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Regional Workshop on Information Exchange on Monitoring Control and Surveillance for Combating IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia, 24 – 26 February 2026 Bangkok, Thailand

Current Situation to Implement Fisheries Activities in Lao PDR

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Current Situation of Fisheries

- ❑ Capture fisheries in Lao PDR are based on water resources ecosystems mainly consisting of rivers, streams irrigation reservoirs, diversion weirs, small water bodies, flood plains, wetland and other;
- ❑ Area of water resources for capture fisheries is more than 1.2 million ha.
- ❑ Fisheries in Lao are open access
- ❑ Small Scale Fishing gear for catch fish, such as: cash nets, gill net, hook line, lift net and other;
- ❑ Fisherman Catch fish for a living, Household consumption and Sell fish to the local market
- ❑ Traditional processing fish products (dry fish, smoke fish, fermented fish and)
- ❑ Not Commercial fishing and export products



Water resources ecosystems and fisheries





Issues and challenges

- ❑ Fishing in Lao PDR 'Open access' there is no fishing license and fisherman registration and boat license
- ❑ The dissemination of the Fisheries law is not yet widespread. budget for publicizing the law is limited
- ❑ Fisheries law not yet access to people and community Some where uses illegal equipment such as: poison, explosives, weapons, electrical devices, lights, and artificial sounds to hunt or capture aquatic animals and over fishing
- ❑ Development (building, houses, hotel, restaurant, plant
- ❑ Hydropower, mining, sand gravel, Agriculture (use chemical) urbanization, Industry and Deforestation
- ❑ Lack of budget for data collection



Policy for implementation

- ❑ The state encourages and promotes aquatic animal and fishery activities by establishing policies, laws, mobilizing personnel, providing budgets, vehicles, equipment, technical techniques, and modern technology for such activities.
- ❑ In line with national policy guidelines, constitution, laws, strategies and socio-economic development plans;
- ❑ Regard conservation and breeding as the main tasks, prioritize the management of aquatic animals and the participation of the entire community;



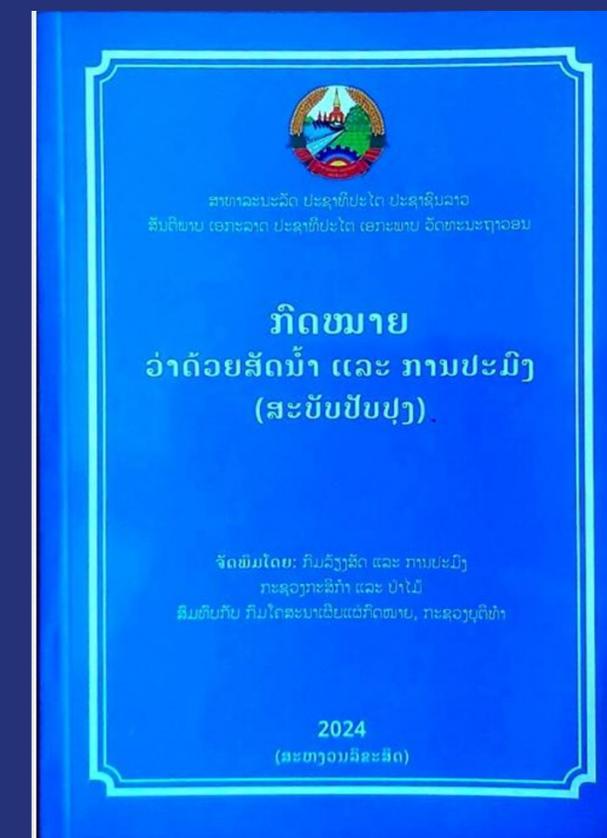
Policy for implementation

- ❑ Determine principles, regulations and measures on the management and monitoring of aquatic animals and fisheries to make such work efficient and effective, aiming to ensure the management, protection, development and use of aquatic animals and fisheries to be of high quality, safe, produced as goods and ensure food security in a green and sustainable direction, able to link with the region and the international community to contribute to the socio-economic development of the nation.



Law and Regulation support to fisheries activities

- ❑ Law on Aquatic Animals and Fisheries (Amended) No. 41/NA, dated July 17, 2023;
- ❑ Decree on the movement, import, export, transit of animals, aquatic animals, animal products and aquatic animals No. 644/LP, dated November 25, 2024;
- ❑ Prime Minister's Decree on the Approval and Promulgation of the National Policy on the Promotion of Livestock and Aquatic Animals of the Lao PDR, No. 196/PM, dated July 6, 2022;
- ❑ Agreement of minister on Fish Conservation zone No. 766/KS, dated August 22, 2025;





Recommendation and support national level

- ❑ With the strong and determined engagement of the Government of Lao PDR in efforts to combat IUU fishing and promote sustainable fisheries development
- ❑ Enhance Advertisement, dissemination and enforce the fisheries law and regulation relate with fisheries activities
- ❑ Establish a coordination point with relevant parties to report on the implementation of fisheries activities relate with laws and regulations.
- ❑ Lesion learn, exchange knowledge and experience from ASEAN member state and other country



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Thank you very much for your attention