

LAOS

Capital: Vientiane

GEODATA

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 REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Manfred G. Von Nostitz
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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)