



Third Annual Mekong Flood Forum



- Date—7-8 April, 2005
- Venue—Don Chan Palace Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR
- Theme—Flood Management and Mitigation in the Mekong Basin
- Hosted by the Lao NMC and attended by more than 120 representatives from the MRC community, community based and international organizations, donors, and other “friends of the Mekong”





Intent of the Meeting

- **Strengthen Flood Management and Mitigation Programme (FMMP) Components**
- **Provide coordination among participating agencies/institutions and the MRC FMMP**
- **Share knowledge of technical and best flood-management practices**
- **Present partner experiences**



Sessions

Introductory Session—Welcoming remarks by MRC Secretariat, Lao National Mekong Committee, and Forum donors—Royal Government of the Netherlands, Federal Republic of Germany, and the United States of America

Session 1—National Flood Management and Mitigation Experience

Session 2 FMMP Component 1—Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre

Session 3—FMMP Component 2—Structural Measures and Flood Proofing and Component 3—Transboundary Mediation on Flood Issues



Sessions



Session 4 FMMP Component 4—Flood
Emergency Management
Strengthening and Component 5—
Land Management

Session 5 Other Partner Presentations

Session 6 New Areas of Cooperation, Via
Working Group Discussions and
presentations of recommendations

Concluding Session



Session 6 New Areas of Cooperation

In addition to informal discussions during the meeting, participant in five component-specific working groups considered the following questions.

- **Communications**—What new communications mechanisms might be effective with respect to this Component?
- **Planning**—Are there activities or omissions in the existing Component that need to be reconsidered?



Session 6 New Areas of Cooperation

Selected Communications recommendations included:

- Existing mechanisms
- New linkages between regional and national centres
- Output-oriented AFFs that focus on previous AFF recommendations
- Dissemination of information directly to local communities, as well as through province, district and commune levels
- Regional meetings on special FMMP technical topics.
- Engaging partners more fully in the FMMP





Session 6 New Areas of Cooperation

Selected planning recommendations included:

1. Provide detailed Project Implementation Plans
2. Perform cost-benefit analysis and estimate benefits
3. Emphasize consensus building
4. Training on drafting emergency plans
5. Conserve biodiversity, wetlands, reforestations, and conserve flood-retention zones



Session 6 New Areas of Cooperation



Recommendations for the Fourth Annual Mekong Flood Forum

- More output-oriented forums that follow up on recommendations from previous forums
- Successful examples, lessons learned, and future plans for the implementation of the FMMP in all MRC countries
- MRC's forums and meetings should cover wider audiences



Summary

- Participants supported the Forum and had numerous recommendations about improving FMMP implementation
- The MRCS stated that group discussions provided feedback on the FMMP and pledged to take the recommendations under consideration as the FMMP is implemented.

For more information:

<http://www.mrcmekong.org> and

