

CONTEMPORARY LAO STUDIES

Research on Development, Language and Culture,
and Traditional Medicine



Edited by
Carol J. Compton
John F. Hartmann
Vinya Sysamouth

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Containing selected research papers presented at the First International Conference on Lao Studies held at Northern Illinois University in 2005, this book presents the work of scholars and practitioners who focus on key topics for contemporary Laos. With more than 350 pages, the book includes a preface, an introduction, maps, tables, and illustrations.

- *Development*: gender and land rights, reproductive health, rural credit, irrigation, and internal resettlement.
- *Language and Culture*: Lao language and linguistics, computerization of Tham script, and Buddhist monastic education
- *Traditional Medicine*: ongoing study of the medicinal plants of Laos, including their use by traditional healers, as well as a review of historical records on indigenous plants used for medicinal, religious, and commercial purposes

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