

Press Release



New Energy and Industrial Technology
Development Organization

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November 22, 2011

NEDO and the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia Conclude Memorandum of Understanding –NEDO Chairman Furukawa and Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen Affirm Close Bilateral Relations–

The New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization of Japan (“NEDO”) and the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia (“MIME”) agreed to carry out the Demonstrative Project on the Rice Husk Power Generation Systems Utilizing Energy and Environmental Technologies. Mr. Furukawa, Chairman of NEDO, and H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of MIME, concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) on November 22, 2011 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The objective of this project is to improve rice milling quality and supply electricity by using an environmentally-friendly, low-cost and compact-sized biomass power generation system, which includes an energy-efficient rice husk separator, at a rice milling plant in Cambodia’s rural area. This project also aims to increase crop yields, including rice, by applying the biochar from rice husks, which have been used to generate electricity, as soil conditioner. This project is designed to widely promote these Japanese technologies throughout Cambodia.

Following the conclusion of the MOU, Mr. Furukawa met with Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia. They affirmed the importance of this project and agreed to carry out this project in close cooperation between both countries.

1. Project Overview

Many rural areas in Cambodia have yet to be electrified and diesel generators are widely used in unelectrified areas. With the increase in prices of oil that is used as fuel for diesel generators, demand is growing for biomass power generation, which is expected to reduce economical and environmental burdens, as an alternative to conventional oil-based power generation.

Through this project, an environmentally-friendly, low-cost and compact-sized power generation system will be introduced and demonstrated at an existing or newly constructed rice milling plant. Electricity and heat generated by this system will be used to operate an energy-efficient rice husk separator. The biochar from rice husks, which have been used to generate electricity in this system, will be used as soil conditioner in order to further improve rice milling quality and rice husk supply capacity. (See Annex for details)

2. Future Outlook

The installation of equipment necessary for this project will be completed next summer, and a demonstration operation of the system will be carried out until March 2013. In addition to the evaluation and verification of data collected during the demonstration phase, this project aims to promote the dissemination of Japanese technologies used in the system in throughout Cambodia through promotional seminars and opening the facilities to the public.

3. Contact Persons

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Overview of the Demonstrative Project on the Rice Husk Power Generation Systems Utilizing Energy and Environmental Technologies

1. Background

- NEDO and MIME spent a year conducting a feasibility study for this project.
- As conditions necessary to implement this project have been fulfilled, NEDO and MIME agreed to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding on November 22.
- This project aims to contribute to the resolution of Cambodia's energy and environmental issues by using Japanese technologies.

2. Project's Three Characteristics

- 1) Supply electricity (approximately 500 kW) by using a rice husk power generation system
- 2) Recycle biochar from rice husks as soil conditioner
- 3) Boost agricultural productivity by using an energy-efficient rice husk separator

3. Project Period and Budget

Project period: November 2011 - March 2013

Project budget: 535 million yen

4. Project Implementation Site

Rice milling plant in Takeo Province, Cambodia (Approximately 80 km south of Phnom Penh)

