

# MEKONG-U.S. PARTNERSHIP AT WORK APRIL 2024 - JUNE 2024



## **KEY EVENTS**

#### **APRIL**

- MOHIP Webinar #13: The Importance of the One Health Approach for Understanding Infectious Diseases: An Example of a Neglected Tropical Disease
- WE inspire Training: Business Skills Training for Women Entrepreneurs for Diverse Businesses (Cambodia)
- U.S. Study Tour on Rail Research, Development, and Technology (Washington, D.C.; Chicago, Illinois; and Pueblo, Colorado)
- USDA Genetic Resources, Plant Variety Protection and Biodiversity Regional Consultation (Bangkok, Thailand)

#### MAY

- MOHIP Regional One Health Symposium (Vientiane, Lao PDR)
- Wonders of the Mekong Project's Endangered Fish Release for World Fish Migration Day (Phnom Penh, Cambodia)
- INL Workshop to Fight Cyber-Enabled Wildlife Crime (Bangkok, Thailand)

## **JUNE**

- Mekong-U.S. Partnership Senior Officials' Meeting and Friends of the Mekong Senior Officials' Meeting
- MOHIP Webinar #14: Land Use, Climate Change and Human Health: A One Health Approach
- WE Inspire Training: Business Fundamentals Training for Women Entrepreneurs (Vietnam)

## JUMPP ENGAGEMENTS IN CAMBODIA

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Energy (ENR) hosted three Japan-U.S.-Mekong Power Partnership (JUMPP) events in Phnom Penh in April. The JUMPP Clean Energy Investment Conference brought together over 160 private and public sector stakeholders to promote JUMPP partner countries' knowledge of clean energy technologies and investment opportunities. The conference facilitated relationships and matchmaking between private sector developers and power sector stakeholders. Keo Rottanak, Cambodia's Minister of Mines and Energy, and ENR Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) Kimberly Harrington delivered remarks highlighting U.S. support for sustainable energy and quality infrastructure development in the Mekong region.

Following the conference, delegates from four lower Mekong governments attended the quarterly Technical Advisory Group meeting and discussed progress on key technical projects including, among others, grid code synchronization on existing transmission lines, which received strong support from JUMPP partners for its potential to enable near-term regional power trade - typically a long-term effort reliant on a regional grid code.



# MOHIP REGIONAL ONE HEALTH SYMPOSIUM



The Michigan State University (MSU) Mekong One Health Innovation Program (MOHIP), partnered with Laos One Health University Network (LAOHUN) to organize the Regional One Health Symposium - Sharing Experiences of Mekong One Health Innovation Program and Way Forward: Strengthening Health Security of the Lower Mekong Sub-Region in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The May 13-15 symposium was a significant milestone to MOHIP's commitment to collaboration, innovation, and the future of One Health education, research, and policy implications.

Seventy delegates from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, seven faculty members from MSU, and officials from the U.S. government attended. The symposium was an opportunity to share the MOHIP model, One Health programs, and research of the regional and global health partners. The symposium fostered collaboration and synergetic outcomes on regional health security. Delegates focused discussions on health security and emerging threats to the Mekong as infectious diseases, climate sub-region, such noncommunicable diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and other topics from the One Health approach through panels and breakout sessions. Heather Variava, U.S. Ambassador to Lao PDR, and Dr. Phayvanh Keopaseuth, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Health, Lao PDR, delivered opening remarks for the conference.

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **JULY**

- Mekong-U.S. Partnership Regional Workshop on Seed Sector Development for Ensuring Food Security
- Mekong-U.S. Partnership Ministerial

## **AUGUST**

- International Visitor Leadership Program on Sustainable Economic Development for Mekong Community Leaders
- WE Inspire Training: Finance and Accounting, Tra Vinh, Vietnam
- WE Inspire Workshop: Business Incubation Workshop (Prektoal, Cambodia)

For additional information, please visit <u>mekonguspartnership.org</u>.