



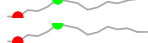













# Trade and Competitiveness Monitoring Note



## Lao PDR

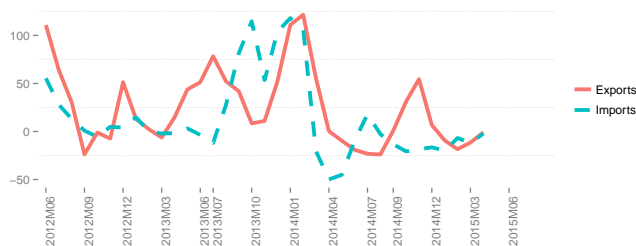
GDP (US\$ billions) (2015)	Population (millions) (2015)	Income per capita (current US\$) (2015)	Poverty rate (2012)	Unemployment rate (2015)	Ease of Doing Business Rank (2015)
12.5	6.8	1,839.7	29.9	NA	139.0

### Macro Indicators

	Avg 2002-2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
GDP growth (annual %)	7.21	8.02	8.52	7.46	6.38	6.98	
Current account balance	-1.50	-4.41	-3.69	-2.04	-0.88	0.21	
Cash surplus/deficit (% of GDP)	-4.03	-1.28	-6.01	-3.77	-4.08	-3.76	
Gross Fixed Investment (% GDP)	23.88	31.59	30.11	32.74	34.02	34.04	
Gross capital formation (% of GDP) [1]	25.75	31.58	29.18	30.12	—	—	
Foreign direct investment, net inflows (% of GDP) [2]	3.15	3.13	3.97	6.18	—	—	
Private capital flows, total (% of GDP) [2]	9.90	10.08	—	—	—	—	
Total Trade in Goods and Services (% of GDP, real terms)	75.59	87.50	91.48	98.67	97.49	97.53	
Trade balance (% GDP, real terms)	-9.72	-9.82	-9.87	-10.54	-11.33	-10.50	
Exports, Goods and Services, annual percent change (real terms)	9.43	12.86	14.00	16.04	4.00	8.07	
Imports, Goods and Services, annual percent change (real terms)	7.21	21.95	13.00	15.80	6.00	6.20	
Personal remittances, received (% of GDP) [1]	0.33	0.63	0.53	—	—	—	
General government gross debt [3]	77.25	62.19	60.13	62.49	63.39	66.50	
Total reserves in months of imports [1]	5.56	4.27	3.42	—	—	—	
Real Effective Exchange Rate (2010=100)	86.75	99.26	105.52	103.76	104.93	103.99	
Consumer Price Index, annual percent change	7.65	4.26	6.36	4.15	2.00	4.00	

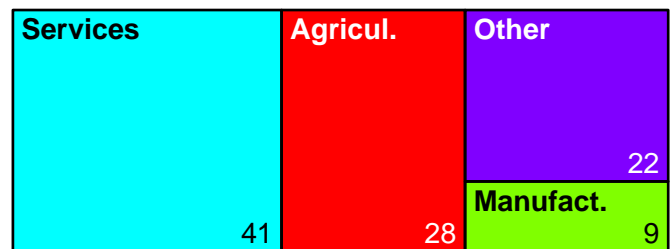
Sources: MFM note, [1] World Development Indicators (WDI), [2] UNCTADSTAT, [3] World Economic Outlook (WEO)

### Goods Export and Import volume growth, 2012-2015



Source: Development Prospects Group (DECPG)

### Gross Value Added by Economic Activity 2013 (% GDP)



Source: World Development Indicators (WDI)

### Top 5 Exports by % of Total Value, NA

Data not available

### Imports Categories by % of Total Value, NA

## Error in plot.new(): figure margins too large

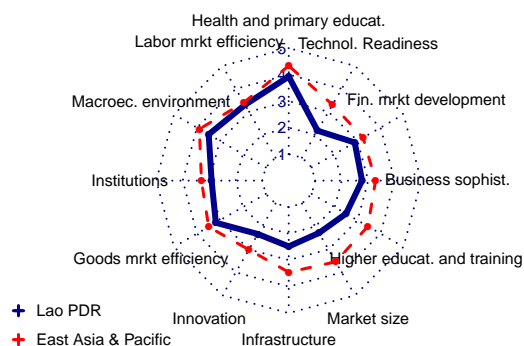
Source: World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS)

### Doing Business 2015 Ranks (among all countries)

	DB 2015 Rank	DB 2016 Rank	Change in Rank
Dealing with Construction Permits	41	42	-1
Ease of Doing Business Rank	139	134	5
Enforcing Contracts	92	92	0
Getting Credit	128	70	58
Getting Electricity	158	158	0
Paying Taxes	127	127	0
Protecting Minority Investors	177	178	-1
Registering Property	65	66	-1
Resolving Insolvency	189	189	0
Starting a Business	145	153	-8
Trading Across Borders	108	108	0

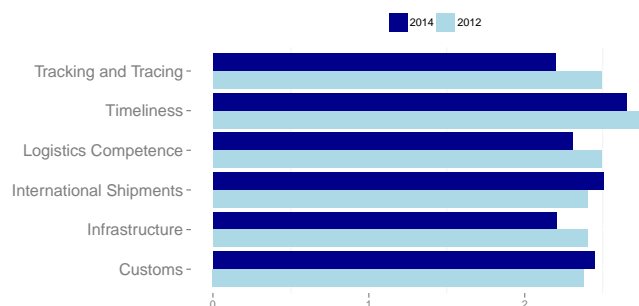
Source: Doing Business Report 2015

## WEF Competitiveness Indicators (Scale 1-5, 5=best)



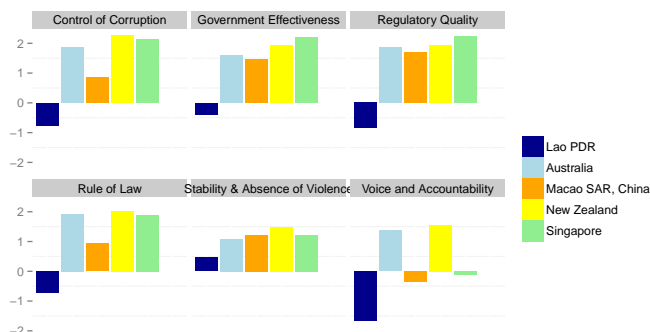
Source: WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2015

## Logistics Performance Index (Scale 1-5, 5=best)



Source: Logistics Performance Index (World Bank)

## World Governance indicators (Std. score, High=best)



Source: Worldwide Governance Indicators

## Trade Policy

	2014
Applied Tariff (Incl. Prefers. and Trade-Weighted)	4.5
Dispersion (Standard Deviation)	9.0
Import duties collected (% , 2011-2013) [1]	4.2
MFN Tariff (Agricul.)	19.9
MFN Tariff (Non-Agricul.)	8.1
MFN Tariff (Simple Average)	9.7
Services sectors with GATS commitments [1]	79.0

Sources: WITS, [1] WTO Trade Profiles

## Private Sector's Views

### Enterprise Survey 2013

	Lao PDR	East Asia and Pacific	All Countries
Number of electrical outages in a typical month	2.30	3.50	6.30
Percent of firms with a bank loan/line of credit	32.60	35.00	34.30
Proportion of investment financed by banks (%)	9.30	12.80	14.30
Proportion of investment financed internally (%)	81.00	74.70	71.80
Senior management time spent dealing with the requirements of government regulation (%)	5.80	6.70	9.90

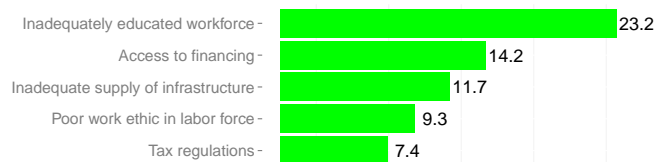
Source: Enterprise Survey 2013

### Top 5 constraints according to ES 2013 (% respondents)



Source: Enterprise Survey 2013

### Top 5 constraints according to WEF 2015 survey (% respondents among 88 executives)



Source: WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2015