

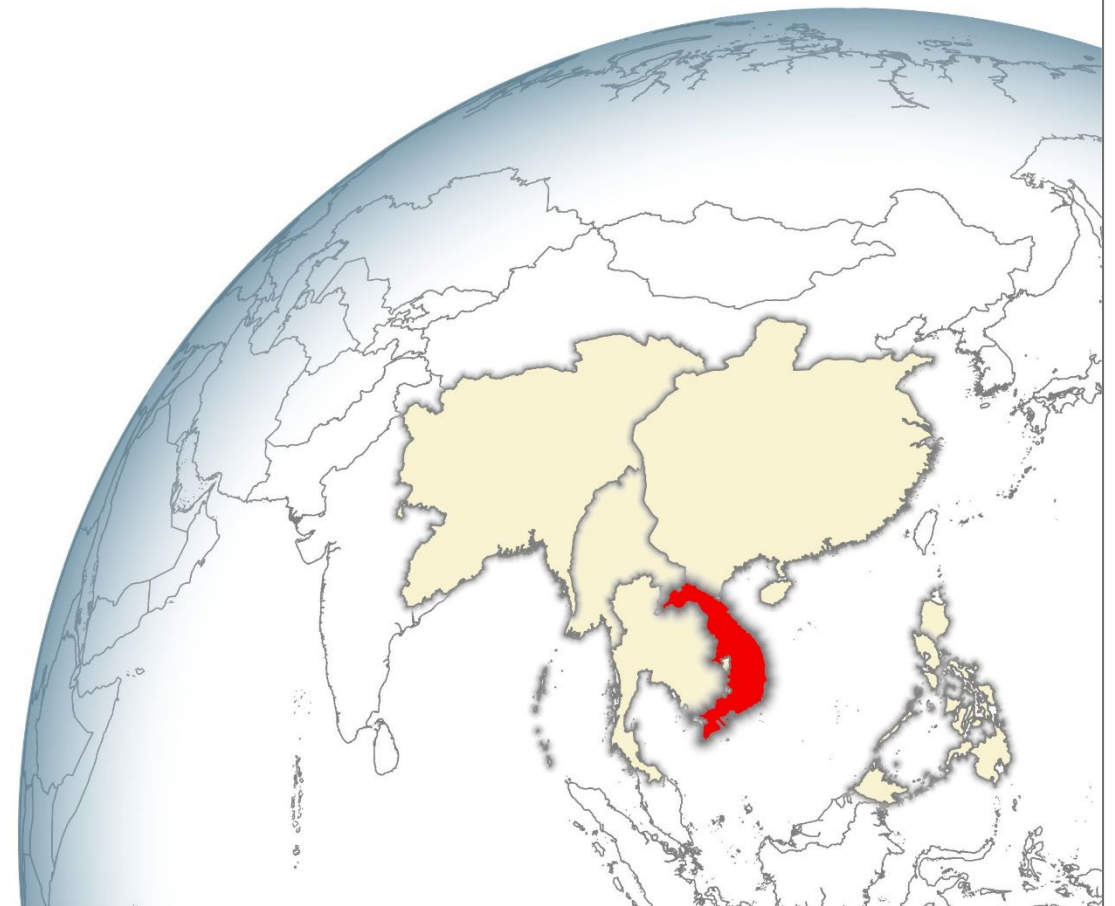
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US ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND G2
Operational Environment Integration Division

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SUNGZON

INTRODUCTION

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INTRODUCTION

The People's Republic of Sungzon is a single-party, socialist republic led by the Communist Party of Sungzon (CPS). Recently it transformed into a market-oriented economy. Sungzon takes a pragmatic approach to international partnerships and economics, and often works with actors on both sides of a conflict. Internally, Sungzon's government struggles to balance the democratic effects of a nascent, free-market economy and social media with tightly controlled state narratives and autocracy.



Figure 1. Flag of Sungzon



Map 1. Sungzon political boundaries



POLITICAL

Overview

Sungzon takes a pragmatic approach to international partnerships and economics and oftentimes works with actors on both sides of a conflict. These business-like policies are most evident in Sungzon's military posture and its approach to partnering with other nations. While Sungzon emphasizes a non-aligned practicality toward international relations, Olvana's aggressive military posture has forced Sungzon to reassess this policy.

Sungzon's single party government must balance the expansion of its market-based economy while reinforcing nationalistic ideals within its population. Recently, Sungzon's government emphasized policies that promote investment in infrastructure, increased domestic human capital, and enhanced government effectiveness at all levels.

The capital is Da Nang, which sits along the central coast. Ho Chi Minh is the most populated city and lies in the south.

Political History

Dynastic period

From roughly 500 B.C. to the 1600s several dynasties ruled the area of Sungzon, which included much of the main peninsula of Southeast Asia, also known as the Main Peninsula, Indochina Peninsula, or simply Indochina.

Colonial period

European explorers and merchants began exploring Indochina and the Mekong delta in the 1500s. France ruled most the area of modern Sungzon by the mid-1800s. This era of French Indochina lasted uneasily until World War II when Imperial Japan seized control of the peninsula. The Japanese left French sympathizers in place to administrate.

Uprisings Against Occupation

Several years of communist-led resistance against French colonialism culminated in the 1950s with The Geneva Accords, which established Sungzon independence and divided the country into north and south sections aligned with post-WWII Allied occupation territory.

Rise of Communism: The Sungzon Conflict

In the early 1960s Communist forces in the north took up arms against Western-backed nationalists in the south while invading the eastern ethnic Laotian and Khmer regions in Sungzon. Thus, began over 10 years of brutal, guerilla warfare known as the Sungzon Conflict, wherein the United States committed military forces against the communists. The conflict led to thousands of American casualties and millions of displaced southern Sungzon citizens. Many of those refugees faced forced labor, so they risked their lives to escape. The Conflict was extremely unpopular in the United States and precipitated global political and social change across the world.

Shortly after Sungzon secured victory for communist rule, Olvana invaded and seized Hanoi and the northern territories of Sungzon. Sungzon moved the capital to Da Nang along the central coastline. Sungzon and Olvana have waged a "cold war of convenience" ever since.

Era of Economic Reform

In the late-1980s, Sungzon reformists took over the government and slowly began to allow private ownership of industries and farms. This led to an economic rebirth and re-opening of Sungzon to Western tourism and reconciliation. Sungzon's rebirth encouraged Western leaders to consider Sungzon a foil to Olvana's military ambitions in Southeast Asia.

Government Overview

Legislative and Supreme Power

The Communist Party of Sungzon (CPS, or the “Party”) is the only real political party of the Government of Sungzon. The Supreme Congress of Sungzon, under the supervision of the Party Chair, or Secretary General, is the supreme power in

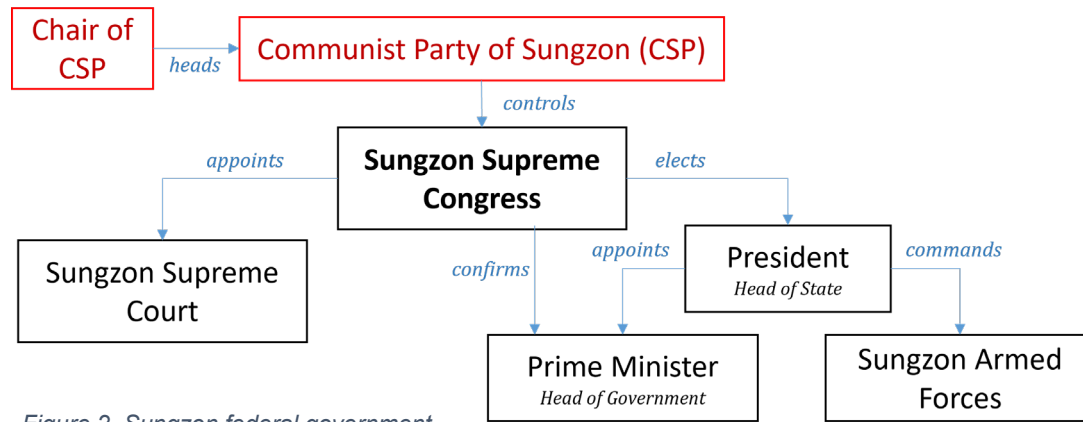


Figure 2. Sungzon federal government

Sungzon. All authority in the Government flows from the Supreme Congress, which is the sole legislative authority and the greater among the branches of government.

Executive

The President of Sungzon is congressionally elected by simple majority. The President is also the head of the military (see Military variable).

Ministries. The Prime Minister is the titular head of government, appointed by the President, and assisted by various deputy Prime Ministers who also head their own functions in successive hierarchy. Ministers

Defense	Finance	Security	Justice	Agriculture & Labor
Interior	Science	Health	Planning	Industry & Trade

can serve as head of more than one ministry, and frequently do so when interests overlap.

Judicial

The Sungzon Supreme Court has seven justices who serve terms of six years. The Supreme Congress selects each justice on a rotational schedule. The Supreme Court oversees judicial functions at all levels. Courts operate at the provincial and local level. The Supreme Court oversees appeals from the provincial level. While military courts operate independently from civilian, Military courts also answer to the Supreme Court. All courts are guided indirectly to carry the will of the Party.

The legal system is based on French Civil and Criminal Law and ancient Eastern traditions of the Lao and Kinh peoples.

Governance Issues

Legitimacy

Few challenge the legitimacy of the Communist Party of Sungzon. Several factors contribute to the relative security of the government’s legitimacy. The CPS maintains strict control over consumption of information within Sungzon. After the Communist takeover most dissenters fled to other SE Asian nations and the United States, where the largest diaspora of Kinh people live. This left few dissenters to challenge the legitimacy of the Communist Party rule inside Sungzon. What little dissent that exists is met with swift intervention by the Sungzon People’s Public Security (SPPC) force. This occurs mostly in the ethnic Laotian and ethnic Khmer regions to the west but diminishes with the aging population who remember a time before Sungzon Communist rule.

The loosening of economic control in the 1990s was an effective move by the government to encourage growth and quell discontent. This economic freedom is successful internally, but challenges Olvana’s economic dominance in the region. Olvana has responded with aggressive political and military posturing that also challenges Sungzon’s sovereignty. This friction between the two nations has unified



Sungzon’s population around a government that has defended Sungzon’s and the Kinh people’s interests.

Effectiveness

Elections

Elections occur at two separate levels: national and local. Only Supreme Congress members may vote for the President and ministers, confirm the Prime Minister, and appoint Supreme Court justices. (For more information see Election Cycles, Time variable)

Citizens participate in local elections. The Communist Party controls the ballot at both levels, with little to no participation from non-party members. Non-party members must be approved, ensuring that even non-party members toe the line.

The Supreme Congress has 400 members representing the provinces in proportion to their ethnic populations.

Rule of Law

Domestic Security Forces

The Sungzon People’s Public Security (SPPC) reports to the Minister of Security. The SPPC is a two-part organization responsible for all internal security.

The National Security Branch is responsible for domestic surveillance, counterespionage, information control, and cultural protection, as defined by the Communist Party. It was born of the Communist Revolution and established a domestic surveillance state. It informed the National Police of traitorous behavior, who then carried out tortuous arrests against hundreds of thousands of southern military officers who fought in the Sungzon Conflict. Today, it coordinates with the National Police, the Minister of Security’s foreign intelligence apparatus, and the Communist Party to maintain order.

The Sungzon National Police is a federated, domestic police force under the control of the Sungzon People’s Armed Forces, responsible to the SPPC, and

indirectly controlled by the CPS. The National Police Force operates at all levels, from national security apparatuses to local constabulary patrols. The Police are the

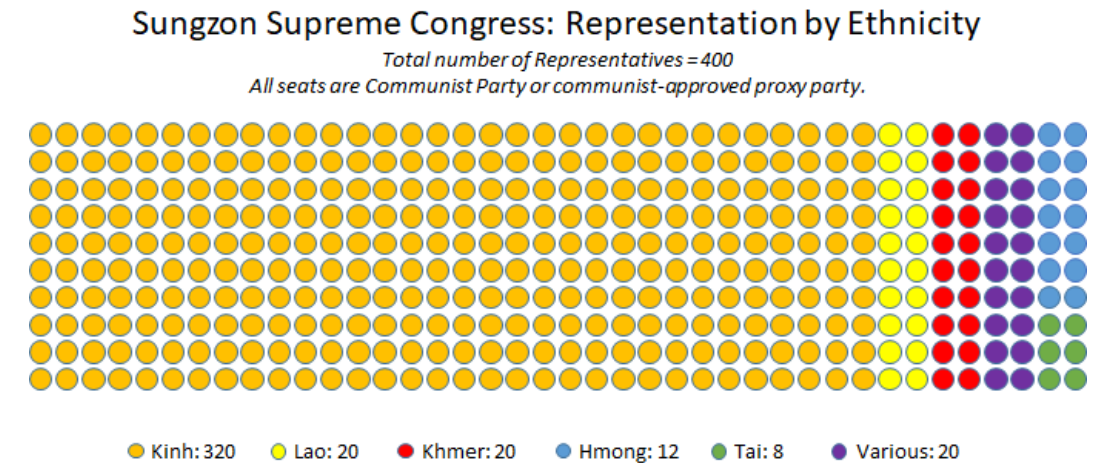


Figure 3. Ethnic makeup of Sungzon Supreme Congress

armed half of the two-part SPPC.

The Police are charged with maintaining the national personal identification system, visible security, highway safety, transportation safety, personal protection for government officials, and security of all landmarks.

The National Police are the enforcers of oppressive security measures carried out by the SPPC against its citizens and is frequently the subject of international scrutiny. It is mostly because of the actions of the National Police in Sungzon that the nation has the lowest marks among international civil rights groups. The police carry out raids against outspoken journalists and anyone accused of sedition, which can include any civilian who offends, decries, or otherwise criticizes the CPS.



In addition to national security, the National Police serve in the usual capacity of local law enforcement, i.e., responding to emergencies, public safety, traffic control, delivering warrants, etc.

Prison System

The SPPC administers the prison system through a special branch of the National Police that acts as jailer security. Prisoners are treated harshly. It is believed many within the prison system are there for political dissent.

Corruption

Despite Sungzon's efforts to encourage private business ownership, many successful ventures still suffer from the nepotism and corruption endemic to State-Owned Enterprises (SOE). The leadership of SOEs are often appointed based upon Party loyalty and personal connections rather than merit or performance history. While the recent liberalization of the economy has produced many benefits, it has also threatened the control enjoyed by traditional communist oligarchs who could, if given the right circumstances, seek to reassert their influence over Sungzon policy.

Top-level executives of government are appointed by the Party, who themselves select membership and the highest-ranking members of government. This perpetuates systems of repression and feeds a revolving door on influential positions in domestic enterprise. This latter form of corruption will be a source of friction as domestic companies seek to expand globally and compete with profit-driven firms elsewhere.

Human Rights and Freedoms

Sungzon ranks among the worst nations in personal freedom. Political rights are non-existent as the CPS is the only political party allowed. Protests and speech critical of the government are not allowed. The government strictly monitors use of social media within the country and moves swiftly through the National Police to arrest those who violate internal security measures.

Provision of Services

The provision of public services remains an issue with the Sungzon government despite the availability of natural resources. The state controls energy production and provision of services at all levels. Private companies are limited in their involvement to the construction of certain infrastructure to deliver services run by the government.

The distribution of services is not equitable with urban areas the priority. For example, fresh water is widely available and wastewater collection systems are predominantly found within larger cities, while rural and city outskirts still rely on well and septic. Access to clean water, despite an abundance of surface water, remains a challenge throughout the country and could prove a potential failure point in a crisis. Oftentimes the availability of clean water is limited by contamination due to industrial practices or poor sewage disposal or upriver nations.

Transportation by rail is state-owned, while privately-owned bus companies provide an alternative to long-distance travel. Road congestion due to the large number of privately-owned vehicles is a challenge for city planning, and the government often promotes the use of public transportation or the use of bicycles for local transportation.

Education is a universal service provided by the state free of charge through secondary school (age 18). Enrollment and literacy are among the highest in the world. Entrance into post-secondary programs is highly competitive and considered among the best in the world.

Education in Sungzon focuses on technology and trade. Sungzon's high school graduates are among the most math-literate in the world, with many seeking engineering degrees in post-secondary education. English education is fundamental through all grades as it is the language of commerce and technology.

(See also Infrastructure and Government Services)

Centers of Political Power



Political

The CPS dominates the authoritarian climate of the country. All political powers are derived from the Central Commission, which oversees all branches of government and controls information dissemination within the country. Where it does not outright own information distribution, the government seeks to control it through monitoring activity and enforcing censorship laws.

Military

The Sungzon People's Armed Forces are used as part of the internal security in coordination with the National Police and the Ministry of Security. Universal conscription exposes most of the population to the military, which ultimately gives the military a significant amount of influence throughout the country.

Non-State Institutional Authority

The family unit remains an important part of life in Sungzon. Like other eastern cultures, the elders within a family are revered. Families include elders in living arrangements and decision making even when the children are grown and have families of their own. This deference for elders and the authority inherent in such relationships extends to the state, which maintains all official authority, formal or otherwise, in Sungzon.

Politics and Political Parties

Domestic Political Issues

Economic Reform

For the last decade, the government of Sungzon has allowed the expansion of private ownership of businesses to strengthen the economy. Reaching the limits of central planning, the CPS reluctantly agreed to transition into a socialist, market-driven economy. Overall, the results have been favorable. Coincidentally, global sentiment to Olvana has declined, leaving international firms to seek alternatives to low-effective manufacturing and technology. Sungzon has shown willingness to accept foreign investment and the risk to central authority that entails.

As the middle and lower economic strata discover the liberties possible through economic freedom, the desire for freedom is increasingly a threat the Party's sovereignty. Members of the CPS are beginning to push back against a populace that's growing bolder.

Corruption

In addition to the natural inadequacies of central planning, corruption at the highest levels of state-owned companies undermines the efficiencies the free market provides. (See *Corruption* under Governance Issues, above)

Ethnic Rivalry

Ethnic Rivalry is not as much an issue as it was in the 1960s after the Sungzon Conflict redefined the borders with eastern Khorathidin. Through sheer authority, the Sungzon government has controlled what little hostilities exist toward ethnic minorities of Khmer and Lao in the western edges of the country. The desire of those peoples to connect with their families across the border in Khorathidin led to early border confrontations with security forces. However, the unrest has given way to acceptance, and the similarities between ethnic Khmer, Laotian and Kinh have smoothed the relationships between those populations.

Official Political Parties

The CPS is the only sanctioned political party.

International Relationships

Geopolitical Political Strategy

Sungzon has made diplomatic overtures to western nations, including the United States, which invite investments and hint at strategic, economic, and military cooperation.

Sungzon sees itself as a foil to Olvanan dominance in Southeast Asia, and especially of the waterways. Sungzon views the seas as the key strategic terrain in a struggle



for sovereignty and control of its own destiny. Sungzon views itself as the alternative to Olvana for natural resources and economic production.

Major Diaspora

Over 15.5 million Kinh live around the world, and over 10 million of them remain in Hanoi, Olvana. Nearly 2.5 million live in the United States. The next largest populations live in Khorathidin and France. Kinh live across the world in 100 different nations. This diaspora is mostly a result of the Sungzon Conflicts of the 1960s and 1970s. Ethnic Khmer and Laotian minorities are scattered in similar proportions, though number less than 1.5 million outside of their ethnic enclaves in Sungzon and Khorathidin.

Relationships with Major World Powers

United States

Good, Improving. Beginning with the Sungzon Conflict in the 1960s, the United States and Sungzon did not maintain diplomatic relations or trade for 30 years. For the last 30 years, however, the relationship has grown to include trade, security, and cultural exchange. Sungzon sees the U.S. as a powerful ally in its effort to:

1. assert itself as a military power in Southeast Asia, and
2. grow its own economy through foreign investment and trade.

The United States is home to the largest population of Kinh people in the world outside of SE Asia. Kinh-Americans are generally successful, having descended from the capitalists who fled Sungzon during the Conflict 60 years ago. Many of those descendants are leading the effort to normalize relations between the two nations as positive role models for American-style free enterprise.

Donovia

Good, Declining. To contrast with the United States, Donovia’s relationship with Sungzon started strong following the communist takeover after the Conflict. Sungzon maintains military equipment from Donovia and maintains purchase agreements at a

discount through shared use of its military facilities, which Donovia uses for force projection into the South Pacific.

However, Donovia’s economic influence in Sungzon is waning compared to that of Olvana and the United States. The United States and its allies have often pressured Sungzon to sever ties with Donovia in exchange for more economic and security cooperation.

Olvana

Strained. While Sungzon portrays itself as being a self-reliant country, the reality is that what occurs in Olvana has a significant impact upon Sungzon’s economy and politics. The Olvanan city of Hanoi was once part of Sungzon and holds significance due to its shared cultural practices and identities. Sungzon is keenly aware of the lower status of the Kinh population in Hanoi. Sungzon’s pragmatic approach to international relations leaves the door open for cooperation with Olvana despite existing tensions. Sungzon’s relationship with Olvana could improve if the right incentives were provided, but the same can be said for Sungzon’s relationships with the west.

European Union

Good. Sungzon has several economic agreements in place since the foundation of the European Union and the European Economic Council. Sungzon has military purchase agreements in place with several European nations and the UK and has an extensive military relationship with France as a legacy of their colonial relationship.



Map 2. Kinh population in SE Asia, featuring those remaining in Olvanan Hanoi



Relationship to Other Countries in the Region

Khorathidin

Good. Sungzon and Khorathidin have shared economic interests and regional concerns. Sungzon views Khorathidin's partnerships with the west with skepticism, fearing that it could destabilize the region. However, they also understand how western engagement can deter Olvanan ambitions. Sungzon, though committed to non-alignment, is attentive to the competition for influence of Khorathidin and Bagansait and will make pragmatic choices when necessary.

Bagansait

Fair. Sungzon views Bagansait with skepticism. Bagansait's constant political turmoil and ongoing insurgencies tire all in the region. That said, if Bagansait's current military, and their growing partnership with Olvana, can turn the country's fortunes around, then Sungzon may find reason to cooperate with Bagansait and Olvana in the future.

Himaldesh

Good. Sungzon recognizes that a relationship with Himaldesh could benefit its economic potential, however there is little evidence to suggest that it would be more beneficial than a relationship with Olvana. For now, Sungzon balances its engagement with both, weighing in when appropriate, avoiding ensnarement in contentious issues.

Belesia

Good. Sungzon and Belesia share common strategic goals to limit Olvanan influence in the region. Sungzon's Navy cooperates in maneuvers with Belesian naval forces in the South China Sea. Trade has increased with greater tourism between the two nations. Direct flights are available between the two capitals.

Gabal

Good. Sungzon is entering naval cooperation agreements brought about by the nations' shared concern over Olvana's military overreach in the South China Sea. This has opened the door for trade.

North Torbia

Good. Sungzon and North Torbia have had diplomatic relations since the 1950 when both came under the influence of Communist revolutionaries. Since that time, Sungzon has maintained positive dialogues with N Torbia while distinguishing itself from the latter as a positive example of Communist economic reformation. Sungzon seeks to balance the influence of Olvana over N Torbia, and N Torbia benefits from economic and technical trade. Both countries share ancient bloodlines.

South Torbia

Good. Sungzon has relied heavily on South Torbian technology to advance its own industries. S. Torbia sees itself as a positive role model in shaping Sungzon, but also indirectly working through Sungzon to shape SE Asian policy toward Olvana, and influence N. Torbia toward reconciliation.

Regional Issues

Sovereignty

Olvana has exerted its influence in the region for many decades, and specifically over Sungzon after a successful incursion into the latter's northern provinces. Olvana is seen as an unwelcomed patron.

Domestically, the CPS will struggle to balance freedoms necessary for economic growth while maintaining authoritarian rule over the populace.

South China Sea Crisis

Perhaps the largest issue for Sungzon's territorial sovereignty is also a regional issue: The South China Sea. The traditional 100 nautical mile economic exclusion zones of all nations surrounding the maritime region overlap. Additionally, Olvana has claimed the sea for itself - even renaming it the South Olvana Sea (not



internationally recognized) - and asserted its navy in the region. Sungzon stands in opposition to this saber-rattling through routine military patrols that mirror commercial routes under the auspice of defending freedom of navigation. These patrols may promote freedom of navigation, but the heavily armed ships also send a message to Olvana that Sungzon will not be intimidated, nor will it relinquish maritime sovereignty.

International Participation

Global Participation

- United Nations
- International Organization of the Francophonie
- World Trade Organization
- EU-Sungzon Free Trade Agreement
- Bilateral Trade Agreement with the United States

Regional Participation

- The Mekong River Accord (MRA)
- Association of Southeast Nations (ASEAN)
- Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Sungzon is also party to various international counternarcotics agreements, the Hague Conventions, climate change initiatives, extradition treaties, international law enforcement cooperation, and others.

Military Relationships

Alliances

Sungzon maintains cooperative agreements with other ASEAN member states for waterway policing and counter-terror operations. Sungzon maintains military exercise agreements with Himaladesh, the United States, and Donovia.

Treaties

- United Nations Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- Paris Peace Accords (1973)
- Chemical Weapons Convention

Military Aid

After the communist revolution, Sungzon received military aid in the form of training and equipment from the United Federation of Socialist Republics (UFSR). After the dissolution of the UFSR in the early 1990s, Sungzon is seeking to decrease its dependency upon the former Soviet state of Donovia for military equipment.

See MILITARY variable, below.



MILITARY

Military Overview

The Sungzon People's Armed Forces (SPAF) are under the command of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party. They are divided into three components that focus on national security, domestic security, and popular defense. The People's Army of Sungzon (PAS) is the term used for all the Sungzon military components and is responsible for national security. The Sungzon People's Public Security (SPPC) forms the primary national law enforcement service (counterintelligence, security, firefighting, and police) tasked with domestic security. The Sungzon Self-Defense Militia (SSDM) is organized at the local level and tasked with popular defense.

The overall size of the SPAF is estimated to be 5,900,000 to 6,000,000 personnel (active and reserve). Approximately 5,400,000 of those personnel are estimated to be in the reserves which include the militia and self-defense forces. Sungzon maintains such a large force due to the consistent instability of its neighboring countries. Bagansait and Khorathidin have routinely had numerous military coups in the last thirty to forty years. This makes long-term international agreements challenging and undermines regional stability. Olvana has the largest modernized army in the region and has expanded its interest in the international waters and economic exclusions zones close to Sungzon's naval zones. These three volatile, neighboring states necessitate a strong Sungzon military, which includes trained and ready reserve forces.

The SPAF has prioritized its modernization efforts on maritime and coastal defenses. Shore based, long-range, anti-ship missiles, ship modernization, and the upgrading of aerial platforms to serve in an anti-ship and anti-submarine capacity have been a focus for most of the recent modernization activities. Sungzon has also expanded the [Sungzon Maritime Militia \(SMM\)](#). The SMM was originally formed around trained and armed fishing vessels, but in the last five years the government of Sungzon has launched a few dozen large, steel hulled vessels under the maritime militia banner to

provide a more robust capability in its naval zones near the recent Olvanan encroachment efforts.

Military Forces

The People's Army of Sungzon (PAS) is the term used for all the Sungzon military branches and is the component tasked with national defense. The PAS consists of approximately 682,000 active-duty personnel and an estimated 5,000,000 reserve personnel. It fills its ranks through a mandatory conscription of all able-bodied men for 24 months. The conscripts are ages 18-25 on average (18-27 for those in college or other technical institutions). The PAS is organized into seven separate components:

1. [Sungzon Army Ground Forces \(SAGF\)](#), organized into four military regions: Northern, North-Central, South-Central, Southern.
2. [Sungzon Army Navy \(SAN\)](#), organized geographically into five naval zones (numbered 1-5 from north to south, see Maritime Forces Size and Structure, below).
3. [Sungzon Army Air Force \(SAAF\)](#), organized geographically into four air districts that mirror the SAGF military regions.
4. Sungzon Army Cyber Operations Force (SACOF) based centrally out of the capitol but has various clandestine locations throughout the country.
5. [Sungzon Army Border Guard \(SABG\)](#) which has a large central command in Da Nang and provincial commands in charge of the local border posts, the
6. [Sungzon Army Coast Guard \(SACG\)](#) which is aligned with the SAN into four naval zones, and the
7. Sungzon Army Ceremonial Defense Force (SACDF) which is primarily located in the capitol of Da Nang and responsible for Communist Party, Presidential, and Prime Ministerial security as well as ceremonial duties around the capitol and its national monuments.

National Command Authority

SUNGZON NATIONAL COMMAND AUTHORITY

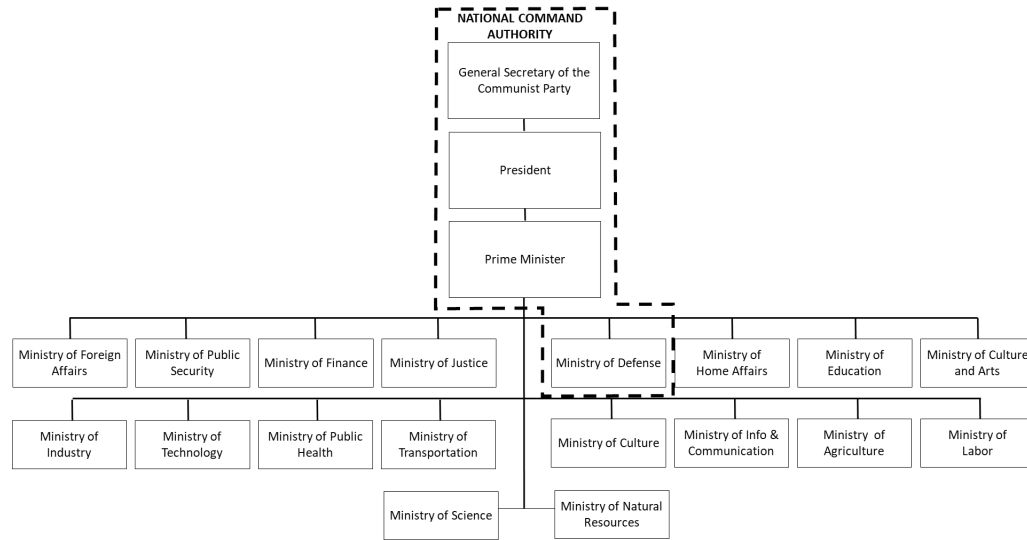


Figure 4. National Command Authority

The Peoples Republic of Sungzon is a socialist country with the armed forces controlled by the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party. The General Secretary of the Communist Party is the senior most member of the National Command Authority. The communist party nominates the President who ultimately has the title of the Commander and Chief of the military. The President then proposes the Prime Minister to the National Assembly, who elects the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister issues directives and supervises the implementation of formal orders given by the President to the ministries. The Minister of Defense is the highest command and management position of the Sungzon Peoples Armed Forces (SPAF).

Strategic Operational Framework

SUNGZON SUPREME HIGH COMMAND

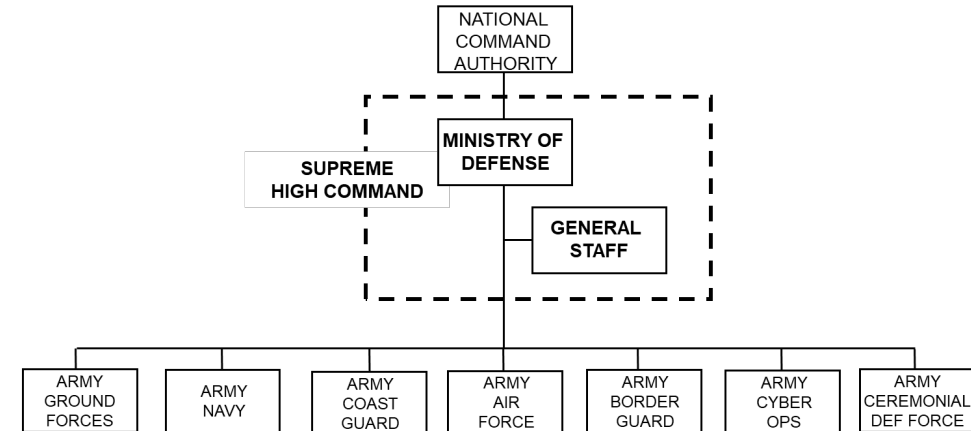


Figure 5. Supreme High Command

Sungzon exercises command and control of the Armed Forces via the Supreme High Command (SHC). The SHC includes the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and the General Staff. Unlike many armies, Sungzon does not recognize separate military services in a traditional sense. All military personnel fall into the People’s Army of Sungzon (PAS) which is under the direct control and responsibility of the MoD. The MoD uses the general staff for management and command in a limited capacity, but ultimately the MoD is responsible to the NCA for all activities of the PAS.

National Strategic Goals

National Security Strategy

The Peoples Republic of Sungzon has codified its national security strategy into a simple phrase, “sovereignty through regional neutrality, and dependence only when necessary”. This can best be summarized into a series of things that Sungzon will



not do, and what they will do only when necessary. The Sungzon strategy of sovereignty through regional neutrality is:

- Do not threaten the use of force.
- Do not form military alliances.
- Do not side with one country over another.
- Do not allow its land, sea, or airspace to be used by a foreign country to attack another.

The portion that reads “dependance only when necessary” alludes to the fact that Sungzon recognizes that, in certain circumstances, some military alliances may be necessary to protect its sovereignty against a superior or overwhelming force. This core strategy supports these four key national objectives:

- Steadfast Sungzon Territorial Sovereignty
- Security through Diversified Defense Cooperation
- Sustainable Maritime Economic Development
- Internal Development of Modernized Maritime and Air Defenses

Implementing National Security Goals

In pursuit of its national security strategy, Sungzon is prepared to conduct four basic types of strategic-level courses of action. Each course of action involves the use of all four instruments of national power, but to different degrees and in different ways. Sungzon gives the four the following names:

- **Strategic operations:** a strategic-level course of action that uses all instruments of power in peace and war to achieve the goals of Sungzon’s national security strategy by attacking the enemy’s strategic centers of gravity.
- **Regional operations:** a strategic-level course of action (including conventional, force-on-force military operations) against opponents that Sungzon overmatches, including regional adversaries and internal threats.

- **Transition operations:** a strategic-level course of action that bridges the gap between regional and adaptive operations and contains some elements of both, continuing to pursue Sungzon’s regional goals while dealing with the development of outside intervention with the potential for overmatching.
- **Adaptive operations:** a strategic-level course of action to preserve Sungzon’s power and apply it in adaptive ways against opponents that overmatch Sungzon.

Land Forces/Army Overview

Land Forces/Army Size and Structure

The Sungzon Army Ground Forces (SAGF) are currently composed of approximately 412,000 active-duty soldiers and the Sungzon Army Border Guard (SABG) is estimated at 150,000 active troops. The SAGF is organized into four military regional commands. The Sungzon Army Border Guard (SABG) is organized into a large central command in the capitol of Da Nang, with individual provincial commands in all border provinces land and sea. The SABG operational forces are organized into squadrons and flotillas that operate in all border provinces, key international crossings, and major municipalities.

SAGF MILITARY REGIONAL COMMANDS



Map 3. SAGF Regional Military Commands

Northern Military Regional Command (N-MRC)

The Northern Military Regional Command (N-MRC) is headquartered in Vinh and consists of:

- 1x Corps Headquarters
- 4x Infantry Divisions



- 1x Air Defense Division
- 2x Tank Brigades
- 2x Artillery Brigades
- 2x Engineer Brigades

North Central Military Regional Command (NC-MRC)

The North Central Military Regional Command (NC-MRC) is headquartered in Da Nang and consists of:

- 1x Corps Headquarters
- 3x Infantry Divisions
- 1x Air Defense Division
- 2x Tank Brigades
- 2x Artillery Brigades
- 2x Engineer Brigades

South Central Military Regional Command (SC-MRC)

The South Central Military Regional Command (SC-MRC) is headquartered in Na Trang and consists of:

- 1x Corps Headquarters
- 3x Infantry Divisions
- 1x Air Defense Division
- 2x Tank Brigades
- 2x Artillery Brigades
- 2x Engineer Brigades
- 1x Commando Regiment
- 1x Signal Regiment

Southern Military Regional Command (S-MRC)

The Southern Military Regional Command (S-MRC) is headquartered in Ho Chi Minh City and consists of:

- 1x Corps Headquarters
- 3x Infantry Divisions
- 1x Air Defense Division
- 2x Tank Brigades
- 2x Artillery Brigades
- 2x Engineer Brigades
- 1x Commando Regiment
- 1x Signal Regiment

The Sungzon Army Border Guard (SABG)

The SABG is estimated to be 150,000 strong and is organized to support its mission of guarding the land border, island borders, and open sea borders (mostly key ports) of Sungzon. The command structure consists of a large central command in the capitol of Da Nang, with individual provincial commands in all border provinces, land, and sea. The SABG operational forces are organized into squadrons and flotillas that operate in all border provinces and major municipalities.

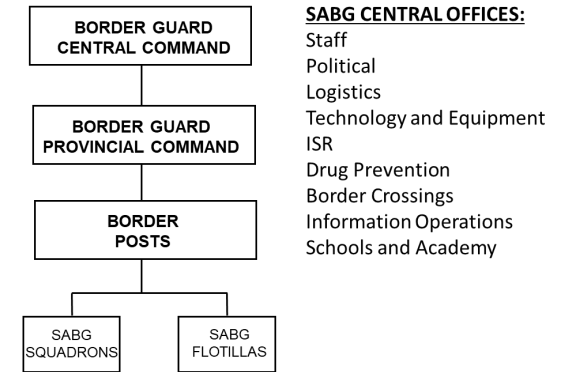


Figure 6. Border Guard Org

The Sungzon Army Reserve Forces (SARF)

The SARF claim an estimated 5,000,000 reserve personnel which is routinely disputed by regional analysts. The active force fills its ranks through a mandatory conscription of all able-bodied men for 24 months. Women join voluntarily. When this initial term of service is complete, all trained personnel automatically become part of the reserve force. It is considered every Sungzon citizen's duty to train and defend the country. The reserve forces are considered an essential part of the overall strength of the SAGF. Musters and training are conducted several times a year to



ensure readiness if needed. The reason that Sungzon maintains such a large reserve force is due to its neighboring countries of Bagansait, Olvana, and Khorathidin. Bagansait and Khorathidin have routinely had multiple military coups in the last thirty to forty years. Olvana has the largest modernized army in the region and has expanded its interest in Sungzon. These three volatile neighboring states necessitate a strong Sungzon military, which includes the reserve forces.

Land Forces/Army Doctrine and Tactics

The SAGF military doctrine is focused on achieving “rapid mobility and overwhelming firepower on any terrain and in any weather condition”. The SAGF mechanized forces are organized similarly to most western nations but the tactics they employ are unique due to the restrictive terrain that they train and fight in. The SAGF use light infantry in the high ground for reconnaissance and to spot for their well concealed armored vehicles and to secure their flanks. The SAGF mechanized forces typically stay well hidden behind the hills in the draws along the valley floors. The SAGF will rapidly transition from these ambush techniques into concentrated formations when there are indications of tactical opportunities and potential gains. The SAGF tactics consist of:

Offensive Operations

The SAGF recognizes three general types of offensive operations according to their purpose: to *destroy*, *seize*, or *expel*.

Attack to Destroy. The SAGF uses an attack to destroy on a key enemy combat formation or capability. The Sungzon forces often focus this type of attack on the enemy force’s ability to sustain itself or exercise effective command and control. Therefore, the force attacks the logistics and C2 systems of the target entity.

Attack to Seize. The SAGF uses an attack to seize to gain control of and hold key terrain. The Sungzon force seizes control and is physically on the key terrain during this type of attack.

Attack to Expel. The SAGF uses an attack to expel to force the defender to displace from an area. The Sungzon force uses this type of attack to deplete the enemy’s will to hold an area by exploiting a key vulnerability or capability.

Defensive Operations

The SAGF recognizes two general types of defensive operations The Maneuver Defense and the Area Defense.

Maneuver Defense. In this type of defense, the Sungzon army uses fires and maneuver to destroy key components of the enemy’s combat system and deny enemy forces their objective, while preserving Sungzon forces.

Area Defense. The SAGF uses an area defense to deny key terrain or hold a geographic area. The Sungzon force uses complex battle positions to preserve combat power while creating opportunities to attack the enemy’s key combat system.

Land Forces/Army Training and Readiness

The SAGF are respected as one of the most highly trained and ready forces in the region. They conduct bilateral military exercises every year with Himaladesh and are constantly evaluating modernization to become more competitive with Olvana. The SAGF compete annually among twelve other nations in a distinguished international military competition where they observe the latest equipment, tactics, techniques, and procedures from around the world. The overall readiness of the SAGF is high.

Land Forces/Army Equipment and Weapons

The SAGF operates primarily tier 2 or tier 3 equipment, though some reserve units may be equipped with older variants. Active-duty equipment is well maintained. The active army readiness rate is estimated to be above 80%. (For further information see Force Structure and the Worldwide Equipment Guide)

Maritime Forces Overview



Maritime Forces Size and Structure

The Sungzon Army Navy (SAN) consists of an estimated 50,000 sailors and naval infantry soldiers and 109 vessels. This number includes six Donovanian Kilo-class diesel-electric submarines, which gives Sungzon one of the largest submarine fleets in the region, second only to Olvana. The recent SAN modernization efforts have focused on shore based, Anti-Ship Missile brigades, which provide a long-range anti-ship capability without the maintenance associated with larger ships. The Sungzon Army Coast Guard (SACG) consists of approximately 4,000 coast guardsmen, 58 vessels, and two reconnaissance aircraft, which are separate, but fully integrated into

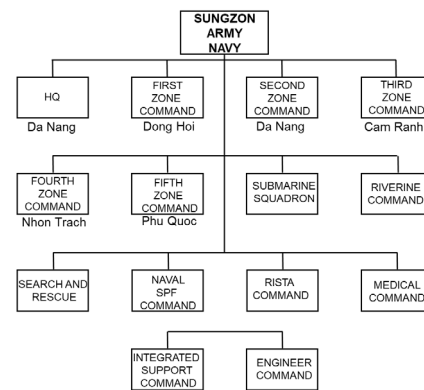
The Sungzon Army Navy (SAN)

The Sungzon Army Navy (SAN) is composed of five naval zone commands. It plays a significant role in keeping the gulf and sea trade routes open. Counter-narcotics and counter-counterfeit goods operations have become a major focus in the last twenty years for the SAN. The naval headquarters in Da Nang is responsible for administrative functions and a strategic squadron of six Donovanian, Kilo-class diesel-electric submarines. The tactical decisions are the primary responsibility of the naval zone commanders.



MARITIME FORCE DISPOSITION

- 1 Dong Hoi, HQ 1st Naval Zone Command
- 2 Da Nang, HQ 2nd Naval Zone Command
- 3 Cam Ranh, HQ 3rd Naval Zone Command
- 4 Nhon Trach, HQ 4th Naval Zone Command
- 5 Phu Quoc, HQ 5th Naval Zone Command



Map 4. Naval HQ zones

the SAN Naval Zones. The navy maintains an exceptionally high operational readiness rate and routinely trains with the U.S. and regional partners.

The 1st Naval Zone Command

The 1st Naval Zone Command is headquartered in Dong Hoi. The 1st Naval Zone Command consists of:

- 1x Shore Missile Brigade
- 1x Warship Brigade
- 1x Naval Infantry Brigade
- 1x Riverine Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x SPF Company
- 1x Mine / Countermine Detachment
- 1x Coast Guard Squadron
- 1x Signal Command
- 1x Integrated Support Command
- 1x Medical Battalion

The 2nd Naval Zone Command

The 2nd Naval Zone Command is headquartered in Da Nang. The 2nd Naval Zone Command consists of:

- 1x Shore Missile Brigade
- 1x Warship Brigade
- 1x Naval Infantry Brigade



- 1x Transport Brigade
- 1x Artillery Brigade
- 1x Radar Regiment
- 1x Aviation Squadron
- 1x Riverine Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x SPF Company
- 1x Mine / Countermine Detachment
- 1x Coast Guard Squadron
- 1x Signal Command
- 1x Integrated Support Command
- 1x Medical Battalion

The 3rd Naval Zone Command

The 3rd Naval Zone Command is headquartered in Cam Ranh. The 3rd Naval Zone Command consists of:

- 1x Shore Missile Brigade
- 1x Warship Brigade
- 1x Anti-Aircraft Battalion
- 1x Radar Regiment
- 1x Riverine Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x SPF Company
- 1x Coast Guard Squadron
- 1x Signal Command
- 1x Integrated Support Command
- 1x Medical Battalion

The 4th Naval Zone Command

The 4th Naval Zone Command is headquartered in Nhon Trach. The 4th Naval Zone Command consists of:

- 1x Shore Missile Brigade
- 1x Warship Brigade
- 1x Naval Infantry Brigade
- 1x Amphibious Brigade
- 1x Radar Regiment
- 1x Information Battalion
- 1x Aviation Brigade
- 1x Riverine Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x SPF Company
- 1x Coast Guard Squadron
- 1x Signal Command
- 1x Integrated Support Command
- 1x Medical Battalion

The 5th Naval Zone Command

The 5th Naval Zone Command is headquartered in Phu Quoc. The 5th Naval Zone Command consists of:

- 1x Warship Brigade
- 1x Engineer Battalion
- 1x Anti-Aircraft Battalion
- 1x Riverine Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x Naval Infantry Battalion
- 1x Radar Battalion
- 1x Coast Guard Squadron
- 1x Signal Command
- 1x Integrated Support Command
- 1x Medical Battalion



The Sungzon Army Coast Guard (SACG)

The SACG is a separate branch, but fully integrated into the five naval zones for coastal and riverine operations. Its primary mission is to enforce laws within the Sungzon territorial waters and the economic exclusion zones in accordance with international treaties. The SACG focuses on these primary types of operations.

- Protection of Economic Exclusion Zones (EEZ)
- Drug smuggling
- Human trafficking
- Waste dumping
- Counterfeit Goods Smuggling
- Illegal Lumber or Animal Smuggling
- Illegal Fishing
- Search and Rescue

Maritime Forces Doctrine and Tactics

The Sungzon Army Navy's doctrine and tactics are focused in three primary areas. The first is the protection of the nation's islands, coastline, and water ways. The second is to enforce established economic zones to ensure a sustainable maritime economy. The third is to support and enforce international maritime law, as well as the Sungzon customs and border services operations.

The Sungzon Army Navy's operations include:

- Anti-Ship Operations
- Submarine operations
- Escort operations
- Mine / Countermine
- Insertion/extraction of SPF
- Riverine patrolling
- Anti-smuggling (drugs and various other contraband)
- Search and rescue

Maritime Forces Training and Readiness

The Sungzon Naval Academy is considered one of the premier institutions in the region. It provides naval officers with an education up to and including the doctoral level. The Navy maintains an exceptionally high operational readiness rate of around 80%. The SAN is extremely unforgiving, and a single failed readiness inspection often leads to the career-ending dismissal of many of the officers on the ship. The SAN also conducts annual training exercises with the United States. It most recently took part in the United States-led Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) military exercises, which involved 21 nations from around the world and throughout the region. While many modernization efforts are progressing slowly, the SAN continues to maintain the highest readiness levels with the equipment it currently has.

Maritime Forces Equipment and Weapons

The Sungzon Army Navy (SAN) maintains primarily tier 2 and tier 3 equipment. The SAN maintains an average operational readiness rate above 80%. This rate accounts for modernization efforts and ships in port for refitting. (For further information see Force Structure and the Worldwide Equipment Guide)

Air Forces Overview



Air Forces Size and Structure

The Sungzon Army Air Force (SAAF) is made up of approximately 35,000 personnel and an estimated 209 active aircraft (81 attack, 95 transport and rotary utility, and 33 trainers). The SAAF also operates an estimated 12-40 UAVs for reconnaissance and air defense training. These forces are organized into four Air District Commands (ADCs) that align with the ground force Military Regional Commands (MRCs). The SAAF is also responsible for the country's Integrated Air Defense System (IADS) which consists of six divisions of missile and artillery batteries. The divisions are aligned with the ADCs for administrative purposes and serve in a general support relationship taking commands from the SAAF HQ in Da Nang to operate as a country wide IADS.

The Sungzon Army Air Force (SAAF)

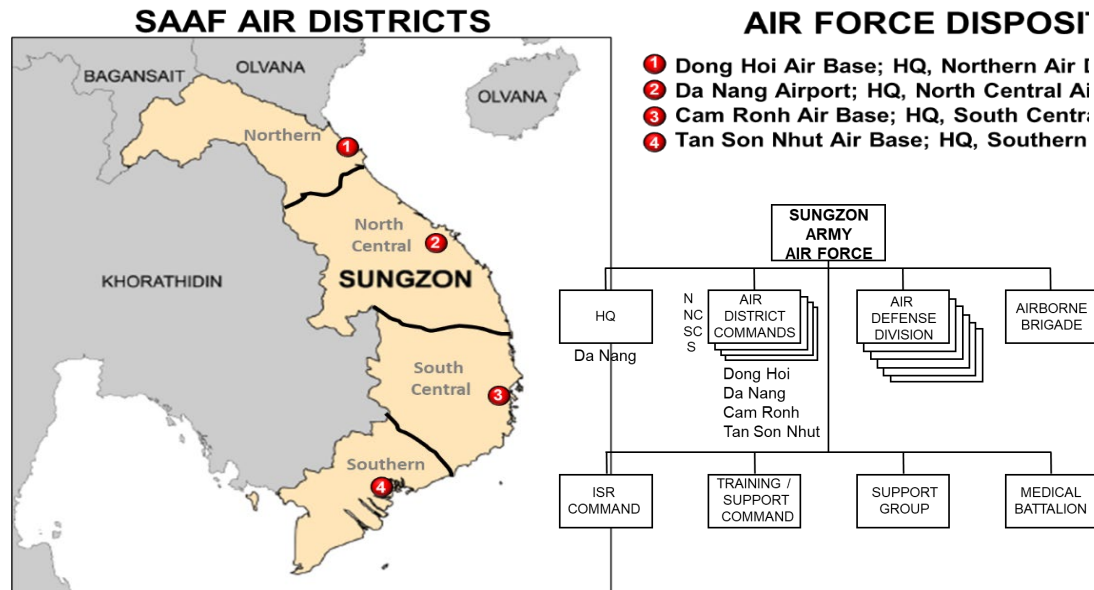
The Sungzon Army Air Force (SAAF) is composed of four Air District Commands (ADCs) that are aligned with the SAGF Military Regional Commands (MRCs). Its primary mission is the defense of Sungzon airspace and provision of air cover for ground and naval forces. The SAAF headquarters is in Da Nang along with one air defense division which is scattered throughout the surrounding province. The remaining air defense divisions are aligned with the ADCs, but function under the SAAF in Da Nang to provide a country wide Integrated Air Defense System (IADS).

The Northern Air District Command (N-ADC)

The SAAF Northern-Air District Command is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the SAGF Northern-Military Regional Command and the SAN 1st Naval Zone. Its headquarters is in Dong Hoi.

Units that report directly to the Northern Air District Commander:

- 1x Multirole (Fighter and Ground Attack) Squadron
- 1x Transportation Squadron
- 1x Helicopter Squadron
- 1x ISR Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1x Integrated Air Defense Division (General Support)
- 1x Medical Company
- 1x Signal Company
- 1x Refueling Company
- 1x Material Support Detachment



Map 5. Sungzon Army Air Force Disposition



The North Central-Air District Command (NC-ADC)

The SAAF North Central-Air District Command is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the SAGF North Central-Military Regional Command and the SAN 2nd Naval Zone. Its headquarters is in Da Nang.

Units that report directly to the North Central Air District Commander:

- 1x Multirole (Fighter and Bomber) Squadron
- 1x Fighter Squadron
- 1x Mixed Transport Squadron
- 1x Training Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1x Integrated Air Defense Division (General Support)
- 1x Medical Company
- 1x Signal Company
- 1x Refueling Company
- 1x Material Support Detachment

The South Central-Air District Command (SC-ADC)

The SAAF South Central-Air District Command is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the SAGF South Central-Military Regional Command and the SAN 3rd and 4th Naval Zone. Its headquarters is in Cam Ranh.

Units that report directly to the South-Central Air District Commander:

- 1x Multirole (Fighter and Bomber) Squadron
- 1x Fighter Squadron
- 1x Mixed Transport Squadron
- 1x Training Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment

- 1x Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1x Integrated Air Defense Division (General Support)
- 1x Medical Company
- 1x Signal Company
- 1x Refueling Company
- 1x Material Support Detachment

The Southern Air District Command (S-ADC)

The SAAF Southern-Air District Command is responsible for providing transportation, logistics, close air support, and medical evacuation to the SAGF Southern-Military Regional Command and the SAN 4th and 5th Naval Zone. Its headquarters is in Tan Son Nhut.

Units that report directly to the Southern Air District Commander:

- 1x Multirole (Fighter and Ground Attack) Squadron
- 1x Transportation Squadron
- 1x Helicopter Squadron
- 1x ISR Squadron
- 1x Search and Rescue Detachment
- 1x Tactical Air Control Detachment
- 1x Integrated Air Defense Division (General Support)
- 1x Medical Company
- 1x Signal Company
- 1x Refueling Company
- 1x Material Support Detachment

Air Forces Doctrine and Tactics

The SAAF doctrine and tactics continue to evolve to confront increasing naval and ground encroachments along its boundaries. The SAAF Doctrine and tactics are focused on defending Sungzon Airspace and providing support to ground and naval forces.



The SAAF conducts the following types of operations:

- Aerial Interdiction
- Air To Ground Attack Operations
- Anti-Ship Attack Operations
- Air Defense
- Air Lift
- Search and Rescue
- Reconnaissance
- Base Defense
- Pilot Training

Air Forces Training and Readiness

The SAAF routinely trains with the U.S. and regional partners as part of joint and combined exercises with the SAGF and SAN. They use both computer-based pilot tactical trainers and hands on certifications to ensure that pilots maintain their skills and are ready for combat with the most advanced regional threats. The SAAF maintain their aircraft at an average operational readiness rate of 70% (attack and transport, trainers not included). This lower number is due to the age of some of the airframes. Overall, the training and readiness of the SAAF is high and considered the best in the region for an air force of its size.

Air Forces Equipment and Weapons

The Sungzon Army Air Force (SAAF) is equipped with tier 2 and tier 3 air platforms. They have a complement of attack (approx. 81), transport aircraft (approx. 95), and training aircraft (approx. 33). For further information see Force Structure and the Worldwide Equipment Guide.

Paramilitary Forces

Government Paramilitary Forces

The Sungzon Self-Defense Militia (SSDM)

The exact number of militia personnel is unknown but is estimated at 2-4 million. The rural citizen groups are traditionally referred to as militia and the urban organizations that typically form around large groups who work together in industry or construction are sometimes referred to as self-defense forces. They are all considered by the government of Sungzon as all part of the SSDM. The SSDM supports the Sungzon People's Armed Forces (SPAF) during both wartime and peacetime operations and is considered an essential part of the PAS reserve forces.

The Sungzon Maritime Militia (SMM)

The SMM is estimated between 45,000-70,000 personnel and has begun to expand recently due to the encroachment of Olvana in the southern sea off the coast of Sungzon. The SMM is formed around trained and armed fishing vessels which conduct reconnaissance, provide early warning, and in exceptional cases interdict rogue vessels. The SMM has begun to expand from simple armed fishing boats with the addition of a few dozen larger, steel-hulled vessels launched by the government of Sungzon in the last five years to provide a more robust capability.

The Sungzon People's Public Security (SPPC)

The SPPC is the primary security, counterintelligence, police, firefighting, and disaster response organization in Sungzon and is technically under the control of the Ministry of Internal Security in peacetime even though it is formally recognized as part of the Sungzon People's Armed Forces (SPAF). This point is moot because it ultimately works for the Communist Party, and the Secretary General is at the top of the National Command Authority for the armed forces.

Non-State Paramilitary Forces

Guerrilla and Insurgent Forces

The United Religious Front (URF)

The URF membership is estimated at 40,000-60,000 people. The URF consists of insurgents of minority religious groups that have been bonded together through religious persecution. Muslim, Hindu, Christian, and Buddhist sects are being displaced and persecuted by the Sungzon government and their supporters. The



URF is funded from religious contributions with some limited funding from Olvana and western Christian organizations.

The Reform Party of Sungzon (RPS)

The RPS is a U.S. based group that seeks to undermine and overthrow the communist party in Sungzon and establish a stable democracy. The group was founded by exiles of the previous Sungzon government and conducts assassinations and protests within Sungzon. The RPS is extremely adept at information operations using social media platforms and is capable of messaging that is sometimes days ahead of the official communist party response to a situation. The RPS also uses social media to rapidly organize mass protests in within major urban areas to sometimes stop or slow large military movements. The RPS is almost exclusively funded from sympathizers in the U.S. and its membership numbers are unknown but estimated at over 75,000.

The Olvanan Repatriation Movement (ORM)

The ORM comprises 100,000 plus ethnic Olvanans that live throughout Sungzon and its islands. The group was officially organized ten years ago after the border shooting of 17 Olvanans trying to enter Sungzon illegally. The goal of ORM is to relocate and condense the Olvanan population within Sungzon into small, pure Olvanan communities that will displace Sungzon citizens and gradually grow into Olvanan provinces. The ORM is funded from sympathetic relatives in Olvana, the Olvanan government, and the ethnic Olvanans within Sungzon.

Criminal Organizations

The Dung Ma Gang (DMG)

The DMG is an organized criminal group that operates throughout Sungzon on land and sea. They operate both legitimate and illegitimate businesses and extort money in all the major urban areas. They are involved in drug trafficking, gambling, and prostitution. The organization is estimated at 50,000-75,000 gang members. They are the largest narcotic distributors in Sungzon and are known to be tied to the Rangoon Cartel in Bagansait, The Tantoco Cartel in Olvana, and the Bangkok

Weaver's Syndicate in Khorathidin. The DMG has multiple distribution routes to Gabal, Belesia, North and South Torbia and compete with the Tantoco Cartel for distribution in those countries.

The Dong Hoi Ship Captains (DHSC)

The DHSC operates in the northern port city of Dong Hoi. The DHSC is involved in gambling, illegal immigration, prostitution, smuggling, bribery, and murder. The Ship Captains control the port city for smuggling operations in and out of Sungzon. The local communist party authorities are suspected of profiting off the DHSC operations and facilitating them. The membership of the DHSC is exclusive and while many individuals may be used by the organization, only a select few are considered members. Interpol estimates the DHSC membership to be 300-500 actual members with 7,000-10,000 individuals working within the organization daily.

The Conran Nhin Syndicate (CNS)

The CNS operates within Ho Chi Minh City and its population of over nine million people. Its leader is Conran Nhin, who is one of the most well-known organized crime bosses in Sungzon. He runs a criminal enterprise complete with gambling, opium dens, hotels, restaurants, and brothels. Tan Nhin is reportedly related to a senior member of the communist party which allows his organization to bribe officials and operate freely within Ho Chi Minh City. The CNS is thought to have between 5,000-7,000 members operating within the city. Little is known of the CNS supply chain or operations outside of Ho Chi Minh City.

Private Security Organizations

Preventive-Force (P-Force)

The P-Force is an armed private security firm with close ties to the Sungzon military and government. All the armed members are also members of the Sungzon Self-Defense Militia (SSDM) which allows them to possess firearms legally. It is also assumed that the members pay a monthly bribe to local officials for the privilege of being armed. The P-Force members also serve as a means for the CPS to collect information on foreign VIPs. The P-Force is based in Da Nang but also has a major



office in Ho Chi Minh City. The company has a reported 768 employees operating throughout Sungzon and is the only officially armed private security organization.

The Risk Prevention Group (RPG)

The RPG is a Sungzon owned company that hires and trains a 100% Sungzon force. They are the top unarmed private security company and rely on their strong local connections and VIP access to exclusive areas to lure foreign clients. The RPG operate in most major cities and stand out due to their expensive exotic vehicles and vibrant blue suits. The RPG employs fewer than 500 VIP bodyguards and another 200-300 administrative and transportation personnel.

Origin Security Institute (OSI)

The OSI is a secure courier organization that is used to transport expensive or sensitive cargo to and from air and seaports throughout Sungzon. The OSI is thought to have connections with most of the world's intelligence agencies, banks, and criminal organizations. The OSI does not openly disclose its rates, but they are thought to be some of the highest in the world to transport cargo through Sungzon. The OSI is not well liked by local authorities, and the communist party only allows them to operate due to the large bribes that OSI provides. The OSI claims fewer than 300 employees, the majority of which are Sungzon citizens and operate in plain clothes.

Foreign Military Presence

The Sungzon government's national security strategy of not favoring one nation over the other and not allowing foreign military basing in Sungzon means that foreign military presence is closely monitored. Sungzon currently only allows those forces necessary to secure the foreign embassies and consulates. This is limited to the 59 Foreign Embassies and 31 Consulates. There is no continuous foreign military presence in Sungzon.

Nonmilitary Armed Combatants

Gun laws are very strict in Sungzon and limit individuals to one shot gun for hunting purposes only. The exceptions to this law are the members of the armed forces, law

enforcement, border guards, militia, park rangers, authorized private security forces, and aviation security. The large size of the militia and mandatory conscription would likely result in the formal mustering and arming of able-bodied citizens in the event of a foreign incursion.

Unarmed Combatants

Sungzon citizens are instilled with a sense of duty from a very early age. It is every citizen's responsibility to defend the country. This, combined with the mandatory conscription and lengthy reserve or militia service, has developed an extensive elderly population with military training and experience. In case of a pending invasion, children and the elderly would likely be called upon to provide intelligence, emplace obstacles, and assist with the medical treatment of the wounded.

Military Functions Overview

Joint Capabilities (Medium)

While the Sungzon military does conduct some multinational exercises, its national policy of "sovereignty through regional neutrality, and dependance only when necessary" limits its ability to form alliances and develop lasting integration with international military partners. The policy also forbids foreign basing, which hampers long term relationships that exist in many other countries. Annual exercises and participation in international military competitions provides opportunities to gain a shared understanding of doctrine and tactics of other nations. Sungzon is not expected to focus on increasing its coalition capabilities while it follows its current national security strategy.

Command and Control (High)

The People's Army of Sungzon (PAS) has an extremely well-established chain of command that keeps the PAS command and control capability operating at a high level. The Central Military Commission of the Communist Party has very strict control over the president and the military. This could dampen initiative in certain situations, but for the most part the regional military commanders have been issued contingency orders and understand what actions they can take and what actions



require the approval of the communist party. This differs from other countries in that Sungzon leadership tries to predict and pre-approve contingency orders instead of issuing general intent. This allows the leadership to think through obscure possibilities ahead of time and identify counter actions and the necessary contingency orders.

Maneuver (High)

The Sungzon terrain presents significant challenges to ground maneuver forces. The Sungzon Army Ground Forces (SAGF) have spent decades fighting counterinsurgencies and border skirmishes and have developed a comprehensive maneuver doctrine that is specific to different regions of the country. The Sungzon Army Navy (SAN) has expanded its shore based anti-ship missile capability. This resulted in a shift in their naval maneuver tactics, making them more audacious and lethal in ship-to-ship, combined arms engagements. Sungzon possesses the largest submarine fleet in the region, second only to Olvana. This provides them with a naval maneuver advantage against most of the countries in the region.

Air Defense (Medium)

The Sungzon Army Airforce (SAAF) continues to upgrade its Integrated Air Defense System (IADS) as a part of the nationwide military modernization plan. The current IADS consists of tier 2 and tier 3 systems. The SAAF possesses a strong command and control network and routinely exercises the activation of its IADS. These routine exercises, combined with the strict understanding of the launch criteria, make the Sungzon air defense capability one of the most lethal in the region.

INFOWAR (High)

The Sungzon government attempts to control all forms of information, both internally and externally, to shape perception of the country. Internally, the government attempts to control all forms of media. All local press is fully or partly state owned. International broadcasts have a 10-minute delay to allow censors to stop politically sensitive broadcasts. The use of the internet (websites, social media, blogs, etc.) is regulated by the government by two methods. The first is that the government owns

or partially owns the three Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that operate in the country. This affords them the ability to regulate content, require site registration with the state, and to remove content shortly after it is posted. The second method is the government requires all external content to be published on a server residing in Sungzon. This places the hardware and its content under the jurisdiction and control of the Sungzon government. There is an average of a three-hour delay before the content is reviewed and removed. Forbidden content results in punitive actions against individuals responsible, including beatings, to discourage others from attempting similar, anti-government internet activity. This strict control over internal and external information provides the government an advantage in information warfare.

RISTA (High)

The Sungzon Army Airforce (SAAF) possesses several, relatively advanced unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) systems. The Sungzon government also produces three variants of its VT-Patrol series long-range UAV, which it manufactures in Sungzon. The exact number of VT series UAVs is unknown, but the Sungzon government can independently produce them with existing on-hand components. These relatively advanced UAV systems and can provide long range reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance, and target acquisition (RISTA) to the PAS forces. The SAGF and SAAF also contain several specialized reconnaissance units that are capable of infiltrating and collecting information on the ground.

Intelligence

HUMINT (High)

The Sungzon armed forces, law enforcement, militia, and most industry and services all ultimately work for the communist party. This intelligence collection effort is well coordinated with collection and surveillance being passed between multiple agencies for a single target. A foreign visitor should assume that anything not kept on their person and under their direct control will be searched and exploited by someone working for the communist party (including hotel maids, bartenders, waiters, etc.). The government's ability to infiltrate insurgent groups and criminal organizations is



equally effective and has resulted in these groups taking extreme measures to ensure the secrecy of their membership. Most insurgent groups and criminal organizations have resorted to bribery as the only assured method to continue their operations within such a restrictive environment.

OSINT (High)

The Sungzon government's attempts to control external media sources requires an extensive OSINT capability. Some of the Sungzon OSINT capability is in near real time, like the 10-minute delay on foreign broadcasts to review and censor if necessary. The government requirement to require all external content to be published on a server residing in Sungzon allows for complete access and lengthy forensic analysis of the foreign content and foreign content developers. The government filtering and control of the internet allows for the monitoring of websites, blogs, and social media accounts.

SIGINT (Medium)

The Sungzon SIGINT capability is centered around the fact that the government owns or controls the telecommunications industry. This allows the government complete access to the cellular network and hard-wired telecommunications facilities. The Direction Finding (DF) capabilities of the Sungzon government have been perfected over several decades to achieve effective results in the most extreme terrain within the country, but little is known about the Sungzon encryption and decryption capabilities. Overall, the ability of the Sungzon SIGINT systems to exploit encrypted foreign communications technology is assessed to be medium to low.

IMINT (High)

The People's Army of Sungzon (PAS) uses its satellites, UAVs, and aircraft to fulfill its IMINT requirements. The Sungzon earth observation satellites were launched with the stated mission of climate research or scientific study, but the law enforcement and military use coincide with those of the scientific capabilities. The Sungzon satellites have been used to detect illegal fishing vessels, deforestation due to illegal logging, and large remote illegal immigration routes. All of these demonstrate significant military applications if needed during a conflict or naval encroachment.

MASINT (Medium)

The Sungzon government has two satellites with multispectral capabilities. Their stated uses are to monitor the water in coastal regions, locate fishing resources, and observe changes in the climate. The military applications and the Sungzon army's ability to process and exploit the technical data is currently unknown.

Fire Support (Medium)

The most advanced fire support assets in the Sungzon military are in the naval coastal defense forces. This is the result of a decades-long modernization effort focused on shore-based, anti-ship missiles. These tier 2 and tier 3 systems have been strategically placed to provide overlapping coverage in key areas along the vast coastline of Sungzon. The Sungzon Army Ground Forces (SAGF) artillery is primarily older, tier 2 and tier 3 equipment and numerous pieces of towed artillery up to 152mm. These assets combined, with the restrictive terrain and effective command and control, present a formidable challenge to any foreign aggressor.

Protection (Medium)

The Sungzon Army Ground Forces (SAGF) primarily use tier 3 anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) as a means of protecting its light infantry. The exception being disposable, thermobaric, rocket-propelled munitions. The use of this controversial ordnance is limited to specialized forces. The engineering equipment of the SAGF is limited to older tier 3 digging and bridging assets. Sungzon is not part of any treaty to ban landmines, and still considers them as an essential part of its border protection plan. Sungzon stores and currently employs anti-personnel landmines along its borders. Overall, Sungzon land protection assets are neglected in favor of modernized maritime coastal defense, surface, and subsurface assets.

Logistics (Medium)

The People's Army of Sungzon (PAS) has a dated ground logistics fleet that is currently undergoing a long overdue modernization plan. The older Donovan series of vehicles are being replaced with more modern Donovan vehicles. Armored vehicle recovery assets are primarily tier 2 and tier 3, but effective for the



mechanized forces within the SAGF. The overall Sungzon logistics capability is considered out of date but effective for the primarily light infantry Sungzon Army Ground Forces (SAGF).

CBRNE (Low)

The Sungzon government is not known to have ever developed chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapons. Sungzon supports the complete elimination of chemical weapons and signed the Chemical Weapons Convention. CBRNE equipment is maintained and kept accessible if needed. Some specialized units exist, like those that use the disposable thermobaric rocket propelled munition and specialized hazardous material response units. Overall, what is known about the Sungzon military's CBRNE capabilities is assessed as low compared to other nations.

Research and Development Goals

The Sungzon military has focused its research and development goals on maritime security related activities for the past two decades. These efforts include air defense, aircraft, surface, and subsurface capabilities. This has led to an increase in naval combatant vessels, air defense system network integration technology, and RISTA equipment, including satellites. The Sungzon government is both importing and simultaneously developing these systems and technologies as part of its national security strategy of non-alignment. This results in the procurement of not just advanced weaponry, but the rights to the technology and the ability to manufacture it within Sungzon. The desired outcome is that Sungzon will advance the systems completely independent of any foreign companies.

Special Considerations

Sungzon is a country controlled by its communist party. All foreign visitors, advisors, and specifically military personnel should assume that they are under constant observation. Personal electronics, notebooks, phone conversations, and anything not under the direct control of the foreign visitor should be considered monitored and compromised. This is especially true for anything left in a hotel room, including in

safes. The Sungzon government has an extremely complex surveillance capability that includes in-depth, cross communication between agencies and businesses. Foreign visitors must be cautious and understand the level of government suspicion that exists in Sungzon.



ECONOMICS

Economic Overview

Sungzon's economy has been transitioning from an agriculturally focused economy to a more industrial and market-based economy over the last 20 years. This has increased incomes substantially and raised the overall country from a low-middle income society to a middle-upper income society in less than two decades. The World Bank Group has forecasted that Sungzon will be one of the fastest-growing economies in Asia this year with an estimated annual growth rate of 6.7-7.2% for the next three years. The government has driven this growth with reforms, and new policies on transparency, simplifying foreign investment, and enforcing accountability for non-performing loans. Regional political circumstances like the recent military coup in Bagansait that led to international sanctions, and the friction between western nations and Olvana over trade agreements, has attracted international businesses to Sungzon for operations or to develop redundant capabilities in the region. Sungzon is rapidly emerging as a new leader in low-cost manufacturing, particularly in car parts, electronics, and the supply chain industries. The manufacturing sector accounted for 36.2% of the country's total GDP last year, representing a 22% increase over the previous 20 years.

Economic Activity

Economic Actors

The People's Republic of Sungzon

The Sungzon Ministry of Finance (MoF) is the agency responsible for the fiscal health of the country. It establishes policies, and manages: the budget, taxes, fees, the national reserve, government owned financial funds, financial investments, the Da Nang Stock Exchange (DNSE), corporate finance, customs, accounting, independent auditing, insurance, inflation, and securities. The ministry uses the international markets and the DNSE to determine the value of its currency, but also maintains enough control to intervene in case of excessive volatility. Sungzon remains a largely cash-based society due to the citizens' distrust of banks and corruption in the government. People have, in the past, had to pay a bribe to

withdraw their own money from a state-owned bank. These factors made Sungzon an international destination for money laundering. The government has begun to crack down on these practices to restore trust. Recent investigations have led to the arrest of members of the ministry of finance and other high-ranking government officials.

The People's Republic of Olvana

Sungzon and Olvana's bilateral trade is worth an estimated \$230.2 billion annually. Sungzon imports a significant amount of raw material from Olvana, then manufactures completed products which are shipped to the U.S., the EU, and other regional locations. The recent friction between western countries and Olvana over trade agreements has directly benefitted Sungzon. International businesses have shifted some operations or developed redundant capabilities to Sungzon due to cheaper assembly costs, particularly in car part manufacturing and electronics. Sungzon and Olvana have a complementary trade relationship. Sungzon is not currently able to compete with Olvana's manufacturing or massive supply chain network. However, Sungzon is in a strong position for growth with both eastern and western nations. Sungzon is also rapidly building its anti-ship military capability due to the Olvanan maritime encroachment into established Sungzon economic exclusion zones.

The United Republics of Donovia

Sungzon and Donovia have enjoyed a well-established diplomatic relationship for the past five decades. The two countries have a socioeconomic partnership with deep, important export and import ties. Donovian imports from Sungzon were valued at an estimated \$4.89 billion last year and Sungzon imported approximately \$2.14 billion worth of goods and services from Donovia. The top exported products from Sungzon to Donovia were phones, electronic devices (microphone and headphones), coffee, textile footwear, and industrial printers. The top exported products to Sungzon from Donovia included coal, iron, chemical fertilizers, meat, and chemicals. Donovia remains a traditional arms supplier to Sungzon with an estimated \$4.4 billion a year spent on arms annually. Recent major arms purchases from Donovia have included six Kilo-class submarines, four frigates, 36 multi-role fighters and two mobile units for



coastal defense. The Sungzon economic ties to Donovia are vast and are expected to continue into the near future as Sungzon remains committed to military and political neutrality when able.

The Republic of the Union of Bagansait

Since the recent military coup in Bagansait, Sungzon has balanced its neutrality to its advantage by not actively supporting sanctions and simultaneously benefiting from an increase in trade due to the international shift away from Bagansait. Sungzon exports to Bagansait are worth an estimated \$664 million annually. The main export products are motorcycles and cycles, broadcasting equipment, and insulated wire. Sungzon exports to Bagansait have increased 27.3% over the last 20 years. Sungzon imports approximately \$224 million worth of raw materials from Bagansait annually. The main imported products are dried legumes, refined copper, and raw sugar. Over the last 20 years, Sungzon imports from Bagansait have increased 24.2%. Sungzon is expected to continue to leverage its national security strategy of neutrality to increase gains in international trade and economic development at a relatively high cost to Bagansait in the long-term.

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

The USAID and Sungzon enjoy a collaborative and far-reaching development partnership designed to ensure Sungzon is resourced to effectively solve its own economic development challenges. The USAID strategy is to facilitate the Sungzon government’s ability to engage all its citizens, to include vulnerable populations, and the private sector to make advances in economic policies and development. The USAID has nine active projects with the government of Sungzon. These nine projects equate to \$110.85 million in development aid to the government. These nine projects are: Trade Facilitation, Small and Medium Enterprises Support, Strengthening Provincial Capacity, Senior Official Training, Improving Private Sector Competitiveness, Digital Initiatives, Investment Stimulus, U.S. Customs Facilitation, Workforce Innovations, and other smaller ministry level financial management programs.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a financial organization of ten Southeast Asian countries (South Torbia, Belesia, Gabal, Bagansait, Khorathidin, Sungzon, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore). It represents the most significant regional economic communities. The organization aims to accelerate economic growth, social progress, cultural development, and regional stability through active engagement with all nations. Sungzon has taken an ever-increasing role in the ASEAN for two reasons. The first is that Sungzon is viewed as the most capable member to address the Olvanan encroachment into maritime economic exclusion zones. The second is that Bagansait and Khorathidin have both experienced unstable government transitions in recent decades which changes their long-term outlooks and objectives for membership within the ASEAN.

International Trade

Exports

The top exports of Sungzon are phones, electronic goods/computers, machinery, textiles, and footwear. The exportation of electronics has grown considerably in the last thirty years, with electronic products overtaking coffee, textiles, and rice to become the country’s top export item. This has helped the country achieve a trade surplus for the first time in many years. These products are exported to Sungzon’s top four export partners: The United States, Olvana, Japan, and South Torbia.

Sungzon's Main Export Partners

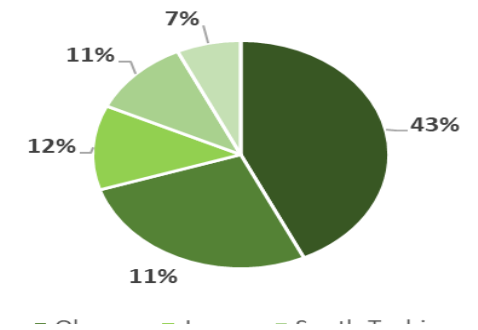


Figure 7. Top exporters

Imports

The top imports of Sungzon mainly consist of components and raw materials for building electronic devices. These include integrated circuits, photosensitive semiconductor devices, printed circuits, multimedia / broadcasting equipment components, and light-rubberized fabric materials. These products are imported from Sungzon’s top four import partners: Olvana, South Torbia, The United States, and Japan.

Sungzon's Main Import Partners

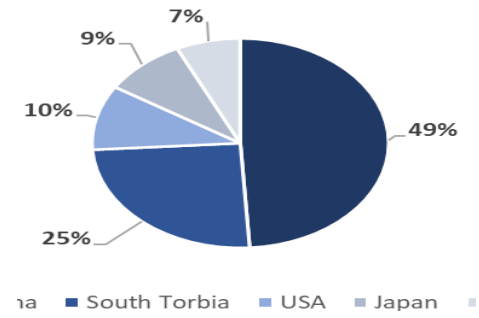


Figure 8. Top importers

Military Exports/Imports

Sungzon imported an estimated \$5.5 billion in arms and ammunition last year. It consistently ranks among the top 20 arms importers in the world. While over 80% of its arms imports come from Donovia, Sungzon is slowly shifting interest towards other countries. Its long-term goal is to drastically reduce and eventually eliminate its military imports and become completely self-reliant. In recent years, Japan and the U.S. have gradually gained more of the arms import market share from Donovia as Sungzon attempts to diversify its military imports as a gesture of regional neutrality. Sungzon has attempted to increase its military export market to other ASEAN militaries which consists primarily of small arms, mortars, and vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) UAVs. The Sungzon military export market is estimated to be worth between \$14-20 million annually.

Manipulation/Weaponization of Economic Activity

Nearly all Sungzon’s top exports are dependent on imported components and key raw materials from other countries. These consist of electronic materials and components to produce phones, electronic goods/computers, machinery, and textiles. This makes Sungzon vulnerable to manipulation by Olvana, who supplies nearly half of the needed components and raw materials for Sungzon’s electronics manufacturing industry.

The United States and Sungzon have enjoyed a sharp bilateral trade increase. This is owed to the increase in tariffs and friction between Olvana and the United States. U.S. tariffs on Olvana indirectly increased Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Sungzon. The United States recently decided not to impose additional tariffs on Sungzon despite what is currently perceived internationally as an unfair trade balance in Sungzon’s favor. This demonstrates the current U.S. bilateral trade priorities with Sungzon and recognizes its perceived future value as a potential ally in the region.

Economic Sectors

Raw Materials Sector

Agriculture

The economic importance of the Sungzon agricultural sector has dwindled in the last 30 years, but it still employs the largest portion of the population. Agriculture accounts for only 12.36% of Sungzon’s overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP), but Sungzon ranks as one of the world’s top ten producers of many agricultural products like cashews, coffee, tea, rice, coconuts, cassava, sweet potatoes, and natural rubber. Sungzon is also a major leader in other agricultural areas like livestock. It is currently the world’s fifth largest producer of pork and produces an average of 800,000 tons of chicken meat, 334,000 tons of beef, 9.36 million liters of cow’s milk, and 20,000 tons of honey annually. The lack of development and refinement of dispersed small scale Sungzon farms is the limiting factor preventing Sungzon from taking the lead in many other international agricultural areas. The industry/manufacturing sector is responsible for 36.2% of the Sungzon GDP, but only employs 27% of the population. This makes the agricultural labor market of nearly 37.2% of the population and an essential element in economic modernization planning.

Sungzon Economic Sectors

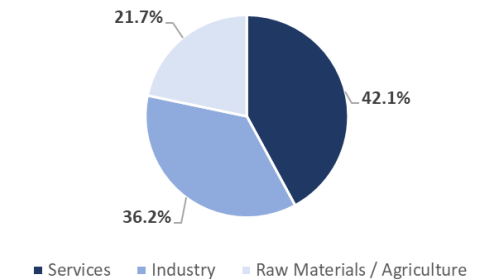


Figure 9. Economic sectors

Forestry



An estimated 42% of Sungzon is considered forested and the annual domestic economic impact of forestry is estimated at \$396 million. For the last 30 years Sungzon has banned the exportation of raw lumber and whole logs to reduce deforestation. Five years ago, this exportation ban was extended to include all timber products. These conservation efforts have succeeded and Sungzon has seen a re-forestation rate of approximately 2% annually over the last ten years. Sungzon has most recently begun to reclaim land with an expanded tree planting campaign to overcome soil degradation and erosion. Overall, forestry is intentionally a more domestic market in Sungzon with charcoal production, furniture, pulp, plywood, lumber, and paper being the top consumer products. The future of Sungzon's forestry economy is in its thousands of privately owned and sustainable plantation forests. A plantation forest consists of one or more specific tree species that are grown and harvested at an even age. These monocultures (single species tree populations) are managed and cut on relatively short cycles and can provide annual income based on production and a somewhat predictable futures market. Government corruption and the high demand for exotic woods make illegal harvesting and the smuggling of timber a continuing challenge for the government of Sungzon.

Fishing

Sungzon's fishing exports are estimated at 6-8 metric tons and \$6.9 billion annually with a consistent growth that has propelled Sungzon into the top five seafood exporters of the world. The Sungzon fishing industry is broadly divided into three categories. They are the Maritime Capture, Inland Capture, and Aquaculture (fish farms) categories. Sungzon has more than 500,000 active aquaculture farms – a figure that has doubled in the last two decades. The aquaculture sector employs more than 1.6 million people full time and is a large source of employment for empowered rural businesswomen compared to other male dominated business opportunities. Recently the Marine Capture segment of the Sungzon fishing economy has become a concern for Sungzon's government due to the Olvanan encroachment into Sungzon's economic exclusion zones.

Oil and Natural Gas

In total, the annual value of the Sungzon Oil and Natural gas sector is valued at \$5.9 billion. Sungzon has recently emerged as a growing oil and natural gas producer and consumer in Southeast Asia. Sungzon is ranked 25th in the world for its verified oil and gas reserves. It produces an estimated 320,000 barrels per day (b/d) of petroleum and has recently expanded marine exploration and increased foreign investment opportunities in the sector. The total verified oil reserve of Sungzon exceeds 4,400 million barrels, which is one of the highest in Southeast Asia. It is ranked fifth in Southeast Asia for natural gas production capability with approximately 10.6 billion cubic meters per day. Sungzon's energy consumption has also grown rapidly due to industrialization and an expanding export market. These factors helped to drive legislation that supports more offshore fossil fuel exploration.

Mining

Mining and quarrying accounts for 8.6% of Sungzon's GDP, but the sector accounts for only 0.7% of all employment. Coal is the main product and Sungzon produces an estimated 44 million short tons annually. Nearly all the coal is mined by a single, state-owned company in the northern portion of the country and is used by the domestic energy sector to compliment the hydroelectric energy output. The rapidly growing energy need is due to increased industrialization which has resulted in a coal deficit for the power sector. Sungzon views coal as a justifiable temporary energy source to advance its economic needs in the short term. Coal power generation has risen to around 14 gigawatts (GW) in recent years, and there are several more scheduled projects under construction. Sungzon's mines and quarries also produce titanium, manganese, antimony, bauxite, chromium, gold, iron, natural phosphates, tin, and zinc. It is also one of the world's top ten producers of gemstones including sapphires, topaz, rubies, and spinel. Overall mining in Sungzon is viewed as a growth market by most foreign investors.

Manufacturing and Industrial Sectors

Energy

Sungzon’s energy industry (electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning sectors) is worth approximately 3.8% of the country’s GDP or \$13.4 billion annually. The retail price of electricity is closely regulated by the government and any rate increases above 10% requires Prime Minister approval. A baseline energy tax is applied across the country which is low compared to other countries in the region. These residential electrical taxes are subsidized by higher rates for commercial, industrial, and large foreign consumers. The total number of power plants in operation is approximately 162 and consist of Coal Fired, Hydroelectric, Natural Gas Turbine, Oil Fired, Solar, Wind, and Biomass.

Sungzon Energy Industry

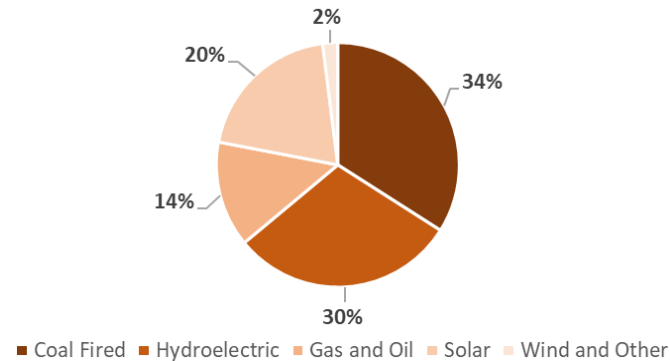


Figure 10. Sources of energy

From an investment perspective, Sungzon is rapidly becoming one of Asia’s fastest-growing energy markets. It has experienced increased industrial growth which has driven a substantial rise in energy consumption that is out pacing its current production capabilities. The government expects power consumption to grow by an estimated 10% annually for at least the next 10-20 years. Sungzon is reliant on coal for the near-term but is seeking more diversified and sustainable energy sources to meet its anticipated growth needs. The government is establishing the regulatory environment and mechanisms to allow more environmentally friendly energy projects. Most international financial assessments indicate that Sungzon will require an estimated \$8 to \$14 billion over the next 20 years to develop the necessary power plants and increased electrical infrastructure to sustain its current industrial growth rate. The focus on renewable energy sources, which typically take less time to build than a transmission line, could lead to industrial growth bottlenecks as the national

transmission infrastructure struggles to keep pace with new and innovative energy production capabilities.

Chemical

Sungzon has a relatively small but growing chemical industry. The recent surge in manufacturing has led to an increase in foreign chemical investment interests. International firms are beginning to build and establish themselves locally within the emerging Sungzon chemical industry. New production plants are already in operation and others are being rapidly built to provide materials for Sungzon’s rising manufacturing needs.

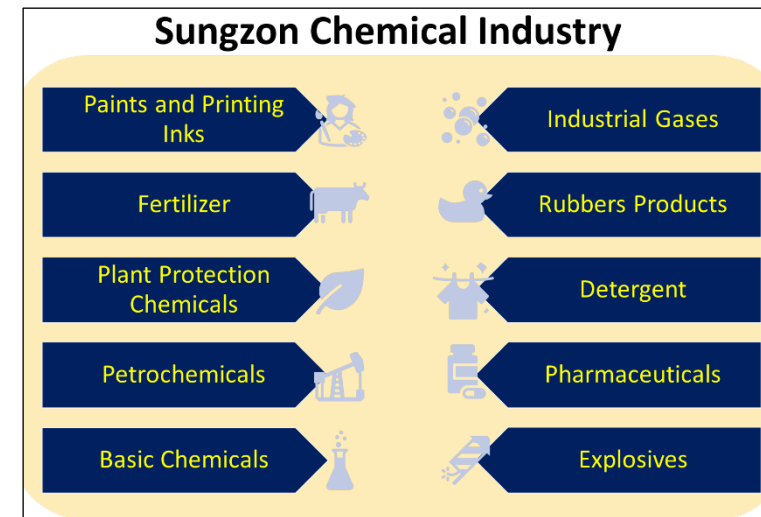


Figure 11. Sungzon's chemical industries

The Sungzon Chemical Industry is responsible for billions of dollars in imports and exports annually. Exports amount to an estimated \$5.1 billion annually. Of that, chemical exports accounted for \$2.1 billion, chemical product exports accounted for \$1.3 billion, plastics material exports accounted for \$970 million, and rubber exports accounted for an estimated \$710 million. Olvana, Japan, Himaldesh, South Torbia, and Khorathidin are the top five countries in the Sungzon Chemical export marketplace. The Sungzon chemical industry is currently reliant on a significant



amount of imported raw materials and precursor chemical products. The Sungzon chemical import market is estimated at \$26.3 billion annually. Of that, plastic imports accounted for \$10.6 billion, chemical imports accounted for \$6.9 billion, pharmaceutical imports accounted for \$4.9 billion, and fertilizer imports accounted for an estimated \$3.9 billion. Sungzon imports most of these materials from five countries, South Torbia, Japan, Europe, and Olvana.

Electronics

Sungzon’s electronics industry is one of the most rapidly growing and economically essential industries in the country. In the last decade the Sungzon electronics industry has become one of the top ten in the world, significantly boosting its international trade volume and overall GDP. The electronics market is estimated at \$96 billion annually. The Sungzon mobile phone export market by itself is currently ranked in the top three worldwide with an estimated value of over \$50 billion a year. The electronics exports account for 37% of the total Sungzon exports. The primary export items include mobile phones, TVs, cameras, electrical apparatuses, electronic integrated circuits, and micro-assemblies. The top electronics export destinations are Olvana, The United States, South Torbia, and Japan. Imported electronics and electrical components account for 30% of the entire country’s imports. The main imports were electrical machinery, semiconductors, micro-assemblies, integrated circuits, and electrical apparatuses. Olvana, South Torbia, Japan, and the U.S. were the top import markets for Sungzon. The future of foreign trade in the industry is being driven by corporate tax reductions and many other government reforms intentionally designed to advance the electronics industry. Foreign companies are essential to the future of the Sungzon’s electronic industry and currently account for nearly 90% of exports and cover over 80% of the domestic market.

Automotive Industry

The automotive industry is a rapidly growing market in Sungzon. Foreign companies are responsible for the majority of car part production with more than 220 foreign suppliers currently operating inside of the country. In contrast, only 10% of car parts are produced locally buy Sungzon businesses. Sungzon currently has a \$900 million dollar trade surplus in car parts, totaling \$4.4 billion in car part exports. Since nearly

all advanced car parts must be imported, locally produced new automobiles are more expensive than foreign built vehicles. In recent years, several car brands have seen a sharp increase in sales. Some examples would be a 203% jump in Peugeot sales to 1,174 units, a 35% surge in Mazda sales to 3,279 units, and a 21% rise in Kia sales to 5,445 units. The electric vehicle (hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and pure electric) market in Sungzon is expected to grow, but currently fewer than 3,000 electric vehicles are registered. There are plans to produce 20,000 electric vehicles and 1,500 electric buses within the next two years. There are several obstacles to overcome before the average Sungzon citizen will fully adopt electric vehicles. These include cost, charging infrastructure, tax incentives, and the fact that 60% of the population use fuel efficient motorcycles as a primary means of individual transportation.

Popular automotive brands with parts manufacturing plants in Sungzon include:

*Chevrolet Fiat Honda Kia Mitsubishi Suzuki Mercedes-Benz
Daihatsu Ford Hyundai Mazda SsangYong Toyota Peugeot*

Food Processing

Seafood and Livestock are among the top export areas and agricultural production growth sectors in Sungzon. The food processing industry is a significant sub-sector that is growing. The food and beverage manufacturing sectors contribute an estimated \$17.5 billion annually to the Sungzon GDP. Seafood exports by themselves are worth an estimated \$6.7 billion a year. The recent government focus on fishery modernization and advanced quality control technologies in seafood processing has allowed the Sungzon seafood exports to expand into high income markets such as North America, Europe, Japan, and Australia. These and other higher income seafood markets will pay higher prices if strict quality control standards are consistently met. This means that future engagements in these high-end markets could substantially increase the value of Sungzon’s seafood exports. The livestock production of Sungzon averaged more than 3.4 million tons in 2008 and it is estimated to be growing at a fast pace. There are currently several problems with the meat processing industry that is preventing it from reaching its full economic



potential. These include a shortage of proper storage, the number of official processing plants licensed for exports, and a high demand for imported products. An example would be that last year Sungzon had a substantial domestic pork surplus, but also imported \$4.4 million worth of pork products. The future of the Sungzon meat processing industry is expected to grow as the government focuses on export quality controls like what has been done with the seafood processing industry.

Kraft Paper

Sungzon is expected to have one of the strongest paper industries (pulp, paper, and paperboard mills) in Southeast Asia within the next decade. The Sungzon paper industry was valued at \$1.97 billion last year and is expected to reach \$2.89 billion in the next five years. It has seen a significant surge in industrial paper consumption and sanitary paper consumption. Additionally, the strong growth in the food packaging sector has resulted in an increased demand for paper packaging products. Sungzon's domestic supply of raw materials has yet to meet its production demands. Most local manufacturers depend on imported raw paper materials. The rising cost of these imports has led to an increase in prices for different types of paper. Sungzon's local manufacturers will need to restructure and develop modern paper mills with larger capacities to ensure their future competitiveness.

Services Sector

Banking/Finance

Currency is issued by the National Bank of Sungzon (NBS), which is the largest state-owned bank. It is also responsible for advising the government on monetary policies and managing state-owned commercial banks. Sungzon has an estimated 84 physical banks and financial institutions that provide cash management services, loans, working capital financing, trade services, and foreign currency exchange. Digital banking services are still an emerging industry in Sungzon. Despite Sungzon's nearly 110 million people, only approximately 30% of the population have an official bank account. The communications infrastructure and devices for digital banking growth already exists with around 70% of the people having cell phones and 66% have daily access to the internet. The limiting factor for digital banking has been

a lack of government legislation and direction by the NBS. It is estimated that in the next three to five years the digital banking services sector could be worth an estimated \$3.4 billion annually.

Information Communications Technology (ICT)

The Sungzon ICT services sector is currently worth an estimated \$20 billion annually and is expected to grow by 10% each year over the next five years. This growth is being driven by both the private and government sectors' increased adoption of new ICT solutions. The government of Sungzon has focused on ICT as a major area for socio-economic growth and is pushing its agencies and branches to apply advanced ICT solutions to improve efficiencies and provide better services. Sungzon's cybersecurity market alone is worth an estimated \$215 million annually and is projected to grow by 10% each year over the next five years. The World Bank estimates that Sungzon's digital economy will exceed \$44.3 billion in the next three to five years as it develops projects in digital government products, the internet in remote areas, smarter cities, digital financial technologies, and artificial intelligence.

Professional Services

Permits and licensing are required by the Sungzon government to operate a business or provide professional services. A professional license is the authorization to practice and use a professional title when doing business. The following professions are required to obtain a license to provide their professional services in Sungzon: medical, pharmaceutical, accounting, auditing, construction management and supervision, architectural, law, and education. Professionals are required to meet specific requirements that are developed by the ministry that oversees that specific professional sector. The cost of annual licensing varies by profession from \$66-\$200 for individuals and \$600-\$3000 for companies and firms operating in a professional services sector.

Tourism

Sungzon's tourism industry accounts for approximately 12% of the overall GDP. International visitors made up only 20% of all tourists but account for more than half of all spending attributed to tourism. International visitors spend an average \$673 per



trip versus the \$63 spent by the average domestic traveler. The tourism service industry also employs an estimated 670,000 people and is considered a vital employment opportunity for Sungzon females and youth in an otherwise adult, male dominant labor market. Overall, Sungzon welcomes between 10-12 million international visitors annually and has a very large domestic tourism market, which makes tourism one of its most important economic service sectors.

Government Services

The Ministry of Finance is responsible of overseeing taxation, managing the national budget, state assets, monopolies, treasury and national reserve, public finance, and all revenue generating business which are operated by the government. The ministry also manages the national accounting, state borrowing, inflation, and the stock markets. The ministry's main office is in the nation's capital of Da Nang.

Participation in the Global Financial System

World Economic Organizations

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Sungzon has been a member of the IMF since the late 1950s. It currently has access to \$1.4 billion in IMF funds. The IMF recently raised its forecasted annual GDP growth for Sungzon a full percentage point while reducing all other nations in the region. This indicates that the IMF assesses Sungzon as one of only two countries in all Southeast Asia that is expected to experience true financial growth in the coming year. The IMF Development Assessment of Sungzon outlines some of the hurdles that Sungzon must overcome to achieve its own economic goals. These include the gap between firms that benefit from foreign direct investment and small to medium enterprises that are hampered by government regulations and cumbersome administrative procedures. Insufficient government provided infrastructure and digital connectivity also create productivity gaps for small to medium enterprises reliant on government infrastructure. Overall, the IMF anticipates that Sungzon will experience advanced economic growth and development that out-paces its regional neighbors for the next three to five years.

World Bank

Since its partnership with Sungzon, the World Bank has provided \$25.69 billion in grants, loans, and credit through 221 operations. There are currently 37 active projects, with total net commitments of \$5.87 billion. The World Bank also provides Sungzon with numerous Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA). ASA engagements leverage country-level partnerships and trust funds from development partners. The current World Bank strategy for Sungzon has four priority areas:

- Enable diverse and inclusive growth (investment strategies and education)
- Investment in knowledge and people (health and human capital investment)
- Environmental sustainability (clean energy and resource regulation)
- Promote good governance (education and international agreements)

The World Bank and Sungzon have achieved and are expected to continue to achieve results in these four priority areas. Successful projects have included macro and micro hydropower plants throughout the country, green farming, and sustainable urban developments throughout the Mekong Delta region.

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

The USAID has nine active projects with the government of Sungzon. These nine projects equate to \$110.85 million in development aid to the government of Sungzon. These nine projects are: Trade Facilitation, Small and Medium Enterprises Support, Strengthening Provincial Capacity, Senior Official Training, Improving Private Sector Competitiveness, Digital Initiatives, Investment Stimulus, U.S. Customs Facilitation, Workforce Innovations, and smaller, ministry level financial management programs.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a financial organization of ten Southeast Asian countries (South Torbia, Belesia, Gabal, Bagansait, Khorathidin, Sungzon, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore). It represents the most significant regional economic communities. The organization aims to accelerate economic growth, social progress, cultural development, and regional stability through active engagement with all nations. Sungzon has taken an ever-increasing



role in the ASEAN for two reasons. The first is that Sungzon is viewed as the most capable member to address the Olvanan encroachment into maritime economic exclusion zones. The second is that Bagansait and Khorathidin have both experienced unstable government transitions in recent decades, which changes their long-term outlooks and objectives for membership within the ASEAN.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

Foreign direct investment has been an essential component of Sungzon's economic growth. The Sungzon government has emplaced policies that are more conducive to foreign investment in recent years. These include free trade agreements, economic reforms, and an overall political stability which increases the likelihood of future international trade agreements. Foreign investors are attracted to Sungzon's young and increasingly urbanized population and competitive labor costs. The focus areas for FDI have remained consistent with nearly half of FDI going into manufacturing – especially into electronics, textiles, footwear, and automobile parts. Utilities, energy, and real estate are the other smaller and diverse foreign investment areas. Large projects have included Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG, Methane) power plants, petrochemicals complexes, large electronics production facilities, and substantial real estate development projects. The CPS recently passed a five-year economic strategy that draws foreign investments into high-tech industries while ensuring those investments include guarantees for environmental protection.

Economic sanctions

There are no current international sanctions against Sungzon, but other international sanctions have had a significant impact on Sungzon's economy and trade. Sungzon's neutral military and diplomatic policies have made relations with the U.S., Europe, Donovia, Bagansait, Khorathidin, and Olvana a trade and economic balancing act when it comes to sanctions. Sungzon itself has mostly avoided taking part in international sanctions directly, but their continued trade with internationally sanctioned countries like Donovia and Bagansait has elevated the potential for embargos and sanctions from Europe and the U.S.

Finance and Banking

Private Banking

Banking System

The National Bank of Sungzon (NBS), is the government agency responsible for issuing currency, managing money, advising the government on monetary policies, and managing state-owned commercial banks. The Sungzon commercial banking system includes five state-owned commercial banks, 34 joint-stock commercial banks, four joint-venture banks, 35 branch offices of foreign banks, and six major financial companies. The total assets of the seven state-owned commercial banks were reported at over \$224.74 billion and accounted for 43% of total assets in the banking sector. The joint stock commercial banks had total assets of a combined \$214.37 billion and made up 41% of the total assets. The joint venture banks and foreign banks followed with total assets of \$54.45 billion and accounted for 11% of the total assets. Financial and leasing companies' assets were estimated at \$8.24 billion or roughly 5% of total assets.

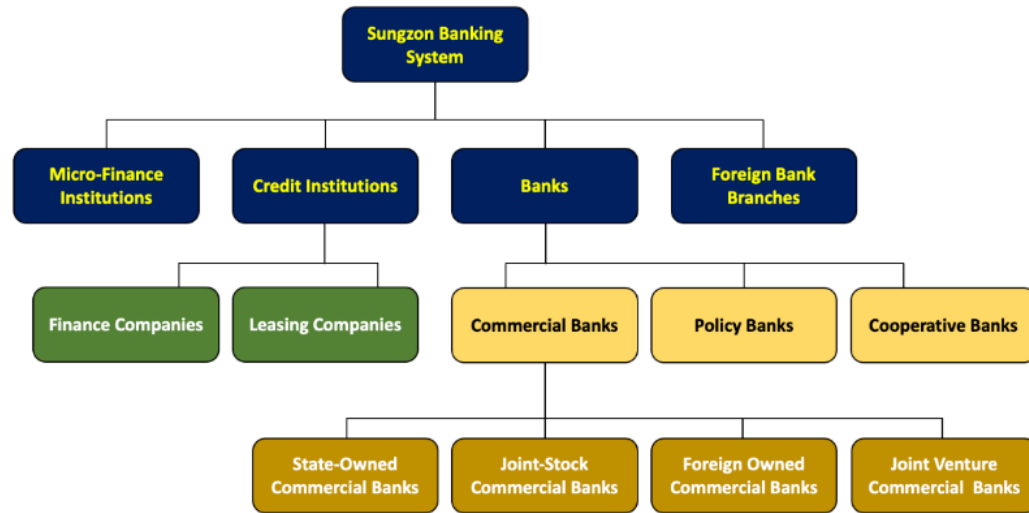


Figure 14. National Banking System (NBS) of Sungzon

Stock/Capital

The Da Nang Stock Exchange is responsible for the secure trading of stocks, bonds, closed fund certificates (CFC), exchange traded fund (ETF) certificates, and covered warrants. There are currently 488 listed trading products which include: 385 stocks, two CFCs, seven ETF certificates, 65 covered warrants and 29 bonds. The total amount of listed stocks is more than \$103.88 billion and the value of listed capital is more than \$186.4 billion.

Informal Finance

Informal financial services remain entrenched in the Sungzon economy. Roughly one third of all credit transactions occur in the informal financial markets. These consist of mainly loans from relatives, credit from pawnshops and professional moneylenders that deal in collateral, and rotating credit organizations or group money pools. Friends and relatives account for approximately 67% of the total loans and informal moneylenders (traders, pawnshops, and credit groups) make up the remaining 33%.

The informal financial services market is best characterized as short-term, high-interest loans with low to no transaction fees. This is compared to the low-interest, long-term loans offered by formal financial institutions that often have high transaction fees. Example: A farmer who may need money to start a crop and plans to pay it back within eight months prefers an informal, short-term financial option, while a business requiring years to pay back startup capital prefers a low-interest, long-term loan with a higher initial transaction fee.

Sungzon Commercial Bank Assets

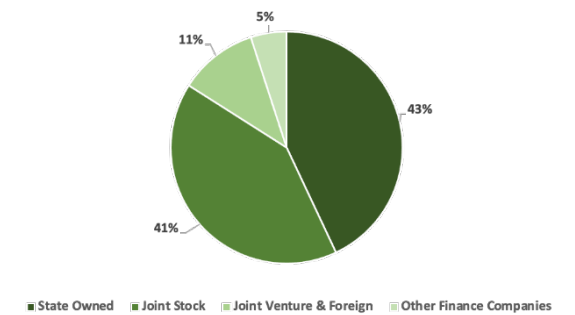


Figure 13. Holdings of the seven state-owned commercial banks

Public Finance

Da Nang Stock Exchange (DNSE) Trend (in USD billions)

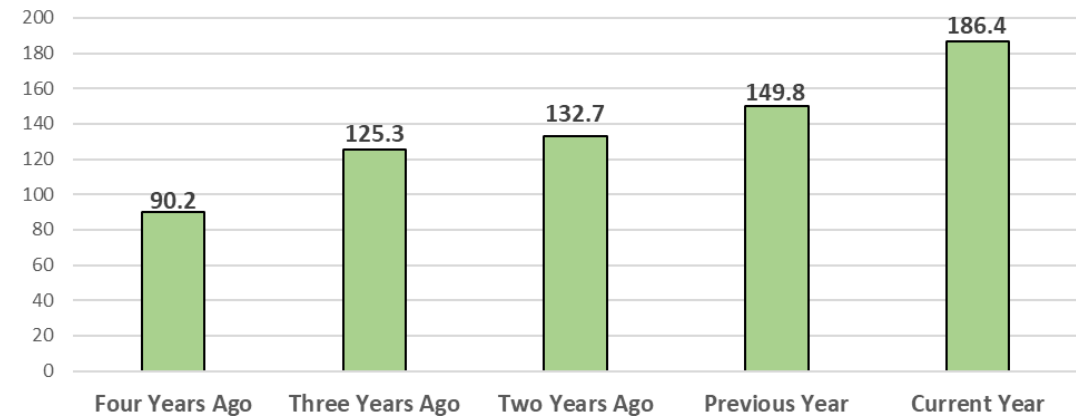


Figure 12. DNSE value over last four years



Public Policy

Sungzon’s long-term public fiscal strategy focuses on strengthening four key areas to avoid any anticipated economic pitfalls in the global markets.

The first is to invest in flexible domestic firms that are innovative and can rapidly adjust production capacities with the country’s increasing or decreasing needs. The government is determined to encourage this by implementing transparent legal protections to ensure equal access to financial options.

The next focus area is digital infrastructure. Sungzon has established a large digital infrastructure with cellular communications and the internet but must improve the efficiency and sustainability of digital financial services, operations, and long-term secured storage and maintenance.

Investment in technical training and technical employment opportunities for all citizens is the third key, fiscal focus area. The need for the government to further subsidize university and technical-vocational educations has grown even more important for a productivity-led, economic growth model. Those citizens facing barriers entering the technical labor market, including rural minorities, are to be provided with greater opportunities to boost social equity in the future.

The last focus area is sustainable economic development. This requires effective management of natural resources, enforcement of pollution controls, and anticipating the effects of climate change on the future economy. The Sungzon government believes that future public policies should consider these four economic focus areas.

Taxation

Sungzon’s residents are subject to tax on their international taxable income, wherever it is paid or received. Resident employment income is taxed at a progressive rate. Other income is taxed at varying rates (see table below). Sungzon non-residents must pay a flat tax on income received from working in Sungzon or on Sungzon-related income, and at other flat rates on non-employment income.

Table 1. Tax rates

<i>Type of taxpayer or income</i>	<i>Tax rate</i>
Salaries:	
<i>Resident foreigners</i>	Progressive rates from 5% to 35%
<i>Non-resident foreigners</i>	20%
Other income:	
<i>Resident nationals and foreigners</i>	Progressive rates from 5% to 10%
<i>Non-resident nationals</i>	10%
Capital gains tax:	
<i>Resident nationals and foreigners</i>	1% of proceeds
<i>Non-resident foreigners</i>	2% of proceeds
Rental income:	5% on Gross
Corporate flat tax:	5% on Net Profits

Currency Reserves

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates Sungzon’s international reserves to be worth \$125.57 billion. According to the IMF definition, international reserves consist of the sum of the country’s foreign exchange, its reserve position in the IMF, its monetary gold reserves, and the United States dollar value of IMF SDR holdings by its monetary authorities (SDR = special drawing rights).

Employment Status

Labor Market

Sungzon has one of the largest labor markets within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The current national labor strength is estimated at 63 million people with approximately 78% of those actively participating in the labor market. Skilled labor is a developing sector of the workforce, and only an estimated 12% of Sungzon’s workers are considered highly skilled. The current Worker Productivity estimates indicate that wages and rapid economic growth have outpaced the worker productivity rate and technical skillset increases. This discrepancy represents a gap that could slow future growth in skilled technical labor areas. The labor force can be roughly divided in to three main sectors: the agricultural sector 37.2%; the services sector 35.4%; and the industrial sector 27.4%.

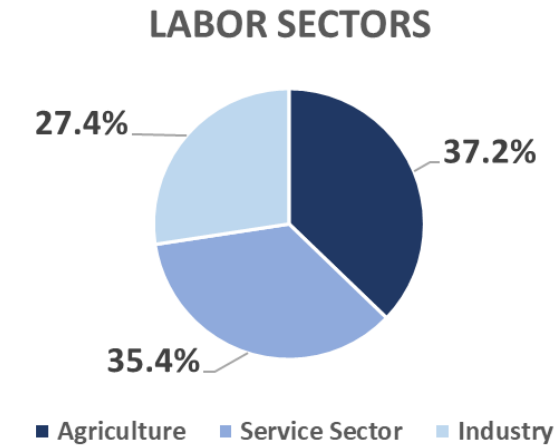


Figure 15. Economic sectors as a percentage of the labor force

Employment and Unemployment

The unemployment rate in Sungzon is assessed at 2.1% which is the second highest in the region. This is a deceiving percentage, and the actual unemployment rate is likely relatively low. Youth unemployment (15-18 years old) accounts for nearly two thirds of the calculation and there is no effective way to account for untaxed employment in remote rural agriculture and internal family farm contributions. Currently, there is an employment gap in Sungzon between rich and poor. Education is becoming even more expensive and there is a part of the population that cannot afford to gain the education and skills needed to enter the developing technical labor market. Additionally, the quality of education and training in Sungzon is not currently adequate for its rising industrial labor sector. This results in a high unemployment

rate even for graduates from universities and colleges. Many college graduates work in jobs that do not require their university degrees. The Sungzon government is working on programs and policies to reduce the reliance on highly skilled foreign workers and replace them with equally skilled, domestic labor.

Illegal Activities

Government-sponsored

Sungzon’s informal economy makes up an estimated 10-18% of the country’s actual GDP by rough calculations found in independent studies. The Sungzon informal economy is often grouped into three broad, unobserved, or untaxed categories, including underground activities (unreported income from legal activities), illegal activities, and activities undertaken by households for their own final use. Therefore, the actual amount of government sponsored, illegal activities is hard to estimate. Government corruption is considered widespread. An estimated 65% of the population surveyed stated that they had paid bribes to a government official within the last year. Sungzon is recognized as one of the largest money laundering and transient smuggling destinations in the world. Recently, some of the communist party’s senior ministers were removed and imprisoned for their relationships with organized crime, the facilitation of illegal logging in protected lands, and wildlife smuggling. This corruption is anticipated to continue at the highest levels which could impact all aspects of administration and law enforcement.

Non-government-sponsored

Sungzon is considered a source, destination, and transit country for many forms of human trafficking and exploitation. This includes sex trafficking, forced labor, child labor, and organ trafficking. Sungzon is considered a major source for people trafficked into forced labor and/or sexual exploitation in the U.S., Europe, the Middle East, and other parts of Asia. Prostitution in Sungzon is illegal, but there are an estimated 40,000-70,000 prostitutes. Poverty-stricken minorities are often targets of recruitment, either willingly or unwillingly, into this illegal industry.



The smuggling of contraband (arms, timber, counterfeit goods, protected plants, and animals) is the second largest illegal transit activity. Sungzon criminal networks are also known to be involved in exotic goods including ivory, rhino-horn, and pangolin smuggling. Sungzon is considered a destination market for illegal drugs like heroin, cocaine, and cannabis. The country’s strict drug laws make Sungzon primarily a consumer and transit nation in the international drug trade with limited large-scale production when compared to other countries in the region. The recent economic growth rates, foreign-investment, and cash-based economy have made Sungzon susceptible to increased money laundering activity. Domestic criminal organizations often control both illicit and licit cross-border economic activities which facilitates money laundering on an international scale.

Table 2. Illicit economies by value

Type of Illegal Activity	Estimated Value (USD)
Human Trafficking (including domestic prostitution)	\$2.8B
Money Laundering	\$400-\$853M
Drugs	\$800M
Medical / Organ Trafficking	\$365M
Illegal Gambling	\$3.7-\$7.7B
Contraband (Logging, Animals, Arms)	\$2.6B
Fossil Fuel Smuggling	\$700-900M
TOTAL:	~ \$11.4-\$16B

Table 3. Industries and value

Measure	Data	Remarks
GDP (Official Exchange Rate)	\$798.21B	Estimated USD
GDP – Real Growth Rate	6.8%	Estimated
GDP – Per Capita (PPP)	\$8,200	Estimated
Gross National Saving	22.5%	% Of GDP (Estimated)
GDP – Household Consumption	66.9%	Estimated
GDP – Government Consumption	6.5%	Estimated
GDP – Investment in Fixed Capital	24.2%	Estimated
GDP – Investment in Inventories	2.8%	Estimated
GDP – Exports of Goods & Services	100%	Estimated
GDP – Imports of Goods & Services	-101%	Estimated
GDP – Agriculture Sector	15.3%	Estimated
GDP – Industry Sector	33.3%	Estimated
GDP – Services Sector	51.3%	Estimated
Labor Force	\$54.66M	Estimated USD
Labor Force – Agriculture	40.3%	Estimated
Labor Force – Industry	25.7%	Estimated
Labor Force – Services	34%	Estimated
Unemployment Rate	3.11%	Estimated
Poverty Rate	6.7%	Below Poverty Line (Estimated)
Foreign Direct Investment Received	\$19.3B	Estimated USD
Foreign Direct Investment Abroad	\$16.4B	Estimated USD
Budget – Revenues	\$54.59B	Estimated USD
Budget - Expenditures	\$69.37B	Estimated USD
Public Debt	58.5%	% of GDP (Estimated)
Inflation Rate – Consumer Prices	2.7%	Estimated
Economic Equality/Inequality	35.7%	Gini Coefficient (0 = everyone in the country has same wealth; 1 = all wealth is possessed by a single person)

SOCIAL

Social Overview

Sungzon is home to a wide variety of ethno-linguistic groups, particularly in rural and mountainous areas. Most of the population is part of the Kinh ethnic group (estimated at 80% of total population), concentrated around urban centers and the coast. The remaining 20% consists of over 50 separate minority groups. The second largest group are the Lao. Three quarters of the population practice local folk religions. The Sungzon Government does not recognize any folk religions as an organized religion. Buddhism and Catholicism are considered the largest faiths recognized by the government. Most of the populace live in rural communities. Approximately one-third are urbanized.

Brief history

The cultural and political history of Sungzon has been intertwined with that of Olvana for almost five thousand years through a series of Han-led state rulers. Sungzon gained its first independence from Olvanan Han overlords around 900 AD. A series of dynastic monarchies followed until the 17th Century, when European explorers, who had been active in Sungzon since the early 1500s, began to assert control over the region.



Figure 16. Kinh in Southeastern Asia. Note those in Olvana.

From the 18th through mid-20th Centuries, Sungzon and its neighbors were a French colonial power known as French Indochina. During the early 20th Century, the internal strife led to a communist uprising that began to redraw borders among Sungzon, Khorathidin, Olvana, and Bagansait. Regions with common ethnic heritage were uprooted and divided during the 1940s-1960s, as populations chose sides in a communist revolution and fled ensuing violence.

In the 1960s, Olvanan-back communists in the north of Sungzon launched attacks against the southern portion of Sungzon which was separately governed at the time. This period, known as the Sungzon Conflict, resulted in the death of 100,000 people and total communist control over the whole of Sungzon.

In the late 1970s, Olvana invaded northern Sungzon and took the city of Hanoi and many of its northern provinces. The Kinh population who remained in Hanoi continue to live as second-class citizens. Olvana has “reeducated” them and their decedents they believe they are better off under Olvanan rule.

Demographics

Ethno-linguistics

Official Language: **Kinh** is the official language of Sungzon. Kinh uses a Romanized, alphabet script (see example, right).

dân tộc Kinh

Table 4. Kinh script

Secondary Languages: **French** is a legacy of French Indochina and is still used in government and diplomacy. **English** is rapidly replacing French as the preferred foreign language within educated society and business in Sungzon.

While Sungzon is composed of many different ethnicities, most are descended from the Kinh group of peoples, including the Hmong. The region saw much political unrest over the last 80 years in redrawn borders and displaced peoples. As a result, many Laotians and Khmer reside in the western parts of the country.

Ethnicities

Kinh. 80% of the population. The language is also Kinh and is the official language of Sungzon. The Kinh people are the historic habitants of the Sungzon area. Many various subethnicities are part of the same Austroasiatic group. Kinh people are found in most official positions, even in the rural minority areas of the central mountains.

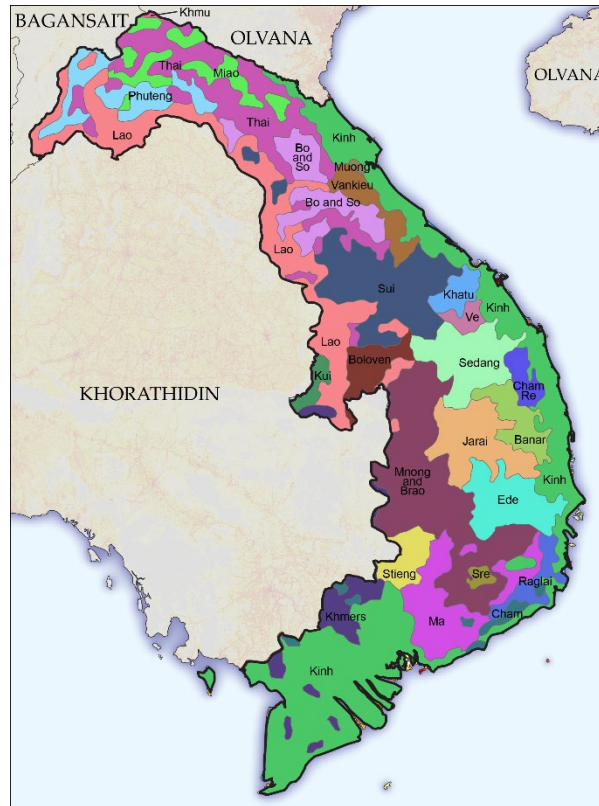
Lao. 5%. Many Lao reside in the northwestern portion of the country after their own nation disappeared during the French Indochina era. After the Sungzon Conflict, many chose to remain in Sungzon rather than move to Korathidin. They speak Laotian.

Khmer. 5%. Khmer speak Bamar/Burmese. Like the Laotian, the Khmer population drapes across the western border with Korathidin.

Hmong. 3%. Hmong speak the lu Mien language.

Tai. 2%. Share ethnic ties with the Tai of Korathidin.

Various. 5%. Another 45 small tribes and ethnicities make up the remaining population, mostly widely dispersed in the foothills of central Sungzon. Geographically, these tribes cover almost as much area as the above main tribes.



Map 6. The diverse ethnicities of Sungzon

Religion

Eighty percent of Sungzon citizens either practice no organized religion or practice a folk religion, according to the latest government survey. Catholicism, another legacy of French colonialism, is the second most widespread religion, but only 5% practice it. Buddhism is the third with 4% of the population. The remainder are a mix of minor sects and religions. Islam is almost non-existent in Sungzon.

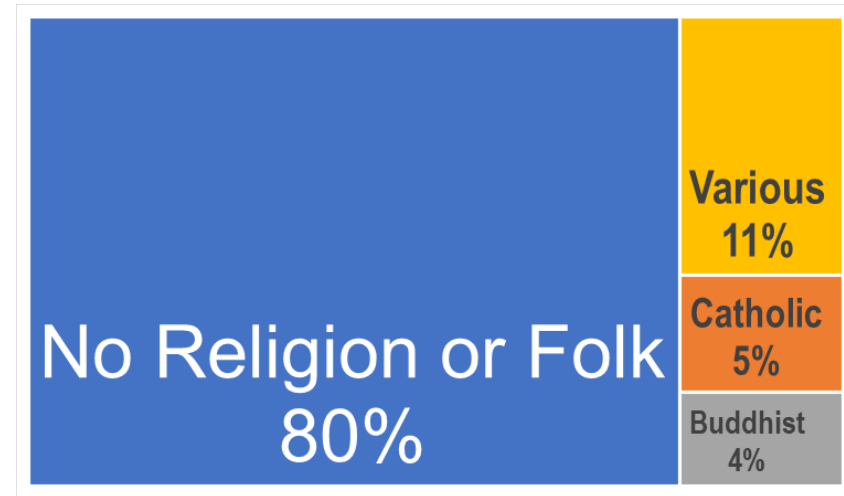


Figure 17. Religious practice in Sungzon

Education

Education is a universal service provided by the state free of charge through secondary school (age 18). Enrollment and literacy are among the highest in the world. Entrance into post-secondary programs is highly competitive and considered among the best in the world.

Education in Sungzon focuses on technology and trade. Sungzon’s high school graduates are among the most math-literate in the world, with many seeking

engineering degrees in post-secondary education. English education is fundamental through all grades as it is the language of commerce and technology.

Population

Sungzon’s population is approximately 100 million, with an annual growth of 1%. The rate of growth is decreasing steadily, keeping pace with other Southeast Asian nations. The fertility rate is also decreasing with an average of two births per woman. This decrease is significant considering the average was six births per woman 60 years ago (see Table 5 below).

Literacy Rate:	95% (M: 97%, F: 94%)
System:	State-run, compulsory
Attainment:	High school 95%

City	Population
Ho Chi Minh City	9 million
Can Tho	1.24 million
Da Nang	1.13 million
Bien Hoa	1.1 million
Vientiane	950k

Density

70% of Sungzon’s population reside along the coast, reflecting its historically maritime culture. Sungzon is becoming an industrial and technical economy, with growing urban centers in the south. Urbanization is at 38%. Countrywide population density is 300/km², but most of that is in the south, while the mountainous interior is sparsely populated.

Movement

Internal Migration

While most of Sungzon remains rural, urbanization has increased seven percentage points over the last 10 years to 38%. This pattern follows the shift in Sungzon’s economy from agriculture to service sectors.

Internal displacement in Sungzon occurs during typhoons when fierce winds and rainfall create floods and mudslides. These conditions create humanitarian crises with a population that live along tidal areas and the surrounding mountainous areas.

External Migration

After several decades during which many Catholic and pro-democracy Kinh fled Sungzon, and when workers migrated to other communist bloc nations, Sungzon’s net emigration has stabilized to nearly 0% of the population. This includes over 100,000 workers seeking employment mostly in other Southeast Asian nations.

Expect the overall rate of Kinh-born residents emigrating for opportunities to increase in the coming years because of recent trade agreements and foreign interest in Sungzon’s economy. However, the influx of foreign entities should bring with it a balancing population of higher-income workers increasingly comfortable with living in a freer Sungzon.

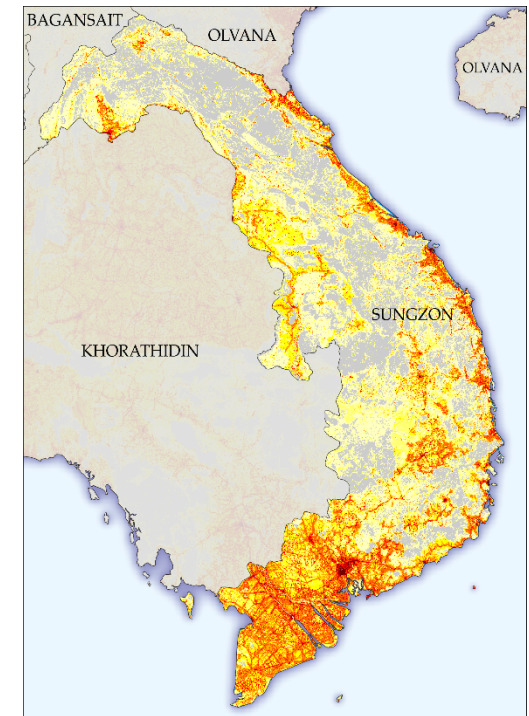


Figure 18. Population density, Sungzon

Culture

Dimensions of National Culture

Power Distance: High. Power distance is the degree to which a society accepts that power is distributed unequally. In societies with a low power distance, individuals aim to distribute power equally. Sungzon’s communist government has created a society that does not challenge authority of any sort.

Individualism vs. Collectivism: Collective. With the Sungzon Conflict, many Kinh who might have led reforms for more individual liberties eventually fled for the United States. Those who remained have been raised in the collective communist mindset. The Kinh value community and harmony – with nature and other humans.

Uncertainty Avoidance (UA) (Tolerance for Ambiguity): Low. Sungzon’s low UA score may seem counter-intuitive for a collective, authoritarian society. However,



Kinh culture has a relaxed attitude that is reflected in flexible planning, adaptiveness, and tolerance for ambiguous situations. This cultural attitude may balance a hierarchical decision-making process in the military with resilience necessary to cope in times of crisis.

Long-Term/Short-Term Orientation: Balanced. Kinh culture is pragmatic, cherishing time-honored traditions while leaving room for change when necessary. While strictly normative cultures eschew change, pragmatic cultures use tradition as a basis for adaptation. Kinh culture values education. This wider perspective softens the suspicion of change in society.

Indulgence vs. Restraint: Restrained. Kinh society adheres to conservative social norms and generally does not prioritize “frivolous” activity.

Competitiveness vs Consensus: Consensus. Sungzon society is not highly competitive. Sungzon citizens value the time spent doing a thing rather than the accomplishment of completing it. Kinh value quality in relationships and endeavors, as opposed to appearing unique or exemplary.

Cultural Norms and Values

Respect for elders: Kinh culture values the contributions of earlier generations, venerating the elderly, and cherishing the memory of warriors.

Studied and serious: The Kinh are circumspect and somber while being friendly. Humor is not how they cope with serious matters. The Sungzon Conflict is not a joking matter.

Negotiating for anything is common and expected.

Proud: Kinh people are proud of their culture and history. Kinh take pride in their work. Tipping can be seen as ostentatious and should be done discretely as to be received as a genuine compliment.

Communication

Traditional Methods and Symbolism

Kinh people are high-context, indirect communicators. Physical cues and subtle pronoun usage provide the context for conversation and reflect the hierarchical nature of the dyad or group. Kinh pronouns reflect status and familial relations with a specificity not found in Western culture.

Kinh communication is understated and in keeping with a humble center. Exaggeration is seen as aggrandizing oneself. Kinh seek consensus and will save face and protect others’ feelings. Kinh will not be disagreeable, nor will they overtly state their agreement.

Public, physical displays of affection are frowned upon, even platonically. Friendly touching of arms and shoulders in everyday conversation is avoided. As in many other Southeastern Asian nations, the head is considered sacred and should never be touched by another. Feet are profane.

Social Impact of OE Hazards

Disease

Diseases in Sungzon that are common among developing nations, especially in rural regions. These include tuberculosis and mosquito-borne diseases (malaria, Chikungunya, Dengue, encephalitis) though those are on the decline. Rabies is prominent in areas where people consume dog meat. As a result, rabies and leptospirosis continue in areas where the meat is sold. People in rural communities are more likely to use homeopathic remedies over clinical medicine. For more on communicable diseases, see *Disease*, Physical variable.

Natural Disaster

The highest concentration of citizens exists along the coast and tidal planes. This leaves millions of Sungzon’s people at risk for displacement during typhoons. This has happened on several occasions and taxes the resources of emergency



Table 5. Demographics

Social Statistics			
Primary Languages	Kinh, French (secondary), English (secondary)		
Ethnic Groups (%)	Kinh 80 Lao 5 Khmer 5 Hmong 3 Tai 2 Various 5		
Major Religions (%)	None/Local Folk 80 Various Organized 11 Catholic 5 Buddhist (non-specific) 4		
Literacy Rate (Older Than 15 in %)	95 (97 male, 34 female)		
Age Distribution (%)	Age	Male	Female
	0-14	12	10
	15-54 (Military Age)	30	30
	55-64	4	6
	65+	3	5
Median Age	Overall 32 Males 30 Females 33		
Population	105,000,000		
Annual Growth Rate	1%		
Birth Rate Per 1,000 People	16		
Death Rate Per 1,000 People	5		
Urban Population (%)	38%		
Annual Urbanization Rate	2.5%		
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1000 Live Births	15		
Life Expectancy At Birth (Years)	75 (Men 73, Women 78)		
Major Diseases In OE	Malaria, Tuberculosis, Rabies, Chikungunya, Dengue, Encephalitis		

responders and humanitarian relief workers. Additionally, many live on fragile hillsides where torrential rains can erode the soil and result in mudslides. The population is resilient and quick to rebuild their lives.

Crime and Punishment

The Penal Code of Sungzon is severe and designed to deter, not rehabilitate. Many crimes, aside from murder, carry capital punishment sentences, including crimes against the judicial order, the environment, family, and general order of the country.

Human Rights

While Sungzon’s citizens enjoy a relatively higher standard of living compared to previous generations, their rights are generally not safe from the state. Many are subject to arbitrary arrest and torture at the hands of law enforcement. Few within the citizenry may openly practice political speech unless it is sanctioned by the CPS.

Basic rights are not recognized as widely as in Western nations or even other Southeastern Asian nations. Freedom of speech and assembly are denied. And while laws protect freedom of religion, places of worship must register for permission to exist. In practice the Sungzon government restricts the establishment of religious locations and public worship. See also, *Human Rights and Freedoms*, Political variable above.



INFORMATION

Information Overview

The government of Sungzon attempts to modernize and invest in information communications technology (ICT) to support its growing industry. However, as it attempts to control the flow of information, the rapid advances in ICT stress its bureaucratic processes as industries pull the Party toward competitive markets and contemporary strategies. The nation is in the middle of sweeping reforms to digitize the country's financial, medical, identification, and public records.

Information Products

News Media

All press in Sungzon is state-owned, either wholly or partially. While freedom of press is guaranteed under law, in practice the CPS only permits state-sponsored reporting. The government requires the media to “promulgate the official notices and decrees of the Communist Party of Sungzon.” Additionally, certain laws forbid any criticism of the CPS or its officials, punishable by death in extreme cases. The Communist Party monitors foreign language press. Foreign press operating inside Sungzon must comport with domestic reporting requirements. Foreign press has embedded Ministry of Information personnel to review and approve any releases within the country.

Entertainment Media

Sungzon's Ministry of Information also monitors cultural production. Art is subject to a “Decency Standard” which requires censorship of “lewd or profane” material. This includes nudity, sexual conduct, kissing on screen, and any material that mocks or criticizes Sungzon culture, the government, or the CPS.

Social Media

All internet service providers (ISPs) in Sungzon must use connect to government-controlled internet exchanges. This absolute control of access gives the CPS the ability to monitor and filter material it deems offensive, and to track all violators for

further action. All social media companies, their employees, and user lists are registered with the Ministry of Information.

The Ministry of Information and the CPS mitigate cybercrime through an extensive command and control network (see INFOWAR (High) in Military variable).

However, the Ministry of Information cannot track adaptive social networks and creative hackers as quickly as they appear. Innovative actors can stay one step ahead of government monitors by evolving their scripts, methods, and operational security.

Information Services

Financial Services

Sungzon trails other ASEAN member states in digital banking. Approximately 30% of the population have an official bank account. The communications infrastructure and devices for digital banking growth already exists with around 70% of the people having cell phones and 66% have daily access to the internet. The limiting factor for digital banking has been a lack of government legislation and direction by the NBS. It is estimated that in the next three to five years the digital banking services sector could be worth an estimated \$3.4 billion annually.

Medical System

Sungzon is close to completely digitizing the population's medical records. By encouraging its citizens to register their health records electronically, the nation seeks to enroll 100% of its population for electronic identification – a move that ultimately moves the socialist nation to complete digital awareness and provision of services. As of now, 30% of its population is registered online with government health service providers.

Legal/Criminal Records

Sungzon Ministry of Security maintains a comprehensive database of criminal records. Because the CPS prioritizes internal order and compliance, criminal records were the first to be digitized and centralized. All checkpoints, outposts, police



stations, and prisons can access, edit, and add to centralized records. Records that were active within the last 10 years contain biometric data.

Navigation (Global Positioning)

Sungzon employs 79 Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), using the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) to provide autonomous geo-spatial positioning data. The satellites are dual use, with the government and commercial sectors sharing. The military has dedicated bandwidth and priority of use in times of emergency. The entirety of the government uses the network to conduct business for the purposes of surveying, research, weather, and even monitoring the movement of individuals.

Electromagnetic Spectrum Management (radio frequency)

Sungzon is a member of The Bureau of The International Telegraph Union (ITU) and follows radio frequency harmonization principles according to ITU-R Region-3. The Ministry of Information governs communications policy. The Sungzon Telecommunications Authority (STA) regulates the country's radio frequency spectrum through planning, allocations, and licensing.

Information Distribution

Internet

There are 72.10 million internet users in Sungzon, which represents 74% of the total population. While market penetration is impressive, internet speeds are much slower in Sungzon than in other Asian countries, ranking 60th in fixed broadband and 62nd in global mobile speed. There are three undersea cables providing the bulk of Sungzon's communications traffic to the rest of the world. Sungzon's Army Navy is charged with the protection of these cables, but many miles of these cables run under contested waters, making counter-intelligence precautions difficult.

Television

Roughly 98% of homes have television reception as the most popular media. There are multiple television channels available, including international channels broadcast with a 10-minute delay to allow censors filter politically sensitive material.

Radio

The Voice of Sungzon or VOS (also Radio the Voice of Sungzon), is the national radio broadcaster. Directly controlled by the government, it is tasked with propagating the policies of the Party and the laws of the state. The VOS runs eight national domestic radio stations and one international service, four of which are only available on FM frequencies; one station runs as a block on sister station; which provides live streams and monitors applications such as VOS LIVE and VOS Media.

Print

Literature is tightly controlled and must pass a rigorous publication process through the Ministry of Information. Only state publishing houses are allowed to produce printed books outright. Private publishing houses must work through official state printing houses to publish within Sungzon.

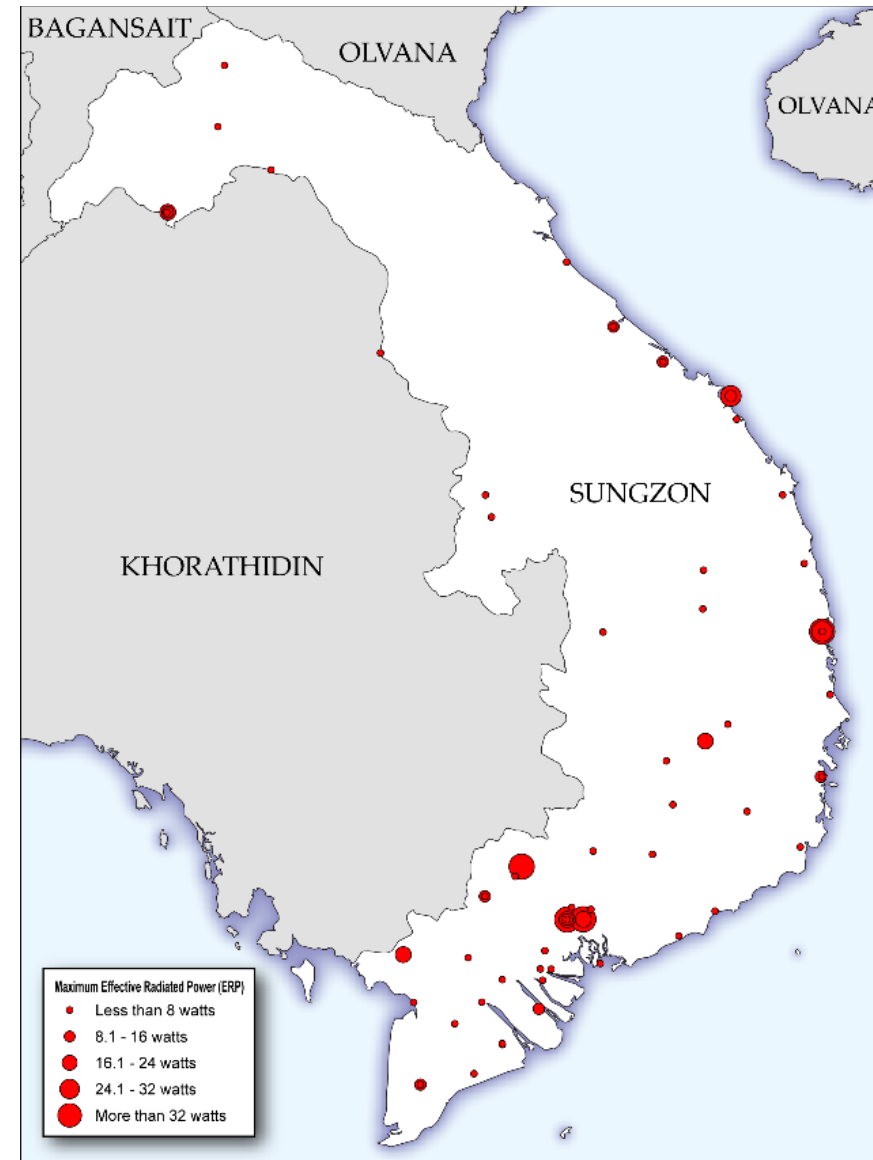
Telephone/Telecommunications

Roughly 70% of the population use mobile technology, most of which is data-enabled, 4th generation. The government is slowly rolling out the latest technology through private firms, but only once strict security measures are put in place. Sungzon will become entirely digitally mobile by 2026.

Postal/Carrier

Older generations still correspond with one another in traditional letters. Younger generations have mixed feelings about traditional post. The younger generations perceive mail as a means of government communication – and by extension, intrusion – in their lives. The growth in e-commerce relies upon private parcel services.

The Sungzon National Post Office operates all postal deliveries officially. Bureaucratic inefficiencies plague the service which has become a jobs program. The government of Sungzon allows a handful of internationally recognized private carriers to operate for parcel service to replace the underground services that emerged after the introduction of a market driven economy.



Map 7. 88-108 MHz emitters and power



Oral Communication

Oral communication emphasizes, harmony, respect, and peace. When communicating in the workplace, government employees use the vocative, “comrade.” In private business, people tend to call others by their first name, together with an appropriate title. In formal/business conversation, it is popular to use Mr/Mrs/Ms/ and the First Name. Most people will use non-verbal gestures, such as gentle bows, friendly smiles, nods and avoid direct eye contact.

To avoid signs of disrespect, especially with people of higher status, most citizens are unlikely to express disagreement. Instead, they often keep silent or reply indirectly. To prevent conflict in relationships, people often prefer to speak about sensitive subjects, such as politics and sex indirectly. People may nod or use affirming language without necessarily agreeing.

Satellite

Most older citizens of Sungzon receive information via satellite or cable television. Some use their dishes to receive illicit communications from outside the country. Sungzon operates a handful of satellites, some purchased from other nations, and some made domestically. They are used for domestic entertainment, research, weather observations, government use (including the monitoring and control of information), and the military. For more on Sungzonese satellites, see Space, under Infrastructure, below.

Information Consumption

The Information Generation

Younger citizens use the government-monitored internet and social media for information. The Ministry of Information attempts to control information consumption through gatekeeping methods, owning and controlling the ISPs through which these platforms operate, and aggressive legal prosecution for violating censorship laws. This conflict is a potential friction point between the younger generation and the government. The government’s control of social media, or lack thereof, will be pivotal in a crisis.

Media Engagement/Perception

In previous years, the population of Sungzon generally accepted government-approved information released via traditional forms of broadcast media mostly because there were few alternatives. However, the country has the seventh-largest internet consumer market in the world, and skepticism of government-supplied information is pervasive. Popular social media platforms and video sharing services have spread ideas faster than the government can control them.

Rural

Rural, poor communities gather in community hubs like coffee shops and markets to share information. Televisions in these environments supply the bulk of discussion points and knowledge. Internet cafes provide rural residents intermittent access. Mobile internet lags but is available.

Urban

Urban dwellers are 30% of the population but represent 70% of internet consumption. Urbanites are more likely to have social media profiles, skew younger, and are more educated and entrepreneurial. It is in this environment that anti-government sentiment, though rare, arises.

Information Suppression

Government Censorship

The Sungzon government attempts to control all forms of information, both internally and externally, to shape perception of the country. Internally, the government attempts to control all forms of media. All local press is fully or partly state owned. International broadcasts have a 10-minute delay to allow censors to stop politically sensitive broadcasts. The use of the internet (websites, social media, blogs, etc.) is regulated by the government by two methods. The first is that the government owns or partially owns the three Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that operate in the country. This affords them the ability to regulate content, require site registration with the state, and to remove content shortly after it is posted. The second method is the government requires all external content to be published on a server residing in



Sungzon. This places the hardware and its content under the jurisdiction and control of the Sungzon government. There is an average of a three-hour delay before the content is reviewed and removed. Forbidden content results in punitive actions against individuals responsible, including beatings, to discourage others from attempting similar, anti-government internet activity. This strict control over internal and external information provides the government an advantage in information warfare.

Self-Censorship

Self-censorship occurs when individuals or organizations limit their own speech for fear of reprisal. Civil rights watchdogs count self-censorship as an indicator of freedom of expression. Many editors and individual publishers filter content deemed offensive to the CPS before Party censors even review it for release.

Non-Government Entity Censorship

The Government of Sungzon uses an army of volunteer nationalists and government friendly hackers to help curtail disruptive content online. Most of these hackers also dabble in cybercrime, but the Ministry of Information is willing to turn a blind eye in exchange for favors.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure Overview

Located on the eastern side of Mainland Southeast Asia, Sungzon's total surface area is approximately 145,000 square miles (233,355 sq/km), with a population of almost 60 million. Sungzon is bordered on the east by the Gulf of Tonkin and South China Sea, and most of the western border is defined by the Mekong River. To understand the infrastructure of Sungzon, it is first necessary to understand the terrain features that shape the country. The geography is dominated by mountain ranges and rivers that have carved the landscape from the interior highlands to the coastal lowlands. The Mekong River is the major social and economic artery for this region. The river defines the border between Sungzon and Khorathidin. As the river moves south, it picks up sediment that creates the Mekong Delta, where the river empties into the Gulf of Thailand. The Luang Prabang Range forms a natural boundary between Sungzon and Bagansait in the northwest, and the Că River constitutes the border with Olvana in the northeast.

Sungzon's infrastructure is in poor condition because of years of war but is improving. Investment has primarily been centered on urban development aimed at creating modern cities that will encourage international investment. The road and rail lines connecting urban areas throughout the country are deficient and have not received the same level of investment as the urban centers. The western part of the country is broken up by mountainous terrain, making the construction of a rail line extremely difficult. The terrain also makes it difficult to transport the equipment needed to improve the road network, leaving the roads in poor condition. During the rainy season, unusable roads force remote travel to plane or boat. The country's major river and canal systems are still the primary means for moving people and goods. While the climate and terrain inhibit development of the transportation infrastructure, Sungzon's electrical grid is in good condition. This is in part because of the hydroelectric energy production produced by the numerous rivers that canalize the water coming out of the mountains. Close to 100% of Sungzon's population has dependable access to electricity, and the Government is making significant strides in renewable energy production.

During the late 1800s, a 1,075-mile (1,730-kilometer) railroad was laid, which connected Ho Chi Minh City, at the time known as Saigon, to Hanoi and the port city of Haiphong to Yunnan in Olvana. This line was severely damaged during the Sungzon Conflict, and again during the conflict between Sungzon and Olvana. Currently, the track needs repair and the nation has been actively seeking international partners who can facilitate the rehabilitation of the rail line. Communications infrastructure is also poor but quickly improving, with cellular communication being the fastest growing means of communication. 70% of Sungzon's population has access to reliable cellular service, but the more remote areas still lack coverage. Travel from north to south is facilitated by Highway One, which is the only modern highway within the country. Hwy 1 runs from Ho Chi Minh City north along the coastline, up to the border with Olvana, heading toward Hanoi. Less than 30% of Sungzon's roads are paved, and traffic congestion in and around the major cities is a significant challenge. As part of a National Plan, major work has begun to improve the country's limited road infrastructure.

Energy Sector

Sungzon has diverse energy resources such as coal, natural gas, petroleum, hydropower, solar, and wind. The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) oversees the energy sector. Within the MOIT, the General Directorate of Energy (GDE) administers the energy sector through the Department of Electricity and Renewable Energy, the Department of Petroleum and Coal, and the Department of Energy Saving and Sustainable Development. The country has recently made strides in renewable energy deployment, especially solar and wind power development. However, some power supply shortages have created occasional brownouts, which have affected manufacturers, forcing them to stop production while power is diverted to the larger cities. State-owned Electricity Sungzon (ESN) still generates much of the power supply. The Government has been unable to attract foreign investment into the country due to its mismanagement of the energy sector.



Coal is the primary power source in the north, and natural gas is the primary power source in the south. However, renewable energy has become the cheapest form of future power generation in the country due to Sungzon's significant solar, wind, and extensive hydro-generation potential. Sungzon's current power plan requires an investment of \$150 billion in additional power generation and grid infrastructure to meet future demands. Sungzon has no nuclear power production or plans for future nuclear power generation. Most houses and office buildings have no heating systems.



Map 8. Urban building density, five largest cities

Table 6. Power plants

Name or Location	Power Plants			
	Fuel Type	Capacity (MW)	Latitude	Longitude
Duyen Hai 1	Coal	1245	9.583302	106.52261
Duyen Hai 3	Coal	1245	9.588926	106.52777
Hai Phong 1-2	Coal	1200	20.937608	106.75738
Vinh Tan 1	Coal	1240	11.31832	108.80766
Vinh Tan 2	Coal	1245	11.31725	108.79842
Vinh Tan 4	Coal	1200	11.31822	108.79471
Vung Ang 1	Coal	1200	18.09772	106.38098
Ca Mau 1&2	Gas	1500	9.23758	105.06364
Phu My 1&2	Gas	1118	10.60808	107.03703
O Mon	Gas	1500	10.19527	105.66503
BIM 2	Solar	199.3	11.45113	108.87621
Sao Mai Solar PV1	Solar	174	10.37868	105.44219
Dau Tieng 1,2	Solar	350	11.45646	106.22792
Loc Ninh 1	Solar	187.5	11.94661	106.48657
Loc Ninh 2	Solar	187.5	11.80946	106.54150
Hoa Hoi	Solar	214.2	11.05221	106.32497
Xuan Thien – Ea Sup 1	Solar	600	13.29904	107.72991
Bac Lieu	Wind	99.2	9.23961	105.83498
Trung Nam Ninh Thuan phase 2&3	Wind	112	11.68575	109.02899
Don Hai 1	Wind	50	9.09997	105.59997
An Khe	Biomass	110	13.98370	108.66118
Son La Dam	Hydro	2400	21.49795	103.99655
Lai Chau	Hydro	1200	22.13963	102.98473
Hoa Binh	Hydro	1960	20.81372	105.32449
Ia Ly	Hydro	720	14.22250	107.79583
Nam Theun 2 Dam	Hydro	1075	17.68098	105.15309
Nam Ngum 2 Dam	Hydro	615	18.75010	102.77590
Theun-Hinboun Dam	Hydro	550	18.26104	104.56270

Legend:
 MW - megawatt
 MGRS - Military Grid Reference System

Water and Sanitation



Water

Of increasing importance in Sungzon is the distribution of water resources to meet current and future water demands. Of the 16 major river sub-basins in Sungzon, 60% are in the Mekong Basin. Annual rainfall ranges from 28 inches to nearly 200 inches in Sungzon. The water resources are under pressure due to irrigation demands, urban and industrial development, and an increasing human population. Water security is a top priority of the Department of Water Resource Management, which is attempting to respond to declining water quality, transboundary water issues and meeting the demands for clean water to a growing population.

Sungzon's primary water supply derives from surface flows captured by rivers and aquifers. The most significant source is the Mekong River. Over 60% of water resources in Sungzon come from upstream transboundary sources. Groundwater resources have a substantial importance in the northern and central highlands and the Mekong Delta, where water scarcity during the dry season has become a significant issue for local farmers. Irrigation is the largest consumer of water resources, using 85% of the total water available. Clean drinking water is now accessible to 60% of the population. However, in the rural parts of the country, it remains necessary for women and children to carry drinking water by hand from collection sites.

Sanitation

60% of Sungzon's population is estimated to have access to a sewage system more advanced than simple latrines. However, most sewage systems are old, work poorly, and desperately need repair. Additionally, there is a persistent gap between rural and urban populations, with 60% fewer rural people having access to sanitation. Sungzon has met the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets on water and sanitation regarding UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Program. However, there are still approximately 1.9 million people without access to improved water supply and 2.4 million without access to improved sanitation due to significant inequalities between urban and rural populations.

Transportation Architecture

Most of the long-distance inter-country travel is by private bus companies. Car ownership is climbing, but scooters, bikes, and motorcycles remain the most popular transportation choice. Traffic and congestion are growing problems within the country, and the government is working hard but struggling to address the growing demand. Traffic safety is a significant issue, with over 30 people killed in vehicle accidents daily.

Road System

Most of the paved roads in Sungzon are in poor condition. The only modern highway within the country is Highway Number One, which runs from Ho Chi Minh City north to the border with Olvana. Under 30% of Sungzon's roads are paved, and traffic congestion in and around the major cities is a significant challenge. As part of a National Plan, major work projects are taking place to improve the country's limited road infrastructure (see Map 9. Major highways, below).

Sungzon is receiving considerable regional community assistance for its infrastructure development. A bridge over the Mekong, the Lao-Nippon Bridge, was completed in the South near Pakxé in the early 2000s. This project was financed primarily by the Japanese. A second bridge across the Mekong at Savannakhet is complete and connects west central Sungzon and northeast Khorathidin to the Sungzon port of Da Nang.



Map 9. Major highways

Public Transportation

There are many options for public transportation in Sungzon, such as buses, taxis, and motorcycles. Motorcycles are the most common form of transportation, with nearly 40 million motorcycles currently being registered. Public buses are either subsidized or non-subsidized and are operated by public and private companies, with over 100 routes across the country, especially in the larger cities. The system consists of large and small urban buses, minibuses, airport buses, and provincial buses. In addition, taxicab companies and independent cab drivers account for approximately 14% of the public transportation market. There are more vehicles on the roads than the current infrastructure can accommodate. Sungzon has invested in expanding roads, but the improvements are slow in development and tend to be poorly maintained. Most roads and streets have no traffic lights or road markers, significantly affecting traffic flow.

Rail System

The Sungzon railway network has a total length of 1,500 mi (2,414 km) and is primarily a single track running between Ho Chi Minh City and the Olvana border. The national railway network uses mainly 1,000 mm (3 ft 3.375 in) meter gauge. The Sungzon railway network is owned and operated by the state-owned enterprise Sungzon Railways (SNR), which handles several subsidiaries in construction, communications, training, and railway maintenance. Olvana, Bagansait, Khorathidin and Sungzon have established a joint venture railway system that has connected all four countries and link them with port systems located in southern Olvana. These new rail lines run through the north-central and north-western parts of the country. The overall condition of railway infrastructure in Sungzon varies from poor to fair; most of the network needs substantial repairs and modern upgrades. An evaluation team found that the poor state of railway infrastructure was the fundamental cause of most railway accidents.



Map 10. Railroads and gauges

Air Transportation System

Sungzon has 17 airports and two major international airports, with one additional international airport currently under construction. Most airports are small, except for the international airports in Tan Son Nhat and Da Nang.

Da Nang International Airport is in Da Nang, the largest city in central Sungzon, and is an important gateway to access the rest of the country and can manage 6.8 million passengers. In addition to its civil traffic, the runway is shared with the Sungzon's Army Air Force. The airport handles approximately 11 million passengers per year.

Tan Son Nhat International Airport is the busiest airport, averaging nearly 40 million passengers annually. However, the facility was designed to serve 25 million passengers. It serves Ho Chi Minh City and the rest of southeastern Sungzon. An international terminal is currently under construction with a capacity of 10 million passengers a year, and the first phase of this expansion is complete.

Table 7. Airfield data

Airfield	Length (feet)	Width (feet)	Elevation (feet)	Latitude (DD)	Longitude (DD)	Surface Type	Lights
Buon Ma Thuot	9843	148	1729	12.6683	108.1200	asphalt	no
Cà Mau	4921	98	6	9.1777	105.1778	asphalt	no
Cam Ranh Int'l	10000	148	40	11.9982	109.2190	concrete	yes
Can Tho Int'l	9843	148	9	10.0851	105.7120	asphalt	yes
Con Dao	6004	98	20	8.7318	106.6330	asphalt	no
Da Nang Int'l	11483	148	33	16.0439	108.1990	asphalt	yes
Dong Hoi	7874	148	59	17.5150	106.5906	concrete	no
Dong Tac	9520	148	20	13.0496	109.3340	concrete	no
Lien Khuong	10663	148	3156	11.7500	108.3670	asphalt	no
Pakse Int'l	5332	118	351	15.1321	105.7810	concrete	yes
Phu Bai Int'l	8775	130	48	16.4006	107.7031	asphalt	yes
Phu Cat	10010	148	80	13.9550	109.0420	concrete	no
Phu Quoc Int'l	9843	150	37	10.1698	103.9931	asphalt	yes



<i>Pleiku</i>	7874	148	2434	14.0045	108.0170	asphalt	no
<i>Rach Gia</i>	4921	98	7	9.9580	105.1324	asphalt	no
<i>Savannakhet</i>	5358	125	509	16.5566	104.7600	concrete	no
<i>Tan Son Nhat Int'l</i>	12468	148	33	10.8188	106.6520	concrete	yes
<i>Wattay Int'l</i>	9843	148	564	17.9883	102.5630	asphalt	yes

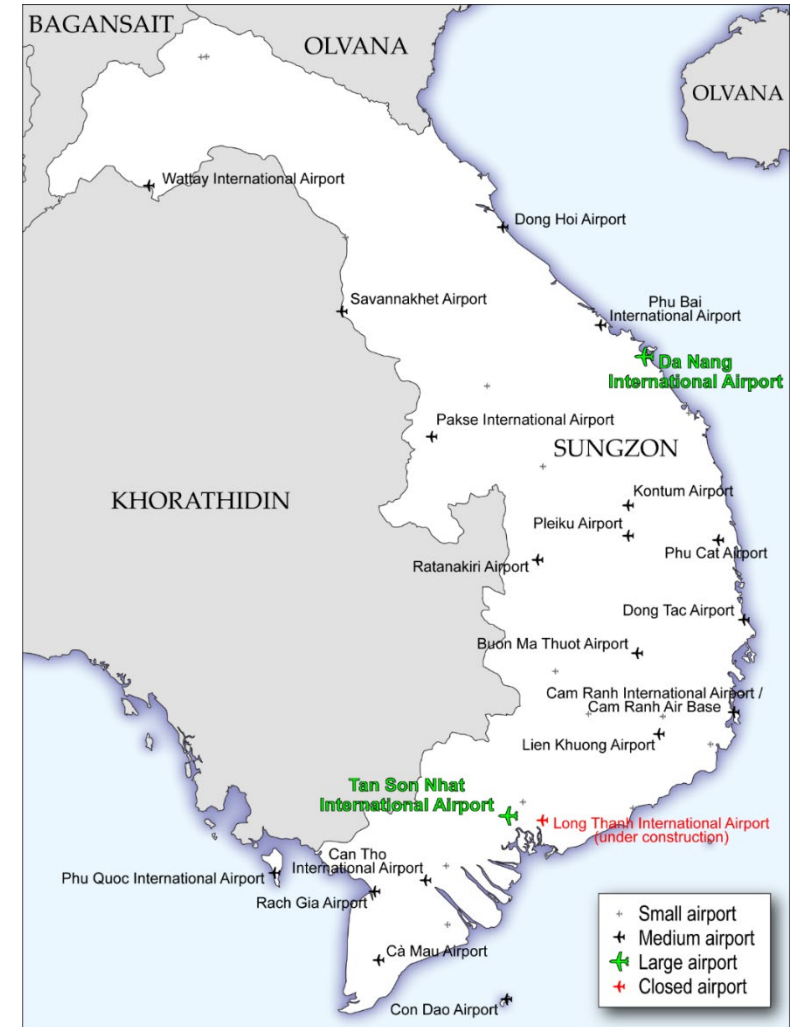
Maritime Seaports

Sungzon has 105 seaports and only a few major commercial ports that can manage heavy traffic efficiently. Most small ports do not have the infrastructure to handle international freight and have obsolete facilities and poor supporting services. Smaller ports serve as trans-shipment hubs for goods, and the larger ports are continuously being upgraded to accommodate more foreign trade. The Sungzon Government is working to double the cargo handling capacity from 200 million MT (Metric Tons) of cargo to 400 million MT within the next few years. However, with an underdeveloped railroad network, it will be difficult for the current infrastructure to oversee more cargo moving to and from these ports. The three largest ports in the country are Da Nang Port, Saigon Port, and the Vung Tau Port.

The Da Nang port is one of the largest ports in Sungzon, covering nearly 74 acres (300,000 square meters) with three berths. Currently, the largest vessel that can dock is 45,000 DWT (Deadweight Tonnage). Efforts are being made to improve the capacity up to 50,000 DWT. Da Nang Port is a medium-sized, deep-water port and is strategic for maritime trade in the South China Sea. The west bank of the Da Nang port belongs to the Sungzon Navy, while commercial vessels use the eastern bank. The Da Nang port is a natural harbor with a channel depth of up to 42.7 feet (13 meters) and houses an oil depot connected to the Bay through an oil pipeline.

Thanh Ho Chi Minh Port is a deep-water seaport with channel depth ranging from 27.9 feet (8.5 meters) to 29.1 feet (9.1 meters). The port is the critical nodal point for the Mekong Delta and the southeast region of Sungzon. Ho Chi Minh City is the largest industrial hub in Sungzon, with industries including shipbuilding, chemical manufacturing, construction, seafood, and agriculture processing.

The Saigon old port has a total area of 123.55 acres (500,000 square meters), while the new port is 105.51 acres (452,700 square meters). The maximum vessel capacity of the old port is 50,000 DWT, while the new port can handle vessels up to 30,790 DWT.



Map 11. Airfields

8.7 miles (14 meters) and an average channel depth of 14.76 feet (4.5 meters). The maximum vessel size for this port is 8000 GRT (gross register tonnage). The shipyard at Vung Tau port has electrical repair facilities, general ship maintenance, and advanced telecommunication and navigation systems. The Vung Tau port is being expanded to handle passenger traffic. See also, Major Rivers and Canals, under Physical variable, below.

Navigable Rivers

Sungzon's major river basin is the Mekong River and Mekong Delta, which is vital to food security for the country. The water supplies the Mekong River and the Delta from upstream cross-border rivers. Therefore, Sungzon does not have complete control over how some of the water resources are managed. Additionally, climate change, deforestation, mining, and the construction of hydropower dams have significantly affected the quality and quantity of water resources in Sungzon. The Mekong River Accord (MRA) addresses these complex situations and subsequent negotiations. The MRA previously focused on Mekong River political and economic challenges. However, the MRA has expanded to include all the transnational river systems in the region.

The Se San River flows through central Sungzon and is a major tributary of the Mekong River. There are several hydropower dams on the Se San River and its tributaries. The dams are Se San 4A, Se San 4, Se San 3A, Se San 3, and Yali all.

The Nam Ngum River originates from the northern mountainous region of Xiangkhoang Province. It flows south through Vientiane Province, joining the Mekong River at the city of Vientiane. The Nam Ngum River basin covers 6527 square miles and 2.73 percent of the lower Mekong River basin. The largest dam on Nam Ngum is the Nam Ngum Dam. There are four other hydropower projects under construction on the Nam Ngum River.

The Nam Theun River in Khammouane and Bolikhamsai Provinces. Together with its tributaries, Nam One and Nam Noy, it has a total length of 86 miles and drains an

area of 1,081 square miles. The Nam Theun River has three large dams, Nam Theun 1, Nam Theun 1-2, and Nam Theun 2.

The Bassac River is a distributary of the Tonlé Sap and Mekong River. The river starts in Phnom Penh and flows southerly. The river is a major transportation corridor between east and west Sungzon, allowing for the movement of people and goods.

The Saigon River is in southern Sungzon, with the headwaters beginning near Phum Daung. It flows South and south-southeast for about 140 miles. The river empties into the Soài Rạp, which empties into the East Sea some 12 miles northeast of the Mekong Delta. The Saigon River is joined by the Dong Nai River and the Bến Cát River just above Ho Chi Minh. The Saigon River is Ho Chi Minh City's primary water source and part of the Saigon Port, the 24th largest container port in the world.



Map 12. Sea ports



The Srepok River is also a major tributary of the Mekong River. It runs from the Central Highlands through the Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces to join the Mekong near Stung Treng town. The river is 280 miles long and has three main tributaries: the Krông Nô, Krông Ana, and Ea H'leo Rivers. Before joining the Mekong, it is joined first by the Se San River and then by the Se Kong River. Since the late nineteenth century, the Srepok River has been a crucial water transport route.

The Perfume River crosses the city of Huế and gets its name from the autumn flowers of upriver orchards that fall into the water, giving the river a perfume-like aroma. The river is 19 miles long and runs very slowly because the river is just above sea level. The Perfume River basin records the highest rainfall amounts in Sungzon.

The Bến Hải River is in central Sungzon and is approximately 62 miles long. Its source is in the Annamite Mountains and flows into the South China Sea at Cua Tung. The river flows easterly from just south of the 17th parallel and close to the northern border of Quảng Trị Province. The river is about 660 feet wide (200 meters) at its widest point.

The Mekong River is 7th longest in Asia and the 12th longest in the world, with a total length of 1,679.54 miles (4350 km). It flows in the northeast part of the country and contributes a significant share of fish stock for Sungzon.

The Sepon River is a small river in Quảng Trị and Savannakhet Provinces. The river is only three feet deep but approximately 62 miles wide. The water is fresh and clean due to the surrounding jungles and lack of industrialization. The river is a trade bridge between Sungzon and Khorathidin.

Cả River originates in the Loi Mountains and empties into the Gulf of Tonkin on the North Central Coast of Sungzon. The river is 318 miles long and defines the border between Sungzon and Olvana.

The Tàu Hủ Canal is known locally as Ben Binh Dong. The canal is an artery for trade and transportation from southwest Sungzon to Ho Chi Minh City. This canal is

of strategic and economic importance by connecting the waterways of the Mekong Delta to Ho Chi Minh City. The Tàu Hủ Canal is used for transporting cargo ships through Southern Sungzon.

The Vĩnh Tế Canal is a 54-mile-long canal in southern Sungzon, designed to give the Khmer region direct access to the Gulf of Thailand.

Pipelines

Petroleum

Sungzon has spent the last seven years building an oil and gas pipeline system stretching more than 3,100 miles, starting from the south, and running through central Sungzon and into Olvana. This pipeline has the capacity for 6 million cubic yards of oil and gasoline.

Natural Gas

The Nam Con Son 2 gas pipeline is a 202-mile-long offshore gas pipeline, approximately 24 miles (39km) of onshore gas pipelines and a 15.5 miles (25km) onshore liquid pipeline to recover and transport gas from gas fields offshore for onshore processing.

Telecommunications Architecture

Sungzon is modernizing and expanding its telecommunication system. All provinces have digitalized systems connected to Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City via fiber optic cable or microwave radio relay networks. The use of mobile telephones is increasing rapidly. There are over 125 million mobile phone subscribers, but that number is quickly growing. Additionally, there are now two national telecommunication satellites in orbit.

Cellular phone use is on the rise, and fixed telephone lines are on the decline. The telecom network coverage is available for over 70% of the population and is capable of handling legacy and next-generation systems. Next-generation systems are becoming available but currently is only found in and around Da Nang and Hoi Chi



Minh City. Conversely, telecommunication access in the Mekong Basin lags far behind the rest of the country due to the population's lack of purchasing power and awareness of telecommunication technology.

The Government controls all broadcast media through the Ministry of Information and Communication. The government-controlled national TV provider, Sungzon Television, operates a network of nine channels with several regional broadcasting centers. The programming is relayed nationwide via a network of provincial and municipal TV stations. Sungzon law limits access to satellite TV, but many households can access foreign programming via off-the-shelf home satellite equipment.

In large cities, fiber service is widely available. Sungzon is connected by two gateways: one in Da Nang, which connects with Hong Kong and Australia, and the other in Ho Chi Minh City, which connects with the United States.

Industry

Food and Agriculture

The Sungzonese food and beverage manufacturing industry include 9,200 registered companies. Approximately 84% of these companies have less than 50 employees. The food and beverage processing sector has experienced rapid growth over the past five years. However, the economic importance of the Sungzon agricultural sector has been trending downwards over the last 30 years. Still, Sungzon remains one of the world's top ten producers of cashews, coffee, tea, rice, coconuts, cassava, sweet potatoes, and natural rubber. Sungzon is also a significant leader in other agricultural areas like livestock. It is the world's fifth-largest pork producer. The country produces an average of 800,000 tons of chicken meat, 334,000 tons of beef, 9.36 million gallons of cow's milk, and 20,000 tons of honey annually. The fishing exports continue to grow and are estimated at 6-8 metric tons annually. The lack of development and refinement of dispersed small-scale Sungzon farms and good manufacturing and food safety practices are limiting factors preventing Sungzon from taking the lead in many international agricultural areas.

Oil/Gas

PetroSungzon (PSN), the state-owned oil and gas company, dominates the oil sector. Crude oil production has reached 320,000 barrels per day, making Sungzon the second-largest oil producer in Southeast Asia and the 25th in the world. Sungzon holds over four billion barrels of proven oil reserves and has proven reserves equivalent to 25.2 times its annual consumption.

The natural gas sector has been building infrastructure for gas production, collection, transportation, storage, distribution, and deep processing. Sungzon produces 10.6 billion cubic meters of natural gas per day. The country undertook these efforts to meet the increasing domestic fuel demand for power plants, fertilizer plants, industrial plants, transportation, and civil activities.

Mining

Coal is the main product and Sungzon produces an estimated 44 million short tons annually. Nearly all the coal is mined by a single state-owned company in the northern portion of the country and is used by the domestic energy sector to compliment the hydroelectric and natural gas energy output. The rapid growth in energy needs is due to increased industrialization has resulted in a coal deficit for the power sector and in recent coal import needs. Sungzon views coal as a justifiable temporary energy source to advance its economic needs in the short term. Sungzon mines and quarries also produce titanium, manganese, antimony, bauxite, chromium, gold, iron, natural phosphates, tin, and zinc. It is also one of the world's top ten producers of gemstones including sapphires, topaz, rubies, and spinel. Overall mining in Sungzon is viewed as a growth market by most foreign investors.

Defense Infrastructure

Table 8. Defense garrisons

INSTALLATION NAME	TYPE	LAT	LON	MGRS
<i>Kompong Sralao</i>	Airbase	14.0700	105.7708	48PWA8321755605
<i>Dgn. Toumlan</i>	Airbase	15.9881	106.2240	48PXC3097768004
<i>Soc Trang</i>	Airbase	9.5807	105.9598	48PXR0532559206



<i>Bien Hoa</i>	Airbase	10.9737	106.8225	48PXT9914313678
<i>Long Thanh North</i>	Airbase	10.8379	106.9630	48PYS1459998753
<i>Lomphat</i>	Airbase	13.5119	106.9746	48PYV1371694604
<i>Dak To Hai</i>	Airbase	14.6541	107.7933	48PZB0087921928
<i>Tan Phat</i>	Airbase	11.5736	107.8342	48PZT0912180936
<i>Vang Vieng</i>	Airbase	18.9240	102.4504	48QTF3145894356
<i>Ban Keun</i>	Airbase	18.3551	102.5817	48QTF4444431168
<i>Ritaville</i>	Airbase	18.3854	102.7763	48QTF6505934261
<i>Ban Na Then</i>	Airbase	19.1990	102.2381	48QTG0956925152
<i>Long Tieng</i>	Airbase	19.1080	102.9239	48QTG8159314072
<i>Pha Khao</i>	Airbase	19.0262	103.0223	48QTG9185004898
<i>Sanam Bin Savannakhét</i>	Airbase	16.5568	104.7600	48QVD7439430539
<i>Sanam Bin Xeno</i>	Airbase	16.6719	105.0098	48QWD0104143260
<i>Phan Rang</i>	Airbase	11.6343	108.9508	49PBN7659086917
<i>Dalat Cam Ly</i>	Airbase	11.9507	108.4108	49PBP1800622424
<i>An Khe</i>	Airbase	13.9635	108.6614	49PBR4735244934
<i>Vịnh Cam Linh</i>	Airbase	11.9833	109.2333	49PCP0764225327
<i>Fort de Rach Cat</i>	Mil. Base	10.5000	106.7167	48PXS8787161208
<i>Poste de Trois Frontières</i>	Mil. Base	12.2833	107.4500	48PYU6649759097
<i>Chinay Mo Camp</i>	Mil. Base	17.9000	102.6333	48QTE4925980714
<i>Ban Khok Nin</i>	Mil. Base	17.9000	102.6333	48QTE4925980714
<i>7th Military District Command HQ</i>	Mil. Base	10.8012	106.6748	48PXS8311294503
<i>Jinaimo Camp</i>	Mil. Base	17.9090	102.6206	48QTE4792581725
<i>Kien Giang Province Military Command</i>	Mil. Base	9.9952	105.0896	48PWS0981804880
<i>Local Military Cmd of Ward 5 of Tan Binh District</i>	Mil. Base	10.7908	106.6617	48PXS8168193338
<i>Don Bien Phong Lang CO</i>	Mil. Base	16.2302	108.0880	49QAT8868196610
<i>Nui Ba Shooting Range</i>	Mil. Base	11.3615	106.1517	48PXT2566456205
<i>Tan Hiep District Military Command</i>	Mil. Base	10.1181	105.2862	48PWS3135818478
<i>Tay Giang District Military Command Committee</i>	Mil. Base	15.8846	107.4902	48PYC6665557762

<i>Tây Ninh Province Military Command</i>	Mil. Base	11.3171	106.0969	48PXT1970351270
<i>Tien Giang Military Command Headquarters</i>	Mil. Base	10.3545	106.3621	48PXS4913244925
<i>Tieu Doan BB312</i>	Mil. Base	10.2581	105.5331	48PWS5838233994
<i>Vung Tau City Military Command</i>	Mil. Base	10.3606	107.0783	48PYS2756446027
<i>3rd Regional Coast Guard</i>	Naval Base	10.4123	107.1224	48PYS3236051777
<i>Cam Ranh Naval Base</i>	Naval Base	11.8941	109.2050	49PCP0449015477

Space

For the past 30 years, the development and use of satellite technology have provided a valuable contribution to the socio-economic development of Sungzon, leading the country towards modernization and security. However, space applications in Sungzon suffer from a lack of coordination between government ministries and other departments. After an initial close partnership with Donovia, Sungzon has developed an ambitious domestic space development program. Sungzon owns six satellites operating in orbit, including two telecommunications satellites, an earth observation satellite, and three research satellites. Sungzonese engineers developed three satellites in conjunction with South Torbia.

Sungsat-1 is the first Sungzonese satellite to be placed in orbit in conjunction with European satellite manufacturers. SUNGSAT is the national satellite program of Sungzon. This project aims to bring independence in satellite communications for Sungzon by enhancing national security and providing economic opportunities. The Sungsat-2 satellite was approved by the Sungzonese Government since Sungsat-1 was already 80% full, and US-based ACME Rockets and Satellites received the contract to construct the Sungsat-2 satellite for SNPT.



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Physical Environment Overview

Located on the western side of Mainland Southeast Asia, Sungzon's total surface area is approximately 145,000 square miles (233,355 sq/km), with a population of almost 60 million. Sungzon is bordered on the east by the Gulf of Tonkin and the South China Sea, while most of the western border is defined by the Mekong River. The geography is dominated by mountain ranges and rivers that have carved the landscape from the interior highlands to the coastal lowlands. The Mekong River is the major social and economic artery for this region. The river defines the border between Sungzon and Khorathidin. As the river moves south, it picks up sediment that creates the Mekong Delta, where the river empties into the Gulf of Thailand. The Luang Prabang Range forms a natural boundary between Sungzon and Bagansait in the northwest, and the Cà River constitutes the border with Olvana in the northeast.

Terrain

Sungzon terrain consists of forested highlands, tropical lowlands, steep hills, and level land covering less than 20 percent of the area. The country comprises the northwest highlands, the Gai Truong Son central mountains, the coastal lowlands, the Mekong River Valley along the western border, and the Mekong River Delta in the South.

Northwest Highlands is a mountainous region that borders the countries of Khorathidin, Bagansait, and Olvana. This region consists of rocky, cone-like mountains, high vistas, deep valleys, extensive deciduous forests, and some of the most extreme geography in Southeast Asia. This area includes Sungzon's highest peak, Phou Bia, which rises to 9,249 ft.

The central highlands consist of contiguous plateaus surrounded by high mountain ranges. The most notable portion of this area is known as Tay Nguyen, which is approximately 20,000 square miles of rugged mountains, extensive forests, and rich soils. The five flat plateaus account for 16 percent of the country's arable land and 22 percent of its total forested land.



Map 13. Physical environment



The Mekong, which is 2,622 miles long, is one of the 12 great rivers of the world. Originating from the Xizang plateau, it flows through Olvana and forms the boundary between Sungzon and Khorathidin. The Khong falls in the southern part of the country, blocking boat access to the sea. In general, cargo boats can travel the entire length of the Mekong throughout the year. The river is heavily silted but is navigable by shallow-draft vessels. Another critical aspect of the Mekong system is the Tonle Sap River that enters the Mekong at Phnom Penh. It drains the Tonle Sap, a shallow freshwater lake that naturally stabilizes water flow through the lower Mekong. During the rainy season, the Mekong River is at its height. The Tonle Sap River reverses course, temporarily changing it from a tributary to a distributary river. This change in flow pushes large amounts of water into the Tonle Sap reservoir and raises its levels by nearly 33 ft. (10 m).

The Mekong delta, covering about 15,500 square miles, is a low-level plain not more than nine feet above sea level and interlaced with rivers and canals. Large amounts of sediment are carried by the Mekong, advancing the delta by up to 240 feet into the South China Sea yearly. About 4,000 square miles of the delta are in rice production, making the delta one of the top rice-growing regions in the world. Conversely, the southern tip of the delta, known as the Ca Mau Peninsula, is covered by dense jungle and mangrove swamps.

Overall, about 30 percent of the total land area is arable. The rest is generally forested land, but that has declined significantly over the last 50 years due to commercial logging, illegal logging, and slash-and-burn farming practices.

Table 9. Physical environment quick facts

<i>Physical Environment Data</i>		
<i>Measure</i>	<i>Data</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>Land Area (km²)</i>	348,680.50	Includes inland water
<i>Land Border (km)</i>	2,894.10	Borders Bagansait to the northwest, Khorathidin to the west, and Olvana to the north
<i>Coastline (km)</i>	4,314.00	
<i>Highest elevation (m)</i>	2,819	Phou Bia Mountain
<i>Lowest Elevation (m)</i>	0.00	Coastal/Sea-level
<i>Arable (cultivated) Land (%)</i>	47.40%	
<i>Permanent Crops (%)</i>	28.00%	
<i>Permanent Pasture (%)</i>	2.70%	
<i>Irrigated Land (%)</i>	25.60%	
<i>Forested Land (%)</i>	45.30%	Tropical evergreen, Coniferous, Swamp (fresh water & Mangrove), Mixed Deciduous
<i>Urban Areas (%)</i>	0.09%	



Map 14. Map 12. Relief map of Sungzon depicting relative elevation and highest point, Phou Bia at 2,819m.

Major Lakes and Reservoirs

Lake Phú Ninh is 7 km south of Tam Kỳ Town in Quảng Nam Province. Phú Ninh Lake is 8,480 acres in size and is the primary source of water for residential and agricultural use in Tam Kỳ Town and other places in Phú Ninh and Núi Thành districts. Lake Phú Ninh has hot mineral spring waters. Hydroelectric power from Lake Phú Ninh contributes up to 3 million kWh annually. Approximately 80 tons of fish are taken from Phú Ninh Lake annually.

Tri An is a lake on the Dong Nai River. The dam forms a reservoir with an area of 201 square miles (323 square kilometers). The dam was built in 1984–1986 with assistance from Donovia. The power plant became operational in 1988. Currently, the power plant is operated by Lexcorp Hydropower Company, a subsidiary of Sungzon Electricity.

Nam Ngum Reservoir is the largest body of water in western Sungzon. The dam provides flood control along the Nam Song River and hydropower generation. The surface area is 230 square miles (370 square kilometers), and the depth is 52.5 feet (16 m).

Khoun Kong Leng Lake is a lake in Khammouane Province, located approximately 30 miles north of Thakhek in the Phu Hin Pun foothills. The maximum lake depth is 70 ft, and the waters come from an underground river. The underground water flows through limestone, which gives the water its emerald-green color.

Major Rivers and Canals

Sungzon's major river basin is the Mekong River and Mekong Delta, which is vital to food security for the country. The water supplies the Mekong River and the Delta from upstream cross-border rivers. Therefore, Sungzon does not have complete control over how some of the water resources are managed. Additionally, climate change, deforestation, mining, and the construction of dams have significantly affected the quality and quantity of water resources in Sungzon. The Mekong River Accord (MRA) addresses these complex situations and subsequent negotiations. The MRA previously focused mainly on Mekong River political and economic



challenges. However, the MRA has expanded to include all the transnational river systems in the region.

Se San River flows through central Sungzon and is a major tributary of the Mekong River. There are several hydropower dams on the Se San River and its tributaries. The dams are Se San 4A, Se San 4, Se San 3A, Se San 3, and Yali Falls.

Nam Ngum River originates from the northern mountainous region of Xiangkhoang Province. It flows south through Vientiane Province, joining the Mekong River at the city of Vientiane. The Nam Ngum River basin covers 6527 square miles and 2.73 percent of the lower Mekong River basin. The largest dam on Nam Ngum is the Lexcorp Dam II. There are four other hydropower projects under construction on the Nam Ngum River.

Nam Theun River in Khammouane and Bolikhamsai Provinces. Together with its tributaries, Nam One and Nam Noy, it has a total length of 86 miles and drains an area of 1,081 square miles. The Nam Theun River has three large dams, Nam Theun 1, Nam Theun 1-2, and Nam Theun 2.

Bassac River is a distributary of the Tonlé Sap and Mekong River. The river starts in Phnom Penh and flows southerly. The river is a critical transportation corridor between east and west Sungzon, allowing for the movement of people and goods.

The Saigon River in southern Sungzon has headwaters beginning near Phum Daung. It flows South and south-southeast for about 140 miles. The river empties into the Soài Rạp, which empties into the East Sea some 12 miles northeast of the Mekong Delta. The Saigon River is joined by the Dong Nai River and the Bến Cát River just above Ho Chi Minh. The Saigon River is Ho Chi Minh City's primary water source and part of the Saigon Port, the 24th largest container port in the world.

Srepok River is also a major tributary of the Mekong River. It runs from the Central Highlands through the Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces to join the Mekong near Stung Treng town. The river is 280 miles long and has three main tributaries: the Krông Nô, Krông Ana, and Ea H'leo Rivers. Before joining the Mekong, it is joined

first by the Se San River and then by the Se Kong River. Since the late nineteenth century, the Srepok River has been a crucial water transport route.

Perfume River crosses the city of Huế and gets its name from the autumn flowers of upriver orchards that fall into the water, giving the river a perfume-like aroma. The river is 19 miles long and runs very slowly because the river is just above sea level. The Perfume River basin records the highest rainfall amounts in Sungzon.

Bến Hải River is in central Sungzon and is approximately 62 miles long. Its source is in the Annamite Mountains and flows into the South China Sea at Cua Tung. The river flows from easterly just south of the 17th parallel and close to the northern border of Quảng Trị Province. The river is about 660 feet wide (200 meters) at its widest point.

Mekong River: is the seventh longest in Asia and the 12th longest in the world, with a total length of 1,679.54 miles (4350 km). It flows in the northeast part of the country and contributes a significant share of fish stock for Sungzon.

Sepon River is a small river in Quảng Trị and Savannakhet Provinces. The river is only three feet deep but approximately 62 miles wide. The water is fresh and clean due to the surrounding jungles and lack of industrialization. The river is a trade bridge between Sungzon and Khorathidin.

Cả River originates in the Loi Mountains and empties into the Gulf of Tonkin on the North Central Coast of Sungzon. The river is 318 miles long and defines the border between Sungzon and Olvana.

Tàu Hủ Canal: Locally known as Ben Binh Dong. The canal is an artery for trade and transportation from southwest Sungzon to Ho Chi Minh City. This canal is of strategic and economic importance by connecting the waterways of the Mekong Delta to Ho Chi Minh City. Cargo ships use the Tàu Hủ Canal for transporting substantial amounts of material through Southern Sungzon.

Vĩnh Tế Canal: is a 54-mile-long canal in southern Sungzon, designed to give the Khmer region direct access to the Gulf of Thailand.



Subterranean

Caves are found in all provinces within Sungzon and play significant roles in the history and cultural development of the region. Subterranean networks of caves are incorporated into everyday life for many rural areas through economic and subsistence-based activities, including wildlife harvesting, aquaculture, and use in religious and spiritual practices. A resurgence of cave occupation occurred during the Sungzon War. Many caves, like those in the northern Vieng Xai District, have become symbols of the Sungzon nationalist identity. The largest cave formations tend to be in the northern half of the country. These caves were formed by a combination of significant limestone deposits and heavy monsoonal rains which provide the perfect combination for cave making. Rainwater gets channeled through the denser rock layers, eroding the softer limestone and forming underground rivers and caves.

In addition to the natural formations, man-made tunnels are also a significant element of the subterranean environment in Sungzon. During the Sungzon War, communist guerrilla troops dug immense networks of connecting tunnels that crossed much of the country. Tunnel networks in the north often connected natural cave formations. In the south the guerrillas dug entire tunnel networks through the basalt deposits found under the jungle terrain of Southern Sungzon in the late 1940s – often digging these tunnels by hand. Guerillas used these tunnels as hiding spots, supply caches, supply routes, and living quarters. Many of these tunnels remain and it many have yet to be discovered and documented.

Vegetation

Vegetation is rich and varied, reflecting Sungzon's diverse climate, topography, and soils. The forests, savannas, brushland, and bamboo cover approximately half of the country's total area. Approximately 7,000 plant species call the tropical rainforest home. The forests consist of either evergreens, deciduous trees, or mangroves. In most areas the forests contain mixed species. Rainforests are relatively limited and very remote. More than 1,500 woody plant varieties can be found, ranging from

commercially planted hardwoods, such as ebony and teak, to palms, mangroves, and bamboo. Furthermore, there are numerous species of plants and woody vines.

A large part of the forest in the highlands is dense and rich in broad-leaved evergreens and semi-evergreens, which are logged for timber. Secondary forest areas, which the harvest of valuable timber species has reduced, have shown to be of value to local farmers who use these areas to plant crops. Additionally, the forests supply essential subsistence and commercial non-timber forest products, which help sustain food, medicine, and income for rural communities. During the Sungzon Conflict, herbicides were used to defoliate large areas of forest in southern Sungzon. Still, most of these forests have been regenerating. Illegal logging and human encroachment remain the most significant threat to the overall health of Sungzon's forests.

Agriculture

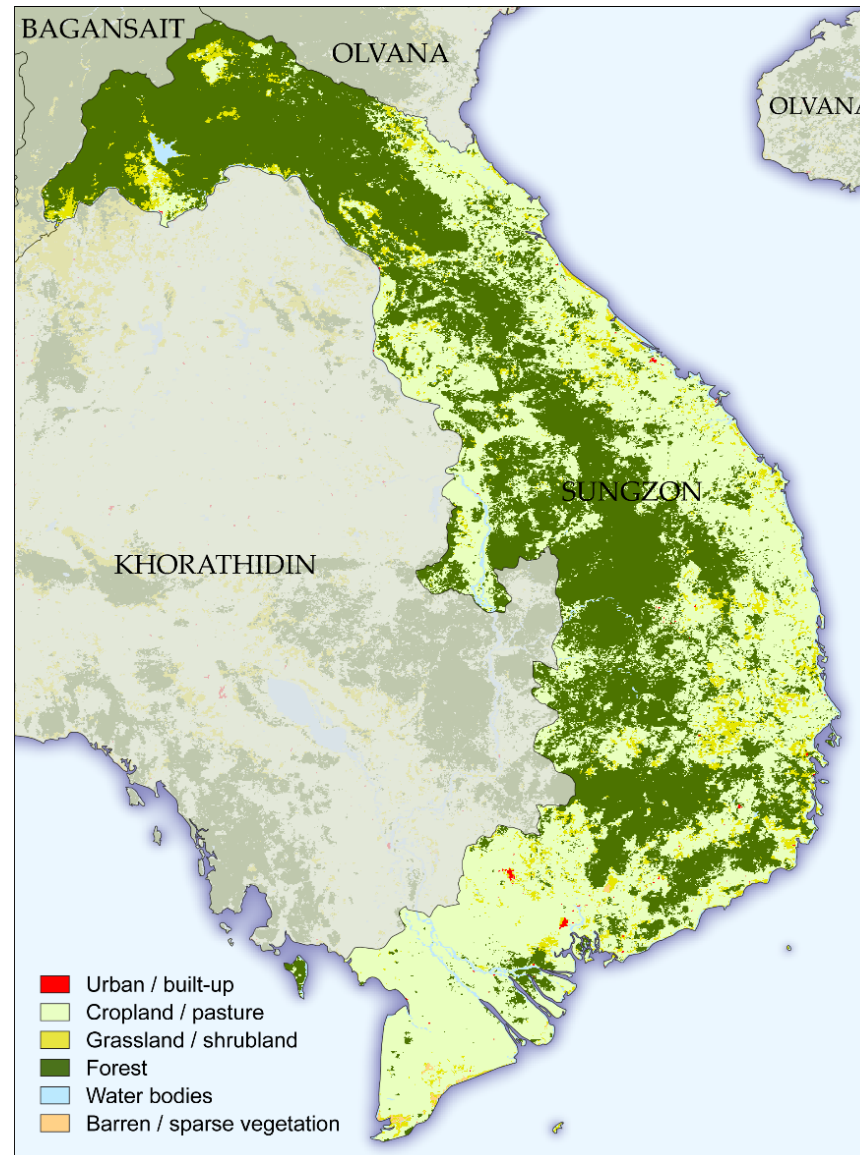
Approximately 35 million acres are cultivated, with rice accounting for about 80% of cultivated land. There is interplanting of upland crops and fish. Still, irrigated rice agriculture remains dominant despite government efforts to encourage crop diversification. About two million acres are used for pastureland or for raising fish. Pastureland in Sungzon is rotated, and the exact amount of land used for pasture changes annually. Land converted for agriculture-related uses increases at an average annual rate of 1.4%.



Climate and Weather

Sungzon has a tropical climate dominated by the monsoon season. The latitudes, high mountains, and monsoonal rains significantly influence the overall climate. There are three distinct regional weather patterns due to the diverse differences in terrain across the country. The northern highlands are mountainous with high altitudes, cool and dry winters, and hot, humid, and rainy summers. The Central Highlands are hot and dry in the summer and cool and rainy in winter, with monsoon-level rains in October and November. Frost does occur in the highlands and mountains, and the region is wetter than the plains, particularly at an altitude above 3250 feet. South Sungzon is dominated by the coastal tropics and the Mekong Delta, where it is rainy from May until November and dry from November to May.

For most Sungzon, there are only two main seasons: Winter and Summer. The exception is the Northern Highlands which experiences all four seasons due to the region's northern latitude and higher elevation. For most of Sungzon, winter lasts from November through March, and summer runs from May through September. Spring and Fall are transitional seasons, with April considered spring and October as Fall. During the winter, cold air from Siberia penetrates the lower latitudes, facilitated by the eastern Tibetan Plateau that funnels the air towards Sungzon. Many cold fronts can penetrate Sungzon during winter, and occasionally extreme cold can persist for a long time in the country's northern parts.



Map 15. Topography of Sungzon

The rainy season starts in late April and generally runs through September. In the summer, the winds are typically out of the southwest. Equatorial, tropical, and Pacific subtropical high-pressure systems dominate the weather systems during this time. In summer Sungzon is affected by tropical air from the Bay of Bengal when a low pressure from South Asia moves eastwards towards Sungzon. This weather phenomenon creates hot, dry weather along the North Central Coast. This region averages 11 storms and tropical low pressure systems over the South China sea. Half develop into tropical cyclones that originate from the western Pacific. These systems typically move westwards towards Sungzon.

The temperature in Sungzon ranges between 70°F and 95°F, with March through May being the hottest. The average rainfall is around 41 inches a year, with humidity ranging from 65% in March to 85% in August. Most rain arrives during the monsoon season, which runs from mid-May through October. However, additional rainfall will occur throughout the year. The dry season is during winter, from November to April.

Table 10. Köppen-Geiger climate classes

Köppen climate classification			
Zone	Precipitation Type	Heat Type	Acronym: Description
Tropical Climate (Zone A)	Rainforest (f)		Af - Tropical, rainforest
	Monsoon (m)		Am - Tropical, monsoon
	Savanna, Dry Winter (w)		Aw - Tropical, savannah
Temperate Climate (Zone C)	Dry Winter (w)	Hot Summer (a)	Cwa - Temperate, dry winter, hot summer
	Dry Winter (w)	Warm Summer(b)	Cwb - Temperate, dry winter, warm summer

Table 11. Seasonal data

Seasons Averages Chart						
	Temps Coldest (F)	Temps Hottest (F)	Precip (in/day)	Days of Rain	Wind (Avg mph)	Humidity
Nov – Mar (Winter)	36F (2.2C)	79F (26C)	2.7 (6.86 cm)	22	9.1 (14.6 km/h)	81.2%
May – Sep (Summer)	77F (25C)	86F (30C)	6.95 (17.65 cm)	90	6.16 (9.91 km/h)	77.2%
April (Spring)	74 (23.6C)	88 (31.1C)	1.4 (3.6 cm)	5	7.5 (12.07 km/h)	82%
October (Fall)	74 (23.2C)	85 (29.6C)	25.6 (65 cm)	20	9 (14.48 km/h)	83%

Hazards

Natural Disasters

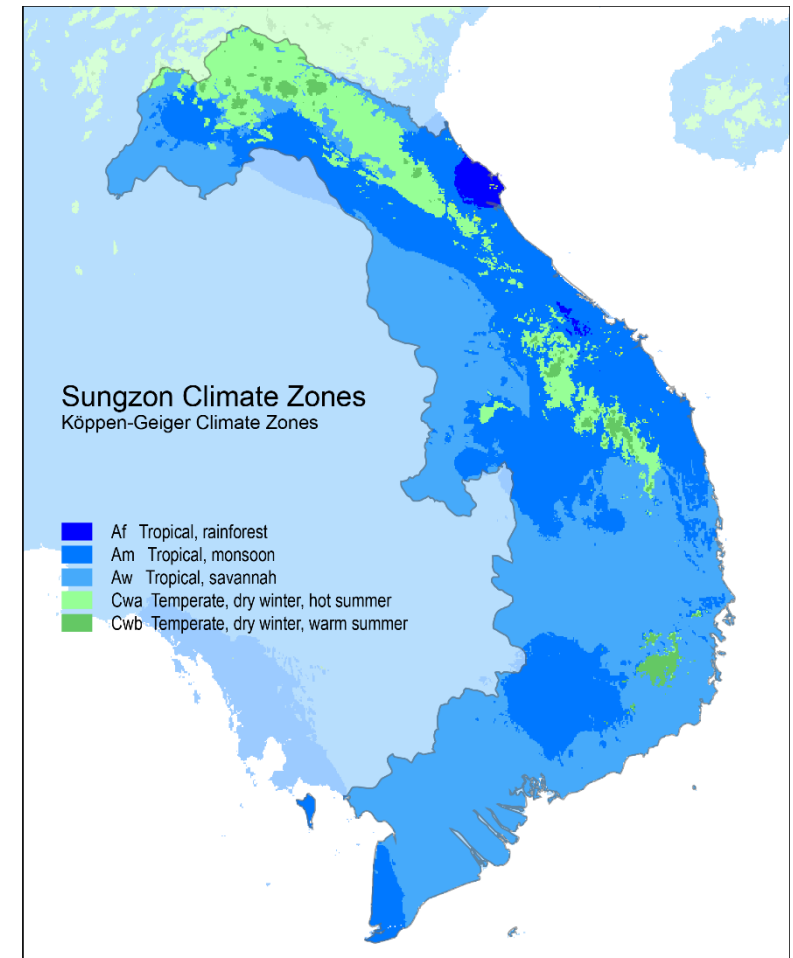
Natural disasters include rare earthquakes and typhoons (May to January) with extensive flooding, especially along the Mekong River and the Mekong River delta. There are floods along the Mekong River every year in the central and southern

parts of the country. Major flooding devastates these major rice and agriculture-producing areas placing a significant economic and humanitarian strain on the country. Flooding in Sungzon kills hundreds of people yearly, and the problem has grown due to logging, erosion, and overdevelopment.

Disease

Chikungunya is a mosquito-borne viral disease associated with urban environments and characterized by a fever, rash, and severe joint pain typically lasting three to seven days. In some cases, it may result in persistent arthritis.

Rabies is a viral disease transmitted through the bite of an infected animal. The virus affects the central nervous system causing brain alteration and death. The symptoms initially are fever and headache but progress to neurological symptoms without treatment and become fatal within days. In Sungzon, it is costly to vaccinate dogs



Map 16. Climate of Sungzon



and animals that carry rabies. Over 900 people have died in the last ten years from rabies.

Japanese Encephalitis is a mosquito-borne viral disease associated with rural areas. Acute encephalitis can progress to paralysis, coma, and death, with fatality rates around 30%.

Typhoid fever is common in Sungzon. The disease is spread through an infected person's unclean food and water but is rarely fatal. People with these diseases usually have a fever as high as 103–104°F (39–40°C). They may also have weakness, stomach pain, headache, diarrhea or constipation, cough, and loss of appetite. A small number of people may develop a flat red rash.

Tuberculosis (TB) is one of the most common diseases in Sungzon. Sungzon has approximately 17,000 TB deaths annually. This disease can be severe and affects the lungs. The bacteria spreads through tiny droplets released into the air via coughs and sneezes. Untreated, tuberculosis can be fatal.

Dengue fever is a mosquito-borne viral disease associated with urban environments with symptoms that include the sudden onset of fever and severe headache.

Leptospirosis is caused by a bacterium called *Leptospira*. The organism is carried by farm animals and by the wild dogs living in and around the larger cities. The bacterium lives in the infected animal's kidneys and ends up in soil and water through urine. Symptoms can range from none to mild headaches, muscle pains, and fevers, or in more severe but rare cases bleeding in the lungs or meningitis. Outbreaks often occur after a heavy rain.

Flora

Sungzon has four dangerous plants: Heartbreak Grass, Flame Lilies, Twisted Cord Flowers, and Bark Cloth Trees. These plants are powerful enough to kill a human or cause blindness upon contact or accidental ingestion.

Fauna

Dangerous animals are living in and around Sungzon. There are seven types of venomous snakes, Chain vipers, various kinds of Kraits, numerous types of cobras, Coral snakes, and Pit Vipers. Additionally, there are two poisonous giant centipedes, the Chinese Red Headed Centipede, and the Asian Forest Centipede. Other dangerous creatures to look out for are the Black Scorpion and numerous jellyfish in the waters off the coast. Due to the number of wild dogs, rabies is a widespread problem in the country, especially in and around cities.



TIME

Time Overview

Sungzonese cultures of Kinh, Khmer, and Laotian share a long-term orientation, a reverence of time-honored traditions tempered by the hope of things to come. This approach was founded on Confucianism and Buddhist teachings but reinforced through endured millennia of invasions and colonization. Now, as the economy develops and provides opportunities not seen in living memory, advancements in technology and global cooperation will accommodate the heritage of Sungzon, but not erase it.

Measurement

The Sungzonese cultures traditionally use a lunar calendar with a Year 1 equating roughly to 2500 B.C.E. in the west. Sungzon culture measures large blocks of time in 60-year cycles (to contrast with western centuries), called *Hoi*. These break down into ten and 12-year cycles. This calendar affects the celebration of traditional holidays.

For business and administration, Sungzon uses the solar, Gregorian calendar with 12 months and seven-day weeks to synchronize with global partners.

Perception of Time

Sungzonese are agrarian-minded and view time seasonally rather than weekly, monthly, or annually. This affects all aspects of life. Decisions – especially important ones – take time and are not rushed.

Sungzonese cultures are also like Western ones in that punctuality is important, both socially and professionally. They respect appointments. Since a long-term approach to decision making is preferred, planning becomes important to relationships.

Sungzonese have a strong work ethic and are known to multi-task, working during off-hours or weekends. The maximum working days a week (six) are from Monday to

Saturday. Life in the city is similar for those residing in country areas as both men and women work. Adults work from 7 in the morning to 17:30.

Decision-making

Sungzonese cultures are pragmatic, cherishing time-honored traditions while leaving room for change when necessary. While strictly normative cultures eschew change, pragmatic cultures use tradition as a basis for adaptation. Decision making will not be constrained by tradition or hierarchy.

Kinh culture has a relaxed attitude that is reflected in flexible planning, adaptiveness, and tolerance for ambiguous situations. This cultural attitude may balance a hierarchical decision-making process in the military with resilience necessary to cope in times of crisis.

Key Dates, Time Periods, or Events

Dynastic period

From roughly 500 B.C. to the 1600s, several dynasties ruled the area of Sungzon, including much of the main peninsula of Southeast Asia, also known as the Indochina Peninsula, Main Peninsula, or Indochina

Colonial period

European explorers and merchants began exploring the Indochinese region and Mekong delta in the 1500. But by the mid-1800s, France established rule across Sungzon. This era of French Indochina lasted uneasily until World War II, when Japan seized control and left French sympathizers in place to administrate.

Uprisings Against Occupation

Several years of communist-led resistance against French colonialism culminated in the 1950s. The Geneva Accords established Sungzon independence and divided the country along north and south lines that aligned with post-WWII Allied occupation territory.



Rise of Communism

In the early 1960s Communist forces in the north took up arms against Western-backed nationalists in the south, while invading the eastern ethnic Laotian and Khmer regions in Sungzon. The conflict led to millions of displaced southern Sungzon citizens, with many enduring forced labor or risking their lives to escape.

Routine, Cyclical Key Dates

Holidays & Culturally Specific Observations

Traditional festivals in Sungzon are presented during spring and autumn seasons and originate from time immemorial. Traditional holidays of lowland rural regions revolve around Buddhist temples and the agricultural cycle. While religion is not supported by the Communist Party, temples in some villages remain as the main center for social and recreational activities and are usually associated with religious celebrations. Sungzonese celebrate folk festivals, historical festivals, religious festivals, and events imported from other countries.

Wedding Season (Culturally Specific Observation)

The traditional wedding season is typically in the last three months of the year. It is one of the most important ceremonies in Sungzon’s culture, which is influenced by Confucian and Buddhist traditions. Even Christians – mostly Catholic – incorporate traditional wedding ceremonies into their sacred rites.

Table 12. Significant communist holidays

HOLIDAY	DATE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE
Sungzon Communist Party Foundation	February 4	National	Commemorating the foundation of the Communist Party
Communist Youth Foundation Day	March 28	National	Foundation of The Communist Youth, formerly Farmer’s Day
President’s Birthday	May 20	National	The birth of first Communist President

Table 133. Holidays and significant cultural dates

HOLIDAY	DATE	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE
Lunar New Year	Beginning of the lunar New Year	National	Most important festival and holiday
Hung Kings Temple Festival	8th to 11th day of the 3rd lunar month	National	Commemorates the origins of the nation. Highly important cultural holiday.
Giong Festival	6th to 8th day of 1st lunar month	Regional	UNESCO protected, “Intangible Cultural Heritage.” Commemorates one of four Sungzon immortals
Perfume Pagoda Festival	6th of lunar January until March	Regional	Seasonal celebration draws visitors from all over Sungzon
Budda’s Birthday	9th day of lunar April	National	Commemorates birth, enlightenment & death of Buddha
Mid-Autumn Festival	14th to 15th day of the 8th lunar month	National	Called “Children’s Festival” or Mid-Autumn Moon Festival
Ghost Festival-Wandering Souls Day	15th night of the 7th lunar month	National	People send offerings of clothes, food & other items to worship ghosts and hungry spirits.

Harvest Cycles

Harvest season is typically from September until early October. However, some harvest cycles will vary depending on the crop:

Rice: There are two main rice seasons occurring during the first half of May. Rice harvest season ranges from September until early October.

Cashew: Harvest season starts near the end of January - early February and ends in May or June depending on weather and planting methods. Cashew nuts may be cultivated for both nut and apple. Cashew trees come into bearing three to five years after planting.



Coffee: Harvest season begins in September until the end of December or later in January the following year.

Natural Disaster Cycles

Sungzon is one of the most hazard-prone countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. The combination of extensive coastline containing poverty-stricken populations, the path of typhoons in the Eastern hemisphere, and its many, low-lying plains, estuaries, and deltas, makes Sungzon especially vulnerable to hydro-dynamic events and climate change.

The country is regularly exposed to typhoons, floods, and mudslides that kill hundreds of people and cause millions of dollars in damages. According to Sungzon's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the country experienced 134 earthquakes in the 20th century, including two that were between magnitude 8.0 – 9.0. Additionally, the country is dangerously near the Circum-Pacific Belt, a convergence of several tectonic plates known as the “Ring of Fire,” where 90% of the world's earthquakes and many volcanic eruptions occur.