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Mekong odyssey: Cambodia fasttracks LNG-ready power projects

Cambodia is virgin territory for natural gas and LNG. In the past two decades, its economy has grown steadily, but this has put pressure on its ability to meet its energy demands. While major steps have been taken to diversify its energy supply sources, the south-east Asian country faced severe power shortages earlier this year as a result of a long spell of drought, which meant that hydroelectricity, Cambodia's biggest power source, was unable to help meet demand.

Having drawn heavy investment from abroad, especially China, Cambodia is looking to develop even more dependable power capacity, and is fast-tracking two dual-fuel power projects, which it plans to eventually switch to LNG. However, in a story that is all too familiar in south-east Asia, coal is also making inroads in Cambodia, with the path to reliable energy seemingly at the expense of the environment.

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