

**GMS Core Environment Program (ADB TA 6289)**  
**GMS Development Dialogue II: Climate Change in the GMS – 21 May 2008**

**Key Dialogue Issues**

Themes/ Sectors	Agriculture and Food Security	Energy (Hydropower)	Tourism	Infrastructure (Physical and Social)
<b>Technical</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- decline in yields (e.g. rice) due to decrease in mean minimum temperatures</li> <li>- crop destruction / losses due to flooding</li> <li>- increase in food prices and effect on availability of food (reduction of stockpiles)</li> <li>- in-migration into higher elevations</li> <li>- expansion / extension of agriculture on marginal soils in higher elevations</li> <li>- need for technologies and investments (e.g. water harvesting, reducing system losses)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- effect of drought on water flows and reservoir water levels and subsequently on power generation output</li> <li>- effect of intensive rainfall on soil erosion and landslides (e.g. increased siltation in the reservoir)</li> <li>- effect of heavy sediments on turbine efficiency and increasing maintenance costs</li> <li>- effect on downstream waterflows, fishery and river based irrigated agriculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increasing effect of rising sea levels on tourism infrastructure (private and public)</li> <li>- loss of earnings / revenue from a growth sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- existing transport (roads) effected by increasing sea level rise and flooding (from intensive rainfall)</li> <li>- planned / future infrastructure (road) development in vulnerable areas (coastal and flood prone areas) needs to build in adaptation costs at planning and design stage</li> <li>- are thermal power plant investments in flood prone and sea inundation zones sufficiently protected (construction, transmission etc)?</li> <li>- increasing health risks to large segments of population living in high risk areas (water and vector borne diseases, deaths from heat waves)</li> <li>- loss and damage to life and property</li> </ul>
<b>Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are government policies sufficiently reflecting the need to adjust agricultural production taking into account anticipated impacts?</li> <li>- has government considered incentives for adaptation measures (technology transfers for water harvesting, precision agriculture, etc)?</li> <li>- Are policies in place or being developed on disaster preparedness?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what alternative energy resources (including renewables) are being considered in the national energy policy?</li> <li>- are there policies in place on maintaining adequate water supplies downstream for urban areas?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are policies in place to promote safeguard of tourism sites?</li> <li>- are high value biodiversity and tourism attractions that are in less risk or risk free areas receiving sufficient attention of policy and decision-makers to galvanize investments to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are GMS governments looking at policies to promote contingency infrastructure plans (roads, housing) for example elevated roads, houseboats, etc?</li> <li>- are policies in place requiring a general inspection of thermal power plants and contingency plans</li> </ul>

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	<p>- how will governments deal with in-migration into areas of higher elevation?</p>	<p>- are incentives in place for pursuing renewable energy that less dependent on rainfall?</p>	<p>protect and maintain these for the future?</p>	<p>to protect these investments from future risk?</p> <p>- are plans and policies in place for dealing with losses / damages and resettlement needs following the occurrence of climate change induced natural disasters, re-occurring floods, and sea level rise?</p>
<p><b>Institutional and financial (valid for all sectors)</b></p>	<p>- are institutions capable or their capacity being strengthened to start advance planning for responding to anticipated climate change risks</p> <p>- is a plan and investment in place for public campaigns, awareness raising, and disaster preparedness by local authorities / interest groups / associations / schools etc.</p> <p>- is the educational curriculum in schools being amended / adapted to inculcate information about anticipated risks and raise awareness among younger generations, preparing them for possible future challenges?</p> <p>- are ministries of development planning and finance in GMS countries and development partners, multilateral banks, private sector financial institutions planning for large scale investments in adaptation measures to reduce high risk and damage from anticipated climate change impacts</p>			