



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

# Newsletter

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## Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Working Group Meeting was Successfully Held

On April 22, 2022, the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Working Group Meeting was held virtually. The meeting was hosted by the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (LMEC) / the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO) of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE). Coordinators and participants from the Ministry of Environment of Kingdom of Cambodia, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Ministry of Resources and Environmental Conservation of Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Kingdom of Thailand, and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, attended the meeting. LI Yonghong, Deputy Director-General of FECO, and ZHOU Jun, Director of the Department of International Cooperation of MEE delivered welcome speeches.



LI Yonghong stated that under the guidance of the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Strategy (2018-2022), the Lancang-Mekong countries have achieved fruitful results with pragmatic policy dialogues, capacity building, joint research, and demonstration cooperation, providing continuous drive for the sustainable development of the Lancang-Mekong River Basin. In discussing and mapping out priority fields of cooperation and action frameworks for the next five years, we hope to explore more practical cooperation, to make LMEC a model of regional cooperation among global development initiatives.

ZHOU Jun said that since its establishment in 2017, the LMEC Center has been an important platform for environmental exchanges and cooperation among Lancang-Mekong countries. With the strong support of Lancang-Mekong countries, the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Strategy (2018-2022) and the “Green Lancang-Mekong Initiative” went a plain sailing, delivering remarkable results. It is expected that the new cooperation strategy and action framework will lead the LMEC to achieve more harvests.



Representatives from the Lancang-Mekong countries reviewed the progress of LMEC in 2021 and discussed the priority areas of cooperation in the Lancang-Mekong Environment Cooperation Strategy and Action Framework (2023-2027). Representative of the Ministry of Environment of Kingdom of Cambodia said that the LMEC Strategy is of great significance in promoting practical cooperation in the regional environment. It is suggested to include “circular economy” as one of the priority areas of the new strategy. Representative of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao People's Democratic Republic appreciated China for preparing the draft of the new strategy and would collect opinions on the priority areas in the draft from relevant Laotian departments soon. Representative of the

Ministry of Resources and Environmental Conservation of Republic of the Union of Myanmar suggested that capacity-building activities on topics such as Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and sustainable ecosystem management should be more targeted at local departments and communities. Representative of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Kingdom of Thailand stated that the capacity of managing the regional environment is suggested to be further improved by applying for the LMC Special Fund, to support environmental governance capacity building activities. Representative of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Socialist Republic of Vietnam said that the LMEC strategy has achieved rich results in the past five years. It is suggested that achievements and experiences be summoned and then distributed to the region and the whole world.

All participants expressed their strong support for the formulation of the Lancang-Mekong Environment Cooperation Strategy and Action Framework (2023-2027). Oriented to pragmatic environmental cooperation, they reached early consensus on the priority fields for the next-stage cooperation, including roundtable dialogues and capacity building, ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, environmental quality improvement, and knowledge sharing and awareness raising.

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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.

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