# ICT Development in Lao PDR

Expert Group Meeting on regional cooperation on information society in Asia and the Pacific

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# Country Profile

Country name : Lao PDR

Capital city : Vientiane

Population : 5.609 million

Total Area : 236,800 Km2

• GDP : 678 USD

Religion : Buddhism

Language : Lao

• Literacy : 85%

Rural population : 69 %

Currency : Kip

More information please visit :

Statistic : <a href="www.nsc.gov.la">www.nsc.gov.la</a>Economy : <a href="www.moc.gov.la">www.moc.gov.la</a>

– Tourism : www.laotourism.org



# National ICT Policy

- The Government of the Lao PDR recognizes the Information and Communication Technology as an increasingly crucial tool for achieving socio-economic development, aims to bring the country into the information age by increasing general access to ICT with the provision of modern telecommunications infrastructure and computer networks; by fostering enterprise and industry; promoting research and development in the fields of ICT; and by developing the necessary human resources and institutional capacies
- It is with this recognition that the National Policy on ICT aims to ensure that the necessary institutional, human capacity, sectoral conditions, and legal frameworks are in place for leveraging and applying ICT to meet the challenges and needs of Lao PDR

# National ICT Policy

#### Nine priority areas:

- 1. Infrastructure and Access
- 2. Enterprise and Industry
- 3. Research and Development
- 4. Applications
- 5. Human Resource Development
- 6. Legal Framework
- 7. Awareness
- 8. Poverty Alleviation
- 9. Standardization and Localization

- 5 Telecom operators (ETL, LTC, Lao ASIA, Millicom, Sky)
  - No new licensed issued up to 2009
- 12 ISPs
- ETL:
  - 3969 km fiber optic;
  - 400 mobile base station in 139 district;
  - 450 intelligent network for prepaid system;
  - 29000 PSTN.

## Telecom Infrastructure

 Has fiber optic connection to China, Thailand and Vietnam

### tic fiber backbone

