Stunting: Who, where and Why?

Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) on Stunting in Lao PDR

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Lao PDR has witnessed consistent decline in stunting for past 2 decades
- 47.7% in 2006 to 33% in 2017
- Stunting reduction is prioritized by government as a key indicator in national and sectoral policies and strategic plans
Despite impressive reduction at national level.

- Significant and wide disparities exists among provinces. Eg. LSIS II
  - Lowest prevalence = 13.8%
  - Highest prevalence = 54.0%
• Secondary analysis of LSIS II
  ✓ To unpack some of the key determinants of stunting in Lao PDR

• Used Multiple and Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) methodology
  ✓ MODA looks at the different combinations of deprivations that are experienced simultaneously and number of children suffering from these deprivations at the same time.
  ✓ MODA also looks at the relationship between deprivation on stunting and other dimensions
  ✓ Selection of key dimensions and indicators through consultative process
    ❑ Health, nutrition, housing, water, sanitation, child protection and development
  ✓ An analysis uses the Lao Social Indicator Survey (LSIS II) dataset collected in 2017
Children under age 5 years

- Nutrition
- Health
- Early Childhood Development (ECD)
- Child Protection
- Water
- Sanitation
- Housing
Summary of Results 1/2

- Children in the Lao PDR suffer from multiple and overlapping deprivations.
- However, the rate of deprivation is significantly higher among stunted children.
Stunted children are twice likely to be deprived in all three dimensions (31.8%) compared to non-stunted children (17.1%).
Recommendations from analysis

- Increased public-sector financing for multi-sectoral NNSPA (2016-2020)
- Integrated programming to address the structural issues that contribute to stunting such as inadequate/lack of sanitation facilities, housing etc
- Improve capacity for evidence based sub national planning, budgeting, coordination and monitoring results for children
- Prioritize the most affected and multidimensionally poor provinces
- Additional analyses on the determinants of stunting and nutrition-related deprivations
Next Steps

- To disseminate findings at national and sub national levels
- Use report as an entry point for generating/formulating research questions
- To develop policy briefs on Stunting and Multiple Overlapping Deprivations in Lao PDR
Identifying questions based on national nutrition strategy and plan of action as entry point

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Tools for identifying questions

- Desk review
- Monthly technical meeting
- Consultation workshop on policy need
Take Home Messages

• Make use of relevant opportunities:

  ✓ Stunting reduction is a national priority in Lao PDR: High interest on context specific evidence and actions

  ✓ MODA on stunting and national nutrition targets presents a good entry point for generating questions and unpacking the multiple determinants of malnutrition
END

NIPN Team, Lao PDR