



YOUR LOGO



Geography and Historical Context CLMV

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY

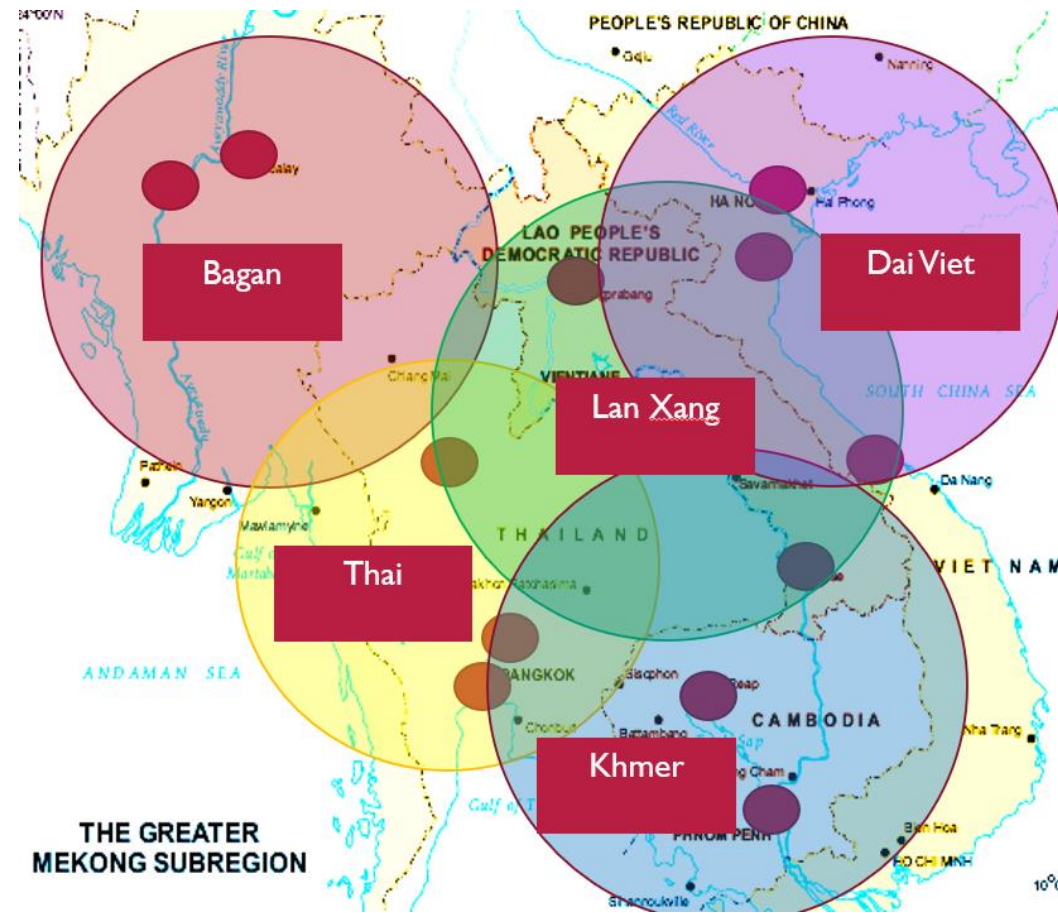
Greater Mekong Subregion

- Comprises Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam; and Yunnan Province and Guangxi Special Autonomous Region (PR China)
- Bound by geography, history, and the Mekong river; yet diverse in culture, traditions and environment
- Least urbanized; yet rate of urbanization is increasing



Commonalities across CLMV

- **History:** conflict and cooperation; colonization; post WW II conflicts; economic growth and development
- **Main cities:** ancient capital cities located along waterways and fertile valleys
- **Transportation:** waterways to transport agricultural goods and people
- **Agriculture:** declining share in overall economy
- **Cities:** Rapid urban growth and development
- **Buddhism** as common belief in all CLMV countries

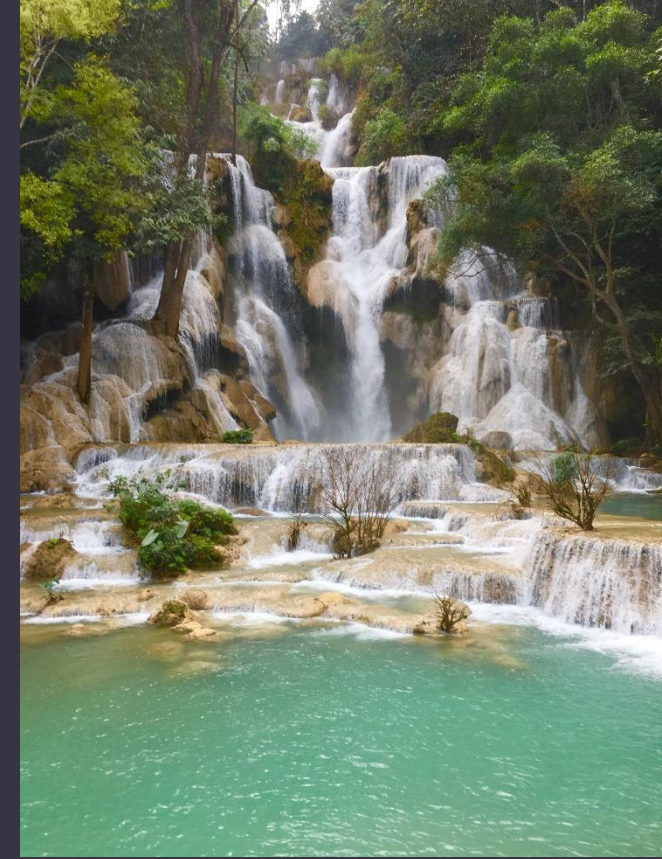


Differences

- Geography
- Language
- Ethnicity
- Customs and traditions







Comparisons

Country	Population (mil)	Area (000 m3)	GNI per capita	% urban population	HDI Rank (UN)
Cambodia	15.4	180	1,140	25	143
Lao PDR	7.1	236	2,150	37	138
Myanmar	14.5	675	1,190	31	145
Thailand	87	513	5,640	51	87
Viet Nam	115	332	2,060	37	115



Colonial Exploitation, 1800–1950

- Division and conquest
- Resource extraction and exploitation
- Rise of port cities
- Migration of population to cities



War and Conflict 1950–1990

- Political and economic instability
- Stagnant development
- De-population of urban areas
- De-linking of urban and rural areas



Economic Transformation 1990–current

- Relative political stability
- Political and economic reforms
- Shift from command- towards market-based economies
- Increased cross-border movement
- Rapid urbanization and urban growth
- Uncontrolled development



CLMV ECONOMIES



Drivers of Economic Growth

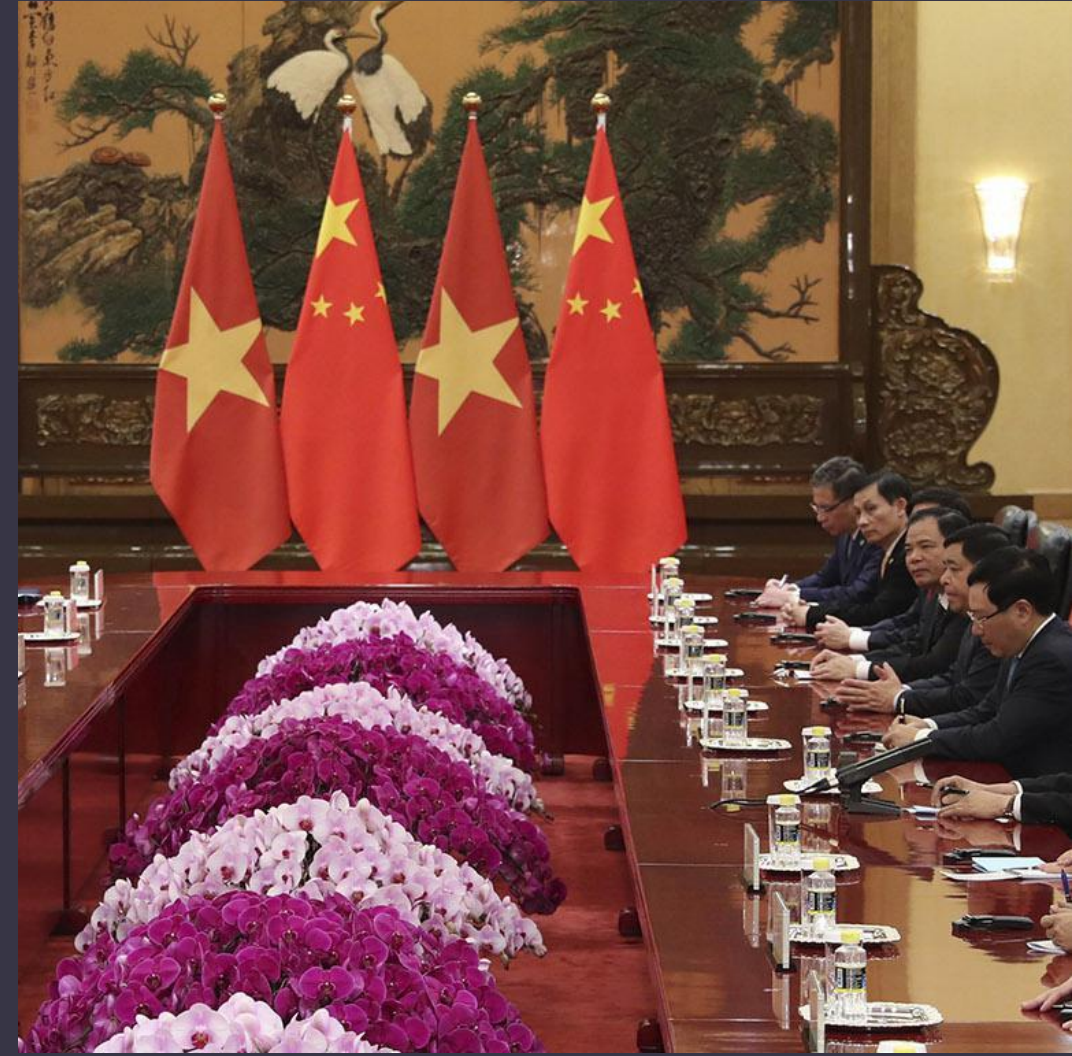
Global Trends

- Division of labor: movement towards higher value products
- Global finance: movement of global capital to areas of high returns
- Technology: movement towards higher technology and use of information systems
- Regional cooperation: ease of cross-border movement of goods and people



Government Policies and Strategies

- Move from command- to market-based economies; agricultural reforms; decentralization
- Regulations, decrees, instructions
- Incentives and constraints on development activities
- Enabling environment for business



Regional Cooperation

- Economic exchange: cross-border trade, labor, capital
- Human development: health, education
- Environmental and natural resource management; tourism
- GMS Programme, launched in 1992



Transport and Trade Facilitation

- Physical connectivity: roads, airports, cross-border facilities, reduces travel time
- Competitiveness in the production of goods and services
- Economic growth and productivity; better flow of people, goods and services
- Opening up of remote and isolated areas



Foreign Investment

- Official Development Assistance
- Foreign direct investment
- Special Economic Zones
- Partnerships: contract farming, public-private partnerships



Rural Urban Migration

- Push and pull factors: environmental degradation, lack of employment and income, better job prospects in cities
- Increased mobility due to decreasing transportation costs
- Changes in spatial locations of economic activities
- Opening up of remote areas





TRENDS IN CLMV

Reforms and challenges

- Reforms and government policies of CMLV countries have greatly contributed to opening up the economy
- Challenges: widening disparities between the rich and poor; environmental degradation; and infrastructure gaps in urban areas
- People are moving to cities because of perception of better living; cities are therefore becoming larger but will need to be better managed



Shift from agriculture towards manufacturing

- Agriculture will continue to play a dominant role in the economies of CLMV
- However there is a shift towards decreasing share of agriculture and greater share of manufacturing and services
- Greater cooperation among countries in the Greater Mekong Subregion provides opportunities for economic growth



Trends

- Social relationships and norms are changing because of increased physical and social mobility
- Previously isolated areas are now more accessible; more opportunities for economic activity but at the same time poses environmental and social challenges
- Emergent spatial trends: development of border towns, areas of tourism and special economic zones



CONCLUSION



Conclusion

- CMLV countries have a shared history of trade, conflict and cooperation, and have had high and low points in history. Yet the countries have marked differences in their geography, culture and development trajectories.
- Since the 1990s there has been a realization for the need to work together for mutual benefit. The GMS Programme which was initiated in 1992 was instrumental in making this happen.



Conclusion

- Agriculture has been and will continue to play a dominant role in the economies of CLMV. However there is a shift towards decreasing share of agriculture and greater share of manufacturing and services.
- Despite significant progress in terms of economic growth, there are challenges that need to be addressed. Among these are widening disparities between the rich and poor; environmental degradation and pollution; and ensuring sustainable development



THANK **Y**OU!