

Concluded Regional Training Program on “Sustainable Transport and Logistics Planning and Management Phase 2” at Ministry of Commerce, Thailand

May 17, 2018



With support from the Trade Policy and Strategy Office (TPSO), Ministry of Commerce, Thailand, Mekong Institute (MI) organized the Regional Training Program on “Sustainable Transport and Logistics Planning and Management Phase 2” on April 30 – May 11, 2018 at the Mekong Institute, Khon Kaen, Thailand. The program is part of the project on Training for Public and Private Sector Personnel’s in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand (CLMVT) together with Trade Partners Countries in Global Market under the Program on Strategic Partnership for Global Market Development and Regional Economic Improvement in CLMVT or well-

known as part of the “CLMVT Forum 2016: Towards a Shared Prosperity”.

The two-week program is structured into three parts comprising of training, structured learning visits (SLVs) and business networking. A total of sixty-one (61) participants including mid-level, senior and management-level officials, and transport and logistics operators from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand (CLMVT) attended the activity. The training program covered major issues on (1) Need and Importance of Transport and Logistics, and its Challenges and Opportunities; (2) Strategy for Transport Planning and Management; (3) International Transport Agreements in CLMVT and ASEAN, and Transport Regulations; (4) E-logistics in Supply Chain Management and Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) Transport Information Connectivity (GTIC) System and (5) Green Freight and the Role of Government in Promoting Green Logistics. Through attending the training, the participants gained knowledge and skills delivered and shared by a team of national and MI in-house experts with experience in sustainable transport and logistics planning and management at regional level. The resource persons provided participants with significant opportunities for being exposed to international best practices and expertise.

To complement the training’s contents, five (5) structured learning visits were also organized to the Professional ID Driver Training School, branch in Saraburi province, LEO Global Logistics Public Company (AMATA Nakorn, Chonburi province), Hafele Co. Ltd. (Logistics Center), Lad Krabang Inland Container Depot and Loxley Simulation Technology Co., Ltd. (Bangkok). The visits were designed and organized to gain knowledge on best practices of sustainable logistics sector management with a focus on modern techniques and approaches in Thailand. Key issues for discussion during the field visits were; Techniques to train drivers, Strategies on business expansion to CLMVT and management of branch offices, Key approaches to achieve the optimum cost in overall operation, Innovation process and critical functions of company, ICT for business operation, Integrated future plan for EEC (Eastern Economic Corridor) project, Managing containers in and out in logistics zone, Main Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of company in supply chain system, Quality management, Success & challenges in operating services, Competitive advantages over competitors, and Safety level of the training program through the driving simulator prior practical driving. The SLVs helped to identify elements of transport and logistic services in planning and operations and for feasible Action Plans implementation for improving the logistics sector and forging business alliances among the training participants and prospective business partners. Business Networking was also organized with members of Thai Logistics for Greater Mekong Subregion Trade Association, Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Thai Industries in Khon Kaen at the MI and during the field visits.



At the closing ceremony, Ms. Pimchanok Vonkorpon, Director-General, Trade Policy and Strategy Office (TPSO), Ministry of Commerce, Thailand addressed that the CLMVT Forum 2016: Towards a Shared Prosperity aimed to promote and strengthen economic relationship on trade, investment and tourism among senior officials from government agencies, private and academic organizations in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand (CLMVT) in order to enhance regional competitiveness and equitable growth. The forum would be the main discussion platform among the CLMVT countries to build their position as the economic center of ASEAN. One of the quick-win results of the forum was “Think Regionally: Human Capital Development Partnership” - a joint human resource development (HRD) effort in the CLMVT. According to the areas for future training program presented by the training organizing team, the Director-General indicated that it’s very useful and it covers various area for further discussion such as dangerous goods for air and road Transport and safety equipment, warehouse management and distribution center handling process, e-commerce, Human Resource Management in logistics sector and supply chain management in industry 4.0 including port and terminal management, Public and private partnership and logistics complex, trade regulation and agreement in CLMVT and role of logistics in trade, investment and economic growth, Start-up business in logistics, Planning and Management of transport at macro level, and effective and efficient cost in logistics, Customs procedures, Community tourism, Freight logistics operation, and Green technologies for logistics. However, the program in the future will be focus on connectivity rather than logistics as the theme for the *CLMVT Forum 2017: Technologies change the world, trade, business model and life* will discuss on how technologies can improve the CLMVT and its business. The forum will be held on August 16-17, 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand,



Dr. Watcharas Leelawath, Executive Director of the Mekong Institute, remarked that the objectives of the program aimed to i. understand the significance of sustainable transport and logistics management, ii. enhance the participants’ knowledge on effective implementation of logistics procedures and services, and iii. provide opportunities for business development among the program participants. As so, the participants act as the Change Agent in the CLMVT to create the strengthen the business network among the public, academic and private through personal relationship which can lead to professional relationship in term of business cooperation, policy and research development. The Executive Director presented that an advanced course by inviting the same people to participate is needed to discuss for future program as the participants can further develop cooperation with concrete outcomes. Dr. Leelawath further expressed his appreciation of the participants’ interest to use the knowledge that they learned from the training in their business, as well as disseminate the knowledge to other beneficiaries and thankful to the generous funding from the Ministry of Commerce, Royal Thai Government.



Mr. Madhurjya Kumar Dutta, Director of Trade and Investment and Facilitation Department, Mekong Institute delivered a way forward that the participant developed individual action plan to apply and disseminate the gained knowledge and learning point acquired during the training in their country. The action plan on knowledge sharing, further business cooperation development among the participants and prospective business partners during training program, curriculum development, conduct workshop and training should be translated in real situation as the funding agency is expected to see the tangible outcomes. In term of business development, Mekong Institute creates online logistics information platform at www.logisticsgms.com. This platform is a tool for enhancing the GMS logistics services network and promote efficient logistics service in the region and beyond. The website also provides the most updated, highlighted, and integrated regulations and agreements, news, events and related information on logistics and transportation at national (CLMVT), regional (GMS and ASEAN), and international level. The platform will be integrated with technologies requirement for transport and logistics sector aligned with the theme of coming CLMVT Forum 2017. Mr. Dutta emphasized that the participants are requested to utilize the web-based database for fostering business collaboration and expansion.