

Network Readiness Index 2025

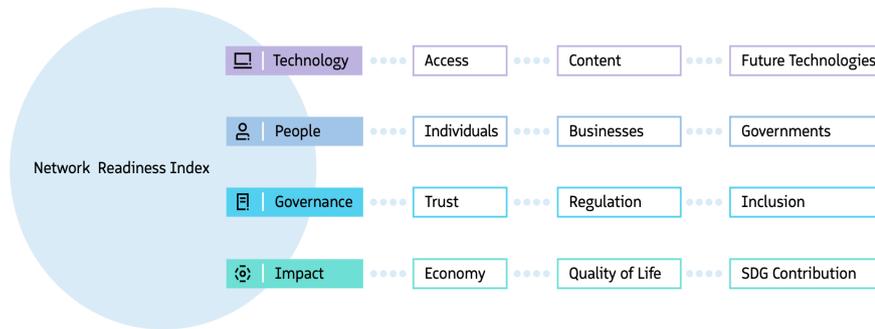
With support from:



Lao People's Democratic Republic

The Network Readiness Index (NRI) is one of the leading global indices on the application and impact of information and communication technology (ICT) in economies around the world. In its latest version of 2025 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 127 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact. Each of these pillars is itself comprised of three sub-pillars (see Figure 1) that have been populated by a total of 53 variables.

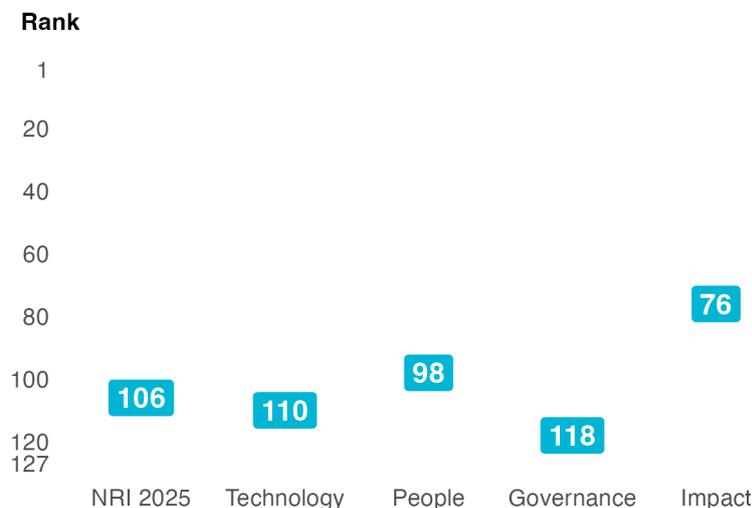
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



Global NRI position of Lao People's Democratic Republic

Lao People's Democratic Republic ranks 106 out of the 127 economies included in the NRI 2025 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Impact. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Governance.

Figure 2: Lao People's Democratic Republic global ranking, overall and by pillar



Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Lao People's Democratic Republic relate to Future Technologies, Governments and Economy, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Regulation, Content and Businesses sub-pillars.

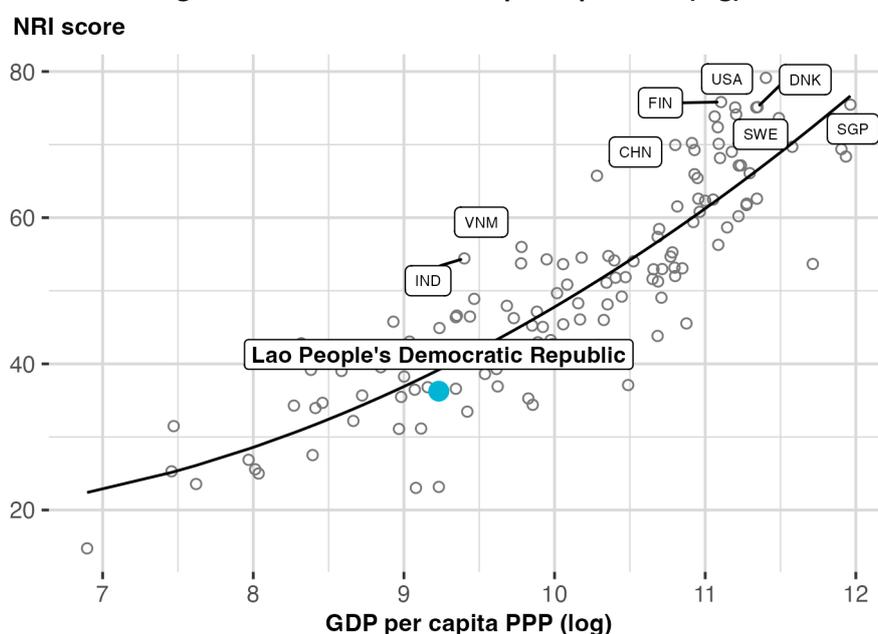
Table 1: Lao People's Democratic Republic rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Future Technologies	38	Trust	104
Governments	66	Access	113
Economy	66	Inclusion	115
Quality of Life	71	Regulation	119
SDG Contribution	81	Content	122
Individuals	95	Businesses	127

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Lao People's Democratic Republic in terms of both NRI score and GDP per capita (PPP). The trend line shows the expected NRI score given an economy's income level. As can be seen, Lao People's Democratic Republic is well below the trend line, which suggests that it is underachieving and that one would expect it could raise its network readiness in view of its income level.

Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)



Note: USA = United States of America (rank: 1), FIN =Finland (rank: 2), SGP = Singapore (3), DNK =Denmark (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN =China (24), and IND = India (45).

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Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries

Lao People's Democratic Republic is ranked 21st in the group of lower-middle-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score higher than the income group average in one of the four pillars: Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in six of the twelve sub-pillars: Future Technologies, Individuals, Governments, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

Asia & Pacific

Lao People's Democratic Republic is ranked 20th within Asia & Pacific (Figure 4, right panel). It lags behind its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Asia & Pacific in one of the twelve sub-pillars: Future Technologies.

Figure 4: Performance of Lao People's Democratic Republic against its income group and region, overall and by pillar

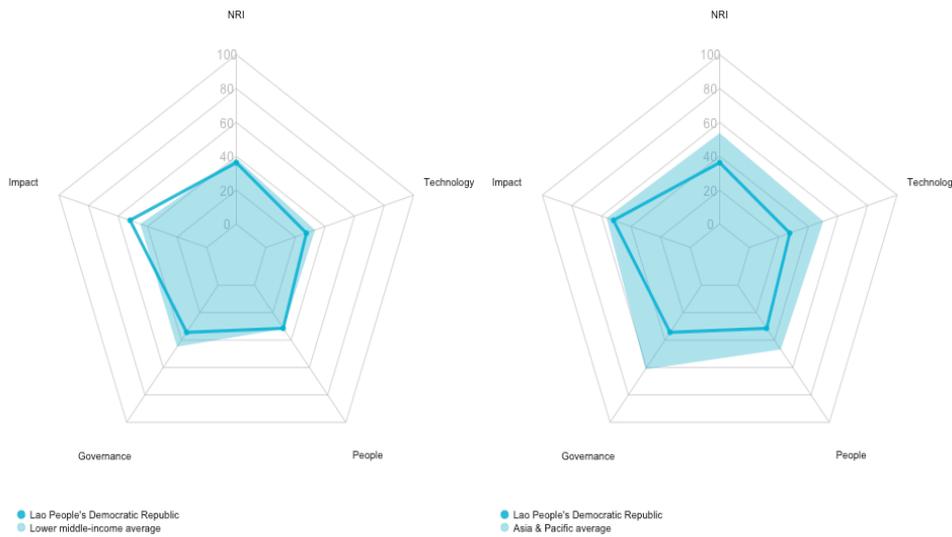


Table 2: Lao People's Democratic Republic scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Lower-middle-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	36.26	38.70	53.68
Technology	27.41	33.29	50.06
People	31.40	31.73	46.80
Governance	34.35	44.79	61.33
Impact	51.89	45.00	56.53

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Lao People's Democratic Republic

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 106 (out of 127)

Score: 36.26

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	110	27.41	C. Governance pillar	118	34.35
1st sub-pillar: Access	113	35.90	1st sub-pillar: Trust	104	37.75
2nd sub-pillar: Content	122	1.19	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	119	35.40
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	38	45.15	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	115	29.92
B. People pillar	98	31.40	D. Impact pillar	76	51.89
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	95	43.47	1st sub-pillar: Economy	66	31.67
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	127	10.82	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	71	63.72
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	66	39.90	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	81	60.29

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	110	27.41	C. Governance pillar	118	34.35
1st sub-pillar: Access	113	35.90	1st sub-pillar: Trust	104	37.75
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	90	53.64	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	94	45.73
1.1.2 Handset prices	85	48.75	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	119	20.39
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	79	26.09	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	12	63.91
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	119	21.05	3.1.4 Internet shopping	71	20.96
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	115	60.49	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	119	35.40
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	82	5.36	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	118	19.01
2nd sub-pillar: Content	122	1.19	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	127	0.00
1.2.1 GitHub commits	117	0.38	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	70	42.44
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	73	2.63	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	n/a	n/a	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	122	15.53
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	105	0.56	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	115	29.92
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	38	45.15	3.3.1 E-Participation	110	24.64
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	35	74.46	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	123	0.82
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	51	46.25	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	n/a	n/a
1.3.3 Robot density	n/a	n/a	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	41	64.29
1.3.4 Computer software spending	72	14.75	D. Impact pillar	76	51.89
B. People pillar	98	31.40	1st sub-pillar: Economy	66	31.67
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	95	43.47	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	n/a	n/a
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	110	2.76	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	98	40.37
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	42	60.41	4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	48	52.63
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	93	48.19	4.1.4 ICT services exports	113	2.00
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	78	62.53	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	71	63.72
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	n/a	n/a	4.2.1 Happiness	88	45.60

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Indicator	Rank	Score	
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	127	10.82	
2.2.1 Firms with website	94	32.28	
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	n/a	n/a	
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	118	0.00	o
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	117	0.19	o
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	66	39.90	
2.3.1 Government online services	123	18.97	o
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	n/a	n/a	
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	27	60.82	•
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	n/a	n/a	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	23	87.50	•
4.2.3 Income inequality	76	61.73	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	93	54.38	
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	81	60.29	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	106	37.78	
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	n/a	n/a	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	61	79.09	•
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	92	64.05	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	101	37.67	

NOTE: • indicates a strength and o indicates a weakness.

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