

Second Call for Proposals Report

December 2010

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I. Introduction

After nearly three months of development, the electronic project proposal form became operational at the end of July 2010 leading to the launching of the Second Call for Proposals on 2 August until 15 October. One of the most important differences between the First Call and the Second Call is that submission of proposals for the Second Call was made strictly on-line. This was made possible with the establishment of EEP Mekong website in June.

To obtain concise, comprehensive and complete proposals, the electronic project form was designed in such a way that key information must be provided and the number of words was limited. The form has built-in controls that were activated if required information was not provided or the number of words exceeded the prescribed limit. In such cases, the applicant was not allowed to proceed to the next section or to submit the proposal.

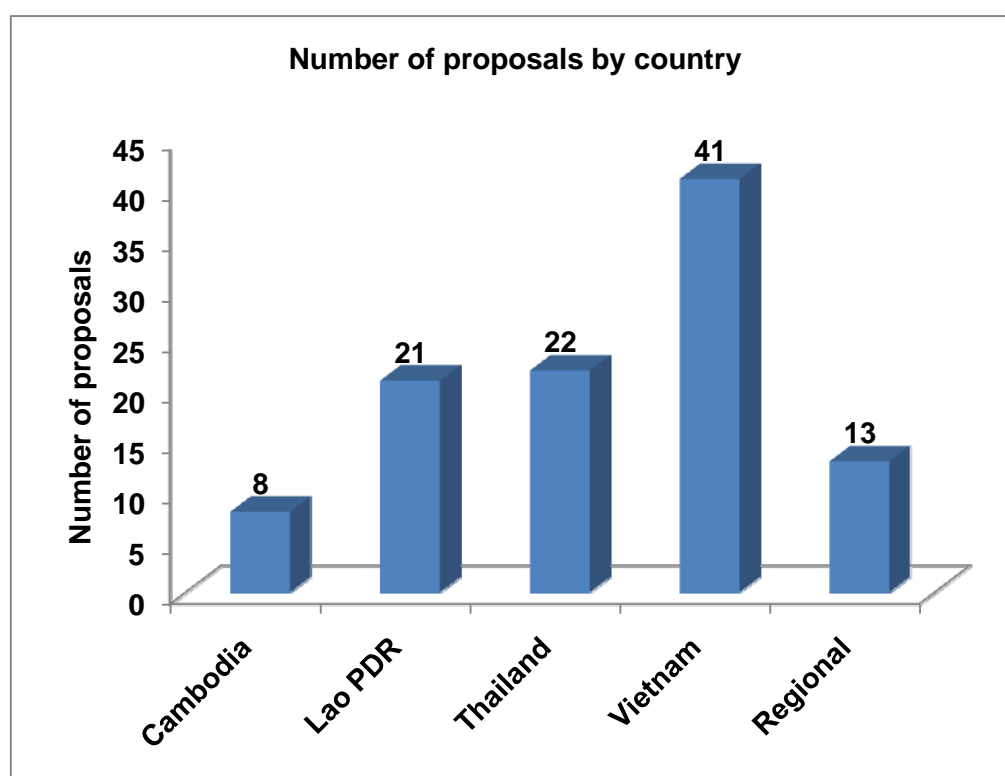
Reflecting the new proposal form, the evaluation guideline was also revised. Both the new proposal form and the revised evaluation guidelines were formatted adopting EEP Monitoring and Evaluation guidelines which made the preparation and the evaluation of the proposals easier.

To ensure a satisfactory response to the Second Call and to explain in detail the new proposal form and submission process, a series of information seminars were conducted in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Phnom Penh, Vientiane and Bangkok by NCUs, RCU and the Embassy of Finland. In addition, the Commercial Section of the Danish Embassy in Bangkok also disseminated information on the Second Call to Danish companies in Thailand and in Vietnam.

II. Response to the Second Call

Although there were fewer proposals received during the Second Call than during the First Call, the response was still generally good as there was higher participation by organizations from all Nordic countries.

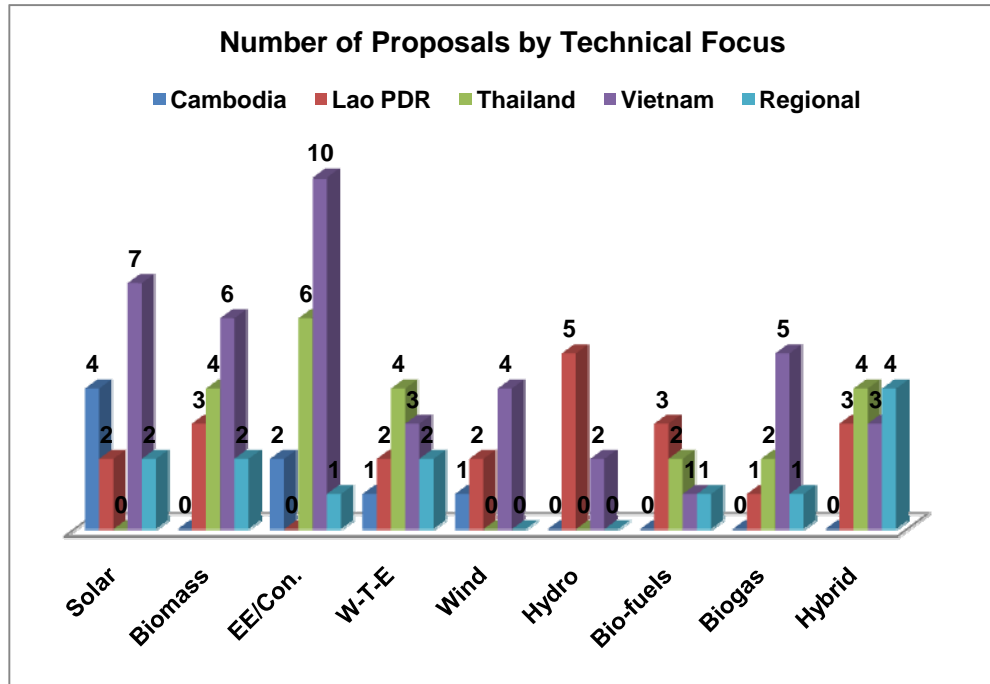
A total of 105 proposals were received after eliminating two proposals from Vietnam that were submitted twice. The distribution by country is shown in the graph below:



The number of proposals by activity is shown in the table below.

Activity	Number of Proposals
Capacity Building/Training	16
Demonstration Project	31
Feasibility Study	7
Pilot Project	28
Policy Development	14
Pre-feasibility Study	5
Strategic Study	4
Total	105

The graph below shows the distribution of proposals by technical focus.



III. The Evaluation Process

a. Sorting out the Proposals: Matching Titles with Identification Numbers

With the new electronic proposal form, the evaluation process for the Second Call proposals was shorter as there was no need to sort the proposals to match the titles with the ID numbers as the proposal ID is automatically allocated on submission. The ID contained the number of the call, the initial of the country of origin and the order the proposal was received.

b. Initial Screening: Compliance and Relevance

Similar to the First Call, proposals were screened by RCU and NCU with inputs from the Embassy of Finland as to their compliance with EEP objectives and submission guidelines as well as their relevance to the national energy and environmental needs of each of the EEP Mekong partner countries.

The key aspects of the guidelines include the following:

- Proposals must be submitted with at least one partner.
- Proposals must meet the energy objective of EEP.
- Hydro proposals must be for projects of 10 MW or less.
- Production output of bio fuel projects must be solely for local sale.
- A signed hard copy of the proposals must be submitted to respective NCUs and RCU, for Regional projects.

The electronic form automatically screens compliance of the following guidelines:

- Maximum amount of EEP contribution: € 200,000
- Maximum project duration: 20 months
- Country of Origin: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand Vietnam and Regional

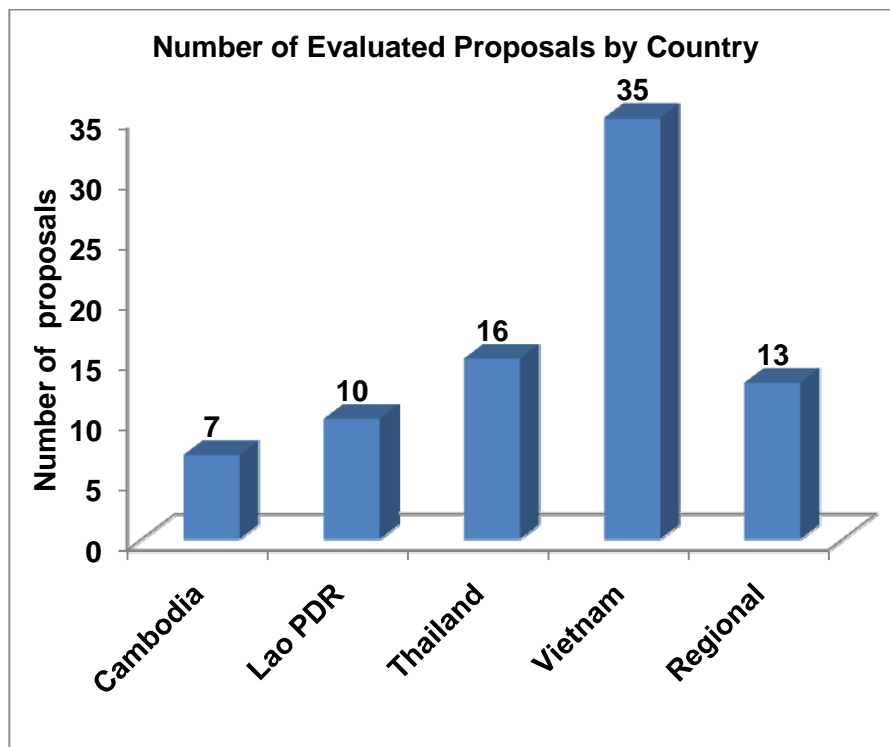
Proposals that did not comply with the above guidelines were not able to proceed with submission.

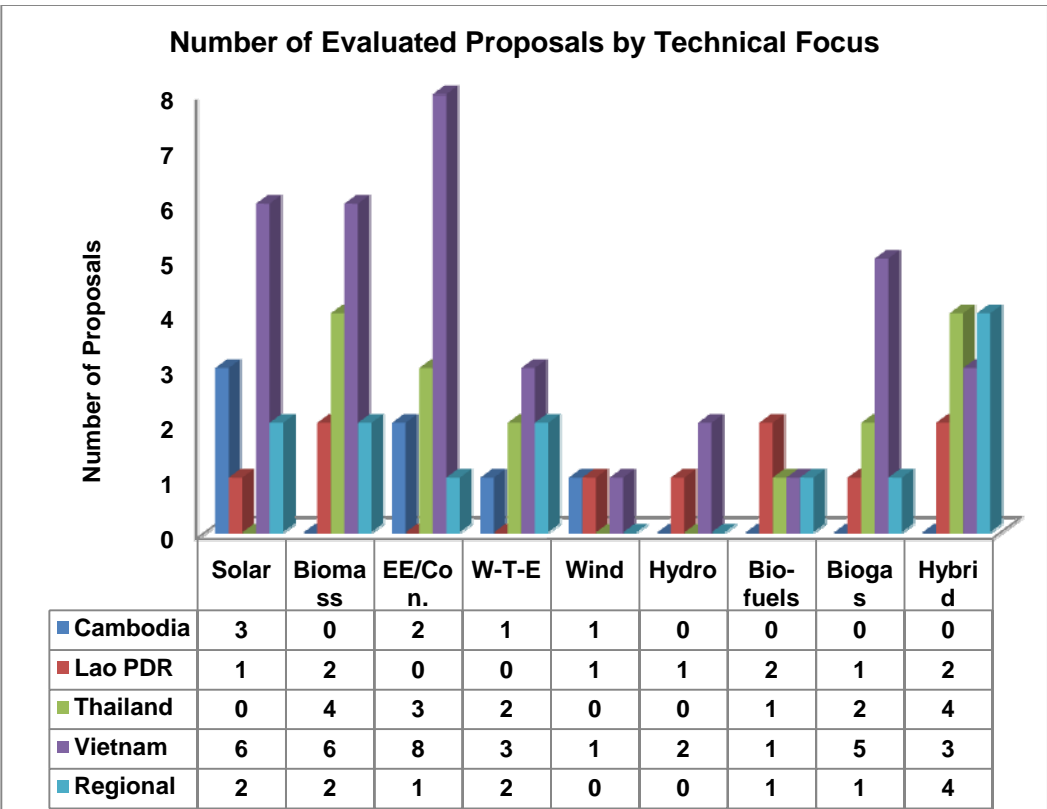
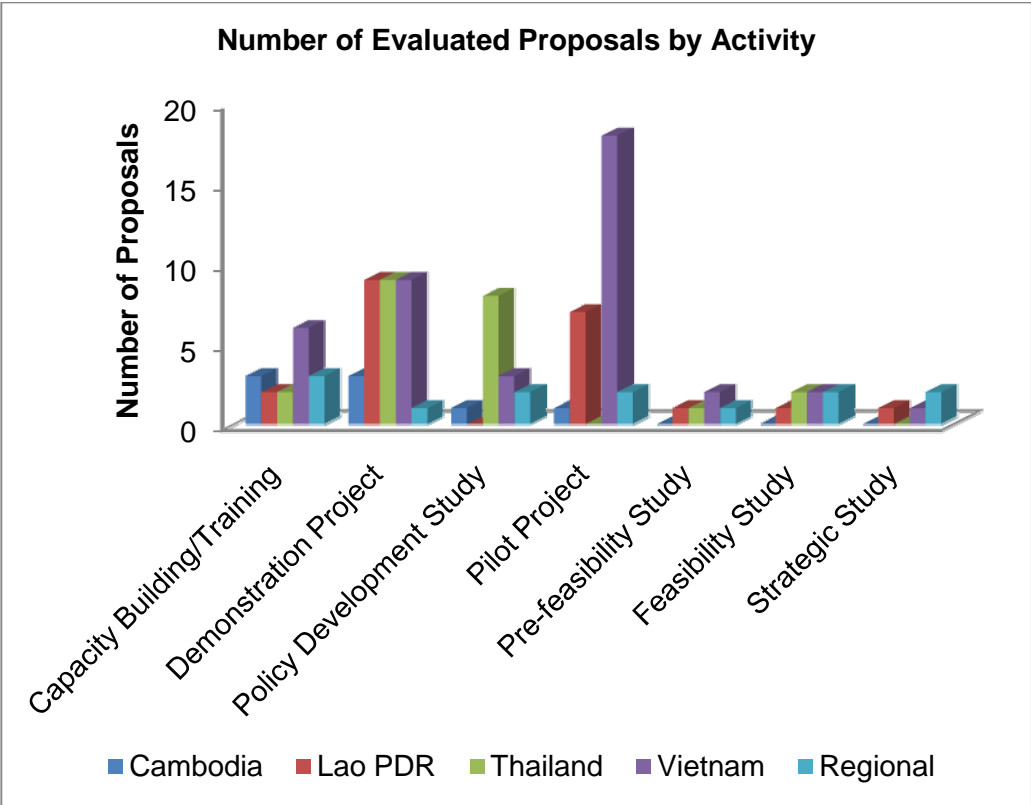
Results of the Compliance and Relevance Screening

Upon completion of the Compliance and Relevance screening, 24 proposals were eliminated, thus, 81 proposals were eligible for evaluation. All Regional proposals passed the Compliance and Relevance screening.

The table below shows the reasons for elimination and the number of eliminated proposals from each country while the graph shows the number of evaluated proposals by country.

Reason	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Thailand	Vietnam
Signed hard copy not submitted	-	5	2	-
No partner	-	-	2	1
Incomplete proposal	-	1	-	1
No energy component	-	-	1	1
Other reasons	1	5	1	3
Total	1	11	6	6





c. The Evaluation Team

The Evaluation Team was composed of the following members:

Name of Organisation	Number of Evaluators
AIT	4
Motiva	8
VTT	5
RCU	2
Total	19

d. Evaluation of Proposals

The proposals were evaluated based on the following criteria and each question was given a maximum of 5 points:

Criteria	Points
➤ Project/business idea or concept and logic	25
➤ Impact, sustainability, replicability and spread	20
➤ Innovation, learning and dissemination	10
➤ Budget, cost-effectiveness and financing	25
➤ Management, resources and partnership	<u>20</u>
Total	<u>100</u>

IV. Evaluation Results

On 16-17 December, the 4th Steering Committee meeting was held where 14 projects were pre-selected to receive EEP funding. The list of pre-selected projects is shown in the table below.

Proposal ID	Country	Technical Focus	Field of Activity
2-C-083	Cambodia	Waste-to-Energy	Demonstration Project
2-C-094	Cambodia	Solar	Demonstration Project
2-L-011	Lao PDR	Biogas	Demonstration Project
2-L-049	Lao PDR	Hybrid	Demonstration Project
2-L-106	Lao PDR	Biofuel	Pilot Project
2-L-003	Lao PDR	Hydro	Demonstration Project
2-R-042	Regional	Solar	Pilot Project
2-R-074	Regional	Hybrid	Policy Development
2-T-050	Thailand	Hybrid	Demonstration Project
2-T-028	Thailand	Biofuel	Feasibility Study
2-V-010	Vietnam	Biogas	Demonstration Project
2-V-061	Vietnam	Biogas	Pilot Project
2-V-098	Vietnam	Hydro	Capacity Building/Training
2-V-091	Vietnam	Hybrid	Pilot Project

V. Next Stages

Milestone	Responsible Persons/Organisation	Timing
Pre-selection of proposals	Steering Committee	16-17 December 2010
Pre-selected proposals lead applicants advised to prepare full project proposals	RCU	Week of 20-24 December 2010
Submission of full project proposals	Pre-selected proposal applicants	18 February 2011
Evaluation of proposals	Evaluators	21 Feb -18 Mar 2011
Contracting	RCU/MFA/Lead Applicants	From April 2011
Implementation	RCU/NTE/Lead Applicant and Partners	From May 2011