

<b>Sub-Program/Component</b>	<b>5. Improvement of Health Policy</b>
<b>Target Organizations:</b>	<b>Ministry of Health</b> <b>Who can apply:</b> * Vientiane Capital and Provincial level department * All Government Hospitals at Central and Provincial level
<b>Accepting University (Number of Scholars)</b>	<b>Nagasaki University (2)</b> School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health Department of Global Health  i. Tropical Medicine Course - Master of Tropical Medicine for <b>1 year</b> course (only for MDs) ii. International Health Development Course - Master of Public Health iii. Health Innovation Course - Master of Science in Global Health and Medicine
<b>Expected Research Area</b>	- Improvement of Health Policy - Hospital Management - Human Resource in the Field of Health Care - Regional Health Care - Health Care Finance - Social Security System
<b>Purpose of the Study (Background and Needs):</b>	
<p>The maternal mortality rate and the under-5 mortality rate in Lao P.D.R. are the lowest standards in Southeast Asia. The backdrop for this includes geographic elements (many mountains and other areas make it access to medical facilities difficult), delays in developing and assigning public health personnel, chronically insufficient budgets, social practices and insufficient health awareness that interfere with access to medical care, poverty and other economic barriers, low reliability on public medical services and so on. The government of Lao P.D.R. has been working on health sector reforms in order to achieve universal health coverage by 2025.</p> <p>JDS Fellows are expected to contribute to improve the ability of concerned government agencies regarding policy making and institution building in relation to planning, implementing, managing and evaluating public health and social security policies.</p>	