

Country Paper: Water Allocation and Water Right situation of Lao PDR

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Country Overview

- First the Name of National Assembly is The People's Supreme Assembly and in 15th August 1991 renamed the National Assembly
- The Constitution provides a legal framework for:
 - The political regime
 - The socio-economic system
 - The fundamental rights and obligations of Lao citizens
 - The government, local administration and the judicial system

Law and Decree

- The Water and Water Resource Law was passed by the National Assembly in November 1996 and became effective in March 1997.
- The Water and Water Resource Law consists 10 chapters and its framework identifies the range of issues which need to be addressed:

Chapter II: Surveying, Listing, and Determination of Water Source types and Reservoirs.

- The Article 11 Water source and Catchments Allocation
- Article 12 Determination of water and water Resources Allocation

Chapter III: Water and Water Resource Use

- Article 14 Right to Use Water and Water Resources

The Decree to implement the Law on Water and Water Resources No. 204 promulgated by the Prime Minister's Office on 9/10/2001

- **The Degree Implement on Water and Water Resource Law consists 10 chapters and its framework identifies the range of issues which need to be addressed:**

Chapter II: Survey, Inventory and Classification of Water Sources and River Basins

- **Article 9: Water Sources and River Basin Allocation**

Chapter III: The Use of Water and Water Resources

- Article 12: The Licensing of Water Use and Water Resources Development Activities

Criticize: status water allocation and right in Laos.

■ Water Allocation and Conflict Resolution

- There is as yet no process for resolving water use conflicts

■ Property Rights and Tenure

- The water rights are granted to these for a specified number of years on a case by case basis

■ The problems and issues on water allocations

- The current institutional problem in the water sector mainly relates to lack of co-ordination between agencies within the sector and with those of other sectors

Prioritizing Water Allocation and Water Right in Lao PDR

- Many issues in the Law, particularly the roles and responsibilities of various agencies for specific activities such as water allocation and the process for licensing water users
- The development of further legislation or decrees for sub-sect oral activities

Conclusion

- There is as yet no process for resolving water use conflicts
- . There has been no work yet undertaken to define the environmentally sustainable limits to either water allocation or use, or to licensed wastewater discharge.
- Lack of co-ordination between agencies within the sector and with those of other sectors
- There is no RBO