

Jointly organised by:

Ref No: ASEA 112/250610/06W

Attn: SBF Members



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LAOS INVESTMENT SEMINAR 2010

Date: Fri, 25 June 2010

Time: 8.30 am – 12.30 pm

Venue: Ballroom, Level 2, Conrad Centennial Singapore

Dress Code: Business Attire

Registration Fee: Free for SBF members

The Singapore Business Federation (SBF) and International Enterprise Singapore are pleased to present: "Laos Investment Seminar 2010" – a half day seminar highlighting the economic, investment and trade environment in Laos, and the business opportunities available to Singapore companies.

Laos' economy expanded by over 6% in 2009, registering one of the highest growth rates in South East Asia. The country is located at the heart of Indochina, and surrounded by the rapid-growing regions of Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and Southern China. With full accession to the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) due in 2015, regional economic integration will be an impetus for further development in Laos. The country has since attracted US\$510 million in foreign direct investment in 2008, almost 10-fold the amount in 2001.

Under the Greater Mekong Subregion Strategy, Laos' economic strategy involves transforming the country from land-locked to land-linked through the strengthening of its air and land linkages. Roads have been upgraded to facilitate key trade routes between Kunming and Bangkok, as well as between Thailand and Vietnam. Laos has also seen its first railway link to Thailand, with the enhancement of air connectivity with neighbouring regions, such as China.

With up to 18000 MW of hydroelectric power generation potential, Laos aims to be the "Battery of Asia". The resource-rich country presents opportunities in mining, logistics, real estate, infrastructure services and light manufacturing. As an up-and-coming tourist destination, tourist arrivals grew 23% to reach 1.73 million in 2008. This has encouraged significant investment in tourism infrastructure, logistics and services.

The Government has recently passed a new foreign investment law to enhance the economy's attractiveness to international investors. Find out first-hand from Lao government officials on some of the business and trading opportunities available in Laos and learn how you can navigate the business environment in Laos to capture a first-mover advantage.

PROGRAMME

- 8.30 am Registration & Morning Coffee
9.00 am Welcome Remarks by IE Singapore
Mr. Chong Lit Cheong, CEO
9.05 am Opening Address
Mr. Lee Yi Shyan, Minister of State, Ministry of Trade & Industry
9.15 am Keynote Address
H.E. Somsavat Lengsavad, Standing Deputy Prime Minister, Lao People's Democratic Republic
9.30 am Lao PDR as an Investment Destination
Mr Houmpheng Soulalay, Director-General, Foreign Investment Promotion Department, Ministry of Planning and Investment
10.00 am Infrastructure Opportunities in the Transport & Logistics Sectors in Lao PDR
Mr Lattanamany Khounnivong, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Civil Works and Transport
10.30 am Business Networking over Tea Break
10.50 am Opportunities in Agricultural Development
Mr Phouangparisak Pravongviengkham, Director General, Planning Dept, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
11.10 am Tourism Industry Outlook in Lao PDR
H.E. Mr Soukhaseum Phothisane, Vice-President, Lao National Tourism Authority
11.40 am Opportunities in the Lao PDR Financial Sector
Dr Bounleua Sinxayvoravong, DDG, Foreign Currencies Department, Ministry of Finance
12.00 pm Panel Question & Answer Session
12.20 pm Closing Remarks
Mr. Lawrence Leow, Honorary Deputy Secretary, Singapore Business Federation (SBF); Chairman & CEO, Crescendas Group

Programme is correct at time of print.

Administrative Details:

- Please fax registration form to reserve a seat. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.
Confirmation of your registration (ie. Confirmation stamp on this flyer from SBF) will be faxed to your company.
For enquiries on this event, please contact Ms Iris WANG at 6827 6850 or Mr. Alan Tan at 6827 6894.
NOTE: As a precautionary measure, our advice is for members who are unwell not to attend the session

Registration slip form with fields for Name, Designation, Company, SBF Membership No, Tel, Fax, Hp, Email, Business Activities, and Serial No. Includes reference to ASEA 112/250610/06W and closing date of 22 June 2010.