

River Commission launches story competition for Mekong region

Times Reporters

Citizens of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam are invited to compete in a regional story competition, with the chance to win a variety of prizes.

The contest is entitled “What Does the Mekong Mean to You?” and is being run by the Mekong River Commission (MRC).

The purpose of the competition is to celebrate Mekong Day on April 5 and the 3rd MRC Summit of Mekong Prime Ministers taking place in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from April 2-5.

The competition organisers are looking for short entries that describe the connections between the Mekong River and its people, as well as how important these connections

are to them.

“The competition is one of our many initiatives to promote Mekong cooperation and reflect the diversity of our river,” MRC Secretariat chief strategy and partnership officer and head of communications, Mr Anoulak Kittikhoun, said.

“It gives contestants the opportunity to demonstrate the crucial role the Mekong River plays in their daily life, the challenges they face, and what we can do to address these issues.”

To enter the contest, applicants must submit a completed application form that includes an entry of no more than 60 words in English or the entrant's native language, to the contest's email address at [writingcontest@](mailto:writingcontest@mrcmekong.org)

mrcmekong.org.

Entries will be accepted up until March 15.

Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges, and the winners are expected to be announced before the end of next month.

The winners will receive awards ranging from US\$50 to US\$300 in cash plus certificates and have the chance to be invited to join the MRC International Conference in Siem Reap on April 2-3.

Winning entries are set to be displayed at this conference and during Mekong Day, presented to leaders of the Mekong countries attending the 3rd MRC Summit, and featured in other products of the MRC.

This is the first regional story competition the MRC has organised and follows on from the first-ever photo contest that was held late last year that welcomed 165 entries from 42 amateur photographers participating.

Interested applicants can find full contest details at the following web address; <http://www.mrcmekong.org/news-and-events/events/mrcstorycompetition2018>

The Mekong River Commission is an intergovernmental organisation for regional dialogue and cooperation in the lower Mekong River basin established in 1995 based on the Mekong Agreement between Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

The organisation serves as a regional platform for water diplomacy as well as a knowledge hub of water resources management for the sustainable development of the region.

Poster promoting the competition