



Greater Mekong
Subregion
Sustainable
Agriculture & Food
Security Program



ADB TA-9916: GMS Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program

WORKSHOP: Climate-smart Agriculture in the context of the Water-Food-Energy Nexus

BACKGROUND AND AGENDA

Thursday, 24 March 2022 / 9:00 – 11:45 (BKK time, GMT+7) / Virtual (via internet)

Background

The GMS Working Group on Agriculture (WGA), at its 16th Annual Meeting held in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR in June 2019, identified “Adapting agriculture to climate change in the context of the water energy food security nexus” as one of six themes for Asian Development Bank (ADB) support. The Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program (TA 9916) will contribute to ADB assistance on the Nexus and assist to promote GMS-wide cooperation on efforts to reduce Nexus trade-offs.

Click [here](#) to **register in advance** for the meeting.

Meeting login details:

Webinar ID: 844 4403 7849

Passcode: 317638

The expected **impact** of TA 9916 is: ‘**GMS vision of being a leading supplier of safe and climate-friendly agri-food products realized**’. The **outcome** of the TA is: ‘**GMS investments in and capacity for climate-friendly, safe, and sustainable agri-food value chains increased**’. The TA has three **outputs**: (i) COVID-19, Climate-friendly, inclusive, and gender-responsive agri-food value chains and agribusinesses strengthened; (ii) Harmonized crop and livestock safety and quality systems adopted; and, (iii) Climate-adaptive agriculture in the context of the water-energy-food security nexus enhanced. ADB is the executing agency for the TA. The GMS WGA, in collaboration with relevant departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and other ministries (e.g., commerce, environment, finance, industry, science and technology, trade), is overseeing the implementation of the TA.

During the TA 9916 inception from December to May 2021, a comprehensive survey of the awareness of the Nexus in each of the six GMS countries was undertaken. The initial findings from the survey were presented at the TA 9916 Inception Workshop in May 2021. While 93% of respondents were interested or very interested in applying the Nexus approach in their work only 64% has heard about the Nexus. This emphasizes the need to improve stakeholders’ awareness and understanding of the Nexus and how it can be applied in their sector specific context to improve development outcomes. The interactive Water Food Energy Nexus introduction workshop will be held on the **Thursday 24 March 2022**.

The purpose of the Nexus Workshop is for the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program to introduce GMS stakeholders to the Nexus approach and engage in policy dialogue to jointly explore typical Nexus trade-offs.

Objectives

1. National agriculture sector policy makers to be more aware of Nexus thinking and Nexus trade-offs;
2. Increase Donor Partner awareness of need to mitigate Nexus trade-offs and consider the water-food-energy Nexus in sector planning;
3. Facilitate dialogue between MAFF officials and Donor Partners to support Nexus planning; and
4. Identify the role that TA 9916 and its consultants can play to assist GMS stakeholders with successfully applying the Nexus approach in their work.

Target participants

- WGA representatives
- Technical department representatives from the GMS agriculture ministries responsible for food security, water use (e.g. irrigation), and energy related issues.
- Departments from other Ministries involved with water, food, and energy focused planning
- Private sector (agribusiness) representatives involved with Nexus programs
- Development Partner representatives
- ADB
- TA 9916 consultant team

Expected outputs

1. The national agriculture sector policy makers are more aware of the Nexus approach;
2. Donor Partners increase awareness of the needs for supporting GMS stakeholders to apply Nexus approach and, thereby to mitigate Nexus trade-offs; and
3. TA 9916 project and consultants proactive engagement to assist GMS stakeholders with their efforts to apply the Nexus approach;
4. Nexus policy issues for further dialogue identified.

Agenda

The virtual workshop will be conducted in the **English** language. The workshop program follows:

Date / Time (GMT+7)	Subject	Presenter / TA / Country
Thursday, 24 March 2022		
09:00 – 09:05	Welcome and Meeting Guidelines	Ms. Kristina Reyes , Meeting Facilitator
09:05 – 09:10	Water-Food-Energy Nexus: ADB perspective	Dr. Srinivasan Ancha , Principal Climate Change Specialist, ADB
09:10 – 09:20	Opening remarks by GMS WGA 2022 chair	Nguyen Thanh Dam , Head of Multilateral Cooperation Division International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
09:20 – 09:40	Keynote Presentation: The Nexus approach and managing Nexus trade-offs in the GMS	Dr. Alex Smajgl , TA 9916 Nexus Specialist
10:00 – 10:40	WFE Nexus: Country perspectives on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • experiences • policy relevance • capacity gaps 	Cambodia: Mr Watt Botkosal , Cambodia National Mekong Committee People's Republic of China: Dr Lu Xing , Yunnan University Lao PDR: Dr Saphangthong Thatheva , Department of Agriculture and Land Management, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests Thailand: Chiang Mai University -nexus specialist (tbc) Viet Nam: Mr Ha Thanh Lan , Institute of Water Resource and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
10:40 – 11:10	WFE Nexus in the GMS: Development Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • experience • lessons 	Ms Louise Whiting , FAO Regional Asia Program Shelley McMillan , World Bank Maud Kaciél , Agence Francaise de Developpement Geoffrey Wilson , Asian Development Bank
11:10 – 11:40	Q&A: Steps to operationalise the Nexus in the GMS	Dr. Alex Smajgl : Facilitator
11:40 – 11:50	TA 9916 Nexus Demonstration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • objectives 	Dr Nguyen Nghia Hung , Director, Southern Institute of Water Resources Research
11:50 – 12:00	Next Steps: TA 9916 to support Nexus focused coordination in the GMS	Mr. Stewart Pittaway , TA 9916 Team Leader