

# Lao Energy Statistics 2018 launched

## Times Reporters

The Lao Ministry of Energy and Mines and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) yesterday launched Lao PDR National Energy Statistics 2018, the country's first national energy statistics that offers insights into the country's energy consumption, demand, and supply.

The launch ceremony was held in Vientiane in the presence of the Minister of Energy and Mines, Dr Khammany Inthirath and President of ERIA, Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura.

ERIA, provides analytical support to many Asean countries including Laos. Since June last year, ERIA assists has assisted in updating Laos' energy statistics. This project involved the training of the ministry's staff and other line agencies in the process of collecting sharing and preparing data, and also analysing data on energy consumption in different key consumer sectors.

Laos National energy statistics report will be presented in a similar format as the reports of other Asean members,' said Dr Khammany in his opening remarks.

The Laos government and ERIA will both sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation between the ministry and ERIA to extend the support from ERIA in respect to building the ministry's personnel capacity in order to be able to publish the first Energy Outlook of



**Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura hands over the Lao PDR National Energy Statistics 2018 publication to Dr. Khammany Inthirath at the ceremony.**

Lao PDR. This will in turn expand the government's expertise on energy and economics, and assist them in preparing a roadmap for electric vehicles.

ERIA and the ministry's Department of Energy Policy and Planning established a team that worked on data collection and carried out consumption surveys for the transportation, industry, residential, and commercial sectors.

Some of the most notable findings of the surveys are in regards to transport information such as fuel economy and mileage of types of vehicles, as well as the use of biomass in the residential sector.

ERIA is strongly convinced that improving Laos energy data and statistics will not only serve Lao PDR's policy purpose, but will also enhance regional energy cooperation

with other ASEAN member countries, and other regional and international bodies such as ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) all of which require data from time to time for policy and analyses, according to Prof. Hidetoshi Nishimura.

Prior to the formulation of the Lao PDR National Energy Statistics, the Lao government and ERIA have already developed a strong relationship through ERIA's assistance in the development of Lao PDR at a Crossroads: Industrial Development Strategy 2016-2030, which illustrated a comprehensive industrial and infrastructure development vision for Lao PDR.

*Lao PDR Energy Statistics 2018 can be accessed through ERIA's website: <http://www.eria.org/publications/lao-pdr-energy-statistics-2018/>*