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TRAINING/WORKSHOP/SLV ACTIVITIES

MoU with Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Seeks to Strengthen Collaborative Information Exchange on Hydropower Projects

On October 11, 2018, MI signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) for the project on *Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism on Adaptation to Climate Change and Hydropower Development Projects*. Supported by the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) Special Fund, the project endeavors to strengthen cooperation in hydropower projects and promote the mitigation of associated climate change impacts in the Lancang-Mekong countries of Cambodia, P.R. China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. The project is the fifth LMC Special Fund-supported initiative being undertaken by MI as implementing agency. [Read more.](#)



MI Holds Rural E-commerce Training

MI gathered 24 entrepreneurs, business association members, and representatives from government and non-government organizations and training and research institutions in the six Lancang-Mekong countries for the regional training program on *Rural E-commerce Development in Lancang-Mekong Countries* last October 22-26, 2018. Organized with the support of the LMC Special Fund, the training aimed to increase knowledge on rural e-commerce development in the Lancang-Mekong countries and promote rural e-commerce business models. [Read more.](#)





PROSAFE Project Trains Food Safety Actors on Food Hygiene and Sanitation

The regional training program on *Food Hygiene and Sanitation for Food Handlers*, held from October 8 to 12, 2018 at MI, introduced 28 government and food service personnel from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam, to Good Hygiene Practices and food safety standards and regulations. Part of MI's PROSAFE Project, the training was delivered with the support of the New Zealand Aid Programme. [Read more.](#)



MI Alumni Delivers Postharvest Training in Central Vietnam

A localized training on postharvest safe food handling for green leafy vegetables was held on October 19, 2018 in Da Lat City, Lam Dong Province in Vietnam. The one-day training was attended by 26 fresh vegetable producers and agro-processors from Ho Chi Minh and the provinces of Lam Dong, Can Tho, Da Nang and Quang Tri. PROSAFE alumni spearheaded the training as part of their action plan implementation. [Read more.](#)



Training on Technology in Power Grid Supports Promotion of Power Connectivity in GMS

A two-week professional training program on *New Technologies Application for Power Grid Development* was held on October 22-November 2, 2018 at the Yunnan Power Grid Co., Ltd. (YNPG) Yixing Training Base, Kunming, P.R. China, as part of MI's collaborative project with YNPG on the promotion of regional power connectivity. The training hosted 30 technicians and middle management staff working in science & technology research and development, and officers from national energy authorities and power utilities. [Read more.](#)



MI, TICA Deliver Training on Gender Equality

To further enhance gender equality and women empowerment through the sharing of cross-country experiences, an intensive two-week training on *Gender Equality and Women Empowerment: Sharing Good Practices and Experiences of Thailand* was held at the MI Residential Training Center on October 1-12, 2018. Eighteen participants from countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean and Eastern Europe joined the training that was organized with the support of the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA). [Read more.](#)



Series of Workshops on Logistics Alliance Organized across Mekong Countries

Back-to-back workshops on logistics alliance and discussions on policy development were organized in Lao PDR (October 18), Vietnam (October 23) and Cambodia (Oct 26) as part of MI's project with the German International Cooperation (GIZ). The one-day workshop and discussions with relevant stakeholders also included one-on-one business plan preparation for small and medium enterprises in the transport and logistics sector.



Training on GAP Standards Seek to Support Farmer Groups

A training on *Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Standards* was delivered to farmer groups from Ban Phai, Huaybak, Thuad and Phonthong in Champhone district, Savannakhet last October 15-22, 2018. Over 60 farmers joined the training, which aimed to further strengthen farmer groups' knowledge of integrated pest control management, pre- and post-harvest management, and internal control system.



Corn Farmers Join Training on Cost-effective Crop Production

More than 400 farmers from 14 farmer groups participated in a series of trainings organized by EWEC Project Myanmar's partner, Awba Input Company from October 1-7, 2018. The trainings were held in eight villages in the southern part of Myawaddy and six villages from the north. The trainings were to further strengthen the capacity of farmers in the application methods of the local inputs provided by Awba Company and boost yields using low-cost cultivation practices.



Roll out of Business Linkage Model among Maize Value Chain Actors Continues

As part of ongoing efforts to roll out the business linkage model, the RLED-EWEC Project Myanmar Team organized a meeting among key players in the maize value chain on October 28 at Hpa-luu Gyu and Sone See Myaung villages, Myawaddy.

The meeting provided more information to the maize value chain actors on the domestic maize market, procurement practices of local markets, future activities on contract farming for extended farmer groups, and payment mechanisms between maize farmer groups, input companies and local brokers/collectors. Some farmer groups also brought maize samples to clarify moisture level and prices based on product quality, as well as the transportation charges from the village to domestic markets.



Training Seeks to Advance CBTF Efforts

On October 3, the EWEC Project Vietnam Team, in cooperation with relevant agencies in Quang Tri province, hosted the training on *Process and Procedures of Goods and Vehicle Clearance and Immigration at Lao Bao International Border Gate, Quang Tri Province* as part of continuing efforts to advance cross-border trade facilitation.

In attendance were representatives of relevant government agencies and more than 60 cross-border trading enterprises in the province. The one-day event discussed the process and procedures for crossing the Lao Bao bordergate and thereby reduce time and costs for enterprises and traders. Agencies such as the Customs Sub-Department, Plant Quarantine Station, Animal Quarantine Station and Border Army facilitated the training and open discussions.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Guests Visit MI this October

On October 8, MI welcomed H.E. Mr. Brian Davidson, British Ambassador to Thailand, and H.E. Mr. Hugh Evan, British Ambassador to Lao PDR. They discussed with the MI team the Institute's regional projects and other development cooperation efforts in the Mekong region.

Meanwhile, on October 24, Mr. Kemchart Somjajong, Chairman of the Khon Kaen Chamber of Commerce, together with the members of the organizing team for the World Ikat Textiles Symposium 2018, visited MI to express their thanks for the Institute's support to the preparatory/observation meeting for the symposium. MI has offered to provide translation equipment for the event happening in December.





MI Joins Sub-regional Consultation on Regional Cooperation & Integration Operational Plan

Mr. Madhurjya Kumar Dutta, Director of the Trade and Investment Facilitation Department, joined the consultation meeting for the new Regional Cooperation and Integration (RCI) Operational Plan 2019-2030 hosted by the Asian Development Bank on October 29, 2018 in Bangkok. The meeting aimed to review the emerging RCI trends in Asia and the Pacific, and provide assessments on important RCI areas and issues. Mr. Dutta talked about the importance of capacity building in the GMS in trade facilitation, digital business and green business. [Read more.](#)



MI E-library and GMS Statistics Database to Make GMS Information More Accessible

MI officially launched this month two new knowledge platforms designed to make information on the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) more accessible and available to the public. The GMS Statistics Database provides national and international-generated statistics on the GMS countries' socio-economic indicators, while the MI E-library features a collection of both MI-produced and external digital resources on the GMS countries.

Click here to access the [GMS Statistics Database](#) and the [MI E-library](#).



NOV.

5-8

Cambodia Food Safety Week

15-16

1st Lancang-Mekong Business Forum

12-23

Regional Training Program on Postharvest Management System in Fresh Horticultural Produce

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Seminar on Promoting Innovation and Technology as Driven Tools for Economic Sustainability in the GMS

MEKONG INSTITUTE

123 Mittraphap Rd.,
Muang District
Khon Kaen 40002,
Thailand

+ 66 (0) 43 202 411 to 2
+66 (0) 43 204 041 to 2
+ 66 (0) 43 203 656
information@mekonginstitute.org