

Preface

In East Asian Summit (EAS) countries where demand for electricity is rapidly increasing, generating more capacities is necessary. At the same time, cheaper electricity is required when considering impact on the general public and economy, and cleaner electricity when considering impact on pollution and climate issue.

On the other hand, potential resources to fuel power plants like coal, natural gas, and river remain untapped and/or underdeveloped in EAS countries. These resources can possibly supply sufficient and cheap electricity if the region can utilise them. Furthermore, the region's energy security can be enhanced by reducing dependence on imported energy supply.

A possible option to maximise the use of undeveloped resources in the region is regional grid interconnections where the region can optimise power-supply mix through cross-border power transactions.

Against this backdrop, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) organised a working group to carry out a study aimed at analysing a possible optimum power generation mix for the region and providing policy recommendations to improve the situation. Experts from EAS countries gathered and discussed their existing power development plans and possibilities for regional optimisation.

We hope that the outcomes from this study will serve as a reference for policymakers in East Asian countries and contribute to the improvement of energy security in the region as a whole.

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