

Consumers Rights and Advocacy “in Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence” in Lao PDR

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Workshop on Challenging ASEAN Consumers Organizations Plus Three Countries on Consumer Protection in the Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence

29-30 Aug 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand

Outlines:

- 1. Introduction about SAEDA**
- 2. Overview of Consumer Projection in Laos**
- 3. Consumers Rights and Advocacy “in Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence” in Lao PDR**
- 4. Challenges**
- 5. Recommendation!!!**



History of SAF/SAEDA involvement in SA/AE/OA in Laos

- **Sustainable Agriculture Forum (SAF) in 1991** (under CUSO), there were 25 INGO members in Laos
- Sustainable Agriculture and Environment Development Association in 2007
 - ✓ Envision a future for **Lao communities** with sustainable improved livelihood in **food security and nutrition**, based on environmentally sound agricultural development.
 - ✓ Focusing 4 main areas:
 - Sustainable Agriculture: Organic agriculture, agroecology, local seed conservation, responsible agriculture investments.
 - Environment Conservation: Pesticides risk reduction, natural resources management/DRR, CCA, NTFP and Land in agriculture.
 - Farmer Organizations: Groups, associations, cooperatives and networks
 - **Food safety: Consumers education and protection in food, and water**



Legislative Framework on Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence



- 1) Law on Lao Consumer Protection, 2010
- 2) Law on Electronic business, 2013
- 3) Law on electronic transitions, 2013
- 4) Law on science and technology, 2013
- 5) Law on safety technology, 2014
- 6) Law on cyber crime, 2015
- 7) Law on electronic information projection, 2017
- 8) Law on transfer technology, 2017
- 9) Law on electronic registration, 2019
- 10) Law on telecommunication, 2021
- 11) Law on media, 2016
- 12) Law on agriculture, 1998
- 13) Law on social security, 2018
- 14) Regulation on the Control on Production, Exported-Imported Safe Food, 2004

Legislative Framework on Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence

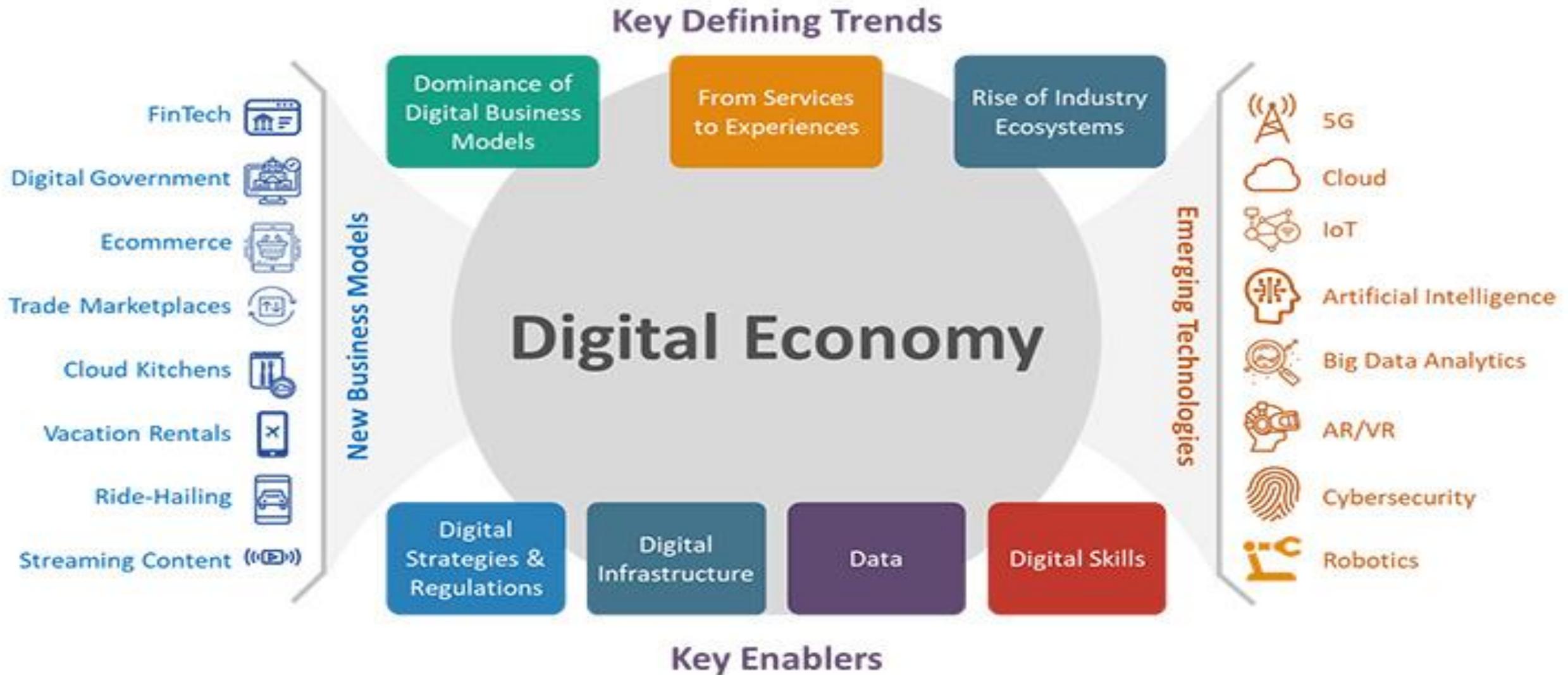


- 15) Regulation On the Quality Inspection of Goods, 2009
- 16) Decree on the electronic trade # 296/GoL in 2021
- 17) Degree on control price and fee, #474 GoL in 2010
- 18) Decree on Imports and Exports of Goods, 2011
- 19) Law on projection right of benefit of children, 2023
- 20) Good Agriculture Practices and Organic Standards, 2011
- 21) Agriculture Development Strategy 2025 and Vision 2030 and Agricultural Land Management Strategy 2030 are to promote Crop production by focusing on modernization, clean, safety, quality, stability, sustainability and commercialization. promote organic agriculture cover 25% of total productions in 2025
- 22) Other related Laws, degrees, regulations and roles.

Control Management on control the Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence

- Ministry of Information and Culture
- Ministry of Science and Technology (Standards and Metrology Department)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Department of Agriculture, Plant protect center)
- Ministry of Public Health (Food and Drug Department, Bureau of Food and Drug Inspection, Hygiene and Prevention Department)
- Ministry of Industry and Commerce (Consumer Protection Department, Industry Department, Domestic Trade Department, Import-Export Department, Policy Trade Department)
- Ministry of Education and Sport
- Ministry of Public Health
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- Ministry of Security
- Unions: Women, Trade and Youth

The Digital Economy and National Digital Transformation



- Apps, Google, Whatapp, Line, Tik-Tok, Face book

Challenges

- Inadequate human resources
- Limited equipment of tools and materials
- Inexperienced/ trained staff to deal with domestic controls and import inspections (appropriate person based on qualifications, certification and training)
- Lack laws enforcement effectiveness in local and national
- Lack of multi-stakeholders platform, networking and sharing
- Lack of CSOs on consumer education organization in Laos
- Lack of funding support for consumer issues



Consumers envision “Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence”

- Consumer justice and projection
- Consumer redress and education
- Environment friendly and conservation
- Quality control and certified
- Safety and security
- Appropriate technology, cost investment and fair price
- Awareness raising (formal and social medias)
- Transparency and accountability
- People participatory of full process (Assessment, implementing, monitoring and reporting)
- Improving scientific capacity and Development of physical market structure
- Improve Inter-agency coordination among multi-stakeholders (CSOs/INGOs/PDs)
- Policies, strategies and laws enforcement to supporting and projecting



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR ATTENTION!!!

WELCOME TO LAO TOURIST YEAR 2024



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