

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MEKONG REGION (EEP MEKONG)

Phase II, 2014-2018

The Energy and Environment Partnership with the Mekong Region (EEP Mekong) is part of the EEP Global programme funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA). EEP Programmes in other regions include South and Southeast Africa, Andean Region, Central America, and Indonesia, which is already completed.

The EEP Mekong Programme is implemented since 2009. The first Phase of EEP was jointly funded by MFA and Nordic Development Fund, with a total budget of EUR 7.9 million. Through Calls for Proposals, the Programme provided funds to the implementation of 39 projects in four Mekong countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam). Implementation of these projects have been carried out by about 75 project development organisations (private companies, institutions, universities etc.) primarily within the Mekong Region.

Through a total of four Calls for Proposal, EEP Mekong Regional Coordination Unit received 432 proposals. In the evaluation and selection process 39 projects received funding support from EEP Mekong. From the 4th call for proposal, there are 7 projects under implementation and to be completed during 2015. The Programme impacts benefit more than 50,000 beneficiaries. Out of the supported 39 Projects, 5 projects have proven to be upscaleable.

EEP Mekong Phase II is solely supported by MFA with a total budget of EUR 9.1 million. This contribution is part of the Government of Finland's Development Policy which aims to alleviate poverty and climate change mitigation by making access to sustainable energy a reality for all.

Objective

EEP Mekong aims to improve access to reliable, sustainable and affordable energy while mitigating global climate change.

Implementation Strategy

In Phase II, EEP Mekong will integrate the Result-based Financing and Human Right-based Approach into the overall programme as well as project implementation.

1. Calls for Proposal (CfP)

Two Calls for Proposals are planned for this phase. The focus is on private sector cooperation which is encouraged to be the lead implementation partner. Cooperation NGO/non-profit organisations, business association, etc. is possible if they are the junior project partner. Sustainability of the proposed clean energy projects and their potential for upscaling has to be formulated in business plans/models as part of the implementation approach.

2. Result-based Financing (RBF)

All project proponents have to clearly indicate how the support from the EEP Mekong Programme will trigger the development of clean energy related markets. EEP Mekong support is provided thru Result-based Financing (RBF) mechanism in which financial incentives are provided after pre-agreed milestones/results have been achieved and verified.

3. Human Right-based Approach

EEP Mekong integrates HRBA principles and Cross-Cutting Objectives in project planning and implementation. This includes important issues as participation, empowerment, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, gender equality and climate sustainability in all aspects of Programme implementation as well as impact monitoring and evaluation.



Programme Components

1. Mobilization of national and regional resources to implement sustainable and affordable rural energy solutions.
2. Support to renewable energy based rural energy access.
3. Capacity building and regional knowledge exchange.

Organisational Structure

EEP Mekong works closely with clean energy related ministries in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Representatives from these ministries are nominated as Steering Committee (SC) Members for the EEP Mekong Programme. The SC will meet twice a year to provide guidance and key decision on Programme implementation.

Planning and coordination of the EEP Mekong will be carried out and supported by the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) which is based in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

Calls for proposals will be organized to select projects having impacts on a large number of beneficiaries and with sufficient own funding resources.

At the country level, National Coordinators (NC) which are closely linked with the RCU, support the promotion of Calls for Proposal in their countries, take an active role in monitoring and evaluation, as well as capacity building and information dissemination.

Figures about EEP 1

Country: **4**
 Budget: **EUR 7.9 million**
 Donors: **2**
 Calls for Proposal launched: **4**
 Organizations participated: **75**
 Proposal submitted: **432**
 Project funded: **39**
 Beneficiaries: **54,768**
 Scale-up ability: **5 projects**
 Secured fund for future work: **1 project**

For more information, please visit our website: www.eepmekong.org
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