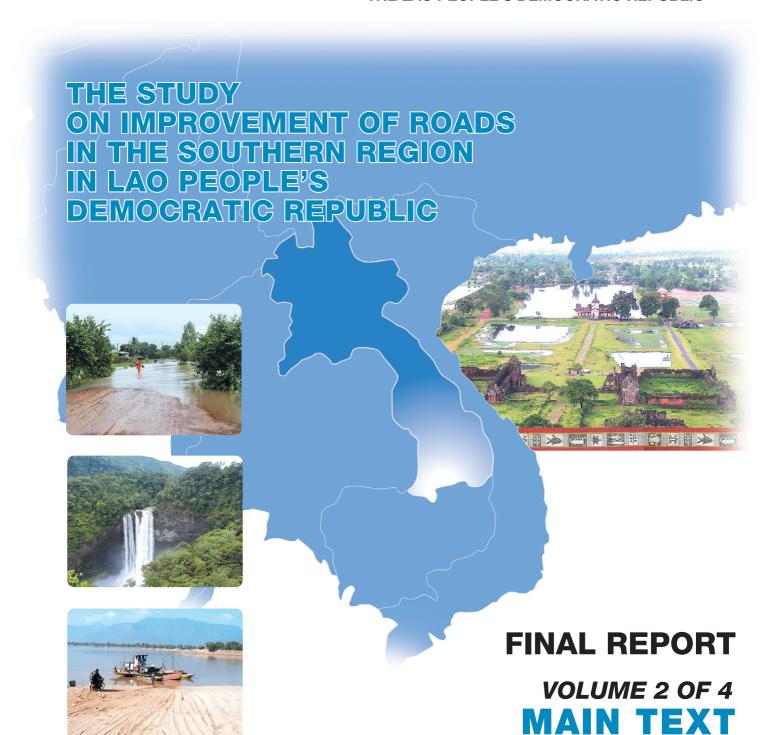




JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA)

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORT, POST AND CONSTRUCTION
THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC



February 2003



Oriental Consultants Company Limited

PADECO Padeco Company Limited

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JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA)

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORT, POST AND CONSTRUCTION
THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

THE STUDY ON IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS IN THE SOUTHERN REGION IN LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

FINAL REPORT

VOLUME 2 OF 4

MAIN TEXT

February 2003



PREFACE

In response to a request from the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Government of Japan decided to conduct The Study on Improvement of Roads in the Southern Region in Lao People's Democratic Republic and entrusted to study to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

JICA selected and dispatched a study team headed by Mr. Masami FUKUDA of Oriental Consultants Co., Ltd. and Consist of Oriental Consultants Co., Ltd. and Padeco Co., Ltd. to Lao PDR, three times between November 2001 and February 2003. In addition, JICA set up an advisory committee headed by Mr. Kunio YASUI, Director, Road Technology Research Group, Public Works Research Institute between November 2001 and February 2003, which examined the study from specialist and technical points of view.

The team held discussions with the officials concerned of the Government of Lao PDR and conducted field surveys at the study area. Upon returning to Japan, the team conducted further studies and prepared this final report.

I hope that this report will contribute to the promotion of this project and to enhancement of friendly relationship between our two countries.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the officials concerned of the Government of Lao PDR for their close cooperation extended to the study.

February 2003

Takao KAWAKAMI

M上隆朗

President

Japan International Cooperation Agency

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

February 2003

Mr. Takao KAWAKAMI President Japan International Cooperation Agency Tokyo, Japan

We are pleased to submit to you the final report of The Study on Improvement of Roads in the Southern Region in Lao People's Democratic Republic.

This study was conducted by Oriental Consultants Co., Ltd. and Padeco Co., Ltd., under a contract to JICA, during the period from November 2001 to February 2003. In conducting the study, we have examined the feasibility and rationale of the study with due consideration to the present situation of Lao PDR and formulated the most appropriate proposal.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the persons concerned of JICA, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Public Works Research Institute, the Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction, the JICA Lao PDR Office and the Embassy of Japan in Lao PDR for their cooperation and assistance extended to the Study Team.

Finally, we hope that this report will contribute to further promotion of the project.

Very truly yours,

Masami FUKUDA

Team Leader.

Study Team on Improvement of Roads in the Southern Region in Lao People's Democratic Republic,

Oriental Consultants Co., Ltd.

