

snapshot

# Lao Red Cross

June 2017

## Key Information

### Branch Offices

18 provincial offices (chapters) with 92 district branches

### Date Established

Formed: 1 January 1955

Recognised by ICRC: 23 May 1957

Admitted into IFRC: 20 October 1957

### IFRC Country Delegation

No

### Key Persons

President: Mr Khamhoung Heuangvongsy,

Vice president: Thongphachan Sonnasinh

Vice President: Assoc.Prof.Dr Sing Menorath

### 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. Prime Minister 138/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: French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Luxembourg Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Korean Red Cross, Red Cross Society of China, Japan Red Cross, Vietnam Red Cross, Thai Red Cross



## Background

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the Laos Red Cross 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, the Lao Red Cross and its key partners signed the region's first Cooperation Agreement Strategy. The 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, which is a result of a well-established annual planning process.



## Programme Overview

**Disaster preparedness and response:** The Lao Red Cross is a member of 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 18 provinces, the goal is to provide an adequate and safe supply of blood to 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 supplies.

**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.

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 <https://instagram.com/laoredcross>  
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNh2pBpj5sR-rKCyW-h1g7Q/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/>

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