



**Integrated Regional Development Planning
focusing on the 7th National Socio-Economic Development Plan
(2011-2015)
Sustainable Development, Environmental Protection and Natural
Resource - Land Management**

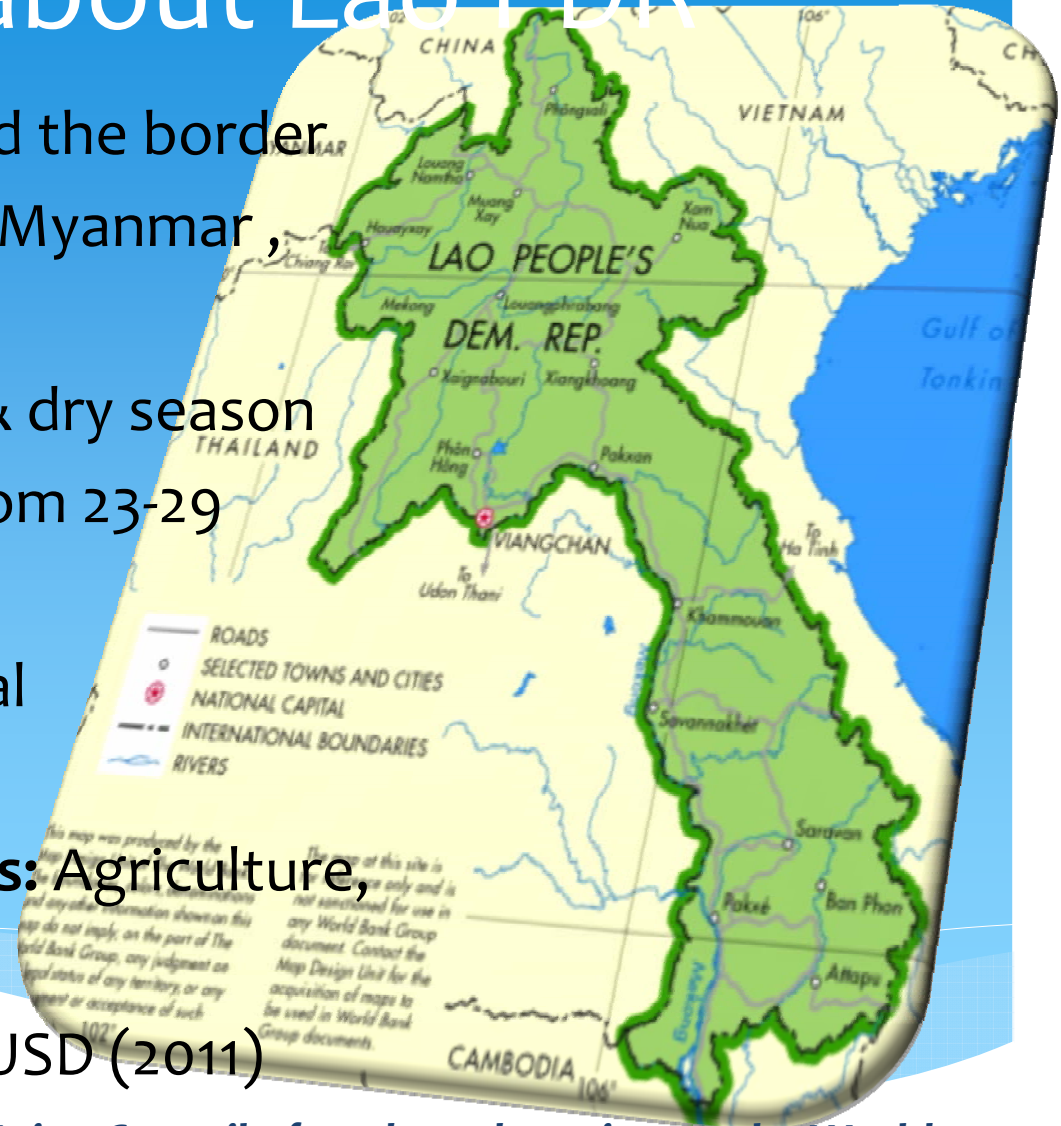
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Outline of the Presentation

- * Overview about Lao PDR
- * Planning institutes
- * Economic development evolution
- * **7th National Social Economic Development Plan (NSEDP VII)**
- * **Challenges of NSEDP VII**
- * Proposed draft for the next plan 8th NSEDP VIII

Overview about Lao PDR

- **Location:** Southeast Asia and the border with: Vietnam, China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia
- **Climate:** 2 seasons: raining & dry season
Temperature range from 23-29
- **Total Population:** 6.5 million
- **Capital city:** Vientiane Capital
- **Land area:** 236,800 Km²
- **Main economic factors:** Agriculture, industry, services...
- **GDP Per Capita:** 1,281 USD (2011)



***** Lao has been voted by European Union Council of trade and tourism as the World Best Tourist Destination for 2013**

Current Domestic & international Aviation Routes



Domestic & International Routes

- International Routes
- Domestic Routes
- - - Under Study Routes

ການບິນລາວ Lao Airlines

Planning institutes

- * Ministries in central are main planning institutes, among the ministries the Ministry of Planning and Investment is playing role as key actor, who keeps balance the demand for development and the budgets supply
- * In provincial level, Department of Planning and Investment is key organization among many functional departments and districts

Economic development evolution

- * Period 1975-85 : Applying Planning economic model, Close the door
- * Since 1986: Opening the country for development. Applying Market economic model for national development, Since then, there are many development policies/strategies have been released for national development, especially the five year national social-economic plan which has come to the seventh plan

NSEDP VII: Overall targets and development vision

- * The main targets of the 7th NSEDP include:
 - * continued economic growth with sustainable manner
 - * achieving the MDGs and poverty reduction goals
 - * establishing a diversified economic foundation for graduation from Least Developed Country status in 2020
 - * **progress towards integration within the ASEAN, regional and international communities**
 - * Ensuring political stability, equity and security
- * The underlying core principle to achieving these targets is that of *sustainability* and integration of socio-cultural and environment protection in the development process.

NSEDP VII on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection

Directions:

- * Ensure reasonable and efficient use of natural resources to ensure that there is balance maintained between socio-economic developments on the one hand, and environmental protection, on the other.
- * Attention need to be paid to economic development so that people can adapt to climate change and reduce its impact on themselves. (NAPA and NAMA).

NSEDP VII on Sustainable Development, Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management

Main Targets:

1. Water Resources, Weather Forecasts, Hydrology: Implementing the integrated water resource management strategy, policy, and operation plan to ensure that water resources are utilized efficiently, thus minimizing impact on the ecosystem. Additionally, effort will be made to protect watersheds.
2. Environment: Improve organization and strengthen technical staff from central to local levels so that they can effectively carry out their technical activities, for example, planning, finance and management, and put in place (and/or strengthen) environment surveillance offices.
3. Weather forecast and environmental management (climate change): Collaborate with different sectors to conduct interdisciplinary research on the impact of climatic change and the source of greenhouse gases, and find appropriate methods for mitigating the impact. Efforts will be made to incorporate this into the Five-Year Plan, and then draw up strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change, along with sectoral planning and the poverty reduction strategy.
4. Disasters: efforts will also be made to take precautionary steps to mitigate the impact of catastrophes like floods, bank erosions, droughts, and fires.

NSEDP VII on Sustainable Development, Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management

Measures:

- Increase dissemination of political thinking regarding Party policy and law of the government, the NSEDP, and resolutions from the higher level.
- To raise awareness for people in society and integrate water resources and environment, weather forecasts and hydrology into school curricula including the formal education system, higher education system and universities
- Cooperate regionally and internationally to exchange lesson learned and attract more funds.
- Enhance capacity of water resources and environment organizations as well as human resources on follow up, monitor, and evaluate projects on water resources and environment.
- Encourage people in society to strive to make Lao PDR a green, clean, and beautiful nation.
- Improve and upgrade organizations in charge of water resources and environment at the provincial level to become individual departments and at district level to become individual offices. Additionally, divide work and responsibilities from the central to the local level.

NSEDP VII on Land Management and Development

Directions:

- *Promote use and maintenance of the land and natural resources in a way that ensures sustainability, effective use of land surface and underground and minimizes the effect on environment and society.
- *Land (and the natural resources therein) will be the basis for industrialization and modernization, and a source of revenue for national development. Effort needs to be made to ensure people have the right to use land; turning land into capital is a key source of wealth for the people and the nation..
- *Land development will also focus on forestlands; both protected and conservation forests.

NSEDP VII on Land Management and Development

Main targets:

1. Land allocation, zoning and classification:

- *Make land classification plans (at the macro level), master plans for land use planning (at the national level), land use planning (at provincial and district levels for the whole country)
- *Target to complete land title for local producer

2. Land Revenue:

- *Collect revenues from land such as tax, rent, transaction fees, ownership transfer fees, concession fees and other inward flows as indicated in the land law
- *Increase the flow of revenues from land to raise national income

3. Develop and improve land and natural resource policies, regulations and laws

- *Complete the improvement of the Land Law
- *Improve decrees, regulations and other legislation to be consistent with the existing law.

NSEDP VII on Land Management and Development

Measures:

1). Land use management and classification:

- Continue to survey land and collect data with a view to allocating the land, complete land zoning and classification, and map the land. The plan aims to complete a Master Plan for land use management, land protection, and natural resource management at the local, regional and national levels.
- Draw up maps and land use development plans in order to identify which areas are easy or difficult to develop.

2). Monitoring and dissemination of the legislation:

- Closely monitor individuals, groups of persons and organizations using land not in compliance with the law, and if necessary take legal action against them;
- Disseminate policies, regulations and laws related to land and natural resources nationwide by organizing meetings, workshops and other public communication means, in addition to formulating them into the educational curriculum

3). Strengthen capacity for the land management authority at all levels

Recent Achievements of NSEDP VII Implementation on Sustainable Development, Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management

- 1). *Forestry*: completed classification plan for the conservation forest in 8 provinces drafted decree on conservation and protection forests, announced 2 new conservation forest areas
- 2). *Water resources*: completed draft policies, strategies and the National Work Plan on Water Resource Management, implemented a number of projects on river basin integrated management project in the lower basin of the Mekong
- 3). *Meteorology and hydrology*: monitor and report weather and water level on daily basis through radio, television, telephone and SMS; completed draft strategy on capacity building on early warning system; conducted assessment and prepared for improvement of the early warning system in risky areas; improved earthquake and weather station, and; improved the airline management for weather forecast to prepare for hosting “ASEM” in Vientiane at the end of 2012.
- 4). *Environment*: Completed draft Decree on the National Environmental Standard; improved the Law on Environmental Protection; conducted assessment on tax on loyalty; extract revenue from development projects into the sustainable natural resource management and environmental protection; completed draft National Work Plan on Environmental Protection 2011-2015; ratified the document on “Strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET)”.

Recent Achievements of NSEDP VII Implementation on Land Management and Development

- * **Land:** From June 2011, Land Management Authority has been transferred to be a section under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment; the monitoring committee on the national Land and Natural resource policies; conducted assessment on land lease and concession; sent notice to all provinces on establishment of the provincial inspection unit to issue land titles; upgrade information system for record of revenue from land fee collection
- * **Geology:** Lao-Viet cooperation project on surveying and drawing map from Northern Vientiane to Southern Luang Prabang; developed and improved information on geology and mine in northern, central and southern parts of Lao PDR; develop database on geology and mines for concession planning.

Challenges

- * Insufficient funds earmarked for activities to mitigate the impact of disasters, such as recovery, direct and indirect damages
- * Inadequate supervisory inspection and systematic reporting in regulating and utilizing the government budget and other funds
- * Laos is has no Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) project at present

Coping Strategy

- More fun mobilization is needed for activities to mitigate the impact of disasters
- There is a need in capacity building on inspection and systematic reporting on government budget expended to ensure transparency, efficiency, and consistency with the plan targets
- Laos is has no Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) project at present, however, Laos consider all the possibility of the bilateral offset mechanism such as NAMA

Proposed draft for the next plan 8th NSED P VIII

- * Quit of LDCs status in 2020
- * Post MDGs- sustainable development
- * Inclusive growth
- * Quality investment
- * Maximize benefits and increase readiness of the country towards the regional and international economic integration, both bilaterally and multilaterally

Thank you

