Assessment of GMS Economic Corridors



Scope of Presentation

- Background
- Objectives, approach and outputs
- Information provided
 - Road transport and related transport development
 - ✓ Border crossing facilities
 - Economic potential
 - ✓ GMS economic corridors' GIS database
- General findings and recommendations
- Next steps



Background

- Review of configuration of GMS economic corridors: First half of 2016
- Presentation of recommendations: STF July, and ECF in August 2016
- Adoption of recommendations with directive for the assessment: 21st GMS Ministerial Conference in December 2016







Objectives

Assess state of development of economic corridors:

- Physical condition of transport infrastructure focusing on road infrastructure
- Economic potential (cross border trade, SEZs, tourist attractions, investment opportunities)



Objectives (cont'd)

The Assessment is expected to:

- Increase appreciation of the state of development of the economic corridors
- Assist in identifying gaps, bottlenecks and priorities for interventions (inputs to RIF)
- Provide a benchmark for monitoring development of the corridors (as in TSS)



Approach and Steps Taken

- Engage national consultants: Feb/Mar '17
- Conduct country consultations: Mar/Apr '17
- Collect data and conduct field survey: May/June '17
- Prepare country reports: July/Aug '17
- Circulate drafts for review: Aug/Sep '17
- Revise country reports: Oct '17
- Prepare integrative report: Nov' 17
- Circulate integrative report for review: Dec '17



Outputs

- Six country reports
- Integrative report
- Improved and amended GMS economic corridor GIS database and maps



Assessment of Road Transport Infrastructure

Configuration

- Main sections and connections (alignment)
- Roads traversed
- Distances between sections
- Nodes



Assessment of Road Transport Infrastructure (cont'd)

State of development (as of June 2017)

- Road class
- Number of lanes
- Physical condition
- Sections requiring repairs/upgrading
- Bottlenecks
- On-going and planned projects



Related Transport Development

- Railway
- Ports
- Dry ports
- Inland waterways



Assessment of Border Crossing Facilities

- Border control facilities (CIQ and CCA)
- Border checkpoints requiring improved border control facilities
- Cross-border trade and traffic



Economic Potential

- Investment opportunities
- Special economic zones
- Tourist attractions



Improving GMS GIS Database

- Assessment provided information on GMS-wide road attributes not previously available
- Improvements over previous GMS GIS dataset
 - More accurate EC alignment
 - Improved geometric accuracy
 - Less generalization and more spatial detail











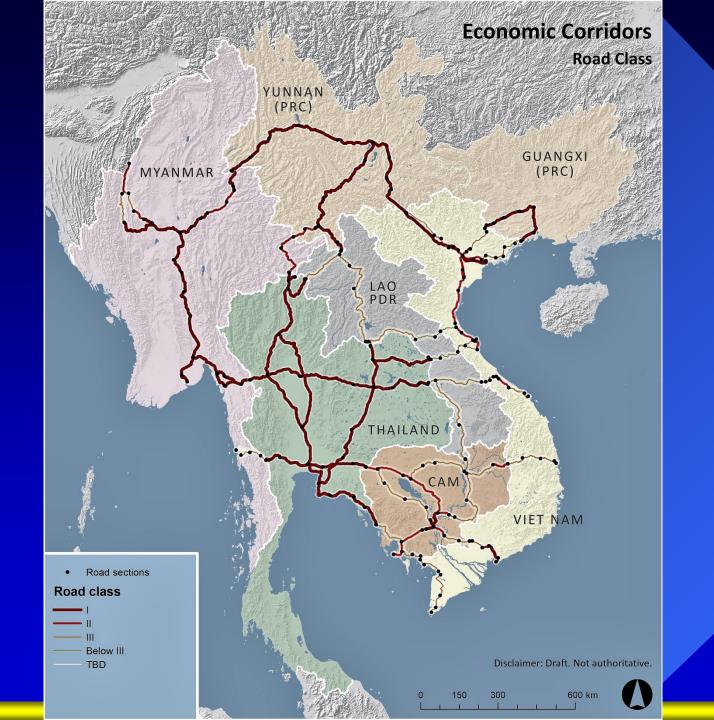








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General Findings

- There is no longer any missing link along the GMS economic corridors.
- Some sections require repairs/upgrading.
- There are bottlenecks that need to be addressed (e.g., at interchanges and routes passing through cities).
- There are on-going and planned projects for upgrading some sections along the economic corridors.
- The main bottleneck in cross-border trade and traffic is at the border crossing point (in most, software; in some, both software and hardware).



Recommendations

- Expedite implementation of on-going and planned transport projects.
- Improve border crossing facilities to support crossborder trade and traffic.
- Harmonize road standards such as road design and axle load limits.
- Implement SSI/SWI in more border crossing points.
- Intensify efforts to allow transit cargo along the ECs.
- Accelerate implementation of CBTA; include new EC routes in CBTA.



Recommendations (cont'd)

- Develop intermodal links.
- Include in the agenda of STF and other GMS meetings development of dry ports and other land-based transport hubs.
- Establish a GMS economic corridor transport infrastructure database covering all modes of transport and nodes (dry ports, ICDs, river ports, seaports, and airports).



Next Steps

- Revision and finalization of the country reports and integrative report.
- Presentation of results of the assessment at the next Economic Corridors Forum.
- Publication and dissemination of the reports.



Thank you.

