

Stakeholder Consultation

“Working with the MRC for sustainable Basin development”

12-13 March 2008

Vientiane, Lao PDR



Basin Development Plan Programme

Pham Thanh Hang, BDP Programme Coordinator

www.mrcmekong.org

Outline of the Presentation

1. The Basin Development Plan Programme of the MRC – Overall objective, achievements of Phase 1 and transition to Phase 2
2. BDP Phase 2: Objectives, Structure, Main outputs and Implementation plan
3. Stakeholder participation in the Basin development planning
4. Overview of the Inception Report of BDP Phase 2

1.1 Why Basin Development Plan?

- 1995 Mekong Agreement
 - Article 2
 - Other Articles
- Promote Joint planning and Regional cooperation as core functions of International River Basin Organization like the MRC
- Common targets for poverty reduction by Member states and implications on water and related resources development
- Facilitate national development while protecting the vital ecosystem of the River

1.2 The MRC BDP Programme

- **Development Objective:**

The water resources of the Mekong River Basin managed and developed in an integrated, sustainable and equitable manner for the mutual benefits of the riparian States”

- **Objectives of Phase 1 (2001-2006):**

- A participatory basin planning process established and ongoing
- A BDP aiming at a balanced mix of social, economic and environmental factors drafted and agreed on.

1.3 Achievements of BDP Phase 1

- A participatory Basin planning process carried out in 5 stages
- Agreed “Strategic directions for IWRM in LMB”
- Sub-area analysis and National and Regional sector reviews
- A comprehensive MRC Project database
- An agreed shortlist of priority development initiatives
- Tools and routines for project identification, initial documentation and screening of impacts and significance, classification and ranking
- Qualified staff and relevant institutional capacities
- Emerging fruitful interaction with national planning process

<http://www.mrcmekong.org/download/programmes/bdp/BDP1-Final-290906%20no%20budget.pdf>

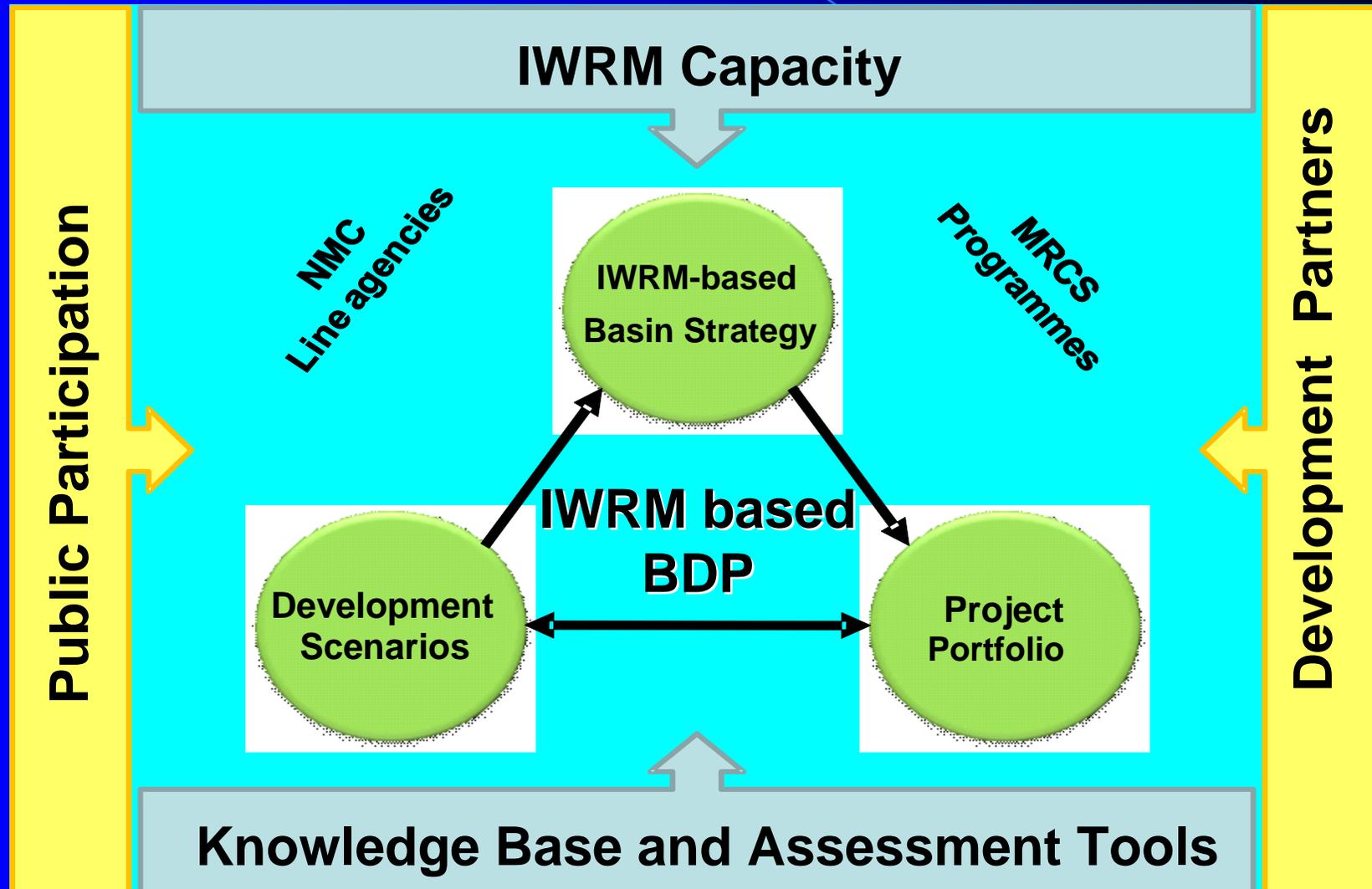
1.4 Lessons learned from BDP Phase 1

- Sharpen the impact and institutional interfaces of the BDP
- Decision process vs. facilitating comprehensive influence of member countries and support of eventual outcome
- Scenario-based planning is not applied on routine basis within national development planning
- Further consolidation of Strategic environmental assessment with MRC Environment programme
- Strengthen the information flows on national and regional planning processes via and among the NMCs
- Enhance external participation in the planning process

2.1 Objectives of BDP Phase 2

1. A rolling IWRM-based BDP produced in support of sustainable development in the Mekong River Basin
2. Knowledge base and assessment tools further developed and utilized effectively in MRCS and NMCs
3. Capacity built at MRC and NMC levels for IWRM planning and facilitation in situations where trade off management is required

2.2 Concept of the IWRM-based Basin Development Plan



What is the IWRM-based BDP?

- Provides a planning framework and transparency to water and related resources development in the Lower Mekong Basin that benefit all member states
- Brings all major on-going and planned water resources development projects and supporting non-structural projects in the BDP process
- Enables the MRC to visibly engage in transboundary water governance based on IWRM
- Should be prepared with participation of stakeholders

1st element - Development scenarios

- “What if” cases to present different levels of water resources development over next decades
- Requires all on-going, planned and proposed significant projects in water and related sectors
- Assessment of hydrological impacts using DSF
- Assessment of environmental, social and economic impacts, using IBFM and other tools
- Results will inform the IWRM-based Basin strategy

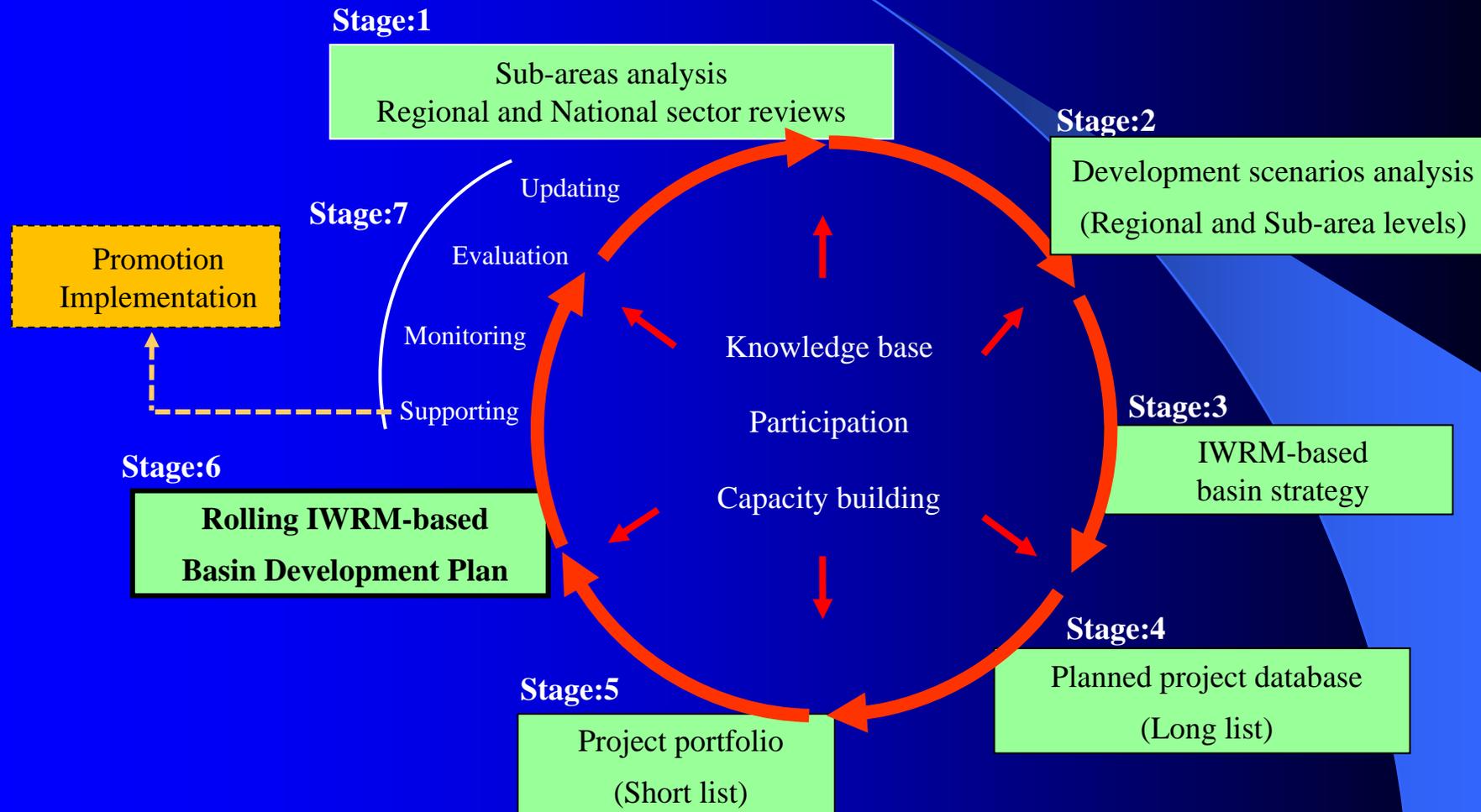
2nd element - IWRM-based Basin Strategy

- Based on the basin-wide development scenarios jointly selected by member countries
- Provides clear directions and a planning framework to guide sustainable Basin development of LMB over the next two decades
- Provides a Basin management strategy that guides the implementation of IWRM at basin (regional), national and local (sub-area) levels
- Provides clear description of roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the Strategy

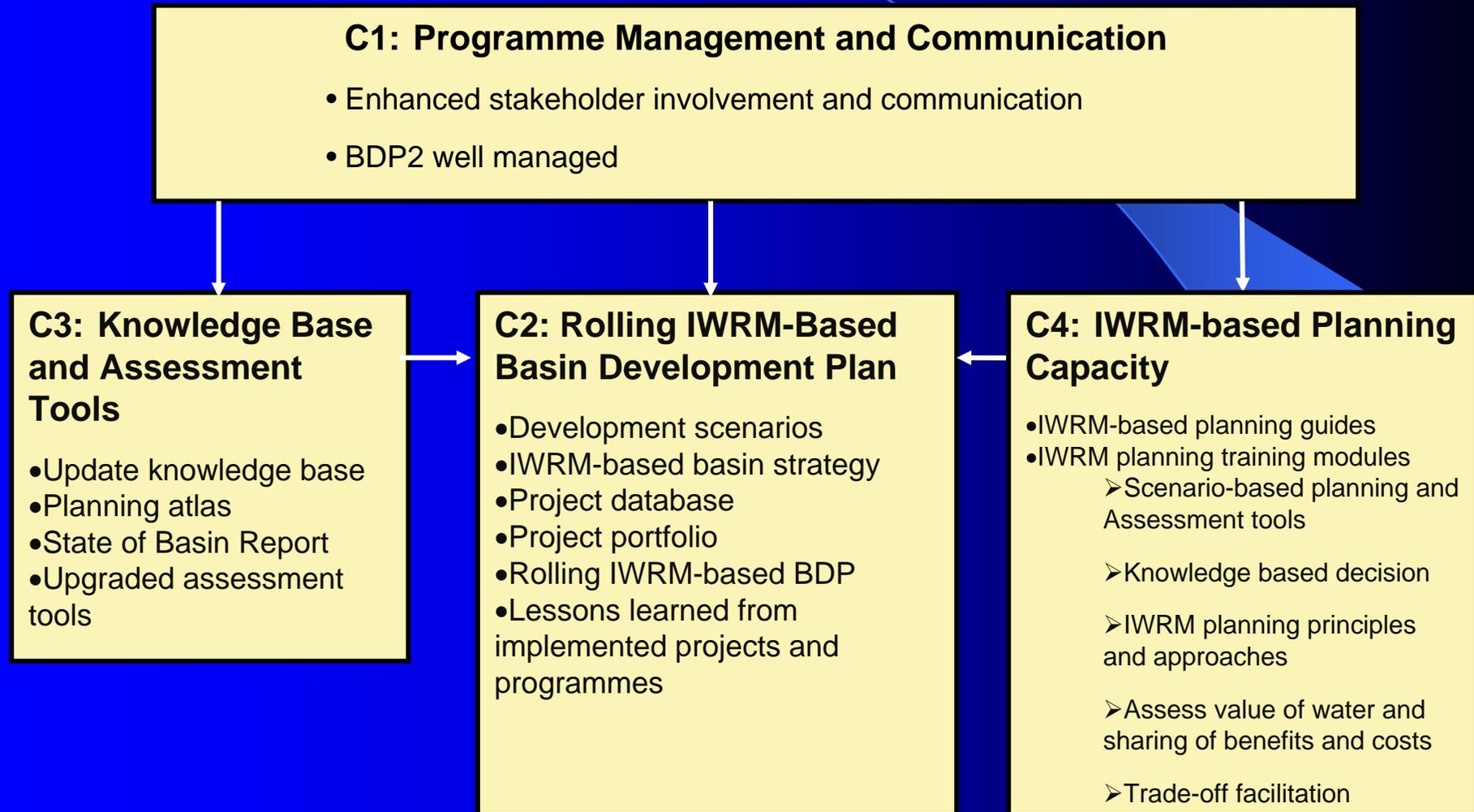
3rd Element - Project portfolio

- List of water and related resources development projects and supporting non-structural projects for two objectives:
 - “To seek assistance for implementation at basin level”
 - To ensure MRC transboundary governance
- Project should be in line with the IWRM-based Basin strategy
- Projects should be both national and basin/regional priorities
- Priority ranking within the Project portfolio based on assessment with agreed criteria

2.3 BDP Planning cycle



2.4 BDP Phase 2 Components and Outputs



2.5 BDP Phase 2 – Key milestones

2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inception Report and Stakeholder consultation
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Endorsed approach to scenario formulation and assessment• Scenarios formulated and assessed using DSF• 1st draft of IWRM-based basin strategy• Initial 2008 Project portfolio• Initial outline of the IWRM-based Basin Development Plan• High level learning of another River basin development• Training on scenario-based planning, use of tools, IWRM principles and trade-off facilitation

BDP Phase 2 – Key milestones (Cont)

2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final report of scenario assessment (environmental, social and economic impacts)• Final draft IWRM-based basin strategy• 2009 Project portfolio• IWRM capacity building focusing on national level
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2010 Project portfolio• Final draft IWRM-based Basin Development Plan• Assessment of training and capacity building• BDP Phase 2 Final evaluation

2.6 Implementing partners

- National planning and sector agencies with NMCs playing facilitation and coordination role
- MRC Programmes
- Other Stakeholder groups
- The Public

3.1 The importance of Stakeholder participation in BDP

- Impacts of the Basin Development Plan on 56 million inhabitants in the LMB
- Diverse interests and concerns
- Building on local knowledge and experience
- Inputs and support from Stakeholder groups for the Plan and its implementation are essential

3.2 Proposed approach for Stakeholder participation

- Build upon participatory planning process established in Phase 1
- Increase access to information and enhanced two way communication
- Stakeholder participation in Sub-area and other activities
- National and regional Stakeholder consultations and dialogues on process and key outputs

4.1 Purpose and Structure of Inception Report

- **Purpose:** *To describe how BDP Phase 2 will be implemented to achieve objectives and outputs*
- **Structure:**
 - Part 1 – Introduction (Chapter 1)
 - Part 2 – Inception Report (Chapter 2 through Chapter 5 and Appendices A through E).
 - Part 3 – Programme Implementation Plan (Chapter 6 and Appendices F through I)

4.2 Part 1 – Introduction

- Chapter 1 - Introduction
 - Rationale for undertaking BDP Phase 2 (BDP2)
 - BDP2 Mandate
 - Purpose of the report
 - Process in preparing the report
 - Structure of the report

4.3 Part 2 – Inception Report

- **Chapter 2 – BDP2 Approaches**
 - Water resources and socio-economic profile
 - Water and related resources development issues
 - Guiding principles
 - Cross cutting issues
 - Implementation of projects
- **Chapter 3 – BDP2 Objectives and Structure**
 - Goal and Objectives
 - Programme structure
 - Outputs and Activities
 - BDP2 contribution to the MRC Strategic Plan 2006-2010
 - BDP1 achievements and transition into Phase 2

Part 2 – Inception Report (Cont)

- **Chapter 4 – Description of the IWRM-based BDP**
 - Elements of the IWRM-based BDP
 - Basin-wide development scenarios
 - IWRM-based Basin strategy
 - Project portfolio
 - Formulation of the IWRM-based BDP
 - Implementation of the IWRM-based BDP
 - Periodic updates of the IWRM-based BDP
- **Chapter 5 – Appreciation of Programme outputs**

4.4 Part 3 – Programme Implementation Plan

- Implementation process i.e. Annual output targets
- Workplan for 2007-2010
- Implementation arrangements
- Stakeholder participation and communication
- Gender mainstreaming
- Programme monitoring and evaluation
- Quality management
- Programme reporting
- Risk management

Comments on the Inception Report

Please send to the BDP team at:

- hang@mrcmekong.org or
- lennaerts@mrcmekong.org or
- suparerk@mrcmekong.org

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Thank you!