

Questionnaire IV (Country Report IV) – For Session 3

~ The experience of drought management

1. Please describe the experiences of recent severe drought. Specific describe is appreciated.

(Country Name: Lao PDR)

There are no experiences of recent severe on the drought because the drought problem happened in the past in Laos is not as severe as the flood.

2. If there is a legal or institutional framework of drought management in your country, please describe the outline of it. In addition, how have you (or your organization) coordinated the drought in practice? (For example, intervention of government, negotiation among stakeholders)

(Country Name: Lao PDR)

Within the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) with the support of the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), have been taken the responsibility in 1997 for the formulation of the government policy on Disaster Management in Lao PDR. The new approach emphasizes the role of the government in tackling disasters, the importance of Disaster Preparedness, Community-Based Disaster Management (CBDM) approach, the recognition of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction as a cornerstone of sustainable development and the coordination between community and government at different levels and strengthening community self-reliance. In line with the national strategy, the NDMO has developed a National Disaster Management Action Plan, which is broken down into three different periods (2001-2005, 2005-2010, and 2010 -2020). This Action Plan was advanced and approved by the members of National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) in line ministries and signed by chairman of NDMC.

A landmark decree No. 158, signed by the Prime Minister in August 1999, provide for the establishment of an inter-ministerial National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) as a policy making and coordination body. This organization started from central government called NDMC and down to provincial, districts and village levels. The NDMO is played a secretariat of the NDMC and has a key function to build coordination procedures among Disaster Management Organizations and with among Government Institutions, other agencies and stakeholders such as: UN, International NGOs and Organizations.

The NDMC consisting of representatives from 13 key Ministries:

1. Minister of Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare	Chairman	
2. Vice - Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Vice Chairman	
3. Chief of Cabinet Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Vice Chairman	
4. Chief of Cabinet Ministry of Defense	Member	
5. Chief of Cabinet Ministry of Interior	Member	
6. Chief of Cabinet Ministry of Education	Member	
7. Director of Budget Department, Ministry of Finance	Member	
8. Director of Transportation Department, Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction	Member	
9. Director of Industry Department, Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts		Member
10. Director of Hygiene Department, Ministry of Health	Member	
11. Director of Mass Media Department, Ministry of Information and Culture	Member	
12. Director of Social Welfare Department, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare	Member	
13. Chairman of Lao Red Cross	Member	

NDMC roles and responsibilities are:

- NDMC is acting on behalf of Government on Disaster Management and functioning through NDMO as its secretariat.
- To Determining and criterion for resources.
- Implements policies and decisions on inter-Ministries basic.

- Coordinates and cooperates with all government Ministries and Agencies on Disaster Management in all phases: preparedness, emergency assistance and mitigation.
- Develop policies, including national disaster management plan, and provides overall direction for provincial and district plans.
- Responsible for major operational decisions during an emergency.
- Decides on allocation of relief resources.
- Report to Government.

3. Do you have any special questions for other participants including NARBO secretariat? Or, do you have what you want to discuss related to water allocation issues? If so, please describe them freely.

(Country Name: Lao PDR)