

<b>Sub-Program</b>	1. Improving Administrative Ability and Institution Building
<b>Component</b>	1-3. Improvement of Road and Transportation / Urban Environment Development
<b>Accepting University</b> (Number of Scholars)	<b>Ritsumeikan University (2)</b> Graduate School of Science and Engineering International Program in Advanced Industrial Technology Environmental and Urban Engineering Course or Advanced Technology Fusion Programs Course / Disaster Mitigation for Urban Cultural Heritage -Master of Engineering
<b>Target Organizations:</b>	<b>Ministry of Public Works and Transport</b> (Managing Organization) <b>Ministry of Planning and Investment</b> <b>Water Resources and Environment Administration</b> <b>Ministry of Energy and Mines</b>
<b>Purpose of the Study:</b>	
<p>Laos suffers from a severe lack of infrastructure that is essential for improving the people's access to market, education and health care as well as their living environment. This is almost due to the geographical conditions such as a land form extending from south to north or high ratio of mountainous areas. The Sixth National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED) calls for developing infrastructures that will support Laos in maintaining a modern state and encouraging people to participate in development activities and to interact with other people from inside and outside Laos or markets. The Sixth NSED also demands developing urban infrastructures that covers sewage treatment and environmental sanitation among other aspects. Infrastructure development is important not only because it gives the Lao people benefits directly, but also because it contributes to economic development through activation of the private sector by developing physical distribution systems and attracting enterprises from both home and abroad. The capital Vientiane, where more than 10% of the total population resides, is still in need of infrastructures that correspond to the functions of a capital. There is a need for capacity building, especially expertise acquisition in development transport networks and urban environment, and the enhancing abilities to maintain and manage them properly with profitability of the project.</p> <p>JDS Fellows are expected to acquire the knowledge useful for policymaking and institution building in relation to social infrastructure development that takes account of environmental conservation and disaster reduction.</p>	