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For sustainable development



Agenda G.2

Progress Report on the Study on Sustainable Management and Development of the Mekong River including Impacts by Mainstream Hydropower Projects

*Twenty-first Meeting of the MRC Council
Session 2: Joint Meeting with the Nineteenth Development Partners Consultative Group
Mekong River Commission
15 January 2015
Hanoi, Viet Nam*



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Study Objective #1



- Further develop/establish a reliable scientific evidence

... of positive and negative environmental, social, and economic impacts of water resources developments



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Study Objective #2



- Integrate results into the MRC knowledge base to enhance the BDP process



Study Objective #3



- Promote capacity and ensure technology transfer to Member Countries



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Why this Study is Important?



- All Development Thematic Areas
- Cumulative and Transboundary Impacts
- Policy Recommendations for Improve Water Resource Development and Management
- Both Product and Process Improvement Oriented
 - Capacity Building
 - Sustainability and Scalability of Assessment Framework
 - Integrated and Collaborative Working Relationships Among MCs and all Programmes of MRC Secretariat

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Progress to Date



- Significant progress has been achieved since the last report!

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Closing Data/ Information/ Knowledge Gaps – Two Pronged Strategy



(1) Leveraging past and ongoing MRCS
Programme Activities

(2) Implementing Council Study Assessment
Methodology – to close knowledge gaps
on environmental/ecosystem/socio-
economic impacts

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Programme Activities – Representative Examples



Gaps*	Relevant Activities/Studies**
Fisheries	Literature review on (1) fish abundance and diversity and transboundary migration, (2) Irrawaddy dolphin, and (3) socio-economics and livelihoods (Completed)
Social	Social Impact Monitoring and Vulnerability Assessment (SIMVA) 2014 data collection (10/2014) Socio-economic impacts and social implications from reduced capture fisheries in LMB (Ongoing)
Sediment	Sediment Monitoring Program in the LMB (IKMP and MCs)
Flood related impacts upstream of Kratie	DSF ISIS model upstream Kratie had been set up from Chiang Saen to Pakse
Climate Change	Basin-wide assessment of climate change impacts on ecosystem, food security, floods, droughts, and hydropower (2013 – 2015)

Notes:

*From BDP Phase 2 (2011) and BDS 2011-2015 (2011)

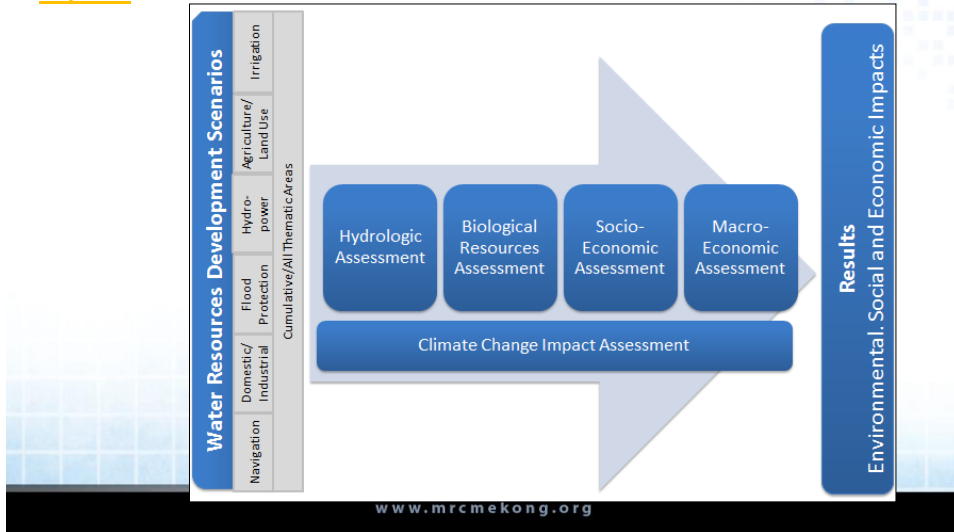
**Compiled from MRCS Programmes

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Implementing Assessment Methodology



... to close knowledge gaps on environmental/ ecosystem/socio-economic impacts



Specific Implementation Accomplishments



- Provisional Inception Report Completed – Basis for Implementation
- Startup Workshop/3rd RTWG Meeting Completed – November 2014
- Consolidated and Individual Team Work Plans and Staffing Plans Completed
- National/Regional/International TORs Drafted

Specific Implementation Accomplishments



- Working Groups Established which Began Preparation of the Following:
 - Modeling Approach
 - Selection of Baseline
 - Formulation of Development Scenarios
- Prepared Logistic Plan for Field/Site Visits in February 2015 by the Biological Resource Expert Team

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Information Exchange and Stakeholder Outreach




- Council Study Presentation during BDP Forum (Siem Reap, 19-21 Nov 2014)
- National Consultation with Lao PDR (3 December 2014)
- Mekong Delta Study TWG (8-10 December 2014)
- Don Sahong PNP/PCA (10-11 December 2014)

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Draft Council Study Website






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The Study on Sustainable Management and Development of the Mekong River including Impacts of Mainstream Hydropower Projects



The Council Study objectives are threefold:

i) Further develop/establish reliable scientific evidence base on the environment, social and economic consequences (positive and negative) of development in the

Log in

Key MRC documents:

- [Concept Note](#)
- [Terms of Reference](#)
- [Inception Reports \(27 October 2014\)](#)
- [Inception Reports Annex I](#)
- [Inception Reports Annex II](#)
- [Inception Reports Annex III](#)
- [Inception Reports Annex IV](#)
- [Inception Reports Annex V](#)
- [Inception Reports Annex VI](#)
- [Council Study Presentation](#)

Latest Consultations

- 4th Regional Forum on the Basin Development Strategy
- Don Sahong Hydropower Project
- Xayaburi Hydropower Project Prior Consultation Process
- Panel of Experts on the Basin Development Plan Phase 2
- 4th BDP Regional Forum on the Basin Development Strategy - Powerpoint Presentations

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
Latest News

Media Advisory: Twenty-first Meeting of the MRC Council Every year, water and environment

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Draft Council Study Website





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2nd RTWG Meeting, 11-12 September 2014, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

File	Title
Draft Agenda 2nd RTWG meeting.pdf	Draft Agenda 2nd RTWG meeting
DRAFT Meeting Notes of the 2nd RTWG Meeting 11-12 Sept 2014 revised 7-10-2014.pdf	DRAFT Meeting Notes of the 2nd RTWG Meeting 11-12 Sept 2014
List of participants 2nd RTWG.pdf	List of participants 2nd RTWG

Start-up Workshop/3rd RTWG Meeting, 12-14, October 2014, Vientiane, Laos

File	Title
Draft Final Agenda Startup Meeting November 12-14 2014.pdf	Draft Final Agenda Startup Meeting November 12-14 2014
Briefing Notes Package - Council Study Startup Workshop and 3rd RTWG Meeting - v2 clear.pdf	Briefing Notes Package - Council Study Startup Workshop and 3rd RTWG Meeting
3rdRTWG Meeting Notes-15-12-2014rev.pdf	DRAFT Meeting Notes of the 3 rd RTWG Meeting 14 November 2014
Comparison of Environmental Flow Assessment Tools Including DRIFT.pdf	Comparison of Environmental Flow Assessment Tools Including DRIFT
18 - Day 1 Recap	Start-up Day 1 Recap
19 - Day 2 Recap	Start-up Day 2 Recap
RTWG010 - Recap	RTWG Recap

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Latest News

Media Advisory: Twenty-first Meeting of the MRC Council Every year, water and environment ministers of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam convene to review and come to mutual conclusion on the management and

Fish migration, potential environmental impacts and

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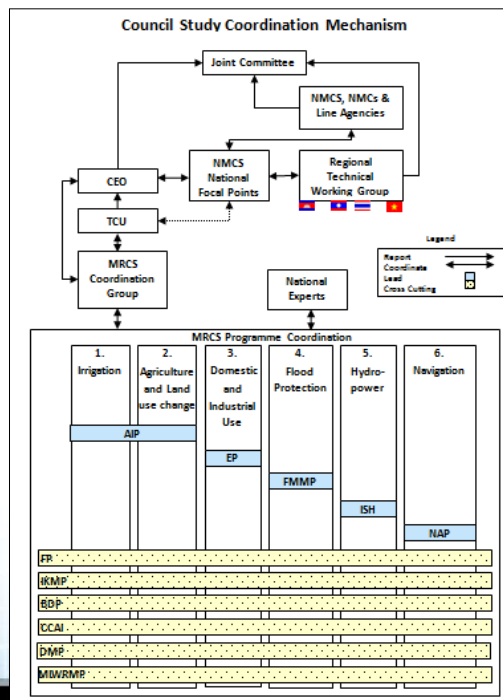
Organizational Milestones



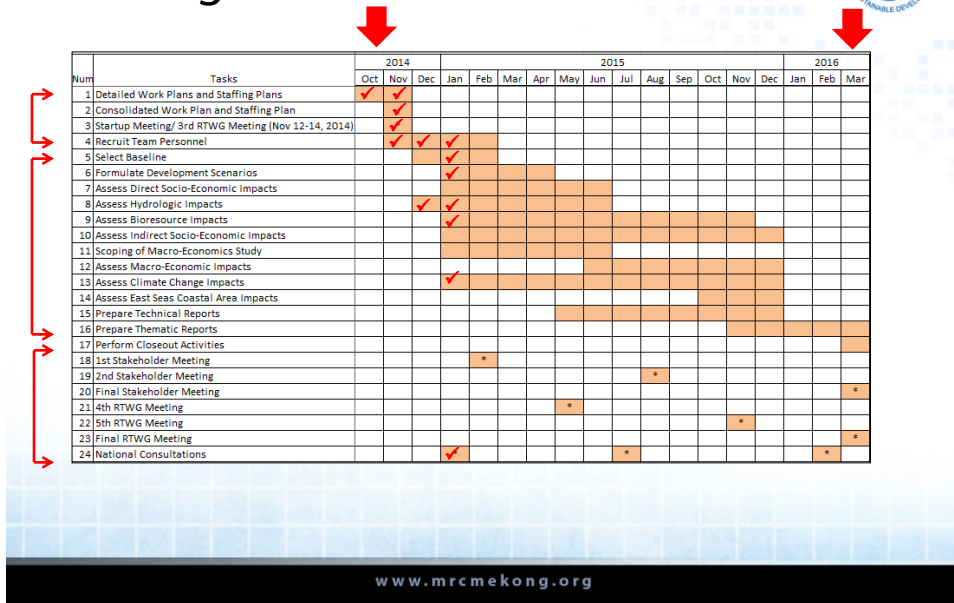
- Finalized MRCS member roster of the Council Team with well defined roles
- Established MRCS Coordinating Group and completed first monthly meeting (December 2014)

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Coordination and Communication Mechanism



Moving Forward - Schedule



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Moving Forward – Participatory Approach



- Regional Technical Working Group Meetings
- Regional Stakeholder Consultations
- National Consultations

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Challenges Ahead

- Scope – Adjustments/refinements expected as more detailed information becomes available
- Time
 - Timely recruitment of consultants
 - Timely completion of key immediate technical tasks
 - Timely communication/information exchange between MRCS and MCs
- Budget – Funding gap
- Management and Coordination Challenge

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The Council may wish to take note of the progress made on the Council Study and provide further guidance as necessary.

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