

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has achieved remarkably high economic growth, with average gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of 7.28% over 2010 to 2017, the second-highest growth rate among ASEAN member states during the same period. Myanmar's real GDP per capita was US\$1,300 in 2017. This strong economic growth during the last 6 years was also accompanied by an increase in energy consumption in all sectors. Myanmar is endowed with abundant, rich natural resources that, if fully developed, would be sufficient to meet most of the country's daily energy needs. Myanmar's energy policy is generally aimed at ensuring energy independence by increasing national production of available primary energy resources through intensive exploration and development activities. Myanmar also acknowledges electricity as the main power source driving economic development and addresses the need to generate and distribute more power in terms of greater volume, density, and reliability. But, so far, the country does not have national energy statistics, especially energy balance tables. Consequently, nobody knows the accurate situation of both energy demand and supply sides.

To fill the gap regarding energy data and statistics of Myanmar, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy requested the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) to support the Oil and Gas Planning Department (OGPD) in preparing accurate energy statistics for Myanmar. With ERIA's kind acceptance of this request, the OGPD formed its team to work with ERIA's expert team in early 2018. Data was collected and shared with the ERIA expert team. Energy consumption surveys for the transport, industry, residential, and commercial sectors were also carried out. During the project period, ERIA also conducted capacity-building trainings, such as basic understanding of energy statistics, for OGPD staff.

On behalf of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy of Myanmar, I am very grateful for the technical and financial support for this Myanmar Energy Statistics Project. We always can count on the support from ERIA to build energy data and statistics on energy policy and planning in Myanmar. We will continue to consult with ERIA for future updates of the data and statistics nd include many other energy policies and planning activities in Myanmar.

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