

The 7th MRC Regional Stakeholder Forum

Mekong Transboundary Integrated Water Resources Management

20-21 May 2019

Bangkok, Thailand



Joint Project Initiative

*Presented by Dr. Thim Ly,
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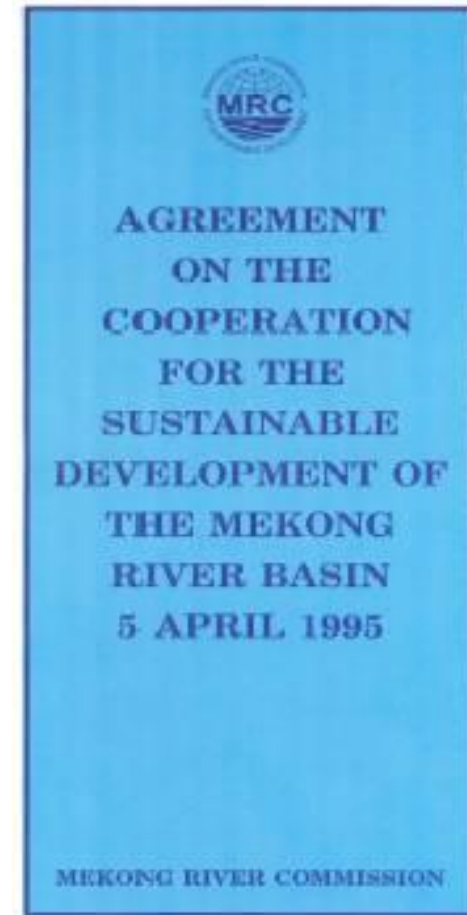


Outline:

- Background of joint projects initiatives
- Joint project implementation arrangement for the two MRC-GIZ funded joint projects
- Joint project on cross border WR mang't in Khone Falls Region
 - Approaches
 - Project deliverables and next steps
- Floods and drought mang't in Cambodia-Thai border area
 - Approaches
 - Project deliverable and next steps

I. Background

- Joint Project initiatives rooted in the 1995 Mekong Agreement (the 1995 MA)
- Principles:
 - To optimize **mutual benefits**;
 - To promote interdependent sub-regional growth & cooperation;
 - To pursue **joint and/or basin-wide development projects**
 - To minimize harmful effects
- Projects taken up **jointly by two or more countries**
- Joint investments (infrastructure or non-infrastructure), joint studies/assessments, trading agreement etc.
- Transnational park
- Multi-purpose storage projects (for flood, drought, energy, navigation)



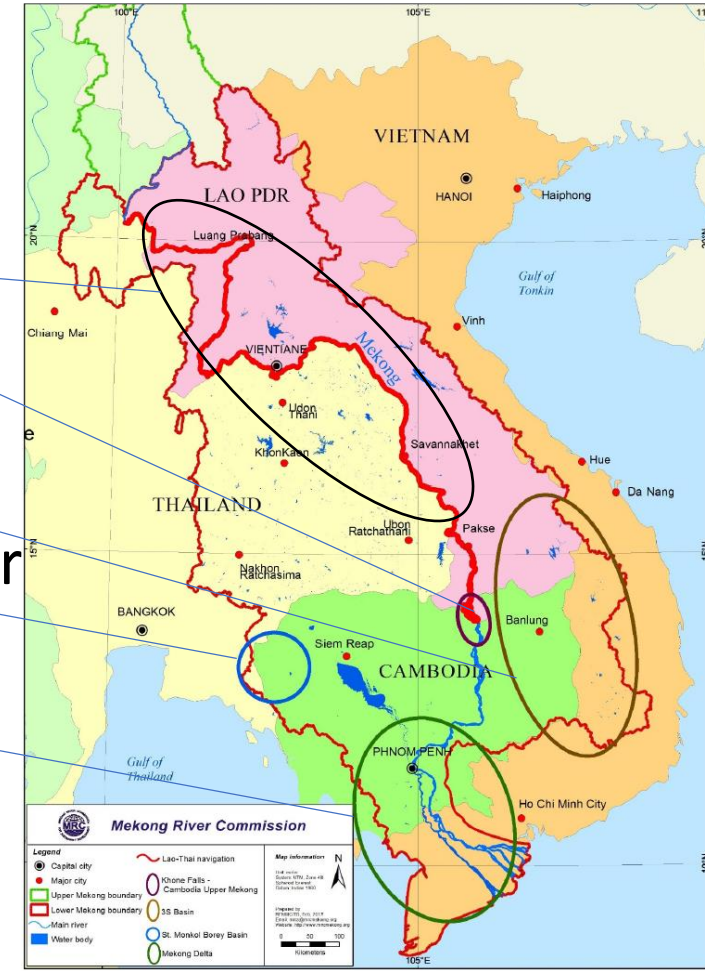
I. Background

- In January 2016, **MRC Council approved IWRM-based Basin Development Strategy (BDS) for 2016-2020**
- **MRC implements BDS through:**
 - **Strategic Plan (MRC-SP) 2016-2020; and**
 - **National Indicative Plans (NIP) 2016-2020**
- NIPs for 2016-2020 collectively **identified 5 Joint Projects in which MCs agreed to work together**



I. Background

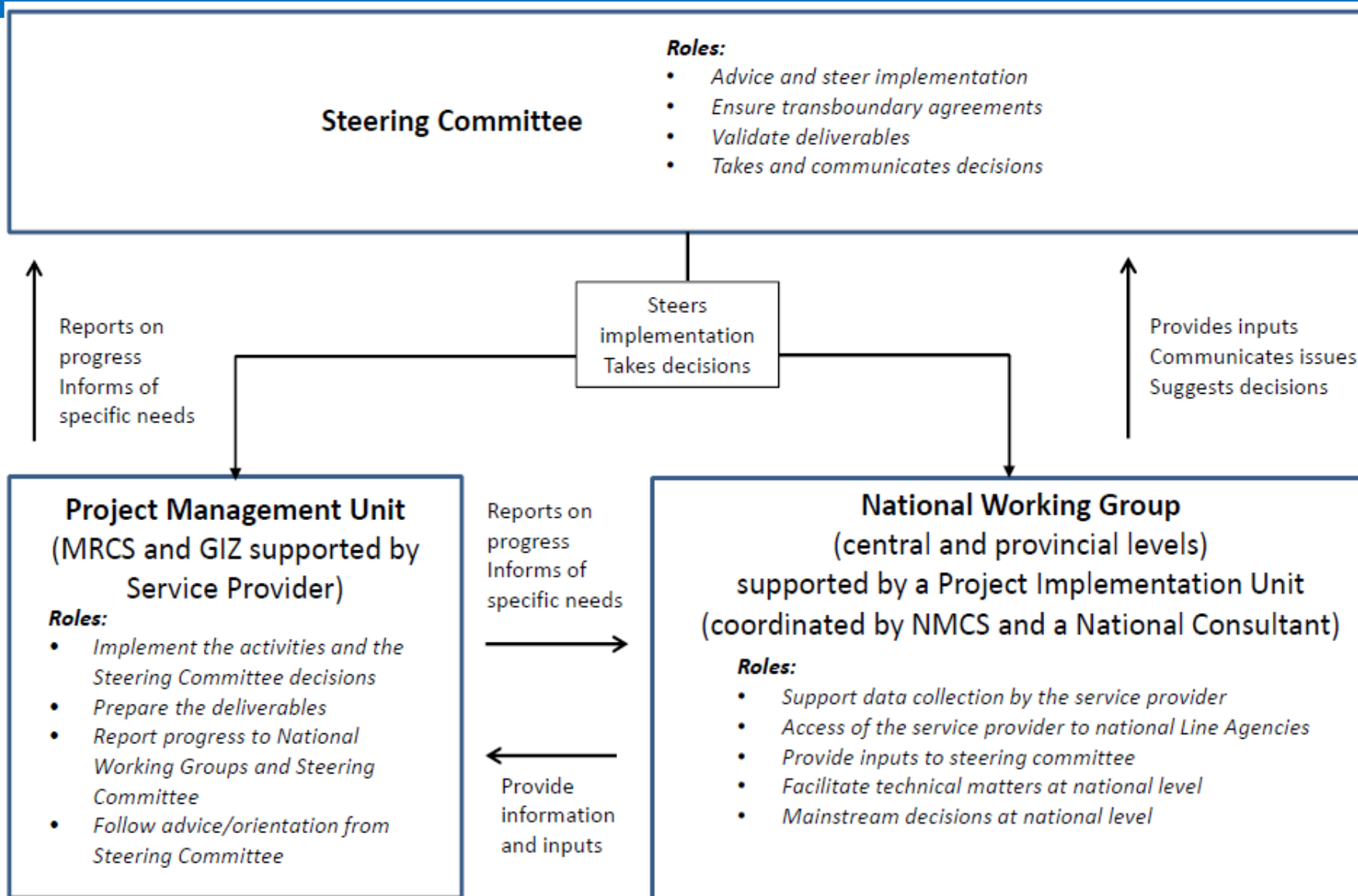
- **Objectives of Joint Projects:** Increase **benefits**, reduce **costs**, and provide **water security**
- **5 Joint Projects:**
 1. Lao-Thai safety regulation for Navigation (L, T)
 2. Cross border WR mang't in Khone Falls Region (C, L)
 3. Sustainable WR mang't in 3S basin (C, L, V)
 4. Floods and drought mang't in Cambodia-Thai border area (C, T)
 5. Integrated flood mang't in the Mekong Delta (C, V)
- **A promotional report** of Joint Projects was approved by MCs during mid 2017
- **The report is available on MRC website**



II. Implementation Arrangement of two MRC-GIZ funded JPs

- In 2018, Germany through MRC-GIZ programme supports the implementation of two joint projects
 - Cross border WR mang't in Khone Falls Region (C, L)
 - Floods and drought mang't in Cambodia-Thai border area (C, T)
- Assessment and Planning phase - March 2018- May 2019
- Implementation arrangement:
 - **Regional Steering Committee**
 - **National Working Group**
 - **Service Provider**

II. Implementation Arrangement



Mekong River Commission

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Telephone: (856-21) 283 283. Facsimile: (856-21) 283 284

Date: 20 April 2018

Terms of Reference
Steering Committee on Joint Project:
Transboundary Cooperation for Flood & Drought Management in the Cambodian-Thai Border Area – a part of 9C-9T Sub-area

1. Background on joint projects

The MRC Member Countries see joint projects by two or more countries as the principal means to increase regional benefits, minimize adverse transboundary impacts, and reduce flood and drought risks. Joint projects come in various forms but are always founded on a win-win outcome for the participating countries. Most joint projects lead to a joint or coordinated investment, underpinned by an appropriate legal framework. They lead inevitably also to higher levels of transboundary cooperation and regional integration.

The MRC Countries have identified five joint projects in their National Indicative Plans for 2016-2020. The promotion of the implementation of these projects is a priority in the MRC



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Guidance Document for Establishment of
Thai National Working Group on Joint Project:
Transboundary Cooperation for Flood and Drought Management in the Cambodian-Thai Border Area – a part of 9C-9T Sub-area

Background on joint projects

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The MRC Countries has identified five joint projects in their National Indicative Plans for 2016-2020. The promotion of the implementation of these projects is a priority in the Basin Development Strategy for the Lower Mekong Basin and in the MRC Strategic Plan 2016-2020. The joint projects are:

Lao PDR and Thailand	Lao-Thai safety regulations for navigation
Cambodia and Lao PDR	Cross border water resources development and management, including environmental impact monitoring of Don Sahong hydropower project
Cambodia and Thailand	Transboundary cooperation for flood and drought management in Cambodian-Thai border area – a part of 9C-9T Sub-area
Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam	Sustainable water resources development and management in the Sekong, Sesan and Strepok river basins (SS Basin)
Cambodia and Viet Nam	Integrated flood management in the border area of Cambodia and Viet Nam in the Mekong Delta for water security and sustainable development

III. Cambodian-Laos Border Area Joint Project on Water Resources Development and Management

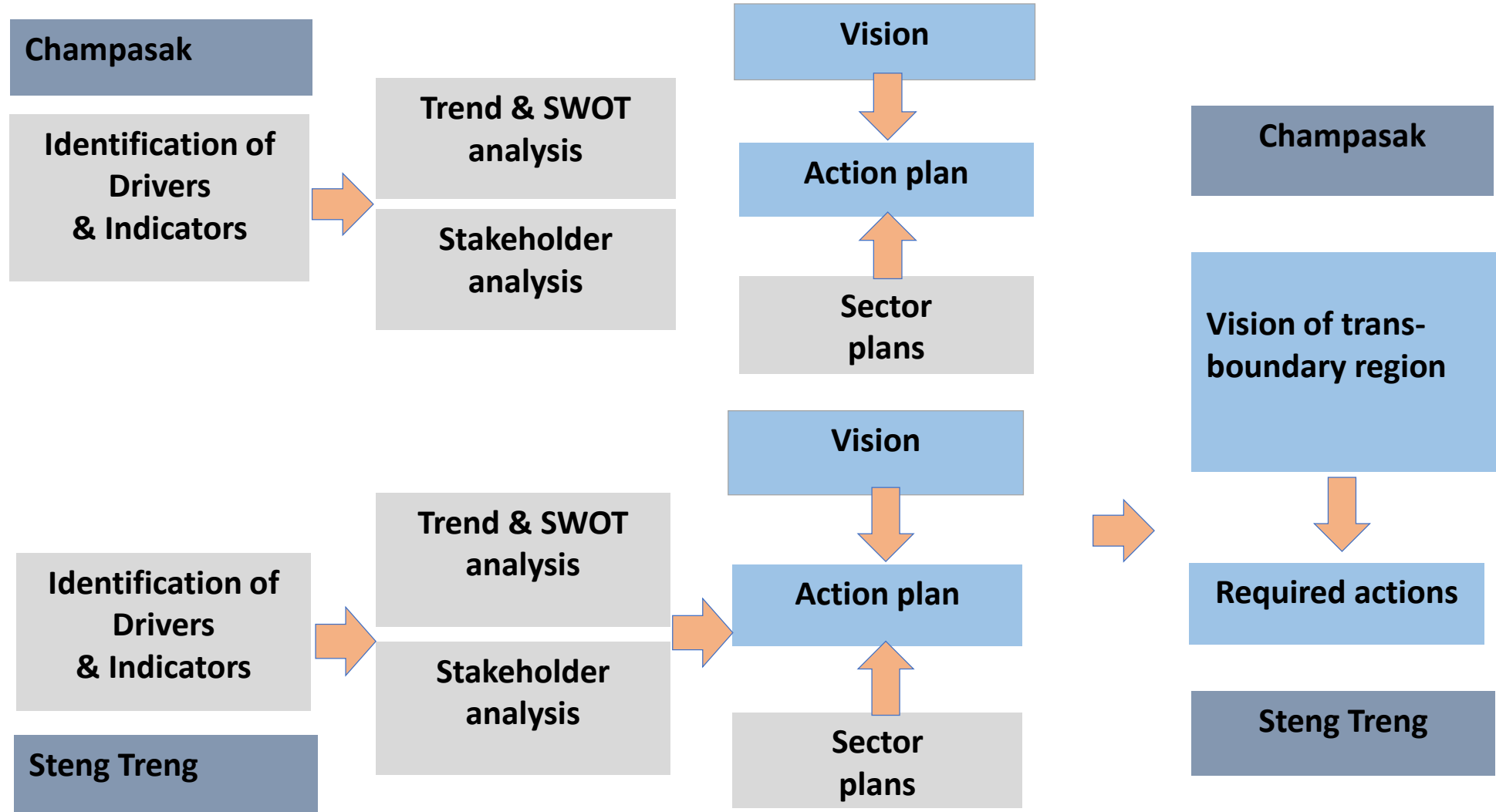
Overall Objectives:

- To monitor and report on the environmental impact of the Don Sahong HPP to inform mitigation and adaptive management measures, and monitor their effectiveness; and
- To support a shared vision planning process in the Khone Falls area to develop a commonly shared and supported strategic long-term vision and identify the short and longer term projects and activities that can be implemented.



III. Cambodian-Laos Border Area Joint Project on Water Resources Development and Management

Main steps toward coordinated plan



III. Cambodian-Laos Border Area Joint Project on Water Resources Development and Management

Project Deliverables

- Coordinated visions and joint actions for mainstreaming into provincial investment/development plan, May 2019

Next Steps

- Mainstreaming coordinated visions and joint actions into provincial investment/development plan and into the updated MRC Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030



IV. Cambodian-Thai Border Area Joint Project on Flood & Drought Mang't

Overall Objectives

- Increase capacity for Tb IWR **planning & forecasting of floods & droughts** and associated information services, including early warning of risks;
- Improve **water security**, including measures against floods & droughts, to support economic and social development

Immediate Objectives

Operationalize a **joint assessment and planning process** to deliver a coherent and consistent package of national projects and activities that can be implemented in a coordinated and timely manner **to meet the immediate needs for flood and drought mitigation measures** in the Cambodian and Thai parts of the shared river basin (project area).

IV. Cambodian-Thai Border Area Joint Project on Flood & Drought Mang't

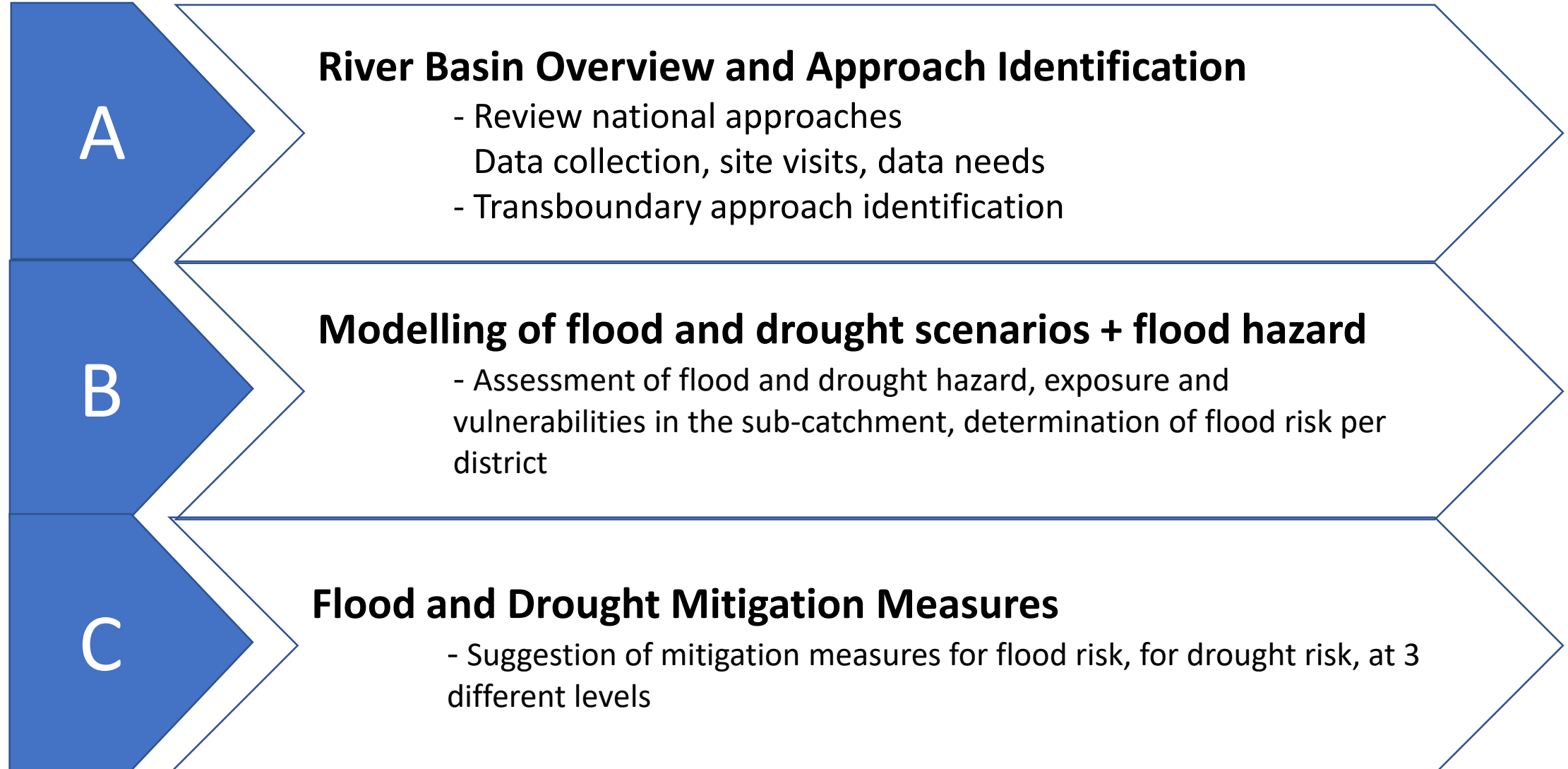
Project deliverables

- Concrete cooperation framework for Cambodia-Thailand to work jointly in mitigating the flood and drought problems effectively and efficiently in a sustainable manner
- Joint assessment and planning to develop a longer term strategy to:
 - Identify structural and non-structural solutions
 - measures that are effective at the river basin level and sustainable and robust in the face of possible future developments, climate change and other uncertainties.



IV. Cambodian-Thai Border Area Joint Project on Flood & Drought Mang't

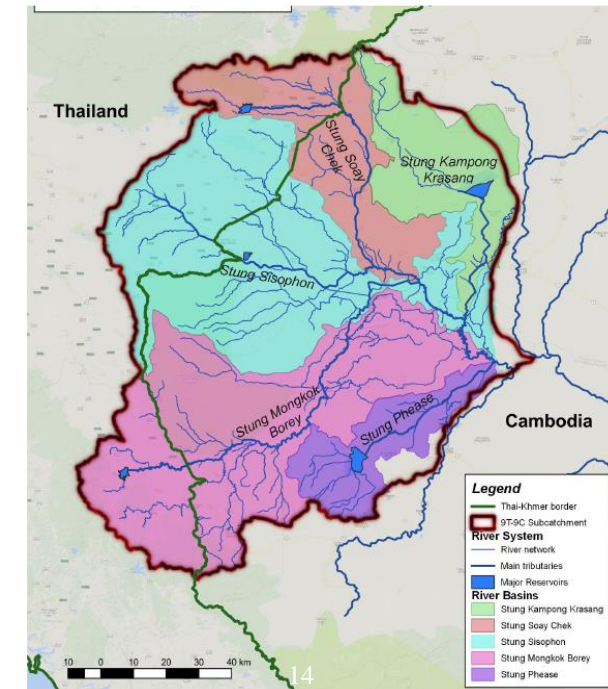
Project deliverables



IV. Cambodian-Thai Border Area Joint Project on Flood & Drought Mang't

Next Steps

- Develop funding proposal for **bankable projects**
- **Feasibility study** on prioritization measures and actions
- Capacity building/training



Thank you

