

<b>Sub-Program</b>	<b>2. Building a Strong Base for Sustained Economic Growth</b>
<b>Component</b>	<b>2-2. Economic Policy on Investment / Export Promotion</b>
<b>Target Organizations:</b>	Ministry of Planning and Investment Ministry of Finance Ministry of Energy and Mines Ministry of Public Works and Transport Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Bank of the Lao P.D.R. Ministry of Industry and Commerce Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism Vientiane Capital * Vientiane Capital and Provincial level department can apply
<b>Accepting University (Number of Scholars)</b>	<b>Ritsumeikan University (3)</b> Graduate School of International Relations Global International Relations Program - Master of Arts in International Relations
<b>Expected Research Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting Investment/ Export</li> <li>- Establishment of Regulation on Business Environment</li> <li>- SMEs Development</li> <li>- Tourism Promotion</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose of the Study (Background and Needs):</b>	
<p>Despite the fact that the government of Lao P.D.R. has been implementing various approaches to promote economic development by capital import, related systems are not fully developed, and investment procedures remain unclear and cumbersome. Also, there are still various cumbersome issues such as undeveloped measures for resolving conflicts, undeveloped trade related information including statistics, extremely complicated customs and trade procedures that prevent creating an attractive environment for investors. In order to promote trade and investment, the development and promotion of corresponding industry is crucial. However, there is still lack of administrative efforts, such as making effective promotion policies for potential industries, quality control or introduction of international standards for expanding exports.</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 investment and export, such as enhancing the private sector, luring and developing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and providing sound and attractive business environment.</p>	