

2011~ (11-402)

Project Name:	<i>The Project for Improvement of Road Management Capability in Lao PDR</i>		
Country:	Laos		
Status:	Leading Firm	Associate 1: Oriental Consultants	
Project Duration:	Current Year	Start Date:	End Date:
FY 2011	Phase 1	2011.9.21	2014.7.14
FY	Phase 2 (Final Phase)		
Assignment Description:			
<p>Lao PDR is a land-locked country and its transport infrastructure and system heavily rely on road transport to carry both goods and passengers to and from neighboring countries. The road transport in Lao PDR is reported to carry 80% of total domestic cargos and 85% of total passengers transported in Lao PDR. The Lao Government heavily channels its investment to the development of the national trunk roads, and, accordingly, 55% of 7,200 km national roads have already been paved.</p> <p>Due to financial constraints, the Lao Government has encouraged to pave the national roads with DBST for the last decades (90% of the paved national roads are paved by DBST). However, the national roads are currently being paved by Asphalt Concrete (AC), including those at NR-9 and NR-18B. Pavement of the national roads is being deteriorated and quite a number of potholes and cracks are observed, due to a lack of local planning as well as technical and financial capability in road management and maintenance. This contributes to hindering the provision of safe and reliable transport system and hence development of regional economic activities, as well.</p> <p>In the last decade, the World Bank, together with other multi-lateral and bilateral donors, has made great efforts for capacity development of road maintenance and management in Lao PDR, by providing technical and financial support. In 2010, the World Bank completed the Road Maintenance Program Phase-II and channels its support to a wider sector approach project, entitled Road Sector Project and there would be less support towards road maintenance per se. Under the recognition that road maintenance in Lao PDR still requires continuous support, the Lao Government officially requested the Japanese Government for a technical cooperation program, entitled, the Project for Improvement of Road Management Capability, this is done to develop planning and technical capability of road maintenance works in Lao PDR.</p>			