

The First 1000 Days of Life- Phase III



FIRST 1000 DAYS



Location

Khua, Mai,
and Samphan districts,
Phongsaly Province

Dak Cheung and Kaleum
Districts, Sekong
Province

TimeFrame: January 2024 - December 2027

Beneficiaries

Direct 31.859

Indirect 95.577

Health Centers: 30 Health Centers

Partners

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Health- Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion, Department of Mother and Child Health Centre, and Nutrition Centre

Phongsaly Provincial Health Department

Sekong Provincial Health Department



BACKGROUND

The first 1000 days: Phase III Project will continue working to promote the first 1000 days of life - between a woman's pregnancy and her child's second birthday (from conception to 24 months old). The right nutrition and care during the 1000 day window influences not only whether the child will survive, but also their ability to grow, learn and rise out of poverty. As such, it contributes to society's long-term health, stability and prosperity.

The project aims to improve access, quality, and use of RMNCANH services by strengthening health volunteers, peer mobilisers, midwives, and health centre staff, while enhancing support for mothers (15–49 years) and children under age 2. To address early child marriage in Lao PDR, adolescent reproductive health interventions will be expanded in schools through “boys and girls clubs” and improved ASRH services, empowering Marginalised Women and Girls (MWGs) to exercise their rights and achieve gender-equitable nutrition. Working with partners, the project promotes gender equality, inclusive governance, and community resilience, engaging men, boys, and local leaders, and applying tools such as VSLA, SAA, and GER for gender-transformative outcomes. CARE will build capacity at the community and government levels, further develop and scale the Healthy Mother App, and respond to GBV and adolescent pregnancies, supporting health staff and village leaders in survivor care. The project will also tackle food insecurity through improved nutrition practices, climate-sensitive agriculture, seed distribution, economic empowerment, and market access, while strengthening subnational governance and locally led CSOs to enhance service quality, advocacy, and coordination for marginalised groups.

OBJECTIVES

To reduce maternal and child mortality and improve health outcomes for women, adolescents, and children in the first 1,000 days of the life of a child

FUNDED BY

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Luxembourg



OUTCOMES

Activity 1: Support equipment, construction and WASH facilities of Health Centers

Activity 2: Improving access to CSE information & ASRH services

Activity 3: Support and Scaling of Healthy Mother App

Activity 4: Support government for Government for Health System Strengthening including GBV response and referral

Activity 5: Support training Health Care staff

Activity 6: Encouraging positive RMNCANH behaviours in communities

Activity 7: Build capacity and encourage positive nutrition behaviours that improve food security

Activity 8: Skills training and support to increase control over resources and health

Activity 9: Support the identification and access of markets to improve economic opportunities

Activity 10: Community reflection on gender & social barriers to accessing health & GBV services

Activity 11: Support improved RMNCH governance and engagement at provincial, district and village level

Activity 12: Capacity building of local CSOs & SUN CSA that focus on locally led solutions for health, GBV, and disability inclusion.

IMPACTS

Expected Result 1: Improve access, use and quality of RMNCANH services

Expected Result 2: Improve food and nutrition behaviours and food security

Expected Result 3: Improve women's economic empowerment and socio-economic development

Expected Result 4: Improve engagement with local stakeholders in RMNCANH



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