

Executive Summary

The Lao PDR, strongly supported by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), published the *Lao PDR National Energy Statistics 2000–2015* in 2018 based on available primary energy data. Then it updated the national energy statistics 2016–2018 with ERIA’s continuous support. These national energy statistics, however, include estimated primary energy data due to missing data. To produce more accurate and consistent national energy statistics, the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) requested ERIA to support energy statistics regulation. Under the energy statistics regulation, the Department of Planning and Cooperation (DPC) of MEM will collect energy supply and demand data from energy market players in the Lao PDR on a mandatory basis. The establishment of the regulation and specific questionnaires will be needed when the DPC collects energy supply and demand data from the energy market players. Thus, the questionnaires for this project were designed with clear definitions with clear definitions in terms of required information in each questionnaire of oil, gas, electricity and renewables.

This project aims to establish energy statistics regulation to be approved by the MEM. Being a research institute and unfamiliar with legal matters, ERIA focused on preparing the necessary contents of energy statistics regulation. This involved the selection of designated market players, especially private energy supply companies, the frequency of data collection or submission, dissemination of collected data, etc.

This time ERIA thoroughly recommends that the DPC collect accurate supply-side data from energy supply companies. Subsequently, the department will collect sales data from wholesalers and final users as demand data. The DPC might face future challenges when it needs to analyse energy efficiency indicators based on detailed energy consumption data to measure a significant subsector’s energy efficiency level, such as an industry subsector, type of households and commercial buildings in urban and rural areas.

The Lao PDR and other ASEAN countries must formulate appropriate energy policies to maximise energy availability, accessibility, affordability, environment, and security. Reliable, timely, complete, and accurate energy data or statistics will indeed contribute to setting up appropriate and relevant energy policies to accomplish a balanced energy demand–supply situation.