

ACHIEVEMENTS OF TA 7561-REG: STRENGTHENING THE COORDINATION OF THE GMS PROGRAM (2010–2017)

I. Strategic Documents

1. Midterm Review of GMS Strategic Framework 2012–2022
2. The GMS Regional Investment Framework, 2013–2022
3. GMS Regional Investment Framework Implementation Plan (RIF-IP), 2014–2018
4. Guidelines for the GMS RIF-IP Monitoring System
5. GMS Transport Sector Strategy

II. Conferences

- Two GMS Summits, eight GMS Ministerial Conferences, and nearly 30 GMS Senior Officials' Meetings and GMS task force meetings
- Organization of six meetings of the GMS Subregional Transport Forum and four GMS Economic Corridors Forums¹
- Moreover, through a team of core coordination consultants funded by the Technical Assistance (TA), approximately 30 GMS working group and task force meetings in the areas of agriculture, energy, environment, human resource development, tourism, transport, and urban development were supported. These meetings: (i) strengthened GMS cooperation and promoted efforts among GMS countries in formulating and implementing joint actions to deepen GMS cooperation in priority sectors, and (ii) contributed to the formulation and adoption of sector strategies and the identification and prioritization of subregional investment and TA projects.
- The capacity of GMS national secretariats was enhanced with the support of national consultants based in GMS countries, and GMS secretariat staff and consultants based in ADB headquarters who coordinated with, and provided extensive assistance to staff of GMS national secretariats in organizing numerous GMS meetings and events, and in facilitating the participation of national secretariats. In addition, to increase the capacity of GMS national secretariats in coordinating GMS activities in the energy and railway sectors, the TA supported the preparation of memorandums of understanding to establish the Regional Power Coordination Center and the Greater Mekong Railway Association. Meanwhile, in the urban sector, a GMS Task Force for Urban Development was

¹ The GMS Economic Corridor Forums were also supported by the Technical Assistance *Support for Regional Multisector Investment Framework for Greater Mekong Subregion Development (Phase 1)*. Manila.

created to facilitate the national secretariat's involvement in the formulation of a GMS Urban Development Strategic Framework.²

- The TA supported the preparation and publication of numerous knowledge and information products, including (i) The Role of Special Economic Zones in Improving the Effectiveness of GMS Economic Corridors; (ii) Review of Configuration of the GMS Economic Corridors; (iii) the GMS at 20: Progress and Prospects; (iv) Greater Mekong Subregion: Twenty Years of Partnership; (v) GMS e-Updates; (vi) GMS brochure; (vii) GMS Development Partners Assistance Matrix, and (viii) GMS Progress Report to the Leaders presented at the Fifth GMS Summit.³
- Work is also currently being done to prepare the following reports and video under the TA: (i) Assessment of Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Corridors, (ii) The Ha Noi Action Plan 2018–2022, (iii) a coffee table book and video to celebrate the 25th GMS Anniversary.
- To promote structured information exchange and dialogue between ADB and other development partners under output 5, the TA supported the organization of numerous high-level forums, including (i) the Mekong Development Forum held in September 2010, (ii) the GMS Business Opportunities Forum (held back-to-back with the Fifth GMS Economic Corridors Forum in August 2013); (iii) development partners' meetings as component events of the Ministerial Conferences in August 2011, December 2012, December 2013; September 2015; and December 2016 and (iv) the GMS Business Forum (with a trade exhibition and marketplace), the GMS Investment Forum; and the Second GMS Youth Forum, which were component events of the Fifth GMS Summit held in December 2014.
- The following meetings are also currently being supported under the TA: the 9th Economic Corridor Forum, the 22nd GMS Ministerial Conference, and the 6th GMS Summit.

² At the 18th GMS Ministerial Conference in December 2012, GMS ministers endorsed the formation of a GMS Urban Task Force, which became operational in July 2013.

³ Greater Mekong Subregion. Publications. <http://www.adb.org/countries/gms/publications>