

Strengths

- Good cooperation with foreign institutions and organizations.
- Accommodation (NUOL)
- Opportunity in attracting fundings in improving capacities of ~~teachers~~, researchers and lecturers by NGOs, Erasmus, etc.

Internal

Weaknesses

- No international courses.
- No application for international students.
- Students' limited language proficiency.
- Language issues of teachers and staff.
- No university's scholarships for international students.
- Limitation of research capacity of researchers and teachers.
- Credit transfer issues / recognition
- Few outbound students due to limited budget
- No dormitories for exchange professors and students.
- University's information dissemination - website, facebook, etc.
- Young staff / lecturers - qualifications
- Issues of terms of reference of inter-departments.
- Complication in coordination between inter-departments.

Opportunities

- Ministry of Education and sports has policy in supporting HEIs to cooperate with foreign institutions.
- Good locations - Capital city and world heritage city.
- Human resource development projects supported by ADB
- The Lao government has ^a policy in strengthening second language competency starting at the third grade of primary school.
- Least developed country.

External

Threats

- MoES does not have internationalisation strategies.
- No guidelines for international students to apply for visa
- Issues of recognition of ~~lao~~ students' qualifications who graduate from Laos of foreign institutions
- Lack of comprehensive understanding of internationalisation of ^{the} Lao government.

Goal: Increase International exchanges opportunities for students, staff and researchers.

Activities	Responsible Department	Success indicators	Due date	Resources required (staff, technician, ...)
1. Improving University's websites	IT & IRO	English and Lao versions		IT / IRO team, University's budget
2. Improving accommodation (dormitories)	Accommodation Service Office (ASO)	A new building with 20 rooms		ASO; Government's budget
3. Creating a guideline for exchange students, staff	International relations office	A guideline		IRO; University's budget
4. Improving language proficiency of staff, researchers and students	Academic affairs office (AAO) Faculty of languages / Letters. IRO	4 times / year 100 participants / year		AAO, FOL, IRO, budget of university / organizations.
5. Developing international program.	Faculties concerned, AAO.	Each faculty has at least 1 program in 2022.		Faculties concerned, AAO
6. Facilitating students, staff and researchers in running official documents.	IRO, Immigration department, MAFS	All inbound and outbound		IRO
7. Increasing bilateral / multilateral cooperation.	IRO	10 times / year		IRO
8. Monitoring and evaluating MOU, MOA & MOP	IRO	Expiration of MOU, MOA & MOP		IRO
9. Increasing an awareness of internationalisation of staff and researchers.	IRO	2 times / year		IRO, university's budget
10. Improving quality assurance system	AAO; Faculties concerned	AUN QA	2020	AAO, Faculties concerned
11. Improving credit transfer system	AAO, faculties concerned	Academic staff have been trained	2022	AAO, faculties concerned

12.	Allocating budget for international students exchange (inbound & outbound)	IRO, finance officers.	20 people/year	IRO, finance office
13.	Join research with partner universities	IRO, RASO	10 times/year	IRO, RASO; Govt. & Int's budget
14.	Sending staff and lecturers to attend training at partner universities	IRO	100 times/year	IRO, # partner universities and International agency's budget
15.	Host and co-host international conferences	IRO, RASO	3 times/year	IRO, RASO, partner universities' and govt. budget.
16.	Conducting a number of academic and cultural exchanges with partner universities	IRO, faculties concerned, AAC, SAC	5 times/year	IRO, AAC, SAC, faculties concerned
17.	Seeking for funding for staff, researchers & students' mobilities	IRO, AAC, SAC, faculties concerned	10 funding sources	IRO, AAC, SAC, faculties concerned
18.	Improving language proficiency of IR officers	IRO, Faculty's international relations staff	2 times/year	IRO, faculty's international relations staff, University's budget
19.	Improving working capacity of IR officers	IRO, faculty's international relations staff	2 times/year	IRO, faculty's international relations staff, university's budget

National University of Laos is Saphanouvong University, Lao PDR.