



# ANTICIPATORY ACTION PROTOCOL

Agricultural drought

## Lao People's Democratic Republic



The protocol aims to guide the government and its partners to:

- 1 Systematically monitor the likely impacts of a hazard
- 2 Use forecast information to trigger specific anticipatory actions



### Why agricultural drought?

As rice is the primary staple food and makes up a large part of the agricultural production of the country, severe droughts affecting paddy fields may have adverse impacts on food security and agricultural livelihoods.

### Collaboration and partnerships



Collaboration and partnerships are crucial for developing Anticipatory Action systems.

Government partners include:



The Anticipatory Action Protocol for agricultural drought in Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) was developed in collaboration with Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The protocol will be regularly reviewed and updated with valuable learnings gained from testing with government partners when possible.

FAO is also a co-chair of the national technical working group on Anticipatory Action which brings together various agencies to further enhance coordination and collaboration.

### Early warning system and trigger points

Note: The triggers will be reviewed on a regular basis and/or after each activation.

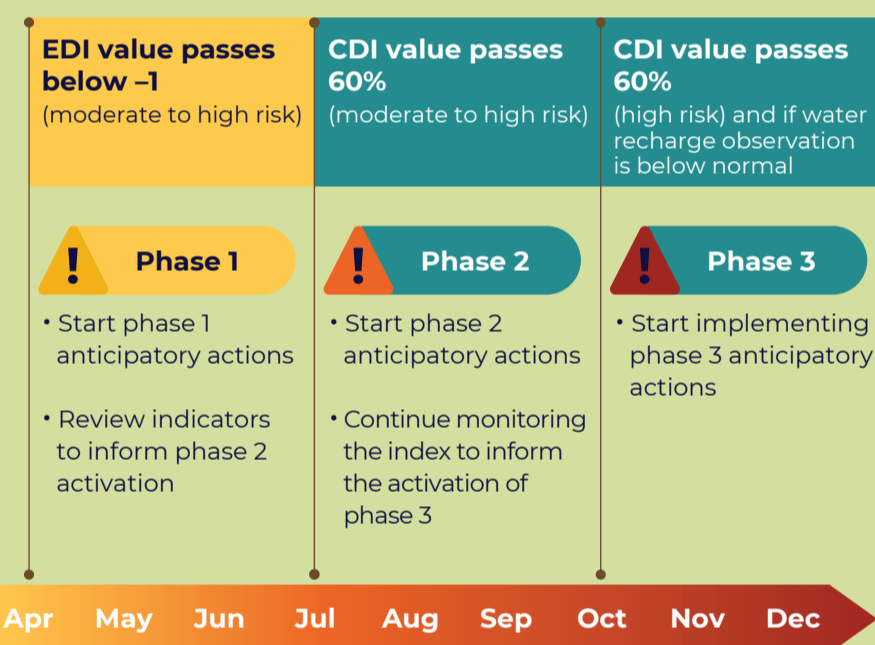
#### Effective Drought Index (EDI)

##### Daily rainfall observation

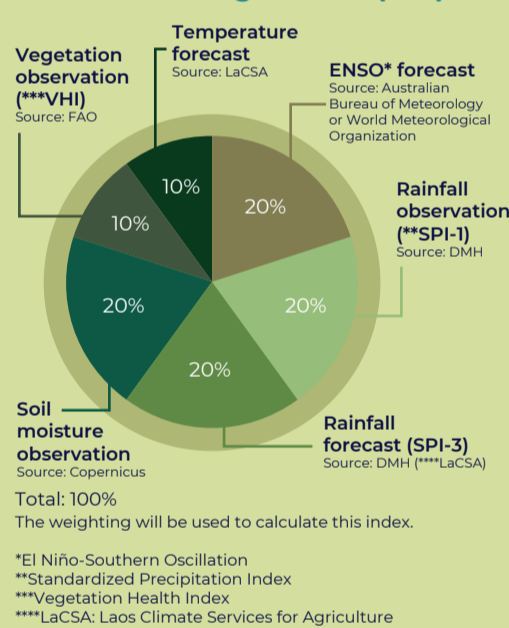
Based on data from the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH)

##### and rainfall forecast

Based on data from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)



#### Combined Drought Index (CDI)

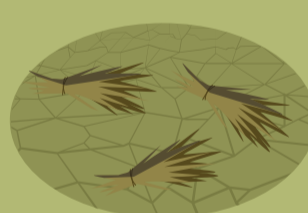


### Anticipatory Action

aims to reduce and minimize:



Negative impacts of agricultural droughts on food security



Reduced farmers' income due to crop/livestock damage and loss

#### Overview of anticipatory actions

##### Phase 1

- Early warning messages
- Drought-resistant rice seeds
- Training on agricultural techniques

##### Phase 2

- Early warning messages
- Drought-resistant bean seeds
- Training on irrigation enhancement (irrigated farmers)

##### Phase 3

- Early warning messages
- Multi-purpose cash transfers

The selection, design, and planning of the actions were conducted through a consultative process with the government, partners and local communities.

#### Targeted high-risk areas\*



UN. 2004. Lao People's Democratic Republic [online]. Cited 1 June 2023. [www.un.org/geospatial/content/lao-peoples-democratic-republic](http://www.un.org/geospatial/content/lao-peoples-democratic-republic)

#### Targeted groups



- Communities that are prone to the impact of drought
- Households whose main income is derived from agricultural production
- Poor households including those identified through the government's poverty assessment (social registry)
- Households with other social vulnerabilities (such as disability, single-parent, elderly)

### Pre-arranged financing



Estimated **USD 415 500** to safeguard the livelihoods of maximum **4 000 households**



Funds can further be topped up through FAO's Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA) Anticipatory Action window and government counterparts are seeking further avenues for funding opportunities.



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