Regional: Connecting the Railways of the Greater Mekong Subregion, Phase 2

Project Name	Connecting the Railways of the Greater Mekong Subregion, Phase 2
Project Number	42518-025
Country	RegionalCambodiaLao People's Democratic RepublicMyanmarChina, People's Republic ofThailandViet Nam
Project Status	Proposed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development
Sector / Subsector	Transport - Rail transport (non-urban)
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements
Description	The proposed regional knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support the Greater Mekong Railway Association (GMRA) in accelerating the development of rail connections among the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries by: (i) improving the organizational structure of the GMRA; (ii) preparing an operational readiness plan to ensure appropriate standards for technology on safety, productivity and environmental quality of railway operations; (iii) updating the GMS railway strategy for development of missing cross-border railway links and associated domestic connections; (iv) updating the Mekong (Sub-) Regional Transport Model (MRTM) prepared under Connecting the Railways of the Greater Mekong Subregion, and enhancing the capacity to utilize it effectively; and (v) identifying bankable railway projects in GMS countries.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	The GMRA seeks to accelerate railway connectivity by promoting efficient, safe, reliable and environmentally sustainable rail transport of goods and people within and beyond the GMS. Three Working Groups have been created to assist in the future sustainability of the GMRA: (i) Network Connectivity; (ii) Network Integration and Interoperability; and (iii) Partnership and GMRA Operations. TA 8748-REG, a previous ADB technical assistance, helped to prepare and finalize the Framework for Cross-Border Railway Transport Connectivity Agreement (CBRTCA) in the GMS.
Impact	Greater railway connectivity in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) provided.
Outcome	Greater Mekong Subregion Railway Association (GMRA) organization functioning with adequate capacity and funding.
Outputs	Organizational structure of the GMRA improved. Operational Readiness Plan for the GMRA developed. GMS railway strategy updated. Updated GMS transport demand model prepared. Bankable railway projects identified in GMS countries.
Geographical Location	Cambodia - Nation-wide; China - Nation-wide; Lao People's Democratic Republic - Nation-wide; Myanmar - Nation-wide; Thailand - Nation-wide; Viet Nam - Nation-wide

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	

Responsible ADB Officer	Mohammad Nazrul Islam
Responsible ADB Department	Southeast Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Transport and Communications Division, SERD
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	06 Aug 2019
Fact Finding	06 Sep 2019 to 13 Sep 2019

MRM	-
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	16 Aug 2019

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Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=42518-025
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