

## PROJECT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF POWER SECTOR MANAGEMENT

**Project period:** October 2010 – March 2013

**Project site:** Vientiane Capital

**Project outline:** The Lao Electric Power Technical Standard (LEPTS), created as part of the STEP<sup>3</sup> project supported by JICA, was established between 2001 and 2003. LEPTS was then adopted into the Ministerial Decree of Electricity Law, in February 2004.

In 2005, the Government of Japan decided to continue supporting the Government of the Lao PDR to implement a Technical Cooperation Project (STEP<sup>II</sup>) through JICA, in cooperation with the Department of Electricity (DoE) and the Ministry of Energy and Mine (MEM). The guideline on operating and managing LEPTS, including safety rules, was produced and officially promulgated in the form of a decree by MEM in 2007, applying to power sector development activities for the whole country. The LEPTS Regulatory Unit (LEPTS RU) was also established under the DoE and MEM.

The regulatory work of examination, inspection and supervision for power development projects is conducted by LEPTS RU. In order to ensure that LEPTS is being disseminated and applied effectively to power sector development in civil hydropower, electrical hydropower, power transmission lines, power substations and power distribution systems, the capacity of LEPTS RU should be strengthened and its links to the Provincial Department of Energy and Mines (PDEM) enhanced – to enforce the regulatory function and also to increase PDEM's understanding of LEPTS, so that the number of electric power facilities that suit LEPTS are increased and electric power stably supplied in the near future.