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For sustainable development



# Council Study

## Overall Progress Update



6<sup>th</sup> RTWG Meeting  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
17-18 December 2015

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## BACKGROUND

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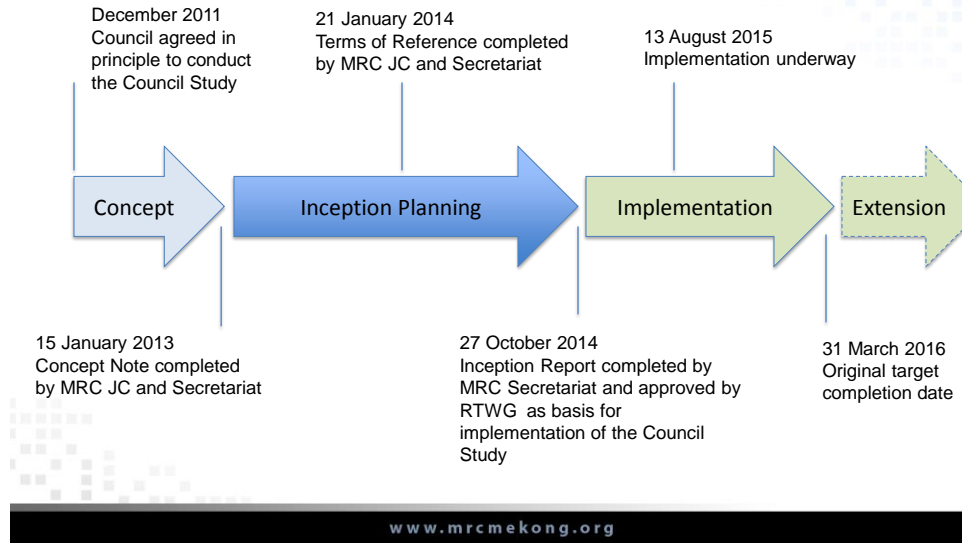
## Objectives

- Further develop/establish a reliable scientific evidence of positive and negative environmental, social, and economic impacts of water resources development
- Integrate results into the MRC knowledge base to enhance the BDP process
- Promote capacity and ensure technology transfer to Member Countries



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# Overall Timeline Perspective

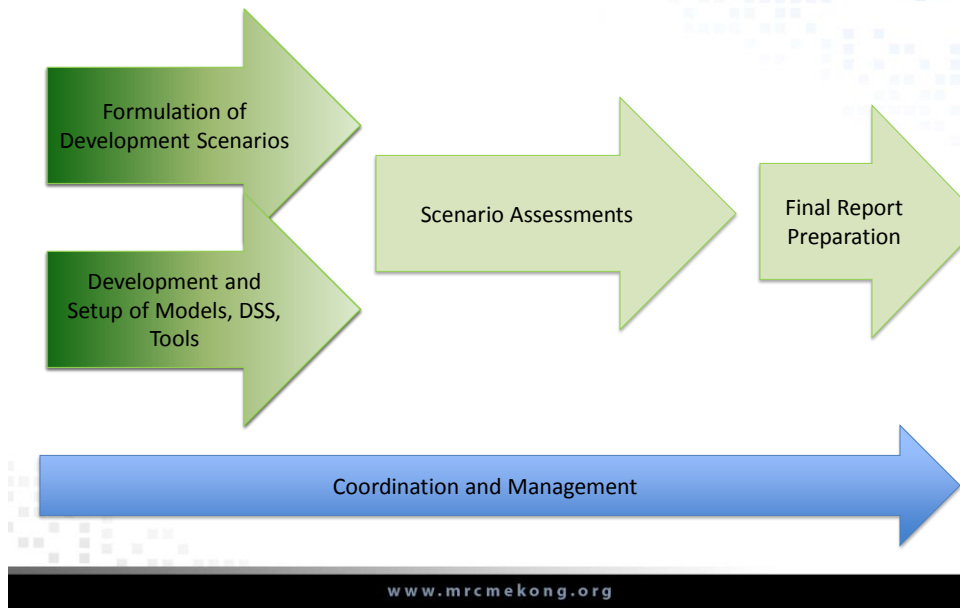


## OVERALL PROGRESS BY ACTIVITY SINCE 5<sup>TH</sup> RTWG MEETING



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## Major Activities



## Activity 1: Formulation of Development Scenarios

- Thematic Teams continue to work directly with Member Countries and the national consultants to develop/refine approach and collect data
  - Domestic/Industrial: Regional team kick-off meeting on 6 October 2015
  - Hydropower: Coordination meetings with modelling team on 21-25 September 2015
  - Irrigation and Agriculture/Land Use Change: National consultations (8 meetings)
  - Navigation: Mobilized national consultants to begin collecting data (in conjunction with the Regional Master Plan)
  - Flood: Regional technical meeting on scenarios and data requirements on 4 November 2015, HCM

## Activity 2: Development and Setup of Models, DSS, and Tools



- Continued development and calibration of the modeling approach: DSF (SWAT, IQQM, ISIS) and supplementary models WUP-FIN and eWater Source
- Continued development of the ecosystem model for LMB (i.e., using DRIFT-DSS Tool) through the Knowledge Capture Workshop on 17-24 September 2015
- Conducted scoping mission for the development of socio-economic methodology on 14-26 September 2015 and a mini-workshop on 24 September 2015
- Conducted WUP-FIN Technical Meeting in Hanoi on 20 September 2015 attended by Cambodia, Thailand and Viet Nam
- Conducted WUP-FIN Technical Meeting in Vientiane on 24 September 2015 attended by Lao PDR
- Conducted Small TWG on Reference Scenario and Scenario Period, 12 November 2015

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## Activity 3: Scenario Assessments



- No activity scheduled for 2015. This requires completion of Activities 1 and 2
- Directly Related Milestone: Obtained consensus on the following during the small TWG Meeting
  - Reference period: 1985 – 2008
  - Common reference scenario 2007
  - Additional development scenarios: 2000 and 1960
  - Sub-scenarios compared against 2040 Planned Development Scenario
  - Additional Analysis:
    - Analyze rainfall and evaporation 1985-2008 for long-term representativeness
    - Use 1960-1984 hydrologic data to simulate 1960 development scenario

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## Activity 4: Report Preparation



- Discussed initial outlines of the following interim reports during the monthly coordinating meeting on 7 October 2015
  - Technical Note on Development Scenarios
  - Interim Thematic Reports
  - Technical Reports from the Assessment Teams (Modeling, Bioresource, Socio-Economic, and Climate Change)
- Prepared drafts of the reports

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## Management and Coordination (1)



- Prepared 5<sup>th</sup> RTWG meeting notes including incorporating comments from MCs
- Prepared and sent to MCs status progress of follow-up action items from the 42<sup>nd</sup> JC Meeting
- Progress Reporting to DPs as per Grant Requirement
  - Prepared and submitted 6-month and quarterly report to SDC and request for final fund disbursement
  - Prepared quarterly progress report to USA
  - Prepared request for incremental disbursement from GIZ
- Presented CS during the Mekong Forum (as a mini-stakeholder forum for the Council Study)

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## Management and Coordination (2)



- Updated Council Study Web Site/Team Site including recent updates
  - Phase 1 and 2 proposed schedule
  - Important upcoming events
  - Presentations and technical documents related to 5<sup>th</sup> RTWG Meeting, Socio-Economic Assessment Workshop, Small Regional TWG on Reference Scenario/Reference Period, and 6<sup>th</sup> RTWG Advance Meeting Materials
  - Links to Literature Review MRC documents
- Prepared draft agenda, briefing note package, and other related documents for the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> RTWG Meeting
- Participated in Annual Work Planning on behalf of the Council Study
- Participated in Delta Study TWG on 27 November 2015, Hanoi and International Meeting on 4 December 2015

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## PROGRESS AS PER COMMENTS DURING THE 5<sup>TH</sup> RTWG MEETING

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Action Item	Progress Since Then
Implementation arrangement including coordination between teams and communication with NMCs need to be improved	<p><u>Coordination Between Teams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monthly Coordinating Meetings</li> <li>- Coordination Meetings Between Thematic Teams and Modelling Team</li> <li>- In-Person and Via Email Constant Communication between CS Coordinator and Teams</li> </ul> <p><u>Coordination Between Secretariat and NMCs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CS Coordinator and National Focal Points</li> <li>- Team-Specific Technical Meetings and National Consultation</li> </ul> <p><u>Challenge:</u> Programmes have been busy with end-of-year Programme commitments amid budget constraints and transition activities</p>



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Action Item	Progress Since Then
Budget allocation reported at the next RTWG meeting	Budget allocation plus spending by cost category included in the 6 <sup>th</sup> RTWG Briefing Note Package and will be reported during Day 2 of the 6 <sup>th</sup> RTWG meeting



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Action Item	Progress Since Then
<p>Secretariat to review the JC meeting Minutes regarding the definition of tributary</p> <p>Implication: Thailand as per policy and past practice will not provide certain requested data for tributary basins that are not direct tributaries of the Mekong mainstream</p>	<p>Reviewed 37<sup>th</sup> JC Meeting Minutes on “significant tributary” and consulted IWRMP on the activities and status for reaching a consensus on this topic</p> <p>Tributary is clearly defined in the PNPCA as “a natural stream of the Mekong River System whose flows have a significant impact on the mainstream”</p> <p>Status: It is an ongoing effort and consensus on the “significance” of the tributaries have not been reached.</p> <p>It is noted however, that the significant tributary definition is primarily intended to be used to support the notification process.</p>



Action Item	Progress Since Then
<p>Address Thematic-specific comments/questions on development scenarios</p>	<p>Thematic Teams have worked directly with MCs to formulate the development scenarios taking into consideration the comments during the 5<sup>th</sup> RTWG Meeting</p>





Action Item	Progress Since Then
<p>Address Comments/questions on WUP-FIN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Requested documentation including Users Manual</li> </ul>	<p>During the WUP-FIN meeting with the MCs (Hanoi and Vientiane), the following clarifications have been made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Detailed information on WUP-FIN development including new functionalities</li> <li>- Training workshops on WUP-FIN will be conducted as per request of MCs (i.e., 3-day training completed in Cambodia)</li> <li>- Extended documentation will be provided during the training workshops</li> </ul>

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Action Item	Progress Since Then
<p>Comments related to baseline:</p> <p>Requested the MRC Secretariat to prepare a working paper to ensure the concept "reference period" is well understood by the countries, and then to work with the countries to successfully select a reference period for the Council Study based on this common understanding.</p>	<p>Prepared a working paper as instructed</p> <p>Conducted a small TWG on 12 November 2015 and agreed on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reference period: 1985 – 2008</li> <li>- Common reference scenario 2007</li> <li>- Additional development scenarios: 2000 and 1960</li> </ul> <p>Additional analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyze rainfall and evaporation 1985-2008 for long-term representativeness</li> <li>- Use 1960-1984 hydrologic data to simulate 1960 development scenario</li> </ul>

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Action Item	Progress Since Then
Comments related to BioRA Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dissemination of interim results</li> <li>- Testing of DRIFT Tool</li> </ul>	Dissemination of Interim Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MCs were requested on 31 August 2015 to review BioRA interim results. Thailand has provided comments</li> <li>- Proposed 3-day Technical Forum but no common dates were identified</li> <li>- National consultations planned. CNMC conducted on 27 November 2015</li> </ul> Testing of DRIFT Tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposed to occur in February 2016 in conjunction with the objective of disseminating interim results</li> </ul>

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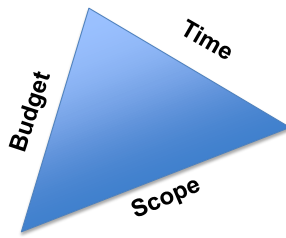
## CHALLENGES

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# Challenges Now and Ahead



## Management and Coordination Challenge



- Issues in Scope
- Implementation Schedule
- Funding Gap

Details will be discussed during the final agenda topic of the 6<sup>th</sup> RTWG Meeting

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## In Summary



- Implementation Progress : Steady But are Experiencing Delays
- Preparing and consolidating preliminary results in the form of Interim Reports and Products
- Need to consider corrective actions/adjustments
  - Scope, Budget, Schedule, Process, Arrangement

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## The RTWG is requested to:



- Take note of the overall progress knowing that detailed progress and interim results will be presented and discussed during team's presentations
- Consider the overall challenges on scope, budget, and schedule as specific topics are presented in the next two days
- Provide overall feedback and guidance at this time when necessary and appropriate

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Thank You



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