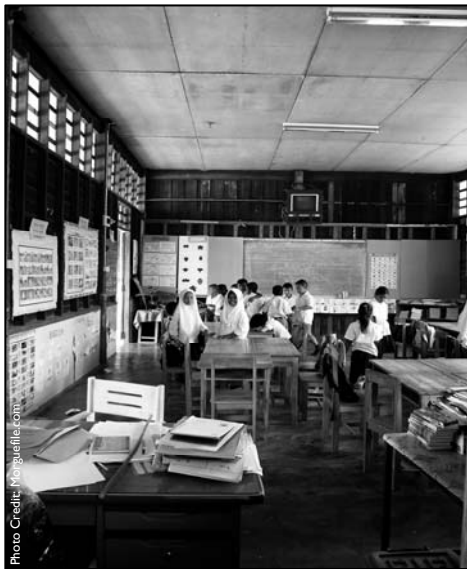




# Lower Mekong Initiative: Education Pillar

June 2013



*The LMI Education Pillar aims to reduce socioeconomic disparities through fostering educational opportunities aimed at human development*

**Contact: LMI Coordination Hub**

Athenee Tower, 63 Wireless Road  
Bangkok 10330 Thailand  
Office: +66-2-257-3367  
Fax: +66-2-257-3099  
E-mail: [lmihub@gmail.com](mailto:lmihub@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.lowermekong.org/](http://www.lowermekong.org/)  
Twitter: @LMI\_Hub

## BACKGROUND

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) is a regional effort to foster integrated sub-regional cooperation and capacity building among Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. Under the LMI Education Pillar, the United States is supporting LMI partner countries through bilateral and regional programs that improve English language capacity, increase technical and teacher training, and foster greater regional cooperation. This pillar is co-chaired by Thailand and the United States.

## APPROACH

The LMI Education Pillar provides cross-cutting support to the other LMI Pillars, builds educational networks and promotes cooperation across the Lower Mekong sub-region. In particular, the Education Pillar seeks to:

1. Increase English language and technical English capacity;
2. Promote technical training and networking opportunities among experts through leveraging regional training centers and institutes;
3. Broaden opportunities for sub-regional exchanges of experts;
4. Strengthen teacher training, including through assistance in curriculum development, pedagogy, and capacity building for educators and administrative personnel; and
5. Encourage regional cooperation on educational reform.

## ACTIVITIES

The LMI Education Pillar activities promote education reform and increase access to educational and training opportunities through:

- Supporting innovative programs to improve the quality of higher education faculty, administration, management, and curricula;
- Training public officials in the LMI partner countries working in technical sectors essential to connectivity;
- Providing annual sponsorship and scholarly exchanges with Mekong countries under the Fulbright Program; and
- Promoting networking opportunities among regional experts and alumni of sub-regional programs and U.S.-LMI exchanges.