



**global Transport Knowledge Partnership**

**Southeast Asia Community Access Partnership SEACAP**

**LOW VOLUME ROADS WORKSHOP  
Napier, New Zealand, July 2009**

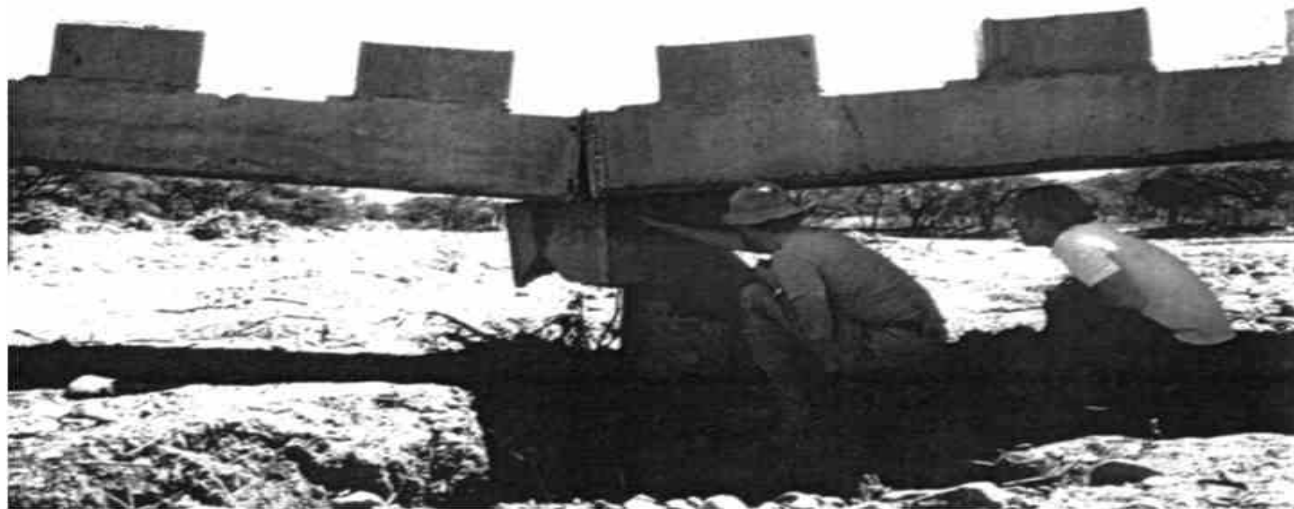
**Low Cost Structures Manual**

**Dr Paul Larcher - AECOM**



## Current Situation

- Basic road network is essential for economic development in low income countries
- Roads often passable for 95% of their length, but impassable at a water crossings
- Low volume road manuals usually only have a 'chapter' on structures
- Proven materials options such as masonry, brick, timber are usually ignored



## Problems

- Insufficient attention has been paid to the use of local resources, proven materials and indigenous skills
- Locally trained engineers have often undertaken civil engineering courses based on European/US university syllabuses, standards & best practices.
- Lack of access to /availability of local 'design data'
- No 'standard' designs
- Many structures poorly designed & constructed
- Limited resources not used effectively



## Issues To Be Addressed

- Increasing the level of construction of low cost and readily maintainable structures on rural roads (spot improvement strategy)
- Increased workload for, local labour, artisans and contractors
- Increased use of local materials and demand on local suppliers and material manufacturers
- Introduce appropriate standards & specifications with alternatives to reinforced concrete
- Improved maintenance of structures



## Requirements of the Manual

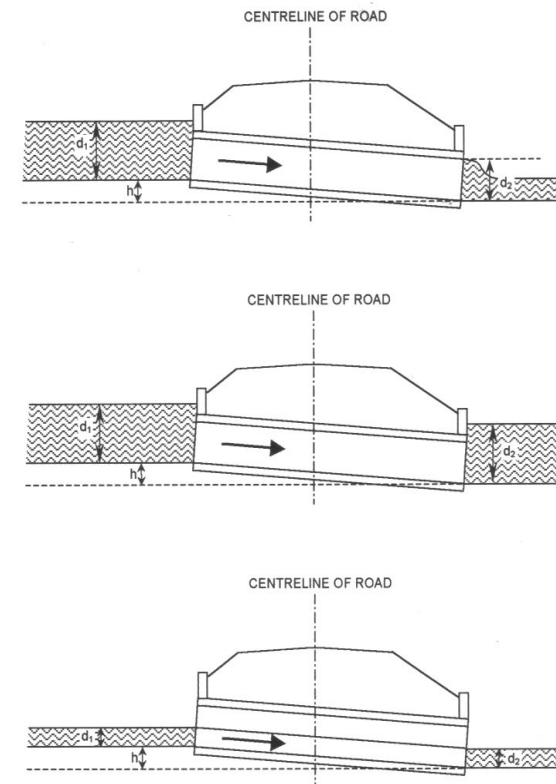
- The manual is aimed at private contractors and consultants, local government highways departments and other organisations involved in Low Volume Rural Road infrastructure provision.



- Credibility of the manual with potential users through the involvement of project partners  
TRL      IRF  
gTKP     SEACAP
- Applicable world wide – draft manual draws on case studies from 5 diverse countries
- All information contained in 1 manual (2 volumes design & drawings)

## Aims of the Manual

- Concise and complete information in one place
- Provide the engineering background required to
  - Complete planning and assessment
  - Select the correct structure
  - Complete design
- Guidance on costing, construction and maintenance of structures
- Assist in the approval and adoption of low cost structural designs
- Utilisation of low cost labour, local materials & artisans
- Improving economic returns and reducing environmental impacts by using local resources

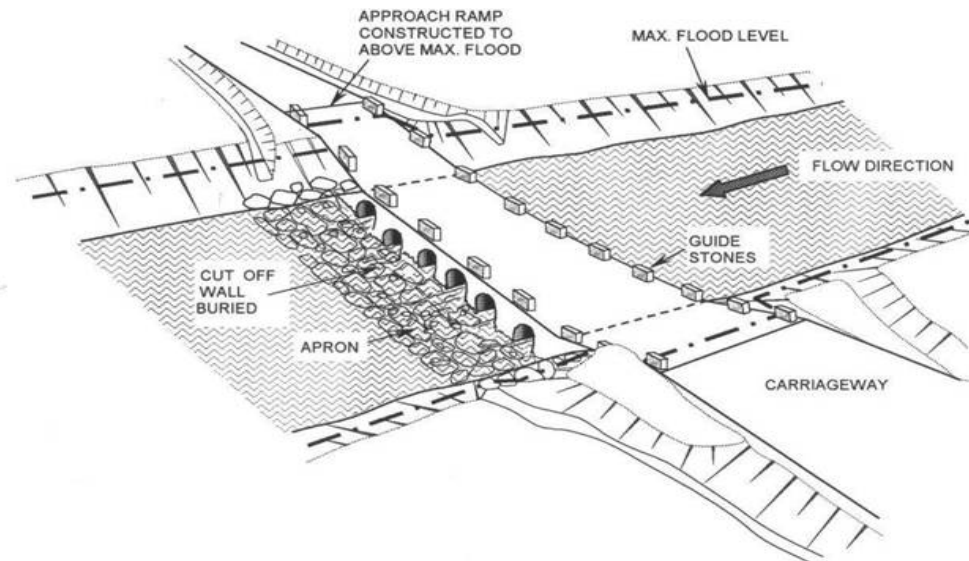


## Volume 1 Design Manual

- Scour
- Foundations
- Structural slabs
- Cut off walls
- Pipes
- Headwall and wingwalls
- Apron
- Approach ramps
- Downstream protection
- Arches
- Bridge design

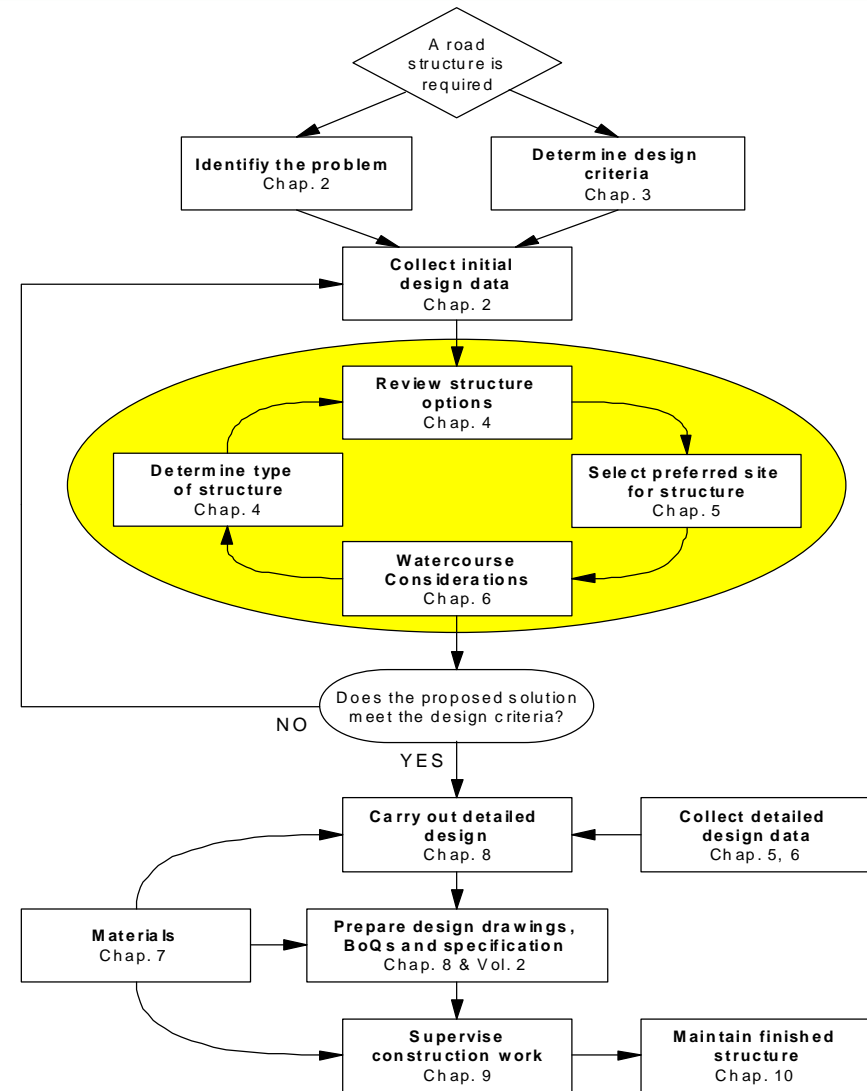
## Volume 2 Standard Design Drawings

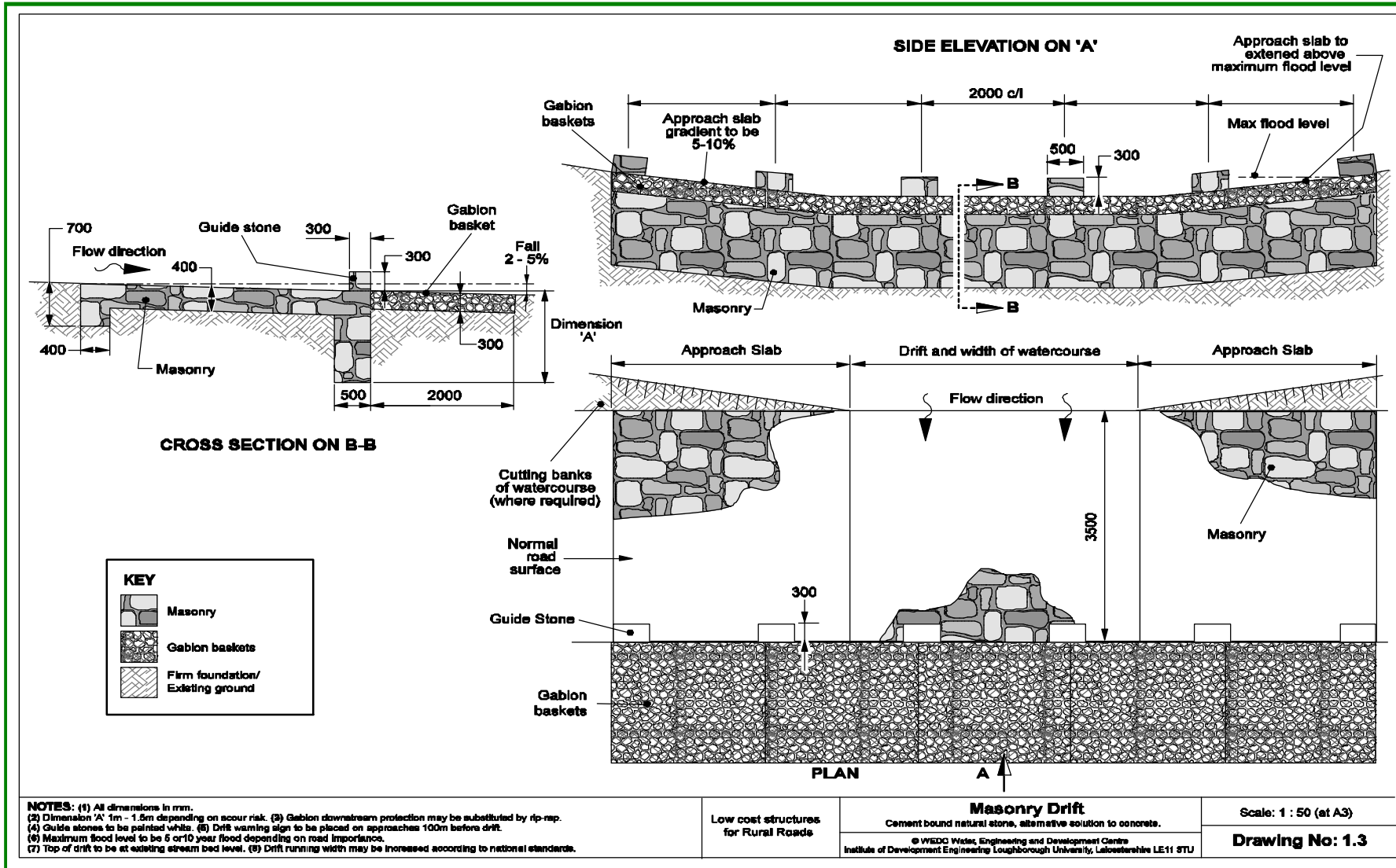
- Drifts
- Simple culverts
- Vented fords
- Large bore culverts
- Small bridges

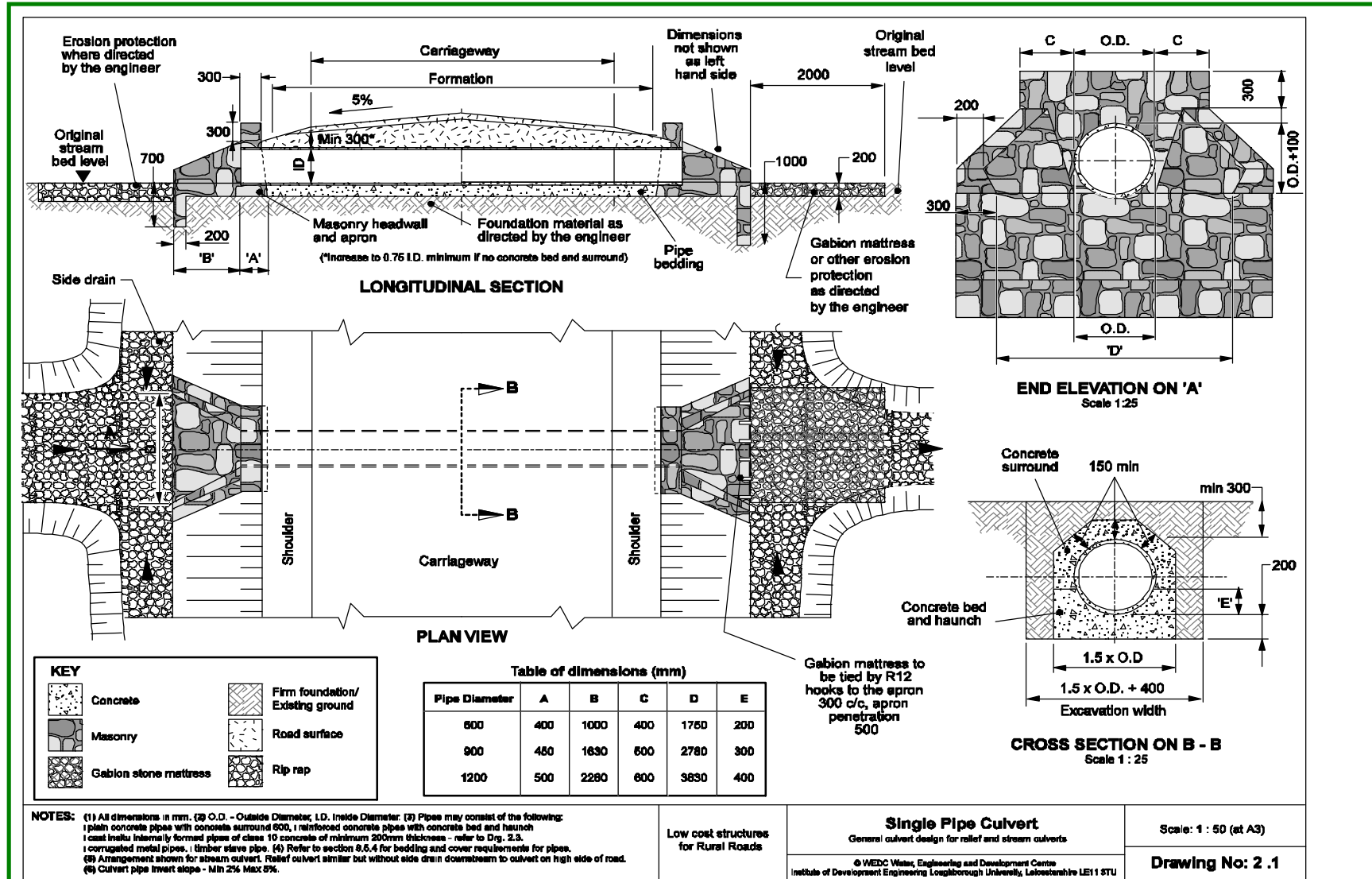


## Volume 1 Design Manual

1. Introduction
2. Project Planning
3. Design Criteria
4. Structural Options
5. Site Selection and Appraisal
6. Watercourse Characteristics
7. Materials
8. Structural Design
9. Construction
10. Maintenance







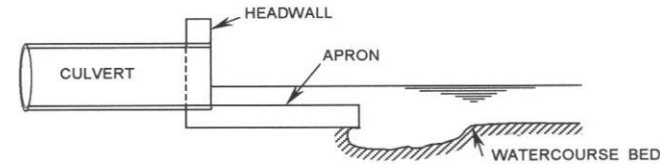
## Next Steps

- Obtain practitioners comments on web published manual by October 2009

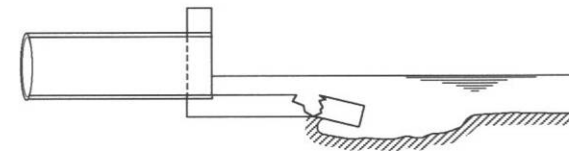
Visit

[www.gtkp.com/sectors.asp?step=4&contentID=3319](http://www.gtkp.com/sectors.asp?step=4&contentID=3319)

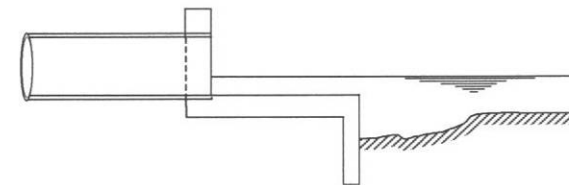
- Review and incorporate comments into final published version of the manual
- Training/ mentoring of local engineers
- Demonstration of standard designs
- Review of designs against national standards and specifications
- Review of engineering curricula



WATER STARTS TO UNDERCUT UNPROTECTED APRON



UNDERCUTTING CONTINUES RESULTING IN BROKEN APRON



CONSTRUCTION OF A CUTOFF WALL PREVENTS DAMAGE

# Further Information

The following dissemination forums support Low Traffic Volume Rural Roads (LVRR) knowledge in the REAAA region:



**global Transport Knowledge Partnership:**

**[www.gtkp.com](http://www.gtkp.com)**

**SEACAP Southeast Asia Community Access Partnership:**

**[www.seacap-info.org](http://www.seacap-info.org)**