



Austcham Lao Update January - February

Dear members,

It's been a great start to 2019 for Austcham Lao, the board of directors has been working on priority actions for this year and the community surrounding Austcham has celebrated and enjoyed networking at two well attended events; the February Sundowner, 130 attendants and Lost in the Jungle – ANZ Ball, 200 attendants. We'd like to thank sponsors and members for your engagement in these events.

We've refreshed the website, please visit www.austchamlao.org to find interesting links/publications on investment and business in Laos. At the Austcham website our company and sponsor members are listed with direct link to their website, you'll also find our newsletters, photos from events and information about upcoming events.

From the 1st of March Austcham Lao has a new office located on the 3rd floor in **Vieng Vang Tower**, Phonsinuan Village. It's on the same street as the Thai Consulate.



LNCCI 30 years anniversary

ON the 23rd of January Austcham congratulated LNCCI on their 30th year anniversary. Austcham Lao attended the LNCCI annual meeting and celebration of the anniversary at Lao National Convention Center. H E Prime Minister of Lao, Thongloun Sisoulith, congratulated LNCCI for being a valuable bridge between government and business. Austcham was honored to participate and to receive a certificate of appreciation from LNCCI.



February Sundowner

Thank you to the Australian Embassy for hosting the February Sundowner Networking Event on the 7th of February. The well attended and beautiful Sundowner by the Mekong offered opportunities for the business community to connect with Austrade Thailand, national and foreign chambers of commerce and Lao government officers.

Lost in the Jungle – ANZ Ball

A great bunch of members and friends got Lost in the Jungle on the 23 February at Crowne Plaza Hotel. This year the ball included a charity fundraiser and the proceeds from the charity raffle and ball, will be given to support the **Lao Elephant Conservation Center** in Sayaboury Province. Participants in the raffle had the chance to win exclusive prizes including an exciting exploration stay at the Elephant Conservation Center, an incredible weekend escape to Bangkok at the Ultra Luxury Rosewood Bangkok or a priceless dinner at the Australian Ambassador's Residence for 6 people, cooked by the Australian Ambassador and served with Australian wine and beer from the private wine cellar.



Winners of the “best dressed award” won generous prizes from Crowne Plaza Hotel. Best dressed man; Nalongded Luanglath, best dressed lady; Karen Wheeler, and best dressed group; Lao Tobacco and friends, we've never seen as many hungry and thirsty leopards at one time before.



The Elephant Conservation Center's mission is to start a new era for conservation of the Asian elephant within the Lao PDR and to offer a unique experience to visitors wishing to contribute towards the protection of an endangered species.

The Center was launched in 2011. It is managed by a team of elephant specialists that have been working towards the protection of elephants in Laos for over a decade, running welfare, vetcare, breeding and mahouts training programmes.

“Domesticated elephants in Laos are traditionally used in logging. Worked to the point of exhaustion, these elephants are not reproducing, with life spans, birth rates and quality of life considerably below acceptable standards.”

With only two elephants born for every ten that die, the Asian elephant, the sacred national emblem of Laos, is under serious threat of extinction. If immediate action is not taken, the Lane Xang or ‘Land of a Million Elephants’, stands to lose not only its elephant populations, but a major component of Lao cultural heritage.

<https://www.elephantconservationcenter.com/>



Lao Real Estate Expo

The Lao Real Estate Expo is starting Friday 1st March at 9 am at Don Chan Palace, please come and meet Austcham, we'll be there.

Featuring a collection of the nation's leading property developers, constructors, design firms, agencies, land sellers, law firms, banks & financiers, insurers, Government representatives and related businesses; all under one roof for two days only! A dedicated seminar room will also offer investors and local buyers the chance to learn more about real estate law and practice in Laos, investment prospects and common pitfalls in the industry, in three languages (Lao, English & Chinese, with headsets available). Join us for the biggest real estate expo in Laos' history, expecting over 40 exhibitors and sponsors and over 3000 local and international guests.

*Registration for guests is free, with a host of lucky draw prizes including International flight packages. Find out how to attend!

<https://realestatekh.lpages.co/lao-real-estate-expo-2019-attendees/>:



Upcoming Events

We're looking forward to the March Sundowner Networking Event on Wednesday 6th March at Once Upon a Time, proudly hosted by Lao Rugby.

On the 22nd March Austcham invites members to participate in a half day workshop;

Leading with influence

What's the one skill that separates the most successful people everywhere from everyone else? It's the ability to influence others to achieve better results. Those who can influence effectively succeed faster, achieve more, and build stronger teams and relationships than those who rely on power or position – which is why influence is so essential to your work and to your life.