




**Capacity Development Workshop
in Japan
Twinning Partnership on Environmental
Impact Assessment (EIA)
Lao PDR - Japan and Sri Lanka - Japan**

*Recap of the Consultation Meetings in Colombo
and Vientiane and a way forward*

AECEN Secretariat
25 June 2014, Yokohama, Japan





Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network

**Overall objective of the project, progress so far,
and activities ahead**

- ❑ To develop the implementing capacity of EIA through mutual hands-on learning opportunities between the government officials in charge and experts in the field and deliver tangible outputs that are beneficial to Sri Lanka and Lao PDR.
- ❑ Consultation workshops were held in Sri Lanka in December 2013 and Lao PDR in January 2014
 - Technical needs identified on which Japan can assist
- ❑ Workshop in Japan in June 2014
 - Learning opportunity in Japan (lecture and a field trip)
- ❑ Training in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR (August-September 2014)
 - Knowledge sharing in each country

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Recap from the workshop in Sri Lanka

- ❑ Approximately 25 participants including the current and former officials from the CEA, officials from technical agencies, experts from ADB and Japan (ERM), and AECEN Secretariat
- ❑ Good discussion and lessons sharing with current and former CEA officials
- ❑ Highlighted areas for improving EIA implementing capacity
 - Scoping process and drafting ToR, EIA reviewing process, preparation and implementation of EMMP
 - Sectors: Power/energy (coal, LNG, wind), transport (monorail, railway), municipal solid waste management
 - EIA-related consortium like JEAS



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Recap from the workshop in Lao PDR

- ❑ approximately 20 representatives from DESIA who are in charge of reviewing sectoral EIAs, experts from Japan (ERM), and AECEN secretariat
- ❑ Good discussion and lessons sharing with officials from various sectors and report back to SG of DESIA. DESIA is a relatively new organization.
- ❑ Highlighted areas for improving EIA implementing capacity
 - EIA review, enforcement and commitment to EIA and EMMP, training module/materials
 - Sectors: Hydropower (water pollution control, resettlement), and mining (closure)
 - Practices/knowledge from Japan



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Participants to Japan workshop

Sri Lanka

The Central Environmental Authority (CEA)

Lao PDR

The Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (DESIA), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental (MoNRE)

Japan

- The Ministry of the Environment
- The Japanese Association of Environment Assessment (JEAS)
- ERM Japan (Implementing organization)
- Kawasaki City
- Pacific Consultants
- Monorail company and power plant (site visit on Day 2)
- IGES/AECEN

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Learning points from this Workshop

- EIA implementation in Japan by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan/JEAS
 - o Enforcement of EIA in Japan (Session 1)
- Mission of JEAS in EIA implementation by JEAS
 - o Public consortium's role in compliance (Session 1)
- EIA implementation in Japan and overseas by ERM Japan
 - o Consulting firm's practices and lessons (Session 2)
- EIA framework and implementation by Kawasaki City
 - o EIA enforcement at the sub-national level (Session 2) and water pollution control (on-site, Day 2)
- EIA in the transport sector by Pacific Consultants
 - o Sector-specific EIA implementation (Session 2 and on-site on Day 2)
- EIA for thermal/coal power plants
 - o Site visit to J Power on Day 2

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Follow up Training in Sri Lanka and Lao PDR

- To be held in August-September 2014 to conclude the twinning projects
 - Organized by CEA and DESIA for their officials
 - Resource person from ERM may be dispatched (subject to fund availability/ADB's approval)
- Materials and lessons from this Japan Workshop and site visits will be utilized and shared at the workshop
 - Training materials in local language (outputs)
- Presentations by Sri Lanka and Lao PDR (Session 3) and further discussion on Day 3 with ERM and ACEAN Secretariat

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EIA and sustainable development



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A few key notes for moving forward

- EIA is a tool for sustainable development plan not a check box or a road block
- Implementation is a key
- EMMP and public participation/information disclosure
- A robust and faster process to secure national projects and induce necessary FDI
- Learn from other examples: AECEN's EIA compendium (<http://www.aecen.org/eia-compendium>).
- Further efforts on more complex cases:
 - SEA, trans-boundary assessment
 - Biodiversity, supply chain management
 - Climate change
 - Impacts from economic integration – labor/immigration

