

Greater Mekong Subregion Proposed Reorientation of Subregional Cooperation on Investment

*15th GMS Ministerial Conference
Senior Officials' Meeting
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Outline of Presentation

- I. Proposal for the SIWG
- II. Scope and Focus
- III. Possible Activities
- IV. Institutional Arrangements
- V. Next Steps



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Proposal and Rationale

GMS cooperation in investment under SIWG

- very broad
- no concrete initiatives with definite outputs
- lacked continuity

PROPOSAL:

Reactivate the SIWG -- refocus toward results-oriented initiatives -- promote investment along the GMS economic corridors.

RATIONALE:

- Investment - a critical factor in subregional development
- Drives future economic growth, jobs creation, and sustainable poverty reduction
- Relevant with impacts of global financial crisis
- **Focus on catalyzing PPP and private investments of a cross-border or regional nature**



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SCOPE AND FOCUS:

- Cross-border investments (CBI)
- Border Area investments (BAI)

Work to cover:

- Stock taking exercise
- Enabling environment measures
- Designing instruments and measures to catalyze public-private partnerships, cross-border private investments
- Promoting public investments in border areas and along the GMS economic corridors



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Possible Activities (1)

- Stock-taking studies
 - current trends and future prospects – CBI, FDI by GMS-centered and ASEAN-wide firms
 - Links between trade and investment
 - Success stories of CBI and BAI
- Promoting BAI along GMS economic corridors may include:
 - Finding effective ways of planning public-private partnerships
 - Provide business development services
 - Develop financing and credit guarantee facilities



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Possible Activities (2)

- Developing instruments and measure to promote Cross Border Investments (CBI) through public-private partnerships and private sector investments.
 - Example of public-private partnership: GMS Railways project linking Thailand and Cambodia
 - Example of private sector investment: Cambodia Power Transmission Line Project
- Effective monitoring and evaluation framework for corridor-based investments
- Joint activities with GMS Business Forum -- business roundtables, border area business forums



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Institutional Arrangements

Relationship and Division of Work among the SIWG, ECF and GMS-BF

- Economic Corridors Forum (ECF) – main advocate of GMS economic corridor development
- SIWG – cooperation at sector-specific policy, planning/programming, operational levels; promoting/planning private investments
- GMS Business Forum – private sector representatives; provide inputs for SIWG



Next Steps

- Prepare a proposed medium-term work program
- Convene SIWG for details of the work program



Thank you!

For more information:
on the GMS Program – visit

<http://www.adb.org/gms>

Or email:

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