

STRENGTHENING THE LOCAL POWER GRID

Houay Ka-Ouane and Nam Sak, Lao PDR

ANDRITZ has signed two contracts with one of the largest independent power producers in Lao PDR, the Phongsavathay Group, for the electro-mechanical works of Houay Ka-Ouane and Nam Sak hydroelectric projects.

Both projects are run-of-river schemes, with a combined objective of strengthening the structure of the local power grid and to use local resources to develop economic independence by improving infrastructure.

ANDRITZ' scope in both contracts comprises design, engineering, manufacturing, supply, and transportation of electro-mechanical equipment, as

well as supervision of installation and commissioning.

We are happy to support the customer on the way to secure the local grid in Laos in order to secure sustainable and green power for the local people. These contracts are again proof of ANDRITZ' competence and expertise in hydroelectric equipment, and strengthen the company's leading position in the hydropower market of Lao PDR.

AUTHOR

Pankaj Sharma
hydronews@andritz.com

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Houay Ka-Ouane:

Total output: 22.5 MW

Scope: 3 × 7.5 MW

Head: 111.3 m

Voltage: 11 kV

Speed: 750 rpm

Nam Sak:

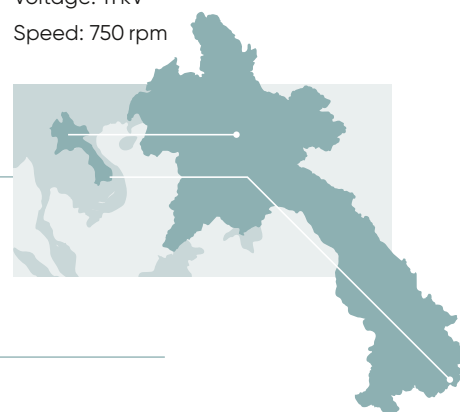
Total output: 22 MW

Scope: 3 × 7.33 MW

Head: 811 m

Voltage: 11 kV

Speed: 750 rpm



EXPANDING RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Lao PDR has an immense hydropower potential of about 18,000 MW excluding the main-stream of the Mekong River and up to 27,000 MW with it. This potential makes Laos the "Battery of Southeast Asia". However, the electrification rate of the country is still below the regional average, which causes slow economic growth. In response, the government has launched a strategic masterplan with a golden target of a 90% national electrification rate as part of long-term national development plan. This plan for the improvement of rural electrification includes hydropower and additional power distribution projects to expand the national grid to encompass off-grid centers and to make electricity affordable for every household. Electrification is a necessary condition for village development that will lead to improved rural productivity and reduced poverty through fair economic growth.

