Project Summary

Project Background
In ASEAN countries like Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam a major portion of rural villages are still without electricity and most of the already electrified areas use fossil fuel such as diesel and kerosene. These countries have a substantial potential for mini and micro hydro plant (MHP) electrification and compared to other renewable technologies hydropower even on a small-scale is technically and commercially proven.

The adoption of renewable energy resources is a high priority in all ASEAN countries. Furthermore, the electrification of a large number of rural villages with environmentally benign solutions is part of the national development plans of all ASEAN countries. AGMHP is highly relevant to the energy policy strategies of the ASEAN states, as it supports them in implementing the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2004-2009 adopted in 2003. One key objective of the Plan of Action is to contribute to sustainable development in the region by creating an appropriate policy and institutional framework and by transferring the technological knowledge needed to harness RE.

Project Objectives
The preconditions have been improved in selected countries of the ASEAN region for a growing number of consumers to meet their electricity requirements from sustainably utilised mini-hydropower sources.

Project Activities
• Dissemination of mini-hydro technology and know-how successfully proven in Indonesia and establishment of these strategies in further ASEAN states;
• Knowledge transfer from Indonesia to Viet Nam, from where suitable actors shall be qualified in Cambodia and Laos;
• Advice on dissemination, operation of MH facilities and building counterparts’ capacities;
• Financial contribution to support the mini-hydro activities of the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE).

Implementation Features
The project team and the local coordinators elaborate proposals for each specific country concerning ways to shape enabling framework conditions for MHP utilization. They advise and train users, intermediaries and potential operators of mini-hydopower facilities in issues of technology and economics, and facilitate planning, financing, construction and operation of selected schemes. These schemes have a demonstration character for the general public, authorities, investors and entrepreneurs. In the intervention countries, the authorities responsible for MHP and selected village communities make use of the project’s outputs to improve the framework conditions (e.g. grid feed-in rules, tariff systems), to create a favourable investment climate for MH and to operate MH facilities successfully. The findings and experience are fed back via ACE to the policy level of the ASEAN group of states.

*) focus: Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam

Services Provided
• Capacity Development: Qualification of local experts/trainings in
  - Socio-economic field research, incl. Monitoring and Evaluation
  - Rural Enterprise and Economic Development
  - Business Development
• Socio-economic Results-based M&E