

A stylized map of the Greater Mekong Subregion, showing the outlines of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. The map is overlaid with a series of overlapping, semi-transparent diamond shapes in shades of purple, blue, and yellow.

# Greater Mekong Subregion Cross Border Transport Facilitation Agreement (CBTA) 'Early Harvest' 2024 RELAUNCH

## Training Module Two – Permit Issuance

Developed under Project TA 6579-REG: 'Early Harvest' Implementation of the Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement in the Greater Mekong Subregion

Co-financed by the Government of the United Kingdom

- Based on the CBTA 'Early Harvest' MOU, each GMS country can issue up to 500 GMS Road Transport Permits for goods and passenger vehicles owned and operated by licensed transport operators from their country
- The proportion of Permits allocated to goods vehicles and to passenger vehicles shall be decided by the National Transport Facilitation Committee (NTFC) and Permit Issuing Authority in each country
- Each Permit has a unique reference number and corresponding Temporary Admission Document (TAD)
- Vehicles must carry the original Permit and TAD with them on all GMS cross-border journeys
- 500 Permits will be printed by ADB on behalf of each Issuing Authority before the CBTA 'Early Harvest' launch

- The national Issuing Authority for GMS Road Transport Permits in each country is as follows:

- Kingdom of Cambodia

**National Transit Transport Coordinating Committee**

- People's Republic of China

**Ministry of Transport of China**

- Lao People's Democratic Republic

**Department of Transport**

- Republic of the Union of Myanmar

**National Transport Facilitation Committee**

- Kingdom of Thailand


**Department of Land Transport**

- Socialist Republic of Vietnam

**Directorate for Roads of Viet Nam**



- The Permits are A4 page size and with the exception of the header identical for all countries
- Each Permit is valid for up to one year and renewable subsequently on request
- Countries will initially issue Permits valid until 31 March 2025 (where issued from 1 April 2024)



National Transport Facilitation Committee, Viet Nam  
GMS Road Transport Permit<sup>1</sup>

This document is issued in accordance with Protocol 3 and Article 23 of the Agreement between and among the Governments of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for the Facilitation of Cross-Border Transport of Goods and People.

**Permit No.**

Country code	Permit number	Barcode

**Type of Permit/Transport Operation:**<sup>2</sup>     Scheduled passenger     Non-scheduled passenger     Cargo

**1. Issuing Authority:**

1.1 Name: Directorate for Roads of Viet Nam  
 1.2 Address: D20 Ton That Thuyet Street, Cau Giay District, Ha Noi, Viet Nam  
 1.3 Contact Data:<sup>3</sup> Tel: +84 24 38571647 • Fax: +84 24 38571440 • Email: khcn@drvn.gov.vn

**2. Beneficiary of the Permit:**<sup>4</sup>

2.1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2.2 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2.3 Contact Data: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2.4 Road Transport Operator's National License Number:<sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Particulars for Scheduled Passenger Transport Operations Only:**

3.1 Itinerary: \_\_\_\_\_  
 3.2 Frequency of operations for the beneficiary: \_\_\_\_\_  
 3.3 Maximum Capacity (number of seats/persons): \_\_\_\_\_  
 3.4 Other Restrictions:<sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Period of Validity:**<sup>7</sup> from \_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Allocated Vehicle Registration Number:**<sup>8</sup>

Prime mover/Truck/Bus		Semi-trailer	
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

Place and Date of Issuance: \_\_\_\_\_ Authentication (Seal/Stamp, Signature): \_\_\_\_\_

1 Warning: Counterfeiting is a criminal offence. This permit entitles its holder to perform cross-border road transport operations in the GMS region, subject to compliance with national laws of the Host Country, and the other conditions of the Agreement. The transport operator shall keep the original of this permit on board the vehicle at all times during cross-border transport operations for inspection and control purposes by authorities. This permit shall be valid only for the vehicle of which the registration number is entered on the permit form. Except for scheduled passenger transport operations, the Itineraries are restricted to the exit/entry point, routes, and corridors defined in Protocol 1 to the Agreement.  
 2 Please tick the type of transport operation.  
 3 Contact data may include: telephone number, fax number, email address, etc.  
 4 This permit is nominative and non-negotiable and non-transferable.  
 5 The validity of this permit shall be subject to the validity of the holder's transport operator license.  
 6 Other restrictions on this type of transport operations flowing from the arrangements on terms and conditions by the Country whose territory is traversed as per Article 5(b) of Protocol 3 to the Agreement.  
 7 Provided the permit was used before the expiry of its validity date by entering the territory of another GMS country than that of its holder transport operator, it shall remain valid until the completion of the transport operation by the return of the vehicle to its Home Country. A cross-border transport operation shall be completed by the exit of the vehicle from the Host Country territory within a period of 30 days from the date of entry in the Host Country territory. If the transport operator is unable to timely leave the Host Country territory, he/she shall inform the Host Country Competent Authority and may be required to file a request for extension.  
 8 Type of vehicle should be entered. Only the number(s) entered in the last box prevail(s). If the form has become full within its validity period, the issuing authority shall upon a simple request from its holder forthwith replace the original form.

## Permit No.

Country code

Permit Number

Barcode

## Type of Permit/Transport Operation:<sup>2</sup>

Scheduled passenger

Non-scheduled passenger

Cargo

- The Country code is that of the distinguishing sign for motor vehicles of that country: Cambodia: KH, People's Republic of China: CHN, Lao PDR: LAO, Myanmar: MYA, Thailand: T, and Vietnam: VN
- The Permit number must follow the format agreed between Contracting Parties and numbered between 0001 and 0500 i.e. PER-GMS/KH-0001 or PER-GMS/VN-0500 (as examples of the first Permit for Cambodia and the last Permit for Vietnam)
- Barcodes will not be used at this stage but may be added later
- The Issuing Authority should mark the Type of Permit i.e. (Non)-Scheduled passenger or Cargo with a cross or "X"

## 1. Issuing Authority:

- 1.1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.2 Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3 Contact Data:<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

• The details of the Issuing Authority should be the same as on the 'Early Harvest' brochures e.g. for Thailand:

 Department of Land Transport  
1032 Phaholyothin Road, Chatujak District, Bangkok 10900, Thailand  
Tel: +66 2 271 8407 to 9 • Fax: +66 2 271 8409

TADs can be obtained from the

 Customs Department  
1 Sunthon Kosa Road, Khlong Toei, Bangkok 10110, Thailand  
Tel: +66 2 667 6497 • Fax: +66 2 667 6944

Greater Mekong Subregion  
Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement



GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND  
**CBTA "EARLY HARVEST" IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE**

**What is the Greater Mekong Subregion Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement?**

- ▶ The 6 member countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion (i.e., Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) ratified the Cross-Border Transport Facilitation Agreement (CBTA) in 2015, however, some parts of the CBTA were outdated and needed to be revised.
- ▶ The GMS Transport Ministers, as members of the 'Joint Committee' responsible for managing the CBTA, agreed in 2016 to launch the 'Early Harvest' implementation of the CBTA as an interim measure in 2018, while the Agreement was updated.
- ▶ Although many Permits were issued, with the closure of international borders in 2020, implementation was suspended.
- ▶ **The GMS Transport Ministers decided in December 2023 to re-launch the 'Early Harvest' starting 1 April 2024, for an initial period lasting until 31 December 2026.**
- ▶ <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/29294/gms-cbta-instruments-history.pdf> has the full CBTA text.

**What is the CBTA 'Early Harvest'?**

- ▶ The 'Early Harvest' is based on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the 6 GMS countries. The full text of the MOU is available at [www.greatermekong.org/ttf](http://www.greatermekong.org/ttf).
- ▶ The MOU allows each GMS country to issue up to 500 GMS Road Transport Permits and Temporary Admission Documents (TADs) for goods and passenger vehicles registered, owned and/or operated in that country.
- ▶ Vehicles can travel on any of the routes and across any of the border crossings listed in CBTA Protocol 1, the scope of which was further extended in 2023. For Lao PDR, movements in and out of the country will be limited initially to the Boten, Huayxay, Dansavanh and Savannakhet border crossings along national Routes 3, 9 and 13. Myanmar may join the 'Early Harvest' before 2027. Please refer to [www.greatermekong.org/ttf](http://www.greatermekong.org/ttf) for updated information in these regards.
- ▶ Vehicles must carry with them the original Permit and TAD issued by the competent authorities in their Home country (i.e., the country in which the vehicle is registered) and can remain in any other participating GMS country for up to 30 days on each journey.
- ▶ The TAD can be thought of as a vehicle 'passport' and must be stamped by the Customs department of each Host (i.e., the other GMS) country visited on entry and on exit, to ensure the 30-day time limit is observed.
- ▶ There is no limit to the number of cross-border journeys allowed.
- ▶ Specimen Permits and TADs are available at [www.greatermekong.org/ttf](http://www.greatermekong.org/ttf).

2. **Beneficiary of the Permit:**<sup>4</sup>

2.1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2.2 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2.3 Contact Data: \_\_\_\_\_

2.4 Road Transport Operator's National License:<sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

- The details of the Permit beneficiary should be completed along with their Road Transport Operator's national license number
- In order to obtain Permits and TADs, the vehicle operator must fulfill the conditions described in Articles 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Annex 9 of the CBTA, i.e. the **operator must be:**

- a) A licensed cross-border transport operator in the Home country in which the Permit/TAD is issued and at least 51% owned and directed by citizens of this country;
- b) Free from issuing country convictions or sanctions, with a clean legal record and no current and/or unresolved bankruptcy proceedings;
- c) Professionally competent to operate (i.e. with respect to legality, operational management, knowledge of road safety and technical issues relevant to the road transport business in the countries in which it plans to operate); and
- d) Financially solvent and insured for any operational and/or contractual liability.



- For all Permits issued, these and other particulars must also be recorded in a national **Permit and TAD Register** (an Excel Workbook shared by all countries) and the Register updated to reflect any subsequent changes made

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Language	Permit Number	Issue Date	Place of Issue	Expiry Date (Valid Until)	Extended Until	Issuing Authority
English	PER-GMS/LAO-0001					
National						
English	PER-GMS/LAO-0002					
National						

H	I	J	K	L	M	N
Motor Vehicle TAD Number	Name of Transport Operator	Address	Province	Telephone	E-mail	Name of Vehicle Owner (If different from Operator)
TAD-GMS/LAO-0001						
TAD-GMS/LAO-0002						

- The national Permit and TAD Register must also record details of the TAD and the Transport Operator and the particulars of the vehicle(s) used

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Type of Vehicle	Registration Number	Vehicle Category	Date of Registration	Registered at Province	Brand	Model	VIN Number

**3. Particulars for Scheduled Passenger Transport Operations Only:**

- 3.1 Itinerary: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.2 Frequency of operations for the beneficiary: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.3 Maximum Capacity (number of seats/persons): \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.4 Other Restrictions:<sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

- Further details are required for scheduled passenger transport operations for which the itinerary, frequency and maximum number of seats/passengers must be shown



- Further details on the CBTA 'Early Harvest', including the text of the signed 'Early Harvest' MOU, specimen copies of the Permits and TADs and copies of EH brochures, are available at [www.greatermekong.org/ttf](http://www.greatermekong.org/ttf)

Thank you!

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