

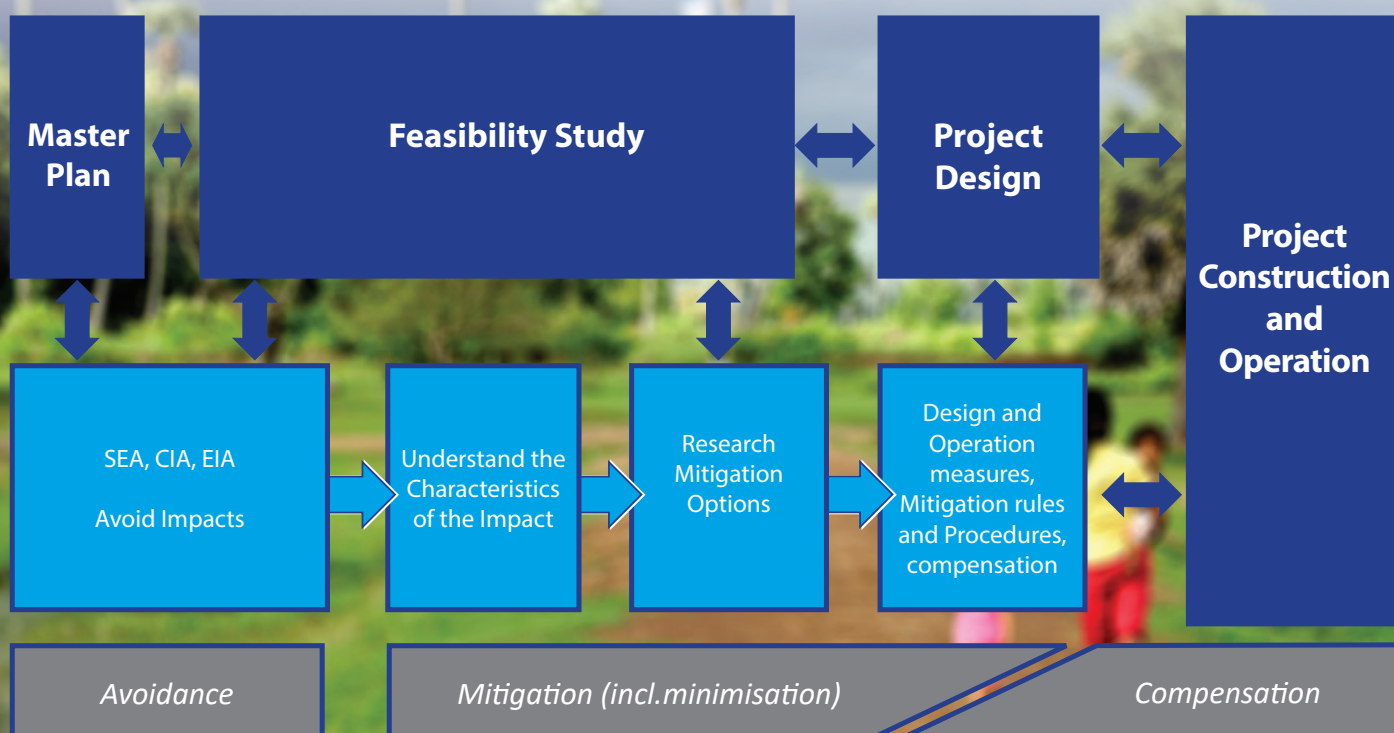


Integrating Mitigation into Hydropower Project Cycle

MRC Hydropower Mitigation Guidelines

Guidelines for Hydropower Impact Mitigation and Risk Management in the Lower Mekong Mainstream and Tributaries

The MRC Hydropower Mitigation Guidelines (2018) provide a clear process and detailed technical guidance to address a range of known risks and impacts in all phases of the project development lifecycle:



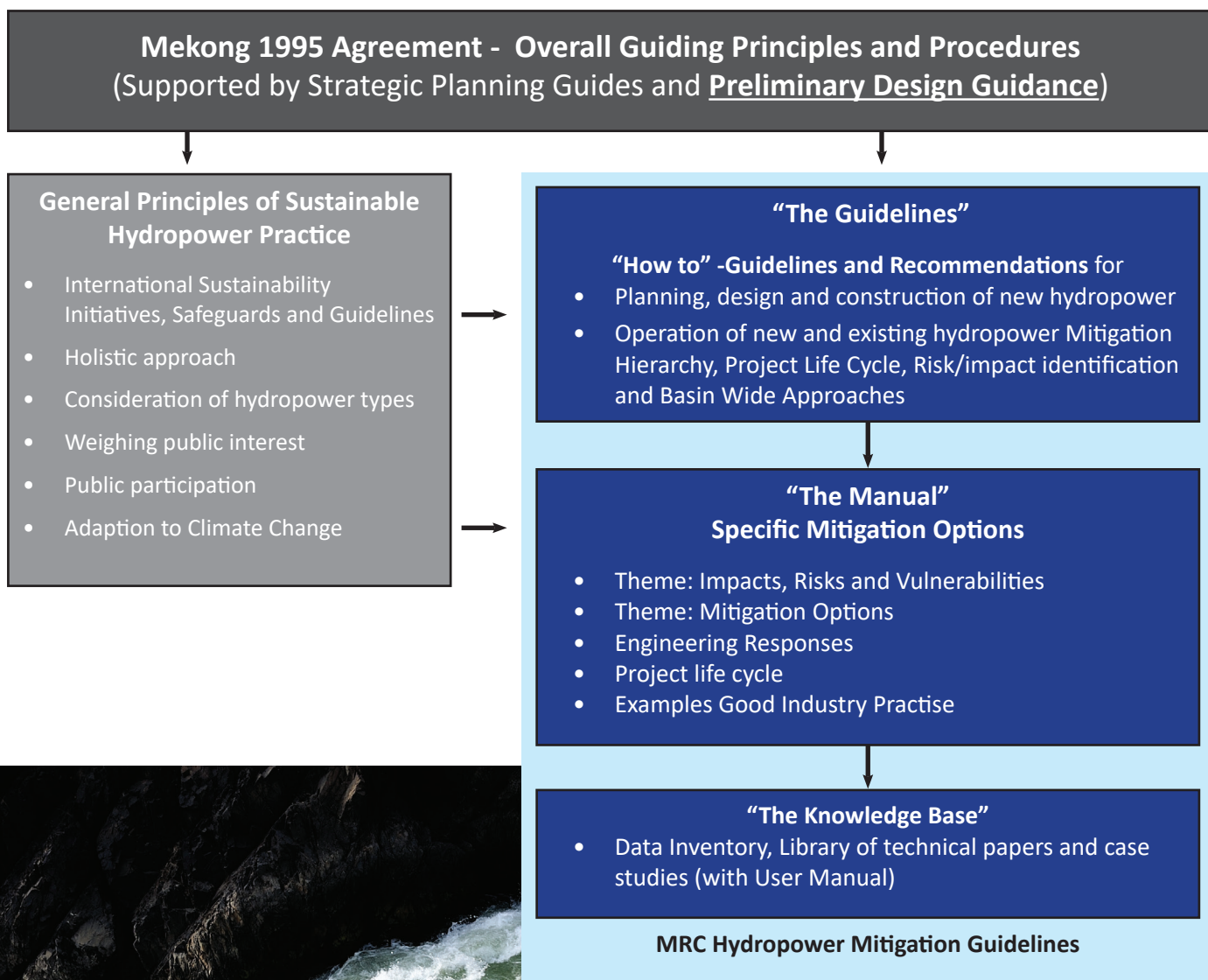
Overview:

- ✓ Risks and Impacts of major hydropower development in the Mekong are now well understood and documented.
- ✓ Basin scale and system scale planning is critical and urgent to optimise across the energy and water sectors for efficient and sustainable development.
- ✓ The MRC Hydropower Mitigation Guidelines are aimed at providing mitigation guidance for design and operation of hydropower facilities, focused on long term sustainability in the Mekong Basin, to support whole of basin planning and management as well as immediate project development requirements.
- ✓ These Guidelines support the MRC's Preliminary Design Guidance (PDG, 2009), which may be used by developers during project preparation and then by the MRC to assess projects through its Procedure for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA). The Guidelines detail the application of regional and global "good industry practice" for mitigation of hydropower impacts in the Mekong context and shall further enhance the PDG as being updated during 2018.

Key Findings:

1. System and Basin Scale Strategic Planning is vital to avoid large scale impacts and Mitigation must be focussed at a basin scale to support effective project by project mitigation.
2. Ongoing Cooperation and Benefit Sharing Mechanisms will be valuable to mitigate these basin scale impacts.
3. Innovative scientific and engineering mitigation options may minimise hydropower environmental and social impact if supported with adequate monitoring and scientific research. However, major environmental risks can only be partially mitigated.
4. Additional Training and Capacity Building is needed to support the adoption of these MRC Hydropower Mitigation Guidelines.

Overall Guidelines Architecture:



Access the Guidelines, Manual and Knowledge Base at <https://goo.glsuzxhV>

For more information, please visit:
www.mrcmekong.org/about-mrc/programmes/initiative-on-sustainable-hydropower/