

<b>Sub-Program</b>	<b>2. Building a Strong Base for Sustained Economic Growth</b>
<b>Component</b>	<b>2-1. Improvement of Economic Infrastructure</b>
<b>Target Organizations:</b>	Ministry of Planning and Investment Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Ministry of Energy and Mines Ministry of Public Works and Transport Ministry of Education and Sports Vientiane Capital * Vientiane Capital and Provincial level department can apply
<b>Accepting University (Number of Scholars)</b>	<b>Hiroshima University (2)</b> Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering A Special Education Program on Infrastructure Development in Developing Countries - Master of Engineering - Master of Philosophy - Master of International Cooperation Studies
<b>Expected Research Area</b>	- Transportation Planning and Road Management - Urban Planning/Urban Transportation Planning - Waste Management - Water Supply Management - Energy Policy and Planning - Public Private Partnership (PPP)
<b>Purpose of the Study (Background and Needs):</b>	
<p>In Lao P.D.R., the essential infrastructure for improving the life environment, such as people's access to markets, education and medical care is insufficient, affected by its mountainous geographic condition stretching long from north to south. Also, for the economic development of Laos, it is vital to further develop hydroelectric power generation, which has become the country's major industry utilizing affluent water resources and a large elevation difference. In addition to that, it is also vital to improve the international competitiveness based on the activation of private sectors and the enticement of foreign direct investments. However, the foundation for economic development is fragile with inadequate infrastructures being pointed out as a blocking factor. Besides, in Vientiane Capital with more than 10% of the nation's population, there is a pressing need for managing a development plan that is compatible with the capital function, low carbon development and infrastructure development, including water and sewage systems and waste disposal in the midst of a rapidly increasing number of automobiles and direct investment from other countries.</p> <p>JDS Fellows are expected to contribute to improve the ability of related government agencies regarding policy making and institution building in relation to social infrastructure development.</p>	