

**RESIDENT/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR
REPORT ON THE USE OF CERF FUNDS
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
RAPID RESPONSE
FLOOD
2018**

RESIDENT/HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR	Sara Sekkenes
------------------------------------------	----------------------

REPORTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATION SUMMARY

- a. Please indicate when the After Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

The After-Action Review was conducted on 8 May 2019 once implementation of all field activities had been finalized and preliminary results of monitoring activities were available. The meeting was chaired by the newly-arrived Resident Coordinator and participants included representatives from: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); International Organization for Migration (IOM); UN Development Programme (UNDP); World Food Programme (WFP); World Health Organization (WHO); UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO); Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF); Ministry of Health (MOH); Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW); Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT); Khammouane Provincial Governor's Office; Khammouane district offices; Village Focus International (VFI); and Banque Pour Le Commerce Exterieur Lao (BCEL).

- b. Please confirm that the Resident Coordinator and/or Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Report on the use of CERF funds was discussed in the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team.

YES NO

- c. Was the final version of the RC/HC Report shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

YES NO

The report has been shared with CERF recipient agencies (FAO, UNDP, WFP and WHO), government counterparts (including MAF, MOH, MLSW, MPWT and Khammouane Provincial Governor's Office), the UN Country Team and implementing partners (including VFI and BCEL).

PART I

Strategic Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

The floods that impacted Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR) in July-September 2018 were the most severe in recent history, causing extensive damage to infrastructure, property and livelihoods, as well as the loss of 56 lives and displacement of some of the country’s most vulnerable communities. With the government’s resources overstretched, the CERF allocation was critical in delivering life-saving interventions in Khammouane Province where an outbreak of beriberi and lost agricultural production posed high-level risks to food security, livelihoods and health.

The four mutually reinforcing CERF-funded projects were planned and implemented in collaboration with government agencies, NGOs, the private sector and affected communities, and with advice from OCHA Regional Office. The projects collectively supported over 342,000 beneficiaries, including 105,806 women and 132,479 children. WHO’s mobile health clinics and procurement of essential vitamins contained the spread of beriberi, with WFP’s complementary project providing cash transfers to enable at-risk communities to purchase much-needed nutritional food supplies. To alleviate growing food scarcity concerns, FAO provided critical agricultural inputs to restore local production which was underpinned by UNDP’s debris clearance activities.

With the threat of extreme weather events increasing, the CERF allocation not only enabled the UN to deliver life-saving humanitarian support but to test and strengthen its preparedness and mitigation strategies moving forward.

1. OVERVIEW

18-RR-LAO-32635 TABLE 1: EMERGENCY ALLOCATION OVERVIEW (US\$)	
a. TOTAL AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	42,716,500
FUNDING RECEIVED BY SOURCE	
CERF	3,509,410
COUNTRY-BASED POOLED FUND (<i>if applicable</i>)	N/A
OTHER (bilateral/multilateral)	4,790,213
b. TOTAL FUNDING RECEIVED FOR THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE	8,299,623

18-RR-LAO-32635 TABLE 2: CERF EMERGENCY FUNDING BY PROJECT AND SECTOR (US\$)			
Allocation 1 – date of official submission: 05/10/2018			
Agency	Project code	Cluster/Sector	Amount
FAO	18-RR-FAO-028	Food Security - Agriculture	831,847
UNDP	18-RR-UDP-011	Early Recovery - Early Recovery	812,899
WFP	18-RR-WFP-062	Food Security - Food Aid	1,717,708
WHO	18-RR-WHO-042	Health - Health	146,956

TOTAL	3,509,410
--------------	------------------

18-RR-LAO-32635 TABLE 3: BREAKDOWN OF CERF FUNDS BY TYPE OF IMPLEMENTATION MODALITY (US\$)	
Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	2,726,957
- Funds transferred to Government partners*	549,725
- Funds transferred to International NGOs partners*	N/A
- Funds transferred to National NGOs partners*	232,728
- Funds transferred to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	N/A
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	782,453
TOTAL	3,509,410

* These figures should match with totals in Annex 1.

2. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT AND NEEDS

Between July and September 2018, Lao PDR experienced the worst floods in the country's recent history. On 18–19 July, Tropical Storm Son-Tinh caused heavy rains and flooding in 13 provinces across the country and, on 23–24 July, a breach in the Xe Pien-Xe Nam Noy hydropower saddle dam caused an unprecedented flash flood in Attapeu Province. Less than one month later, on 16–18 August, Tropical Storm Bebinca hit Vietnam and Lao PDR, causing flooding and landslides in all 17 provinces and Vientiane Capital. The Post-Disaster Needs Assessment conducted in September/October 2018, estimated the combined effects of the disaster events impacted a total of 616,145 people, including 2,382 villages and 126,736 households across the country. Moreover, according to government reports, it resulted in 56 fatalities, 35 people missing and enormous damage to social and public infrastructure, including housing, schools, hospitals, roads and agricultural lands.

With the humanitarian response largely focused on the site of the dam collapse in Attapeu Province, on 1 October 2018 the Government of Lao PDR officially requested the international community to support emergency interventions elsewhere in the country, including Khammouane Province. Drawing on information provided by national, provincial and district government agencies, as well as assessment visits conducted by UN agencies, the following humanitarian needs were identified in Khammouane Province:

- 21,649 hectares of damaged paddy fields, affecting 27,010 households;
- Substantial losses to livestock, including 153,119 cattle and 238,633 poultry;
- 26,000 hectares of land covered in debris and/or deemed potentially unexploded ordnance (UXO) hazardous;
- 8,841 households in need of emergency food supplies and basic nutritional messaging;
- Beriberi cases reported in two districts, including eight deaths;
- 10 health facilities identified as damaged or not functional; and
- Multiple water points flooded, including bore holes (1,343), wells (358) and latrines (9,135).

(The affected population was equally split between men and women, with 39% assessed to be under 18).

The need for urgent assistance was compounded by pre-existing vulnerabilities in Khammouane Province, including a poverty headcount of 31.4% and stunting in children under 5 years of age at 40.8%. In addition, lost agricultural production posed significant food security risks (Khammouane is one of the country's largest rice producing provinces), while hazards associated with displacement of UXOs (Khammouane remains one of the country's most contaminated provinces) and of pre-positioned markings of danger areas impeded access to basic services and the restoration of much-needed livelihood opportunities.

Government resources – both human and financial – were already overstretched, particularly given accessibility challenges owing to damaged infrastructure and the remoteness of affected populations. At the time of the CERF application, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) was seeking US\$42.7 million to provide humanitarian assistance to 110,000 households

across Lao PDR, of which US\$3.1 million had been funded (7%) with most of it being directed at response activities in Attapeu Province. As a consequence of the funding gap, the government's request for assistance and, most importantly, the assessed urgent humanitarian needs in Khammouane Province, UN agencies – in consultation with government and humanitarian partners – jointly coordinated an application for a CERF Rapid Response grant in early October.

3. PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

CERF-funded projects were determined based on a range of factors, including pre-crisis data, the HCT's understanding of past disaster events (e.g. floods in 2011, 2014 and 2016) and, most critically, the outcome of needs assessments undertaken by government and UN agencies in Khammouane Province. Having established the key humanitarian needs for the affected population, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) oversaw the development of the CERF funding proposal on behalf of the UN Country Team, in close consultation with government partners, HCT members, clusters and bilateral and multilateral donors. Subsequent to these discussions, it was agreed the CERF proposal would target interventions across three inter-linked sectors – food security, early recovery and health – in six of Khammouane Province's worst affected districts (Boaulapha, Mahaxay, Hinboun, Nongbok, Xebangphai and Yoummalath).

Having established the priority sectors for intervention, the proposed recipient agencies – FAO, UNDP, WFP and WHO – were selected based on their respective mandates, comparative technical advantage and existing activities in Lao PDR. To ensure maximum impact and synergy, projects were designed to be mutually reinforcing across agencies and intended to address evolving needs over the six-month duration of the CERF funds. Specific project elements – including determining geographic location, beneficiary selection and mechanisms for delivery of cash, goods and services – were coordinated with officials from government ministries at the national, provincial and district level (e.g. MLSW, MAF and MOH), as well as local community leaders. This approach ensured projects could be readily monitored, were sensitive to local customs (including gender) and that activities could be adjusted as necessary to take account of emerging issues and changing needs.

Brief overviews on the prioritization process for agency projects are reflected below:

- FAO – Households from Hinboun, Nongbok, Xebangphai and Mahaxay districts were prioritized for receiving agricultural inputs (e.g. rice seeds and fertilizer) to enable winter-cropping following the loss of their summer harvests due to the floods. Provisions for vegetable gardening in Hinboun and Nongbok were made to encourage female inclusion.
- UNDP – Targeted debris removal and UXO safety awareness in six districts (Boaulapha, Mahaxay, Hinboun, Nongbok, Xebangphai, and Yoummalath) where initial assessments had prioritized the clearance of roads, canals, agricultural land and areas close to public services. The cash for work program had the dual purpose of providing income for food and supplies, as well as a sense of self-worth. Given women also regularly perform field labor, activities were intended to be equally accessible for both men and women.
- WFP – Prioritized Hinboun and Nongbok districts for cash transfers which, in addition to nutritional messaging activities, were intended to enable affected communities to diversify food consumption and prevent the onset of beriberi disease. Beneficiary selection was determined on the basis of need, with special attention given to landless laborers, single parent households, households with children and those already poor prior to the floods. To the extent possible, adult female household members were identified as the cash grant recipient.
- WHO – Identified mobile health surveillance teams and procurement of vitamin B complex, as urgent actions for the treatment of beriberi cases across six districts (Boaulapha, Mahaxay, Hinboun, Nongbok, Xebangphai, and Yoummalath). In addition, rapid sampling and testing of water points used for drinking and personal hygiene was prioritized to reduce public health risks.

Finally, the CERF proposal was designed in alignment with the existing Disaster Response Plan (DRP) which prioritized: life-saving assistance to people affected by the floods and re-establishing basic services; supporting the restoration of livelihoods and self-reliance; and providing safety and protection for vulnerable people, including women, girls, boys and men, the elderly and people with disabilities. As the government's principal humanitarian partner, the UN continued to proactively engage the donor community before, during and after the CERF allocation to fill the gaps through regular bilateral and multilateral meetings with key partners, as well as dissemination of situation reports and the DRP contextualized as an appeal for

resource mobilization. In addition, UNDP engaged in donor and project mapping, to prioritize resource mobilization needs for the DRP and ensure effective and efficient allocation of resources.

4. CERF RESULTS

CERF allocated US\$3.5 million to Lao PDR on 15 October 2018 from its window for Rapid Response Grants to provide life-saving assistance to flood-affected populations. This funding enabled UN agencies and implementing partners to: provide emergency agricultural inputs to 10,780 households, 62,545 people; vaccinate 34,474 livestock (including 9,721 cattle and 25,203 poultry); repair 147 km of road and 18 km of irrigation canals; restore 348 hectares of agriculture land for irrigation; provide livelihood opportunities through cash for work programs to 6,265 persons; conduct UXO and mine-risk education reaching 30,000 people; provide unconditional cash transfers to 32,889 persons; conduct nutritional awareness outreach with 6,388 households; conduct 866 consultations through mobile health surveillance teams; and perform water quality testing at over 200 separate locations.

Brief overviews on the CERF results for agency projects are reflected below:

- **FAO** – Together with partners, FAO provided agriculture inputs through a voucher scheme, including: 30 kg rice seeds and fertilizer for 5,038 households in 61 villages in Hinboun, Nongbok, Xebangphai and Mahaxay districts; corn and vegetable seeds for 5,742 households in 101 villages of Hinboun and Nongbok districts; and 12,960 kg of R2 rice seed and fertilizer for 11 rice seed multiplication production groups. In addition, FAO facilitated a range of training briefings, including: 57 briefings on the voucher schemes to beneficiaries and potential suppliers; trained 3,925 farmers (1,487 female participants) from 99 villages on good agriculture practices, bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizer making, food nutrition and safe practices in using bio-pesticides; briefed 5,174 farmers (1,294 female participants) from 111 villages on rice and vegetables post-harvesting and food nutrition; organized 34 animal vaccination campaign events, including consultations on good animal husbandry practices and biosecurity in 22 villages of Hinboun and 12 villages of Nongbok districts with participation from 1,500 households. FAO supported the vaccination of 2,025 buffaloes and 7,246 cattle with Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and 25,203 poultry with Fowl Cholera. In total, the CERF-funded project reached 10,780 households (62,545 people), significantly beyond its initial target of 4,666 households. Dry-season cropping supported through FAO's intervention resulted in rice production increasing by 43% and yield by 13%.
- **UNDP** – In conjunction with partners at national, provincial and district levels, UNDP provided Cash for Work (CfW) to 6,265 flood victims from 64 villages in four districts of Khammouane Province. This included renovation and repairs of community infrastructure through 45 CfW projects, including 32 road repairs, one bridge repair, nine irrigation canals cleared and three water storage facilities expanded with the assistance of MLSW, MPWT and MAF. The project employed 2,858 women and 3,407 men who worked a total of 84,142 person days (or 13.4 days per person) to earn an average income of LAK 671,000 (approximately US\$79), with a daily individual wage of LAK 50,000 (approximately US\$5.90). The project repaired 147 km of flood damaged roads, cleared 18 km of damaged rice irrigation canals and restored 348 hectares of agricultural land to normal production. Over 300 children in Mahaxay district directly benefited from UXO awareness campaigns, with a further 654 sets of learning materials distributed to teachers for supplementary awareness-raising activities.
- **WFP** - In partnership with the MLSW, WFP provided immediate food assistance in the form of unconditional cash transfers to a total of 6,388 flood affected households (32,889 beneficiaries) in Hinboun, Yoummalath and Nongbok districts of Khammouane Province. Over the 6-month project duration, the Department of Social Welfare Offices and WFP distributed LAK 10,783,440,000 (approximately US\$1.2 million) over three distribution cycles to flood-affected households to meet their immediate food needs, as well as distributed nutrition education messages to sensitize the affected population on the importance of diversified food sources and which nutrient-rich foods to buy with the cash received. Beneficiaries received a total ration of LAK 320,000 each (approximately US\$37), calculated to cover their food needs over the 6-month project cycle and aligned to the Lao PDR Social Welfare Decree. Post distribution monitoring indicated that over 90% of beneficiaries purchased food with the cash provided.

- WHO - The Ministry of Health, with assistance from WHO, was able to provide flood affected people in Khammouane Province with access to primary health care services. This was achieved through the provision of medical consultations conducted by mobile medical teams, replacement of essential medical equipment and supplies damaged by flood, distribution of vitamin B complex to prevent thiamine deficiency, testing of water points used to provide drinking water, and administering of vaccines to prevent outbreaks. During the CERF funding period, the flood affected population of Khammouane Province no longer reported cases of thiamine deficiency. Health facilities in the province were also re-equipped with the necessary medical equipment and supplies needed to re-establish health services for the affected population, restoring primary health care and surveillance for the affected population beyond the funding period.

5. PEOPLE REACHED

The number of beneficiaries assisted through CERF funding is estimated at 342,750 (including 105,806 women and 132,479 children) - far in excess of the planned numbers predicted in the CERF application. This was, in large part, due to the wider than anticipated coverage of WHO's medical interventions across all ten districts of Khammouane Province.

In addition, unique beneficiaries were also calculated for the combined FAO, UNDP and WFP projects given the overlapping geographical scope of their projects in Khammouane Province. It is estimated that a total of 99,143 beneficiaries received some form of assistance from at least one of the three agencies, including 30,605 women and 38,320 children. Double counting was avoided by identifying agency beneficiaries by district and adding 15% to the highest figure where there were comparable numbers of beneficiaries between agencies. The additional 15% is a conservative estimate given the variance of beneficiaries between programs; for example, FAO targeted people with access to land and agricultural resources, WFP's unconditional cash transfers prioritized beneficiaries without alternate food supplies or farming opportunities and requiring immediate food assistance, while UNDP targeted a mix of both, in addition to UXO and mine-risk awareness for children. Where disaggregated data was not available at village/district level, beneficiaries were estimated based on 2015 census data for Khammouane Province.

18-RR-LAO-32635 TABLE 4: NUMBER OF PEOPLE DIRECTLY ASSISTED WITH CERF FUNDING BY SECTOR ¹									
Cluster/Sector	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Early Recovery - Early Recovery	9,269	15,078	24,347	10,103	15,670	25,773	19,372	30,748	50,120
Food Security - Agriculture	12,023	19,534	31,557	12,148	18,840	30,988	24,171	38,374	62,545
Food Security - Food Aid	6,249	10,153	16,402	6,463	10,024	16,487	12,712	20,177	32,889
Health - Health	65,123	105,806	170,929	67,356	104,465	171,821	132,479	210,271	342,750

¹ Best estimate of the number of individuals (girls, women, boys, and men) directly supported through CERF funding by cluster/sector.

18-RR-LAO-32635 TABLE 5: TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE DIRECTLY ASSISTED WITH CERF FUNDING ²									
	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	25,897	42,203	68,100	26,784	41,680	68,465	52,682	83,883	136,565
Reached	65,123	105,806	170,929	67,356	104,465	171,821	132,479	210,271	342,750

² Best estimate of the total number of individuals (girls, women, boys, and men) directly supported through CERF funding. This should, as best possible, exclude significant overlaps and double counting between the sectors.

18-RR-LAO-32635 TABLE 6: PEOPLE DIRECTLY ASSISTED WITH CERF FUNDING BY CATEGORY		
Category	Number of people (Planned)	Number of people (Reached)
Refugees	N/A	N/A
IDPs	N/A	N/A
Host population	N/A	N/A
Affected people (none of the above)	136,565	342,750
Total (same as in table 5)	136,565	342,750

6. CERF's ADDED VALUE

a) Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

Funding from the CERF – one of the largest single contributions from any external donor – provided much-needed assistance to the flood response and enabled UN agencies and their partners to scale-up the delivery of humanitarian support. Delivery of emergency relief assistance was timely and fast, with CERF funds received in mid-October 2018, less than three weeks after the Government of Lao PDR officially requested international assistance in Khammouane Province. Project implementation across all recipient agencies commenced immediately once funds were allocated, including procurement of relief items, finalization of partner agreements specific to the intervention and updating needs assessments. Activities that required registration of beneficiaries, in particular WFP's cash transfer project and UNDP's CfW project, were implemented in stages to allow for local government resource constraints and additional compliance control measures required by BCEL through which some payments were made. All CERF projects were successfully completed before the end of the grant period.

b) Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

CERF funding was critical in responding to the immediate needs identified in Khammouane Province by government and UN agency assessment teams. Following the outbreak of beriberi disease which had resulted in eight deaths, CERF funds enabled WHO to provide emergency interventions in the form of mobile surveillance teams and procurement of necessary vitamins as treatment for beriberi cases. WFP complemented these efforts by providing unconditional cash transfers and nutritional education to at-risk communities (for instance, to purchase diversified food commodities with higher levels of critical micronutrients). Building on the need to address food scarcity concerns, FAO's project provided much-needed agricultural inputs, including seeds and livestock vaccinations, to restore agricultural production following severe damage due to the floods. Underpinning FAO's activities, UNDP carried-out extensive debris clearance and UXO awareness activities which not only supported livelihood opportunities for winter-cropping farmers, but also improved access to basic services and reduced health and safety risks for affected communities. The mutually re-enforcing nature of each recipient agencies' activities ensured community needs were addressed in a timely and comprehensive manner targeting their most acute needs.

c) Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

From conception through to implementation, CERF-funded projects contributed extensively to improved humanitarian coordination, both at the national and subnational level, and between the UN, government and humanitarian partners. In particular, CERF enabled the UN in Lao PDR to demonstrate its commitment to harmonized in-country assistance across agencies through facilitating joint programming,

implementation and monitoring and evaluation. CERF projects also provided a platform for improved planning and coordination with government partners - especially at the provincial, district and village level – which was critical given the logistical challenges in accessing many of the affected communities. Lao PDR's 2018 floods were the worst in recent memory and as such the scale of the response required to meet the affected communities' needs challenged all humanitarian partners, in particular, government agencies who remain significantly under-resourced to address such disasters by themselves. Despite the devastating consequences of the floods, the lessons learned from the humanitarian community's collective interventions will ensure we are better placed to manage and respond to similar events in the future.

d) Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

YES

PARTIALLY

NO

In concert with the Disaster Response Plan, the CERF was instrumental in highlighting the severity of the impact of the floods. Along with government partners, the UN continues to play a leading role in coordinating humanitarian interventions in Lao PDR, which have been occurring with increasing frequency over the last decade. In total, US\$ 8.3 million of the total US\$ 42.7 million was mobilized (including CERF allocation), funding approximately just under a quarter of all immediate response and early recovery activities identified over the following year.

e) If applicable, please highlight other ways in which CERF has added value to the humanitarian response

Without diminishing the humanitarian impact of the floods - including the loss of lives, homes and livelihoods - the CERF intervention has been a valuable experience for the UN, government agencies and implementing partners, to assess their capacity to respond to major disaster events and augment their preparedness plans in light of the lessons learned. Individual and collective reviews of CERF projects have been important opportunities to assess what worked well and identify improvements going forward, particularly in terms of coordination between national and subnational agencies, communicating with beneficiaries and addressing logistical challenges in accessing remote communities. The lessons learned (see part 7 below for more detailed responses) will be shared with humanitarian partners in Lao PDR to inform their future response planning. In addition, the experience has also underscored the structural challenges that need to be addressed as part of the government's broader disaster risk reduction and preparedness needs, including ensuring a better linkage of the humanitarian-development nexus, whilst enhancing social cohesion.

7. LESSONS LEARNED

TABLE 6: OBSERVATIONS FOR THE CERF SECRETARIAT

Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/improvement
The team has not been able to identify lessons learned for the CERF Secretariat. We would like to thank the Secretariat for the swift and efficient support provided.	N/A

TABLE 7: OBSERVATIONS FOR COUNTRY TEAMS

Lessons learned	Suggestion for follow-up/improvement	Responsible entity
The availability of reliable and accurate information is critical throughout the disaster response, particularly in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and verifying beneficiaries; Determining the nature and severity of the impacts of the disaster event; and Informing appropriate disaster response mechanisms. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for relevant government agencies (e.g. Ministry of Home Affairs) to share emergency-related information on an ongoing basis. This includes for example the provision of consolidated, up-to-date information on population statistics at the village, district and provincial level free of charge. Undertake increased and joint field visits to verify data as soon as possible after the disaster event. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> UN RC and HCT HCT HCT

	3. Use the same (and most accurate) data sets between humanitarian partners.	
Coordination between all humanitarian partners, particularly through cluster mechanisms, is critical to ensuring common understanding of needs and harmonization of response.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct joint needs assessments where possible to minimize duplication of effort and reduce data discrepancies. 2. Ensure inter- and intra- cluster meetings occur regularly during the crisis event and updates are shared in a timely manner. 3. Encourage, support and train government cluster leads to take greater ownership of the cluster mechanism. 4. Revise the Inter Agency Standing Committee's Contingency Plan with emphasis on clear Operating Guidelines (e.g. roles and responsibilities, timelines, coordination and decision-making structures). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UN agency heads 2. UN RC and Cluster Leads 3. UN RC and Cluster Leads 4. Inter Agency Standing Committee
<p>Early recognition and understanding of capacity constraints will lead to better planning and project outcomes, particularly in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government and implementing partners' human resourcing capabilities; • Procurement of program materials and equipment; and • Logistical and geographic constraints, including UXO status. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a common set of procurement guidelines and share with humanitarian partners to inform preparedness planning. 2. Advocate for the government to introduce simplified procurement procedures in the event of disasters (if not already covered in the draft Disaster Management law). 3. Advocate for National Regulatory Authority to promptly share most up-to-date data on UXO/mine clearance status of disaster-affected areas. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNCT 2. UN RC 3. UNDP Res Rep
Early and ongoing communication with affected communities and beneficiaries is critical to anticipating problems, managing expectations, and, if necessary, adapting project implementation strategies.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use existing local structures (e.g. nai ban, Lao Women's Union, Lao Youth Union, government district officials) to coordinate community outreach visits and message dissemination. 2. Undertake more frequent field visits (where possible) to support project implementation activities and address community concerns. 3. Develop pre-approved communication materials (where possible) that can be circulated among affected communities outlining key information (i.e. beneficiary selection criteria, beneficiary registration processes, cash for work guidelines). 4. Consider using alternate messaging platforms to target particular ethnic groups or languages. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UN agencies and implementing partners 2. UN agencies and implementing partners 3. UN agencies and implementing partners 4. UN agencies and implementing partners
National, provincial and district coordination structures need to strengthen their focus on protection issues, including gender-based violence and child protection, to ensure needs are addressed in timely and satisfactory manner.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise Inter Agency Standing Committee Contingency Plan (and relevant provincial/district plans) to reflect greater emphasis on protection issues. 2. Strengthen social work workforce development especially capacity building of para social workers for case management at sub national levels. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inter Agency Standing Committee and Protection Cluster 2. Protection Cluster
For cash transfer and/or cash for work projects, UN agencies and implementing partners should select the optimal distribution method based on	WFP and UNDP to work with the Lao PDR cash working group, including humanitarian partners, to prepare guidelines on cash transfer/cash for work	WFP and UNDP

the situational context (e.g. remoteness of affected communities, security concerns, access to personal documents)	projects.	
For CERF projects which involve community participation (e.g. cash for work), UN agencies and implementing partners should reflect relevant health and safety concerns in their budget and procurement plans.	During the project planning stage, agencies will be reminded to give due consideration to health and safety concerns as part of their proposals (where relevant).	UN agencies and implementing partners
Given likely logistical challenges in the event of a disaster, UN agencies and implementing partners need to allocate sufficient time and resources to conduct monitoring and evaluation.	Where resources are constrained, UN agencies to consider alternative monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, for example telephonic monitoring which is cost effective and allows beneficiaries to report confidentially. These should be conducted jointly where possible.	UN agencies and implementing partners
Given the size and geographical spread of the disaster, there were significant challenges in managing the response by the Government (and other humanitarian partners), particularly in terms of human resource, finance and logistical needs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage the government to request an independent assessment of its disaster response capacity and for UN to support such efforts as appropriate (e.g. through Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative). 2. Pursuant to the findings of any capacity assessment, encourage the government and development partners to prioritize capacity development where necessary across line ministries/clusters (e.g. training, materials, equipment). 3. Support government efforts to build capacity within national and line ministry Emergency Operations Centers. 4. Advocate for the government to establish a consolidated mechanism to fund the Disaster Response with Standard Operating Procedures for capitalization and draw-down of funds. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UN RC 2. Lao PDR Government, HCT and Cluster Leads 3. MLSW, line ministries, UN agencies with relevant mandate (e.g. UNDP, WHO) 4. UN RC, Lao PDR Government, UNDP
Reduce the impact of disasters by strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWS) and designing an end-to-end EWS incorporating vulnerability and risk analysis, forecasting and projections, messaging and communication, and response and evacuation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide technical and financial support to relevant government agencies to improve EWS. 2. Advocate for sub-national government agencies to develop provincial and local disaster response plans, including more in-depth early warning guidelines, as well as clearer and more realistically affordable short- and medium-term preparedness activities. 3. Government to carry out evacuation/safe area drills in the disaster-prone districts and villages, and provide technical guidance to local authorities and heads of villages of how best to carry them out. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MLSW, MONRE, UN agencies with relevant mandate (e.g. UNDP, FAO) 2. Lao PDR Government 3. Lao PDR Government
Broader Disaster Risk Reduction, climate resilience and development efforts require better integration with national planning mechanisms.	Advocate for risk-informed planning and budgeting in the National Socio-Economic Development Plan and sector plans, including through the Round Table Meeting process.	UN RC, UN agency heads and RTM SWGs

PART II

8. PROJECT REPORTS

8.1. Project Report 18-RR-FAO-028 - FAO

1. Project information			
1. Agency:	FAO	2. Country:	Lao People's Democratic Republic
3. Cluster/Sector:	Food Security - Agriculture	4. Project code (CERF):	18-RR-FAO-028
5. Project title:	Emergency agriculture support to flood affected communities in Khammouane Province		
6.a Original Start date:	18/10/2018	6.b Original End date	17/04/2019
6.c No-cost Extension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	if yes, specify revised end date:	N/A
6.d Were all activities concluded by the end date (including NCE date)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (if not, please explain in section 12)		
7. Funding	a. Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 10,333,000
	b. Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 1,979,765
	c. Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 831,847
	d. Total CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners		US\$ 88,916
	of which to:		
	▪ Government Partners		US\$ 4,633
	▪ International NGOs		N/A
	▪ National NGOs		US\$ 84,283
	▪ Red Cross/Crescent		N/A

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance
<p>Together with government partners and VFI, FAO provided agriculture inputs through a voucher scheme, including: 30kg rice seeds and fertilizer for 5,038 households in 61 villages in Hinboun, Nongbok, Xebangphai and Mahaxay districts; corn and vegetable seeds for 5,742 households in 101 villages of Hinboun and Nongbok districts; and 12,960kgs of R2 rice seed and fertilizer for 11 rice seed multiplication production groups. In addition, FAO facilitated a range of training briefings, including: 57 briefings on the voucher schemes to beneficiaries and potential suppliers; trained 3,925 farmers (1,487 female participants) from 99 villages on good agriculture practices, bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizer making, food nutrition and safe practices in using bio-pesticides; briefed 5,174 farmers (1,294 female participants) from 111 villages on rice and vegetables post-harvesting and food nutrition; organized 34 animal vaccination campaign events, including consultations on good animal production practices and biosecurity in 22 villages of Hinboun and 12 villages of Nongbok districts with participation from 1,500 households. FAO supported the vaccination 2,025 buffaloes and 7,246 cattle with Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and 25,203 poultry with Fowl Cholera. In total, the CERF-funded project reached 10,780 households (62,545 people), significantly beyond its initial target of 4,666 households. Dry-season cropping supported through FAO's intervention resulted in rice production increasing by 43% and yield by 13%.</p>

3. Changes and Amendments

The project team carried out the inception meeting with the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office (PAFO) and market assessment from 24-26 October 2018. The purpose of the consultation was to: identify the needs for agriculture inputs in the specific target communities; survey the price, availability and accessibility of agriculture inputs; and assess the capacity and willingness of potential suppliers to participate in the project. The assessment found that a voucher scheme was the optimal modality to deliver support, and also recommended a number of changes to the composition of assistance packages, including expanding rice seed and fertilizer assistance to beneficiaries in Mahaxay and Xebangphai districts and reducing corn seed from 3kg to 1kg per household given most households had less than 0.3 hectares of cultivable land. In addition, the provincial government recommended support to seed production throughout for the 2019 wet season by providing R2 rice seed to multiplication production groups to ensure the local seed security. The planned target for the animal vaccination campaign was significantly impacted by: lower than expected number of survived cattle and poultry (25,995 and 60,384 respectively and much lower than initial estimates at the time of the CERF application); inability to identify and contain cattle due to limited fencing; and hesitancy among local farmers to vaccinate their animals. In total, 34 animal vaccination campaign events including consultations on animal good production practices and biosecurity were organized.

This was the first time a voucher system was used to deliver agricultural assistance in Lao PDR. As such there was a higher than expected need to conduct training and awareness briefings with implementing government partners and beneficiary communities. To address this issue, FAO significantly increased the number of voucher outreach sessions from 5 to 57 and good agricultural practices sessions from 16 to 79. There were also a higher than expected operational costs associated with logistical challenges and intensive labor requirements of distributing, monitoring and verifying the use of vouchers.

4. People Reached

4a. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by age group and sex

	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	8,399	13,646	22,045	8,687	13,473	22,160	17,086	27,119	44,205
Reached	12,023	19,534	31,557	12,148	18,840	30,988	24,171	38,374	62,545

4b. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by category

Category	Number of people (Planned)	Number of people (Reached)
Refugees	N/A	N/A
IDPs	N/A	N/A
Host population	N/A	N/A
Affected people (none of the above)	44,205	62,545
Total (same as in 4a)	44,205	62,545

In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category distribution, please describe

Given the reduced need for corn seed supplies as a result of lower than expected land availability and higher input prices, funds were reallocated to assist a larger number of beneficiaries who also had acute needs in Khammouane Province.

reasons:	
----------	--

5. CERF Result Framework

Project objective	Alleviate immediate food insecurity and livelihood among the flood affected population in 2 severely affected districts of Khammouane Province of Lao PDR by provision of agriculture inputs to restore the production and support to re-establish livelihoods
--------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Output 1	Emergency agriculture inputs supported to 4,666 households			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Number of households receiving agriculture inputs disaggregated by boy, girls, women and men.	4,666 households, 23,328 people	10,780 households, 62,545 people	List of beneficiaries
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The number of beneficiaries was counted based on the size of households reached. The number of female beneficiaries was 31,557 based on the ratio of girls and women. Only figures of children under five are available (3,194 in total and 1,583 girls).		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Identification and selection of villages and beneficiaries.	PAFO/ District Agriculture and Forestry Office (DAFO) and VFI		
Activity 1.2	Voucher system set up for agriculture inputs	FAO		
Activity 1.3	Awareness raising on good agricultural practices.	FAO, VFI and PAFO		
Activity 1.4	Monitoring of activities and technical support.	FAO/ VFI		
Activity 1.5	Post-distribution monitoring, evaluation and reporting.	FAO/ VFI		

Output 2	Vaccination campaign conducted in 2 districts of Hinboun, Nongbok			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Number of livestock vaccinated	65,000 cattle and 260,000 poultry	9,271 cattle and 25,203 poultry	PAFO report
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The planned target for the animal vaccination campaign was significantly impacted by: lower than expected number of survived cattle and poultry (25,995 and 60,384 respectively and much lower than initial estimates at the time of the CERF application); inability to identify and contain cattle due to limited fencing; and hesitancy among local farmers to vaccinate their animals.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Procurement of vaccines	FAO		
Activity 2.2	Awareness raising on good production practices and flock health management	PAFO		

Activity 2.3	Organize vaccination campaign	PAFO
--------------	-------------------------------	------

<p>6. Accountability to Affected People</p> <p><u>A) Project design and planning phase:</u></p> <p>The project conducted detailed needs and market assessments to identify the impact of the floods on the affected communities. The assessment included a thorough consultation with local authorities, local vendors and affected people. The assessment findings informed the design of the project interventions to address the needs of beneficiaries needs and take account of the local context.</p> <p><u>B) Project implementation phase:</u></p> <p>Beneficiaries were selected by PAFO and District Agriculture and Forestry Offices (DAFO) and then verified by VFI to ensure the beneficiary selection process was conducted transparently and in accordance with the project design. During the voucher distribution, briefing sessions in local language were arranged to provide information on the project activities and processes, guidance on how to use the vouchers and address questions and concerns of the beneficiaries. Brochures and posters were also distributed to all beneficiaries for ease of reference. Agriculture inputs were delivered to the collection points and to beneficiary villages by the participating suppliers to ensure easy access by the beneficiaries. The project set up hotlines to receive feedback from communities. The hotline numbers were printed on project posters and brochures and also made available during briefing sessions with beneficiaries encouraged to call with any comments or complaints. This process enabled project staff to immediately provide advice regarding the process of exchanging vouchers, clarification on the items to be exchanged, as well as recording complaints about the suppliers' performance. Regular visits by VFI staff to monitor the use of vouchers also provided opportunities for the beneficiaries to share their feedback.</p> <p><u>C) Project monitoring and evaluation:</u></p> <p>The project was regularly monitored by FAO's project coordinator, who conducted four visits to Khammouane Province to assess voucher distribution and provide technical advice. In addition, VFI conducted three rounds of monitoring in January, March and April 2019 to monitor voucher distribution, cultivation and extension services, and yields post-harvest. A joint Government/UN mid-term review mission was also organized in January 2019.</p>

7. Cash-Based Interventions				
7.a Did the project include one or more Cash Based Intervention(s) (CBI)?				
Planned		Actual		
Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project		Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project		
7.b Please specify below the parameters of the CBI modality/ies used. If more than one modality was used in the project please complete separate rows for each modality. Please indicate the estimated value of cash that was transferred to people assisted through each modality (best estimate of the value of cash and/or vouchers, not including associated delivery costs). Please refer to the guidance and examples above.				
CBI modality	Value of cash (US\$)	a. Objective	b. Conditionality	c. Restriction
Agriculture inputs voucher	US\$ 420,011	Sector-specific	Conditional	Restricted

Supplementary information (optional)

Vouchers for fertilizers and seeds were selected as the optimal modality to deliver support in Khammouane Province, particularly given the narrow time-frame before the planting season was due to begin. A market assessment was conducted to confirm the feasibility of the modality. FAO provided training sessions on the use of vouchers to all beneficiaries and potential suppliers. VFI conducted voucher verification with suppliers and sent their findings to FAO for final verification and payment.

8. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?

FAO supported the mid-term review mission to Khammouane Province in January 2019, in close collaboration with the government and UN agencies. FAO also participated in the CERF After Action Review in Vientiane in May 2019. No further evaluations are planned by the agency.

EVALUATION CARRIED OUT

EVALUATION PENDING

NO EVALUATION PLANNED

8.2. Project Report 18-RR-UDP-011 - UNDP

1. Project information			
1. Agency:	UNDP	2. Country:	Lao People's Democratic Republic
3. Cluster/Sector:	Early Recovery - Early Recovery	4. Project code (CERF):	18-RR-UDP-011
5. Project title:	Debris management for lifesaving in UXO-contaminated flood zones.		
6.a Original Start date:	22/10/2018	6.b Original End date	21/04/2019
6.c. No-cost Extension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	if yes, specify revised end date:	N/A
6.d Were all activities concluded by the end date (including NCE date)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (if not, please explain in section 12)		
7. Funding	a. Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 4,540,000	
	b. Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 812,899	
	c. Amount received from CERF:	US\$ 812,899	
	d. Total CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners of which to:	US\$ 556,195	
	▪ <i>Government Partners</i>	US\$ 407,750	
▪ <i>International NGOs</i>	N/A		
▪ <i>National NGOs</i>	US\$ 148,445		
▪ <i>Red Cross/Crescent</i>	N/A		

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance
<p>In conjunction with partners at national, provincial and district levels, UNDP provided Cash for Work (CfW) to 6,265 flood victims from 64 villages in four districts of Khammouane Province (Hinboun, Nongbok, Mahaxay, Yoummalath). This included renovation and repairs of community infrastructure through 45 CfW projects, including 32 road repairs, one bridge repair, nine irrigation canals cleared and three water storage facilities expanded with the assistance of MLSW, MPWT and MAF. The project employed 2,858 women and 3,407 men who worked a total of 84,142 person days (or 13.4 days per person) to earn an average income of LAK 671,000 (approximately US\$79), with a daily individual wage of LAK 50,000 (approximately US\$5.90). The project repaired 147kms of flood damaged roads, cleared 18kms of damaged rice irrigation canals and restored 348 hectares of agricultural land to normal production. Over 300 children in Mahaxay district directly benefited from UXO awareness campaigns, with a further 654 sets of learning materials distributed to teachers for supplementary awareness-raising activities. The collective activities funded through CERF have enabled UNDP to support life-saving measures through the restoration of infrastructure, income generation and risk awareness delivered with a strong focus on community ownership.</p>

3. Changes and Amendments

It was estimated that 136,000 persons would be targeted for cash for work activities. After a more measured field assessment of villages and population in the affected areas, this estimate proved to be excessive. Nevertheless, post-implementation 50,120 persons directly benefited from the income accruing from the employment provided to the 6,265 members of their families who were registered workers. Other indirect beneficiaries included the community members who will be able to restore their lives and livelihoods through the use of the repaired road and irrigation networks.

Some delays in implementation were experienced, in part because the MLSW, districts and provinces had not implemented CfW projects in the past. Hence it was necessary to set up information sharing and coordination mechanisms and conduct regular consultations and meetings. The initial project design envisaged the need for periodic monitoring of CfW project implementation, but for technical reasons as well as social and community considerations it was found that a more regular monitoring regime would be required, particularly for larger, more complex projects. There was no overall change or modification to the proposed activities nor to the project outcomes.

In order to ensure timely payments to beneficiaries, three modalities were used to transfer funds: directly by UNDP's CfW team; by district government teams; and by BCEL (a Lao financial institution). All were done in partnership with, and approval of, the government. This adaptive management approach enabled the project to develop and implement two tranches of CfW projects within the set timeline.

Lessons were learned and some changes gradually included in the project. These included a more intensive field work schedule and inclusion of health, safety, gender, and other vulnerability considerations. However, an area for future improvement also included the need for strong UNDP technical engineering support. To ensure that lessons will be institutionalized, the UNDP will work with the MLSW to produce a set of guidelines to support the decision-making for future CfW Projects.

4. People Reached

4a. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by age group and sex

	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	25,897	42,203	68,100	26,785	41,680	68,465	52,682	83,883	136,565
Reached	9,269	15,078	24,347	10,103	15,670	25,773	19,372	30,748	50,120

4b. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by category

Category	Number of people (Planned)	Number of people (Reached)
Refugees	N/A	N/A
IDPs	N/A	N/A
Host population	N/A	N/A
Affected people (none of the above)	136,565	50,120
Total (same as in 4a)	136,565	50,120

In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category

The CERF CfW proposal identified a population of 136,565 persons who would benefit directly as well as indirectly from the project. However, following some early field visits to the affected areas it was observed that populations in the villages had been over-estimated. Nevertheless, the project was able to provide work to 6,265 persons in need, whose wages provided benefits to other family

<i>distribution, please describe reasons:</i>	members and to the communities where they live. It is estimated that a total of 50,120 men, women and children directly benefited from payments made to the CfW project workers. Additionally, other indirect beneficiaries will include the wider community members who will be able to restore their lives and livelihoods through the use of the repaired roads and irrigation networks.
-----------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

5. CERF Result Framework	
Project objective	Removal and management of debris in UXO-contaminated areas to permit life-saving activities in agriculture, food security, and health.

Output 1	Removal of debris from paddy, canals, critical access roads, and near hospitals			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Hectares assessed and plan developed for debris removal and UXO safety	17,000 ha (of 26,000 damaged)	147km of road repair; 18.1km of irrigation canals repaired; and 348ha of agriculture land restored for irrigation	District Department of Public Works and Transport; and District Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Indicator 1.2	Number of beneficiaries receiving Cash for Work to remove silt	17,241	6,265	Provincial and District Department of Labour and Social Welfare
Indicator 1.3	Agricultural service area (ha) with debris removed, recycled, and or safely disposed from paddy, cropland, and irrigation canals	17,000 ha	See Indicator 1.1. above	District Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Following community consultations and site visits, assessed priority needs were determined, including the repair of village roads and water sources, and clearing irrigation canals. Hence these outputs are reflected in indicator 1.1, rather than in terms of hectares of land cleared. In general, there was an over-estimate of targets for the amount of land, canals and critical access roads to be cleared. There was limited time to implement the project under circumstances where the national and local governments had not implemented CfW Projects before. The CfW Program concentrated on priority village projects as identified by communities and local governments. Several of the Projects, particularly roads, were in excess of 1 month duration covering more than one village. This more intensive approach meant that average payments per worker was more than the anticipated amount, and number of beneficiaries less. Actual achievements also reflect the fact that manual labour is a relatively inefficient means to deliver large output quantities but have the benefit that wages directly meet basic needs of communities. A key benefit from the project was the average LAK 671,000 (approximately US\$79) earned by each worker to meet family basic and production needs.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Assessment of Team Leader/Engineer and local UXO	Joint assessment was done by UNDP CfW		

	team of area and structures to be cleared, followed by creation of plan for specific areas, disposal of waste, potential areas in which fertile silt can be tilled into paddy and cropland rather than removed. Determination of Cash For Work amount, frequency, and disbursement mechanism.	Consultant, with Provincial and District technical staff of the Departments of Public Works and Transport (DPWT) and Agriculture (DAF).
Activity 1.2	Targeting and distribution of cash for work	Provincial and District Disaster Management Committees, Chaired by Vice-Governors of Province and Districts.
Activity 1.3	Clearing of silt and rubble from canals, paddy, with reuse/hand tillage of silt into paddy and cropland where desirable for fertilization of soil. Safe removal of debris from near critical health facilities and roads	Village Disaster Management Committees chaired by Village Chief, with technical supervision provided by the staff of the DPWT and DAF.

Output 2	Education and awareness of disaster victims raised concerning additional risks posed by unexploded ordnance (UXO) in highly contaminated, flood-impacted areas.			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Specialized materials concerning UXO in flood areas developed	# materials produced and disseminated	654 sets of risk awareness books to support school teachers; and 450 T-shirts	National Regulatory Authority (NRA)/UXO Lao
Indicator 2.2	Flood response training of Risk Education and volunteer teams in application of materials	All Risk Education Teams and volunteers in Khammouane Province trained	300 school children in Mahaxay district of Khammouane Province attended an awareness raising event; 46 village youth volunteers from various districts of Khammouane received UXO risk education training	NRA/UXO Lao
Indicator 2.3	Beneficiaries consulted and made aware of UXO risks in flooded and debris-ridden areas	75% of 136,565 beneficiaries made aware of UXO risks and mitigation in flood-affected area	Teachers and youth volunteers conduct UXO awareness activities with communities in all districts of Khammouane Province. Educational material prepared for teachers to use in classroom settings.	NRA/UXO Lao
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Rather than link the awareness on UXO to numbers of people engaged in CfW employment, the project estimates persons whose		

		UXO awareness is raised in relation to the number of sets of UXO teaching materials (654) provided to teachers and number of UXO village volunteers (46) trained. On this basis it may be estimated that about 30,000 persons, mostly youth, received some UXO awareness as a result of the intervention.
Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 2.1	Risk Education Teams develop and deliver training and specialized, flood-informed materials for application by village volunteers.	National Regulatory Authority with the Lao Youth Union

6. Accountability to Affected People

A) Project design and planning phase:

The project was designed in consultation with the MLSW and Provincial Department of Labour and Social Welfare (DLSW). UNDP's Disaster Risk Management Advisor was appointed to work closely with government officials to jointly visit affected areas and determine which areas to prioritize for project implementation. Village chiefs were consulted in determining how many beneficiaries in their communities were affected by the floods and if they would be willing to seek employment on the community infrastructure repair projects. It was noted that in some areas more people sought work than could be employed given the limitations of budget for wages, provision of tools, and health and safety materials.

B) Project implementation phase:

Prior to beneficiary registration being conducted in each community, an orientation on the CfW processes was provided to registration volunteers. These volunteers would then explain key points concerning the work to persons who attended the registration, including age requirements, work access to vulnerable groups, and equal pay for men and women. Also, the Vice Governor and/or a senior official of the district government gave a presentation to all persons attending the registration and responded to any questions and concerns from the community.

C) Project monitoring and evaluation:

Regular monitoring was undertaken at each CfW project site by the staff of the DLSW and Department of Public Works and Transport (DPWT) and Department of Agriculture (DAF). The DLSW staff monitored a range of welfare and organizational aspects of CfW projects, whilst the DPWT and DAF monitored technical project elements. During the monitoring visits the workers provided feedback on a range of matters, including the need for drinking water at the work site, masks to prevent inhalation of excess dust and the frequency of payments for work done. Feedback was documented on project monitoring sheets which were analyzed and then discussed in regular consultation meetings conducted at district and provincial level. As a result of beneficiary requests, the project procured and distributed water and masks to beneficiaries to address their health and safety concerns.

7. Cash-Based Interventions

7.a Did the project include one or more Cash Based Intervention(s) (CBI)?

Planned	Actual
Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project

7.b Please specify below the parameters of the CBI modality/ies used. If more than one modality was used in the project please complete separate rows for each modality. Please indicate the estimated **value of cash** that was transferred to people assisted through each modality (best estimate of the value of cash and/or vouchers, not including associated delivery costs). Please refer to the guidance and examples above.

CBI modality	Value of cash (US\$)	a. Objective	b. Conditionality	c. Restriction
Cash for Work	US\$ 494,818	Multi-purpose cash	Conditional	Unrestricted

Supplementary information (optional)

The CfW modality was selected in order to provide employment to beneficiaries so that they could be paid to repair community assets that had been damaged by the floods. The community assets are important to ensure livelihoods essential to the local village economy. CfW can give the community ownership over their own recovery process while providing life-saving decent work. Women and men were eligible to register for work.

Delivery of the project was completed using three different modalities. Firstly, UNDP staff provided payments direct to beneficiaries with DLSW partners supporting the process. Secondly, when funds with the national government were transferred to the province and districts, the local district government teams made the payments to beneficiaries, with the support of UNDP project team. Thirdly, when many CfW projects were being undertaken concurrently, BCEL was contracted to make payments to beneficiaries from selected districts and projects. The involvement of BCEL supported the efficient and timely movement of funds to the beneficiaries. BCEL payments were assisted by both the UNDP CfW team and the DLSW staff, especially through local level liaison with community leaders.

8. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?

A CERF After Action Review was conducted with all agencies and implementing partners in May 2019. With respect to the CfW component, good practices included:

- Addressing priority health and safety considerations, taking into account the local context; and
- Strong organisational planning for registration of beneficiaries, adhering to equity, transparency, and specific needs of vulnerable groups.

Areas for further improvement include:

- Contingency project staff recruitment and procurement plans to better respond to time delays and unforeseen circumstances;
- Quicker transfer of funds from national MLSW to local levels to support project implementation; and
- Strong engineering technical advice to be provided to district DPWT officers at the time of project identification and during implementation to enhance the scope to integrate resilience to future disasters; and
- Identify heavily UXO affected areas early and take action so that communities in those areas can benefit from the cash for work projects.

EVALUATION CARRIED OUT

EVALUATION PENDING

NO EVALUATION PLANNED

8.3. Project Report 18-RR-WFP-062 - WFP

1. Project information			
1. Agency:	WFP	2. Country:	Lao People's Democratic Republic
3. Cluster/Sector:	Food Security - Food Aid	4. Project code (CERF):	18-RR-WFP-062
5. Project title:	Food Security and Livelihoods support to Flood Affected people in Central Lao PDR		
6.a Original Start date:	18/10/2018	6.b Original End date	17/04/2019
6.c. No-cost Extension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	if yes, specify revised end date:	N/A
6.d Were all activities concluded by the end date (including NCE date)		<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (if not, please explain in section 12)	
7. Funding	a. Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 11,455,842
	b. Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		Australia: US\$ 340,000 France: US\$ 400,000 CERF: US\$ 1,717,708 Total: US\$ 2,457,708
	c. Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 1,717,708
	d. Total CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners of which to:		US\$ 0
	▪ Government Partners		N/A
	▪ International NGOs		N/A
	▪ National NGOs		N/A
	▪ Red Cross/Crescent		N/A

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

In partnership with MLSW, WFP provided immediate food assistance in the form of unconditional cash transfers to a total of 6,388 flood affected households (32,889 beneficiaries) in Hinboun, Yoummalath and Nongbok districts of Khammouane Province. Over the 6-month project duration, DSW and WFP distributed LAK10,783,440,000 (approximately US\$1,223 million) over three distribution cycles to flood-affected households to meet their immediate food needs, as well as distributed nutrition education messages to sensitize the affected population on the importance of diversified food sources and which nutrient-rich foods to buy with the cash received. Beneficiaries received a total ration of LAK320,000 each (approximately US\$37), calculated to cover their food needs over the 6-month project cycle and aligned to the Lao PDR Social Welfare Decree. Post distribution monitoring indicated that over 90% of beneficiaries purchased food with the cash provided.

3. Changes and Amendments

1. **Budget Revision:** The project proposal planned cash distributions through DSW. However, it quickly became apparent that this would produce considerable delays as funds would need to be channeled through the Ministry of Finance and then through the various provincial and district levels. Given the need to urgently respond to the needs of the identified beneficiaries, it was agreed with the MLSW that WFP would handle the cash during the project's implementation period. This deviation in project design required an ex-post budget revision which was submitted to CERF and approved by the Emergency Relief Coordinator on 22 March 2019.

2. **Change in Beneficiary Numbers and Target Districts:** The initial project design identified a total of 44,205 tentative beneficiaries in need across the districts of Hinboun and Nongbok in Khammouane Province. However, following assessment of actual needs, there were less people found to meet the "lifesaving" criteria of CERF. Based on this it was agreed with government partners that there were people in other districts who were more in need. Based on food insecurity data, the district of Yoummalath was included as a priority district. Verification in the district confirmed the need for assistance. Prioritization criteria for beneficiary targeting was then developed having both inclusion and exclusion criteria and then confirmed during beneficiary registration in the field. After the completion of the beneficiary registration and first-round distribution, the district authorities of Hinboun requested to add 945 additional beneficiaries. WFP accepted the request and they were included for the second and third distributions. These changes meant initial project design identified a total of 44,205 tentative beneficiaries being revised to 32,889 and the number of target districts increased from two to three – Nongbok, Hinboun and Yoummalath districts.

3. **Change in Cash Ration:** The monthly cash entitlement per beneficiary had been set at LAK40,000 per month (approximately US\$4.70) based on the value of rice at the time of the project design and would be distributed on a bi-monthly basis. This rate was used during the first distribution round. The feedback from MLSW and DSW staff was that this was creating confusion at the beneficiary level given under the Social Welfare Decree of the Government of Lao PDR, cash support distributed through – or in conjunction with – DSW should be LAK100,000 (approximately US\$11.75) at least per person per month (distribution round). Additionally, there was an observation that a significant number of beneficiaries ended up spending money to transport themselves to the cash distribution sites. Therefore, it was agreed with the MLSW that the entitlement per beneficiary per month would be increased to LAK60,000 (approximately US\$7) or LAK120,000 (approximately US\$14) per distribution round. As a result, over three rounds each beneficiary received LAK320,000 (approximately US\$37) which is in line with the Social Welfare Decree.

4. People Reached

4a. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by age group and sex

	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	8,399	13,646	22,045	8,687	13,473	22,160	17,086	27,119	44,205
Reached	6,249	10,153	16,402	6,463	10,024	16,487	12,712	20,177	32,889

4b. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by category

Category	Number of people (Planned)	Number of people (Reached)
Refugees	N/A	N/A
IDPs	N/A	N/A
Host population	N/A	N/A

<i>Affected people (none of the above)</i>	44,205	32,889
Total (same as in 4a)	44,205	32,889
<i>In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category distribution, please describe reasons:</i>	As described in section 3 above, the number of target beneficiaries was revised from 44,205 to 32,889 beneficiaries based on prioritization criteria to identify those requiring “lifesaving” support.	

5. CERF Result Framework

Project objective	Alleviate immediate food insecurity among the flood affected population in 2 severely affected districts of Khammouane province of Lao PDR by provision of food assistance and support to re-establish livelihoods
--------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Output 1	8,841 households receive cash transfer rounds			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Number of household members reached through cash distributions by gender and age	44,205	32,889	Distribution reports / Distribution receipts
Indicator 1.2	Amount of cash received per 2-month period per beneficiary	LAK 80,000	LAK120,000	Distribution reports / Distribution receipts
Indicator 1.3	Number of group sms messages sent to beneficiaries regarding entitlements and distribution schedule	2 sms/round	0	N/A
Explanation of output and indicators variance:	<p>1.1 See 3 above.</p> <p>1.2 The cash ration was adjusted from LAK 80,000 to LAK 120,000 per 2 months to be aligned with the Social Welfare Decree.</p> <p>1.3 The number of mobile numbers provided by beneficiaries during registration was not comprehensive enough to do SMS messaging. Instead beneficiaries were notified of entitlements and distribution schedules through a combination of activities including distributing fliers and posters, calls to beneficiaries and village chiefs and District authorities notifying in person.</p>			
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Register the affected needy households	WFP and Provincial and District Labour and Social Welfare staff		
Activity 1.2	Distribute cash to affected households on the basis of household members	WFP and Provincial and District Labour and Social Welfare staff		
Activity 1.3	Inform the beneficiaries on their entitlements and distribution schedules using sms	WFP and Provincial and District Labour and Social Welfare staff		

Output 2	8,841 households receive SBCC (social and behaviour change communication) messaging on food diversification			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification

Indicator 2.1	Number of households reached with SBCC leaflets	8,841	6,388	Printing receipts and confirmation of distribution by teams
Indicator 2.2	Number of posters distributed with SBCC messages	In Total: 1,000 On average 7.3/village	400	Printing receipts and confirmation of distribution by teams
Indicator 2.3	Number of radio messages transmitted on food diversification	120	131	Confirmation of distribution by teams
Indicator 2.4	Number of SBCC sms messages sent out through group sms	12	0	N/A
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		<p>2.1 Reduced number of beneficiaries needing "lifesaving" support.</p> <p>2.2. Given average number of beneficiaries per village, plan was revised from seven posters per village to three posters per village in all 131 villages.</p> <p>2.3 WFP could not contract broadcaster during project implementation, however, radio messages were developed and played at distribution points through available speakers during distributions.</p> <p>2.4 As mentioned, the number of mobile numbers received during registration were not satisfactory to undertake a SBCC SMS campaign. Nutrition education materials were distributed through posters, fliers, radio messages, and in-person by distribution teams.</p>		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Development of SBCC messages on food diversification for use in leaflets, posters, sms messaging and radio transmission	WFP staff		
Activity 2.2	Affected households receive food diversification messaging by leaflets having SBCC messaging. The leaflets are distributed during the initial registration and accompanied by some face-to-face coaching on the topic of healthy meals and food.	WFP and Provincial and District Labour and Social Welfare staff		
Activity 2.3	Distribution of SBCC posters in the affected villages	WFP and Provincial and District Labour and Social Welfare staff		
Activity 2.4	Radio broadcast on local radio stations with messaging on the need of food diversification	WFP and Provincial and District Labour and Social Welfare staff		
Activity 2.5	Sending SBCC messages by group sms	N/A		

6. Accountability to Affected People

A) Project design and planning phase:

The results of information collected from PAFO and DAFO and the Provincial DLSW was used to identify the target districts and villages. In the targeted villages, the DAFO and Provincial DLSW staff engaged with village authorities and village representatives to determine the exact inclusion/exclusion criteria for beneficiary identification. These specific criteria were developed in consultation with local authorities, though overall guidelines on approach and criteria was followed and agreed upon beforehand.

B) Project implementation phase:

The beneficiaries were informed of their entitlements prior to each distribution round. In the first round, beneficiaries were advised about their eligibility and selection criteria. A smart phone application was used to register the beneficiaries and the

beneficiaries received their cash grant immediately after finishing their registrations. In addition, nutrition messages were also provided to the beneficiaries before the registration began. The information registered through the app was exported into spreadsheet, the name list was used to distribute the cash in the second and third rounds. Nutrition education messages were also provided during these cash distribution rounds.

C) Project monitoring and evaluation:

WFP provided a hotline number to all beneficiaries which allowed them to confidentially ask questions about entitlements, selection criteria and send their feedback to WFP regarding the quality of the project implementation. Following each cash distribution round, WFP undertook post distribution monitoring both telephonically and in person as quality assurance to ensure that the identified beneficiaries indeed received their entitlements and to assess what households were purchasing with the cash. Through post distribution monitoring and calls to the hotline, several cases of cash redistributions were recorded where beneficiaries were sharing entitlements with other households. These cases were documented and reported to MLSW for action.

7. Cash-Based Interventions

7.a Did the project include one or more Cash Based Intervention(s) (CBI)?

Planned	Actual
Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CBI is a component of the CERF project

7.b Please specify below the parameters of the CBI modality/ies used. If more than one modality was used in the project please complete separate rows for each modality. Please indicate the estimated **value of cash** that was transferred to people assisted through each modality (best estimate of the value of cash and/or vouchers, not including associated delivery costs). Please refer to the guidance and examples above.

CBI modality	Value of cash (US\$)	a. Objective	b. Conditionality	c. Restriction
Unconditional Cash Transfer (Food Assistance)	US\$ 1,223,000	Multi-purpose cash	Unconditional	Unrestricted

Supplementary information (optional)

CBI was selected because it can be implemented faster than procurement of food and because it allows the beneficiaries more flexibility in purchasing what they really need. Given that markets were functional, the use of CBI gave the beneficiaries the option to buy the food commodities best suited for their household's situation. However, to ensure that nutritious foods were being purchased, cash distributions were accompanied by nutrition education related messages on promoting nutritious products aimed at increasing food diversity. CBI also injected money in the local economy and given the FAO supported component of the CERF project provided vegetable seeds in overlapping districts, beneficiaries could sell their excess produce.

8. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?

No evaluation for this specific CERF intervention is planned, however, the project will form part of a larger evaluation following completion of recovery activities identified in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment.	EVALUATION CARRIED OUT <input type="checkbox"/>
	EVALUATION PENDING <input type="checkbox"/>
	NO EVALUATION PLANNED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

8.4. Project Report 18-RR-WHO-042 - WHO

1. Project information			
1. Agency:	WHO	2. Country:	Lao People's Democratic Republic
3. Cluster/Sector:	Health - Health	4. Project code (CERF):	18-RR-WHO-042
5. Project title:	Recovery Program for the floods affected communities in selected Districts of Khamouane Province		
6.a Original Start date:	08/10/2018	6.b Original End date:	07/04/2019
6.c No-cost Extension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	if yes, specify revised end date:	N/A
6.d Were all activities concluded by the end date (including NCE date)		<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (if not, please explain in section 12)	
7. Funding	a. Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 680,000
	b. Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 286,956
	c. Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 146,956
	d. Total CERF funds forwarded to implementing partners of which to:		US\$ 137,342
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Government Partners</i> ▪ <i>International NGOs</i> ▪ <i>National NGOs</i> ▪ <i>Red Cross/Crescent</i> 		US\$ 137,342

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

The Ministry of Health, with assistance from WHO, was able to provide flood affected people in Khammouane Province with access to primary health care services. This was achieved by provision of medical consultations through mobile medical teams, replacement of essential medical equipment and supplies damaged by flood, distribution of vitamin B complex to prevent thiamine deficiency, testing of water points used to provide drinking water and administration of vaccines to prevent outbreaks. During the CERF funding period, the flood affected population of Khammouane Province no longer reported thiamine deficiency cases and were given oral cholera vaccine that was imported specifically for the flooding events in Lao PDR during 2018 to prevent further outbreaks. Health facilities in the province were also re-equipped with the necessary medical equipment and supplies needed to re-establish health services to the affected population, restoring primary health care and surveillance for the affected population beyond the funding period.

3. Changes and Amendments

No changes or amendments.

4. People Reached									
4a. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by age group and sex									
	Female			Male			Total		
	Girls (< 18)	Women (≥ 18)	Total	Boys (< 18)	Men (≥ 18)	Total	Children (< 18)	Adults (≥ 18)	Total
Planned	25,897	42,203	68,100	26,785	41,680	68,465	52,682	83,883	136,565
Reached	65,123	105,806	170,929	67,356	104,465	171,821	132,479	210,271	342,750
4b. Number of people directly assisted with cerf funding by category									
Category	Number of people (Planned)				Number of people (Reached)				
Refugees					N/A				
IDPs					N/A				
Host population					N/A				
Affected people (none of the above)					136,565				
Total (same as in 4a)					136,565				
<p><i>In case of significant discrepancy between planned and reached beneficiaries, either the total numbers or the age, sex or category distribution, please describe reasons:</i></p> <p>In the original calculations, there were less affected district identified, but when the activities were conducted in the field, it was found that all districts in Khammouane Province required distribution of vitamin B complex. Therefore activities were conducted for all of Khammouane Province.</p> <p>The budget to support all districts in Khammouane Province was found in efficiencies in CERF activities, by coupling vitamin B complex distribution and the mobile medical consultations, as well as additional funding from WHO for procurement of vitamin B complex.</p>									

5. CERF Result Framework	
Project objective	Improve livelihood, reduce mortality, morbidity in the most affected districts by flooding in Khammouane Province

Output 1	Access to integrated primary health care services			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Number of consultations provided through mobile medical teams	1800 consultations per week (50 consultations per day) in 6 districts	At least 866	National Centre of Laboratory and Epidemiology, Provincial Health Department (NCLE and PHD)
Indicator 1.2	1.2.a Proportion of health facilities who have submitted weekly report on Thiamine deficiency. 1.2.b Proportion of targeted population who received preventive treatment for thiamine deficiency	Target 1.2.a: 80% 1.2.b: 80%	97%	NCLE and PHD

Indicator 1.3	Proportion of alerts investigated within 48 hours	Target: 80%	100%	NCLE
Indicator 1.4	Number of water points monitored for water quality (including all types of sources)	Target: 200	244	FDD
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The number in the achieved column for Indicator 1.1 denotes the number of villages visited for the vitamin B distribution. Each village was visited at least once and at every visit medical consultations were also conducted. There was no data collected on the number of consultations conducted at each of these village visits.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Equip and deploy mobile medical teams to provide curative health care services and referrals for primary health care including communicable diseases, and screening for Thiamine Deficiency. Health services to be provided by mobile teams will include the diagnosis and treatment of thiamine deficiency, and infectious diseases, such as dengue, malaria, diarrheal diseases, respiratory diseases. Six mobile teams will conduct activities in 6 districts and they will be equipped with materials required for good practices in infection prevention and control, such as personal protective equipment (gloves and masks) and appropriate health care waste management tools (e.g. safety boxes).	Ministry of Health, Provincial Health Department and WHO		
Activity 1.2	Surveillance for prevention and detection of Thiamine Deficiency. Setting up of a specific reporting system with the participation of health-care providers for detection of Beriberi cases at health-facility level as well as community level with active case-search and screening of suspected cases. This activity will require support cost of 6 public health officers to organize prevention, detection and case management of Thiamine deficiency cases and field volunteers to operate the active case search. In addition to mass drug administration for thiamine deficiency, the team may be involved in OCV administration pending on availability of vaccine doses.	National Centre of Laboratory and Epidemiology, Provincial Health Department and WHO		
Activity 1.3	Enhanced disease surveillance for timely detection and outbreak response through the MoH FET program Enhanced/active surveillance of communicable diseases with weekly reporting of 17 conditions will be implemented from all health facilities in order to prevent potential outbreaks of diarrhoeal diseases, dengue, measles, respiratory infections (e.g. influenza), malaria as well as food-borne diseases of concern. The cost of this activity should cover equipment (education and communication materials for handwashing, food safety) as well as transportation and per-diem for surveillance officers.	National Centre of Laboratory and Epidemiology, Field Epidemiology Training Program, Provincial Health Department and WHO		
Activity 1.4	Rapid water quality testing and risk management to ensure water quality for drinking and personal hygiene use for CEFR application. Rapid sampling and testing of water quality in water supply systems (from water source to users point) which have been damaged/submerged and water contaminated by flooding water, including fecal contamination and arsenic. Disinfection of wells, boreholes and water tanks for drinking water and personal hygiene use. Residual	Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Management, National Center for Environmental Health and Water Supply, Provincial Health Department, District Health Office and WHO		

	chlorine will be tested to check the effectiveness of disinfection, Household water treatment and safe storage methods such as use of chlorine tab, ceramic filter and boiling will be promoted in affected community by distributing chlorine tab with instruction in Lao language and health education messages on use of safe water for drinking and personal hygiene.	
--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

6. Accountability to Affected People

A) Project design and planning phase:
 Ministry of Health and WHO investigated reports of cases of acute beriberi, leading to deaths in Khammouane Province. Investigations were carried out with the provincial and district health staff on the situation. Planning was conducted together to collect more information to inform the most appropriate activities needed to address the health situation in the affected areas.

B) Project implementation phase:
 All activities conducted for CERF were done in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, depending on which level was appropriate. The majority of activities were conducted with the Provincial Health Department as they were the staff on-site in the affected area that were capable of delivering on the activities.

C) Project monitoring and evaluation:
 Project monitoring was led by central level counterparts with Provincial Health Department staff to address any concerns or issues on the activities. In addition, when more support was needed WHO was able to send technical staff to assist provincial staff with their activities. Monitoring was done routinely, firstly on a daily basis and thereafter on a weekly basis. This allowed for continuous feedback to the central level on needs and progress of the activities. Activities were adjusted accordingly dependent on the situation.

7. Cash-Based Interventions

7.a Did the project include one or more Cash Based Intervention(s) (CBI)?

Planned	Actual
No	No

7.b Please specify below the parameters of the CBI modality/ies used. If more than one modality was used in the project please complete separate rows for each modality. Please indicate the estimated **value of cash** that was transferred to people assisted through each modality (best estimate of the value of cash and/or vouchers, not including associated delivery costs). Please refer to the guidance and examples above.

CBI modality	Value of cash (US\$)	a. Objective	b. Conditionality	c. Restriction
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

8. Evaluation: Has this project been evaluated or is an evaluation pending?

There is no evaluation planned for the work carried out for the CERF. The reason for this is because the activities are frequently conducted (outbreak response), monitoring was done closely with the health facilities and also the implementation of activities was done using well-established lines of communication with the province. There were very few problems with CERF activities and of those that did pose an issue these were related to access and community engagement. Access is a problem for many of our routine	EVALUATION CARRIED OUT <input type="checkbox"/>
	EVALUATION PENDING <input type="checkbox"/>
	NO EVALUATION PLANNED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

activities, with some communities being quite remote. Community engagement is also an ongoing area of improvement for the health sector. These are larger problems the health sector is working to find ways to address, as it affects many programs.

For the larger national flood event, a formal after action review was conducted by the Ministry of Health.

ANNEX 1: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

CERF Code	Project	Cluster/Sector	Agency	Partner Type	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner US\$
18-RR-FAO-028		Agriculture	FAO	NNGO	\$84,283
18-RR-FAO-028		Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$4,633
18-RR-UDP-011		Early Recovery	UNDP	GOV	\$387,750
18-RR-UDP-011		Early Recovery	UNDP	NNGO	\$148,445
18-RR-UDP-011		Early Recovery	UNDP	GOV	\$20,000
18-RR-WHO-042		Health	WHO	GOV	\$137,342

ANNEX 2: Success Stories

Success Story 1 – FAO

Project Title: Emergency agriculture support to flood affected communities in Khammouane Province

Implementing Partners: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Village Focus International

Ms. Kanthone Sengmany comes from Vanghouapa village located on the banks of Hinboun River in south-eastern Lao PDR in Khammouane Province. The village – which is over 30 kms from the local district municipality – was severely affected by floods that devastated much of the country in the second half of 2018. Prior to the floods, Kanthone and her family of six – which includes two females – relied on agriculture for income. In addition to one hectare of rain-fed paddy field and 0.16 hectares of vegetable gardens, she and her family also raised cattle and pigs. However, following the floods, the family lost most of its expected income as a result of damage done to its paddy and vegetable lands; a situation compounded by the subsequent spike in the price of seeds thus limiting options for replanting. Kanthone was, however, able to rescue some of her cattle by taking them to higher ground.

Having rapidly identified the risk to local food security and livelihoods, FAO – together with technical support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and funding support from CERF – was able to provide agriculture inputs and training to assist farmers rebuild their lives. After receiving vouchers, Kanthone decided to redeem them for maize, lettuce, long bean, Chinese cabbage and chili which she planted in her rehabilitated vegetable garden. Kanthone also attended training sessions which gave her the technical skills to be able to produce bio-pesticides to spray on her garden and compost biodegradable material to improve her soil quality. Once mature, Kanthone's family crop produced approximately 190 kg of maize and 110 kg of vegetables, the surplus of which she sold in the local village market using the proceeds to pay the family's electricity bills and buy other food supplies.

Despite the devastating impact of the floods on her family and local community, Kanthone has learned valuable lessons from the experience. In particular, Kanthone highlighted the need for preparedness measures, including the need to stock seeds for the next harvest season, planting alternate high-value crops (such as maize) to earn more income, and saving money for food, water and agriculture inputs in the event of future disasters.

Kanthone is just one of many beneficiaries who received support from FAO - and its implementing partner Village Focus International - through the CERF allocation. In total, the FAO's project reached 10,780 households (62,545 people), significantly beyond its initial target of 4,666 households. This included providing seeds, fertilizer, and training to 3,925 farmers (1,487 female participants), and supporting the vaccination of 2,025 buffaloes and 7,246 cattle with Haemorrhagic Septicaemia and 25,203 poultry with Fowl Cholera.

Contact Person: Thi Phuong Oanh Nguyen, Programme Manger
Email: oanh.nguyenphuong@fao.org; Tel: +856020 5589 1589

Success Story 2 – UNDP

Project Title: Debris Management for Lifesaving in UXO-contaminated Flood Zones

Implementing Partners: Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

UNDP received a CERF grant of US\$812,889 to respond to the immediate effects of severe flooding in Khammouane Province of south-eastern Lao PDR during July to September 2018. The floods had severely damaged local roads and bridges, irrigation canals and agricultural lands, causing loss of livelihoods for local farmers. Working with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and its local offices and other partners at national, provincial and district levels, the project provided Cash for Work to 6,265 flood victims from 64 villages in four districts of the province over a six-month period from October 2018 to April 2019. The 45 projects were mostly renovation and repairs of community infrastructure including 147km of flood damaged roads, 18km of damaged rice irrigation canals, and 348 hectares of agricultural land. In addition, unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness training was provided in partnership with the National Regulatory Authority and the Lao Youth Union, including a mine risk awareness event for school children and the provision of UXO awareness learning materials for teachers to use in local schools.

The project employed 2,858 women and 3,407 men who worked a total of 84,142 person days or 13.4 days per person, to earn an average total income of LAK671,000 with a daily individual wage of LAK50,000. Equal opportunity and equal pay were offered to both men and women. Most of the funds were disbursed through local government officials to beneficiaries in the villages, with UNDP also engaging the private sector (Banque Pour Le Commerce Exterieur Lao Public) to pay beneficiaries to ensure timely, efficient and accountable payments to the beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries consistently reflected how the project had supported community ownership over their own recovery process whilst providing income generating, life-saving decent work, equally for men and women. Mr Keomanivance Singhavong, a local farmer from Hatxiengdee village in Nongbok District said: “The floods were the worst ever to strike our village. My heart was broken. I lost my paddy crop and most of my chickens, ducks and cows. Also the local road to the village was severely damaged. I’d already lost three months income when UNDP and the District Government proposed the repair of the local road through cash for work, so I was only then able to get some employment to help me to look after my family”. Ms Bounmy of Nakham village in Nongbok District said, “I am very happy to become part of cash for work reservoir repair project that UNDP has supported in our village. Through working on the reservoir, I will now be able to buy more seeds, plant rice and some vegetables”.

Government officials from Khammouane Province were also pleased to support UNDP’s emergency support activities. Vice Governor Khamdee Adchalernsack of Mahaxay District actively participated in the project, consulting with local communities throughout project identification and implementation, including registering beneficiaries and distribution of wages. Mr Adchalernsack said: “The projects in this district have provided us with resources to support our communities through this most difficult time, and also assisted to build our relationships with them. After this disaster we are now more conscious of the need to be better prepared in the future. We will ensure that communities store the tools that were provided to them for these projects, so that they can be more prepared and organised in the future”.

Apart from restoring some much-needed income to local farming families, re-building community assets, and improving relationships between government and communities, the project has also assisted government departments to work together for better coordination, at the local and national level, and to make important preparedness, response and recovery decisions to build resilience for future disaster events.

Contact Person: Margaret Jones Williams, Head, Natural Resources Management and Climate Change
Email: margaret.jones.williams@undp.org; Tel: +856 21 26 77 10; +856 20 55 51 58 76

ANNEX 3: ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Alphabetical)

AAR	After Action Review
BCEL	Banque Pour Le Commerce Exterieur
CfW	Cash for Work
DAF	Department of Agriculture
DAFO	District Agriculture and Forestry Office
DLSW	Department of Labour and Social Welfare
DPWT	Department of Public Works and Transport
DRP	Disaster Response Plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FET	Field Epidemiology Training
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LAK	Lao Kip
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MOH	Ministry of Health
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
NCLE	National Centre of Laboratory and Epidemiology
NRA	National Regulatory Authority
OCHA	Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OCV	Oral cholera vaccine
PAFO	Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
PHD	Provincial Health Department
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
RTM	Round Table Meeting
SBCC	Social and behavior change communication
SWG	Sector Working Group
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UXO	Unexploded ordnance
VFI	Village Focus International
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization