Early Warning System

ADB-51329-001

Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution Project

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Quick Facts

Countries	Laos
Specific Location	Luang Namtha, Bokeo, and Phongsaly
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	U
Borrower	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Sectors	Energy, Infrastructure
Investment Type(s)	Grant, Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 27.40 million
Loan Amount (USD)	$ 24.40 million
Grant Amount (USD)	$ 3.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 27.40 million

Project Description

The proposed Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution Project aims to promote regional power exchange in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) and expand access to energy in several northern provinces in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR).

According to the bank document, the project will help address Lao PDR's need to:

(i) expand access to low-cost, reliable power in rural areas; and

(ii) develop power interconnections between Lao PDR, Thailand, and Myanmar to increase power trade.

The project aims to support the national electric utility, Electricite du Laos (EDL) to:

(i) expand distribution lines and provide off-grid alternatives in the provinces of Luang Namtha, Bokeo and Phongsaly;

(ii) provide at least 8,000 household electricity meters for newly-connected customers; and

(iii) construct one or more high-voltage transmission line(s) connecting northern Lao PDR with Mae Chan, Thailand and/or Shan State, Myanmar.

The project builds on lessons learned from the GMS Northern Power Transmission Project and previous regional transmission supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The project is adopted in the country operations business plan, 2018- 2020 and the GMS Regional Investment Framework 2022.

Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Grant US$ 3.00 million

Loan US$ 24.40 million

Contact Information

Executing Agencies

Electricite du Laos
Samsenethai Road, P.O. Box 309
Vientiane
Lao People's Democratic Republic

There is no further information disclosed at this stage of the project

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF ADB

The Accountability Mechanism is an independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an Asian Development Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, they may investigate to assess whether the Asian Development Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can learn more about the Accountability Mechanism and how to file a complaint at: http://www.adb.org/site/accountability-mechanism/main

Bank Documents

- Northern Cross-border Power Trade and Distribution Project: Initial Poverty and Social Analysis [Original Source]
- Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution Project: Project Data Sheet (Lao translation) [Original Source]
- Project Disclosure PDF [Original Source]