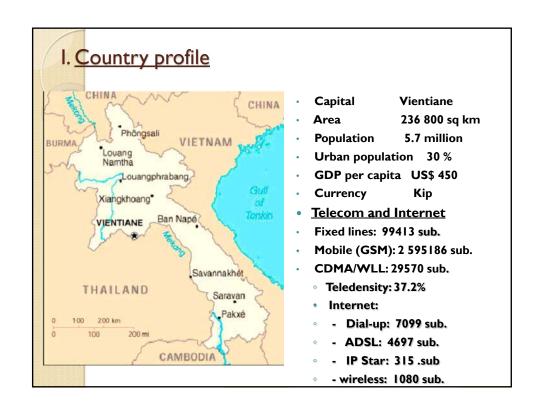
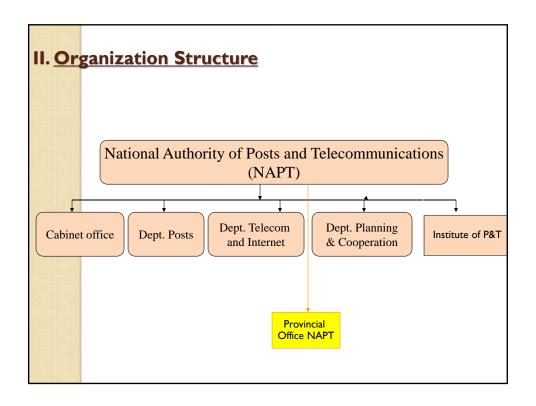
# Country report of Lao

# Workshop on Strengthening ICT Policies Applications to Achieve MDGs Goals in Southeast Asia

Bangkok 19-20 October 2009

By: Mr. Chaleun Sibounheuang National Authority of Post and Telecommunications





#### 1. About NAPT

- National Authority of Post and Telecommunication (NAPT) has been created under the Decree of Prime Minister of Lao PDR No.375/PM of 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007 (former Department of Post and telecommunication)
- NAPT is a state administration under the Prime Minister Office, dealing with administrative issues on Post, Telecommunication and ICT/Internet in Lao PDR.
- For better governance to improve sector performance

# 2. Role and Responsibility of NAPT

- Formulate Policy, Strategy for long term development plan of Post, Telecom and ICT/Internet and Regulate the sector:
- Licensing Post and Telecom Operators
- Monitoring, Coordination and Licensing of Radio Spectrum and Telephone Number
- Investment Monitoring and Licensing for import and export of telecom equipment & production
- Monitoring of standard of post & telecom
- International Liaison (ITU, APT, ASEAN, etc...)

# III. The ICT Policy approach of Lao PDR

- It is the intension to increase ICT services penetration to levels that are available among regional neighbors and majors trading partners.
- The policy and legislative framework has been developed in the context of Lao PDR,s political, economic and social objectives. Our intention to joint the WTO has also been recognized

- The government have outlined an ambitious, but appropriate range of broad policy objectives that govern our approach to the ICT sector. This involves:
- I. Increasing access to ICT, especially in underserved regional areas and communities;
- 2. Ensure the efficient use of resources
- Creating an enabling environment for the adoption of new technologies;
- Removing the obstacles to competition and eliminating anti-competitive practices;
- 5. Encouraging foreign investment;
- Developing ICT skills and competencies in government, industry and society; and
- 7. Ensuring the availability of services at affordable prices.

# Challenges for Developing Economies

- Lao PDR Recognizes that ICT is essential for continuing economic and social development of the country. ICT is also a key driver of national competitiveness.
- For a country like Lao PDR, the challenge of developing ICT is doubled. It must:
  - Deploy basic network infrastructure and increase the penetration of computers, and
  - Develop the advanced digital applications, electronic commerce and online services essential for the participation in the global information economy.
- Using the appropriate international precedent and advise from global industry experts, Lao PDR is now undertaking substantial reforms to is ICT sector

#### IV. Telecommunications Infrastructure

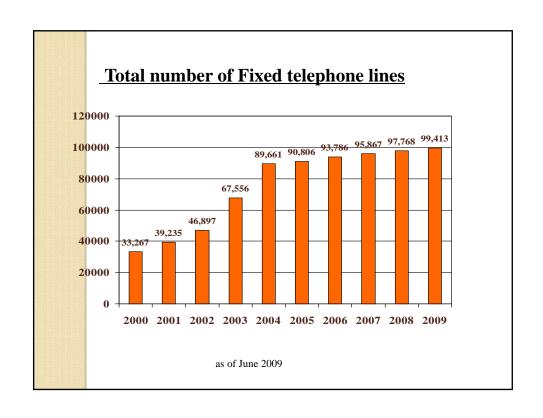
#### Telecommunication Operators

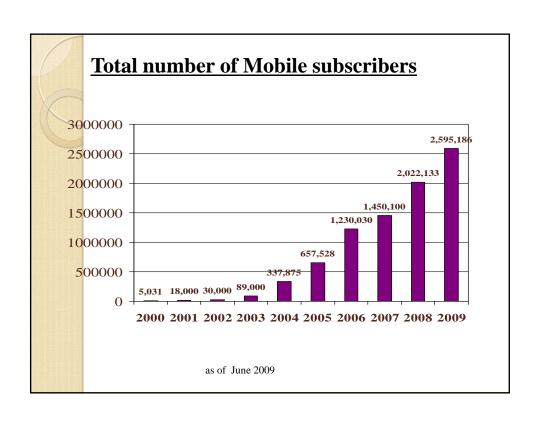
- Lao Telecom Co. Ltd (LTC):
   Fixed lines, Mobile telephone, Wireless Local Loop and Internet Service, International telephone
  - 2. Enterprise of Telecommunications Lao (ETL) Fixed lines, Mobile telephone, Internet Service and, International telephone
  - 3. Star Telecom
    Fixed lines, Mobile telephone
  - 4. Millicom Lao Co.Ltd (MLL)
    Prepaid Mobile telephone (Tigo)

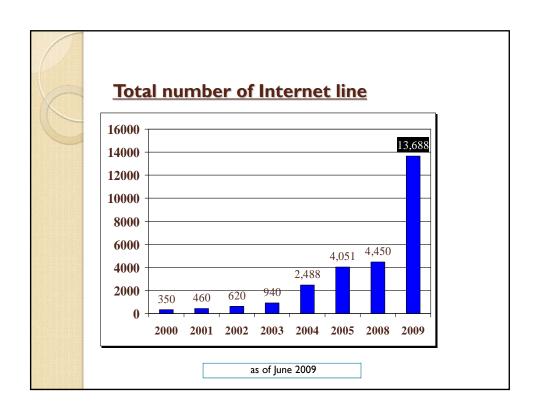
The sector consists of 3 fixed line operators

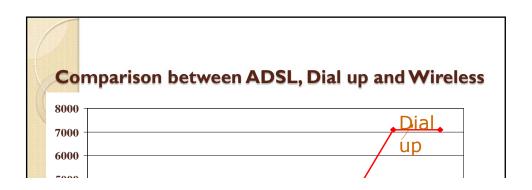
5 mobile players and 8 Internet Service Providers.

 Although Lao PDR remains a small market in term of other countries in the region









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