



**THE 7TH
MRC REGIONAL
STAKEHOLDER FORUM**
**Mekong Transboundary Integrated
Water Resources Management**

20-21 May 2019, Bangkok, Thailand



Forum Report

Prepared by the Mekong River Commission Secretariat
July 2019

This report is a summary of the 7th Regional Stakeholder Forum organised by the MRC Secretariat (MRCS) on 20–21 May 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand



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I. Background

The Mekong River Commission (MRC) was established as a multi-lateral cooperation mechanism between the four Lower Mekong Basin countries (MCs) of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam by signing the 1995 Agreement on Co-operation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin (the Mekong Agreement). This multi-lateral cooperation has enabled the four countries to work together with the mission of promotion and coordination of the sustainable management and development of water and related resources for the countries' mutual benefit and the people's well-being.

At the MRC Summit in 2010, the political leaders of the four MCs committed to an ambitious vision, such that by 2030, the core work of MRC would be financed solely by MCs. This triggered the most comprehensive institutional reform to date, starting in 2015, with the aim of transitioning to a leaner and more efficient organisational structure. Four years on, the MRC has a Riparian CEO for the second time, the decentralisation of certain water resource management activities to the National governments has been implemented with evidence of strong uptake in some areas and challenges in other areas. The decentralisation reforms are resulting in evolving changes to responsibilities for National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and National Water Ministries to address new challenges including strengthening capacity and autonomy within country to sustainably manage water resources.

The cooperation with Dialogue Partners (China and Myanmar) is continually being strengthened through data and information sharing, joint technical symposiums, exchange visits and improved engagement with other regional mechanisms including ASEAN and the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC) continues. There is a growing interest to better understand the options for improving cooperation efficiency and effectiveness within the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) via bi-lateral, trilateral, and other mechanisms, and between the LMB and the MLC.

Transboundary dialogue between the Mekong's riparian countries can help reduce tension and increase cooperation across borders for better management of the shared water resources. Launched in 2014, the four-member countries of the Mekong River Commission – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam – have been working together on five bilateral initiatives to strengthen transboundary dialogue and promote the integrated water resources management (IWRM) practice at the sub-basin level. The initiatives are part of the MRC Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management (M-IWRM) Project funded by the World Bank and technically supported by the Mekong River Commission Secretariat.

Fisheries, wetlands, Mekong-delta, lake and river basin management were selected topics for the member countries to work together on building a common understanding of key transboundary issues, negotiating durable solutions and the sharing of practices from the counterpart's experiences. Overseen by the MRC member countries, the five transboundary projects under the M-IWRM project were completed in early 2019 with the following key outputs: (1) joint issues papers, (2) analysis of cooperation mechanism options and (3) transboundary joint action plans. This project has established key examples of IWRM principles in the LMB at the regional, national and sub-national levels, thus contributing to more sustainable river basin development in the Lower Mekong. The process has fostered a greater common understanding on transboundary issues and supported a consensus-based approach to establish joint management strategies to address the priority transboundary water sector issues.

In line with its mandate, the MRC has also prioritised the pursuit of joint projects through its strategic planning cycle. In response to the updated IWRM based Basin Development Strategy for 2016-2020,

the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) countries have prioritised the following five joint projects: Lao-Thai safety regulations for navigation, environmental impact monitoring of Don Sahong hydropower project, Transboundary cooperation for flood and drought management in Thai-Cambodian border area, Sustainable water resources development and management in the Sekong, Sesan and Srepok river basins (3S Basin), and Integrated flood management in the border area of Cambodia and Viet Nam in the Mekong Delta.

To address mutual interests and concerns from stakeholders in the region regarding transboundary water resources management in the Mekong, the MRC organised the 7th Regional Stakeholder Forum-Mekong Transboundary Water Resources Management as a platform to share information, discuss and exchange views on the ongoing transboundary coordination mechanism as well as address emerging issues effecting the management of the Lower Mekong River.

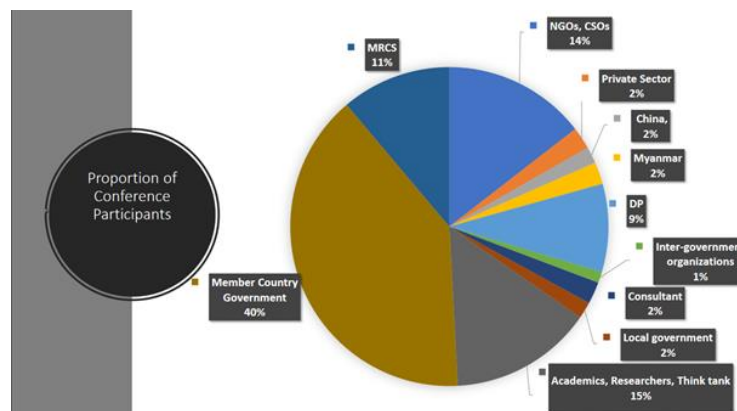
This 7th Regional Stakeholder Forum was designed not only to hold discussions on the MRC transboundary work but also exchange information and experiences with other organisation’s inside and outside the region on similar type of work as well as looking at the national capacity on water resources management to deal with transboundary issues.

II. Forum Objectives

The forum’s primary objective was to: consider new transboundary partnerships and arrangements (cooperation mechanisms) for the LMB to support sustainable development and management of water resources. A sub-objective of the forum was to share the lesson learnt from the M-IWRM project in regard to potentially new and innovative transboundary cooperation arrangements, including their benefits and implementation challenges. The forum’s agenda can be found in Annex A, the participant list in Annex B, and the results of the Forum Satisfaction Survey in Annex C. The core documents and presentations for the forum can be found at: <http://www.mrcmekong.org/news-and-events/events/the-7th-mrc-regional-stakeholder-forum/>

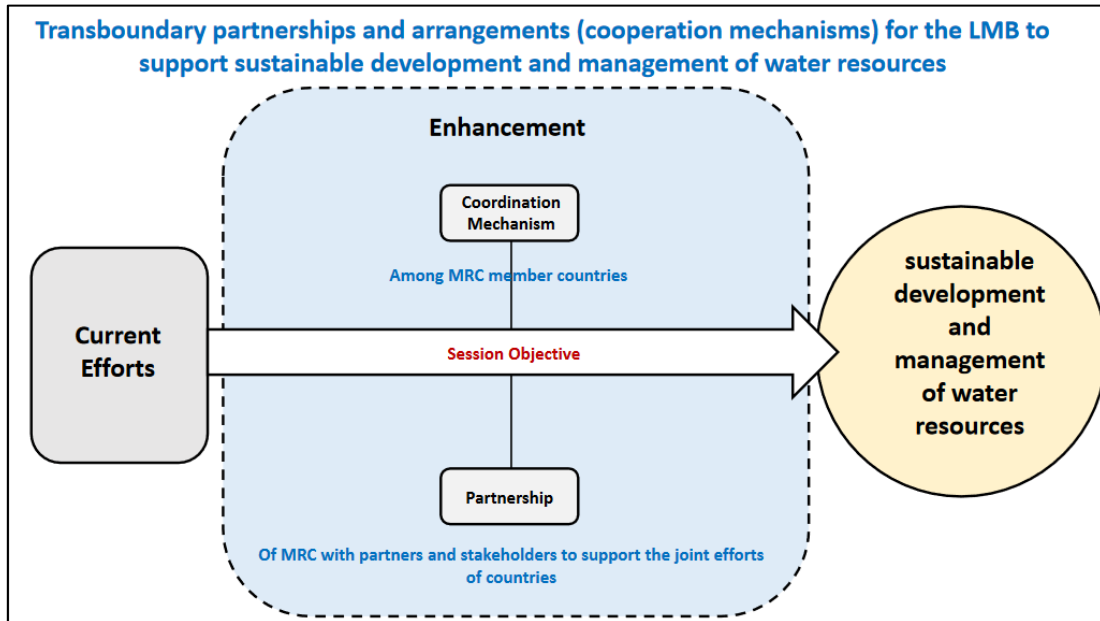
III. Participants

The participants were from various group of stakeholders through invitation and open registration on the MRC website. The MRC provided financial support to participants on request through the registration process. There were a total of 176 participants in attendance at the forum and included MCs, MRCS, Dialogue Partners; non-government organisations and civil society; academia, researchers and think tanks; local government; Development Partners; International Non-government organisations; private sector; and consultants. All participants participated actively, with many providing presentations or as panel session members, ensuring the discussions were open, explorative, and meaningful. The proportion of each category of participants is further detailed in the chart below.



IV. Forum design and structure

The forum was designed as a platform to exchange information and experiences on transboundary water resource management and coordination to enhance sustainable development and management of water resources looking at two main aspects: coordination (cooperation) mechanisms and partnerships. The design and structure of the forum can be understood from the diagram below. The information exchange was undertaken through presentations, followed by a panel discussion for each topic led by a facilitator with key questions which stimulated the discussions. The key messages from each forum session will be included as input to the new Basin Development Strategy, currently in preparation.



V. Preliminary Outcomes

The Outcome from each session is summarised as following.

DAY 1

Welcoming Remarks – Mr. Pradab Klatkempech, Assistant-Secretary General of the Office of National Water Resources, Thailand

- It's great pleasure to welcome the participants to the Thailand – the Land of Smiles – and to this 7th MRC Regional Stakeholder Forum and honoured to be co-hosting the Forum with the MRC Secretariat. Together today are the meeting to discuss lessons learnt from transboundary cooperation and find ways forward for a better cross-border cooperation.
- The Mekong River is a transboundary resource of great economic significance in terms of transport, tourism and energy. It feeds millions of people living in the river basin, supports irrigation, generates energy and helps conserve ecosystems. According to MRC's studies on Fisheries Habitat and Yield, and Catch and Culture, the lower Mekong basin inland fisheries is the world's largest fisheries, with an estimated yield of 4.4 million tons per year and a total value of US\$17 billion. Although proportionally less significant to the national economy, the Mekong fisheries sectors in Thailand add well over US\$5,500 million to our country GDP each year.

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- But the Mekong is under threat. Rapid economic and population growth are putting pressure on water resources, because the demands for food, energy and manufactured goods are on the rise. Climate change is also exacerbating these pressures. The MRC's studies confirm that fish stocks are in decline, biodiversity is decreasing, severe floods and droughts are occurring more often, and the Mekong Delta is sinking due to the sea level rise.
 - Eventually, sustainable development of water resources in the Mekong basin will require striking a right balance between economic, social and environmental interests. Given the transboundary nature of the Mekong basin that is shared by six countries, I am of the view that such balance can only be achieved through cooperation, closer transboundary cooperation. This is because the actions of one country can and have the potential to impact the other downstream countries.
 - In the lower Mekong countries, our Governments have increasingly recognized the importance of working together to resolve common, transboundary challenges. Since 1995, after the creation of the Mekong River Commission, significant successes have been achieved. This regional cooperation has led to remarkable economic benefits in the Mekong river basin; water challenges have been addressed through coordinated actions; the riparian countries have together created and utilized various tools to achieve improved water management in the region.
 - This would not have been possible without the support from MRC Development Partners as well as willingness and commitment by MRC Member Countries.
 - For example, transboundary water resources management in the Mekong sub-basins along the borders have been experimented on a bilateral basis through the Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Project of the MRC since late 2013.
 - Our Member Countries have launched five bilateral projects, each focusing on fisheries, delta, lake, river, or wetland resources management, to develop cross-border cooperation to address common resources management issues such as water quality degradation and insufficient data sharing for flood and drought control.
 - Thailand has reaffirmed our commitment to Mekong cooperation and transboundary cooperation, being part of two of these five initiatives.
 - We've worked with our neighbouring Lao PDR and Cambodia on two different projects that all transboundary in nature. With Lao PDR, we've cooperated on the Xe Ban Hieng and Nam Kam River Basins Wetland Management Project, which seeks to strengthen wetland resources through knowledge sharing.
 - With Cambodia, we've collaborated working on the Tonle Sap Lake and Songkhla Lake Basins Communication Outreach Project that have allowed our two countries to promote healthy lake governance through communication activities.
 - I'm pleased to say that through these transboundary projects, our countries have been able to further build a common understanding of key cross-border water issues, find durable solutions to cooperate, and share best practices in water resources management.
 - Our Forum today and tomorrow will provide an opportunity to discuss a number of broad themes related to transboundary cooperation in the Mekong river basin. We will have opportunities to consider better water resource management in the Mekong region based on cross-region learning and experience sharing. We will discuss priority issues, durable solutions, scientific and technical perspective to support trans-boundary decision making processes. Our ultimate goal is strengthening the implementation of transboundary cooperation mechanisms.
 - This Forum will aim to explore further how the Mekong's riparian countries, including the upstream partners, continuing to cooperate on transboundary issues into the future. I hope you will have a great time debating and deliberating the issues and finding solutions together.

Opening Remarks - Dr. An Pich Hatda, CEO, MRC Secretariat

- It is a pleasure to join in focusing on building a more sustainable future for the Mekong region, together. A future which depends on reconciling our needs for economic growth with our desire

to continue peaceful cooperation and increasing collaboration towards regional growth and improved management of our shared water resources. A future which is also contingent on our ability to use the tools we have developed over the last 24 years to limit cross-border impacts, to protect the environment and the water resources, as well as the people that depend on them. These challenges are the focus of this Forum today and tomorrow.

- In terms of population, the lower Mekong basin is home to more than 65 million people. But many of them are still poor and depend extensively on the river's resources for their livelihoods. Although the Mekong countries are growing rapidly through the many opportunities the Mekong river offers, this development requires a proper coordination, to avoid the risks and to maximise the opportunities. Without coordinated development and effective management of the Mekong River System, the opportunities for continued growth and poverty eradication will be limited. Floods and droughts, deteriorating water quality, reduced downstream sediment transport, and declining ecosystem services and biodiversity all will risk our vision for an *"economically prosperous, environmentally sound and socially just Mekong River Basin."*
- The Mekong River system brings both great risks and benefits. But these risks could be minimised, mitigated and even avoided through stronger and more robust cooperation. Similarly, the benefits derived from the use of the Mekong River system could be maximised, and reasonably and equitably shared through improved collaboration. Sustainable development within the lower Mekong basin, therefore, requires reducing the risks and seizing the opportunities that the Mekong creates for its people. This can be done in a manner that conserves the river's functions for future generations. It also requires careful balancing of diverse interests as well as the benefits and costs of some of the Basin's natural features. Achieving this goal is essential and urgent. Clearly, separate and uncoordinated national plans and actions cannot achieve this goal.
- But our experience has shown that the gap can be filled. It can be achieved by adapting national plans with the inclusion of measures that address potential transboundary impacts and that promote the reasonable and equitable use of the shared Mekong River System. I believe we have the tools to do this in the 1995 Mekong Agreement and its Procedures. This is why, the MRC has been placing a much greater focus on transboundary cooperation and joint projects among and between member countries, thanks to our Development Partners for their financial support. This is why, the MRC has been placing a much greater focus on transboundary cooperation and joint projects among and between member countries, thanks to our Development Partners for their financial support.
- For instance, we've developed and implemented five joint projects between our member countries for implementation between 2016 and 2020. Two of them have received funding from GIZ, while we use our internal basket funds to implement the others. We're actively searching for funding from our partners for future phases of these projects. In 2013, we also launched five other bilateral initiatives that are funded by the World Bank and the Australian Government. These projects have allowed our member countries to work together to address local issues that have significant transboundary value. The projects aimed to strengthen transboundary dialogue and promote the integrated water resources management practice at the sub-basin level. Through these transboundary projects, our member countries have been able to further build a common understanding of key cross-border water issues, find durable solutions to cooperate, and share best practices in water resources management.
- Over the next two days, we will discuss these and various other transboundary issues. Potential solutions will be shared on fisheries, wetlands, lakes, and water resources management. The importance of science-policy interfaces to guide and underpin transboundary decision-making will be also highlighted. I look forward to the collaborative discussions that lay ahead.

Keynote speech - Mr. Carl Binning, Murray–Darling Basin Authority, Executive Director Science, Knowledge and Engagement Division

Topic: The presentation provided insights into transboundary water resources management and the challenges in transboundary cooperation in the Murray-Darling River Basin in Australia, between the Australian Federal government the State Governments, local communities, businesses, academia, and non-government organisations.

Key messages:

- Transboundary cooperation requires a shared vision, purpose and collaboration and must be transparent to build trust. The quality of dialogue and collaboration is important, and it must occur at the political and technical cooperation levels, and also include the community and civil society. Water resource management governance is very complex, non-linear, non-hierarchical and is supported by numerous committees.
- A model for collaboration requires backbone support through the following measures: a common agenda, shared measurement, mutually reinforcing activities and continuous communication. To have a dedicated common agenda, there is a need to: build networks, facilitate linkages, share information, build capacity, undertake research, share planning, and share project objectives, outputs and outcomes.

Mekong River Commission and transboundary dialogue - Dr Anoulak Kittikhoun, MRCS

Topic: The presentation focussed on the MRC's roles and responsibilities on transboundary cooperation in the region, in terms of the major challenges, the need to optimize benefits and reduce adverse impacts by two or more countries working together.

Key messages:

- There is a long history of cooperation in the Mekong River region, with transboundary and joint cooperation occurring since the 1940s. The introduction of the 1995 Mekong Agreement increased commitment between the four Member Countries to cooperate on water resource management issues within the LMB, and this was then further strengthened through the MRC Summit, and the implementation of the five procedures, especially the Procedure for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA) which involves multilateral consultation on major developments on the mainstream of the Mekong.
- Current and potential joint projects – non-infrastructure and infrastructure – highlight areas for further investigation particularly between Lao PDR and Viet Nam and Thailand and Viet Nam, as well the importance of engagement with the upstream dialogue partners of China and Myanmar was emphasised.

Panel discussion on Stakeholder and partner's perspective on the Mekong transboundary cooperation

Topic: This session focused on discussions on transboundary cooperation emphasising what works well and what are the big gaps for cooperation as well as where there is room for improvement.

Facilitator: Dr. Anoulak Kittikhoun, Chief Strategy and Partnerships, Office of the CEO, Mekong River Commission Secretariat

Panelists:

- Dr. An Pich Hatda, CEO, Mekong River Commission Secretariat
- Dr. John Dore, Lead Water Specialist, Representative from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Mr. Li Hong, Permanent Representative of PR China to ESCAP and MRC, Permanent Mission of China to UNESCAP

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- Ms. Pauline Taylor McKeown, Asian Regional Manager, OXFAM
 - Ms. Shelley McMillan, Senior Water Resources Management Specialist, World Bank
 - Mr. Sein Htoon Linn, Deputy Director General, Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar

Questions to the panel session members:

1. How do you assess the transboundary cooperation among the Mekong countries so far?
2. What areas including joint projects could the countries work more on?
3. How to increase benefits and reduce costs?
4. How can we improve stakeholder engagement especially feedback mechanisms?
5. What roles do partners like China, World Bank and Australia have in supporting the Mekong countries to increase more joint efforts and projects?

Key messages:

- In the Mekong region, there are many levels of cooperation within the wider regional fora. With the opportunity for these to be more integrated. There is a need to increase positive cooperation where the result is fair between countries, leading to equitable and sustainable development. Thus, we need to be critical in how we assess cooperation. Time is a big issue, as there is not enough time (to deal with pressing challenges), but transboundary cooperation needs time. We need to collectively manage our time together, and manage expectations on organizations like the MRC.
- Cooperation the dialogue partners, China and Myanmar, has evolved over time, with regular exchange of water resource management information. Cooperation has improved through signed agreements, development of relevant regional platforms, and joint studies. China has become increasingly more open in its communication and dialogue with LMB countries.
- The sharing of benefits of transboundary development is undertaken well but the sharing of costs is not undertaken so well. The benefits are privatised, and costs are being socialised, the next MRC Strategic Plan needs to address this issue. In addition, normalising transparency is critical.
- Normalising transparency is critical to address the trust deficit. Technical information needs to be separate from the political process and include civil society. It is noted however that MRC has increasingly facilitated transparency and openness in sharing information and dialogue with various stakeholders.
- There is a sense of urgency to increase cooperation for the right purpose, reduce costs, increase benefits and improve the sharing of data and information on water resource management through upgrade of the MRC information management system. Which will be conceptualized as a package by the MRC by the end of 2019. This will enable all relevant actors to be able to better debate and discuss trade-offs, share costs and benefits, provide compensation and manage natural disasters more effectively.

MIWRM Transboundary Projects

Topic: This session provided an introduction to the MRC Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management (MIWRM) transboundary project with a short video. The five transboundary projects under the World Bank MIWRMP focused on strengthening dialogue at the transboundary level to identify joint transboundary water resources, lake, wetland and fisheries management in the LMB to identify joint issues, joint cooperation mechanisms, and joint actions to find solutions to these issues. Breakout sessions of the fisheries management joint project (Mekong-Sekong) and the lakes (Songkhla-Tonle Sap) and wetlands (Nam Kam- Xe Bang Hieng) projects were then held.

The project implementation and outputs were presented by representatives from the project working group and followed by a panel discussion. Key success factors and lessons learnt from other

organisations for similar projects were also exchanged and discussed. The joint water resource management projects for the Sesan-Srepok and Mekong Delta were discussed on Day 2.

LMB transboundary cooperation mechanisms to support sustainable water resources management - Achievements, challenges and lessons learnt

Break out session A: the Mekong-Sekong River transboundary fisheries management project between Cambodia-Lao PDR and Bokeo-Chiang Rai between Lao PDR-Thailand

Topic: Achievements, challenges and lessons learnt from the MIWRMP Mekong-Sekong Transboundary Fisheries Management project and lessons learnt from the transboundary fisheries management in the bordering Bokeo in Lao PDR and Chiang Rai in Thailand to exchange experiences between regions.

Facilitator: Dr. Phattareeya Suanrattanachai, Fisheries Management Specialist, MRCS

Panellists:

- Mr. Ly Vuthy, Senior Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Administration, Cambodia
- Mr. Chathaphone Thammavong, the National Consultant of LNMC for the Mekong-Sekong Project, Lao PDR
- Dr. Malasri Kumsri, Senior Fisheries Officer, Department of Fisheries, Thailand
- Dr. Yuttana Theparunrat, Advisor, SEAFDEC, Thailand
- Mr. Trinh Minh Khoi, Director of the Environmental Management Division, MRCS
- Mr. Touch Bunthang, Deputy Director of Inland Fisheries Research and Development Institute, Cambodia

Questions to the panel session members:

1. How has the capacity at the community, province, national and regional levels been strengthened to contribute and sustain the project?
2. From the regional perspective, what are the opportunities and constraints to promote transboundary fisheries management to sustain fisheries resources?
3. On the financial aspect, please provide suggestions on how to sustain the cooperation of this kind of project?

Key messages:

- Feedback from the audience cited that the implementation of the Bokeo-Chiangrai Project would achieve very tangible results through the fish monitoring plan, and the establishment of a mechanism at the Chiang Rai site which encourage participation by stakeholders at many levels.
- By continuing each project, this should motivate the local people and strengthen their capacity to participate in sustaining the project after the development partner support has phased out.
- The sustainability of transboundary fisheries management is also dependent on other related sectors/factors such as maintaining the hydrological flow, financial support, community-based fisheries management, and co-management arrangements between local people, local government officers as well as cooperation with international organisations.
- Good science is necessary to support the identification of joint issues, share transboundary fisheries management resources and address these through joint solutions.
- Linkages to the change in hydrological flows from water resources development on the Mekong and the joint environmental monitoring program at the Regional level is important.
- Factors to ensure the success of the joint projects include: joint monitoring, joint transboundary management plan, joint transboundary management agreement or authority, and adequate resourcing to implement the plan. Capacity building at the local, national and regional level is also

important to support fisheries management and implementation of transboundary fisheries management and cooperation.

- Need to be creative in obtaining appropriate funding to support the implementation of the bilateral fisheries management plan.

Breakout session B: Wetlands and Lake Management

Topic: Achievement, challenges and lessons learnt from the MIWRMP transboundary wetland and lake projects: Nam Kam-Xe Bang Hieng wetlands between Lao PDR and Thailand and Songkhla-Tonle Sap Lake between Cambodia and Thailand; and the MRCS' regional work on sustainable use and management of wetlands in the LMB to exchange experiences between regions.

Facilitator: Dr. Piriya Uraiwong, MIWRM Specialist, MRCS

Panellists:

- Ms. Daovinh Couphonphacdy, Lao national consultant on the NK-XBH project
- Mr. Nipon Munmuaengsean, Nam Kam working group leader
- Dr. Chatchai Ratanachai, Thailand national consultant on Songkhla- Tonle Sap lake project
- Mr. Chin Baubann, Representative from Songkhla Lake working group
- Mr. Sin Viseth, Director General of Tonle Sap Lake Authority
- Dr. So Nam, Chief Environment, Environmental Division, MRCS

Questions to the panel session members:

1. What is the important role wetlands/lake play now and, in the future, nationally and regionally, as the LMB becomes more developed and the impacts of climate change become more apparent?
2. What mechanisms for transboundary wetland/lake management are needed to deal with pressures from climate change and others?
3. There are number of authorities managing the wetland/lake that may create a barrier to integrated management. What do actions should be introduces to deal with these barriers?

Key messages:

- Wetlands play important role to the sustainable livelihoods of local people, which recently has been impacted by the climate change, as witnessed by local communities living within the wetlands. Adaptation to this impact is needed through empowerment and capacity building programs.
- Integrated planning between local people and relevant line agencies is urgently needed for the sustainable development of the wetland and lake.
- A community participatory approach is important.
- Regional support is provided by the MRCS in the form of technical guidelines to provide an overall framework for sustainable wetland management.

The MRC Joint Project Initiatives - Dr Thim Ly, Chief River Basin Planner, MRCS

Topic: The presentation provided information on the Joint Projects initiative under the National indicative Plans.

Key messages:

- Through the process of developing the National Indicative Plans for each country, the MRC joint projects were introduced where a bilateral or multilateral project was identified between two or

more member countries. The purpose of these joint initiatives is to: optimise mutual benefits, promote independent sub-regional growth and cooperation and minimise harmful effects.

- The joint initiatives are as follows (i) the Lao-Thai safety regulation for Navigation joint project; (ii) the cross border water resource management project in Khone Falls Region between Cambodia and Lao; (iii) the Sustainable water resources management in 3S basin project between Cambodia and Viet Nam; (iv) the Flood and drought management project in Cambodia-Thai border area, and (v) the Integrated flood management project in the Mekong Delta between Cambodia and Viet Nam.

DAY 2

Panel discussion on National capacity on water resources management status, challenges and way forward in 10 years for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam

Topic: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam presented about their existing frameworks to manage water in terms of legislation, strategic plans, coordination across line agencies, the capacity of the human resources to collect and analyse information and develop relevant strategic management plans and legislation, the current technology used and the challenges they face. The discussion focused on achievements, challenges and way forward as well as resources needed for national capacity in order to deal with the pressures of transboundary water resources management.

Facilitator: Dr. Janejira Chuthong, Chief Hydrologist, MRCS

Panellists:

- Mr. Watt Botkosol, Deputy Secretary General, CNMC, Cambodia;
- Mr. Singthong Phanthamala, Director of Basin Management Division, MoNRE, Lao PDR
- Mr. Atthapong Chantanumutti, Expert on Water Analysis, Office of the Natural Water Resources (ONWR), Thailand
- Ms. Nguyen Hong Phuong, Deputy Director General of VNMC, Viet Nam.

Questions to the panel session members:

- 1) How can national capacity on water resources management contribute to transboundary water resources management?
- 2) Please prioritise the needs to strengthen national capacity to deal with pressurised transboundary water resources management...
- 3) How can regional mechanisms or institutions support national capacity on water resources management? You may also think about or suggest potential new and innovative transboundary cooperation mechanisms.
- 4) Are there any linkages between national development and basin development plans?

Key messages:

- Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Thailand provided an update on the current capacity on water resources management, existing framework and strategic plan as well as challenges. An integrated approach at the national and regional level, will assist in planning for current and future development on the Mekong and the tributaries, as well as an early warning system that includes tributaries to avoid disasters caused by flooding, drought and from development construction and operations of hydropower dams. Real-time information is accessible by all is therefore very important. Negative impacts downstream of hydropower dam operation can be mitigated by effective management of risks in dam operation and by involving all relevant ministries with the possibility of including transboundary neighbours downstream. One common issue is that capacity building at all levels is critical, as is sustainable financing of water management, with the potential for beneficiaries to provide some of this financial support.

- Priorities include the need to improve human resource capacity, data collection and modelling, balancing the impact on ecosystems at the transboundary level from upstream to downstream, improve legislation, and regulation, enhance cooperation and coordination, and information sharing and the involve the community through building awareness.
- From a regional perspective, decentralisation has shown the need for greater technical and financial support to ensure the hycos-network continues to operate to provide important information on rainfall and water level information.
- Strategic Environmental Assessments can assist national governments to understand the carrying capacity of the environment to inform future management and development decisions that are made. Issues such as climate change and groundwater need to be considered within such an assessment. It is important to provide an open and public platform for scientific assessment to ensure accountability and consistent environmental and social safeguards across all countries are needed. There is a need to consider a regional mechanism for regional research, such as HAll, etc.
- A plan to enhance and ensure knowledge on hydrology and modelled resources is up to date would be useful. Predictive information is required, through assessment and modelling, to understand future challenges and opportunities.
- Need to consider the application of the MA and the procedures to the transboundary situation. National consultation for PNPCA currently involves civil society but this could be improved with a focus on providing information to help improve understanding and ensure the process is better informed.
- The level of capacity at national level among the four MCs is variable and different. The needs for capacity building in each MC are thus different in terms of areas, levels, etc. which results in different requirements for. Lessons learnt from one country may be applied to other countries.

Panel discussion on Using science to support trans-boundary decision making processes

Topic This session explored the work/products of institutes on water resources management at national and transboundary scale to support a sustainable and equitable management of increasingly pressurised water resources. Discussion focused on the contribution of research and development to support decision making on transboundary water resources planning and management and the linkage to the national capacity on water resources management.

Facilitator: *Dr. Janejira Chuthong, Chief Hydrologist, MRCS*

Panellists:

- 1) Mr. Watt Botkosol, Deputy Secretary General, CNMC, Cambodia;
- 2) Mr. Oulaphone Ongkeo: National Resources and Environmental Research Institute (NRERI), MONRE, Lao PDR;
- 3) Dr. Sutat Weesakul, Director, Hydro - Informatics Institute (HII), Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation, Thailand
- 4) Dr. Nguyen Anh Duc, Water resources institute (MONRE), Viet Nam

Questions to the panel session members:

- 1) How did/can your research or institute (or agency) contribute to support decision making and national capacity on transboundary water resources planning and management? You can suggest on how to utilise the existing sciences/tools for a sustainable and equitable management of transboundary water resources.
- 2) Please identify the gaps/obstacles of your institutes/agencies (or your tools/resources) those interrupt your contributions to support decision making or strengthen national capacity on water resources planning/management?

-
- 3) Please identify any possible ways forward (in relation to science) to strengthen national capacity to deal with pressurised transboundary water resources management.
 - 4) You can suggest any global or regional scientific tools those can support transboundary water resources management?

Key messages of the session:

- Institutes from the four countries presented examples of scientific approach on supporting water resources management. A variety of tools developed by institutes exist. It is important to ensure that innovation continues, and the available science is the most up to date and cutting edge. And it is important to include communities in the process. It was mentioned that the MRC Decision Support Framework needs upgrading. With regard to modelling, there are many models, and scientific research undertaken but the result is not applied in the decision-making as economic priorities come first. Therefore, adaptive decision-making is required to adjust to the most up to date science available in consideration with other aspects. Technical information is required to make political decisions, but these need to be kept separate.
- Advances in technologies (developing/utilising/applying) of each country is occurring at different levels. This is linked to the different levels of national capacity. Sharing knowledge and technologies among MCs is a suggested solution and soft measures for transboundary corporation/exchange could be considered.
- Data sharing is always a top priority for implementation and support from national, regional, international institutes and agencies is still needed and welcomed by the MCs. Consistent ways forward on applying science to support trans-boundary decision making process should be in place. Thus, a regional tool/platform for transboundary decision-makers which is accessible and applicable by all countries should be established and integrated with what is being applied at national level.

Lessons learnt from IUCN Building River Dialogue and Governance in the Sekong, Sesan and Sre Pok river basins (BRIDGE 3S), Oxfam Mekong Water Governance Program, and Freshwater Health Index by Conservation International

Topic: This session explored experiences of international non-government organisations working in the lower Mekong Region with the community to address water resources management and conservation issues and the lessons learnt from these initiatives to improve cooperation and decision-making.

Key messages:

- Information and examples from the three projects were discussed. Oxfam sees the water resource management is often high risk for communities. However, the communities are often excluded from decision-making with regards to the management of riverine water. Need to emphasise that the communities' involvement is important. Special focus on women, youth and indigenous people – in decision-making at the local, national and regional level – is essential. Consider how to make space to facilitate this. They also viewed that cooperation tends happen not only because of shared objectives but also perceptions of the different groups. And multi-stakeholder partnerships across borders has provide a promising approach. However, negotiation can be constrained by capacity imbalance.
- The example of the 3S work undertaken by the IUCN was discussed, particularly the 'Nexus assessment' which refers to integrated assessment of current and future trends of water, food and environmental conditions to support integrated development planning and decision-making and considers trade-offs. The study has shown more efficiency can be gained with water use by changing the crops grown in certain areas where coffee is currently grown.

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- The example of the Freshwater Health Index (FHI) by Conservation International was discussed. The Index includes three indicators: ecosystem vitality, ecosystem services; and governance and stakeholders with application in the 3S. The index can be modelled to assess scenarios and results should guide policy and management. The result was the 3S can be assessed as: a functioning ecosystem that is showing signs of stress, ecosystem provides desired service – except the sediment regulation component - and there is a limited capacity respond to rapid change. Using remote sensing, real data from the countries, making the tool very valuable and emphasise the importance of sharing data to look at future scenarios.

Panel discussion on LMB transboundary cooperation mechanisms: identifying priority issues to setting out the Joint action plan for the Sean-Srepok and the Mekong-Delta region

Topic: An introduction to the project was provided as well as the joint transboundary issues, joint cooperation mechanism and joint action plan between Cambodia and Viet Nam. The discussions focused on the achievement, challenges and lessons learnt from the transboundary Sesan-Srepok and Mekong – Delta water resources management projects, emphasising the importance of implementing the joint action plans already endorsed by the NMCs.

Facilitator: Piriya Uraiwong

Panellists:

1. Ms. Nguyen Hong Phuong, Deputy Director General, VNMC
2. Mr. Watt Botkosol, Deputy Director General, CNMC
3. Dr. Thim Ly, Chief of Basin Planning, MRCS

Questions to the panel session members:

1. What are the main factors that drive cooperation in a transboundary setting?
2. How can the 2S and MD project help to foster transboundary benefit sharing?
3. Hearing about national capacity on water resources management in the morning session, what can be done to improve national water management policies to include and address the transboundary water resources management issues and support better transboundary cooperation?

Key messages of the session:

- Improving the management and development of water resources in a complex transboundary setting requires commitment and extensive consultation, with governments, stakeholders and technical people.
- For the implementation of the Joint Action Plan to be successful appropriate human and institutional capacity, time, financial support and commitment is required to ensure that the costs and benefits are shared at the transboundary level.
- The CNMC and VNMC have endorsed the two Joint Action Plans for the 2S and MD, and plan to commence their implementation in 2019.
- The 2S and MD projects showed that the joint group were willing to learn together, work together and change their practices.
- Initial support from the MRC and development partners will ensure that the tangible results from the MIWRMP continues and is built upon.

Panel discussion on Strengthening implementation of transboundary cooperation mechanisms: resources, monitoring and reporting

Topic: The session focused on what needs to be done for transboundary cooperation, what resources are available as well as gaps and the potential to support such cooperation. Drivers and critical success factors were concluded from the two-days discussion and further explored through the panel discussion.

Facilitator: Mr. Santi Baran, MRCS

Panellists:

- 1) Ms. Belinda Wilson, Director of Planning, Murray Darling Basin Authority, Australia
- 2) Mr. Markus Wishart, Lead Water Resource Specialist, World Bank
- 3) Dr. Piriya Uraiwong, MIWRM Specialist, MRCS
- 4) Ms. Phouthamath Sayyabounsou, National Program Officer, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC, Embassy of Switzerland

Questions to the panel session members:

- 1) How do you build trust among your states to ensure successful transboundary cooperation?
- 2) What are the main critical success factors (CSFs) for transboundary cooperation?
- 3) In what way is political support a key driver for transboundary water cooperation?
- 4) How do you coordinate and cooperate with other initiatives in the region to avoid redundancies and maximise positive impact?
- 5) What are the key issues and challenges to overcome for effective transboundary cooperation?
- 6) How do you propose to resolve some of the specific issues/challenges in the current transboundary projects?
- 7) What is the World Bank's strategic interest in supporting transboundary projects?
- 8) What new transboundary projects do you think would have the largest beneficial impact on the region?
- 9) Do you have some suggestions for how to gain access for further funding to continue current transboundary cooperation projects?

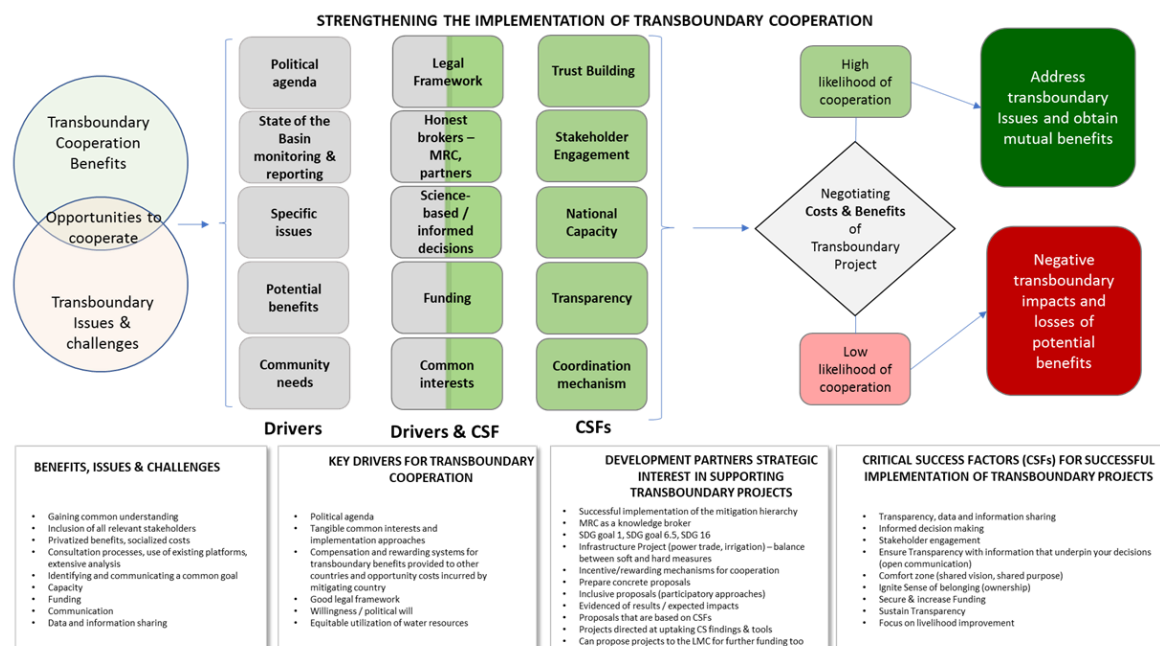
Key messages of the session:

- There is a need to have a shared purpose and identify one common goal that everyone is working towards. The basin needs to be managed as one system. Helps to maintain collaboration over time. Relationships with different levels of government and the community
- Two critical success factors from coordinator point of views are: i) comfortable environment for cooperation, where all parties can see the possibility or positive outcome from the cooperation, as well as good communication and ii) a mediator/facilitator between the two parties to create a common ground for negotiation
- There is a need for political support to solve the issue of trust and bring different stakeholders and interests together as well as need a good legal framework. It is important to have qualitative and quantitative data to inform the transboundary decision-making process.
- Trust needs to be built around the people involved. It is difficult to make decisions and even harder to implement. Successes and failures need to be accountable, so improvement can happen. Data and information are important and allow us to make those tough decisions. Capacity building is needed. There is also the need for communication and the long-term commitment of the partners. In-kind support from the MCs is needed and the long-term cycle of the project must be taken into account.
- The World Bank is an investor and countries are the shareholders. Strategic interests are set by the countries themselves. The ultimate objective is being able to facilitate sustainable trajectories that lead to the improvement of the lives of people in the Mekong river basin, guided by eradicating extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity. Relevant at the national and regional levels. The Bank focuses on how to best share the benefits. It is important that

- operational policies for investments do not have negative impacts on other countries. This effort will be facilitated through grant resources, that enable the public good component and improve investment planning.
- Transparent information means all partners are equal and there is a sense of urgency to call for more transboundary cooperation.
- Countries have demonstrated a high willingness to come together and cooperate. Have shown mutual benefits. It is time to capitalise and be the catalyst - the timing is now. The MRC is preparing the BDP and the BDS which will integrate measures to continually facilitate and improve transboundary water cooperation for the next 10 years.

Key messages from the 7th Regional Stakeholder Forum and the way forward

This Forum focuses on strengthening the implementation of transboundary cooperation in the LMB. The 7th RSF provided an opportunity to openly discuss and debate transboundary cooperation in the context of the MRC’s mandate, procedures, regional and joint projects, the M-IWMP transboundary projects, and the experiences of key partners and organisation in the region, and internationally. A clear pathway has been identified in the figure below and will be implemented through the development of the MRC Basin Development Strategy and Plan (2021 -2030) and the MRC Strategic Plan 2021-2025.



Closing Remarks - Dr. An Pich Hatda, CEO, MRC Secretariat

- It's been an intensive two-day event with full of lively discussion and exchange of different views and experiences. We've gathered almost 200 people from across four continents including Asia, Oceania, North America and South Africa, who are from governments, NGOs, civil society organisations, academia, and development partners.
- Over the course of these two days, we've looked at various transboundary issues and solutions. We've touched on cross-border cooperation history of the Mekong and Australia. We've explored different transboundary collaboration mechanisms to address challenges associated with water resources management. We've discussed lessons learnt. We've approached transboundary challenges from the science-policy interface lens. We've identified key priorities for certain joint action plans.
- Transboundary cooperation enables better ecological management and sustains economic growth, providing benefits to the river and related ecosystems. Efficient cooperative and coordinated management and development of shared waters such as the Mekong River can yield increased food security, energy production, better sediment transport, improved irrigation systems, and poverty alleviation.
- Cross-border information sharing and exchange of early-warning information – including on infrastructure projects that could affect downstream countries, on extreme events as well as on operations such as for hydropower, navigation and irrigation – is vital to building trust and a shared vision among riparian countries. It has the potential to minimise losses and maximise benefits across borders.
- Cost and benefit sharing on transboundary rivers through basin-wide and joint projects is an approach to address equitable and reasonable development and utilisation of transboundary water resources. This normally takes so much time to reach a consensus and build a common understanding. But its huge benefits are worth the investment.
- The MRC – being the oldest river basin organisation in Asia – recognises these benefits and has been working to support the member countries in realising these. We've already had some successful results, which is our impetus to further expand our efforts. Thanks to the wider regional fora and stakeholders that have supported these efforts. Thanks to our member countries for their firm commitment at the national level and good cooperation at the regional level.
- I also thank our development partners who have supported us through expertise and financial resources. We've been blessed to have the continued support from Australia, Belgium, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States, and the World Bank.
- I wish to highlight that the Mekong cooperation is complex and involved vested interests. Any arrangement must be tailored to its basin's characteristics and reflect a range of environmental, hydrological, political, economic, social and cultural circumstances in its member countries. Water resources policies and plans – especially those of the national ones – must also be coordinated and developed in a way that reflects the basin-wide perspective to avoid development traps. To sustain the success of cost and benefit sharing in the transboundary context, it's vital to utilise local knowledge and resources for best practices and be more gender sensitive. The MRC has not missed these but is expanding further.

VI. ANNEXES

ANNEX A – Agenda for the MRC 7th Regional Stakeholder Forum, 20-21 May, 2019

DAY 1: 20 May 2019

- 09:00 – 09:30 Welcome remarks by the Secretary-General of National Office of Water Resources
Opening remarks by the MRCS CEO
- 09:30 – 10:00 Keynote Speaker – International example transboundary water resource governance
- 10:00 – 10:30 Mekong River Commission and transboundary dialogue by the MRC Secretariat
- 10:30 – 10:45 *Break*
- 10:45 – 11:45 Panel session on understanding the Mekong transboundary cooperation – past, present and future
- 11:45 – 12:00 Introduction of the MRC Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management transboundary project by the MRC Secretariat
- 12:00 -13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00 – 14:30 Parallel sessions on establishing LMB transboundary cooperation mechanisms to support sustainable water resources management.
- | | |
|---|--|
| Group I: Wetland and lake management | Group II: Fisheries management |
| - Achievement, challenges and lessons learnt from Nam Kam- Xe bang Hieng wetland project and Songkhla- Tonle Sap lake project | - Achievement, challenges and lessons learnt from Mekong- Sekong transboundary fisheries management project |
| - Experiences from Inle Lake management, Myanmar | - Lessons learnt from transboundary fisheries management in the bordering of Bokeo in Lao and Chiang Rai in Thailand |
| Panel discussion: exchange experience between regions on Lake and wetland management | Panel discussion: exchange experience between regions on transboundary fisheries management |
- 14:30 – 15:00 *Break*
- 15:30 – 16:00 Reflection from parallel discussion
- 16:00 – 17:00 MRC Joint Project Initiatives by the MRC Secretariat
- 17:00-17:15 Conclusion of Day 1

DAY 2: 21 May 2019

- 09:00 – 09:15 Setting scene for Day 2
- 09:15 – 10:30 Updated on national capacity on water resources management: status, challenges, potential MRC role and way forward in next 10 years - *Presentation from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam*
- 10:30 – 11:00 *Break*
- 11:00 – 12:00 Panel discussion on using science to support trans-boundary decision making processes
- 12:00 – 13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00-13:45 Lessons learned from
- IUCN Building River Dialogue and Governance in the Sekong, Sesan and Sre Pok river basins (BRIDGE 3S)
 - Oxfam Mekong Water Governance Program
 - Freshwater Health Index by Conservation International
- 13:45 – 15:30 LMB transboundary cooperation mechanisms: identifying priority issues to setting out an action plan
Panel session on lessons learned and challenges ahead
- 15:30 – 15:45 *Break*
- 15:45 – 16:45 Panel session on strengthening implementation of transboundary cooperation mechanisms: resources, monitoring and reporting
- 16:45 – 17:20 Summary key messages from the forum and way forward
- 17:20 – 17:30 Closing of forum

ANNEX B – List of participants

No.		Name	Organization
1	M	H.E. Mr. Te Navuth	CNMC
2	M	H.E. Mr. Sin Viseth	TSA
3	M	H.E. Mr. Watt Botkosol	CNMC
4	M	Chheng Phen	FiA, MAF
5	M	Chheng Hong	CNMC
6	M	Suos Bunnthan	CNMC
7	M	Yin Savuth	MOWRAM
8	M	Thach Sovanna	MOWRAM
9	M	Heng Sovannara	TSA
10	M	Touch Bunthang	FiA, MAF
11	M	Ly Vuthy	FiA, MAF
12	M	Kim Seiha	CNMC
13	M	Sakhon Pory	CNMC
14	M	Hun Sothy	MOWRAM
15	M	Pon Vuthy	TSA
16	M	Saint Rola	TSA
17	M	Phai Sok Heng	CNMC
18	M	Sour Sethy	CNMC
19	M	Oeurng Chantha	
20	M	Rous Chanthy	
21	M	Singthong Phanthamala	MoNRE
22	M	Bounthong Saphakdy	Department of Livestock and Fishery (DLF)
23	M	Phonepaseuth Phouliphanh	LNMCS, MONRE
24	M	Viengsay Sophachanh	LNMCS
25	M	Oudomsack Philavong	LNMCS
26	F	Khampiane Khanthanaluck	M-IWRMP, LNMCS
27	M	Chanthaphone Thammavong	M-IWRMP, LNMCS
28	F	Vongdeuan Fongsamouth	PAFO, Champasack province
29	M	Khambay Singsouvong	PLFS, Champasack province
30	F	Daovinh Souphonphacdy	LNMCS, MoNRE
31	F	Souvanny Phommakone	Fishery division, DLF
32	F	Keoudone Chounlamountry	DoNRE, Champhone district, Savanakheth Province
33	M	Kaviphone Phouthavong	LARReC
34	F	Wanphen Mongkhonkham	DWR
35	M	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chatchai Ratanachai	Songkhla-Tonle Sap Communication Outreach Project between Thailand and Cambodia.
36	M	Chin Buaban	Songkhla-Tonle Sap Communication Outreach Project between Thailand and Cambodia.
37	F	Poonsup Chukaew	Songkhla-Tonle Sap Communication Outreach Project between Thailand and Cambodia.
38	F	Benchawan Pengnoo	Songkhla-Tonle Sap Communication Outreach Project between Thailand and Cambodia.
39	F	Jettawan Krutaraniyom	Songkhla-Tonle Sap Communication Outreach Project between Thailand and Cambodia.
40	M	Nipon Munmueangsaen	Nam Kam-Xa Bang Hieng transboundary Project between Thailand and Lao PDR

41	F	Uraiwan Mulmuangsan	Nam Kam-Xa Bang Hieng transboundary Project between Thailand and Lao PDR
42	M	Laowthai Ninnuan	Nam Kam-Xa Bang Hieng transboundary Project between Thailand and Lao PDR
43	M	Amorndech Nouimanee	Nam Kam-Xa Bang Hieng transboundary Project between Thailand and Lao PDR
44	M	Siripong Sirikul	Nam Kam-Xa Bang Hieng transboundary Project between Thailand and Lao PDR
45	M	Pradab Klatkempech	The National Water Resource Committee (NWRC)
46	F	Thayida Siritreeratormrong van Corstanje	The National Water Resource Committee (NWRC)
47	M	Atthapong Chantanumutti	The National Water Resource Committee (NWRC)
48	M	Thanaroj Worraratprasert	The National Water Resource Committee (NWRC)
49	M	Woraphon Rueangsi	The National Water Resource Committee (NWRC)
50	M	Satit Pirochchai	TNMCS
51	M	Marc Srikhao	TNMCS
52	F	Rutima Aramrungs	TNMCS
53	M	Assoc. Prof. Chaiyuth Sukhsri	Chulalongkorn University
54	M	Panut Manoonvoravong	TNMCS
55	F	Saranpat Piriyaprasit	TNMCS
56	F	Rinrada Taengtang	TNMCS
57	M	Suphap Keawlaiat	LAs
58	F	Malasri Khumsri	LAs
59	F	Khanittha Phoothong	TNMCS
60	F	Nguyen Hong Phuong	VNMC
61	M	Nguyen Dinh Dat	VNMC
62	M	Nguyen Huy Phuong	VNMC
63	F	Le Thi Huong	VNMC
64	F	Dao Linh Chi	VNMC
65	F	Tran Thi Kim Hue	VNMC
66	M	Le Van Diem	VNMC
67	M	Bui Viet Hung	VNMC
68	M	Pham Duy Du	DONRE of Gia Lai Province
69	M	Vo Thanh Xuan	DONRE of Ang Giang Province
70		RANN REUY	Cambodian Center for Independent Media (CCIM)
71		Chaineuk Phakhounthong	Livestock and Fishery Section, PAFO of Bolikhamxay Province
72		Phaylin BOUAKEO	KhoneKean University; Thailand
73	M	Tek Vannara	The NGO FORUM on Cambodia
74		KONG Sam Ol	Phnom Penh Teacher Education College
75		Panha Hok	Asian Institute of Technology
76	F	Katherine	Waterkeepers China
77	M	Dan Liu	Gan River Waterkeeper
78		Thodsapol Chaturabul	Kasetsart University Chalermphrakiat Sakonnakhon Province Campus

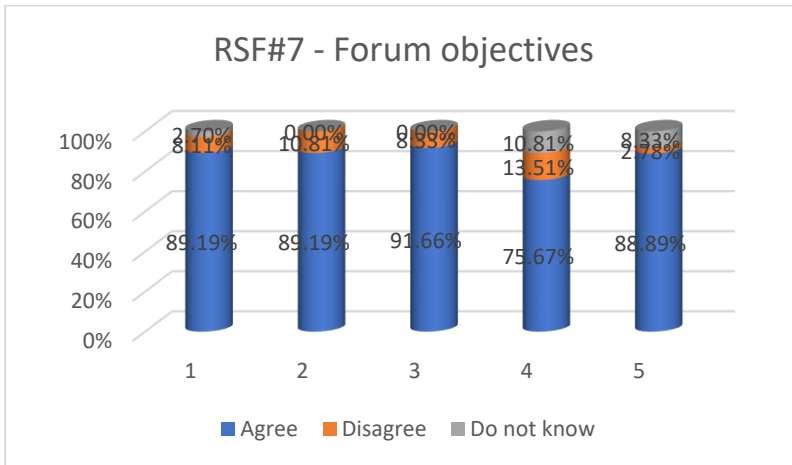
79		Prajya NGAMJAN	Kasetsart University Chalermphrakiat Sakonnakhon Province Campus
80	M	Zaw Htun	Integrated Development Executive Association - IDEA
81		Nyro Tum	Stung Treng Fisheries Administration Cantonment
82	F	Lam Vu Thanh Noi	Southern Institute of Water Resources Research (SIWRR)
83	M	Sarorn THOEUN	Community Development for Peace and Sustainability
84		Sok Serey	Royal University of Phnom Penh
85	M	Apichai Sunchindah	Consultant
86	M	Vishwa Ranjan Sinha	IUCN
87	F	Anne Chaponniere	GIZ
88	F	Asa Heijne	Sida
89	M	Andrew Wyatt	IUCN
90	M	Ate Poortinga	servir mekong
91	F	Andrea Haefner	LADLF
92	M	Carl Binning	Australia's Murray Darling Basin Authority
93	F	Chandara Rem	Bamboo Platform
94	F	Christy Owen	Pact, INGO
95	M	Christian Olk	German Embassy Vientiane
96	M	Chusit Apirumanekul	World Bank Consultant
97	M	Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
98	M	Chhinh Nyda	Royal University of Phnom Penh
99	F	Ei Ei Khaing	Environmental Conservation Department, MoNREC, Myanmar
100	F	Erinda Pbill Panen	GIZ
101	M	Federico Barreras	People In Need Cambodia, INGO
102	M	Geng Cong	Permanent Mission of China to UNESCAP
103	M	John Dore	Austrstralia Embassy, Laos- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
104	M	Jongkon Jongwalaikasem	TEAM Consulting Engineering and Management Public Company Limited
105	F	Jenni lundmark	European Union
106	F	Jennifer Shinen	U.S. Department of State
107	M	John Choi	U.S. Embassy Bangkok
108	M	Kim Geheb	Mekong Region Futures Institute
109	M	Kyaw Zin Than	Ministry of Transport and Communications, Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River System (DWIR), Myanmar
110	M	Li Hong	Permanent Mission of China to UNESCAP
111	F	Louise Whiting	FAO
112	F	Leonie Pearson	SEI, Think Tank
113	M	Nattapat Rugwongwan	Kasetsart university
114	M	Noppawee Chamnanpai	Pact Thailand, INGO
115	M	Nguyen Anh Duc	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
116	M	Nigel Peter Hayball	World Bank
117	M	Oulaphone Ongkeo	Natural Resources and Environment Research Institute

118	F	Plengchawee Chittawat	Department of Industrial Works
119	M	Peeranan Towashiraporn	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, IGO
120	F	Phat Pumchawsaun	Stockholm Environment Institute Asia Centre, INGO
121	F	Phouthamath Sayyabounsou	SDC, Embassy of Switzerland
122	M	Roland Adams	IMDC, Engineering Consultant
123	M	Robert Carr	eWater
124	M	Sun Jiran	Permanent Mission of China to UNESCAP
125	M	Suparerak Janprasart	Pact Thailand, INGO
126	F	Srabani Roy	Greater Mekong
127	M	Sokhem Pech	Australian DFAT Cambodia Agriculture Value Chain Program
128	F	Sopagna Set	GIZ
129	F	Simonetta Siligato	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
130	F	Saowalak Jingjungvisut	East-West Management Institute-Open Development Initiative (EWMI-ODI)
131	M	Sutat Weesakul	Hydro-Informatics Institute (HII)
132	M	Surajedt Chalothorn	Hydro-Informatics Institute (HII)
133	M	Sein Htoon Linn	Environmental Conservation Department, MoNREC, Myanmar
134	M	Tiago Furlanetto	University of Sao Paulo
135	F	Thao Chanthearyradh	Open Development Cambodia
136	M	Thanpon Piman	Stockholm Environment Institute, INGO
137	F	Viengsompasong Inthavong	World Bank
138	M	Virak Chan	World Bank Cambodia
139	M	Vilas Nitivattananon	Asian Institute of Technology
140	M	Wei Wong	LuZhe Education
141	M	Win Naing Tun	Myanmar Environment Institute
142	F	Yuki Miyake	School of Social Innovation, Mae Fah Luang University
143	M	Yuttana Theparoonrat	SEAFDEC
144	M	Tho Nguyen	University of Virginia
145	M	Mansoor Leh	International Water Management Institute
146	M	Takahiro OTSUKA	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Thailand office
147	M	Sein Htoon Linn	Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
148	F	Shelley McMillan	World Bank
149	M	Marcus Wishart	World Bank
150	F	Mayvong Sayatham	GIZ
151	F	Nittana Southiseng	GIZ
152	F	Shaleah Levant	US Embassy
153	F	Pauline McKeown	Oxfam
154	M	Erik Fruth	IWMI
155		Pimida Leelaparang Kamphaengthong	Pact
156		Kompakorn Ngoenma	Koner Water resources corp.
157	F	Belinda Wilson	MDBA
158	M	An Pich Hatda	MRCS

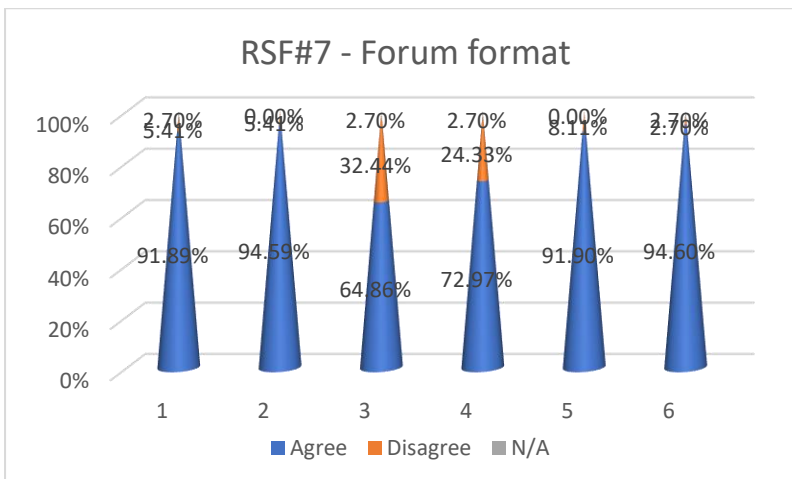
159	M	Hak Socheat	MRCS
160	M	Suchart Sirijungsakul	MRCS
161	M	Tran Minh Khoi	MRCS
162	M	Bountieng Sanaxonh	MRCS
163	M	Thim Ly	MRCS
164	M	Anoulak Kittikhoun	MRCS
165	M	So Nam	MRCS
166	F	Janejira Chuthong	MRCS
167	M	Piriya Uraiwong	MRCS
168	F	Duong Hai Nhu	MRCS
169	F	Le Thi Huong Lien	MRCS
170	F	Phattareeya Suanrattanachai	MRCS
171	M	Santi Baran	MRCS
172	F	Megan Knight	MRCS
173	M	Ramony Tang Seng	MRCS
174	F	Varaphone Silaphet	MRCS
175	F	Khongpadith Mekkhayom	MRCS
176	M	Bounyong Phounpaseuth	MRCS
177	M	Anouvong Manivong	MRCS
178	M	Soulasith Phomchaleun	MRCS

ANNEX C – Forum Satisfaction Survey

One third of participants completed the Forum Satisfaction Survey. Many provided suggestions have been incorporated in the content of this report.



1. Information provided by the forum is adequately for discussion
2. Forum enables environment for participants to be engaged and exchanged
3. Participants have opportunities to share views and perspectives
4. Forum achieved its objective of considering new transboundary partnerships and cooperation mechanisms for the LMB to support sustainable development and management of water resources
5. Lesson learned from the M-IWRM project in regard to potentially new and innovative transboundary cooperation arrangements, including their benefits and implementation challenges



1. Presentations are easy to understand
2. The facilitators promote a participatory environment for all the stakeholder to raise their opinions
3. There is sufficient time for clarification and discussion
4. The length of parallel sessions are effective and enough for interaction discussion
5. The information and documents for Regional Stakeholder Forum were available in a timely manner
6. The logistics are well arranged

In conclusion, please indicate your satisfaction to the Forum





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