



# 6th Greater Mekong Subregion Environment Ministers' Meeting

Phnom Penh | Cambodia | 10-13 September 2024







# Session A: Building Climate and Disaster Resilience



Rapporteur:

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# Session Agenda & Contributors



**10:30 Welcome & Introductions**  
Moderator: Mr. Callum Mackenzie, Co-Founder & Managing Director, Yunus Thailand

**10:35 Scene Setting**  
Mr. Alvaro Fonseca, TA Team, Technical Advisor



**10:45 Keynote Address**  
Dr. Subrata Sinha, Regional Environmental Affairs Officer, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

**11:05 Panel Discussion**

- Mr. Vanhthone Phonnasane, Deputy Director of Adaptation Division, Department of Climate Change (DCC), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), Lao PDR
- Ms. Supattira Rodboontham, Deputy Director, Regional Environment Office, Regional Development Mission for Asia, USAID
- Dr. Nguyen Phuong Nam, CEO, KLINOVA Climate Innovation & Consulting JSC., Viet Nam
- Dr. Niladri Gupta, Sr. Water Resources Management Specialist, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

**11:45 Audience Q&A**

**11:55 Summary and Closing Remarks**

**12:00 LUNCH**





## Key Takeaways

### Session A Building Climate and Disaster Resilience

- While challenges remain, the GMS region has made significant progress on **integrating DRR and CCA into laws, policies, frameworks, and action plans** at the regional and national levels.
- Nevertheless, evidence that connects this progress to enhanced community outcomes may not yet be clear or properly documented. **More sharing of information is needed** across the region.
- It is imperative for the GMS countries to collaborate in the development of a **legal framework for the quantification and disbursement mechanisms of Loss and Damages**, including associated needed policies and plans.
- A **multi-stakeholder approach** is needed to effectively reduce the adaptation gap, through a combination of **bottom-up and top-bottom approaches**, combining policies and empirical experiences with sound environmental assessments.
- There is widespread recognition that the **GMS countries need to have more dialogues** and specifically address how to collectively **invest in Nature and foster Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Community-based Adaptation** as two main pillars of enhancing Resilience and Disaster Preparedness.
- **Technology plays a critical role in building climate and DRR**, but also climate mitigation: climate data, modelling in relation to hazard forecasting, and scenarios for potential regional impacts (i.e., disruption to interconnected food supply chains).
- It is likewise important to **go beyond climate adaptation policies into climate governance**, which can be a **catalyser for climate finance flows and involvement of private funding** to upscale adaptation solutions in the GMS region.