



12th

22 NOVEMBER 2021

GMS ECONOMIC CORRIDORS FORUM VIET NAM 2021

Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Program

Theme: Enhancing Connectivity, Competitiveness, and Community Along the GMS Economic Corridors: Vital Means Toward Economic Recovery and Sustained Growth
(Virtual Conference)

22 November 2021

12:30–4:15 p.m. Bangkok, Ha Noi, Phnom Penh, Vientiane / 1:30–5:15 p.m. Beijing, Manila /
12:00–3:45 p.m. Nay Pyi Taw

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

12:30 – 12:45 p.m. Ha Noi time (15 min.)	Opening Session Welcome Remarks: Dr. Pham Hoang Mai , Director General, FERD, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Viet Nam (Chair) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Opening Remarks by Mr. Ramesh Subramaniam, Director General, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB) (Co-Chair)Statements by Heads of Delegations
Part I. Connectivity — Software Supporting Economic Corridors	
12:45 – 2:00 p.m. (75 min.) 15 min. for each presentation +30 min. discussion	1. Report on various activities relating to transport and trade facilitation and the Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement (CBTA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Status/progress of the “Early Harvest” implementation of the CBTAUpdates on border restrictions/openings due to the COVID-19 pandemicStatus update on the preparation of a COVID-19 trade and transport facilitation action plan Presenter: Ms. Kanya S. Sasradipoera , Senior Trade Specialist, Southeast Asia Department, ADB 2. Enhancing Trade and Investment Facilitation and Liberalization: Collaboration through the GMS Program <ul style="list-style-type: none">The session will share the preliminary findings of the scoping study being undertaken by the GMS Secretariat. Aside from providing an assessment of the current GMS trade and investment climate and the impact of COVID-19, the discussion will focus on concrete opportunities and entry points for the GMS Program to enhance collaboration in these key thematic areas, namely through policy dialogue, capacity building, and research and knowledge generation, particularly as these impact economic corridor development. Presenter: Mr. Antonio Ressano , Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, Southeast Asia Department, ADB 3. Implementation of the GMS Cross-Border E-Commerce Cooperation Platform <ul style="list-style-type: none">Report on the recent activities of the Platform and the related Business Alliance and possible ways to further strengthen and enhance the reach and





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	<p>effectiveness of the e-Commerce Platform</p> <p>Presenter: Mr. Liu Qixin, Project Officer, Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center, Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China</p>
Part II. Competitiveness — Role of Cities and Local Governments in the Development of Economic Corridors	
<p>2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (60 min.)</p> <p>15 min. for each presentation +30 min. discussion</p>	<p>4. Matters regarding the GMS Governors' Forum and Deeper Engagement with Local Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion of possible additional and strengthened activities that could be undertaken in line with the GMS-2030 mandate to further strengthen engagement of local governments (including district governments and cities), especially in the border areas, in GMS economic corridor development <p>Presenters: (1) Mr. Liu Qixin, Project Officer, Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center, Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China (2) Mr. Asadullah Sumbal, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist and GMS Secretariat Unit Head, ADB</p> <p>5. Cities as Engines of Growth for the Greater Mekong Subregion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Presentation from the Study: The Greater Mekong Subregion 2030 and Beyond: Integration, Upgrading, Cities, and Connectivity <p>Presenter: Mr. Jiang Yi, Principal Economist, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB</p>
Part III. Community — Labor Migration and Gender Equality	
<p>3:00 – 4:00 p.m. (60 min.)</p>	<p>6. Facilitating Safe and Regular Labor Migration in GMS Corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This session will discuss issues on cross-border mobility and efforts to promote safe and regular migration along the GMS economic corridors in the context of COVID-19. As borders begin to reopen and measures are taken to accelerate economic recovery, it will explore the ways forward to ensure health interventions as well as safe and regular labor migration in the GMS. <p>Presenter: Ms. Mia Haas-Goldberg, Project Support Officer, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, International Organization for Migration</p> <p>Discussants: Mr. Chuop Narath, Deputy Director General, General Department of Labour, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, Cambodia Mr. Bounsouan Xaiyasinh, Director of Employment Promotion Division, Department of Skills Development and Employment, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR</p> <p><i>(Presentation, 10 min.; Discussants, 5 min.; and Open Discussion, 15 min.)</i></p>





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	<p>7. Presentation on the “Economic Corridors Development: key to enhance gender equality and women’s empowerment in the GMS”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ GMS economic corridors connect countries and significantly contribute to their economic development. Although infrastructure and trade across the subregion already involve women, the subregion does not yet benefit from the full and equal participation of women across all social and economic spheres. The promotion of regional economic corridors can create additional income-generating activities for women. The GMS Program provides an ideal forum to support the countries in making this happen.■ This presentation will cover the following: (i) women in GMS economic corridors: challenges and issues, (ii) GMS Program’s ongoing work to promote gender equality, and (iii) how the GMS Program can enhance gender equality in economic corridors development through RCI. <p>Presenter: Ms. Louise McSorley, Gender Specialist/Consultant, ADB</p> <p><i>(Presentation, 15 minutes; Open Discussion, 15 minutes)</i></p>
<p>4:00 – 4:15 p.m. (15 min.)</p>	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Wrap-up by Co-Chair■ Closing Remarks by Chair

