



GREAT ER MEKONG SUBREGION  
CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

RAMBOLL

# 26th Annual Meeting of the Greater Mekong Subregion Working Group on Environment (GMS WGE AM26)

26-28 October 2022 (in-person and online)  
Holiday Inn Bangkok Sukhumvit  
Bangkok, Thailand

To join the workshop virtually, register in advance: [Zoom Link](#)

A confirmation email will be sent once registered.

**Meeting ID:** 930 7698 5514

**Passcode:** 171629

## AGENDA

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### Background

To support the implementation of the Strategic Framework and Action Plan, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a technical assistance (TA) entitled the GMS Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Program (CCESP). This is the third and current phase of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Core Environment Program (CEP), covering 2020–2025. CCESP consists of six priority themes, which were identified during the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Environment (WGE AM-24), held in April 2019 in Kunming, People's Republic of China (PRC). The TA will help GMS countries implement nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 2, SDG 5, and SDG 13. Through enhancing capacities and enabling policies, demonstrating innovative activities, and catalyzing private sector opportunities, the TA will help develop climate-friendly projects in the GMS regional investment framework (RIF) and help the GMS realize its overarching vision of an integrated, prosperous, and equitable subregion.

The CCESP Program targets three outputs, each covering two themes:

- (i) Climate and disaster resilience enhanced (Theme 1), and low carbon transitions facilitated (Theme 2)
- (ii) Climate-smart landscapes promoted (Theme 3), and environmental quality enhanced (Theme 4)
- (iii) Green technologies (Theme 5) and financing instruments demonstrated (Theme 6)

The TA is aligned with the following impact: climate compatibility and environmental sustainability of economic growth in the GMS improved, and the following outcome: climate resilience, green growth, and environmental quality in the GMS enhanced. Three key groups of activities are planned uniformly across each of the six themes: (i) policy dialogues, (ii) capacity building, and (iii) pilot demonstrations.

In support of realizing the intentions and outcomes of the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15), held in 2021 in Kunming PRC, and the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) held in 2021 in Glasgow, the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Environment (WGE AM 26) will specifically focus on CCESP Theme 1: Building climate and disaster resilience and Theme 3: Promoting climate-smart landscapes.

The 26<sup>th</sup> GMS WGE Annual Meeting will discuss key challenges and possible solutions for the region in the light of the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) and the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) and in preparation on their pathway to the upcoming COP27 and COP15 in 2022. Day 1 will focus on Theme 1 building climate and disaster resilience by focusing on climate risks, challenges and possible solutions in the light of the themes identified at COP26 to tackle the root causes of climate vulnerability. Day 2 will focus on Theme 3 promoting Climate-smart Landscapes (CSL), how climate change and biodiversity loss can be addressed, and how local livelihoods can improve as a result of these measures. There will be a short field visit on Day 3.

### **WGE AM26 Objectives**

1. To share national priorities and strategies of the GMS countries to build climate resilience and strengthen biodiversity conservation
2. To examine challenges and opportunities in the light of the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) and the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) for the GMS
3. To explore solutions to build climate and disaster resilience and strengthen biodiversity conservation in the GMS on their pathway to the upcoming COP27 and COP15 in 2022
4. To discuss national and subregional climate resilience and post-2020 biodiversity conservation frameworks and actions in the GMS in the context of COPs, COVID-19 and the GMS RIF
5. To agree upon priority actions for regional cooperation under the CCESP to improve climate and disaster resilience, and biodiversity conservation in the GMS

### **WGE AM – 26 Expected Output**

1. Better GMS regional understanding of the national and subregional climate resilience and biodiversity conservation frameworks and national priorities and strategies of the GMS countries to build climate resilience and strengthen biodiversity conservation
2. Challenges, opportunities and solutions identified to build climate and disaster resilience and strengthen biodiversity conservation in the GMS on their pathway to the upcoming COP27 and COP15 in 2022
3. GMS WGE Annual Meeting Summary Statement with priority actions for regional collaboration

### **Target Participants**

- GMS WGE representatives
- Representatives from GMS agencies for climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation
- Academic institutions
- Relevant private sector
- Development partners
- ADB staff
- TA9915 Consultant team

## Tentative Agenda

### Day 1 – Wednesday 26 October 2022

8:00–08:30	<b>Registration</b>
08:30 - 09:00	<p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior official from Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), Thailand (to be recommended by Thailand WGE)</li> <li>Dr. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division (SEER), Southeast Asia Department (SERD), ADB</li> </ul> <p><b>Welcome and introduction to agenda of the WGE annual meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Jens Christian Riise, TA-9915 Co-Team Leader, Capacity Building Specialist, Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Specialist, and Facilitator</li> </ul>
09:00 - 10:30	<p><b>Theme 1 Session 1: National priorities and strategies to build climate and disaster resilience in the GMS towards the upcoming COP27</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, SEER, ADB</b></p> <p><b>Presentations by GMS WGE and country representatives</b></p>
10:30 - 10:45	<b>Tea and Coffee Break and Photo</b>
10:45 - 12:00	<p><b>Theme 1 Session 2: Climate and disaster resilience, challenges, and priority actions in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. Albert Salamanca, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute, Bangkok</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Xi Jiao, TA-9915 Thematic Lead Building Climate and Disaster Resilience and Co-Team Leader</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p>
12:00-13:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
13:00 – 14:15	<p><b>Theme 1 Session 3: Mainstreaming climate and disaster resilience development, and establishing multi-stakeholder partnership (MSP) mechanism in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Mr. Lai Dao Xuan, Head of Climate Change and Environment Unit, UNDP, Viet Nam</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Sok Ty, TA-9915 National Adaptation Planning Specialist</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p>
14:15 – 15:30	<p><b>Theme 1 Session 4: Enhancing community-based adaptation (CBA) and disaster risk management, and harnessing ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) and natural-based solutions in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Mr. Kevin Jeanes, Chief Technical Advisor, FAO, Lao PDR</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Noel Puno, TA-9915 Community-based CCA and DRM Specialist</li> <li>Mr. Kevin Jeanes, Chief Technical Advisor, FAO, Lao PDR on EBA</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel Discussion</b></p>

15:30 – 15:45	<b>Tea and Coffee Break</b>
15:45 – 17:00	<p><b>Theme 1 Session 5: Identifying adaptation finance needs and gaps, and employing innovative financing instruments in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. Srinivasan Ancha, Principal Climate Change Specialist, ADB</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ornsaran Pomme Manuamorn, Climate and Sustainable Finance Expert, World Bank, Climate Bonds Initiative, and Fiscal Policy Research Institute, Thailand</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p>
17:00 – 17:15	<b>Day 1 conclusion</b>
18:00 –	<b>Dinner co-hosted by MoNRE</b>

## Day 2 – Thursday 27 October 2022

08:30–09:00	<b>Registration</b>
09:00–10:30	<p><b>Theme 3 Session 1: National priorities and strategies for biodiversity conservation and post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework in the GMS towards the upcoming COP15</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, SEER, ADB</b></p> <p><b>Presentations by GMS WGE and country representatives</b></p>
10:30-10:45	<b>Tea and Coffee Break and Photo</b>
10:45–12:00	<p><b>Theme 3 Session 2: Biodiversity conservation and post-2020 global biodiversity framework, challenges and priority actions in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Mr. Jake Brunner, Head of Indo-Burma Group, The International Union for Conservation of Nature</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ellyn Kathalina Damayanti, TA-9915 Thematic Lead and Landscape Management and REDD+ Specialist</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p>
12:00-13:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
13:00 – 14:15	<p><b>Theme 3 Session 3: Employing ecosystem-based approaches and natural-based solutions to contribute to mitigation and adaptation to climate change in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. David Ganz, Executive Director, RECOFTC</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Michael Victor Galante, Director, Climate Forestry and Secretary-General, The Alliance for Responsible Forest Management</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p>

14:15 – 15:30	<p><b>Theme 3 Session 4: Mobilizing effective financial resources, and leveraging private finance, taking into account national biodiversity finance planning in the GMS</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. Srinivasan Ancha, Principal Climate Change Specialist, ADB</b></p> <p><b>Keynote:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Yunwen Bai, Director of Financing Nature Based Solutions Centre at the Institute of Finance and Sustainability/Senior Researcher of Greenovation Hub, China</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p>
15:30 – 15:45	<b>Tea and Coffee Break</b>
15:45 – 17:00	<p><b>Discussion priority actions for regional cooperation under the CCESP to improve climate and disaster resilience, and biodiversity conservation in the GMS towards COP15 and COP27</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Dr. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, SEER, ADB</b></p>
17:00 – 17:15	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, SEER, SERD, ADB</li> <li>WGE Thailand (To be recommended by WGE Thai)</li> </ul>
18:00 –	<b>Dinner co-hosted by ADB</b>

### Day 3 – Friday 28 October 2022

08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 – 11:30	<p><b>CCESP recap and way forward (for WGE)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Jens Christian Riise, TA-9915 Co-Team Leader, Capacity Building Specialist, Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Specialist, and Facilitator</li> <li>TA-9915 Thematic Leads</li> </ul> <p><b>Feedback and expectations by GMS WGE representatives</b></p>
9:00	<b>Departure from the hotel to the Wastegetable project site</b>
9:30 – 12:00	<b>Visit the rooftop farm including presentation, Q&amp;A, and discussions</b>