



## Reducing Rural Poverty and Malnutrition Project (P162565)

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC | Lao People's Democratic Republic | Social Protection & Jobs Global Practice | IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2019 | Seq No: 7 | ARCHIVED on 28-Jun-2022 | ISR51208 |

Implementing Agencies: Lao People's Democratic Republic, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 14-Mar-2019

Effectiveness Date: 21-Jun-2019

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 23-May-2022

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 23-May-2022

Original Closing Date: 31-Mar-2024

Revised Closing Date: 31-Mar-2024

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Project Development Objective is to support the design and implementation of a nutrition-sensitive social assistance program to improve nutrition behaviors, and enhance the convergence of nutrition-focused interventions.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

### Components Table

Name

Component 1: Developing the building blocks of a social protection system:(Cost \$3.00 M)

Component 2: Conditional cash transfer program:(Cost \$16.70 M)

Component 3: Coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation:(Cost \$7.30 M)

### Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The implementation of project activities has progressed well. The project is on track to achieve the Project Development Objectives (PDO) indicators.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) applied the Proxy Means Test (PMT) to all the target areas and is successfully implementing the conditional cash transfer program in 634 villages (phase 1). A total of 22,933 beneficiaries (91.6 percent of all eligible for phase 1 of the program) were enrolled in the Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT) program. The fifth payment to beneficiaries is being conducted in June 2022. The key focus of the program in the next months would be to ensure to cover the gap in coverage of beneficiaries and plan efficiently and effectively for the scale-up of the program in the control villages.

In terms of nutrition convergence, the project teams in both Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) are operational and convening regular meetings at the central, provincial, and district levels. M&E tools such as impact evaluation, village score card, and spot check are also developed and applied. The need to use the nutrition progress indicators to inform the nutrition convergence



interventions and to ensure that village nutrition convergence days get organized at least quarterly was agreed upon during the last implementation support mission in early June 2022.

## Risks

### Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Macroeconomic	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Technical Design of Project or Program	☐ High	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Fiduciary	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Environment and Social	☐ Low	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Stakeholders	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Other	--	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Overall	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial

## Results

### PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Objective 1: Develop a targeting, information, and monitoring system for social protection programs				
▶ Indicator 1: Percentage of households with periodically updated socio-economic survey information reported in the social registry. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	90.00	100.00	80.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	Numerator: Number of households in the target area for whom the socio-economic PMT questionnaire has been administered at the household level and data migrated to the social registry. The PMT will be applied every two years and information will be available in the social registry no later than 2 months after implementation of the survey. Denominator: Total number of estimated households living in the target area. The estimated number of overall households living in the target area would come from population estimates.			



Objective 2: Improve nutrition behaviors				
▶ Beneficiaries of social safety net programs (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	15,189.00	22,993.00	42,743.00
Date	16-Nov-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Mar-2024
□ Beneficiaries of social safety net programs - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	11,215.00	18,753.00	38,460.00
▶ Indicator 3: Percentage of children 6–23 months from cash transfer beneficiary households consuming foods from four or more recommended food groups. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	Numerator: Children, 6-23 months old from cash transfer beneficiary households who are reported to have consumed at least four out of the seven recommended food groups (using a classification of food groups based on international recommendations) during the 24 hours preceding the time of interview. Denominator: Total number of children 6-23 months from cash transfer beneficiary households in the area of intervention.			

Objective 3: Enhance convergence of the multisectoral nutrition approach in targeted provinces				
▶ Indicator 4: Number of villages in project districts where at least three nutrition convergence projects have been implemented. (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	498.00	498.00	528.00
Date	26-Oct-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	Number of villages in the target districts in which three or more projects (from health, WASH, PRF, IFAD financed project, and this project) are implementing their respective project activities. IFAD and PRF will be implemented in separate villages.			

### Overall Comments

Indicator 1 is achieved, and 2 and 4 are on track. Indicator 3 data is not yet available. Information will come from the impact evaluation mid-line.

### Intermediate Results Indicators by Components



Component 1: Developing the building blocks of a social protection system				
► Indicator 1: Development of a social registry. (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	This indicator is met if the social and beneficiary registry information systems are developed and operational where developed means that the information systems software are developed and operational means that they are working on line. The information collected as part of the socio-economic survey will be regularly migrated into the social registry, and for the beneficiary registry in the area of interventions information on CCT program beneficiaries and on beneficiaries of WB financed nutrition convergence programs will be reported.			
► Indicator 2: Percentage of households surveyed with the PMT questionnaire in target areas. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	90.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	Numerator: Number of households surveyed with the PMT questionnaire in the target areas Denominator: Number of households living in the target area. The estimated number of overall households living in the target areas would come from population estimates and from the household level survey collected for the overall nutrition convergence approach impact evaluation every other year.			

Component 2: Conditional cash transfer program				
► Indicator 3: Percentage of project beneficiary households who participate in community nutrition sessions at least once per month. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	92.00	97.80	90.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	This information is from the CCT MIS. Since the MIS data cannot differentiate those who actually received the services and those who could not receive the services due to a lack of services, the record reported here could be higher than the actual rate.			
► Indicator 4: Percentage of cash transfers reaching target areas within 5 days of scheduled payment date. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	26.18	0.00	80.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	This indicator is meant to capture the efficacy of project delivery systems, specifically payment systems. A schedule for cash transfer payments will be developed once all systems are in place, taking into consideration the time it takes for each step to be completed, to the point where the cash is made available for collection by its intended beneficiary. This indicator will only measure the timeliness of the			



cash transfer in terms of when it is made available to the beneficiaries (in cash or as electronic payment). Cash collection by beneficiaries will not be measured by this indicator.				
<b>► Indicator 5: Percentage of children under 2 years from cash transfer beneficiary households receiving growth monitoring and promotion services according to the standard monitoring schedule. (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	91.90	97.70	40.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	This information is from the CCT MIS. Since the MIS data cannot differentiate those who actually received the services and those who could not receive the services due to a lack of services, the record reported here could be higher than the actual rate.			
<b>► Indicator 6: Number of female village facilitators trained to use new SBCC tools. (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,600.00
Date	11-Jul-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	The new SBCC tools are being developed.			
<b>► Indicator 7: Percentage of grievances addressed and/or resolved within the stipulated service standards for response times. (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	37.00	99.00	90.00
Date	24-Jul-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	As discussed in the GRM section, the stipulated service standards for response times are currently being reviewed and updated in the Cash Transfer Manual, and thus the actual data could not be captured in the current reporting period. It is expected to be reported from the next reporting period.			
<b>► Indicator 8: Percentage of female direct cash transfer recipients who report increased decision-making power on spending decisions for the household. (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	26-Oct-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	This indicator refers to the CCT beneficiaries and will only be reported after the impact evaluation mid-line will be collected in summer 2022.			
<b>► Indicator 9: Percentage of pregnant women from cash transfer beneficiary households with at least 4 ANC contacts during their pregnancy. (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	95.60	96.00	60.00



Date	23-Jul-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	This information is from the CCT MIS. Since the MIS data cannot differentiate those who actually received the services and those who could not receive the services due to a lack of services, the record reported here could be higher than the actual rate.			

Component 3: Coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation				
▶ Indicator 10: Number of spot checks implemented. (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	1.00	3.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	Although COVID-19 delayed the implementation of a systematic spot check, the first spot check was implemented.			
▶ Indicator 11: Percentage of project districts convening a multisectoral nutrition coordination meeting at least once every three (3) months. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	10.00	100.00	90.00
Date	11-Sep-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
▶ Indicator 12: Percentage of cash transfer monthly reports generated in a timely manner. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	90.00
Date	24-Jul-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	The PMU prepares the report monthly using the CCT MIS. However, it is currently relying on the manual process of exporting and creating a report. The PMU is in the process of automating the reporting functions of the MIS.			
▶ Indicator 13: Number of cross-sectoral surveys carried out to evaluate different convergence interventions. (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Date	12-Nov-2018	22-Nov-2021	03-Jun-2022	29-Dec-2023
Comments:	The objective of this indicator is to report on the evaluation of the overall nutrition convergence approach. The number of cross-sectoral surveys refers to independent surveys carried out for the purpose of evaluating the impact of the convergence approach.			

**Overall Comments**



The updates for indicators 3,5, and 9 are updated using compliance data while awaiting the impact evaluation survey. The mission found that the number reported previously in terms of compliance includes those who comply with the conditions because of a lack of service availability (the program, by design, classifies beneficiaries as compliant when services are not available) therefore presenting inflated data.

For Indicator 6, the new SBCC modules are being finalized, and the training will be conducted soon. Information for Indicator 8 will be available at the mid-line impact evaluation.

**Performance-Based Conditions**

**Data on Financial Performance**

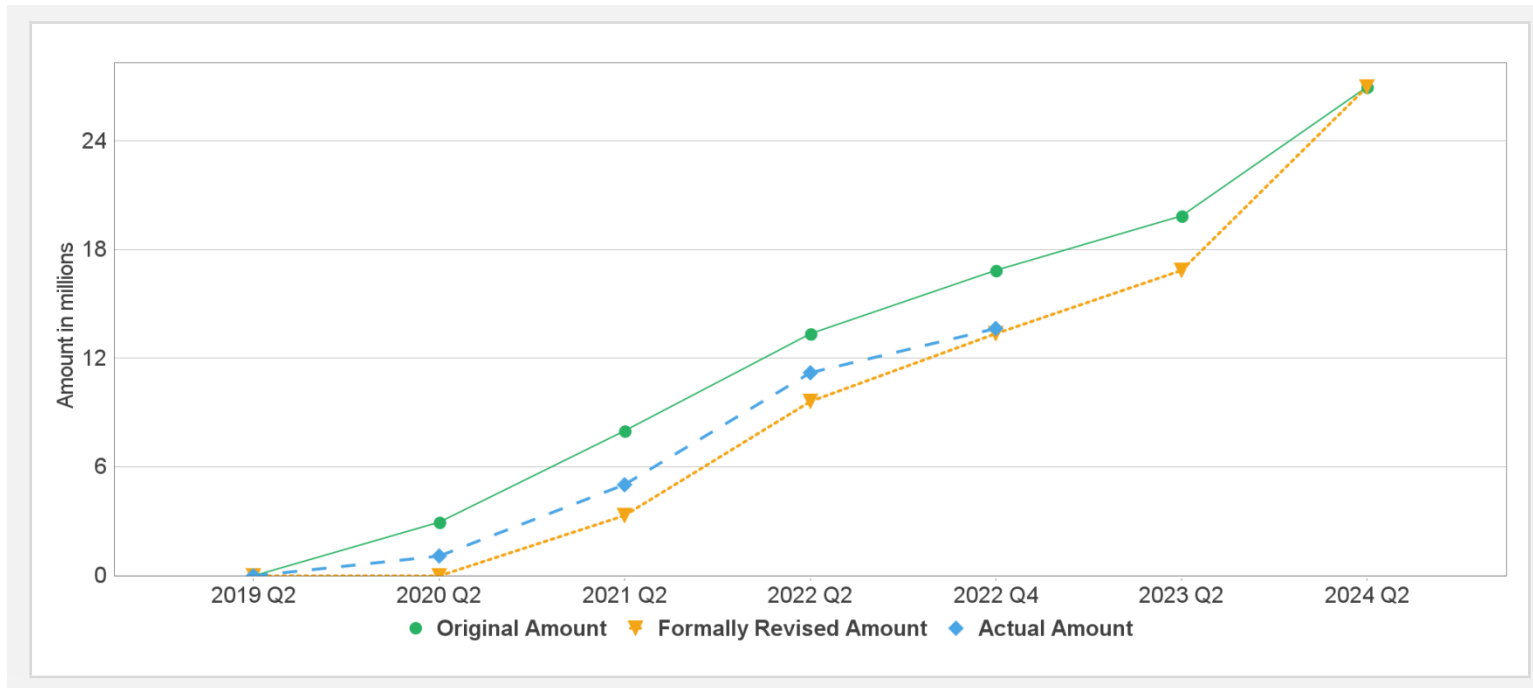
**Disbursements (by loan)**

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P162565	IDA-63740	Effective	USD	27.00	27.00	0.00	13.66	13.19	51%

**Key Dates (by loan)**

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P162565	IDA-63740	Effective	14-Mar-2019	09-May-2019	21-Jun-2019	31-Mar-2024	31-Mar-2024

**Cumulative Disbursements**





### **Restructuring History**

There has been no restructuring to date.

### **Related Project(s)**

There are no related projects.

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