



**GREATER MEKONG
SUBREGION
CORE ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM**

GMS CEP Country Report 2016: Lao PDR

**The 23rd GMS WGE Annual Meeting and Supporting Events,
11-12 July 2017, Siem Reap, Cambodia**



Overview

1. Country context and related development
2. CEP Activities in the Lao PDR – Key Achievements in 2016
3. Challenges and Opportunities
4. 2017 Deliverables



Country context and related development

- In an attempt to move Laos toward the vision of green and clean economic development with environmental sustainability by 2030 and to achieve the SDGs 2030, the Government of the Lao PDR has:
 - created its strategy 2025 and 8th National Socio-economic Development Plan 2016-2020 and
 - mandated the line ministries to develop their own visions, strategies and action plans.
- MONRE responsibly responded to such a policy by creating a mechanism for more effective natural resource management and environmental protection through:
 - Policy-making and vision toward 2030, 10 Year Strategy 2016-2025, and 5 Year Action Plan 2016-2020 in parallel to enforcement of laws and legal framework;
 - The main objectives are: 1) To build Green, Clean, and Beautiful Laos by 2030 with ecological civilization and effective preparedness for climate change adaptation and natural disaster resilience; 2) To create environmentally sustainable cities in line with Green and Clean ASEAN; and 3) To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.



CEP Activities in the Lao PDR

- **CEP-BCI 2005-2011 in Champasak Province**
 - Executing Agency: GMS-WGE-Laos
 - Implementing Agency: WWF
- **CEP-BCC 2011-2016 (extended in 2019) in 3 Provinces: Chapasack, Xekong, and Attapeu**
 - EMM4's Decision in July 2011
 - TA approved by ADB in Dec 2011
 - Budget approved by ADB, Finland in Sept 2012, Sweden in Dec 2012, Norway in May 2013, and GEF
- **EMM4 Outcome Dissemination Workshop**
 - 18-month Action plans adopted by WGE and summary report to EOC/ADB in Aug 2013
 - Recruitment of some staff to support NSU in 2013-14
 - Commencement of the project implementation (including partners) in 2013-14
- **Signing Letter of Agreement (LOA) in July 2013**



CEP Activities in the Lao PDR – Key Achievements in 2016

- ① Strengthen subregional and national strategic planning capacity (Subcomponent 1.1)
- ② Strengthen transboundary biodiversity landscape monitoring and management (Subcomponent 2.1)
- ③ Develop and test low carbon interventions for transport and energy sectors (Subcomponent 3.3)
- ④ Establish an NSU capable of effective program implementation and sector coordination (Subcomponent 4.1)



CEP Activities in the Lao PDR – Key Achievements in 2016

① Strengthen subregional and national strategic planning capacity (Subcomponent 1.1)

- Ministerial Instruction on Pollution Control and Hazardous Waste Management (translated, printed, and disseminated in Vientiane Capital) 2016-17.
 - With CEP support, Pollution Control Department prepared to develop a monitoring framework for IPPS exercise and identified opportunities to also model agriculture pollution.
- **Develop the concept note for Pollution Control Strategy in 2016 (to be extended to 2017)**
- Consultation workshop on SEA into SEDP under cooperation with MPI's national planners;
- Completed provincial SEA technical training of trainers in Luang Namtha;
- Provincial training workshop on SEA application in land use planning and SEDP for senior and technical officials in Luang Namtha.



CEP Activities in the Lao PDR – Key Achievements in 2016

② Strengthen transboundary biodiversity landscape monitoring and management (Subcomponent 2.1)

- A consultative workshop held in November in Luang Namtha to discuss the bilateral cooperation framework on environment between Xishuangbanna, Yunnan PRC and Luang Namtha, Lao PDR, focusing on the joint management of Mekong Headwaters TBL, pollution prevention and control, environmental monitoring and ecological-based community livelihoods.
- Lao DONREs (Luang Namtha, Phongsali, and Oudomxai) and YEPD have jointly developed transboundary wild elephant conservation plan by conducting the study and mapping out distribution zones, population, migration routes and analyzing historical data. This study will be used as the basis for developing China-Laos joint wild elephant conservation strategy and action plan.
- Situational analysis of non-timber forest products (NTFP) in Biodiversity Conservation Corridor (BCC) project sites in Sekong, Champasack and Attapeu undertaken as part of CEP regional value chain activity.



CEP Activities in the Lao PDR – Key Achievements in 2016

③ Develop and test low carbon interventions for transport and energy sectors (Subcomponent 3.3)

- Ministry of Public Work and Transport (MPWT) oversaw the implementation of Green Freight Initiative by Grutter Consulting where over 100 truck
- Bus drivers were trained on Eco Drive program.
- Three representatives of MPWT participated in the Green Freight and Logistics in Southeast Asia regional workshop in Bangkok in June and Green Freight Day in Busan in August and presented the green freight experience and lessons learned from Lao PDR.

④ Establish an NSU capable of effective program implementation and sector coordination (Subcomponent 4.1)

- New Financial Assistant of Laos NSU received an on-the-job training at EOC office in Bangkok, Thailand for one week in June, 2016.



Challenges and Opportunities

- ❑ Inadequate capacity of relevant institutional and individual project management of both central and local levels;
- ❑ Delays in fund liquidation resulting to slow commencement of activities;
- ❑ NSU human resource capability should be improved;
- ❑ **MONRE's restructuring process:**
 - **GMS-WGE has been transferred to the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion since Jan 23, 2017**
- ❑ Project Identification Note Writing under the GMS CEP Strategic Framework III 2018-2022.

2017 Deliverables

- ❑ Attending the workshop on Inclusive and Green Growth in the GMS and Task Force Meeting of WGE for EMM5 Preparation, 22-24 Mar 2017, Bangkok, Thailand;
- ❑ Organizing the In-country Consultation Workshop on GMS CEP Strategic Framework F-III 2018-2022, 15-19 May 2017, Vientiane, Laos;
- ❑ Organizing the workshop on Project Identification Note (PIN) Writing for the Lao PDR, 28-30 June 2017, Vientiane Province, Laos;
 - ❖ 19 PIN for GMS CEP Project Pipeline 2018-2022.





ADB

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Thank You Very Much for
your kind attention!