

Ministries, international organisations to discuss nutrition

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THE ministries in collaboration with the United Nations agencies will organise a National Advocacy Meeting on nutrition today in Vientiane to mobilise support for the development of a National Nutrition Policy and Strategy.

The meeting aims to strengthen awareness among decision-makers, line ministries, mass organisations, international organisations and donors about malnutrition and other nutritional problems in the Lao PDR as well as highlighting the importance of urgently addressing these issues to reach the goals set forth in the government's National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy and the Millennium Development Goals.

The meeting has been organised with the support of the World Health Organisation, United Nations

Children's Fund, World Food Programme and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) through the EC-FAO Food Security Programme. Speakers from the ministries of Health, Agriculture and Forestry, Education, Committee for Planning and Investment and Lao Women's Union will address the problems of malnutrition and how it affects progress and poverty eradication efforts in the various sectors and their future role and efforts to address nutrition problems in the Lao PDR.

The Advocacy Meeting seeks to mobilize support for the development of a National Nutrition Policy and Strategy to improve nutrition and aims to strengthen the coordination and cooperation with all concerned ministries, agencies and organisations in order to improve the nutritional status of the Lao people and contribute to poverty reduction.

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