

**Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral, Technical, and Economic Cooperation
(BIMSTEC) Transport Infrastructure and Logistics Study (BTILS)
Update and Enhancement
Workshop on Phase I of the Study
Mae Sot, Thailand
19-20 March 2014**

AGENDA

Expected participants: BIMSTEC Working Group (BWG) focal persons (responsible for BIMSTEC program coordination) and BIMSTEC sector officials responsible for (i) road development; (ii) rail development; and (iii) port administration	
Objectives:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To reflect on the updates of the original BTILS Interim Report, especially on the 2007-2013 developments (trade/ transport environment) that have been included in each mode in each country, and to seek the countries' validation/confirmation of the assessment of issues in the Phase I Report (the basis for development of BTILS Update and Enhancement policies, strategies and projects); (ii) To review the identified national transport and logistics programs¹ designed to develop the "hard" and "soft" infrastructure between 2013 and 2020 (or up to respective limits of existing national plans), toward developing a long list of BTILS projects; (iii) To discuss the potential long term projects post-2020 which could have longer term implications in relation to BIMSTEC connectivity; (iv) To consider suggested criteria for shortlisting projects for BIMSTEC; and (v) To identify possible changes needed in developing future policies, strategies and performance monitoring criteria based on SWOT² analysis of existing BIMSTEC strategies. 	
19 March	Plenary Meeting <i>(The Meeting will involve holding of inter-related modules designed to lead to the development of BIMSTEC policies and strategies, and a "short-list" of potential BIMSTEC "flagship" projects, to be identified in Phase 2 of Study)</i>
0845 – 0910	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks by Thailand – Workshop Chair • Opening Remarks by ADB – Workshop Co-Chair <i>(ADB Head of Delegation will situate the workshop's objectives in the context of ADB's support for the BIMSTEC program)</i> • Brief opening statements by Heads of Country Delegations

¹ Focus is on initiatives that directly connect BIMSTEC countries, or are key arterial routes connecting hinterlands to main ports, or are "national projects of regional significance".

² SWOT: Strengths- Weaknesses- Opportunities- Threats

0910 – 1030	<p>Module 1: Overview of Regional transport Environment</p> <p>Presentation by ADB Study Team on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) BIMSTEC trade/ transport and logistics environment, through profiling of each country from a current economic, trade and transport perspective; and (ii) Key regional transport issues, highlighting some of the key infrastructure and services issues present that may impact on policies and strategies and on selection of “hard” and “soft” projects³. <p>The presentation will be followed by open discussion.</p>
1030 – 1045	<i>Group Photo and Coffee Break</i>
1045 – 1215	<p>Module 2: Country Situation Reports/ Confirmation on Assessment of Issues</p> <p>Presentation by the ADB Study team of a summary of the comprehensive BIMSTEC country profiles⁴ detailing the current situation and development programs in relation to transport and logistics. Each country profile contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Current situation by mode, (ii) Programmed developments (contained in country planning documents or donor programs), and (iii) Longer term developments (only indicative projects to commence beyond 2020, suggestive of long term focus of national plans). <p>The presentation will be followed by open discussion. The country representatives will be asked to confirm whether they agree with the assessment of issues as basis for development of BIMSTEC policies/ strategies and projects.</p>
1215 – 1330	<i>Lunch</i>
1330 – 1415	Module 2 (continued)
1415 – 1545	<p>Module 3: Development of Long List of Projects</p> <p>Presentation by ADB Study Team of the long list of projects, with an explanation of the basis of selection and prioritization. This will be followed by open discussion.</p>
1545 – 1600	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>

³ To be adopted at the national level towards the enhancement of BIMSTEC connectivity; some of these issues were alluded to in the original BTILS, while others reflect the changes in the transport market since 2007.

⁴ These profiles represent the base from which the proposed BIMSTEC policies and strategies will evolve and provide initial indications of potential “flagship” projects to enhance regional transport and logistics connectivity.

1600 – 1730	<p>Module 4: Assessment of Existing BTILS Policies and Strategies</p> <p>The ADB Study Team will present an assessment of the existing BTILS policies and strategies as a basis for preparing Phase II of the Study.</p>
20 March	<p>Workshop Summary and Way Forward <i>(This will summarize workshop findings/ agreements, chart the next steps and way forward and consider the workshop summary)</i></p>
0900 – 0930	<p>Workshop Summary</p> <p>The Chair will summarize the key findings and agreements of the first day of the Workshop, with focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Key trade/ transport/ logistics environment issues in each country; (ii) Agreed long list of projects and the basis for their selection/ prioritization; and (iii) Findings of the assessment of the BIMSTEC Policies and Strategies.
0930 – 1045	<p>Next Steps and Way Forward in the BTILS</p> <p>Participants will discuss the needed actions to refine/ finalize the Phase I report.</p> <p>They will also discuss the proposed scope, key activities and timeline of Phase II⁵ of the Study. The ADB will also present suggested criteria to be used in developing a BIMSTEC shortlist of priority projects, which will be discussed by the participants.</p>
1045 – 1115	<i>Coffee Break</i>
1115 – 1145	<p>Consideration of the Workshop Summary <i>(The meeting participants will review the summary of workshop proceedings, paragraph by paragraph, with the aim of formally adopting the summary by the end of the session)</i></p>
1145 – 1200	<p>Wrap Up/ Closing Session</p> <p>The ADB Co-Chair will summarize the key agreements of the workshop and give his concluding remarks.</p>
1200 – 1330	<i>Lunch</i>
1330 – 1800	Field Visit: Mae Sot-Myawaddy Border Crossing Point

⁵ The organization of revised BIMSTEC policies, strategies and action plans in Phase II will be modally-based. Phase II will review existing BTILS policies, strategies and action plans, measure their success to date, and identify bottlenecks and environmental changes affecting success, in order to determine whether different approaches may be needed for the 2014-2020 proposals. Phase II will reduce the “long list” of infrastructure needed into a “short list” of priority projects based on agreed selection criteria. Evaluation of investment priorities in Phase II will require understanding the modal options for trade movement within the region from a multimodal/ intermodal perspective.