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### FOREWORD

Energy is one of the most important inputs for economic growth and human development in Lao PDR. Energy access as a means for productive use is of key importance for rural communities to earn a decent living.

This document presents a NAMA on Rural Development through Electrification with Renewable Energies. It is designed to support Lao PDR in achieving its strategies relevant to rural development and rural electrification as outlined in the Rural Electrification Master Plan. The overall target of the NAMA is to provide access to electricity to 90 per cent of households by 2020.

During recent years, NAMAs have become a focus of climate change mitigation negotiations in the UNFCCC process. The NAMA modality can provide the essential holistic framework to overhaul a complete sector when framed within the context of sustainable development and beyond pure mitigation aspects. The focus on the sustainability of the entire sector is essential for achieving lasting results.

Moreover, the understanding of the NAMA concept is still evolving, and there is relatively little on-the-ground experience with respect to turning the concept into concrete actions. In this regard, UNDP in Lao PDR and the UNDP MDG-Carbon Programme have supported the development of this NAMA in order to help Lao PDR to achieve a transformative change and bring about rural development and enhancement of the private sector as long-term goal.

The outcomes of this NAMA with regards to Sustainable Development, GHG Emission Reductions and inclusive Green Growth are strongly interrelated building blocks as a pathway of a change framework that shall ensure that the NAMA is fully embedded in national development goals.

The NAMA design will provide the country with an accurate and credible information framework by applying a robust MRV system for sustainable development impacts and GHG emission reductions. The calculation of GHG emission reductions are based on an approved CDM methodology while the MDG Carbon NAMA Sustainable Development Evaluation Tool will allow to quantify and monitor the sustainable development impacts.

This NAMA on Rural Development through Rural Electrification with Renewable Energies in Lao PDR is designed as an encouraging holistic framework that will help Lao PDR to move towards a low-carbon pathway while advancing long-term sustainable development benefits and strengthening the private sector.

Resident Representative United Nations Development Programme

Kaarina Immonen



Seumkham Thoummavongsa, PhD.

# Table of Contents

List of Tables					
List of Figures				7	
Executive Summary				8	
Ab	brevia	tions		10	
1.	Introduction				
	1.1	Rural Ele	ectrification and Development	13	
	1.2	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions		15	
		1.2.1	NAMA as an Opportunity for Lao PDR	15	
2.	Backg	Background to Lao PDR			
	2.1	Geograp	bhy and Administration	17	
	2.2	Econom	у	17	
	2.3	Demogr	aphy	17	
	2.4 The Socio-Economic Situation		o-Economic Situation	18	
	2.5	National	National Development Strategies		
		2.5.1	The Seventh Five-year National Socio-Economic Development Plan, 2011-2015	20	
		2.5.2	The Millennium Development Goals	22	
3.	Backg	ground to	Rural Electrification in Lao PDR	29	
3.1 Primary Energy Der		Primary	Energy Demand and Supply	29	
	3.2	Electricit	ty Demand and Supply	30	
	3.3	Renewable Energy Potential and Status		32	
		3.3.1	Wind	33	
		3.3.2	Solar	34	
		3.3.3	Small Hydropower	35	
	3.4	Electricity Tariffs		36	
	3.5	5.5 Electrification			
		3.5.1	Experience with Rural Electrification using Mini grid Approaches	37	
	3.6	Financing and Support Instruments for Rural Electrification			

4.	The P	olicy Env	vironment	41
	4.1 The Institutional Framework for Rural Electrification			
		4.1.1	The Ministry of Energy and Mines	41
		4.1.2	Other Public Sector Entities	43
		4.1.3	Private Sector Entities	44
	4.2	The Stra	tegic and Regulatory Framework for Rural Electrification	44
	4.3	Lao PDR Intended Nationally Determined Contributions		
	4.4	Policy G	ap Analysis in the Context of Rural Electrifcation	47
		4.4.1	The Electricity Law (1997, Amended 2012	48
		4.4.2	The Power Sector Policy Statement (2001)	49
		4.4.3	The National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (2004)	49
		4.4.4	The Prime Minister's Decree on the Local and Rural Electrification Development Fund (REF) (2005)	50
		4.4.5	The Renewable Energy Development Strategy (2011)	50
		4.4.6	The Customs Law (2005)	51
		4.4.7	Value Added Tax (2006)	51
		4.4.8	National Policy on the Environmental and Social Sustainability of the Hydropower Sector in Lao PDR (2005)	52
		4.4.9	the Law on Investment Promotion (2009)	52
		4.4.10	Summary of Policy Recommendations	53
5.	NAMA Baseline and Targets			
	5.1	<ul><li>5.1 NAMA Objectives</li><li>5.2 Alignment of NAMA Design with National Strategies and Transformative Change</li></ul>		55
	5.2			56
	5.3	NAMA B	aseline	57
		5.3.1	GHG Emission Reduction Baseline	57
		5.3.2	Sustainable Development Baseline	59
	5.4	NAMA T	argets	60
6.	NAMA Interventions			
	6.1	Eligibilty	y Criteria	62
	6.2 Approval Process for NAMA Interventions			63

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	6.3	Owners	ship and Operation of Interventions	64
	6.4	Pilot Mi	ini Grids	65
7.	NAM	NAMA Implementation Structure		
	7.1	Actions	to Institutionalize the NAMA	67
	7.2	NAMA I	Institutions	67
8.	NAM	A Capaci	ity-Building	71
	8.1	Component 1: Capacity-Building for NAMA Implementation		
		8.1.1	Implementing The NAMA Network, Processes and Financial Cycle	72
		8.1.2	Regulations and Contractual Conditions	72
		8.1.3	Preparing NAMA Project Documentation	73
	8.2	8.2 Component 2: Capacity-Building for Marketing and Awareness Raising		73
		8.2.1	General activities	73
		8.2.2	Stakeholder-Targeted Activities	74
9.	NAM	A Costs a	and Finance	76
	9.1	Costs of	f the Intervention	76
	9.2	Costs of	f NAMA Capacity Development and Operations	76
	9.3	The Stabilization Fund		
	9.4	Nationa	al and International Finance	78
10	. NAM	A Measu	rement, Reporting and Verification (MRV)	82
	10.1	The MR	V System for GHG Emission Reductions	82
		10.1.1	Baseline	83
		10.1.2	GHG Emissions Reductions	84
	10.2	MRV System for Sustainable Development Benefits		91
	10.3	MRV System for Financial Support		98
	10.4	MRV Ma	anagement	98
	10.5	Verifica	tion	100
11	. NAM	A Impler	mentation Plan	101
	11.1	.1 Implementation of NAMA Institutional Structure		
	11.2 Securing Donor Support and Domestic Funding			

11.3 Implementation of Intervention	101
Annex – Overview of Mini Grids	103
References	111

## List of Tables

Table 1: MD Goal 1- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (status as of 2013)	23
Table 2: MD Goal 7 - Ensuring environmental sustainability (status as of 2013)	24
Table 3: MD Goal 8 - Developing global partnership for development (status as of 2013)	26
Table 4: MD Goal 9 - Ensuring complete clearance of UXO from priority land (status as of 2013)	26
Table 5: Outstanding targets of the MDGs and associated barriers	27
Table 6: Potential grid connected renewable energy in Lao PDR, 2015-2025	32
Table 7: Grid connected renewable energy in Lao PDR, 2011	32
Table 8: Off-grid connected renewable energy in Lao PDR, end-2013	33
Table 9: Snapshot of mini grid power systems in Lao PDR	38
Table 10: Lessons from mini grid projects	39
Table 11: Overview of institutions linked to rural electrification	41
Table 12: Tax exemptions and reductions by investment zone	53
Table 13: Summary of recommendations on developing a favourable policy environment for a rural mini grid programme	53
Table 14: Indicators for SD baseline	59
Table 15: Expected and targeted impact of first eight mini grids	60
Table 16: Eligibility criteria for the NAMA intervention	62
Table 17: Description of approval process for NAMA interventions	62
Table 18: Overview of proposed NAMA pilot projects	62
Table 19: Capacity development and NAMA operational costs	63
Table 20: NAMA costs	65
Table 21: Contributions to NAMA financing of first eight mini grids	77
Table 22: SD indicators for the mini grid intervention	91
Table 23: Monitored SD parameters	93

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