

LAOS

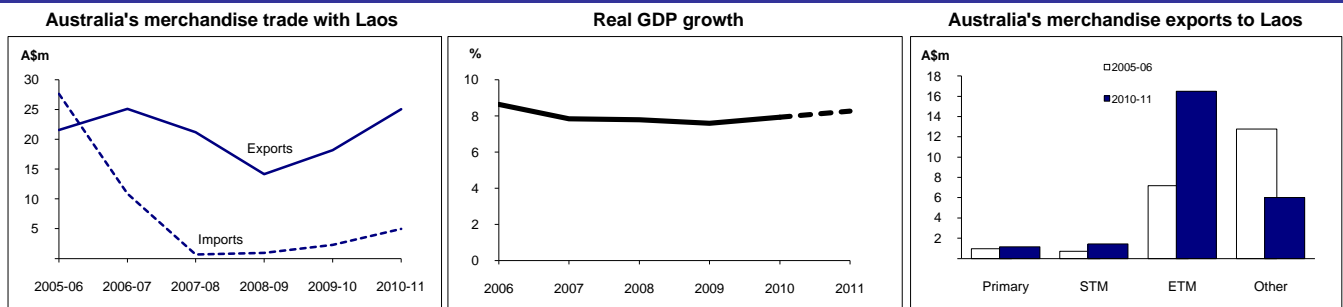
Fact Sheet

General information:

Fact sheets are updated biannually; June and December

Capital:	Vientiane	Head of State:	
Surface area:	237 thousand sq km	President HE Mr Choummaly Sayasone	
Official language:	Lao	Head of Government:	
Population:	6.4 million (2010)	Prime Minister HE Mr Thongsing Thammavong	
Exchange rate:	A\$1 = 8,123.10 Kip (Feb 2011)		

<i>Recent economic indicators:</i>	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010(a)	2011(b)
GDP (US\$bn) (current prices):	3.6	4.2	5.3	5.6	6.5	7.9
GDP PPP (US\$bn) (c):	10.9	12.1	13.3	14.4	15.8	17.4
GDP per capita (US\$):	596	694	856	886	1,004	1,204
GDP per capita PPP (US\$) (c):	1,816	1,979	2,141	2,285	2,449	2,659
Real GDP growth (% change yoy):	8.6	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.9	8.3
Current account balance (US\$m):	-352	-663	-982	-1,174	-1,173	-1,530
Current account balance (% GDP):	-9.9	-15.7	-18.5	-21.0	-18.2	-19.4
Goods & services exports (% GDP):	31.0	28.4	28.1	25.8	na	na
Inflation (% change yoy):	6.8	4.5	7.6	0.0	6.0	8.7



Australia's trade and investment relationship with Laos (d):

Australian merchandise trade with Laos, 2010-11:	Total share:	Rank:	Growth (yoy):
Exports to Laos (A\$m):	0.0%	89th	37.7%
Imports from Laos (A\$m):	0.0%	115th	116.2%
Total trade (exports + imports) (A\$m):	0.0%	107th	46.5%

Major Australian exports, 2010-11* (A\$m):

Civil engineering equipment & parts	2
Pumps for liquids & parts	2
Specialised machinery & parts	2
Taps, cocks & valves	1

Major Australian imports, 2010-11 (A\$m):

Coffee & substitutes	3
Clothing	1
Wood, simply worked	1

*Includes A\$6m of confidential items and special transactions, 24% of total exports.

Australia's trade in services with Laos, 2010-11:

	Total share:
Exports of services to Laos (A\$m):	na
Imports of services from Laos (A\$m):	na

Australia's investment relationship with Laos, 2010 (e):

	Total:	FDI:
Australia's investment in Laos (A\$m):	np	np
Laos' investment in Australia (A\$m):	np	nil

Laos' global merchandise trade relationships:

Laos' principal export destinations, 2010:

1	Thailand	31.1%
2	China	23.0%
3	Vietnam	12.9%
22	Australia	0.1%

Laos' principal import sources, 2010:

1	Thailand	65.6%
2	China	14.6%
3	Vietnam	6.6%
8	Australia	0.7%

Compiled by the Market Information and Research Section, DFAT, using the latest data from the ABS, the IMF and various international sources.

(a) All recent data subject to revision; (b) IMF forecast; (c) PPP is purchasing power parity; (d) Total may not add due to rounding; (e) Stock, as at 31 December. Released annually by the ABS. na Data not available. np Data not published. ... Data not meaningful.