

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Country indicators*	Population (000s)	6,646	Total health expenditure (%GDP)	2.8
	GNI per capita (PPP Int \$)	2,690	ICT Development Index rank	123
	Physician density (per 10 000 population)	0.19	Mobile-cellular subscriptions (% inhabitants)	64.70
	Nurse and midwife density (per 10 000 population)	0.82	Internet users (% of individuals)	10.7
	Hospital bed density (per 10 000 population)	7	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100 000 live births)	470
	Life expectancy at birth (years)	68	Infant mortality rate (per 100 000 live births)	27 [19-40]

eHealth policy/strategy

Status of eHealth and women's and children's health policy/strategy

National eHealth policy/strategy exists	No
Year adopted	
Implementation status	
Refers to the use of eHealth in women's and children's health policy/strategy	
Special funding allocated for implementation	No
Women's and children's health	
National policy/strategy for women's and children's health exists	Yes
Policy/strategy refers to the use of eHealth, mHealth or social media	No

eHealth systems

An overview of the types of eHealth systems in place, their purpose and level

Electronic information system collects and reports births, deaths and causes of death data	No
Year introduced	
At least one electronic information system exists at the district level to collect and report health data	Yes
Resource tracking system in place to report total health expenditure by financing source, per capita	Yes
Type of resource tracking system	Both
Resource tracking system level	National level
Resource tracking system in place to report total reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH) expenditure by financing source, per capita	No
Type of resource tracking system	
Resource tracking system level	

Monitoring the status of women's and children's health

An overview of the measurement of the 11 CoIA indicators by monitoring frequency and format

Indicator measured	Monitor	Frequency	Format: Paper, Electronic, or Both
Maternal mortality ratio	Yes	Every year	Both
Under 5 child mortality with the proportion of newborn deaths	Yes	Every year	Both
Children under 5 who are stunted	Yes	Every year	Both
Met need for contraception	Yes	Every year	Both
Antenatal care coverage	Yes	Every year	Both
Prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT)	Yes	Every year	Both
Skilled attendant at birth	Yes	Every year	Both
Postnatal care for mothers and babies	Yes	Every year	Both
Exclusive breastfeeding for six months	Yes	Every year	Both
3 doses of the combined diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine	Yes	Every year	Both
Antibiotic treatment for pneumonia	Yes	Every year	Both

eHealth initiatives – national overview

eHealth supports major women's and children's health initiatives	No
Funding sources	

Possible barriers to implementing eHealth services

The most important barriers hindering the implementation of eHealth services

Leadership, governance and policy - country policy or strategy does not include eHealth as an approach to support women's and children's health	Yes
Infrastructure - not yet adequate, accessible, or cost-effective to support desired services	Yes
Human resources - lack of suitably qualified or experienced professionals who can develop and implement eHealth projects and promote their use	Yes
Financial - limited or no reimbursement by insurance companies for services; business models not yet developed for broad and sustainable eHealth delivery	Yes

ICT training

Tertiary institutions offer ICT training for students of health sciences	No
Continuing education in ICT for health professionals	No

Internet health information quality

Approaches taken to ensure quality of health-related content on the Internet

Voluntary compliance - by content providers or website owners to quality criteria for health-related sites	Yes
Education programs - for consumers and professionals	Yes
Dedicated website(s) - concerning women's & children's health	No

Online safety for children

Approaches taken by government to protect children in the online environment

Government provides information and education to citizens on internet safety and literacy	No
Some initiatives are aimed specifically to protect children	No
Safety tools and security technologies are required by law for schools, libraries and other public places where children have Internet access	No
ISPs are legally mandated to provide online safety tools to protect children	No

Privacy and security of personal and health-related data

Legislation to protect women and children

Privacy laws exist to protect citizens' personal identifiable data irrespective of format (paper or digital)	No
Privacy laws exist to protect citizens' health data held in digitized format in an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) or Electronic Health Record (EHR)	No
Parental consent required for the creation of a child's EMR/EHR	
Parental access to a child's EMR/EHR is possible	
Correction of errors in a child's EMR/EHR is possible	
Legislation exists enabling the sharing of EMR/EHR between health care entities within the same country	
Parental consent is required	
Legislation exists enabling the sharing of EMR/EHR between health care entities in other countries	
Parental consent is required	
Legislation exists which grants a child the right to control over its EMR/EHR	
From age (years)	

Social media

Countries are recognizing the benefit of using social media for health

Some health programmes use social media (eg. Facebook, Twitter, YouTube)	No
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* Data source: www.who.int/goe/publications/cp_source2013

** Inconsistent data