

Second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting
Siem Reap, Cambodia
6-8 September 2017
PROGRAM OVERVIEW



GREATER MEKONG
 SUBREGION
 CORE AGRICULTURE
 SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting (AMM-2) to be held on 6-8 September 2017 in Siem Reap, Cambodia will reconvene the Agriculture Leaders of the GMS countries after a decade (since the holding of First AMM in 2007) to take stock of the current status and trends, and discuss strategic future directions for regional cooperation in agriculture and ensure that the Core Agriculture Support Program (CASP) will achieve its vision for the GMS to become a leading supplier of safe and environment-friendly agriculture products and integrated into the global market. The meeting is hosted by the Government of Cambodia led by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF).

VENUE: Apsara Palace Resort and Conference Center, Siem Reap, Cambodia

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW OF AMM-2

1. This year marks the **25th Anniversary of the GMS Program and the 15th Anniversary of the establishment of the WGA.**
2. **The Working Group on Agriculture (WGA) developed the GMS Strategy for promoting safe and environment-friendly agro-based value chains (GMS SEAP Strategy) and its accompanying Action Plan¹ for 2018-2022 to guide the next phase of the program.** As the GMS Strategic Framework 2012-2022 is currently undergoing a Midterm Review (MTR), this is an opportune time for the Strategy to ensure a participatory process with all key stakeholders during its development and that it aligned with the thrusts of the overall GMS Economic Cooperation Program as informed by the MTR findings.
3. **The Agriculture Ministers' Meeting is the highest governing body of the WGA.** The convening of the Agriculture Ministers happens periodically as needed, this time to endorse the GMS SEAP Strategy and Siem Reap Action Plan.

OBJECTIVES: The AMM-2 will: (i) review the achievements of CASP and reaffirm the commitment of the GMS agriculture ministries to the CASP vision; (ii) seek Agriculture Ministers' endorsement of the GMS Strategy for promoting safe and environment-friendly agro-based value chains and Siem Reap Action Plan – and their guidance on the future of CASP and agricultural cooperation in the GMS; (iii) update the development and implementing partners and other key stakeholders such as the private sector on the progress of the CASP, emphasizing the need for their continued engagement and support and highlighting opportunities for investment in sustainable and inclusive agriculture value chains in the GMS; and (iv) promote enhanced linkages to the GMS Program through the GMS Regional Investment Framework.

THEME: *GMS: Towards inclusive, safe, and sustainable agriculture value chains*

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Date	Time	Event/Meeting
Day 1: 6 September 2017	08:30-09:00	Registration
	09:00-17:30	Policy Forum on food safety, quality assurance, and inclusively sustainable agro-based value chains in the GMS
	18:30-20:30	Cocktail Reception Launching of Mekong Agribusiness Technology Challenge (MATCh)
Day 2: 7 September 2017	08:30-09:00	Registration
	09:00-11:30	WGA Meeting cum 4 th Preparatory Meeting for the AMM-2 (by invitation)
	12:45-15:15	Development Partners' Forum
	16:00-17:30	Public-Private Policy Dialogue (by invitation)
	19:00-21:00	Welcome Dinner for Ministers
Day 3: 8 September 2017	08:15-08:45	Registration
	08:45-12:30	Second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting
	13:45-	Assembly of Delegates joining the field visit/study tour
	14:00-14:30	Press Conference (MAFF Minister and ADB HoD)
	14:45-16:45	First GMS Agriculture Ministers' Retreat (closed door)
	16:45-17:00	Ministers' visit to the exhibit and market events area Launching of the Agriculture Information Network Services version 2.0
	19:00-21:00	Gala Dinner hosted by the Government of Cambodia

¹ As this will be endorsed by the AMM-2 to be held in Siem Reap, there was agreement at the 14th Annual Meeting of the WGA to call it Siem Reap Action Plan.

Component and Side Events

- **Policy Forum:** The Siem Reap Policy Forum elevates the discussion on food safety, quality assurance, and inclusive and sustainable agro-based value chains in the GMS. This is a follow up event in response to the region-wide call to action for safe and environment-friendly agriculture products, initiated during the multi-sector “Policy Forum: Unified Regional Approaches to Food Safety and Market Access” and the ADB Special Session on “Public-Private Partnerships on Food Safety Systems” at the World Food Safety Conference on 31 May and 1 June in Bangkok, Thailand. This Siem Reap event will clarify issues and present practical recommendations to move this agenda forward. The forum will serve as the first concrete step toward the implementation of the GMS Strategy and Siem Reap Action Plan for 2018–2022. The forum will describe trends in consumption and consumer preferences in GMS and neighboring countries. The discussions will also focus on scoping of opportunities in relation to: (i) allied sectors, such as food, tourism, logistics, and environment; (ii) innovations in the production of safe, high quality food in an inclusive and sustainable manner; (iii) innovations that can reduce losses and waste in supply; (iv) food safety and quality assurance- quick win-win solutions; and (v) public-private collaboration.
- **Launching of Mekong Agribusiness Technology Challenge (MATCh).** A joint initiative between the WGA and the Mekong Business Initiative, this will be the first agribusiness acceleration program in the GMS that aims to help agribusiness start-ups launch successfully and mature agritech start-ups and small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) to expand into new markets within the Mekong region. The initiative will support innovative business models that will enhance agricultural competitiveness, improve farmer livelihoods, and promote safe and environment-friendly agriculture practices. MATCh offers a platform for participating start-ups to earn exposure, get connected to local ecosystems and stakeholders, network with investors and incubator programs, support for prototyping and product testing for local markets, receive individualized matchmaking and coaching, and win innovation grants for up to about 10 agribusiness start-ups and SMEs. Awards will include the Best Start-up, Best Technology Transfer, Biggest Social Impact, and Women Leadership.
- **WGA Meeting cum 4th Preparatory Meeting for the AMM-2.** Final updates on the AMM-2 deliverables and logistical arrangements will be discussed as well final review of the AMM-2 Joint Ministerial Statement.
- **Development Partners’ Forum:** Key development and implementing partners will be invited to a Forum alongside AMM-2 to discuss strategic partnerships and highlight synergies and opportunities for increasing investments in agricultural value chain development. The meeting is expected to come up with a Joint Development Partners Statement for delivery at the Second GMS Agriculture Ministers’ Meeting the following day.
- **Public-Private Policy Dialogue.** A high-level public-private dialogue on food safety and safe and environment friendly value chains is being organized in collaboration with the Food Industry Asia on 7 September 2017. Key government and private sector CEOs will convene to collectively agree on follow-through policy, investment, and/or institutional measures needed to implement the GMS SEAP Strategy.
- **Market Events:** A number of market side events will explore new synergies and potential partnerships in the GMS agro-tourism sector and promote food-tourism and eco-tourism potentials of selected safe and environment-friendly GMS products. This will be demonstrated through a market place or showroom of GMS products, agri-innovations, agro-tourism-environment tour destinations which will be linked to hotels, restaurants and tourist operators in the subregion through a hosted buyers program (business matching). There is also ongoing discussion with the Tourism Working Group around the area of agro/food tourism and the Working Group on Environment on relevant issues related to sustainable and environment-friendly agriculture practices and climate change adaptation and mitigation which will feed into the policy forum. The theme will remain “*Discover GMS: Asia’s Natural Hub*”, as was used at the recently concluded THAIFEX 2017 trade fair for consistency in messaging and better recall.

Note: The appendixes that follow provide detailed program of the main AMM-2 component events.

The online registration for AMM-2 and related events is accessible at: <https://goo.gl/forms/fdT5dL6khTISYkrR2>

**WGA Meeting cum
Fourth Preparatory Meeting for the AMM-2
DRAFT PROGRAM**

DAY 2 - 7 SEPTEMBER 2017	
Chair:	H.E. San Vanty Undersecretary of State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), Cambodia
Co-Chair:	Mr. Jiangfeng Zhang (TBC) Director, Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division Southeast Asia Department Asian Development Bank (ADB)
A.M. SESSION	
0830 – 0900	Registration
0900 – 0915	OPENING SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Remarks by ADB • Welcome and Opening Remarks by MAFF • Opening Remarks from the other Heads of Country Delegations
0915 – 1015	SESSION 1: UPDATES ON AMM-2 DELIVERABLES AND COMPONENT EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final review of the status of AMM-2 deliverables • Present the summary of the key messages from the policy forum the previous day and incorporate in the Host WGA Report to the AMM-2 • Brief on the GMS Agriculture Ministers' Retreat and Meeting
1015 – 1030	SESSION 2: LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS PLAN FOR AMM-2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host to update on the logistical and protocol arrangements and communications plan • Itinerary for the field trip/study tour
1030 – 1045	Coffee Break
1045 – 1115	SESSION 3: FINAL REVIEW OF THE AMM-2 JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of final JMS
1115 – 1125	SESSION 4: OTHER MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider other issues, concerns and plans (to be identified) • Follow up actions • Proposed deliverable and participation at the 6th GMS Leaders' Summit
1125 – 1130	CLOSING AND WAY FORWARD
1130 – 1245	Lunch

**Development Partners' Forum
DRAFT PROGRAM**

DAY 2 - 7 SEPTEMBER 2017	
Chair:	H.E. San Vanty Undersecretary of State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), Cambodia
Co-Chair:	Mr. Ramesh Subramaniam (TBC) Director General Southeast Asia Department Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Objectives:	The Development Partners' Forum is a follow on meeting of the Regional Roundtable and Resource Mobilization held on 25 April 2017 to (i) update development partners on the implementation progress of the GMS Core Agriculture Support Program Phase II and present the GMS SEAP Strategy and Siem Reap Action Plan which will guide the next phase of the program; (ii) exchange ideas on how development partners and other key stakeholders can expand and further deepen their roles in pursuing inclusive growth in the GMS; and (iii) establish means to improve institutional and program-level coordination to maximize development effectiveness. The meeting is expected to come up with a Joint Development Partners Statement for delivery at the Second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting the following day.
P.M. SESSION	
1245 – 1300	Registration
1300 – 1315	OPENING SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Remarks by ADB • Welcome and Opening Remarks by MAFF
1315 – 1330	BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE GMS SEAP STRATEGY FOR PARTNERS AND KEY MESSAGES FROM POLICY FORUM ON DAY 1
1330 – 1445	PANEL DISCUSSIONS – BUILDING AND EXPANDING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN GMS AGRICULTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development partners' work around the 4 pillars of the GMS SEAP Strategy • Support and areas of alignment with the consolidated agriculture project pipeline • Support for the GMS SEAP Strategy implementation
1445 – 1515	ENHANCING LINKAGES TO THE GMS PROGRAM AND WAY FORWARD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving institutional and program level coordination to maximize development effectiveness • Agreement on the Joint Development Partners' Statement • Wrap up and closing
1515 – 1530	Coffee Break

Second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Retreat and Meeting

DRAFT PROGRAM

DAY 3 - 8 SEPTEMBER 2017	
A.M. SESSION – GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting	
0815 – 0845	Registration
0845 – 0915	OPENING SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video presentation on GMS Agriculture Achievements and Vision for the future • Statement by Asian Development Bank Head of Delegation • Welcome and Opening Remarks by H. E Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Kingdom of Cambodia Group Photo
Chair:	H. E. Mr. Veng Sakhon, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), Kingdom of Cambodia
Co-Chair:	Asian Development Bank Head of Delegation
0915 – 1000	PLENARY SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement by GMS Agriculture Ministers Cambodia: H. E. Mr. Veng Sakhon, Minister, MAFF PRC: H. E. Mr. Han Changfu, Secretary of CPC Leading Group and Minister, MOA Lao PDR: H. E. Dr. Liane Thykeo, Minister, MAF Myanmar: H. E. Dr. Aung Thu, Union Minister, MOALI Thailand: H. E. General Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister, MOAC Viet Nam: H. E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Cuong, Minister, MARD
1000 – 1030	REPORT OF THE WGA AND ADB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the Host WGA on CASP achievements and progress to date, AMM-2 deliverables (including the GMS Strategy and Action Plan for promoting safe and environment-friendly agro-based value chains), and outcome of the Policy Forum and Public-Private Policy Dialogue the previous day • Report of the ADB on coordination and mobilization of resources, including the outcome of the Development Partners' Forum the previous day
1030 – 1045	Coffee Break
1045 – 1115	STATEMENT BY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement by representative of co-financing partners • Joint Statement by development partners • Statement by representative of UN agencies and implementing agencies; private sector; civil society
1115 – 1215	COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS BY MINISTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country commentaries on the GMS Strategy and Siem Reap Action Plan and subsequent endorsement • Suggestions for moving the CASP forward
1215 – 1225	PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE AMM-2 JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAFF Minister will present the Joint Ministerial Statement to be endorsed by all GMS Agriculture Ministers
1225 – 1230	Closing Remarks and Conclusion of AMM-2
1230 – 1400	Lunch
P.M. SESSION – Ministerial Retreat	
1345 –	Assembly of Delegates joining the field visit/study tour
1400 – 1430	PRESS CONFERENCE <i>[To be presided by the Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, Cambodia; and ADB Head of Delegation.]</i>

1445 – 1645	<p>GMS AGRICULTURE MINISTERS' RETREAT (closed door)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMS Agriculture Ministers exchange views on predetermined Retreat topic <p><i>[Coffee and snacks will be served inside the meeting room.]</i></p>
1645 – 1700	<p>Ministers' visit to the exhibit and market events area</p> <p>Launching of the Agriculture Information Network Services version 2.0</p>
1900 – 2100	<p>Gala Dinner hosted by the Kingdom of Cambodia</p>

Note on the First GMS Agriculture Ministers' Retreat

Venue and Location

Apsara Palace Resort and Conference Center, Siem Reap, Cambodia / 8 September 2017

Background

The Second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting will continue the process of the First AMM by bringing together Agriculture Leaders from the GMS countries to take stock of status and trends in agriculture cooperation, and discuss future directions for regional cooperation to realize the CASP vision of making GMS a leading producer of safe and environment-friendly agriculture products. The past two days of the full AMM-2 program have set the context, provided opportunities for knowledge sharing and consensus building through discussions among various stakeholders. These inputs will inform Ministers' deliberations on priorities for further enhancing agriculture cooperation and integrating GMS produce into the global market.

Nature and Duration

The Retreat provides a platform for the Agriculture Ministers of the GMS countries to exchange views in an informal and interactive way on key challenges and opportunities about the CASP, and to consider directions and approaches to address these issues. The Retreat will be held for two hours (1445–1645) in the afternoon of 8 September 2017.

Participants

The GMS Agriculture Ministers and the ADB Head of Delegation (HoD) will participate in this session, each joined by two other officials from the respective countries and ADB. The session will be facilitated by the Minister from MAFF, Cambodia and the ADB HoD. The WGA Secretariat will also have representatives to help facilitate the session, providing program-related information as needed to inform the discussion, and documenting outputs from the meeting discussion. The medium of communication is English. However, provision of simultaneous translation facility may be arranged based on country request.

PROPOSED RETREAT FORMAT

The ADB HoD introduces the general Retreat topic:

*How can the new GMS SEAP Strategy and Siem Reap Action Plan be effectively executed through (i) **formulation of a realistic and achievable immediate implementation plan**, particularly what immediate actions should be done during the first year of implementation which will be the most crucial to give the direction for the following years; (ii) **mobilization of public and private financing**, particularly what role can public investment have in attracting private investments in agriculture value chain development; and (iii) **improved coordination and results-based monitoring and reporting**, particularly what measurable and realistic results would you like to see after 5 years of implementation of the strategy?*

The Chair (MAFF Minister) opens the floor for some observations from each of the countries and follows up with specific questions aimed at operationalizing the Joint Ministerial Statement presented at the Ministerial Meeting in the morning. At the end of the discussions, he will call on the Co-Chair (ADB HoD) to briefly highlight/summarize the key points and follow up actions.

ACCESS TO RETREAT PROCEEDINGS

The Retreat will be a closed-door meeting, with only the participants mentioned above to be allowed in the meeting room. The intention is to give the Ministers the appropriate atmosphere for a free exchange of ideas. However, three members of each country and ADB delegations will be allowed to listen to the Retreat proceedings in a designated listening room (adjoining the Retreat room). The WGA Secretariat will prepare a summary of Retreat proceedings, which will subsequently be shared with the Working Group on Agriculture focal points.