

# APPENDIX:

## THE HA NOI ACTION PLAN 2018–2022

### SECTOR OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

The regional project pipeline is included in the Regional Investment Framework (RIF) 2022. The key actions of the Ha Noi Action Plan (HAP) will provide a coherent framework for project development under the RIF 2022. At the initial stage, some new actions of the HAP may not be necessarily supported by projects in the RIF 2022. However, there will be greater consistency and alignment between the HAP’s key actions and subsequent updates of RIF 2022.

**Table: The Ha Noi Action Plan 2018–2022—Sector Operational Priorities**

Sector Operational Priorities	Key Actions
<b>Transport<sup>a</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the corridor networks and improve links with South and Southeast Asia by developing the new subcorridor in NSEC linking Mandalay to Tamu at the border with India. This is part of the Trilateral Highway Project linking India to Thailand</li> <li>Facilitate cross-border transport by accelerating and enhancing the effectiveness of Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement implementation in close coordination with ongoing trade facilitation efforts in the GMS</li> <li>Strengthen the links between transport modes by developing “intermodal chains,” rather than promoting competition between modes</li> <li>Promote development of logistics to complement transport infrastructure and transport facilitation</li> <li>Improve road asset management to ensure efficiency, reliability, and sustainability</li> <li>Enhance road safety by developing common standards of safety in the different national components of the GMS corridors, which can be realized more effectively on the basis of cooperation among the GMS countries</li> </ul>	<p><b>Roads</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade sections requiring improvement in the original alignment of EWEC in Myanmar and of SEC in Cambodia</li> <li>Upgrade the new routes in EWEC in Myanmar and NSEC in the Lao PDR</li> <li>Enhance links to key transport interchange nodes like ports, airports, and rail stations</li> <li>Build and/or upgrade feeder roads</li> <li>Improve links between secondary roads and the main corridor routes</li> <li>Establish effective approaches to road asset management and financing</li> <li>Implement mechanisms for strengthening implementation and coordination of road safety measures</li> <li>Establish platform for data collection and performance monitoring</li> </ul> <p><b>Railways</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustain operation of the Greater Mekong Railway Association</li> <li>Complete missing railway links to interconnect the subregion</li> <li>Upgrade and expand capacity of existing railway lines</li> <li>Upgrade systems for communications, signaling, and train control</li> <li>Renew and replace rolling stock</li> <li>Modernize systems for train operation, user service, and management support</li> <li>Improve asset management capacity</li> <li>Enhance cross-border rail transport</li> </ul> <p><b>Ports and inland waterways</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and/or increase capacity of major deep sea ports</li> <li>Promote use of coastal shipping and inland waterways for domestic and international trade by providing and improving support facilities and services</li> <li>Improve landside seaport access</li> <li>Improve port policies and regulations</li> <li>Streamline terminal and port operations</li> </ul>

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Sector Operational Priorities	Key Actions
	<p><b>Air transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop designated international airports and other international airports in the future</li> <li>• Develop and/or improve secondary airports</li> <li>• Expand or develop primary airports</li> </ul> <p><b>Urban transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct circumferential and bypass roads around major urban centers along the corridors</li> <li>• Adopt mechanisms for coordinating transport programs and projects with the development plans of major cities and towns along the economic corridors</li> </ul> <p><b>Transport facilitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate extension of traffic and transport rights along the GMS economic corridors</li> <li>• Upgrade border crossing facilities</li> <li>• Improve border management</li> <li>• Enhance institutional mechanisms for implementing transport facilitation measures at the central and local levels</li> <li>• Strengthen interface between transport facilitation and trade facilitation initiatives</li> <li>• Develop a GMS database for transport facilitation</li> <li>• Conduct capacity building programs to raise awareness, and improve the knowledge and skills of central, local, and border officials in transport and trade facilitation</li> </ul> <p><b>Logistics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve road–rail–port connectivity</li> <li>• Establish inland dry ports with road and rail interface</li> <li>• Establish direct feeder service between ports and ICDs, and integrate ICDs into the rail network</li> <li>• Promote the logistics industry through deregulation and increased foreign participation</li> <li>• Encourage investment in logistics hubs, ICDs, inland dry ports, and cold storage facilities</li> <li>• Improve the interface between the public and private sectors in logistics development, including through the strengthening of the GMS Freight and Transport Association</li> <li>• Promote human resource development programs to support GMS logistics development</li> <li>• Increase use of ICT in logistics management</li> <li>• Strengthen private sector participation</li> </ul>
<b>Urban Development and Other Multisector and Border Economic Zones<sup>b</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan and develop key urban centers and border areas using holistic and regional approaches and focusing on urban systems as part of spatial planning for economic corridors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify key urban centers along GMS corridors and urban systems</li> <li>• Develop multisector spatial plans for high-priority urban areas</li> <li>• Provide and upgrade infrastructure in GMS corridor towns and in other key urban areas</li> <li>• Identify or update key border areas and priority border points based on reconfigured GMS economic corridors</li> <li>• Prepare multisector spatial plans for priority border areas</li> <li>• Develop border zones</li> </ul>

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Sector Operational Priorities	Key Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop capacities in urban planning and management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake capacity improvements in urban planning and management</li> <li>Prepare national and subnational spatial strategies and development plans</li> <li>Establish multilevel institutional framework for coordination, planning and implementation at the subregional level</li> <li>Improve institutional coordination at the national level</li> <li>Establish mechanisms for improved synergies with other GMS sector working groups and forums</li> <li>Promote knowledge sharing to collaboratively explore subregional approaches in sustainable urban development (e.g., peer-to-peer technical exchanges)</li> <li>Develop data sources that can be used for identifying characteristics and potentials of economic areas of cities and towns along and off-corridors</li> </ul>
<b>Energy<sup>c</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue developing the regional power market by developing the grid interconnection infrastructure and providing the policy and institutional framework for power trading:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stage 1: Bilateral cross-border connections</li> <li>Stage 2: Grid-to-grid power trading between any pair of GMS countries</li> <li>Stage 3: Transmission links for cross-border trading</li> <li>Stage 4: Fully integrated GMS regional competitive power market</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue power purchase agreements</li> <li>Use transmission facilities of a third regional country; develop third party access principles</li> <li>Develop transmission links dedicated to cross-border trading; prepare a regional transmission masterplan</li> <li>Harmonize GMS performance standards and transmission regulations</li> <li>Develop regional grid codes</li> <li>Develop multiple seller-buyer regulatory frameworks</li> <li>Develop favorable regulatory environment to support higher regional power trade</li> <li>Conduct studies on potential cross-border interconnections</li> <li>Increase private sector participation in cross-border regional power trade projects</li> <li>Update regional system planning to incorporate higher share of renewable energy</li> <li>Conduct capacity building for effective environmental management in the planning and implementation of power projects</li> <li>Finalize the establishment of Regional Power Coordination Center</li> </ul>
<b>Agriculture<sup>d</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop harmonized standards, practices, and policies to facilitate production, trade, and investment in SEAP value chains</li> <li>Strengthen infrastructure for regionally integrated SEAP value chains</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harmonize standards related to (i) good practices for crops, livestock, and aquaculture, (ii) food safety and quality assurance, (iii) certification and accreditation agencies (including PGS for organic agro-products), (iv) quarantine procedures, and (v) surveillance systems and laboratories</li> <li>Identify and disseminate guidelines and best practices related to foreign direct investment in food and agriculture, contract farming, and code of conduct for responsible agrifood investment in SEAP across GMS borders</li> <li>Formulate and adopt policies for SEAP including policies for NUE, GWM, and PGS</li> <li>Develop agro-industrial zones and agro-demonstration parks in the GMS that facilitate the investment, production, processing, and trading of SEAP</li> <li>Develop border livestock disease control zones</li> <li>Establish appropriate SPS facilities including GMS reference labs and surveillance laboratories</li> </ul>

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Sector Operational Priorities	Key Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve systems for generating and sharing knowledge and innovations related to SEAP value chains</li>   <li>• Develop marketing approaches to promote the reputation of GMS as a SEAP global leader</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop agribusiness incubators in the GMS that are focused on growing start-up and innovative SMEs for SEAP</li> <li>• Develop and strengthen research and extension network focused on improved agronomic and value chain practices that improve productivity and reduce SEAP wastes and losses</li> <li>• Develop and strengthen regional training and demonstration centers</li> <li>• Develop and strengthen regional education and capacity building network on value chain and logistics management in partnership with agribusiness companies</li> <li>• Develop information sharing platform to facilitate exchange of information related to SEAP, business opportunities, and identification of investment partners</li>   <li>• Undertake joint marketing activities to promote GMS's reputation as a global supplier of SEAP</li> <li>• Promote the development of food and agriculture geographical indications</li> <li>• Develop a communication plan for raising public awareness on food safety and SEAP</li> </ul>
<b>Environment<sup>e</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green technologies and sustainable infrastructure increasingly adopted by GMS countries</li>   <li>• Investment in natural resources and ecosystem services increased</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide environmental policy, strategic planning and safeguards support (strategic environmental assessment, environmental impact assessment, environmental quality standards, economic instruments, air, water, and soil pollution control and remediation, waste management, and low carbon)</li> <li>• Promote knowledge sharing and transfer of cleaner technologies (including cleaner production, resource and energy use efficiency, air, water, and soil treatment, etc.)</li> <li>• Project preparation support for: (i) rural environment quality improvement and management, (ii) green road freight financing, and (iii) electronic waste management</li> <li>• Identify and adopt measures to de-risk investments, and matchmaking, develop, and provide linkages to risk and vulnerability assessment tools, facilitate public and private sector involvement through impact investment, viability gaps, green bonds, and other innovative funding mechanisms</li>   <li>• Provide policy and legal framework support for natural resources conservation and sustainable land management</li> <li>• Facilitate regional knowledge sharing on natural resources and ecosystem services</li> <li>• Land resource planning support: integrated spatial planning, ecosystem assessment, valuation and mapping, risk assessment, and integration in key sector plans and investments</li> <li>• Project preparation support for integrated natural resources and land management for sustainable development (protection of high value ecosystems, restoration or remediation of degraded lands, and soil pollution control and remediation)</li> <li>• Development of sustainable financing policy, pricing support, and benefit distribution mechanism (payment for ecosystem services potentially with tourism industries and hydropower companies, biodiversity offsets, etc.)</li> </ul>

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Sector Operational Priorities	Key Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate resilience and DRM strategies increasingly incorporated in GMS sector investment plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory framework for climate proofing infrastructure</li> <li>Regional sharing of best practices on CRV assessment and adaptation</li> <li>Technical support for strengthening CRV and DRM assessments in investment project planning</li> <li>Project preparation support including: (i) climate proofing rural infrastructure investments, (ii) DRM and risk financing options, and (iii) value chain approach to promote social and economic inclusion for pro-climate initiatives</li> <li>Promote climate and disaster risk financing options</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism<sup>f</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop human resources</li> <li>Improve tourism infrastructure</li> <li>Enhance visitor experience and services</li> <li>Undertake creative marketing and promotion</li> <li>Facilitate regional travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement regional skills standard</li> <li>Capacity building for public officials</li> <li>Strengthen tourism enterprise services</li> <li>Upgrade airports</li> <li>Establish road access in secondary destinations</li> <li>Develop green urban infrastructure services</li> <li>Improve river and marine passenger ports</li> <li>Expand the transnational railway system</li> <li>Create integrated spatial and thematic destination plans</li> <li>Develop thematic multicountry experience</li> <li>Implement common tourism standards</li> <li>Facilitate investment in secondary destinations</li> <li>Prevent negative social and environmental impacts</li> <li>Promote thematic multicountry experiences and events</li> <li>Position GMS as a must-visit destination in Asia</li> <li>Strengthen public–private marketing arrangements</li> <li>Enhance market research and data exchange</li> <li>Raise awareness about tourism opportunities and sustainability</li> <li>Advocate implementation of air services agreements</li> <li>Address tourist visa policy gaps</li> <li>Improve border facilities management</li> </ul>
<b>Trade Facilitation<sup>g</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customs modernization through Revised Kyoto Convention implementation, adoption of information technology and partnership with private sector</li> <li>Simplify and standardize trade documents based on international trade standards, and strengthen coordination across agencies</li> <li>Enhance coordinated border management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement intelligence-driven, risk-based control and compliance</li> <li>Promote private sector partnerships</li> <li>Promote adoption of information technology processing systems</li> <li>Implement national single windows</li> <li>Build capacities of customs administrations to implement key initiatives based on international agreements</li> <li>Implement simplified and standardized trade documents</li> <li>Strengthen coordination across agencies</li> <li>Conduct time release studies</li> <li>Develop a GMS database for trade facilitation</li> <li>Enhance coordination between customs, SPS, border agencies, and the private sector following international best practices and other relevant frameworks</li> <li>Implement single-stop inspection or single-window inspection</li> </ul>

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Sector Operational Priorities	Key Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance SPS arrangements for GMS trade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop capacities in management tools (e.g., risk-based approaches, coordination across government agencies, promote partnerships with industry and collaboration with regional counterparts, and improve compliance with SPS rules throughout the value chain)</li> </ul>
<b>Human Resource Development<sup>h</sup></b>	
<p><b>Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working Group on Health Cooperation to be created to serve as platform for cooperation on regional health issues; regional health cooperation priority areas can include: communicable disease control and health security; expanded universal health care coverage; and regional collaboration and health services for mobile and migrant populations</li> </ul> <p><b>Social Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify cross-cutting issues in sectors and projects that could be linked to other activities</li> </ul> <p><b>GMS Labor and Migration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be led at the project level</li> </ul> <p><b>TVET</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be pursued at bilateral level and country operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operationalize Working Group on Health Cooperation</li> <li>Formulate and implement GMS Health Cooperation Strategy</li> <li>Promote knowledge sharing in regional health cooperation</li> <li>Develop pipeline of projects</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mainstream social development issues into sectors and projects</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Led by the International Organization for Migration through its project, Poverty Reduction through Skills Development for Safe and Regular Migration in Cambodia, the Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam (PROMISE), this is an 8-year project through 2024</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pursue TVET cooperation at bilateral level and country operations</li> <li>Conduct analytical work for regional TVET issues</li> </ul>
<b>Information and Communication Technology<sup>i</sup></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a new ICT strategy</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the GMS E-commerce Cooperation Platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a task force to define future direction and modalities for ICT cooperation in the GMS</li> <li>Formulate a new ICT development strategy</li> <li>Reinforce ICT as a cross-cutting area to support sectors, and define the coordinating mechanism for this purpose</li> <li>Promote ICT applications</li> <li>Implement capacity development and networking activities among ICT professionals in the GMS</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance policy support and advocacy</li> <li>Promote participation in the platform</li> <li>Encourage GMS sector working groups to link with the platform as appropriate</li> <li>Information sharing (database and consumer markets)</li> </ul>

CRV= climate risk vulnerability, DRM = disaster risk management, EWEC = East–West Economic Corridor, GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion, GWM = green water management, ICD = international container or clearance depot, ICT = information and communication technology, Lao PDR = Lao People’s Democratic Republic, NSEC = North–South Economic Corridor, NUE = nitrogen use efficiency, PGS = participatory guarantee systems, SEAP = safe and environment–friendly agriculture products, SEC= Southern Economic Corridor, SPS = sanitary and phyto–sanitary standards, TVET = technical and vocational education and training.

<sup>a</sup> For the transport sector, key actions were based on ADB. 2017. *Transport Sector Strategy 2030* (draft). Manila; ADB. 2017. Summary of Proceedings. 21st GMS Subregional Transport Forum. 19–20 July 2017. Luang Prabang, Lao People’s Democratic Republic; and relevant documents.

<sup>b</sup> For urban development and other multisector and border economic zones, the key actions were based on ADB. 2015. *Urban Development Strategic Framework, 2015–2022*. Manila; focus group discussions for Urban Development Information Note and Discussion Highlights, 26 May 2017 (videoconference); ADB. 2017. *Summary of Proceedings*. 1st Meeting of the Urban Development Working Group. 28–29 June 2017. Ha Noi, Viet Nam; and relevant documents.

<sup>c</sup> For energy, the key actions were based on ADB. 2012. *Energy Sector Strategy in the GMS Strategic Framework 2012–2022*. Manila; ADB. 2002. Inter-Governmental agreement on Regional Power Trade in the GMS. Phnom Penh, Cambodia; ADB. 2004. *Regional Power Trade Operation Agreement*. Manila; focus group discussion for Energy Information Note and Discussion Highlights, 11 May 2017 (videoconference); ADB. 2017. *Summary of Proceedings*. 22nd Meeting of the Regional Power Trade Coordination Committee. 20–21 June 2017. Chengdu, Sichuan Province, People’s Republic of China (PRC); and relevant documents.

<sup>d</sup> For agriculture, the key actions were based on ADB. 2017. *Strategy for Promoting Safe and Environment-friendly Agro-based Value Chains in the Greater Mekong Subregion and Siem Reap Action Plan, 2018–2022*. Manila; ADB. 2017. *Summary of Proceedings*. 14th Meeting of the Working Group on Agriculture. 13–14 July 2017. Siem Reap, Cambodia; and relevant documents.

<sup>e</sup> For the environment sector, the key actions were based on ADB. Forthcoming. *Core Environment Program Strategic Framework and Action Plan, 2018–2022*. Manila; ADB. 2017. *Summary of Proceedings*. 23rd Meeting of the Working Group on Environment. 11–12 July 2017. Siem Reap, Cambodia; and relevant documents.

<sup>f</sup> For tourism, the key actions were based on MTCO. *Tourism Sector Strategy, 2016–2025*. Thailand; ADB. 2017. *Summary of Proceedings*. 39th Meeting of the Tourism Working Group. 5 June 2017. Luang Prabang, Lao People’s Democratic Republic; and relevant documents.

<sup>g</sup> For trade facilitation, the key actions were based on ADB. 2012. *Transport and Trade Facilitation Action Program, 2015–2017*. Manila; focus group discussion for Trade Facilitation (SPS and Customs) Information Note and Discussion Highlights, 11 May 2017 (videoconference); and reviews of ADB technical assistance reports and relevant documents.

<sup>h</sup> For the human resource development sector, the key actions were based on ADB. 2017. *Implementation Review of the Strategic Framework and Action Plan for Human Resource Development (HRD) 2013–2017*. Manila; focus group discussion for HRD Information Note and Discussion Highlights, 9 May 2017 (videoconference); ADB. 2017. *Summary of Proceedings*. Extraordinary Meeting of the Working Group on HRD, 4 July 2017, Bangkok, Thailand; relevant documents; and discussions at the TVET in Southeast Asia: Strategies for Cooperation Brainstorming Meeting. 14 September 2017. Bangkok, Thailand.

<sup>i</sup> For information and communication technology, the key actions were based on ADB. 2012. *ICT Strategy in the GMS Strategic Framework 2012–2022*. Manila; 2011. Strategic Framework for ICT Development in the GMS. Paper prepared for the GMS Telecommunications Ministers Meeting. Xian, PRC. 8 June; Memorandum of Understanding on the Information Superhighway. Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar; and various reports on the GMS Business Alliance and E-Commerce Cooperation Platform.

Source: Asian Development Bank.