

Annual Report 2006



# ADRA Laos



*Adventist Development & Relief Agency, Lao PDR*

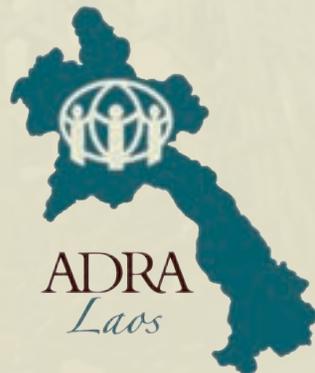
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Design & Layout, Editor  
Tim Humble

Copywriters  
Denison Grellmann  
Daniel Livingston  
Tim Humble

Financial Editor  
Priscila Grellmann

Photography  
Frank Spangler, [www.worldviewimages.com](http://www.worldviewimages.com)  
ADRA Laos Staff



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# Director's Message

Sabaidee!

It has been a pleasure for me to serve as Country Director of ADRA Laos since the end of 2005. Previous to me, Mr. Brendon Irvine led the Country Office for more than 8 years and laid a strong foundation for the development and growth of the Agency.

As I reflect, I am very pleased to think of how many people and communities were in one way or another touched by ADRA Laos' interventions to realise a better life. The exciting comments and stories we hear from our community partners make us want to serve more and more and this is why the agency keeps expanding.

The projects we have implemented vary in scope and size but are all centered on assisting the people in need to improve their lives. Our interventions focus on the sectors of:

- Health (HIV/AIDS, Tobacco Control and Research, Community Health and Water & Sanitation),
- Food Security (Livestock, Aquaculture, Horticulture and Non-Timber Forest Products),
- Economic Development (Sericulture and Revolving Funds),
- Education (Non-formal Education, School Rehabilitation and Construction) and
- Emergency Preparedness and Response.

The growth of our program has necessitated an increase of staffing to over 80 local and international staff. The annualised value of the projects has reached almost US 1 million. Our projects target well over 20,000 community partners every year.

We would like to share with you our important work; so I invite you to explore the following pages to obtain further details of the overall program, and become involved in whatever way you can.

All of the hard work performed is only possible because of ADRA Laos' committed team members, strong collaboration with our community partners, a number of generous donors and partners, a supportive ADRA Network and Board of Directors, the Government of Lao PDR, and above all, our Creator, who is always leading the agency.

We like to say that ADRA is a:

**L**earning and  
**A**ccountable  
**O**rganisation that  
**S**erves the people of Lao PDR.

Thank you for your support and prayers!

**Denison Reis Grellmann (Pingo)**  
**COUNTRY DIRECTOR**



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "D. Grellmann".

# Mission Statement & ADRA Laos Facts

*Character of God*

*Enhance Dignity*

ADRA's mission is to actively reflect the character of God through helping minimise human suffering and supporting human development at the personal and community level, while working in partnerships that enhance dignity, build self-reliance and promote wholeness in men, women and children.

*Promote Wholeness*

*Minimise Human Suffering*

- 15 years of ADRA Laos
- Annualised Value of Projects at \$921,754.95 USD (2006)
- Registered as an International NGO and part of the ADRA Network
- Approximately 80 staff, one third female
- Implemented more than 60 projects in 6 provinces to date
- >27,600 Community Partners (beneficiaries)

*Changing the World One Life at a Time...*



- Emergency Management
- Economic Development
- Basic Education
- Primary Health
- Food Security



● 2006 Projects  
● Planned for 2007

*Projects Operational in 2006*

ADRA

ADRA Laos is constantly looking to create new projects to extend its contribution - both in new areas and in areas where partnerships have been well established. New projects build on lessons learned from previous projects, as well as innovating and piloting new approaches to development. We seek to plan new projects collaboratively with all of our partners to ensure maximum benefit to our community partners.

# Youth Empowered Against HIV/AIDS

**Aim:** Train and empower school students, teachers, village youths and community leaders to disseminate messages to help prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and other STIs among youth, primarily through peer education in schools and villages.

**Target Group:** 24 high schools and 10 villages in all 5 districts of Luang Namtha Province (about 500 primary beneficiaries as peer educators and 12,000 secondary beneficiaries)

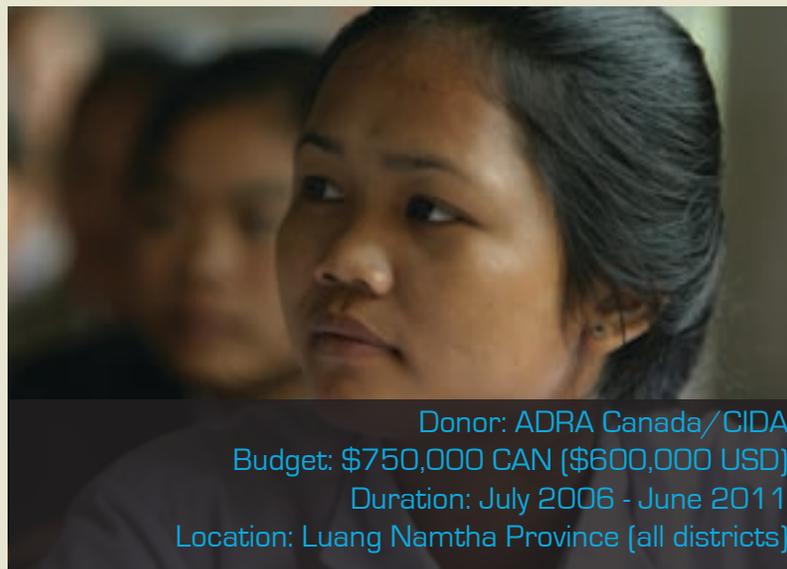
**Project Description:** Peer educators are selected and trained on a yearly basis. Retention of peer educators from one year to the next is encouraged where possible. Peer educators share the messages they learn with their fellow students and village youth. These messages are also disseminated through radio broadcasts.

The key messages include:

- Knowledge of methods of transmission and prevention of HIV, AIDS and other STIs, emphasising abstinence first, followed by being faithful to one partner, using condoms (the 'ABC' approach) as well as other methods
- Knowledge of, and techniques to minimise, risk factors such as alcohol, drugs and attitudes
- Life skills
- Communication techniques
- Gender empowerment
- Where to find more information and support services.

Peer educators are supported by the project team throughout the year through meetings, educational materials, special events and drama programs.

**Results:** In its first 6 months, the project has successfully been established with outputs including: collaborative detailed planning and selection of target schools and villages; preparation of baseline survey and curriculum; and the first week-long training event with over 60 participants. For World AIDS Day the Health Department, ADRA and other NGOs organised a program for hundreds of school students from Luang Namtha that included a street march, football match, speeches and a quiz with prizes for students.



Donor: ADRA Canada/CIDA  
Budget: \$750,000 CAN (\$600,000 USD)  
Duration: July 2006 - June 2011  
Location: Luang Namtha Province (all districts)

# Luang Namtha Ethnic Minority Health Project

**Aim:** Improve health and sanitation in ethnic minority villages and schools through health awareness, installation of gravity fed water systems and household sanitary latrines.

**Target Group:** 12 ethnic minority villages and 7 ethnic minority schools in Luang Namtha Province (Luang Namtha, Sing and Nalae Districts).

**Project Description:** Each village is provided with training, materials, and construction supervision so that the project in partnership with villagers and government health officials can construct a gravity fed water system for each of the target villages. Household latrines are also constructed in each village for those families who indicate a desire to use and maintain them.

Health education sessions, mobile clinics, and revolving drug funds increase school children and villagers' knowledge and practice of health principles and treatment. The mobile clinics add to the effectiveness of evening health education sessions by providing visible evidence of faecal-oral contamination routes, as villagers are allowed to see their parasite-infested faeces under the microscope. This reinforces the desire for behaviour change associated with the new village water and sanitation facilities. Key messages of health education centre on basic hygiene and disease prevention including the "Three Cleans" of clean eating, clean drinking, and living in a clean environment.

**Results:** Health education sessions, mobile clinics, and revolving drug fund training activities have been conducted to varying extents for all target communities. Two gravity fed water systems have already been completed and construction commenced on others. Community dialogue and participation of villagers has enabled village ownership of the new water systems through contribution of labour and materials. Establishment of village water committees allows for the improvements to be sustained through trained village water technicians, a village water maintenance fund and local government oversight.



Donor: ADRA Germany/BMZ  
Budget: €618,963 (\$771,807 USD)  
Duration: March 2006 - February 2009  
Location: Luang Namtha Province



# Weaving Income Generation

**Aim:** Build on traditional skills of ethnic minority girls and young women to be able to efficiently produce high quality innovative woven silk products that attract premium prices.

**Target Group:** 31 women and their families from ethnic minorities in Luang Namtha Province.

**Project Description:** One loom was built each participant – i.e. 31 looms. Six weaving training sessions of 15 days each were provided to six groups of five or six women per group.

**Results:** A number of innovative woven product samples with attractive market potential and better quality standards were developed, including hanging scarves, table cloths and scarves for wearing as clothing. Training of weaving group leaders was also conducted. They were trained in organised marketing and establishment of market linkages to attract market options. A total of 12 women group leaders were trained in order to have two trained group leaders in each of the six groups.

Markets in Luang Namtha, Luang Prabang and the Expatriate Women's Association have been sourced. All products being produced at the time of project completion were being sold on consignment and the most successful market was the Expatriate Women's Association in Vientiane where all items were selling.



Donor: Private Donor through ADRA Australia  
Budget: \$30,000 AUD [\$21,000 USD]  
Duration: February 2005 - June 2006

# Rural Income Generation

**Aim:** Enhanced sustainability of livelihoods for farming communities through developing skills and providing resources for improved livestock husbandry, aquaculture, horticulture and domestication of non-timber forest products (NTFPs).

**Target Group:** 3235 people in 9 communities in the Nam Ha Sub-Catchment Area of Viengphukha and Luang Namtha Districts, Luang Namtha Province.

**Project Description:** The communities have been mobilised to form interest groups for technical training and on-going extension in livestock husbandry, aquaculture, horticulture and NTFP cultivation. These groups are given access to means of enterprise start-up (livestock via a revolving livestock bank system, fish fingerlings, fruit tree saplings, NTFP planting stocks and related enterprise tools, equipment and materials).

**Results:**

- Livestock distributed through livestock banks.
- Training study visits for farmers to a neighbouring province to observe and understand improved livestock husbandry, horticulture, fish ponds and living fence technologies.
- Seedling nurseries constructed in each target village.
- 4450 fruit tree seedlings procured and distributed.
- 44 fish ponds constructed.

Donor: ADRA Australia/AusAID  
Budget: \$449,967 AUD (\$337,476 USD)  
Duration: July 2005 - June 2008  
Location: Luang Namtha Province

# Responsive Education & Action for Community Health - Phase 2



**Aim:** Facilitate significant, long-term improvements in the general health status of people living in isolated communities.

**Target Group:** 21 ethnic minority communities in Luang Namtha and Viengphuka Districts of Luang Namtha Province.

**Project Description:** The communities were assisted to establish systems and behaviours that enabled them to sustainably meet their basic health needs. Malaria, gastrointestinal diseases, respiratory infections and malnutrition were the major health problems facing these communities who had limited access to health assistance, basic resources and education to take preventative steps.

Activities conducted included comprehensive community health assessments, health education sessions, mobile clinic visits, testing for intestinal parasites and establishing and monitoring a revolving drug fund for each village.

**Results:** Behaviour change among the beneficiaries as a result of this project included the construction of fences to contain animals, washing of cooking utensils, drinking boiled water, building and using family latrines, seeking basic medical advice from the trained village health volunteers and buying medicine from the revolving drug fund. The project was successful in mobilizing communities to take increased responsibility for addressing their basic health needs, thus improving the general health status of the population and creating a promising future.



Donor: ADRA Canada/CIDA  
Budget: \$306,738 Can [\$226,934 USD]  
Duration: July 2003 - June 2006

## Lak Si Sip Si (Lak 44)

**Aim:** Provide facilities to improve learning and health for village children.

**Target Group:** Lak Si Sip Si School, Hongluey village (Khamu ethnic minority), Luang Namtha.

**Project Description and Results:** This project built a school with two class rooms, one office and a toilet block with two toilets. These facilities have provided a vastly improved learning environment and better health for the students at the school. The classrooms were equipped with desks, chairs, blackboards, cupboards and appropriate textbooks. This school provides education in Grades 1 to 3 and caters for surrounding villages that have no school.

## Ban Vat & Ban Pho Hon

**Aim:** Provide improved learning facilities and materials for village schools.

**Target Group:** Isolated ethnic minority villages in Nalae District of Luang Namtha Province. (Ban Vat is Leu and Ban Pho Hon is Khamu ethnicity.)

**Project Description and Results:** ADRA provided classroom rehabilitation, books and stationery to these schools. This included repairs to walls, blackboards and roofs, as well as supply of new desks, textbooks, writing books, sports equipment and stationery. The result has been greater enthusiasm, participation and effectiveness in learning for school-aged children in both villages.



Lak Si Sip Si (Lak 44)

Donor: Australian Embassy in Lao PDR / ADRA Korea  
Budget: \$15,000 USD (\$10,000 + \$5000)  
Duration: November 2005 - March 2006

Ban Vat & Ban Pho Hon

Donor: Australian Embassy in Lao PDR  
Budget: \$3,201.50 & \$2,439.32 USD  
Duration: April - July 2006

# Tobacco Research & Capacity Building



## Asian Leadership Training for Tobacco Research

**Aim:** Build capacity and train key national leaders for tobacco control research and preparation of effective and comprehensive plans for the reduction of tobacco use in Laos.

**Target Group:** Six (6) key leaders in tobacco control for Laos (five from the Lao PDR Ministry of Health and one from ADRA Laos). These six primary beneficiaries impact 600 policy analysts/advisors and up to 10,000 health professionals and community leaders in Laos.

**Project Description:** Smoking prevalence in Laos is on the rise, but there has not been much research into tobacco use trends. The six participants from Laos join with fellow students from Cambodia for intensive research training education sessions. The participants are empowered to be able, within their respective existing roles, to respond to tobacco use trends, to be advocates for tobacco control and to refine and contextualise tobacco control policy implementation.

**Results:** This project has laid the groundwork for a comprehensive national program of education and research monitoring, and other tobacco control policy initiatives and their implementation. The six participants have each participated in several training sessions, and have each drafted individual research proposals relevant to various aspects of tobacco control in Laos.



## FIRCA - Tobacco Research Project

**Aim:** Conduct a national smoking prevalence survey to provide information for future tobacco control interventions.

**Target Group:** Adults in all major ethnic groups in Laos, sampled from Vientiane Capital, Luang Namtha, Attapeu and Xiengkhoang Provinces.

**Project Description:** A smoking prevalence survey is prepared in five languages (Khamu, Ekhor, Lao, Hmong, Talieng). Questions measure tobacco use, knowledge/attitudes about tobacco use, second-hand smoking, quit attempts, health status, and women's health. The survey will provide baseline data for future tobacco control interventions including those targeting specific regions and ethnic subgroups.

**Results:** A draft national prevalence survey has been prepared, and is waiting for the approval of a Lao Government ethics committee.

### Tobacco Training

Donor: Loma Linda University/NIH, USA  
Budget: \$141,300 USD  
Duration: April 2003 - June 2007

### FIRCA

Donor: Loma Linda University/NIH, USA  
Budget: \$96,000 USD  
Duration: July 2005 - June 2008



# Sustainable Agro-Forestry Systems for Livelihood Enhancement



**Aim:** Promote the stabilisation of land use in target communities.

**Target Group:** 3235 people in 9 communities in the Nam Ha Sub-Catchment Area of Viengphukha and Luang Namtha Districts, Luang Namtha Province.

**Project Description:** This technical assistance project focused on the development of sedentary and intensified agro-forestry livelihood systems that lift farm family awareness and productivity sufficiently to enable confident and equitable engagement in the economic opportunities afforded by Route 3 upgrading. The project consisted of the following components:

- New and improved irrigation systems
- Terracing for rain-fed agriculture
- Forage cropping for enhanced livestock productivity
- Enhanced rice production and post-harvest management
- Community forestry, village production forestry, and dedicated plantations for Maintenance and repair of communal infrastructure.

**Results:**

- Design and costing of irrigation systems
- Extension support to maintenance of fruit trees planted in 9 villages
- Demonstrations and trials of various irrigated rice varieties installed at each target village
- Expansion of “self build terracing” demonstrations to all target villages
- Demonstrations of weed control techniques
- Study tours for Village Development Committee members.



Donor: Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction through  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)  
Total Budget Implemented by ADRA Laos: \$216,882 USD  
Duration: September 2005 - January 2007

# Poverty Reduction through Community Skill Building

**Aim:** Promote sustainable rural poverty alleviation.

**Target Group:** 3235 people in 9 communities in the Nam Ha Sub-Catchment Area of Viengphukha and Luang Namtha Districts, Luang Namtha Province.

**Project Description:** The technical assistance project focuses on social preparation for the target communities. It consists of:

- Land capability assessment for Viengphukha District
- Social preparation through a basic health and non-formal education program, product processing and marketing
- Land use planning, allocation, titling, and land-use rights education
- Community-based natural resource management training and planning
- Capacity building for provincial and district government staff.

## Results:

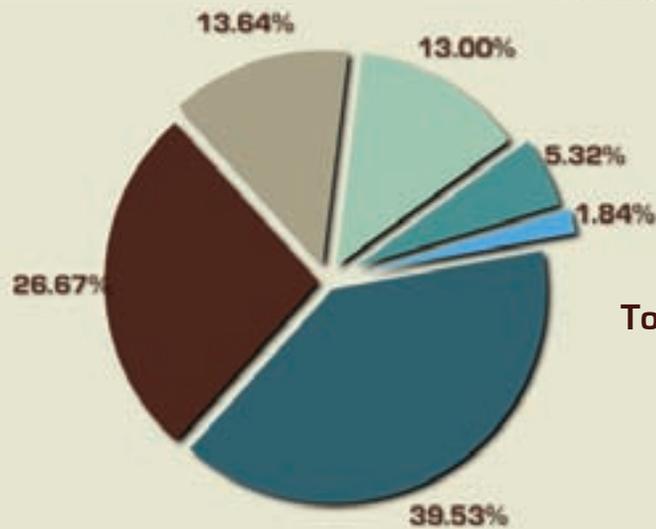
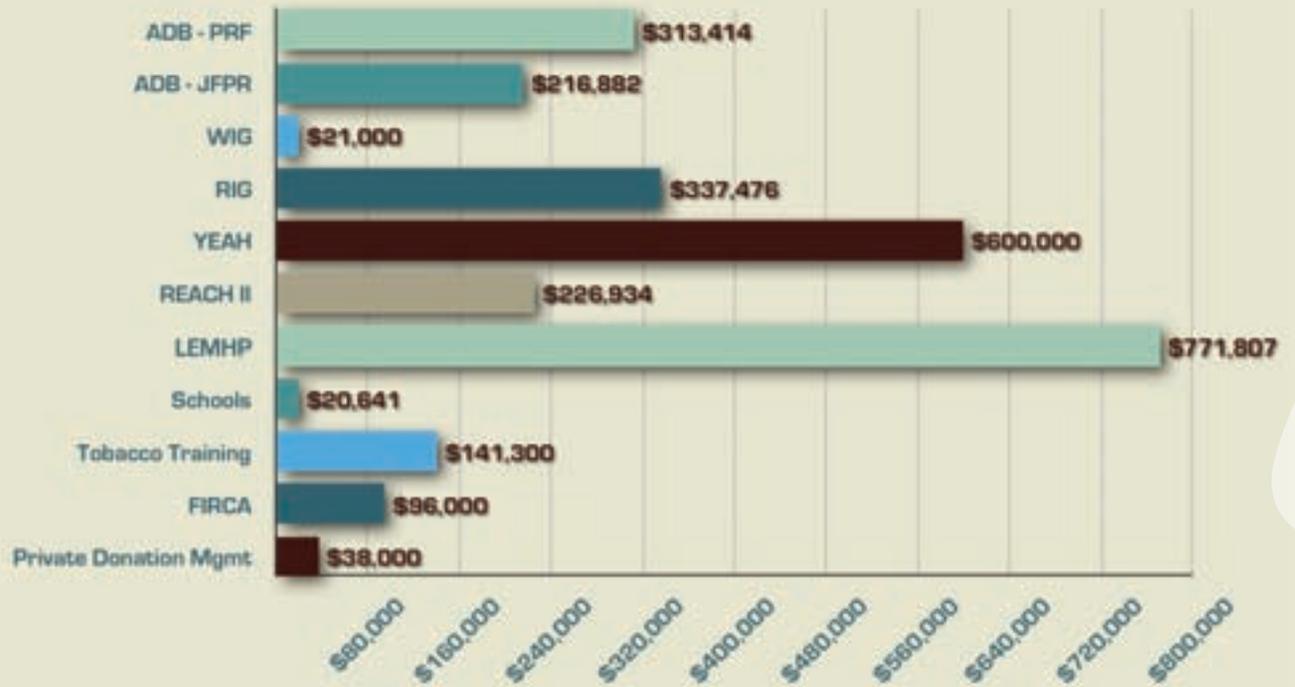
- Health awareness training sessions have been conducted
- Non formal education training in fluency and numeracy commenced in all target villages
- Preparation of protocols for savings and credit funds establishment in collaboration with relevant district authorities
- Land capability assessment is nearing completion for the entire Viengphukha District
- Wildlife conservation training and action research is 50% complete
- Government counterparts continue to be trained on-the-job.



Donor: UK DfID Poverty Reduction Fund through  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)  
Total Budget Implemented by ADRA Laos: \$313,414 USD  
Duration: August 2005 - January 2007

# Financial Summary

Total Project Value



Total Donor Contribution (Annualised Value)

● ADB	\$362,367.70
● ADRA Germany/BMZ	\$244,537.50
● ADRA Canada/CIDA	\$125,055.50
● ADRA Australia/AusAID	\$119,173.43
● Loma Linda University/NIH	\$48,730
● Others	\$16,890.82

Project	Donor	Total Value	Annualised Value	Annual Expenditure	Beneficiaries
Poverty Reduction through Community Skill Building (PRF)	ADB	\$313,414	\$194,142.00	\$190,192.08	3,235
Sustainable Agro-Forestry Systems for Livelihood Enhancement (JFPR)	ADB	\$216,882	\$168,225.70	\$148,032.77	3,235
Weaving Income Generation (WIG)	ADRA Australia/Private Donor	\$21,000	\$9,780.43	\$16,747.57	180
Rural Income Generation (RIG)	ADRA Australia/AusAID	\$337,476	\$109,393	\$97,524.34	3,235
Youth Empowered Against HIV/AIDS (YEAH)	ADRA Canada/CIDA	\$600,000	\$73,369.00	\$48,050.86	12,500
Responsive Education and Action for Community Health (REACH)	ADRA Canada/CIDA	\$226,934	\$51,686.50	\$58,186.04	6,200
Luang Namtha Ethnic Minority Health Project (LEMHP)	ADRA Germany/BMZ	\$771,807	\$244,537.50	\$143,130.36	4,500
Lak Si Sip Si (LAK 44)	ADRA Korea/Australian Embassy, Lao PDR	\$15,000	\$11,250.00	\$8,227.88	255
Ban Pho Hon	Australian Embassy, Lao PDR	\$2,439.32	\$2,439.32	\$2,439.32	100
Ban Vat	Australian Embassy, Lao PDR	\$3,201.50	\$3,201.50	\$3,201.50	100
Tobacco Control Leadership Training	Loma Linda University/NIH	\$141,300	\$16,730.00	\$7,418.08	600
FIRCA - Tobacco Research	Loma Linda University/NIH	\$96,000	\$32,000.00	\$4,570.00	Whole Country
Private Donation Management	Private Donor	\$38,000	\$5,000.00	\$2,537.52	3
<b>TOTALS (USD)</b>		<b>\$2,783,453.82</b>	<b>\$921,754.95</b>	<b>\$730,258.32</b>	<b>&gt;\$27,600</b>

*We wish to thank :*

- The Government of Lao PDR, at all levels
- ADRA International
- ADRA Asia Regional Office
- ADRA Australia
- ADRA Canada
- ADRA Germany
- ADRA Netherlands
- ADRA Korea
- Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
- Australian Embassy, Lao PDR
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ)
- United Nations World Food Programme
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Loma Linda University
- National Institute of Health
- South-East Asia Tobacco Control Alliance (SEATCA)
- Communities in Luang Namtha Province
- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Lao PDR
- South-east Asia Union Mission of Seventh-day Adventists
- Laos Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Lao Women's Union
- Lao Youth Union
- Eco-Lao
- Richard & Jean Hall
- World View Images

**ADRA Laos Country Office**

**PO Box 5000, Vientiane, Lao PDR**

**t] +856 21 215 276**

**f] +856 21 520 053**

**contact@adralaos.org**

**www.adralaos.org**

