

# Lao PDR: Floods

## Humanitarian Country Team Information Bulletin No.4

(as of 19 October 2018)

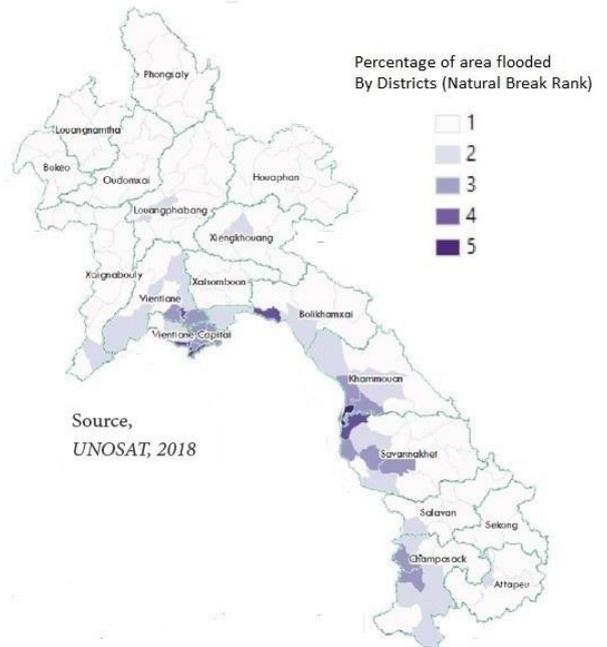


This bulletin covers the entire country, with significant focus on Attapeu province. It is produced by the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Lao PDR in collaboration with humanitarian partners.

## Summary

- According to Government figures as of 15 October, which are similar to the ones reported in the last Information Bulletin of 5 October, 2,382 villages, 126,736 families and 616,145 people are reported to be affected by the floods. A total of 16,739 people remains evacuated from their villages. 1,779 Houses are reported as destroyed and 514 as damaged. 90,000 ha of paddy fields and 11,000 ha of other plantations have been destroyed, and 630 km of roads and 47 bridges have been damaged.
- The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare will present the findings of the ongoing Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) on damages, losses and recovery needs to the National Disaster Prevention and Control Committee on 23 October. The PDNA, which is facilitated by United Nations, World Bank and European Union covers the entire country, will develop a sustainable recovery strategy and sector plans of the Government and guide discussions on funding with development partners. The final report is expected to be available by end November. The PDNA will feed into discussions at the National Assembly, the Round Table Meeting and the Mid-Term Review of 8<sup>th</sup> National Socio-Economic Development Plan.
- Influenza-like illness, severe acute respiratory illnesses, diarrhea, and dengue fever remain priority public health concerns in Attapeu province. A second round of oral cholera vaccine immunization has been completed. 93 malnutrition cases have been reported in the camps, including 76 of Moderate Acute Malnutrition and 17 of Severe Acute Malnutrition.
- The Government has reported that all schools in Sanamxay are now operating. However, some students irregularly attend in some primary and secondary schools, primarily due to shortages of classrooms, teachers and school meals. Water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in 195 schools and 9 health centers have been damaged.
- The Humanitarian Country Team successfully received US\$ 3.5 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to seed \$ 42.7 million total requirements to provide humanitarian assistance to 110,000 households. This brings the total of resources mobilized towards the Disaster Response Plan to US\$ 6.7 million. The CERF project will support the six hardest-hit districts in Khammouane province. Expected impacts are improved nutrition through cash transfers (WFP), the containment of disease and emergency healthcare (WHO), the distribution of seed packets to enable resumption of winter cropping for subsistence (FAO), and debris management to enable irrigated agriculture and resumption of health and government service, as well as education concerning unexploded ordnance in flooded areas (UNDP).

Map 1: Composite Index of Population and Crop Exposure to Flooding, 17 July- 31 August 2018



 <b>56</b> reported deaths	 <b>35</b> people missing
 <b>3,616</b> evacuated households	 <b>616,145</b> people affected

# Humanitarian Response



## Food Security & Nutrition

- Communities in Sanamxay will only retain food security when they have a new harvest. Meanwhile, they remain dependent on donated food or cash. Cash for work can be a dignified way to allow them to actively engage in restoring their food security. 76 cases of moderate acute malnutrition and 17 cases of severe acute malnutrition were reported, mostly in the camps.
- With already high levels of malnutrition prior to the floods, it is critical to continuously monitor the nutritional status of children and provide them access to supplementary food if needed.

### Needs

- Preliminary findings of the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment are expected to indicate that the agriculture sector is one of the most affected nation-wide with the majority of losses and damages in the paddy production and irrigation infrastructure. Damages also occurred for other crops including fruit trees, vegetables, sugar cane, coffee, but this was mostly of a localized nature. The same local nature of damages has been the case for fisheries and livestock.
- With the rainy season slowly coming to an end, the household stocks are starting to run out in the seven flood affected villages in Sanamxay district of Attapeu in which the population was not displaced. They still have access to fish from the rivers and different food they can gather from the forests such as bamboo shoots. However, their needs for additional nutrition to replace the rice they normally would have harvested is increasing. This is especially the case for the lowest social classes such as landless labourers, who have seen their work opportunities decrease as paddy fields were damaged and left without crops to harvest.
- Temporary resettlement of the displaced people continues in Sanamxay district. Due to space limitations, it is hard for the displaced households to engage in home gardening or hold small livestock like poultry. To meet the protein and food diversity needs of the households, particularly those of the children, both home gardens and poultry would be welcome food sources for the displaced population.
- In the flood affected districts of Khammouane province, large areas of paddy fields have been destroyed by the floods. A total of 26,590 hectares of paddy fields, 203 hectares of maize, 21 hectares of cassava and 240 hectares of vegetables were completely destroyed by the floods. An additional 10,850 hectares of paddy fields were partially damaged, which will result in a reduced harvest. An estimated 32,000 households in 435 villages have been affected by these floods.

### Response

- With a USD 1.7 million CERF allocation committed to the flood affected population in Hinboun and Nongbok districts of Khammouane province, preparations are being made to start a cash distribution programme to cover food assistance needs for a 6-month period.
- In Sanamxay district of Attapeu province, displaced people in the camps and those resettled in temporary shelters continue to receive food (20 kg of rice/person/day) and cash (LAK 100,000/person/month plus LAK 15,000/person/3 days) through the local authorities. Households in the affected, but not displaced villages will be receiving in-kind food assistance starting November.
- In Sanamxay district, the Ministry of Health is currently carrying out integrated health outreach in 23 villages. This includes a comprehensive set of maternal, child health and nutrition services including family planning, Ante- and Postnatal Care, immunization for children, provision of iron folic acid for pregnant and lactating women, Provision of vitamin A and deworming medications to children 6-59 months, Weight for Height and Height for Age measurements, Mid-Upper Arm Circumference and referral for Severe Acute Malnutrition treatment, follow up of existing cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition and Moderate Acute Malnutrition, Management and referral of childhood illnesses such as diarrhea and Acute Respiratory Infections. Distributions of Nutributter to under-5-year-olds is integrated into the outreach campaigns for the flood affected villages. These campaigns will continue once per month in the 23 villages.

## Gaps

- Current food assistance to the seven affected non-displaced villages will continue into early 2019. As there is limited opportunity for a winter crop, the villagers will be dependent on assistance until the next main crop in October 2019. Cash for work would be an opportunity but off-farm work is limited so the approach to be used needs to be thought through carefully.
- Though limited, there are options for some winter crops, provided farmers have seeds and other inputs. The nearest physical market is in the Sanamxay district capital which has limited demand.
- With malnutrition numbers high in the area, given the community remains in a situation of stress, blanket distribution of supplementary food like Nutributter to children under five (6-59 months) into 2019 remains necessary.



## Health

### Needs

- Priority public health concerns reported through enhanced disease surveillance in Attapeu Province are influenza-like illness, severe acute respiratory illnesses, diarrhea, and dengue fever.
- The Ministry of Health is requesting to ensure routine health services are functional not only in Attapeu Province but also in other flood affected areas throughout the country.

### Response

#### *Coordination*

- Both the Ministry of Health Disaster Response Plan for Attapeu and National Flood Affected Response Plan have been shared with the health cluster members. The cluster members will discuss how to best support the Ministry of Health with their response and advocate for funding to cover the gaps.

#### *Health Operations*

- Mental health surveillance and support is still ongoing in the affected populations
- Surveillance in Sanamxay and other affected areas has detected increased cases of influenza-like illness and severe acute respiratory infection. Dengue case numbers are also being closely monitored, following the easing of rain throughout the country
- An Emergency Medical Team orientation meeting is expected to be held at the end of October.
- Maternal and child health services are being provided in temporary emergency shelters in Sanamxay District including, antenatal and postnatal care, delivery assistance and family planning. The District Health Office in Sanamxay continues to monitor pregnant women in affected areas, including identifying pregnant women at the last stage of pregnancy. Between 2 and 15 October, eight safe deliveries were reported by the District Health Office and there is one complication cases referred to province hospitals.

#### *Public Health Interventions*

- Vector control activities are continuing with larvae surveys and fogging ongoing in Sanamxay District and increased community involvement. Rapid test kits for malaria have been procured for the provinces.
- A second round of oral cholera vaccine immunisation has been completed in both the camps and affected villages in Attapeu Province. In total, 10,086 OCV vaccines have been distributed for the second round, bringing the total number of doses administered to 17,482. A third round of oral cholera vaccine immunisation is planned to start by the end of October and will be co-administered with typhoid vaccine and vitamin B distribution. Additional doses of cholera vaccine have been procured for other flood affected provinces.

## Gaps

- The stock of dengue rapid test kits is insufficient for the needs of the provinces



## Logistics

### Needs

- Additional resources to assist the Government in organizing and recording donated relief items.

### Response

- Warehouse support continues to be provided to the Government both in Vientiane and Sanamxay. Reorganization of relief supplies, stored in Vientiane warehouse, has been completed.
- Confirmation has been received that ASEAN will donate 1000 MT of rice to Lao PDR through the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve. The UN has been requested to handle the rice once it is in country. Further information is needed to determine how much of a role the UN will play in the dispatch and distribution of this rice.

### Gaps

- Information on road access continues to be an issue. If partners have information, they are encouraged to share it with the cluster lead for further dissemination.



## Shelter including Camp Management

### Response

- 35 Government Officials and Camp Managers from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and other line ministries are receiving training on Camp Coordination and Camp Management in Attapeu this week.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Response

- Completed water pipe connection has been established to all toilets in Pindong camp
- In coordination with Provincial and District authorities and SK company, a non-functional water pump in Haad Yao camp will be replaced in next 2-3 days.
- Preliminary findings of the PDNA indicate that water supply systems in the affected provinces sustained partial damages, with major damages in Huaphan and Attapeu provinces.
- WASH facilities in 195 schools and 9 health centers have been damaged. This has resulted in significant need for rehabilitation of the damaged facilities in all affected provinces with some construction of new facilities required in Huaphan and Attapeu. The UN is working with Government partners to develop the concrete plan for short, medium and long terms. There is an urgent need to disinfect the dugwells and provide support to repair the water points.

### Gaps

- There is shortage of water in new camps, such as Haad Yao. There is need to strengthen the communication between camps and District Government Authorities.



## Education

### **In Attapeu**

#### Needs

- The latest information from the Ministry of Education and Sports indicates that a total of 27 schools are damaged, including 6 fully damaged. Around 26,900 textbooks and teacher guides, and 1,300 sets of desks and chairs in those schools have been damaged.

- It is reported by the Sanamxay district education and sports bureau that all schools in Sanamxay are now open. However, some students irregularly attend school in some primary schools (Donsuea, Donphai, Oudomxay, Haysaysoung, Sompoy, Xaydonkhong, Kasae, PhonsaArt, ParkBor) and secondary schools (Parkbor, Sompoy, Thongthae, Xaydonkhong) primarily due to shortage of classrooms, teachers and school meals.
- Temporary learning spaces are necessary both for primary and secondary levels.

### Response

- 79 school tents have been provided and temporary learning spaces are set up using those tents.
- Education materials are provided – to date, including:
  - 250 pre-primary teacher guides
  - 3,587 schoolbags
  - 630 foldable steel tables
  - 1,260 plastic chairs
  - 253 packages of textbooks
  - 2,087 school uniforms
- In linkage with the child protection response for Child Friendly Space, and in coordination with the Government, Early Childhood Development, education and psychosocial support is currently being provided in six camps.

### Gaps

- Transportation of educational supplies and goods to remote camps
- School furniture for temporary learning spaces as well as schools
- Uniforms for primary school children
- There is an insufficient number of teachers for temporary learning spaces as well as schools in host communities to accommodate the increased number of students
- Further support is required from development partners to support local education authorities doing on-time monitoring

## **Other Provinces**

### Needs

- The latest information by the Government on the affected schools indicates as follows:
  - Vientiane capital (21 schools)
  - Phongsaly (2 schools)
  - Luangnamtha (1 schools)
  - Huaphan (22 schools)
  - Oudomxay (4 schools)
  - Bokeo (3 schools)
  - Luang Prabang (16 schools)
  - Xaiyaboury (29 schools)
  - Xiengkhuang (26 schools)
  - Vientiane province (19 schools)
  - Borikhamxai (6 schools)
  - Khammouane (48 schools)
  - Savannakhet (39 schools)
  - Saravane (5 schools)
  - Sekong (18 schools)
  - Champasack (12 schools)
  - Xaysomboun (1 schools)

### Gaps

- A more detailed situation and needs assessment to plan for full recovery



## Protection

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### Needs

- Continuous training for volunteers and local government is needed in the Child Friendly Spaces due to turn over and relocations of people in the camps.

### Response

- Total number of 3,358 children (1,665 boys and 1,693 girls) for the period 1-12 October including 1,341 (673 boys and 668 girls) aged 3-5 years; 1,579 (809 boys and 770 girls) aged 6-10 years; and 438 (183 boys and 255 girls) aged 11-18 years attended activities in six Child Friendly Spaces located in Sanamxay Kindergarten School, Sanamxay Secondary School, Mitsamphan Primary School, Pindong, Donbok and Tammayord.
- A training workshop in Attapeu on Psychological First Aid for Frontliners including village volunteers and officials from district, provincial and central level, took place on 16-19 October. The second training on Child Friendly Spaces will be held in the following week in Attapeu.
- A new Child Friendly Space has been established in Tammayord Camp. Additional tents have been provided to the existing Child Friendly Space in Pindong camp.

### Gaps

- Training of Trainers on psychosocial support is required for sustainability and further replication where needed.
- Child Friendly Space in Hard Yao temporary shelter to be established.

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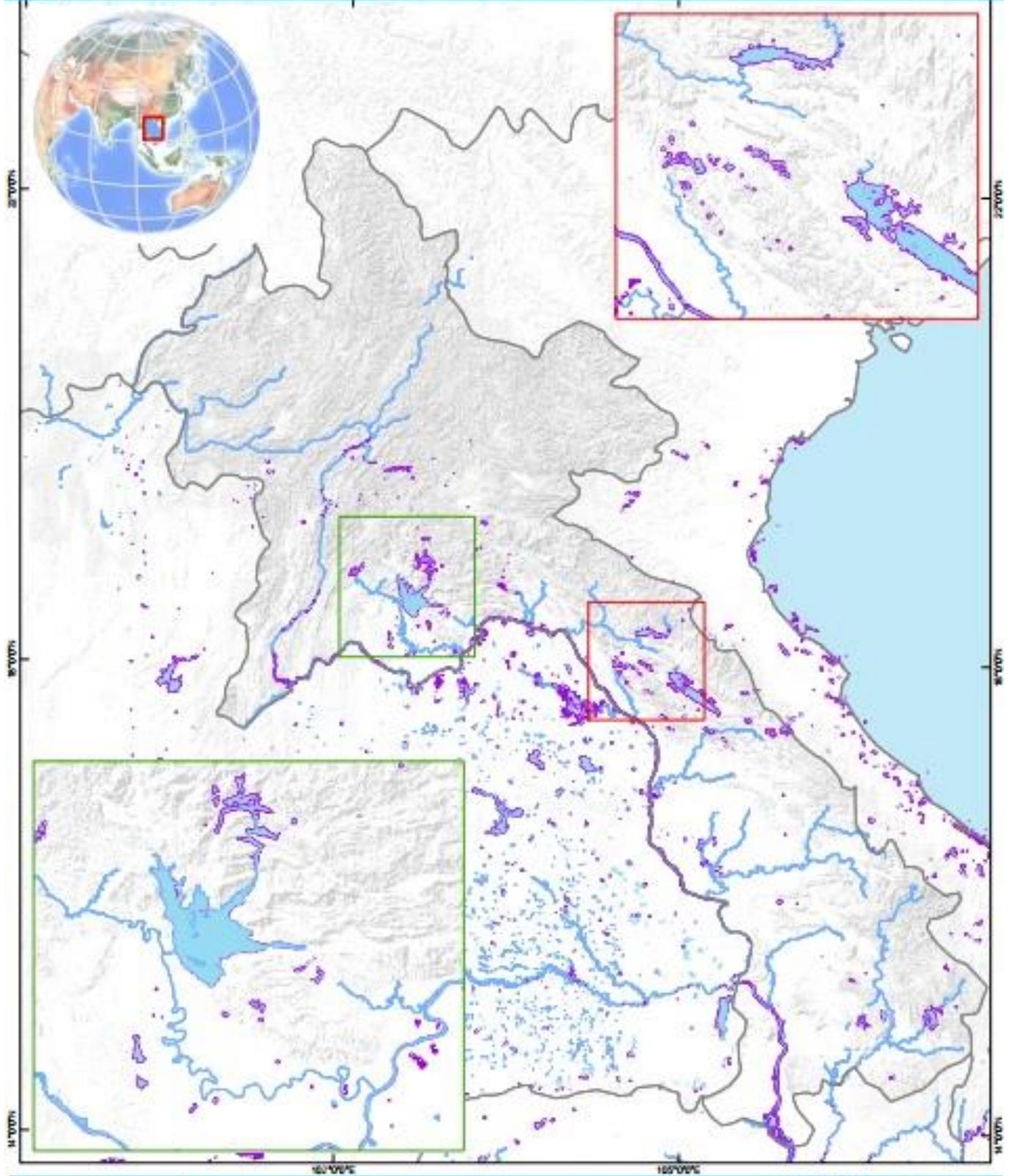
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# Lao PDR

## Map of MODIS Satellite Flood, 04 October 2018



Date Created: 4 Oct 2018

Contact: manithaphone.mahaxay@wfp.org

Website: www.wfp.org

### Legend

- Current floodwater
- Permanent water body
- Country boundary



### DATA SOURCES:

- Lao Department of Statistics
- Lao National Geographical Department
- WFP Lao PDR
- NASA, Earth Data

The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.