

Greater Mekong Subregion East-West Economic Corridor

Updated Strategy and Action Plan

**15th GMS Ministerial Conference
Senior Officials' Meeting
17 June 2009**



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Outline of Presentation

- I. Background and Rationale for the Strategy
- II. Lessons from the Earlier Strategy Applied to the New Strategy
- III. Key elements of the Updated strategy
 - Strategic Goals
 - Guiding Principles
 - Focal Sectors
 - Recommendations
- IV. Critical Success Factors



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Background



- EWEC launched as a flagship initiative in 1998
- EWEC strategy and action plan formulated in 2001



Taking Stock of EWEC

- Physical connectivity completed
- 1/3 of projects have been implemented
 - Business facilitating projects
 - Tourism projects





Lessons from 2001-2009

- Focus on a few targeted initiatives within well-defined areas
- Need capacity building support
- Forming partnerships takes effort
- External assistance strategies can operate at cross purposes
- Difficulty of measuring performance



EWEC Strategy and Action Plan (1)

Strategic Goals

- Enhance connectivity
- Capacity development
- Empower private sector
- Reduce poverty

Guiding Principles

- Practicality, focus, sustainability
- Poverty alleviation
- Public-private partnership



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EWEC Strategy and Action Plan (2)

Strategic initiatives:

- Infrastructure/Transport & Trade Facilitation
- Trade & Investment
- Tourism
- Agriculture & Agro-Industry
- Private Sector Development
- Social and Environmental Dimensions



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EWEC Strategy and Action Plan (3)

Action Plan contents:

- Specific programs/projects
- Output expected
- Performance indicators
- Agency responsible
- Timeframe
- Status



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Highlights of Workshop Recommendations

- Infrastructure – completing missing links
- Transport facilitation – CBTA
- Private sector development – SEZs
- Socio-economic development/Environmental mainstreaming – pro-poor supply chains; EPA



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Critical Success Factors

- CBTA implemented successfully
- Complementary policy
- Effective institutional mechanisms
- Effective and coherent development partner action
- Cross-cutting policy reforms



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Next Steps

- Endorsement by the 15th MM of the Updated EWEC SAP
- 16-17 September, ECF-2: Strategy to be presented
- Sector Working Groups involvement
- Updated Strategy and Action Plan to be integrated into the updated Vientiane Plan of Action



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Thank you!

