



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

Newsletter

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Green Value Chain Partnership: Sustainable Trade and Climate Finance for Typical Products in Lancang-Mekong Countries Held in Beijing

On April 26, 2023, as one of the events of “Green Lancang-Mekong Initiative: Roundtable Dialogue on Knowledge Sharing of Green, Low Carbon and Sustainable Infrastructure”, a seminar focusing on Green Value Chain Partnership: Sustainable Trade and Climate Finance for Typical Products in Lancang-Mekong Countries was held in Beijing. This seminar was guided by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China (MEE), hosted by the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (LMEC) / Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO), and co-sponsored by China-UK Collaboration on International Forest Investment and Trade (InFIT) programme and Conservation International (CI). Representatives from the MEE and local ecological and environmental departments, climate and environment authorities of Mekong countries, United Nations agencies in China, relevant international organizations, and think tanks, attended the meeting.

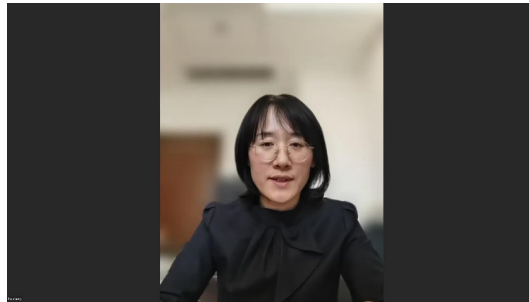
Opening remarks of this seminar were delivered by: Mr. Orlahanh BOUNGNAPHALOM, Deputy Director-General, Department of Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao DPR; Mr. ZHOU Jun, Director of Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China; and Ms. HOU Fang, Deputy Director of Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China.



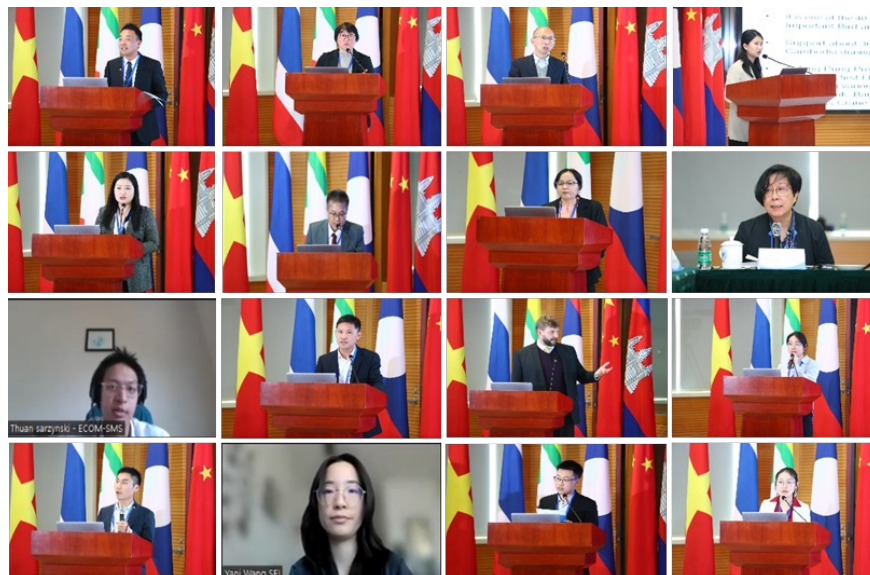
Mr. Orlahanh BOUNGNAPHALOM said Laos had carried out many actions to address climate change, and agriculture and forestry was one of the key sectors. He said that more research and demonstration projects on climate finance and green value chain awaited to be launched in the future, which marked a solid way to continuously improve Laos' climate change capacity, establish a closer China-Laos partnership, and encourage green and sustainable development in the Lancang-Mekong region.



Mr. ZHOU said that promoting economic growth with green development and sustainable value chain as the core marks as an important measure to boost the world's green recovery. In the future, it is hoped that Lancang-Mekong countries will take the Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Strategy and Action Plan Framework 2023-2027 as a guideline, to enhance the Lancang-Mekong Regional Green Value Chain Partnership, accelerate the region's implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and build a pilot zone for the Global Development Initiative (GDI) in a practical way.



Ms. HOU emphasized that the establishment of a partnership on green trade and sustainable value chains under the LMC framework is of great practical significance to promote sustainability in the region. In the following days, she hoped, Lancang-Mekong countries would push forward green trade and sustainable value chain construction, to fulfill high-quality and just transformation. South-South knowledge sharing should be furthered, enabling a new landscape of low-carbon economy. The GDI, proposed by China, is expected to be carried forth, which would bring more incentives to the cooperation on climate change and green development.



Mr. HU Jiangyun, Deputy Director General / Research Fellow of Development Research Center of the State Council, and Dr. LI Xia, Director and Professor of LMEC/FECO, MEE, made introductory speeches respectively.

Two topics, Green Value Chain Construction and Finance Empowerment of Typical Products in Lancang-Mekong Countries, and Climate Sustainable Trade Contributes to the Construction of Regional Green Value Chain were presented at the seminar, with discussions centering on “policy dialogue on regional green value chain construction” and “regional green value chain practices and knowledge sharing”. Participants agreed that building a green value chain partnership in the Lancang-Mekong region is essential for regional green and sustainable development. They expected to see more cooperation focusing on the green value chain, to facilitate sustainable trade and climate finance, and promote regional green recovery.



Along with InFIT, LMEC/FECO delivered a joint publication of the report of Policy Study on Promoting Climate-Sustainable Trade under Environmental and Climate Issues in Regional Trade Agreements.



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About LMEC: Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (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.