

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON LAOS / UNESCO COOPERATION

Official name: Lao People's Democratic Republic

1. **Membership of UNESCO:** 9 July 1951
2. **Membership of the Executive Board:** No
3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions, etc.:**
Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions: Vice-President
Member: Term expired in 2013
4. **The Director-General's visits to Laos:** None
5. **Permanent Delegation:**
H.E. Mr Ouan Phommachack: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Lao People's Democratic Republic, Permanent Delegate (since 8 August 2014)
Previous Permanent Delegate: H.E. Mr Khouanta Phalivong
6. **UNESCO Office in Laos:** None
Laos is covered by Cluster Office in Bangkok established in 1961
Member States serviced: Thailand, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Singapore, Viet Nam and Cambodia
Director: Mr Gwang-jo KIM (D-2, Republic of Korea) since 19 January 2009.
The UNESCO project antenna office of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Bangkok, which was established in the UNDP Building in Vientiane at the end of 2008 was closed at the end of June 2014. The project officer who assisted the day-to-day monitoring of UNESCO's education-related activities and liaised with the Ministry of Education and Sports, donors and other ministries, has recently completed her contract (end of July 2014). At present, however, there is a UNESCO's liaison officer, stationed at the Heritage Department, to assist the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism in implementing UNESCO's culture-related activities and funds raising activities.
7. **National Commission:** established in March 1968
President: Mr Phankham Viphavanh (since March 2010)
Secretary-General: Mr Somboun Masouvanh (since March 2012)
8. **Personalities associated with UNESCO activities:** none
9. **UNESCO Chairs & UNITWIN Networks:** 1
Réseau UNITWIN sur le renforcement des capacités d'expertise sous-régionales en biodiversité végétale-(923)- établi en 2011 à l'Université Nationale du Laos, l'Université Royale de Phnom Penh, l'Université des Sciences Naturelles de Hanoi, l'Université des Sciences Naturelles de Ho Chi Minh Ville.
10. **Associated Schools:** 37
Member since 1996 with currently 37 schools (9 Primary Schools, 26 ASP2 Secondary Schools and 2 ASP3 Teacher Training) participating in the Network.
11. **Category 2 Institutes and Centres:** none

12. **Biospheres Reserves:** none
13. **World Heritage Sites: 2 (cultural)**
- Town of Luang Prabang (1995)
 - Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape (2001)
14. **Tentative Sites: 2 (1992)**
- Sites Mégalithiques de la province de Xieng Khouang
 - That Luang de Vientiane
15. **Intangible World Heritage :** none
16. **Memory of the World Register: 2 elements**
- The 1893 Women's Suffrage Petition
 - The Treaty of Waitangi
17. **Creative cities network:** no entry
18. **Legal instruments:** 10 ratified and 29 non-ratified
19. **Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2014-2015:** none
20. **Participation Programme:**
- 2014-2015 : 6 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 139,000
 - 2012-2013 : 6 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 131,000
 - 2010-2011: 9 projects approved for a total amount of US\$ 194,600 and 1 Emergency assistance for an amount of US\$ 25,000
21. **Fellowships:** 10 fellowships awarded since 2010, for a total amount of US\$ 230,108.
22. **Voluntary contributions to UNESCO :**

| Voluntary Contributions to UNESCO Extra-Budgetary Activities and Institutes | | | |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| (Expressed in US Dollars) | | | |
| COUNTRY | Jan-Jun 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
| LAOS | 0 | 0 | 0 |

23. **Payment of assessed membership fees for 2014-2015:**
(Assessment rate: 0.002% contributions assessed for 2014-2015: US\$13,060)
24. **Representation within the Secretariat:** Normally-represented
2 professional staff in geographical posts (min.2 - max.4)