

- Presentation Title: [“State, Hmong and Markets. Comparing “ethnic markets” in Luang Phrabang \(Laos\) and Sapa - Bac Ha \(Vietnam\)”](#)

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- Abstract: In number of texts Hmong in South-East Asia are often described as populations living in areas of difficult access and outside lanes of integration proposed by the State-Nation’s frame.

To do the opposite of this common opinion, I will present the case of some ethnic markets organized by the Hmong in Laos and Vietnam. These tourism markets targeted mainly foreign tourists (non-Lao and non-Kinh). We’ll see how independently Hmong communities offer specific products and have established international networks. We also see how local constraints imposed by the city authorities can, without even knowing it, completely destroying autonomous development initiatives.

- Key words: Ethnic markets, Hmong, Dao, Khamou, Laos, Vietnam, Luang Phrabang, Sapa, Bac Ha, autonomous development initiatives, ethnic networks, urban ethnic groups.