



*Preparation of the Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030
and
First Regional Information Sharing for Luang Prabang Hydropower
Project Prior Consultation Process*

FORUM REPORT

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Prepared by
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This report is a record of the proceedings of the 8th Regional Stakeholder Forum organised by the MRC Secretariat (MRCS) on 5-6 November 2019 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.



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I. Background

Recognising the interests involved in the basin and the importance of a shared and informed understanding of different stakeholders' perspectives, the MRC continues to implement various activities to strengthen relationships with a broad range of actors and players outside the national governments, including the private sector, civil society and academia, and other partners working in the Mekong region. One initiative to achieve this is the continuation of a mechanism for engaging broader stakeholders, every year, through the Regional Stakeholder Forums (RSF).

The RSF serves as a platform for the Member Countries and other relevant stakeholders to share information, and discuss, provide and exchange views and develop recommendations on the reasonable and equitable use of water and related resources and the sustainable development and management in the lower Mekong Basin.

Since 2017, seven Regional Stakeholder Forums have been held, bringing together multi-stakeholders to have an open and constructive dialogue on pressing issues affecting and for the benefits of the Mekong River Basin and to consider the MRC and its partners' approach in addressing these issues.

As decision-making processes on the management of water and related resources usually address multiple objectives, involve diverse interests, and have interlinked effects, this multiple-dimensional approach is an effective way to provide a platform that considers multiple relevant issues of interest to the public.

This 2-day 8th Regional Stakeholder Forum featured 2 topics that met public's interest: (1) development of updated *Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030* and Strategic Plan 2021-2025, as well as promotion of the State of Basin Report 2018 (a key input to the BDS) and (2) the *1st Regional Information Sharing on Prior Consultation process for the proposed Luang Prabang Hydropower Project*.

Preparation of Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030 and MRC Strategic Plan 2021-2025

The Mekong River Commission (MRC) Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)-based Basin Development Strategy (BDS) was firstly developed in 2011 with a five-year planning cycle for 2011-2015, followed by the updated BDS 2016-2020.

The BDS is a statement of the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) countries setting out how they will utilize, manage and conserve the water and related resources of the Mekong River in line with the Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin (the 1995 Mekong Agreement). It provides regional perspectives for development opportunities and management of the basin. It also responds to the goals, objectives and underlying principles of the 1995 Mekong Agreement. The BDS is an instrument for basin planning and cooperation.

Since 2011, the BDS has been implemented at regional and national levels through its MRC Strategic Plan (MRC SP) and the four National Indicative Plans (NIPs) for 2011-2015 and 2016-2020, respectively. Currently, the plans are being implemented for 2016-2020.

For the next planning cycle, the update of the BDS will adopt the approach of shared vision planning which includes the development of long-term vision toward 2040 to reflect the recommendations of the MRC Council Study entitled “Study on Sustainable Management and Development of the Mekong River including Impacts of Mainstream Hydropower Projects.”

With the 20-year vision, the BDS will identify the strategic priorities and outcomes for the development and management of the basin for the duration of 10 years (2020-2030) to guide the actions of MRC (through the MRC Strategic Plan 2021-2025) and other actors (through their strategies and action plans), which would be coordinated, promoted and monitored by the MRC for the next five years.

The update of BDS will be developed based on outcomes from MRC State of Basin Report 2018, scenario assessment of the MRC Council Study, and other MRC scenario assessments including basin-wide assessments (i.e. climate change impacts on water resources, navigation, fisheries), Mekong climate change adaptation strategy and action plan (MASAP), and sustainable hydropower development strategy (SHDS) study, as well as MRC strategies (drought management, hydropower development, etc...). In addition, national and regional perspectives will be developed further and broader to provide framework conditions for the strategy.

The new BDS aims to tackle issues identified in the MRC State of Basin Report 2018 and will then be monitored whether the state of basin will be improved after the implementation of the BDS. The BDS and MRC SP will also be linked to achieve related targets in the SDGs.

The Prior Consultation process for the proposed Luang Prabang Hydropower Project

On 31 July 2019, Lao PDR submitted documentations of the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project (LPHPP) for prior consultation under the MRC’s Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA). On 3 September 2019, the MRCS officially sent letter and transmitted the submitted LPHPP documents to the Joint Committee Members of the notified countries. The six-month prior consultation (PC) process was agreed at the 1st PNPCA Joint Committee Working Group Meeting for 08 October 2019 - 7 April 2020.

The PC process allows the notified Member Countries evaluate potential transboundary impacts of the proposed water use, and with the support of the MRCS, to discuss these through the MRC Joint Committee. The process aims at an agreement on the proposed use and a decision on measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate possible harmful effects on the environment and people downstream and upstream.

Like the Xayaburi, Don Sahong, Pak Beng, and Pak Lay Hydropower Projects, the proposed Luang Prabang Hydropower Project has got attention from the public, including civil society, non-governmental organisations and the media, as well as MRC’s Development Partners.

Taking into account lessons learnt during implementation of the PNPCA, the stakeholder involvement should, therefore, aimed to inform, consult and involve potentially affected, interested stakeholders and the public in the prior consultation process. During this 6-month process, different meetings, dialogues and consultations have being conducted to highlight and confirm MRC’s role, PC process and its implications, share and clarify technical issues as well as concerns and interests by different stakeholder groups. Relevant information is

available on MRC website ahead of any public consultation meetings in order to timely obtain their feedback on issues of their interest. More information is under section 4. Conclusion of Next steps, page 22 of this report.

During the PC process for the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project, there will be two regional information sharing & consultation meetings, together with a series of national consultation meetings.

II. Approach of the forum

Forum objectives

This 2-day forum has two-fold objectives:

Day 1 of the Forum provided a platform for interested stakeholders to get update and engage in ongoing works at the MRC, with a focus on drafting Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030. This forum was held at the formulation step of the BDS aiming to:

- Introduce roadmap of the BDS and MRC SP preparation including overall framework, scope, approach, mechanisms, processes, outputs, and activities and timeframe.
- Jointly review current and future conditions of the basin identified in the State of Basin Report, as well as prioritized issues of concerns to be managed within the basin
- Jointly review opportunities to promote sustainable development and strengthen management and increase regional and national benefits
- Share outcomes of MRC and other actors/stakeholders works and how they will be integrated in the update BDS

Day 2 of the Forum, the 1st Regional Information Sharing on the Luang Prabang Hydropower Prior Consultation Process, was a platform for regional multi-stakeholders to engage with MRC as an institution in discussion of specific hydropower development project, for:

- early information sharing
- common understanding of PNPCA process and mandate
- reaffirmation of stakeholder engagement in good faith and the enhanced MRC mechanism
- soliciting of preliminary views on the project
- gaining comments and suggestions on approach and methodology for Technical Review Report.

Stakeholder engagement process has been emphasized on spirit of good faith with constructive discussion and recommendations. The forum was opened to all stakeholders including those who had opposite position about hydropower development in the Mekong basin, aimed at sharing accurate information, minimizing misunderstanding and misperceptions of powers and functions by any parties, enabling environment to deliver key messages to decision-making process, for MRC's transparency and credibility.

Participants

The forum was open and free of charge. A total of 194 participants represented developers and hydropower-related companies, NGOs, research institutions, civil society, media, as well as MRC MCs and MRC Development Partners and MRC Dialogue Partners. In order to

support fuller participation of the under-represented groups, MRCS offered travel support for local NGO, researchers, and community representatives. (see Annex 1: List of participants).

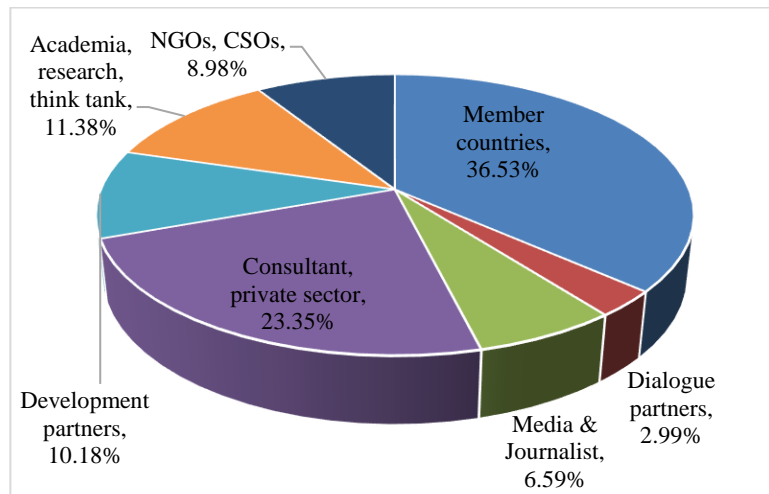


Figure 1. Overview of participants at the 8th RSF

Forum proceedings

To facilitate timely information sharing and transparency for an effective consultation and discussion, information had been made available on the MRC’s website and maintained as source of reference <http://www.mrcmekong.org/news-and-events/events/the-8th-mrc-regional-stakeholder-forum/>.

The MRCS had also made efforts to communicate and promote engagement including through media releases, opinion pieces in regional newspapers, and social media (Facebook). The forums were broadcasted live to enable those who could not attend directly but still can follow to get update and be able to provide comments and suggestions. An [online stakeholder comment box](#) has been opened to collect comments from stakeholders, identified or anonymous, and staying active throughout this 6 month consultation process.

The Lao Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environment and Alternative Council Member for Lao PDR opened the forum.

The plenary session was designed with concise and short presentations to provide background information, and preliminary findings. It was then followed by parallel group discussions with appropriate time given for in-depth discussions on 03 dimensions of the basin condition forming the Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030 and 07 technical requirements (hydrology, sediment, environment, fisheries, dam safety, and navigation and socio-economic issues) for technical review of Luang Prabang hydropower projects.

In each group discussion, the methodology used for recording stakeholder inputs was a matrix of comments, recommendations, and responses. This is to ensure key points were captured, debated, recorded, and then followed up during drafting of BDS 2021-2030 and the Technical Review Report for Luang Prabang Hydropower project as well as the discussion at the 9th Regional Stakeholder Forum.

- For proactive approach to basin planning, what is MRC plan to engage extra powerful stakeholders, like other regional actors and influencing donors such as LMC, ASEAN, GMS, Japan, US, Republic of Korea, etc?
- Does MRC have any thoughts about other energy production sources that would eliminate the need for so many dams along the Mekong?
- The SOBR has missing data for trade-off consideration, what strategy is it to collect data and fill the white dot? How can DAGAP help to fill the data limitation?
- Drought occurs more and more frequently recently, does MRC plan to work further on this?
- What are strategy priorities of the BDS? What success looks like? What are achievement indicators?
- How to cope with salinity intrusion and erosion in the Mekong delta?
- How can MRC address the urgency of environmental impacts happening in the Mekong river?
- How can MRC relate local best practices to trends and outlooks, to bring local communities and civil society into planning and implementation, for better outcomes and results?
- Hydropower sector seems contribute largely to employment and increment of incomes in the Mekong region. Is it possible to assess the development scenarios from other sectors to have a more comprehensive picture?
- How gender related issues will be considered and viewed in the updated BDS? Gender aggregated data on some sectors? How is social inclusion and gender equity integrated in the new BDS?
- How to engage more stakeholders' comments in the process?
- How can development be inclusive for the people in the basin?
- What does it mean social dimension? It should have a specific definition and guideline for social dimension.
- How can MRC make the industrial developments contribute its revenues and implement its social corporate responsibility for further development and improvement of local and transboundary livelihood?

The forum received many good comments and recommendations for the preparation of the BDS 2021-2030, they are listed below, but not limited to:

- The watershed, wetland area is reducing, salinity intrusion and erosion is getting more serious. Mekong delta is sinking. These issues should be addressed thoughtfully in the next Basin Development Strategy.
- The issue on sediment management should be in immediate action not to wait until the updated BDS.
-
- There is a need to have a mechanism that applying technology to timely coordinate for information sharing regarding emergency flood and drought situation as early warning support system that accessible by local people.
- There should have coordinated effort of cascade dam operations to ensure minimum flow, water quality for sustainability of biodiversity, environment as well as livelihoods and agriculture activities.
- The joint research should include Xayaburi's operation in the future and also to reconsider or define natural flow periods.
- To set the baseline for assessment, consumptive and non-consumptive water use should be considered, with an attention to the term change flow regime

- The trends and outlook mainly focus on development perspectives, we should also discuss and consider management perspectives.
- The trends and outlook also should include information on China and Myanmar
- There is a need to consider how to enhance the cooperation between Mekong and Lancang. The upper and lower basin need to work together.
- It is important that Member Countries take the strategy into their national plans
- Alternatives for energy production should be sought out, i.e. solar, wind, etc., as we are talking about a future vision until 2040. It should not be limited to hydropower and thermal energy.
- Analysis of energy efficiency and green building could be included in the BDS.
- Tributary hydropower development, including international best practices and ICOL standards and WB standards, should be explored and incorporated into the BDS priorities
- Entire activities of MRC under the new BDS should consider the balance of economic, social and environmental perspectives as the main target to SDGs
- The BDS should also take into account the reduction of plastic utilization in relation to SDG12 (responsible consumption and production) and SDG14 (life below water)
- The BDS should identify greater social inclusion as an opportunity to provide the entry point to identify next steps on social issues and strategic ways to address them.
- Language barriers are a huge issue. The materials and key information need to be interpreted into riparian languages for the needs of different community groups, including women and children. The documents should be participatory facilitation with gender dimension.
- The BDS could be a strategy that incites member countries to further fund smaller projects as well as to attract regional and national funds.
- Food security, health security and water security are every important for the social dimension. Bridging gaps between urban and rural in terms of water management, food water and energy nexus in the social dimension should be a focus.
- Gender, climate change and data sharing are cross cutting issues and should be in all dimensions. BDS should have a section that clarifies how MRC is going to mainstream gender in the BDS and in the SP
- River-based tourism should be taken into account and well-recognized in the BDS
- Groundwater resources should be recognized in terms of water knowledge, information gap and the transboundary impacts.
- Environmental assets protection alone will not work alone, it should be included in the whole process including assessment to define the value
- More focus on transboundary protection of mutually agreed environmental assets

2. Public Information Sharing and consultation on the Prior Consultation process for the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project

The forum was structured into 4 parts:

- i. Presentation on overall PNPCA process, lessons learnt from previous prior consultation cases and the Joint Action Plans for Pak Beng and Pak Lay Hydropower Projects, Road map for the PC Process for the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project - by the MRCS,
- ii. Introduction to the Luang Prabang project - by Lao PDR
- iii. Panel of MRC Joint Committee Members and CEO reflecting stakeholders' comments and concerns regarding development of hydropower projects

iv. Presentations and discussions on preliminary reviews of the Luang Prabang project

Like previous projects, the interests focused on potential transboundary and cumulative environmental impacts, and related social consequences. The MRC Council Study, Joint Action Plans for the previous projects, TbeIA guidelines, working version of updated PDG 2019, SHDS, the Joint Environmental Monitoring Programme (JEM) were referred to during the forum. Climate change was also considered as cross-cutting issue and it should be considered in the planning and design of the hydropower project. Cascade dam operation and joint monitoring intervention attracted public's concerns in consideration of recent water fluctuation and low flow situation. Some comments were also made to the national consultation process with expectation of more informative (documents and information translated in riparian language) and more inclusive (broaden participation) in the upcoming national consultation meetings to be organized in each MRC MCs. This year, many questions were raised relating participation of sectoral agencies, publics and local communities in the process, focusing on what role they can play and how they can get involve.

The interactive discussion with MRC Joint Committee members and MRCS CEO provided opportunity to the publics to raise their views, concerns and questions directly with the Joint Committee members. The interaction focused on how to improve the PNPCA process, whether 6-month prior consultation process should be extended or better enhancing the prior and post PC process. Many stakeholders expressed their expectation to experience improvement of public participation in the consultation as well as an effective MRC with better uptake of studies, strategies, including integration of mitigation recommendations in the national planning process.

Below are highlights of comments and recommendations collected during the LPHPP forum:

- Need to have more informative and inclusive national consultations
- Results from the consultations should be well-understood among stakeholders, more specifically, the impact mitigations should be feasible and acceptable for the local communities and riparian stakeholders.
- Assessment of impacts to the downstream, to Mekong delta, needs more comprehensive consideration.
- Require additional information for better technical review of the project
- Suggested to conduct an optimization study for joint cascade operations and management (Pak Beng, Luang Prabang, Xayaburi, and Pak Lay).
- Immediate flow abruption should be considered, including further studies on potential impact to natural water cycle rather than drought by run-of-river cascade dam
- Explore more on management opportunities, particularly on tributaries for better planning and coordination.
- Certain information on the operation of fish passage of the Xayaburi HPP should be provided to solve concerns on conservation of fish species, habitats and connectivity.

During the technical review of the project's submitted documents, the MRCS specialists and experts will take into account the suggestions and recommendation provided by the stakeholders. The next section documents key comments, suggestions, and responses of the 1st Regional Consultation on Luang Prabang HPP.

3. Comment matrix for the LPHPP at the 8th MRC Regional Stakeholder Forum

Details of questions, comments, suggestions, and follow-up actions regarding the Technical Review of the LPHPP made at the forum are recorded in the table below. The 4th column of the matrix reflected MRCS actions to further address those comments and suggestions during preparation of the draft TRR.

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
General project information	<p>Who will invest and who will benefit from this project?</p> <p>How much does the project cost?</p> <p>Where can we access the information of HPP projects in Laos. Is there a government website?</p> <p>Whether the purchase of agreement has been dealt with Thailand since the energy demand has been met. Current national energy policy follows the renewable energy instead (for example, solar farm, etc.).</p>	<p>MEM: at this stage, we focus on feasibility study. Once there is PPA, then more information on funding arrangements will be shared.</p> <p>LPHPP project costs about US\$ 3 billion.</p> <p>www.laoenergy.com.lao</p>	<p>TRR also includes a section on the general project information that addressing these (see Chapter 3)</p> <p>Further information to be shared when available.</p>
Stakeholder engagement	<p>Based on feedbacks from national consultation, due to complexity and huge amount of information contained in the project document, it would take times for local people and civil society</p>	<p>MRCS took notes of the suggestion.</p>	<p>MRCS is working on translation of the project overview document. For future PC process, MRCS will work on project overview and</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Questions?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Comments/Recommendations</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Responses provided</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Further action needed by MRCS</p>
	<p>to understand the documents for qualified inputs to the process. The stakeholder should have the documents before the 6-month process has started so they have enough time to study them – sufficient time before the 1st national information sharing/consultation and after the 1st PNPCA JCWG meeting.</p>		<p>translation well in advance of the consultations.</p>
	<p>What will be the roles of CSO in the assessment of impacts in cooperation with private sector, governments and researchers?</p>	<p>Impacts are assessed mainly by the developer and proposing country. The MRC will review these assessments and provide further recommendations. Like previous projects, there will be 2 regional and at least 3 national stakeholder meetings to provide space for civil society to contribute to this review. At regional level, MRCS engages with CSOs through informal dialogues and exchanges. CSOs also need to share their plans and we encourage their active engagement with us.</p>	<p>At the regional RSF, the forum is opened and widely encouraged for all relevant stakeholders to participate. At the national level, we encouraged countries to reach out to as many stakeholders as possible.</p> <p>Further engagement with CSOs: informal dialogues, online comment box, exchanges, further discussions, participating and</p>

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	Some communities were not able to participate in the consultations. How can this be improved?	There are many NGOs and CSOs, it is challenging to reach out to all, but we appreciate the coordination among NGOs and CSOs. We work with different associations, networks, coalitions that have representatives from NGOs, community-based organizations who are working directly with different local communities.	contributing to each other's events, etc.
Cascade management	Pak Beng developer raised concern regarding levels of tail water that were fixed by GoL for each project. The LPHPP level is 312m while the max. downstream level for Pak Beng is 310, it is not in line for cascade management. The upstream and downstream levels need to be aligned.	MEM: GoL noticed this issue and is working on the optimization with CNR. There might be an exchange with Chinese developer and CNR on this issue.	This issue will be taken into account in the TRR and further action to be made by the GoL.
	In the project document it has been mentioned that the design features of LPHPP would follow and adapt from Xayaburi. How do we make sure it works for this project?		Further dialogue with developers. The TRR has recommended that certain aspects of the LPHPP be separately tested to ensure that the design is also applicable to this HPP

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	We experience low flows, droughts in different parts of the Mekong. How does the consultations of LPHPP and other dams make sure that this situation is not exacerbated? How can the infrastructure be used to cope with these issues?	Fluctuation of water level on the mainstream and droughts are caused by low rainfall and drier weather. In addition, some operations of dams may add additional impacts. We have been discussed in the context of dam operation during the JC meeting with China on data sharing and exchange. In previous PNPCA, flood and drought mitigation has been included in a JAP, especially looking at cascade dam operation in a coordinated way. China normally shares wet season data with MRC. We need to work with them to get dry season data. The MRC will work with member countries with regard to data and information sharing for some major tributaries.	Information sharing, coordinated operation of dams, run of river principle will be reflected in the TRR.
	With reference to ppt, retention time in LPHPP is different to Xayaburi and if the retention time is 3-9 days, quite a long time, which is not a run of river scheme.	The RoR definition refers to the daily inflows \approx daily outflows. The 3-9 days is the time it takes for water to flow through impoundment.	Further dialogue with developers and reflection in the TRR
Extension of 6-month prior	There have been several comments regarding extension of 6-month	Laos took note on the need to extend. Laos need to discuss internally how to improve.	While the official six months may likely not be extended, for the post-

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
consultation process	PNPCA timeframe, to discuss the issues further to come to common terms. However, in practice, there is no further discussion after 6-month period, but there is Joint Statement and JAP. Does this become the norm now, even if Procedures indicate that it can be extended?	Viet Nam views that hydropower project will be discussed further and consulted during the operational phase. Cambodia wants to see the process move ahead, especially when the extension needs to be jointly agreed by all countries and GoL may not agree to extend the process. MRCS sees that extension of PNPCA is on consensus by JC members. The process can be considered to extend if the added time will lead to a more meaningful process with better sharing of documents that are understandable for all stakeholders and informed mitigate measures meet the level of concerns.	PC there is the JAP mechanism. For the pre-PC, MRCS encourages proposing countries to submit documents in advance and MRCS will work on project overview and communication materials such as translations.
	With regard to implementation of procedures, we need to have a good understanding of these procedures and processes to be able to enforce the process. Why can't we say that MCs should carry out what they have agreed to do with sustainable development? If the timeframe in the	Viet Nam encourages GoL to share information on the projects early. Laos is also discussing internally how to provide better information and timely and to support with missing information. Laos took note to improve the process. For Thailand, they are mobilizing resources to have better analysis and understanding of information for better	To be discussed further

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	procedures can be extended, why can't we do that?	sharing with their local and national stakeholders.	
Council Study uptake	The MRC Council Study (CS) has not been mentioned much in BDS discussion. How do you uptake the CS's recommendations? How do you plan to use it for national planning process?	<p>Viet Nam used CS as basis and reference documents for cumulative impact analysis and assessment.</p> <p>For Laos, the river basin planning component from the CS is being used as a planning tool and experience for tributaries river basin planning in Laos.</p> <p>In Cambodia, there have been national dissemination campaigns among ministries and line agencies so policy makers can use and update the results.</p> <p>Council study has been used for update of SHDS and BDS. Update is a main focus in the next strategic plan.</p>	<p>Uptake strategy is being prepared including for further promoting the CS.</p> <p>The MRC Council Study is one of the documents that has been used in the review.</p> <p>It has been extensively used to understand the cumulative impacts.</p>
Insufficient information	Based on preliminary findings and reviews, insufficient information in some areas is a challenge. To timely tackle this issue, have you	The 1 st PNPCA JCWG on LPHPP in October discussed this issue, the request has been sent but the additional requested information is based on availability. Note	Work further with GoL to address the issue of insufficient information in some areas for the review. Further opportunities in JAP.

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	immediately sent the request to Lao PDR for more information?	that the assessments are at feasibility stage. More detailed design comes after.	As list of additional information was sent to request from the LNMC. The 1 st draft of the TRR also mentioned the additional data and information needed.
	The Prior consultation is administered by JC members, preliminary findings by the MRCS is to support for this prior consultation process. The JCWG need to discuss in more details what additional information needs to be sought out from developers and GoL.	MRCS noted the suggestion	To be discussed further
	Operational curve downstream of Luang Prabang is not enough information to make assessment at this stage.		To be discussed with developer and GoL
	The developer informed that no data from China to conduct the simulation whereas the developer focused on energy production during low flow. Data-information on model and		The forecasts of inflows to the LPHPP are made with and without the Lancang Cascade dams. The differing MRC and Developer's results are highlighted and discussed.

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	calibration are available. Hydrological data is available in the Annex.		
Cross, independent review	Will the project consultants or MRCS staff be carrying out additional studies to compliment the gaps in the current studies?	As there are only 6 months, the review is based on reviewing the submitted documents following PDG2009 for compliance and taking consideration of draft PDG2019 in terms of best practice. No additional studies will be done by MRC however the existing data and knowledge will be used.	The draft TRR indicates that the prior consultation process does not have the resources for additional studies, and so information only comes from the existing studies. However, recommendations are made for additional monitoring by the developer.
	Will there be an independent panel of experts to conduct the review or will it be conducted only by MRC and the MCs?	The TRR is an independent review. The TRR is prepared by MRCS specialists with support from international experts who are reviewing the different dimensions independently. The TRR sent to MCs to review as well. The draft TRR will also be shared to GoL for comments. The draft TRR will be presented to stakeholders at the next RSF. The International Experts and MRCS experts will meet with the Developers to clarify some of the findings.	Draft TRR will be shared preparing for the 2 nd Regional Information Consultation in early February 2020. The PDG2009 and 2019 recommend the appointment of independent panels, and this has been addressed in the draft TRR. The MRCS teams are however independent of the MC, but still subject to oversight by the JCWG, and its decision by consensus rule.

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
Sediments, hydrology, flow maintenance	The impact of upper stream Lancang cascade in reduction of sediment indicated is not correct. Total is 80million tones, not 100 million tones. How has it been estimated?	The data is based on the investigation that CNR carried out along 1,000km stretch from Northern Laos border to Vientiane over the last years. We didn't receive any data from Lancang in this matter.	This has been addressed in the draft TRR.
	Flow regime maintenance is an issue, water fluctuation keeps changing, this will increase with new dam construction, together with increased erosion. What type of maintenance is proposed?	For water flow maintenance, during dam operation the water level and flow regime will be affected and impact on bank erosion and landslides. Reduced velocity of water release can change the erosion regime. There will be more detailed analysis on sediment and flow issues. From the developer's perspective, there will be no hydropeaking. It's a pure run of river dam. For the rating curve, we intend to have a constant low level. The operating range needs a 0.5m for the operating range.	These aspects are addressed in the section on managing the cumulative impacts in the draft TRR (Section 5.4)
	How much sediment deposit in reservoir? How much sediment discharge? How much reservoir capacity reduced due to sediment? Impact on normal WL, impact from		To be discussed with developer. The documentation submitted does report on preliminary assessments of deposition of sediments in the impoundment and concurs with the developer's commitment to do

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	Xayaburi Dam backwater, quality of data from MRCS?		more detailed studies. The impacts on the backwaters of Xayaburi are dealt with in some detail.
	What can MRC do if there is not enough water in the Mekong for the communities?	The MRC is to promote and coordinate the use of the resources in a sustainable manner. MRC is the one that can indicate and advise the MCs on the issues based on data and research. Member countries must take actions in terms of helping and supporting their own peoples in times of critical situations.	MRCS will continue to monitor and issue forecasting information and analysis. MRC member countries are discussing the issue and planning and implementing different measures at regional and national levels.
Fish assessment, passage, ladder, species	Is there a baseline on the fish assessment that we can assess any differences and impacts, to judge the success of the mitigation measures?	According to the MRC Secretariat's preliminary review, it noted that the developer's assessment of the number of fish species in the area was comparable with the MRC data and that many of the fish passage design features were in line with the MRC design guidance. In some advanced basins such as the Columbia, fish passes have been effective, after several years of research and adaptive management. However, in the Mekong, we cannot be sure yet and	The draft TRR reviews the current recommendations for fish passages and makes extensive recommendations for improving the design. There are recommendations for improving the baseline assessments, and implementation of the methods outlined in the JEM in this regard.

	<p style="text-align: center;">Questions?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Comments/Recommendations</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Responses provided</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Further action needed by MRCS</p>
		<p>continued monitoring and adaptation are needed.</p>	
	<p>With regard to fish pass, have your preliminary findings been addressed by GoL?</p>	<p>The current studies on the effectiveness of the fish pass is on salmon species and it works for salmon. There is one in Australia for Cod which helps in terms of diversity but not in terms of abundance. In Xayaburi, it's the first time that there is such a good design fish pass. Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research: ACIAR is assessing the effectiveness.</p> <p>GoL and developers will have opportunities to address the findings, that will be discussed at coming 2nd and 3rd JCWG meetings.</p>	<p>To be discussed further and reflected in the TRR</p>
	<p>The fish before dam project was 160 species. The MRC research has shown 200 species. How can this be?</p> <p>One the Se San river, some traditional fish species have declined, new ones appear, but they are not commercially beneficial. What is the kind of the fish found?</p>	<p>Fish species number was a mention to the improvement of baseline data. The LPHPP identified 160 species now. In the past they only identified 50-60 species. This means the baselines for the EIA are getting better. MRC database has about 200 species. The developer data collection is improving in comparison to the past.</p>	

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
	Not sure whether the type of fish passage is effective. Fish ability testing was done prior to the design of fish passage → ADB and others might have the sufficient study on fisheries impacted from the dam development that can be included.	MRCS took note this comment	To be considered during the review
	Fish passage in LPHPP seems very different to XBR with the absence of fish ladder. Is this because the XBR fish ladder is inefficient or because there are different conditions?	From developer's response: In XBR, there are high water level variations of more than 15 meters tail. In LPHPP is max 7m due to Xayaburi back water. In XBR it is working very well though.	The 1 st draft TRR makes several recommendations with regard to the effectiveness of fish pass design. But does not recommend a fish ladder like that at Xayaburi.
Dam safety	The dam safety design is based on WB policies. Are other dams in Laos based on WB guidelines too?	For dam safety, the PDG 2009 specifically mentions the WB policy. The LPHPP indicates that they look at this. WB and ICOL standards have been developed long time ago. When developers decide to design a project, they try to follow this standard to avoid issues.	The 1 st draft of the TRR refers to the importance of the Lao Electric Power Design Standards with regard to design. These would apply to all the dams in Lao PDR.
	Is the LPHPP conventional concrete or RCC?	The closing structure is RCC and the rest is conventional reinforced concrete.	RCC is used for the closing structure.

	Questions? Comments/Recommendations	Responses provided	Further action needed by MRCS
Navigation	Concern on ship lock design for the water head is 35.5m; the proposed seems too high.	The MRC PDG 2009 stated that water head of more than 30m applied for 2 step-lock for the solution. and the developer follow it. The size of vassal 500ton is designed based on study of the Mekong-Lancang navigation plan and MRC Navigation master plan agree with this size of the vessels.	The draft TRR outlines the LOL and HOL conditions and the air gap under these. The PDG requires a double lift system which has been included.
Socioeconomics	Regarding economic considerations, cost and benefit analysis (IRR or NPV information) is not available in the documents.	This is because of the lack of information. This could be very useful information to have. The reply from the developer was that this is the subject responsible for by EdL and GoL.	This is not addressed in the documentation provided and has therefore not been reviewed. These aspects are however, addressed in principle in Chapter 7.
	Reserve fund from Project's revenue should be used for further environmental restoration and protection. The impact mitigations should be feasible and acceptable for the local communities and riparian stakeholders. Benefit could have been shared in fairness.		This is addressed in Chapter 7 of the draft TRR.

4. Conclusion and next steps

Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030

- Three rounds of national consultation meetings during October 2019 - March 2020
- Further discussion on development of the Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030 at the 9th Regional Stakeholder Forum in February 2020
- 3 regional meetings of Expert Group on Basin Planning (EGBP)/EG on Strategy and Partnership (EGSP) on BDS in December 2019, February – March 2020, possible representative from MLC/LMC, GMS, & ASEAN and relevant organizations
- A full draft BDS that includes 5 chapters will be available by January 2020. The draft will be shared with stakeholders for comments
- Full draft SP 2021-2025 that includes outputs, activities, work plan, budget, risk management, & M&E will be available by late Jan 2020
- Approval of BDS and SP by end of April 2020
- Specific engagement of targeted organizations and stakeholders throughout drafting and implementation of the BDS and SP

Prior Consultation for the proposed Luang Prabang Hydropower Project

- Three rounds of national consultation meetings during October 2019 – March 2020
 - 1st National meetings: Cambodia: 21 October 2019, Thailand: December 2019 (TBC), Vietnam: 4 November 2019
 - 2nd National meetings: Cambodia: 9 January 2020 (TBC), Thailand: January – March 2020 (TBC), Vietnam: January 2020 (TBC)
 - 3rd National meetings: Cambodia: 13 March 2020 (TBC), Thailand: January – March 2020 (TBC), Vietnam: January 2020 (TBC)
- The 9th Regional Stakeholder Forum in February 2020 to (1) update and follow-up on previous discussions, (2) MRC assessment of the project, (3) solicit further recommendations for the MRC JC, and (4) the way forward for the Luang Prabang PNPCA process, any post-consultation engagement plans.
- Information sharing: project documents, summary of the proposed project and technical review report are available on MRC Website & government agencies' websites. The documents in riparian languages will be shared on the website for ease of understanding by publics
<http://www.mrcmekong.org/topics/pnpca-prior-consultation/luang-prabang-hydropower-project/>
- Feedback and comment mechanism: web-based submissions of stakeholders' comments, feedbacks and comments via e-mail, comment matrix, Regional Stakeholder Forum's proceedings
<http://www.mrcmekong.org/stakeholder-consultations>
<http://www.mrcmekong.org/news-and-events/events/the-8th-mrc-regional-stakeholder-forum/>
- Consultations and dialogues: dialogues with developer, dialogues with key stakeholders, in-country informal meetings, national consultation meetings, regional consultation meetings, partners' events ...

VI. Annexes

Annex 1: List of participants

#		Name	Organization
1	F	Mdm. Bounkham Vorachit	Ministry of Nature Resources and Environment
2	M	Chanthanet Boualapha	Lao National Mekong Committee, Member of the MRC Joint Committee for Lao PDR
3	M	Chansaveng Bounngong	Ministry of Energy and Mines
4	M	Vithounlabandit Thoummabout	Department of Energy Policy and Planning, Ministry of Energy and Mines
5	M	Akomdeth Vongxay	Department of Energy Business, Ministry of Energy and Mines
6	M	Soukhaserm Dalasene	Department of Waterways, Ministry of Public Work and Transport
7	M	Phonepaseuth Phouliphanh	LNMCs
8	M	Phonethip Phetsomphou	Natural Resources and Environment Inspection Office
9	M	Douankham Singhanouvong	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
10	M	Oulaphone Ongkeo	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
11	M	Keomany Luanglith	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
12	M	Oudomsack Philavong	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
13	M	Viengsai Sophachanh	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat
14	M	Mr.Prasith Dimanivong	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
15	M	Khamsone Philavong	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
16	F	Bouakhay Nouansengsy	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat
17	F	Boualyvone Phoxay	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
18	M	Singhalath Bounpha	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
19	F	Ounphachanh Sengdavanh	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
20	M	Thilaphone Phoumma	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
21	M	Bounphanh Saisipaseuth	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
22	M	Boupha Phiathep	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

23	M	Phetsamone Khanophet	Lao National Mekong Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
24	M	Aksone Khamsavath	Department of Energy Policy and Planning, Ministry of Energy and Mines
25	M	Sonexay Sengmany	Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
26	M	Kingkham Manivong	Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
27	F	Daovinh Souphonphacdy	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
28	F	Outhone Toulamany	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
29	M	Chanthboun Souk Aloun	Ministry of Energy and Mines
30	M	Sonexay Sengmany	Ministry of Energy and Mines
31	M	Phetsaphone Siliphong	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
32	M	Amnouay Hanthongxay	Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
33	M	Saysamone Phothisat	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
34	M	Samsanit Chanthanasin	Department of Energy Management, Ministry of Energy and Mines
35	M	Vilasack Thongpaseuth	Department of Livestock and Fishery, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
36	F	Souvanny Phommakone	Department of liverstock and fishery, MAF
37	M	Souksavanh Thithavong	Department of Waterways, Ministry of Public Work and Transport
38	M	Dimanivong	DEPP
39	M	Singthong Phanthamala	DWR
40	M	H.E Te Navuth	CNMC
41	M	H.E Kol Vathana	CNMC
42	M	Chea Sina	MME
43	M	Chea Narin	MME
44	F	Kaing Khim	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)
45	M	Thach Sovanna	MoWRAM
46	M	Ros Sophornna	Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)
47	M	Sok khom	CNMC

48	M	Chheang Hong	CNMC
49	M	Suos Bunthan	CNMC
50	M	Somkiat Apipattanavis	ONWR
51	M	Pradab Kladkempetch	ONWR
52	M	Satit Phiomchai	ONWR
53	F	Bunthida Plengsaeng	ONWR
54	F	Thitichayahn Teerachayarwat	ONWR
55	M	Cherid Kalayanamitr	Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand
56	F	Wiparat Thong-Ngok	Department of Fisheries
57	M	Hannarong Yaowalers	Foundation for Integration of Water Management (Thailand)
58	M	Assoc. Prof. Chaiyuth Sukhsri	Member of TNMCS
59	M	Dr. Samran Chooduangngern	
60	M	Dunyarit Homnan	ONWR
61	F	Katika Punbuatoom	Office of Nature Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
62	F	Nguyen Hong Phuong	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee, Head of Delegation
63	M	Nguyen Huy Phuong	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
64	F	Mai Kim Lien	Department of Climate Change, MONRE
65	F	Tran Thi Dieu Hang	Institute of Water Resources, MONRE
66	F	Ha Thanh Lan	Institute of Water Resources Planning, MARD
67	M	Nguyen Dinh Dat	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
68	F	Le Thi Mai Thanh	Department of Climate Change, MONRE
69	M	Nguyen Quoc Khanh	Department of Water Resources Management, MONRE
70	M	Nguyen Nhan Tuan	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
71	M	Nguyen Duy Binh	
72	M	Hoang Van Cuong	Vietnam Institute of Fisheries Economic and Planning, MARD

73	M	Nguyen Van Tuyen	Department of Water Resources Management, MONRE
74	M	Vu Minh Thien	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
75	F	Doan Thi Xuan Huong	Department of International Cooperation, MONRE
76	M	Nguyen Tuan Son	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
77	F	Bui Thi Thu Thuy	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
78	M	Nguyen Van Trong	
79	M	WANG Xiaosong	China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research
80	M	LI Xiang	China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research
81	M	Sein Aung Min	Environmental Conservation Department, Myanmar
82	M	Aung Zaw Myint	Environmental Conservation Department, Myanmar
83	M	May Myat Thu	Environmental Conservation Department, Myanmar
84	F	Agathe GUITTARD	International Office for Water
85	M	Anders Imboden	USAID/U.S. Embassy Vientiane
86	M	Adryan Sasongko	Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace
87	F	Alan Potkin	Digital Conservation Facility Laos/Center for SE Asian Studies
88	M	Aod Douangprachanh	Green Community Alliance
89	M	AMITH PHETSADA	Kyoto University
90	M	Bunthoeurn Mak	NGO Forum on Cambodia
91	M	Bhak Rakbamrung	CK Power public company limited
92	M	Bounta Nuanvixay	Earth Systems Sole Ltd
93	M	Bunnath Khun	Ministry of Environment
94	M	Bertrand Meinier	GIZ
95	M	Cao Ge	Datang (Lao) Pak Beng Hydropower Co., Ltd.
96	M	Chandara Rem	Bamboo Platform
97	M	Cyrill Trottmann	Pöyry Energy Ltd.
98	M	Chawin Prapanukool	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
99	F	Christina Seeberg-Elverfeldt	German Embassy

100	F	Chitraporn Intharanok	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
101	M	Christian ENGLER	SDC
102	M	Dominique Vigie	Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
103	F	Dongyun Li	Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences
104	F	EI KHIN KHIN	GREEN LOTUS
105	F	Erinda Pubill Panen	GIZ
106	M	Erik Fruth	International Water Management Insitute
107	M	Henry Manguerra	Independent Consultant
108	M	Huynh Thanh Tien	Resource Center for community Development, An Giang University, Vietnam National University-HCM City
109	Mr	Inthanet Norasingh	Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)
110	M	John Lichtefeld	Stimson Center
111	F	Jenna Shinen	U.S. Department of State
112	M	karthikeyan matheswaran	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
113	M	Karl Eric Martel	The Asia Foundation
114	M	Kesaro Loeung	Ministry of Environment
115	M	Knut Sierotzki	Pöyry Energy Ltd.
116	M	Ketsana XAIYASARN	Flinders University
117	M	Kim Geheb	Mekong Region Futures Institute
118	M	Khamson Sysanhouth	Northern Uplands Development Programme
119	M	Leang Bunleap	3S River Protection Network (3SPN)
120	M	Liu Jintang	Kunming Engineering Corporation Limited
121	M	LEE Lai To	Asian Research Center for International Development, School of Social Innovation, Mae Fah Luang University
122	M	Lanekham Somsavanh	LS Design Engineers Sole Co,Ltd
123	M	Loh Yee Wei	SevenCs Gmbh
124	M	Marc Goichot	WWF Greater Mekong
125	M	Matthieu Bommier	AFD

126	M	Michael Eric Raeder	CK Power public company limited
127	M	Mei Zhihong	Kunming Engineering Corporation Limited
128	F	Morokoth Houth	Royal University of Phnom Penh
129	F	Marleen Spellenberg	German Embassy
130	M	Mathieu Chatenet	Entura - Hydro Tasmania
131	M	Nicolas WERKOFF	Tractebel Engineering Ltd
132	M	Naven Hon	Conservation International Greater Mekong
133	M	Nanthaphan Hansarphiphat	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
134	M	Nguyen Nhan Quang	Centre for Promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management
135	M	NGUYEN THANH TUNG	Institute for Hydropower and Renewable energy (IHR)
136	F	NGUYEN HUONG THUY PHAN	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
137	M	Nguyen Le Dinh Quy	VNUK Insititute for Research and Executive Education
138	F	Nittana Southiseng	MRC-GIZ Programme
139	F	Nina Burkardt	US Geological Survey
140	M	Oulavanh Keovilignavong	International Water Management Institue-Lao Office
141	M	Ounheuan Saiyasith	Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
142	M	Outhai Soukkhy	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
143	F	Patchara	Kasetsart University, Kamphaengsaen Campus
144	M	Pulak Yadav	Poyry Energy Ltd.
145	M	Prat Nantasen	CK Power public company limited
146	M	PHETSIAM PROMNGOY	Radio Free Asia
147	F	Phouthamath Sayyabounsou	SDC
148	M	Phoummixay SIHARATH	National University of Laos, Faculty of Engineering, Department of Engineering
149	F	Preechaya Aunchai	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
150	M	Rewat Suwannakitti	CK Power public company limited
151	M	Rawin Pawangkanan	GMS Power Public Co., Ltd.

152	M	Rajesh Razdan	CK Power public company limited
153	M	Robert Braunshofer	Pöyry Energy Ltd.
154	F	Sabrina Regmi	
155	F	Sandra Bode	
156	M	Supawit Supapa	CK Power public company limited
157	M	Sontaya Kongpetch	CK Power public company limited
158	F	Somsanith Mounphoxay	Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
159	F	Sopavanh	The Asia Foundation
160	M	Sounthone Chittavong	Asia Investment, Development & Construction Sole Co., Ltd.
161	M	Suparerak Janprasart	Pact Thailand
162	M	Suvannachat Rohitastira	GMS Power Public Co., Ltd.
163	M	Sisouvanh KITTAVONG	Faculty of engineering
164	F	Sim Socheata	Oxfam
165	M	Sarorn Thoeun	Increase Food Security and Development (IFSAD)
166	F	Sornsawan Utthakrue	Poyry Energy Ltd.
167	F	Sumiya Bilegsaikhan Tajj	Asia Research Institute
168	M	Saknoi Leangtongplew	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
169	M	Sypha Chanthavong	Faculty of Law and Political Science
170	M	Suvannachat Rohitastira	GMS Power Public Co., Ltd.
171	M	Tek Vannara	The NGO FORUM on Cambodia
172	M	Thy Try	Open Development Cambodia (ODC)
173	M	Thippachanh Poumarath	Northern Upland Development Programme
174	M	Thanasak Poomchaivej	CK Power public company limited
175	M	Thai Van Nguyen	Research Center for Rural Development, An Giang University
176	M	Thibaut Hanquet	Oxfam
177	M	Tuan Bui Manh	INSTITUTE FOR SOUTH EAST ASIA STUDIES - VIETNAMESE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

178	M	Talay Jiamjaratrangsee	Poyry Energy Ltd.
179	M	Thang Deih Tuang	Zomi Development Institute (ZDI)
180	F	Vannaly Konemixay	Poyry Energy Ltd.
181	F	Virawan Sombutsiri	CK Power public company limited
182	M	Vongsouvanh	Visavakone Engineering & Construction
183	F	Vannavy Men	
184	M	Viengnakhone Lavongvilay	Nam Long 2 Hydro Power Project
185	M	Voradeth Phonekeo	Individual
186	F	Varinya Kanjanapone	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
187	F	Varinya Kanjanapone	Charoen Energy and Water Asia Co., Ltd.
188	M	Wu Tao	Datang (Lao) Pak Beng Hydropower Co., Ltd.
189	F	Wu Xinxin	Datang (Lao) Pak Beng Hydropower Co., Ltd.
190	M	Wisama Nedsawang	CK Power public company limited
191	M	Weerayot Chalermnon	Ch. Karnchang (Lao) Co., Ltd.
192	M	Yu Haomiao	Kunming Engineering Corporation Limited
193	M	Youn Ho Ko	KOWEPO Lao International
194	M	Zhou Ye Chao	Datang (Lao) Pak Beng Hydropower Co., Ltd.
196	M	An Pich Hatda	MRCS
197	M	Hak Socheat	MRCS
198	M	Bountieng Sanaxonh	MRCS
199	M	Winai Wangpimool	MRCS
200	M	Tran Minh Khoi	MRCS
201	M	Anoulak Kittikhoun	MRCS
202	F	Janejira Chuthong	MRCS
203	M	Thim Ly	MRCS
204	M	So Nam	MRCS
205	F	Thi Thanh Yen Ton Nu	MRCS
206	F	Le Thi Huong Lien	MRCS

207	F	Nhu Duong Hai	MRCS
208	M	Santi Baran	MRCS
209	M	Sopheak Meas	MRCS
210	M	Sophearin Chea	MRCS
211	M	Palakorn Chanbanyong	MRCS
212	F	Nguyen Thi Ngoc Minh	MRCS
213	M	Nguyen Duc Tuan	MRCS
214	M	Prayooth Yaowakhan	MRCS
215	F	Dao Thi Ngoc Hoang	MRCS
216	M	Rattykone Sayasane	MRCS
217	F	Chanmala Homesana	MRCS
218	M	Ekarach Boonlom	MRCS
219	F	Soukphaphone Soodtharavong	MRCS

Annex 2: Agenda



AGENDA

8th MRC Regional Stakeholder Forum

5-6 November 2019 | Vientiane, Lao PDR

DAY 1 Preparation of the Basin Development Strategy 2021-2030 and MRC Strategic Plan 2021-2025		
08.00	Registration	All
08.30	Welcome remarks (5')	MRCS CEO
08.35	Opening remarks (5')	Lao Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environment
08.40	Objectives & MRC stakeholder engagement principles and mechanism for sustainable development (10')	Office of CEO, MRCS
THE MEKONG'S STATE OF BASIN REPORT & BASIN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY		
08.50	Overall strategic planning, monitoring and reporting framework (10')	Office of CEO, MRCS
9:00	State of Basin Report: Environment, Social, Economic, Cooperation, and Q&A (90')	Environment Division, MRCS
10.30	Coffee break	All
11.00	Joint Research on extreme floods and droughts – Key findings and recommendations (90')	MRCS IWMI IWHR and LMWRCC
12.30	Lunch	All

13.30	Overview of the MRC Basin Development Strategy and its progress and general approach for update and roadmap for the preparation of the Strategy for 2021-2030 and Q&A (30')	<i>Planning Division, MRCS</i>
14.00	Roadmap and approach for preparation of the MRC Strategic Plan 2021-2025 to implement the BDS 2021-2030 including stakeholder engagement, gender, cooperation, implementation and monitoring and evaluation, and Q&A (30')	<i>Office of CEO</i>

REFLECTION THE STATE OF BASIN CONDITIONS AND FUTURE RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BASIN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2021-2030

14.30	Basin conditions, trends and long-term outlook– Chapter 2 of the BDS, and Q&A (30')	<i>Planning Division, MRCS</i>
15.00	Strategic needs, risks and responses – Chapter 3 of the BDS, and Q&A (30')	<i>Planning Division, MRCS</i>
15.30	Coffee break	

ADDRESSING CURRENT AND FUTURE CONDITIONS OF THE BASIN

15.45 (working coffee)	Parallel session 1: Social Dimension	Parallel session 2: Economic Dimension	Parallel session 3: Environment Dimension
	1. Development opportunities, risks and challenges	1. Development opportunities, risks and challenges	1. Development opportunities, risks and challenges
	2. Strategic priorities and outcomes toward 2040	2. Strategic priorities and outcomes toward 2040	2. Strategic priorities and outcomes toward 2040
<i>Gender, climate change and cooperation dimensions are cross-cutting of each of the above dimensions</i>			
16.45	Report back to plenary by each representative of each parallel discussion (30', 10' for each group)		<i>Rapporteurs</i>
17.15	Summary of perspectives, inputs and next steps for the BDS 2021-2030 (15 minutes)		<i>All</i>

DAY 2 The 1st Regional Information Sharing on Luang Prabang Hydropower Project

08.00	Registration	<i>All</i>
08.30	Key messages of Day 1 and Objectives of Day 2 (10')	<i>Office of CEO, MRCS</i>
MRC'S PRIOR CONSULTATION PROCESS UNDER THE PNPCHA AND THE 1995 MEKONG AGREEMENT		
08.40	Overview of the PNPCHA under the overall MRC procedural framework and the 1995 Mekong Agreement (15')	<i>Planning Division, MRCS</i>
	Implementation of previous Prior Consultation Processes and progress of implementation of the Joint Action Plans of Pak Beng and Pak Lay Hydropower Projects (15')	
	Objectives and Roadmap for the Prior Consultation of the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project (10')	
INTRODUCTION OF THE LUANG PRABANG HYDROPOWER PROJECT		
09.20	A snapshot of Lao national development strategy and plan including sustainable hydropower policy and practices (10')	<i>Lao PDR</i>
09.30	Overview of the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project (30')	<i>Lao PDR</i>
	Q&A (20')	
10.20	Coffee break	
10.45	Panel of MRC Joint Committee Members and CEO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To listen to views from representatives or individuals from stakeholders To reflect on those views To take note and suggest ways to addressing concerns and recommendations 	<i>All</i>
12.15	Lunch	
APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY FOR THE TECHNICAL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED LUANG PRABANG HYDROPOWER PROJECT		

13.15	Approach and methodology for assessment of the Luang Prabang Hydropower Project – (1) overview, (2) hydrology, (3) sediment, (4) water quality, environment & fisheries, (5) dam safety, (6) navigation and (7) socio-economic issues (75')	<i>Technical Chiefs & Specialists, MRCS</i>
14.30	Coffee break	
PARALLEL SESSIONS		
SESSION A		SESSION B
15.00	Hydrology and Hydraulics Sediment Dam Safety Navigation	Water Quality, Environment & Fisheries Socioeconomics
16.15	Reporting back from parallel sessions (30')	<i>Rapporteurs</i>
16.45	Next steps on engagement and communication plan within the Prior Consultation Process for the proposed Luang Prabang Hydropower Project (15')	<i>Office of CEO, MRCS</i>
17.00	Closure of the 8 th Forum (15')	<i>MRCS CEO</i>
17.15	END OF MRC 8th REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER FORUM	



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