Lower Mekong Initiative: The LMI Coordination Hub

BACKGROUND
The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI), launched in July 2009, is a multinational effort intended to create integrated sub-regional cooperation between and among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United States.

The LMI Coordination Hub was formed in July 2012 at the LMI Ministerial Meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in order to strengthen information sharing, outreach, and stakeholder cooperation under the LMI. Housed in Bangkok, Thailand, the Hub is staffed by two people: 1) Ben Amick, Senior Coordinator and 2) Sutaree Suttirak, Information and Knowledge Management Assistant.

APPROACH
The Hub coordinates information sharing on activities across the six LMI pillars (Connectivity, Education, Energy Security, Environment and Water, Agriculture and Food Security, and Health). The Hub then synthesizes and organizes the information in order to identify areas of overlap, windows of opportunity, and potential collaboration.

The Hub also manages the recently launched upgraded LMI website (www.lowermekong.org) and accompanying social networking sites, which share best practices, highlight activity achievements, and support outreach efforts for upcoming events.

COORDINATING WITH THE HUB
The LMI Coordination Hub carries out activities designed to strengthen collaboration on addressing transboundary issues in the Lower Mekong sub-region among the LMI partner countries, donors, regional institutions, private sector partners, and civil society organizations.

The Hub welcomes the following information from LMI Stakeholders:
- Activity descriptions and upcoming event summaries;
- Success stories, press releases, and reports; and
- Available online media, such as event websites or social networking sites.

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