



Report on EIA twinning project between Lao PDR and Japan and Sri Lanka and Japan

TA 7566-REG: Strengthening and Use of Country Safeguards System:
Sub-project: EIA Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning



Prepared by:
Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) Secretariat
December 2014



Report on EIA twinning project between Lao PDR and Japan and Sri Lanka and Japan

TA 7566-REG: Strengthening and Use of Country
Safeguards System:

Sub-project: EIA Clearinghouse and Capacity
Strengthening through Twinning

Compiled Activity Report

Prepared by:

Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN)
Secretariat

December 2014

Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Overview of the EIA twinning project.....	4
2.1 AECEN’s twinning projects.....	4
2.2 Rationale for the EIA twinning project.....	4
2.3 Objective of the EIA twinning project	5
2.4 Overall activities envisioned for EIA twinning project	5
2.5 Organizational arrangements	5
3. Summary of activities	7
3.1 Consultation Workshop in Sri Lanka	7
3.2 Consultation Workshop in Lao PDR	12
3.3 Capacity Development Workshop in Japan.....	17
3.4 Training Workshop on EIA Report Review in Sri Lanka	24
3.5 Training Workshop on EIA Report Review in Lao PDR	28
4. Lessons learned	33
5. Annex	35
5.1 Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Work Plan (Sri Lanka - Japan)	356
5.2 Letter of Agreed Joint Activities and Joint Work Plan (Lao PDR- Japan)	45
5.3 Concept note and agenda the Consultation Workshop in Sri Lanka.....	54
5.4 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Consultation Workshop in Lao PDR.....	57
5.5 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Capacity Development Workshop in Japan.....	61
5.6 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Training Workshop in Sri Lanka.....	67
5.7 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Training Workshop in Lao PDR.....	71

1. Introduction

The Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) is a regional practitioner network dedicated to sharing improved policies and practices in compliance and enforcement in Asia. The network was launched at ADB's headquarters in Manila in 2005, with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and ADB, in partnership with 13 Asian countries (16 countries and 19 member agencies as of December 2013). In 2009, member agencies agreed that the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) would become the permanent secretariat of AECEN. ADB and IGES recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a range of cooperative activities, including AECEN.

In July 2010, the ADB Board of Directors approved Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG for \$5,000,000. In September 2011 the ADB approved an increased TA amount to \$8,000,000. TA 7566-REG has three components: (i) subproject implementation, (ii) knowledge management and dissemination, and (iii) coordination among development agencies. Through Component 1, Subproject Implementation, ADB is providing systematic, timely support for a series of subprojects tailored to the needs of specific Developing Member Countries (DMCs) for strengthening and effective implementation of their respective country safeguard systems.

A subproject of the TA is being implemented by AECEN through its Secretariat managed by the IGES regional center in Bangkok, Thailand. The subproject has two main components: (i) an EIA clearinghouse that aims to facilitate knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation, and (ii) south-south twinning between Lao PDR and Japan, and Sri Lanka and Japan. Through these components, the subproject aims to improve information sharing and knowledge management in EIA among all DMCs through the EIA clearinghouse and to enhance capacity of beneficiary countries by improved understanding of EIA best practices of the mentor country through south-south twinning.

The first component, the EIA clearinghouse, was developed and successfully launched on AECEN's website in March 2013 (<http://www.aecen.org/eia-compendium>). The clearinghouse provides EIA laws and regulations, useful EIA references, guidelines and manuals, case studies of EIAs that could serve as models for future EIAs in the same sector, news articles and court cases involving implementation issues surrounding EIAs, and hot-links to national websites of EIA-related agencies.

The second component, two EIA twinning projects, is being conducted between Lao PDR and Japan, and Sri Lanka and Japan. In both cases, the Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS) acts as the mentoring organization to the project, delegated by the Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ). The Sri Lanka twinning project is implemented with the partnership with the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) and the Lao PDR twinning project with the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental (MoNRE).

2. Overview of the EIA twinning project

2.1 AECEN's twinning projects

Twinning is a key feature of AECEN's capacity development mechanism between members and its effectiveness has been proven in numerous projects. Twinning activities can include peer review of policies and operations, technical assistance in developing and implementing improved policies and practices, specialized on-the-job training and information exchange. Key elements of twinning are summarized below:

Counterpart Exchange: Twinning partnerships facilitate direct exchange between practitioners in sharing information on improved policies and practices;

Reciprocal Benefits: Both twinning partners receive benefits from the partnerships in strengthening their policies, practices and capabilities;

Demand Driven: Twinning partnerships respond to an agency's priority needs, which are matched with another agency's proven approaches and capabilities;

Results Focused: Twinning partners develop MOUs and work plans that identify specific commitments, activities, resources, timelines and outcomes. Twinning partnerships result in the adoption of improved policies and practices as well as increased capacity, leading to measurable improvements and tangible outcomes;

Replication: Twinning partnerships aim to replicate proven policies and practices across Asia; and

Cost Sharing: All partner agencies support twinning activities on a cost-share basis, providing in-kind and direct funding support. Development partners facilitate and co-fund twinning activities as needed.

2.2 Rationale for the EIA twinning project

Minimizing adverse environmental impacts of economic development accompanied by rapid urbanization and industrial growth as well as conserving natural environments remain significant challenges for Asia. While many governments have developed legal and institutional frameworks for environmental safeguards, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations remain weak due to technical, financial, and human capacity limitations.

In the region, application of EIA requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in Asia remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in an appropriate manner. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

2.3 Objective of the EIA twinning project

The objective of the project is to develop the implementing capacity of EIA in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR through the bilateral twinning arrangement with Japan as a mentoring country. The twinning arrangement provides mutual hands-on learning opportunities among the government officials in charge of EIA and experts in the field and delivers tangible outputs that are beneficial to the mentee countries.

2.4 Overall activities envisioned for EIA twinning project

The following sequential activities were envisioned to be undertaken for the twinning project to implement effective partnerships between mentor and mentee countries (Sri Lanka, and Lao PDR):

- (i) Drafting plan and schedule for key activities in close consultation with Japan and Sri Lanka/Lao PDR for ADB review and approval;
- (ii) Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between partners;
- (iii) Organizing workshops to launch the twinning program;
- (iv) Reviewing EIA and SEA application in Sri Lanka/Lao PDR to ascertain training requirements;
- (v) Coordinating study tour and site visits to Japan;
- (vi) Revising Sri Lanka's/Lao PDR's existing EIA guidelines and/or developing new ones;
- (vii) Drafting training and user manuals for amended and/or additional EIA guidelines; and
- (viii) Organizing a training program to introduce amended and/or new EIA guidelines and manuals.

2.5 Organizational arrangements

Japan (mentor)

JEAS acts as a mentoring organization of the project and implements the project on behalf of MOEJ. JEAS is a public association, comprising approximately 140 environmental assessment business companies (as of June 2014), established in 1978 and operated under the supervision of ministries of environment; agriculture, forestry and fisheries; economy, trade and industry; and land, infrastructure, transport and tourism (<http://www.jeas.org/english.cts>).

As JEAS has limited staff in its secretariat, it appointed Japanese experts from Environmental Resources Management (ERM) in Japan for the project implementation. ERM is a leading global provider of environmental, health, safety, risk, social consulting services and sustainability related services. ERM has over 140 offices in 39 countries and territories employing more than 5,000 people (<http://www.erm.com/en/>).

Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi, Partner, ERM Japan, leads the project. He is an environmental and social safeguards specialist with extensive experience in the field from various projects implemented overseas. Ms. Naoko Maruyama and Mr. Yohei Suzuki, Consultant, ERM Japan,

assist in implementing the project as team members. They are environmental and social safeguards specialists and have extensive experience in the field. Other ERM staff provide *pro bono* assistance.

Lao PDR (mentee)

The Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA) under MoNRE is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the EIA process in Lao PDR. MoNRE is responsible for issuing environmental quality standards in cooperation with the line ministries, and for issuing general EIA guidelines specifying procedures and standards to evaluate and mitigate environmental impacts caused by development projects. Mr. Lamphoukeo Kettavong, Deputy Head of Planning and Administration Division, DESIA leads the project on behalf of the Government of Lao PDR.

Sri Lanka (mentee)

The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) acts as the implementing organization of the project in Sri Lanka. The CEA was established in August 1981 under the provision of the National Environmental Act No: 47 of 1980. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (ME&NR) which was established in December 2001 has the overall responsibility in the affairs of the CEA with the objective of integrating environmental considerations in the development process of the country. The CEA was given wider regulatory powers under the National Environment (Amendment) Acts No: 56 of 1988 and No: 53 of 2000 (<http://www.cea.lk/>). Ms. Kanthi de Silva, Director, the CEA leads the project on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka.

AECEN (project secretariat)

Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat, will lead the project as Team Leader of the EIA Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning sub-project, with assistance from Ms. Panjit Tansom, AECEN Programme Manager, Mr. Chandkachorn John Chandarat, Website and Database Manager, IGES Regional Centre, and Dr. Daisuke Sano, Director, IGES Regional Centre who acts as a focal point.

3. Summary of activities

3.1 Consultation Workshop in Sri Lanka

Overview

The Consultation Workshop for twinning partnership on environmental impact assessment (EIA) between Sri Lanka and Japan was held on 10 December 2013 at the Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Workshop was organized by the CEA and AECEN Secretariat with support from the ADB.

The Consultation Workshop brought together partners from both mentor and mentee countries to identify and prioritize assistance needs, discuss and agree on objectives and design of the partnership, and secure commitments from leadership of both countries for its implementation..

The Workshop was followed by the extended consultation between Sri Lanka and Japan at the CEA to develop detailed work plan on 11 December and the field visit to the Batathita Minihydro Power Project in Kuruwita on 12 December 2013.

Thought the Consultation Workshop, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) and a joint work plan where developed.

All the workshop materials are made available through AECEN's website: <http://www.aecen.org/events/consultation-workshop-twinning-partnership-environmental-impact-assessment-eia-between-sri-la>



Summary of the Consultation Workshop

On 10 December, approximately 25 participants including the current and former officials from the CEA, officials from technical agencies, experts engaged in EIA from ADB, Japan, and

AECEN Secretariat gathered to share their knowledge and experience from EIA implementation and identify challenges and needs in Sri Lanka.

The Workshop was started with the welcome remarks by Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma, Director General of the CEA, the host organization of the Workshop; followed by the introduction to the ADB's approach, support, and activities on environmental safeguards by Dr. Palitha Bandara, Environmental Safeguards Specialist from the ADB Sri Lanka office. DR. Bandara emphasized the ADB's commitment to the environmental safeguards issues in the region and introduced the ADB's Safeguards Policy published in 2009 as the key document for the ADB. The document provides a fundamental guidance to the implementation of the safeguards including the assessment of potential impacts, existing level of assessment, and information disclosure to ultimately integrate environmental consideration into project decision making. Dr. Peter King, Head of the AECEN secretariat, gave an introduction to AECEN's mission as well as its past achievements and presented the overview of twinning partnership between Sri Lanka and Japan, the objectives of the Consultation Workshop, and the role of AECEN secretariat. The session was moderated by Ms. Ramani Ellepola, former Director General of the CEA.

In Session 1, four presentations were made to introduce and understand the current status of the EIA implementation in Sri Lanka. The session was moderated by Ms. Ramani Ellepola, former Director General of the CEA. Ms. Nilmini Attanayake, Deputy Director, the CEA presented the overall EIA system in Sri Lanka. She briefly touched upon the history of EIA system development in Sri Lanka, highlighting its landmark law of the National Environmental Act enacted in 1998. Under the Act, only prescribed projects are subject to the EIA and to be approved by 23 public appropriate agencies (PAAs). The EIA process comprises of three main steps: screening, scoping and impact assessment. The scoping process determines whether or not a project is required the initial environmental examination or full-scale EIA. The submitted EIA report, which are usually prepared by the consulting firms, are reviewed by technical evaluation committee under the relevant technical ministries/agencies. It was noted that an environmental management and monitoring plan (EMMP) is not required under the Act. Ms. Attanayake noted that the public consultation results are often missing in the EIA report.

Ms. Kanthi De Silva, Director of the EIA, CEA, presented the Sri Lanka's experience and challenges in EIA based on her 20 years of engagement in the EIA work. She noted that the EIA can be a tool for sustainable development and provide opportunities for the locals to raise their concerns. She summarized major challenges in four categories: (i) quality of EIA report, (ii) poor review process, (iii) insufficient monitoring, and (iv) process issues. For (i), the CEA often finds some EIA reports are not focused on the main issues nor presented in a systematic fashion and suffers from the lack of reliable baseline data or use of improper methodologies. Poorly-prepared terms of references (ToRs) for scoping exercise by the technical ministries/agencies in charge often result in poor EIA reporting. For (ii), the technical evaluation committees (TEC) sometimes lack objectivity or favor their own industries/agencies over the national benefits especially in the case of state-led projects. There is no licensing system for consultants that prepare the EIA reports. For (iii), EMMP is not required by the law and enforcement is weak. For (iv), which is also related to (iii) above, the PAA's objectivity is sometime questionable. In response to the question what would be the top priority issue in EIA, Ms. De Silva noted that the EIA evaluation process would need more independent review process. Dr. Peter King noted that in the case of Korea, the Korea Environment Institute (KEI)

has a dedicated division to review all the EIA reports. A participant who used to work for CEA noted that it is difficult to change the law but the CEA could introduce informal ministerial-level guidelines for appropriate scoping exercise.

Mr. KGS Jayawardena, Deputy Director, EIA, CEA presented EIA training and capacity development for priority sectors in Sri Lanka. He noted that the EIA process can be strengthened from multiple aspects such as (i) legislative process, (ii) institutional arrangement, (iii) procedural improvement, and (iv) technical capacity; however, (iv) technical is often found difficult in Sri Lanka because the country is not exposed enough to newer technologies. Developing guidelines could be considered by key environmental factors (air, water, noise, etc.), by industrial sectors, or specifically for preparing EIA reports. He also noted that Sri Lanka would benefit from having such guidelines for key industries (oil, gas, chemical, mineral processing), waste sector (incineration, e-waste, hazardous waste), energy sector (LNG and renewable energy), and transport sector. Dr. Peter King suggested that Sri Lanka considers the CEA certifies EIA reviewers. A participant expressed the need for regular training courses for the government officials.

Ms. Kusala Mahalekame, Assistant Director, EIA, CEA presented the application of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in Sri Lanka. SEA has been employed for three pilot cases in Sri Lanka to assess the impacts of policies/programs and to help decision making on development plan. Not all of these cases were SEA in a strict sense, but the process generated recommendations for sustainable development plans. She presented examples in decision making including: determination of natural reserve, relocation of coal plant, and identification of eco-tourism site. Participants noted that SEA can be a good tool for development master plan; SEA process may need a powerful ministry to oversee to cross-sectoral issues. Dr. Peter King noted that the land plan system substitutes for SEA in Singapore.

In Session 2, two presentations were delivered by two Japanese experts. The session was moderated by Dr. Daisuke Sano, ACCEN secretariat.

Ms. Naoko Maruyama, Consultant, ERM presented the EIA and capacity development in Japan on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment, Japan. She presented several major EIA triggers by the Japanese EIA law and noted that a wind power generator was recently added in the list in response to the public's concerns (noise, birds). In 2011 Japan amended the EIA law to include the process of a primary environmental consideration and the impact mitigation measures (EMMP) prior and posterior to the screening process, respectively. The amendment also included additional opportunities for the general public as well as the Ministry of the Environment to make comments in the process. Japan's EIA system is supplemented by the existing related pollution control and conservation laws. Ordinances by the sub-national governments also supplement the national EIA law, but the duplication of assessment processes is prohibited. She also explained three major training opportunities by the Ministry of the Environment, the Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), and the Japan Society for Impact Assessment (an academic circle). A question was asked if Japan is employing SEA and Ms. Maruyama responded that Japan does not have an SEA process in a strict sense yet, but there are some introductory cases where the concept of SEA were employed at the prefectural level.

Mr. Yohei Suzuki, Consultant, ERM, made a presentation on improving the EIA system and shared some perspective, experience and strategies. After presenting the major aspects involved in the EIA implementation such as enforcement, technical matters, information disclosure, stakeholder engagement, and organizational arrangement, he summarized several identified challenges in Sri Lanka from the morning session. In Japan's EIA is implemented in tandem with the environmental laws and EIA reports are circulated to technical agencies for the review. He emphasized the importance of the baseline survey and noted that the project proponents usually use the secondary data available to the public and supplement with the primary data collected for the assessment. He also noted that the EIA has been also evolved together with the economic development in Japan, especially urban issues. The Information disclosure is considered as an effective tool for consensus building. Lastly, he shared the list of international EIA standards useful for strengthening EIA implementation. Ms. Kanthi De Silva asked if Japan considers social impacts and he responded that it generally does not.

In Session 3, Sri Lankan participants identified the priority areas/needs that this twinning project should address. The session was moderated by Dr. Peter King. With the presentation on expected outcome and suggested outputs from the twinning project presented by Dr. Daisuke Sano and the list of major challenges prepared by Mr. Suzuki, the participants voted for the issues that are most important. The results indicated that the Sri Lankan participants considered that the exposure/understanding to the new technologies and associated capacity development are most critical, followed by the improvement of the EIA review process and EMMP. The participants also expressed their interest in setting up an association for EIA implementing firms such as the JEAS. The session also discussed possible activities/site visit for the selected participants to the observation tour planned in Japan (mentor country). Mr. Suzuki and Ms. Maruyama shared their views on what kind of activities can Japan offer in response to the needs identified in the session. The participants also re-acknowledged the importance of the EMMP and Dr. King noted that it is desirable to embed it in the contract that assessment conducting firms will be given. The participants expressed their interest in the EIA for new technologies in the energy sector (coal, wind power generator, LNG). A participant also expressed an interest in improving accreditation for EIA report preparing consulting firms.

Organizers thanked the participants for active discussion and the workshop was closed.

On 11 December, the consultation process continued to identify the priority needs in Sri Lanka continued at the CEA. The expected outcome of the twinning project and a draft work plan in which proposed activities for a few priority areas/subjects were developed below:

The two major expected outcomes are: (i) an increased capacity of EIA implementation in priority sectors in terms of the government officials' capability to instruct project proponents to prepare appropriate EIA preparation documents (Terms of reference etc.) and to evaluate EIA reports prepared by the project proponents and (ii) an increased exposure and understanding to the newer technologies that mentee countries would need for their future industrial development.

The draft scope of work includes:

- (1) Organizational matters

- Background and organizational arrangement made for the JEAS for Sri Lanka to consider to establish a similar consortium in the country
- (2) Sectoral matters
- Energy sector: coal, wind power plant, LNG
 - Transport: newer modes of transport such as monorail and subway
 - Waste: solid waste management facility
 - Other sectors such as oil/gas mining, large-scale agriculture/irrigation/aquaculture

The CEA noted that it is willing to share experience in some sectors with Japan such as EIA for mini-hydro power plant.

Follow-up activities

- Finalize MoU and the joint work plan and get endorsement from each organization.
- ERM will consult the JEAS to plan observation tour to be held in Japan to which the government officials from two mentee countries (Sri Lanka and Lao PDR) participate in.



3.2 Consultation Workshop in Lao PDR

Overview

The Consultation Workshop for twinning partnership on environmental impact assessment (EIA) between Lao PDR and Japan was held on 9 January 2014 at the Mercure Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR. The Workshop was organized by the DESIA and AECEN Secretariat with support from the ADB and DESIA.

The Consultation Workshop brought together partners from both mentor and mentee countries to identify and prioritize assistance needs, discuss and agree on objectives and design of the partnership, and secure commitments from leadership of both countries for its implementation.

The Workshop was followed by the extended consultation between Lao PDR and Japan at the DESIA on 10 January 2014 to develop a letter of agreement and a joint work plan.

All the workshop materials are made available through AECEN's website: <http://www.aecen.org/events/consultation-workshop-twinning-partnership-environmental-impact-assessment-eia-between-lao-pd>.



Summary of the Consultation Workshop

On 9 January 2014, approximately 20 representatives from the DEASIA who are in charge of reviewing sectoral EIAs, two EIA experts from the ERM, Japan, and two representatives from the AECEN Secretariat gathered to share their knowledge and experience from EIA implementation and identify challenges and needs in Lao PDR. The workshop was conducted primarily in Lao to ensure the discussion among Lao participants. A simultaneous interpreter facilitated the communication with the ERM and AECEN Secretariat in English.

The Workshop was started with the welcome remarks by Mr. Lamphoukeo Kettavong, Deputy Head of Management and Planning Division, DESIA, the host organization of the Workshop, and facilitated by him. Mr. Kettavong briefly introduced the current EIA-related projects by the DESIA with the aid from the World Bank, ADB, UNDP, and the Government of Finland to respond to an increase in EIA needs in Lao PDR. He noted that EIA is an important tool for designing sustainable development plans for Lao PDR and there is an urgent need especially for strengthening institutional capacity in implementing EIA. He also noted his plan to report the results of this consultation process with the sector representatives to the Director General of the DESIA immediately after the Workshop.

Dr. Peter King, Head of the AECEN secretariat, presented how the twinning partnership between Sri Lanka and Japan works and why strengthening country's safeguards systems are important to ADB and countries. He explained the expected outcome of the Consultation Workshop and encouraged participants' active discussion.

In Session 1, the first presentation was made by Mr. Oraphan Bounyaphalom, Head of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA, to introduce and understand the current status of the EIA implementation in Lao PDR. He mentioned that many projects were planned especially in the past six-seven years in Lao PDR and this is posing increased environmental and social impacts. EIA reports are prepared and submitted by the technical department/consulting firms, but these reports often suffer from insufficient descriptions of comprehensive measures to mitigate the impacts.

In 2012 the new EIA law was enacted, replacing the preceding one of 1991, to ensure the assessment and control of both environmental and social impacts by the DESIA. However, there is still an inconsistency in the new law regarding the settlement and compensation components, for instance, and therefore additional amendment is being proposed. There are mainly two types of assessment processes: Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) and EIA. The former is applied to small-scale projects, but if the expected impacts are considerable, the EIA is applied even the scale of the project may be considered small.

The EIA can be conducted at four levels: national, provincial, district, and village. He shared his observations including a lack of certification process of EIA conducting firms, insufficient/lack of public participation, and a difficulty in conducting transboundary assessment.

He summarized a few current challenges in EIA implementation in Lao PDR: (i) enforcement of the law, (ii) resettlement and compensation issues, and (iii) EIA review process. For (i), although the new law endows more authorities to the DESIA, the enforcement is weak due to lack of skilled human resources, equipment, and funds to monitor the environmental impacts mitigation measures or penalties for violations. DESIA heard and knows about the incidents of many fish killed by hydropower and/or mining operations, but there is no scientific ways to investigating the causalities scientifically (equipment, laboratories). For (ii), DESIA is working on publishing the laws and guidelines to the public and EIA conducting firms with the aid from the Finnish Government. For (iii), DESIA needs manuals for reviewing EIA reports to complete the reviewing process within the designated period.

The second presentation was made by Mr. Latsamy Vorarath, Deputy Head of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA, focusing on the issues of environment mitigation and monitoring plans (EMMP) in Lao PDR. He noted that there are no standardized or agreed EMMP procedures in Lao PDR. Questions remain if a project owner is complying with the laws and following the EIA procedures or proposed mitigation measures are sufficient.

The ministerial instructions were revised and there are three authorized monitoring processes: regular monitoring, emergency monitoring (in the event of unexpected incidents), and monitoring without notifying. Typically, the monitoring is conducted first by reviewing the EMMP report and in response to the local stakeholders' claims/complaints followed by the field monitoring and reports/recommendations that are given to the firms that conducted EIA and ministers. GPS is often used as the field monitoring equipment, but DESIA does not have other equipment for proper monitoring.

He noted that the challenges include staff's insufficient capacity and experience in monitoring, lack of equipment for scientific investigation, and lack of knowledge for new project such as a closure of mining operation and associated measures to control pollutions.

Based on the presentations, a few questions were raised. In response to the question about the number of EIA that the DESIA is reviewing, the participants in charge of sectoral review answered that there are 15 existing projects to be reviewed this year in the energy sector; about 14-15 in the mining sector, 10 for infrastructure, and 10 rubber processing plantation. There is no project to be reviewed in the agricultural sector.

In Session 2, two presentations were delivered by two Japanese experts. Ms. Naoko Maruyama, Consultant, ERM presented the EIA and capacity development in Japan on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment, Japan. She presented several major EIA triggers by the Japanese EIA law and noted that a wind power generator was recently added in the list in response to the publics' concerns (noise, birds).

In 2011 Japan amended the EIA law to include the process of a primary environmental consideration and the impact mitigation measures (EMMP) prior and posterior to the screening process, respectively. The amendment also included additional opportunities for the general public as well as the Ministry of the Environment to make comments in the process. Japan's EIA system is supplemented by the existing related pollution control and conservation laws. Ordinances by the sub-national governments also supplement the national EIA law, but the duplication of assessment processes is prohibited. She noted that environmental consideration process in Japan is not considered as an SEA by a standard definition but as SEA at the project level. She also explained three major training opportunities by the Ministry of the Environment, the Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), and the Japan Society for Impact Assessment (an academic circle).

Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi, ERM, made a presentation on improving the EIA system and shared some perspective, experience and strategies. He emphasized the importance of public participation in the EIA – it helps project proponents to comply with the legal requirements. The main components of the EIA regulations are EIA process, monitoring and information disclosure. Detailed technical guidelines provide ministries or provinces with guidance in implementation of

the EIA in which quantitative impacts analysis/assessment is required. Japan already installed a sufficient number of stations to monitor environmental conditions nation-wide with which the EIA can be primarily completed. He also briefly shared his experience in the monitoring by the third party in the Philippines. He concluded his presentation by proposing possible areas that Japan can contribute to this twinning project.

In response to two presentations by Japanese experts, Mr. Kettavong commented that the ministerial instructions in Lao PDR are considered like laws in a practical sense, which seems different from the practice in Japan. Several questions and comments followed:

- A question regarding stakeholder consultation: there are three stages in Japan where public can make comments/opinions on the EIA process and anyone, whether from the affected areas or not, can post comments.
- A comment on scoping: a participant in charge of the agriculture-forestry, industry and public investment noted that the public participation is important, yet for the scoping process in Lao PDR the project proponents have to present the results without public consultation. Without a proper study, completing scoping is very difficult.
- A question on who involves scoping process in Japan: scientists/experts and/or lawyers review the scoping. He noted that the project proponents are required to respond to the environmental and social impacts issues only, but the project proponents are expected to convince people who raised the issues.
- A question on the duration of the EIA process in Japan: a few months
- A question who prepares terms of reference (ToR) for EIA: ToR for scoping is prepared by the government as a reference document. Dr. Peter King commented that EIA should not be considered as checking boxes but to improve the project, and scoping is preferred to be implemented by both the governments and project proponents.
- A question on who discloses the EIA-related information in Japan: the Ministry of the Environment does from its website. The project proponents are often the government. In the planning stage, having local information such as historical heritage is critical.
- A question on how to deal with indirect impacts caused by the project such as fish population because of dam project: non-environmental impacts such as on business are analyzed and compensation is provided if needed in Japan.
- A question whether additional project types can be added: in addition to existing categories required by the national laws, the local governments can add if needed in Japan.
- A question on how to make people interested in EIA: through internet and/or local leaders can be considered.

Mr. Kettavong noted that the public participation is a key for sustainable project and concluded the session.

In the afternoon session, the open discussion was made to prioritize the needs in Lao PDR. Ms. Maruyama presented the summary of the discussion from the previous sessions. Mr. Kettavong stressed that there is a great need in staff's capacity development, including managing level personnel. He also noted that project by WB and ADB is conducting trainings for trainers in the areas of compensation and resettlement; the Government of Finland in public information disclosure; and UNDP in the related areas. He shared that the Director General of DESIA is

interested in hydro power and/or mining. A participant asked if Japan has experience mine closure and rehabilitation and Mr. Sakaguchi responded it had but long ago.

After views on a wide range of possible collaboration exchanged including eco-tourism, land management, and flood management, information disclosure, training manuals, technical information/knowledge on monitoring equipment, participants narrowed down four broad areas for the twinning project:

- Technical support for EIA review
- Enforcement and commitment to EIA and EMMP
- Training system and
- Experience and new systems from Japan

Mr. Kettavong, Mr. Sodouangdenh, and four participants from Japan and AECEN Secretariat met Mr. Xayaveth Vixay, Director General of the DESIA and informed the results of the consultation workshop. He acknowledged the process and stressed that strengthening the government staff's capacity (national, provincial, and district level) is urgent as the responsibility is shifting towards sub-national level. A joint monitoring with line/technical ministries is also critical.

With the discussion on the 9 January 2014, the consultation process continued on 10 January 2014 at DESIA to develop a draft MoU and a work plan.

Follow-up activities

- Finalize MoU and the joint work plan and get endorsement from associated organizations.
- ERM will consult the JEAS to plan observation tour workshop to be held in Japan to which the government officials from two mentee countries (Sri Lanka and Lao PDR) participate in.



[Higher resolution pic will replace the above]

3.3 Capacity Development Workshop in Japan

Overview

The Capacity Development Workshop for the twinning partnership on EIA between Lao PDR and Japan, and Sri Lanka and Japan was held on 25-27 June 2014 at Landmark Tower, Yokohama, Japan. The Workshop was organized by MOEJ, JEAS, ERM Japan and AECEN Secretariat with support from the ADB.

The Capacity Development Workshop followed up the prior consultation workshops where priority areas for assistance were identified. This workshop invited the government officials in charge of EIA implementation from both CEA and DESIA and brought together partners and experts from Japan to provide participants from the mentee countries with the opportunity to learn good practices and lessons in the priority areas from the mentor country. The 3-day workshop aimed to provide an on-site hands-on learning venue that would allow interactive sessions with officials and experts in the field in Japan in addition to in-house lectures. Prior to the Workshop, hosting organizations in Japan (JEAS and ERM) and AECEN Secretariat had a preparation meeting a day before.

All the workshop materials are made available through AECEN's website: <http://www.aecen.org/events/capacity-development-workshop-twinning-partnerships-eia-lao-pdr-japan-and-sri-lanka-japan>.



Summary of the Capacity Development Workshop

On 25 June 2014, approximately 24 representatives from DESIA, CEA, MOEJ, JEAS, ERM Japan, Kawasaki-city, Pacific Consultants and AECEN Secretariat gathered to share their knowledge and experience regarding EIA implementation. Simultaneous interpreters facilitated the communication in both English and Japanese.

The workshop started with welcome remarks by Mr. Takaaki Ito, Deputy Director of the Environmental Impact Assessment Division, Ministry of the Environment of Japan, the host organization of the workshop. Mr. Takaaki Ito welcomed all participants and gave an overview of MOEJ and expressed MOEJ's hope that the experience in Japan will support their country in the future.

The first day of the workshop was a lecture (with Q&A) session which opened up the opportunity for mentor and mentee countries to openly share their experience, and discuss and identify the mentee's needs, for which the mentor country can provide appropriate support.

The second day of the workshop provided field trips which were divided into two groups to visit a coal-fired power plant operated by J Power in Yokohama and Kawasaki City Environmental Research Institute in the morning and then re-combine as a group in the afternoon to visit a monorail system. These field visits were based on priorities expressed by the two mentee countries in the earlier consultation workshops.

The last day of the workshop was a wrap-up and planning session in which all participants had an opportunity to share their experience from the past two days, including a detailed discussion on the training plan which will be arranged by each mentee country.

Session I: Overview of EIA implementation

In session I, the first presentation made by Dr. Daisuke Sano, Regional Director of IGES-BRC presented and wrapped-up each of the prior consultation workshops. He indicated (i) the internal information and discussion shared in each workshop which raised mutual understanding of the issues constraining effective implementation of EIAs in Lao PDR and Sri Lanka; (ii) made the link to the present workshop which is intended to fulfill the priority needs expressed earlier; and (iii) presented the intention to gain a better understanding of EIA implementation processes in Japan. He also mentioned a few key issues to consider for moving forward including introducing strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and transboundary assessment and climate change and regional economic integration that may bring about external factors.

The second presentation was made by Mr. Takaaki Ito, Deputy Director MOEJ on an overview of EIA Implementation in Japan. He presented the EIA current situation in Japan covering: (i) action related to Environmental Impact Assessment Law; and (ii) streamlining EIA procedures. His presentation showed the history of EIA law, procedures and implementation status of EIA in Japan. He also highlighted the Japan's efforts to halve the EIA processing period related to (ii) above.

Based on the presentations, several questions were raised. In response to a question about the number of EIA cases that were submitted before and after the EIA law came into effect in 1999 it is difficult for MOEJ to count the number of the cases that are submitted as it is beyond the officers' capacity. There were a lot of cases submitted and only limited staff, which is an ongoing challenge on reviewing the EIAs.

The second question related to multiple phases of projects that are designed to avoid EIAs by being sized just below the limit mandating an EIA. For example, for wind power projects, which can be quite modular in design, MOEJ needs to anticipate the ultimate intention. If a project has to be extended the project redesign which can be accepted as a minor change is 10-20%. Anyhow, the final output has to fit to requirement and each stage of assessment has to be done based on the rules regarding re-assessment for each sector/department. Trust from civil society is a key function in the EIA procedure in Japan; the project owner has to have a good trust from local people. In this connection, a Sri Lankan participant mentioned road construction projects where the road was designed initially with two lanes, and later expanded to four lanes.

A Lao PDR participant questioned about when to conduct monitoring, how to address monitoring problems, and what solutions are available, especially for financial support on monitoring. In Japan, the investor has to show a detailed action plan, including how the project proponent will address the impacts from the project. They have to follow the procedure with civil society providing independent third party monitoring. For financial contribution to monitoring, the investor has to support everything from the project financing.

However, the Laos side explained that before the Government allows the investor to construct they have to do the monitoring. They have 3 levels of monitoring: twice a year for national level, quarterly monitoring for provincial level, and every day monitoring for local level. They used the example of the Nam Theun II dam project which has a good monitoring system which is supported by the investor. They also intend to use the model of this project's monitoring system to apply to other project in the future.

The Sri Lankan participants also mentioned that their EIA implementation has 2 levels – EIA approval, followed by an environmental protection license. But this still has problems during implementation, especially because they have to provide point source and ambient monitoring, while lacking staff capacity to work on it. In the construction stage, the investor has to provide a quarterly report but the CEA officers have to do the monitoring themselves, supported financially by the investor.

Dr. King asked a question about the membership fee for companies wanting to belong to JEAS. They answered that they charge JPY 300,000 per year for company membership. Moreover, JEAS conducts environmental assessor qualification in Japan. Presently, 450 people have been certified as assessors.

The last presentation on JEAS' contribution to EIA in Japan was made by Mr. Tadahisa Matsunaga, JEAS committee member. He presented an overview on the structure and activities of JEAS. As of March 2014 JEAS has 140 company members and several activities which include various seminars, education and training courses.

Session II: EIA from the practitioners' point of view

In session II, the first presentation started with EIA implementation in Japan and overseas by Mr. Suzuki Manabu from ERM Japan, who presented the technical guidelines of JICA/JBIC, stakeholder engagement, evaluation, licenses and conditions, and environmental management plans.

After the presentation, Dr. King asked which level of government decides on each project and license conditions. In Japan, permission is given by each province which has the right to authorize the project in their area. The provinces have to incorporate planning and designing the project. Also, the provincial level must consider the comments from each relevant ministry.

A Lao participant mentioned the linkage to IFC performance standards but Japan doesn't use this performance or SEA like EU countries do. They have their own guideline. However, as Laos questioned about SEA and IFC performance then Dr. King gave a short clarification on this.

Moreover, Laos and Sri Lanka participants shared their experience and asked questions related to regulation and performance which were answered by the Japan side and AECEN secretariat.

The second presentation on EIA framework in Kawasaki City was delivered by Mr. Suzuki Manabu from ERM Japan. He presented An Outline of Environmental Impact Assessment Program which showcased Kawasaki city's experience.

The final presentation of this session was presented by Mr. Testsurou Imanaga from Pacific Consultants Co. Ltd. on EIA in the transport sector which showed participants the procedure of EIA related to monorail projects and potential solutions to the impacts identified to date.

The discussion started with a question from a Lao participant on whether Japan needs to set aside a buffer zone, as road projects in Lao PDR are required to set aside a 50 meter buffer. In relation to monorail projects, one reason that this form of transport is selected is because it can be constructed in urban areas where space is at a premium. It would be impossibly expensive to set aside a 50 meter buffer zone almost anywhere in Japan.

Session III: Mutual learning from the twinning project

The session started with Sri Lanka representative to present their training plan which will be arranged on 5 August 2014 at CEA, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The plan is divided into 3 sectors: Power Sector, Transport Sector and Municipal Solid Waste and outlined their training needs (details in Annex 4.3).

After that, the Lao PDR representatives presented their training plan and strongly emphasized their need for capacity building at the provincial level (see annex 4.4).

In response to the needs and interests expressed by speakers from Sri Lanka and Lao PDR, Mr. Tatsuhiko Kato from JEAS suggested that the focus be made more on capacity development of procedural aspect of EIA process such as EIA review process and coordinated work with line

ministries that are mandated to EIA divisions rather than dealing with highly-detailed technical requirements specific to sectors. Participants from Sri Lanka and Lao PDR agreed with this proposal and further discussions on Day 3.



[one more pic]

Day 2 – Onsite interactive learning workshops

The second day of the workshop provided field trips which were divided into two groups to visit a coal-fired power plant operated by J Power in Yokohama and Kawasaki City Environmental Research Institute in the morning and re-combining as a group in the afternoon to visit the now operational monorail system. These field visits were based on priorities expressed by the two mentee countries in the earlier consultation workshops.

The group visiting the coal-fired power plant in Yokohama learned about the power plant system and its EIA assessment and environmental management and monitoring plans, a topic which the Sri Lanka participants in particular were interested in, as they are currently preparing for their second coal-fired power plant. The participants asked many questions on technical details and learned that J Power has a plan to build another coal-fired power plant in a different location in Japan. J Power has a good practice on recycling the energy from the plant to use in cement production, and capturing the sulphur dioxide to manufacture sulphuric acid.

The participants in the other group visited Kawasaki City Environmental Research Institute (KERI) to learn about monitoring air and water pollution control. KERI is located in the city's industrial zone and conducts regular pollution monitoring/inspection and analyses mandated by the city. KERI also promotes international cooperation to share the city's lessons from pollution and its recovery from the past highly polluted state. The participants visited laboratories in the Institute where various chemical and biological analyses are conducted. The challenges of pollution control and differences in law enforcement in three countries were discussed.

In the afternoon, all participants visited the monorail system by travelling on the monorail and surveying the actual operation system in one of the monorail stations.

Day 3 – Wrap up and planning session

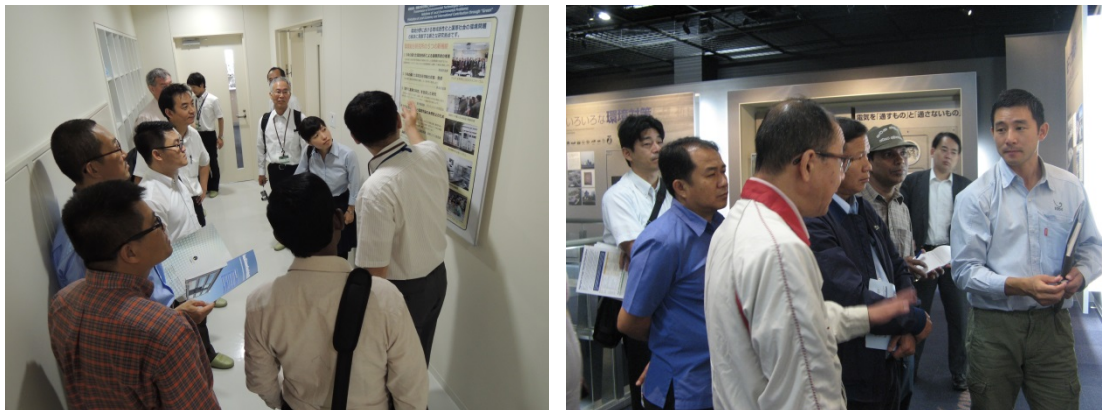
The last day of the workshop was devoted to a wrap-up and planning session where participants had an opportunity to share and discuss their experience from the past two days. This session included considering and discussing their individual training plans to ensure that subsequent support is harmonized with their needs.

After a long discussion, Sri Lanka confirmed the workshop date on 5 August 2014 at CEA, Colombo, Sri Lanka. However, they need some internal discussion on how many days for the workshop and confirm back to AECEN Secretariat. As suggested by ERM, ERM and Sri Lanka agreed that training will conduct a hands-on exercise on EIAs for coal-fired power plants as a future mock case going through necessary procedures.

Lao PDR participants agreed on the topic of hydropower plant EIAs for the next training in Vientiane to which ERM will provide a hands-on exercise similar to that for Sri Lanka. They need additional internal discussion for the date and venue including the period of time and will inform AECEN Secretariat shortly.

Follow-up activities

- Sri Lanka will arrange the “EIA on coal-fired power plants” workshop at CEA, Colombo, Sri Lanka on 5 August 2014;
- Lao PDR will arrange the “EIA on hydropower projects” workshop before September 2014;
- Sri Lanka and Lao PDR will submit the report of the Japan trip to their headquarters and share their needs to JEAS and ERM to sustain the relationship and support their ongoing EIA processes; and
- Sri Lanka will share information on SEAs for development plans with AECEN for additional assistance.



Evaluation

- 1) Expectations:
 - To learn about strength of Japan in relation to EIA process
 - To visit a coal-fired power plant operating in good conditions

- Making a network and exploring training opportunities for the future
 - To understand and gain the knowledge of key elements in EIA implementation practiced in Japan (MOEJ)
 - To share experiences on EIA implementation of Laos with MOEJ and experts
 - To learn the best practice of Japanese case studies
 - To discuss the draft training outline for EIA process for MONRE/DESIA
- 2) The main points that participants are taking home from the meeting:
- The level of pollution control and housekeeping in thermal power plants that run on coal in Japan suggests that coal need not be a “dirty” fuel;
 - Good practices and more understanding on Japanese EIA system and process of Japan in national and provincial level i.e. thermal power plant and Kawasaki city case study etc.
 - The importance of online real-time reporting on monitoring data
 - Training outline of EIA process for MONRE/DESIA
 - Higher requirement in compliance monitoring
 - Importance of integrity in development activities
- 3) Contents of the meeting:
- 89% of participants thought the contents of the meeting were “very useful”. There were some topics that participants thought “somewhat useful” i.e. opening session and EIA in transport sector. Moreover, 97% of participants thought the meeting structure was good.
- 4) Logistics:
- All participants thought the logistics of the workshop which included the organizer’s assistance prior and during the workshop were good. The meeting packages provided to participants was good and helpful.
- 5) Future activities:
- Training needed in the next step
 - o EIA monitoring and evaluation process in provincial and local level
 - o Knowledge on air quality and water quality monitoring
 - o Aquatic topic in case of operation of dam project
 - Capacity development activities/workshop that participants are interested to participate in the future
 - o SEA implementation, guideline and technology training i.e. on power and transport sector
 - o Environment management in thermal power projects
 - o EIA workshop
 - o Mitigation to be adopted at construction stage of road and power sector projects
 - o Tools and methodology in compliance monitoring of development activities

3.4 Training Workshop on EIA Report Review in Sri Lanka

Overview

The training workshop on 'EIA Report Review – A Case of Thermal Power Sector with Japanese Experience' was held on 5 August 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Workshop was organized by CEA with support from the ADB.

The Training Workshop on EIA Report Review was a follow-on activity to the Capacity Development Workshop held earlier on 25-27 June 2014 in Yokohama, Japan. The Training Workshop aimed at sharing lessons with wider stakeholders in mentee country and address further narrowed-down needs from the mentee country. During the Capacity Development Workshop in Japan, the participants from Sri Lanka and the experts from Japan identified and agreed on a hands-on training exercise for EIAs for coal-fired power plants as a priority area for the subsequent training workshop to conclude the twinning project. ERM Japan Ltd, as a mentoring organization, agreed to dispatch its staff members to be speakers and moderators for the training.

On 5 August 2014, 31 participants from CEA gathered in the Training Workshop to learn key points of an EIA report review through lectures, group discussions, and presentations. Participants learned from check lists and guidelines used as international standards or for international projects as well as from Japanese experience for EIA reviewing shared by the experts from Japan.

All the presentations are made available to other members through AECEN website: <http://www.aecen.org/events/training-workshop-eia-report-review-case-thermal-power-sector-japanese-experience>.



Summary of the Capacity Development Workshop

The Workshop was started with the welcome remarks by Mr. Gamini Jayasinghe, Deputy Director General of CEA, the host organization of the Workshop. Subsequently, Mrs. Kanthi De Silva, Director of EIA, CEA, outlined the objectives of the workshop and presented the situations surrounding the EIA review process in Sri Lanka. The objectives of the EIA review were: 1) to assess the accuracy and acceptability of the information provided in the EIA; 2) to identify the shortcomings in the current EIA procedures; and 3) to develop a few recommendations to the Executing Agency how to overcome the identified shortcomings. The issues of the review process in Sri Lanka include lack of objectivity in the review process, no formal procedure for reviewing EIA reports (or only checking whether or not the components specified in the TORs are met in the submitted EIA report), and lack of relevant standards, policies or good practice guidance to determine the acceptance of the EIA report. Mrs. De Silva also presented some of the recommendations to the present system such as: 1) introducing review criteria; 2) introducing an independent committee of experts to conduct technical review; and 3) introducing an administrative review following the technical review if required.

Mr. KGS Jayawardana, Deputy Director of EIA, CEA, presented an outline of the coal power plant project in Sampur, Sri Lanka such as salient features of the project, scope of EIA, land requirement, water requirement, characteristics of coal, support facilities, air/water pollution control systems, ash management system, issues of land acquisition and ecological sensitivity to familiarize the participants with the project for a following exercise.

Mr. Yohei Suzuki, Consultant, ERM Japan, presented the EIA review practice using the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) checklist and International Finance Cooperation (IFC) guidelines. He explained that the JBIC checklist covers 27 sectors while IFC's eight Performance Standards and Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines are useful as a reference for the EIA review process. He gave tips of how to use the EHS Guidelines as a tool, especially for a thermal power plant, and explained some examples of mitigation measures and good international industry practices. His presentation also covered the issues of air pollution emissions and ambient air quality, water quality, waste, natural environment, social, and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and monitoring.

Moderated by Mr. Suzuki, the participants were then divided into four groups (five-eight members in each group) for conducting a group exercise. Each group was tasked to review the Sampur coal power plant project, using the above checklist and guidelines for the project evaluation as follows:

- 1) air quality - existence of relevant standards, air pollutants to be emitted, compliance with the standards;
- 2) water quality - existence of relevant standards, effluent to be discharged, compliance with the standards, impact evaluation of thermal discharge;
- 3) waste - major types of waste to be generated, fly ash and bottom ash treatment/disposal system, appropriateness of the disposal method, best practice of disposal;
- 4) natural environment - existence of any sensitive areas, impact on the surrounding area by increased water temperature and air pollutants, appropriateness of impact assessment, reasonability of mitigation measures suggested in the EIA report; and

- 5) social impact - project's impact on social environment, existence of fishermen/farmers, impact on access road, cultural sites and landscapes.

The participants then prepared their presentations based on their discussions. All of the four groups made presentations of their discussion results, especially focusing on shortcomings of the EIA report and their recommendations for an improvement of the EIA report. Summary of the presentations based on the group discussion are outlined below.



The first group pointed out some shortcomings of the impact assessments of air and water quality in the EIA report. The shortcomings included the lack of an alternative study for coastal water discharge and the lack of baseline data on temperature variation with the depth and movements of faunal species of the bay. For ash disposal, there was no information on ash/stock management in the EIA report. Therefore the group pointed out the need to explore other possibilities of disposal facilities. A need of baseline data on sediment and methyl mercury with sediment transportation was also pointed out. For natural environment, the EIA report identified some sensitive areas, but the group found that the assessment was not sufficient. For social impact, there was no plan for resettlement included in the EIA report although 80 families were relocated. Furthermore, the information a livelihood plan written in the EIA report was insufficient. The group made recommendations that adequate and qualitative improvements on data/information/studies were needed. The group also viewed that a linkage between other related components of the project and cumulative impact should be studied.

The second group presented that the air quality emitted from the coal thermal power plant met the national standards. However the consideration on possible accumulative impact resulting from air pollution was not sufficient. There was no specific national standard for a coal thermal power plant project in Sri Lanka and thus the discharge standards to marine coastal areas were applied in the EIA. According to the studied EIA report, the plant was expected to generate hot water effluent and waste such as fly ash and bottom ash. It was stated in the report that fly ash would be used for the cement industry. The group made comments on the long-term impacts from disposal of bottom ash as the vicinity of the project site had coral reefs and habitats of blue whales which should be considered as a sensitive area. Thus the group proposed that there was a need for scientific basis for the proposed mitigation measures.

The third group suggested that an assessment of cumulative impact of air pollution by using a suitable model should be conducted. As for the discharged water, two discharge points were suggested in the EIA, but the point should be determined based on the ecological conditions around the project site, especially with the use of models to simulate seasonal variations and current patterns. Major types of wastes including fly ash, bottom ash, waste oil, sludge and solid waste were identified in the EIA, but the description was not sufficiently specific. Acceptable level for cement industry, proper storage/management system should be quantitatively studied. The project site was located in an ecologically sensitive area, but the possible impacts of hot water or air pollution were not clear due to the lack of baseline data and in-depth analysis of the fauna and flora such as migration of birds. The group concluded that a scientific evaluation was lacking in the EIA report and mitigation measures were inadequate and quite vague.

The fourth group explained that Sri Lanka had the national standards for air emissions such as NO_x, SO_x, and PM, but the proposed mitigation measures were not adequate to deal with ash disposal. Fly ash, bottom ash, and solid waste were identified in the report as the main types of waste, but the disposal plan was unacceptable. The group suggested that the best practice should be applicable for this project to use waste such as fly ash as a raw material for another production such as cement production. Provided that vicinity of the project site had coral reefs, sensitive bay environment and marine/terrestrial areas, water and fly ash emissions could affect aquatic ecosystems. Since there was no specific standard for coal thermal power plant in Sri Lanka, the marine coastal standards were used in the EIA. Temperature of discharged water complied with relevant standards (45°C), however, the group suggested checking a temperature profile at the interval of 500 m up to 2 km from the discharging point in the vertical and horizontal directions. The group further pointed out that it was necessary for CEA to have good reasons when giving such specific instructions to the developers. Recommendations were made that solutions for fly ash and bottom ash disposal plan as well as disposal methods for sludge from effluent treatment plants were needed. The group emphasized that developer should collect primary data and not heavily rely on secondary data.

After the presentation from each group, Mr. Suzuki presented the EIA process and an example of EIA report of a coal thermal power plant commented by the authorities in Japan. The comments on scoping by a prefecture governor included 'interviews and observations from ship should give necessary information about important species (whale),' and 'survey location for marine biodiversity on tidal flat area should be added.' Comments on a draft EIA report by the Ministry of Environment included 'proper maintenance and inspection of a flue gas treatment plant,' 'implement proper mitigation measures for noise, vibration and wastewater during construction,' and 'consider further CO₂ reduction technologies such as CCS (CO₂ Capture and Storage) in line with government policy.' Mr. Suzuki also presented some features of a coal thermal power plant project such as control emissions measures to reduce air pollution emissions and stack shape for adjusting landscape. A number of questions were raised by the participants for example 'was a significant impact considered at the scoping step?'; 'were primary data required for conducting EIAs in Japan?'; and 'what kind of emission reduction measures were used in the coal thermal power plant project introduced in the presentation today?'. The Workshop was concluded with the closing remarks made by Mrs. De Silva.

3.5 Training Workshop on EIA Report Review in Lao PDR

Overview

A training workshop on EIA report review under the Twinning Partnership between Laos and Japan was held between 17th -18th September 2014 at the Auditorium of the New Rose Hotel in Vientiane. Sixteen officers from Head Office of DESIA, MoNRE, participated in the training workshop. For Day1, group discussion workshop was conducted at the New Rose Hotel in Vientiane. This was basically focused on EIA report review with special reference to hydro power sector, taking the Theun Hinboune expansion project, Lao PDR, as a case study. In addition, a site visit to the Theun Hinboune expansion project site was conducted on Day2 to examine an actual situation of the project that they discussed on Day1 of the workshop. Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi and Mr. Yohei Suzuki, Consultants of ERM, Japan, attended the workshop to share their experience with the DESIA officers under the twinning partnership.

All the workshop documents are made available through AECEN website at: <http://www.aecen.org/events/training-workshop-eia-report-review-eia-case-hydro-power-sector-japanese-experience>.



Day1: Group discussion workshop

Mr. Thavone Vongphosy, Deputy Director of the DESIA, welcomed all the participants. He briefly outlined the history of the twinning partnership and informed the participants that this workshop was a collaborative approach of the AECEN Secretariat, DESIA and ERM, Japan. Day1 of the workshop was facilitated by Mr. Kettavong, DESIA.

Mr. Thongsamlit Onmanisone briefly explained the basic information of the Theun Hinboune expansion project. The project that was used as the case study is an expansion of existing 220MW Theun-Hinboun Hydropower project (THPP). The expansion project added water capacity to the THPP project which previously relied on a run-of-the-river dam on the Nam. The storage comes from a new reservoir, created by a dam built on the Nam Gnouang.

The total power generation capacity from the THPP is 550MW. A summary EIA report (in Lao language) of the project was circulated among the participants.

Mr. Suzuki briefly explained a checklist developed by Japan Bank for International Cooperation. He explained that JBIC had developed a number of environmental checklists (referred to as JBIC checklist) to review their projects. The checklists have been developed for 27 different sectors such as hydropower, oil, gas, power, and road.

He explained the JBIC check list for hydro power sector (henceforth referred to as 'hydro power checklist') as the case study. The hydro power checklist includes several components such as permission and approval requirements and protective measures for water quality, waste, soil contamination, noise vibration, and natural & social environment. The component on natural environment includes protected areas, ecosystems and biota, hydrology, topography and management of abandoned sites. The component on social environment focuses on resettlement, livelihood, indigenous people, occupational safety and etc. Then Mr. Suzuki explained International Finance Corporation Performance Standard (IFC PS). He mentioned that IFC PS is a set of 8 safeguard policies for each component including management system, pollution prevention and land acquisition. The purpose of the development of the IFC PS is to safeguard environment and society from project activities. Mr. Suzuki further explained specific points of reviewing hydro power plants in detail.

After that, Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi gave an overview of Xe Katam Hydropower Project, Lao PDR. The purpose of his presentation was to explain the impacts caused by the project and the monitoring system to be implemented by the project.

For the group discussion, the participants were divided in to 3 groups to work on the EIA report of the Theun Hinboune expansion project. They were asked to review the report using the presentation material prepared by ERM Japan. After the group discussion, each group was asked to do a presentation on key findings. Outcomes from group discussion are summarized by each impact component as shown below.

1. Water

Dam construction caused impacts on water quality upstream and downstream during both construction and operation stages resulting in:

- Blockage of the river flow and led to changes in water volume and depth. These impacts may affect fish spawning and may decrease in oxygen levels of the reservoir.
- Changing in water flow might result in degradation of water quality indicating by a number of parameters: temperature, pH, turbidity, COD, BOD, DO, TDS, NOs-N, SS and etc. It could cause impacts on aquatic organisms, ecosystems as well as community health.
- Changing in water flow (increase during rainy season and decrease during dry season) may lead to loss of habitats of aquatic animals for example reduction in fish production. This may result in loss of food and income of local community living along the river.

2. Natural environment

- The EIA case study had sufficient baseline data and some examples were hydrology, biodiversity, geology, aquatic animals (11 new fish species found in the Nam Theun-Nam Kading River)
- Sensitive/risk areas included 3 national protection forests: Nakhai, Phouhinboun and Nam Kading Protection Forests. The sensitive area may be affected by road construction and access.
- An increase in sediment load in the reservoir as well as sediment transported downstream may lead to turbid water and river bank erosion. This might be caused by increased river flow. In addition, the increased sediment load may cause loss of riparian and agricultural land in downstream areas.
- Water pollution from improper management of hazardous materials
- Waste from industrial sites and solid waste from site offices and worker camps
- Erosion associated with road construction and access as well as from borrow and quarry sites
- Loss of forest trees and biodiversity due to cutting or clearance from construction sites and illegal consumption of wildlife
- Air and noise emissions during construction
- Artificial dam may cause impacts on loss of forest area of 500 ha and degraded forest of 1,750 ha

3. Social Environment

- Create artificial dam may lead to resettlement of 11 villages with 4200 PAPs and loss of their agriculture land of 10,000 ha
- Degraded biomass in the reservoir leads to GHG emissions
- Increased accidents to local residents due to increased traffic transportation for project construction

4. Environmental management plan and monitoring

The proponent shall develop and implement environmental management plan (EMP) and monitoring programs for both construction and operation stages to avoid or minimize ecological impacts upstream (reservoir) and downstream areas including but not limited to:

- Biomass clearance plan
- Water quality monitoring and water quality improvement for ambient water in the reservoir as well as downstream water quality and ground water quality
- Biodiversity/forest offset program for the lost forest area including movement of wildlife affected by created reservoir to the safe habitat
- Sedimentation and erosion control programs
- Worker health and safety programs
- Resettlement, compensation and livelihood restoration programs
- Community development programs
- Environmental education and training for labor working for the project as well as PAPs and communities around the project sites
- Tourist management programs which may help increases in number of tourists visiting the dam site during the project operation stage
- Establish an environmental office to implement, monitor and report the EMP and monitoring programs

- EMP and monitoring programs for transmission line
- Provide sufficient personnel, equipment and budget for implementing and monitoring the developed plans and programs as well as allocating a budget to the government for monitoring of 1,200,200 over 10 years

Day2: A site visit to the case study of hydropower project site

A site visit to the Theun Hinboune expansion project was conducted on Day2. Almost all the participants who attended Day1 workshop went for the site visit. At the project office, a presentation was provided from Mr. Soulilanh (Site Manager) and Mr. Souliyet (Head of Social and Environment Unit). They explained background of the project and environmental management activities conducted by the team, including construction site monitoring, erosion monitoring, water quality monitoring, reservoir clearance, catchment management, reforestation and fisheries monitoring. After that following project areas were visited.

- Reservoir
- Relocation site



During the site visit, participants actively raise questions to site managers. Items discussed include;

- Since the project area largely covers developed areas and rocky areas, there were only a few biomass resources such as forests. Therefore, amount of logging required before water filling was minimal. Only economically valuable woods were logged.
- During operation stage, reservoir clearance was conducted by removing biomass sources such as floating woods.
- The Biodiversity Offset Program is conducted by the project proponent together with MoNRE. The program includes the conduct of a baseline survey of biodiversity and planted trees.

- Reservoir management includes the restriction on fishing (Avoid spawning season or implementation of fishing permits)
- Annual monitoring is conducted for affected people. An item to be monitored includes a status of livelihood and income.

Conclusions

There were about 16 participants including senior and new staff. Although the level of experiences among the participants varied, all the participants were quite satisfied with the content of the workshop and they thought that the training was very useful. They gained new experience and knowledge from the trainers as well as from exchanging experience with the senior staff. For the group discussion, it was concluded that they had learned several key points as summarized below.

- Overview of JBIC, IFC and JICA standards
- Environmental and social management from other hydropower projects
- The relationship of project development cycle and the development of EIA, EMP and monitoring programs
- Identification of impacts from hydropower development from reading maps of the case study project
- Understanding key points for the EIA review

Recommendations

The joint work plan provided a good opportunity for the participants from DESIA to learn what should be improved to strengthen EIA review and monitoring practices. Through the joint work plan, it was identified that detailed activities for the following main items shall be planned for future programs.

- Improve capacity of EIA review
- Improve capacity of enforcement of environment mitigation and monitoring plan
- Provide practical knowledge and experience (e.g. How to identify the new experience on mitigation measure) for central DESIA and provincial staff
- Introduce experience from other countries

DESIA is currently supported by the Finland Government as well as PEI-LINDP to help establish a management system to control various documents generated in the process of EIA under a new environmental Law. However the practical application of the EIA system is still needed to be strengthened for example through training programs as identified above.

4. Lessons learned

AECEN has consistently observed that South-South cooperation is an extremely efficient and effective way of building capacity in country safeguards systems, as well as in other compliance and enforcement regimes. Both the mentor and mentee countries report considerable benefits from this relationship. As staff from both countries contribute their time at no cost, the only costs are incurred for travel and meeting expenses—a cost-effective modality.

In these particular twinning arrangements, mentor country (Japan) provided an additional layer of experience and lessons to mentee countries by inviting a private company involved in implementing EIA and other environmental management activities as well as a public professional association of EIA-implementing private companies under the supervision of the Japanese government. The inputs and contribution made by these organizations added more hands-on know-how to the issues and addressed on-the-ground needs of the officials in mentee countries. Such exchange of lessons was highlighted at the workshop held in Japan where both mentee countries met these organizations in addition to the EIA division of the mentor country (Ministry of the Environment, Japan).

One interesting contrast observed was that while Japan's EIA system functions without EIA authority issuing any permits to the project proponents, the mentee countries still struggle securing the quality of EIA though the authorities have given power to issue permits. Overall, the data availability and quality was found one of the fundamental challenges in mentee countries and this made it difficult to prepare quality EIA reports, let alone implementing environmental management plan (EMP). The capacity of EIA authorities in mentee countries also suffer from insufficient in-house capacity to prepare appropriate ToR for EIA and review EIA reports as well as lack of detailed guidelines/manual to support such procedures. Mentee and mentor country both realized that developing such manuals/guidelines would require extensive resources and time which would not be able to fully addressed under this twinning arrangement and thus they agreed to work on selected focused topics at hands – Sri Lanka and Lao PDR chose thermal and hydro power plants as concrete examples, respectively, for the final training workshop exercise.

Feedback for project implementation from mentor country includes:

- It was not very easy at first to take over the activities that were originally designed with China, the original mentor. A clearer scope of work would have been helpful to initiate the project;
- Training could use a longer session for better effectiveness;
- It would be beneficial for both mentee countries if the project can follow-up to keep the momentum and their interest as raising capacity of the officials in charge of EIA still remains an urgent issue;
- Case studies on specific issues may be useful for lessons sharing;
- Procedural as well as technical guidelines will be useful their EIA implementation as having regulations is not sufficient, but if there is technical capacity in a country, EIA division's role may be how to utilize such resources into EIA process; and

- Ministry of the Environment, Japan is interested in contributing to Asia on EIA capacity development in collaboration with other agencies such as JICA, JIBIC and JETRO.

Nevertheless, twinning arrangements do not occur spontaneously; an intermediary like AECEN is needed to ensure that the right partners are identified. Often the best way of identifying these potential partnerships is through regional workshops on compliance and enforcement, but again additional support is needed to ensure that AECEN remains in a position to identify the best matching of countries.

5. Annex

- 5.1 Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Work Plan (Sri Lanka - Japan)**
- 5.2 Letter of Agreed Joint Activities and Joint Work Plan (Lao PDR- Japan)**
- 5.3 Concept note and agenda the Consultation Workshop in Sri Lanka**
- 5.4 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Consultation Workshop in Lao PDR**
- 5.5 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Capacity Development Workshop in Japan**
- 5.6 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Training Workshop in Sri Lanka**
- 5.7 Concept note, agenda and participants list for the Training Workshop in Lao PDR**



Memorandum of Understanding

Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)


between the Central Environmental Authority (CEA), Sri Lanka,
the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), the ERM Japan Ltd.
(ERM)
and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)

The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) of Sri Lanka, the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), the ERM Japan Ltd. (ERM) and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) have agreed to sign this memorandum of understanding (MoU) for cooperation on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This MoU among CEA, JEAS, ERM and MOEJ notes the understanding to implement activities under an agreed joint work plan within the framework of Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) with the objective of strengthening Sri Lanka's policies and regulations on EIA.


This twinning partnership will be implemented on the principle of mutual interests in sharing knowledge on environmental management and learning from each other between Sri Lanka and Japan. Under the umbrella of its technical assistance on environmental safeguards (TA 7566-REG), Asian Development Bank (ADB) will partially fund the agreed activities under joint work plan as part of the subproject titled "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning." This twinning project will be implemented in accordance with the above subproject's implementation period (until 23 September 2014) with possible extension. The CEA, JEAS and ERM will jointly implement the agreed activities with support from the fund of ADB. Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan is expected to provide supervision and guidance for the implementation of agreed activities. AECEN as the implementer of the subproject of TA 7566-REG will facilitate the implementation of agreed activities.

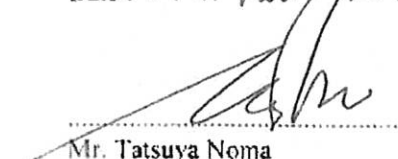
The joint work plan will detail partnership objectives, agreed activities, outputs, expected outcomes, resource requirements, partner roles and responsibilities and time frame based on the discussion made at the consultation workshop in Sri Lanka and among implementing partners. Agreed activities will include the preparation of training material, a workshop/observation tour in Japan, and a training session in Sri Lanka for key stakeholders such as agencies involved in EIA review process as well as developers. The expected outputs include support document for EIA review on selected sectors.

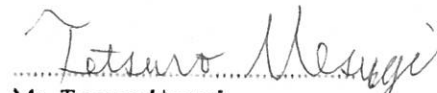
This MoU signifies agreement to implement agreed activities in accordance with the joint work plan.


Dr. Saranga Alshapperuma
Director General
Central Environmental Authority (CEA)
"Parisara Piyasa"
104, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw,
Battaramulla
Sri Lanka.
Date : 02/01/2014

Dr. Saranga Alshapperuma
Director General
Central Environmental Authority


Mr. Osamu Kajitani
President
Japan Association of Environment
Assessment (JIAS)
2-13 Hayabusacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Japan.
Date : 25th Feb. 2014


Mr. Tatsuya Noma
Managing Partner
Environmental Resources Management
(ERM) Japan Ltd.
The Landmark Tower
Yokohama 19th Floor
2-3-1 Minatomirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama
Japan.
Date : 14th January 2014


Mr. Tetsuro Uesugi
Director
Environmental Impact Assessment
Division,
Environmental Policy Bureau,
Ministry of the Environment of Japan
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Japan.
Date : 21st Feb 2014



EIA twinning project between Sri Lanka and Japan

ADB TA 7566-REG: Strengthening and Use of Country
Safeguards System:

Sub-project: EIA Clearinghouse and Capacity
Strengthening through Twinning

Joint Work Plan

Prepared and agreed by:

Central Environmental Authority (CEA), Sri Lanka

Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)

ERM Japan

December 2013

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Objectives and expected outcomes of the partnership.....	4
3. Scope of work	4
5. Planned key activities and timeline	6
6. Organizational arrangement and shared responsibilities	6

1. Introduction

The Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (AECEN), a regional practitioner network dedicated to sharing improved policies and practices in compliance and enforcement in Asia. The network was launched at ADB's headquarters in Manila in 2005, with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and ADB, in partnership with 13 Asian countries (16 countries and 19 member agencies as of December 2013). In 2009, member agencies agreed that Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) would become the permanent secretariat of AECEN.

In July 2010, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Directors approved Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG for \$5,000,000. ADB and IGES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a range of cooperative activities, including AECEN. In September 2011 the ADB approved an increased TA amount to \$8,000,000. In 2012, IGES became the permanent secretariat of AECEN operated from its Regional Center based in Bangkok.

TA 7566-REG has three components: (i) subproject implementation, (ii) knowledge management and dissemination, and (iii) coordination among development agencies. Through Component 1, Subproject Implementation, ADB is providing systematic, timely support for a series of subprojects tailored to the needs of specific Developing Member Countries (DMCs) for strengthening and effective implementation of their respective country safeguard systems.

One of those subprojects three components: (i) subproject implementation, (ii) knowledge management and dissemination, and (iii) coordination among development agencies is being implemented by the Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) through its Secretariat managed by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) regional center in Bangkok, Thailand. AECEN was launched at ADB's headquarters in Manila in 2005, with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and ADB, in partnership with 13 Asian countries (now with 19 member agencies from 16 countries) to promote improved compliance and enforcement of existing environmental legislation. AECEN achieves this objective through active exchange of innovative policies and best practices shared among member environmental agencies (at national and sub-national levels). In 2009, member agencies agreed that IGES would become the permanent secretariat of AECEN. Furthermore, IGES and ADB signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a range of cooperative activities, including AECEN, in 2010.

The subproject that AECEN is implementing under TA7566-REG has two main components: (i) an EIA clearinghouse that aims to facilitate knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation, and (ii) south-south twinning between Lao PDR and Japan, and Sri Lanka and Japan. Through these components, the subproject aims to improve information sharing and knowledge management in EIA among all DMCs through the EIA clearinghouse and to enhance capacity of beneficiary countries by improved understanding of EIA best practices of the mentor country through south-south twinning.

Two EIA twinning projects, is planned between Lao PDR and Japan, and Sri Lanka and Japan. In both cases, the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS) will act as mentoring organization to the project. The Sri Lanka twinning project is implemented with the partnership with the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) and the Lao twinning project with the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA).

This Joint Work Plan was developed under the Memorandum of Understanding on the Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) between the Central Environmental Authority (CEA), Sri Lanka, the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), the ERM Japan Ltd. (ERM) and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) signed in February 2014. This Joint Work Plan stipulates the objectives, expected outcome and outputs, planned activities and their timeframe agreed by the CEA and JEAS.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes of the partnership

Minimizing adverse environmental impacts of economic development accompanied by rapid urbanization and industrial growth as well as conserving natural environment remain significant challenges for Asia. While many governments have developed legal and institutional frameworks for environmental safeguards, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations remains weak due in large part to technical, financial, and human capacity limitations.

In the region, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in Asia remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

The objective of the project is to develop the implementing capacity of EIA in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR through the bilateral twinning arrangement with Japan as a mentoring country. The twinning arrangement provides mutual hands-on learning opportunities among the government officials in charge and experts in the field and delivers tangible outputs that are beneficial to mentee countries.

The expected outcomes are: (i) an increased capacity of EIA implementation in priority sectors in terms of the government officials' capability to instruct project proponents to prepare appropriate EIA preparation documents (Terms of reference etc.) and to evaluate EIA reports prepared by the project proponents and (ii) an increased exposure and understanding to the newer technologies that mentee countries would need for their future industrial development.

3. Scope of work

During the Consultation Workshop held in Colombo on 10 December 2013, participants identified a few general areas where Sri Lanka's EIA system can be improved:

- a) Scoping process and drafting TOR
- b) EIA review process
- c) Preparation and implementation of EMMP

Specially, assistance on the above is required with respect to following priority sectors;

- ◆ Power Sector
 - Coal Power Plant
 - LNG Power Plant
 - Wind Power Plant
- ◆ Transport sectors
 - Monorail system
 - Railway system
- ◆ Municipal solid waste management system
 - Incineration
 - landfilling
 - biogas/composting

In order to improve above areas, the CEA and ERM/JEAS agreed to collaborate in the following areas:

- 1) Preparation of Training material
 - ◆ Support document for EIA review on selected sectors
- 2) Site visit to Japan:
 - ◆ Visit to local government office (EIA and environmental division)
 - ◆ Visit to industrial site/sites in Japan
 - ◆ Visit to JEAS
- 3) Training session in Sri Lanka
 - ◆ Provide training sessions for state agencies who are involved in EIA review process as well as agencies which are involved in development project.

4. Expected outputs

Expected outputs from the partnership would be a preparation of “Support document for EIA review on selected sectors” which include a list of reference documents, providing information on environmental and social aspects to be addressed in EIA report.

“Support document for EIA review on selected sectors” is expected to include guideline or checklist which are generally used and referred as international standard, such as IFC guideline and JBIC/JICA environmental guideline.

“Support document for EIA review on selected sectors” is expected to be prepared for selected sectors agreed by CEA and JEAS.

5. Planned key activities and timeline

- Delivery of Support document for EIA review on selected sectors: in time for a workshop/observation tour in Japan
- A training session in Sri Lanka (5 August 2014)

6. Organizational arrangement and shared responsibilities

Japan (mentor)

The Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS) will act as a mentoring organization of the project and implement the project on behalf of the government of Japan. The JEAS is a public association comprising over 190 environmental assessment business companies and organs established in 1978 and operated under the supervision of ministries of environment; agriculture, forestry and fisheries; economy, trade and industry; and land, infrastructure, transport and tourism (<http://www.jeas.org/english.cts>).

The JEAS appointed two Japanese experts from the Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Japan. ERM is a leading global provider of environmental, health, safety, risk, social consulting services and sustainability related services. ERM has over 140 offices in 39 countries and territories employing more than 5,000 people (<http://www.erm.com/en/>).

Mr. Yohei Suzuki, Consultant, ERM Japan, will act as a focal point of Japan and lead the project. He is an environmental and social safeguards specialist and extensive experience in the field from the various projects in Egypt and Sri Lanka.

Ms. Naoko Maruyama, Consultant, ERM Japan, will assist in implementing the project as team member. She is also an environmental and social safeguards specialist and extensive experience in environmental certification systems.

Sri Lanka (mentee)

The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) will act as implementing organization of the project. The CEA was established in August 1981 under the provision of the National Environmental Act No:47 of 1980. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (ME&NR) which was established in December 2001 has the overall responsibility in the affairs of the CEA with the objective of integrating environmental considerations in the development process of the country. The CEA was given wider regulatory powers under the National Environment (Amendment) Acts No:56 of 1988 and No:53 of 2000 (<http://www.cea.lk/>).

Ms. Kanthi de Silva, Director, the CEA will act as a focal point and lead the project. Ms. Kusala Mahalekame, Assistant Director, the CEA will assist in coordinating and implementing the program.

AECEN (project secretariat)



Letter of Agreed Joint Activities

Between

Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), Lao PDR

and

**Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), ERM Japan Ltd. (ERM),
Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan (MOEJ)**

For

Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

This Letter of Agreed Joint Activity (Letter) is

Between

Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao PDR, the parties registered in Lao PDR having its head office at Nahaidiow village, Sisavath village, Chanthabouly District, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR (hereinafter referred to as “**DESIA**”).

And

Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), ERM Japan Ltd. (ERM), Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan (MOEJ) an organization registered in Japan and having its head office at [3-1-8, Shibakoen, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 105-011, Japan] and acting as entrusted organization by Ministry of the Environment, Japan (hereinafter referred to as “**MOEJ**”)

(collectively hereinafter referred to as “**Parties**”)

Whereas

- a. Recognizing the understanding to implement activities under an agreed joint work plan within the framework of Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) with the objectives of strengthening Lao PDR’s policies and regulations on EIA;
- b. Recognizing the importance of cooperation, technical exchange and technical assistance between Lao PDR and Japan to strengthening capacity relating to the Environmental Impact Assessment to the personnel of DESIA both at the central and local levels;

- c. Bearing in mind that the spirit of mutual benefit and reciprocity is the guiding principle of the joint efforts and collaboration between the Parties in sharing knowledge on environmental management and learning from each other between Lao PDR and Japan,
- d. Noting that Parties will jointly implement the agreed activities under the Partnership under this Letter with support from the fund of Asian Development Bank under the umbrella of its technical assistance on environmental safeguards in the joint work plan as part of the subproject titled “Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearing House and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning” (TA 7566-REG).
- e. Also noting that the JEAS will represent the MOEJ and JEAS identified ERM who is a member of its association as implementer of the Joint Work Plan.

Therefore, the Parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1: Fields of Partnership

The Parties will support the partnership in the fields of the environmental impact assessment, environmental management and monitoring, environmental education and awareness raising, in accordance with the provisions of this Letter and the respective laws and regulations of the two countries.

Article 2: Types of Partnership

Joint or cooperative programs, projects or activities agreed by Parties.

Article 3: Joint Work Plan

- a. Parties agree on implementing the Joint Work Plan in which main areas of activities are stipulated.
- b. Main activities include cooperation to address the following areas are: (i) necessity of technical support in environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) review, (ii) weak enforcement and commitment to ESIA and environment mitigation and monitoring plan, (iii) necessity of setting training modules for staff who is in charge of ESIA implementation, and (iv) improved opportunities of learning practical knowledge and practices.

Article 4: Financial Arrangements and Supports

The ADB will provide financial support under TA7566 to cover the direct/activities costs such as venue cost/a standard meeting package for a workshop and a training to be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR as well as a workshop in Japan and associated travel cost for Lao participants to attend a workshop in Japan as well as Japanese experts to attend a workshop and a training in Vientiane, Lao PDR to implement the Joint Work Plan in accordance with the ADB’s regulations and prior approval. Parties agree to make in-kind contribution to implement the Joint Work Plan. The Asian Environmental Enforcement and Compliance Network (AECEN) will facilitate the financial transaction with the ADB.

Article 5: Responsibilities of the Parties


DESIA and ERM will jointly implement the Joint Work Plan as primary implementers with support from the JEAS and MOEJ. Detailed responsibilities of the DESIA and ERM are specified in the Joint Work Plan. It is agreed that Parties, especially the DESIA and ERM, shall make best

efforts to carry out this Joint Work Plan to ultimately increase the institutional capacity for ESIA implementation.

Article 6: Commencement and Duration of the Partnership

- 6.1 The Letter shall enter into force upon signature by Parties and remains in force until September 2014 with possible extension in accordance with the arrangement with the ADB.
- 6.2 Any modification to this Letter shall be based on mutual agreement among Parties.

Signed by
For and on behalf of DESIA



Thavone VONGPHOSY,
Deputy Director General of Department of
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
(DESIA), Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment (MoNRE)

30 JAN 2014
Date

Signed by
For and on behalf of DESIA

Akio Omori

Secretary General
Japan Association of Environment Assessment
(JEAS)

30 Jan 2014
Date



Managing Partner
ERM Japan Ltd. (ERM)

30 Jan 2014
Date

Tetsuro Mesugi
Director,
Environmental Impact Assessment Division,
Environmental Policy Bureau,
Ministry of the Environment of Japan

30 Jan 2014
Date



EIA twinning project between Laos PDR and Japan

ADB TA 7566-REG: Strengthening and Use of Country
Safeguards System:

Sub-project: EIA Clearinghouse and Capacity
Strengthening through Twinning

Joint Work Plan

Prepared and agreed by:

Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA),
Laos PDR

Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)

ERM Japan

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction 3
- 2. Objectives and expected outcomes of the partnership..... 4
- 3. Scope of work..... 4

- 5. Planned activities and timeline..... 5
- 6. Organizational arrangement and shared responsibilities..... 5

1. Introduction

The Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (AECEN), a regional practitioner network dedicated to sharing improved policies and practices in compliance and enforcement in Asia. The network was launched at ADB's headquarters in Manila in 2005, with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and ADB, in partnership with 13 Asian countries (16 countries and 19 member agencies as of December 2013). In 2009, member agencies agreed that Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) would become the permanent secretariat of AECEN.

In July 2010, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Directors approved Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG for \$5,000,000. ADB and IGES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a range of cooperative activities, including AECEN. In September 2011 the ADB approved an increased TA amount to \$8,000,000. In 2012, IGES became the permanent secretariat of AECEN operated from its Regional Center based in Bangkok.

TA 7566-REG has three components: (i) subproject implementation, (ii) knowledge management and dissemination, and (iii) coordination among development agencies. Through Component 1, Subproject Implementation, ADB is providing systematic, timely support for a series of subprojects tailored to the needs of specific Developing Member Countries (DMCs) for strengthening and effective implementation of their respective country safeguard systems.

One of those subprojects three components: (i) subproject implementation, (ii) knowledge management and dissemination, and (iii) coordination among development agencies is being implemented by the Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) through its Secretariat managed by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) regional center in Bangkok, Thailand. AECEN was launched at ADB's headquarters in Manila in 2005, with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and ADB, in partnership with 13 Asian countries (now with 19 member agencies from 16 countries) to promote improved compliance and enforcement of existing environmental legislation. AECEN achieves this objective through active exchange of innovative policies and best practices shared among member environmental agencies (at national and sub-national levels). In 2009, member agencies agreed that IGES would become the permanent secretariat of AECEN. Furthermore, IGES and ADB signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a range of cooperative activities, including AECEN, in 2010.

The subproject that AECEN is implementing under TA7566-REG has two main components: (i) an EIA clearinghouse that aims to facilitate knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation, and (ii) south-south twinning between Lao PDR and Japan, and Laos PDR and Japan. Through these components, the subproject aims to improve information sharing and knowledge management in EIA among all DMCs through the EIA clearinghouse and to enhance capacity of beneficiary countries by improved understanding of EIA best practices of the mentor country through south-south twinning.

Two EIA twinning projects, is planned between Lao PDR and Japan, and Sri Lanka and Japan. In both cases, the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS) will act as mentoring organization to the project. The Lao twinning project with the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA) and the Sri Lanka twinning project is implemented with the partnership with the Central Environmental Authority (CEA).

This Joint Work Plan was developed under the Memorandum of Understanding on the Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) between the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), Laos PDR, the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS), the ERM Japan Ltd. (ERM) and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) signed on 31 January 2014. This Joint Work Plan stipulates the objectives, expected outcome and outputs, planned activities and their timeframe agreed by the DESIA and JEAS.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes of the partnership

Minimizing adverse environmental impacts of economic development accompanied by rapid urbanization and industrial growth as well as conserving natural environment remain significant challenges for Asia. While many governments have developed legal and institutional frameworks for environmental safeguards, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations remains weak due in large part to technical, financial, and human capacity limitations.

In the region, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in Asia remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

The objective of the project is to develop the implementing capacity of EIA in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR through the bilateral twinning arrangement with Japan as a mentoring country. The twinning arrangement provides mutual hands-on learning opportunities among the government officials in charge and experts in the field and delivers tangible outputs that are beneficial to mentee countries.

The expected outcomes are: (i) an increased capacity of EIA implementation in priority sectors in terms of the government officials' capability to instruct project proponents to prepare appropriate EIA preparation documents (Terms of reference etc.) and to evaluate EIA reports prepared by the project proponents and (ii) an increased exposure and understanding to the newer technologies that mentee countries would need for their future industrial development.

3. Scope of work

During the Consultation Workshop held in Vientiane on 9 January 2014, participants identified a few general areas where Laos PDR's EIA system to improve;

EIA review;

Enforcement and commitment to EIA and EMMP;

Training module for staff in charge of EIA implementation; and

Practices and practical knowledge from Japan or other countries experienced in EIA.

In order to improve above areas, the DESIA and ERM/JEAS agreed to collaborate in the following areas:

- 1) Site visit:
 - Visit to local government office in Japan (EIA and environmental division)
 - Visit to industrial site in Japan

- 2) Training session in Laos PDR

4. Expected outputs

Expected outputs from the partnership would be a preparation of “Information document for EIA review on Hydro power sector” (approximately 10 slides PPT or equivalent) which covers general impact of the project and approach of review.

- Hydro power

5. Planned activities and timeline

Output delivery: September 2014

Site visit: May-June 2014 in Japan

Training session in Laos: August-September 2014 in Vientiane

6. Organizational arrangement and shared responsibilities

Japan (mentor)

The Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS) will act as a mentoring organization of the project and implement the project on behalf of the government of Japan. The JEAS is a public association comprising over 190 environmental assessment business companies and organs established in 1978 and operated under the supervision of ministries of environment; agriculture, forestry and fisheries; economy, trade and industry; and land, infrastructure, transport and tourism (<http://www.jeas.org/english.cts>).

The JEAS appointed two Japanese experts from the Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Japan. ERM is a leading global provider of environmental, health, safety, risk, social consulting services and sustainability related services. ERM has over 140 offices in 39 countries and territories employing more than 5,000 people (<http://www.erm.com/en/>).

Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi, Partner, ERM Japan, will lead the project. He is an environmental and social safeguards specialist and extensive experience in the field from the various projects in Vietnam and Kenya. Ms. Naoko Maruyama, Consultant, ERM Japan, will assist in implementing the project as team member. She is also an environmental and social safeguards specialist.

Lao PDR (mentee)

The Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA) under the MoNRE is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the EIA process. MoNRE is responsible for issuing environmental quality standards in cooperation with the line ministries, and for issuing general EIA guidelines specifying procedures and standards to evaluate and mitigate environmental impacts caused by development projects.

Mr. Lamphoukeo Kettavong, Deputy Head of Planning and Administration Division, DESIA will lead the project, and Mr. Somsanouk Sodouangdenh, Centre for Reviewing on Agriculture-Forestry, Industry and Public investment Sector, DESIA will act as a focal point for the project.

AECEN (project secretariat)

Dr. Peter Noel King, Head of AECEN secretariat/AECEN Team, Mr. Chandkachorn John Chandarat, Website and database Manager, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) Regional Centre, and Dr. Daisuke Sano, Director, IGES Regional Centre, will assist in implementing the project and liaise with ADB. Dr. Daisuke Sano will act as a focal point.

Consultation Workshop Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Between Sri Lanka and Japan

Tuesday, 10 December – Thursday, 12 December 2013
Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo, Sri Lanka
Organized by Central Environmental Authority (CEA), Sri Lanka and
Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) Secretariat
with support from Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Background

Minimizing adverse environmental impacts of economic development accompanied by rapid urbanization and industrial growth as well as conserving natural environment remain significant challenges for Asia. While many governments have developed legal and institutional frameworks for environmental safeguards, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations remains weak due in large part to technical, financial, and human capacity limitations.

In the region, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in Asia remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

Under Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG on environmental safeguard of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Environmental Compliance and Network (AECEN) aims to increase capacity for EIA implementation through its subproject - "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning." The subproject strives to achieve its aims by facilitating knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation through exchange of knowledge and know-hows as well as mutual learning.

For twinning partnerships, Lao PDR and Sri Lanka were selected, and Japan will act as mentor country to both countries. Useful perspective, experience and strategies are expected to be shared to advance implementation of EIA laws and regulations in Lao PDR and Sri Lanka through hands-on activities under this project.

Objectives and expected outputs of the Consultation Workshop

Central Environmental Authority (CEA) will organize a Consultation Meeting on Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Between Sri Lanka and Japan, in collaboration with the AECEN Secretariat and with support from ADB. The Consultation meeting aims to bring together partners from both mentor and mentee countries to identify and prioritize assistance needs, discuss and agree on objectives and design of the partnership, and secure commitments from leadership of both countries for its implementation. Extended consultation between leading organizations of the project will follow after this Meeting to develop detailed work plan.

Expected outputs: critical parts of joint work plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that guide the successful implementation of the twinning partnership.

**Consultation Workshop
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Between Sri Lanka and Japan**

Date: Tuesday, 10 December 2013

Venue: Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Time	Session details
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:50	<p><u>Opening session</u> Moderator: Ms. Ramani Ellepola, Former Director General/CEA Sri Lanka</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks(5 mins) Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma, Director General/CEA • <i>Environmental Safeguards: ADB's Approach, Support and Activities (15mins)</i> Dr. Palitha Bandara, Env. Safe Guard Specialist, ADB • <i>Overview of Twinning Partnership and Objectives of the Consultation Workshop (10 mins)</i> Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat • Self-introduction of meeting participants (10 mins) • Group photo
9:50-10:10	Tea break
10:10-12:10	<p><u>Session I:EIA in Sri Lanka</u> Moderator: Ms. Ramani Ellepola, Former Director General/CEA Sri Lanka</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in Sri Lanka (20 mins)</i> Ms. Nilmini Attanayake, Deputy Director/ EIA/CEA • <i>Sharing Sri Lanka Experience and Challenges in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)(20 mins)</i> Ms. Kanthi De Silva/ Director/EIA/CEA • <i>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Training and Capacity Development for Priority Sectors in Sri Lanka(20 mins)</i> Mr. KGS Jayawardena/Deputy Director/EIA/CEA • <i>Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment(SEA) in Sri Lanka (20 mins)</i> Ms. Kusala Mahalekame/Assistant Director/EIA/CEA <p>Q&A (30 mins)</p>
12:10-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-14:30	<p>Moderator: Dr. Daisuke Sano, AECEN Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Capacity Development in Japan (20 mins)</i> Ms. Naoko Maruyama/Consultant/ERM

Time	Session details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA): Perspective, Experience and Strategies (20 mins) Mr. Yohei Suzuki/Consultant/ERM Q&A (10 mins)
14:30-15.30	<p><u>Session III: Identifying priority areas and developing Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Work Plan</u></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed expected outcome, outputs and activities for Twinning Partnership (20 mins) Dr. Daisuke Sano, AECEN Secretariat
15:30 - 15:50	Tea Break
15.50 - 17.10	<p><u>Session III (con't): Discussion</u></p> <p>Development of Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Work Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and prioritize assistance needs • Draft Memorandum of Understanding • Draft Joint Work Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Partnership objectives, expected outcomes ○ Scope of work ○ Expected outputs ○ Activities and time frame ○ Resource requirements, shared responsibilities, etc.
17:10 - 17:30	<p><u>Closing session for Day 1</u></p> <p>Moderator: Mrs Ramani Ellepola/ Former DG/CEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concluding remarks (10mins) Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat • Closing remarks (5mins) Ms. Kanthi De Silva, Director (EIA)/ CEA

final

Consultation Meeting Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Between Lao PDR and Japan

9 January 2014, Mercure Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR

Organized by DESIA, MoNRE, Lao PDR and AECEN Secretariat with support from ADB

Background

Minimizing adverse environmental impacts of economic development accompanied by rapid urbanization and industrial growth as well as conserving natural environment remain significant challenges for Asia. While many governments have developed legal and institutional frameworks for environmental safeguards, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations remains weak due in large part to technical, financial, and human capacity limitations.

In the region, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in Asia remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

Under Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG on environmental safeguard of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Environmental Compliance and Network (AECEN) aims to increase capacity for EIA implementation through its subproject - "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning." The subproject strives to achieve its aims by facilitating knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation through exchange of knowledge and know-hows as well as mutual learning.

For twinning partnerships, Lao PDR and Sri Lanka were selected, and Japan will act as mentor country to both countries. Useful perspective, experience and strategies are expected to be shared to advance implementation of EIA laws and regulations in Lao PDR and Sri Lanka through hands-on activities under this project.

Objectives and expected outputs of the Consultation Meeting

The Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental (MoNRE), Lao PDR will organize a Consultation Meeting on Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Between Lao PDR and Japan, in collaboration with the AECEN Secretariat and with support from ADB. The Consultation meeting aims to bring together partners from both mentor and mentee countries to identify and prioritize assistance needs, discuss and agree on objectives and design of the partnership, and secure commitments from leadership of both countries for its implementation. Extended consultation between leading organizations of the project will follow after this Meeting to develop detailed work plan.

Expected outputs: critical parts of joint work plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that guide the successful implementation of the twinning partnership.

**Consultation Workshop
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
between Lao PDR and Japan**

Date: Thursday, 9 January 2013
9 January 2014, Mercure Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR
(final)

Time	Session details
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:50	<p><u>Opening session</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from the DESIA</p> <p>Welcome remarks</p> <p>Representative from the DESIA or MoNRE, Lao PDR</p> <p><i>Overview of Twinning Partnership and Objectives of the Consultation Workshop</i></p> <p>Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat</p> <p>Self-introduction of meeting participants</p> <p>Group photo</p>
9:50 - 10:10	Tea break
10:10 - 12:10	<p><u>Session I: EIA in Lao PDR</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from the DESIA</p> <p><i>Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) structure in Lao PDR (20 mins)</i></p> <p>Mr. Oraham Bounyaphalom, Head of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA</p> <p><i>Sharing Lao PDR Experience and Challenges in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (20 mins)</i></p> <p>Representative from Lao PDR</p> <p><i>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Training and Capacity Development for Priority Sectors in Lao PDR (20 mins)</i></p> <p>Representative from Lao PDR</p> <p><i>Environment Management and Monitoring in Lao PDR (20 mins)</i></p> <p>Mr. Latsamy Vorarath, Deputy Head of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA</p> <p>Q&A (30 mins)</p>
12:10 - 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 - 14:30	<p><u>Session II: EIA in Japan</u></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Daisuke Sano, AECEN Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Capacity</i>

Time	Session details
	<p><i>Development in Japan (20 mins)</i> Ms. Naoko Maruyama, Consultant, ERM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Improving Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA): Perspective, Experience and Strategies (20 mins)</i> Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi, Partner, ERM <p>Q&A (10 mins)</p>
14:30 - 15:30	<p><u>Session III: Identifying priority areas and developing a joint work plan</u></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat</p> <p>Proposed expected outcome, outputs and activities for Twinning Partnership (10 mins)</p> <p>AECEN Secretariat</p>
15:30 - 15:50	Tea Break
15:50 – 17:20	<p><u>Session III (con't): Discussion</u></p> <p>Identifying priority areas for the twinning project (open discussion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the priority issues/challenges Lao PDR needs to address in the twinning project? • What kind of assistance can Japan offer? • What kind of activities will be appropriate for the twinning project?
17:20 - 17:30	<p><u>Closing session</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from the DESIA</p> <p>Concluding remarks (5 mins) Dr. Peter King, Head of AECEN Secretariat</p> <p>Closing remarks (5 mins) Representative from Lao PDR</p>
18:00 – 19:30	Welcome reception (hosted by Lao PDR, TBD)

**Consultation Workshop
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
between Lao PDR and Japan**

9 January 2014, Mercure Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR

List of participants

Name	Position and organization
1. Mr. Thavone Vongphosy	Deputy Director of DESIA
2. Mr. Lamphoukeo Kettavong	Deputy Head of Management and Planning Division, DESIA
3. Mr. Oraham Bounyaphalom	Head of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA
4. Mr. Latsamy Vorarath	Deputy Head of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA
5. Mr. Aliyasack Tounalom	Deputy Head of Centre for Reviewing ESIA on Energy Sector, DESIA
6. Mr. Viraphonh Nouanesengsy	Head of Centre for Reviewing ESIA on Mining Sector, DESIA
7. Mr. Soudaxay Khamphengxay	Head of Centre for Reviewing on Agriculture-Forestry, Industry and Public investment Sector, DESIA
8. Mr. Bounkeo Phounsavath	Deputy Head of Public Relation and Information Division, DESIA
9. Mr. Thongsamlid Onemanisone	Officer of Centre for Reviewing ESIA on Energy Sector, DESIA
10. Mr. Sengpanya Thammavong	Officer of Centre for Reviewing ESIA on Mining Sector, DESIA
11. Mr. Somsanouk Sodouangdenh	Officer of Centre for Reviewing on Agriculture-Forestry, Industry and Public investment Sector, DESIA
12. Ms. Latdamone Kinnavong	Office of Environmental Management and Monitoring Division, DESIA
13. Mr. Sengthavanh Kommamueang	Officer of Public Relation and Information Division, DESIA
14. Mr. Somanat Atphasouk	Officer of Management and Planning Division, DESIA
15. Mrs. Sengchan Phimphila	Officer of Management and Planning Division, DESIA
16. Ms. Oulapheng Inthavong	Officer of Management and Planning Division, DESIA
17. Mr. Bounthavy Thipsouvanh	Officer of Management and Planning Division, DESIA
18. Mr. Detmahinh Sophanh	Interpreter/Translator
19. Mr. Manabu Sakaguchi	ERM Japan
20. Ms. Naoko Maruyama	Consultant, ERM Japan
21. Dr. Peter Noel King	Head, AECEN Secretariat/ IGES Regional Centre
22. Dr. Daisuke Sano	Director, IGES Regional Centre, Bangkok



Capacity Development Workshop in Japan Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Lao PDR - Japan and Sri Lanka - Japan

25-27 June 2014, Landmark Tower, Yokohama, Japan
Organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ);
Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS); ERM Japan; AECEN Secretariat with
support from ADB

Concept note

Background

Minimizing adverse environmental impacts of economic development accompanied by rapid urbanization and industrial growth as well as conserving natural environment remain significant challenges for Asia. While many governments have developed legal and institutional frameworks for environmental safeguards, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws and regulations remains weak due in large part to technical, financial, and human capacity limitations.

In the region, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in Asia remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

Under Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG on environmental safeguard of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Environmental Compliance and Network (AECEN) aims to increase capacity for EIA implementation through its subproject - "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning." The subproject strives to achieve its aims by facilitating knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation through exchange of knowledge and know-hows as well as mutual learning.

Two EIA twinning projects are launched for Lao PDR - Japan and Sri Lanka - Japan. The Sri Lanka twinning project is implemented with the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) and the Lao twinning project with the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental (MoNRE). In both cases, the Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS) will act as mentoring organization to the project on behalf of the Environmental Impact Assessment Division of the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ); and the Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Japan Ltd was appointed as an implementing/mentoring organization for these two twinning projects.

Two Consultation Workshops for each of these twinning partnerships on environmental impact assessment (EIA) were held on 10-12 December 2013 in Colombo, Sri Lanka and on 9-10 January 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR for the Sri Lanka - Japan and Lao PDR - Japan twinning projects, respectively. These Workshops brought together partners from both mentor and mentee countries to identify and prioritize assistance needs, discuss and agree on objectives and design of the partnership, and secure commitments from leadership of both countries for its implementation.

Objectives and expected outputs of the Capacity Development Workshop

In following up the above Consultation Workshops where a few priority areas for assistance were identified, JEAS in association with MOEJ and the ERM Japan will organize a Capacity Development Workshop in Yokohama, Japan in collaboration with the AECEN Secretariat and with support from ADB. [Dates – 25-27 June 2014]. This Workshop will invite the government officials in charge of EIA implementation from both CEA and DESIA and bring together partners and experts from Japan to provide participants from the mentee countries with the opportunities to learn good practices and lessons in the priority areas from mentor country as well as all participants with mutual learning from sharing experience. The 3-day Workshop aims to provide an on-site hands-on learning venue that will allow interactive sessions with officials or experts in the field in Japan in addition to in-house lectures.

Expected outcome:

Increased understanding and knowledge of key elements in EIA implementation practiced in the mentor country which can be applicable in mentee countries and raised awareness of available/utilized technologies and methods for implementing EIA.



**Capacity Development Workshop in Japan
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Lao PDR - Japan and Sri Lanka - Japan**

25-27 June 2014, Landmark Tower, Yokohama, Japan
Organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ); Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS); ERM Japan; AECEN Secretariat with support from ADB

Agenda

Day 1 (25 Jun '14) - Meeting room at Landmark Tower (25F room2510)

Time	Session details
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:50	<p><u>Opening session</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks Representatives from the MOEJ, JEAS, and/or ERM Japan • Objectives of the Workshop Representatives from ERM Japan • Self-introduction of meeting participants • Group photo
9:50 - 10:10	Coffee break
10:10 - 12:00	<p><u>Session I: Overview of EIA implementation</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Role of EIA in the context of sustainable development and environmental & social safeguards</i> Representative from ADB or AECEN Secretariat • <i>Overview of the EIA implementation in Japan</i> Mr. Ito from MOEJ • <i>EIA and JEAS – mission of JEAS in EIA in Japan</i> Mr. Matsunaga from JEAS • Q&A
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 - 15:00	<p><u>Session II: EIA from the practitioners point of view</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>EIA implementation in Japan and overseas</i> Representative from ERM Japan • <i>EIA framework and implementation by Kawasaki City</i> Mr. Shirakawa & Mr. Suzuki from Kawasaki city • <i>EIA in the transport sector</i> Mr. Imanaga from Pacific Consultants • Q&A
15:30 - 15:50	Coffee Break
15:50 – 17:20	<p><u>Session III Mutual learning from the twinning project</u></p> <p>Moderator: Representative from Japan</p>

Time	Session details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion • Training plans in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR Representative from Sri Lanka and Lao PDR • Orientation for Day 2 activities Representative from ERM Japan
17:20 - 17:30	Closing session Moderator: Representative from the Japan Concluding remarks Representative from JEAS and ERM Japan
17:30 – 18:30	Break
18:30 – 20:30	Dinner session at 5th floor Yokohama Sakuragicho Washington Hotel Private room “Dolphin” within Restaurant BAY SIDE
	Greeting Speech Mr. Osamu Kajitani, President, JEAS

Note: Simultaneous interpreters will be provided for Opening –closing sessions

Day 2 (26 Jun '14) - On-site interactive learning workshop

Time	Session details
8:45 - 9:00	Registration/sign up at hotel (meeting place)
9:00 -12:00	Group A: EIA in the energy sector - thermal/coal power plan in Isogo, Yokohama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive session with experts and operators • JEAS, ERM Japan, and IGES staff will accompany Group B: Water pollution control - site visit in Kawasaki City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive session with experts and operators • JEAS, ERM Japan, and IGES staff will accompany
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 - 17:00	<u>EIA in the transport sector – monorail as a new mode of urban transport</u> <i>Role of EIA in the context of sustainable development and</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive session with experts and operators • JEAS, ERM Japan, and IGES staff will accompany

Note: Session time includes transportation (public transportation).

Day 3 (27 Jun '14) - Wrap up and planning sessions, Meeting room at Landmark Tower (25F room 2518)

Time	Session details
9:00 - 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and Feedback by participants from Sri Lanka and Lao PDR • Plan development for training sessions in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR • Report writing, etc.



Participants List
Capacity Development Workshop in Japan
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Lao PDR-Japan and Sri Lanka-Japan
25-27 June 2014, Landmark Tower, Yokohama, Japan

No.	Title	Given name	Family name	Positon	Organization
1	Mr.	Samaranatha Jayawardana	Kahanavita Gamarallage	Deputy Director (EIA)	Central Environmental Authority
2	Mrs.	Kusala Seneviratne	Mahalekame	Assistant Director	Central Environmental Authority
3	Mr.	Sunil Maithripala	Udagedara	Assistant Director (EIA)	Central Environmental Authority
4	Mr.	Thavone	Vongphosy	Deputy Director General (EIA)	Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
5	Mr.	Orlahanh	Boungnaphalom	Head	Environment Management and Monitoring Divisioin, DESIA
6	Mr.	Soundaxay	Khamphengxay	Head	Center for Agriculture-Forestry, Industry and Infrastructure, DESIA
7	Mr.	Lamphoukeo	Kettavong	Deputy Head	Planning and Administratoion Division, Dept. of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
8	Dr.	Peter	King	AECEN Secretariat	AECEN Secretariat
9	Dr.	Daisuke	Sano	Director	IGES-BRC
10	Ms.	Panjit	Tansom	Programme Manager	AECEN Secretariat
11	Mr.	Manabu	Sakaguchi	Partner	ERM Japan Ltd.
12	Ms.	Maruyama	Naoko	Consultant	ERM Japan Ltd.
13	Mr.	Suzuki	Yohei	Senior Consultant	ERM Japan Ltd.
14	Mr.	Osamu	Kajitani	President	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)



Registration Form
Capacity Development Workshop in Japan
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Lao PDR-Japan and Sri Lanka-Japan
25-27 June 2014, Landmark Tower, Yokohama, Japan

No.	Title	Given name	Family name	Positon	Organization
15	Mr.	Fumihiko	Kamio	Group Leader in JEAS	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
16	Mr.	Tadahisa	Matsunaga	Committee Member in JEAS	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
17	Mr.	Masahiro	Furumatsu	Committee Member in JEAS	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
18	Mr.	Takao	Tamaki	Committee Member in JEAS	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
19	Mr.	Akio	Oomori	Senior Adviser	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
20	Mr.	Tatsuhiko	Kato	Secretary General	Japan Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
21	Mr.	Takaaki	Ito	Deputy Director	Ministry of the Environment of Japan
22	Mr.	Tetsurou	Imanaga		Pacific Consultants Co., LTD
23	Mr.		Shirakawa		Kawasaki-city
24	Mr.		Suzuki		Kawasaki-city

Concept Note
Capacity Development Training in Sri Lanka
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Sri Lanka-Japan

5 August 2014

Auditorium of Central Environment Authority (CEA), Colombo, Sri Lanka

Organized by CEA, Sri Lanka

in association with Environment Resources Management (ERM) Japan with support from ADB

Background

For developing countries in Asia, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in these countries remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

Under Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG on environmental safeguard of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Environmental Compliance and Network (AECEN) aims to increase capacity for EIA implementation through its subproject – “Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning.” The subproject strives to achieve its aims by facilitating knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation through exchange of knowledge and know-hows as well as mutual learning.

For twinning partnerships, Sri Lanka was selected to participate in the subproject as one of the mentee countries, and Japan has been acting as a mentor country. Useful perspective, experience and strategies are expected to be shared to advance implementation of EIA laws and regulations in Sri Lanka through hands-on activities under the subproject.

¹ Please refer to <http://www.aecen.org/events/consultation-workshop-twinning-partnership-environmental-impact-assessment-eia-between-sri-la> for further details.

implementation in different countries, share experiences and to discuss improving EIA implementation for mentee countries.²

The third activity, a training workshop – to be conducted in a mentee country – aims to share lessons from the workshop in Japan to a wider audience mentee country and address further narrowed-down needs from the mentee country. During the second workshop held in Japan, a set of training needs for the third activity was identified by the participants from Sri Lanka. Through a discussion between the participants from Sri Lanka and the experts from Japan, a hands-on training exercise for EIAs for coal-fired power plants was agreed on as a priority area for the planned training workshop. ERM Japan Ltd, as a mentoring organization, has agreed to dispatch its staff members to be speakers and modulators for the capacity development training in Sri Lanka.

Objectives and expected outputs of the capacity development training

As stated above, the scope of this capacity development training is limited to EIAs for coal-fired power plants in Sri Lanka. Target participants will include central and regional government officers from CEA and other EIA approving authorities in Sri Lanka.

Objectives of the capacity development training scheduled to be held on 5 August 2014 are as follows:

- To strengthen capacity on assessment of social and environmental impacts due to construction and operation of coal-fired power plants;
- To provide hands-on knowledge on prevention, control and mitigation measures of social and environmental impacts caused by construction and operation of coal-fired power plants; and
- To enhance understanding about monitoring the potential impacts resulting from operation of coal-fired power plants.

Expected outcome:

Government officers from CEA of Sri Lanka and other EIA approving authorities are expected to have:

- Increased understanding and knowledge on conducting EIA for coal-fired power plants; and
- Better understanding of monitoring the potential impacts resulting from operation of coal-fired power plants.

² <http://www.aecen.org/events/capacity-development-workshop-twinning-partnerships-eia-lao-pdr-japan-and-sri-lanka-japan>

Provisional agenda
Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
Between Sri Lanka and Japan
A training workshop on EIA report review
– A case of thermal power sector with Japanese Experience

Date: 05th August 2014 Venue: Auditorium, Central Environmental Authority

Time	Session details
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:10	Welcome remarks Mr Gamini Jayasinghe, DDG/EMA)/CEA
9.10-9.20	Objective of the workshop Mrs Kanthi De Silva, Director/ EIA/CEA
9.20 -9.40	Introduction of Case study (Coal Power Plant in Sri Lanka) Mr KGS Jayawardana, DD/ EIA/CEA
9.40- 10.20	Presentation of EIA review practice Mr Yohei Suzuki, ERM Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JBIC checklist - IFC guideline - Points of review
10.20-10.40	Tea break
10.40 – 12.00	Small group workshop (4 groups) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion/Working on the EIA report of the Coal Power Plant among each group/ Review findings - Presentation preparation
12:00-13.30	Lunch Break
13:30- 14.30	Presentation from each group (15min/group) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review findings of case study project/Appropriateness of EIA report
14.30- 14.50	Tea break
14.50-15.30	Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Based on the review findings important aspects to be considered in the review
15. 30- 15.45	Closing remarks

Participant list

Twinning Partnership on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Between Sri Lanka and Japan

A training workshop on EIA report review

– A case of thermal power sector with Japanese Experience

1. Ms. Wilka Ranasinghe /Senior Env't. Officer/ (Waste Management / CEA
2. Mr. Pradeep Seekkubadu / Assistant Director / Uva Provincial Office/CEA
3. Mr. Sivakumar / Director (Eastern Provincial Office) / CEA
4. Mr. Sunil Maithripala / Assistant Director (EIA) / CEA
5. Ms. Kusala Mahalekame / Assistant Director (EIA) / CEA
6. Mr. G N Chandrasiri / Assistant Director (EIA) / CEA
7. Ms. Harshi Edussuriya /Senior Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
8. Ms. Hiranthi Janz / Assistant Director (Lab Service) / CEA

10. Ms. C P Palihapitiya / Assistant Director (Central Provincial Office) / CEA
11. Ms. S P Periyapperuma / Deputy Director (EIA) / CEA
12. Mr. S M J Samarakoon / Deputy Director (Lab Services) / CEA
13. Ms. Vajira Kumarasinghe /Senior Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
14. Mr. M Jeevabahu / Senior Env't. Officer (Northern Provincial Office) / CEA
15. Ms. P K G Karunaratne / Assistant Director (EIA) / CEA
16. Ms. Chandani Rubasinghe / Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
17. Ms. L S Wickramasinghe / Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
18. Mr. S Sivakumaran / Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
19. Mr. S S Ranasinghe / Assistant Director (Env't. Pollution Control) / CEA
20. Mr. N G L Samaratunga / Assistant Director (Southern Pro. Office) / CEA
21. Mr. R M S B Ratnayake /Asst. Director (Sabaragamuwa Pro. Office) / CEA
22. Mr. T S C Peiris / Assistant Director (RIA) / CEA
23. Mr. A G D L Karunaratne / Assistant Director (Natural Resources Mgt.)/ CEA
24. Ms. R R Sumanawathi /Senior Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
25. Mr. K Pirapaharan /Senior Env't. Officer (NRM & M) / CEA
26. Ms. Nelka Perera /Assistant Director (Env't. Pollution Control) / CEA
27. Ms. Kanthi De Silva / Director (EIA) / CEA
28. Mr. A U K Ethugala /Senior Env't. Officer (EIA) / CEA
29. Ms. Vernika Ranawaka Arachchi /Assist. Director (Western Pro. Office) / CEA
30. Mr. K G S Jayawardana / Deputy Director (EIA) / CEA
31. Mr. P V S Shantha / Assistant Director (EIA) / CEA
32. Ms. Yohei Suzuki / Consultant / ERA Japan
33. Mr. Tomoko Kaku / Consultant / ERA Japan

Concept note for the training workshop

Background

For developing countries in Asia, application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements has been consistently identified as a priority concern of environmental compliance and enforcement. Yet, effective implementation of the EIA laws in these countries remains patchy, especially in relation to compliance and enforcement of environmental management and monitoring plans (EMMPs) which identify measures to be taken in order to reduce adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels or offset them in appropriate manners. Therefore, EIA implementation needs to be enhanced through further capacity strengthening.

Under Technical Assistance (TA) 7566-REG on environmental safeguard of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Environmental Compliance and Network (AECEN) aims to increase capacity for EIA implementation through its subproject – “Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Clearinghouse and Capacity Strengthening through Twinning.” The subproject strives to achieve its aims by facilitating knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international best practices in EIA implementation through exchange of knowledge and know-hows as well as mutual learning.

For twinning partnerships, Lao PDR was selected to participate in the subproject as one of the mentee countries, and Japan has been acting as a mentor country. Useful perspective, experience and strategies are expected to be shared to advance implementation of EIA laws and regulations in Lao PDR through hands-on activities under the subproject.

Under the subproject between Lao PDR and Japan, there are three key activities planned in order to achieve the subproject’s aim. The first activity, a consultation workshop in January 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, brought together partners from both mentor and mentee countries, identified priority assistance needs, discussed and agreed on objectives and design of the partnership, and secured commitments from both countries for its implementation.¹ Following on the first activity, a workshop was held in June 2014 in Yokohama, Japan to strengthen capacity of the government officials in charge of EIA implementation from the mentee countries (Lao PDR and Sri Lanka) responding to their needs identified at the consultation workshops. Partners and experts from Japan provided the participants both from Lao PDR and Sri Lanka with good practices of EIA implementation in Japan through workshop and study tour. The workshop also provided a platform for all the participants from both mentor and mentee countries to understand the differences in EIA implementation in different countries, share experiences and to discuss improving EIA implementation for mentee countries.²

¹ Please refer to <http://www.aecen.org/events/consultation-workshop-twinning-partnership-environmental-impact-assessment-eia-between-lao-pd> for further details.

² <http://www.aecen.org/events/capacity-development-workshop-twinning-partnerships-eia-lao-pdr-japan-and-sri-lanka-japan>

Objectives and expected outputs of the capacity development training

As stated above, the scope of this capacity development training is limited to EIAs for hydropower projects in Lao PDR. Target participants will include different offices under DESIA.

Objectives of the capacity development training scheduled to be held on 17-18 September 2014 are as follows:

- To strengthen capacity on assessment of social and environmental impacts due to construction and operation of hydropower projects;
- To provide hands-on knowledge on prevention, control and mitigation measures of social and environmental impacts caused by construction and operation of hydropower projects; and
- To enhance understanding about monitoring the potential impacts resulting from operation of hydropower projects.

Expected outcome:

Government officers from DESIA are expected to have:

- Increased understanding and knowledge on conducting EIA for hydropower projects; and
- Better understanding of monitoring the potential impacts resulting from operation of hydropower projects.

Training workshop agenda

Date: 17-18 September 2014

Time	Session details
Day 1 (17 September) Training workshop (8:30-15:45)	
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:10	Welcome remarks (representative from DESIA)
9:10 - 9:20	Objective of the training (Mr. Lamphoukeo Kettavong)
9:20 - 9:40	Introduction of the case study of Theun Hinboun Project (Mr. Lamphoukeo Kettavong)
9:40 - 10:30	Presentation of EIA review practice (ERM Japan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JBIC checklist • IFC guideline • Points of review
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee break
10:45 - 12:00	Small group workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion/working on an EIA report of hydropower project to identify review findings • Presentation preparation
12:00 -13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	Presentation from each group (Moderator: ERM Japan and DESIA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review findings of case study project/appropriateness of EIA report
14:30 -14:50	Coffee break
14:50 - 15:30	Panel discussion (Moderator: ERM Japan and DESIA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize the review findings and important aspects to be considered in the review
15:30-15:45	Concluding remarks (Representative from DESIA)
Day 2 (18 September) Field visit to Theun Hinboun Expansion Power Project (7.00-18:00)	

Participant list

	Name	Organization	Position
1	Manabu Sakaguchi	ERM Japan Ltd.	Partner
2	Yohei Suzuki	ERM Japan Ltd.	Consultant
3	Khamsy	Interpreter	Interpreter
4	Phonexay	DESIA	Staff
5	Bunerkeo	DESIA	Deputy of Division
6	Maniphoe Phissamay	DESIA	Staff
7	Jay	DESIA	Staff
8	Chatdauone	DESIA	Staff
9	Thavone Vongphosy	DESIA	Deputy Director of Division
10	Lamphoukeo	Planning Division	Deputy Head
11	Bonpha	DESIA	Officer
12	Oulaphany Inthavong	DESIA	Staff
13	Thongshad	DESIA	Technical officer
14	Boyatoy	DESIA	Staff
15	Vileyphanh	DESIA	Staff
16	Thipthida	DESIA	Deputy Director of Division
17	Khampa-Seuth	DESIA	Technical staff
18	Phoulthavone	DESIA	Technical staff
19	Akkhavong	DESIA	Technical staff