



Minutes of Meeting

7th Project Steering Committee Meeting 2022 of project
27 October 2022, Dokchampa hotel, Pakson (Bolikhambxay)

The Department of Industry and Handicraft in collaboration with UNIDO held the 7th PSC meeting through in-persons in the morning of 27th October 2022 at Dokchampa hotel, Pakson, Bolikhambxay province under the "Project on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emission in Industrial Sector through Pelletization Technology Lao PDR" under the chairmanship of Mr. Savath Khoundavong, Deputy Director General of the Department of Industry and Handicraft with co-chair of Mr. Phouvieng Keoboupha Director General of Research Institute of Energy and Mines, attended by UNIDO project manager Mr. Jossy Thomas and the member of Project Steering Committee from Ministry of National Resources and Environment, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Director of Veunkham salt factory and the staff of Cleaner Production Centre, all together about 15 persons as follows.

1. Mr. Savath Khoundavong, Deputy Director General of DIH, the chairman
2. Mr. Phouvieng Keoboupha Director General of RIEM
3. Mr. Jossy Thomas, Project Director in Vienna
4. Mr. Khamphone Keodavalong, Director of CPC-L
5. Mr. Vilakone Nou Khaiyang Kongchee, Staff of CPC-L
6. Mr. Sachai Saykhammoun, Staff of RIEM
7. Mrs. Bounthavy Chounlamany, Director of Veunkham Salt Factory
8. Ms. Siamphone Sisomphou, factory manager of Veunkham Salt factory
9. Mr. Vonephasao Oraseng, Head of Division, MONRE
10. Mr. Chanpheng Khamphoukeo, Technical staff of CPC-L
11. Mr. Thongphet Phonsavath, National Project Coordinator
12. Mr. Khankham Samakhy, Project Assistant
13. Mr. Bounthan Chandara, Ministry of Planning and Investment
14. Mr. Sounadet Soukchaleun, MONRE, GEF OFP
15. Ms Grazia Chidi, Project assistant, HQ

The contents and the agenda of the meeting are as follow

1. Objectives

- To report on project implementation from 2016 to 2022.
- To discuss and provide inputs/comments on remaining activities of the year 2022 and agreement on turning the remaining budget to other possible activities.

2. Meeting procedures

Mr. Savath Khoundavong, Deputy Director General of Department of Industry and Handicraft, gave opening remarks and summarized the works implemented in last 7 years of the component 1, 2 and 3 and the issues to be discussed on project implementation in the year of project 2022.

Mr. Phouvieng Keoboupha: remarked the meeting with saying thank you for the assistance of UNIDO to RIEM on establishing the BTILC and the support of establishment of laboratory at RIEM, which has been taken from the tasks and responsibility of the REMI.



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Mr. Jossy Thomas remarked the meeting with saying thank to all the project partners on collaboration and implementation of the project activities successful from the beginning till the end of this project in December 2022.

The meeting was proceeded as per agenda and detailed as follows:

1) Presentation:

Mr. Thongphet Phonsavath, National Project Coordinator presented the implementation of seven years project implementation till October 2022, the remaining activities till December 2022 and turning the budget to other possible activities. The main activities could be summarized as follows:

Component 1: Establishment of BTILC in 2018, training for BTILC staff on pelletization technology and procurement of laboratory equipment with complete delivery and setting-up the laboratory in May 2022.

Component 2: Training and assess on biomass resources of selected 262 selected factories of 12 province completed in 2019. Drafting of national biomass energy strategy (second draft on 20th October 2022). The strategy shall finalise end of this year.

Component 3: UNIDO signed the contract with the three companies: Dokchampakham, Simmalakham and Alexson import-export for receiving incentive from UNIDO. One company, Simmalakham briquette factory invested for the pellet machine of 3.0 ton per hour, while the two company hesitate to invest due to not sure of market.

Component 4: The monitoring and evaluation of the project. The project is conducting Terminal Evaluation by hiring a national consultant and expert for carrying out the task and completed in December 2021.

3. Discussions

Mr. Phouvineg Keoboupha

RIEM will continue the remaining activities focusing of organise training for repair and maintain cook stove in three provinces: Vientiane Capital, Savannakhet and Champasack in November to December 2022.

Mr. Khamphone Keodalavong

Thanks to UNIDO for supporting Department Industry and Handicraft for some project office equipment and implementation of project activities, especially the formulation of the biomass energy strategy in manufacturing sector and the modification of pellet technology for salt industry at Veunkham salt factory and purchasing of some measuring equipment. The next activities until the end of the project will be the improvement of the pellet furnace installing at Veunkham factory, finalise the biomass energy strategy planned to be finished in December 2022 and the turning the remaining budget for capacity building/sharing experience of industry management in neighbouring countries, for organizing a workshop and printing of green industry decision planned to be held in December 2022. Mr. Khamphone also raised the question for the activities that need more time than two months, is it possible to implement the activities few months after the closing date of the project. Mr. Khamphone had also propose to further collaborate with UNIDO and find some project in future.



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Mrs. Bounthavy Chounlamany: Veunkham salt factory addressed that the reason for joining project was to find solution on fuel. Veunkham factory use coal and sawdust as fuel. Nowadays, Veunkham factory is facing the scarcity of fuel, if there is no other fuel that can replace coal and sawdust the factory would not continue production as it is.

The pilot project done in Veunkham factory showed that good quality of salt can be produced. Till now, the salt cooking by using sawdust, there is dust contaminated the salt. Veunkham factory expected to use new fuel, if the fuel (pellet) is cost effective, Veunkham factory will stop using sawdust and coal. Veunkham wants to know the energy efficiency of fuel, the moisture content of salt. For this purpose, equipment is required. If the project can support this would be grateful. For telling information on using pellet in salt industry, there is annual meeting of salt association, where all the member from country will join. It can take this opportunity to organize a meeting at ministry to introduce pellet technology and pellet use in salt factory with the success case of pellet furnace in Veunkham salt factory.

Mr. Thanongxay Keoyothy (GEF OFP): agreed on the implemented activities presented. Concern is about the remaining activities especially the formulation of the biomass energy strategy. The strategy will very useful for the private sector who want to invest on pellet. The remain budget will be useful to purchase the measuring, equipment, exchanging and sharing experience on industry management in neighbouring countries.

Mr. Vonephasao Oraseng (MONRE): agreed with the presentation and compliment the success of the project such as the establishment of the biomass Technology Information and Learning Center, the establishment of laboratory at BTILC (RIEM) and other successful activities. The project was one of the successful projects and it was a good project in Lao PDR.

Mr. Jossy Thomas

Good to hear that this project is important to Veunkham factory, and the alternative fuel is so important to Veunkham. For the measuring equipment, project is seeking supplier. The measuring equipment required by Veunkham can be considered to purchase at the same time. Thanks to MONRE that see the importance of the project. UNIDO is ready to assist the remaining activities in supporting the production and utilization of biomass. A consultation meeting between association of salt manufacturers and pellet manufacturing companies may be organized to highlight the potential pellet market and the possible use of pellet for salt cooking. DDG of DIH may chair such a meeting. For the activities that agreed and with the contract with UNIDO, it can be completed a few months after the date closing but not for many months.

4. Conclusion

Chairman: Summarized and agreed to continue remaining activities as discussed till the end of the project as follows:

1. Continue and prepare for the procurement of measuring equipment to PMU,



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2. Finalize of the biomass energy strategy planned to be finish within this year lead by DIH
3. Improvement of the pellet furnace at Veunkham salt factory to be completed by CPC-L
4. Prepare for the capacity building or sharing experience of industrial management in neighbouring countries Thailand and Vietnam
5. If there is opportunity to have a meeting with salt company with involvement of government to disseminate pellet technology will be good.
6. Inform and cancel the contract with company that failed to meet their contractual obligations with UNIDO.

The chairman closed the meeting on the same day at 12:00. *ph*

Vientiane Capital, date *5/12/2022*

**Acknowledged by
Chairman**

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Savath KHOUNDAVONG

Minutes taken by