**Lao People’s Dem. Republic**

Surface area (‘000 km²): 236.8
Population (million), 2005: 5.9
Population growth rate (%), 2000-2005: 2.3
Official language: Lao
Currency: Kip
GNI per capita ($), 2004: 390

**Percentage shares in GDP, 2003:**
- Agriculture: 48.6
- Industry (including manufacturing): 25.9 (19.2)
- Services: 25.5
- Gross capital formation: 20.3
- Gross domestic savings: 20.5
- Exports of goods and services: 25.5
- Imports of goods and services: 25.3

Agricultural labour force (% of total labour force), 2004: 76

Life expectancy at birth (m/f), 2003: 58/60
HIV prevalence among adults (%), end-2003: 0.1
Under-5 mortality rate, 2003: (per 1,000 live births) 91
Population undernourished (%), 2000-2002: 22
Population using improved drinking water sources (%, urban/rural), 2002: 66/38
Adult literacy rate (%), 2000: 76/53

**Transport:**
- Road density (km/1,000 km²), 1999: 94.1
- Aircraft departures, 2003: 7,100
- Population with access to electricity (%), 2000: 18
- Telephone mainlines (per 1,000 people), 2003: 12
- Number of tourist arrivals, 2003: 196,000
- Exports of goods and services ($ m), 2003: 540.8
- Imports of goods and services ($ m), 2003: 536.2

Main export sector (% of total exports of goods and services), 2003:
- Tourism: 21.8

Main markets for exports of goods (%), 2004:
- Developing countries: 40.6
- Main destination: Asia (Thailand) 38.5 (18.6)

Main sources of imports of goods (%), 2004:
- Developing countries: 86.2
- Main origin: Asia (Thailand) 84.9 (57.8)

Foreign direct investment net inflows ($ m), 2004: 17.0
ODA net inflows ($ m), 2004: 269.6
Remittances from workers abroad ($ m), 2003: 1.0
External debt ($ m), 2003: 2,846.2
- As % of GNI 136.6
- Debt service as % of exports 9.2