

# Capacity building for gender, poverty and mobility analysis of road transportation development in GMS region'

## Research Design Workshop

April 1-3, 2009

At

AIT Conference Center

Supported by

Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund, ASEAN Foundation

Organized by

Asian Institute of Technology

### Background

The ASEAN region has historically experienced high intra-mobility of goods and people, but in the recent years, the quantum of such mobility has increased dramatically. Various factors have contributed to this increase, including economic disparity within the region; differences in economic/ employment/ business opportunities; transportation and communication infrastructure development, education opportunities, and a wider network of migrants in major cities and industrial areas in the region.

The largest factor is the heavy investment in the construction and renovation of road networks. Road networks, which are important for regional integration within ASEAN, are critical for the less developed member countries, especially those in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) countries. Recognizing this, bilateral and regional financial institutions, including the governments in ASEAN region, supported heavily to improve the road network. The fact that people move both within and out of the region has implications not only for the well-being of migrants themselves, but also for the sending and receiving communities.

However, several questions remain. Have these roads actually contributed to poverty alleviation in the poorer regions of ASEAN? Or have they only increased the disparity between the rich and poor, resulting in future social tensions in the region? How have these roads changed the movement of goods and people in the area, and what has been the gendered impact of such change in mobility? Has it changed the resource allocation and rights to resources in the area? Both the lack of data and information as well as the lack of awareness and sensitivity among

project/ policy implementers lead to unwanted outcomes from road infrastructure development in GMS.

The project ‘Capacity building for gender, poverty and mobility analysis of road transportation development in GMS region’, implemented/coordinated by Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) with the support of ASEAN Foundation, was developed with the aim to fill this gap in the capacity for gender, poverty and mobility analysis in road infrastructure development among government officers in four GMS countries, namely Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Myanmar.

### **Objective of the workshop**

This workshop gathers researchers from the partner organizations of the project, who are going to conduct the field level research on gender and transportation development issues in their respective countries, to discuss and finalize their respective research design. Specifically, it will

1. Expose the researchers with lectures of emerging issues related to gender, poverty and mobility analysis of road transportation development in GMS.
2. Share ideas on possible topics and approaches that each can take to conduct research on gender, poverty and mobility issues in road transportation development in GMS.
3. Develop research design with mutual discussion across countries.
4. Finalize research design and budget for research.

### **Expected output**

A finalized research design with budget will be completed at the end of the workshop.

### **Expected participants**

Participants are researchers from each partner organization who are going to actually conduct the research (be involved in field work and write up of the research). There will be four participants from each country.

Resource persons are selected from those who are knowledgeable of the research in GMS region, and will focus on emerging issues and possible research agenda. Each should have a strong focus on gender, poverty, and mobility issues in road development. Resource persons will come from ASEAN member countries or those who are working in ASEAN member countries.

The first day will be open to wider audience in AIT and in Thailand. The second and third day will be a closed session with only the partner organization participants, workshop organizers, and invited resource persons.

### **Tentative schedule**

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
8:00	Registration	
8:30	Opening remarks	<b>Dr. Filemon A. Uriarte,</b> <i>Jr. Executive Director,</i> <i>ASEAN Foundation</i>

		<i>(Indonesia)</i>
9:00-9:15	Opening remarks	<i>(President/Vice President) Asian Institute of Technology</i>
9:15-10:00	Framework of research on gender and transportation development in GMS	<b>Assoc.Prof. Shinya Hanaoka</b> <i>Transport Engineering Field of Study, School of Engineering and Technology, Asian Institute of Technology</i>  <b>Assoc. Prof. Kyoko Kusakabe</b> <i>Gender and Development Studies, School of Environment, Resources and Development, Asian Institute of Technology</i>
10:00-10:15	Break	
10:15-11:15	Urban transportation and gender in GMS	<b>Prof. Primitivo C.Cal</b> <i>School of Urban and Regional Planning, University of the Philippines</i>
11:15-12:15	Gender and transborder issues: Ethnicity and citizenship in GMS	<b>Dr. Pinkaew Laungaramsri</b> <i>Lecturer, Regional Center for Sustainable Development and Social Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiangmai University</i>
12:15-1:15	Lunch	
1:15-2:15	Transportation development, cross-border trade and regional development in GMS	<b>Mr. Hiroshi Takeuchi</b> <i>Chief, Transportation and ICT Division I, Economic Infrastructure Department, JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)</i>
2:15-3:15	Gender and transportation development: Experience of ADB	<b>Ms. Sonomi Tanaka</b> <i>Asian Development Bank (to be confirmed)</i>
3:15-3:30	Break	
3:30-4:30	SEACAP experience in transport research in the GMS with potential lessons for new initiatives on gender and transport. Research projects to dissemination of outputs to mainstreaming into practice.	<b>Mr. David Salter</b> <i>Manager DFID/SEACAP</i>
4:30-5:30	Concluding discussion	
6:00	Welcome dinner	

<b>Day 2</b>		
9:00-9:30	Sharing/ discussion from Day 1	
9:30-10:10	Presentation by each country on their country situation "Gender and Transportation Development in Cambodia"	<i>Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)</i>
10:10-10:50	Gender and Transportation Development in Vietnam	<i>Transport Development &amp; Strategy Institute (TDSI)</i>
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Gender and Transportation Development in Laos PDR	<i>Urban Research Institute (URI)/ Public Work and Transportation Institute (PTI), the Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction (MCTPC)</i>
11:40-12:20	Gender and Transportation Development in Myanmar	<i>Economic and Development Association (EcoDev)</i>
12:20-1:30	Lunch	
1:30-5:00	Selection of research topic, identification of research problems and setting research objectives  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary discussion / Group discussion/ presentation</li> </ul> (break in between)	
<b>Day 3</b>		
9:00-12:00	Finalizing research design  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary discussion / group discussion/ presentation and sharing</li> </ul> (break in between)	
12:00-12:30	Closing	
12:30-1:30	Lunch	
1:30-5:00	Per country informal meetings to discuss details of research schedule and budget	