

MEKONG INSTITUTE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

1/2024

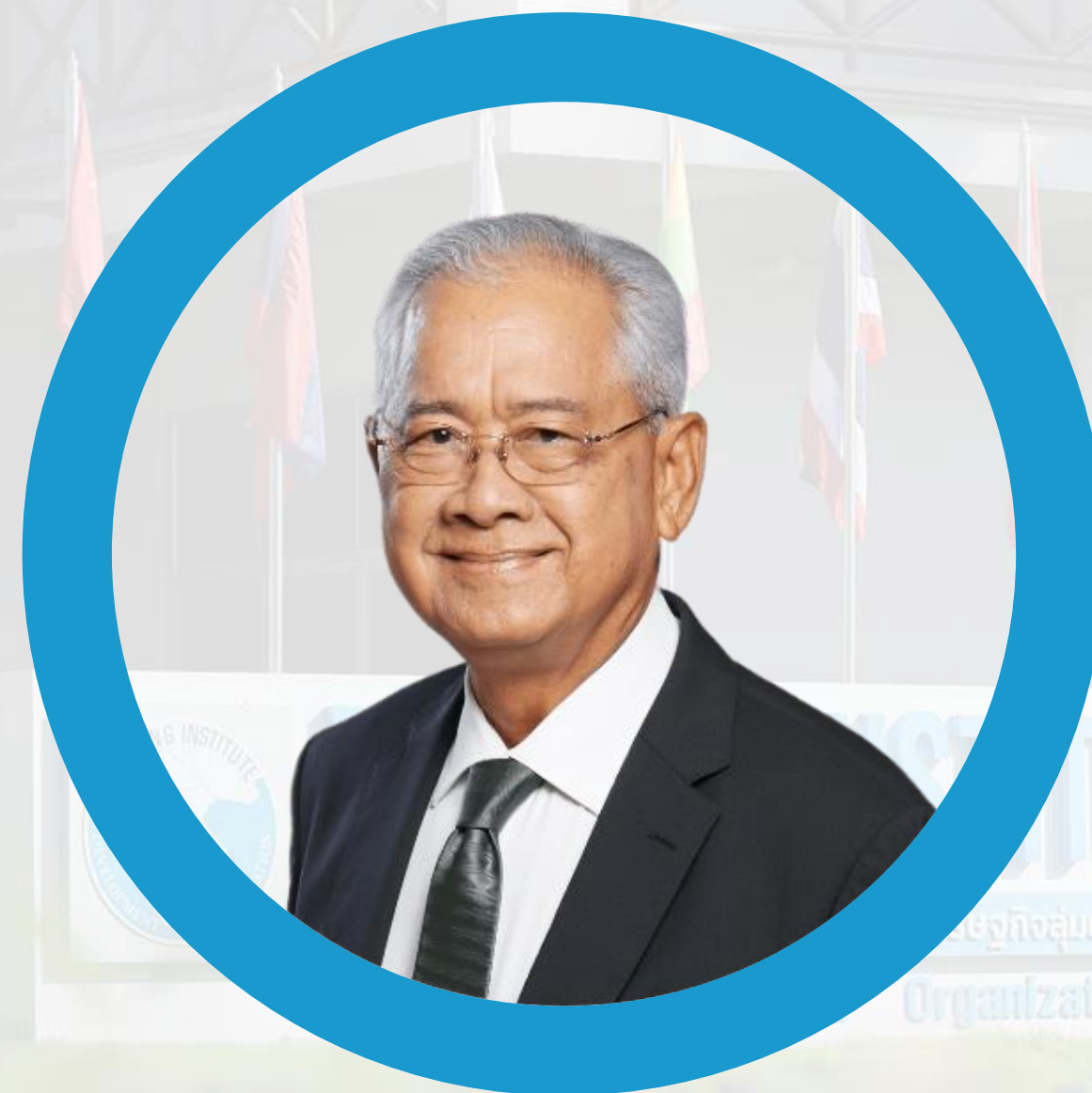


MEKONG
INSTITUTE

Online via Zoom
July 16, 2024

ITEM 1

WELCOME REMARKS



DR. NARONGCHAI AKRASANEE
MI Steering Committee Chairman

ITEM 1

PARTICIPANTS



Mr. Hang Suviddya
Cambodia



Ms. Jianxiu Liu
In behalf of Mr. Ye Xuenong, China



Mr. Inthasone Thirakul
In behalf of Mr. Khamphinh Philakone , Lao PDR



Dr. Aung Moe Chai
Myanmar



Mrs. Arunee Hiam
Thailand



Mr. Nguyen Viet Ha
Viet Nam



Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn
MI Executive Director

Chaired by: **Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee**
MI Steering Committee Chairperson

Observers from GMS Countries
MI Secretariat Senior Management Team and Members

ITEM 2

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ITEM 1: Welcome Remarks
ITEM 2: Adoption of the Agenda
ITEM 3: Business Arrangements

ITEM 4: Minutes Adoption of SC Meeting No. 2/2023 and Action Progress of Recommendations from GB Meeting 2/2023

ITEM 5: Highlights and Recommendations from the SC on Matters for Acknowledgement

- 5.1 Activity Report of 1H,2024
- 5.2 Mekong Forum 2024
- 5.3 Implementation of MI Strategic Plan 2021-2025 MTR Recommendations
- 5.4 MI's Role in Private Sector Engagement
- 5.5 Lancang Mekong Business Forum Project Completion
- 5.6 Results of ED Performance Evaluation 2023

GROUP PHOTO AND REFRESHMENT/ BREAK

ITEM 6: Highlights and Recommendations from the SC on Matters for Consideration

- 6.1 Revised Activity Plan of 2H,2024
- 6.2 Budget Revision 2024
- 6.3 Audited Financial Report 2023

ITEM 7: Country Reports of SC Members

ITEM 8: Date and Venue of Governing Board Meeting No. 2/2024

ITEM 9: Other Matters

ITEM 3

BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

- **Technical problems:** Please message the meeting host's chat box, or contact Ms. Anne via Line, WeChat, or Facebook.
- All Steering Committee Members are requested to join the **group photo session after Agenda Item 5** (Highlights and Recommendations from the SC on Matters for Acknowledgement)
- There will be a 15-minute break after Agenda Item 5
- The Meeting will conclude at 4:15 PM Bangkok Time
- For any other queries, kindly contact Ms. Anne Pumira at +66 (0) 98 584 7446 or pornwilai@mekonginstitute.org

ITEM 4

MINUTES ADOPTION
OF THE SC MEETING
NO. 2/2023

Action Progress of
Recommendations
from GB Meeting
2/2023



Action Progress of Recommendations from GB Meeting 2/2023

PROSAFE	Potential for a transition project post-PROSAFE lasting about one and a half years.	A transition project is being finalized. NZ is envisaged to confirm their support at the Council Meeting 1/2024.
Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the MI Strategic Plan 2021-2025	A subcommittee composed of representatives from P. R. China, Cambodia, Lao PDR, MI, and New Zealand to review and select the findings and recommendations from the MTR.	The secretariat is finalizing the first draft of MTR action plan. The result of MTR sub-committee is expected to report to the GB at the next meeting.
MI Operations Manual	The final draft of the Revised Operations Manual should be disseminated to the GB	The final draft Operations Manual will be circulated to the Council prior to its 1/2024 meeting.
Salary Scale	MI should carefully consider the implementation of the new salary scale to avoid burdening MI's financial performance	SMT is assessing the financial implication. The implementation is planned in 2025.
Multi-year Work Plan	MI Secretariat should further elaborate on the multi-year work plan and provide more concrete details based on the insights and feedback from the midterm review for submission at the next meeting.	Action has been taken and will report this under Matters for Consideration.
ED Performance Evaluation	A sub-committee was proposed for the 2023 Executive Director Performance Evaluation	Action has been taken and will report this under Matters for Acknowledgement.

ITEM 5

HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON MATTERS FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DR. NARONGCHAI AKRASANEE
MI Steering Committee Chairman



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

1 Progress Despite Delays:

Over 60% of approved program activities completed despite a late start.

2 Normal Operations:

Significant onsite capacity-building activities, complemented by online and hybrid events.

3 Diversified Portfolio:

MI activity portfolio has been **diversified** both thematic areas and institutional strengthening.

4 Equitable Participation:

Increased member countries' **participation in MI events.**

5 Climate-Smart Adoption:

Greater adoption of **climate-smart agricultural practices and technologies by MI alumni**

6 Anti SUP Awareness:

Leading the charge against single-use plastics (SUP) through the **What's SUP Campaign**

7 ASEAN Prize:

Increased MI's visibility as an ASEAN Prize Awardee

8 Youth Engagement:

Engaged ASEAN Youth Leaders through a pilot Youth Convergence Program supported by ASEAN

INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



The Mekong Institute is honored to have been awarded the

AZIZ-UL HAQ RURAL DEVELOPMENT MEDAL 2024

This award, presented by the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), recognizes MI's significant contributions to integrated rural development and its role in advancing sustainable development across the Asia-Pacific region.



ENHANCING STAFF CAPACITY TO SUPPORT ACMECS

MI Secretariat completed a capacity-building training program to enhance its institutional capabilities and service offerings which are crucial as it prepares to assume back-office support responsibilities for the ACMECS Interim Secretariat.

Supported by DFAT, Australia

MEKONG INSTITUTE **giz**

SCALABLE INNOVATIVE LOW EMISSION RICE FARMING TECHNOLOGIES

Recommendations for Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam

Rice cultivation in South and Southeast Asia faces challenges such as water scarcity, labor-intensive practices, and environmental impact. Adopting innovative technologies can enhance sustainability, productivity, and economic viability for smallholder farmers in the region. This compendium presents recommended low-emission rice cultivation technologies suitable for scaling up in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam, providing justification for their scalability and benefits for smallholder farmers practicing conventional methods.

RECOMMENDED TECHNOLOGIES

- Alternate Wetting and Draying (AWD)
- Site-Specific Nutrient Management (SSNM)
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Climate-Resilient Varieties (CRV)
- Short Duration Rice Varieties (SDRV)
- Integrated Crop Management (ICM)
- Direct Seeded Rice (DSR)
- Low Carbon Farming Techniques (LCFT)

MEKONG INSTITUTE **giz**

Guidelines for Adopting LOW-EMISSION RICE FARMING TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES

in South and Southeast Asia

MEKONG INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

WWW.MEKONGINSTITUTE.ORG

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCT/ PUBLICATION/ REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



KEY CHALLENGES

1

Difficulty in scheduling activities involving project partners

2

Many less-qualified or less-suitable training applications

3

Contributions from member countries

4

Delay in the release of NZAP funding support

5

Achieving opportunity fund targets

6

Cross-departmental coordination

7

Expense management

ITEM 5.1

1H 2024 ACTIVITY REPORT



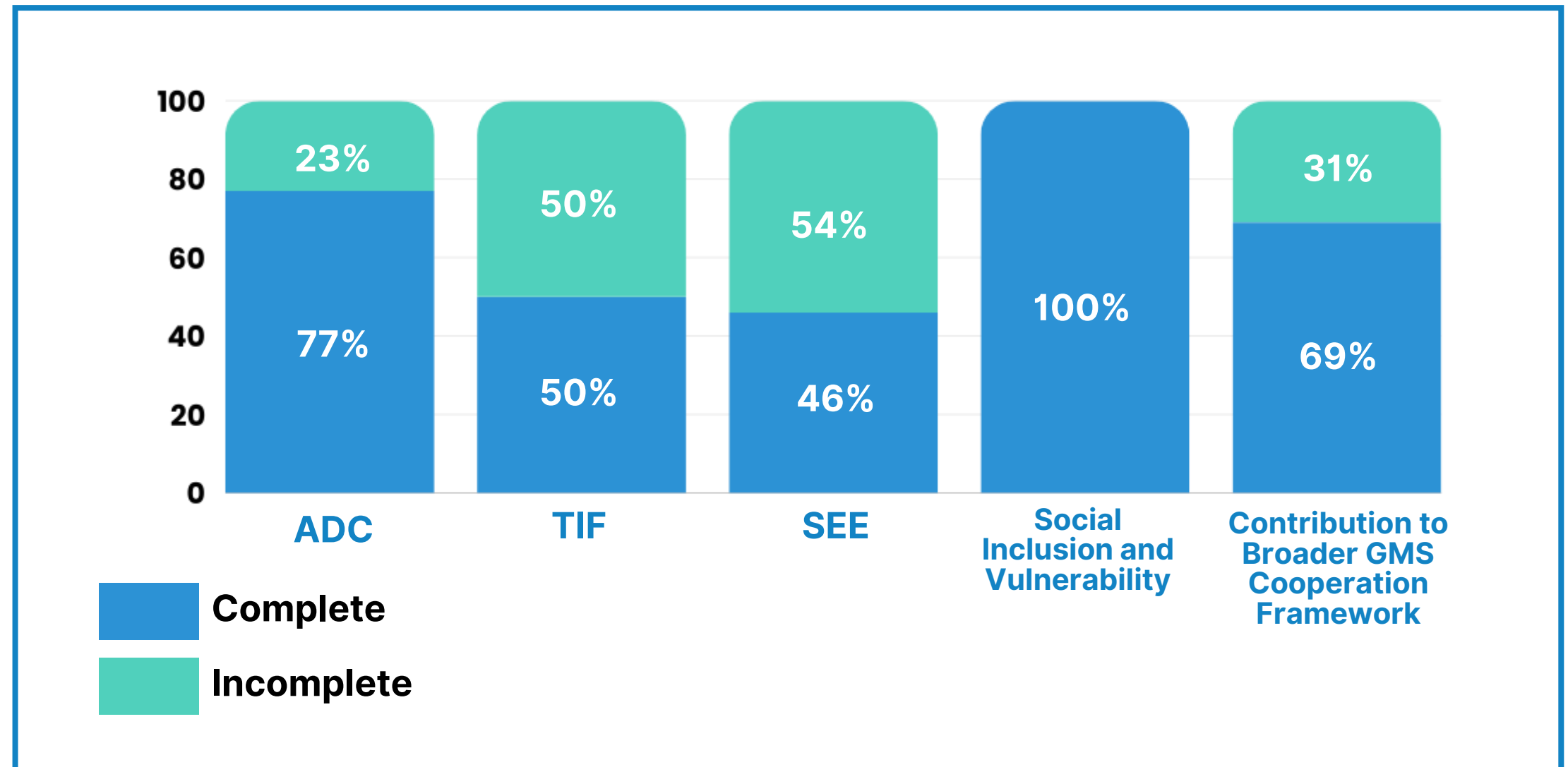


51%

**Progress of MI-wide Activities
(Programs and Operations)**

CORE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

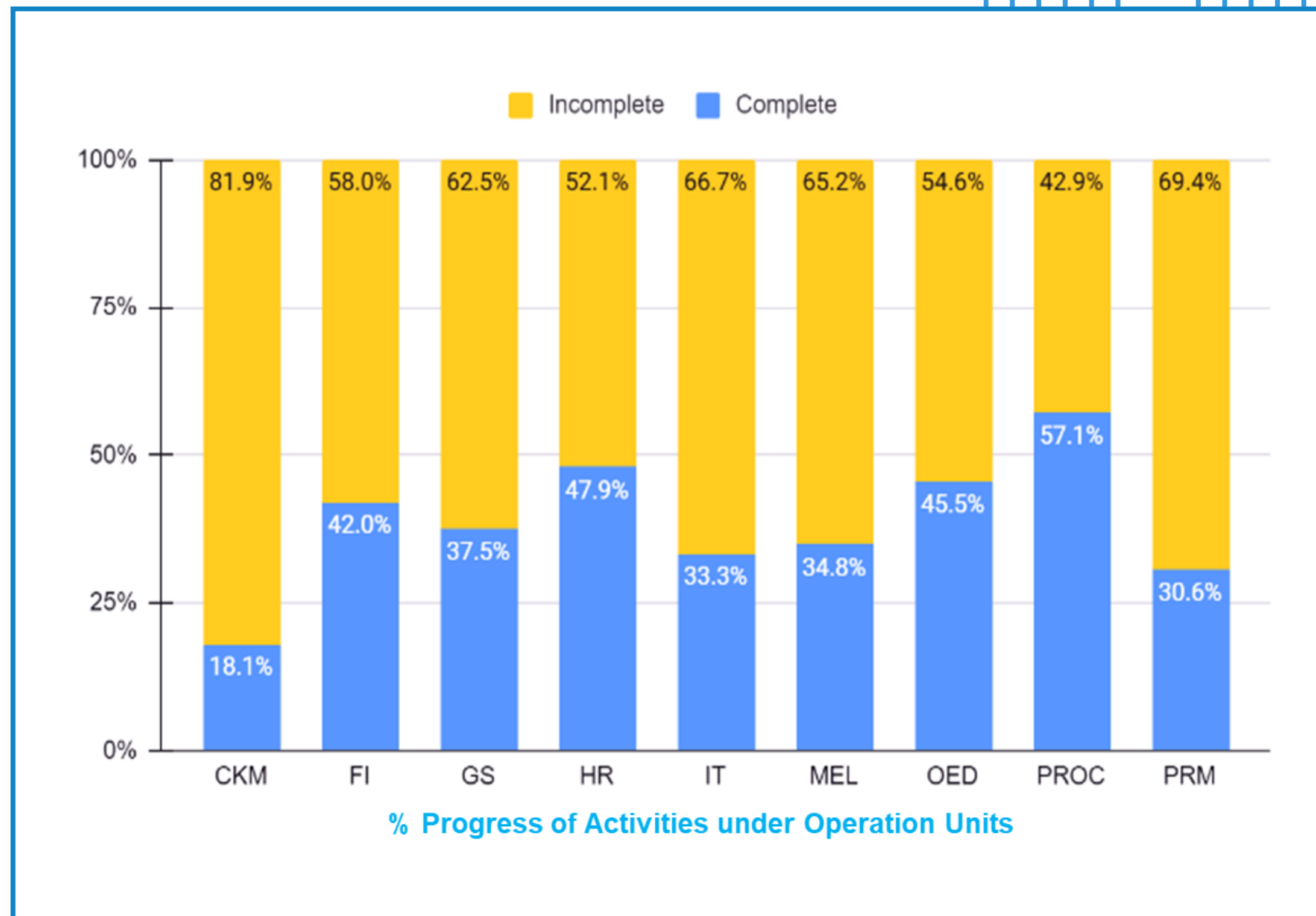
- **MEL System Tracking:** MI's web-based MEL system tracked activity progress as per the 2024 annual work plan.
- **Activity Implementation:** **51%** of planned activities were implemented by programs and operations as of 30 June 2024.
- **Thematic Activities:** **27 out of 76** planned activities were conducted by programs and operation units under MI Thematic Areas.



CORE DEVELOPMENT AREAS



122 out of 397
activities were
completed by the
MI operation units
from January-
June 2024



CORE DEVELOPMENT AREAS



702

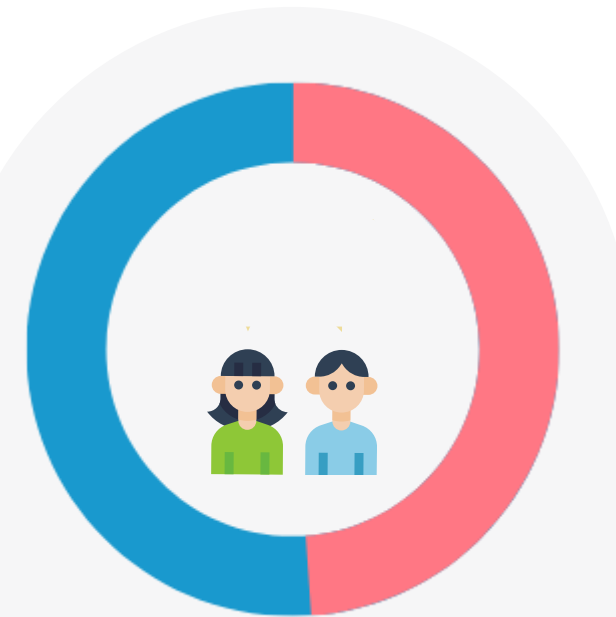
**Direct
Participants**

22

**Projects
Implemented***

1

**Capacity
Development
Events Organized**



**Direct
Participants
by Sex**

Female (343) : 49%

Male (359) : 51%



**Direct
Participants
by Sector**

Private (205) : 29%

Public (497) : 71%

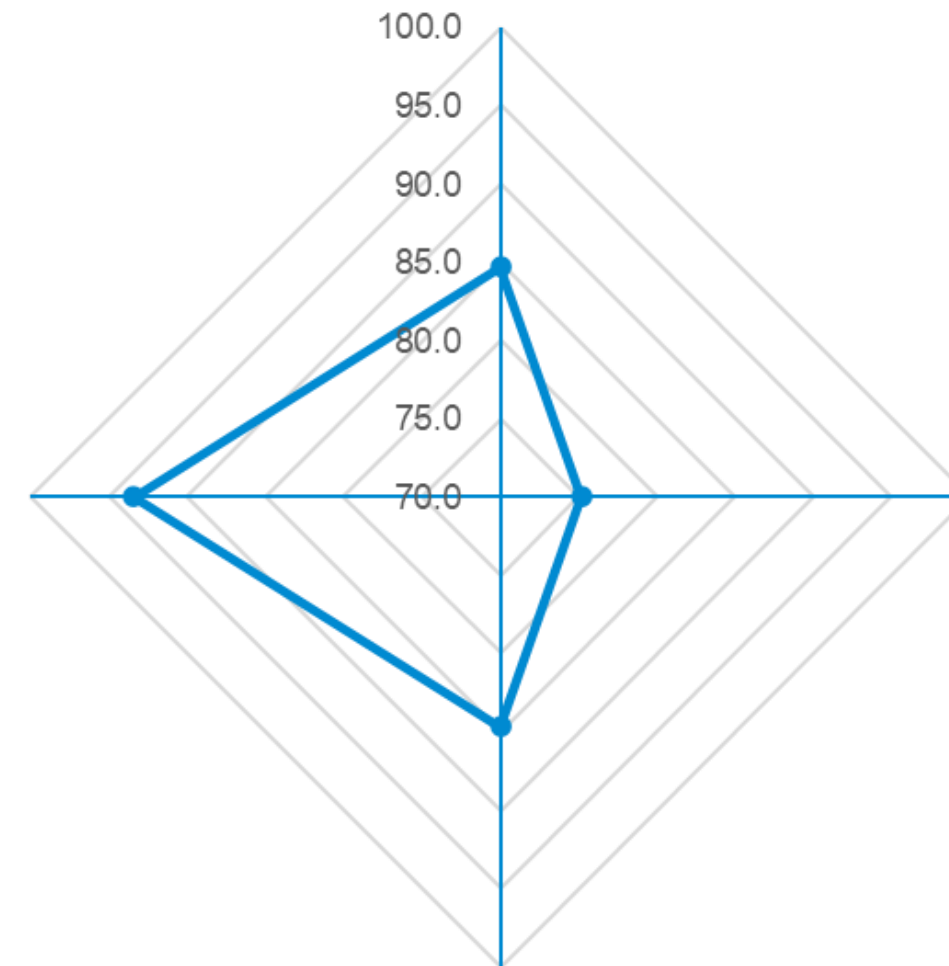
*9 - long-term, 7 - short-term, and 6 - one-off

CORE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

**Direct Participants
Perception &
Satisfaction**



**Training
Quality
93.4%**

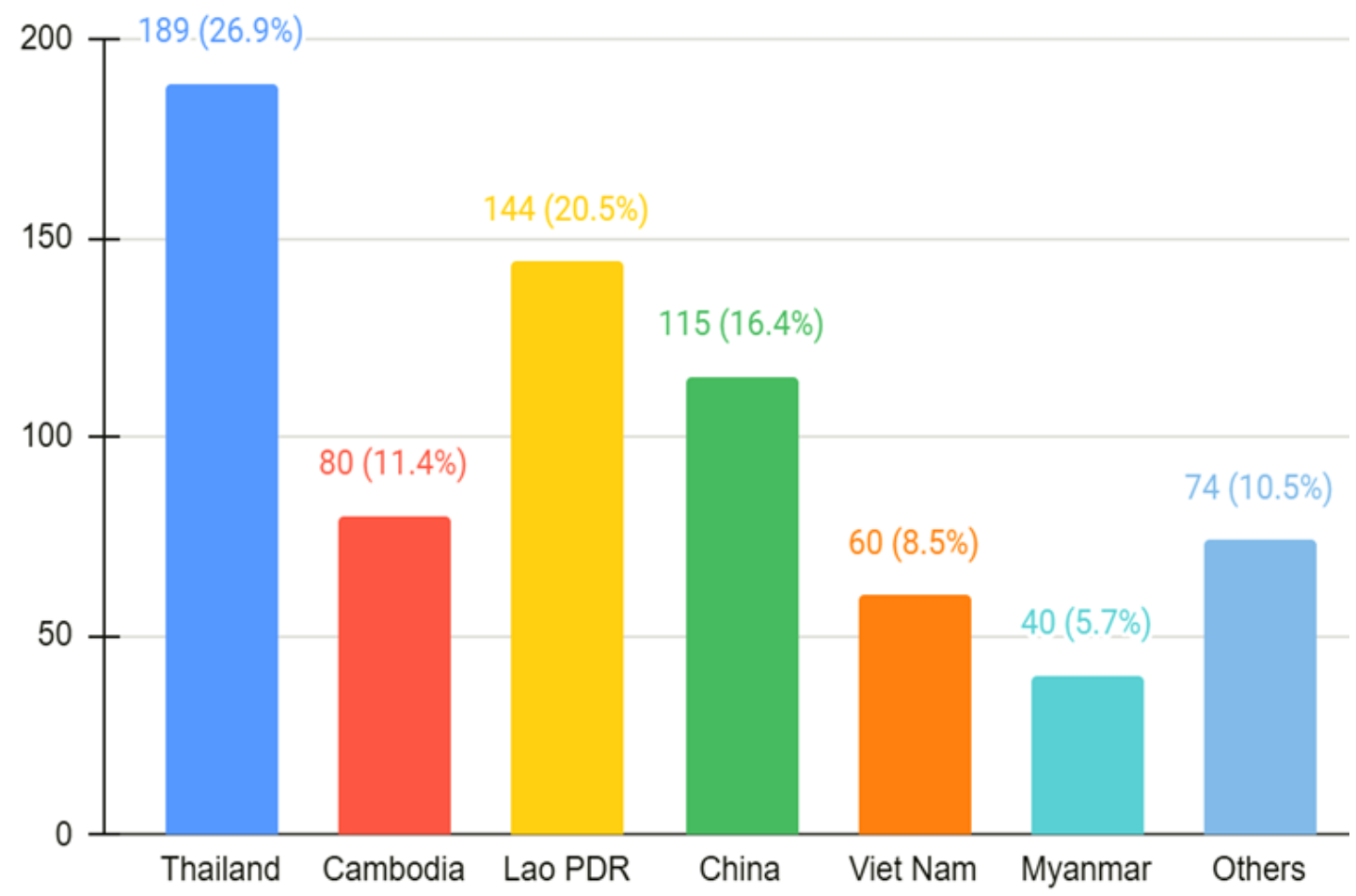


**Confidence
to Apply
Knowledge
& Skills
75.2%**

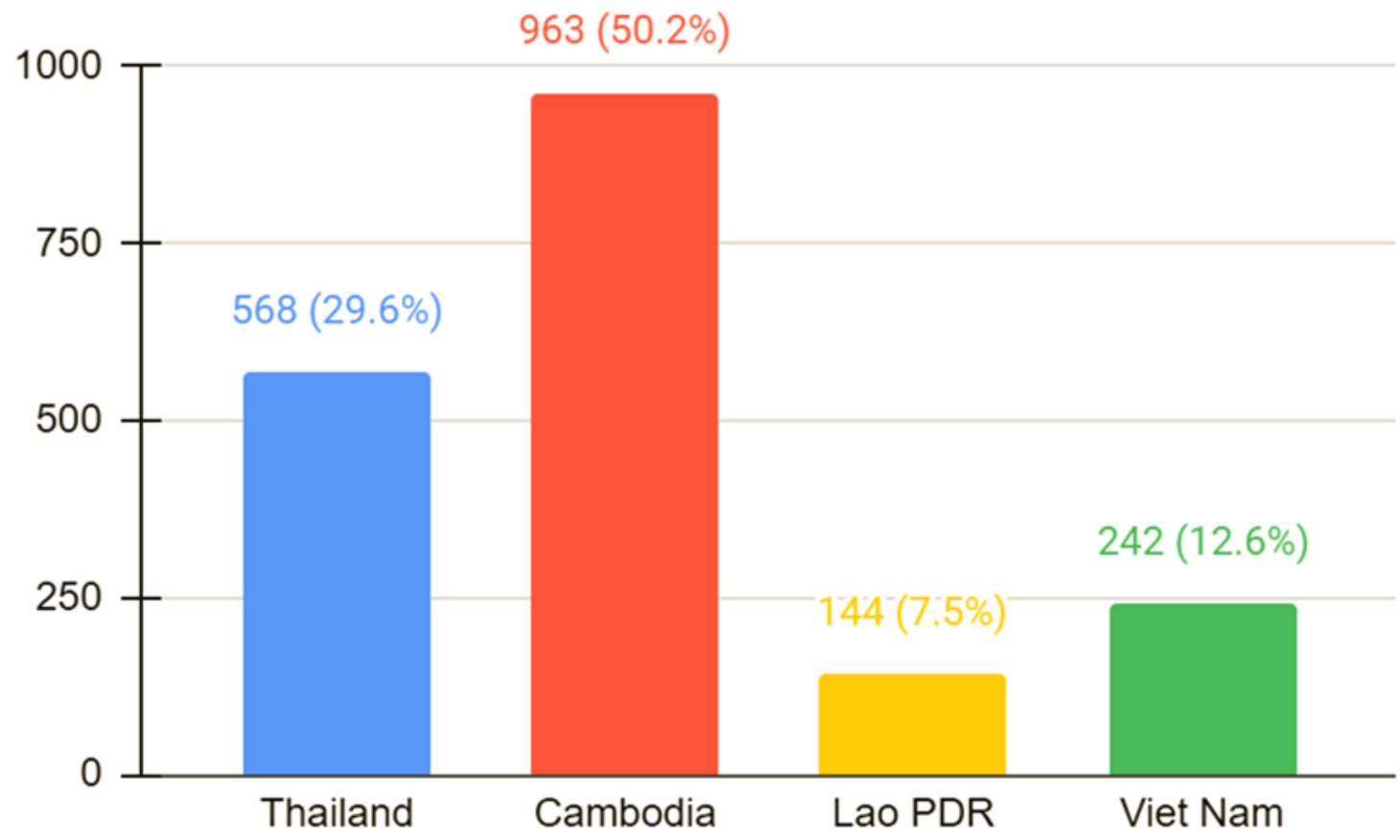
**Relevance of MI's CD Events
84.7%**

CORE DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Direct Participants By Country



Indirect Participants By Country



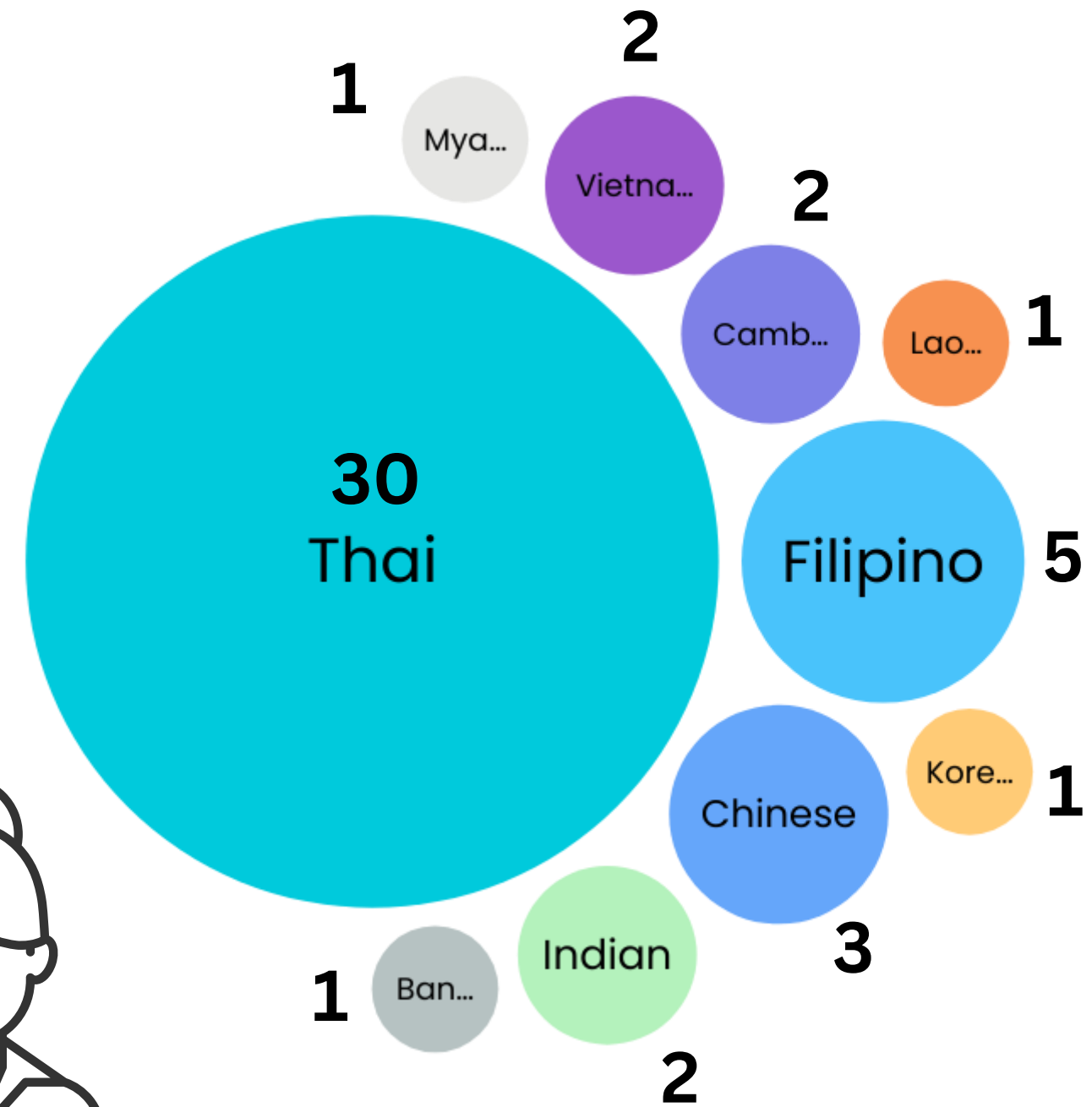
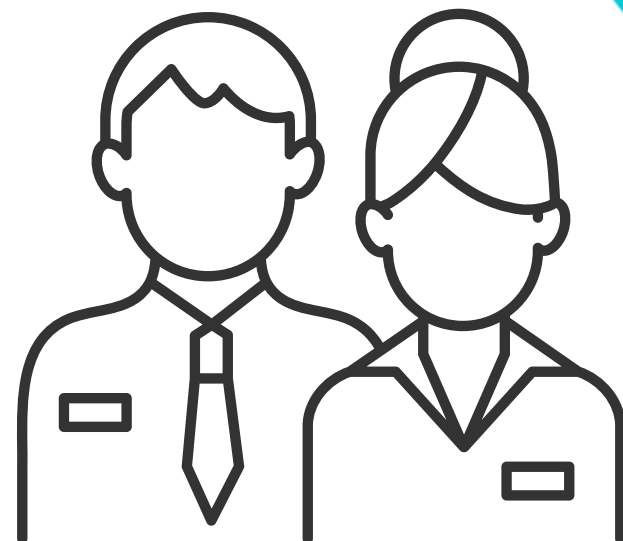
HUMAN RESOURCES

MANAGEMENT

MI Personnel

4
NO. OF STAFF

9
NATIONALITIES



HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Newly Recruited Staff

Regular Contract:

- SEE Director, Chinese
- CKM Officer, Filipino

Project / SSA:

- HR Assistant, Thai
- Admin Assistant, Thai
- Program Consultant, Viet
- Finance Assistant, Thai
- Special Project Support Coordinator, Filipino
- Project Coordinator (MKCF), Korean
- Project Assistant, Thai

Regular Contract



Liu Guohua
SEE Director
SMT Member



Joel Manalo
CKM Officer

Project / SSA:



Ploy Phukphan
HR Assistant



Praneenit Chawarit
Admin Assistant



Quan Anh Nguyen
Program Consultant



Nichaphat Hemathulin
Finance Assistant



East Manlises
Special Project Support
Coordinator



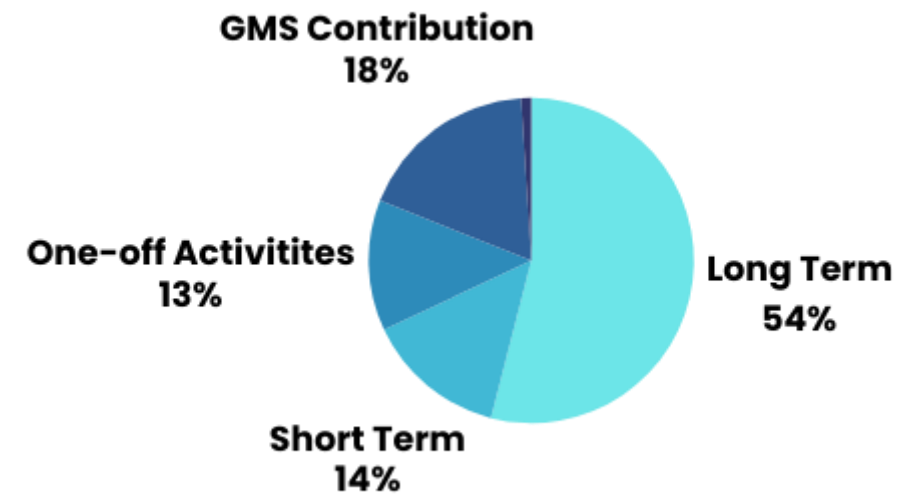
Mi Jung Im
Project Coordinator
(MKCF)



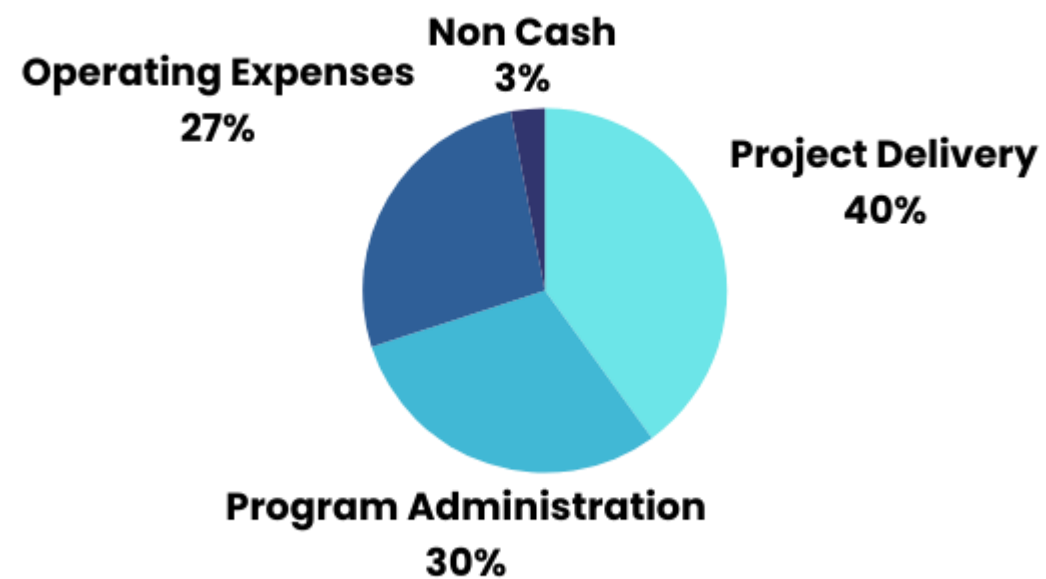
**Boonyanuch
Tanunchabuttra**
Project Assistant

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Revenue Sources



Expenditures



Revenue Sources

REVENUE	AMOUNT
Project	
Long Term	766,757
Short Term	196,998
One off	191,447
SUBTOTAL	1,155,203
GMS Contribution	256,930
Other Revenue	14,914
TOTAL REVENUE	1,427,047

Expenditures

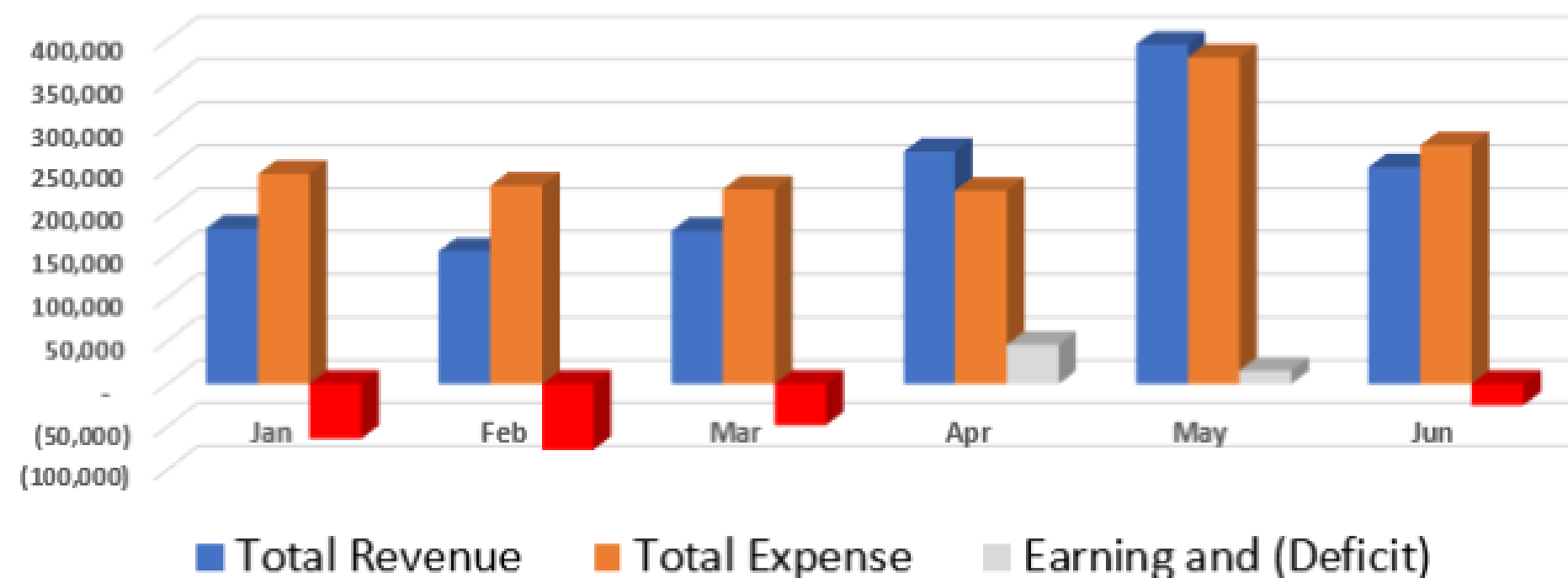
EXPENSES	AMOUNT
Project and Program	
Project Delivery	639,227
Program Administration	466,205
Business Development	5,711
SUBTOTAL	1,111,143
Operating	429,067
Net Earning (deficit)	(113,163)
Non-Cash	42,244
Net Earning (deficit)	(155,407)

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES JAN - JUN 2024

Net Deficit
as of June 30, 2024:

US\$ 155,407

Description	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Total Revenue	179,757	153,435	177,251	270,209	394,412	251,983	1,427,047
Total Expense	244,224	230,571	226,115	224,828	379,133	277,584	1,582,454
Earning and (Deficit)	(64,466)	(77,136)	(48,864)	45,380	15,280	(25,601)	(155,407)



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The deficit is expected to be **neutralized** after receiving project budget approval of **~US\$1.0m from the traditional sources**.

Key Financial Management Strategy:

- Early realization of funding approval from the traditional funding sources (NZAP & China).
- Exploring additional projects under opportunity funds.
- Expediting implementation of approved projects.
- Regularly monitoring the cash flow, financial status and forecast, and internal staff mobilization and recruitment.
- Prioritizing spending on non-program expenses.

June 2023 vs June 2024

Description	Month/Year		Difference	
	June 2023	June 2024	Amount	%
REVENUE				
Project Revenue	1,437,726	1,155,203	-282,523	-20%
Countries contribution	262,919	256,930	-5,989	-2%
Others revenue	7,155	14,914	7,760	108%
TOTAL	1,707,799	1,427,047	-280,752	-16%
EXPENSES				
Program expenses	678,071	639,227	-38,844	-6%
Program administration	319,511	471,916	152,405	48%
Operation expenses	453,923	429,067	-24,856	-5%
Earning & (Deficit) before non- cash expense	256,295	-113,163	-369,458	-144%
Non- operating expense	38,747	42,244	3,498	9%
Earning (Deficit)	217,548	-155,407	-372,955	-171%

USD 342,805



US\$ 20,000
March 2024



US\$ 20,000
May 2024



US\$ 150,000
Not yet



US\$ 282,805
Feb 2024

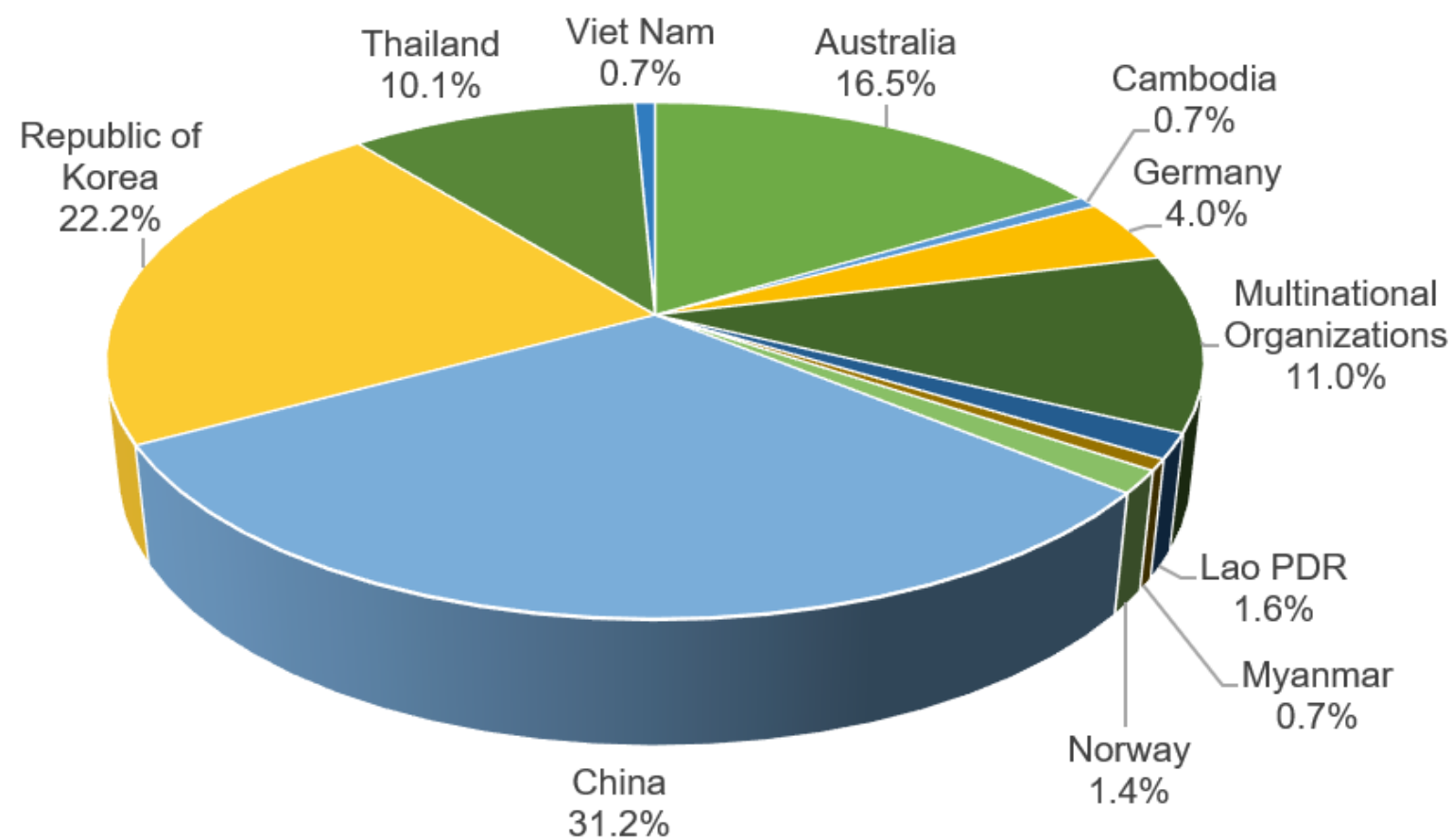


US\$ 20,000
March 2024

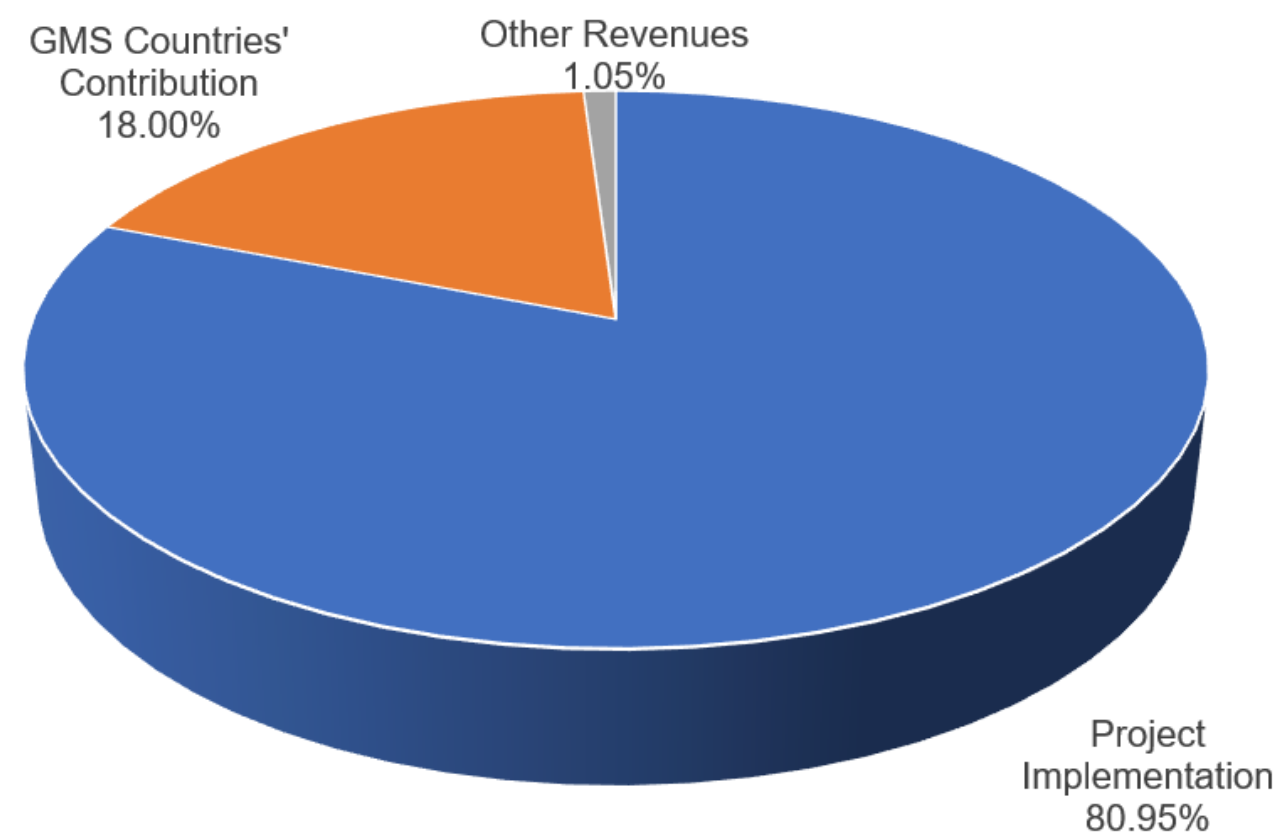


US\$ 20,000
Not yet

% SHARE OF MI REVENUES BY COUNTRIES (as of June 30, 2024)



SOURCES OF REVENUES (AS OF JUNE 30, 2024)



ITEM 5.2

UPDATE ON THE
PREPARATION OF
MEKONG FORUM
2024



Mekong Forum 2024

July 31 - August 1 (Wed - Thu)
Pullman Raja Orchid Hotel,
Khon Kaen, Thailand



Breaking Through New Horizons
Digitalization, Innovation, and Technology in the GMS

**Theme:
Digitalization,
Innovation, &
Technology (DIT)**

TAGLINE

**Breaking
Through New
Horizons:
Digitalization,
Innovation,
and
Technology in
the GMS**

EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS

300

- Government
- International organizations
- Private
- CSOs
- Academe

No. of registered participants as of today: 200

SPONSORSHIP

- China (on process)
- New Zealand
- TCEB
- Mitr Phol,
- Winrock International
- ADBI
- Others

HIGHLIGHTS

- Digital integration: Event entry using QR Code, e-documents, live-streaming, etc.
- "Book of Abstract"
- Exhibition
- Tech Demonstration
- GB and Experts' Dialogue (by invitation)

Mekong Forum 2024

July 31 - August 1 (Wed - Thu)
Pullman Raja Orchid Hotel,
Khon Kaen, Thailand

**MEKONG
FORUM = 2024**

Breaking Through New Horizons
Digitalization, Innovation, and Technology in the GMS

Keynote Addresses

THE STATE OF DIT IN THE GMS: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Speaker:

Dr. Aladdin D. Rillo,
Senior Economic
Advisor, Economic
Research Institute for
ASEAN and East Asia

DIGITALIZATION BY DESIGN

Speaker:

Dr. Narongchai
Akrasanee, Steering
Committee Chairman,
MI

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: STRATEGIES FOR INCLUSIVE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Speaker:

Mr. Lidong Bing, the
Director of the
Language Technology
Lab at DAMO Academy
of Alibaba Group (TBC)

Mekong Forum 2024

July 31 - August 1 (Wed - Thu)
Pullman Raja Orchid Hotel,
Khon Kaen, Thailand



Panel Discussion

TOPIC:

**EXAMINING
GLOBAL AND
LOCAL
PERSPECTIVES
FOR A STRONG
REGIONAL DIT
COMMUNITY**

PANELISTS

- Mr Ruhimat Soerakoesoemah, Head of the Subregional Office for South-East Asia, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- Ms. Wang Aihua, Deputy Chief Engineer, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT)
- Representative from Thai Beverage Public Company Limited (TBC)
- Mr. Niall O'Connor, Centre Director, SEI Asia (TBC)

Moderator: Dr. Watcharas Leelawath, Honorary Advisor, Bolliger & Company (Thailand)

Mekong Forum 2024

July 31 - August 1 (Wed - Thu)
Pullman Raja Orchid Hotel,
Khon Kaen, Thailand



Terrains - Thematic Breakout Sessions

DAY 1 : 13:30 – 16:30

- **Terrain 1:** Revolutionizing **Food Systems:** Digital Transformations in Mekong's Agriculture Sector
- **Terrain 2:** Harnessing DIT for Inclusive and Secure **Trade and Finance** in the GMS
- **Terrain 3:** Powering the Future: Tech-Driven **Energy** Solutions in the GMS
- **Terrain 4:** Inclusive Digital Societies: Engaging **Women and Youth** in Accelerating DIT Adoption in the GMS

DAY 2: 09:00-12:00

- **Terrain 5:** Enhancing GMS **Tourism** through Digital Pathways
- **Terrain 6:** Digitizing the Path to **Environmental Stewardship:** Digital Technologies and Innovations for the Environment
- **Terrain 7:** Reimagining Education: Evolving **Capacity Development** through DIT



Mekong Forum 2024

July 31 - August 1 (Wed - Thu)
Pullman Raja Orchid Hotel,
Khon Kaen, Thailand



Breaking Through New Horizons
Digitalization, Innovation, and Technology in the GMS

MI Governing Board and Experts' Dialogue

Moderated by
Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee,
MI Steering Chairman

17:00 - 17:05
(5 mins)

Introductions

Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee,
MI Steering Chairman

17:05 - 17:50
(45 mins)

Interventions

(max of 6 mins each/ expert)

- 2 keynote speakers
- Mr. Ruhimat Soerakoesoemah, Head of the Subregional Office for South-East Asia, UNESCAP
- Mr. Nialle O'Connor, SEI
- Ms. Wang Aihua, Deputy Chief Engineer, CAICT
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Denpong Soodphakdee, Vice President for Digital, Khon Kaen University

17:50-18:15
(25 mins)

Feedback/Questions from GB Members

18:15 - 18:30
(15 mins)

Synthesis / Wrap-up

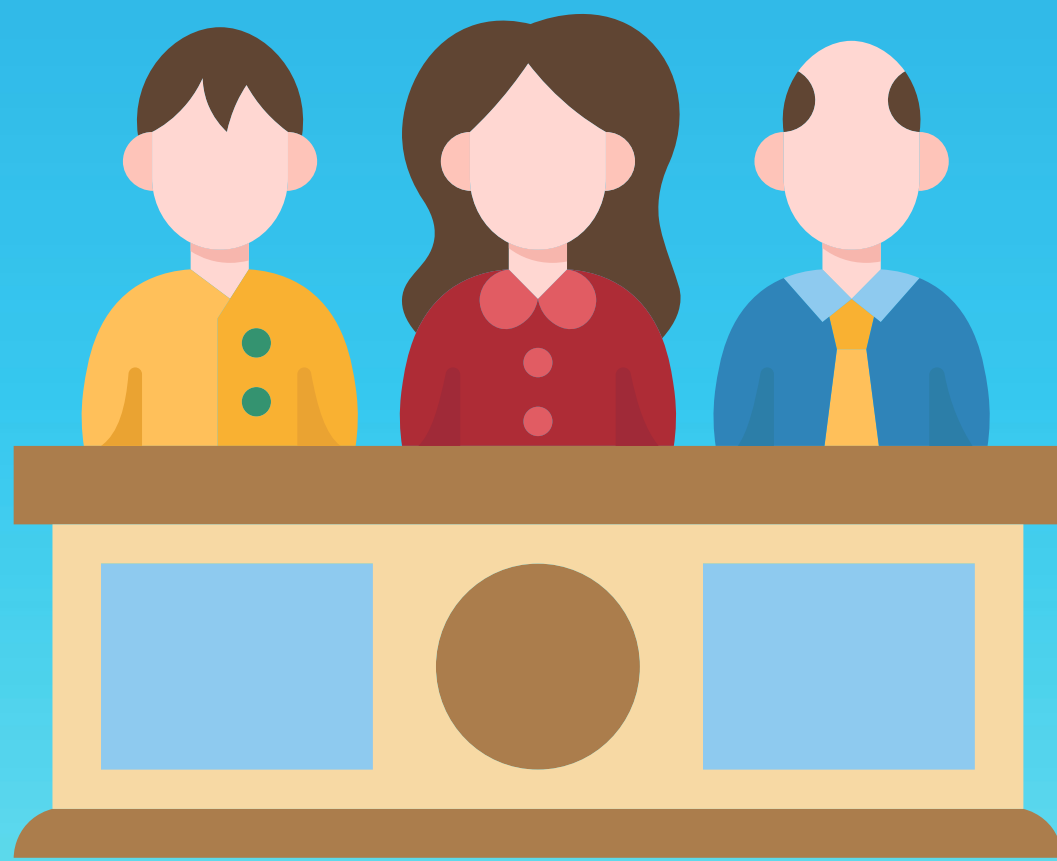
ITEM 5.3

IMPLEMENTATION OF
MI STRATEGIC PLAN
2021-2025 MTR
RECOMMENDATIONS



ITEM 5.3

IMPLEMENTATION OF MI STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2025 MTR RECOMMENDATIONS



FORMATION OF SUBCOMMITTEE

Following the decision of the last GB meeting, MI has formed a subcommittee chaired by the MI SC Chair.

MEMBERS

SC members from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, and a Council member from the New Zealand Aid Programme (NZAP). The MI Executive Director serves as the Secretary.

SCOPE OF WORK

- Review findings and recommendations of the MTR of MI Strategic Plan 21-25.
- Develop strategies for implementing MTR recommendations.
- Draft a detailed action plan to address MTR findings and recommendations.
- Submit the action plan to the MI Council for approval through the MI SC.

KEY UPDATE

The subcommittee has reviewed the MTR report and identified key actions for MI.

ITEM 5.4

MI'S ROLE IN
PRIVATE SECTOR
ENGAGEMENT:
ADDRESSING GMS
DEVELOPMENT
ISSUES



Changing Development Priorities

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries are confronting significant development challenges encompassing economic growth, sustainability, job creation, and technology adoption.



Private Sector's View towards GMS as Development Cooperation:

- Strategic position & Vibrant economic landscape;
- Ongoing initiatives to promote regional integration, connectivity enhancement, and trade facilitation;
- Potential: a hub for manufacturing and trade & a foundation for sustainable development projects.

Mekong Institute (MI) can facilitate private sector engagement in addressing GMS development issues through:



Achieving Common Goals

Collaborate with regional organizations, governments, and leading global and regional companies to

- Enhance awareness of private sector engagement
- Establish the private sector's role as observers and advisors at the institutional level
- Improve the regional business environment

Foster cooperation among the Mekong regional cooperation frameworks in crucial areas



Public Private Dialogue and Partnership

Dialogue Platform

Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projects

- PPP environment enabling
- PPP screening and identification
- feasibility studies and advisory
- monitoring and evaluation services

MI can facilitate private sector engagement in addressing GMS development issues through:



Policy Support

Provide opportunities for Mekong MSMEs to adopt and integrate advance technologies and gain investment in technology innovation to integrate in the global and regional value chains:

- Intellectual Property (IP) Protection
- Incentives and Funding
- Regulatory Support



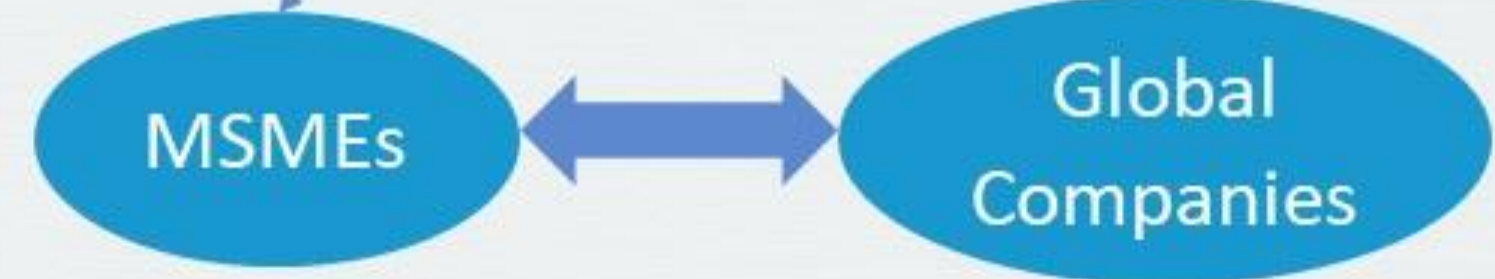
Greening the Supply Chains

Immediate Need for MSMEs to Reduce Emissions

Bridge to collaborate and assist MSMEs

MI

Work with private sector to facilitate green technologies transfer and application



lack capacity and resources for ESG standards implementation

MI can facilitate private sector engagement in addressing GMS development issues through:



Industrial Workforce Development

Industry 4.0 Workforce Shift:
Advanced Automation, AI, and Digitalization

MI

Facilitate collaboration between industry groups and technical schools: develop competency standards, revise curricula, upgrade training equipment, and offer internships or apprenticeships

Regional skills harmonization: mentorship, coaching programs, and regional certifications



Utilizing MI Projects Results

Use the success stories to help private sector scale up and replicate results of such projects:

- Regional projects in facilitating GMS agriculture development and commercialization, sustainable energy development, and trade promotion...
- Projects in climate change adaptation and resilience



Summary



Private sector engagement in sectors: Taking advantage of GMS economic growth and expanding consumer markets



Private sector cooperation with governments and local stakeholders: pooling resources and expertise; enhancing technological progress, and helping companies stay at the forefront of industry trends for competitive advantages



Co-creating Projects in Supply Chains Decarbonizing: enhancing environmental sustainability aligning with global climate goals, reducing operational risks, and enhancing corporate image



Workforce Development in Industry 4.0: ensuring a skilled industrial workforce to enable productivity aligned with development goals on human resource development and inclusive investment

ITEM 5.5

LANCANG MEKONG
BUSINESS FORUM
PROJECT
COMPLETION



Multi Year Project on LANCANG-MEKONG BUSINESS FORUMS (2018-2024)

Mekong Institute (MI) has completed a project on Lancang-Mekong Business Forum (LMBF) with the theme of “**Promoting Agribusiness and Investment in Processed Food Sector**” from 2018-2024. The project was funded by the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund (LMCSF) of China, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce, Thailand.

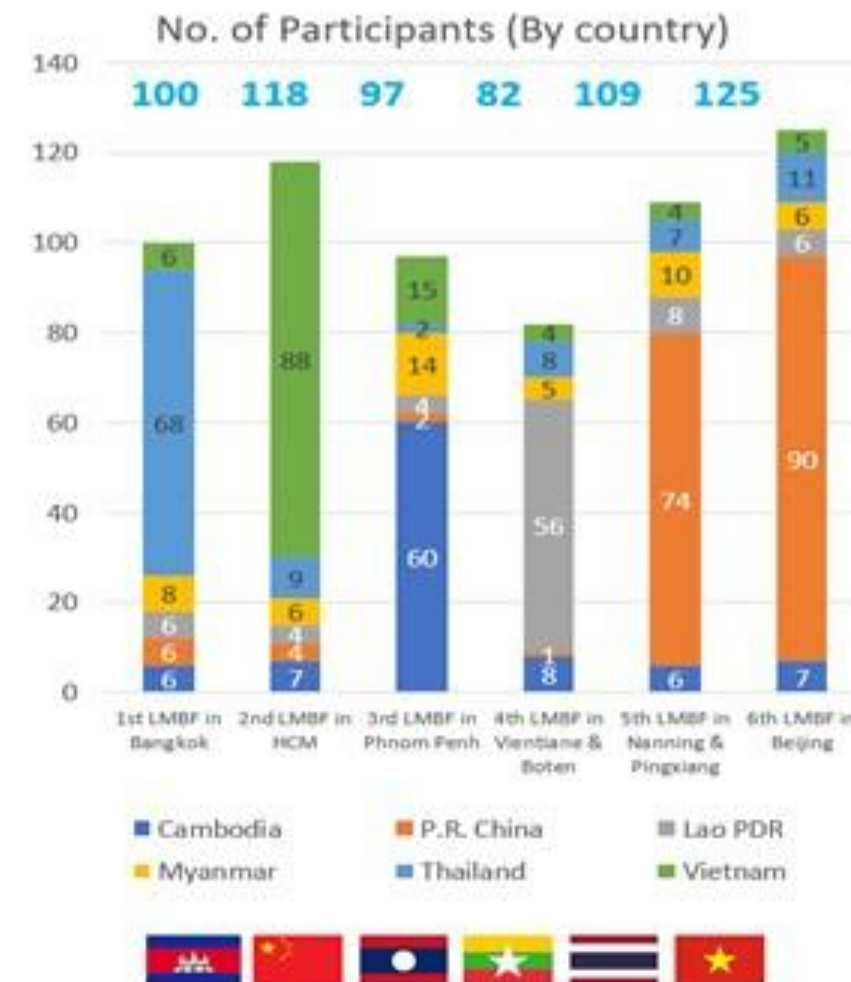
To strengthen regional value chain, business investment forums are useful mechanism to promote SMEs’ linkages with large enterprises, providing valuable opportunities for business matching and networking among regional and international buyers.



LANCANG - MEKONG
BUSINESS FORUM

Key Objectives

- ✓ **Establish business linkages** among the Lancang-Mekong businesses.
- ✓ **Assist SMEs’ integration** in the regional and global value chains.
- ✓ **Exchange information** on innovative and sustainable practices, advanced food processing technologies, marketing, standard that will push forward industrial growth.
- ✓ **Promote investment** through business collaboration with local SMEs in the Lancang-Mekong countries.



631 participants



By Sector

22%

Public

78%

Private



By Gender

42%

Female

58%

Male



FORUM FORMAT



FOOD TECHNOLOGY



RESEARCH



EVALUATION



FOOD PROCESSING



SCIENTIST



MICROBIOLOGY



BIOCHEMISTRY



FOOD SAFETY



BUSINESS SEMINAR

Discussed and shared market trends, innovative products and practices, trade and investment opportunities, promotion of low-carbon and green technologies in the agri-food processing sector.



BUSINESS MATCHING

Provided an opportunity to explore business connections and forge partnership between SMEs with large companies and investors in agri-food processing sector.



PRODUCTS EXHIBITION

Showcased innovative food products and emerging technologies for food processing, packaging, and labeling.



STRUCTURED LEARNING VISIT

Shared food processing capacity, innovative business model and technologies, trade and investment opportunities by visiting agri-food processing technology park and companies.

The 6th LMBF

Beijing, China | Jan 10-11, 2024



The 5th LMBF

Nanning, China | July 3-6, 2023



The 4th LMBF

Vientiane, Lao PDR | Nov 9-11, 2022



The 1st LMBF

Bangkok, Thailand | Nov 15-16, 2018



The 2nd LMBF

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Nov 7-8, 2019



The 3rd LMBF

Phnom Penh, Cambodia | Mar 30-31, 2022





KEY RESULTS

- ✓ **Developed Web Portal to share project information, and facilitate event participation, business matching and evaluation**
 - Shared project information and documents
 - Facilitated the forum online registration and information sharing
 - Collected and promote company and their products through the website
 - Facilitated online business matching among sellers/exhibitors, buyers, delegates, speakers, trade visitors during pre, during and post-forum
 - Conducted post-event evaluations

Type of Data

- ✓ **Project Introduction and Documentation**
- ✓ **Forum Online Registration and Information**
- ✓ **Company Profile** (registered and participated companies)
- ✓ **Business Matching System** (Pre, During and Post-Event)

<https://www.lancangmekongforum.com>

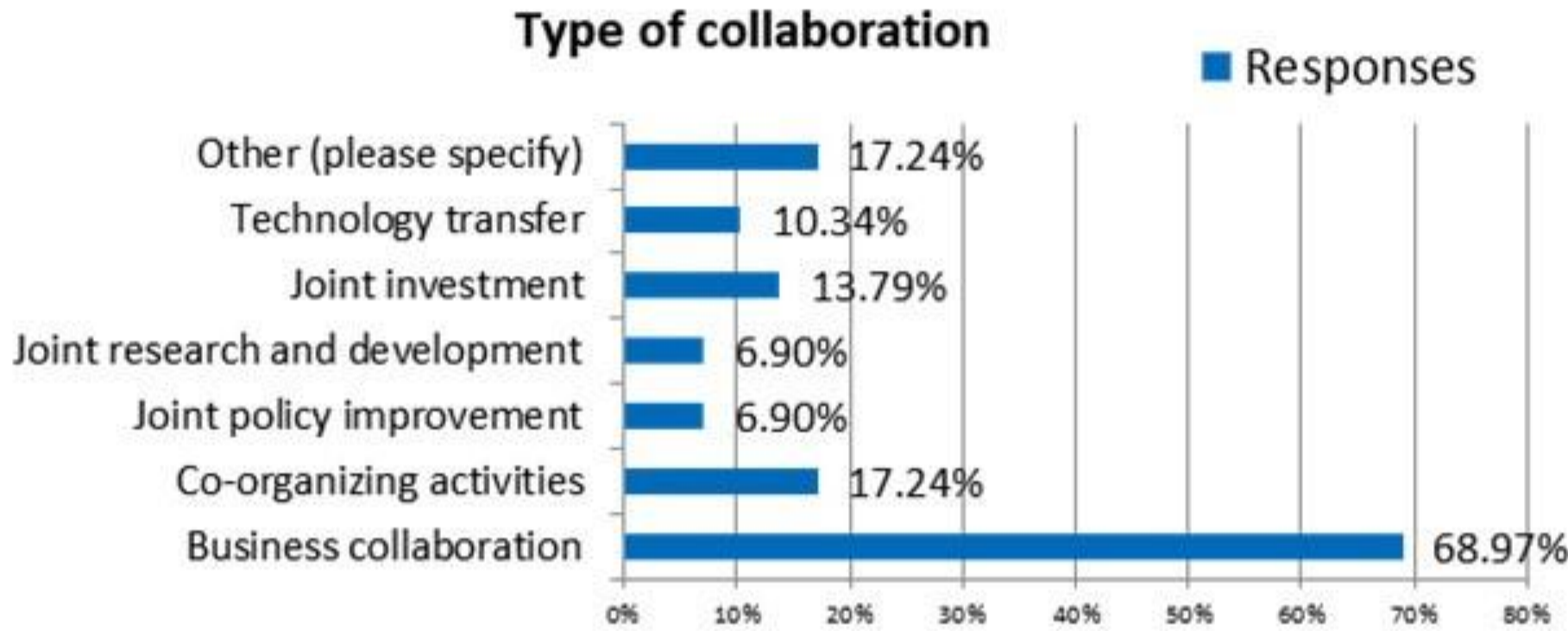


LANCANG - MEKONG
BUSINESS FORUM

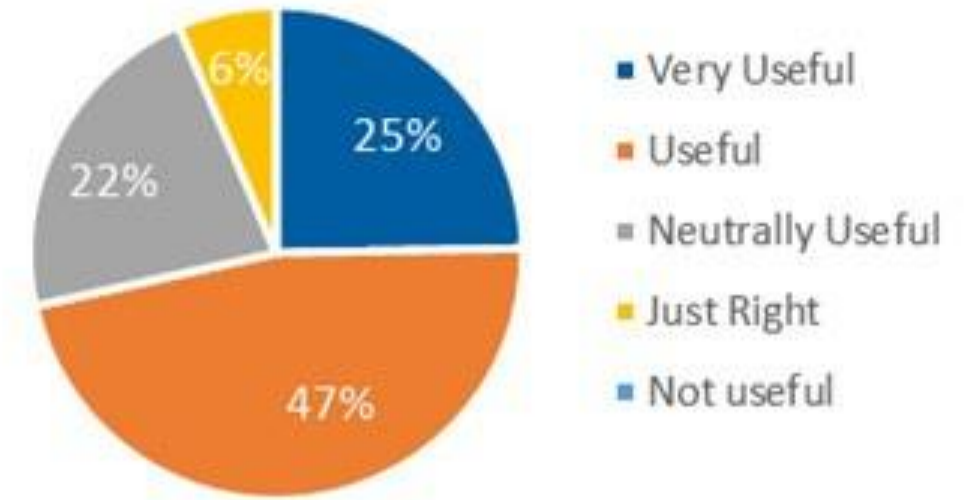
KEY RESULTS



LANCANG - MEKONG
BUSINESS FORUM



Usefulness of the Forum Content



Initiated investment projects



The amount (USD) of the initial investment



MOVING FORWARD

Trade and Investment Promotion Through Market Linkages in Lancang Mekong Countries

—based on the experiences of the recently concluded 5-year project

SMEs in LM countries are yet to fully realize their potential to harness e-commerce for market development. The project can boost economic growth in Lancang Mekong countries by improving the competitiveness of SMEs through market linkages, integrating them into regional and global value chains.



LANCANG - MEKONG
BUSINESS FORUM



Intervention areas

- **Establishing business linkages** among the Lancang Mekong countries SMEs.
- **eMarket Place** development and introduced for SMEs
- **Assisting SMEs integrate** in the Regional and Global Value Chain (R-GVC).
- **Exchange information** on state of art technology and innovative products to push forward industrial growth.



Expected Outcomes

- **Business networking and investment** promoted through eMarket Place with AI functions
- Enhanced SMEs ability to utilize **digital platforms**
- Strengthened inter regional value chains for **cross border trade**
- **SME integration** in regional and global Value chains.



**BUSINESS
MATCHING**

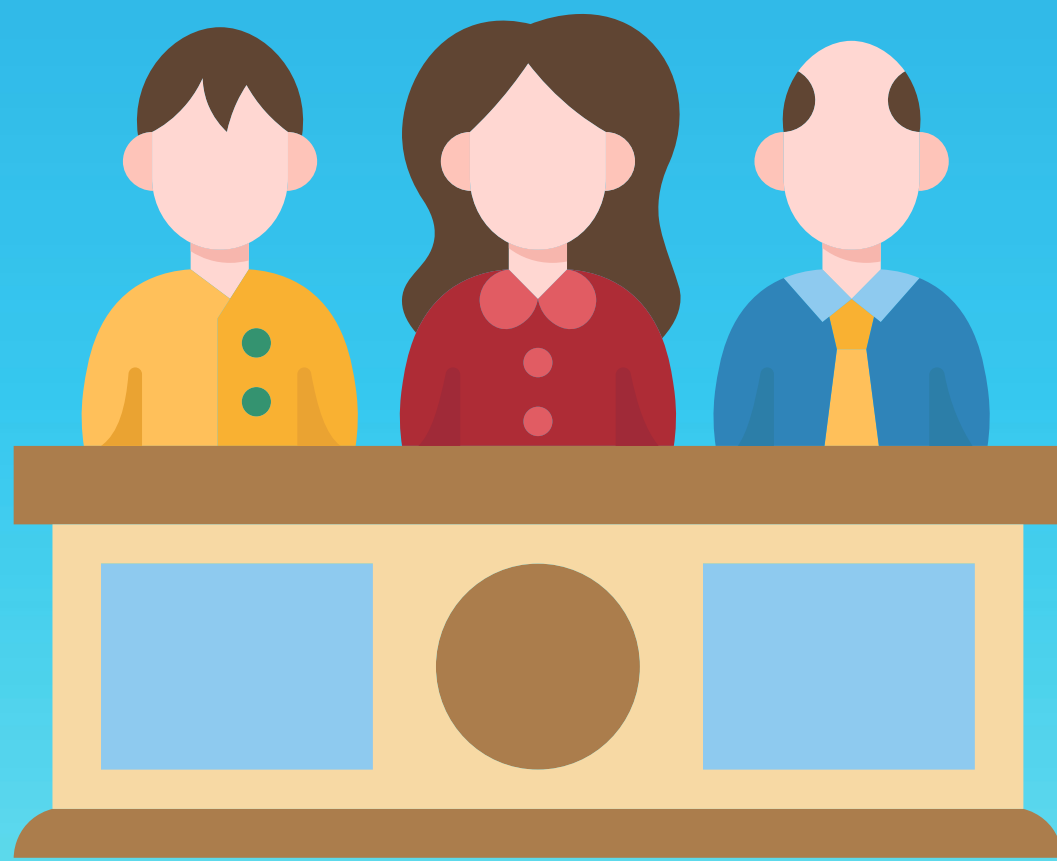
ITEM 5.6

RESULTS OF ED
PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION 2023



ITEM 5.6

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION 2023



The ED Performance Evaluation Sub-committee agreed:

a. That the overall **2023 performance was very good with 90% achievement of performance indicators.**

b. To the KRAs of performance for 2024 outlined below.

KEY RESULT AREAS	& TARGETED
1 Maintain annual surplus and contribution to reserve in 2024 (with a target revenue of US\$4.0m)	25
2. Ensure quality activity delivery	25
3. Stepping up the results-based management of the MI Strategic Plan (SP) 2021-2025	25
4. Enhancing visibility and profile of MI among GMS-related subregional cooperation frameworks	25
OVERALL EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENT	100



GROUP PHOTO



REFRESHMENT BREAK



ITEM 6

HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 6.1 Revised Activity Plan of 2H, 2024
- 6.2 Budget Revision 2024
- 6.3 Audited Financial Report 2023



ITEM 6.1

Revised Activity Plan of 2H,2024

Core Development Areas

Thematic Areas	# of Projects	Project Types		
		Long-Term	Short-Term	One-off Activities
Agriculture Development and Commercialization	6	2	3	1
Trade and Investment Facilitation	8	5	1	2
Sustainable Energy and Environment	2	0	2	0
Social Inclusion and Vulnerability	1	0	0	1
MI's Contribution to Border GMS Cooperation Framework	8	3	1	4
TOTAL	25	10	7	8



ITEM 6.1

Revised Activity Plan of 2H,2024

Human Resources Management

HR Plan: To identify HR needs, and ensure they align with MI Strategic Plan 2021-2025.

Recruitment for key positions during 2H are:

Regular Contract

1 Program Director, ADC (replacing retired staff)

1 MEL Manager, GMCA (onboarding)

1 MEL Officer, GMCA (onboarding)

1 Program Coordinator, TIF (re-announced)

1 Program officer, TIF (re-announced)

1 HR Officer (re-announced)

The staff recruitment plan is under the new project (RPHL & MI) supported by the Global Fund.

ITEM 6.2

BUDGET REVISION 2024

No	Description	Annual Budget 2024	Revised Budget 2024	Dif.	% of Dif.
	Program revenue				
1	Long term project	1,282,513	1,302,236	19,723	2%
2	Short term project	228,214	383,208	154,994	68%
3	One off activity	-	233,287	233,287	100%
	Total program revenue	1,510,727	1,918,731	408,004	27%
4	Country contribution	530,000	513,859	(16,141)	-3%
5	Other revenue	12,000	22,914	10,914	91%
	Total GMS Contribution	542,000	536,773	(5,227)	-1%
	Total revenue	2,052,727	2,455,505	402,778	20%
6	Projected Opportunities funds for NZAP	700,000	700,000	-	0%
7	Projected Opportunities funds for P.R China	380,512	150,000	(230,512)	-61%
8	Projected Opportunities funds for General	562,356	110,000	(452,356)	-80%
9	Projected Opportunities funds for Global Fund	-	261,570	261,570	100%
	Total the fund opportunity	1,642,868	1,221,570	(421,298)	-26%
	Grand Total including the fund opportunity	3,695,595	3,677,075	(18,520)	-1%
	Expenses				
1	Project delivery cost	717,831	986,940	269,109	37%
2	Program administration expenses	1,083,393	934,710	(148,683)	-14%
3	Business development	21,442	21,442	-	0%
4	Operation expenses	1,077,344	938,025	(139,320)	-13%
	Total expenses for program and operations	2,900,010	2,881,117	(18,893)	-1%
5	Projected Expenditures from opportunities funds	638,290	659,864	21,574	3%
	Earning (Deficit) before non-cash expense	157,295	136,094	(21,201)	-13%
6	Non-Cash Expense	84,000	83,244	(756)	-1%
	Grand total expense	3,622,300	3,624,225	1,924	0%
	Earning (Deficit) after non-cash expense	73,295	52,850	(20,445)	-28%

ITEM 6.2

BUDGET REVISION 2024

DESCRIPTION	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Variance
Revenue	3,695,595	3,677,075	(18,520)
Expense	3,622,30	3,624,225	1,925
Earnings (Deficit)	73,295	52,850	(20,445)

Project Opportunity Funds	Amount
Planned	\$ 1,642,868
Actual Received	\$ 518,015
Achievement	32%

MI's financial performance in 2024 is expected to be positive, provided that the opportunity fund of **US\$ 1,111,570** is received from traditional funding sources (NZAP and China), and non-traditional sources (RPHLN).





ITEM 6.3

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

- There was no material audit finding of MI Financial Statement 2023.
- The total revenue increased more than the forecast revenue because a few approved projects were not included in the forecast.

Forecast of Annual Financial Performance 2023 vs. Result of the Annual Audit Report 2023

Description	Total Forecast	Audited Amount	Variance	%
Revenue	3,528,895	3,756,223	(227,328)	6%
Expense	3,415,223	3,589,054	(173,831)	5%
Earning/(Deficit)	113,672	167,169	(53,497)	47%
Non-Cash expense	77,881	125,952	(48,071)	62%
Earning/(Deficit) - Non-cash	35,791	41,217	(5,426)	15%





ITEM 6.3

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

REVENUE	2023	2022	Difference	
			Amount	%
Project Revenue	3,178,877	2,754,030	424,847	15%
Countries contribution	521,523	503,898	17,625	3%
Others revenue	55,823	25,928	29,895	115%
TOTAL	3,756,223	3,283,856	472,367	14%
EXPENSES				
Program expenses	1,789,950	1,541,981	247,969	16%
Program administration	693,250	581,912	111,338	19%
Business and organization development	68,586	46,122	22,464	49%
Operation expenses	1,037,268	847,816	189,452	22%
Total expenses	3,589,054	3,017,831	571,223	19%
Eaming (Deficit) before non-cash operation	167,169	266,025	-98,856	-37%
Non-cash operation	125,952	123,107	2,845	2%
Eaming (Deficit)	41,217	142,918	-101,701	-71%

ITEM 7

COUNTRY REPORT
OF STEERING
COMMITTEE
MEMBERS



ITEM 8

Date and Venue
of Governing
Board Meeting
No. 2/2024



Date and Venue of the Governing Board Meeting 2/2024

- 1. Online SC Meeting 2/2024: November 19, 2024 (14:00PM– 16:30PM)**
 - 2. Special SC Meeting 2/2024: December 16, 2024 (16:00PM – 17:00PM)**
 - 3. Council Meeting 2/2024: December 17, 2024 (09:00AM – 12:00PM)**
-

Tentative Program: **Monday, Dec 16, 2024**

AM: - Travel from origin country to Phnom Penh

PM: - 16:00: MI Steering Committee Preparation Meeting for Council Meeting
- 18:00: Reception Dinner

Tuesday, Dec 17, 2024

AM: - 09.00 Council Meeting 2/2024
- 12:00: Lunch

PM: - Option 1: Travel back to origin country
- Option 2: - 14:00: Study Tour
- 18:00: Dinner

Wednesday, Dec 18, 2024

AM: - Travel back to origin country

ITEM 9

Other Matters



Provisional Program:

- **Mekong Forum 2024**
- **MI Governing Board Members and Experts Dialogue**
- **Special Steering Committee Meeting**
- **MI Council Meeting**

Tuesday, July 30, 2024

Arrival of Governing Board members in Khon Kaen, Thailand

Day 1 – Wednesday, July 31, 2024

- 09:00 – 12:00: **Mekong Forum 2024 (Opening and Plenary Sessions)**
12:00 – 13:30: Lunch
13:30 – 16:30: **Mekong Forum 2024 (Thematic Breakout Sessions – Part I)**
17:00 – 18:30: **MI Governing Board Members and Experts Dialogue**
18:30 – 20:30: **Mekong Forum Reception Dinner and Networking**

Day 2 – Thursday, August 1, 2024

- 09:00 – 12:00: **Mekong Forum 2024 (Thematic Breakout Sessions – Part II)**
12:00 – 13:30: Lunch
13:30 – 14:30: **Mekong Forum (Presentation of Actionable Recommendations)**
14:30 – 15:30: **Mekong Forum (Synthesis and Ways Forward, Closing)**
16:00 – 17:00: **Special Steering Committee Meeting**
(Adoption of the Minutes of Meeting and Preparation for Council Meeting 1/2024)
18:00 – 20:30: Dinner (hosted by the Steering Committee Chairman)

Day 3 – Friday, August 2, 2024

- 09:00 – 12:00: **MI Council Meeting 1/2024**
12:00 – 13:30: Lunch
Option 1: 14:00 – 17:30: Khon Kaen Sightseeing Tour
18:00 – 21:00: Dinner
Option 2: Some Governing Board members depart Khon Kaen for their origin countries

Saturday, August 3, 2024

MI Governing Board members depart Khon Kaen for their origin countries



THANK YOU.

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