

Item 3: Follow up on the Ministerial Declaration on Regional Cooperation for Energy Transition towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies in Asia and the Pacific of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum

“Regional roadmap on power system connectivity: Promoting cross-border electricity for sustainable development”

- One of the important factors for driving cross-border power trade is “Geographic location”
In case of Thailand, we have bilateral cooperation with our neighboring countries in the form of buying from or selling to Lao PDR, Cambodia, Myanmar and Malaysia. We also establish multilateral power trade platform with Lao PDR and Malaysia which is considered as the first multilateral power trade in ASEAN and will expand to Singapore soon, known as LTMS-PIP (Power Integration Project).
- The benefits of this multilateral power trade project are in the form of promoting the efficient energy resources allocation in the region and also help promote the overall energy access and development of clean energy resources at affordable cost. Thailand is fortunate with the strategic location to promote the electric power distribution from supply source to demand destination.
- In the future, with the advanced technology improvement and more collaborative support from government sector and private investors, the cross-border power trade can be expanded to cover the wider regions such as among ACMECS, GMS, BIMSTEC, and also with any other interested Asia-Pacific countries.
- To build up capabilities for engaging cross-border power trade, the critical factors that we need consist of;
 - Policy platform: Regular meeting / Consultation dialogue is vital for the exchange of policy views.
 - Investment on infrastructure and clean energy projects at the right source and destination.
 - Pilot project with flexible and relaxing regulations for lesson learned and future development
 - Initial support from International Organizations on Capacity Building/ Training/ Knowledge Sharing/ Academic Studies e.g., UNESCAP, IEA, IRENA etc. are useful and necessary to get it started.

- To keep our projects energy moving forward, we need
 - Uptake of RE in the power grid or “Greening the grid” supported by Digital Platform
 - Supportive law and regulations for facilitation of cross-border electricity trade and grid harmonization.
 - Political stance firm / strong commitment / predictable policy direction
 - Participation of all related organizations; government agencies, universities, private sector
 - Understanding and awareness of local people and stakeholders to support the project in a mutually beneficial way.