

Lao People Democratic Republic
Peace Independent Democratic Equity Prosperity

Country Paper

Public Sector Innovation through Policy and Strategy

**Four Breakthrough Goals to graduate from the Least Developed
countries by 2020**

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a. Introduction

Over the past 37 years of the construction and development in the country, the Lao PDR is in the process of strong development in many areas. The new change management method has been proved through the activities and support widely by the public and the international community. The Lao people have a strong solidarity, more reliance and gradually become ownership of the development in their family and their community and believe fully in the leading of the Lao People Revolution Party and the Lao government. For this reason, the government has to pay a respect on the believes of the people by leading the country to escape from the least developed country status by 2020 and meet the targetsof MDGs by 2015. The Lao government has developed several national strategies in order to achieve the national development goals in the give time. Mainly the National Social-Economic Development Strategies 2001-2005, 2006-2011, 2012-2016. The National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy and the newly released in 2011 national strategy called four breakthrough goals. These strategies primarily concentrate on achieving MDGs targets and national 2020 goals which intend to achieve four fundamental targets.

Firstly, the government has to ensure a stable and strong political aspect together with the improvement of the democratic system which is leading by the party to be healthy, stable and equality, people have a high level of solidarity, peace and readiness society. Secondly, the government has to ensure gradually grow in economy in the country, GDP increases to 8 percent each year and in 2015, the average income of people reach 1,700 USD, the social-economic development go along with the protection of environment and move to industrial and modernization step by step. Thirdly, in 2015 the poverty rate reduces to less than 10 percent of the poor families countrywide, no illiteracy people; the majority of people receive secondary school education and the average life expectancy rate 68,3 years; meet all MDGs targets; keeping national culture value and enhancing to the next generation. Finally, Lao PDR becomes friend with various international countries and integrates with region and international with ownership also contribute to peace mission, friendship and cooperation in development. To achieve all these goals in time are very challenging for the Lao government. However, I have a strong believe that the Lao government can reach the defined goals through its strong leadership and national development strategies.

b. Good practices

To achieve the outline targets mentioned above, the Lao people revolution party endorsed new resolution called four breakthrough goals. These four breakthrough goals are including (1) breakthrough in thinking by release and resolve the unchanged, conservative mind, recklessness and unfairness, (2) breakthrough actively in human resource development especially in development and building

capacity of civil servants in various areas according to the real situation, (3) breakthrough in solving the management system that are holdback the commercial production (products made on commercial purposed) and service delivery, and (4) breakthrough in poverty eradication of the people by seeking the source of fund and special promotion policy, create social economic infrastructure by setting priority in development to be a chain in other development areas. These four breakthrough goals have to implement integrated with each other that cannot implement only one or two.

To enhance the four breakthrough goals of party congress resolution, the government innovated several policy guidelines and one of those is the prime minister instruction called three builds including build provincial as the strategic unit, build district as the a strong with full capable unit and build village as a development unit.

The successful of three builds depends highly on the delegation of roles and responsibilities in each level (central ministries and local authorities).

What central ministries do?

Province as a strategic unit does what?

District as a strong with full capacity does what?

Village a development unit does what?

I. Roles of the central ministries to implement three builds

To implement the three builds the central ministries have five main roles including:

1. Interpret the party congress resolution into strategies, programmes, projects and responsible to search and provide fund;
2. Research and endorse laws, decrees, regulations to use as a tool for implementing policies of the party;
3. Create national human resource development plan;
4. Research science and introduce new techniques in implementation;
5. Provide support local authorities micro units implementing strategies, policies, laws and regulations.

In order to implement the outlines tasks, ministries have to review the existing rules, which one contradicts the new guideline should be amended.

II. Role of the provinces as a strategic unit

To fulfill the role of being strategic unit, provincial authorities have the following roles:

1. Define clearly about rights and responsibilities in local administration;
(ministries responsible what level, provinces responsible what level)

2. Define personnel management mechanism for provincial authorities based on the job description and position standard to allow provincial authorities recruit their own staff suitable with their need;
3. Define clearly the prohibited actions for provincial authorities (which areas provincial authorities cannot approved, for instance, the approval of concession for natural resource mining);
4. Ensure the peace and security in the local areas;
5. Prepare the conditions to establish local council in the future.

III. Role of the districts as a strong with full capacity unit

In order to create a strong with full capacity unit, districts have to implement the following tasks:

1. Create districts as a planning and budget unit, districts become second financial level. District chiefs manage the budget and allocate to each district office based on the role and functions;
2. Implement the below 5 billion development projects in their districts;
3. Prohibited to sign contract or give approval in any concession project;
4. Appoint their own staff (district chiefs have their full rights to appoint the management positions in their districts by collaborated with their higher authorities;
5. Improve district organizational structure based on their real situation and potential;
6. Continue to study the condition to establish the city and municipality where applicable. Redefine number of village and population in each district.
7. Allow districts have their own financial unit for the national defense and public security.

IV. Role of the villages as a development unit

To be a development unit villages have to strength in four main areas including economy, cultural, social and nation defense and public security.

1. Continue the elected vote system for the village chief where is applicable;
2. Provide financial support to village chiefs in appropriate amount;
3. Define the organization and personnel structure for the village in urban and rural area appropriately;
4. Define the rule and official document formats for the villages (ministry of home affairs will responsible for study and design as well as the publication of the legal document formats to use in the villages;
5. Define the tax collection system for the villages and also define expenditure of the village management;
6. Provide regular short term training for the villagers;

7. Study and establish agriculture service station in the villages;
8. Control and monitor the migration of the population.

Before fully implement Prime Minister Instruction on three builds, the government will take one year for pilot test in 17 provinces nationwide (However, only 3 districts will be selected in each province and two villages will be selected in each district).

The objective of three builds is to create enabling environment for the good public administration system and increase ownership of the local authorities.

The main goals of three builds are to enhance the rights and ownership in management and use natural resource, human resource in the local areas. Moreover, it also support the social-economic in the local provinces gradually grow and also encourage local development in each area, accelerate the development speed and improve the livelihood of the people and finally eradicate poverty of the people. In addition, the goal of the three builds is also support the implementation of policies, laws and regulations in local level.

The successful of the three builds will make the districts strength in all dimensions especially in leadership, economic and communication infrastructure access majority villages. In education sector has enough schools for the children in age of school have access to education. In terms of public health, there will be public health infrastructure available and accessible by the villagers in each area. Also the districts have peace and security.

At the village level, the achievement of three builds will bring about educated people, peaceful, secured and prosperity villages. These are important to be fundamental criteria to help villagers escape from poverty in each family and village.

c. The way toward/Conclusion

In a nutshell, to achieve the 2020 goal is significantly important for the Lao PDR. The government is pooling all resources to move the country toward the defined goal. All the government strategies and the party policies are aiming to bring the country from the least developed country status by the given time. Whether the Lao PDR could reach the goal in time or not depends highly on the success of three builds instruction. To ensure the success of three builds, it is important to bear in mind each concerned party strictly implements its defined duties. For instance, Ministries should review the rules and regulations, research science, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the rules, regulations and laws of the local authorities. Province should also manage and support the activities of central ministries and supervise the projects under its management level. Furthermore, province should be responsible for managing the provincial personnel according to the defined rule; appoint and

remove position of personnel in their management level. In addition, provincial authorities have to right to approve the investment projects which are in their responsibilities based on the defined rules. Districts should also have the responsibilities to develop district social-economic development plan based on the potential resources in their districts. Districts should also manage investment projects that are operating in their districts based on the given right from the province. Furthermore, the district authorities have the right to approve investment project according to the assigned role of the central ministries. At the village level, the village should collect data in various areas in the villages such as potential resources to use for income generation activities of the people in the village. Villages are also responsible for building enabling environment for the investors that are coming to invest in their villages.

d. Reference

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