

Country Profile: Laos

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Laos 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DMA L7015)	Defence Mapping Agency	1:50,000	1960 - 1999	282
Laos 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	Service Geographique d'Etat	1:100,000	1982 - 1987	175
Laos 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	Service Geographique d'Etat	1:200,000	1987 - 1987	51

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Laos 1:200,000 Scale Geologic Maps	Department of Geology and Mines	1:200,000	2008 - 2008	34
Laos 1:200,000 Scale Geological Explanatory Notes	Department of Geology and Mines	1:200,000	2008 - 2008	2
North Vietnam 1:500,000 Scale Series 1963 Geological Maps	Địa chất và Khoáng sản biển (GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES)	1:500,000	1963 - 1963	4
Tectonic Map of North Vietnam 1:2,000,000 Scale	Địa chất và Khoáng sản biển (GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES)	1:2,000,000	1963 - 1963	1
China 1:2,500,000 Scale Geological Map (6 sheets)	Dizhi Chubanshe / Geological Publishing House	1:2,500,000	2005 - 2005	1
China 1:2,500,000 Scale Quaternary Geological Map (9 sheets)	Dizhi Chubanshe / Geological Publishing House	1:2,500,000	1990 - 1990	1
China 1:4,000,000 Scale Geological Map (2 sheets)	Dizhi Chubanshe / Geological Publishing House	1:4,000,000	1977 - 1977	1
China 1:5,000,000 Scale Metallic Resources Map	Dizhi Chubanshe / Geological Publishing House	1:5,000,000	1992 - 1992	1
China 1:5,000,000 Scale Mineral Resources Map	Dizhi Chubanshe / Geological Publishing House	1:5,000,000	1992 - 1992	1
China 1:5,000,000 Scale Nonmetallic Resources Map	Dizhi Chubanshe / Geological Publishing House	1:5,000,000	1992 - 1992	1
Thailand (Northern) 1:250,000 Scale Geological Maps	Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany	1:250,000	1975 - 1977	7

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000	-	2
Laos 1:1,500,000 Scale Administrative Map	NGDL	1:1,500,000	2008 - 2008	1

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

Year	Questions / Answers	ADM Level	Polygons at ADM	Data Points
2005	28 / 105	3	10,520	1,104,600
2015	27 / 167	3	8,499	1,419,333

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	Voenno-topograficheskoe upravlenie General'nogo shtaba (Soviet Union)	Varies	1944 - 2003	3017
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	Voenno-topograficheskoe upravlenie General'nogo shtaba (Soviet Union)	1:100,000	1947 - 1999	24897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	Voenno-topograficheskoe upravlenie General'nogo shtaba (Soviet Union)	1:200,000	1949 - 2009	17799

Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	Voenno-topograficheskoe upravlenie General'nogo shtaba (Soviet Union)	1:500,000	1953 - 1998	3093
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Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	Varies	1943 - 2013	4517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG) 1:250,000 - Aeronautical	Defence Mapping Agency	1:250,000	1958 - 2007	4204
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale - Aeronautical	Defence Mapping Agency	1:500,000	1967 - 2006	598
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	Defence Mapping Agency	1:1,000,000	1969 - 2001	243
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	Defence Mapping Agency	1:2,000,000	1971 - 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	Defence Mapping Agency	1:5,000,000	1981 - 1999	27

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	Voenno-topograficheskoe upravlenie General'nogo shtaba (Soviet Union)	1:1,000,000	1948 - 1994	1089

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Topographic

Modern mapping of Laos was first carried by French colonial authorities as part of their Indo-Chinese surveys, with triangulation completed by 1939 and 1:100,000 basic scale mapping published and revised prior to French disengagement in 1955. American aid after independence assisted the foundation of the national mapping agency, the **Service Géographique National**, which was redesignated as the **National Geographic Department (NGD)** in 1990. Complete photogrammetric 1:50,000, 1:100,000 and 1:250,000 scale mapping of the country was carried out based upon the Transverse Mercator projection until American withdrawal in 1975. More recent series, however, reflect Russian investment after 1975, and conform to Soviet standards, using the Gauss conformal transverse cylindrical projection, Krassovsky ellipsoid, with sheet numbering and breakdown from International Map of the World sheet lines. Sheets were published with French place names. 1:100,000 scale mapping in 175 sheets was revised from new aerial coverage and fitted to the new specifications. A 51 sheet 1:200,000 scale coverage has also been published. 1:500,000 and 1:1 000,000 scale series were also prepared. Other publications include administrative mapping and simple maps of major towns.

Soviet military topographic mapping of Laos exists at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (5 sheets, complete coverage, published 1961-1973); 1:500,000 (12 sheets, complete coverage, published 1964-1991); 1:200,000 (55 sheets, complete coverage, published 1963-1983); 1:100,000 (176 sheets, complete coverage, published 1974-1991) and a city (1:10,000) topographic map of Vientiane published in 1979. These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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Geological/Scientific

The **Direction de la Géologie et des Mines (DGM)** is responsible for geological surveying in Laos, with 1:500,000 scale geological coverage in 11 sheets. More recent mapping includes a project financed through the Asian Development Bank, with the collaboration of the **British Geological Survey (BGS)**, which resulted in 1990 in the publication of a full-color 1:1,000,000 scale geological and minerals map of the country. Separate small-scale mineral and geological coverage of the country was also published in 1990 by the **Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)**, Bangkok, as sheets in the *Atlas of mineral resources*.

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Soil

In 1976 the **Soil Research Center** was established in the **Ministry for Forestry and Agriculture**.

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Vegetation/Forestry

In 1990 a major land use monitoring program was established with Swedish aid in the **National Office for Forest Inventory and Management**. This planned to complete 1:250,000 scale land use mapping, with sample areas compiled at 1:50,000 scale.

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Tourist/Reference

International Travel Maps (ITM), Vancouver published a tourist map of Laos in 1996 in its *International travel map series*, and Laos is also covered on a recently published sheet from **Institut Géographique National (IGN)** Paris.

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