

# Statistics Bureau News Bulletin

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## Dispatch of Statistical Experts to Laos

The SBJ dispatched two statistical experts to the Department of Statistics (DOS), Laos from 22 to 26 June 2008 for the purpose of collecting information on the current situation of DOS and exploring the feasibility of technical cooperation from Japan.

In front of DOS



The experts engaged in a series of discussions concerning the above mentioned matters with Dr. Samaychan Boupha, Director-General of DOS and his staff. Through these discussions, the experts realized that DOS needed to improve the quality of the official statistics produced, and faced a shortage of funds, especially for implementing censuses and large-scale statistical sample surveys in the near future.

At the same time, the experts observed the office rooms of DOS. Through these observations, the experts found that each office room was well-equipped but relatively narrow, and that the officers worked diligently but were relatively under staffed.

Following the discussions and the observations, both DOS and the experts agreed to explore the possibilities to commence a bilateral technical cooperation project.

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### Training Room in DOS



The SBJ has been cooperating with the National Institute of Statistics (NIS), Cambodia since 2005 and with the Statistics Indonesia (BPS) over the long term since 1980 through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In addition, the SBJ has also implemented technical cooperation projects to the national statistics offices of foreign countries such as Myanmar, Tanzania, Argentine, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Mexico through JICA schemes.