



MEKONG-U.S. PARTNERSHIP AT WORK

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023



KEY EVENTS:

July:

- MUSP Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue: *Transboundary Water Governance*
- Mekong Connections Webinar

August:

- Sister Rivers Partnership Exchange (Los Angeles and San Diego, California)
- International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP): *Countering Vector-Borne Diseases in the Mekong*
- WE Inspire Road Show (Battambang, Cambodia)
- Mekong One Health Innovation Program (MOHIP) Cohort Begins Michigan State University *Plants and Pythons* Course
- MUSP Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue Report Launch: *Countering Trafficking and Cyber-Enabled Crime*

September:

- JUMPP Webinar
- MUSP Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue Report Launch: *Transboundary Water Governance*
- Mekong Connections Program Concluded



This summer, the Mekong-U.S. Partnership's WE Inspire program launched its work in Cambodia through a series of Informational Road Shows in the Battambang Province. WE Inspire collaborated with local finance and health insurance providers to raise awareness and share information on the importance of having access to healthcare services, insurance plans, and provided routine health check-ups for attendees. Over 80 women have signed up for the WE Inspire Program in Cambodia and will receive additional training and information about healthcare, insurance, financial literacy, and business skills. Interested women will also have the opportunity to participate in an incubation program that will support them as they create or expand small businesses.



EAP/MLA and ECA funded an International Visitor Leadership Program focused on *Countering Vector-Borne Diseases in the Mekong* region, working with the new Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy to execute this unique activity. This program brought 10 high level health professionals from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam working on prevention and treatment of vector-borne diseases in the Lower Mekong to the United States. Participants visited Washington D.C., Jacksonville, Florida, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Throughout this program, participants heard from representatives from the Department of State, the Smithsonian Institute, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, USDA Center for Medical, Agricultural, and Veterinary Entomology, CDC Southeastern Regional Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Diseases, the CDC Dengue Branch, and many other experts.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:



October - WE Inspire Technical Skills Training in Thailand



October - WE Inspire Job Clinic



October - MOHIP Webinar on Soil Health, Animal Health, and the Human Health Nexus



October - USDA Regional Seed Trade Capacity Building Workshop



November - Mekong River System and Multi-Dimensional Change Under Human and Climate Pressures Workshop in Ho Chi Minh City

The Stimson Center hosted the seventh installment of the MUSP Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue Series on the topic of Transboundary Water Governance. This event featured discussions on needs and opportunities related to regulation and conservation of natural resources, optimization of dam management, policies and institutions related to water management, and nature-based solutions for water governance. This in-person event was followed by a Virtual Report Launch event, in which dialogue participants discussed key policy recommendations highlighted at the Policy Dialogue.

The Stimson Center also hosted an additional Virtual Report Launch event covering the MUSP Track 1.5 Policy Dialogue on Countering Trafficking and Cyber-enabled Crime that took place in May 2023. This Policy Dialogue and Virtual Report Launch explored issues related to trafficking in persons, cyber-scam compounds, drug trafficking, wildlife trafficking, and challenges of coordination across sectors and national borders.

For additional information please visit: <https://mekonguspartnership.org/>

1. VIRTUAL REPORT LAUNCH - <https://www.stimson.org/2023/mekong-us-partnership-track-1-5-policy-dialogue-on-transboundary-water-governance-summary-report/>
 2. VIRTUAL REPORT LAUNCH - <https://www.stimson.org/2023/mekong-us-partnership-track-1-5-policy-dialogue-on-trafficking-and-cyber-enabled-crime-summary-report/>