



**MNRE**  
Thailand



# Fifth Greater Mekong Subregion Environment Ministers' Meeting

CHIANG MAI THAILAND

30 January - 1 February 2018



**ADB**

GREATER MEKONG  
SUBREGION  
CORE ENVIRONMENT  
PROGRAM

**Report by the GMS WGE  
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5<sup>th</sup> Greater Mekong Subregion  
Environment Ministers' Meeting  
CHIANG MAI 🌿 THAILAND

# CEP Achievements

- The Environment Operations Center was established as
  - a regional center of excellence on strategic planning, policy and regulatory frameworks,
  - being a regional hub on knowledge management, decision support and best practices,
  - mechanism to help stimulating environment and climate investments (more than US\$100 million).



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# EMM-5 deliverables

## **For endorsement:**

1. Core Environment Program (CEP) Strategic Framework and Action Plan 2018–2022 and consolidated environment pipeline projects.

## **For notation:**

1. Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on transboundary biodiversity cooperation between Thailand and Cambodia, yesterday.
2. 10 policy briefs and other knowledge products, including the CEP Strategic Framework and Action Plan 2018–2022, CEP: Ten Years of Cooperation, and GMS Environmental Performance Assessment 2006–2016.



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# **Key Messages from the Forum on “Inclusive Green Growth”: Investing for a Sustainable Future**

## **Four interactive dialogues were organized:**

- Green growth in action
- *Green energy: powering the future*
- *Roadway to sustainable infrastructure*
- *Building a climate resilient future*

## **Two knowledge seminars were organized:**

- Green technology
- Knowledge management

## **Key Messages: Issues (1)**

- Natural resources, ecosystems and biodiversity are vital for the economic prosperity of GMS countries.
- Urbanization, increased mobility and commodity demands are exerting pressure on limited natural resources.
- Measures to increase resource efficiency are vital.
- Once resource intense infrastructure development is locked-in, transition costs to green pathways are high.



## **Key Messages: Issues (2)**

- Investing in innovative sustainable infrastructure solution will improve development performance, better environmental quality and support greenhouse gas reduction.
- Low budget is allocated for the natural resources and environment sector as investing in public goods is perceived as high risk and low return.
- Climate resilient GMS requires balanced investments in both social and infrastructure resilience.

## **Key Messages: Opportunities (1)**

- Green technology provides an opportunity to improve resource intensity and minimize environmental impact.
- Rapid expansion of renewable energy is viable due to decreased cost of generation and lower investment risks.
- Innovative sustainable financing mechanisms, such as eco-compensation and payment for ecosystem services are emerging.
- Integrated GMS provides an opportunity to spread climate risk and the opportunity to share experiences to better respond to climate change and disaster events.

## **Key Messages: Recommendations (1)**

- Promote cross sectoral collaboration through policy incentives and improve governance.
- Strengthen land use and sector planning approaches.
- Enhance cross-sector and cross-regional collaboration on climate risk assessment.
- Support policy and regulatory framework for investments in natural resources and green technologies to catalyze and reduce risks for public-private partnerships and private sector investments.
- Develop attractive risk-rewards strategies for increased private sector participation as it is a diverse group with varying risk/ return investment appetites.

## **Key Messages: Recommendations (2)**

- Promote financial mechanisms to de-risk green investments.
- Reform of pricing and subsidy structures.
- Promote start-ups and entrepreneurship through a dedicated fund.
- Pilot and incubate projects to demonstrate viability and application of technology.
- Enhance knowledge management to better serve to identify and facilitate investment opportunities.
- Improve absorption by strengthening institutional capacity , project development and implementation.
- Improve coordination for widening network of investors.



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# Thank you!