



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

# Newsletter

Issue 5, 2020

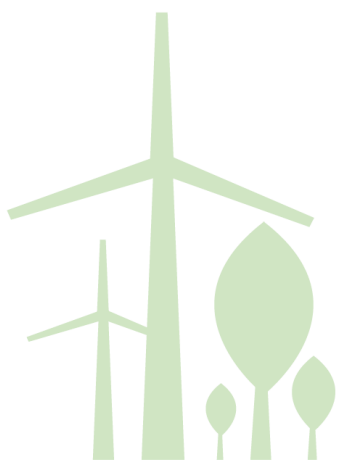
August 3 2020

## Roundtable Dialogue on Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Green Economic Development Belt: Biodiversity and Sustainable Infrastructure Parallel Session 2: Sharing Practice on Lancang-Mekong Sustainable Infrastructure and Ecosystem Management Successfully Held

On July 30, 2020, the Parallel Session 2 on Sharing Practice on Lancang-Mekong Sustainable Infrastructure and Ecosystem Management of the Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity and Sustainable Infrastructure for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Green Economic Development Belt was held online. The meeting was sponsored by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE), supported by the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation China Secretariat, and co-organized by the Foreign Economic Cooperation Center / Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center and the Yunnan Department of Ecology and Environment. Representatives from MEE and its affiliated institutions, embassies of

Mekong countries in China, environmental departments and industrial sectors of Mekong countries, related international organizations, research institutes and enterprises attended the session.

At the session, representatives conducted exchanges on topics such as sustainable infrastructure development and cooperation prospects; sustainable ecosystem management tools; green transportation; mangrove conservation; and biodiversity conservation practice. Delegates of Lancang-Mekong countries shared their experiences on sustainable infrastructure development and cooperation and ecosystem management, and pointed out future work direction.

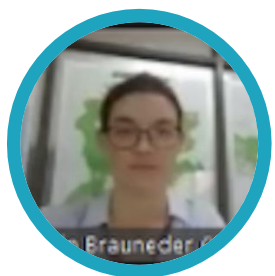


Highlights of the expert views are as follows:



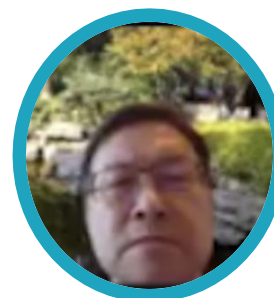
Mr. Kittiphan Taparugssanagorn, Director of Clean Technology Unit, Department of Industrial Works, Ministry of Industry of Thailand, introduced Thailand's current state and vision of sustainable infrastructure development around Thailand 4.0, Industry 4.0, and green industrial development. The Ministry of Industry of Thailand pushes for sustainable industrial development with a view to a green industrial development pattern that includes green commitments, green activities, green schemes, green culture, and green networks.

Mr. QIAN Zaohui, Associate Researcher of Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center, talked about the progress and outlook of Lancang-Mekong cooperation in sustainable infrastructure. In the future, the Center will cooperate with Lancang-Mekong countries and international partners to build a sustainable infrastructure knowledge sharing platform for Lancang-Mekong countries, in a bid to further boost green and sustainable infrastructure development in the region, he said.



Ms. Kerstin Brauneder, Technical Advisor-Impact Assessment and Biodiversity Offsets of Wildlife Conservation Society, explained the works to manage sustainable ecosystem and biodiversity risks at the Lancang-Mekong region. Through an ecosystem management case of hydropower investment, she analyzed the practical application of mitigation hierarchy based on national regulation, financial security and enterprise commitment, providing good reference for regional ecosystem management.

Dr. PAN Haixiao, Professor of College of Architecture and Urban Planning of Tongji University, referred to low-level transportation infrastructure as one of the restraints to insufficient domestic trade momentum in the Mekong region, despite fast economic growth mainly driven by foreign trade. Improving transportation infrastructure has a positive effect on the three growth drivers and thereby benefits regional common development. It is expected that the Lancang-Mekong countries can strengthen dialogue and exchanges on sustainable transportation infrastructure.

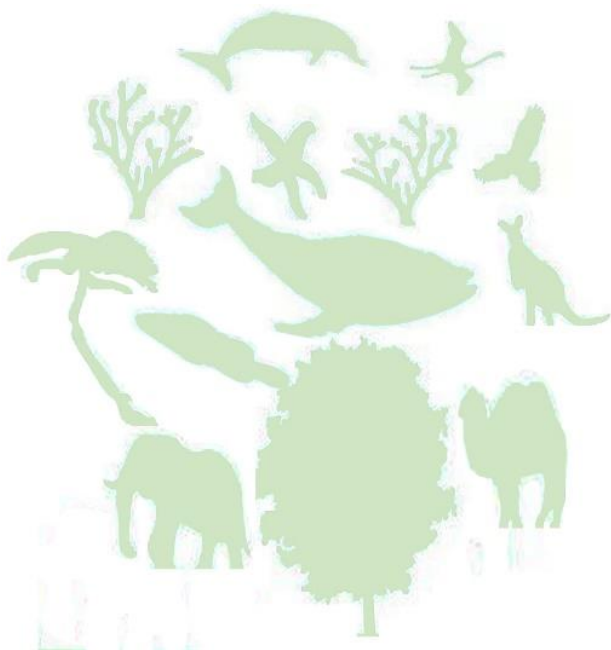




Ms. XU Wansu, Project Director of Rebuilding Mangrove, MCF, enhanced that mangroves play an important role in sustaining biodiversity, regulating the environment, maintaining production and culture, and addressing climate change. In view of mangrove ecosystem destruction, the situation remains grim in the Lancang-Mekong region, although the work has begun to yield results in recent years. XU expressed the hope that the Lancang-Mekong countries will actively share experiences and best practices to jointly protect mangrove ecosystems in the region.



Dr. SHI Yichuan, Project Manager of Conservation International, suggested that in the process of infrastructure construction, we cannot ignore the important role played by nature itself, and we should strengthen the comprehensive utilization of natural capital, for example, upstream forest conservation has the function of regulating and improving the water intake and water quality of hydropower infrastructure. In addition, the freshwater health index study conducted by Conservation International aims to assess the status, trends, and weights of freshwater ecosystems will provide suggestion for integrated water environment management in river basins.



The Asia Foundation project manager Ms. HUANG Zhen, summarized that infrastructure in the Lancang-Mekong region is currently in a fast-developing period, and conducting sustainable and green management will have significant effect on diminishing the environmental impact caused by region high-speed economic development. Hope the Lancang-Mekong cooperation partners to provide more excellent cases on systemic analysis and management of regional sustainable infrastructure, jointly promoting the green development in this region.

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**About LMEC:** Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (LMEC) is an initiative proposed by Chinese Premier LI Keqiang at the 1st Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Leaders' Meeting and was established on November of 2017