

SUMERNET Young Professionals (SYP)

SYP National Networking Event for Laos

Date: **Saturday 20 July 2024**
Time: **8:30 – 17:30**
Place: **Varee Cafe, Vientiane Capital, Laos**
Topic: **Addressing critical climate challenges and solutions for sustainable management of water resources in the Mekong River Basin.**

Introduction

The SUMERNET Young Professionals (SYP), an initiative under the Sustainable Mekong Research Network (SUMERNET), is committed to engaging and mobilizing the next generation of leaders in the Mekong Region to address pressing environmental challenges. At the heart of SYP's mission are four key objectives: building a network of young professionals dedicated to environmental science and sustainability, strengthening research skills and capacities among young professionals in the Mekong Region, providing a platform for the exchange of ideas and solutions to environmental challenges, and facilitating cooperation and friendship among young members within the SUMERNET network and beyond.

The SYP Laos National Event is a significant step forward in our ongoing work to promote environmental sustainability and empower young professionals in Laos. This event provides a platform to advance these goals by promoting the Sustainable Youth Platform and facilitating open discussions on youth involvement in critical issues such as climate change, water security, urbanization, and environmental sustainability. Through collaboration with key partners, SYP aims to inspire and empower young individuals and researchers to actively contribute to positive environmental change in Laos and the wider Mekong Region

Objectives

- Promote SYP and its mission among young professionals in Laos
- Build awareness and understanding of critical climate challenges facing the Mekong River.
- Foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among youths, young professionals, researchers, and stakeholders to develop innovative solutions for sustainable water resource management in the Mekong region.

Participation

Youths, Young professionals, and young researchers (aged 18-35) who are actively engaged or interested in climate actions and environmental sustainability. Interested individuals need to register for the event via an [online registration form](#).

Number of Participants: Maximum of 30 seats

Language: Lao

Collaboration/Partnership

Aligning with SYP's objective of facilitating cooperation and friendship among young professionals and partner organizations, SYP is going to invite guest speakers from relevant

organizations working for environmental sustainability to share their experiences and insights. These include:

- Valy Phommachak - Co-founder and CEO of Econox Laos
- Ms Oulavanh Sinsamphanh - Head of Postgraduate Division at The Faculty of Environmental Science, National University of Laos.
- Dr. Keonakhone Khounvilay - Chemical Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, National University of Laos

Agenda

Time/Duration	Agenda	Who
Overall Facilitator: Souphavanh SENSOUPHANH (SYP Country Coordinator for Laos) + Volunteers		
8:30-9:00	Registration	HUBBO Volunteer
9:00-9:15	Session 1 • Welcome and Opening remarks	SYP Steering Committee Representative Souphavanh (SYP country coordinator)
9:15-9:30	Session 2 • Energizing • Participants Introduction/ expectations	Volunteers
9:30-9:35	Photo session	
9:35-9:50	Session 3 • Introduction about SYP mission and workshop objectives	Souphavanh SENSOUPHANH , SYP Country Coordinator for Laos
9:50-10:00	Coffee Break	
10:00-11:30	Session 4: Panel Discussion on Addressing critical climate challenges and solutions for sustainable management of water resources in the Mekong River Basin. • Valy Phommachak - Co-founder and CEO of Econox Laos • Ms Oulavanh Sinsamphanh - Head of Postgraduate Division at The Faculty of Environmental Science, National University of Laos. • Dr. Keonakhone Khounvilay - Chemical Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, National University of Laos	Moderator: Souphavanh SENSOUPHANH , SYP Country Coordinator for Laos
11:30-12:00	Q&A	
12:00-13:00	Lunch Break	
13.00 – 14.10	Session 5: Group Brainstorming Session using the Problem and Solutions Circle Toolkit • Note: Participants will be divided into two groups, with each group assigned one of the following topics: climate change, and water security. The groups will engage in collaborative discussions and brainstorming using the toolkit to explore challenges and solutions within their respective topic areas	Souphavanh SENSOUPHANH , SYP Country Coordinator for Laos + Volunteers
14:10-14:40	Group's presentation	
14.40 – 14.50	Coffee Break	

14.50 – 15:30	Session 6: Looking forward to future pathway with SYP .	Facilitated by Souphavanh SENSOUPHANH , SYP Country Coordinator for Laos
15:30-16:00	Refreshments and key takeaway	Facilitated by Souphavanh SENSOUPHANH , SYP Country Coordinator for Laos
16:00-17:00	Networking	