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Scoping of Opportunities for Integrating Micro-Hydro Turbines into existing Irrigation Weirs in the Lower Mekong Basin

In close cooperation with the MRC and its Initiative on Sustainable Hydropower ISH, assessment of possibilities to upgrade irrigation structures for multipurpose use (add hydropower and where possible fish passage structures); proposal of pilot sites and recommendations on how to improve accuracy of estimates for potential sites



Country:

Lower Mekong Basin (Laos as first focus)

Project Period:

Nov. 2012 - Jan. 2013

Services Provided:

Assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation

- Evaluation based on field survey
- Analysis of existing reports, of databases and of legal and institutional frame conditions

Name of Staff involved and functions performed:

Project Manager: [Hedi Feibel](#), hydropower expert and hydrologist

Project Officer: [Martin Bölli](#), expert for technical design aspects and backstopping

Name of Client:

GIZ, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Description of the Project:

Activities: hydrological and topographic analysis, assess the potential for electricity generation; propose appropriate technologies and options for upgrading existing irrigation structures for hydropower use; develop generic potential layouts and designs; assess potential for combined operation with new fish passage facilities; evaluate possibilities for grid-connection and off-grid use and propose related contractual and management arrangements.

Results: potential for equipping existing irrigation structures with micro-hydropower turbines (supplying electricity to local communities in the vicinity or providing income opportunities for these communities through grid-connection) is roughly assessed and about 3 potential pilot sites are proposed.