



CAMBODIA



LAO PDR



THAILAND



VIETNAM



# MRC STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2025 PREPARATION

**Dr. Anoulak Kittikhoun, Chief Strategy and Partnership Officer, Office of CEO, MRC Secretariat**

**Mr. Santi Baran, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, Office of CEO, MRC Secretariat**



# Background

- **The Basin Development Strategy (BDS)** is a basin-wide strategy for the Mekong basin and is applicable for all water and related sectors and will be implemented by all relevant stakeholders at the regional and national levels.
- **The MRC Strategic Plan (MRC SP)** is the action and corporate operational plan of the MRC as an organization to implement the Basin Development Strategy at the regional level.
- **The BDS and MRC SP will be integrated** in accordance with the streamlined basin/strategic planning framework launched in 2015 as well as best international practice (most major RBOs in the world have only one basin/strategic document).
- The **member countries agreed on the integration** and paralleled preparation of the BDS and MRC MRC SP.

# Benefits of BDS-SP integration

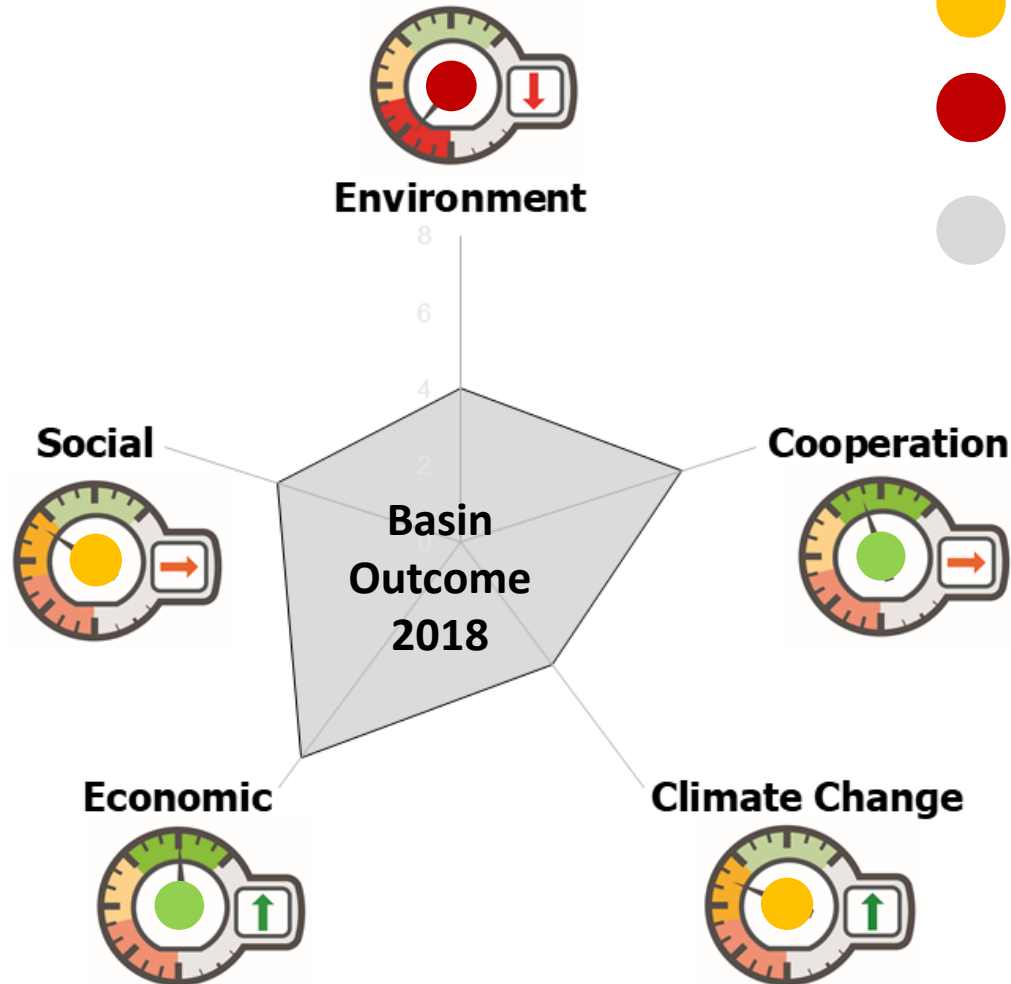
- **One strategic document for the basin.** There is one coherent strategic document for the basin, in which MRC and other relevant actors can implement. It fully realizes the vision of the streamlined planning process launched in 2014-2015. Both are prepared by one core team.
- **No duplication.** There is no duplication (like in the past) with BDS priorities/actions and SP outcomes/outputs.
- **Increased implementation and accountability.** It increases engagement and responsibilities of all relevant actors in the basin with “outputs” and “indicators” assigned to them in the BDS. The MRC can coordinate and facilitate. Increases the likelihood of the BDS being implemented by all. It reduces the attribution gap between MRC strategic plan and BDS.
- **Better monitoring and reporting.** Better monitoring and evaluation of the BDS with enhanced mutual accountability framework.
- **Cost saving.** It saves resources and time to prepare one document together instead of two.
- **Fund raising.** It meets the need to have the document (SP) for fund raising by April 2020.



# Strong need for stakeholder engagement

- To pull this result chain off and make the BDS and MRC SP meaningful **requires strong engagement and involve from all relevant stakeholders**, such as MLC, ASEAN and NGOs and private sector
- **All key actors will have a role to play**, and this is specified in terms of “**outputs**” (products or services) for five years with clear output performance indicators (“completion of study”, “funding secured for strategy implementation”, etc)
- **Gender is critical dimension** and will be integrated from the very top (through SDGs) and in gender related outcomes, outputs and activities with monitoring indicators. “Gender and vulnerabilities” approach will be adopted.
- **The BDS will be monitored through the SOBR every five years** – the 2023 SOBR is the mid-point reporting period and the 2028 SOBR is the ultimate reporting period whether the “state of basin” (strategic indicators under five dimensions”) has improved or not – and why or why not (some trade-offs are inevitable)
- The **MRC SP will be monitored through the output indicators** (yearly through self-assessment) and mid-year in 2022-23 through the MTR (independent)

# Basin Monitoring Status & Trend

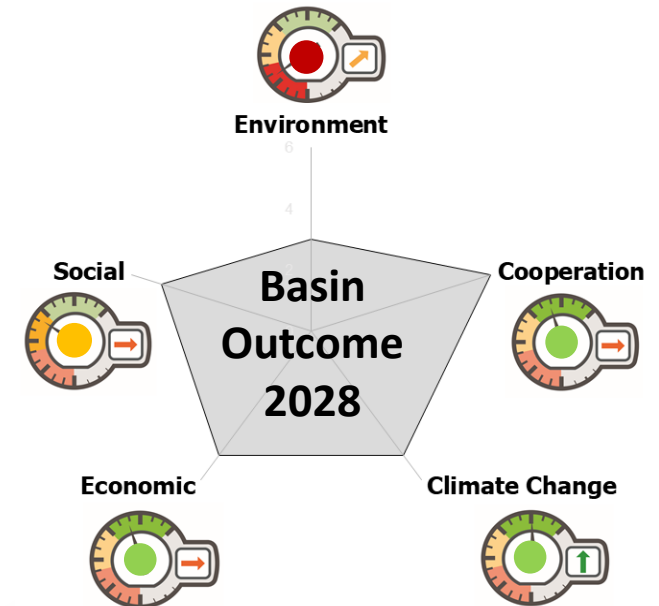


## Status

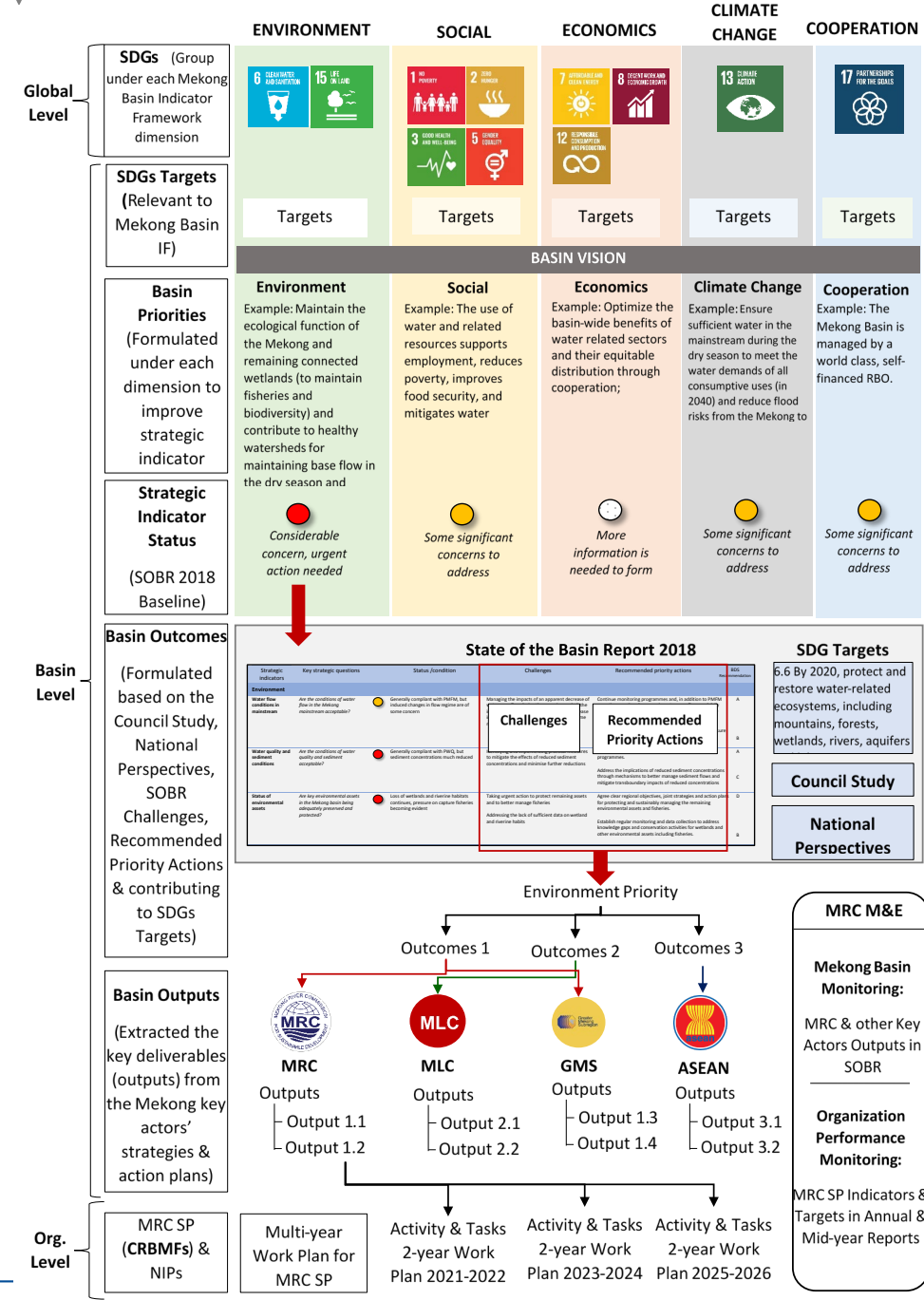
- No immediate concerns
- Some significant concerns to address
- Considerable concern, urgent action needed
- Insufficient data to form a view, requires action to address knowledge gaps

## Trend

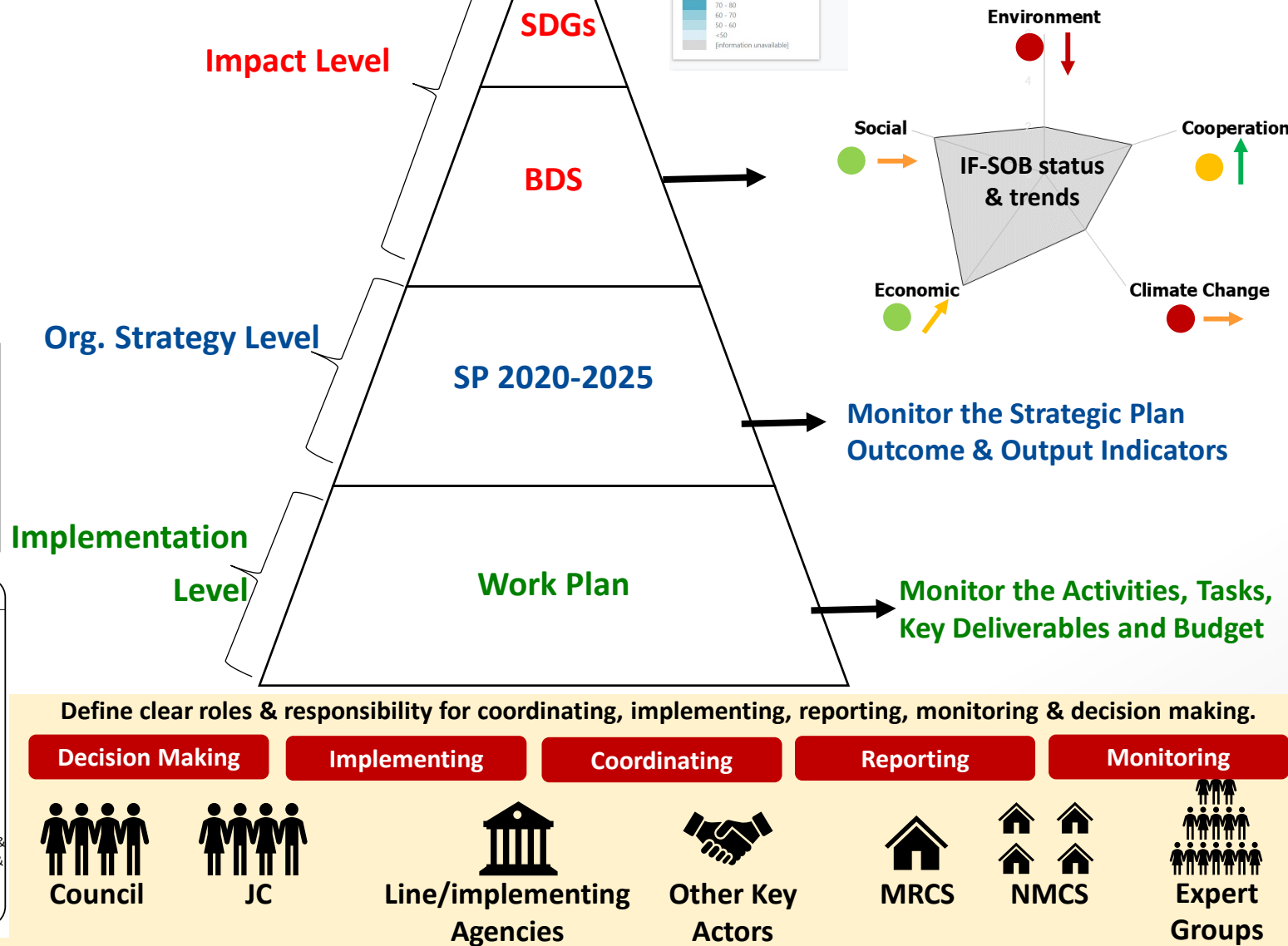
- ↑ On track to achieve BDS Priority / Outcome by 2030
- ↗ Score moderately increasing, insufficient to attain BDS priority / outcome
- Score stagnating or increasing at less than 50% of required rate
- ↓ Score decreasing
- ● Trend information unavailable



**INTEGRATION FRAMEWORK: SDGs, SOB, BDS, IF, SP, CRBMF, WP**



# BDS & MRC SP Monitoring & Evaluation



# Consultation process for MRC SP along with BDS

Time	BDS 2021-2030
9 Sep 2019	Working session with international consultants and national advisors on preparation of the BDS 2021-2030
28 Oct-8 Nov 2019	National consultations to discuss basin conditions, strategic needs, opportunities and risks, and develop shared vision, strategic priorities, outcomes
5-6 Nov	<b>8<sup>th</sup> RSF to gain inputs from stakeholders</b>
6 Dec 2019	EGBP meeting to discuss basin conditions, strategic needs, opportunities and risks, shared vision, strategic priorities, outcomes
Late Jan 2020	National consultations on first draft BDS and zero draft MRC SP Consultations with specific partners (MLC, ASEAN, GMS), and groups
Early Feb 2020	<b>9<sup>th</sup> RSF to gain feedbacks from broader stakeholders</b>
Late Feb 2020	EGBP meeting on the draft final BDS and first draft MRC SP, including observers from partners and groups
Late March 2020	EGBP/EGSP meeting to review draft MRC SP
April 2020	<b>Final draft BDS and MRC SP</b>





**THANK YOU**

*One Mekong. One Spirit.*