

# Crisis and Disaster Risk Finance Executive Education Program

**CDRF Country Impact Stories** 

LAO PDR – Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Management Project

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Disaster Risk Financing & Insurance Program

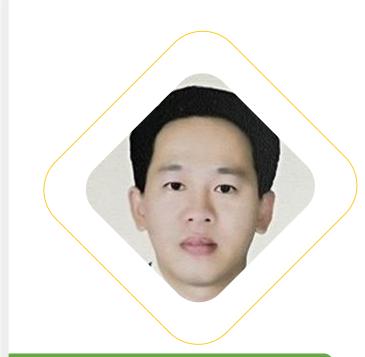


Environmental Change Institute





## Here with you today from LAO PDR



#### Role

 Director of Division, Focal Point for LAO PDR in regional DRF initiatives (SEADRIF, ASEAN+3 DRF Initiative, SEA-DRM Project Manager for Component 3 – Financial Planning for Disaster Resilience)

#### Department

• State-Owned Enterprises Reform and Insurance, Ministry of Finance

#### **Professional background**

 External Financing, International Cooperation, Insurance, DRF, SOE and Public-Private Partnership

### Somxay Keovandy

#### Education

Master of Business Administration

# **Overview of LAO PDR - SEA-DRM Project**

#### **Country Project Overview**

- To reduce the impacts of flooding in target areas;
- To enhance the Government's capacity to provide hydro-meteorological services and disaster response;
- To strengthen the Government's capacity to manage the impacts of disasters and climate shocks;
- To mainstreaming DRM in planning and investment.



Project

components

Objectives

- **Component 1 : Integrated Urban Flood Risk Management** Strengthen flood protection and resilient urban planning in Oudomxay, Luang Prabang and Bolikhamxay Province;
- Component 2: Hydro-met Modernization and Early Warning Improve the delivery of weather, climate, and hydrological services and end-to-end early warning systems throughout the country;
- Component 3 : Financial Planning for Disaster Resilience Support for strengthening national financial resilience, and payment of disaster risk insurance premium;
- Component 4 : Knowledge and Coordination Supports overall project coordination and management, including M&E, and financial audits; and studies for mainstreaming DRM in planning and investment.

## Impact – Key highlights



#### Key impacts to date

- Reduced financial protection gap thanks' to:
- Access to SEADRIF insurance;
- DRF Strategy adopted;
- Strengthening post disaster budget execution under study;
- Increase areas with improved flood protection with an estimated 29,000 people are protected from flood;
- Better weather information to end-users;
- Value for Money (VfM) Strategy has been draft and VfM Monitoring Management System has been developed.



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### Key challenges

- DRFI is a new concept to line ministries, which requires time and efforts to raise awareness;
- SEADRIF insurance is a new instrument for Lao PDR, which needs time and capacity building for implementation;
- Lack of good coordination mechanism and line ministries related to disaster risk management and financing;
- Limited disaster data;
- Delay project implementation due to Covid-19 outbreak.

What are your priorities over the next 3 to 5 years?

- Secure funding to enhance implementation of DRF Strategy;
- Utilize regional risk pooling system;
- Improve post disaster budget execution;
- Improve disaster database;
- Improve coordination among disaster risk management and financing in all levels.