

snapshot

# Lao Red Cross

## Key Information

### Branch Offices

33 provincial offices (chapters) with more than 420 district branches

### Date Established

Formed: 17 September 1945

Recognised by ICRC: 15 June 1950

Admitted into IFRC: 16 October 1950

### IFRC Country Delegation?

No

### Key Persons

President: Mrs. Laoly Faiphengyao

Secretary General: Dr. Keedaeng Thammalangsy

### Legal Status

Lao Red Cross was officially recognised as an independent National Red Cross Society following the politiburo Decree of December 1992 and the Prime Ministerial Decree of December 1993. A further Decree in 1999 (Prime Minister 36/PM) approved the role and status of the Lao Red Cross and defined a clear organizational structure at the headquarters and branches

### Major Partners

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners: American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Dutch Red Cross, French Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross. Other partners: Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre



## Background

Like other National Societies, Lao Red Cross acts as an auxiliary to the Government. The National Society conducts activities within a range of programmes including emergency response, water and sanitation, health, disaster preparedness and risk reduction, livelihoods, first aid, HIV/AIDS, dissemination of humanitarian values, tracing and youth.

In September 2002 Lao Red Cross and its key partners signed the region's first Cooperation Agreement Strategy. Lao Red Cross works in collaboration with a number of ministries, and has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) or development contracts with a number of National Societies in support of its programmes.

A strategic 5-year development plan outlines the strategic areas on which Lao Red Cross focuses. There is a well-established participatory annual planning process.



## Programme Overview

**Disaster preparedness and response:** The Lao Red Cross is a member of the national disaster management office and works towards ensuring the provision of timely relief to disaster victims, focusing on community-based disaster preparedness.

**Blood service:** Established in eight provinces, the goal is to provide an adequate and safe supply of blood to the sick and those in need

**Dissemination:** Dissemination of the humanitarian values of the Red Cross is reinforced using teaching kits, prepared for each branch by the ICRC and the Lao Red Cross information department.

**Health:** A community-based first aid training programme is active in most branches. Primary health care is a focus in the northern branches, with many having projects to build latrines and improve water supply.

**HIV/AIDS:** The Lao Red Cross has peer-education projects on HIV/AIDS that are conducted by the society in seven provinces throughout the country.

**Organizational development:** Organizational development and capacity building remain the focus of the IFRC's work in Lao PDR, particularly at Lao Red Cross headquarters.

**Youth:** The programme has provided community-based first aid training for volunteers and teachers, and provided first aid coverage at sporting events.

## Disaster Law

Lao Red Cross has been making significant strides in the area of disaster law. It has been playing a central role in the development of a new national disaster and climate change law, including through its participation in stakeholder consultations and co-hosting a national workshop in July 2015.

The current draft law draws upon recommendations contained in an International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) study completed by Lao Red Cross, IFRC and French Red Cross in 2009. Lao Red Cross and IFRC have been working closely with the Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change (DDMCC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) since 2013 to prepare the new disaster and climate change law, and continue to be actively involved in this process.

Lao Red Cross also demonstrated their commitment to disaster law by making a joint pledge with their government at the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross Red Crescent in December 2015.

## Recent Disasters

Lao PDR is exposed to natural disasters such as flooding, drought, earthquakes, cyclones, and infectious disease epidemics. Forecasts project that the intensity and frequency of natural disasters will likely increase due to climate change.

**Recent significant natural disasters include:**

- Flooding (June to September 2013)
- Typhoon Ketsana (September 2009)



### For further information about the Lao Red Cross

#### Headquarters Address & Contact Details

Impasse XiengNhune, Avenue Sethathirad,  
Vientiane, B.P. 650, Vientiane,  
Tel: (856) (21) 216 610, Fax: (856) (21) 212 128  
Télex: 4491.TE via PTT LAOS  
(c/o Représentation de la Fédération)  
Telegram: CROIX-ROUGE LAO  
Email: [info@laoredcross.org.la](mailto:info@laoredcross.org.la)

#### Online Profiles

Website <http://www.laoredcross.org.la>  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LaoRedCrossSociety>  
Instagram <http://instagram.com/laoredcross>  
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNh2pBpj5sR-rKCyW-hl1g7Q/feed>

#### Recent Appeals

A list of all appeals Lao Red Cross has submitted is available on the IFRC website: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals/?ac=&at=0&c=&co=SP351LA&dt=1&f=&re=&t=&ti=&z0>

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