



**The Association of Lao Architects and Civil Engineers**

**ALACE**

# **COUNTRY REPORT 2023**

ARCASIA COUNCIL MEETING

Boracay Island, Philippines

18-19 September 2023



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# COUNTRY REPORT 2022-2023

## The Association of Lao Architects and Civil Engineers (ALACE)

### 1. HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Association of Lao Architects and Civil Engineers (ALACE) were found in 2004. A regulation administered by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport came into effect requiring that architects be licensed to practice the profession. ALACE concentrated on building an organization that served both the profession and society. ALACE aims to (i) promote the continuing enhancement of the architecture profession in ways that are friendly to the environment and that preserve Lao traditions, while maintaining professional independence (ii) Promote harmony and unity among members to enhance the stature and efficacy of ALACE with a common focus on activities that benefit the profession and society (iii) Serve as a resource for professional and technical information and advice for the benefit of members and society (iv) To encourage, support, and promote education, research, and development that ensures the field of architecture progresses with the times (v) Cooperate with government agencies, as well as domestic and international organizations and institutions, to create an understanding and appreciation of the principles, role, and scope of the architecture profession as a means for fostering credibility and trust (vi) Promote, develop, and perform the architecture profession in accordance with the highest standards of service and ethics for the benefit of members and the public (vii) Define and certify the standards and rules for the practice of architecture.

### 2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2022-2024)

Position	Name	
President	Ar. Vongphai	Bounmanee
Vice president and Honorable secretary	Ar. Saykham	Thammanosouth
Vice president	Ar. Soukanh	Chitpanya
Vice president	Eng. Khampaseuth	Thepvongsa
Vice president	Ar. Waddana	Soukhabandith

Committee	Name	
Secretariat Office	Ar. Phanomvanh	Chitpanya
External Relation	Eng. Phatthana	Simmalavong
Chapters	Ar. Vipraseuth Eng. Soulivanh Eng. Khamphong	Souvannavong Phommahaxay Somvichit
Committee on Professional Practice (CPP) and Committee on Professional Development (CPD)	Ar. Pathana Ar. Sommany Eng. Thong Eng. Kongkeo	Phonethip Pathoumxay Sopha Phamavanh
Education, Research and Young Architect	Ar. Xayaphone	Vongvilay

	Ar. Siphathay Eng. Khamhou Eng. Vongphachane	Phanphengdy Xaphouvong Boualaphanh
Social Responsibility	Ar. Xananikone Ar. Thanousone	Inthilath Vongpaseuth
Media and Fund Raising	Ar. Vidaly Eng. Sengmany	Chanthaphasouk Gaoluanglath
Monitoring and Ethics	Eng. Sisaghouane Ar. Nouphonh	Silithasak Phosy

<b>Honorably Executive Committee</b>		
Honorably President	Minister of Ministry of Public Works and Transport	
Honorably Adviser Committee	Mr. Seun Prof. Dr.Bounleuam Prof. Dr.Somphone AR. Phonesay Eng. Khamthavy	Phetsanghane Sisoulath Dethoudom Southiphong Thayphachanh

### 3. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

Membership: As of September 2023, ALACE has 1,185 active members.

### 4. BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE

#### ALACE annual revenue:

- Annual ALACE Convention and Exhibition
- Annual membership subscriptions
- Conferences/seminars
- events and activities
- Sponsorships

### 5. NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

#### Headquarters

The primary operational role of the ALACE headquarters is to provide services to members and architects in general through general administration (administrative and financial services) and by implementing the various aspects of the Board's annual operational plan: professional; technical; preservation; architecture; international; and recreation. In addition, the ALACE provides up-to-date information to members and architects concerning building codes through publications, seminars, and inquiries. The ALACE HQ office provides membership information, processes new members, renews memberships, sells publications and souvenirs, and runs an architecture library.

#### ALACE Chapters



There are currently 17 chapters of ALACE, semi-autonomous chapters under the ALACE umbrella located in three regions of Lao PDR such as North region including of 7 provinces, Central region including of 5 provinces, and South region including of 4 provinces.

## 6. LEGAL STATUS

ALACE is registered as a private association under the laws of Lao PDR. After the establishment of the ALACE, all licensing and registration of architects came under ALACE by law. Registration Authority of The Association of Lao Architects and Civil Engineers (ALACE) are at the provincial Departments of Public works which's under the Ministry of Public works.

## 7. CONGRESS OF INSTITUTE

National Congress of Association of Lao Architects and Civil Engineers (ALACE) will hold every term of 3 years to review the activities implemented and select the new committee board of ALACE. Every year ALACE also held the Annual meeting to review a physical year, programs and future plans.

## 8. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The ALACE has been a member of ARCASIA since 2011 and renewed its membership to UIA in 2008. The ALACE signed Memorandum of Understanding with 8 countries:

- Association of Siamese Architects (ASA) in 2006;
- Viet Nam Association of Architects (VAA) in 2006;
- Vietnam Federation of Civil Engineering Association (VFCEA) in 2007;
- PertubulanAkiteck Malaysia (PAM) in 2010,
- Korea Institute of Registered Architects (KIRA) in 2010;
- Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA) in 2011;
- IkitanArsiteck Indonesia (IAI) in 2011;
- Sri-Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) in 2012.
- ALACE entered into these relationships to exchange information about professional know-how, practices, and standards and to organize joint activities among organizations and their members.

## 9. MAJOR TASKS OF THE INSTITUTES IN 2022-2023

### ALACE workflow management Improvement

- Mobilize and appoint members to become sub-committees of more than 60 people in architecture field.
- Completed Building a database software for upgrade working system more efficiently.

### ALACE and ALACE Chapters Organization Improvement

- Completed reorganization of ALACE 4 in new era for ensure the connection and appropriate for the management and development of the ALACE to be continuous and sustainable.
- Completed Improvement the province chapters organization of 14 provinces in 17 provinces all the country.

### **Building a Strategic Framework of ALACE**

- Completed a strategic framework 2030 and continue create the action plan for the implementation efficiently.

### **Professional Practice and Professional Development Task**

- Completed 5 Seminars event for the ALACE member to exchange the professional practice.
- Organized a meeting to brainstorm and understanding of ALACE new strategic plan of 3 provinces in northern part of Lao PDR
- Organized 3 Meeting to meet member and sub-committee to understand more deeply of the role and function of ALACE 4

### **Social Responsibility Task**

- Participated in providing constructive feedback on many public benefit project in Vientiane capital such as Lao PDR Urban forum, Lao Building Code, New Urban Development etc.

### **External Relation and Profession Activities**

- Meeting and discussed with government part especially Ministry of Public Works and Transport and Council of Lao Architects and Civil Engineers for looking forward together in future of professional practice monitoring and ethics Controlling.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with internal and external country such as faculty of architecture, faculty of engineering (National university of Laos and Souphanouvong University), ASA (Thailand).
- ALACE Study tour in Bangkok 25-30 for ASA expo and field trip of architect's office, construction materials warehouse and factory, etc....
- Cooperation with universities for encourage students to participate in design competitions by American Standard Companies Inc.

## **10. ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS/AWARDS**

No current competition/awards for membership at the moment. We still need to plan on how to start and manage in the near future; and we will need guidance from other ARCASIA institutes.

## **11. KEY ISSUES FACING THE ARCHITECTS/ARCHITECT PROFESSION/INSTITUTE IN THE COUNTRY**

- Architectural profession key issues that we are facing here in Laos at the moment:
  - The development of Credit Professional Development (CPD) program
  - Certification of licensing architects and engineers
  - Untracked or unreported projects including local and foreign.
  - Ranking architects and engineer qualification
- ALACE now have new office bearers and committee for the 2022 – 2024 terms. As a result, we are facing many challenging issues, but we are now moving forward at a better. The issues that we are facing as the institute in Laos include:
  - Membership issue - Gathering all architects/engineers as the whole country
  - Budgeting and financial issue
  - Permanent location/building/office for the institute

- Implementation of the institute within the governmental sector

## 12. PLANS FOR THE FUTURES

With our new office bearers and committee for the 2022 – 2024 terms, we must continue to promote our vision and strategic plan to implementation for achieve our goals.

### STRATEGIES FOR 2022-2030:

- To establish an organizational system or a monitoring system for all ALACE members around the country in more detailed and with up-to-date information. This will allow our association to monitor our members including both architects and engineers who are active in Lao PDR;
- Continue to work closely with the ministry of Public Works and Transportation (PWT) to help provide ALACE a permanent location (office space or office building) and more financial support;
- To make ALACE become the center of Lao architect’s and engineer’s standardization, methodologies, professional practice, work quality/productivity, work ethics, environmental and socially responsive, and the ability or guidelines to compete internationally. ALACE to become the gathering place for all architects and engineers to unite, cooperate, exchange ideas and knowledge, and most importantly, help develop the nation;
- To promote architect’s and engineer’s educational system in a way that corresponds to the actual needs of society, particularly in green technology, conservation and preservation of Lao architectural heritage, and enhance for better urban planning and city management.;
- To create a system that promote local architects and engineers to become competitive professionals while establish system to monitor and control foreign architects and engineers who come to practice in the Lao PDR;
- To encourage and promote ALACE boards to take part in the ministry of Public Works and Transportation (PWT) in city and urban planning, architectural preservation and restoration, developing building codes, construction standards and other practice-related issues;
- Continue to coordinate, implement and review the memorandum of cooperation with contract partners and membership of various organizations;
- To establish digital platform such as developing a website, Facebook page and any other electronic platform to enable practice-related information and considered queries or questions to be fielded and responded by the committee members.
- To create policies and professional guidelines for architects and engineers to obey and follow. ALACE will ensure the laws and regulations governing the practice of architect in Lao PDR are enforced in a fair and judicious manner. ALACE will be in charged with investigating all complaints received by the Board/Committee and take action against licensees and unlicensed individuals, including candidates, who have violated the provisions.

### MAJOR TASKS OF PLAN 2023-2024

- Organize ALACE Expo 2023 and Annual ALACE conference
- To enhance and develop ALACE organization (membership management, chapters leadership roles, financial status, public relations, etc.)
- Propose and seeking to have permanent office for ALACE
- Develop ALACE’s 2022-2030 Vision and Strategies, 2022-2024 Implementation program
- Develop CDP program and certification program for licensing architectural and engineering professionals



- To launch digital platform (website, Facebook page, etc.) to enable practice-related and considered queries.
- Carry out of selecting and awarding of the ALACE awards to the architects and engineers of the ALACE member with excellent and outstanding performance.
- Find the conditions and feasibility for ranking architects and engineer qualification and provide professional licenses for ALACE members.
- Promote and enhance ALACE to be a secretary to MPWT for Urban Planning and Management, Laos Architect Preservation, Harmonization of new architects, Building Code and Building Standard.
- Find the conditions to connect and cooperate with social organizations both domestically and internationally.

**THANKS YOU**

**[www.alacelaos.org.la](http://www.alacelaos.org.la)**