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Committee for  
Development  
Policy

# 2025 Monitoring Report

## Lao People's Democratic Republic

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## Notes

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## Summary

Lao PDR continues to meet all LDC criteria and making progress towards sustainable graduation. The government's adoption of the STS in 2023, following a thorough and effective preparation, underscores its commitment to progress. Despite successfully navigating many challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and global food and energy crises, and that it has been working towards improving tax policy and fiscal deficit, the country continues to face notable difficulties in managing its currency value and debt levels.

At the consultation meeting held with Lao PDR in December 2024, the government updated CDP on the STS implementation and related effort strategies. The government is still in discussion with regards to concrete plans for after graduation and working on the first STS implementation report. The 10th NSEDP (2026–2030) will incorporate the STS and the DPoA priorities.

The Committee advises continued implementation of appropriate macroeconomic policies in line with the STS and other relevant strategies, and emphasizes the importance of international support for debt management and economic diversification. The government mentioned that the debt level is 108 per cent of GDP (SGI indicator: 132 per cent of GNI). The CDP stresses that of particular importance is the need to emphasise non-debt creating strategies and explore options beyond concessional financing. The completion of a technology needs assessment will also be important to mobilize support from the international community.

## Macroeconomic situation

Lao PDR's GDP continued to grow by 5.5-7.3 per cent per annum during 2015-2019. The economy was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, resulting in a growth slowdown to 3.3 per cent.<sup>1</sup> The Government balance declined to minus 5.5 per cent of GDP in 2020. Post-Covid, the Lao economy has continued its recovery in 2024 with GDP growth at 4 per cent (see Table 1). Improved performance in tourism, transport and logistics services, and foreign investment has contributed to the recovery. However, growth is lower than previously expected, mainly because of the falling value of the kip, external debt, inflation, labor shortages, and unfavorable weather. The World Bank stated that economic instability and challenges in social services mean that Laos is in danger of losing gains previously made. Structural reforms are needed to stabilize the economic situation and support more inclusive growth<sup>2</sup>.

The growth prospects in Lao PDR are dimmed amid mounting domestic and international challenges. Lao PDR has an external debt<sup>3</sup> of 132 (2022) per cent of GNI owing to the high volume of loans contracted for large scale infrastructure projects, such as hydropower and railways<sup>4</sup>. Repayment of existing debt remains a major challenge for Lao PDR. The sovereign default risk remains high. Laos' credit rating was downgraded to "CCC-" in August 2022.<sup>5</sup> The authorities decided to pursue fiscal consolidation to address

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<sup>1</sup> UNSD data. Also national source confirms 3.3% Lao's National Statistics Bureau :

<https://laosis.lsb.gov.la/majorIndicators.do?paramGrpId=all#majorIndicatorsConts>

<sup>2</sup> World Bank

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/lao/overview#:~:text=Economic%20instability%20and%20challenges%20in%20social%20services%20mean%20that%20Laos,and%20support%20more%20inclusive%20growth.>

<sup>3</sup> Refers to year 2022. Latest data checked 22 January 2025. Supplementary graduation indicators (SGIs) data.

<sup>4</sup> For comparison: WB: 130.7% External debt % of GNI <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/DT.DOD.DECT.GN.ZS?locations=LA>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fitchratings.com/research/sovereigns/fitch-downgrades-laos-long-term-foreign-currency-idr-to-ccc-04-08-2022#:~:text=to%20'CCC%2D'-.>

[Fitch%20Downgrades%20Laos'%20Long%2DTerm%20Foreign%2D,Currency%20IDR%20to%20'CCC%2D'&text=Fitch%20Ratings%20%2D%20Hong%20Kong%20%2D%2004,Country%20Ceiling%20at%20'B%2D'..](https://www.fitchratings.com/research/sovereigns/fitch-downgrades-laos-long-term-foreign-currency-idr-to-ccc-04-08-2022#:~:text=to%20'CCC%2D'-.)

heavy debt burden. According to the World Bank, public and publicly guaranteed (PPG) debt is undermining macroeconomic stability and development prospects. The PPG debt stock reached 112 per cent of GDP at the end of 2022 (the value rises to 125 per cent of GDP if expenditure arrears and a swap arrangement are included).<sup>6</sup> As of 31 December 2023, the PPG debt stock to GDP declined from 112 percent of GDP in 2022 to 108 percent of GDP in 2023, mainly due to the strict debt management measure implementation and strong nominal GDP growth.<sup>7</sup> About half of the debt stock in 2022 and half of external debt repayments scheduled for 2024–27 is owed to China. Deferrals of debt payments due to China amounted to about \$2 billion between 2020–23, providing some temporary relief. However, a high degree of uncertainty surrounds future repayment plans.

Table 1. Selected macroeconomic data for Lao PDR, 2018–2024

Indicator	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
GDP growth rate (per cent, constant price)	6.2	5.5	3.3	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.0
Inflation rate (%)	2.0	3.3	5.1	3.8	23.0	31.2	23.6
Government revenue (billions of national currency)	24,758.3	25,143.5	21,780.9	27,177.1	32,138.9	45,835.3	55,149.4
Government expenditure (billions of national currency)	31,563.5	30,366.4	30,779.0	28,386.7	32,010.1	43,913.2	56,813.1
Government balance (billions of national currency)	-6,805.2	-5,222.9	-8,998.1	-1,209.6	128.9	1,922.2	-1,663.7
Government balance (per cent of GDP)	-4.5	-3.2	-5.4	-0.7	0.1	0.7	-0.5
Net ODA received (millions of US dollars)	588.7	622.6	530.9	577.0	547.6		
Balance of Payments (millions of US dollars)							
Current Account	-1,648.9	-1,319.6	-304.4	431.6	-458.8	404.5	
Goods, Credit (Exports)	5,407.8	5,805.9	6,114.9	7,694.5	8,198.3	8,370.4	
Goods, Debit (Imports)	6,314.6	6,271.9	5,370.4	6,275.0	7,244.1	7,649.2	
Balance on Goods	-906.8	-466.0	744.5	1,419.5	954.1	721.2	
Services, Credit (Exports)	985.4	1,179.2	346.6	125.3	406.1	1,327.3	
Services, Debit (Imports)	1,249.4	1,246.3	445.5	252.1	738.4	947.3	
Balance on Services	-264.0	-67.0	-98.9	-126.7	-332.3	380.1	
Balance on Goods and Services	-1,170.8	-533.0	645.6	1,292.8	621.8	1,101.3	
Balance on Income	-785.7	-1,084.5	-1,202.0	-1,087.1	-1,395.2	-1,075.0	
Balance on Current Transfers	307.6	297.9	251.9	226.0	314.6	378.3	
Capital Account	12.5	14.9	12.6	2.4	8.0	2.4	
Financial Account	-2,335.0	-1,819.4	-1,020.4	87.0	-951.6	-193.5	
Direct investment (net)	-1,358.0	-755.5	-967.7	-1,071.9	-726.3	-1,781.2	
Portfolio investment (net)	-521.9	41.3	256.6	310.1	-71.3	98.9	

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/lao/publication/lao-economic-monitor-november-2023-fiscal-policy-for-stability-key-findings>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.mof.gov.la/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/2023-Public-and-Publicly-Guaranteed-Debt-Bulletin-of-Lao-PDR.pdf>

Financial derivatives (other than reserves) and employee stock options	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Other investment (net)	-313.6	-1,229.6	-1,130.5	924.7	91.3	1,294.4	
Reserve assets	-141.5	124.5	821.2	-75.9	-245.3	194.5	
Reserves (months of imports)	6.2	5.5	3.3	3.5	4.4	4.2	4.0

Source: GDP growth and inflation are from UN DESA, WESP 2025 edition, Government balance is from IMF, World Economic Outlook Database. Net ODA is from OECD, OECD.Stat. All external sector indicators are from IMF, Balance of Payment Data Reports. Last accessed 22 January 2025.

High debt repayments mean fiscal space is still limited, constraining investment in human capital. According to World Bank, assuming that Lao PDR resumes making debt repayments on schedule, economic growth is projected to accelerate to an average of 4.2 per cent in the medium term, led by the services sector and exports.<sup>8</sup>

The IMF Article IV mission report from May 2024 states that notwithstanding solid growth during the year, supported by the tourism and resources sectors, the economic situation remains very challenging. Despite fiscal consolidation, public debt remains elevated and government financing needs will increase. Exchange rate depreciation continues and high inflation persists. The government has taken steps to tighten monetary policy and improve monetary management, and plans to strengthen the financial sector.<sup>9</sup>

Consumer price inflation remains elevated in Lao PDR, having peaked at 41.3 per cent in February 2023 and gradually declining to 24.4 per cent in January 2024. Low official reserves and high external debt service payment put continued pressure on the currency depreciation. The kip depreciated by 14.4 per cent against the United States dollar during the first nine month of 2023,<sup>10</sup> and by over 100 per cent since the onset of the pandemic. Continued currency depreciation could translate into further consumer price inflation. Although the central bank managed to bolster foreign reserves from \$1.1 billion at the end of 2021 to \$1.5 billion at the end of June 2023<sup>11</sup> reserve still just covers about 2 months of imports.

Growth to date has been accompanied by only limited economic transformation, and the economy remaining reliant on a small number of sectors and trading partners. Also, Lao PDR has relied heavily on use of natural resources, which are reaching environmental limits and leading to increasingly stark trade-offs between headline growth and environmental protection. Environmental factors and upstream dams in China are posing threat to electric power industry, which implies the necessity of economic diversification.

Growth has also not created opportunities evenly, with fewer opportunities for women and youth to take part in economic development in particular due to women's high burden of unpaid house labour, as well as a large informal economy, lacking social safety net.

## LDC Criteria and Supplementary Indicators

The GNI per capita of Lao PDR is \$2,375 in 2025. The EVI score for 2025 slightly increased to 30.58, which still satisfies the threshold standard of 36 or below. The HAI of the country increased to 75.30, which is higher than the graduation threshold of 66.

Although Laos' GNI per capita increased rapidly by exploiting natural resources, it is essential to continue

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2024/05/29/pr-24189-lao-pdr-imf-staff-completes-2024-article-iv-mission>

<sup>10</sup> Calculation based on data from CEIC <https://www.ceicdata.com/en>

<sup>11</sup> CEIC data.

improving EVI and HAI scores for sustainable growth.

Table 2. Indicators for LDC Identification, Lao PDR, 2020-2025

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
GNI per capita	2,286	2,423	2,523	2,559	2,511	2,375
HAI	71.88	72.82	73.93	74.58	75.22	75.30
EVI	29.85	29.82	29.73	29.58	29.94	30.58

Source: CDP Secretariat, Time series estimates (LDC criteria) dataset (2002-2025) available at <https://bit.ly/LDC-data>

Note 1: For GNI per capita, Year refers to the year of a (actual or hypothetical) review. The data reflects the latest three-year average available for a review, i.e., the value for 2025 refers to the 2021-2023 average. Data differ from previous official triennial review data due to data revisions.

Note 2: For EVI and HAI, Year refers to the year of a (actual or hypothetical) review. The timeliness of source data varies by indicator; generally, criteria capture data up to two years prior to a review. See the 'read me' in the source.

Note 3: Data differ from previous official triennial review data due to data revisions, changes in data sources, methodological changes and most notable, changes in composition of the composite indices HAI and EVI. Minor differences can also occur due to rounding.

Selected supplementary graduation indicators show some areas that requires attention. External debt level and also debt servicing has been at the high level and is likely to increase in coming years. The share of employment in agriculture is high, implying that the country's transformation has currently limited impact on the overall employment structure.

Table 3. Selected supplementary graduation indicators, Lao PDR, 2018-2023

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
External debt (% of GNI)	91.44	107.46	117.70	108.27	131.91	
Total debt servicing (% of exports and primary income)	11.68	12.84	12.03	23.80	13.09	12.24
Share of employment in agriculture	62.79	64.40	66.36	67.75	69.56	69.64

Source: CDP Secretariat, Supplementary graduation indicators (SGI) dataset (2000-2024), available at <https://bit.ly/LDC-data> last accessed 22 January 2025.

## Productive Capacity

Lao PDR's score on the composite PCI (36) is above the average score of LDCs (30.9) in 2022. As with other prospective graduates, Lao PDR is gradually distancing itself from the performance of LDCs and increasingly converging towards ODCs', although there is a long way to go to reach the average score of ODCs (46.8). Lao PDR performed well in the energy category and made improvements in human capital, ICT, and structural change components. However, the country significantly lagged behind LDCs and ODCs in the transport and private sector component of the PCI. On institutions, Lao PDR performed above LDCs' average but below the average score of ODCs. This means that for Lao PDR, the critical areas to redouble efforts should focus on transport, the private sector, and institutions, while maintaining progress in the remaining categories of the PCI where the landlocked country made tangible progress (Human Capital, Energy, ICT, and Structural Change components).

Table 4: UNCTAD's Productive capacities Index (PCI): 2022 Values

	HUMAN CAPITAL	NATURAL CAPITAL	ENERGY	TRANSPORT	ICT	INSTITUTIONS	PRIVATE SECTOR	STRUCTURAL CHANGE	PCI
Lao PDR	30.1	39.3	52.6	15.1	37.4	39.4	33.5	61.3	36
LDCs	27.9	49.8	26.3	19.7	25.2	38.3	37.8	41	30.9
ODCs	44.3	38.4	61.2	34.1	49.6	51.1	50.9	53.2	46.8

Source: UNCTAD

## Data gap

With regards to Laos' Statistical Performance Indicators (SPI)<sup>12</sup> Lao PDR has a SPI Overall Score of 60.9 (on a scale of 0-100)<sup>13</sup>. The SPI is a framework developed by the World Bank to monitor the statistical performance of countries. The SPI is based on five pillars:

- Data use: How often and widely statistics are used.
- Data services: How data users and producers are connected and communicate.
- Data products: How feedback between data users and producers improves the quality, accuracy, and availability of statistical products.
- Data sources: How a statistical system draws on sources inside and outside the government.
- Data infrastructure: How well-developed a country's institutional infrastructure is, including governance, legislation, standards, skills, and partnerships.

## Smooth transition

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on Lao PDR's graduation from the LDC category on 24 November 2021.<sup>14</sup> The country is scheduled to graduate on 24 November 2026, after five years of extended preparatory period, granted mainly due to the need to address the impact of the devastating COVID-19 pandemic. CDP will monitor Lao PDR annually until 2029, and two more times at the triennial review years in 2030 and 2033.

The Government of Lao PDR participated actively in the annual monitoring by submitting the national draft report on smooth transition and also attending CDP consultation meetings. The participation rate is 86 per cent (three national monitoring report and four consultation meetings in four monitoring cycles).

At the consultation meeting held with Lao PDR on 16 December 2024, the government updated CDP on the STS implementation and related efforts. The government is still in discussion with regards to concrete post-graduation plans and working on the first STS implementation report. The 10th NSEDP (2026–2030) will incorporate the STS and the Doha PoA priorities. The government held an STS dissemination meeting on 12 December 2024, discussing implications of graduations with various line ministries, stakeholders and development partners. The government noted that economic diversification requires a long term plan. It also noted that it has been working on reducing debt levels and fiscal deficit by increasing tax collection and allocating more budget to social sectors. The government has worked with the World Bank to seek advice on the debt and macroeconomic management, and worked with UNESCAP to develop capacity on debt management and disaster risk reduction. The government mentioned that policies related to labour and employment are in place and the country also recognizes the need to strengthen migrants' protection. The government also mentioned that it is taking steps to address the currency depreciation, and the inflation rates. Further, it is collaborating with various sectors including tourism, mining, and agriculture to boost FDI and attract more foreign currency revenues. The central bank has implemented stricter monetary policies such as raising interest rates for short-term loans.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/statistical-performance-indicators>

<sup>13</sup> Slightly lower than graduating LDCs Bangladesh and Nepal (70.81; 64.02).

<sup>14</sup> UN DESA, Graduation of Bangladesh, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nepal from the LDC category, retrieved from <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/2021/graduation-of-bangladesh-lao-peoples-democratic-republic-and-nepal-from-the-ldc-category/>

## Annex 1. Data for LDC criteria and supplementary indicators (SGIs)

### LDC criteria data

The data table below shows the latest available data and corresponding year for the country based on the 2025 retrospective review.

The calculations of all composite indices and indicators are based on the refinements of the LDC criteria adopted by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) at its 25th Plenary session in February 2023.

For more detailed information on indicators and data sources, see the '*Time series estimates (LDC criteria) dataset (2002-2025)*' available on the [LDC Data](#) website.

All data are current as of 22 January 2025.

Indicator	Latest available data	Year latest available data refer to	LDC average*
GNI - Gross national income (GNI) per capita in US dollar, using Atlas conversion (3-year average)	2,374.97	2023	1,388.26
HAI - Human assets index	75.30	2023	59.42
U5M - Under-5 mortality rate (per 1,000 live birth)	40.38	2022	59.20
STU - Prevalence of stunting	27.70	2022	29.28
MMR - Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live birth)	126.06	2020	381.86
LSEC - Lower secondary education completion rate	56.20	2023	42.60
ALR - Adult literacy rate	87.52	2022	64.26
GPIC - Gender parity index for lower secondary education completion	0.98	2017	1.00
EVI - Economic and environmental vulnerability index	30.58	2023	39.84
AFF - Share of agriculture, forestry and fishing in GDP (% of GDP)	20.61	2023	24.59
REM - Remoteness and landlockedness (location index)	54.74	2023	57.61
XCON - Merchandise export concentration (Theil index)	7.00	2023	7.76
XIN - Instability of exports of goods and services (20-year regression)	8.02	2023	12.39
LECZ - Share of population living in low elevated coastal zones (percentage of population)	0.00	2015	7.94
DRY - Share of population living in drylands (percentage of population)	0.00	2023	33.99
AIN - Instability of agricultural production (20-year regression)	5.36	2022	6.06
VIC - Victims of disasters (per 100,000 population) (15-year average)	2.49	2023	3.34

Source: Time series estimates (LDC criteria) dataset (2002-2025) available on the [LDC Data](#) website.



## Supplementary graduation indicators (SGIs)

The supplementary graduation indicators (SGIs) complement the official LDC criteria. They provide quantitative, internationally comparable data for vulnerabilities and other factors that are not fully captured by the LDC criteria but that might be relevant for graduation from the LDC category.

For more detailed information on indicators and data sources, see the '*Supplementary graduation indicators (SGI) dataset (2000-2025)*' available on the [LDC Data](#) website.

All data are current as of 22 January 2025.

	Indicator	Latest available data	Year latest available data refer to	LDC average*
ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY	EC01 - GDP growth rate (%)	4.21	2023	3.51
	EC02 - GDP growth volatility	3.38	2023	5.29
	EC03 - External debt (% of GNI)	131.91	2022	55.98
	EC04 - Total debt servicing (% of exports and primary income)	12.25	2023	12.22
	EC05 - Personal Remittances, received (% of GDP)	1.81	2023	6.76
	EC06 - ODA received as percentage of GNI	3.83	2022	10.85
	EC07 - Tourism receipts as share of exports	3.51	2020	13.14
	EC08 - Current account balance (% of GDP)	2.55	2023	-4.46
	EC09 - Standard deviation of net barter terms of trade over 20 years	15.28	2021	15.11
	EC10 - Cereal import dependency	0.00	2022	0.41
	EC11 - Tax revenue as share of GDP	12.11	2022	13.21
	EC12 - Gross domestic savings (% of GDP)	20.33	2016	7.22
	EC13 - Adjusted net savings (% of GNI)	-2.55	2016	3.43
	EC14 - Share of employment in agriculture	69.64	2023	47.82
	EC15 - Productive capacities index	36.03	2022	30.75
	EC16 - Percentage of individuals using the internet	66.15	2022	34.20
	EC17 - Renewable electricity capacity per capita	1.30	2023	0.07
	EC18 - Percentage of population with access to electricity	100.00	2022	54.31
ENVIRONMENTAL VULNERABILITY	EV01 - Environmental Performance Index	26.10	2024	36.42
	EV02 - Global Adaptation Index	42.25	2022	37.81
	EV03 - INFORM Climate Change Risk Index	4.00	2022	5.79
	EV04 - Economic loss from natural disaster (% of GDP)	0.00	2012	0.03
	EV05 - Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5) in cities (population weighted)	21.15	2019	27.87
	EV06 - Access to at least basic sanitation (% of population)	79.51	2022	41.15
	EV07 - Access to at least basic drinking water (% of population)	85.46	2022	68.27
	EV08 - Freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	4.79	2021	15.81
	EV09 - Proportion of water basins experiencing high surface water extent changes	30.00	2020	28.66
	EV10 - Red list index, showing trends in overall extinction risks of species	0.83	2024	0.86
	EV11 - Change in forest cover (percentage)	-0.21	2020	-0.54
	EV12 - Domestic material consumption per capita	43.55	2022	14.84

	Indicator	Latest available data	Year latest available data refer to	LDC average*
HUMAN ASSETS	HA01 - Human development index	0.62	2022	0.51
	HA02 - Multidimensional poverty index	0.11	2017	0.27
	HA03 - Proportion of population covered by at least one social protection benefit	15.50	2021	12.35
	HA04 - Prevalence of undernourishment	5.40	2023	21.56
	HA05 - Mortality from CVD, cancer, diabetes or CRD between exact ages 30 and 70 (%)	26.80	2019	24.93
	HA06 - Diphtheria tetanus toxoid and pertussis (DTP3) immunization coverage among 1-year-olds (%)	84.00	2023	76.57
	HA07 - Gross secondary school enrolment rate	54.50	2023	47.14
	HA08 - Mean years of schooling	5.95	2022	4.78
	HA09 - Learning-adjusted (expected) years of school	6.25	2020	4.87
	HA10 - Total fertility rate (live birth per woman)	2.40	2024	3.97
	HA11 - Dependency ratio, i.e. the ratio of youth (Age 0-14) and elderly (age 65+) to population of age 15-64	53.52	2024	75.09
	HA12 - Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) (modeled ILO estimate)	55.98	2023	53.45
INCOME	IN01 - Gross national disposable income (GNDI) per capita, market exchange rates	1,956.99	2023	1,373.28
	IN02 - GDP per capita, market exchange rates	1,958.00	2023	1,334.95
	IN03 - Gross national income (GNI per capita) at purchasing power parity conversion factors	8,610.00	2023	3,757.73
	IN04 - Gini coefficient of disposable income	36.80	2018	41.45
	IN05 - Percentage of population below international poverty line (\$2.15)	7.10	2018	31.47
OTHER	OT01 - Battle deaths per 100,000, 20-year average	0.07	2023	2.79
	OT02 - Population of concern to UNHCR as percentage of total population	0.00	2024	3.33
	OT03 - Stock of persons internally displaced by conflict as percent of total population	0.00	2023	2.42
	OT04 - Intentional homicides (per 100,000 people)	n/a	n/a	6.79
	OT05 - Voice and accountability, capturing perceptions of citizens' participation in selecting governments as well as of freedom of expression, association, and media	-1.63	2023	-0.72
	OT06 - Government effectiveness, capturing perceptions of the quality of public services and policies	-0.64	2023	-1.03
	OT07 - Women empowerment index, providing information on women's civil liberties, civil society participation, and political participation	0.50	2023	0.61

Source: Supplementary graduation indicators (SGI) dataset (2000-2025) available on the [LDC Data](#) website.

Notes:

\* As not all countries and/or indicators have complete coverage LDC averages are calculated using the latest available data for each country and indicator.

n/a denotes that no data are available.

## Annex 2. Visualization of LDC criteria and SGIs

The following figures show the evolution of LDC criteria scores, LDC indicator values and SGI indicators value over the 2000 to 2025 period. The blue line shows the values for the country, abbreviated by its three-letter ISO code. The red and green lines show the simple country average value for least developed countries (LDC) and other developing countries (ODC), respectively. The shaded areas depict the interquartile range to indicate within-group heterogeneity. The group composition of LDCs and ODCs is based on the current list of LDCs and the classification of countries into developing and developed regions by the United Nations Statistics Division. Hence, all former LDCs are included in the ODC group. For details on the composition, see the 'Read-me' tab in the '*Time series estimates (LDC criteria) dataset (2002-2025)*' available on the [LDC Data](#) website.

For all details on the data, see *Time series estimates of the least developed country criteria (2002-2025)* and *Supplementary graduation indicators (SGI) dataset (2000-2025)*, both available on the [LDC Data](#) website.

The figures omit several SGIs with insufficient data for a time-series consideration.

Some indicator names in the figures are shortened versions of the indicator names as contained in annex 1.

Missing data has been linearly interpolated, but not extrapolated. Hence, changes in the lines and shaded areas for LDCs and ODCs can be influenced by changes in data availability over time.

To increase visibility, the following transformation of the data have been undertaken, please refer to annex 1 for the names of the indicators:

- Three-year averages for EC01, EC03, EC04, EC05, EC06, EC07, EC08, EC010, EC011, EC012, EC013, EC018, EV04, EV05, HA06, IN01, IN02, IN03.
- Logarithmic transformation for GNI, VIC, IN01, IN02, IN03, OT01, EC17, EV08.
- Maximum value set to 1: GPIC
- All indicators have been normalized between 0 and 100 using the 'max-min' method, using 5 per cent and 95 per cent quantiles as lower and upper bounds.
- For each figure, the x axis ranges from 2000 to 2025, and the y axis ranges from 0 to 100

All data are current as of 22 January 2025.





