



Song Chung hydro power, Vietnam

Hydropower is a form of energy that is generated by the conversion of the kinetic energy of free-falling water into electricity. It generates no emissions or waste.

Location



This hydropower project is located in Vietnam's northern-most Hà Giang province, close to the border with China. The Quang Bình district is a sparsely populated, mountainous region with the Tây Côn Lĩnh peak reaching up to 2400m. The regional fauna is famous for its tigers, peafowl, pheasants, and pangolin.

The regional economy involves some agriculture and timber business.

Project



In Vietnam, the power source of choice remains fossil fuel (mostly coal). To overcome financial and regulatory hurdles, renewable energy projects need the extra funding that carbon trading provides.

This CDM project encompasses a hydropower plant on the Con River, with an installed capacity of 3x6.5MW. The estimated annual gross power generation is 69,000MWh.

By providing this rural region with reliable and sustainable energy, the project activity displaces diesel generators and wood-fired heating and lighting, which leads to better indoor and outdoor air quality and reduces respiratory and eye diseases.



To support sustainable development in the affected communities and in general improve the living conditions in one of the country's poorest regions, the project owner is donating to schools and several social programs (see details overleaf).

Achievements



Socio-economic impact:

- The project has generated jobs for locals in operation and maintenance of the plant.
- The construction of a new transmission line is reducing electricity loss and increasing the electricity supply in the region.
- The project owner has improved the former low-quality infrastructure systems in the region (road improvements, bridges repairs, etc.).
- Thanks to co-funding from the project owner, social community programs for orphans, disabled, the poor, and victims of natural disasters have been supported (with an amount to date reaching several thousand US\$).
- A local school is receiving regular donations to improve the regional education situation.
- At the occasion of the annual Tet Lunar Year festivities, residents receive gifts.
- The Association for the Victims of Agent Orange is receiving regular donations to ease the long term impacts of their burden.
- With the forest environment service fee, regional landscape and biodiversity are being protected.

Environmental impact:

- The project has reduced the need for firewood for heating, cooking, and lighting, thus allowing the mountain forest to regenerate, and improving soil conditions, hydrology and biodiversity.
- The project has improved regional air quality by reducing the need for diesel generators and wood fires.

Checklist Project 301 010



✓ Additionality and permanence:	according to the rules of the CDM
✓ 3 rd party verified:	by TÜV Nord
✓ Transparency:	provided by the UNFCCC Registry
✓ Annual CO ₂ -reduction:	26,000 tCO ₂ e
✓ Social and environmental benefits:	as documented in our database
✓ Marketing material:	pictures available