



# Doing Business in Laos:

## Latest Legal & Tax Updates for Thai and Foreign Investors

As Laos approaches its graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status in November 2026, the investment landscape for foreign investors, including those from Thailand, is entering a new phase. Reforms under the 10th National Socio-Economic Development Plan and Smooth Transition Strategy are reshaping market entry requirements, tax obligations, and employment rules for cross-border investors. For Thai companies already active in Laos, or considering entry, 2026 marks a pivotal year to understand how these changes affect investment structuring, compliance, and workforce planning.

DFDL is pleased to host a half-day seminar in Bangkok, tailored for Thai investors, covering the practical legal and tax considerations for doing business in Laos.



24 September 2026  
8:30 am – 12:00 pm



The Sukhothai Bangkok Hotel  
S.Sathorn Road, Bangkok



REGISTER HERE

## SPEAKERS



**Jack  
Sheehan**

Managing Partner



**Kooi Thong  
Lai**

Partner, Managing Director  
Laos



**Senesakoune  
Sihanouvong**

Partner, Deputy Managing Director  
Laos

# AGENDA

8:30 am – 9:00 am

**Registration & Morning Coffee**  
Coffee Reception and Networking

9:00 am – 9:10 am

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Jack Sheehan | Kooi Thong Lai

9:10 am – 9:40 am

**Session 1: Planning an Investment or Acquisition in Laos**  
Jack Sheehan | Senesakoune Sihanouvong

- Structuring considerations for Thai investors planning an investment or acquisition in Laos.
- Choosing shareholding structures: Thai, Singapore or other holding vehicles for Thai investors.
- Repatriating profits to Thai investors.
- Overview of tax incentives available to foreign-invested companies in Laos.
- Overview of promoted sectors for foreign investment in Laos.

9:40 am – 10:20 am

**Session 2: Investing in Laos – Market Entry and Corporate Compliance for Thai Investors**  
Kooi Thong Lai

- Market entry options for Thai investors: foreign ownership rules, investment incentives, and sectors of opportunity.
- Registered capital requirements and contribution timelines for foreign-invested companies.
- Corporate governance and statutory filing obligations Thai investors need to plan for.
- Practical lessons from Thai companies already operating in Laos.

10:20 am – 10:40 am

**Coffee & Networking Break**

10:40 am – 11:20 am

**Session 3: Tax and Employment Essentials for Thai Investors in Laos**  
Senesakoune Sihanouvong

- New Tax Law highlights for Thai investors.
- Overview of the tax compliance regime in Laos.
- Hiring in Laos: work permit and visa requirements for Thai and other foreign staff.
- Key employment terms, severance rules, and common pitfalls for foreign-invested employers.

11:20 am – 11:50 am

**Panel Discussion and Q&A**  
All speakers

11:50 am – 12:00 pm

**Closing Remarks and Networking**  
Jack Sheehan | Kooi Thong Lai