



# **Preliminary Findings of the Midterm Review of the GMS Strategic Framework 2012-2022 and Update on GMS Program Events**

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***GMS Working Group on Environment  
23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Supporting Events  
11-12 July 2017, Siem Reap, Cambodia***



# Outline of Presentation

- I. **GMS Program Major Upcoming Events**
- II. **22<sup>nd</sup> GMS Ministerial Conference: *Inputs on Environment Sector***
- III. **Preliminary Findings of the Midterm Review of the GMS Strategic Framework 2012-2022: *On Environment Sector***

# I. GMS Program

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## Major Upcoming Events

# Event List



- 22<sup>nd</sup> GMS Ministerial Conference (MC-22), 18 and 20 September 2017, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
- 9<sup>th</sup> Economic Corridors' Forum (ECF-9), 19 September 2017, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
- 6<sup>th</sup> GMS Leaders' Summit, March 2018, Ha Noi, Viet Nam



- **18 and 20 September 2017; Ha Noi, Viet Nam**
  - ❖ GMS Senior Officials' Meeting, Morning, 18 September: to review deliverables and arrangements for MC-22 and ECF-9
  - ❖ Development Partners' Meeting, Afternoon, 18 September
  - ❖ Ministerial Retreat: 20 September
  - ❖ Ministerial Meeting: 20 September
- **Host and Chair:** Government of Viet Nam
- **Theme:** *“Aiming for Greater GMS Achievements through Stronger and Pragmatic Cooperation with a Clear Action Plan”*
- **Key Deliverables:** Ha Noi Action Plan (HAP) 2018-2022; RIF 2018-2022 (plus sector deliverables)

**Environment Sector:** Key deliverable for notation - GMS Core Environment Program Strategic Framework for 2012-2022 (*Note: A GMS Environment Ministers' Meeting is being planned for early 2018.*)

# 9<sup>th</sup> Economic Corridors' Forum (ECF-9)



- 19 September 2017; Ha Noi, Viet Nam
- Host: Government of Viet Nam
- Chair: Government of Lao PDR
- ECF-9 theme: *“Deepening and Widening Benefits of the GMS Economic Corridors through Inter-Sectoral Synergies”*
- Topics to be covered:
  - Part I. Deepening and Widening Connectivity along the GMS Economic Corridors (transport, railway, regional power trade, private sector investment in GMS infrastructure)
  - Part II. Multi-sector/ Inter-sector Approaches to Economic Corridor Development in the GMS (local area development along economic corridors, section-specific development along NSEC, border area development in Guangxi and CLV Development Triangle, regional e-commerce)
  - Panel Discussion on Regional Logistics Network

# Preparations for 6<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit



- 29-31 March 2017 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam
  - ❖ 29 March: SOM
  - ❖ 30 March: Global High-Level Dialogue
  - ❖ 31 March: Summit and Retreat
- Host: Government of Viet Nam
- Theme: *to be determined*
- Possible deliverables: HAP 2018-2022, RIF 2018-2022, Joint Summit Declaration, Signing of the Agreement Establishing the Mekong Tourism Coordinating Office, adoption of various sector strategies and action plans (**environment**, agriculture, transport, tourism)

## **II. 22<sup>nd</sup> GMS Ministerial Conference (MC-22)**

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### **Inputs on Environment Sector**





## MC-22: On Environment

- Inputs to SOM Chair's Report: Sector achievements and new strategic directions
- Inputs to Joint Ministerial Statement: Sector achievements and new strategic directions
- Sector assessment as part of the Mid-Term Review of the GMS Strategic Framework 2012-2022
- Inputs to the Ha Noi Action Plan 2018-2022
- Environment pipeline for RIF 2022

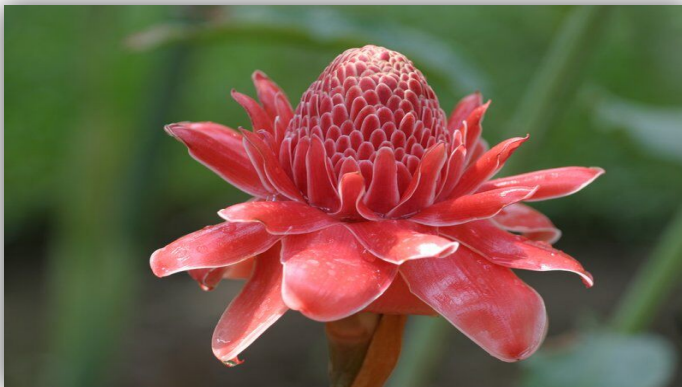
# MC-22 SOM's Chair's Report: On Environment



Core Environment Program (CEP) developed national environmental policies and strategies and application of sound environment management policies and tools.

Development and implementation of a number of tools and mechanisms to promote sustainable management of natural assets:

- transboundary biodiversity collaboration, including for endangered species;
- strengthened national environmental regulations, strategies and plans;
- testing of green freight solutions



Development of the CEP Strategic Framework 2018-2022; EOC is being restructured as a GMS Environment Services Facility under the next phase.

Ongoing preparations for the 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Environment Ministers' Meeting to be held in early 2018.

# MC-22 Joint Ministerial Statement: on Environment

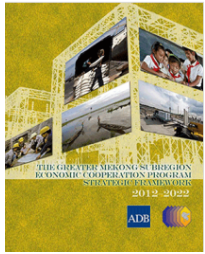


DRAFT -- On the **Environment**, the Core Environment Program (CEP), continued supporting development of national environmental policies and strategies and application of sound environment management policies and tools. Development and implementation of a number of tools and mechanisms to promote sustainable management of natural assets, including a transboundary biodiversity landscape monitoring and evaluation framework; a transboundary conservation plan for Cao Vit gibbon (*Nomascus nasutus*) the rarest primate species in the world living in Cao Bang, Viet Nam and Guangxi, PRC; and the successful testing of fuel efficient technologies, eco-driver training and improved logistics measures. The CEP Strategic Framework 2018-2022 is being prepared through extensive national and subregional consultations for endorsement by the 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Environment Ministers' Meeting to be held in January/February 2018.

# **III. Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the GMS Strategic Framework 2012-2022 (SF-II)**

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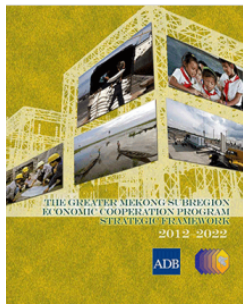
## **Preliminary Findings**



# The GMS SF-II 2012-2022



- Endorsed at 4<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit and MC-17 in 2011
- Reaffirmed vision and goals of GMS SF-I
- Adopted core strategy of spatial orientation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation projects
- Regional Investment Framework (RIF)
- **Environment**: climate change effects mitigation and adaptation measures would be applied in transport, agriculture, energy and tourism initiatives; climate change considerations would also underpin the important goal of food security



# MTR



- Endorsed at 21<sup>st</sup> GMS Ministerial Conference, Chiang Rai, Thailand, December 2016.
- From MTR, 5-year Ha Noi Action Plan (HAP) 2018-2022 to guide remaining years of SF-II
- MTR Results and HAP for Consideration at the MC-22 and 6<sup>th</sup> Summit

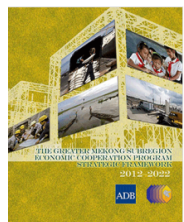
Aim: To provide a strategic review of the GMS SF –II at the program and sector levels to include:

- i. stock-take of progress and challenges ;
- ii. assessment of relevance and responsiveness;
- iii. necessary adjustments and/or refinements; and
- iv. review of implementation modalities -- institutional framework; resource mobilization, and partnerships, among others.



# MTR Process and Activities: A Snapshot





# MTR Assessment Areas



**Relevance of SF II Strategies in national priorities**

**Strategy and program/project fit**

**Project Cycle Processes**

**Implementation Performance**

**Institutional Performance**



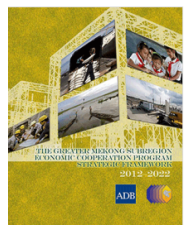


# MTR Preliminary Findings:



## General

- GMS Strategic thrusts continue to be relevant
- Transport and economic corridor development most beneficial and with most projects in RIF
- GMS countries continue to attach great importance to RCI
- GMS SF-II overall strategies and sector strategies are aligned; refinements needed to reflect new elements in successor plans
- RIF programs and projects consistent with sector priorities but some not addressed
- Implementation performance of RIF projects low

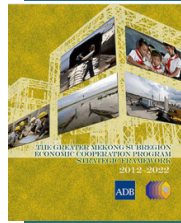


# MTR Preliminary Findings: Environment Sector



- Environment sector considered beneficial
- Sector strategy partially aligned with GMS SF-II; refinements needed but being addressed by successor document
- Planning framework of sector strategy coincides with GMS SF-II
- Has well developed monitoring & evaluation system
- Implementation performance of CEP2 has mixed results based on its MTR in 2015
- CEP2 actively involved in addressing crosscutting issues and promoting multisectoral collaboration
- WGE identified as one among effective sector working groups, with partnerships with stakeholders including community-based groups incorporated in project interventions

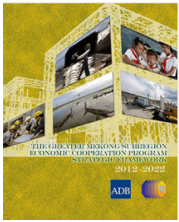
# MTR Sector Assessment: Environment Sector



CEP 2  
Implementation  
Performance:  
Mixed Results

- 1) Assessed as Relevant: potential of being highly relevant
- 2) Assessed as Less Effective: strong technical content but limited engagement at strategic and policy levels
- 3) Assessed as Less Efficient: outputs produced less compared to inputs provided
- 4) Rated as Likely Sustainable: need to review financing and institutional arrangements

Based on CEP 2012-2016 Mid  
term Review in 2015



# MTR Sector Assessment: Environment Sector – CEP2 Outputs



## Component 1: Environmental Planning & Safeguards

National  
environmental  
policies and  
strategies

Environmental  
management  
policies and tools

## Component 2: Biodiversity Landscapes and Livelihoods

Transboundary  
biodiversity  
landscape  
monitoring and  
evaluation  
framework

Transboundary  
conservation  
plans

## Component 3: Climate Change

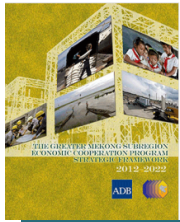
Climate Change  
adaptation in  
Biodiversity  
Conservation  
Corridors projects

Testing in fuel-  
efficient  
technologies, eco-  
driver training and  
improved logistics  
measures

## Component 4: Institutions and Financing

Revised results-  
based  
monitoring and  
evaluation  
framework and  
workplan

# MTR Sector Assessment: Environment Sector

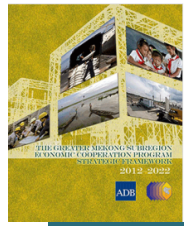


## CEP 2 MTR Recommendations:

- Mainstream environment in RIF projects
- Rebalance existing CEP work portfolio by integrating activities across the 4 program components
- Strengthen management of the GMS EOC

## Response of CEP2:

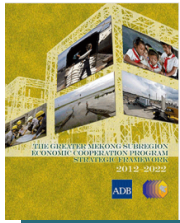
- Redirected interventions from community-level tasks to programmatic interventions at national and transboundary levels
- Re-focus led to new intervention areas, including cancellation or scoping of several activities



# MTR Preliminary Proposed Recommendations:



- New governance framework
- Enhance project cycle processes through RIF improvements and monitoring and evaluation systems
- Refine strategic approach of GMS SF II in 2018-2022



# Ha Noi Action Plan (HAP): 2018-2022 and RIF 2022

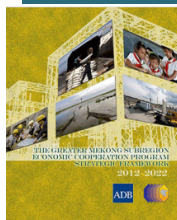


## **HAP 2018-2022:**

- Refinements in SF-II strategic approaches; enablers; shifts in sector focus
- To provide the directions for the GMS Program in the remaining term of the GMS SF-II along with the key recommendations of the MTR, and with the further guidance of the GMS Ministers

## **New, Updated and Strengthened Regional Investment Framework – RIF 2022:**

- a single and consolidated pipeline of projects to support the HAP at the operational level
- emphasis on the pragmatic and action-oriented character of GMS cooperation



# Draft HAP 2018-2022: Environment



Sector Operational Priorities	Description/Key Actions
<b>Environment (based on Core Environment Program (CEP) Strategic Framework 2018-2022 which is in final stages or preparation for endorsement)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen regional collaboration and management of shared natural capital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate governance and dialogue processes</li> <li>Support cooperation and intensified co-management of shared natural capital in transboundary landscapes</li> <li>Implement knowledge sharing activities</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and knowledge management support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build environmental performance monitoring and assessment capacity</li> <li>Develop databases</li> <li>Develop and apply decision support tools</li> <li>Establish knowledge management system</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy advice and technical support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide environmental policy, planning and safeguards support</li> <li>Develop plans and investments targeting economic corridors and SEZs</li> <li>Promote ecosystem services-based approach</li> <li>Strengthen climate change risk and vulnerability assessment capacity</li> <li>Promote uptake of low carbon technologies</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finance and investment services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project preparation</li> <li>Develop regional pipeline</li> <li>Develop innovative financing mechanisms</li> </ul>





## MTR and HAP Timelines

	Dates
<b>Deadline to Submit Comments</b>	<b>July 26</b>
<b>Circulate Revised Preliminary Report</b>	<b>August 24</b>
<b>Deadline to Submit Comments on Revised Report</b>	<b>August 29</b>
<b>SOM</b>	<b>September 4</b>
<b>Circulate Final Draft</b>	<b>September 13</b>
<b>Ministerial Meeting (Agenda in Retreat)</b>	<b>September 20</b>



# Thank you!

**PLEASE ADDRESS QUERIES TO:**

**GMS Secretariat**

**Asian Development Bank**

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**Web address: <https://www.adb.org/countries/gms/main>**