

# TOOLKIT

*Designing and managing international relations,  
educational projects and mobility schemes in Asian  
Universities*

**Erasmus+ KA102**



**National University of Laos**

# National University of Laos's FACTS and FIGURES

- The National University of Laos (NUOL) is the first comprehensive or full-fledged university in the history of Lao PDR since its establishment on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1996.

- National University of Laos (NUOL) is located in Dong Dok Village, Xaythany District, Vientiane, Lao PDR as the Main Campus, while NUOL includes 5 campuses included Dongdok, Sokpaluang, Donenokkhoum, Nabong and Tadthong.

- The NUOL is comprised of 13 faculties, 2 institutes, 1 central library, 3 centers, 1 hospital, 11 offices and 1 school for Gifted and Ethnic Students.

- There 187 Academic Programs offered at NUOL (26 Continuing Programs, 5 Diploma Programs, 100 Undergraduate Programs, 53 Master Programs, 3 Doctoral Programs)

- AY 2018/19 NUOL Student Statistics: There are 22,752 students enrolled in NUOL (Doctor: 27, Master: 1881, Bachelor: 20694, High Diploma: 150)

- The total number of staff in NUOL is 1854 (458 Teaching Staff, 362 Admin Staff, 1034 Admin Staff & Lecturers)

# INTERNATIONAL PROFILE: FACTS & FIGURES

- *Total Number of International MoU/MoA is 277 (108 valid) with 30 countries & 9 International Orgs/NGOs*

- *Top 3 International Collaborations:*

- ✓ P.R China → Training, Seminar/Conference/Workshop, Staff/Student mobility (Short-Term Exchange, Bachelor, Master, Ph.D Programs, visiting professors), Research.
- ✓ Japan → Training, Seminar, faculty Exchange (visiting professors, Master, PhD Programs), Student Exchange (Short-Term Exchange, Bachelor Program), Research
- ✓ Vietnam → Training, Staff/Student mobility (Short-Term Exchange, Bachelor, Master, PhD Programs, visiting professors), Learning Material Support

- *Staff/Student Mobility Statistics of NUOL in 2018:*

- ✓ Number of incoming exchange/visiting students → 454 (mainly from China, Vietnam, Cambodia)
- ✓ Number of incoming exchange/visiting professors → 60 (mainly from China, Korea, Japan)
- ✓ Number of outgoing exchange/visiting students → 206 (mainly in P.R China, Vietnam, Japan)
- ✓ Number of outgoing exchange/visiting professors → 951 (mainly in P.R China, Vietnam, Thailand)

*NUOL has been proceeding 23 projects with 20 international sectors which initiate earlier until now,*

Ex: The faculty of Engineering cooperated to ERASMUS Plus launched the capacity building project named “Communicative Approaches in University Vocational Teaching Methodology focusing on Improving Educational Yield and Sustainability ( CATALIST )” which is effective from 2016 to 2019.

# INTERNATIONALIZATION: ACTORS

**The Office of International Relations is the key actor involved in the internationalization process of the National University of Laos which is led by the Vice President for International Relations**

**(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Phout SIMMALAVONG: 2016 – now)**



## International Cooperation

- Evaluating and enhancing cooperation with partner universities
- Promoting the university and finding potential partner universities



## Student Exchanges

- Continuing existing programs with partners universities – student and cultural exchanges
- Collaborating with Academic Affairs to developing and implementing credit transfer system



## Academic and Research Exchange and Cooperation

- Defining regulations and providing assistance for exchange with international partners
- Finding research funds for faculty and researchers to research and development



## Human Resource Development

- Building capacity of IR officers by sending to attend language and technical trainings
- Contacting and finding potential scholarships for staff to upgrading qualifications

## **INTERNATIONALIZATION: ACTORS**

- ❑ The IRO is in the front line of the National University of Laos to promote and raise on the regional and international stages, development of domestic and international cooperation by creating international cooperation conditions at all levels.**
- ❑ The internal and external relations and cooperation is regarded as the NUOL's key roles in its functions and it is to ensure the effective coordination and cooperation with the external partners and networks in different levels, meanwhile it is strengthening the NUOL's strong roles in its international affairs and in line with the Government's policy on external relations which is based on mutual benefits and non-interference in each and one another's internal affairs.**

## INTERNATIONALIZATION: 3 GOALS of NUOL

To train students to become well-trained and disciplined academicians, professionals with certain level of knowledge and skills processed, and those trained graduates are expected to become specialists and experts in the fields of training committing and contributing to their country's socio-economic development, it is with the link to the regional and international norms and standard of development.

To develop university's comprehensive management system with efficiency and transparency guaranteed.

To become a full-fledged university and so-called as clean and green campuses with the developed infrastructure, facilities and resources fully provided for the academic training need.

# INTERNATIONALIZATION: 6 PRIORITIES of NUOL



Develop human resources to be knowledgeable and competent



Develop university administration to be consistent with socio-economic development



Improve the quality of teaching and learning toward regional and international standard



Conduct scientific research and academic services in response national socio-economic development plan



Improve and expand infrastructure and facilities for educational development

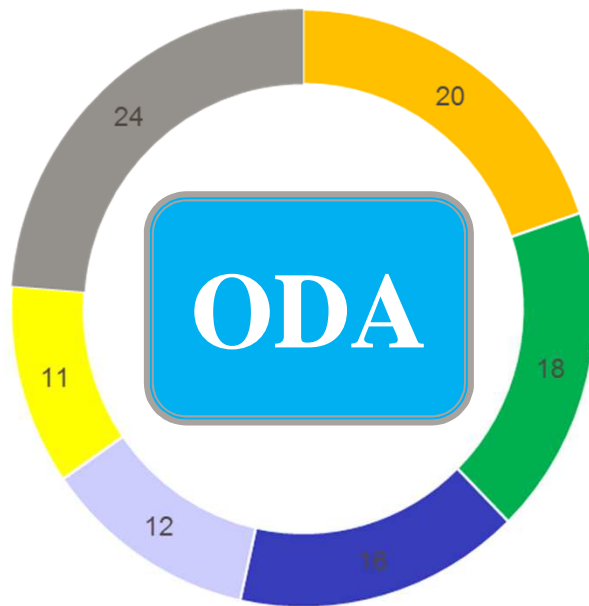


Foster domestic and international cooperation



# INTERNATIONALIZATION: ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS

## OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA)



- Infrastructure
- Education
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Natural Resources and Environment
- Health

The government of Lao PDR recognizes education's importance in achieving national development goals. The country relies heavily on external funding called ODA.



## **INTERNATIONALIZATION: ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS**

# **ODA: The Sectors Proceeding Joint Project at NUOL**

- **Environmental Protection Fund**
- **ISP Sweden**
- **International Science Program**
- **Eco-Health**
- **ELIC**
- **ERASMUS Plus**
- **European Union**
- **DAAD**
- **USAID**
- **World Bank**
- **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research**
- **The Government of Luxembourg**
- **The Government of China**
- **The Government of Japan**
- **JICA**
- **KOICA**

## **INTERNATIONALIZATION: ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS**

- **Annually, NUOL has sent a number of faculty, professors and students to join in overseas trainings at partner universities.**
- **Hosted and co-hosted a number of international conferences such as Laos-EU Higher Education Roadshows, AUN Submit, AUNILO Submit, ASEAN Innovation Conference, Entrepreneurship trainings, etc.**
- **Conducted a number of academic and cultural exchanges with partner universities.**
- **Have signed and joined the MOA on Exchange Programs with 19 universities from Japan, Singapore, Korea, and Thailand**
- **Every academic year, more 30 undergraduate students pursue exchange programs at partner universities (outbound programs).**
- **Coordinate and provide assistance to inbound exchange students (e.g. graduate students) and researchers.**

## **INTERNATIONALIZATION: ACTIVITIES AND TOOLS**

- **The scientific research is a major activity of NUOL, and is regarded as the main criteria for awarding academic titles and ranks.**
- **Research funds are received from the Government, regional and international organizations, and foundations (e.g. KFAS, KOICA, IDRC, AusAID, UNFPA, JICA, Japan Foundation, etc.)**
- **NUOL Since 1996, NUOL has conducted and published more than 500 research articles in national, regional and international research journals.**
- **Most of the research done by NUOL aiming at standardizing education quality to effectively respond to the national socio-economic development. It focuses its research on both social and natural sciences where the emphasis on the applied sciences.**
- **NUOL has set its strategic research development in order to contribute to the needs of society and national development.**

## **INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION: CHALLENGES**

**Language skills of university staff (academic and administrative)**

**Expertise of university staff, particularly academic staff**

**Difficulties for integration of studies at home and abroad (e.g. credit transfer)**

**Coordination among inter-departments/units**

**Financial constraint**

**Comprehensive understanding of internationalization process**

# Thank you

**Questions and  
discussions are welcomed**

