
Announcement of K-Lab's Laos Cooperation Support Project in 2024

The Ministry of Science, ICT and ICT and the National IT Industry Promotion Agency will promote the 「K-Lab Laos Cooperation Support Project」 to support the training of young digital talents and strengthening ICT capabilities in developing countries and to increase the effectiveness of development cooperation between the two countries. In this regard, we announce the project, and ask for the participation of many execution agency with interest.

December, 2023

Director of National IT Industry Promotion Agency

1 Project Overview

Purpose

- The installation and operation of K-Lab facilities in developing countries supports ICT innovation capabilities such as digital competency strengthening education, the discovery of innovative ideas, and the implementation of prototypes suitable to the local circumstances of developing countries, thereby contributing to the nurturing of digital talent and discovery of economic opportunities in the ICT field in developing countries.

* K-Lab facilities are digital innovation infrastructure that supports the acquisition and experience of digital technologies, including idea discovery and prototype implementation, and creative ICT innovation through the use of digital manufacturing equipment and software and ICT training.

Main Content

- Establishment of K-Lab digital infrastructure
 - Installation of equipment and construction of utilization facilities for digital production and the construction and operation of collaborative spaces and educational facilities
- Operation of K-Lab ICT innovation training
 - Operating digital innovation programs such as localized digital production and ICT/SW education suited to the recipient country's situation and that reflect user characteristics

- Promotion of K-Lab cooperation and connection
 - Encouraging active participation from the recipient country, and serving as a digital cooperation hub through practical follow-up linkage plans

Support Budget: 600 million won for one executing agency (free public offering)

Eligible for Application

- Corporations capable of realizing the project's objectives of supporting digital competency innovation in developing countries and strengthening the digital cooperation between the two countries and with the will and capacity to install and operate K-Lab

* Corporations, such as enterprises (small and medium-sized enterprises, middle-standing enterprises, etc.) and for-profit/non-profit organizations, are permitted; consortiums can be formed.

** As the 2024 project implementation plan has not been finalized, the project budget may be subject to change prior to the agreement.

*** The implementing agency freely proposes a specialized operation plan according to regional characteristics, annual plan, and promotion purpose.

*** For K-Lab's Laos project, the first step of facility construction and operation was promoted from 2021 to 2023, and the second step of facility operation advancement will be promoted from 2024 to 2025.

- (Target country and related organization) Laos (Vientiane)/National University of Laos)

Project Period: from the date of conclusion of the agreement to December 31, 2024

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Task Selection

Project Schedule (draft)

- Open call for support project and application receipt: : '23. Dec - '24. Jan
- Evaluation (review suitability/announce) and selection : Jan - Feb
- Agreement conclusion : Feb - Mar
- Performing the project : Mar - December

* The above project schedule is subject to change.

Evaluation Procedures

- Final decision through the suitability review by the evaluation committee (evaluate project plan presentations)

Steps	Main Content	Remarks
Review suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review qualifications for application, such as project plans and letters of commitment, and suitability, such as disqualifications and submitted documents 	NIPA
Evaluate presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the project plans comprehensively through presentation evaluation (face-to-face evaluation) Evaluate the level of understanding of the task, the promotion system and strategy, the capability of the executing agency, and the capability and conditions for implementing the project. 	Evaluation Committee

* During the presentation evaluation, each PM must make a presentation.

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Application and Receipt

- Application Period: December 22, 2023 (Fri) - January 30, 2023 (Tue) 14:00 (at the time of completing computer registration)

* Postal and in-person applications are not accepted, and the computerized application must be completed before the receipt deadline.

- Application Method: Computerized application through the NIPA's website and the NIPA SMART (System for Management and Administration of Resource for Target) (online application)

* NIPA's website (<https://www.nipa.kr>) / SMART (<https://smart.nipa.kr>)

** After downloading the "Project Plan (Form)" from the "Open Call for Project" section, apply through the computer system along with related documents.

- Contact for Inquiries

○ Project inquiries: Ko Byung-sun in the Global Cooperation Team
(bsko@nipa.kr, ☎ 043-931-5532)

○ Computer system-related inquiries: Manager for NIPA's Computerized Reception System
(smart@nipa.kr, ☎ 070-5151-8239)

* For details, refer to the guide to contest for support projects