# **LAOS**

Capital: Vientiane

#### **G**EODATA

Area 236,800 km²

Population 4.74 million (1994)

Population growth 2.85% (1994 est.)

Major languages
Lao (official), French and English

Major religions Buddhist (57.8%), tribal religions (33.6%), Christian (1.8%)

#### POLITICAL DATA

Type of government Republic

Leaders

President Nouhak Phoumsavanh

Minister of Foreign Affairs Somsavat Lengsavat

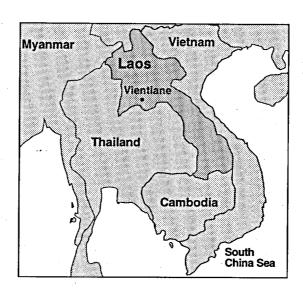
**Democratic institutions**The People's Supreme Assembly

UN Human Development Index Laos ranks 138th among 174 countries

## CANADIAN REPRESANTATIVE

Ambassador Manfred G. Von Nostitz The Canadian Embassy to Laos c/o The Canadian Embassy P.O. Box 2090 Bangkok 10500, Thailand

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### **ECONOMIC DATA**

**GDP** 

\$1.3 billion US (1993)

GDP growth rate 7% (1992 est.)

**GDP per capita** \$290 US (1993)

Main exports

Wood, electricity, coffee, tin

Main imports

Cereals, foodstuff, petroleum products, general and agricultural machinery, transport equipment

Main exports to Canada

\$987,000 (1994), including coffee, tea, spices, clothing

Main imports from Canada

\$45,000 (1994), including pharmaceutical products

Canadian bilateral assistance

\$0.8 million (1993-94)