Early Warning System

WB-P512702

Second Lao PDR Competitiveness and Trade Project

Quick Facts

Countries	Laos
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	C
Voting Date	2026-06-18
Borrower	Government of Laos - Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC)
Sectors	Industry and Trade
Investment Type(s)	Grant
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 4.99 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 4.99 million

Project Description

According to the Bank’s website, the objective of this project is to improve the efficiency of Lao PDR’s regulatory environment for business entry and trade facilitation through digitalization of procedures.

The proposed RETF activities reinforce the complementarity of paperless trade and business entry automation in Lao PDR. The proposed project is designed to build on the successes of Lao Competitiveness and Trade Project (LCTP1) and seeks to further reduce regulatory challenges in business entry and operation and address Lao PDR's high trade costs hindering a more competitive and diversified export sector. The RETF activities are clustered into three components.

Component 1. Trade Facilitation. This component will strengthen inter-agency coordination mechanisms and supporting implementation of initiatives to improve trade facilitation performance. It will also provide expert advice and capacity-building to assist in implementing the Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Roadmap and support the better integration of ICT initiatives, as well as the adoption of a paperless trade regime.

Component 2: Business environment. This component will enhance business entry by upgrading the electronic business registration system (eBRS) and strengthen the institutional capacity of the LNCCI to better equip the Lao Business Forum (LBF) Secretariat and relevant working groups to ensure the effectiveness of policy implementation and the sustainability of LBF.

Component 3: Project Management. This Component will provide technical and operational assistance for implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the project, including fiduciary aspects. Additionally, this component will provide support for gender and disability, communication, compliance monitoring of environmental and social aspects.

Early Warning System Project Analysis

The project is advisory/digital in nature with no civil works and no confirmed financing of physical ICT goods or office operations leading to a **Low** environmental risk, site-specific, and readily manageable. Main potential impacts are minor resource use and waste from trainings/events and possible downstream considerations in TOR-driven analytics. If any equipment or materials are later financed, low-level risks could arise from e-waste, packaging, and energy use; these would be mitigated through proportionate measures embedded in TORs/procurement and the POM/ESCP, applying WBG EHS Guidelines and, if needed, a simple Electronic Waste Management Plan to ensure lawful handling and disposal. No significant, irreversible, or cumulative impacts are expected. The social risk is also assessed to be **low** considering the advisory/digital nature of project activities with no civil works, land acquisition, involuntary resettlement, livelihood or adverse impacts on IPs.

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Total Project Cost: US$ 4.99 million

Trust Funds: US$ 4.99 million

Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org. Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint

Bank Documents

- Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) - Second Lao PDR Competitiveness and Trade Pr
- Lao People's Democratic Republic - EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC- P512702- Second Lao PDR Competitiveness an
- Lao People's Democratic Republic - EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC- P512702- Second Lao PDR Competitiveness an
- Lao People's Democratic Republic - Second Lao PDR Competitiveness and Trade Project
- Official Documents- Disbursement and Financial Information Letter for Grant TF0D2315.pdf
- Official Documents- Letter Agreement for Grant TF0D2315.pdf
- Project Information Document - Second Lao PDR Competitiveness and Trade Project - P512702
- Revised Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) Second Lao PDR Competitiveness and Trade Pro