

REQUIREMENT FOR PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

ENGINEERING SERVICES

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Questionnaire on the Requirements for Provision of Professional Services

Services Sub-Sector: *Engineering*

Country Name: *Lao PDR*

Notes:

- Where there are different requirements/regulations/procedures for locals and foreigners, please specify in your responses.
- Briefly please define the main terms and acronyms used in your responses to the questionnaire (if applicable).

I. Regulation and Organisation of this Professional Services

1. Please describe in general the structure and organisation of this sub-sector and how it is being regulated in your country. This could include:

- The range of the activities regularly practised by the professionals in this sub-sector in your country. Please indicate which of these activities that are NOT regulated in your country, if any.
- Explanation of whether this sub-sector is regulated by law, self-regulated by a professional body, or a combination of both; whether the regulation is centralised or decentralised; etc.
- List of concerned professional bodies and/or ministries/government agencies, the functions of each of them, and how they interact in regulating this sub-sector.

A: *There is not registration for engineers in Lao PDR. The new graduate can apply for a job immediately after he/she has completed his/her graduation.*

2. Please list down the relevant legislations/rules and regulations regulating this sub-sector in your country.

A: *None*

II. Qualification Requirements

3. What are the qualification requirements for individual practitioners in your country in terms of:

- professional education (e.g. whether shall be university/higher education degree, post-graduate education etc)
- professional examination/assessment
- work experience
- practice and training
- language skills

A: *Ministries and agencies have their own qualification requirements and carry out the interview when they would like to recruit any new staff.*

4. Please specify the number of years/months required for each of the above, as well as the availability of alternative routes (e.g. degree route and non-degree route) to achieve the qualifications required. If different qualification requirements exist for different activities or types of work, please specify.

A: None

5. Are there any other qualification requirements apart from those set out in Q.3 above (e.g. minimum age, registration with a professional body, restriction on the scope of practice, place of origin/citizenship/residency requirements)? Please specify.

A: None

6. Who conducts/supervises the professional examination/assessment?

A: None

7. Are the professional examinations/assessments conducted at regular intervals? Please specify the frequency, fees charged, and differences in practice adopted by individual provinces/states.

A: None

III. Qualification Procedures

8. What are the procedures involved in order to qualify as a professional in this sub-sector, including the approving authorities involved, their respective requirements, the fees charged and the timelines that need to be observed? How long does it normally take to complete the procedures?

A: None

IV. Recognition Arrangements

9. Are there any existing mechanisms (e.g. automatic recognition or mutual recognition arrangements at government level or between professional bodies) to take account of qualifications, experience, expertise, license etc. acquired or obtained by foreign professionals in another country? Please explain the mechanism and specific requirements.

A: None

10. Please give a brief explanation of foreign reciprocity provisions/requirements for granting registration to professionals from foreign countries, if any.

A: None

V. Licensing Requirements

(a) For Individuals

11. Apart from the qualification requirements mentioned above, what are the licensing requirements for individuals in your country, for example:

- membership in a professional body
- registration with the relevant ministry or any other institution
- absence of criminal record

- taking of an oath
- minimum and/or maximum age
- subscription to a professional indemnity insurance (including any minimum specification)
- place of origin/citizenship/residency requirement
- continuing professional development (CPD)
- others (please specify)

If different licensing requirements exist for different activities, please specify.

A: None

(b) For Firms (Including Regulations Governing Establishment)

A: None

12. Are professional firms regulated? If yes, are there any specific licensing requirements, for example:

- legal form in which one can establish (e.g. partnership, incorporation, other)
- minimum capital
- minimum/maximum number of partners
- qualifications of individual partners
- membership in a professional body
- incorporation or registration with the relevant ministry or any other institution
- requirements regarding natural persons carrying out professional services on behalf of the firm, including any restrictions on foreign firms employing local professionals
- requirements regarding ownership (voting rights) of the firm, including place of origin/citizenship/residency requirements of board of directors and restrictions on partnership with local firms.
- requirements regarding management/administration of the firm, including place of origin/citizenship/residency requirements of board of directors, minimum number/percentage of local directors, managers etc.
- others (please specify)

If different requirements exist for different activities, please specify.

A: None

13. Is the use of international or foreign firms names restricted? Please specify.

A: None

VI. Licensing Procedures (For Both Individuals and Firms)

14. What are the procedures required for application for license and/or renewal of license, including the authorities involved, their respective requirements (including documentation), and fees charged? How long does it normally take to obtain or renew a license? Please specify in case of differences between individuals and firms.

A: None

VII. Regulations Governing Entry and Temporary Stay of Natural Persons for the Purpose of Supplying the Professional Services

15. Is the entry and stay of professionals subject to labour market tests or any other restrictions? Please specify.

A: None

VIII. Professional Ethics

16. What activities/disciplines are subject to professional ethical codes? Please specify the main policy objectives of these codes.

A: None

17. Which body or institution develops this code and monitors its implementation? What are the consequences in case of breach of the ethical code by a professional or a firm?

A: None

IX. Appeal Mechanisms and Dispute Resolution Procedures

18. Do individuals or firms have the right to appeal if their application is rejected or their license withdrawn?

A: None

19. What body or institution is responsible for the resolution of disputes?

A: None

20. Please provide a summary of the mechanism/procedures and a list of relevant legislation/regulations.

A: None

X. Additional Information

21. Is it possible to obtain further or updated information on the regulatory regimes of the professional services concerned through web-sites, journals, or brochures? What sort of information is included? Please give details.

A: None

22. Please provide contact details (name, address, fax, telephone, email address, etc.) of the persons who can provide further information/clarification on this sub-sector in your country.

A: None

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