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LMC Projects - Focus on

Joint Development of Cross-Border Special Economic Zones
Upgrading Border Facilitation for Trade and Logistics Development

NETWORKING FORUM

Enhancing Cross-Border Facilitation for Logistics

Trade and Investment Development in the Lancang-Mekong Countries



November 30, 2021



UPGRADING BORDER FACILITATION

FOR TRADE AND LOGISTICS

DEVELOPMENT

Upgrading Border Facilitation: A Trade and Logistics Facilitation Perspective aims to:

 Promote trade along border trade zones which link Lancang Mekong Countries

· Facilitate cross-border trade by increasing

the capacity for commerce and reducing

the costs faced by traders within Lancang

• Enhance connectivity and improve competi-

tiveness across international borders though

facilitating cross-border trade and investment

improvements in infrastructure focused on

Project Duration: 3 Years (2017-2020)

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Lancang Mekong Cooperation Projects 2018-2021

Thailand cross border SEZ

- improve supply chain,
- upgrade production base
- facilitate and enhance trade to reduce lengthy procedures and processing time for document preparation, customs clearance, port handling and inland freight handling

Border crossings

Mukdahan (Thailand) - Kaysone Phomvihane (Laos PDR)

- Nakhon Phanom (Thailand) Thakhek (Laos PDR)
- Boten (Lao PDR) Mohan (PRC)
- Mae Sot (Thailand) Myawaddy (Myanmar)

Background

Increasing cross border trade

Coordination to boost trade and investment







Chiang Khong (Thailand) - Houixay (Lao PDR)

Hekou (PRC) - Lao Cai (Viet Nam)

Aranyaprathet (Thailand) - Poipet (Cambodia)

JOINT DEVELOPMENT **OF CROSS-BORDER** SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

This project on cross-border SEZs aims to:

- Promote SEZs in the Lancang Mekong Countries and coordination among them
- Boost trade and investment both from within and outside the Mekong sub-region
- Improve supply chain, upgrade production base, facilitate and enhance trade, as well as reduce poverty by providing livelihood for the people

Project Duration: 3 Years (2017-2020)





TRAINING



BUILDING



RESEARCH



Mekong region













Joint Development of Cross-Border Special Economic Zones (SEZs)

(2018-2021)

Joint study and survey of SEZs in Lancang-Mekong region to match complementary SEZs and identify prioritized areas,

June – September 2018



Identified Prioritized Intervention Areas:

- Harmonization of policies, establishment of single windows, joint training on implementation of customs procedures at the border;
- Investment incentives and privileges;
- SEZ management practices, financial and investment law.
- how to establish management committees and joint ventures, critical analysis of financing proposals;





- Training opportunities to help SMEs get the most out of SEZs
- Trade negotiations focusing on specific border points.
- Training on Management of Special Economic Zones;



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Joint Development of Cross-Border Special Economic Zones (SEZs)

(2018-2021)



Modular Training on Management of Special Economic Zones in Lancang-Mekong Countries September 24-28, 2018 ← Enhanced Understanding on Management and Development Framework of Special Economic Zones and Cross Border Economic Zones.



Online Modular Training on Measures for Management and Promotion of SEZ, August 10 – 21, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on trade and investment and identified measures to overcome the crisis e.g. strategies, policies and practices, institutional and governance issues.

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Joint Development of Cross-Border Special Economic Zones (SEZs)

(2018-2021)





Training on Enhancement of Business Connections and Information Sharing between SEZs in LM region, MI, Thailand, August 26 - 30, 2019

- Improved Business Connections;
- Discussed sources, types and contents of the online SEZs information system.

ACTION PLANS IMPLEMENTATION by training participants

Information in LIV O portal de tra ones Developed Economic Facilitat





Partnership Agreements on SEZ Information /Data Collection in Myanmar, Lao PDR and Cambodia

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Joint Development of Cross-Border Special Economic Zones (SEZs)

(2018-2021)

Exchanged Knowledge and Experiences on SEZs Development Model by visiting

- I. Shanghai Free Trade Zone
- 2. China-Lao Mohan-Boten Cross Border Economic Cooperation Zone
- 3. Mohan Border EZ and Lao Boten SEZ

Key Learning Areas:

- Trade and investment policies
- Multi-sectoral cooperation
- Special Economic Zones management and promotion
- Digital technologies
- Single-window and one-stop service centers
- Cross-border e-commerce
- Capacity building initiatives

Structured Learning Visit December 8-14, 2019





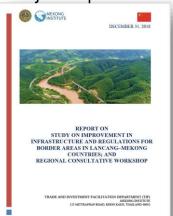






Assessed Development Needs for the Improvement of Infrastructures and Regulations for Border Areas, Customs Modernization and SEZs Management and Promotion.

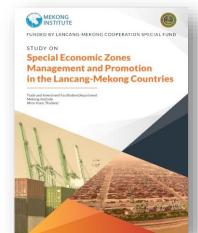
Study on improvement of infrastructures and regulations for cross- border SEZs June-September 2018



Study on custom Modernization April – December 2019



Study on management and promotion of SEZs Sep - Dec 2019



- Study on Core Trade Infrastructure and Facilities in Border Areas of the Lancang-Mekong Countries (ongoing)
- Consultation and Dissemination Workshops
- 2020-2021









Consultative meetings

Provided **Specific Recommendations** to Stakeholders through Intense Consultative Research on Customs Modernization, SEZs Management and Promotion.

August 2018-December 2019

Consultative meetings, focus-group discussions, field surveys conducted in selected border areas of LM countries for the three studies

POLICY DIALOGUES on

- Improvement of infrastructures and regulations for border areas
- Key development issues on customs modernization and SEZs management and promotion in LM countries

Policy Consultative Workshops, December of 2018 and 2019



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JPGRADING BORDER FACILITATION FOR TRADE AND LOGISTICS DEVELOPMENT

International Conventions and Practices in Coordinated Border Management

Modular Regional Training March 25 – 27, 2019

Facilitated Discussion on Information Requirements and Information Sharing Mechanism for SEZ

- Introduced SEZ database platform and information sharing mechanism
- Obtained insights and feedback on cooperation mechanism for data collection and platform maintenance
- Shared experiences in SEZ development and management and investment promotion in SEZs in LM countries.







Electronic Transactions

Special Fund

Lancang Mekong Cooperation





UPGRADING BORDER FACILITATION FOR TRADE AND LOGISTICS DEVELOPMENT

ACTION PLANS on Coordinated **Border Management**







Synthesis and Evaluation workshop Provided an opportunity to learn and share best practices, and utilize the learning results from the action plan implementation



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Platform to discuss and develop strategies and encourage measures to promote trade and investment amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and provide suggestions for trade and investment growth to support post-COVID-19 recovery in the Lancang-Mekong region

Consist of:

- Panel discussions on promoting cross-border trade in the Lancang-Mekong countries and strategies for COVID-19 recovery,
- E-business Networking and Matching, and E-Business Profile Display



