Spatial planning challenges in Laos and possible solutions

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Spatial information in brief

- Total areas: 236,800 km2 (Built up: 11%)
- Population 2020: 7.28million, (density: 32 per Km2)
- Urban population: 35.7% (capital city: around 1 million);
- Ownership of houses: 86% (2015), (the rest live in rental or relative's houses);
- Officially no homeless



Spatial Challenges and Problems

- Rapid urban sprawl
- Spontaneous housing construction
- Land development and land market and out of control



Substandard infrastructur e & amenities

Not satisfactory environme nt

Traffic congestion

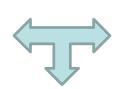
The way to overcome challenges

- Comprehensive planning and implementing approach by 2030:
 - Spatial planning and implementation being an integrated part of city socio-economic development plan;
 - Development goals and action plans indicate obligations and responsibilities of all relevant development sectors (one city one plan);
 - People and stakeholder involvement in all stages of planning;
 - Public Private Partnership in infrastructure construction;
- Exploring the possibility for an introduction of housing (public and private) and urban renovation programmes to curb the existing uncontrolled development.

The role of Planning to solve challenges

Planning outcomes

- Guided development objectives and needs
- Possibility of cost and benefit trade off in development approaches



Planning implementation

- Clear responsibility and better law enforcement
- Integrated manner
- Systematic supports

Coordination

 Better coordination between sectors involved (especially, land tilling schemes and urban plans)

