

Lower Mekong Initiative: Agriculture and Food Security Pillar

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By strengthening policies, regulations, and markets, commodities can be traded faster and more efficiently; thereby increasing food availability and reducing regional price volatility in the LMI partner countries

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BACKGROUND

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) is a multinational effort to foster integrated sub-regional cooperation and capacity building among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Under the LMI Agriculture and Food Security Pillar, the United States is supporting LMI partner countries to improve agriculture and food security sector growth throughout the Mekong sub-region in an environmentally sustainable manner. This pillar is co-chaired by Myanmar and the United States.

APPROACH

The LMI Agriculture and Food Security Pillar is designed to expand agriculture trade and investment in the region and increase private sector, farmer, and civil society engagement. This pillar seeks to:

1. Promote collaboration in delivering interventions in extension services, institutional capacity building, and human resources development;
2. Enhance the implementation of agreements that will improve food production, access, quality, and nutrition;
3. Build the capacity of households to meet food security and nutritional needs;
4. Promote sustainable land and water use management for agriculture and aquaculture;
5. Strengthen sustainable fisheries and aquaculture;
6. Encourage trade of agricultural products to address food security; and
7. Promote public-private cooperation for agri-business development.

ACTIVITIES

Activities under the LMI Agriculture and Food Security Pillar seek to facilitate food trade and investment in the region through promoting cooperation with the private sector, governments, and farmer organizations. Activities are designed to enable the sustainable development and efficient movement of agriculture and fisheries goods in the Lower Mekong sub-region. This pillar also supports donor mapping in food security in order to detect programming gaps, identify potential partnerships, and avoid overlapping activities.