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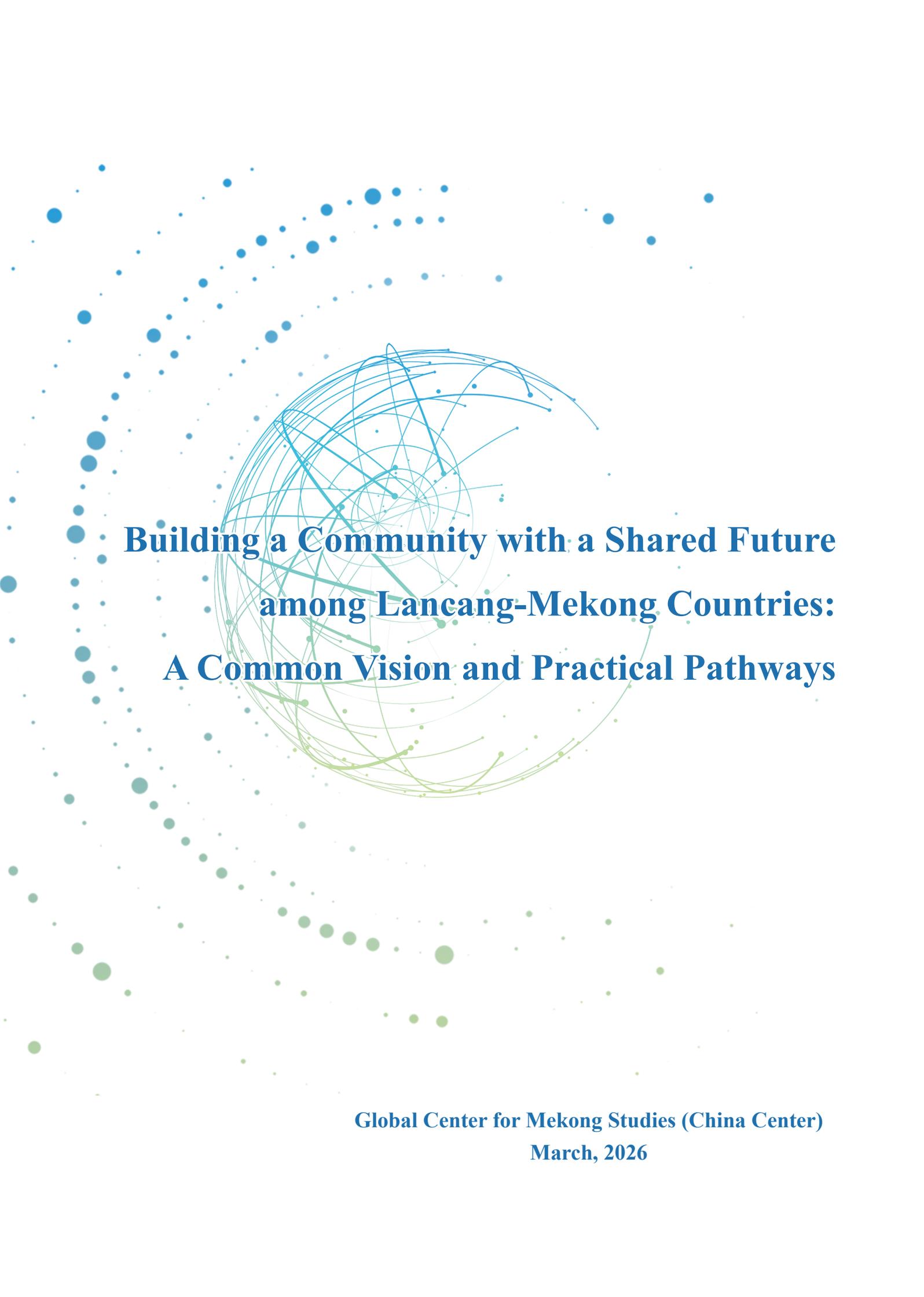
**Building a Community with a Shared Future  
among Lancang-Mekong Countries:  
A Common Vision and Practical Pathways**

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**Global Center for Mekong Studies (China Center)**

**March, 2026**





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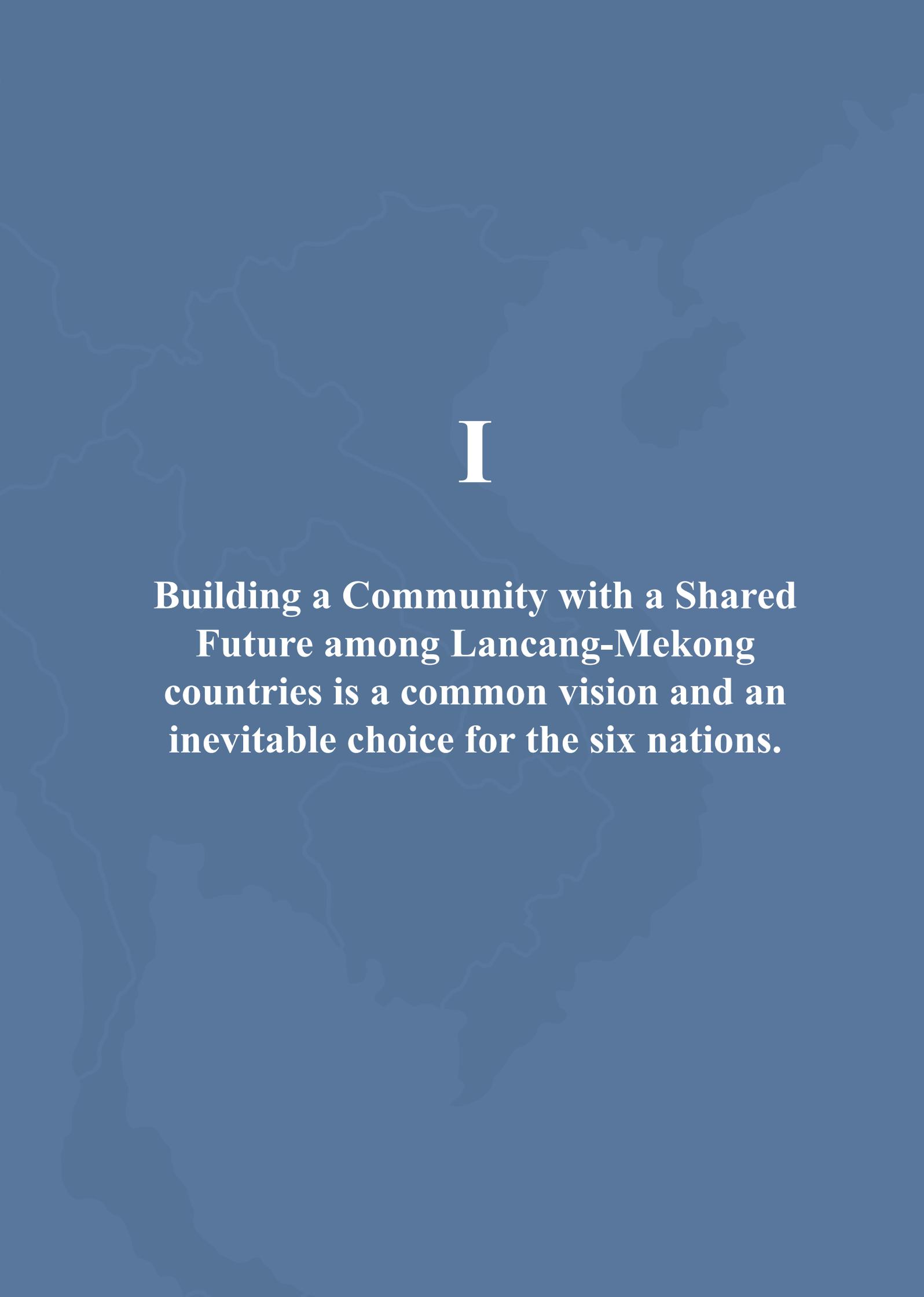
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The Lancang-Mekong River connects six countries. Within the river basin, China, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam are geographically close, culturally interconnected, economically intertwined, and share a common future. 2026 marks the tenth anniversary of the official launch of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC). China proposed the establishment of the Lancang-Mekong dialogue and cooperation mechanism at the 17th China-ASEAN Summit in November 2014, which was echoed by five countries, namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. The first LMC Leaders' Meeting was held in March 2016 in Sanya, China, during which the Sanya Declaration was adopted, stating that the LMC is aimed at building a community with a shared future of peace and prosperity.

Over the past decade, the six Lancang-Mekong countries have upheld the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, put into practice the vision of a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity, and achieved concrete and substantial outcomes in cooperation across various fields. As a result, Lancang-Mekong cooperation has become one of the most dynamic and promising cooperation mechanisms in the subregion, serving as an important platform for safeguarding regional peace and stability, promoting regional development and prosperity, and advancing the

modernization of each country. Standing at this historic milestone marking the 10th anniversary, the six Lancang-Mekong countries need even more urgently to build consensus, deepen cooperation, and push forward the construction of an even closer Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries in a practical and effective manner. They should lead the way in advancing regional and subregional economic cooperation and integration, turning the vision of building a “Five Major Homes” together into reality, and setting an exemplary model and benchmark for building a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity.





# I

**Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries is a common vision and an inevitable choice for the six nations.**



## **Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang–Mekong countries is a common vision and an inevitable choice for the six nations.**

### **1. Building a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity has become a widespread consensus within the international community.**

The world has entered a new period of profound turbulence and transformation, with global challenges emerging one after another. Human society is facing unprecedented challenges, confronted with historic choices: peace or war, prosperity or decline, unity or confrontation. Chinese President Xi Jinping has put forward the idea of a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity, pointing out that the Earth is like a tiny speck of dust in the vast universe—humanity shares this single global village, and there is no other

alternative. At present, the concept of building a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity continues to be enriched and refined, and has now evolved into a systematic and comprehensive scientific framework:

To build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, common security, and common prosperity. The goal is to advance a path toward global governance based on principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits; to uphold the common values of humanity as the general guiding principle; to provide fundamental support for fostering a new type of international relations; and to implement the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, the Global Civilization Initiative and the Global Governance Initiative as a strategic guide and using high-quality Belt and Road cooperation as a practical platform, we will promote cooperation among countries to jointly address challenges and achieve common prosperity, propelling the world toward a bright future of peace, security, prosperity, and progress.

Building a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity has expanded from a Chinese initiative to an international consensus, transformed from a vision into rich and concrete practices, and evolved from a concept into a scientific framework—becoming a

shining banner that guides the prospects of our era as evidenced in documents of the United Nations and numerous regional organizations, as well as in bilateral cooperation agreements. The goal is not to replace one system or civilization with another. Instead, it is about countries with different social systems, ideologies, histories, cultures and levels of development coming together to promote shared interests, shared rights, and shared responsibilities in global affairs, forming the greatest common denominator for jointly building a better world.

## **2. Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries is a common vision and an inevitable choice for the six nations.**

Lancang-Mekong Six Countries “Sharing the same river, our fates are closely intertwined”. Jointly stepping toward modernization and building a closer Community with a Shared Future is not only the common strategic vision of the six countries but also the pragmatic choice for addressing the complex international landscape. At present, geopolitical competition is on the rise, supply chains are being reshaped at an accelerated pace, and pressures for green transformation are intensifying, building a Community with a shared Future has become the core pathway for the six countries to unite

and collaborate in jointly addressing uncertainties. The inevitability of this approach is deeply rooted in their historical and cultural heritage, current development realities, external environment, and ASEAN Community building.

First, from a historical and cultural perspective, there is a solid foundation and good conditions for building a community with a shared future. The Lancang-Mekong River basin has rich historical heritages, diverse civilizations and cultures, and a long history of exchanges and mutual understandings. Buddhism, Christianity and Islam converged here, and Chinese and Southeast Asian cultures merged here. The Ancient Tea Horse Road and the Shu-Indochina Road have greatly facilitated the exchanges and blending of civilizations in the region, nurturing the values of peace, harmony, openness and inclusiveness as well as the cultural outlook of treating each other equally and learning from each other.

In the process of striving for national independence and liberation and exploring the paths of modern development, the people of the six countries formed deep friendships through mutual respect, sympathy and support, and created a model of international relations of peaceful coexistence, mutual benefit and win-win results. More than 70 years ago, China, Myanmar and India jointly put forward the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. By proposing

the Bandung Spirit of solidarity, friendship and cooperation, leaders of newly independent countries together set up a great example of handling state-to-state relations and made significant contributions to promoting peace in Asia and the world. Since its establishment, the LMC has taken building a community with a shared future as a common vision, which is the promotion and sublimation of the cultural traditions and political mutual trust of the six countries.

Second, from the perspective of development realities, building a closer Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries is the demand of the six countries to actively explore a path of development that is in line with conditions of the LMC member countries. The six parties have different economic and resource endowments, but all are at the stage of rapid development and transformation, with both good opportunities and complex challenges. The six countries share similar conditions and development philosophies, actively advocate multilateralism, actively participate in regional and sub-regional cooperation, attach importance to synergizing their own development with regional development, and look forward to promoting regional economic cooperation and integration, giving full play to their own strengths, participating in global production and supply and value chains, and achieving their development goals.

The Lancang-Mekong River serves as a natural link, connecting the six Lancang-Mekong countries and enabling them to share the same river waters, making the six countries a community with a shared future naturally. The Lancang-Mekong countries are brought together by water, and Lancang-Mekong Cooperation thrives because of water. Water resource cooperation is one of the highest-priority areas for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation. As a responsible upstream country, China has shared nearly 100,000 pieces of hydrological data with countries in the basin over the past decade. On the basis of respecting each country's sovereign rights over the development and utilization of water resources, the six countries, guided by the concept of a Community with a Shared Future, have actively deepened practical cooperation on water resources, continuously built platforms for water resource cooperation mechanisms, and improved the comprehensive basin governance framework. These efforts have become important drivers for promoting sustainable development in the Lancang-Mekong River basin and strengthening the sense of community among its nations.

Third, from the perspective of the external environment, building a closer community with a shared future among Lancang-Mekong countries is conducive to hedging against negative tendencies such as geopolitization in the process of regional cooperation. These

days, changes of the world, of our times and of history are unfolding in ways like never before. The world has entered a new period of turbulence and change. The momentum of global economic recovery and growth is slowing down. Unilateralism, protectionism and anti-globalization are on the rise. The building of a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity and the implementation of Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, Global Civilization Initiative and Global Governance Initiative reflect the voices of the people all over the world in pursuit of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy and freedom, and indicate the correct direction of historical evolution, which are recognized by more and more countries and people.

The six Lancang-Mekong countries insist on national sovereignty and independence, and adhere to a development path that suits their own national conditions, work together to achieve modernization, and persist in founding and promoting Lancang-Mekong Cooperation “on the basis of consensus, equal treatment, mutual respect, consultation and coordination, voluntary participation, joint contribution and sharing”. At the same time, the six countries seize the opportunity of the new scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation to deepen cooperation in various fields, explore new drivers in practical

cooperation and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This provides wisdom and sets a model for the developing countries to realize common development through solidarity and cooperation.

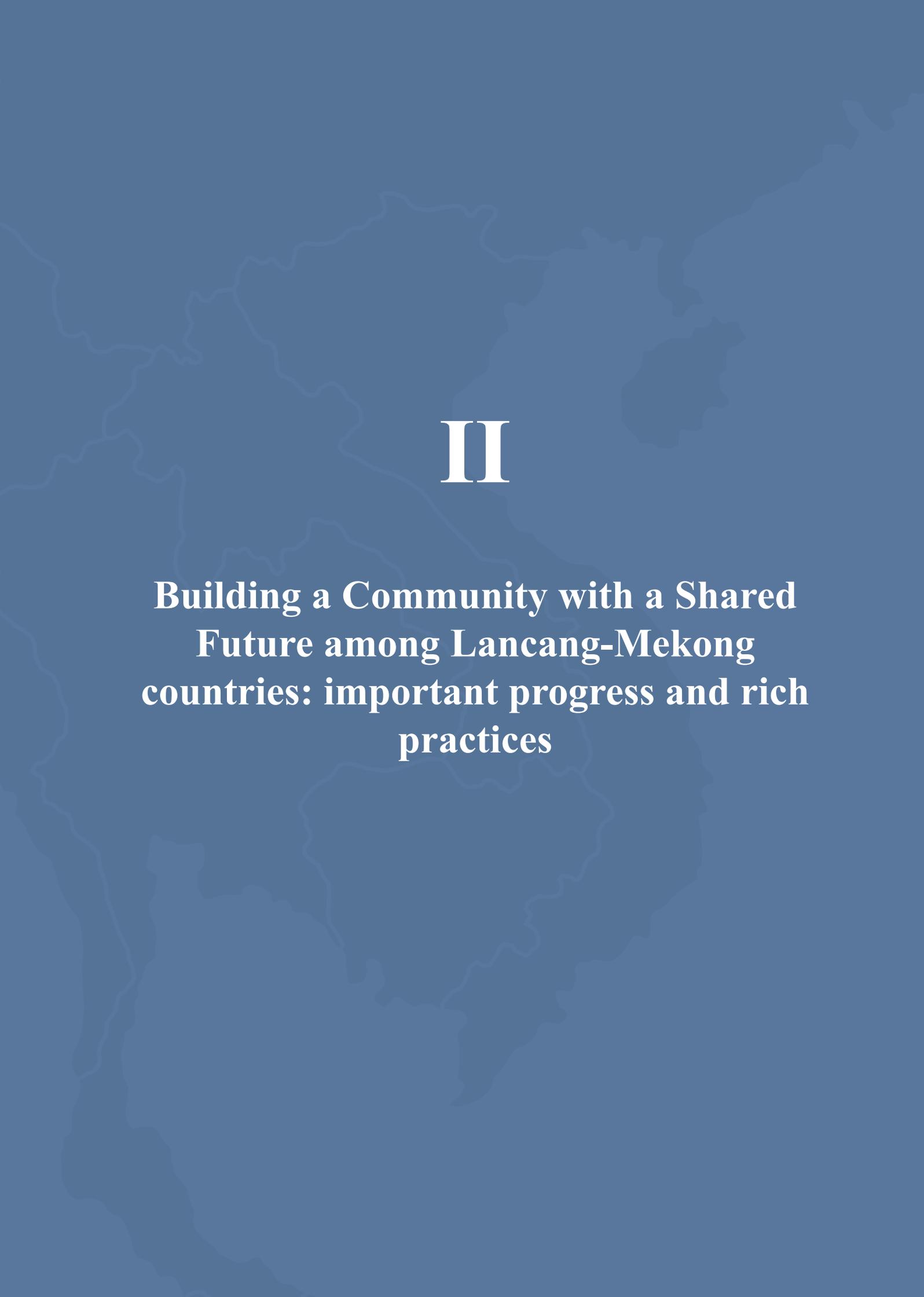
Fourth, from the perspective of ASEAN, the LMC is becoming an important new impetus for the ASEAN Community to realize the 2045 agenda. In 2025, the 46th ASEAN Summit adopted the “Kuala Lumpur Declaration” and the “ASEAN Community Vision 2045” (ACV2045) Together with the related strategic blueprints, these documents collectively constitute the “ASEAN 2045 Agenda”, providing guiding principles and planning for the development of the ASEAN Community over the next 20 years. The “Kuala Lumpur Declaration” underscores ASEAN’s continued commitment to inclusiveness and sustainable development, as well as its determination to unite effectively in addressing current and future development trends, thereby enhancing ASEAN’s resilience and promoting collective, efficient, and innovative responses to regional and global challenges. The “ASEAN Community Vision 2045” with the theme of “resilient, innovative, dynamic and people-centered regional community” and focusing on the three pillars of political security, economy, and socio-culture, the strategy outlines six key strategic directions—sustainable infrastructure, digital innovation,

and smooth logistics and supply chains—thus charting a course for ASEAN’s development over the next 20 years.

Since its launch, the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation has been closely aligned with the building of the ASEAN Community. The Sanya Declaration stated that the LMC is committed to promoting the economic and social development in the region, improving people’s well-being, narrowing development gap among countries, and contributing to the construction of the ASEAN Community. The Five-Year Action Plan for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (2023-2027) further emphasizes the need for synergy and alignment with documents such as the “ASEAN Community Vision 2025” and the “Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025”, which clearly demonstrates that the advancement of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation—especially the building of a closer Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries—can provide new and powerful impetus for the construction of the ASEAN Community. Building a closer Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries is a key initiative through which the six countries can help bring the “ASEAN 2045 Agenda” to fruition.







# II

**Building a Community with a Shared  
Future among Lancang-Mekong  
countries: important progress and rich  
practices**



## **Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang–Mekong countries: important progress and rich practices**

Over the past decade, the six Lancang-Mekong countries have worked together with dedication and practical action. Thanks to the joint efforts of these six nations, Lancang-Mekong Cooperation has created an LMC speed featuring “progress every day, achievements every month, and advancement every year” and fostered an LMC culture featuring equality, sincerity, mutual assistance and kinship and has become one of the most dynamic and promising new mechanisms in the subregion. Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries is at the forefront of the great practice of building a Community with a Shared Future for humanity, playing an important role as a leader and model.

## **1. Achieving Full Coverage of the Bilateral Community with a Shared Future, Laying a Solid Political Foundation for the Regional Community with a Shared Future.**

The building of a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity is a great theoretical and practical exploration and an important systematic project that needs to be promoted in many aspects and areas. Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries rests on bilateral foundations and hinges on mutual trust. Over the past decade, China-Laos, China-Cambodia, China-Myanmar, China-Thailand, and China-Vietnam have successively announced their joint efforts to build bilateral communities with a shared future, achieving full coverage of such communities under the Lancang-Mekong framework. China-Cambodia and China-Laos have also formulated relevant action plans for concrete implementation. The promotion of building a closer community with a shared future among the LMC countries has been provided with important political guarantees and strong support.

The Chinese and Lao parties were the first to agree upon and implement the building of a community with a shared future at the bilateral level. In 2019, The signing of Action Plan for Building a

China-Laos community with a shared future marks the beginning of a new chapter in China-Laos relations and has become a benchmark and symbol for the Lancang-Mekong countries in jointly building a community with a shared future at the bilateral level. Cambodia is the first country to sign with China an action plan for building a community with a shared future. The establishment of a community with a shared future jointly built by China and Cambodia marks the entry of bilateral relations into a new era characterized by high quality, high standards, and high levels. During President Xi Jinping's state visit to Cambodia in April 2025, the leaders of the two countries jointly announced that they would elevate bilateral relations to All-Weather China-Cambodia Community with a Shared Future in the New Era. In January 2020, China and Myanmar announced the joint building of a China-Myanmar community with a shared future, thereby further deepening and solidifying the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries. China and Thailand announced the establishment of a more stable, more prosperous, and more sustainable China-Thailand community with a shared future, charting the course for the future development of both countries and providing new impetus among Lancang-Mekong cooperation. In December 2023, China and Vietnam issued the Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the

Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Further Deepening and Upgrading the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and Building a China-Vietnam Community with a Shared Future of Strategic Significance, outlining a blueprint for the comprehensive strategic cooperation between China and Vietnam in the new era. China and Vietnam continue to deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership of cooperation and accelerate the building of a China-Vietnam community with a shared future of strategic significance, which will better benefit the peoples of both countries and contribute positive energy and stability to regional peace, stability, and development as well. The continuous upgrading of bilateral relations among the six countries has enabled them to become trusted good neighbors, good friends, and good partners, thereby fostering strong political consensus for overall Lancang-Mekong cooperation.

## **2. Advancing the Unique LMC Cooperation Model in an Orderly Manner, Consolidating the Foundation for Pragmatic Cooperation.**

Over the past decade, the six Lancang-Mekong countries have shared a common vision and concerted efforts, consistently upholding the principles of “development first, equal consultation, pragmatism and efficiency, and openness and inclusiveness”,

establishing a comprehensive, multi-level, and wide-ranging cooperation framework. The Lancang-Mekong Cooperation has created a cooperative structure characterized by “leadership guidance, all-round coverage, and participation from all relevant sectors”. The six countries’ Foreign Ministries have all established national secretariats or coordinating bodies for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation. The joint working groups in the priority areas of connectivity, production capacity, cross-border economy cooperation, water resources management, agriculture and poverty reduction are advancing in an orderly manner, and the mechanisms of water resources, agriculture, environmental protection, the Center for Youth Exchange and Cooperation and the Global Center for Mekong Studies are operating efficiently, injecting an unceasing impetus for the deepening of cooperation in various fields.

### **(1) Water resource cooperation has become a benchmark area.**

Water management cooperation in the LMC sub-region has been fruitful. The six countries have made new progress in cooperation in technical exchanges, research, information sharing and capacity building. The LMC countries have been committed to strengthening synergies in water resources cooperation on a voluntary basis, in

accordance with their own comfort level, national conditions and available resources, so as to realize a sustainable future and share the fruits. Cooperation on water resources has evolved from information sharing to collaborative governance. The mechanism for sharing hydrological data on an annual basis continues to be optimized, and the collective capacity for emergency response to floods and droughts has been significantly enhanced. The Five-Year Action Plan for Lancang-Mekong Water Resources Cooperation (2023-2027) has been put into practice, and the Lancang-Mekong Water Prosperity and People's Welfare Initiative continues to advance, markedly strengthening the basin's integrated management capabilities.

## **(2) Cooperation on People's wellbeing benefits local communities.**

Lancang-Mekong cooperation is deeply rooted in the people and benefits them as well, always adhering to a people-centered approach. The Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund has so far supported a total of 991 "small but beautiful" projects, covering areas such as agricultural technology promotion, drinking water safety, public health, and vocational training. The "Lancang-Mekong Sweet Water Initiative," launched by China, has built 93 rural water supply projects in Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar, benefiting

12,000 people from 27 villages across seven provinces. Tens of thousands of people have benefited from the implementation of projects such as “Bountiful Lancang-Mekong” and “Green Lancang-Mekong.” The agricultural technology demonstration centers and rural poverty alleviation models shared by China have helped Mekong River countries enhance their capacity for independent development. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the six countries stood together in mutual support; the mechanism for cooperation on traditional medicine has been steadily improved, and the ability to jointly prevent and control infectious diseases has been significantly strengthened, enabling people to truly feel the benefits of Lancang-Mekong cooperation.

### **(3) Security cooperation safeguards regional stability.**

The six countries continue to deepen the “Peaceful Lancang-Mekong Initiative,” leveraging the Lancang-Mekong Comprehensive Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation Center to conduct joint patrols and share information, forcefully cracking down on cross-border crimes and making law enforcement and security cooperation a regular practice. At the same time, ecological security cooperation is being advanced in parallel, with enhanced coordination on air pollution control and environmental governance. China supports

“Mekong Region Agricultural Waste Management” and “PM2.5 Smog Control Research” and other projects through special funds to solidify the safety and security framework for regional development.

### **3. Fostering the Lancang-Mekong Culture of Equality, Sincerity, Mutual Assistance and Affinity, Consolidating the Social and Humanistic Foundations for the Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong**

Upholding the concept of “development-oriented, equal consultation, pragmatic and efficient, open and inclusive cooperation”, the six countries have jointly fostered a Lancang-Mekong culture of equality, sincerity, mutual assistance and affinity, and the sense of cooperation and identity has been continuously strengthened. Over the past decade, the six countries have carried out diverse and colorful people-to-people exchanges in the fields of tourism, sports, media, localities, universities and youth, and actively held brand-name activities such as Forum on Lancang-Mekong Local Government Cooperation and the Eminent Persons’ Forum on Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, to deepen their understanding of each country’s cultures, to feel the vitality and unique charms of each country’s society, and to tighten the bond, mutual understanding and affinity among the people of the six countries. The LMC countries have advanced hand in hand in areas such as joint school

operation, teacher training, and talent cultivation, providing robust technical and talent support for production capacity cooperation and economic development. Regional education cooperation platforms, including the Lancang-Mekong Vocational Education Alliance and the University Alliance of South Asia and Southeast Asia, have continued to grow and strengthen, providing a broad stage for education cooperation among Lancang-Mekong countries.

The six countries have strengthened exchanges and cooperation among mainstream media, organized the “Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Media Summit”, explored the establishment of the “Lancang-Mekong Television and Media Cooperation Alliance”, and enhanced exchanges among governments, academics, media and journalists. They have also strengthened cooperation within international cultural organizations and the “Asian Initiative for Cultural Heritage Conservation”, have held the “Dialogue Between Historic and Cultural Cities of the Lancang-Mekong Countries” and explored the path of modernization and transformation of civilizations. The six countries have also enhanced friendly exchanges between religious affairs departments and promote inter-religious dialogue. The “Lancang-Mekong Visas” has significantly facilitated personnel exchanges. Close personnel interactions and diverse cultural exchanges have fortified the sense of a Lancang-

Mekong community, making the six countries close as one family.

#### **4. Clarifying the Path to Win-Win Cooperation, Guiding the Development of Regional Economic Integration.**

The six Lancang-Mekong countries remain committed to building a large-scale Lancang-Mekong trade and investment market, accelerating the development of Lancang-Mekong Economic Development Belt. This approach has enabled them to transcend and innovate upon traditional regional cooperation concepts and models, continuously strengthening the resilience of regional industrial and supply chains and steadily enhancing the level of economic integration.

##### **(1) Infrastructure connectivity continues to achieve breakthroughs.**

The six countries are continuously improving the construction of railways, highways, airports, ports, and pipeline networks, accelerating the pace of infrastructure development. As a result, the land, rail, and border-crossing channel network in the Lancang-Mekong region is becoming increasingly improved. Since the full-line operation of the China-Laos Railway, freight volumes have continued to grow, making it an important strategic corridor

connecting China with the Indo-China Peninsula. The first-phase construction of the China-Thailand Railway has achieved phased progress, and cross-border railway cooperation between China and Vietnam continues to advance, speeding up the upgrading of the regional logistics system. The New International Land-and-Sea Trade Corridor has been aligned with the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, initially establishing a three-dimensional interconnected framework that integrates land and sea routes and enables multi-directional connectivity.

## **(2) Dual-drive of economic and trade cooperation and collaboration in emerging fields.**

Over the past decade, trade between China and the five Mekong River countries has grown by 150%, creating a mutually complementary and win-win trade pattern. Industrial cooperation models such as cross-border economic cooperation zones and “Two Countries, Twin Parks” are continuously being upgraded, and cooperation in emerging fields—including the digital economy, green energy, and e-commerce—is accelerating. Capacity cooperation is deepening further, with the six countries jointly launching a number of cooperative projects in sectors such as power generation and manufacturing. As a result, the resilience of regional industrial and

supply chains continues to strengthen, and the construction of the Lancang-Mekong Economic Development Belt has smoothly started.

The areas and forms of Lancang-Mekong cooperation continue to innovate, providing new impetus for building a closer community with a shared future. In the face of trends toward digitalization and green transformation, the six countries are accelerating the construction of the Lancang-Mekong Innovation Corridor and deepening cooperation in fields such as artificial intelligence, the digital economy, and cross-border e-commerce. New energy, grid interconnection, and green finance have emerged as new growth drivers for cooperation, speeding up the region's transition toward a green and low-carbon future.

### **(3) The concept of openness and inclusiveness guides mechanism synergy.**

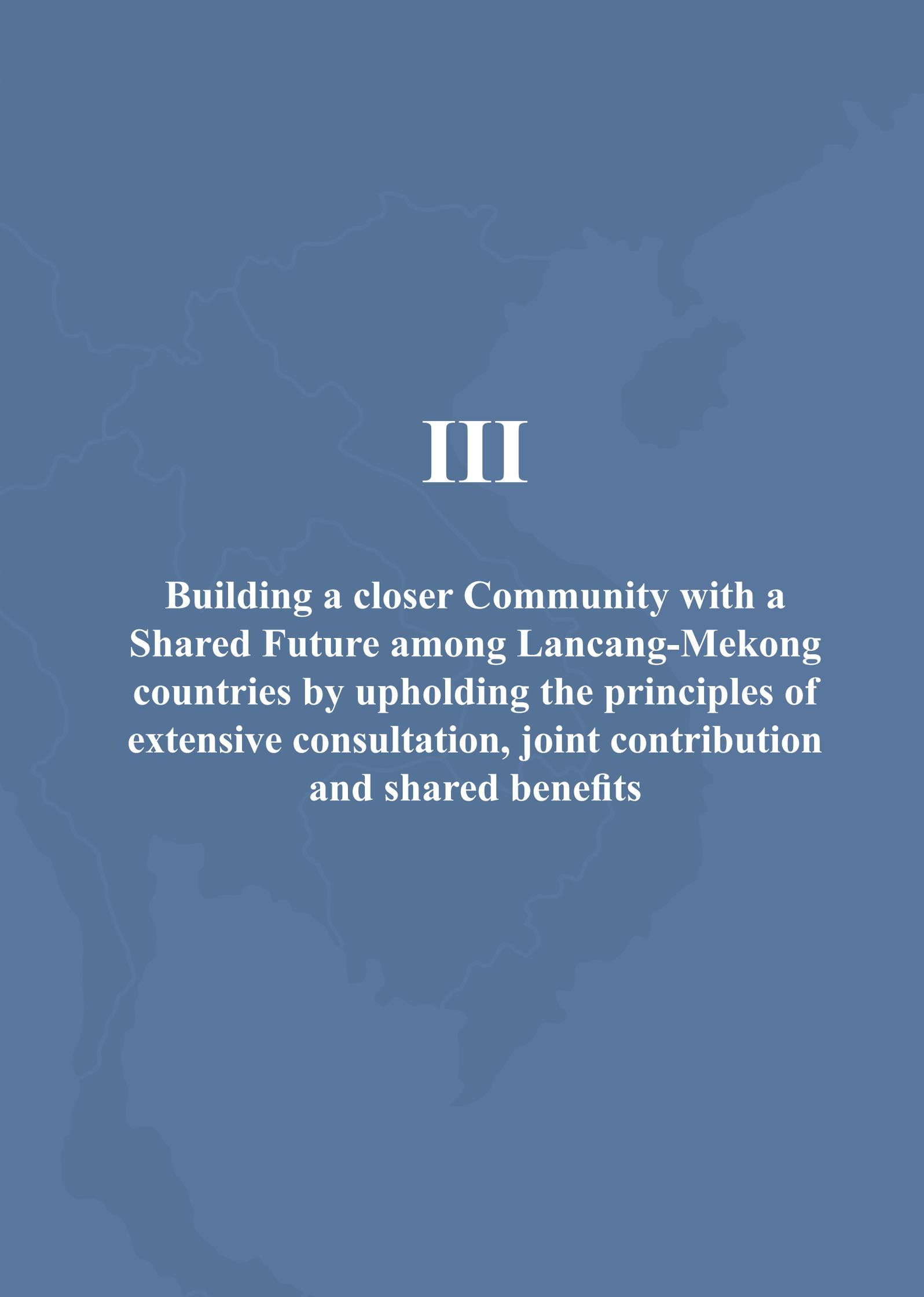
The six Lancang-Mekong countries remain committed to promoting and practicing the principles of openness and inclusiveness, and to staying on the right track toward regional economic integration. Taking economic integration as a means and building a community with a shared future as the ultimate goal, they are advancing the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation while fully aligning it with the construction of the ASEAN Community and China-

ASEAN cooperation. They are also actively exploring synergies and coordination with other regional and international cooperation mechanisms, thereby achieving mutual complement and coordinated development. The practice of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation has demonstrated that subregional cooperation and regional cooperation are not mutually exclusive; rather, they promote each other and integrate organically, thus opening up new pathways for regional economic integration.

At the same time, it should be noted that Building a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries still faces many new tasks and challenges that require attention. For instance, development gaps among and within the six countries are remarkably wide, the degree of integration of economic and social development remains low, and the sense of cooperation is not yet very strong. The LMC has yet to broaden its beneficiary base, and the coordination mechanism and capacity building are lagging behind compared to cooperation reality; meanwhile, the relevant laws and regulations remain unsynchronized and the secretariats in LMC countries lack staff and funding. In terms of the external environment, interference and constraints in various aspects outside the region have increased and become more complicated, and the overlapping of various mechanisms inside and outside the region is still prominent. The

external uncertainties facing cooperation have risen notably. These challenges can be addressed by strong political will, collective efforts as well as closer cooperation and coordination among the LMC member states.





# III

**Building a closer Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries by upholding the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits**



## **Building a closer Community with a Shared Future among Lancang–Mekong countries by upholding the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits**

In 2025, at the 10th Foreign Ministers’ Meeting of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Foreign Minister, proposed building a “Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Version 2.0” characterized by unity and cooperation, openness and win-win outcomes, green innovation, and peace and tranquility, thus charting the course for upgrading and enhancing the quality of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation and ushering it into a new stage of high-quality development. The building of a Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries is now at a new and critical juncture. The six

countries should seize this opportunity to uphold the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits. We should promote the institutionalization of cooperation mechanisms, the deepening of cooperation in various fields, and the universal benefit of cooperation outcomes. By building the Lancang-Mekong community with a shared future into a model and benchmark for a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity, we will jointly build the “five homes”—a home of peace, tranquility, prosperity, beauty, and friendship.

## **1. Strengthen the strategic consultation and build a united and cooperative Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Taking the institutionalization of mechanisms as a starting point, LMC countries will continuously enhance the communication level of six countries’ development strategies, forging a powerful synergy for jointly building a community with a shared future. First, we can formulate and launch the “Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Vision 2035,” refine the top-level design of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, advance efforts to establish an international secretariat, strengthen the coordination functions of national secretariats in each country, improve institutional frameworks such as budgetary guarantees and staffing arrangements, and enhance the efficiency of

the operation of the mechanism. Second, we should further deepen exchanges of governance and state administration experiences among the six countries, strengthen multi-level dialogues among legislative bodies, political parties, and government departments across the six nations, share development models, governance experiences, best practices and promote mutual connectivity in policies, rules, and standards. Third, we should establish a regular strategic communication mechanism, conduct periodic consultations on regional development priorities and global hot issues, consolidate political mutual trust, safeguard the six countries' common interests and common position on international and regional affairs.

## **2. Deepen integrated development and build an open and win-win Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Guided by the development of the Lancang-Mekong Economic Development Belt, LMC countries will promote deep integration among infrastructure, industry, trade, and innovation, thus building a higher-level regional economic integration framework. First, we will continue to advance both soft and hard connectivity in infrastructure, accelerate the construction of key projects such as the China-Laos-Thailand and China-Vietnam cross-border railways,

improve supporting systems for customs clearance at border ports and logistics transportation, deepen cooperation with the new international land-sea trade corridors, and unleash regional synergetic effects. Second, we will build a secure regional industrial and supply chain network, deepen capacity cooperation, upgrade cross-border economic cooperation zones and the “Two Countries, Twin Parks” model, and drive the transformation of traditional industries—such as power generation, manufacturing, and agriculture—toward high-end and intelligent development. Third, we will speed up the construction of the Lancang-Mekong Innovation Corridor, establish a regular meeting mechanism, intensify policy coordination and project cooperation in fields like artificial intelligence, the digital economy, and cross-border e-commerce, and foster new growth drivers such as digital trade and the green economy. Fourth, we will advance Lancang-Mekong sub-regional trade and economic liberalization and facilitation, expand the coverage of bilateral and multilateral trade agreements, explore the establishment of a demonstration zone for trade and investment facilitation along the Lancang-Mekong River, and build a unified large market for the Lancang-Mekong region.

### **3. Adhere to low-carbon-led practices and build a green and innovative Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Focusing on water resource cooperation and green transformation, we will promote harmonious coexistence between humans and nature and achieve sustainable regional development. First, we will deepen coordinated governance of water resources across the entire Lancang-Mekong River basin, accelerate implementation of the Five-Year Action Plan for Lancang-Mekong Water Resource Cooperation (2023-2027), enhance two-way sharing of hydrological information, improve joint mechanisms for disaster prevention and mitigation, and scientifically advance the development and utilization of water resources. We will continue to implement the Lancang-Mekong Water Prosperity and People's Well-being Initiative, ensuring that water resources serve as a bond of cooperation among the six countries rather than a source of contention. Second, we will speed up the region's transition to green energy, strengthen alignment of national power planning, advance cross-border grid construction, gradually establish a unified regional electricity market, deepen cooperation in new energy, energy storage, and energy-saving technologies, and promote the implementation of green and low-carbon projects. Third, we will strengthen

collaborative efforts in ecological and environmental protection by establishing an ecological and environmental monitoring network for the Lancang-Mekong basin, enhancing cooperation in biodiversity conservation, air pollution control, and the resourceful utilization of agricultural waste. We will also promote climate-smart agricultural technologies and jointly address the challenges of climate change. Fourth, we will develop green finance by exploring the establishment of a Lancang-Mekong Green Development Fund to provide financial support for green projects and drive innovation in financial products such as green bonds and carbon trading.

#### **4. Guard common home and build a peaceful and harmonious Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Uphold a common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security outlook, strengthen the regional security architecture, and create a stable environment for development. First, continue to deepen the “Peaceful Lancang-Mekong Initiative,” leveraging the Lancang-Mekong Comprehensive Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation Center to enhance joint patrols, information sharing, and law enforcement cooperation, and severely crack down on drug trafficking, online gambling and telecom fraud cross-boarder crime. Enhance the capacity for security governance in border regions.

Second, improve the joint prevention and control system for public health security by strengthening infectious disease surveillance and early warning, vaccine research and development, and cooperation in traditional medicine, thereby enhancing our ability to respond to public health emergencies and safeguarding the lives and health of people across countries. Third, strengthen joint prevention and control of natural disasters by establishing a collaborative early warning mechanism for meteorological, hydrological, and geological hazards in the Lancang-Mekong River basin, refining the emergency rescue system, and boosting disaster prevention, mitigation, and relief capabilities. Fourth, promote diversified cooperation in the security field by reinforcing coordination in areas such as counterterrorism, maritime security, food security, and energy security, thus building a comprehensive and multi-layered security cooperation framework.

## **5. Prioritize people's wellbeing first and build an inclusive and benefit-for-all Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Always put the people at the center of development, ensuring that the outcomes of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation benefit the peoples of the six countries more widely and equitably, thereby solidifying the social foundation of a community with a shared

future. First, continue to deepen cooperation on poverty reduction and rural development, strengthen policy dialogue and experience sharing, and promote China’s models of rural revitalization and targeted poverty alleviation. Through technical training and project assistance, enhance the capacity of Mekong River countries to independently reduce poverty. Second, expand the coverage of “small but beautiful” livelihood projects, leveraging the catalytic role of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund. Focus on areas vital to people’s wellbeing—such as safe drinking water, education, healthcare, and vocational training—and implement more projects that closely meet the needs of local communities, enabling people to truly see, feel, and enjoy the benefits of cooperation. Third, strengthen digital skills development and talent cultivation by offering scholarships, joint training programs, and skills training initiatives, thus nurturing professional talents who are well-equipped to adapt to the digital economy and green development, helping the six countries address the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Fourth, deepen cultural and people-to-people exchanges, upgrade the facilitation measures under the Lancang-Mekong Visas and promote regular exchanges in tourism, culture, sports, youth, and other fields. Together, we will build a distinctive brand for Lancang-Mekong people-to-people and cultural exchanges, fostering mutual

understanding, friendship, and a sense of kinship among the peoples of the six countries.

## **6. Improve the supporting system and build efficient and Standardized Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Strengthen institutional support in areas such as intellectual capacity, financing, and legal frameworks to provide a solid foundation for upgrading and enhancing Lancang-Mekong Cooperation. First, bolster intellectual support by leveraging platforms such as the Global Center for Mekong Studies and the Lancang-Mekong Water Resources Cooperation Center to conduct research on major regional development issues and provide scientific evidence for cooperative decision-making. Deepen cooperation among universities and research institutions across the six countries and promote the application of research findings. Second, improve the financing guarantee system by strengthening collaboration among central banks and financial institutions of the six countries, expanding the scale of local-currency settlement, exploring the establishment of a Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Financing Platform, and pooling resources from multilateral development banks and special funds to offer diversified financing support for cooperative projects. Third, enhance legal cooperation by improving

the legal framework for cross-border collaboration, engaging in judicial assistance and legal service cooperation, addressing legal challenges in cross-border trade, investment, and construction projects, and safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of businesses and citizens. Fourth, ensure all parties fulfill their respective responsibilities, steadily advance the implementation of the goals outlined in the Five-Year Action Plan for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (2023–2027), establish a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating project implementation, and guarantee that cooperative projects achieve tangible results.

## **7. Highlight collaborative synergy and build an integrated Lancang-Mekong Community.**

Always upholding the concept of open regionalism, we will promote the deep integration of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation with ASEAN’s development, foster synergistic development with both intra-regional and extra-regional cooperation mechanisms, and expand the “circle of friends” of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation. First, we will deepen alignment with the “ASEAN 2045 Agenda,” closely integrating the development of the Lancang-Mekong Economic Development Belt with ASEAN’s strategies on connectivity, digital innovation, and sustainable development, thereby injecting greater

momentum into the building of the ASEAN Community. Second, we will strengthen synergy with regional cooperation mechanisms such as the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area 3.0 and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), promoting alignment of policies and rules and coordinated implementation of cooperation projects to achieve complementary advantages and mutually beneficial outcomes. Third, based on consensus among the six countries, we will innovate the “Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Plus” model, explore establishing dialogue or development partnership mechanisms for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, and attract more like-minded countries and international organizations to join the initiative, providing external support for the building of a community with a shared future. Fourth, we will actively participate in global governance, jointly uphold multilateralism, oppose unilateralism and protectionism, enhance cooperation in areas such as climate change, sustainable development, and global economic governance, elevate the discourse power and influence of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation mechanism in the field of global governance, and promote the construction of a more just and equitable international order.

Standing at the pivotal juncture of the 10th anniversary of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, the six Lancang-Mekong countries

are welcoming a new journey for building the closer Community with a Shared Future. All parties should consistently uphold the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, taking the development of “Lancang-Mekong Cooperation 2.0” as a key driver to continuously deepen practical cooperation across various fields, constantly refine cooperation mechanisms, enhance cooperation effectiveness, and jointly address diverse risks and challenges. We must push forward the construction of the Lancang-Mekong Economic Development Belt in a substantive and effective manner, ensuring that the fruits of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation benefit the people of the six countries more equitably and widely. By doing so, we can truly turn the Community with a Shared Future among Lancang-Mekong countries into a vivid model for building a Community with a Shared Future for Humanity, injecting sustained momentum into regional peace, stability, and common development and prosperity, and together writing a new chapter of high-quality development for Lancang-Mekong Cooperation.





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