



Planning and Implementation of GMS Corridor Towns Development Project

Lao PDR

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Overview of Corridor Town Developments and BEZs in Lao PDR

Corridor Towns
Development
Project II



Boten-Mohan
Economic
Cooperation
Zone

Corridor Towns
Development
Project IV

Corridor Towns
Development
Project I

Border Special Economic Zone

- BEZ has not been defined yet.
- Boten Lao PDR – Mohan P.R China Economic Cooperation Zone (BMECZ) built and developed as a pilot initiative
- May be described as “a bilateral friendship demonstration zone, an in-depth cooperation pioneer zone between ASEAN and China and vice versa” (according to the joint framework of BMECZ)

National Strategy and Policy for BEZ Development

- The country has not had strategy and policy for BEZ developments.
- BMECZ is developed as to further promote the economic zone that are located near the borders and in line with “One-Belt and One-Road” initiative and regional integration of Lao PDR.

Challenges of BEZ and Urban Infrastructure Development

1. No prior experiences and limited successful cases to learn from;
2. There is limited understanding on potential benefits and challenges of BEZ within the country;
3. As BEZ is a multi-sectoral issue, it requires coordination committee at both local and national levels as well as between the two countries;
4. Lack of synergy and coordination between urban infrastructure developments and special or border economic zone developments;
5. Lack of the inclusive and integrated consultations and studies in urban infrastructure and economic zone strategy and policy developments;
6. Disadvantages in population density and level of infrastructure and development in Lao PDR; and
7. Unsustainable economic benefits to affected stakeholders in development areas, particularly local residents.

Integration of BEZ Development in the 5th-7th CTD

1. Synergized strategies and plans between urban infrastructure and BEZ developments
2. Initiation and pursuing a GMS financed projects on BEZ in Lao PDR
3. Studies on how to optimize urban infrastructures and facilities developed to complement BEZ developments
4. Comprehensive plans for sustainable spillover economic benefits from the Developments

Lao PDR Criteria for Project Towns Selection

- Potential urban center
- Communities of more than 2000 residents, or the density of 30 ppl/ha²
- Service center
- Government center
- Potential trade and investment center