



# Plastic Waste Management in Lao PDR

Ms. Palina KHOTPHOUTHONE





# Current issues and challenges of plastic waste in Lao PDR

- Garbage management is using only "collecting and disposing" method, without sorting waste from the source
- The policy that supports the principle (3R) of reducing reuse and recycling is still not wide, which misses important opportunities to turn garbage waste into a resource
- The garbage collection rate is still low and some areas do not have universal services. Because of this, plastic waste is thrown away, burned carelessly along the riverbanks and along the roads
- The Lao PDR still does not have a strategy or guidelines, including specific legislation or regulations for the management of plastic waste at the national or local level
- the existing legislation is still general and not specific and the enforcement is not yet strict and the service system is still not strong





# **Draft National Plastics Action Plan For the Lao PDR (2023-2030)**



# Vision

“Towards reduced use and sustainable management of plastics”

# Objectives

- To determine the management framework for the use, production, and disposal of plastic waste in the Lao PDR
- To reduce plastic leakage into the environment and thus reduce related harmful
- To create value for waste and use resources in a valuable way and develop the infrastructure for managing plastic waste in the country
- To limit the use of unnecessary single-use plastic products and to promote use alternative products that are environmentally friendly



**GOAL**

**Towards Reduced Use and Sustainable Management of Plastics**

**OUTCOMES**

**The Plastic Waste Management System is Improved and Pollution is Reduced**

**A Clean and Sustainable Environment with Improved Resource Use**

**A Low Carbon Society Based on the Principles of the Circular Economy**

**OUTPUTS**

To develop and improve legislation, regulations, policies, and manuals to manage and reduce plastic waste

To raise awareness for everyone in society and business about plastic reduction, reuse, and segregation of plastic waste at source

To encourage the reduction of single-use plastics, promote the use of sustainable alternative products, and increase recycling rates

To create a management, monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation of the operational plan

**ACTIVITIES**

Assessment of existing and potential regulations for reducing single-use plastics

Develop manuals for collecting plastic waste and operating recycling plants

Create voluntary extended producer responsibility schemes

Set standards on the import of plastic waste into Laos

Create financial policy mechanisms for green recycling factories

Develop taxes on single-use plastics and subsidies for eco-friendly products

Integrate plastic waste management into the education system

Create electronic campaigns and dissemination tools

Develop policies to encourage the reduction of single-use plastics in offices

Develop awareness-raising campaigns with businesses

Mobilise businesses to use renewable products

Promote renewable materials with the public

Ban the sale of plastic bags in retail stores

Create a pilot scheme for businesses to repurchase/reprocess products

Develop R&D budget for alternative products

Expand plastic repurchasing points

Promote segregation of waste at source

Establish a secretariat to coordinate and monitor the NPAP

Create a plastic information system which includes a range of data on plastics

Evaluate the NPAP implementation

Develop a management system for junkshops & informal waste collectors

Create a plastic network to share lessons learned

Develop a final report on the evaluation of the NPAP

# Goals of the Action Plan

The National Plastics Action Plan for the Lao PDR has 4 goals:

01

To create and improve legislation, regulations, policies and manuals to manage and reduce Plastic waste

02

To raise awareness for everyone in society and business units about plastic reduction, reuse and segregation of plastic waste

03

To encourage and promote the reduction of the use of single-use plastics as much possible, improve the mechanism of collecting, sorting and transporting plastic waste, increase the recycling rate of plastic waste, promote the use of alternative products that are friendly to the environment

04

To create a management, monitoring and evaluation system for implementation of the operational plan

# The map linked activities in each phase until 2030

Focus on the preparation to establish a committee and create an activity plan and disseminate the plan to all parties to be informed and voluntarily participate by creating a promotion campaign to reduce the use of plastic in consumption. Reduce the use of single-use plastic bags and have a proper waste management system from all types of polluted sources, as well as create a management system as a tool to drive and move towards practical implementation.

## Phase I ( 2022 – 2024 )

The plastic waste management system has been developed to a better level

Create and improve recycling infrastructure, encourage public, private entities and general public to reduce the use of resources that are difficult to be disposed, reduce the generation of waste by the production sectors will be driven by the principle of circular economy by turning waste into raw materials, increasing the value of plastic waste, having proper management of all kinds of polluting wastes and managing pollution according to standards.

## Phase II ( 2025 – 2027 )

Improve recycling infrastructure, use techniques, modern technology, high efficiency and effectiveness, clean and friendly to the environment, save raw materials and energy.

The Lao PDR is moving towards a low carbon society based on the principles of green economy and sustainable development with knowledge, technology, regulations, there are accredited institutions/organizations for the development of the country in a green economy ma

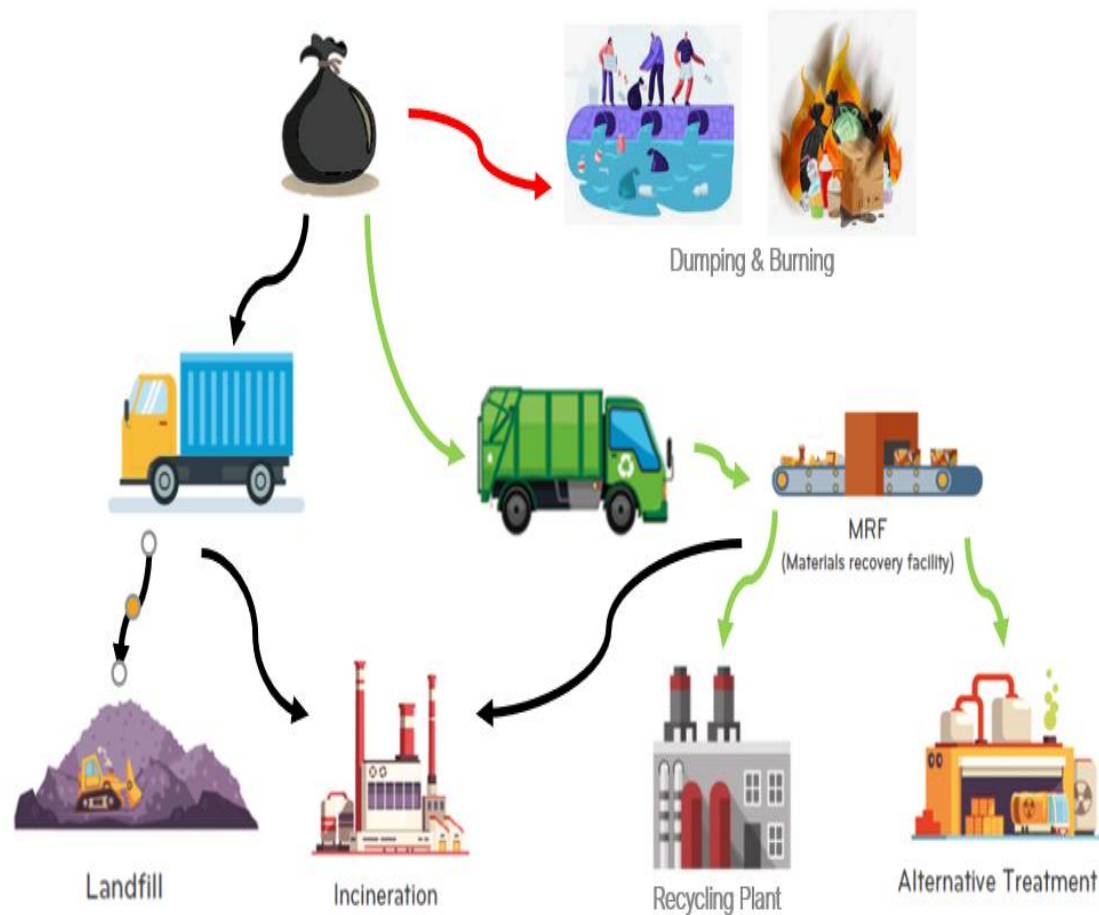
## Phase III ( 2028 – 2030 )

The development of the country is based on the principle of low carbon society and green economy



# Activities and Indicators

## IMPROVED WASTE MANAGEMENT



## SCALING UP ALTERNATIVES



## ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS AND REGULATIONS





# Information, Education, Research & Data



## Data Sharing Platforms



## Research

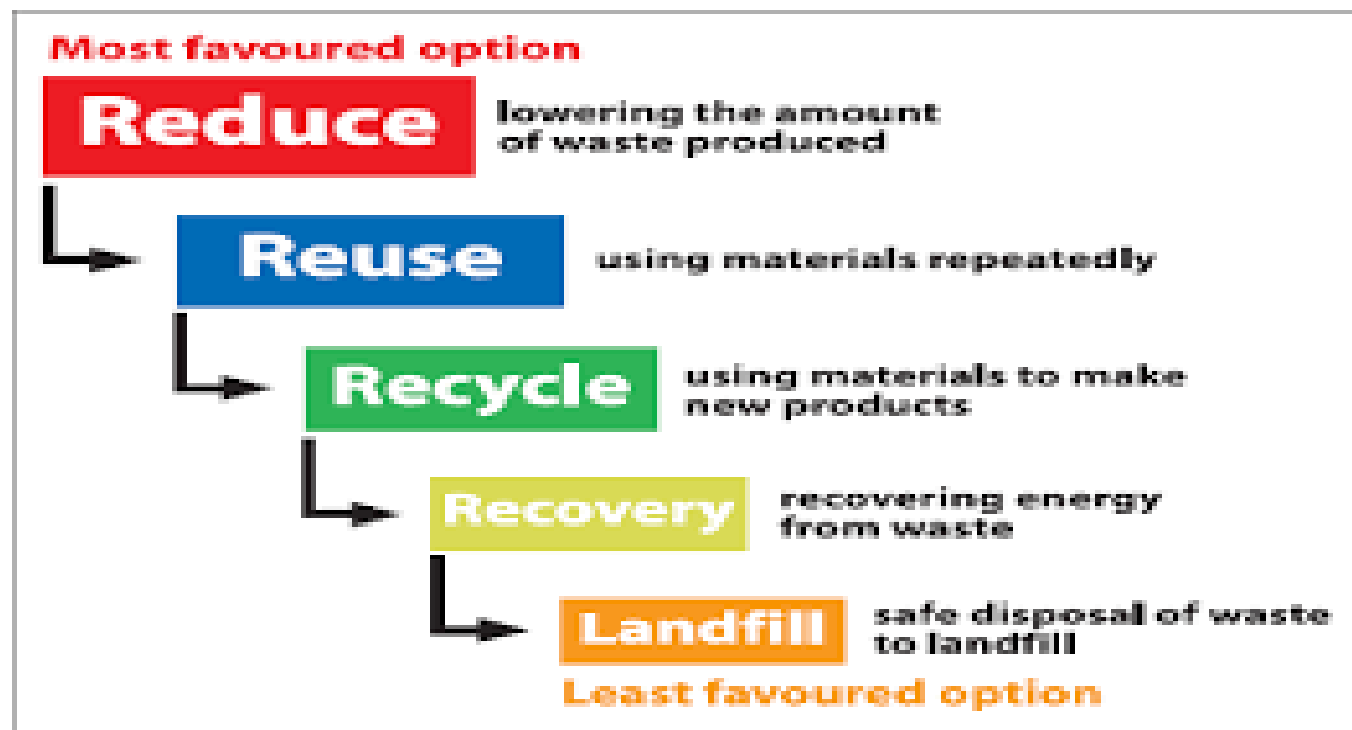


Figure 1. Waste Hierarchy



## Education

## Awareness & Information

# IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

## The role of the sectors involved in the implementation

Government, Social organizations, Development partners, The private sector and The general public

## Financial Mechanism

- The funding resource can be from government
- grants from developments partners
- loan with low interest from financial institute, investors from Laos or foreign countries
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and public-private partnership (PPP)

## Monitoring and evaluation

- The central steering committee
- Representatives from the ministry
- Representatives from related organization
- Sectors in the special steering committee

## Amendment and update

This Nation Plastic Action Plan can be amended or added as appropriate



# Potential Private Sector Roles in NPAP

Activities	Indicators
Create a pilot program to promote medium-big companies as model companies for repurchasing and reprocessing of plastic products.	There are at least five model companies by beginning of 2025.
Create voluntary extended producer responsibility schemes (EPR).	EPR policy are put in place, with at least 50 businesses participating in voluntary EPR schemes (e.g., collection of recyclables/take back schemes) by the end of 2024.
Publicise and raise awareness for the general public to widely use renewable materials that are friendly to the environment.	There will be publicity and awareness activities in every province by 2025.
Create activities to mobilise various wholesale-retail shops including entrepreneurs to use renewable products.	There are policy or commercial advertising by engaging in awareness campaigns, which has at least 10 business units joining the implementation by beginning of 2025
Create a financial policy mechanism for recycling factories to become green factories.	There is an increase in the number of recycling plants that meet the green plant standard by 2026
Create regulations to increase the tax on single-use plastic products and create a policy to support the supply of eco-friendly products (e.g., subsidies).	There is an additional tax system for single-use plastics and a policy for supporting eco-friendly products by end of 2026.
Engage in awareness raising campaigns with entrepreneurs and businesses.	There are policy or commercial advertising by engaging in awareness campaigns, which has at least 10 business units joining the implementation by beginning of 2025

# Key message

- In this regard, the development of a National Plastics Action Plan for the Lao PDR (NPAP) shows the initial step. However, it is ultimately the actions detailed in this plan that will reduce plastic waste and encourage industries to adopt new environmentally friendly options to create sustainable and comprehensive management of plastic waste.
- This NPAP will be an important plan and a tool towards solving plastic pollution.





# KEY MESSAGE

The aim of the implementation is to ensure that the National Plastic Action Plan for the Lao PDR is highly effective in achieving the objectives, goals and vision.

Therefore, it is necessary to cooperate from:

- all parties must give importance to the issues and create an effective and systematic plastic management mechanism
- Achieving changes in values and consumption behaviours cannot be achieved by the government alone.
- Contribution and participation from all parts of society are required and actions must be unified and comprehensive so that economic development can go hand-in-hand with the protection of the environment

# THANK YOU



Ms.Palina KHOTPHOUTHONE



02022211879



ms.panakpt@gmail.com

