

Rural Energy Preparatory Assistance Project



Background

Most poor rural families in Cambodia rely on firewood for energy. Increasing time is needed to collect scarce firewood and indoor smoke pollution is a burden for rural women. The pressure on forest resource depletion continues. Less than nine per cent of rural households have access to grid-quality electricity services. Almost all people in rural areas use firewood for cooking, kerosene for lighting, and lead-acid rechargeable batteries for household appliances. Energy use is inefficient, inconvenient, costly and environmentally unsustainable.

Purpose of project

The preparatory activities aim to establish a systematic data monitoring system for rural energy and to formulate a full size project to develop rural livelihoods through improved access to sustainable energy services. Access to sustainable energy will be critical for Cambodia to reach the Millennium Development Goals as well as the targets set in the National Strategic Development Plan for the reduction of fuel wood dependency and poverty. To plan an effective intervention for rural energy development, systematic baseline data for monitoring needs to be in place. A rural energy balance sheet will capture the demand and supply of rural energy services and can be used as an effective tool to formulate a rural energy development strategy at both national and provincial levels.

Key results and reports

- Rural energy demand side and supply side data collected and analysed in 2007
- Rural energy balance formulated and analyzed, and recommendations for the rural energy project made in 2007
- Situation, institutional capacity and stakeholder analyses for the rural energy sector conducted in 2007
- Potential sources of funds and potential implementing agencies for project elements identified in 2007
- Rural energy project document formulated in 2007
- *Residential Energy Demand in Rural Cambodia: An Empirical Study for Kampong Speu and Svay Rieng* report published in 2008

Main activities

- Baseline data collected, and analysed to produce a rural energy balance
- A rural energy balance sheet created to capture the demand and supply of rural energy services
- Stakeholder consultation held to develop a full size project document

Contributing donor(s)

- **UNDP:** US\$125,000

Duration

June 2006-March 2007 (Preparatory phase)

Total budget

US\$125,000

Project Partners

Executing agency: GERES-Cambodia

Co-operating agencies: Ministry of Industry Mines and Energy
Forestry Administration
Ministry of the Environment

Project delivery

2006: US\$21,000

Location

Phnom Penh, Svay Rieng, Kampong Speu

Thematic Area

Corporate Thematic Area: Energy and Environment

UN Country Programme Outcome: 3.3: Low emissions energy technologies including renewable energy, energy efficiency and/or advanced fossil fuel technologies introduced

Millennium Development Goal

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Contact

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