




Lao People's Democratic Republic
Priority Tourism-Related Investment Project: Fact Sheet



Project Concept: Hotel at the Lao National Institute of Tourism & Hospitality (LANITH)	
Location: <div>8</div> Chantabouly Vientiane Capital	
Estimated Start-up Cost: US\$ 12.5 Million	

Site Description and Context: The proposed site is located on a prime piece of real estate on the Fa Ngum river road overlooking the Mekong River and the under-construction Mekong Promenade in the heart of Vientiane’s tourism center. Foreign tourist arrivals to Vientiane Capital consistently passed 800,000 between 2007 and 2009, up from 2006’s 653,212 and the 729,272 achieved in 2007, and are expected to surpass 1 million by 2012. In 2009, 517,063 international visitors entered Vientiane at the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge, and another 144,632 arrived at Wattay Airport. Most are Thai, but more than 90,000 are European, North American, Australian, New Zealanders, Japanese and Korean.

While Vientiane serves as Lao PDR’s main gateway to the country’s many destinations. It also presents several historical and cultural attractions such as That Luang, Sisaket Temple, the Talad Sao Morning Market and the Patuxai Monument among others, and is the launch pad for excursions to Vientiane Province’s activities and attractions such those in Vang Vieng, Nam Ngum Reservoir and Phou Khao Kwai National Protected Area.

As part of a program to strengthen human resources in the hospitality and tourism industry in Lao PDR by formulating a national human resource development (HRD) strategy for the sector, improving teacher quality, updating national curricula and developing a national centre of excellence in tourism education and training, the Luxembourg-funded LNTA-Lao Ministry of Education LAO/020 project is developing the Lao National Institute of Tourism and Hospitality (LANITH). An aerial photograph of the site above. Construction of LANITH is scheduled to commence in October 2010.

The LNTA and Lao Ministry of Education have reserved a plot (approximately 3,700 sqm) adjacent to the LANITH for a private investor to develop a 75-100 room, international-standard hotel. A site survey has been conducted and preliminary architectural drawings for the LANITH have been prepared by Luxembourg-based architect Diane Heirend, and are available from the project’s Chief Technical Advisor, Peter Semone: Peter@lanith.com.

Incentives Available: Negotiable long-term (40 year) land-lease at favorable rates, reduced or exemptions from import duties and work-permits for a limited number of foreign managers. Tourism is one of the Lao Government’s priority sectors for private-sector investment, and this site is classified as an area with a good infrastructure. Therefore, investments are eligible for a profit tax exemption for up to 2 years, a reduced tax rate of 10% for 2 years and 20% thereafter. For further information on the Lao PDR’s Investment Law and incentives, visit the Department of Domestic and Foreign Investment’s website at www.invest.laopdr.org .	
Contact Information	
Peter Semone Chief Technical Advisor Luxembourg Development Project LAO/020 Peter@lanith.com	