



<b>Capital :</b>	Vientiane	<b>Head of State :</b>	President H.E. Mr. Choummaly Sayasone
<b>Surface area :</b>	237 thousand sq km	<b>Head of Government :</b>	Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Thongsing Thammavong
<b>Official language :</b>	Lao	<b>Minister of Industry and Commerce :</b>	H.E. Dr. Nam Viyaketh
<b>Population :</b>	6.5 million (Jul. 2011 est.)		
<b>Exchange rate :</b>	1 Baht = 246.30 Kip (Feb 1, 2012)		

<b>Recent economic indicators<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010 (b)</b>	<b>2011 (b)</b>
<b>GDP (US\$bn) (current price)</b>	3.6	4.2	5.3	5.6	6.3	7.9
<b>GDP per capita (US\$)</b>	596	694	856	886	984	1,204
<b>Real GDP growth (% change YOY)</b>	8.6	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.7	8.3
<b>Inflation (% change YOY)</b>	6.8	4.5	7.6	0.0	5.4	8.7

Source : <sup>1</sup> Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Government (a) all recent data subject to revision, (b) EIU forecast

### Lao PDR's global trade relationships, 2011<sup>2</sup>

<b>Export destinations</b>	<b>Import sources</b>	<b>Major Exports</b>	<b>Major Imports</b>
1. Thailand 31.1%	1. Thailand 65.6%	1. Wood products	1. Machinery and equipment
2. China 23%	2. China 14.6%	2. Coffee	2. Vehicles
3. Vietnam 12.9%	3. Vietnam 6.6%	3. Electricity	3. Fuel
		4. Tin	4. Consumer goods
		5. Copper	
		6. Gold	

Source : <sup>2</sup> CIA The World Fact book

### Thailand's trade with Lao PDR, 2011 (Unit : US\$m)<sup>3</sup>

	<b>Value</b>	<b>Share (%)</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Growth (%)</b>
<b>Total Trade</b>				
<b>Exports to Lao PDR</b>	3,919.3	0.86	25 <sup>th</sup>	35.83
<b>Imports from Lao PDR</b>	2,789.5	1.1	20 <sup>th</sup>	30.6
<b>Balance of Trade with Lao PDR</b>	1,129.72	0.4	30 <sup>th</sup>	50.75
	1,659.8			

<b>Major Thailand exports to Lao PDR</b>	<b>(US\$m)</b>	<b>Major Thailand imports from Lao PDR</b>	<b>US\$m)</b>
1. Refine fuels	648.2	1. Other metal ores, metal waste scrap and products	357.7
2. Motor car, part and accessories	258.3	2. Other fuel	452.4
3. Iron and Steels	175.5	3. Wood in rough, sawn or chipped wood and products	50.6
4. Machinery and parts thereof	170.1	4. Vegetables and vegetable products	40.3
5. Chemical products	100.8	5. Vegetables and fruits	21.7

Source : <sup>3</sup> Ministry of Commerce