SOCIAL PROTECTION

<u>The Government of the Lao PDR</u> acknowledge the importance of Social Protection work in which contribute to the Poverty Reduction, Inequality, Human Resource Development and National Socio-Economic development to ensure that our target groups gain benefits and interests from such developments in order to improve their living conditions.

The Constitution of the Lao PDR, Article 28: Stipulates that the state pay attention in implementing Social Protection Policies and defines its supports to many forms of Social Protection. For instance, Article 25: states that government attentively improve and extend the public health work to protect and promote healthcare of people, improving the Protecting Healthcare system for all with good quality; creative conditions for people to receive the healthcare especially for women and children.

The Lao PDR has made its efforts to incorporate the contexts of the International and Regional conventions and recommendations into Party and Government Policies. As mentioned in the resolution of the 9th Party Congress that "Create the consensus between the Economic Development and the Socio-Cultural Development to ensure the improvement of the living conditions of people of all ethnics groups to better steps by steps and ensure the sustainable Development".

- 2013, National Assembly has adopted Laws on Social Protection
- 2012, Healthcare Fund for poor people with its objective to look after the health of the poors for free as well as adopting Decree on National Protection Healthcare.
- National Rural development and Poverty Eradication (2011-2015) has identified the needs to provide the Social Welfare for the most disadvantaged people that are unable to get enough income for their living, to ensure the poorest able to get basic income.
- In order to develop the Social Protection system to be able to cover all targets groups in society, there is a need to consider to develop the National Strategy for Social Protection to define the goals for continually implement the Health Protection work, the Social Protection Work and Social Welfare work to be more systematically and effectively.