



Regional: Greater Mekong Subregion Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Program

Project Name

Greater Mekong Subregion Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Program

Project Number

53390-001

Country / Economy

- Regional
- Cambodia
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Myanmar
- China, People's Republic of
- Thailand
- Viet Nam

Project Status

Active

Project Type / Modality of Assistance

- Technical Assistance

Source of Funding / Amount

TA 9915-REG: Greater Mekong Subregion Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Program

Source	Amount
Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 2.00 million

Climate Change Fund	US\$ 3.00 million
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Source	Amount
Strategic Climate Fund	US\$ 2.00 million

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Source	Amount
People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund	US\$ 500,000.00

Operational Priorities

- OP1: Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities
- OP2: Accelerating progress in gender equality
- OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability
- OP5: Promoting rural development and food security

- OP6: Strengthening governance and institutional capacity
- OP7: Fostering regional cooperation and integration

Sector / Subsector

- **Agriculture, natural resources and rural development** / Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development - Forestry - Land-based natural resources management - Rural flood protection - Rural solid waste management - Rural water policy, institutional and capacity development - Water-based natural resources management
- **Energy** / Renewable energy generation - biomass and waste
- **Finance** / Inclusive finance
- **Industry and trade** / Small and medium enterprise development
- **Information and communication technology** / ICT industries and ICT-enabled services

Gender

Effective gender mainstreaming

Description

The TA is aligned with the following impact: environment sustainability and climate-compatibility of economic growth and propensity in the GMS improved, as stated in GMS Core Environment Program Strategic Framework and Action Plan. The TA will have the following outcome: climate resilience, green growth, and environmental quality in the GMS enhanced.

Output 1: Climate and disaster resilience enhanced, and low carbon transitions facilitated. This output will help GMS countries to accelerate adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts through (i) creating a GMS-wide platform on climate and disaster resilience in support of implementing national adaptation plans; (ii) strengthening capacities to mainstream climate and disaster resilience in planning and to climate-proof infrastructure investments; (iii) supporting community-based adaptation and disaster risk management initiatives; and (iv) piloting ecosystem-based adaptation approaches. It will also facilitate low carbon transitions through (i) identifying policies and measures for effective implementation of NDC-aligned sectoral climate investment plans for agriculture, energy, and transport sectors; (ii) strengthening capacities for monitoring, reporting and verification of climate actions; and (iii) conducting pilots on low carbon agriculture and green freight.

Output 2: Climate-smart landscapes promoted and environmental quality enhanced. In line with objectives of the United Nations Decade of Landscape Restoration and ADB Oceans' Initiative, this output will strengthen regulations and build capacities to adopt landscape approaches in managing natural resources, ecosystem services, and improving environmental quality. Sub-output on promoting climate-smart landscapes

will deploy nature-based solutions for management of transboundary landscapes through (i) improving land use management systems; (ii) designing innovative compensation mechanisms for ecosystem services; and (iii) enhancing capacity of institutions and communities in integrated landscape management. Sub-output on enhancing environmental quality through pollution control and waste management will (i) build capacities for strategic environmental planning, environmental quality data management and guidelines on air, water, and soil pollution control and remediation; (ii) provide policy support for implementation of circular economy and waste management; and (iii) conduct feasibility studies and prepare concept papers for investments to address air and water pollution, including plastics.

Output 3: Green technologies and financing instruments demonstrated. This output will promote piloting of innovative technologies by supporting business ecosystems, and testing financing models, including innovative disaster risk financing instruments. Sub-output on deploying advanced technologies for climate action and environmental sustainability will identify good practices for technology policy leapfrogging and demonstrate application of high-level digital technologies such as Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, robotics, and drones for (i) monitoring of climate actions; (ii) pollution monitoring and management; (iii) sustainable forest management; and (iv) early warning systems to facilitate adaptation. It will enhance capacities of communities, public institutions, and the private sector on use of digital technologies. Sub-output on piloting innovative climate and disaster risk financing instruments will (i) assess enabling conditions to deploy innovative financing instruments and access environmental finance through national entities, and in partnership with international organizations and the private sector; (ii) pilot climate and disaster risk financing instruments (e.g., blended finance, public-private partnerships, community resilience credit lines, risk-layering approach); and (iii) strengthen capacity of financial institutions to support green technologies and infrastructure

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy

Economic growth and prosperity of GMS countries are largely anchored in intensive use of sub-region's abundant natural resources, which account for 20-55% of total wealth. However, the GMS countries are experiencing a rapid depletion of natural assets such as land, forest, water, and wetlands, and a decline in ecosystem services and environmental quality. Natural asset losses in the GMS are valued at 10-12% of gross domestic product a year and such losses are accelerating due to climate change.

Inadequate regulatory and policy frameworks, limited capacities for strategic planning, and low technical know-how limit effective management of climate change and environmental risks to communities, assets and supply chains. Weak collaboration is limiting opportunities in knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and market integration all vital components to forge a sub-regional approach to combat climate change and environmental degradation. Innovative partnerships, with a focus on project incubation and scaling up, policy and strategic planning advisory, and knowledge support are critical to meet national priorities and international commitments and foster regional cooperation and integration. The GMS Working Group on Environment (WGE), at its 24th Annual Meeting held in Kunming in April 2019, identified six themes for ADB support.

Impact

Climate compatibility and environmental sustainability of economic growth in the GMS improved

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome

Climate resilience, green growth, and environmental quality in the GMS enhanced.

Progress Toward Outcome

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs

Climate and disaster resilience enhanced, and low carbon transitions facilitated.

Climate-smart landscapes promoted and environmental quality enhanced

Green technologies and financing instruments demonstrated

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)

Geographical Location

Cambodia - Nation-wide; China - Nation-wide; Lao People's Democratic Republic - Nation-wide; Myanmar - Nation-wide; Thailand - Nation-wide; Viet Nam - Nation-wide

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design

During Project Implementation

Contact

Responsible ADB Officer

Ancha, Srinivasan

Responsible ADB Department

Sectors Group

Responsible ADB Division

Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development Sector Office (SG-AFNR)

Executing Agencies

Asian Development Bank

Timetable

Concept Clearance

22 Nov 2019

Fact Finding

19 Oct 2019 to 19 Oct 2019

MRM

-

Approval

18 Dec 2019

Last Review Mission

-

Last PDS Update

19 Dec 2019

Funding

TA 9915-REG

Milestones

Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		Revised	Actual
			Original			
18 Dec 2019	-	18 Dec 2019	31 Mar 2025	-	-	
Financing Plan/TA Utilization						
Counterpart						
ADB	Cofinancing	Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others	Total
5,000,000.00	2,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,500,000.00
Cumulative Disbursements						
Date	Amount					
03 Jul 2024	1,137,347.53					

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