

# Lao Services Portal

Convenience, Simplicity and Transparency

## What is Lao Services Portal?

The Lao Services Portal is a website that contains all information including legal documents, measures, procedures, forms, services commitments, news, publications and other useful information related to trade in services in Lao PDR, which are available for users to view or download.

The portal will facilitate both domestic and foreign entrepreneurs and investors to access all laws, regulations and necessary information on investment and business operations in services sectors in Lao PDR. The portal is currently located at Department of Foreign Trade Policy, Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

## The purposes of the Lao Services Portal

The primary purposes of creating this portal are to provide a significant contribution to the development of trade facilitation activities, especially trade in services in Lao PDR; to facilitate convenient access of transparent and up-to-date information through modern electronic system; and to implement Lao PDR's commitments made under regional and international trade agreements, especially after Lao PDR's accession to the WTO, in which Lao PDR has an obligation to implement the Article III of GATS on Transparency.

Official Website  
**Lao Services Portal**

Home Services by sector Services Commitment Measures Database Legal Instruments

48<sup>th</sup> ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS MEETING  
(13 August - 16 August 2014, Manila, Philippines)

Lao Services Portal is a website that contains all information related to trades and investment in services in the Lao PDR. In this website users will be able to find legal documents, measures, procedures, forms, services commitments, news, publications and other information related to trades and investment which users can view or download into their own computer.

By registering as a member on our website, user will be able to obtain regular updated of all information on your chosen sectors and also other information. Please click here for more details about member services and how to register.

News

Consultation Meeting for the 5th Anniversary of Lao's WTO Membership, under topic "Create Business Environment Favorable For Lao's Enterprises to International Markets"

Ministerial Meeting for the 5th Anniversary of Lao's WTO Membership took place on 03 February 2014, at Patuxay Park. The event was chaired by Mr. Sonvay Siphavongke, Deputy Prime Minister, and reported the outstanding achievement of Lao after being full-year membership to World Trade Organization (WTO) by H.E. Mr. Khomsam Phommavith, Minister of Industry and Commerce, and the participants from government sector, business sector, embassies, educational institutions, and the general public for more than 1700 people attended to the said event.

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Services by Sector

01 Business Services | 02 Communication Services | 03 Construction and Related Engineering Services | 04 Distribution services | 05 Educational Services | 06 Environmental Services

Overview of Services sector

Domestic Product in 2011. Comparing to 28% by agricultural sector and 35% by industries sector. Services sector (particularly tourism and antique) growing at 7% rate each year and higher than goods exportation. Distribution services remains the top sector that created most jobs for Lao population and higher rate than any other services sectors. Moreover, there are many more services sector that contributes significantly to Lao economy such as: Telecommunication, accounting and auditing, insurance, banking, constructions and transportation.

According to the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) trade in services are divided in to 12 main sectors as following:

1. Business Services;
2. Communication Services;
3. Construction and Related Engineering Services;
4. Distribution Services;
5. Educational Services;
6. Environmental Services;
7. Financial Services;
8. Health Related and Social Services;
9. Tourism and Travel-Related Services;
10. Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Services;
11. Transport Services;
12. Other Services Not Included Elsewhere

Regarding services agreement negotiations are mainly focus on Mode 3 such as: enterprise establishing (Commercial presence) which open more treaty. For Mode 4 for instance: Labor movement (Presence of natural persons) is still having several limitations. For two other Modes are generally open such as Mode 1: Cross-border supply and Mode 2: Consumption abroad.

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Search Measures

This section provides measures information for each individual or many services sectors, user may also use the search box and search criteria below to search for measures information.

Search Measures

Keyword:  Agency:

Measure Type:

Validity From:  Validity To:

Search

## Overview of the Lao Services Portal

Users can access the portal easily via [www.laoservicesportal.gov.la](http://www.laoservicesportal.gov.la). This website is available in two languages, Lao and English.

In the website, the users will be able to search for various types of information such as:

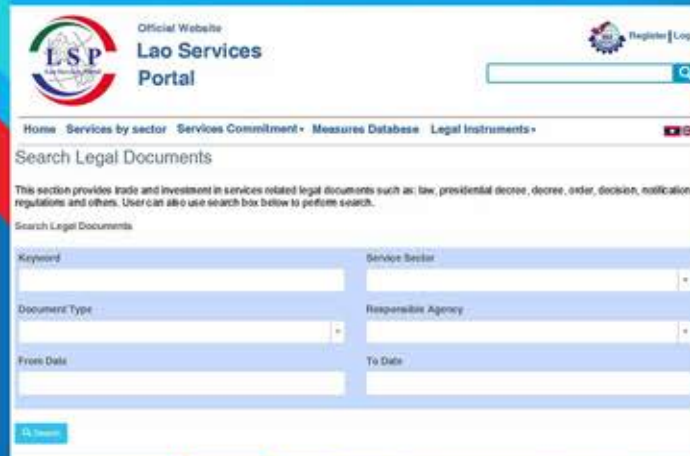
**Legal documents:** Laws, edicts, decrees, orders, decisions, notifications, regulations and other information related to trade in services.

**Measures:** Specific requirements that are clearly defined and apply to a service sector/sectors, which service providers must comply with.

**Procedures:** Procedures for establishing or operating a business in services sectors.

**Forms:** Example of application forms to establish a business in services sectors, which are available for users to download from the website.

In addition, the website also provides other information such as: news, announcements and publications related to trade in services.



The screenshot shows the official website of the Lao Services Portal. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Services by sector, Services Commitment, Measures Database, and Legal Instruments. Below this is a search bar for legal documents. The search criteria include Keyword, Document Type, From Date, To Date, Service Sector, and Responsible Agency. A search button is located at the bottom left of the search form.

### Further information:

Ministry of Industry and Commerce  
Department of Foreign Trade Policy  
E-mail: [contact@laoservicesportal.gov.la](mailto:contact@laoservicesportal.gov.la)  
Website: [www.laoservicesportal.gov.la](http://www.laoservicesportal.gov.la)  
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### Supported by:



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