat and other partners will continue to use existing procedures and mechanisms in working with the Government partners to support water and sanitation interventions.

Proposed activities include the following:

Immediate:

- Procurement and distribution of water treatment and hygiene materials: Purification tablets, water storage containers, and soap will be distributed to affected communities. In addition chlorine powder will be continued to be provided for the rehabilitation of dug wells, and the sanitisation of latrines. Key messages and other essential hygiene information to prevent outbreak of water borne diseases will continued to be disseminated with the hygiene materials, and through health workers and outreach mobile teams.
- Rehabilitation of damaged water supply and sanitation facilities in communities including health centres and schools: UNICEF and UN-Habitat will continue working with local partners and Government authorities to support the restoration of water and sanitation facilities. Water quality testing will also be undertaken to ensure the improvement of the water quality in affected areas.
- Procurement of pumps for dug well rehabilitation/cleaning: The provision of de-watering pumps to the 11 affected provinces will enable the provincial teams to carry out rehabilitation services of waterlogged wells.
- Printing and development of IEC materials to support hygiene and sanitation awareness-raising: Existing materials regarding clean drinking water and sanitation and in support of the above mentioned activities will be reprinted. As part of this effort communication materials will be developed for radio, TV, and outreach mobile teams to promote better hygiene practices.

Medium- to longer term:

- New emergency latrine construction: The sector will support the local authorities in the 11 affected provinces to construct new emergency latrines in the relocation centres for affected communities. In the long term this will enable Government to provide adequate sanitary facilities to temporary displaced families in relocation centres and in preparation to any future disaster situations.
- Capacity building initiatives for national counterparts: Capacity building initiatives will be undertaken to strengthen national WASH counterparts' capacity to prepare and respond to disasters at all levels. UNICEF and UN-Habitat will continue to closely collaborate on capacity building at central level and expanding the initiative to each of the supported provinces.

UNICEF will continue to take the lead in the coordination of all water and sanitation related activities in support of the government to mitigate the effect of flooding and will ensure that all key partners are involved in the efforts. Jointly with UN-Habitat, UNICEF will provide key support to the Government in the development of a mid and long term action plan for disaster preparedness in the water and sanitation sector and in close coordination with national efforts in other sectors.

Expected outputs and impact

- Potential for diarrheal diseases reduced among 200,000 affected people.

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- Essential supplies and key information on hygiene and sanitation have reached 200,000 affected people. Communities have increased knowledge and awareness of hygiene and sanitation especially in emergency situation.
- Restoration of damaged water and sanitation facilities in schools, health centres and communities in affected areas of 11 provinces. Communities have access to safe water and sanitation facilities and return to normality as a result of rehabilitation actions.
- Strengthen national counterpart capacity in emergency preparedness in water and sanitation. Government and communities trained in emergency preparedness in water and sanitation and management procedure resulting in improved knowledge and skills for adequate response in disaster management.
- Effective coordination of water and sanitation activities for sector emergency response with all key stakeholders. Coordinated intervention efforts resulted in reaching 200,000 affected people in need of water and sanitation services in 11 provinces.

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

The sector is requesting US\$ 1,335,028, out of which US\$ 200,608 was already committed by the CERF. The funding gap therefore amounts to US\$ 1,134,420.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

Water and Sanitation		US\$
UNICEF LAO-08/WS01	<p>Project title: Water and Sanitation Emergency Assistance to Children and Women affected by the Mekong Flooding</p> <p>Objectives: 1) Ensure the provision of immediate needs of potable water and sanitation to 200,000 persons affected by the flooding; 2) Ensure that the affected population received life saving information on water and sanitation in emergency situation; 3) Ensure rehabilitation/restoration of water and sanitation facilities in schools, health centres and communities damaged by the floods in 10 affected provinces. 4) Ensure effective coordination of WASH sector on emergency response and capacity building on disaster preparedness on water and sanitation for national counterparts at all levels.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 100,000 flood affected people in 5 provinces (Bokeo, Luangnamtha, Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province, Champasack).</p> <p>Partners: MoH, WHO, UN-Habitat; Ministry of Education (MoE) at the Provincial and District levels; communities.</p>	700,028
UN-HABITAT LAO-08/WS02	<p>Project Title: Water and Sanitation Emergency Response to the Population affected by Mekong Flooding</p> <p>Objectives: 1) To ensure the provision of immediate needs of water and sanitation, and restore/rehabilitate destroyed WATSAN infrastructure in schools, health centres and communities to 100,000 persons affected by flooding in six provinces; 2) To ensure that the affected population is informed of the serious risks associated with drinking contaminated water, and provided with IEC materials on treating water (essential sanitation and hygiene messages will be disseminated); 3) To prevent open defecation, and ensure that human excreta is safely managed and does not spread diseases via contaminated water sources; 4) To ensure</p>	635,000

	<p>effective coordination in water and sanitation sector recovery interventions in close liaison with UNICEF.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 100,000 flood affected people in six provinces (Huaphanh, Xayabury, Luangprabang, Borikhamxay, Khammuane and Savannakhet).</p> <p>Partners: MoH, Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT), WHO, UNICEF; MoE at the Provincial and District levels; communities.</p>	
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3.5 SHELTER (Lead: UN-Habitat)

Objectives

- *Immediate:* To ensure the emergency repair/reconstruction houses of 2,500 persons affected by flooding in eight provinces
- *Medium to longer term:* To mitigate future disaster risks by promoting “building back better” shelter for people affected by flooding in eight provinces.

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

The Rapid Assessment indicates that the flood had an impact on housing, particularly on hut thatch, bamboo, and stilts-wooden houses of poor households along the Mekong River and in low-lying areas in Northern, Central and Southern provinces of Lao PDR. During the peak of the flood, some people had to be given shelter in public buildings, mostly temples and schools. While the magnitude of the damage to shelter do not appear to be major, houses of some of the most vulnerable families were completely destroyed, and many are rebuilding their shelters in high risk areas using salvaged materials, exposing them to future risks during the continued rainy season.

The sectoral response strategy will focus on meeting the immediate shelter needs for the most vulnerable people, including an in-depth assessment of the shelter needs, and provision of skills training and awareness-raising for building back safer shelter and mitigating future risks.

While partners working in the shelter sector are limited, the implementing partner will be the MPWT. UN-Habitat will assist the most vulnerable affected households to repair and reconstruct their houses, and provide rapid training in developing appropriate approaches and standards for improved shelter.

Expected outputs and impact

- Repair and reconstruction of 30 (increase by including repair) houses that are totally destroyed and damaged in eight affected provinces through toolkits and shelter materials
- Awareness raised on safer building techniques
- Awareness raised on mitigation and preparedness measures through training on building back better for villages affected in eight affected provinces
- Government officials trained on disaster preparedness and management procedures from shelter and settlements perspectives
- Communities return to normalcy with security of tenure

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

The sector is requesting a total amount of US\$ 131,610. So far, no contributions were received and the entire requirement remains unfunded.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

SHELTER		US\$
UN-Habitat LAO-08/SH01	<p>Project title: Emergency Shelter Repair and Shelter Risk Reduction</p> <p>Objectives: 1) To ensure the repair/reconstruction of the houses of 2,500 persons affected by flooding in eight provinces; 2) To provide training for building back better shelter for villages affected by flooding in eight provinces.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 2,500 persons in nine affected provinces (Luangnamtha, Bokeo, Xayabury, Luangprabang, Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province, Borikhamxay, Khammuane and Savannakhet)</p> <p>Partners: Ministry of Public Work and Transport (MPWT)</p>	131,610

3.6 EDUCATION (Lead: UNICEF)

Objective

To enable 23,800 primary school children (11,115 girls) and 680 teachers (332 females) in the flood affected provinces of Vientiane Capital, and Vientiane, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Oudomxay and Xiengkhuang provinces to teach and learn in repaired schools that provide a healthy, safe and protective environment sheltered from rain, wind and muddy conditions with new textbooks and blackboards to enable more active participation in the education process

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

According to Government data and the IASC Rapid Assessment results, a total of 23,800 primary school students (11,115 girls) and 680 teachers (332 females) have been adversely affected by the storms and floods. Whether experiencing a delayed start of the school year, attending school in a temporary location or in schools with damaged floors, walls or without proper classroom furniture or textbooks, these students and teachers will not be participating in their right to education in an environment that is conducive for learning. The proposed strategy for the education sector is therefore to respond to these needs by supporting the provision of school repair materials, furniture, blackboards and textbooks.

As the education sector focal point, UNICEF ensures a close coordination amongst all key stakeholders providing support to the MoE in response to the flood situation. The modality for implementing the emergency school repairs follows the same procedures used for school rehabilitation and reconstruction. The Provincial Education Service in each of the four provinces will submit a detailed list of the repair materials required, such as roofing sheets, cement, sand, gravel and bricks, to UNICEF and other stakeholders. Once the materials are procured and transported to the district level, the Village Education Committee will organise the community members to volunteer their

time and skills to implement the school repairs. The Provincial Education Service engineers will monitor the work of the community to ensure the repairs are of good quality and completed in a timely fashion. Partners will provide support to the Provincial Education Services for the implementation and monitoring of these activities.

Proposed activities include the following:

Immediate:

- To procure and transport essential supplies for school repairs in 45 severely destroyed schools in Vientiane capital, Vientiane, Borikhamxay and Khammuane provinces

Medium to longer term:

- To procure and transport essential materials for school repairs to 91 moderate to severely damaged schools in six affected provinces: Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Oudomxay and Xiengkhuang
- To procure and transport blackboards for 136 schools and textbooks for 60 schools in Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Oudomxay and Xiengkhuang

Expected outputs and impact

23,800 primary school children (11,115 girls) and 680 teachers (332 females) in Vientiane Capital, Vientiane Province, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Oudomxay and Xiengkhuang provinces teaching and learning in repaired schools that provide a healthier, safer and more protective environment sheltered from rain, wind and muddy conditions with new textbooks and blackboards to enable more active participation in the education process

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

The Education sector has identified needs amounting to US\$ 350,045, out of which US\$ 100,045 was committed through the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund. The remaining funding gap under this Appeal therefore amounts to US\$ 250,000.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

EDUCATION		US \$
<p>UNICEF LAO-08/EDU01</p>	<p>Project title: Flood Emergency Response for Primary Schools</p> <p>Objectives: a)To enable 7,960 primary school children (3,717 girls) and 225 teachers (110 females) in Vientiane Capital, and Vientiane, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Oudomxay and Xiengkhuang provinces to learn in a safer, healthier and more protective learning environment. b)To enable 680 teachers (332 females) and 23,800 students (11,115 girls) in Vientiane Capital, and Vientiane, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Oudomxay and Xiengkhuang provinces to participate more fully in the teaching and learning process.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: Teachers: 680 (332 females); Children: 23,800 primary school children (11,115 girls)</p>	<p>350,045</p>

	Partners: MoE at Central, Provincial and District levels, Village Education Committees	
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3.7 PROTECTION (Lead: UNICEF)

Objectives

- *Immediate:* To identify persons exhibiting signs of trauma and stress, refer and/or provide counselling as needed;
- *Medium to longer term:* To provide life skills education, counselling and psychosocial support to most vulnerable men, women and children at risk of exploitation, particularly trafficking in ten out of the eleven flood-affected provinces, namely: Bokeo, Luangnamtha, Luangprabang, Xayabury, Champasack, Savannakhet, Borikhamxay, Khammuane, Vientiane Province and Vientiane Capital; and to heighten awareness and preparedness of affected populations through training of central, provincial, district and village stakeholders including government and media staff on the protection concerns before and during natural disasters.

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

The Rapid Assessment shows that sporadic incidents of theft, violence and abuse have happened, as a result of the aftermath of the flood. It is globally known that there is increased vulnerability during these times, especially amongst children, because there is limited knowledge and awareness on the importance of protection during disasters. Families and communities are remotely concerned on how disasters may psychologically people and fail to understand the longer term implications of these.

The proposed interventions will build on the close partnerships with the MoLSW, LYU and LWU, and train counterparts on preparedness and response to protection issues during disasters. Capacity building, to be supported by both UNICEF and UNDP (through the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region [UNIAP]), will focus on the provision of psychological help and counselling where previous skills trainings were conducted addressing general protection issues. Moreover, capacity building efforts will also enhance the skills of already existing Child Protection Networks in 75 villages in five provinces, where several trainings supported by UNICEF on child rights and basic issues on child protection have been undertaken. These trainings will provide them with sufficient skills to organize innovative recreational and non-formal education activities to assess their needs and identify children and young people exhibiting signs of trauma or stress. These projects will also tap the expertise and resources of other stakeholders such as INGOs to conduct case referrals and follow-up. Draw on the existing experience and capacity of LYU, awareness-raising through the media shall be conducted, building on current radio awareness raising activities between UNIAP and LYU at central level. Awareness-raising will be undertaken through trained mobile teams and existing radio stations at the local levels in coordination with other relevant partners who be consulted with regards to access to particularly remote areas with limited and damaged infrastructure. Regular consultations and collaboration with INGOs will be undertaken among them, Save the Children Australia, Friends International, Norwegian Church Aid, Afesip, Plan International and World Vision.

A toolkit will be developed to provide reference and guidance on how to prepare for and respond to protecting children during disasters. These materials will serve as the basis for activities and responses to reduce vulnerability to the consequences of disasters such as trafficking, children coming in conflict with the law and HIV/AIDS.

Proposed activities include the following:

Immediate:

- Conduct national protection training on preparedness and response to natural disaster
- Conduct psychosocial support and counselling trainings at all levels
- Provide training and capacity building for media staff working in radio stations at provincial and district levels
- Provide technical assistance in the development of the child protection toolkit
- Set up mobile teams and/or community-based structures at the village levels to identify children exhibiting signs of trauma and stress, refer and/or provide counselling as needed;
- Identify and strengthen community-based mechanisms to support children who are deemed to be most vulnerable

Medium to longer term:

- Provide supplies and recreational activities and non formal learning activities which will identify those children with additional protection needs
- Collect data on the protection toolkit and build further knowledge on vulnerabilities and responses in natural disasters
- Produce and broadcast protection messages on radio programmes

Expected Outputs and Impact:

- Affected groups of people, particularly children, are able to cope with emotional and psychosocial effects of disasters as well as the instituting follow-up systems with other providers of care
- Vulnerable people's life skills and resilience from the floods is reinforced, protecting them from violence, exploitation and abuse particularly, trafficking and abuse in relation the migration/relocation process;
- Government staff and other key stakeholders are provided with the necessary skills to be prepared in and able to respond to the protection rights of people during disasters

Financial Requirements and Gaps for the Sector:

The protection sector has identified needs amounting to US\$ 388,724, out of which US\$ 99,724 was committed though the CERF. The remaining gap therefore amounts to US\$ 289,000.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

PROTECTION		US\$
<p>UNICEF LAO-08/PRO01</p>	<p>Project title: Protecting Children in Natural Disasters and Flooding Situations</p> <p>Objectives: a) Children and women in about 250 of the most affected villages in the provinces of Champasack, Savannakhet, Borikhamxay, Khammuane and Vientiane are provided with psychosocial counselling and support; Mechanisms are established to ensure counselling and necessary follow-up for cases identified; b) Approximately 450 of already existing community-based Child Protection Networks and district and provincial staff of the LWU in the five target provinces, including central level staff, have acquired skills on providing psychosocial help and protection to children.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: Approximately 25,000 children and women, (100 people per village in 250 villages). Focus will be on those children and women who have been displaced and had to live in houses other than their own or in evacuation centres.</p> <p>Partners: UNIAP, MoLSW, LYU, LWU, INGOs</p>	<p>249,724</p>
<p>UNDP LAO-08/PRO02</p>	<p>Project title: Outreach and Protection from Abuse and Human Trafficking in Response to the Flood Damage in Lao PDR</p> <p>Objectives: a) To provide life skills to affected populations, including men, women and children vulnerable to risky migration and human trafficking, as well as counselling and psycho-social care, and case follow-up by deploying trained mobile teams and close partnerships with relevant stakeholders; b) To strengthen awareness and life skills of affected populations through training local and provincial media staff in producing and broadcasting programmes on safe migration.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: Particularly affected districts in Vientiane Capital, and Luangprabang, Bokeo, Luangnamtha and Xayabury provinces. The mobile teams will visit and work in proximately 200 of the most affected villages in these provinces. Particularly the young and those that have experienced relocation/about to migrate will be the main target groups. In addition, a potentially much higher number of people at community level will be reached through the local radio stations.</p> <p>Partners: UNICEF, LYU, LWU, INGOs</p>	<p>139,000</p>

3.8 EARLY RECOVERY (Lead: UNDP)

Objectives

Early recovery is a multidimensional process guided by development principles that begins in a humanitarian setting, and seeks to build on humanitarian programmes and catalyse sustainable development opportunities⁵. Therefore following the recent floods in Laos, early recovery efforts will be made in order to:

- Close the gap between relief and development and transform the disaster into opportunities for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction; and
- Generate and/or reinforce nationally owned processes for post-flood recovery that are sustainable and resilient for the future disasters.

⁵ Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery, Guidance Notes on Early Recovery, IASC/UNDG-ECHA, April 2008

Sectoral strategy for achieving the objectives

Early recovery initiatives should occur in parallel with humanitarian programmes and augment and build on relief assistance to foster the self reliance of affected populations and help them rebuild their livelihoods. At the same time, early recovery should contribute to the restoration of the foundations for longer-term recovery ensuring that the spontaneous recovery efforts are sustainable and will reduce future disaster risks.

UNDP will focus on assisting the relief efforts by other agencies through logistical support and emergency repairs of critical facilities. In addition, in order to complement the assistance to be provided by other agencies such as FAO and WFP, UNDP will try to respond to the needs of affected communities and populations which may not be best addressed by particular in-kind support.

UNDP in collaboration with the Government and other partner agencies will work to serve the following purposes:

- Provide logistical support to enhance partner agencies' capacity in delivering emergency relief items to affected population
- Rapidly identify more detailed needs for early recovery supports and interventions
- Design an early recovery strategic framework and early recovery action plan
- Provide time-critical assistance⁶ to rapidly restore production capacities and family revenues of rural communities
- Establish early recovery coordination mechanisms involving the collaborative efforts of the NDMO, PDMC, DDMC, and village protection units and humanitarian community

In line with the findings and recommendations, damaged infrastructure and facilities will be urgently repaired in order to ascertain that relief assistance is delivered in a timely manner. It should also pave the way towards reducing the development deficit, fulfilling unmet needs and development objectives as well as reducing disaster risks. As much as possible, local technologies, materials, know-how should be utilised in the early recovery efforts in order to have a direct positive impact upon the local economy and people's livelihood.

Early Recovery Activities will include:

- Emergency repair of critical facilities that are immediately required to support relief efforts by other agencies and the basic functioning of local governance to administer early recovery. This may include, but not be limited to, rapid repair of productive social and/or primary infrastructure such as roads, bridges, markets, housing, etc
- Immediate assessment of methods and techniques of reconstruction of housing using local technologies, construction materials, local know-how to ensure that construction activities will have a direct positive impact upon the local economy

⁶ Time Critical Assistance are supports and assistance that unless provided immediately the very survival of the disaster-affected population may be threatened or their recovery will be either severely disrupted or will take unnecessarily longer time

- Design and administration of an in-depth and comprehensive recovery-oriented needs assessment towards more sustainable recovery incorporating, among others, sustainable livelihood and disaster risk reduction considerations
- Cash-for-Work schemes focusing on the above mentioned housing and other rural infrastructure recovery and improvement
- Preventing the loss of critical momentum in agriculture and livestock production, through the emergency provision of conditional micro-grants/credits and other means
- Urgent provision of small business opportunities for non-agriculture sectors through the provision of conditional grants/credits and other means
- Capacity building for community based sustainable recovery and disaster risk reduction (Disaster Preparedness Drills, First Aid training, etc)

Expected outputs and impact

- Critical facilities repaired and relief items and supports delivered to affected communities in a timely manner
- In-depth and comprehensive recovery-oriented needs assessment conducted and recovery plan developed
- Cash for Work opportunities created and critical infrastructure restored
- Productive activities restored where possible
- Affected communities are prepared and disaster risks reduced

Financial requirements and gaps for the sector

The total cost of the activities proposed under the early recovery sector is US\$ 971,000, of which US\$ 110,000 has been already mobilized using UNDP core funds. The remaining unfunded requirement for early recovery is therefore US\$ 861,000.

Summary table of projects submitted under the sector

Early Recovery		US\$
UNDP LAO-08/ER01	<p>Project title: Sustainable Early Recovery and Risk Reduction</p> <p>Objectives: 1) Close the gap between relief and development and transform the disaster into opportunities for sustainable development, and 2) Generate and/or reinforce nationally owned processes for post-flood recovery that are resilient and sustainable.</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 10,000 affected households and communities, local authorities, NDMO. The target provinces will be Bokeo, Xayabury, Luangprabang, Vientiane Province, Borikhamxay and Khammuane</p> <p>Partners: IASC members, Governors Offices (Public Works), NDMO, PDMC, DDMC, LWU, LYU, Lao Front for National Reconstruction, Save the Children Australia, Asia Disaster Preparedness Centre.</p>	971,000

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The response to this disaster is being led by the Government of Lao PDR, with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of coordinating development partners' emergency assistance. The Resident Coordinator leads the United Nations response under the umbrella of the wider IASC. At the technical level, the humanitarian community is coordinating closely with NDMO and the line ministries through work in IASC sectoral groups. Five sectors have been formed: **Food Security and Agricultural Recovery** (lead: WFP/FAO), **Health and Nutrition** (lead: WHO/UNICEF), **Water and Sanitation** (lead: UNICEF), **Early Recovery** (lead: UNDP), and **Logistics** (lead: WFP). The sectoral groups are meeting as often as needed. The usual coordination mechanisms will apply for other sectors.

ANNEX I - ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
CFSVA	Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment
DDMC	District Disaster Management Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee In-Country Team for Disaster Response Preparedness
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
LWU	Lao Women's Union
LYU	Lao Youth Union
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
NDMC	National Disaster Management Committee
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OPV	Oral Polio Vaccine
PDMC	Provincial Disaster Management Committee
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNIAP	United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation

ANNEX II – PROJECT BRIEFS

The project briefs will be made available to development partners on Monday, 22 September 2008.

