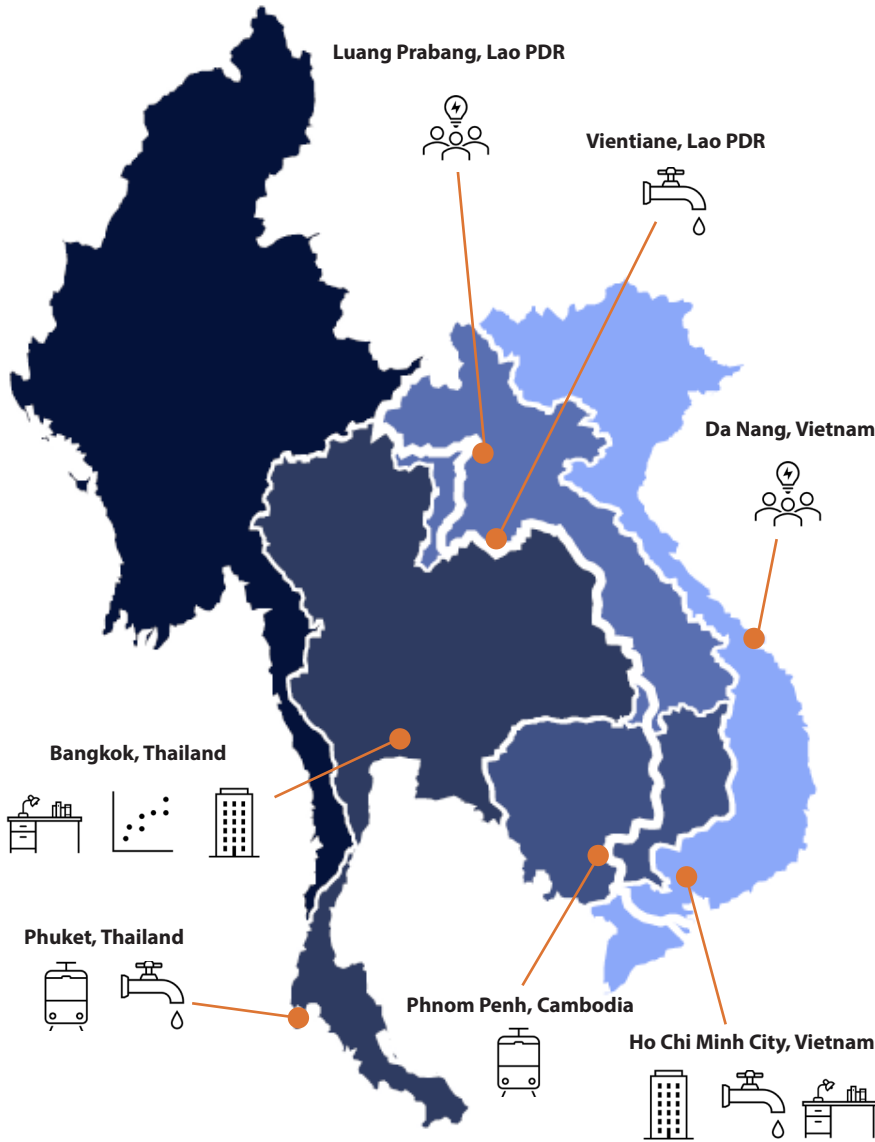


**U.S.-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP)** is a Department of State initiative that promotes **sustainable, resilient, and inclusive solutions** to improve quality of life in Southeast Asian cities. Since 2018, USASCP has committed **over \$10 million to more than 20 projects** to strengthen cities' capacities to improve critical urban services. With projects focused on climate, energy, transportation, water, and research and innovation, USASCP is deeply committed to developing the Mekong sub-region. USASCP engagement includes city partnerships/pairings, academic pairings, innovation funding, and regional knowledge sharing. USASCP's **whole-of-government approach** works with U.S. government agencies, national labs, NGOs, subnational authorities and cities, universities, and private sector partners.



### Water Smart Engagements

The Water Smart Engagements (WISE) Program pairs U.S. and ASEAN cities to promote the delivery of essential water services. It addresses issues of potable and wastewater management, non-revenue water, water reuse, storm water management, and climate resiliency. Partnerships in the Mekong sub-region include:

- Phuket - Milwaukee, WI
- Vientiane - Hillsboro, OR
- Ho Chi Minh City - San Francisco, CA

### Research & Innovation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) supports five pilot projects in ASEAN cities that are transitioning laboratory research into practice. In Bangkok, air quality sensors are deployed during low and high pollution seasons to better understand the working conditions of ASEAN gig workers. There are two pilot projects in Ho Chi Minh City with the National University of Vietnam. The first is a transportation planning and simulation project in that uses artificial intelligence sensors to analyze traffic patterns. The second enhances the accuracy and timeliness of flood alerts and forecasts via the FloodWatch platform by incorporating data sources like rain sensors and real-time sensor networks.

### Green Buildings Innovation

The USASCP Partnership with the University of North Carolina-Charlotte is educating future architects, city planners, designers, and engineers through the development and delivery of building innovation education curriculum coupled with research projects throughout the ASEAN region. Students at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and Ho Chi Minh University of Technology can attend virtual and occasional in-person classes including:

- Life cycle assessment (LCA)
- Building resiliency
- Bio-climatic design

### Smart Sustainable Transport

The U.S. Department of Transportation employs a U.S.-ASEAN city pairing model to strengthen policy, planning, and technology for smart mobility solutions, such as complete streets, multi-modal options, bus rapid transit, and streamlined payment systems. Partnerships in the Mekong sub-region include:

- Phnom Penh - Boston, MA
- Phuket - Las Vegas, NV

### Energy Modeling

USASCP funded the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to utilize the Global Change Assessment Model in gauging future demand for energy, capacity of the grid to incorporate renewables, and the potential of GHG reductions in the Bangkok metro area in partnership with Thammasat University.

### Smart Cities Business Innovation Fund

The Smart Cities Business Innovation Fund is a climate finance mechanism supporting sub-national city stakeholders who have developed net-zero and low carbon solutions to urban challenges. The program includes \$1 million awarded to six businesses, including one business in Lao PDR, Patihoub, that cleans, shreds, presses, and molds recycled plastic into new products. Another awardee, 5RTECH, seeks to improve the recycling and reuse of solar panels in Vietnam.