



Lower Mekong Initiative: Energy Security Pillar

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Alternative energy is a key component of the LMI Energy Security Pillar.

The LMI Energy Security Pillar seeks to enhance energy security and accessibility with due consideration to health, safety, and environment for the sustained prosperity, growth, and integrated development of the Lower Mekong sub-region.

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BACKGROUND

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) is a multinational effort to foster integrated sub-regional cooperation and capacity building among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. Over the next decade, energy consumption in the Mekong sub-region is expected to increase at least 5 percent annually, propelled by overall economic growth. Under the LMI Energy Security Pillar, the United States is working with LMI partner countries to coordinate a strategic regional approach to energy security and accessibility. This pillar is co-chaired by Thailand and the United States.

APPROACH

The LMI Energy Security Pillar seeks to increase energy security and economic competitiveness through developing unconventional and renewable sources of energy, ensuring access to energy, and enhancing regional interconnectivity in the region. The LMI Energy Security Pillar centers on interventions in:

1. Regional energy market development;
2. Power interconnection in the Mekong sub-region;
3. Energy efficiency, conservation, and alternative energy;
4. Transparency and good governance; and
5. Energy research and development.

ACTIVITIES

Activities under the LMI Energy Security Pillar leverage expertise from the public and private sectors in the United States in order to further energy security in LMI partner countries. The goals of the LMI Energy Security Pillar activities are to:

- Promote regional energy sustainability through the diversification, development, and conservation of resources;
- Increase the application of environmentally-sound technologies;
- Share information and best practices on alternative energy sources and energy market development and investments; and
- Leverage private sector expertise and resources through public-private partnerships.