



# Conference on the Role of Financial Education and Consumer Protection in Supporting Financial Inclusion

Organized by: BOL-GIZ-OECD-ADB

Supported by the Governments of Australia, Germany and Japan

## INFORMATION NOTE

26-27 November 2018

Vientiane, LAO PDR

Supported by





## Documents and Website

All documentation relating to the Conference is available at:

<http://www.oecd.org/finance/financial-education/conference-on-financial-education-and-consumer-protection-in-southeast-asia.htm>



## Language

The conference will be mainly conducted in English language. Interpretation into and from Lao language will be provided through headphones.



## Venue

The conference will be held in Don Chan Palace Hotel & Convention for the two days of the event.

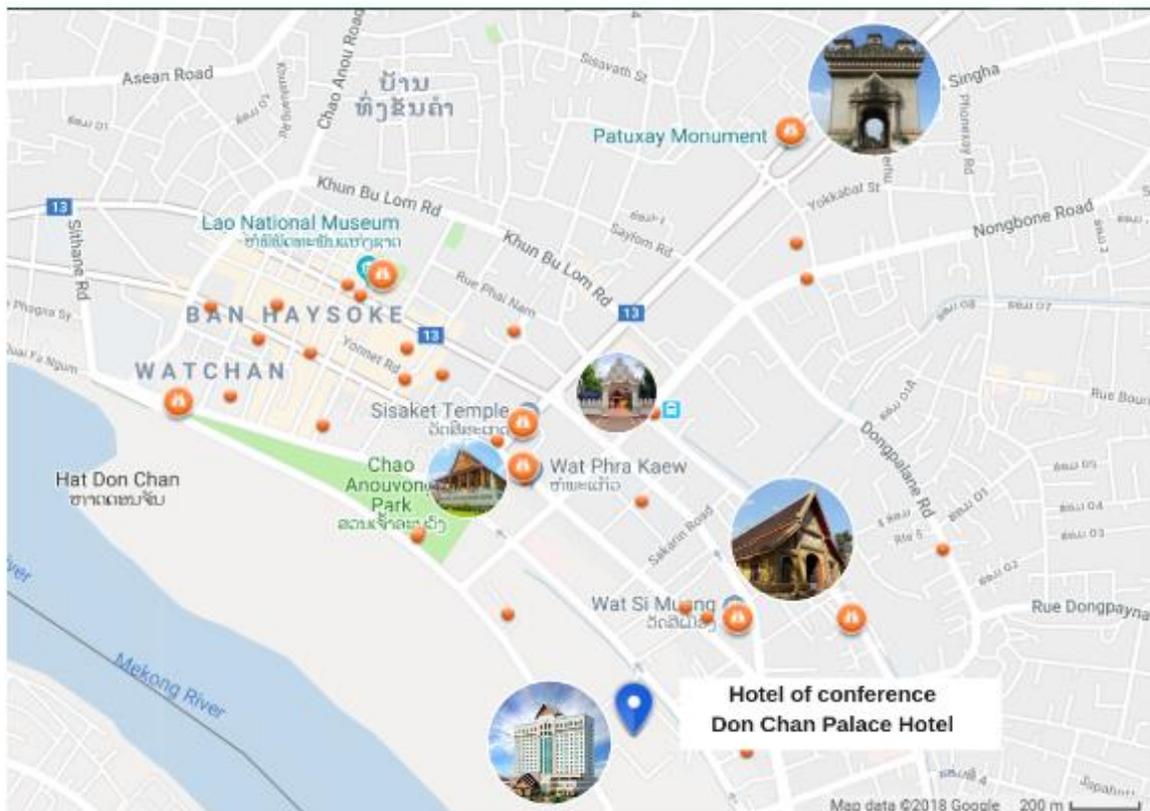
Address: Unit 6, Piavat Village, Sisattanak District, Vientiane, Lao PDR

Phone: (856) 21 226 666 or 244 288

Fax: (856) 21 244 111-2

E-mail: [info@donchanpalacelaopdr.com](mailto:info@donchanpalacelaopdr.com)

[www.donchanpalacelaopdr.com](http://www.donchanpalacelaopdr.com)





## Facilities at the Venue

Wi-Fi connection will be available in the conference venue. Participants will be provided with the necessary information during registration.



## Meals and Others

During the conference, coffee, light beverages and pastries will be available during the coffee breaks. For lunch, all delegates will be invited for the two days of conferences.

If case of special dietary requirements, please send an e-mail to: [soulitah.sengdala@giz.de](mailto:soulitah.sengdala@giz.de).



## Cocktail

A cocktail offered by the OECD and ADBI will be served immediately at the end of day one of the conference (26 November) within the hotel of the conference.



## Accommodation

### Don Chan Palace Hotel & Convention

Participants wishing to stay at the hotel of the conference should specify the name of the conference: "GIZ Financial Literacy conference 26-27 November 2018" when making their hotel reservation.

Donchan Road, Unit 6 Piavat Village, Sisattanak District, Vientiane, Lao PDR; Tel: +856 21 244 288; Fax: +856 21 244 173 E-mail: [info@donchanpalacelaopdr.com](mailto:info@donchanpalacelaopdr.com) or [www.donchanpalacelaopdr.com](http://www.donchanpalacelaopdr.com)

Type of Room	GIZ Corporate rate (USD NET)	Published rate (USD NET)
	SGL/TWN	SGL/TWN
Standard classic (City view)	75	75+++
Standard superior (Mekong view)	75	75+++
Deluxe suite (King)	100	100+++
Executive suite (King)	140	140+++

*\*Note: rates include airport pick up. Please inform the hotel or your arrival and departure time and flight numbers upon booking.*



## Landmark Mekong Riverside Hotel Vientiane

Donchan Road, Thatkao Village, Sisattanak District, Vientiane, Lao PDR; Tel: (856-21) 266 888; Fax: (856-21) 266 899; Email: [info@landmarkmekonghotel.com.la](mailto:info@landmarkmekonghotel.com.la) or [www.landmarkmekonghotel.com.la](http://www.landmarkmekonghotel.com.la)

Type of Room	GIZ Corporate rate (USD NET)	Published rate (USD NET)
	SGL/TWN	SGL/TWN
Superior	110	240
Deluxe	120	312
Executive Luxury	368	506

*\*Note: rates do not include airport pick up. Airport pickup will be covered by the Bank of the Lao PDR. Please inform [soulitah.sengdala@giz.de](mailto:soulitah.sengdala@giz.de) of your arrival and departure times and flight numbers.*



## Hotel Ibis

Namphou Square, Setthathirath Road, Xieng Ngeun Village, Chanthabouly District, Vientiane, Lao PDR; Tel: +856 21 262 050; Fax: +856 21 262 230; E-mail: [H8074-RE@accor.com](mailto:H8074-RE@accor.com) or [www.ibishotel.com-accorhotels.com](http://www.ibishotel.com-accorhotels.com)

Type of Room	GIZ Corporate rate (USD NET)	
	No breakfast	Include breakfast
Standard (SGL)	72.6	79.86
Standard (TWN)	72.6	87.12

*\*Note: rates do not include airport pick up. Airport pickup will be covered by the Bank of the Lao PDR. Please inform [soulitah.sengdala@giz.de](mailto:soulitah.sengdala@giz.de) of your arrival and departure times and flight numbers.*



## Visa requirement

Participants from ASEAN member countries do not need any entry visa to Lao PDR.

On request, the BoL will issue an official letter of invitation to support a visa application for participants who do not have an ASEAN passport. Participants will receive an invitation letter to help the visa arrangements in their home countries. Please provide your name, job positions and passport details to: [soulitah.sengdala@giz.de](mailto:soulitah.sengdala@giz.de). Participants should make their own visa arrangements. Visa on arrival is possible upon payment. Please bring two pictures with you.

International traveler's insurance is recommended while you stay in the Lao PDR. The organizers decline responsibility for any consequences of a delegate failing to ensure that he or she has complied with the necessary health, passport and visa requirements.

## Getting There

The hotel conference is situated at just 12 minutes or 9.2 Km from Wattay International Airport by car. A trip by taxi from the airport to the recommended hotels costs around 8-10 USD.

Participants staying at Don Chan Palace should inform the hotel about their arrival and departure time and flight numbers when booking a hotel room for accommodation, so the hotel can arrange the airport pick up accordingly.

Participants staying in other hotels (not the Don Chan Palace), are welcome to provide their flight details and name of hotel to [soulitah.sengdala@giz.de](mailto:soulitah.sengdala@giz.de). The Bank of the Lao PDR will arrange transportation to pick up and transfer to the airport as well as from the hotel to the conference venue.

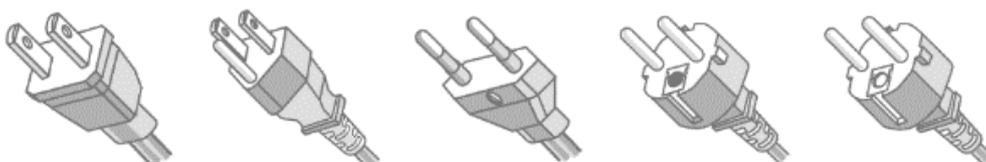
## Useful Information

**CLIMATE:** November is usually a dry season in Vientiane. Usually during this month the weather is nice and temperatures range between a minimum of 19.3°C and a maximum of 29.8°C, according to the report from WorldWeather which can be found <https://worldweather.wmo.int/121/c00235.htm>

**CURRENCY:** The main currency that use widely in the Lao PDR is Lao KIP. The exchange rate of 1 USD = 8,527 Kips (November 2, 2018). Usually US dollars and Thai Baht are accepted within the major restaurants, shops, department stores and markets, but the exchange rate may be different than in currency exchange shops. Some credit cards like Visa, Mastercard, Unionpay are accepted in the major shops or restaurant. Cash is widely accepted. Local currency cash withdrawal is available at ATM machines. View the latest exchange rates: <https://www.bcel.com.la/bcel/?lang=en>

**ELECTRICAL SUPPLY:** In the Lao PDR the power plugs and sockets are of type A, B, C, E and F. The standard voltage is 220/240 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

**LANGUAGE:** Lao is the language most widely spoken, but some English and French are understood by many people in Vientiane.



**TELEPHONE SERVICES:** The country code for Lao PDR is +856 and the city code for Vientiane is 20 for mobile phone and 21 for telephone.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS:** The HOT LINE NUMBER in the Lao PDR are:

General emergency/Police: **1191**

Fire service: **1190**

Ambulance: **1195**

English is not usually spoken by these services, so the help of a Lao speaker may be required.

**TIME ZONE:** Vientiane is 7 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT + 7 hours).

**TIPPING:** Tipping is not part of the culture in the Lao PDR, and you are not required or expected to tip anywhere. If you would like to give more money than the set price, you should specify that it is for a tip.

**TAX:** The VAT in the Lao PDR is (10%) applies to all supplies of goods (works and services). Prices of products in shops usually include VAT.

**TOURIST INFORMATION:** Vientiane is the capital city of the Lao PDR. It offers a relaxing riverside break, where one of the best things you can do is grab a drink and enjoy the sun's spectacular show as it sets over the Mekong river. Despite being the largest city in the Lao PDR and the hub of commerce and administration, Vientiane is still refreshingly laid back.

Read more at: <http://www.visit-laos.com/vientiane/?cid=ch:OTH:001> and for more information visit [http://www.tourismlaos.org/show.php?Cont\\_ID=20](http://www.tourismlaos.org/show.php?Cont_ID=20)



## Further Enquiries

For further logistical information or enquiries about the Conference, please contact:

- GIZ: Soulita Sengdala; Tel.: +856-20-5296 4555, + 856-20-2980 6005; E-mail: [soulita.sengdala@giz.de](mailto:soulita.sengdala@giz.de);
- OECD: Paloma Cupello, Email: [paloma.cupello@oecd.org](mailto:paloma.cupello@oecd.org)