



澜沧江-湄公河环境合作中心
Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center

Newsletter

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Green Lancang-Mekong Initiative: Roundtable Dialogue on Green, Low-carbon and Sustainable Infrastructure Keynote Speech Experts' Opinions

On April 21, 2022, the Green Lancang-Mekong Initiative: Roundtable Dialogue on Green, Low-carbon and Sustainable Infrastructure was held by Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (LMEC)/ Foreign Environmental Cooperation center (FECO), Ministry of Ecology and Environment, under the guidance of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) in Beijing in the form of hybrid meeting. Nearly 300 representatives from MEE and provincial ecological and environmental departments, climate and environment departments of Mekong countries, UN agencies in China, relevant international organizations, research institutions, and the private sector attended the meeting.

LI Yao, Chief Investment Officer for East Asia and Pacific, IFC; Dr. FANG Li, Chief Representative of WRI China; and LI Xia, Director of the LMEC / FECO, respectively gave keynote speeches on the Global and Regional Perspectives on Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Development, Global Climate Governance for Carbon Neutrality, and Promote Knowledge Sharing on Low-carbon, Green and Sustainable Infrastructure and Facilitate Sustainable Development in Lancang-Mekong Region. Here is a summary of the speeches.

LI Yao Chief Investment Officer for East Asia and Pacific, IFC



As an affiliate organization of the World Bank, IFC prioritizes supporting the sustainable development of developing countries. It has been committed to enhancing cooperation for addressing climate change and promoting the Equator Principles (EPs), Global Green Bond Initiative, the Green Investment Principles for Global Equity Investment, and the Green City Practice. In the Lancang-Mekong region, IFC identifies infrastructure such as energy, transportation, and buildings as the priority area for sustainable development and promotes investment in climate-resilient infrastructure.

Currently, climate-resilient infrastructure projects have a promising future. Traditional industries represented by transportation and the power sector require adopting the latest low-carbon technologies to realize the gradual transition to green development, showing huge potential for the investment. Digital and information infrastructure, which is indispensable for regional connectivity, is of far-reaching significance for the popularity and development of green and low-carbon technologies in Lancang-Mekong region. The World Bank supports LMC member countries in leveraging all kinds of financial tools and resources to facilitate climate-resilient infrastructure construction and regional efforts in addressing climate change.



FANG Li Chief Representative of WRI China

The global governance system has been involving with more players, diversified approaches, differentiated standards, and extended issues under discussion. However, a segmented governance mechanism couldn't coordinate national actions with a binding force for most countries, making it difficult for environmental conventions to deliver satisfying outcomes and global governance to form synergy. WRI is committed to exploring pathways to bridging the gap between segmented climate governance systems and integrated economic systems to turn NDCs into concrete actions of governments and businesses to engage in global climate governance.

LMC member countries have proposed ambitious NDCs, but still face the challenge of realizing fair and effective transition with multiple questions to be answered, including how to adjust the economic structure and the energy mix and how to realize the coordinated improvement of environmental quality. It is expected that LMEC could promote Lancang-Mekong cooperation in climate policy and investment in climate resilience, support research programs on the development of a regional carbon market, investment and financing for resilient infrastructure, and low-carbon trade, and ensure that the results of climate governance benefit the public.

LI Xia

Director / Research Fellow of the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center/Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE



Enhancing low-carbon and sustainable infrastructure construction is significant to improving regional climate resilience and realizing the United Nations 2030 SDGs. Considering the huge gap between infrastructure stock and demand in the Lancang-Mekong region, promoting infrastructure connectivity and low-carbon and sustainable infrastructure development is the top priority for realizing efficient and high-quality economic development in the region.

The development of the Lancang-Mekong Knowledge Hub for Green, Low-carbon and Sustainable Infrastructure is a major move to implement the Sixth LMC Foreign Ministers' Meeting commitments. The Knowledge Hub is committed to providing policy and technology support for LMC member countries to build a high-quality, green, and sustainable LMC Economic Development Belt and promoting knowledge sharing for addressing climate change and sustainable infrastructure development in the region. So far, the Knowledge Hub has generated positive outcomes through organizing policy dialogue, capacity building, joint research, and demonstration projects. It is hoped that in the future, stakeholders and partners could continue to jointly promote the development of the Knowledge Hub with the shared goal of facilitating knowledge dissemination and sharing to create new momentum for sustainable development in the region.

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About LMEC: Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation (LMEC), established in 2017 in Beijing, China, aims to boost the capacity of environmental governance of each country and achieve regional sustainable development through the promotion of environmental cooperation among the Lancang-Mekong Countries.