

Instruction on the Procedures for Applying for a Lao PDR Entry-Exit Permit during COVID-19 Pandemic

On 17 March 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ("**MOFA**") issued Instruction No. 2143/MOFA.TFC on the Procedure for Applying for a Lao PDR Entry-Exit Permit during COVID-19 Pandemic ("**Instruction**"). The Instruction replaces Instruction No.4881/MOFA.TFC dated 31 December 2021. Individuals wishing to enter into or depart from Lao PDR must comply with the below procedures and measures.

Entry into Lao PDR

1. Prior to entry into Lao PDR

An individual who intends to enter Lao PDR must have a certificate of COVID-19 vaccination and tested negative in an RT-PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to his entry into Lao PDR.

1.1. The following individuals must register for a **Lao Green Pass** with a QR code via this link: laogreenpass.gov.la:

- (a) Diplomats and staff of foreign embassies and consulates, representatives of international organisations under the auspices of the United Nations, and privileged and diplomatic international organisations, as well as family members of these individuals on both short-term and long-term mission;
- (b) Foreign experts, specialists, volunteers, and international students whose expertise and presence in Lao PDR are required pursuant to bilateral cooperation projects; and
- (c) Member of International Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) intending to have short-term and long-term responsibilities in Lao PDR.

The relevant individuals must seek prior approval from MOFA. In their proposals to enter Lao PDR, they must indicate that they have complied with the requirements to enter the country.

1.2. Individuals or legal entities that are legally carrying out business in Lao PDR and need to bring in investors or businessmen into Lao PDR to: (i) conduct feasibility study in relation to investment, or (ii) sign contracts or memoranda of understanding (MOU) must seek prior approval from MOFA. In their proposals to enter Lao PDR, they must indicate that they have complied with the requirements to enter the country.

The concerned individuals must also register for a **Lao Green Pass** with a QR code on the website. They may also have a QR-Code registration at the border desk upon arrival in Lao PDR.

Requirements for Investors

Investors who intend to enter Lao PDR must apply for visas through the Immigration Department of Ministry of Public Security. They must complete the application forms available at the Investment Promotion Department of the Ministry of Planning and Investment or the Capital/Provincial Department of the Ministry of Planning and Investment. The Consular Department of MOFA shall issue the visa to those who have satisfactorily complied with the requirements.

Requirements for businesspeople, technical officers and labourers

Legal entities in Lao PDR that need labourers and foreign technical officers in the conduct of their businesses must comply with the requirements of the relevant authorities before submitting their written applications to the consular department of MOFA. The submissions must include details such as list of names of labourers and technical officers, their phone numbers, reasons for travel, and travel plans including expected travel dates, entry point, flight numbers, countries of origin and transits. The following documents must also be submitted together with the applications:

- Domestic and foreign Investment Licence;
- Enterprise Registration Certificate;
- Tax Payment Certificate;
- Permit of foreign quota deployments from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare;
- Approval for foreign labour quota deployment from the Provincial/Vientiane Capital Labour Departments; and
- Proof of bookings of hotels as may be identified by the Central and Local Task Force Committee for Prevention and Control of COVID-19.

1.3. Lao citizens wishing to return to Lao PDR must submit their application to return to the Embassy or General Consular Office of Lao PDR in the countries where they reside. They must register for a **Lao Green Pass** to obtain a QR Code, and then propose to the Consular Department of MOFA, attaching to the proposal the QR Code, before they can get their visas.

1.4. Lao citizens and alien spouses of Lao citizens who wish to return to Lao PDR can do so without going through the Embassy or General Consular Office of Lao PDR in the countries where they reside. However, they need to register for a Lao Green Pass with a QR code.

Foreigners who are spouses of Lao citizens properly holding spouse visas (SP-B3) can travel to Laos without applying to the Embassy or General Consular Office of Lao PDR in the countries where they reside, and the consular department of MOFA. Such foreigners without visas may apply for the same in the Embassy or General Consular Office of Lao PDR in the countries where they reside, before traveling to Lao PDR. They also need to register for a Lao Green Pass before travelling to Lao PDR.

1.5. Foreigners with multiple entry-exit visas and those with valid temporary residence cards in Laos must comply with the following:

- Diplomats, staff of foreign embassies and consulates, representatives of international organisations under the auspices of the United Nations, privileged and diplomatic international organisations, as well as family members shall be able to travel to Laos without applying through the consulate of MOFA;
- Experts, investors, businessmen, specialists, labourers of companies or projects, and international students who have registered for a Lao Green Pass with a QR code can travel to Lao without applying through the consulate of MOFA.

2. Upon arrival in Lao PDR

Upon arrival in Lao PDR, all travellers must:

- Have an RT-PCR test and wait for the result at least 48 hours at a place identified and authorised by the National Task Force Committee for Prevention and Control of COVID-19 ("**Task Force**") as set out in the Notice of Prime Minister's Office No.258/PMO dated 1 March 2022.
- Install the LaoKYC application (LaoKYC Apps) onto their smartphone and register therein, so that they can use the Lao SuSu service for contact tracing. This does not apply to diplomats, staff of foreign embassies and consulates, representatives of international organisations under the auspices of the United Nations, and privileged and diplomatic international organisations, as well as their family members.

Departing Lao PDR

Lao citizens and foreigners who wish to travel overseas can inform the authority at the immigration desk/authority at the border destination that they are travelling overseas, without complying with the requirements imposed by the Task Force. They must ensure that they submit the documents requested by the countries of destination and comply with the measures put in place by the same.

The required documents must be submitted to the Consular Department of MOFA at least five working days before the date to travel to Lao PDR.

Individuals and legal entities entering and departing Lao PDR must strictly comply with the Instructions that the Task Force may issue from time to time.

For more information on **Lao Green Pass** registration: click [here](#) or call this number +856 20 55756970, +856 30 55255521. You may also find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/laokyc>.

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