


Preface

Cambodia's fast economic growth since the 2000s has transformed the country into a market-based economy and enabled it to join regional and global production networks. Garments, textiles, tourism, and agriculture have been the country's fastest-growing sectors, and these sectors have accounted for more exports of manufacturing products and other primary high-quality value-added products to the international market. Investments from around the globe into this region have been driven by a favourable labour force, growth of connectivity and innovation, and regional political stability – driven by peace and the stability of Cambodia's political environment – and harmony amongst the members of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN). Fast economic growth has also lifted the well-being of Cambodia's people through income generation and employment. One key factor behind this strong economic growth was the fast growth of energy consumption during the same period. Energy demand increased threefold, from 3.42 Mtoe in 2000 to an estimated 8.94 Mtoe by 2020. The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) forecasts a doubling of energy demand from 2020 to 2040, to reach 15.25 Mtoe in 2040.

The Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) of Cambodia realises the importance of acting quickly through energy efficiency and conservation (EEC) to curb demand growth whilst maintaining economic growth. The MME is grateful for ERIA's technical support over the past 10 years in helping it to build the foundations of the data and statistics and support the formulation of downstream energy policy regulations and energy policy in Cambodia. This energy efficiency master attempts to define the legal and organisational bases for energy efficiency activities, and suggest ways to create the conditions for enabling Cambodia to reduce its energy consumption. It is hoped the master plan will also guide investment on EEC through appropriate policies to attract foreign and domestic investors in EEC business such as energy service companies and the promotion of efficient uses of energy appliance and energy efficiency building.

On behalf of the ministry, I am very thankful to Prof Hidetoshi Nishimura, ERIA President, who honoured my request for ERIA's support to the MME in formulating the EEC Master Plan. I would like to thank the experts of ERIA and the MME staff for their efforts in producing this important policy document. During the project period, ERIA also conducted capacity-building training, such as on a basic understanding of the EEC and energy service companies. Lastly, the MME would like to show its great appreciation to ERIA for its technical and financial support in publishing this master plan.



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Minister of Mines and Energy, Cambodia

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