



SUMERNET Learning Forum 2024

“From Knowledge to Actions: Building a Water-Secure Mekong”

Bangkok, 28 – 31 May 2024

(22 May 2024)

1. Introduction

In anticipation of the conclusion of the SUMERNET 4 All (2018-2024) programme under the Sustainable Mekong Research Network (SUMERNET) in December 2024, SUMERNET Learning Forum will be convened to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge, the fostering of new partnerships, and the advancement of progress towards water security in the Mekong Region.

Throughout the implementation period of SUMERNET 4 All, a collaborative effort has been undertaken to address water insecurity within the Mekong region. By leveraging research, policy engagement, and delivering capacity-building activities, the programme aims to bridge the scientific knowledge and policy to enable informed policy decisions on water resource management in the region. For this purpose, more than 200 network members have been supported to engage in various granting opportunities. Therefore, the SUMERNET Learning Forum in 2024 will take a central theme of “**From Knowledge to Actions: towards building a water-secure Mekong**”.

This forum serves as a platform for the following:

- **Dissemination of Key Research Findings:** The forum will present key findings gleaned from SUMERNET 4 All's research endeavours, with a specific focus on water access, flood risk management, and transboundary water systems. These findings will be forthcoming upon the program's conclusion in December 2024.
- **Enhancing Dialogue:** A space will be provided for researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders from across the Mekong Region to engage in constructive dialogue in anticipation of the program's conclusions.
- **Exploring Innovative Policy and Practice Solutions:** The forum will foster the exploration of innovative pathways designed to ensure water security for all while prioritising gender equality and social equity.
- **Forging Lasting Partnerships:** A key objective of the forum is to cultivate strong partnerships and explore concrete collaborations among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners across the Mekong Region. This collaborative spirit will be vital in ensuring the long-term sustainability of water security initiatives.

By collectively leveraging the knowledge and partnerships established through SUMERNET 4 All, this forum aims to propel the Mekong Region towards a future characterised by water security.

2. Participants

The Learning Forum is expected to host more than 100 participants including representatives from the Embassy of Sweden, Embassy of Australia, SUMERNET grantees, SUMERNET Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat, thematic advisors, project mentors, and project boundary partners, development partners, governments and other stakeholders.

SUMERNET grantees are the network members who receive the funds under the following SUMERNET 4 All granting opportunities:

- Collaborative research grants
- Groundwater Integrated Regional Assessment (GIRA) grant
- COVID Emerging research grant
- Rapid response research grants

- Joint action grants
- Small grants
- Media-Research Partnership Funds
- Fellowship grants

In addition, the advisors and grantees of the Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Tanks Network Program (MTT) are expected to participate in SUMERNET Learning Forum. The MTT grantees include the representatives from Flagship Study Grants, Rapid Response Grants and all MTT fellows granted through the first two batches.

SUMERNET	MTT Program	Other invited stakeholders
• The Embassy of Sweden • SUMERNET grantees including the representatives from • Collaborative research grants, • Groundwater Integrated Regional Assessment (GIRA) grant, • COVID Emerging research grant • Rapid response research grants • Joint action grants • Small grants • Media-Research Partnership Funds • Fellowship grants • SUMERNET Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat, thematic advisors, project mentors, network members • Project boundary partners,	• The Australian Embassy in Thailand • The Embassy of Sweden • MTT Program Secretariat and advisors • MTT Program grantees including the representatives from • Flagship studies • Rapid response projects • Fellowship grants • Other KBPIOs in the Mekong region	• Mekong River Commission • ADB (Asian Development Bank) GMS (Greater Mekong Subregion) • ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) • Governments • Development partners • Civil society organisations • Media • Other invited experts. • Strategic partners e.g. SHAPE-SEA, EEPSEA, EXPLORE.

3. Key events and meetings

SUMERNET Learning Forum 2024 consists of several key events and meetings:

- SUMERNET Steering Committee Meeting, 28 May 2024
- SUMERNET Network Meeting, 28 May 2024 (afternoon)
- SUMERNET Partners Meeting, 29 May 2024 (morning)
- MTT Alliance Meeting, 29 May 2024 (afternoon)
- SUMERNET Young Professional (SYP) Talk, Awarding Ceremony for MTT fellowship grants (evening), SUMERNET – MTT Networking Dinner
- SUMERNET Lancang-Mekong Research to Policy Forum, 30 May 2024
- SUMERNET-MTT Capacity Development and Networking Day, 31 May 2024

4. Format

The Learning Forum will as much as possible engage in-person. Some events will be open for online participation through “Hybrid mode” where majority of participants are expected to be attending in person in Bangkok (Thailand), and some participants are attending through an online meeting platform (Zoom). The online meeting will be recorded for future viewing.

More specific formats for each key event and meeting in the SUMERNET Learning Forum 2024 are indicated below:

Date	Event/Meeting	Format	Participant
28 May 2024 (morning)	SUMERNET Steering Committee Meeting	By invitation in-person and online (SEI Asia office venue)	SUMERNET SC (SSC) members, Secretariat
28 May 2024 (afternoon)	SUMERNET Network Meeting	By invitation in-person (SSC only) (SEI Asia office venue). Other participants to join online	SUMERNET Network members (including MTT partners), SSC, Secretariat
29 May 2024 (morning)	SUMERNET Partners Meeting	By invitation in-person	Swedish Embassy, Australian Embassy, SUMERNET grantees, SSC, Secretariat, MTT partners and grantees, invited partners
29 May 2024 (afternoon)	MTT Alliance Meeting	By invitation in-person	Swedish Embassy, Australian Embassy, MTT partners and grantees SUMERNET participants
29 May 2024 (evening)	SUMERNET Young Professional (SYP) Talk & MTT Fellow (2 nd batch) Awarding Ceremony SUMERNET-MTT Networking Dinner	By invitation in-person	Swedish Embassy, Australian Embassy, SUMERNET participants, SYP members, MTT partners and grantees
30 May 2024	SUMERNET Lancang-Mekong Research to Policy Forum	Open in-person and online	All participants attending the events on 29 th May, external experts and invitees.
31 May 2024	SUMERNET-MTT Capacity Development and Networking Sessions	By invitation in-person	SUMERNET grantees, SYP, MTT grantees including Flagship Studies, Rapid responses, and Fellows



SUMERNET Network Meeting

Bangkok, 28 May 2024, 14:00 – 16:45 (Bangkok/ICT)

Venue: Mekong Room, SEI Asia Office (In-person) and Zoom ([link](#))

Objectives:

1. To update on recent development, governance, research and policy engagement activities of the SUMERNET network over the past year.
2. To identify emerging issues of the region that need to be addressed through research and policy engagement that SUMERNET should explore more in future programmes.
3. To identify collaboration and partnership opportunities for SUMERNET members, especially related to the Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Thank (MTT) Alliance.

Invited participants: All SUMERNET network members (SNM), Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat (SS), advisors, supporters and friends of SUMERNET.

Meeting format: This meeting will be organised in “Hybrid mode” where the majority of the participants will attend in-person in Bangkok (Thailand), and some participants will attend through an online meeting platform (Zoom). The online meeting will be recorded for future viewing.

Meeting registration link: https://sei-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5wofu-vpzkjHtwzRJ0NnHqBnu68_2G9aSNz#/

Agenda

Overall facilitator: Mr. Agus Nugroho, SUMERNET Programme Manager Technical support: Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant, and Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, SUMERNET Fellow			
Time	Agenda	Speaker/Facilitator	Remarks
13:45-14:00 (15 min)	Online system test & online meeting check-in		For online participants, please rename with full name, organisation and country, etc. Example: <i>Agus Nugroho_SEI/Thailand</i>
14:00-14:10 (10 min)	1. Welcome and opening remarks	Dr. Chantana Wungaeo (SUMERNET Steering Committee Chair)	
14:10-14:20 (10 min)	2. Introduction to the participants (through an online poll)	Mr. Agus Nugroho (SUMERNET Programme Manager)	Participants are to use Vevox for polling. Link:
14:20-14:50 (30 min)	3. Update on recent development and governance of SUMERNET	Mr. Agus Nugroho Ms. Bouanong Lathouly (SUMERNET Young Professional Regional Coordinator)	Short PPT, followed by Q&A. Any questions and comments of online participants can be shared through Chatbox.
14:50 – 15:10 (20 min)	4. Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Tanks (MTT) Alliance: development progress, opportunities for collaboration and partnership	Mr. Nhan Vo (SEI Programme Manager, MTT MEL Specialist)	Short PPT, followed by Q&A. Any questions and comments of online participants can be shared through Chatbox.
15:10-15:20	5. Coffee Break		

Overall facilitator: Mr. Agus Nugroho, SUMERNET Programme Manager Technical support: Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant, and Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, SUMERNET Fellow			
Time	Agenda	Speaker/Facilitator	Remarks
(10 min)			
15:20 -16:30 (70 min)	6. Ensuring sustainable and just transition in the Mekong Region: SUMERNET PLUS	Facilitator: Dr Pheakkdey Nguon Secretariat to present survey results (Ridhi and Sushmita) Engage with network members: - Emerging issues in the Mekong to deepen the results from survey	Prior survey with network members to respond. Responses will be analysed and shared in this session. Moderated panel, followed by Q&A for Participants to share comments or ask questions Participants are to use Vevox for polling or suggesting ideas. Vevox polling link: https://vevox.app/#/m/114373168 Any questions and comments of online participants can be shared through Chat box.
16:30 -16:45 (15 min)	7. Wrap up & closing	Dr. Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, SUMERNET Programme Director	
End of SUMERNET Network Meeting 2024			



SUMERNET Partners Meeting and Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Tanks Alliance Meeting

Bangkok, 29 May 2024, 09:00-12:35 (Bangkok/ICT)

Venue: SKY Ballroom, 6th floor SKYVIEW Hotel Bangkok (In-person)

Objectives:

1. **To strengthen partnerships** among SUMERNET grantees, Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat, thematic advisors, project mentors, project boundary partners and donors.
2. **To share the success and lessons learned including research findings and policy influence**, and other outcomes achieved through the implementation of SUMERNET 4 All in addressing water insecurity in the Mekong Region.
3. **To seek synergies and cooperation** among the grantees and boundary partners from different grant projects and from SUMERNET SC, Secretariat and advisors and development partners.

Format: This meeting will be organised only in “in-person” mode. No online participation is expected.

Participants: This partner meeting is expected to host more than 100 participants, including representatives from the Embassy of Sweden, SUMERNET grantees, SUMERNET Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat, thematic advisors, project mentors and project boundary partners. SUMERNET grantees are the network members who received funds under SUMERNET 4 All granting opportunities as listed below.

1. Collaborative research grants
2. Groundwater Integrated Regional Assessment (GIRA) grant
3. COVID Emerging research grant
4. Rapid response fund grants
5. Joint action grants
6. Small grants
7. Fellowship grants
8. Media-research partnerships

Agenda:

SUMERNET Partners Meeting			
Overall co-facilitator: Ms. Sushmita Mandal (SUMERNET Research Coordinator) and Dr. Ridhi Saluja (SUMERNET Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator) Technical support: Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, SUMERNET Fellow, Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant Rapporteur: Boripat Lebel, MTT Program Coordinator, Chea Sameang, MTT Fellow, Khaing Su Lwin, SUMERNET Fellow			
When	What	Who	Note
08:30-09:00 (30 min)	Registration	Secretariat	For onsite participants: please bring documents necessary for reimbursement.
Session 1: Welcome and introduction			

SUMERNET Partners Meeting			
Overall co-facilitator: Ms. Sushmita Mandal (SUMERNET Research Coordinator) and Dr. Ridhi Saluja (SUMERNET Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator) Technical support: Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, SUMERNET Fellow, Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant Rapporteur: Boripat Lebel, MTT Program Coordinator, Chea Sameang, MTT Fellow, Khaing Su Lwin, SUMERNET Fellow			
When	What	Who	Note
09:00-09:15 (15 min)	Welcome and opening remarks	Prof. Dr. Chantana Wungao, Chair of SUMERNET Steering Committee (SSC) Dr. Eren Zink, First Secretary, Senior Research Advisor, Embassy of Sweden Shayne McKenna, First Secretary, Development, Australian Embassy	
09:15-09:35 (20 minutes)	Overview and Setting the scene	Dr Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, SUMERNET and MTT Program Director	Linking SUMERNET with MTT alliance Common Grounds and Long-term Vision Vevox Poll
9:35-10:00 (25 minutes)	Contributing to Water Secure Mekong: SUMERNET Experience - Local impact and Policy influence (PFRM) - Gendered perspective (FloodCam) - Regional experience (GIRA)	Dr Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa and Sushmita Mandal	Three to four speakers to share experience for 5 minutes Interactions with audience (Boundary Partner point of view) Focus on Country representation as well
10:00-10:30 (30 min)	Group Photo and Coffee Break	Unchulee Yingyong Un-anongrak	
10:30-11:30 (60 minutes)	Addressing water insecurity in the Mekong Region: How we have contributed (Part 1)	Facilitator: Dr. Albert Salamanca Co-facilitators: • Agus Nugroho • Natalia Biskupska • Nhan Vo	The facilitator explains the contribution sheet and the exercise (5 min) The facilitator asks participants to find a discussion partner (next person). Co-facilitators distribute the “contribution sheet” (5 min). 1 paired participants get 1 sheet. The paired participants discuss what to write in the sheet (5 mins). The facilitator asks paired participants to find another pair to discuss (the pair standing next to them). The group of 4 discusses what to write on the sheet. They may get one additional contribution sheet if needed. (10 mins) Participants stick the sheets in appropriate places in the boards (3 board types: Knowledge producers, Policy Influencers, Policymakers) (15 mins) The facilitator explains what is the next step (5 mins)
11:30-11:45 (15 Minutes)	Overview of SUMERNET 4 All theory of change (15 min)	Presenter: Dr. Albert Salamanca	Co-facilitators cluster the sheets into similar ideas and prepare a presentation.

SUMERNET Partners Meeting			
Overall co-facilitator: Ms. Sushmita Mandal (SUMERNET Research Coordinator) and Dr. Ridhi Saluja (SUMERNET Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator) Technical support: Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, SUMERNET Fellow, Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant Rapporteur: Boripat Lebel, MTT Program Coordinator, Chea Sameang, MTT Fellow, Khaing Su Lwin, SUMERNET Fellow			
When	What	Who	Note
11:45-12:10 (25 min)	Addressing water insecurity in the Mekong Region: How we have contributed (Part 2)	Facilitator: Dr. Albert Salamanca Co-facilitators: - Agus Nugroho - Natalia Biskupska - Nhan Vo	Co-facilitators present the clustering (main contributions and how) or highlights. (10 mins) The facilitator invites reflections and comments on the result of the clustering, encouraging participants to share their own experiences. (15 mins)
12:10-12:30 (20 minutes)	What more can SUMERNET do? As a regional network of researchers and practitioners working towards sustainable development in the Mekong Region, having contributed to addressing water insecurity in the region, the network continuously reflects on what it can do more to address emerging issues and challenges.	Facilitator: Sushmita	Run polling with Vevox, with the following guiding questions: - Despite our contributions to addressing water insecurity, what more can be done? - What are other emerging issues in the Region that SUMERNET Network needs to tackle? - What should we do more to enhance our collaborations and partnerships in the network?
End of SUMERNET Partners Meeting			
12:45-14:00 (75 min)	Lunch Break	Unchulee	

Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Tanks (MTT) Alliance Meeting			
When	What	Who	Note
14:00-14:30 (30 min)	Progress of MTT Alliance Development	- Dr Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, MTT Program Director & Component 1 lead - Dr. Bach Tan Sinh, MTT Component 1 Co-lead	Engagement through Vevox.
14:30-15:20 (50 min)	Overview of MTT grant portfolio including 4 Flagship Studies and 7 Rapid Response Projects: - MTT Program's granting objectives - Country coverage - Research/implementation areas (WEC) - Policy, strategy, planning targets - Implementing partners (list of project team members) - Target users and beneficiaries - GEDSI focus	Facilitators: - Dr. Thanapon Piman, MTT Component 2 Lead - Cynthia McDougall, MTT Component 2 Co-lead Presenters: - Representatives from all 11 granted projects	- Overview of all granted projects - Individual project present 1 slide/1 minute
15:20-15:40 (20 min)	Coffee Break		

Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Tanks (MTT) Alliance Meeting			
When	What	Who	Note
15:40- 16:40 (60 min)	Panel Discussion: Leveraging Regional Alliance for Knowledge Co-Production: Opportunity and Challenges Engaging WEC Nexus	Facilitated by Dr. Andrew Noble, MTT Programme Component 1 Advisor & My Le, MTT Fellow - Representative from inter-governmental organizations: Dr. Suriyan Vichitlekam, Executive Director, Mekong Institute - Representative from think tank organization: Dr. Jeeranuch Sakhamduang, Senior Researcher, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI), Thailand - Representative for SMN research-policy engagement success: Dr. Hap Navy, VICA Country Coordinator/Project Partner, Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute (IFReDI), Cambodia - Representative from GEDSI focused organizations: Ms. Saowalak Thongkuay, Board member for Asia Pacific Development Center on Disabilities, Committee for ASEAN Disability Forum and A/P Women with Disability United, Committee expert on Human Rights to the Determination of the Gender Discrimination, Sub-Committee on the Consideration of the Discrimination in Media, Thai Public Broadcasting Service, Chairwoman, Association for the Empowerment of Women with Disabilities) - Representative from other KBPIO partners in the Mekong region: Mr. Prak Rathyrea, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Manager, Ponlok Chomnes Program, The Asia Foundation, Cambodia - Representative from MTT's Flagship Study Grantee: Dr. Phan Thi Anh Thu, Civil Engineering Faculty, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology- Vietnam National University, Vietnam - Representative from MTT's Rapid Response Project Grantee: Ms. Oulavanh Sinsamphanh, Head of Post graduate Division, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, National University of Laos, Lao PDR	This session in general has the objective to explore how regional alliance can address challenges and leverage opportunities in the WEC Nexus. It aims to share best practices, identify barriers, enhance governance, and promote collaboration among stakeholders interested in becoming members of the Alliance
16:40-16:50 (10 min)	Wrap-up and Closing Remarks	Niall O'Connor, Chairperson of MTT Programme Steering Committee	
16:50-17:00 (10 min)	Announcement for Participants	Ms. Unchulee Lualon	- MTT Fellows and SYP Coordinators Award Ceremony - Networking Dinner
17:00- 18:00 (60 min)	Market Place and Networking time		Participants are free to visit the Market Place/exhibition or have bilateral or team meetings.
End of MTT Alliance Meeting			

SUMERNET Young Professional (SYP) Talk & MTT Fellow (2nd batch) Awarding Ceremony,**SUMERNET-MTT Networking Dinner****Overall co-facilitator:** Ms. Bouanong Lathouly and Ms. Khaing Su Lwin, SYP Regional Coordinators**Technical support:** SYP, Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant

When	What	Who	Note
18:00-18:45 (45 min)	SUMERNET Young Professional (SYP) Talk Awarding certificates for SYP regional and country coordinators. MTT Fellow (2nd batch) Awarding Ceremony	Facilitated by Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, Ms. Khaing Su Lwin and Mr. Boripat Lebel. Dr. Eren Zink, First Secretary, Senior Research Advisor, Embassy of Sweden, to award to the certificates. Shayne McKenna, First Secretary, Development, Australian Embassy to award the certificates.	
18:30-21:00 (140 min)	Networking Dinner	Ms. Unchulee Lualon	
End of SUMERNET-MTT Networking Dinner			



Knowledge to Policy and Actions: Building a Water Secure Mekong

SUMERNET Lancang-Mekong Research to Policy Forum

Bangkok, 30 May 2024, 09:00 – 17:00 (Bangkok/ICT)

**Venue: SKY Ballroom, 6th Floor, SKYVIEW Hotel Bangkok (In-person)
and Zoom Meeting ([Online](#))**

Background

SUMERNET 4 All (2018-2024), the fourth phase of the Sustainable Mekong Research Network (SUMERNET), a regional long-term research network including more than 600 network members aimed to proactively inform strategies and policies to mitigate water insecurity in the Mekong region.

Water insecurity, as defined by SUMERNET, encompasses issues of access, quality and vulnerability to water-related risks, with implications for gender equality, health, ecosystems and livelihoods. SUMERNET's approach in this phase while recognizing the complexities of water governance emphasized on multi-stakeholder engagement, scientific research collaboration and inclusivity to navigate trade-offs and promote sustainable water management practices. Through collaborative efforts, SUMERNET's project grantees and network members under the guidance of the SSC have made strides in documenting vulnerabilities, assessing drivers of water insecurity and fostering community resilience. Yet translating generated knowledge into policy and action remains a pressing challenge. There is a critical need for integrated and transdisciplinary approaches to address water insecurity while prioritising the needs of marginalised communities and promoting equitable water governance for a Water Secure Lancang -Mekong.

This Research and Policy Forum will provide a platform for both researchers and practitioners from the Lancang–Mekong Region to exchange knowledge and experiences on various interconnected issues related to water insecurity. The aim is to assess the current state of knowledge and emerging perspectives that can inform coherent policy-making addressing water insecurity to improve the sustainability and well-being of all in the Lancang–Mekong region. The dialogue among policymakers, researchers, and practitioners to explore how regional policy priorities have taken or have not taken into consideration the criticalities emerging in the Lancang–Mekong area concerning water insecurity. The discussion aims to feature some of the effective knowledge to policy engagement strategies that positively impact water security in the Lancang–Mekong region.

In view of this, SUMERNET Research and Policy forum has identified following objectives:

1. To facilitate knowledge exchange among academics, practitioners, and policymakers in the Lancang–Mekong Region on addressing water insecurity in the region.
2. To identify policy priorities on water insecurity in the Lancang–Mekong Region.
3. To identify relevant knowledge generated from collaborative research and actions and its potential policy applications in the Lancang–Mekong Region.
4. To highlight effective policy engagement strategies for real impacts.

Research and Policy forum: 30 May 2024, 09:00 -17:00 (Bangkok/Indochina Time)

All participants are encouraged to participate onsite but online participation is also possible.

- Forum participants:** 150-180 participants are expected to join the forum including:

- ## Agenda

Time/Duration	Session	Who
Overall facilitators: Sushmita Mandal (SUMERNET Research for Policy and Practice Coordinator), Ridhi Saluja (SUMERNET Multi-stakeholder Engagement Coordinator), Albert Salamanca (SUMERNET MEL Advisor) Online facilitator: Ms. Bouanong Lathouly (SYP Regional Coordinator) Rapporteur – SUMERNET Fellows/Representatives from SUMERNET Youth Network		
08:30 – 09:00 (30 min)	Registration For in-person participants, please <u>use Whova App to check-in</u> to the forum. For online participants, please <u>use the zoom link sent to registered emails</u>. Zoom registration link: Link	Unchulee, Bouanong For online participants: please rename your name in Zoom as below: “Full name (Organisation)” Example: “Agus Nugroho (SEI)”
09:00 – 09:30 (30 min)	Session 1: Welcoming and opening remarks • Dr Surasri Kidtimonton, Secretary-General of the Office of the National Water Resources (ONWR) Thailand, Secretary-General of the Thai National Mekong Committee Secretariat • Dr. Eren Zink, First Secretary, Senior Research Advisor, Embassy of Sweden, Thailand • John Francis, Counsellor, Development, Australian Embassy, Thailand	Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, SUMERNET Programme Director & MTT Programme Director

Time/Duration	Session	Who
	Dr. Pheakkdey Nguon, Co-Chair of SUMERNET Steering Committee Introduction to SUMERNET, Research-Policy Forum and participants	
09:30 – 10:40 (70 min)	Session 2: <i>Policy Panel: Framing the Challenges: A Regional Perspective</i> <i>This session sets the stage by highlighting the regional context of water insecurity issues.</i> Keynote Speech : - Theerawat Samphawamana, Director, Planning Division, Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS) - Shi Xinyan, Assistant Engineer, Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Water Centre Panelist: - Representative from ONWR, Thailand (tbc.) - Representative from Tonle Sap Authority, Cambodia (tbc.) - Dr. Eren Zink, First Secretary, Senior Research Advisor, Embassy of Sweden, Thailand. - Dr. John Dore, Lead Specialist, Mekong-Australia Partnership, Water, Energy and Climate (MAP-WEC), Australian Embassy. - Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, President, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI).	Sushmita Mandal, SUMERNET Research Coordinator
10:40 – 11:00 (20 min)	Group photo followed by Coffee Break	
11:00 – 12:10 (70 min)	Session 3 <i>Knowledge Panel: Regional networks and their achievements in addressing water insecurity</i> Panelists: - Dr. Le Thanh Nhan, Deputy Director, Economy & Environment Partnership for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA) - Ms. Yada Watanapornmongkol, USAID-WWF Mekong for the Future - Dr. Lam Vu Thanh Noi, Southern Institute of Water Resources Research (SIWRR), Vietnam - Ms. Choulay Mech, Journalist	Ridhi Saluja, Multi-stakeholder engagement coordinator
12:10 – 13:30 (80 minutes)	Lunch	
13:30- 14:00 (30 min)	SUMERNET 4 All Marketplace	
14:00 – 15:00 (60 min)	Session 4: <i>Deep Dives into Water Insecurity</i> 3 parallel sessions	Sushmita Mandal

Time/Duration	Session	Who
	Parallel Session 4A: Water Scarcity	Albert Salamanca
	Parallel Session 4B: Floods	Nhan Vo
	Parallel Session 4C: Transboundary Issues	Cynthia McDougall
	Parallel Online Session: on all themes	Thanapon Piman
15:00 – 15:30 (30 min)	Coffee Break	
15:30 – 16:30 (60 min)	Session 5: <i>Plenary Panel on Bridging the Gap: Research to Policy</i> Rapporteurs from the previous session report back the pointers from the discussions. Discussants: • Tong Yuchen, Engineer, Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Water Centre • Dwight Jason Ronan, Senior Program Manager, DFAT - Thailand • Dr. Phoummixay Siharath, Department of Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, National University of Laos • Karen Delfau, International WaterCentre Alumni Network (IWCAN), SUMERNET-MTT GEDSI Advisor • Dr. Võ Quốc Thành, Lecturer, Can Tho University • Ms. Oulavanh Sinsamphanh, Head of Postgraduate Division Faculty of Environmental Sciences, National University of Laos	Ridhi Saluja, Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator
16:30 – 16:45 (15 min)	Session 6: Key Takeaways from the Forum	Sushmita Mandal, Research Coordinator
16:45: – 17:00 (15 min)	Session 7: Vote of Thanks and Closing Remarks	Dr. Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, SUMERNET Programme Director
17:00 – 18:00 (60 min)	Session 8: Networking Session over Coffee	All participants
End of SUMERNET Lancang-Mekong Research to Policy Forum 2024		



SUMERNET-MTT Capacity Building and Networking Day

Bangkok, 31 May 2024, 09:30 – 17:00 (Bangkok/ICT)

Venue: SKY Ballroom, 6th floor SKYVIEW Hotel Bangkok (In-person only)

This day consists of the following training/networking events:

Date	Event/Meeting	Expected Participants
09:30-12:00 (parallel)	SUMERNET Workshop on Gender Action Plan	SUMERNET and MTT grantees, fellows
09:30-12:00 (parallel)	SUMERNET Training on Financial Management and Audit	SUMERNET grantees (finance staff/officers), other interested grant project team
13:00-15:00	MTT Training on Inclusive Knowledge Co-production and Policy Engagement	SUMERNET and MTT grantees, fellows
15:30-17:00	SUMERNET Young Professional (SYP) – MTT Networking Event	SYP coordinators/members, MTT Fellows

Agendas

1. SUMERNET Workshop on Gender Action Plan

Time/Duration	Session	Remarks
Overall facilitator: Dr. Sizwille Khoza Technical facilitator:		
08:30-09:00 (30 mins)	Registration	
10:30-10:45 (15 mins)	Coffee Break	
End of the Training		
12:00-13:00 (60 mins)	Lunch break	

2. SUMERNET Training on Financial Management and Audit

Time/Duration	Session	Remarks
Overall facilitator: Unchulee Lualon Technical facilitator: Arkar Aung		
09:00-09:30 (30 mins)	Registration	

Time/Duration	Session	Remarks
09:35-09:40 (5 mins)	Opening remarks - SUMERNET SC/Secretariat - Sida	Agus Nugroho
09:40-10:05	Training objectives Introduction Expectations	Unchulee Nhan
10:05-10:25 (20 mins)	How finance is contributing to the achievement of project outcomes/objectives Financial management process (budgeting, spending, reporting, audit) Q&A	Nhan
10:25-10:35 (10 mins)	Coffee Break	
10:35-11:05 (30 mins)	Project budgeting and planning (activity-based budgeting, category-based budgeting) Template for project budget Q&A	Agus Lek/Mind
11:05-11:20 (15 mins)	Bookkeeping Currency exchange (gain/loss) Procedure for budget revisions Q&A	Agus Noo/Lek
11:20-11:50 (30 mins)	Financial reporting and audit Template for financial report TOR Audit (incl. sanction list) Q&A	Unchulee Lek/Mind
11:50-12:05 (15 mins)	Reflection on project finance management - Capacity gap - Challenges - Follow-up actions	Nhan Pookkee
12:05-12:10 (5 mins)	Wrap-up and conclusion Run Eval Survey	Unchulee
End of the training		
12:00-13:00 (60 mins)	Lunch break	

3. MTT Training on Inclusive Knowledge Co-production and Policy Engagement

Time/Duration	Session	Remarks
Overall facilitator: Dr. Leonie Pearson, Component 4 Lead, & Dr. Phoummixay Siharath, Component 4 Co-lead Technical facilitator: Mr. Boripat Lebel, Program Coordinator Participants: MTT FS RR grantees, MTT fellows, SMN grantees, other partners		
13:00-13:10 13:10-13:30 13:30-14:15 14:15-14:45	- Welcome Remarks by Dwight Ronan, Senior Program Manager, DFAT, Australian Embassy Bangkok - Panel Discussion: Experience from SUMERNET-MTT: - Facilitated by Sushmita Mandal, Component 3 Lead - Discussed by Dr. Yanyong Inmuong, Director of Research Center for Environment and Sustainability, Mahasarakham University, Thailand & Dr. Ket Pinnara,	

Time/Duration	Session	Remarks
14:45-15:00	Head of Master Program of Water and Environmental Engineering, Institute of Technology of Cambodia - Guiding questions by Stefan and others in audience - Workshopping – identifying who you want to policy engage with and how? in project teams - 20min - Quick round the room with each expert giving 2 hints for what might work - Workshopping – action plan for how inclusive knowledge coproduction can deliver - Round the room with one suggested feedback for each group - Recap of the session and way forward, by Dr.Leonie Pearson, Component 4 Lead	
End of the training		
15:00-15:30 (15 mins)	Coffee Break	

4. SUMERNET Young Professional (SYP) – MTT Collaborative Space

Time/Duration	Session	Remarks
SYP-MTT Collaborative Space Overall Facilitators: Boripat Lebel (SYP advisor) and Bouanong Lathouly (SUMERNET Fellow) Technical Facilitator: Khaing Su Lwin (SUMERNET fellow), Chea Sameang and Sovannarong Tim (MTT Fellows)		
15:30-16:10 (40 mins)	Session 1: Ice-Breaking - Welcome session - Game: Networking Poker - Group photo	Bouanong Lathouly Boripat Lebel
16:10-17:00 (50 mins)	Session 2: World Café - Instructions and split into 3 groups: - Table 1: Based on the expertise in your group, what kind of activities in research or projects could you do together? - Table 2: Based on your group's experience, what are effective ways to communicate or share your work? - Table 3: Which other Mekong Regional network would you suggest for SYP and MTT to partner with? Why and how? - Reps from each table recap on discussions	Sovannarong Tim (Table 1) Chea Sameang (Table 2) Khaing Su Lwin (Table 3)
End of Networking Event		