



Capacity Development for Regional Cooperation and Integration

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MI REVIEWS ACHIEVEMENTS AND SETS FORTH STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS DURING YEAR-END GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS 2023



Steadfast in its commitment to advancing regional cooperation, fostering development, and implementing impactful projects across the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), Mekong Institute (MI) convened its Governing Board meetings from December 7 to 8, 2023, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Bringing together high-level representatives from GMS countries, the assembly, which included both Steering Committee and Council Meetings, marked the second regular bi-annual meeting of the Governing Board for the year 2023. [Read more](#)



MI PAVES WAY FOR THE PROMOTION OF CLIMATE-SMART CROP PRODUCTION IN LOWER MEKONG COUNTRIES

Aimed at enhancing the capacities of agronomic service providers to catalyze wider technology adoption, Mekong Institute (MI) organized the Regional Training Program on Climate-Smart Crop Production Technologies and Innovations from November 27 to December 1, 2023 at the MI Training Centre in Khon Kaen, Thailand. Supported by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the five-day training program equipped 29 representatives from national agencies, academic institutions, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the Lower Mekong Countries with hands-on knowledge on innovative yet replicable climate-smart crop production technologies in the region.

[Read more](#)





MI HOSTS INVESTMENT FORUMS IN HERITAGE CITIES OF VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA



Mekong Institute (MI), in partnership with local government authorities, hosted investment forums in the heritage cities of Siem Reap in Cambodia and Hue in Viet Nam from November 20 to 21 and December 11 to 12, respectively. These events, two of a five-part series that included successful forums in Ayutthaya, Thailand, and Luang Prabang, Lao PDR, and an upcoming forum in Bagan, Myanmar, marked a crucial step toward fostering sustainable and smart-city initiatives through strategic collaborations among key stakeholders. [Read more](#)

PROSAFE BROADENS REACH AND IMPACT WITH GHP COURSE FOR FOOD SERVICE BUSINESSES IN DA NANG, VIET NAM



Da Nang City, Viet Nam, December 12, 2023 – The Promoting Safe Food for Everyone or PROSAFE Project continued to make strides in Vietnam with the “Food Safety and Hygiene for Food Service Businesses” training-workshop that Mekong Institute organized in collaboration with PROSAFE alumni, the Da Nang College of Food Industry (CFI), and the newly-established Da Nang Culinary Culture Association. The one-day course was held at CFI, gathering 43 participants, including CFI lecturers, and representatives from Da Nang City restaurants, hotels, catering services, and food stores. [Read more](#)

MI CONVENED EXPERTS TO ADVANCE DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY ECOSYSTEMS FOR MSMEs FOR POST-PANDEMIC RESILIENCE IN LANCANG-MEKONG COUNTRIES



To explore how technology and digital economy can support growth and development of MSMEs, Mekong Institute (MI), in collaboration with the People’s Government of the People’s Republic of China (P. R. China), organized an Expert Dialogue on “Shaping the Digital Future: Pathways to Enabling Digital Connectivity Ecosystem for Post-Pandemic Resilience in the Lancang-Mekong Countries” on December 14, 2023. The online event gathered over 120 stakeholders from the region, including experts and government officials, to delve into crucial aspects of digital empowerment and connectivity. [Read more](#)

MI PROMOTES SCALING UP DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY FOR MSMEs IN THE LANCANG-MEKONG COUNTRIES



To support MSMEs in scaling-up digital connectivity, Mekong Institute (MI) hosted a Synthesis and Evaluation Workshop as part of the project on “Scaling-Up Digital Connectivity for Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises in the Lancang-Mekong Countries for Post-Pandemic Resilience” on December 14, 2023. The online event brought together a diverse batch of 28 participants from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam (CLMTV) to identify digital technologies and solutions that can be successfully scaled up in the Lancang-Mekong (LM) countries.

[Read more](#)

UNLOCKING SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL COLLABORATION: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEKONG-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COOPERATION FUND (MKCF) ROUNDTABLE MEETING



To assess the progress of the Mekong-Republic of Korea Cooperation Fund (MKCF) management and delve into project implementation concerns, the Mekong Institute (MI) organized a roundtable meeting with the MKCF management team and leaders from project implementing agencies (PIAs) across the Mekong region on December 14, 2023, at The Pullman Grande Sukhumvit Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand.

[Read more](#)



MI WEBINAR PROMOTES UNITED ACTION IN ADVANCING FOOD SECURITY AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN THE LANCANG-MEKONG REGION POST-PANDEMIC



Mekong Institute (MI), in partnership with the People’s Government of the People’s Republic of (P. R.) China, hosted a webinar on December 15, 2023, in an effort to raise awareness, share knowledge, and seek solutions to the heightened challenges of poverty and food security in the Lancang-Mekong (LM) countries worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change.

[Read more](#)



DR. ANAKE, FORMER MI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, VISITED MI

Dr. Anake Topark-ngarm, former MI Executive Director (ED), paid a cordial visit to MI on December 1, 2023. Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, the incumbent ED, warmly welcomed him.

[Read more](#)



MI ORGANIZES A STAFF RETREAT IN CHIANG MAI

Chiang Mai, December 19, 2023 — To inform about the MI 2024 work plan and build team spirit and communication, 47 MI staff attended a 2023 Staff Retreat in Chiang Mai, Thailand.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN 2024

- **January 10-11:** The 6th Lancang-Mekong Business Forum on Promoting Agribusiness and Investment in the Processed Food Sector in Beijing, P. R. China
- **January 22:** Regional Expert Consultation on Social Harmony and Inclusion in the GMS
- **February 19-23:** Regional Training on Climate - Smart Technologies in Processing, Marketing and Distribution
- **May 13-24:** Regional Training Comprehensive Human Resource Development for the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation

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