

# Pro Bono and Legal Education in Laos

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# FLP History and Vision

- The Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLP) is the product of Laos' "New Economic Mechanism" initiative that began in 1986.
- The objective of the Laos government was to strengthen the rule of law in Laos, and create a legal foundation to cope with the increasing international investment in Laos.



**Vision:** By 2020 FLP shall become a centre of excellence for law education, supplying the needs for skillful human resources in the legal sector. Recognized in the ASEAN countries for its significant contribution to the rule of law and upholding a just and prosperous society.

# Establishment of FLP CLE

- In 2007, the Faculty of Law and Political Science Clinical Legal Education (FLP CLE) officially opened and began operating Community Legal Education in collaboration with BABSEA CLE.
- In 2014 FLP CLE began operating the In-House Legal Consultation Clinic for clients.

There are 14 law lectures, 2 pro bono lawyers, 2 staffs and 48 students in the Community Legal Education and In-house Legal Consultation Clinic at the FLP CLE.



# Community Legal Education

From 2008 to 2014:

- **Trained 1015 students, 476 women, public secondary schools and high schools and the Rehabilitation and Treatment Center in Vientiane.**
- Outreach to over 394 communities in remote areas throughout Laos, for about 45,310 villagers, 14,499 women.
- Topics included land law, forestry law, criminal law.



# CLE training before going to communities



# CLE students in remote areas



# CLE students in remote areas



# CLE students in remote areas





# CLE students in remote areas



# In-House Legal Consultation Clinic

The In-house opened on  
18 January 2014.

We have worked on 7  
cases in the civil law  
and 1 case was referred  
to the Lao Bar  
Association



# Training on In-House clinic skills



# Pro Bono Lawyer trained students about legal research



# Collaborating with Local Partnership

- **Ministry of Justice**
- **Lao Bar Association**
- **GIZ**
- **Luxemburg-Development**
- **Village Focus International**
- **Japan Volunteer International Center**
- **United Nation On Drudge and Crime**
- **The Asia Foundation**
- **UNDP Laos**

# Collaborating with International Partnership

- **Bridges Across Borders South East Asia CLE**
- **Hebert Smith Freehills**
- **White and Case**
- **DLA PIPPER**
- **Kingsford Legal Centre UNSW**

# Establishment and Development of Pro Bono Culture in Laos

- Promoting Pro Bono culture in the 13 student groups of FLP
- Integrating pro bono culture to the Legal ethics subject
- Promoting CLE Program to be an accredited course at the faculty
- Set up CLE nationwide in order to help other law schools to establish the CLE programs.
- Collaborate with MOJ and Lao Bar Association to provide the free legal advice and legal aid as well as to inspire the pro bono culture in lawyers and authorities.

# Debate Group





# Community Development Group



# Asian Law Students Association



# Q&A