



# LAO PDR: COUNTRY REPORT

## The Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes

*By: Department of Pollution Control and Monitoring (DPCM), MONRE. Lao PDR*

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# OUTLINE

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1. Overview Waste Management Legislation
2. Updates on National Laws/Regulations relevant to the implementation of the Basel Convention
3. Import control of plastic waste
4. Import control of E-waste
5. Future Plan

# 1. OVERVIEW WASTE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION

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## **Environmental Protection Law (2012)**

-Defined management of toxic and hazardous waste and its disposal; and prohibited importation of hazardous waste in Article 37, 38

## **Decision on Industrial and Handicraft Waste Management (2012)**

-Defined procedure of waste management procedures, include transportation of waste, and its disposal

## **Ministerial Instructions on Hazardous Waste Management (2015)**

-Classification of hazardous waste based on definition of Basel Convention (Article 2); Import – export of hazardous waste (Article 4, and Article 5) **organic matter**.

## 2. UPDATES ON NATIONAL LAWS/REGULATIONS RELEVANT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BASEL CONVENTION

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- **Ministerial Order on Suspend Establishment new Industrial that Use Plastic Waste as Raw Material (No. 0930/MoIC.DIH, 2019).**

Purposes:

- Control existing industries
- Suspend establishment of new industries

- **Ministerial Instruction on Plastic Waste Processing Factory (No.0682/MOIC, 2020).**

The contents that related to plastic waste import:

- 5.2 Plastic waste materials will be imported from abroad, the plastic should be sheet, plastic bag, bar, must be clean, and can recycle to be a product at least 80% and more.
- 5.3 No import the plastic waste materials that don't determine in 5.2 and the plastic waste there are characteristics: 1) contain or contaminate the disease; 2) unclean, smell; 3) contain the toxic or hazardous chemical; 4) non-recyclable.

# 3. IMPORT CONTROL OF PLASTIC WASTE

tons	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Source
Import of plastic waste	-	-	3,909	7,881	9,605	UN Comtrade
Export of plastic waste	862	1,919	1,353	822	1,833	
Import of secondary raw plastic materials	5,092	1,064	1,543	3,366	18,361	Raw data from Department of Custom at Ministry of Finance.
Export of secondary raw plastic materials	4,537	4,585	4,903	1,797	130	Data summarised by department of import and export at Ministry of Industry and Commerce

- Increase 2017-2019
- Origin of imported plastic waste : Awaiting data in 2021

Product category	Export	Import
Plastic pellets (granules)	18,302	11,672
Plastic bags	18,409	-
Rubber products	-	153,827
Other products (e.g. PVC tubes, construction material)	89,660	4,764
<b>Total</b>	<b>126,372</b>	<b>170,263</b>

There are at least 17 production facilities in Lao LPR with a production capacity of approximately 51,000 tons based on interviews

Data source: Custom Department (2020)

# IMPORT CONTROL OF PLASTIC WASTE

## Challenges:

The Ministerial Order on Suspend Establishment new Industrial that Uses Plastic Waste as Raw Material (2019) is suspended new establishment of the factories used plastic waste as raw material, however the existing factories compliance with environmental and technology standard still can continue their operation. Consequently, the amount of importation of plastic waste is kept going and trends to increase since neighboring countries are banning the importation of plastic waste.

Lack of specific regulation and technical guidelines of hazardous waste management for Basel Convention Implementations.



A temporary ban on the import of plastic scrap in 2021 (no new quota)

# IMPORT CONTROL OF PLASTIC WASTE

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## **Policy for promoting plastic waste recycling:**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment's 10 Year Strategy 2016 – 2025, one of the main features was aim for hazardous waste reduction; Promotion of 3Rs in waste management, also improving of domestic and medical waste collection system. To elaborate these components of the Strategy, the Pollution Control Department shall develop plan of action to reflect these outcomes.

## 4. IMPORT CONTROL OF E-WASTE

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- The country lacks of legal instrument to support implementation of E-waste control, in additional lack of capacity and resources become the major challenges for the country to manage E-waste
- Promotion of the domestic collection and recycling of E-waste shall include in the proposed strategy on waste and hazardous management develop by the Pollution Control Department (on going)



## 5. FUTURE PLAN

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- Develop the National Policy of Hazardous Waste and Plastic Waste Management.
- Develop the specific regulation and technical guideline of hazardous waste management for Basel Convention Implementations.
- Strengthen the human resource on waste management and collaborate with the ASEAN network for the prevention of illegal transboundary movement of hazardous waste management.
- Develop the National Plastics Action Plan in Lao PDR.

**THANK YOU**

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