EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Demographics
- Population (2019): 7,169,000
- Annual births: 166,000
- Children under 5 (2019): 794,000 (12%)
- Under-five mortality: 47/1,000

Young children at risk of poor development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At risk in 2005, 2010 and 2015, using a composite indicator of under-five stunting or poverty

Support and services for early childhood development:
Nurturing care

Parents and caregivers need a facilitating environment of laws, policies, services and community support to assist them in providing their young children with nurturing care.

Facilitating environments

- Paid maternity leave
- National minimum wage
- Child and family social protection
- International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

Countdown to 2030
Women’s, Children’s & Adolescents’ Health

Threats to Early Childhood Development
- Maternal mortality: 185/100,000
- Low birthweight: 17%
- Child poverty: 30%
- Violent discipline: 65%
- Young mothers (births by 18): 18%
- Preterm births: 11%
- Under-five stunting: 44%
- Inadequate supervision: 12%

Nutrition
- Early initiation of breastfeeding:
  - 50%
- Exclusive breastfeeding:
  - 44%
- Minimum acceptable diet:
  - 27%

Health
- Treatment for HIV+ pregnant women: 62%
- Careseeking for child pneumonia:
  - 40%
- Antenatal care (4 or more visits):
  - 47%
- Postnatal visits:
  - 35%

Early learning
- Early stimulation at home:
  - 30%
- Playthings at home:
  - 61%
- Attendance in early childhood education:
  - 32%

Countdown to 2030
Women’s, Children’s & Adolescents’ Health

Security and safety
- Birth registration:
  - 73%
- Positive discipline:
  - 82%
- Basic drinking water:
  - 82%
- Basic sanitation:
  - 74%

International conventions
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

Details country data sources and footnotes can be found in the master database at NURTURING-CARE.ORG