



Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Program

26th Meeting of Subregional Transport Forum (STF-26)

Date: September 26th- 27th, 2024

Venue: Research Institute of Highway, Ministry of Transport in Beijing, People's Republic of China

Participants:

- GMS member countries: Cambodia, PRC, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam
- Private sector
- Development partners (ADB, NEDA Thailand)

FINAL PROGRAM AND AGENDA

Theme: *Strengthening Supply Chains and Logistics by Enhancing the Collaboration with Private Sector in Promoting a Sustainable GMS Transport System*

Rationale: Since 2020, the coronavirus disease pandemic have caused various constraints on global supply chains and logistics, significantly affecting the supply of goods, their prices, and people's livelihoods. The key will be how to secure supply chains and logistics, without being affected by these external factors. In the current Fourth Industrial Revolution, various automation, integration, and optimization measures are being implemented to effectively utilize resources in manufacturing, shorten delivery times, reduce environmental impact, and counter external threats to IT systems using artificial intelligence and digital technology. At the same time, transportation infrastructure must be developed to enable optimal supply chains and logistics. Logistics is one of the seven priorities of the GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030.

Investment projects in the 2022 Regional Investment Framework (RIF) require a total of \$77.2 billion in financing, of which \$65.8 billion, or 85%, is for the transport sector. Of \$65.8 billion, \$50.6 billion in financing for 45 projects has been approved, committed, or included for future financing in a country program or equivalent. The funding gap of \$15.2 billion for 22 projects needs to be filled to promote the sustainable GMS transport system articulated in the 2022 RIF. In addition, at least six logistics improvement projects were listed among the projects proposed by the GMS countries for the 2025 RIF. There would be many opportunities for public and private sector collaboration to fill the gap.

Meanwhile, the GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030 identifies a weak interface between the public and private sector in the institutional framework for transport development. In order to effectively promote the public and private sector collaboration in the GMS transport initiatives and stabilize supply chains and logistics, this forum will explore the role and mechanism of the private sector after reviewing the progress and future direction of the GMS transport initiatives.

Meeting Objectives: The meeting aims to:

- Discuss workplan for reviewing and updating GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030 (TSS 2030), and emerging topics to be captured in TSS 2030 Update;
- Review progress on implementation of GMS TSS 2030 (updates on FRETA and CBTA);
- Introduce RIF for 2025–2027 endorsed by GMS Technical Meeting; and
- Discuss ways to strengthen supply chains and logistics by enhancing the collaboration with the private sector in the GMS transport sector.

Day 1 – 26 th September	
Time	Topics
08:30–09:00	<i>Registration</i>
09:00–09:25	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Xu Chengguang, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Transport, PRC • Mr. Alfredo Perdiguero, ADB GMS Secretariat Representative (Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration Unit, Southeast Asia Department) • Mr. Sun Yonghong, President of the Research Institute of Highway, Ministry of Transport, PRC
09:25–9:35	Group Photo of heads of delegation (10 min)
09:35–10:35	<p>Session 1: Review and Update GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030</p> <p>(Part 1) <i>Workplan to Review and Update the GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: An overview of workplan (scope, arrangements, schedule) (15 min) <p><i>Speaker: Mr. Yasushi Tanaka, Principal Transport Specialist at Asian Development Bank</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion (15 min) <p>(Part 2) <i>Emerging Topics to be Captured in the GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030 Update</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: An overview of recent challenges and trends in transport sector (15 min) <p><i>Speaker: Mr. Filologo Linsangan Pante, Transport Strategy Specialist Consultant.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion (15 min)

10:35–10:50	<i>Coffee break</i> (15 min)
10:50–12:10	<p>Session 2: Progress on Implementing GMS 2030 and Transport Sector Strategy 2030 to Stabilize Supply Chains and Logistics</p> <p>(Part 1) GMS Freight Transport Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Progress to date (FRETA) (20 min) <p><i>Speaker: Khun Voratat Tantimongkolsuk, Director of the Board of Trade in Thailand</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion (15 min) <p>(Part 2) Early Harvest GMS Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Progress to date (30 min) <p><i>Speaker: Mohammad Ehteshamul Hoque, Trade Specialist at Asian Development Bank</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion (15 min)
12:10–13:40	<i>Lunch</i>
13:40–14:20	<p>Session 3: Transport Projects in RIF 2025–2027</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Overview (20 min) <p><i>Speaker: Mr. Yasushi Tanaka, Principal Transport Specialist at Asian Development Bank</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion (20 min)
14:20–15:10	<p>Session 4: Consultation with Development Partners Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to be provided by ADB and NEDA on their key initiatives in GMS (with a focus on supply chains and logistics, if possible) (15 min each) <p><i>Speaker ADB: Mohammad Nazrul Islam, Asian Development Bank.</i></p> <p><i>Speaker NEDA: Mongkol Charoensri, Policy and Planning Analyst, Senior Level.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion (20 min)
15:10 – 15:30	Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:00	<p>Session 5: Strengthening Supply Chains and Logistics by Enhancing Collaboration with the Private Sector’s Participation and Identifying Future Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Supply chains and logistics best practices and lessons learned (15 min) <p><i>Speaker: Steven Beck, Director of Trade and Supply Chains Division in Asian Development Bank.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion
18:00 – 19:00	<p>Gala Dinner at Shangri-La Hotel</p> <p>Meeting at 6pm at Valley Wing 3rd Floor Jade Room in the hotel.</p>

Day 2 – 27th September	
Time	Topics
08:30–09:00	<i>Registration</i>
09:00–10:30	<p>(Continuation)</p> <p>Session 5: Strengthening Supply Chains and Logistics by Enhancing Collaboration with the Private Sector’s Participation and Identifying Future Measures</p> <p>(Part 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations on (i) proposed projects related to supply chains and logistics in the RIF 2025-2027 and (ii) private sector involvement in the RIF 2023-2025 from GMS member countries (Cambodia, PRC, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam) (15 min each) <p><i>Speaker from Cambodia</i> <i>Speaker from PRC</i> <i>Speaker from Lao PDR</i> <i>Speaker from Myanmar (online)</i> <i>Speaker from Thailand</i> <i>Speaker from Vietnam</i></p>
10:30–10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45–12:15	<p>(Part 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector representatives from 6 countries make presentations according to the following topics (10 min each): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify expected areas where the transport sector can stabilize supply chains and logistics and

	<p>common needs among GMS countries for better supply chains and logistics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify expected areas where the private sector can contribute to supply chains and logistics and common needs among GMS countries for private sector participation. ○ Develop an indicative roadmap for strengthening supply chains and logistics and/or expanding private sector participation. ○ Present the findings and recommendations of the participants. These will be reflected in the updated GMS Transport Sector Strategy 2030. <p><i>Speaker Private Sector from Cambodia</i> <i>Speaker Private Sector from PRC</i> <i>Speaker Private Sector from Lao PDR</i> <i>Speaker Private Sector from Myanmar (online)</i> <i>Speaker Private Sector from Thailand</i> <i>Speaker Private Sector from Vietnam</i></p> <p>(Part 3) • Discussion (30 min)</p>
12:15–13:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45–14:00	<p>Wrap-Up and Closing Remarks By Co-chair</p>