

Creating Entrepreneurial GMS
Unleashing
Entrepreneurship
for Development & Trade



Awareness Workshop for Greater Mekong Sub Region

August 27-29, 2008

At
Raffles Hotel Le Royal
Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia



Sponsored by :



Global Issues and
Sustainable Development,
Swiss Agency for
Development and Cooperation
Bern, Switzerland

In partnership with :



Mekong Institute,
Khon Kaen
Thailand

Organized by :



Entrepreneurship Development
Institute of India,
Ahmedabad, India

Introduction

The Greater Mekong Sub Region (GMS) comprises Cambodia, Yunnan Province of People's Republic of China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. The GMS has great potential for development, particularly in the SME sector. In the GMS, SMEs play a significant role and their share in the total number of enterprises ranges from 96% in Thailand to 99% in Lao PDR and Cambodia. But, over the past few years, the GMS countries have been facing challenges towards creating new entrepreneurs, building a conducive business environment, enhancing competitiveness of existing enterprises, creating awareness on WTO related issues, increasing the share of these countries in the global market and promoting inter/intra regional trade cooperation between the GMS countries.

Responding to the needs, the Global Issues & Sustainable Development (GISD), Division of the Swiss Agency for Development & Co-operation (SDC), commissioned EDI, India for a project titled **"Unleashing Entrepreneurship for Development and Trade"** to unleash the entrepreneurial potential of GMS countries. The project comprises awareness workshops, research projects and seminars to disseminate the findings and share the experiences.

With support from GISD-SDC, so far two workshops have been conducted, at Bangkok and Vientiane. The Vientiane workshop was conducted by the EDI, India in partnership with the MI, Thailand at Vientiane, Lao PDR during 29 October to 1 November, 2007.

EDI now announces the next workshop on 'Unleashing Entrepreneurship for Development and Trade' at Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia.

Objectives

The overall objective of the workshop is to spread and strengthen entrepreneurship in the GMS through capacity building, research, networking and increasing regional and global trade of the GMS under prevailing WTO regime. The specific objectives are to:

- create awareness about harnessing entrepreneurial potential of the GMS.
- reinforce the need to enhance competitiveness of the SME sector.
- impart an understanding of WTO provisions and their implications on SMEs.
- deliberate on trade negotiations, advocacy, policy influencing and other relevant issues.

Themes and Coverage

Creating Entrepreneurial GMS

- Entrepreneurial Mindset
- Enabling Environment for Entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurial Society

Capacity Building Issues

- Entrepreneurship Education & Training
- Stakeholders' Skills and Capacity Development
- Advocacy, Negotiation Skills and other Capacity Building Issues

WTO, International Trade and the GMS Countries

- GMS Countries and International Market
- International Trade under WTO Regime Provisions of WTO and their Implications on SME Sector

Strengthening SME Sector in the GMS

- The GMS Countries and Contemporary Trends in SME sector
- Policy led Measures to Reduce/Remove Barriers
- Sustainable Development Strategy for the SME Sector
- SME Competitiveness
- Inter/Intra Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation

Venue and Duration

Venue : Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia
Duration : 27 - 29 August 2008



Participants of the Workshop organised on "Unleashing Entrepreneurship for Development & Trade" at Vientiane, Lao PDR during 29th October to 1st November, 2007

Participation :

About 25 delegates representing the government, industry, academia, trade associations, chamber of commerce and the media from all the six countries of the GMS countries [viz; Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, two GMS Provinces of People's Republic of China, Thailand and Vietnam].

Faculty Support :

Faculty support would be drawn from reputed institutions like MI, IIFT, UN-ESCAPE, GMS Business Forum, Chambers of Commerce and Industry and CIEDC, besides EDI.

Sponsoring and Implementing Agencies

Sponsoring Agency

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is Switzerland's international cooperation agency under the Swiss Foreign Ministry. It has a policy analysis unit dealing with international trade and financing for development, called the Global Issues and Sustainable Development (GISD) Division. The mandate of the GISD consists of a blend of policy influencing endeavors at both the Southern and the Northern end. It's pointing towards:

- Internal counseling of SDC so as to get its plea of coherence better integrated in the Swiss economic policy making; and
- Facilitation of South-South Cooperation aimed at helping build up collective assertiveness for developing countries in the multilateral economic negotiations.

Further, under its broad objective of multilateral economic cooperation program in South and South East Asia, the GISD's focus is on capacity building of the GMS countries in terms of trade, investments, environments and fiscal issues along with sub-regional and inter regional economic and trade integration.

Implementing Agency

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI)

The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI), an autonomous and not-for-profit institute, set up in 1983, is sponsored by apex financial institutions - the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI Bank Ltd.), Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI), State Bank of India (SBI) and the Government of Gujarat.

Over the last 25 years, the EDI's pioneering activities in entrepreneurship development training have established that people from all walks of life can become business owners. It has demolished the myth that entrepreneurs are born, and cannot be developed through well-conceived training interventions and capacity building activities. The Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India also assigned to EDI the prestigious task of setting up entrepreneurship development centres in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam and Myanmar. The Govt. of India and the UNIDO sponsored “**Inter Regional Centre for Entrepreneurship Investment and Training**” set up at the institute focuses on new enterprise creation and enterprise upgradation in Mozambique, Sudan, Yemen and Lao PDR. The institute has worked for about 70 countries in the world.

In recognition of its international achievements, the United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UN-ESCAP), Bangkok, Thailand, has declared the EDI as a 'Centre of Excellence'.

Partner Agency

Mekong Institute (MI)

The Mekong Institute is a partner in the project. The Mekong Institute is an independent GMS organisation chartered to provide specialised learning programmes for key public and private sector personnel in the area of leadership, development, and regional cooperation. It serves the countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS): Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and Yunnan Province of China. MI has also been commissioned by GISD-SDC to organise similar awareness workshop in partnership with EDI.

Cambodia Partner

Cambodia-India Entrepreneurship Development Centre :

Cambodia-India Entrepreneurship Development Centre (CIEDC) is a joint cooperation programme of Royal Government of Cambodia and Government of India. CIEDC is one of the four Entrepreneurship Development Centres (EDC) established as part of India's technical assistance under Initiative for

ASEAN Integration (IAI) in the CLMV countries, (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam). In 2006, CIEDC was formally accorded the status of national training centre by the Royal Government of Cambodia. The centre functions under the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT). CIEDC receives technical guidance from Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI) for development and update of MSME training modules tailored to Cambodian situation. The activities of CIEDC cater to the needs of both the start-up entrepreneur, at basic level and the existing entrepreneur, at advanced level in Cambodia. Growing rapidly in activities, network and infrastructure, the centre has been successful in bagging and executing important projects for increasing competitiveness and capabilities of the MSME Sector. It has strong linkages with other professional, academic and multilateral agencies active in the region.

CIEDC is the partner agency for EDI workshop at Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

For further information and registration, please contact:

In India

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In Kingdom of Cambodia

CIEDC

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