

Regional Investment Framework Implementation Plan: Second Progress Report

AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2015



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I. Introduction

This represents the Second Progress Report of the *Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Investment Framework Implementation Plan, 2014-2018* (RIF-IP) which identified 93 high priority investment and technical assistance projects from the more than 200 projects included in the *Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Investment Framework 2013-2022* (RIF). The total cost of the priority projects in the RIF-IP is estimated at around US \$30 billion.

The Regional Investment Framework Implementation Plan: Second Progress Report encompasses project progress and status as of 31 December 2015¹. The reporting process was initiated in October 2015 and projects were discussed during various sector working group meetings held between November 2015 and January 2016. The GMS Secretariat gathered sector reports from ADB sector divisions and GMS National Secretariats in January 2016 and received additional country reports in March and April 2016. These reports are summarized in the following sections with detailed reporting tables published in the online Annex.

¹ Including some additional country reports received in March and April 2016.

II. Summary of Progress

Table 1 below summarizes the overall status of implementation of RIF-IP investment projects by sector as of 31 December 2015², and Table 2 shows the overall status of RIF-IP technical assistance projects as of 31 December 2015. The Annex to this report which can be accessed through the ADB GMS website presents the status of each project included in the RIF-IP based on information provided by GMS countries and ADB Sector Divisions. An example of these reporting tables and the details contained is appended to this report.

Overall, this report shows measurable progress since the First Progress Report. Since the First Progress Report as of June 2015, six additional investment projects reported feasibility studies commenced, eight additional projects identified financing sources, and twelve additional projects report implementation commenced. Overall, 61% of investment projects have identified financing and 37% of investment projects have commenced implementation. The Transport, Human Resource Development (specifically Health) and Tourism sectors have made progress in programming and identifying financing

Table 1: Summary - Investment Projects by Sector Number of projects as of 31 December 2015

Sector	In RIF-IP	Dropped	FS Commenced	Financing available (1)	Implementation commenced
Transport	42	1	33	25	16
Energy	4	2	2	2	2
Agriculture	2	0	1	1	1
Environment	2	0	1	1	1
HRD	2	0	1	1	0
Urban Development	2	0	2	2	1
Tourism	3	0	1	2	1
TTF	1	0	0	1	0
ICT	1	0	0	0	0
Other/ BEZs	2	0	0	1	0
Total	61	3	41	36	22

Note (1): Financing either approved or included for future financing in a country program or equivalent.

² Including some additional country reports received in March and April 2016.

for investment projects. For technical assistance projects, six new projects reported financing available and four new projects reported implementation commenced. Overall, 70% of technical assistance projects have identified financing and 39% have commenced implementation. The Transport, Urban Development, Tourism and Transport and Trade Facilitation sectors have made progress in programming or identifying financing for the RIF-IP technical assistance projects.

Notably, of the technical assistance and investment projects which have identified financing, the predominant amount of technical assistance is being financed by ADB (61%). On the other hand, although ADB has programmed more than \$4.5 billion of the \$25.8 billion for investment projects, other sources of financing such as national budgets, development

partners, and private sector developers are also major contributors to the financing of projects in the RIF-IP.

However, the financing gap for investment projects (\$5.1 billion) and technical assistance projects (\$41 million) remains significant and GMS countries, development partners, private sector developers and ADB should continue to endeavor to consider the RIF-IP projects when planning or assessing future investments in the GMS. For investment projects, although overall 84% of financing needs have been identified, the Environment and Human Resource Development projects have a financing gap of over 50%. For technical assistance projects, the Transport, Agriculture, Human Resource Development, and ICT sectors have identified less than 50% of the TA financing needs.

Table 2: Summary – Technical Assistance Projects by Sector Number of Projects, as of 31 December 2015

Sector	In RIF-IP	Dropped	Added	Financing available (1)	Implementation commenced
Transport	10	0		6	3
Energy	4	1		2	1
Agriculture	2	0	2	2	1
Environment	2	0		1	1
HRD*	2	0		1	1
Urban Development	2	0	2	4	2
Tourism	3	1		3	2
TTF*	4	1		3	2
ICT*	1	0		0	0
Other/ BEZs*	2	0		1	0
Total	32	3	4	23	13

HRD: Human Resource Development. TTF: Transport and Trade Facilitation. ICT: Information and Communication Technology. BEZ: Border Economic Zone

Note (1): Financing either approved or included for future financing in a country program or equivalent

III. Proposed Amendments to the RIF-IP List

Table 3 summarizes recommended amendments to the RIF-IP. The recommended additions to the RIF-IP include the re-instatement of an ICT investment project, REG-ICT-01 *Time-Division Long-Term Evolution Demonstration Network in the Lao PDR*. This project was previously noted as cancelled but was corrected in December 2015 to clarify that the project was not cancelled but had not progressed due to lack of financing. There are also two new proposed technical assistance projects in the Urban Development Sector which are not yet listed in the RIF-IP, namely REG-URB-TA-03, *Greater Mekong Subregion: Capacity Development for Economic Zones in Border Areas*, which was approved by ADB and the Urban Development Task Force in 2015, and REG-URB-TA-04 *Corridor Towns Development Project IV*. In the Tourism sector, REG-TOR-TA-02 *Preparing the New GMS Tourism Sector Strategy 2016-2026* is proposed

to be dropped since the scope of this TA has now been included in REG-TOR-TA-03 *Preparing the GMS Tourism for Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth II*. The proposed projects to be added are highlighted in orange/italics fonts, and a new project proposed to be dropped is highlighted in red font in Section IV.

Previously dropped projects are retained in the RIF-IP Progress Report and are in red font. The REG-ENG-03 *PRC-Lao PDR-Thailand 600 HVDC Interconnection* project is currently dropped but proposed for discussion at the next working group meeting on re-instatement due to changes in energy demand.

These amendments to the RIF-IP will seek endorsement from the GMS Ministerial Meeting in November 2016.

Table 3: Summary of Changes to the RIF-IP List

	Original RIF-IP List	RIF-IP List (30 Jun 2015)	Projects Recommended to be Dropped (31 Dec 2015)	Projects Recommended to be Added (31 Dec 2015)	Revised RIF-IP List (as of 31 Dec 2015)
Investment projects	61	57	0	1	58
TA projects	32	32	1	2	33
Total no. of projects	93	89	1	3	91

IV. Sector Reports

This Progress Report uses the agreed RIF-IP as a baseline. Tables 4-13 below provide brief status reports for individual investment and technical assistance projects. More detailed status reports for

individual investment and technical assistance projects are available online at the GMS website at <http://www.adb.org/countries/gms/strategy>.

Table 4: Status of Transport Sector Investment Projects

	Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Cambodia				
1	CAM-TRA-01 Sihanoukville Port Access Road Improvements	Cambodia	40.0	The JICA-funded port project does not include improvement of this road. Previously deleted.
2	CAM-TRA-02 GMS: Deepening Connectivity of Southern Economic Corridor Project	Cambodia	200.0	No change from 30 June 2015 update. As of 30 June 2015: The Government has redefined the scope of the project to a Second Provincial Road Improvement Project. This will achieve the intended deepening of connectivity by providing hinterland linkages within the GMS Southern Economic corridor and will also provide multi-modal connectivity with the existing railway. Feasibility study is to be completed by November 2015, for planned project approval in 2016.
3	CAM-TRA-03 Phnom Penh–Sihanoukville Highway Corridor Improvements	Cambodia	1,000.0	No change from 30 June 2015 update. As of 30 June 2015 Feasibility study being undertaken by a possible developer. A legal basis for a project of this nature is to be developed.
4	CAM-TRA-04 Link Road between NR5 and NR6 near Kampong Tralach North of Phnom Penh	Cambodia	65.0	No change from 30 June 2015 update. As of 30 June 2015 No progress to date. Project scheduled for implementation from 2019.
5	CAM-TRA-05 Construction of Poipet (CAM)–Klong Loeuk (THA) Railway Bridge	Cambodia Thailand	0.5 Thailand	Completed in Q4 2015.

Continued on next page

Table 4 continued

	Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
People's Republic of China				
6	PRC-TRA-01 Yunnan Pu'er Regional Integrated Road Network Development	PRC	540.0 ADB	ADB Loan Agreement signed June 2015. Public bidding for construction completed in 2015 for the 2 sub-projects and is being prepared for the Rural Road sub-project.
7	PRC-TRA-02 Dali–Ruili Railway	PRC	4,500.0 PRC	Construction of the section from Dali to Baoshan commenced in 2008, and the section from Baoshan to Ruili commenced second half of 2015. Project scheduled for completion in 2022.
8	PRC-TRA-03 Further Maintenance and Improvement of the Upper Mekong River Navigation Channel from PRC (Landmark 243) and Myanmar to LuangPrabang, Lao PDR	PRC Lao PDR Myanmar Thailand	370.0 PRC	The first meeting of the Joint Working Group on the preliminary work was held in September 2015 where the 4 countries agreed on work contents and schedule. Public bidding process for the preliminary work is scheduled in Jan 2016.
9	PRC-TRA-04 Yuxi–Mohan Railway	PRC	7,400.0 PRC	Feasibility study was approved by PRC Government (NDRC) in July 2015. Construction started December 2015 and estimated to be completed 2021.
Lao People's Democratic Republic				
10	LAO-TRA-01 Vang Tao Border–Crossing Point	Lao PDR	15.0 Govt Provincial Budget	Implementation progress is at 72% and project is expected to be completed in April 2016.
11	LAO-TRA-02 Upgrading NR13N and N13S (Portion through Phon Hong–Vientiane Capital–Ban Hai); ASEAN Highway AH11 (NR13S)	Lao PDR	320.0	The Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) is in the process of reporting the final feasibility study findings to the government.
12	LAO-TRA-03 Mekong Bridge at Bungkan–Paksan	Lao PDR Thailand	100.0	Feasibility study completed in August 2014. MPWT is seeking Government approval on the final Detailed Design. Discussions between LAO and THA governments about financing are continuing.
13	LAO-TRA-04 Thanaleng Border–Crossing Infrastructure Improvement Project	Lao PDR	25.0	Financing source for the feasibility study and construction is being sought.
14	LAO-TRA-05 Hongsa(Xayaboury)–Chomphet (LuangPrabang)	Lao PDR	90.0 NEDA	Funding from NEDA has been secured. Procurement completed in May 2015. Project implementation commenced in September 2015 and is expected to be completed by end of 2017.
15	LAO-TRA-06 Upgrading of NR8 East–West Transport Route; ASEAN Highway AH15 (Ban Lao–Nan Pao)	Lao PDR	80.0	Preliminary study completed with Government of Korea (KOICA) assistance in February 2015. Awaiting KOICA confirmation of financing a detailed feasibility study in 2016.
16	LAO-TRA-07 Xiengkok River Port	Lao PDR	15.0 PRC	Project included in Sino-Lao Cooperation 2016–2020 Scheme and contract for construction and Memorandum of Understanding were signed on 30 Dec 2015. Pending PRC loan approval, implementation could commence end of 2016.

Continued on next page

Table 4 continued

	Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
17	LAO-TRA-08 Ban Mom River Port	Lao PDR	12.0	Preliminary survey jointly conducted by Provincial authorities and private sector in November 2015. Financing for the feasibility study being discussed with PRC.
18	LAO-TRA-09 Lalay Border– Crossing Point (NR15)	Lao PDR	6.8	Feasibility study completed in Aug 2013. Financing for implementation is being sought.
19	LAO-TRA-10 Nam Phao Border– Crossing Point (NR8)	Lao PDR	8.0	Financing for feasibility study and detailed design was proposed to Mekong–Republic of Korea Cooperation Fund on 28 December 2015.
T20	LAO-TRA-11 Na Phao Border– Crossing Point (NR12)	Lao PDR	10.0	Financing for feasibility study and detailed design is proposed for NEDA, Thailand consideration.
21	LAO-TRA-12 Luang Namtha– Xiengkok Lao–Myanmar Friendship Bridge (NR17)	Lao PDR Myanmar	150.0	Financing for a pre-feasibility study being discussed with the World Bank. Viet Nam has also participated in meetings. The Government sent a letter to WB in December 2015 to support Viet Nam’s request for financing of the feasibility study. (Also refer to VIE-TRA-06 #42)
22	LAO-TRA-13 Lao PDR–Myanmar Friendship Bridge over the Mekong at Xiangkok	Lao PDR Myanmar	30.0 Governments of Lao PDR and Myanmar	The bridge was completed and opened in May 2015. The bridge administration regulations are being prepared jointly by both countries before the bridge’s official use can start.
23	LAO-TRA-14 Vientiane–Boten Railway Project	Lao PDR	7,200.0 PRC	Ground breaking ceremony was held on 2 Dec 2015. The actual construction is expected to commence in February 2016.
Myanmar				
24	MYA-TRA-01 East–West Economic Corridor Eindu–Kawkareik Road Improvement	Myanmar	150.0 ADB	Detailed design completed in March 2015. ADB financing for the project approved in November 2015. JICA financing for a major bridge within the project is being discussed. Cost increase from RIF-IP reflects latest estimates for both parts of the project. Procurement for the ADB-financing part is proceeding, with implementation scheduled to commence in mid-2016.
25	MYA-TRA-02 Mae Sot–Myawaddy Border Crossing Project and Infrastructure Improvements (with THA)	Myanmar Thailand	0.0 (Note: project cost and financing included under project THA-TRA-06 #33 below)	Construction commenced in August 2015 under grant financing from the Government of Thailand. (\$30 million see THA-TRA-06 #33).
26	MYA-TRA-03 Improvement of Inland Ports	Myanmar	60.0	The project is to establish 6 inland ports along Ayeyarwaddy and Chindwin rivers. Feasibility study for Mandalay port completed in March 2014. Financing for its implementation is being sought, for which the Government is seeking JICA support.

Continued on next page

Table 4 continued

	Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
27	MYA-TRA-04 Lao Myanmar Friendship Bridge over the Mekong River at Xiengkong-Kainglap	Lao PDR Myanmar	30.0 Govts of Lao PDR and Myanmar (50:50 basis)	The bridge was completed and opened in May 2015.
Thailand				
28	THA-TRA-01 Bang Yai–Kanchanaburi Intercity Motorway Project (part of the Laem Chabang-Bangkok-Dawei [MYA] corridor)	Myanmar Thailand	2,000.0 Thailand Govt.	The project is now under the process of EIA. The Royal Thai Government (RTG) finalized format of investment in this project, under which RTG will bear the construction cost and private company will be operator. Construction will commence by end of 2016 once the EIA process is finalized.
29	THA-TRA-02 Tak–Mae Sot Highway Improvement Project	Thailand	90.0 Thailand Govt.	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Implementation is proceeding. Project to be completed by end 2019.
30	THA-TRA-03 Lomsak–Phetchabun Highway Improvement Project	Thailand	120.0 Thailand Govt.	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Project approved by Government in May 2015. Implementation on the first section will commence in 2016.
31	THA-TRA-04 Kalasin–Nakrai–Kamcha I Highway Improvement Project	Thailand	140.0 Thailand Govt.	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Project approved by Government in May 2015. Implementation on the first section will commence in 2016.
32	THA-TRA-05 Chiang Rai–Chiang Khong Highway Improvement Project	Thailand	80.0 Thailand Govt.	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Implementation commenced in 2009. Work is proceeding. Projected to be completed by 2022.
33	THA-TRA-06 Mae Sot–Myawaddy Border Crossing Project and Infrastructure Improvements (THA)	Thailand	116.0 Thailand Govt	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Project approved in July 2014. Implementation commenced in July 2015 under grant financing from the Government of Thailand for the section in Myanmar (\$30 million – see MYA-TRA-02 #25).
34	THA-TRA-07 Mekong Bridge at Bungkan–Paksan	Thailand Lao PDR	TBD	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Feasibility study was completed in August 2014. Detailed design is complete. Discussions between LAO and THA governments about financing are continuing.
35	THA-TRA-08 LaemChabang Port Development Project, Phase 3—Feasibility Study	Thailand	5.0	No change from 30 June 2015 updates. As of 30 June 2015: Feasibility study largely complete. Environmental and health impact consultations proceeding. Implementation scheduled to commence in 2025.
36	THA-TRA-09 Single Rail Transfer Operator Development Project of Laem Chabang Port	Thailand	90.0 Thailand Govt.	Project approved by the Government in September 2015. Implementation to commence in 2018.

Continued on next page

Table 4 continued

Code/Name of Project		Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Viet Nam				
37	VIE-TRA-01 GMS Ben Luc–Long Thanh Expressway (Stage 2)	Viet Nam	1,607.0 ADB JICA	Project is under implementation with financing from ADB (US\$636m) and JICA (US\$635m) 8 of 11 contract packages have been implemented and the remaining 3 packages under procurement.
38	VIE-TRA-02 GMS Ha Noi–Lang Son Expressway	Viet Nam	1,400.0 ADB Viet Nam Govt. Private Sector BOT	ADB financing for the section of the project in Lang Son province (US\$447 million) is included in 2016 country program. Other sections are being implemented though PPP or similar financing. Targeted for financing approval in 2 nd quarter of 2016.
39	VIE-TRA-03 Second GMS Southern Coastal Corridor	Viet Nam	373.0 ADB	Feasibility study completed in December 2012. Project proposed for inclusion in ADB's program for 2016-2018.
40	VIE-TRA-04 Second GMS Northern Transport Network Improvement (Luang Prabang–Thanh Hoa) (additional financing)	Viet Nam Lao PDR	145.0 ADB	The Government approved the project in June 2015. Loan agreement has been signed on 19 February 2016. Consultant is implementing design and survey, expected to be completed in May 2016.
41	VIE-TRA-05 National Highway 14D Improvement Project	Viet Nam	130.0 ADB	Required report about the need to invest has been submitted to ADB on 31 March 2016. Feasibility study planned for 2016. An ADB loan for the project is proposed in 2016-2019 program.
42	VIE-TRA-06 Northern East–West Corridor: Son La–Dien Bien–TayTrang Border Gate (Viet Nam and Lao PDR) connecting with the Luang Namtha (LAO) to the Friendship Bridge (LAO–MYA) project at Xiengkok–Kainglap	Viet Nam Lao PDR	TBD	Discussions with World Bank are proceeding about regional financing for the project. MPWT of Lao PDR and MOT of Viet Nam agreed to submit to their respective Governments to approve for inclusion in their priority project list in 2016-2020. Currently, MPI of Vietnam is reviewing the project for next step.

Table 5: Status of Transport Sector Technical Assistance Projects

	Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
1	VIE-TRA-TA-01 Highway 14D Improvement Project	Viet Nam	1.0 ADB	Feasibility study planned for ADB 2016 programming.
2	REG-TRA-TA-02 Second GMS Northern Transport Network Improvement: Luang Prabang (LAO)–Thanh Hoa (VIE)	Lao PDR Viet Nam	1.5 ADB	Included in ongoing additional financing under two ADB investment projects in LAO and VIE.
3	VIE-TRA-TA-03 Proposed Hoa Lac–HoaBinh City Expressway PPP Project Feasibility Study	Viet Nam	1.0	Likely to be financed by a private sector developer.
4	REG-TRA-TA-04 Feasibility Study for the Rail Link Between Laem Chabang Port and Dawei Deep Sea Port Project	Myanmar Thailand	3.0	THA comment: An initial feasibility study commenced in Oct 2014 and was completed in April 2015.
5	REG-TRA-TA-05 Building Institutional Capacity of the Greater Mekong Railway Association	All GMS countries	0.2 ADB	TA is ongoing.
6	REG-TRA-TA-06 GMS Road Corridors Maintenance	All GMS countries	1.2	ADB will discuss further with the governments.
7	REG-TRA-TA-07 Strategic Study on the Development and Management of the GMS Motorway Network System	All GMS countries	TBD	No activity to date.
8	REG-TRA-TA-08 Knowledge Transfer between Thailand and GMS Member Countries on Highway and Bridge Standards and Specifications, including Transport Facilitation Facilities	All GMS countries	0.4	No activities undertaken. Project framework development is pending.
9	REG-TRA-TA-09 Promotion and Application of the Northeast Asia Logistics Information Service Network (NEAL–NET) in the GMS	All GMS countries	TBD	The Final Report of the ADB-supported project TA-8482 PRC: Formulation of the Northeast Asia Logistics Information-Sharing Network Development Program and Organizational Mechanism, was completed on 17 December 2015. Initial discussions have taken place between PRC and the other governments. However, PRC is considering dropping the TA from the RIF IP.
10	REG-TRA-TA-10 Study on Dry Port Development Plan along International Railway Lines Connecting Thailand with Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar	Thailand with Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar	0,5 Thailand Govt.	Implementation commenced and scheduled to be completed in Dec 2016. Under process of consultant selection but contract signing is expected in March 2016. State Railway of Thailand will finance the study.

Table 6: Status of Energy Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Investment Projects			
1 REG-ENG-01 Lao PDR–Viet Nam Power Transmission Interconnection (Hatxan–Pleiku)	Lao PDR Viet Nam	218.0 <u>LAO</u> : Song Da Group <u>VIE</u> : National Power Transmission Corporation	<u>LAO</u> : The construction of the transmission line from Ban Hatxan to the border between Lao PDR and Viet Nam is being implemented by Song Da Group - the Vietnamese investor for the power project. Design has been completed; upgrade of the environmental impacts assessment completed. <u>VIE</u> : The construction of the transmission line from the Lao – Viet border to new Pleiku 500 kV substation will be implemented by Viet Nam’s National Power Transmission Corporation.
2 REG-ENG-02 Nabong 500 kV Substation Transmission Facility	Lao PDR Thailand	106.0 Nam Ngum 2 Power Company	The private developer Nam Ngum 2 Power Company has finished technical design for the substation. The Government reviewed the design and cost estimate. Construction of the 500 kV substation will be timed to meet the evacuation of power from the Nam Nghiep 1 hydropower plant.
3 REG-ENG-03 PRC–Lao PDR–Thailand 600 HVDC Interconnection PRC	PRC Lao PDR Thailand	800.0	On 3 March 2016, PRC updated that the implementation time of the project is to be further confirmed by Chinese and Thai sides due to changes in energy demand from Thai side, but China Southern Grid (CSG) and the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) agreed to continue discussions to promote the project in time. Previously deleted due to the report that the project is no longer high priority due to changes in energy demand and will not proceed. <i>To be considered at June 2016 meeting of the RPTCC for re-instatement in the RIF-IP.</i>
4 REG-ENG-04 Reinvestigation of Thailand–Lao PDR–Viet Nam Interconnection	Lao PDR Thailand Viet Nam	278.0	No activity to date. The countries have agreed not to proceed with the project. Previously deleted.
Technical Assistance Projects			
1 REG-ENG-TA8830 Harmonizing GMS Power Systems to Facilitate Regional Power Trade (formerly Support to RPTCC in Completion of Performance Standards, Grid Codes, Market Rules, and Subregional Transmission Expansion Plan)	All GMS countries	1.5 ADB	ADB/PRC financed technical assistance was approved in Dec 2014. Two international individual consultants have been engaged. The international power transmission specialist is supporting the Working Group of Performance Standards and the international regulatory and power pricing specialist is supporting the Working Group on Regulatory Issues. The consultants have visited 6 GMS countries and held discussions with focal institutions/persons in the two respective working groups. Draft reports are being prepared to be circulated to GMS countries for in depth discussion.

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Table 6 continued

	Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
2	REG-ENG-TA-02 Ensuring Sustainability of Greater Mekong Subregion Regional Power Development (Phase 2)	All GMS countries	1.0 AFD France	The technical assistance is financed by AFD France. The RETA was approved. Implementation plan will be discussed at the next RPTCC meeting (June 2016).
3	REG-ENG-TA-03 Development of the GMS Coordination Center for Regional Power Trade	All GMS countries	3.0	No change from 30 June 2015 update. As of 30 June 2015: No decision to date on the selection of the host location for the proposed center. The project has been deferred to 2016.
4	REG-ENG-TA-04 Provision of Continuing Institutional Support for the Subregional Energy Forum	All GMS countries	1.0	Project has been dropped.

Table 7: Status of Agriculture Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

	Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Investment Projects				
1	REG-AGR-01 Climate Friendly Agri-Business Value Chains in the GMS	Cambodia Lao PDR Myanmar	250.0 ADB	The associated project preparatory technical assistance was approved in May 2015 and kick off meeting held in early December 2015. ADB to finance 3 separate loans in 2017 for Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar. The indicative financing plans (loans) are as follows: CAM - \$95 M (ADB \$50 M and cofin \$45 M); LAO - \$40 M (ADB \$30 M and cofin \$10 M); and MYA - \$40 M (ADB \$20 M and cofin \$20 M).
2	REG-AGR-02 Enhancing Competitiveness and Trade Facilitation of Agri-Food Products in the GMS	All GMS countries	200.0	The associated project preparatory technical assistance is planned for 2018 and thus investment projects may be scheduled for 2019-2020.
Technical Assistance Projects				
1	REG-AGR-TA-01 Climate-Friendly Agri-Business Value Chains in the GMS	Cambodia Lao PDR Myanmar	2.5 ADB	The ADB-financed project preparatory technical assistance covering all 3 countries was approved in May 2015 and is now being implemented. Kickoff meeting held in December 2015 agreed on project scope, time frame, and institutional arrangements.
2	REG-AGR-TA-02 Enhancing Competitiveness and Trade Facilitation of Agri-Food Products in the GMS	All GMS countries	2.5 ADB	The ADB-financed project preparatory technical assistance is programmed for 2018.
3	REG-AGR-TA-03 Implementing Core Agricultural Support Program II	All GMS countries	5.3	Planned for 2016; proposed for NDF funding.
4	REG-AGR-TA-04 Implementing Core Agricultural Support Program III	All GMS countries	8.5	Planned for 2017; proposed for SIDA funding.

Table 8: Status of Environment Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Investment Projects			
1 REG-ENV-01 Global Environment Fund Regional Biodiversity and Forestry Program	All GMS countries	20.0 GEF	<p><u>CAM</u>: Management of the fund is being transferred to UNDP. Initial advance work done, e.g. developing TOR, etc. (\$1.2m).</p> <p><u>LAO</u>: The World Bank is the implementing agency and the Lao PDR counterpart is the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Implementation progress included recruitment of staff, capacity building activities and preparation of subproject proposals (\$6.8m).</p> <p><u>THA</u>: UNDP is the implementing agency, with Thailand's Wildlife Conservation Office and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The project was signed in July 2015 after Thai Cabinet endorsement. The project manager was recruited and on board in October 2015. Now in inception phase since November 2015 till March 2016. (\$7.3m)</p> <p><u>VIE</u>: ADB and MONRE are the implementing agencies. The Prime Minister's and the President's approval were obtained in July 2015 and September 2015, respectively. Kick off workshop is planned for later part of Q1 of 2016. (\$3.8m).</p> <p><u>REG</u>: ADB is the implementing agency. Re-scoping has been done to cover only 2-3 landscapes compared to original plan of 6. Various project activities are ongoing. (\$0.9m).</p>
2 REG-ENV-02 Low-Carbon Freight Corridors	Lao PDR Viet Nam	60.0	To be renamed "Low Carbon Freight Initiative". Preliminary discussions for collaboration between Core Environment Program (CEP) and ADB's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) through the proposed Asia Climate Finance Facility were initiated. Depending on the outcome, additional work on financing modalities, appropriate sector linkages, and COBP alignment will be examined for possible inclusion as an R-PPTA in 2017, with follow-on investment.
Technical Assistance Projects			
1 REG-ENV-TA-01 Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridor Initiative Phase II –Additional Funding	All GMS countries	6.8 NDF (\$5.3M) GEF (\$1.0M) PRC Fund (\$0.5M)	Phase II ongoing since 2012. No cost extension is being processed to extend completion date to December 2017. Incorporation of the PRC Funding in the RETA is underway. Not likely to get additional funding from ADB e-Asia and Knowledge Transfer Fund and the Government of the Republic of Korea, bringing the total down to \$6.8M (from original estimate of \$7.6M).
2 REG-ENV-02 Low-Carbon Freight Corridors	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Viet Nam	1.0	To be renamed "Low Carbon Freight Initiative". Initiated preliminary discussions for collaboration between CEP and SDCC to explore jointly funding the pre-feasibility assessment building on the CEP Phase II's Green Freight Initiative. Depending on the results, additional work on financing modalities, appropriate sector linkages, and COBP alignment will be examined for possible inclusion as an R-PPTA in 2017, with a follow-on investment. Subsequent to this, need to table the project for discussion during the CPM of relevant GMS countries so that it can be included in the RCI pipeline.

Table 9: Status of HRD Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Investment Projects			
1 REG-HRD-01 GMS Communicable Disease Control Project (Phase III) (Renamed GMS Health Security Project)	Cambodia Lao PDR, Myanmar Viet Nam	60.0 ADB	ADB Board approval for the investment project is expected on 15 September 2016. Project preparation technical assistance commenced in May 2015 (see TA table below).
2 REG-HRD-02 GMS Technical and Vocational Education and Training Development	Cambodia, PRC, Lao PDR, Myanmar	155.4	No progress reported on any of the 4 country components. (See TA table below).
Technical Assistance Projects			
1 REG-HRD-TA-01 GMS Health Security Project (formerly GMS Communicable Disease Control Project (Phase III))	Cambodia Lao PDR, Myanmar Viet Nam	0.8 ADB	Implementation commenced on 18 May 2015 and preparatory activities ongoing in 4 participating countries.
2 REG-HRD-02 GMS Technical and Vocational Education and Training Development	Cambodia, PRC, Lao PDR, Myanmar	3.2	There has been no action taken to date for the technical assistance. However, national-level activities are proceeding in support of technical and vocational education and training development, including those that support mutual recognition of skills.

Table 10: Status of Urban Development Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Investment Projects			
1 REG-URB-01 Corridor Towns Development Project II	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam	250.0–300.0 <u>CAM:</u> 33.0 -ADB 5.10- Gov't. <u>LAO:</u> 37.0- ADB (ADF) 10.0- ASEAN IF <u>VIE:</u> 100.0 - ADB 21.67- Govt.	Feasibility study was completed on 30 June 2015. ADB project financing for Cambodia and Lao PDR was approved on 13 Nov 2015 and on 1 Dec 2015 for Viet Nam. Implementation is ongoing.
2 REG-URB-02 Corridor Towns Development Project III	Myanmar	80.0 ADB (NEDA, TICA Thailand)	The proposed loan is programmed for 2017 approval. ADB is in discussions with NEDA and TICA of Thailand for co-financing of the project.
Technical Assistance Projects			
1 REG-URB-TA-01 Corridor Towns Development Project II	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam	1.8 ADB	The TA commenced in January 2014 and completed on 30 June 2015.
2 REG-URB-TA-02 Corridor Towns Development Project III	Myanmar	1.35 ADB	The TA commenced in February 2015 and will be completed in May 2016.
Proposed Technical Assistance Projects not yet included in the approved RIF-IP			
3 REG-URB-TA-03 Greater Mekong Subregion: Capacity Development for Economic Zones in Border Areas	All GMS Countries	0.9 ADB Regional Cooperation & Poverty Reduction Fund	Proposed to be added. The Capacity Development Technical Assistance was deemed approved on 11 December 2015 by 5 GMS countries, Viet Nam to send no-objection.
4 REG-URB-TA-04 Corridor Towns Development Project IV	Cambodia Lao Viet Nam (Myanmar)	2.5 ADB	Proposed to be added. The Technical Assistance is proposed for ADB funding in 2016.

Table 11: Status of Tourism Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015	
Investment Projects				
1	REG-TOR-01 GMS Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth	Cambodia Lao PDR Viet Nam	108.0 ADB	Implementation commenced for Cambodia and Viet Nam in March 2015 and for Lao PDR in January 2015. Project start-up activities are complete in the Lao PDR and ongoing in Cambodia and Viet Nam. The project is expected to be completed in December 2019.
2	REG-TOR-02 Construction of the Sino–Vietnamese Detian–Ban Gioc Waterfalls International Tourism Cooperation Zone	PRC Viet Nam	200.0	PRC inputs: During Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Viet Nam in November 2015, a new cooperation agreement on the project was signed between PRC and Viet Nam and was mentioned in the Sino-Vietnamese Joint Statement. In December 2015, Guangxi government discussed with Vietnamese counterparts on how to implement the State agreement on the project. Key consensus was reached on the follow-up actions at the provincial level. At the provincial level, the infrastructure for PRC's part of the International Tourism Cooperation Zone is ongoing, and Guangxi province has issued government documents to regulate domestic self-driving tours on the Sino-Vietnamese border.
3	REG-TOR-03 Second GMS Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth	Cambodia Lao PDR Myanmar Viet Nam	130.0 ADB	Included in ADB's Southeast Asia RCI pipeline for processing in 2016-2017 and for approval in 2018.
Technical Assistance Projects				
1	REG-TOR-TA-01 Strengthening the Mekong Tourism Coordinating Office	All GMS countries	0.2 ADB	Implementation commenced in Oct 2013 and is due for completion in March 2016. The TA helped prepare the GMS Tourism Marketing Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2020 which was submitted as a deliverable at the 20th GMS Ministerial Conference in September 2015. The TA is assisting in the preparation of a legal agreement for the establishment of the Mekong Tourism Coordinating Office as an intergovernmental organization.
2	REG-TOR-TA-02 Preparing the New GMS Tourism Sector Strategy 2016–2026	All GMS countries	0.8	The project has been merged and included as an activity in TA-03: Preparing the Second GMS Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project (below). Proposed to be deleted since it has been merged with TA-03.
3	REG-TOR-TA-03 Preparing the GMS Tourism for Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth II	Cambodia Lao PDR Myanmar Viet Nam	1.5 ADB	The TA is being processed for ADB financing and approval in 2016. Advertisement for expressions of interest of consulting firm to assist prepare the updated GMS Tourism Strategy was issued on 16 December 2015 and firm is expected to be mobilized in Q2 2016.

Table 12: Status of Transport and Trade Facilitation Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015
Investment Projects			
1 REG-TTF-01 Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agencies for Trade Facilitation Project (aka SPS Phase II)	Cambodia Lao PDR	31.5 ADB	<u>CAM</u> : Per mid-term review of the First SPS project held in November 2015, the Preparatory Technical Assistance of this project may be shifted to 2017 and the project loan to 2018. <u>LAO</u> : Per midterm review of the First SPS held in Oct 2015, the executing agency is very keen for the first project to be extended for another 3 years with the funding of additional activities in lieu of a Phase II.
Technical Assistance Projects			
1 REG-TTF-TA-01 Trade Facilitation through Partnership with the Private Sector	Cambodia Lao PDR Myanmar Thailand Viet Nam	1.5 ADB	Implementation commenced in August 2014 and is expected to close in August 2016.
2 REG-TTF-TA-02 Support for Implementing the Action Plan on Transport and Trade Facilitation in theGMS (Subprojects 2 and 3)	All GMS countries	4.1 Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Implementation commenced with financing support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in October 2014 and is ongoing. Scheduled completion date is December 2016.
3 REG-TTF-TA-03 Modernization of SPS Agencies for Trade Facilitation Project (aka SPS Phase II)	Cambodia Lao PDR	1.5 ADB	The preparatory technical assistance for Cambodia is shifted to 2017 approval. For Lao PDR, the use of existing TA will be explored to detail the additional financing and 3 year extension of SPS I project.
4 REG-TTF-TA-04 Strengthening Bilateral Cross-Border Trade Agreements and Coordination Mechanisms	All GMS countries	2.0	Already covered by existing TTF TAs. Previously deleted.

Table 13: Status of ICT Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015	
Investment Projects				
1	REG-ICT-01 Time-Division Long-Term Evolution Demonstration Network in the Lao PDR	PRC Lao PDR	5.0	Proposed to be added. The lack of progress is due to unavailable financing and not because it was cancelled as earlier reported.
Technical Assistance Projects				
1	REG-ICT-TA-01 Broadband Development Strategies and Implementation Programs of the GMS	All GMS countries	10.0	No status information available.

Table 14: Status of Other/BEZ Sector Investment and Technical Assistance Projects

Code/Name of Project	Country Coverage	Cost, US\$ M and Available Financing	Status at 31 December 2015	
Investment Projects				
1	REG-OTH-01 Joint PRC—Viet Nam Cross-Border Economic Zones	PRC Viet Nam	300.0 ADB (matching counterpart financing from Guangxi Province is expected).	The project has been included in the ADB 2016-2018 lending program upon request by PRC for \$300 million funding. Project preparation in Guangxi Province is ongoing. In January 2016, the PRC Ministry of Finance has approved US\$40,000 grant to Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region to support Dongxing's development capacity building project which is ADB's follow up project to facilitate the Sino-Vietnamese CBEZ program at Dongxing –Mong Cai. The project proposal is under preparation by Guangxi Province.
2	REG-OTH-02 Construction of a Phnom Penh New Port Special Economic Zone	Cambodia	60.0	No status information available.
Technical Assistance Projects				
1	REG-OTH-TA-01 Capacity Building for Cross-Border Economic Zones	PRC Lao PDR Myanmar	2.0	The 1 st joint working group meeting for coordinating Muse-Ruili Cross Border Economic Zone was held in Ruili, Yunnan Province on 14 December 2015. There is a similar capacity building Technical Assistance on Economic Zones in Border Areas under the Urban Development RIF that was approved in November 2015.
2	REG-OTH-TA-2 Joint Feasibility Study on Cross-Border Economic Zones in the PRC and Viet Nam	PRC Viet Nam	2.0 ADB	ADB is preparing a regional technical assistance project to help improve coordination between the two countries and finalize the joint master plans. Viet Nam also requested ADB's financial support for the CBEZs in Viet Nam.

Sample

Table 1: Myanmar: Transport Sector - Investment as of 30-Jun-2015: Project Description

Code	Project	Description	Subsector	Cost estimate (\$ Million)	Justification/Additional Information
MYA-TRA-01	East–West Economic Corridor Eindu–Kawkareik Road Improvement Project	This project focuses on a key route, not only for the GMS, but also for the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway, and the ASEAN and Asian highway networks. It will be reconstructed to ASEAN Class II standard.	Road	150	Detailed design completed in March 2015. ADB financing for the project scheduled for approval late 2015. Jica financing for a major bridge within the project is being discussed. Cost increase from RIF-IP reflects latest estimates for both parts of the project. Procurement for ADB financing part is proceeding, with implementation scheduled to commence in mid-2016.
MYA-TRA-02	Mae Sot–Myawaddy Border Crossing Project and Infrastructure Improvements (with THA)	The Government of Thailand is studying a new bypass road and bridge to the north of the existing border crossing at Mae Sot (THA)–Myawaddy (MYA), which is located in the congested area of the two border cities. This new crossing would be dedicated to cross-border freight traffic. The bypass would link with a newly envisioned special trade zone on the Myanmar side. The overall project would include about 16.9 km of a new four-lane divided highway (13.3 km in Thailand; 3.6 km in Myanmar), a 100 m-long bridge across the Moei River at the border, and associated border-crossing facilities.	Border Crossing	TBD	Feasibility study and detailed design completed. Implementation to commence in July 2015 under grant financing from the Government of Thailand. (\$30 million see THA-TRA-06 #33).

Continued on next page

Table 1 continued

Code	Project	Description	Subsector	Cost estimate (\$ Million)	Justification/Additional Information
MYA-TRA-03	Improvement of Inland Ports	The project will construct four inland ports on the Ayeyarwaddy River (Bhamo, Mandalay, Pokokku, and Magway) and two inland ports on the Chindwin River (Monywa and Kalewa). The objective is to improve the transportation and handling of domestic and international cargo and containers.	Inland waterway	60.0	A feasibility study is to be carried out. This will include river behavior, for year-round operations.
MYA-TRA-04	Lao Myanmar Friendship Bridge over the Mekong River at Xiengkok-Kainglap	The governments of Lao PDR and Myanmar have agreed to jointly finance (50% each) the construction of the International Friendship Bridge across the Mekong River at Xiengkok (Lao PDR side) and Kyainglap (Myanmar side).	Bridge	26	Completed in 15 March 2015

Table 2: Myanmar: Transport Sector - Investment as of 30-Jun-2015: Project Progress

Code	Project	Activity/Date					Notes
		FS Commenced	FS Completed	Financing Identified	Project Approved/ By	Implementation Commenced	
MYA-TR-01	East-West Economic Corridor Eindu-Kawkareik Road Improvement Project	14 Aug 13	30 Jan 15	Feb 15	21 Feb 13	Aug 15	Procurement is ongoing.
<p>Narrative: Preparation of FS by <SMEC >, procurement process for two civil works and construction services consultant ongoing. JICA provided a technical assistance to the preparation of FS for three major bridges one on this section and remaining two on Eindu- Mawlamyine section.</p>							
MYA-TR-02	Mae Sot-Myawaddy Border Crossing Project and Infrastructure Improvements (with THA)	Apr-14	Mar 2015	14 Jan 15	9 Oct 14	July 2015	Thai government is providing 1000 million Baht grant to Myanmar .
<p>Narrative: A new bypass road and bridge to the north of the existing border crossing at Mae Sot (THA)-Myawaddy (MYA), which is located in the congested area of the two border cities. This new crossing would be dedicated to cross-border freight traffic. The bypass would link with a newly envisioned special trade zone on the Myanmar side. The overall project would include about 16.9 km of a new four-lane divided highway (13.3 km in Thailand; 3.6 km in Myanmar), a 100 m-long bridge across the Moei River at the border, and associated border-crossing facilities. The second friendship bridge is being constructed to ease congestion on the existing bridge. Transport infrastructure, shipment and distribution centres, duty-free areas, bonded warehouses, one-stop service facilities, single service inspection and customs checkpoints will be part of the special economic zone.</p>							

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Table 2 continued

Code	Project	Activity/Date					Notes
		FS Commenced	FS Completed	Financing Identified	Project Approved/ By	Implementation Commenced	
MYA-TR-03	Improvement of Inland Ports	Mar 13	Mar 14				
	Narrative: Some of inland water ports have old jetty facilities, however, most of the ports have no mechanical facilities for transfer and the ports rely on manual labor to handle goods. So, establishment of Inland Ports in some significant areas along Ayeyarwaddy and Chindwin River is a priority in Transport sector.						
MYA-TR-04	Lao Myanmar Friendship Bridge over the Mekong River at Xiengkok-Kyainglap	2003	2003			16 Feb 13	
	Narrative:The construction of the 691.6-meter bridge at a cost of 26 million U.S.dollars started in February 2013 . People used the ferry boats to cross the river previously. But now smooth and speedy road transportation after completing of the friendship bridge. This bridged was inaugurated on 9 May 2015.						
	FS= Feasibility Study; Project approved/by = date of project approval/approving authority (Government, financier, other)						

About the Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Program

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) is made up of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China (PRC, specifically Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. In 1992, with assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and building on their shared histories and cultures, the six countries of the GMS launched a program of subregional economic cooperation—the GMS Program—to enhance their economic relations, initially covering the nine priority sectors: agriculture, energy, environment, human resource development, investment, telecommunications, tourism, transport infrastructure, and transport and trade facilitation.

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