

The Bank of the Lao PDR and International Monetary Fund Successfully Completed the Preliminary FPAS Training



The Bank of the Lao PDR (BOL) in partnership with International Monetary Fund (IMF) successfully completed the third and final part of the preliminary training series in preparation for the development of Forecasting and Policy Analysis System (FPAS). The workshop was held between 9-16 February 2023 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lao PDR and focused on *Forecasting and Policy Analysis System to Assess Monetary Conditions and Debt Dynamics*. The training was chaired by Mr. Chittakone CHITTAPHONG, Deputy Director General of Monetary Policy Department and divided into two sections:

- ❖ Between 9-13 February 2023, Section 1 involves the discussion and practical workshop on Debt Dynamics Tools, and there were 38 participants from Ministry of Finance and relevant BOL Departments (Monetary Policy, Banking Operations and Banking Supervision);
- ❖ Between 14-16 February 2023, Section 2 emphasizes on the Preparation Process for the Development of Forecasting and Policy Analysis System, and there were 21 participants from relevant BOL Departments (Monetary Policy, Banking Operations and Banking Supervision).



Going forward, BOL together with IMF will develop a detailed action plan of FPAS over the next two years with the focus on strengthening monetary policy framework, improving instruments, communication strategies, forecasting and policy analysis tools particularly NowCasting/Near-Term Forecasting, and building on knowledge and expertise for relevant BOL staff in econometrics, data collection and policy analysis. For the longer-term plan, BOL hopes to achieve the ability to forecast key economic indicators using Quarterly Projection Model (QPM), which requires advanced skills in econometrics and insightful knowledge in macroeconomic analysis.

Source: Monetary Policy Department