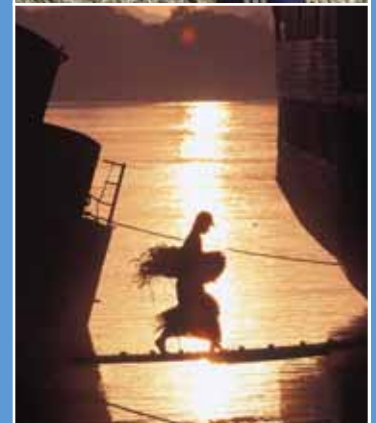
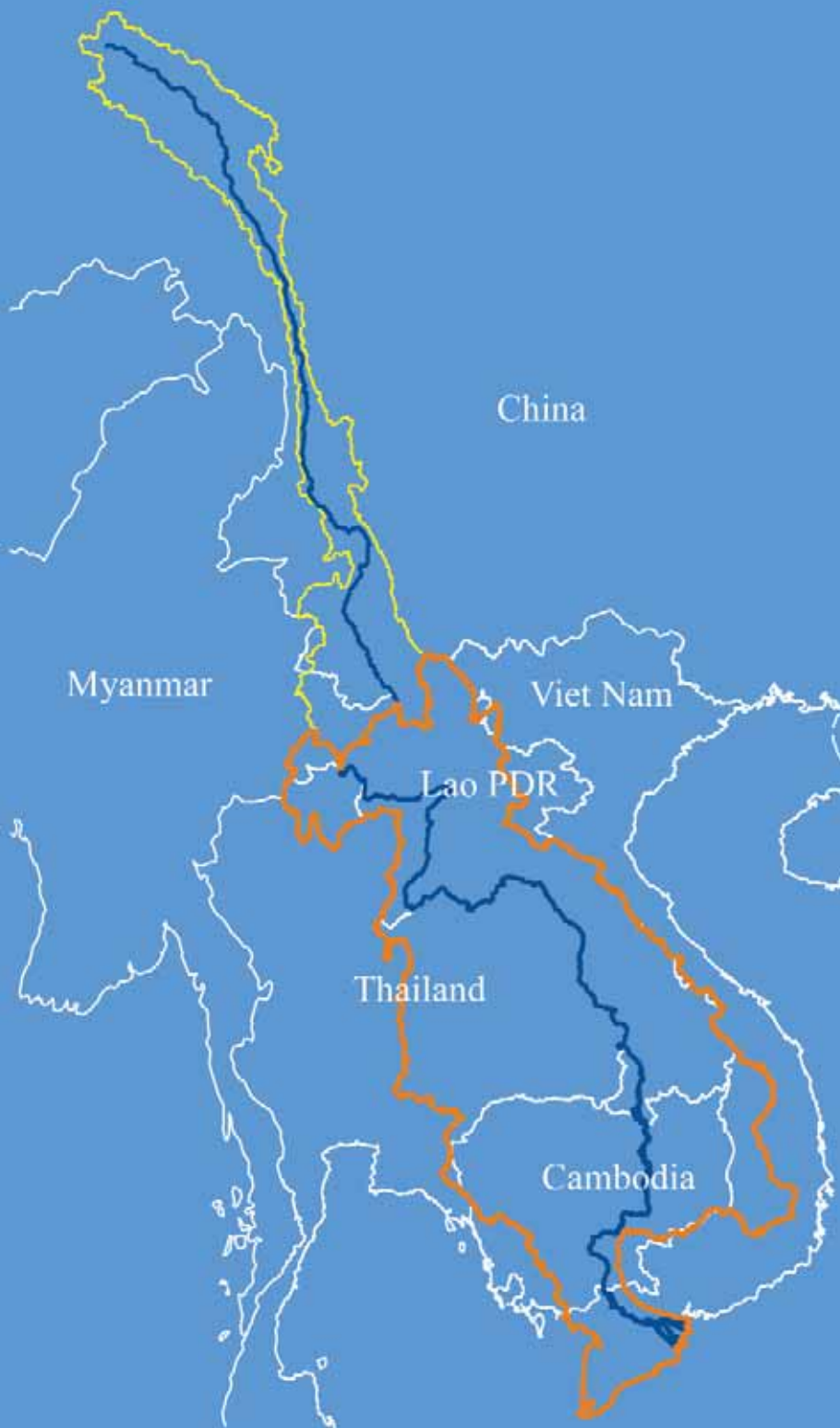




Mekong River Commission

Funding the MRC Programmes 2006-2010: Programme Outlines

November 2008





Mekong River Commission

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**Prepared by the Mekong River Commission Secretariat
November 2008**

Preface

The aim of this document "Funding the MRC Programmes 2006-2010: Programme Outlines" is to outline the work of the MRC, its plans and strategy for the coming five years. It provides an overview of all the MRC Programmes, as well as detailed programme outlines for each MRC Programme, focussing on programme objectives, programme components, programme outputs, and budget and funding information illustrating for each programme the funds available and funding needs per component.

The MRC Programmes have been formulated through national and regional consultations with the National Mekong Committees, and Line Agencies and approved by the MRC Council. Detailed Programme documents can be made available to interested agencies upon request. For this purpose, kindly contact the MRC Secretariat's International Cooperation and Communication Section, at the following address:

MRC Secretariat P.O. Box 6101 84 Fa Ngoum Road, Unit 18 Ban Sithane Neua Sikhottabong District Vientiane 01000, Lao PDR	Tel: +856 21 263 263 Fax: +856 21 263 264 E-mail: mracs@mrcmekong.org
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Interested readers are invited to visit the MRC website at <http://www.mrcmekong.org>

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1. Introduction to the Mekong River Commission

1.1. Background

The Mekong River Commission (MRC) is an international river basin organisation built on a foundation of nearly 50 years of knowledge and experience in the region. On the 5th of April 1995, Cambodia, the Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam, signed the "Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin". This agreement formed the Mekong River Commission (MRC) which replaced the Committee for Coordination of Investigation of the Lower Mekong Basin (the Mekong Committee) and the Interim Mekong Committee, which were established in 1957 and 1978 respectively.

1.2. Mission and Role of the MRC

The MRC provides the institutional framework to promote regional cooperation in order to implement the 1995 Agreement. It serves its Member States by supporting decisions and promoting action on sustainable development, protection of ecological balance and poverty alleviation as a contribution to the UN Millennium Development Goals. The mission of the MRC is to promote and coordinate sustainable management and development of water and related resources for the countries' mutual benefit and the people's well-being. In this respect, the work of the MRC supports the Mekong Partnership Programme, a regional cooperation programme for the sustainable development of water and related resources in the Mekong River Basin (Annex 1: The Mekong Partnership Programme).

1.3. Areas of Cooperation

Article 1 of the 1995 Agreement obliges the signatories "To cooperate in all fields of sustainable development, utilization, management and conservation of the water and related resources of the Mekong River Basin..."

Article 2 stipulates the promotion of sustainable development of the full potential, and prevention of wasteful uses of the Mekong River Basins waters, for the benefit of all riparian states.

Article 3 charges the signatories with protection of the environment, ecological balance and natural resources from harmful effects from the development of the basin's water and related resources.

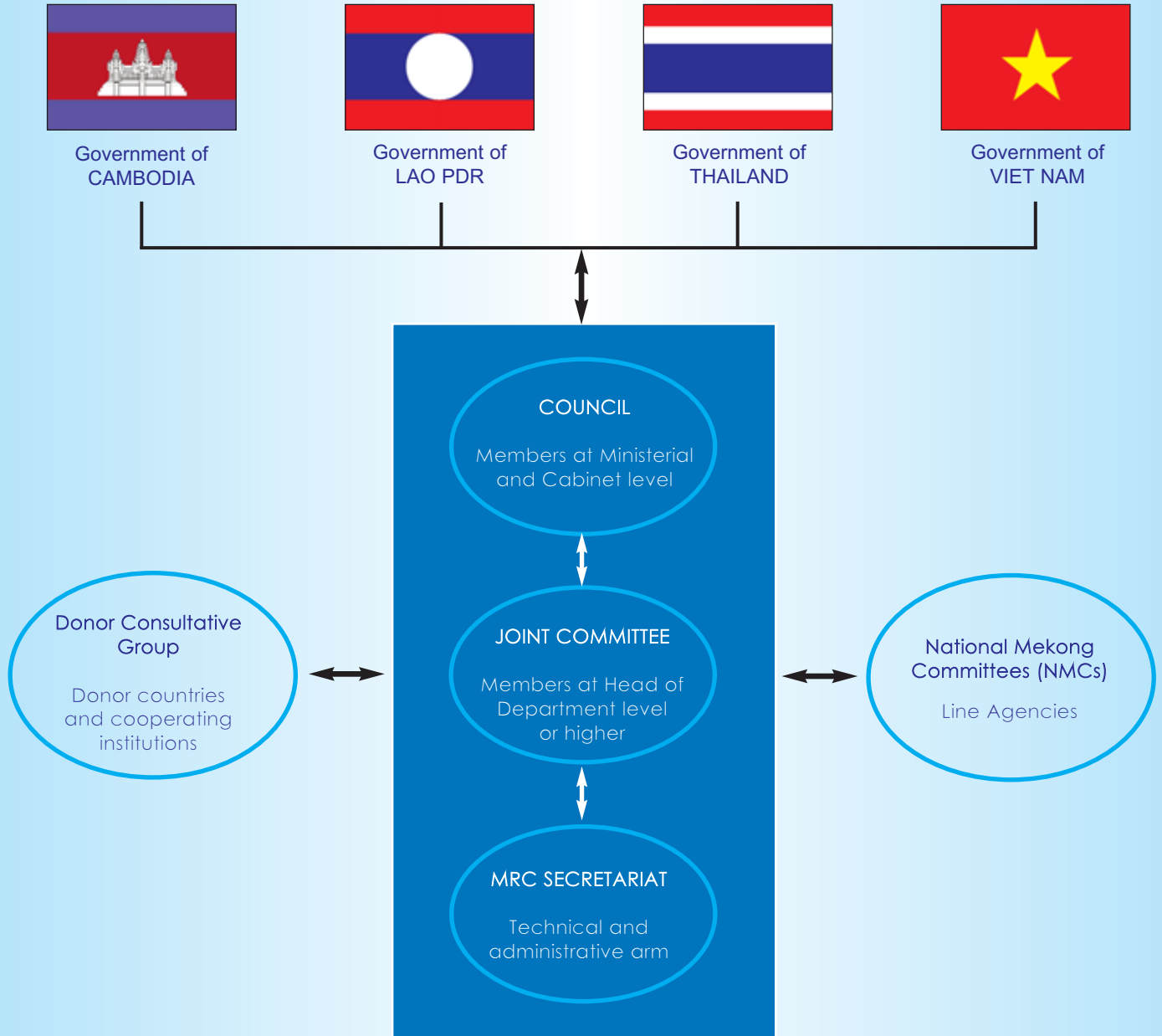
These three articles set the scope for the work of the Commission.

1.4. Institutional framework

The MRC enjoys the status of an international body. It has signed several agreements and holds obligations with donors and the international community. The MRC consists of three permanent bodies (figure 1): Council, Joint Committee and Secretariat. Acting as focal points for the Commission in each of the member countries are the National Mekong Committees (NMCs). The MRC Secretariat, as the technical and administrative arm of the MRC works closely with the NMCs of the MRC member countries.

The structure of the Secretariat is presented in the diagram overleaf (figure 2). This structure was introduced in December 2005 to align it with the MRC Strategic Plan for 2006 - 2010. The budget of the Commission consists of contributions from its members and the donor community. Formal consultation with the donor community is undertaken through the annual Donor Consultative Group meeting. An Informal Donor Meeting is also held annually. The Commission has formal agreements for cooperation with a range of regional and international organisations.

Figure 1: MRC Organisational Structure



Our Dialogue Partners

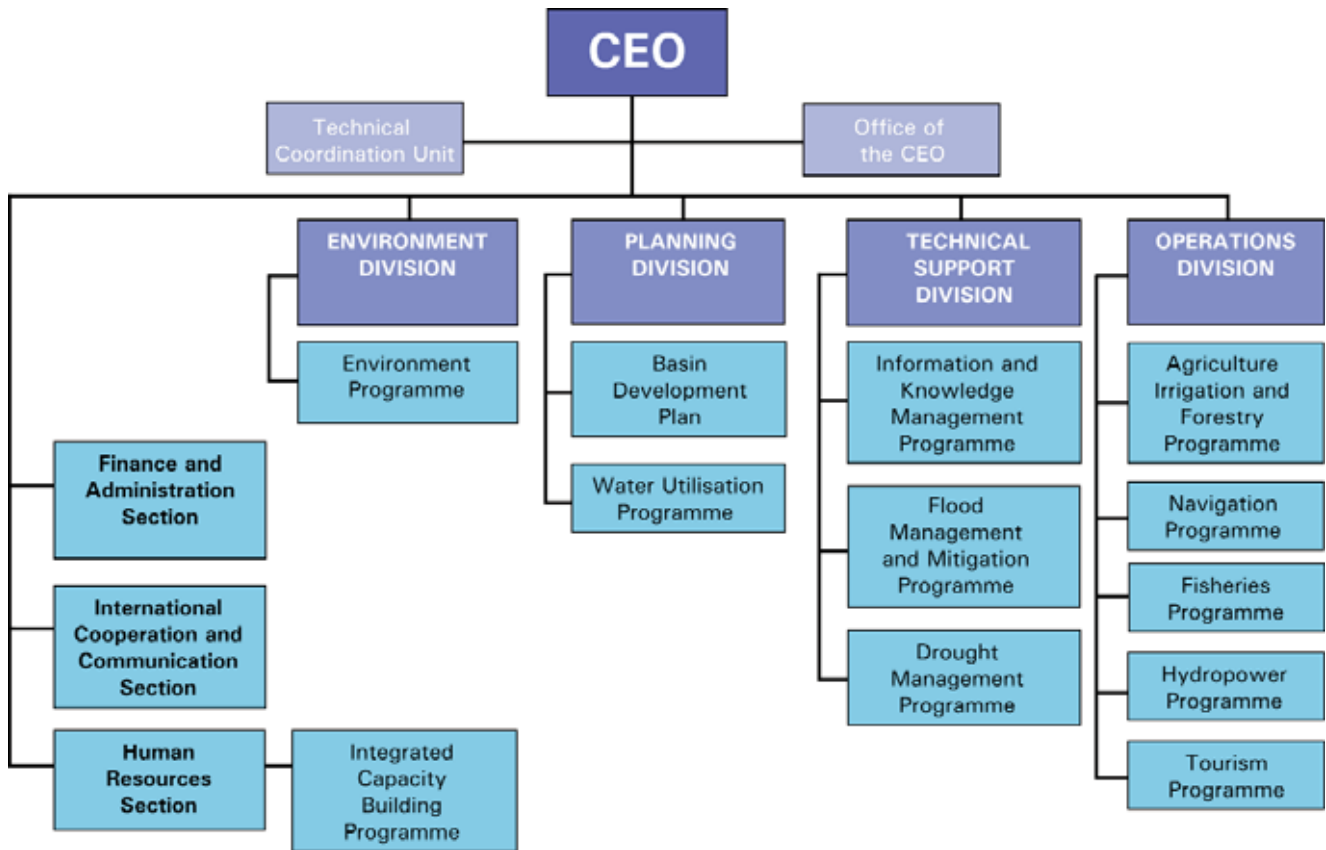


China



Myanmar

Figure 2: MRC Secretariat Organisational Structure



1.5. Cooperation with upstream countries

The MRC holds an official dialogue with the two other countries sharing the Mekong River Basin, China and Myanmar, which are not signatories of the 1995 Agreement. In addition, the MRC and China signed in 2002 an "agreement on the provision of hydrological information on the Lancang/Mekong River in the flood season". A map of the overall Mekong river basin highlighting the Lower and the Upper Mekong Basins is provided in figure 3.

2. The MRC Strategic Plan 2006-2010

In 2006, the MRC started the new five-year cycle in its strategic planning, and formulated its Strategic Plan for 2006 - 2010. The MRC Strategic Plan 2006 - 2010 was approved in principle by the MRC Council in December 2005. The consultation process with partners, donors and stakeholders was ongoing in 2006 and the final document was approved in August 2006.

Within the Strategic Plan 2006 - 2010, the fundamental strategic direction of MRC, its vision statement remained as "A world-class, financially secure, International River Basin Organisation serving the Mekong Countries to achieve the basin vision of an economically prosperous, socially just and environmentally sound Mekong River Basin". The Strategic Plan provides for an updated programme structure. The basin development planning process takes on a pivotal role in a sector and cross-cutting programmes matrix. This allows the MRC to address the development opportunities of the Mekong Basin in a more balanced and sustainable manner.

The overall Five Year goal of the MRC is: "More Effective Use of the Mekong's Water and Related Resources to Alleviate Poverty While Protecting the Environment".

Four Goals have been identified that MRC should strive to achieve progressively from 2006 to 2010. The four goals established for MRC for 2006 to 2010 are shown below:

Goal 1: To promote and support coordinated, sustainable, and pro-poor development

Goal 2: To enhance effective regional cooperation

Goal 3: To strengthen basin-wide environmental monitoring and impact assessment

Goal 4: To strengthen the Integrated Water Resources Management capacity and knowledge base of the MRC bodies, NMCs, Line Agencies, and other stakeholders

A list of strategic outputs for 2006-2010 is provided in Annex 2 (Annex 2: List of MRC Strategic Outputs 2006-2010).

3. The MRC Integrated Programme Approach

3.1. Introduction

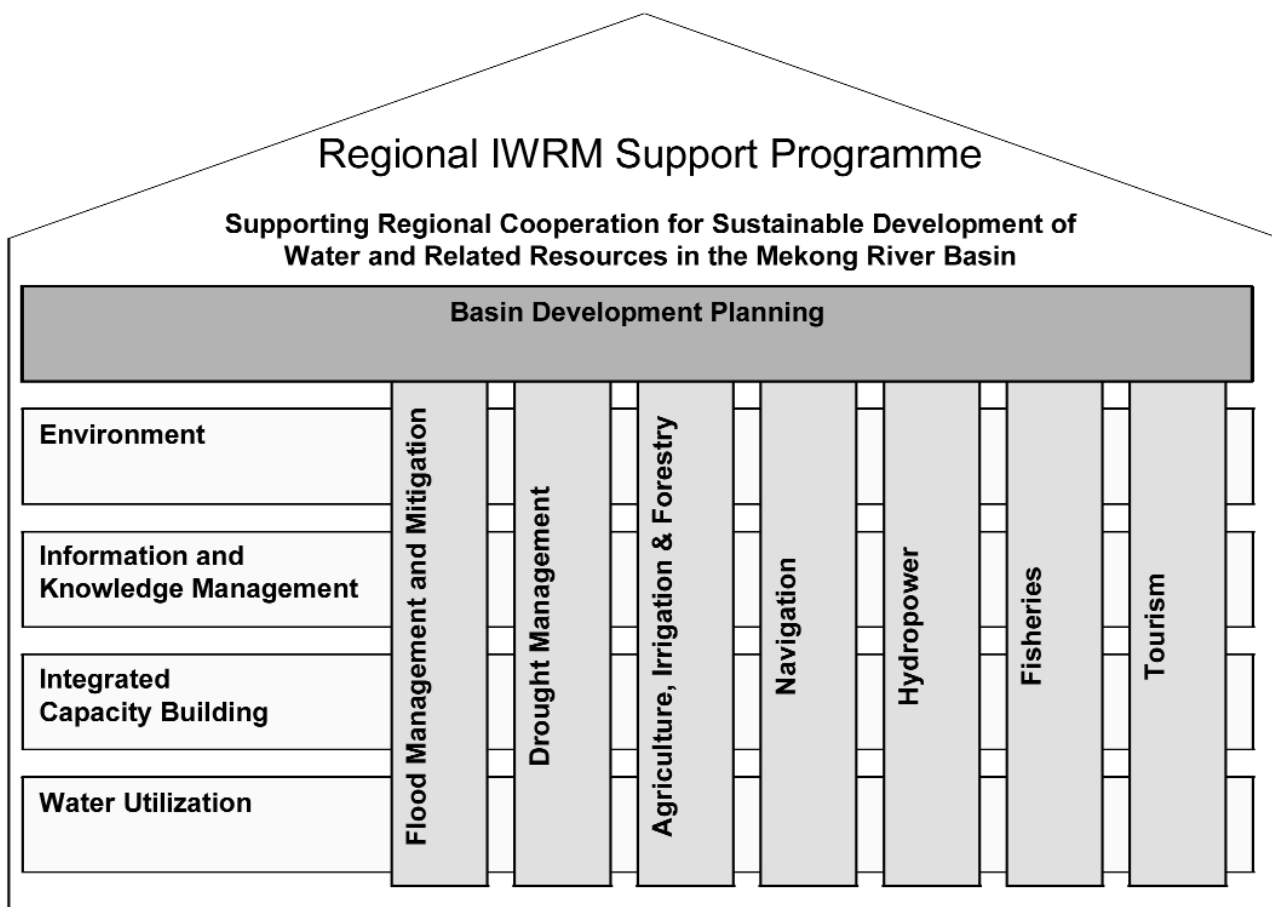
The goals of the MRC Strategic Plan 2006 - 2010 specify a continuation of MRC's important role in all areas of river basin management. They also call for a greater focus on the MRC Programmes through the role of promoting and coordinating planning and sustainable development at basin scale. The MRC has kept up its efforts in consolidating an integrated programme approach. The programme approach considers MRC activities as part of comprehensive programmes supporting basinwide strategies of the MRC member countries. Based on an increased contribution from its Member States and continuous support from the donor community, the MRC implements activities within a portfolio of twelve Programmes:

- Basin Development Plan
- Environment
- Information and Knowledge Management
- Integrated Capacity Building
- Water Utilisation
- Flood Management and Mitigation
- Drought Management
- Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry
- Navigation
- Hydropower
- Fisheries
- Tourism

In addition, a Multi-donor Water Management Trust Fund has been created to provide strategic and flexible support to MRC programme development and implementation.

MRC Programmes are driven by the principles of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) and administered through the fully integrated programmatic structure of the MRC. The totality of programmes supports the Mekong Partnership Programme: a Regional Cooperation Programme for Sustainable Development of Water and Related Resources in the Mekong River Basin, owned by the Mekong countries (Figure 4 and Annex 1: The Mekong Partnership Programme).

Figure 4: MRC Programme structure



Projects that are identified and prioritized through the Basin Development Plan will support and ultimately form the Mekong Partnership Programme. With close involvement of the funding agencies, NMCs, Line Agencies, and the MRC Secretariat, the Mekong Partnership Programme will be executed and implemented by the Member States in partnership with donors, development banks, and the private sector. MRC will implement basin-wide supporting activities mainly focusing on enabling projects.

Programming of MRC activities will be linked to the Basin Development Plan. Priority basin-wide and transboundary water resources related projects will be supported by MRC programmes in a manner to contribute to the achievement of the MRC's goals and objectives.

3.2. Funding Approach

To date, donors provide financial support through the following mechanisms:

- Funding of well-defined actions which fall within MRC programme components;
- Financial contribution to a specific MRC programme as a whole;
- Financial contribution to the MRC Water Management Trust Fund;
- Financial contribution to specific staff positions;
- Secondment of staff;
- Provision of synergetic services through MRC cooperation projects with partners;
- Funding of the Operational Expenses Budget.

Member States contribute both through in-kind inputs in programmes and through annually increasing Member State contributions. Donors would be encouraged to support Programmes either entirely or by investing into projects that have been identified as strategically important to the Programme. This programme support approach would have the added advantage of being more flexible in responding to priority needs and in organizing the activities in a more efficient way. The MRC is aiming to also obtain financial contributions in support of the overall MRC programme portfolio.

Supported by programme strategies and through the BDP, the MRC will more pro-actively involve the Joint Committee and help guide donor contributions by identifying priority needs in line with country and donor interests and consistent with IWRM principles.

3.3. Programme Outlines

Programme outlines or Programme Information Notes (PINs) are provided for each MRC programme in the sections below. These PINs are part of the BDP Projects / Programmes Database which compiles water resources related projects and programmes of the Lower Mekong Basin.

The MRC programmes are:

- Basin Development Plan
- Mekong Integrated Water Resource Management Support
- Environment Programme
- Information and Knowledge Management Programme
- Flood Management and Mitigation Programme
- Drought Management Programme
- Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry Programme
- Navigation Programme
- Hydropower Programme
- Fisheries Programme
- Tourism Programme
- Integrated Capacity Building Programme
- MRC Water Management Trust Fund

4. Funding Status of MRC Programmes and Programme outlines

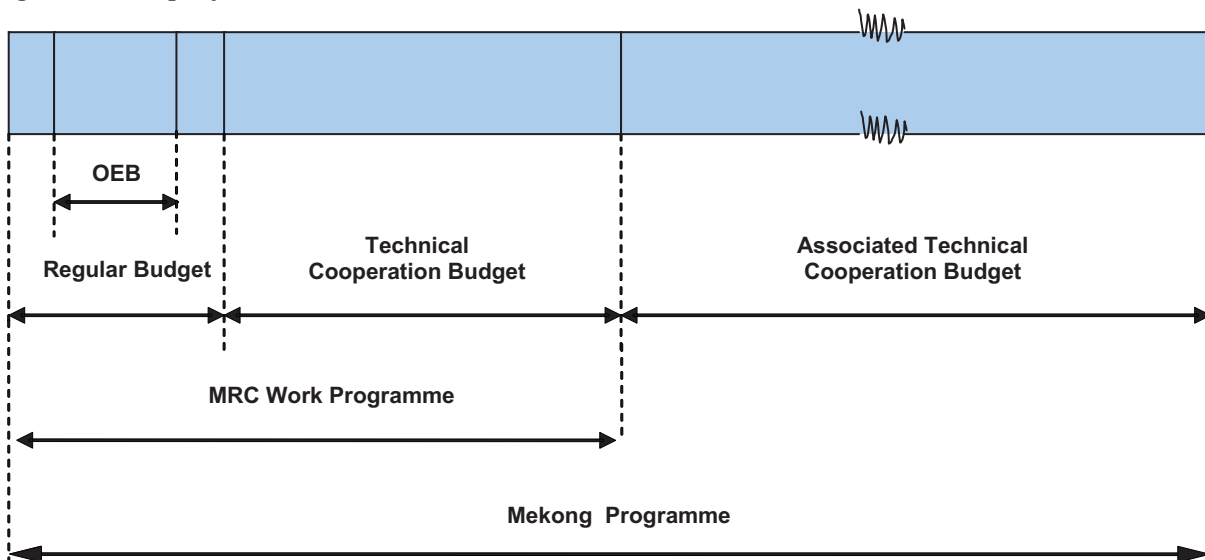
Following on the Twenty-eighth Meeting of the Joint Committee and in line with the Work Programme 2009, this updated “Funding the MRC Programmes 2006-2010: Programme Outlines” distinguishes between the MRC Work Programme Budget and the Associated Technical Cooperation Budget.

The Work Programme Budget covers all Programme activities in which MRC plays an execution or co-execution role. The management and administration of the Technical Cooperation Budget, as well as support to MRC governance meetings also form part of the MRC Work Programme. The Operational Expenses Budget (OEB) is therefore also included in this part.

The Associated Technical Cooperation Budget refers to technical assistance provided to the MRC or its Member Countries which relates to the work areas covered by the Work Programme and under which funding is not directly managed by the MRC. An example of this approach is the WUP follow-up project or the Technical Assistance the MRC receives from Germany.

The following graph illustrates this approach.

Figure 5: MRC portfolio structure



This approach aims to improve clarity and is reflected in the two following tables which provide an overview of MRC Programme funding status. This approach is also reflected in the Programme Information Notes (PIN), in which the Work Programme and ATC Budgets are indicated and illustrated separately.

MRC Work Programme Overview												
Planning Division			Environment Division				Technical Support Division				Operations Division	
Basin Development Plan	M-IWRMP (Title under consideration)	Environment	Information and Knowledge Management	Flood Management and Mitigation	Drought Management	Agriculture Irrigation and Forestry	Navigation	Hydropower	Fisheries	Tourism	Integrated Capacity Building	Water Management Trust Fund
End of current funding: 2010	Project not yet started	End of current funding: 2010	End of current funding: 2012	End of current funding: 2010	Programme not yet started	End of current funding: 2009	End of current funding: 2011	End of current funding: 2011	End of current funding: 2009		End of current funding: 2011	End of current funding: 2011
Programme Management and Communication	Regional Component	Programme Management	Programme Management	Regional Flood Centre	Drought Forecasting	Watershed Management (WSM)	Regional Transport Planning	Programme being developed	Programme Management and Communication		Programme Management and Communication	Strategic Policy Development
Rolling IWRM based BDP	National Component	Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	Hydro-meteorological Data	Structural Measures and Flood Proofing	Drought Impact Assessment	Demonstration of Multi-functionality of Paddy Fields	Legal Framework		Fisheries Management and Governance		Integrated Capacity Building	Transboundary Mediation Facility
Knowledge Base and Assessment Tools	Transboundary Component	Environmental Decision Support	GIS and Databases	Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Transboundary Flood Issues	Drought Management Policy	Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency of Paddy Fields	Traffic Safety, Environmental Sustainability		Fisheries Ecology, Valuation, Mitigation			Responsive Programme Development
IWRM Based Planning Capacity	Programme Preparation and Formulation	People and Aquatic Ecosystems	Modelling	Flood Emergency Management Strengthening	Drought Preparedness and Mitigation Measures	Contribution to the Challenge Program on Water and Food	Information, Promotion, Coordination		Aquaculture			
		Environmental Knowledge	Communication and Knowledge Management	Land Management	Programme Management	Formulation of new AIFP	Institutional Development					
		Environmental Flow Management (IBFM)				KfW WSMP Formulation						
		Climate Change										



Unfunded



Partly funded/committed



Funded/Committed

MRC Associated Technical Cooperation Budget Overview												
Planning Division			Environment Division			Technical Support Division				Operations Division		
Basin Development Plan	M- IWRMP (Title under consideration)	Environment	Information and Knowledge Management	Flood Management and Mitigation	Drought Management	Agriculture and Forestry	Navigation	Hydropower	Fisheries	Tourism	Integrated Capacity Building	Water Management Trust Fund
End of current funding: 2010				End of current funding: 2010		End of current funding: 2009						End of current funding: 2009
Basin Development Planning (TA)	Regional Component			Regional Flood Centre		Watershed Management (WSM)						Technical Assistance (TA)
	National Component			Structural Measures and Flood Proofing		Demonstration of Multi-functionality of Paddy Fields						
	Transboundary Component			Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Transboundary Flood Issues		Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency of Paddy Fields						
	Programme Preparation and Formulation			Flood Emergency Management Strengthening		Contribution to the Challenge Program on Water and Food						
				Land Management		Formulation of new AIFP						
						KIV WSMP Formulation						



Unfunded



Partly funded/committed



Funded/Committed



Not applicable

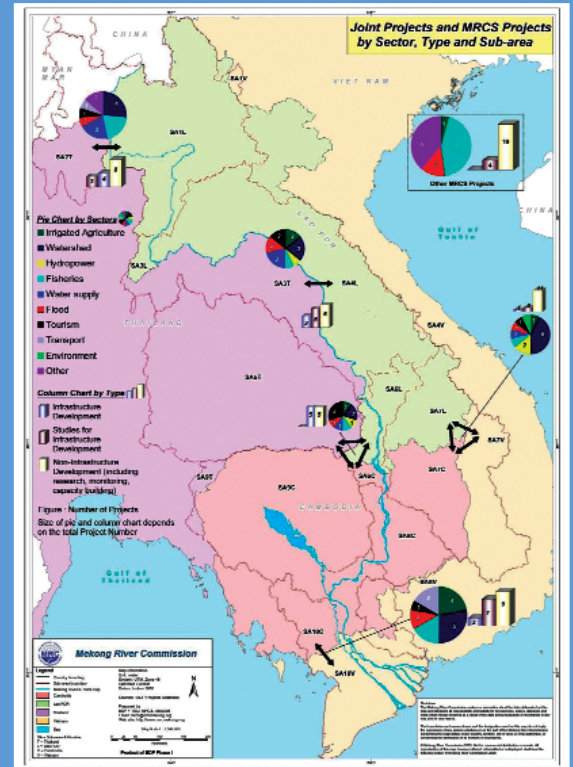
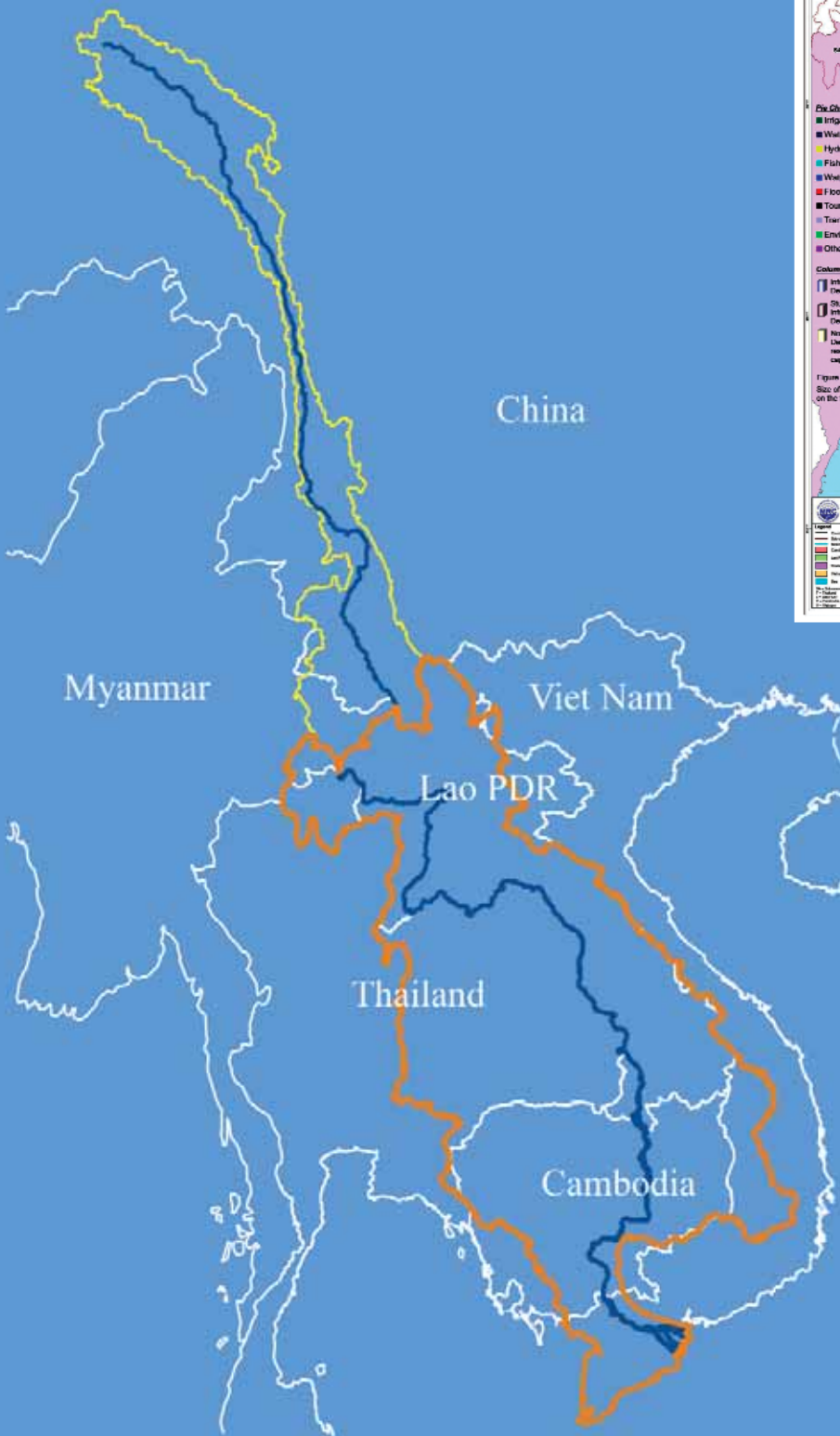
5. MRC Funding Agreement per Programmes

Division	Programme	Work Programme Budget (US\$ m)	Year														
			2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014			
PD	BDP	0.56															
PD	BDP	1.2															
PD	BDP	0.02															
PD	BDP	0.45															
PD	BDP	1															
PD	BDP	7.7															
PD	WUP	2.12															
PD	WUP	11															
PD	M-IWRM	0.56															
ED	EP	2.27															
ED	EP	3.33															
ED	EP	1.6															
ED	EP	0.16															
ED	EP	2.56															
ED	EP	0.23															
ED	EP	0.99															
ED	EP	1.3															
TSD	IKMP	0.21															
TSD	IKMP	0.78															
TSD	IKMP	0.88															
TSD	IKMP	8.75															
TSD	IKMP	0.6															
TSD	IKMP	3															
TSD	FMMP	3.5															
TSD	FMMP	0.76															
TSD	FMMP	1.25															
TSD	FMMP	0.44															
TSD	FMMP	1															
TSD	FMMP	12.7															



Mekong River Commission

Basin Development Plan





The Basin Development Plan phase 2 will be working to find sustainable development opportunities which will help boost economies for poverty reduction.

BASIN DEVELOPMENT PLAN- Phase 2 (2006-2010)

Programme title	Basin Development Plan Phase 2
Short programme title	BDP Phase 2
Sector /sub-sector	Integrated Programme: Irrigated agriculture; Hydropower; Water supply and sanitation; Watershed management / forestry; Water Resources management covering tourism; Flood management and mitigation; Fisheries; Water transport and trade; Environmental conservation; Drought management
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS, National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and Line Agencies
Type of Programme	Strategic policy study and development Capacity Building (usually training, including dissemination of project output) Data management (including data collection / delivery, mapping) Guidelines Public participation and consultation
Background / justification	<p>The 1995 Agreement charges the Joint Committee of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) with the formulation of a “Basin Development Plan” (BDP) to promote, support, co-operate and co-ordinate in the development of the full potential of sustainable benefits to all riparian States and the prevention of wasteful use of the Mekong River Basin waters. The BDP would be used to identify, categorize, and prioritize the projects and programmes to seek assistance for and to implement at the basin level. Phase 1 of the BDP Programme (BDP1) commenced in October 2001 and was completed at the end of July 2006.</p> <p>BDP Phase 2 (BDP2) has thus been designed to support Goal #1 of the MRC Strategic Plan 2006-2010, which is “To promote and support coordinated, sustainable, and pro-poor development”. With concerned stakeholders providing comprehensive information on existing and planned activities with impact on the water resources, BDP2 will become an essential framework for coordinated water resources development and investment in the basin. To support countries in formulating the BDP, the programme will also assist generation and management of knowledge needed for integrated water resources management and develop associated institutional competences through capacity building.</p>
Development objective /expected impacts	The water resources of the Mekong River Basin managed and developed in an integrated, sustainable and equitable manner for the mutual benefit of the riparian countries.
Success / impacts to date	BDP2 started in the beginning of 2007 with the preparation of the Inception Report and the mobilization of a new BDP team, both at MRCS and in NMCs. Achievements to date include the final draft Inception Report, which has been prepared in extensive consultation with NMCs and Line Agencies. It was also discussed widely in a regional stakeholder consultation in March 2008 with participation of NMCs, Line Agencies, NGOs, academy and other stakeholders. The Inception Report presents a clear concept of the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) - based BDP that comprises of (i) basin wide development scenarios, (ii) IWRM-based Basin Strategy and (iii) a Project Portfolio. Technical discussion papers were prepared on a proposed approach to formulate basin-wide development scenarios and outlining the concept of the IWRM Basin Strategy. These technical documents were discussed with a Regional Technical Working Group on Scenarios and IWRM Strategy, comprising of NMCs, Line Agencies, national research institutions and the MRC programmes on 6-7 March, 4 June and 23-24 June 2008. As a result, the definition of possible water resources development scenarios to serve basin planning purpose and framework of indicators for scenario assessment have been agreed in principle by the Joint Committee at its 28th Meeting. Initial results of modelling flow changes on the LMB mainstream are also available to scope a more comprehensive scenario analysis. Sector reviews with a focus on Hydropower and Irrigation have been on-going to provide data and analysis for the formulation of scenarios and the preparation

	<p>of the project portfolio. Work has started to update Sub-area reports, which will address participatory planning at Sub-area level to promote synergy between water resources development and management at basin, national and local (sub-area) levels. Existing projects identified and prioritized during BDP1 are being reviewed for inclusion in the Project Portfolio if relevant. As an important cross-cutting element of the Programme and the basin development planning process itself, a stakeholder participation and communication plan for basin development planning in the LMB has been prepared.</p>
Immediate objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A rolling IWRM-based Basin Development Plan produced in support of sustainable development in the Mekong River Basin • Knowledge base and assessment tools further developed and utilized effectively in MRCS and NMCs • Capacity built at MRC and NMC levels for IWRM planning and facilitation/conflict prevention in areas where trade-off management is required
Programme Outputs	<p><u>Component 1: Programme management and communication.</u> Output 1.1 Enhanced stakeholder involvement and communication; Output 1.2 BDP2 well managed</p> <p><u>Component 2: Rolling IWRM-based BDP.</u> Output 2.1 Basin wide development scenarios; Output 2.2 IWRM based basin strategy; Output 2.3 Project database; Output 2.4 Project portfolio; Output 2.5 Rolling IWRM-based BDP; Output 2.6 Lessons learned from implemented projects and programmes</p> <p><u>Component 3: Knowledge base and assessment tools.</u> Output 3.1 Updated knowledge base, including a published planning atlas, and updated state-of-basin report; Output 3.2. Upgraded assessment tools</p> <p><u>Component 4: IWRM-based planning capacity.</u> Output 4.1 IWRM based planning guides; Output 4.2 Staff at basin and national levels skilled in the use of assessment tools; Output 4.3 Knowledge based decision support capacity enhanced in MRC; Output 4.4 IWRM planning principles and approaches internalized in MRC; Output 4.5 Capacity built within MRC to assess the value of water and cost/benefits sharing; Output 4.6 Capacity built at MRC in trade-off facilitation and mediation</p>
Scope of work / activities	<p><u>C.1 – Programme management and communication:</u> (i) Update BDP stakeholder analysis and prepare a stakeholder participation and communication plan to be implemented throughout all BDP2 activities; (ii) Work with MRC programmes, NMCs and Line Agencies through the BDP Regional Technical Working Group and other mechanisms to strengthen the BDP interfaces with national planning processes and incorporate the needs of the people and other stakeholder groups in the basin; (iii) Carry out all activities, M&E and reporting to ensure BDP is effectively managed.</p> <p><u>C.2. - A rolling IWRM based Basin Development Plan:</u> (i) Formulate and assess different possible water resources development scenarios to build consensus amongst Member Countries and other stakeholder groups on what would be the acceptable level of water resources development in the LMB that will benefit the countries and sustainably manage the riverine resources; (ii) Prepare an IWRM-based strategy to guide basin development and management through a strong participatory process; (iii) Improve the project identification, screening and prioritization process and criteria to be used in the development of the project portfolio of the basin-scale rolling IWRM based BDP; (vi) Prepare the rolling IWRM-based BDP; and (v) document lessons learned with implementation of projects under the IWRM-based BDP and share them widely.</p>
	<p><u>C.3– Knowledge base and assessment tools:</u> (i) Review existing knowledge and database and update together with IKMP and NMCs; (ii) Prepare a Planning Atlas; (iii) Prepare concept and coordinate the preparation of a State-of-Basin Report; (iv) Review existing tools and prepare BDP Assessment Framework; (v) Prepare recommendations and work closely with other MRC Programmes for upgrading the tools;</p>

	C.4 – IWRM planning capacity building: (i) review BDP1 and other MRC training activities, Training Needs Assessment (TNA) and carry out additional BDP-focused capacity and training needs; (ii) work with other MRC programmes to design and deliver regional training on scenario-based planning and use of tools: on IWRM principles in planning; on the IWRM planning at sub-basin level and for updating Sub-area reports; (iii) design and deliver training on trade-offs facilitation, and (iv) carry out training impact assessment															
Start year	December 2006															
End year	December 2010															
Duration	4 years															
Work Programme Support (US\$)	10 million USD															
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	In-kind contribution from the Government of Japan through a Senior River Management Advisor.															
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	9.2 million															
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Australia, Denmark, Japan and Sweden															
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Basin Development Plan Programme (2006-2010) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 10.04 m.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Work Programme Budget and Funding per Component</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Programme management</td> <td>4.1</td> <td>0.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. IWRM based BDP</td> <td>2.9</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. Knowledge Base and Assessment Tool</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Capacity Building</td> <td>0.9</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	C.1. Programme management	4.1	0.05	C.2. IWRM based BDP	2.9	0.5	C.3. Knowledge Base and Assessment Tool	1.3	0.2	C.4. Capacity Building	0.9	0.2
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)														
C.1. Programme management	4.1	0.05														
C.2. IWRM based BDP	2.9	0.5														
C.3. Knowledge Base and Assessment Tool	1.3	0.2														
C.4. Capacity Building	0.9	0.2														
Priority Activity for Funding	<p>Most BDP activities are funded to produce the programme outputs. Some specific activities, described here below, still require funding in 2010 to completely achieve the programme objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1 (Strategic Plan Goal 2): (i) transparency and stakeholder involvement enhanced including interaction with national planning (US\$ 0.3 m). • C2 (Strategic Plan Goal 2.1): (i) Basin scale rolling IWRM plan including facilities for periodic revision prepared in a participatory manner (ii) lessons learnt from implemented projects and programmes collected and analyzed (US\$ 0.4 m). • C4 (Strategic Plan Goal 4.5): (i) Enhance IWRM training capacity at regional and national level to serve long-term and broadened IWRM capacity building, which will be essential for the BDP process (US\$ 0.2 m). 															



Mekong River Commission

Mekong IWRM Programme





The Mekong IWRM Support Programme will work to establish a regional cooperating framework for IWRM and carry out a number of demonstration activities.

**MEKONG INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT PROJECT (2009-2013)**

Programme title	Mekong – Integrated Water Resources Management Project
Short programme title	M-IWRMP
Sector /sub-sector	Integrated Programme: Joint Basin Planning and Management (IWRM); Procedures for water resources management; Irrigated agriculture; Environmental conservation; Hydropower; Watershed management / forestry; Tourism; Flood management and mitigation; Fisheries; Water transport and trade; Drought management
Executing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS, National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and designated Line Agencies in the Mekong countries
Type of Programme	Capacity building Enabling environment for policy/strategy implementation Procedures and related guidelines Needs assessment
Background / justification	Governments of the MRC Member Countries increasingly recognise that developing some of the economic potential of the Mekong River system in a sustainable way can alleviate poverty and improve livelihoods. Given the high reliance on the river’s natural system, such development must be undertaken with equal consideration to conserve the basin’s rich river ecology and the world’s largest fresh water fishery. Therefore, an acceptable balance needs to be struck between water resources development and environmental protection, which ensures benefits for all four countries and their peoples. This requires a thorough understanding of the dynamics of the basin and approaches to integrated resource management approaches in the four Member Countries.
Development objective	Adoption of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles in the LMB countries will be facilitated through a programme approach with complementary actions to be taken at the regional, trans-boundary, and national levels. Immediate objectives are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen a regional enabling framework with tools, procedures, processes and capacity for the implementation of IWRM in the LMB countries. • Harmonize national, legal, institutional, and technical frameworks, and build national capacity to implement IWRM and associated priority projects. • Demonstrate mechanisms for the joint implementation and funding of trans-boundary projects identified through the Basin Development Plan (BDP) process.
Success/ Impacts to date	The programme builds on results of the Water Utilisation Programme implemented since 2000 to 2008, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A suite of basin-wide trans-boundary model and assessment tools, called the Decision Support Framework (DSF); • Enhanced understanding of the potential of river basin development; and • A set of rules, procedures and technical guidelines that elaborate various provisions of the 1995 Mekong Agreement.

Immediate objectives/ programme components	The project will implement a coherent set of activities under three components - regional, national, transboundary components. Thematic areas of these components have been broadly defined and will be further developed in the project preparation and formulation phase.									
Programme outputs	<p>Regional component, enabling IWRM Framework: Analytical tools; regional rules, procedures, and technical guidelines; processes and capacity to implement the rules, procedures, and technical guidelines; upper riparian engagement; regional coordination and joint learning.</p> <p>National component, implementation of IWRM: National policy development and capacity building; sub-basin planning and priority investments.</p> <p>Trans-boundary component, joint investments will be determined during project preparation. Candidate initiatives include: Lao-Cambodia trans-boundary cooperation between Champassak and Stung Treng focusing on trans-boundary fisheries resource management, alternative livelihood support for concerned communities, indigenous fish aquaculture. Cambodia-Viet Nam trans-boundary cooperation, joint Mekong Delta development through rehabilitation and water management of the Caico-Ronco Canal, with focus on irrigation and flood management issues. Thailand: to be determined</p>									
Scope of work/ activities	Scope of activities and specific implementation arrangements under each component will be defined in detail during the project formulation.									
Start year	2009									
End year	2013									
Duration	5 years									
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	US\$ 6.6 million for the Regional Component will be managed by the MRCS									
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	US\$ 28.9 million has been estimated for the National and Transboundary Component, to be managed by MRC Member Countries.									
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	US\$ 1.6 million has been approved for the project preparation and formulation. US\$ 28.9 million has been committed for the project implementation.									
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Australia and the World Bank Policy and Human Resources Development (PHRD) are currently supporting project preparation and formulation.									
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Mekong IWRM Project (2009-2013) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 6.6 m.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Regional Component</td> <td>6.0</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Project Preparation and Formulation</td> <td>0.6</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	C.1. Regional Component	6.0	0.6	C.4. Project Preparation and Formulation	0.6	0.0
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)								
C.1. Regional Component	6.0	0.6								
C.4. Project Preparation and Formulation	0.6	0.0								

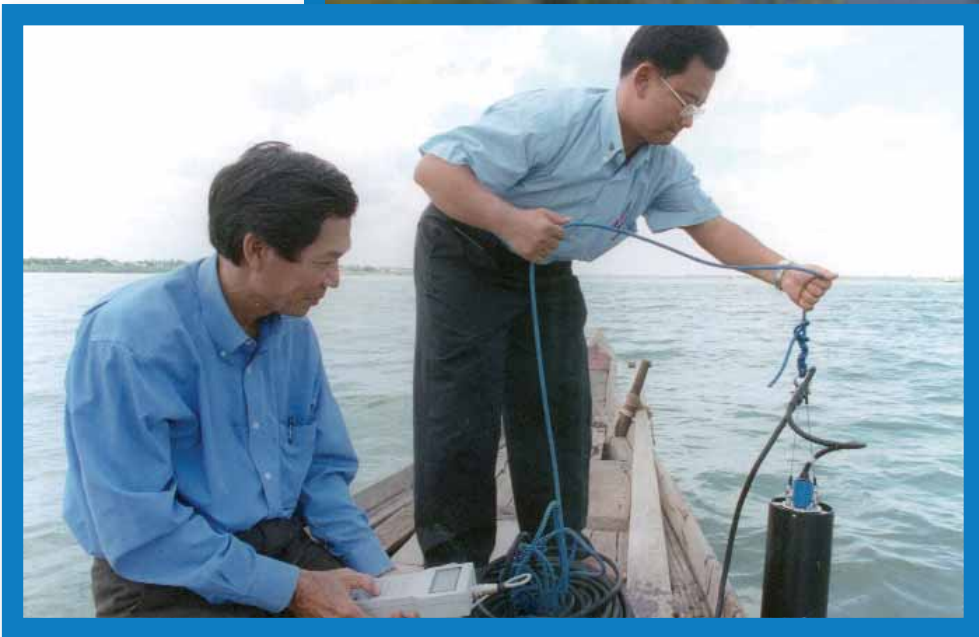
<p>ATC Budget and funding per component</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mekong IWRM Project (2009-2013) ATC Budget Total: US\$ 28.9 m.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.2. National Component</td> <td>11.4</td> <td>4.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. Transboundary Component</td> <td>11.5</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Project Preparation and Formulation</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	C.2. National Component	11.4	4.5	C.3. Transboundary Component	11.5	0.5	C.4. Project Preparation and Formulation	1.0	0.0
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)											
C.2. National Component	11.4	4.5											
C.3. Transboundary Component	11.5	0.5											
C.4. Project Preparation and Formulation	1.0	0.0											
<p>Priority Activity for funding</p>	<p>To be determined during the formulation and preparation phase.</p>												



Mekong River Commission

Environment Programme





The Environment Programme has established a basin-wide monitoring system and conducts tests on water quality and ecological health.

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (2006-2010)

Programme title	Environment Programme
Short programme title	EP
Sector /sub-sector	Environmental Monitoring and Management
Executing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS and National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and relevant Line Agencies
Type of Programme	Monitoring of environmental status Capacity building / Awareness raising Data management (including data collection and analysis for monitoring purposes, mapping) Policy/strategic study relating to EIA, SEA to support IWRM Research and Development study to support decision makers Guideline/Regulation study relating to transboundary aspects Needs assessment (NMCs request)
Background / justification	The productivity and quality of living natural resources are vital to the livelihoods of the basin's people, who live primarily in rural areas with relatively high dependence on natural resources. Environmental degradation induces lasting changes in the basin resources, and represents a major threat who rely on the river for their food and water. Adopting a holistic approach to manage the basin's water and related natural resources, and ensuring that development does not cause unacceptable deterioration in the region, is therefore of the highest importance. Monitoring of the basin's environmental condition is essential to provide information on current status and trends, which advise planning and management of development initiatives. Over recent decades changes have occurred in the rate of development and the pressures on the environment from population growth and economic development, placing a greater stress on the environment of the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB). Providing information on costs and benefits of water resources development by taking environmental considerations into account is the key focus of the Environment Programme.
Development objective	An environmentally sound, economically prosperous and socially just Mekong River Basin. (MRC Vision for the Mekong Basin).
Success / impacts to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive database on the status, trends and changes in water quality in the Mekong River Basin over the past 20 years has been published. The data is a valuable reference source used by Member Countries and other MRC divisions for planning and management of river catchments and resources. • The technical support and capacity building programme has been highly successful in developing the skills of Line Agencies to monitor and analyze water quality. As a result of this programme, national laboratories can conduct tests that were previously sent abroad. • The Integrated Basin Flow Management (IBFM) Predictive Tool has been developed to improve the capability of the BDP and national planners to evaluate basin development scenarios and manage environmental flows in the LMB. Indirectly, the people of the basin will benefit as a result of more equitable distribution and use of water resources. The tool is ready for adaptation trialing and evaluation by BDP.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive database on the status, trends and changes in water quality in the Mekong River Basin over the past 20 years has been published. The data is a valuable reference source used by Member Countries and other MRC divisions for planning and management of river catchments and resources. • The technical support and capacity building programme has been highly successful in developing the skills of Line Agencies to monitor and analyze water quality. As a result of this programme, national laboratories can conduct tests that were previously sent abroad for analyses. • The Integrated Basin Flow Management (IBFM) Predictive Tool has been developed to improve the capability of the BDP and national planners to evaluate basin development scenarios and manage environmental flows in the LMB. Indirectly, the people of the basin will benefit as a result of more equitable distribution and use of water resources. The tool is ready for adaptation trialing and evaluation by BDP. • An information kit has been prepared to provide information to villagers and local level officials about the state of the environment in the basin. The brochures and pamphlets will help to raise awareness not only about the current status of the water environment but also ways that it can be protected and used in a sustainable manner. • The technical paper “Identification of freshwater invertebrates of the Mekong and its tributaries” was published in 2006 and “Biomonitoring of the Lower Mekong River and selected tributaries” will come in 2008. These references are significant achievements for the MRC in that they fill a gap in the knowledge of aquatic ecology of the LMB. The methods developed are a valuable tool for managing the ecological health of the river. • The first report card on the aquatic ecological health of the LMB has been prepared for dissemination to natural resource managers, decision-makers and the public. The card is a culmination of four years of efforts in data gathering and provides a useful overview of the fauna and flora of the basin. Environmental health is considered a more reliable indicator of the medium and long term changes in the basin than water quality alone. The data collection task for the report card is being transferred to MRC Member Countries for integration into their national monitoring programmes. It is envisaged that the card will be updated regularly. • In another first, a database of the wetlands in the LMB has been compiled. The information is helping to raise the awareness in the role and value of wetlands for river and ecosystems and is being used by national agencies and for further capacity development. • Information to support sustainable tourism development in the basin is being prepared. The beneficial and adverse environmental impacts of tourism have been identified and assessed and the information has been made available to assist countries with planning sustainable development of this important sector of their economies. Incorporation of the information into regional planning by other MRC divisions and Member Countries is being encouraged where potential transboundary conflicts in water resource use may occur. A regional report will be published as soon as the national reports are final. • The transboundary Environment Impact Assessment Framework is being revised through pilot studies and a capacity building programme. It will be complemented by technical guidance and institutional support. • The Environment Programme is developing material and undertaking capacity building of Line Agencies in techniques to prevent, manage and resolve environmental transboundary critical areas. The activity also includes drawing up an initial list of transboundary environmental critical areas within the LMB.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodologies and tools for social impact monitoring and vulnerability assessments are developed with the Member Countries. They will support basin development planning process in consideration of socio-economic impacts to the people of the LMB. A preliminary study on Climate Change vulnerability in the LMB is progressing. This will lead to a detailed workplan and activities for the MRC Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative (2008-2012).
Immediate objectives / programme components	<p>The riparian governments have the capacity to secure a balance between economic development and protection of the environment to ensure a healthy Mekong River Basin capable of supporting the natural resource diversity and productivity that are central to the livelihoods of the people.</p> <p>Programme components are:</p> <p>C.1. - Programme Management C.2. - Environmental Monitoring and Assessment C.3. - Environmental Decision Support C.4. - People and Aquatic Ecosystems C.5. - Environmental Knowledge C.6. - Environmental Flow Management C.7. - Climate Change and Adaptation</p>
Programme outputs	<p><u>C.1. - Programme Management:</u> Ensure the programme is implemented in a timely and efficient manner whilst maintaining a high level of ownership by the MRC member countries.</p> <p><u>C.2. - Environmental Monitoring and Assessment:</u> Improved capacity in the MRC Secretariat, NMCs, Line Agencies and partners to undertake analyses of environmental monitoring and socio-economic information of the Mekong River Basin and to communicate the results.</p> <p><u>C.3. - Environmental Decision Support:</u> Improved Environmental and Social Impact Assessment processes, including Cumulative Impact Assessment focusing on transboundary impacts.</p> <p><u>C.4. - People and Aquatic Ecosystems:</u> A realistic valuation of aquatic ecosystems and natural resources and human interactions in the Mekong River Basin.</p> <p><u>C.5. - Environmental Knowledge:</u> Scientific data and information on the basin's ecosystem communicated to planners, managers, policy/decision makers and relevant stakeholders in an appropriate format.</p> <p><u>C.6. - Environmental Flow Management:</u> A methodology for Environmental Flows assessment in the Mekong River Basin developed, and assessment undertaken. Improved capacity of riparian governments to undertake scenario-based environmental flow assessments.</p> <p><u>C.7. - Climate Change and Adaptation:</u> This component is under formulation. Possible outputs could be: People of the LMB aware of an emerging global environmental issue; Tools on climate change and adaptation assessment framework helping the riparian countries to analyze and address future climate change scenarios.</p>
Scope of work / activities	<p><u>C.1. Programme Management:</u> (i) Planning meetings and budgeting, (ii) Workshops and (iii) Monitoring and reporting.</p> <p><u>C.2. - Environmental Monitoring and Assessment:</u> (i) Water quality monitoring; (ii) Ecosystem health monitoring; (iii) Social impact monitoring; (iv) Data quality assurance and quality control for water quality monitoring; (v) Reporting on the basin's environmental condition.</p> <p><u>C.3. -Environmental Decision Support:</u> (i) Mekong River Transboundary Environmental Assessment System; (ii) Environmental considerations for sustainable hydropower development; (iii) Promotion of SEA in BDP; (iv) Mechanisms for addressing water quality emergencies; (v) Risk assessment in a transboundary context; (vi) Awareness raising and capacity development in prevention and mediation of environmental conflicts.</p>

	<p>C.4. - People and Aquatic Ecosystems: (i) Vulnerability and dependence on aquatic ecosystems; (ii) Wetland valuation and inventory; (iii) Management of transboundary wetlands; (iv) Wetland Biodiversity Guiding Principles; and (v) Environmental impacts of tourism.</p> <p>C.5. - Environmental Knowledge: (i) MRC Environment Programme annual technical meeting; (ii) Research priorities in the Mekong River Basin</p> <p>C.6. - Environmental Flow Management: (i) Development of Mekong Method for flows assessment, including expert tool; (ii) Environmental Flows Assessment field work; (iii) Stakeholder consultation of consequences of flow regime changes</p> <p>C.7. – Climate Change and Adaptation: (i) Assessment of potential Climate Change impacts on the Mekong River Basin (ii) Climate Change adaptation strategy and action plan for future Climate Change scenarios</p>																								
Start year	January 2006																								
End year	December 2010																								
Duration	5 years																								
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	US\$ 16.2 million																								
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined																								
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	8.8 million																								
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Australia, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden and UNDP																								
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Environment Programme (2006-2010) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 16.2 m.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Programme Management</td> <td>2.3</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment</td> <td>2.4</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Environment Decision Support</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. People and Aquatic Ecosystems</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Environmental Knowledge</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Environmental Flow Management</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Climate Change and Adaptation</td> <td>1.2</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	1. Programme Management	2.3	0.0	2. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	2.4	0.5	3. Environment Decision Support	0.8	2.2	4. People and Aquatic Ecosystems	1.0	1.9	5. Environmental Knowledge	0.1	1.3	6. Environmental Flow Management	1.1	1.4	7. Climate Change and Adaptation	1.2	0.0
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)																							
1. Programme Management	2.3	0.0																							
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5. Environmental Knowledge	0.1	1.3																							
6. Environmental Flow Management	1.1	1.4																							
7. Climate Change and Adaptation	1.2	0.0																							

<p>Priority Activity for funding</p>	<p>Emerging environmental issues will be a high priority - especially the Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative, a cross-cutting activity which will support and link with other EP activities and with other MRC Programmes. The funding for this activity will assist with implementation of other activities: integrated impact assessment of Climate Change and adaptation strategies and actions to respond to future Climate Change in the lower Mekong River Basin. The funding needs for the initiative from 2009-2013 and is expected to be about US\$ 10 million.</p> <p>Funding gaps and priority for the Programme Components are listed below marked as first priority ***; second priority ** and third priority *.</p> <p>C3: Environmental decision support. Funding gap: 2.2 million.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 3.1** Cumulative impact assessment methodologies (0.5 million); • Output 3.3*: Indicators and performance assessment system (0.4 million); • Output 3.4**: Strategic environmental assessment (0.6 million); • Output 3.5***: Environmental considerations of sustainable hydropower development (0.7 million) <p>C4: People and aquatic ecosystems. Funding gap: 1.9 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 4.1***: Wetland valuation and mapping (1.1 million) • Output 4.3*: National capacity to assess, monitor and evaluate threats to ecosystems (0.3 million) • Output 4.4***: Trends in peoples dependency on aquatic ecosystems (0.3 million) • Output 4.5*: Improved national capacity to manage aquatic ecosystems (0.2 million) <p>C5: Environmental Knowledge. Funding gap: 1.3 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 5.1**: Conceptual models of the Mekong river basin aquatic ecosystems (0.6 million) • Output 5.4*: Scientific data and information on aquatic ecosystems communicated (0.3 million) • Output 5.5*: Support and facilitate research (0.4 million) <p>C6: Environmental Flow Management. Funding gap 1.4 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 6.1**: The Integrated Basin Flow Management extended to selected tributaries (0.4 million) • Output 6.2**: Scientific data and information on the relationship between flow and environmental assets (0.6 million) • Output 6.3*: A system for updating the integrated Basin Flow Management (0.2 million) • Output 6.4**: Improved national capacity to undertake environmental flow assessments (0.2 million)
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Mekong River Commission

Information and Knowledge Management Programme



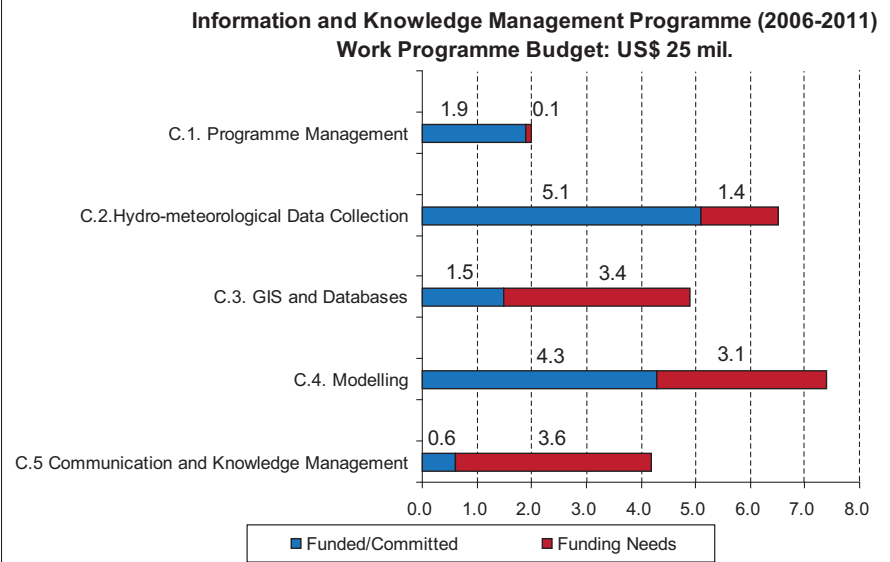


The Information and Knowledge Management Programme develops and maintains a range of databases and tools to support planning and decision-making.

INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (2006-2011)

Programme title	Information and Knowledge Management Programme
Short Programme title	IKMP
Sector /sub-sector	Integrated Programme; Water resources management; Irrigated agriculture; Hydropower; Watershed management / forestry; Tourism; Flood management and mitigation; Fisheries; Water transport and trade; Environmental conservation; Drought management
Executing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS and National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and Line Agencies
Type of Programme	Data management Capacity Building Communication
Background / justification	Information and knowledge have become a key factor shaping the development of, and determining the success of organizations, economies and even nations. As the Mekong Basin will undergo great social, economic and environmental changes over the next years, the need for information will arise at all levels, from that of senior decision makers at the national and international levels, to the grass-roots and individual levels. To be able to manage the resource, the MRC requires a sound approach to data, information and knowledge management.
Development objective /expected impacts	A solid foundation of data, information and knowledge products, systems and services supports the goal of the Mekong River Commission.
Success / impacts to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrometeorological monitoring is operating and maintained. • GIS services and maps are provided. • Decision Support Framework is successfully operating. • MRC-IS Portal was successfully launched.
Immediate objectives / programme components	<p>To develop and maintain quality assured databases and tools available at the MRC to support planning and decision-making.</p> <p><i>C.1. Programme Management:</i> demand-driven and client-oriented information and knowledge systems, services and products are integrated throughout the MRC's programmes and enhance regional cooperation.</p> <p><i>C.2. Hydro-meteorological Data:</i> Required hydro-meteorological data is collected, verified processed and made available.</p> <p><i>C.3. Geographic Information System and Databases:</i> A geographic information system comprehensively integrates MRC data and information holdings and provides access, support services, and value added products.</p> <p><i>C.4. Modelling:</i> Providing the MRC, riparian countries and other clients with decision support tools, services and capacity for planning, forecasting and impact assessment.</p> <p><i>C.5. Communications and Knowledge Management:</i> Data, information and knowledge are easily exchanged and shared with a wide network of decision makers and other stakeholders.</p>
Programme outputs	C.1. Programme Management: C.1.1. IKM Programme management structure and plans in place; C.1.2. Regional cooperation and coordination enabled; C.1.3. Functional analysis and needs assessments; C.1.4. Policies, strategies, procedures, guidelines and standards established.

	<p>C.2. Hydro-meteorological Data: C.2.1. An appropriate and effective Hydro-meteorological Network is operating and maintained, including data from upstream countries, and continually compiled into the Knowledge Base; C.2.2. A system for acquiring data on drought for improved forecasting and management is designed and implemented; C.2.3. A system for acquiring data on river discharge is designed and implemented; C.2.4. Sediment data and mapping data of river morphology are acquired and integrated into the Knowledge Base; C.2.5. Capacity building and coaching services are provided in Hydro-meteorological data collection and delivery.</p> <p>C.3. GIS and Databases: C.3.1. Core spatial and other databases are integrated, spatially linked, maintained and accessible; C.3.2. Data access, management and analysis services are provided to MRC internal and external clients; C.3.3. Relevant geospatial information is acquired and incorporated in the GIS; C.3.4. Capacity building services are provided to NMCs and Line Agencies to access and manage data and produce maps and other value added information, and knowledge products and services; C.3.5. Visualization of data and information using three-dimensional tools, map production services, and techniques for improved communication.</p> <p>C.4. Modelling: C.4.1. Modelling platform operational and maintained; C.4.2. 3-Dimensional visualization tools are used to better communicate modelling scenarios and assessments; C.4.3. A validated Modelling Toolbox provides tools to (i) assess socio-economic, environmental and physicochemical impacts, (ii) predict floods and droughts, (iii) test design and management alternatives of proposed developments; C.4.4. Modelling services and data products to the MRCS Programmes, riparian decision makers, Mekong development projects etc. by trained staff; C.4.5. A set of feasibility, planning and scenario studies according to country and MRCS needs, implemented as joint MRCS/riparian projects and capacity building; C.4.6. Optional services and case studies.</p> <p>C.5. Communication and Knowledge Management: C.5.1. User friendly and powerful MRC-IS Portal incorporating MekongInfo, web-based mapping and an indexed and spatially-referenced Document Management System operating both as intranet and through the Internet; C.5.2. Operational Learning and Documentation Centre established at MRCS providing training, “showcase” publications, educational materials and exhibits and indexing and highlighting documents; C.5.3. International and regional knowledge and information partnerships and networks maintained and expanded while regular information sharing continues through the Technical Assistance and Coordination Team (TACT); C.5.4. Virtual networks and collaborative workspace are established and progressively expanded to elicit tacit knowledge and introduce new technologies and more cost effective working practices; C.5.5. Human Resource Development and Management support established for QA/QC of training, methods, standards, linking to ICBP, mentoring, handover of staff knowledge and responsibilities and monitoring and evaluation.</p>
Scope of work / activities	<p>C.1 – Programme Management: emphasis will be put on IKMP coordination and management/IKMP Processes.</p> <p>C.2. - Hydro-meteorological Data: providing quantifiable basis for monitoring and managing Mekong River Basin.</p> <p>C.3. – GIS and databases: core system for integrating different data and information, analysis, and distribution.</p> <p>C.4. - Modelling: tools for assessing scenarios impacts of potential development options.</p> <p>C.5. – Communication and Knowledge Management: Exchange, sharing, networking and collaboration, “soft” knowledge</p>
Start year	2006
End year	2011
Duration	5 years
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	25 million
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined

Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	13.4 million																		
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Australia, Finland and France																		
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Information and Knowledge Management Programme (2006-2011) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 25 mil.</p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ mil)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ mil)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Programme Management</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>0.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. Hydro-meteorological Data Collection</td> <td>5.1</td> <td>1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. GIS and Databases</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>3.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Modelling</td> <td>4.3</td> <td>3.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.5. Communication and Knowledge Management</td> <td>0.6</td> <td>3.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ mil)	Funding Needs (US\$ mil)	C.1. Programme Management	1.9	0.1	C.2. Hydro-meteorological Data Collection	5.1	1.4	C.3. GIS and Databases	1.5	3.4	C.4. Modelling	4.3	3.1	C.5. Communication and Knowledge Management	0.6	3.6
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ mil)	Funding Needs (US\$ mil)																	
C.1. Programme Management	1.9	0.1																	
C.2. Hydro-meteorological Data Collection	5.1	1.4																	
C.3. GIS and Databases	1.5	3.4																	
C.4. Modelling	4.3	3.1																	
C.5. Communication and Knowledge Management	0.6	3.6																	
Priority Activity for Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C.2.1 Sustainability of Hydro-meteorological network and database management (US\$ 0.4 million) • C.2.4 Discharge and Sediment Monitoring Project (US\$ 1.0 million) • C.3.1, C.3.2, C.3.5 MRC-Information system improvement (US\$ 1.4 million) • C.3.3 Land cover/ Land Use update (basin wide) (US\$ 2.0 million) • C.4.4 Modeling services, capacity building and toolbox development (US\$ 3.1 million) • C.5.3 Water knowledge hub (US\$ 2.0 million) • C.5.4 Establishment of Virtual Collaboration Network and (US\$ 1.6 million) 																		



Mekong River Commission

Flood Management and Mitigation Programme





The Flood Management and Mitigation Programme established a Regional Flood Centre in Phnom Penh and works to strengthen flood proofing and emergency management in the Basin.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAMME (2003-2010)

Programme title	Flood Management and Mitigation Programme
Short programme title	FMMP
Sector /sub-sector	Flood management and mitigation
Executing Agency(ies)	MRCS in close coordination with the NMCs
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS, departments of line ministries and other Line Agencies at various levels of government, NMCs and a wide range of agencies: ADPC, ACF, CRC, VNRC, ARC, National Disaster Management Committees and Concern Worldwide.
Type of Programme	Data management (including data collection / processing/ forecasting/ warning/ dissemination/ mapping) Capacity building / Awareness raising Construction of physical structure: Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Center
Background / justification	The FMMP is directly based on the MRC FMMP Strategy (November 2001), as agreed by the MRC Member Countries. Functionally, the components do not depend on each other, but they are related and will enhance the value and impact of each other. Due to the potential for positive interaction, the MRC is in a unique position to contribute effectively to continued improvement of flood management and mitigation in the Lower Mekong Basin.
Development objective	People's suffering and economic losses due to floods are avoided, minimized or mitigated, while preserving the environmental benefits of floods.
Success / impacts to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre established in Phnom Penh (opened May 2008). • Accurate and consistent tools for basinwide flood risk assessment and transboundary impact analysis provided. • Daily flood forecasts and warnings issued during the June-November flood season. Data from 23 forecast points on the Mekong River system and bulletins disseminated to NMCs, selected organizations and the public. • Annual Flood Forum serves as a key platform for coordination of responses concerning flooding on a regional basis; • Capacity of Member States in preparing and implementing flood preparedness programmes strengthened; • Network for hydro-meteorological data transfer and exchange among Member States and with MRCS/RFMMC established.
Immediate objectives / programme components	<p>The immediate objectives of the programme are to: (1) establish a regional FMM Centre; (2) reduce vulnerability of societies to floods, and risk of flood disasters caused by failure or inappropriateness of structural intervention; (3) strengthen cooperation and enhance capacity of the MRC in addressing differences in transboundary flood issues; (4) strengthen competence in flood preparedness and flood mitigation at each management level; (5) improve land use planning integrated into floodplain management and mitigation in the LMB.</p> <p>C.1. - Establishment of an Operational Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre. C.2. - Structural Measures and Flood Proofing. C.3. - Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Trans-boundary Flood Issues. C.4. - Flood Emergency Management Strengthening. C.5. - Land Management.</p>

<p>Programme outputs</p>	<p><u>C.1. - Establishment of Operational Regional Flood Centre:</u> C.1.1 Improved operational forecasting; C.1.2 Improved warning & dissemination; C.1.3 Medium and long term forecasts; C.1.4 Risk assessment tools; C.1.5 RFMMC established; C.1.6 Basic data; C.1.7 Improved monitoring; C.1.8 Flood risk analyses and maps; C.1.9 Related competence; C.1.10 FMMP support to coordination implemented; C.1.11 Annual forums; C.1.12 Developed MRC flood information and tools; C.1.13 RFMMC construction completed.</p> <p><u>C.2. - Structural Measures and Flood Proofing:</u> C.2.1 Flood characteristics; C.2.2 Flood proofing measures; C.2.3 Potential for structural intervention; C.2.4 FMMP Implementation Plan; C.2.5 Sub-basin plan components; C.2.6 Consultation and consensus building; C.2.7 Training programmes.</p> <p><u>C.3. - Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Trans-boundary Flood Issues:</u> C.3.1 Information generated; C.3.2 Awareness raised, Knowledge and skills built; C.3.3 Toolbox developed.</p> <p><u>C.4. - Flood Emergency Management Strengthening:</u> C.4.1 Implementation of flood preparedness programmes (FFPs); C.4.2 Related national capacity; C.4.3 Awareness campaigns; C.4.4 Regional knowledge sharing; C.4.5 Trans-boundary emergency assistance; C.4.6 Integration of FFPs into the development plans.</p> <p><u>C.5. - Land Management:</u> C.5.1 More reliable flood probability information provided; C.5.2 Capacity to prepare and implement improved land use plans strengthened; C.5.3 Regional sharing of knowledge on improved land management facilitated; C.5.4 Integration of flood probability information into the land use plans.</p>
<p>Scope of work / activities</p>	<p><u>C.1. - Establishment of Operational Regional Flood Centre:</u> (i) Preparations and formalities; (ii) Construction; (iii) Implementation of improved operational forecasting; (iv) Flash flood forecasting; (v) National implementation support; (vi) Improved warning and dissemination services; (vii) Development of medium and long-term forecast tools; (viii) Development of risk assessment tools; (ix) RFMMC management; (x) Basic data acquisition and management; (xi) Improved monitoring routines; (xii) Flood risk analysis and mapping; (xiii) General capacity-building and liaison; (xiv) Consolidation of flood forecasting and dry season monitoring (routine operation); (xv) Ad hoc services to other MRC programmes; (xvi) Coordination at MRCS; (xvii) Coordination at NMCs; (xviii) Early warning to flood-vulnerable communities; (xix) Annual Flood Forums and regional networking.</p> <p><u>C.2. - Structural Measures and Flood Proofing:</u> (i) Characteristics of Mekong River Basin floods; (ii) Flood proofing measures; (iii) Potential for structural interventions; (iv) FMMP Implementation Plan; (v) Sub-basin implementation plan components; (vi) Capacity for consultation and consensus building; (vii) Training programmes; (viii) Pilot study: Environmental benefits of floods (with WWF).</p> <p><u>C.3. - Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Trans-boundary Flood Issues:</u> (i) Identification of Key Trans-boundary Flood Issues; (ii) Compilation and dissemination of international, regional and national best practices, instruments and case studies; (iii) Elaboration of MRC Mandate on resolving differences and disputes; (iv) Training on General Conflict Management and Dispute and Differences Resolution; (v) Implementation of the Pilot Study; (vi) Establishment of Procedural Tools for Resolving and Addressing Differences and Disputes; (vii) Improvement of hydrodynamic model for the Mekong Delta.</p> <p><u>C.4. - Flood Emergency Management Strengthening:</u> (i) Implementation of flood preparedness programmes; (ii) National capacity within preparedness programmes; (iii) Awareness campaigns in selected provinces and districts; (iv) Regional knowledge sharing; (v) Preparedness for trans-boundary emergency assistance; (vi) Capacity-building programmes in selected provinces for preparation and implementation of FFPs and integration into the development plans at different levels.</p> <p><u>C.5. - Land Management :</u> (i) Regional knowledge-sharing; (ii) Flood risk information for land information systems; (iii) Capacity to prepare and implement land use plans.</p>
<p>Project Start year</p>	<p>2003</p>
<p>Project End year</p>	<p>mid-2010 - Role of the Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre will continue as a core river basin management function of MRC</p>

Project duration	6 years																		
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	17.1 million																		
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	10.2 million																		
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	27.3 million																		
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Asian Development Bank, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Netherlands and USA																		
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Flood Management and Mitigation Programme (2003-2010) Work Programme Budget Total: US\$ 17.1 m.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Establishment of Regional FMM Centre</td> <td>10.9</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. Structural Measures and Flood Proofing</td> <td>4.3</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Trans-boundary Flood Issues</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Flood Emergency Management Strengthening</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.5. Land Management</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	C.1. Establishment of Regional FMM Centre	10.9	0.0	C.2. Structural Measures and Flood Proofing	4.3	0.0	C.3. Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Trans-boundary Flood Issues	1.6	0.0	C.4. Flood Emergency Management Strengthening	0.2	0.0	C.5. Land Management	0.2	0.0
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)																	
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C.3. Enhancing Cooperation in Addressing Trans-boundary Flood Issues	1.6	0.0																	
C.4. Flood Emergency Management Strengthening	0.2	0.0																	
C.5. Land Management	0.2	0.0																	
ATC Budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Flood Management and Mitigation Programme (2003-2010) ATC Budget Total: US\$ 10.2 m.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Establishment of Regional FMM Centre</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Flood Emergency Management Strengthening</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.5. Land Management</td> <td>5.3</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	C.1. Establishment of Regional FMM Centre	1.0	0.0	C.4. Flood Emergency Management Strengthening	4.0	0.0	C.5. Land Management	5.3	0.0						
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)																	
C.1. Establishment of Regional FMM Centre	1.0	0.0																	
C.4. Flood Emergency Management Strengthening	4.0	0.0																	
C.5. Land Management	5.3	0.0																	
Priority Activity for Funding	Some source of finance for the Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre post 2010. A concept paper is under preparation.																		



Mekong River Commission

Drought Management Programme





The Drought Programme will work to manage and mitigate drought and to reduce the vulnerability of people and related water resource systems to drought conditions.

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (2008-2010)

Programme title	Drought Management Programme, Start-up Project
Short programme title	DMP
Sector /sub-sector	Irrigated agriculture Flood management and mitigation Drought management and mitigation Hydropower
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS, National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and Line Agencies
Type of Programme	Capacity building / Awareness raising Data management (including data collection and analysis/delivery, forecasting, warning, mapping) Policy/strategic study Guideline / Regulation Needs assessment
Background / justification	Recent drought conditions (1999, 2003 to 2005) experienced in the Lower Mekong Basin have drawn considerable public response. Impacts throughout the region have confirmed that drought, amongst all recurring natural hazards, has the potential for the greatest socio-economic impact. Consultation with the MRC Member Countries confirmed the need and urgency for a regional approach to drought forecasting, management and mitigation.
Development objective	More effective use of the Mekong's water and related resources to reduce vulnerability of people and water related resource systems to severe drought conditions.
Success / Impacts to date	Study of drought in the regional context, exploring entry points for forecasting, and planning and management (WUP, 2005); Participatory formulation of a MRC Drought Management Strategy and Programme Document (WUP, 2007); and Operationalising DMP into a start-up project by exploring practical linkages to on-going MRC programmes (IKMP, 2008). The 28th Joint Committee Meeting (August 2008) recommended as the most immediate objective a study on Drought Risk Analysis and Mapping, by using available MRC funds from other Programmes as a first step. Activities of the startup project still require funding.
Immediate objectives / programme components	To establish effective drought awareness, preparedness, planning and management mechanisms in the Lower Mekong Basin supported by the best available tools and know-how, and facilitate implementation of high priority national and regional programmes, and multi-purpose projects. The proposed DMP is to be implemented through five programme components: C1. Drought forecasting; C2. Drought impact assessment; C3. Drought management policy; C4. Drought preparedness and mitigation measures; C5. Programme management.

<p>Programme outputs</p>	<p><u>C1. Drought forecasting:</u> Improved drought forecasting and early warning technical and capacities developed and utilized as an entry point for regional networking of meteorological, hydrological and agricultural agencies and service providers. Improved understanding of the likely impacts of Climate Change on the occurrence and severity of drought in LMB (Cooperation with EP). Support the preparation of preparedness and mitigation measures under C4.</p> <p><u>C2. Drought impact assessment:</u> Economic, social and environmental impacts of drought assessed, appropriate drought indicators, and critical regional and local drought indicator thresholds established.</p> <p><u>C3. Drought management policy:</u> Drought mitigation policy adopted and implemented by programme partners, based on comprehensive drought impact and vulnerability assessment, know-how of tested best practices, networking and cooperation of MRC, NMCs, MRCS, relevant national agencies and upstream countries.</p> <p><u>C4. Drought preparedness and mitigation measures:</u> Improved understanding of cause and effect relationships between land use changes and drought occurrence. Optimized and effective supply and demand management interventions of structural and non-structural nature, planned, evaluated and specified as part of the BDP rolling planning process. Appropriate water harvesting, soil and water conservation, improved irrigation water use, and less-water consumptive cropping practices.</p> <p><u>C5. Programme management:</u> Cost-effective project preparation and implementation leading to successful delivery of outputs. A programme management function providing and enabling effective programme implementation through effective coordination and management of inputs, components, and activities; and efficient collaboration with related MRCS programmes, ensuring adequate technical, administrative and financial support.</p>
<p>Scope of work / activities</p>	<p>Start-up activities developed and implemented in cooperation with other MRC programmes would include:</p> <p><u>C1. Drought forecasting:</u> Development of a regional drought forecasting and early warning system (with IKMP and FMMP); impacts of climate variability and change (with EP and external partners).</p> <p><u>C2. Drought impact assessment:</u> Drought and flood vulnerability indicators, impacts, and thresholds (with FMMP and external partners);</p> <p><u>C3. Drought management policy:</u> Regional, comparative analysis of drought management related national policies and related capacity development (with AIFP-WSMP);</p> <p><u>C4. Drought preparedness and mitigation measures:</u> Survey of regional best practice and opportunities for water harvesting and soil and water conservation practices (with AIFP-WSMP); technical guidelines on improvements in irrigation efficiency (with AIFP-IIIEFP); economic assessment of drought impacts (with BDP); and</p> <p><u>C5. Programme management:</u> Conceptualization of programme; networking with concerned governmental agencies and resource organisations; scientific communication and publications.</p>
<p>Start year</p>	<p>2008</p>
<p>End year</p>	<p>2010</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>3 years</p>
<p>Work Programme Budget (US\$)</p>	<p>2.2 million for the start-up phase (13.6 million for the whole Programme)</p>

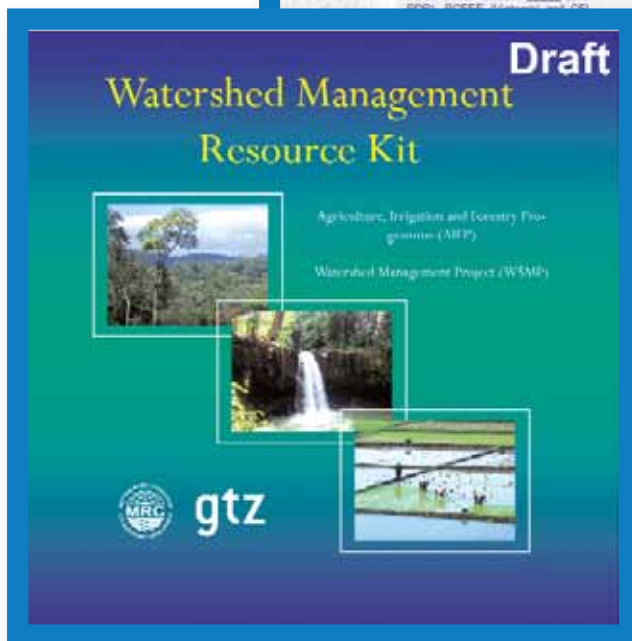
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined												
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	Not yet determined												
Development Partners contributing to the programme	None												
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Drought Management (2008-2010) Work Programme Budget Total: US\$ 2.2 m.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1.Drought forecasting</td> <td>0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2.Drought impact assessment</td> <td>0.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3.Drought management policy</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4.Drought preparedness and mitigation measures</td> <td>0.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.5.Programme Management</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funding Needs (US\$)	C.1.Drought forecasting	0.5	C.2.Drought impact assessment	0.25	C.3.Drought management policy	0.2	C.4.Drought preparedness and mitigation measures	0.85	C.5.Programme Management	0.4
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C.5.Programme Management	0.4												
Priority Activity for Funding	<p>Start-up phase covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought forecasting and early warning system based on detailed data; • Drought risk maps; • Economic assessment of drought impacts; and • Vulnerability methodology and assessment. 												



Mekong River Commission

Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry Programme



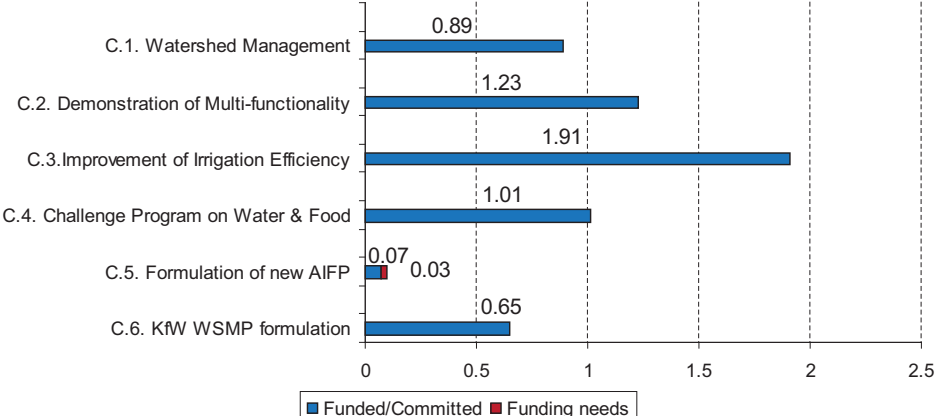
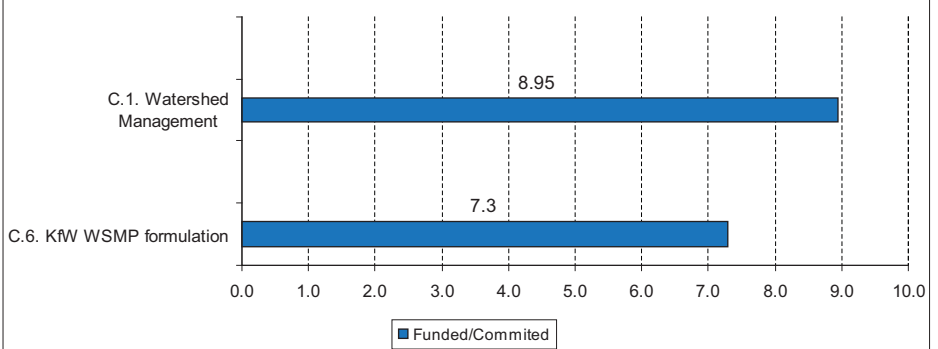


The Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry Programme works to improve watershed management to contribute to poverty alleviation and food security. It has successfully established an internet platform with over 10'000 users, and has compiled a Watershed Management Resource Kit.

AGRICULTURE, IRRIGATION AND FORESTRY PROGRAMME (2006-2011)

Programme title	Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry
Short programme title	AIFP
Sector /sub-sector	Irrigated agriculture Watershed management/forestry
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS), GTZ CGIAR-Challenge Program on Water & Food, FAO and KfW
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS, National Mekong Committees (NMCs), Line Agencies
Type of Programme	Capacity Building Data Management Policy/strategic study
Background / justification	During the wet season, water availability is far in excess of demand, but dry season water shortages are common, particularly in the Mun-Chi basin and in the Delta, which is currently responsible for about 50% of Viet Nam's total food production. There is still potential for expansion of irrigation in the basin, but more investment is needed in the improvement of existing irrigation systems and management capacities aiming at increased irrigation efficiency and water productivity ("More Crop per Drop"). Intrusion of seawater into the Delta is becoming an issue of greater concern, reducing the potential for irrigated rice production. It also affects shallow wells for domestic use. Deforestation is a significant environmental concern of all Mekong country governments. There is an urgent need to preserve the integrity of watersheds through monitoring land use changes, identification of problems, and management training. Concerns focus on the loss of biodiversity and livelihoods as forests are cleared, as well as the potential impact of land-use changes on rivers. Forest clearing can lead to leaching of nutrients and erosion of sediments into rivers. Current land use changes in relation to mining and plantation development are expected to have a significant influence on the sustainability of water and related natural resources and could reduce the life of proposed hydropower reservoirs due to increased sedimentation.
Development objective /expected impacts	Cooperative sustainable development and utilization of land and water resources to the benefit of the basin community, and to contribute to poverty alleviation and food security.
Success / Impacts to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy analysis of watershed management completed in four countries • More than 10,000 users registered to Mekong Info • Draft version of the Watershed Management Resource Kit compiled • Watershed Management Learning and Information Centres opened • Various functions of paddy fields analyzed • Detailed irrigation practices at pilot sites examined
Immediate objectives / programme components	<p>C.1. - Watershed Management (WSM) C.2. - Demonstration of Multi-functionality of Paddy Fields (DMPF) C.3. - Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency on Paddy Fields (IIEPF) C.4. - Research Coordination through MRC participation in the Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) C.5. - Formulation of a new AIFP C.6. - Technical cooperation to KfW funded "Sustainable Watershed Management" project</p>

<p>Programme outputs</p>	<p>C.1. - Watershed Management (WSM): C.1.1. Information and knowledge required for informed decision-making in regard to land-use are generated, managed and disseminated; C.1.2. Establishment of sector strategies and policies is facilitated; C.1.3. Capacities of institutions, organisations and individuals are developed; C.1.4. Identification, planning and implementation of pilot projects are facilitated.</p> <p>C.2. - Demonstration of Multi-functionality of Paddy Fields (DMPF): C.2.1. Agriculture and water use database are improved; C.2.2. Paddy fields' functions are analyzed.</p> <p>C.3. - Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency on Paddy Fields: (IIEPF): C.3.1. Practical methods to increase water use efficiency are developed.</p> <p>C.4. - Research Coordination through MRC participation in the Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF): C.4.1. Coordination and liaison between the MRC and external sources of data and research is strengthened.</p> <p>C.5. - Formulation of a new AIFP: C.5.1. MRC's mid-term strategy in Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry is formulated.</p> <p>C.6. - Technical cooperation to KfW funding "Sustainable Watershed Management" project: C.6.1. Implementation of KfW watershed management project is facilitated.</p>
<p>Scope of work / activities</p>	<p>C.1. - Watershed Management: (i) policy analysis and advice (ii) information management (iii) capacity building.</p> <p>C.2. - Demonstration of Multi-functionality of Paddy Fields (DMPF): Show visible examples of paddy fields' functions with quantified evaluation in some selected pilot sites.</p> <p>C.3. - Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency on Paddy Fields (IIEPF): (i) Appraise irrigation efficiencies and the irrigation system; (ii) Enhance capacity of all stakeholders in using up-to-date concepts of water balance etc; (iii) Produce guidelines for improving irrigation efficiency. The project has also developed concrete cooperation with FAO on capacity building for irrigation scheme performance appraisals.</p> <p>C.4. - Research Coordination through MRC Participation in the Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF): (i) Manage and implement the CPWF in the Mekong River Basin; (ii) Contribute to the coordination of the CPWF Basin Focal Projects (BFPs); (iii) Monitor and liaise with research agencies external to the MRC; (iv). Provide input and technical expertise to MRC's technical outputs.</p> <p>C.5. - Formulation of a new AIFP: Documentation of the programme carried out by participatory approach with various levels of consultations including needs assessment of the Member States.</p> <p>C.6. - Technical cooperation to KfW funded "Sustainable Watershed Management" project: (i) Train/support provincial and district staff to contribute to WSM guideline development, (ii) Design and implement a watershed-specific monitoring system, (iii) Formulate pilot WSM transfer model.</p>
<p>Start year</p>	<p>2006</p>
<p>End year</p>	<p>2011</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>5 years</p>
<p>Work Programme Budget (US\$)</p>	<p>5.8 million</p>
<p>Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)</p>	<p>16.3 million</p>
<p>Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)</p>	<p>22.1 million</p>

Development Partners contributing to the programme	Challenge Programme on Water and Food, Germany, Japan																					
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry Programme (2006-2011) Work Programme Budget Total: US\$ 5.8 m.</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="483 376 1425 790"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Watershed Management</td> <td>0.89</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. Demonstration of Multi-functionality</td> <td>1.23</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency</td> <td>1.91</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Challenge Program on Water & Food</td> <td>1.01</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.5. Formulation of new AIFP</td> <td>0.07</td> <td>0.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.6. KfW WSMP formulation</td> <td>0.65</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding needs (US\$ m)	C.1. Watershed Management	0.89	0	C.2. Demonstration of Multi-functionality	1.23	0	C.3. Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency	1.91	0	C.4. Challenge Program on Water & Food	1.01	0	C.5. Formulation of new AIFP	0.07	0.03	C.6. KfW WSMP formulation	0.65	0
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ATC Budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry Programme (2006-2011) ATC Budget Total: US\$ 16.3 m.</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="483 913 1425 1261"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Watershed Management</td> <td>8.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.6. KfW WSMP formulation</td> <td>7.3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	C.1. Watershed Management	8.95	C.6. KfW WSMP formulation	7.3															
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C.1. Watershed Management	8.95																					
C.6. KfW WSMP formulation	7.3																					
Priority Activity for Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulation of a new AIFP (Strategic Goal 1.4.1) • Technical cooperation to KfW funding “Sustainable Watershed Management” project (Strategic Goal 1.4.1) • Integrated land and water resources management project (Strategic Goal 1.4.1) 																					



Mekong River Commission

Navigation Programme





The Navigation Programme has successfully installed a series of buoys, beacons and shoremarks between Phnom Penh Port and the Viet Nam border to assist effective and safe waterborne transport.

NAVIGATION PROGRAMME (2006-2010)

Programme title	Navigation programme
Short programme title	NAP
Sector /sub-sector	Water transport and trade, Tourism
Executing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat
Implementing Agency(ies)	Ministry of transport and lines agencies concerned, in close coordination with the National Mekong Committees (NMCs), National Navigation Coordinators
Type of Programme	Capacity building / Awareness raising Data management (including data collection / delivery, mapping) Guidelines / Regulation/ Studies Infrastructure (construction or rehabilitation of navigational aids)
Background / justification	The MRC Strategy and Programme for Navigation Development on the Mekong River has been developed in close cooperation with MRC Member Countries and regional development partners, and it was approved by the MRC Joint Committee and Council in 2003/2004. Article 9 of the 1995 Mekong Agreement (Freedom of Navigation) gives the MRC a direct mandate to promote and coordinate cross-border navigation on the Mekong River. The Navigation Programme's aims are to improve inland water transportation and maritime navigation on the Mekong River, to increase international trade and enhance communication with remote villages, both for transport of goods and people. Economic growth is an important common goal for the four Member Countries and they are all aware that regional and international trade is an important means to this end. There is much focus on reducing poverty levels and creating a positive environment for investment and income generation in all four countries. Efficient and cheap transport is the main justification for national and regional attention to navigation development. Given the lower cost of moving people and cargo by river transport, and the fact that port and river facilities are cheaper to develop and maintain than road and rail networks, it would be beneficial if navigation regained its position as an important aspect of the regional infrastructure network.
Development objective	To promote freedom of navigation and increase international trade opportunities for the MRC member countries' mutual benefit, and to assist in coordination and cooperation in developing effective and safe waterborne transport in a sustainable and protective manner for the waterway environment
Success / impacts to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New topo-hydrographic map of scale 1/2000 of the dangerous areas between Luang Prabang and Pakse and new topo-hydrographic map of scale 1/20,000 between Phnom Penh and Kampong Cham completed. These provide useful tools for waterway authorities as well as waterway designers to make plans for laying out aids to navigation, which will make the waterway safer and more efficient. • With NAP facilitation in the negotiation between Cambodia and Viet Nam, the Draft Agreement for Cross-border Waterway Transportation has reached its final stage. Both parties are now making necessary consultation with their respective governments for approval leading to the signing of the Agreement. The whole process has promoted a greater mutual understanding, built up legal capacity and encouraged strong commitment for the implementation of the Agreement. • Installation of two hydrological stations, one at Cua Tieu, the Mekong river mouth, and one at Cua Dinh Anh: the Bassac river mouth completed. The ship masters and pilots at the estuaries now have information on almost real time water levels at the estuaries. This is critical for larger ships that can only pass the sand bar at sea during high tide.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC and P.R. China have reached a new level of cooperation as the two parties agreed to jointly organize a series of seminars on Waterway Safety and Navigation Improvement. More cooperation activities will be explored during the first seminar which will be held in Jinghong, 14-16 October 2008.
Immediate objectives / programme components	<p><i>Legal Objective:</i> Establish an appropriate legal foundation and navigation regime for International Mekong Navigation, and ensure its implementation and sustainability. Trade, Transport and Safety Objective (Physical and Non-Physical): Reduction of non-physical and physical barriers - Integrating navigation in the regional transport network - Reduction of navigation-related accidents.</p> <p><i>Environmental Objective:</i> To promote the concept of “Clean” river transportation, focusing on strategic prevention of environmental damage from waterway infrastructures/works or from shipping or port accidents rather than remedying or combating the impacts.</p> <p><i>Social Objective:</i> Distributing benefits from navigation to the riparian people - Improve water transportation during floods - Increase river-based employment.</p> <p>C.1. - Socio-Economic Analysis and Regional Transport Planning; C.2. - Legal Framework for Cross Border Navigation; C.3. - Traffic Safety and Environmental Sustainability; C.4. - Information, Promotion and Coordination; C.5. - Institutional Development;</p>
Programme outputs	<p>C.1. - Socio-Economic Analysis and Regional Transport Planning: C.1.1. Traffic and trade scenarios; C.1.2. Master plan for regional (inter-modal) waterborne transport (Cargo, Passengers and Tourism) and development of rural water transport; C.1.3. Socio-economic outcome of the development of both regional and rural waterborne transport is evaluated; C.1.4. Recommendations for prioritised investments in the inland waterway infrastructure are formulated; C.1.5. Sources of finance for the recommended investments are identified; C.1.6. Master Plan for Mekong Navigation in Cambodia; C.1.7. Improvement of the navigation conditions on the Mekong River in Viet Nam; C.1.8. Pilot project in the Lao PDR: Impact of morphological changes and sedimentology on the navigation operations and infrastructure; Impact of the navigation operations; C.1.9. Pilot projects on tourism and navigation; C.1.10. Institutional strengthening, capacity building and training.</p> <p>C.2. - Legal Framework for Cross Border Navigation: C.2.1. A comprehensive legal study of the current regime of navigation on the Mekong and of the conformity of national rules and regulations on navigation with international conventions; C.2.2. A definition of basic principles for the development of navigational uses of the Mekong; C.2.3. A definition of roles for MRC as an international river commission in the field of navigation; C.2.4. An updated and harmonised legal regime to guarantee freedom of navigation and operational navigation agreements; C.2.5. Legal capacity building, legal expertise and legal working group; C.2.6. Legal assistance and implementation by MRC.</p> <p>C.3. - Traffic Safety and Environmental Sustainability: C.3.1. Risk Analysis and scope for prevention and contingency; C.3.2. Management strategy for prevention, management and combating pollution from navigation; C.3.3. Development of a standardised regulatory framework; C.3.4. Environmental protection and impact assessment; C.3.5. Institutional Strengthening – Capacity Building; C.3.6. Public consultation on waterborne transport and environmental aspects.</p> <p>C.4. - Information, Promotion and Coordination: C.4.1. RIS Implementation Plans; C.4.2. Standardisation and harmonisation of data; C.4.3. Mekong traffic monitoring: Cargo and passengers statistics; C.4.4. Operational services and fairway information; C.4.5. Integration of navigation issues in national development planning; C.4.6. Specific promotion and information campaigns organized and implemented; C.4.7. Navigation information and promotion training; C.4.8. Pilot projects. Public participation; C.4.9. National and regional navigation forums; C.4.10. Coordination between Upper and Lower Mekong Navigation; C.4.11. Coordination Frameworks for Public-Private Partnerships; C.4.12. Strengthen Regional Coordination Mechanisms; C.4.13. Mekong Navigation Development Catalogue.</p>

	<p>C.5. - Institutional Development: C.5.1. General Preparations and Coordination for Programme Implementation; C.5.2. Navigation Advisory Body (NAB) and the Navigation Working Groups (NWG) in place; C.5.3. Establishment and functioning of the Navigation Advisory Body (NAB); C.5.4. Establishment and functioning of the Navigation Programme Office and Working Groups (NWG); C.5.5. Strengthening of Management Capacities of National Counterparts directly related to the implementation of the Navigation Programme and its functioning; C.5.6. Establishment and functioning of industry associations; C.5.7. Publication of MRC Navigation Management and Coordination Handbook; C.5.8. Preparation for Phase 3.</p>
Scope of work / activities	<p>The Programme applies an integrated approach to navigation development. Environmental, social, economic and technical aspects are well balanced to accommodate the strong call for development while ensuring that development is sustainable. Main activities are the following:</p> <p>C.1. - Socio-Economic Analysis and Regional Transport Planning: (i) studies; (ii) data collection; (iii) scenario development; (iv) modelling; (v) EIA and SIA; (vi) investment opportunities identification and recommendations; (vii) support to pilot projects in the four member countries.</p> <p>C.2. - Legal Framework for Cross Border Navigation: (i) legal study; (ii) discussion platforms; (iii) an updated and harmonized legal regime for freedom of navigation.</p> <p>C.3. - Traffic Safety and Environmental Sustainability: (i) design; (ii) tendering; (iii) installation of operational aids to navigation; (iv) training for maintenance; (v) risk analysis; (vi) strategy development; (vii) regulatory framework development.</p> <p>C.4. - Information, Promotion and Coordination: (i) data identification and compilation; (ii) monitoring system; (iii) forums for discussion; (iv) regional coordination mechanisms; (v) trainings.</p> <p>C.5. - Institutional Development: (i) establishment of the Navigation Advisory Body and Navigation Working Groups; (ii) capacity strengthening- Management capacities will be enhanced within the national Line Agencies as well as ports and waterway administrations. Decisive steps will be taken towards establishing close partnerships between public and private stakeholders.</p>
Start year	2006
End year	2010 – Certain elements of the Navigation Programme fulfill long-term core river basin management functions. These functions are currently being identified.
Duration	5 years
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	21.5 million
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	7.5 million
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Australia and Belgium

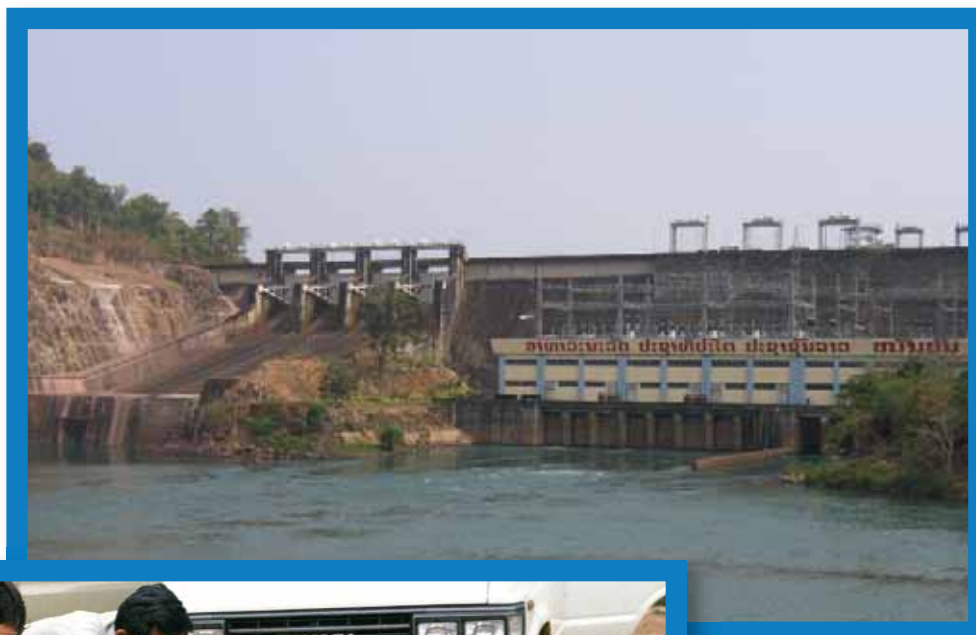
<p>Work Programme budget and funding per component</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Navigation Programme (2006-2010) Work Programme Programme Budget: US\$ 21.5 m.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$ m)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$ m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Socio-economic Analysis & Transport Planning</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>1.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. Legal Framework for Cross-Border Navigation</td> <td>0.6</td> <td>1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. Traffic Safety and Environmental Sustainability</td> <td>3.9</td> <td>2.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Information, Promotion and Coordination</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>3.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.5. Institutional Development</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>5.3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$ m)	Funding Needs (US\$ m)	C.1. Socio-economic Analysis & Transport Planning	1.5	1.7	C.2. Legal Framework for Cross-Border Navigation	0.6	1.0	C.3. Traffic Safety and Environmental Sustainability	3.9	2.9	C.4. Information, Promotion and Coordination	0.7	3.3	C.5. Institutional Development	0.7	5.3
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C.4. Information, Promotion and Coordination	0.7	3.3																	
C.5. Institutional Development	0.7	5.3																	
<p>Priority Activity for Funding</p>	<p>Under Component 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Transport Planning, a comprehensive study to provide a regional master plan for waterborne transportation along the Mekong river system. <p>Under Component 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate movement of goods and tourists on the river stretch downstream of Luang Prabang through a Legal Agreement between Thailand and Lao PDR. Implement the Bilateral Navigation Agreement between Cambodia and Viet Nam (accessibility improvement and facilities, harmonization and capacity building). <p>Under Component 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Bilateral Navigation Agreement between Cambodia and Viet Nam (physical improvement-accessibility and landing facilities). Operational Aids to Navigation (day) system for the stretch from Huay Xay to Luang Prabang. Implement the Bilateral Navigation Agreement between Cambodia and Viet Nam (physical improvements). <p>Under Component 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mekong Navigation (and Port) Atlas (Web based, easy to update regularly). Promotion of waterway tourism development along the Mekong River and linkage with GMS tourism programme. Mekong Traffic Monitoring: Cargo, Tourist and Passengers (Cambodia, Lao PDR). <p>Under Component 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading of the maritime Training Centers, and safety training, capacity of pilots and crews, training and contingency plans (rescue stations). Training of Waterway Management Authorities, Port Authorities and wider array of users. Guidelines for security in ports and waterway (river patrols, tracking systems, port environment monitoring, port environmental protection, contingency plans etc). 																		



Mekong River Commission

Hydropower Programme





The Hydropower Programme will assist Member States to optimise their hydropower potential in a sustainable manner.

HYDROPOWER PROGRAMME (2007-2011)

Programme title	Hydropower Programme
Short programme title	HP
Sector /sub-sector	Hydropower
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat, Line Agencies and National Mekong Committees (NMCs)
Type of Project	Capacity building / Awareness raising Data management (including data collection / delivery, mapping) Policy/strategic study Guidelines Impact assessment
Background / justification	Hydropower is considered a key sector for sustainable development in terms of utilisation of the significant available natural and renewable hydropower potential in the Lower Mekong Basin estimated at over 30,000 MW. Plants with an installed capacity of some 3,000 MW developed during the past four decades are operating. Another 3,000 MW of generation capacity is currently under construction. The aim is to provide reliable and affordable power to promote economic growth and social development. Within the regulatory context established by the MRC Member Countries hydropower development in the region is now effectively private-sector driven. This involves compressed planning cycles and requires early identification of key planning issues to ensure environmental and social concerns are addressed within an integrated basin-wide perspective and risks and responsibilities identified.
Development objective	To promote and facilitate regional cooperation among Member Countries and developers for the sustainable development of hydropower resources in the LMB, thereby realising mutual benefits, supporting economic growth, reducing poverty and minimising negative impacts on the environment and people in the Basin.
Success / impacts to date	The MRC Hydropower Strategy prepared in 2001 was a comprehensive attempt to interpret emerging international best practices and lay out what it meant in the Mekong region. The Hydropower Concept Note drafted in 2005 further detailed concepts and approaches. Building on these documents a Discussion Brief, presented to the MRC Joint Committee in June 2008, detailed MRC's approach and prioritized start-up activities of the of the Programme. As an important start up activity a multi-stakeholder consultation on the MRC Hydropower Programme was conducted in September 2008. The meeting confirmed the MRC's relevance and discussed its facilitating role in sustainable hydropower development in the basin. Other activities related to hydropower development taken on by MRC programmes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydropower database, including existing and planned schemes, maintained and updated by BDP and IKMP; • Scenario analysis and assessment of cumulative flows impacts of hydropower development, by BDP; • Decision support services on development scenarios and cumulative impacts, under IKMP; • Investigations on barrier effects of mainstream dams to fish migration and potential for mitigation measures, including an expert group meeting, several publications, and the cooperation with developers on the subject, by FP; • Formulation and start-up of a project on 'Environmental Considerations for Sustainable Hydropower Development', implemented jointly with ADB and WWF, by EP.

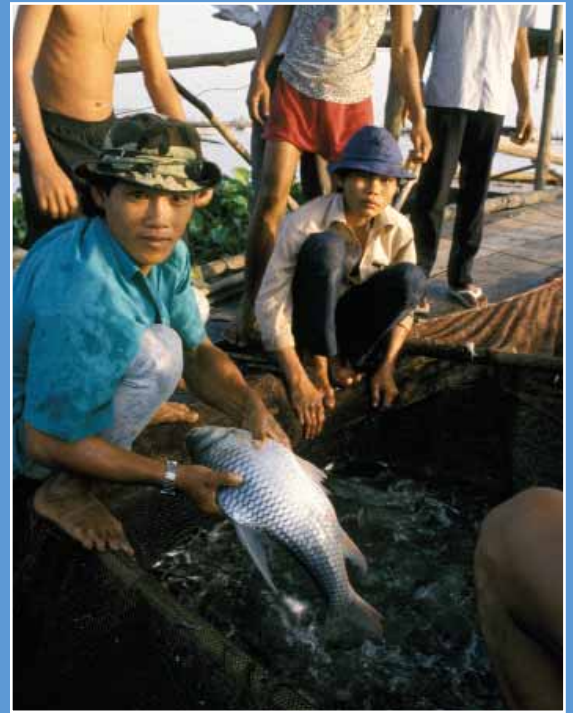
<p>Immediate objectives / programme components</p>	<p>Key aspects considered in framing the Hydropower Programme have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added value of MRC as a regional river basin organisation, facilitating communication and exchange of opinions between Member Countries and Dialogue Partners; • Need to be participatory and inclusive of all the stakeholder groups; • Relevance to the agencies responsible for setting the policy framework and regulating project developments, making available a body of knowledge and analysis to support decision-making for the joint interests of Members Countries; • Consistency with the MRC Strategic Plan 2006-2010; • Coordination with other MRC programmes and integration of hydropower sector planning into the BDP process; and • Articulation of the benefits of a basin-wide approach focusing on long-term sustainability of hydropower development in accordance with the procedures of the Mekong Agreement. <p>The programme structure, including thematic components is currently under development and discussion.</p>
<p>Programme outputs</p>	<p>The planning of proposed hydropower developments on both the mainstream and tributaries is at an advanced stage. To be relevant in the context, it was therefore proposed to include in the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast tracked activities, conducted and completed during 2008: Furthering the understanding of governments and developers of the regional environmental implications of hydropower projects and conducting a participatory formulation of the MRC Hydropower Programme; and • Medium to longer term activities, which require detailed planning, to be conducted from early 2009 onwards: Facilitating dialogue among a wide range of stakeholder groups; supporting basin-wide hydropower planning, and ensuring sustainability of projects; providing knowledge base and capacity building for hydropower development. <p>Programme outputs are currently being defined in details as part of the formulation process.</p>
<p>Scope of work / activities</p>	<p>Fast-tracked activities, started in 2008 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting a multi-stakeholder consultation on the MRC Hydropower Programme, including a wide range of presentations related to hydropower development issues; • Participatory programme formulation, including national consultations in Member Countries; • Support to the Government of Lao PDR in an optimization study for hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream; • Hosting an expert group meeting on barrier effects of mainstream dams to fish migration, and potential for mitigation, as well as conducting follow-on activities; • Updating of the MRC hydropower database; and • Modelling of flow changes in the Mekong mainstream, for a range of development scenarios. <p>Other activities, to be started in 2009 or later will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental baseline for hydropower development; • Capacity building for strategic environmental assessment (SEA), using a SEA of Mekong mainstream dams as a case study, conducting a SEA for the 3S sub-basin (Se San, Sre Pok and Se Kong) and a basin-wide SEA, as a support to the BDP planning process; • Scoping of the potential of decentralized small hydro in the context of integrated rural development and poverty reduction; • Environmental considerations for sustainable hydropower development, contextualizing the IHA sustainability protocol for the Mekong region and gathering pilot experience in implementing this framework;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentives for sustainable hydropower projects within market and regulatory frameworks; • Policy options for benefit-sharing from hydropower projects at a regional level; • Capacity building for the implementation of environmental safeguards: working with Line Agencies and developers; and • Climate Change implications for hydropower. 								
Start year	2008								
End year	2011								
Duration	4 years								
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	US\$ 7 million (to be reviewed during Programme preparation)								
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined								
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	2 million								
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Finland, Japan ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF)								
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Hydropower Programme (2008-2011) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 7 m.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Hydropower Programme (2008-2011) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 7 m.</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Value (US\$ million)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Funded/Committed</td> <td>2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Funding Needs</td> <td>5.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>7.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Components to be detailed during the programme formulation.</p>	Category	Value (US\$ million)	Funded/Committed	2.0	Funding Needs	5.0	Total	7.0
Category	Value (US\$ million)								
Funded/Committed	2.0								
Funding Needs	5.0								
Total	7.0								
Priority Activity for Funding	<p>Currently being determined. It will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of various options related to environmental and social implications associated with mainstream dams based on the outcome of the Expert Group's discussion on Barrier Effect to Fisheries. • Identification of financing mechanisms and incentives to promote adoption of effective mitigation measures and improved sustainability performance for mainstream projects such that effective mitigation measures are consistently applied and coordinated among all developments. • Facilitation of exploratory discussion with the private sector, government agencies and developing banks on introducing incentives with the market and regulatory frameworks related to implementation of good practice and financing of sustainable projects. • Development of guidance material for hydropower projects through initiatives on Environmental Considerations for Sustainable Hydropower Development (ECSHD). • Standard specifications for waterways transport through proposed mainstream dams, including standard sizes, layouts and operations of navigation locks. 								



Mekong River Commission

Fisheries Programme





The Fisheries Programme works to promote sustainable development, utilisation, management and conservation of the Mekong's fisheries.

FISHERIES PROGRAMME (2006-2010)

Programme title	MRC Fisheries Programme Phase 2, 2006-2010
Short programme title	FP
Sector /sub-sector	Fisheries
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat
Implementing Agency(ies)	Cambodia - Fisheries Administration and CNMC; Lao PDR - Living Aquatic Resources Research Centre (Department of Livestock and Fisheries) and LNMC; Thailand - Department of Fisheries and TNMC; Viet Nam - Research Institute for Aquaculture Nos. 2 (Ho Chi Minh City) and 3 (Central Highlands) (Ministry of Fisheries) and VNMC.
Type of Project	Capacity building / Awareness raising Data management (including data collection / delivery, mapping) Policy/strategic study Research and Development Guideline / Regulation Needs assessment Pre - feasibility study Feasibility study Monitoring and evaluation of project
Background / justification	<p>The fisheries resources of the Mekong River are immensely important to the people of the region. They provide food, employment and income for millions of rural people throughout the basin. Some simple facts about the fishery illustrate its significance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total yield per annum from capture fisheries and aquaculture is over 3 million tonnes, worth at first sale in excess of US\$ 2 billion. • Fisheries contribute around 12% of the GDP of Cambodia and contribute more to the country's economy than rice. In the Mekong Delta in Viet Nam, the export value of fisheries products is more than the export value of rice. In Laos, the contribution to the GDP is around 7%. • Up to 40 million people or two-thirds of the region's population are involved, at least seasonally or part-time, in the fishery. It is a resource exploited primarily by poor people. • The capture fishery in the Mekong represents around 2% of the world capture fishery (both marine and freshwater). • There are more than 1000 freshwater fish species in the river, making it the second richest riverine fish fauna in the world (after the Amazon, and equal with the Congo). <p>Threats to the fisheries are loss of habitat, barriers to migration, changes to the flood pulse, and overexploitation. But opportunities for further development are considerable, involving elements such as refinement of management techniques (co-management, access, protected areas, gear controls and more); development of reservoir fisheries; aquaculture of indigenous species; mitigation of impacts of other developments; value adding; market development; and maintenance of ecological drivers of fish production.</p>
Development objective	Coordinated and sustainable development, utilisation, management and conservation of the fisheries of the Mekong Basin.

<p>Success / impacts to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on the size (tonnes of production, participation and importance) of fisheries in the Mekong have been produced, based on fish consumption studies and surveys of fisheries in the Mekong Delta in Viet Nam. • The importance of rice-field fisheries and methods for enhancement of them have been documented. • The importance of maintaining fish migration corridors, the flood pulse and fisheries habitat are continually being promoted in regional planning forums and mechanisms. • IWRM project in Soc Trang, Viet Nam, has improved water and farm management for shrimp and rice farmers sharing the same water resource. • Co-management of fisheries, involving communities and government agencies, has expanded to nearly 90 sites covering all MRC-member countries. Co-management has been a strong focus of the FP, and is now the central element of national fisheries management. • Long-term monitoring of selected fisheries to identify any trends in catches has been maintained. Funds are now being sought for intensive analyses of the databases. • Improved techniques for culture of indigenous Mekong fish species developed and extended to farmers. • Many publications in several different media types are regularly produced. These include books, newsletters, technical and general audience publications, films, CDs and placing of electronic versions of all publications on websites. • Capacity development is an on-going function of the FP. It is implemented in many ways, from on-the-job training, to dedicated courses, to support for undergraduate and post-graduate training.
<p>Immediate objectives / project components</p>	<p>MRC, riparian organisations and users implement sustainable fisheries management and development at local, national and regional levels.</p> <p>C.1. Programme Management and Communication C.2. Fisheries Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation C.3. Fisheries Management and Governance C.4. Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish Species</p> <p><i>C.1. - The Programme Management and Communication component has the objectives:</i> 1) MRC finances, organises and implements the Fisheries Programme Phase 2 (FP 2) in close integration with other programmes, and in cooperation with NMCs and national Line Agencies; 2) MRC, riparian fisheries management organisations and fisheries sector stakeholders cooperate in information generation, capacity building and development of the inland fisheries resources of the LMB.</p> <p><i>C.2. -The Fisheries Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation (FEVM) component has the objective:</i> MRC and Line Agencies use the knowledge of fisheries ecology, valuation and mitigation and management of environmental impacts that is needed for management of fisheries in the LMB.</p> <p><i>C.3. - The Fisheries Management and Governance (FMG) component has the objective:</i> Resource users, riparian fisheries Line Agencies and other organisations develop and implement improved institutional arrangements and technical measures for inland fisheries management.</p> <p><i>C.4. - The Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish Species (AIMS 2) component has the objective:</i> Line Agencies, other relevant organisations and users develop and implement culture systems for indigenous Mekong fish species for stocking and aquaculture.</p>

<p>Programme outputs</p>	<p>The component outputs collectively deliver the Programme outputs as follows: Output 1. Awareness of fisheries raised; Output 2. Human and institutional capacity developed; Output 3. Mekong Basin Fisheries Development Strategy formulated; Output 4. Mekong development projects described, scoped and promoted; Output 5. Implementation of fisheries development activities facilitated.</p>
<p>Scope of work / activities</p>	<p>C.1. - Programme Management and Communication: (i) Component coordination; (ii) Interaction with donors; (iii) International coordination and international workshops and seminars; (iv) Annual meeting; (v) Enhancement of MRC Documentation Centre; (vi) MRC Fisheries Programme support Office administration; (vii) Fisheries technical symposium; (viii) MRC technical report series; (ix) Catch and Culture newsletter; (x) Annual report and progress reports; (xi) ad hoc information materials; (xii) electronic libraries; (xiii) integration with MRC corporate activities; (xiv) Mekong Fisheries Field Academy; (xv) Twinning arrangement with IFREDI; (xvi) Supporting gender network; (xvii) Training component staff; (xviii) Fisheries management and development strategy; (xix) document fisheries development projects; (xx) facilitate implementation of fisheries development projects.</p> <p>C.2. - Fisheries Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation: (i) Ecological requirements for fisheries production; (ii) Trends in fisheries; (iii) Fish consumption and fish yields; (iv) Value of fisheries - generation of information; (v) Value of fisheries - communication of information; (vi) Value of fisheries with respect to other developments; (vii) Mitigation and management of impacts of water management projects; (viii) Fisheries assessment training; (ix) Fisheries valuation training; (x) Management and mitigation of impacts training; (xi) Project management and reporting training; (xii) Research and monitoring of inland fisheries; (xiii) Capture fisheries production; (xiv) Pilot project formulation; (xv) Support for implementation; (xvi) Describe and scope projects; (xvii) Identify funding sources; (xviii) Prepare proposals for funding by specific funding agencies; (xix) Facilitate and support implementation of projects.</p> <p>C.3. - Fisheries Management and Governance: (i) Document requirements for technical fisheries management measures; (ii) Raise awareness on ongoing (FP1) co-management initiatives; (iii) Raise awareness on new co-management initiatives; (iv) Carry out specific studies; (v) Develop human capacity; (vi) Develop institutional capacity; (vii) Support implementation of TAB workplan; (viii) Development of Inland Fisheries management syllabus; (ix) Delivery of Inland Fisheries Management course; (x) Formulate, provide and discuss plans and scenarios as well as best practice; (xi) Feed into writing up process of the MRC fisheries strategy; (xii) Promote strategy; (xiii) Describe and scope projects; (xiv) Identify funding sources; (xv) Prepare proposals for funding by specific funding agencies; (xvi) Support implementation on local level; (xvii) Facilitate implementation of institutional arrangements, legal and technical measures.</p> <p>C.4. - Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish Species: (i) Coordinate and contribute to development of regional codes of practice for movement of aquatic organisms; (ii) Develop breeding techniques; (iii) Develop nursing techniques; (iv) Develop culture techniques; (v) Prepare and arrange short-term training; (vi) Carry out component coordination meetings; (vii) Prepare and implement technical workshops and study tours; (viii) Participate in the Technical Symposium and other technical symposia and meetings; (ix) Participate in national and regional/international meetings and workshops; (x) Recommend protocols for enhancement and mitigation; (xi) Describe and scope projects; (xii) Identify sources of funding; (xiii) Prepare proposals for funding; (xiv) Prepare extension messages; (xv) Cooperate with extension agents in preparing extension materials.</p>

Start year	2006															
End year	2010 – Certain elements of the Fisheries Programme fulfill long-term core river basin management functions. These functions are currently being identified.															
Duration	5 years															
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	13 million															
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined															
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	10.3 million ¹															
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Denmark and Sweden															
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<p style="text-align: center;">Fisheries Programme Phase II (2006-2010) Work Programme Budget : US\$ 13 m.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Data for Fisheries Programme Phase II (2006-2010) Work Programme Budget</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed (US\$)</th> <th>Funding Needs (US\$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Programme Management & Communication</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. Fisheries Management and Governance</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.3. Fisheries Ecology, Valuation & Mitigation</td> <td>3.8</td> <td>0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.4. Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Funded/Committed (US\$)	Funding Needs (US\$)	C.1. Programme Management & Communication	4.0	1.1	C.2. Fisheries Management and Governance	2.0	0.7	C.3. Fisheries Ecology, Valuation & Mitigation	3.8	0.0	C.4. Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish	0.5	1.1
Component	Funded/Committed (US\$)	Funding Needs (US\$)														
C.1. Programme Management & Communication	4.0	1.1														
C.2. Fisheries Management and Governance	2.0	0.7														
C.3. Fisheries Ecology, Valuation & Mitigation	3.8	0.0														
C.4. Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish	0.5	1.1														
Priority Activity for Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries, Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation – Demonstration of fisheries mitigation techniques (demonstration sites, interaction with other water management sectors, information provision) (Strategic Goal 1.4.5). • Fisheries Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation – Fish larval survey to identify important spawning grounds on the mainstream of the Mekong River. • Fisheries Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation – Fisheries and hydropower development expert group to bring best practice to the Mekong (Strategic Goal 1.4.5). • Fisheries Management and Governance – Development and delivery of an inland fisheries management syllabus (Strategic Goal 1.4.5). • Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish – Support to Aquaculture of Indigenous Mekong Fish Species component (Strategic Goal 1.4.5) • Fisheries Ecology, Valuation and Mitigation - Analyses of Mekong fisheries databases; predictive modelling of fisheries hydrology-environment (Strategic Goal 1.4.5). • Fisheries Management and Governance - Enhancement of co-management and IWRM activities (Strategic Goal 1.4.5). 															

¹ This amount includes commitment from Denmark towards FP Phase 2. The agreement is pending signature.



Mekong River Commission

Tourism Programme





The Tourism Programme will promote tourism in the Mekong Basin in a balanced manner which ensures necessary protection of the environment.

TOURISM PROGRAMME (2006-2010)

Programme title	Tourism Programme
Short programme title	TP
Sector /sub-sector	Tourism
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS, National Mekong Committees (NMCs) and Line Agencies
Type of Project	Capacity building / Awareness raising Data management (including data collection / delivery, mapping) Policy/strategic study Guideline / Regulation Needs assessment
Background / justification	The tourism industry is already making a significant contribution to the economies of the MRC Member Countries. Being blessed with abundant historical and cultural heritage and unspoiled natural beauty, the Mekong River Basin has a great potential to attract visitors from various parts of the world, generating more income from foreign exchange. Being a highly labour-intensive industry, tourism plays a significant role in generating employment opportunities in localities where it is promoted. It is a major concern whether in addition to the economic rationale, tourism might have adverse environmental effects. The growth of eco-tourism is becoming significant. There is therefore a need to ensure that tourism can be promoted for balanced and sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin. Needs and opportunities would be determined in a regional and transboundary Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) context.
Development objective	To promote tourism within the Mekong River Basin in a sustainable manner that also ensures necessary protection of the environment against any adverse effects of tourism.
Success/ Impacts to date	The Programme is not yet fully or partly funded. No significant achievement to date.
Immediate objectives/ programme components	To be developed during the programme formulation process. Some studies on the environmental impacts have been undertaken though by the Environment Programme.
Programme outputs	To be developed during the programme formulation process
Scope of work/ activities	Development of the programme would be based on an analysis of needs and opportunities, including: (a) a review of documents concerned; (b) consultations with the national and international agencies concerned with the tourism industry in the MRC member countries; and (c) studies to determine the scope of work and identify priority activities, (d) programme development and start-up phase.
Start year	N/A
End year	N/A
Duration	5 years
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	3 million (unfunded)
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined

Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	0
Development Partners contributing to the programme	None
Work Programme budget and funding per component	N/A
Priority Activity for funding	Programme scoping and formulation, depending on outcome of the forthcoming Mid-Term Review of the Implementation of the MRC Strategic Plan 2006-2010.



Mekong River Commission

Integrated Capacity Building Programme





The Integrated Capacity Building Programme has carried out a number of successful training events as part of its work to improve the capacity of the MRC to implement its mission.

INTEGRATED CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME (2006-2011)

Programme title	Integrated Capacity Building Programme
Short programme title	ICBP
Sector /sub-sector	Integrated Programme – Cross-cutting
Executing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat in cooperation with NMCs and Line Agencies
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRC Secretariat in cooperation with NMCs and Line Agencies
Type of Programme	Capacity building and training/Awareness raising
Background / justification	With the signing of the Mekong Agreement in 1995 the role of MRC was significantly broadened compared to that of its predecessor organizations. Rather than limiting its involvement to exploring and investigating the basin, MRC was charged with ensuring the sustainable development, utilization, conservation and management of the Mekong River Basin's water and related resources. In focusing the organisation on this approach, there is a need to strengthen expertise at regional and national levels as well as the capability of MRC to carry out a broad range of activities in water resources management including raising awareness and communication with stakeholders.
Development objective	To improve the capacity of the MRC to play the leading role in coordinating the development and use of the basin's water resources, and to meet stakeholder expectations through availability of sufficient expertise in integrated river basin management, and the required level of communication and stakeholder participation in MRC activities.
Success / impacts to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of gender mainstreaming activities in collaboration with its gender networks in the Member States; and • Increased training opportunities for riparian staff of MRC, NMCs and Line Agencies in order to support the riparianisation process.
Immediate objectives / programme components	To strengthen the capacity of the MRC, the NMCs and the Line Agencies in all fields leading to more effective integrated water resources development and river basin management. C.1. - Programme Management and Communication C.2. - Integrated Capacity Building.
Programme outputs	The Programme Document is being updated. As a result, the following components may be changed in the near future. C.1. - Programme Management and Communication: C.1.1. Ensuring programme and related activities are well-managed and integrated into all MRC programmes; C.2. - Integrated Capacity Building: C.2.1. Continuous strengthening the capacity and skills development for staff from MRC, NMCs and Line Agencies. C.2.2. Prepare the next generation of riparian professionals through the Junior Riparian Professionals project which will ensure that forty young professionals from the LMB receive practical hands-on experience and training opportunities in the field of IWRM. C.2.3. Developing the gender responsiveness of MRC and its country counterparts. C.2.4. The ICBP started up its preparatory phase under the Australian support to assess the priority needs of the MRCS, NMCs and Line Agencies staff.

Scope of work / activities	<p>C.1. - Programme Management and Communication: This component ensures that the programme and related project activities are well-managed and properly integrated into all MRC Programmes. Major tasks include related activities for the ICBP formulation and implementation of the priority capacity building plan (PCBP).</p> <p>C.2. - Integrated Capacity Building: This component consists of different projects based on the provisional programme structure. Currently there are three main on-going projects activities (i) Staff training; (ii) the Gender Mainstreaming Project; (iii) the Junior Riparian Professional Project; while a new programme document for ICBP is being developed.</p>																
Start year	2006																
End year	2011																
Duration	6 years																
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	5.8 million																
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	Not yet determined																
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	2.1 million																
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Australia, Finland and New-Zealand																
Work Programme budget and funding per component	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Integrated Capacity Building Programme (2008-2011) Work Programme Budget: US\$ 5.8 m.</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <caption>Work Programme Budget and Funding per Component (US\$ million)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Funded/Committed</th> <th>Funding Needs</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C.1. Programme Management and Communication</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.2. Integrated Capacity Building</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>3.7</td> <td>5.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2.1</td> <td>3.7</td> <td>5.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Component	Funded/Committed	Funding Needs	Total	C.1. Programme Management and Communication	0.8	0.0	0.8	C.2. Integrated Capacity Building	1.3	3.7	5.0	Total	2.1	3.7	5.8
Component	Funded/Committed	Funding Needs	Total														
C.1. Programme Management and Communication	0.8	0.0	0.8														
C.2. Integrated Capacity Building	1.3	3.7	5.0														
Total	2.1	3.7	5.8														
Priority Activity for Funding	Priority activities are being identified with the current ICBP Document update.																



Mekong River Commission

MRC Water Management Trust Fund





The MRC Trust Fund provides strategic and flexible support to MRC programme development and implementation, as well as responding to short-term demands from Member countries.

MRC WATER MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND

Title	MRC Water Management Trust Fund for supporting Integrated Water Resources Management in the Mekong Basin
Short title	WMTF
Sector /sub-sector	Integrated Programme: Water resources management, Irrigated agriculture; Hydropower; Watershed management / forestry; Tourism; Flood management and mitigation; Fisheries; Water transport and trade; Environmental conservation; Drought management
Executing Agency(ies)	Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS)
Implementing Agency(ies)	MRCS and National Mekong Committees (NMCs)
Type of Programme	Policy/strategic study
Background / justification	Given the nature of its work, the MRC must be able to respond with some flexibility to emerging demands. There is also a need to formulate new projects and activities within the ongoing integrated programmes. Only on that basis can the MRC Secretariat seek both approval and funding to address new problems in Integrated Water Resources Management in the Mekong region. The established programme funding mechanism and the annual approval process through the MRC Council do not however provide such flexibility or the ability to react rapidly to emerging issues. A complementary mechanism is thus needed. Moreover, the role of the MRC as a facilitator of consensus building in trans-boundary water resources development requires it to be able to provide technical advisory services, facilitation through workshops, and neutral high-quality technical information through specific studies and consultancies in response to such short-term facilitation needs. Finally, the MRC requires long-term strategic orientation so that it can provide the best substantive and organisational response to longer-term regional development and integration challenges. This requires premium-quality short-term expertise in developing strategic concepts on the basis of a consultative and participatory process. The WMTF was established to respond to the need for a flexible and responsive funding arrangement.
Development objective	The Objective of the WMTF is to provide strategic and flexible support to MRC programme development and a facility for the MRC to develop and implement its programme, responding to short-term demand of member countries in fulfilling its mandate in transboundary water resources management and development.
Success/ Impacts to date	<p>The WMTF has allowed the mobilisation of riparian expertise in the Joint Water Resources Development and Management between the Lao PDR and Thailand. This contribution provided riparian experts and established concrete partnership in the World Bank/ADB Mekong Water Resources Partnership Programme (MWARP), thus further strengthening the cooperation between the MRC and those International Financial Institutions.</p> <p>The WMTF is also being used to improve the organisation's effectiveness, following-up on the Independent Organisational, Financial and Institutional Review of the MRCS and the NMCs.</p> <p>The Mid-Term Review of the implementation of the MRC Strategic Plan 2006-2010, currently on-going, was funded from the WMTF.</p>

<p>Activity tracks</p>	<p>The WMTF works on three activity tracks in support of the 1995 Agreement: (i) Strategic Policy Development; (ii) Transboundary Mediation Facility; and (iii) Responsive Programme Development.</p> <p><u>Strategic Policy Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant services in support of strategy development and implementation; • High-level comparative studies on water resources policy issues; • Expert and Advisory Panel on Mekong IWRM; • Liaison travel of management to IWRM global and regional events; • IWRM Trust Fund Management and Coordination. <p><u>Transboundary Mediation Facility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-party study visits; • Studies on transboundary mediation options and approaches in the Mekong; • Environmental Impact Assessments expertise, information or studies upon request of Member States; and • Facilitation of Member States consultation processes under the MRC Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement. <p><u>Responsive Programme Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme development consultancies; • Programme development and review workshops; and • Cross-cutting evaluation consultancies.
<p>Funded and completed activities to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of the Mekong Water Resources Partnership Programme
<p>Use and implementation arrangements</p>	<p>The Joint Committee is fully informed on each project funded under the WMTF on a case by case basis and by dint of reporting on both progress and planned activities in the MRC Work Programme. The WMTF makes use of the project format for each activity drawing upon the Fund to facilitate implementation and monitoring. These projects are screened against the above agreed funding criteria for separate funding trenches by donors and approved either by the Chief Executive Officer of MRC or by the Joint Committee. For any activity under US\$ 100,000 the use of funds of the WMTF is authorized by the Chief Executive Officer of MRC Secretariat within the Trust Fund's Activity Tracks in support of the 1995 Mekong Agreement. For any activity with a budget of or above US\$ 100,000 approval of the Joint Committee shall be sought. While implementing an activity under the WMTF, the recruitment process follows the MRC standard procedures as set out in the Personnel Manual. Special emphasis is given to the involvement of local experts.</p>
<p>Monitoring, reporting and auditing</p>	<p>The WMTF makes use of the established and transparent substantive and financial reporting system of the MRC which is geared towards multiple-donor funding formats and project-based reporting. Donor contributions towards the WMTF are re-traceable and drawn upon under the conditions agreed upon in the funding agreement with the WMTF Donor. The overall monitoring responsibility of the individual activities funded from the WMTF is with the International Cooperation and Communication Section; financial monitoring is conducted through the MRC Solomon system housed in the Finance and Administration Section. Determined by the subject area at hand, each authorized activity is assigned to a specific project officer at an MRC Programme for substantive and administrative monitoring.</p>

Start year	2006								
End year	As a funding tool, there is no specific end year or duration.								
Duration	N/A								
Work Programme Budget (US\$)	3 million on a rolling three-year basis								
Associated Technical Cooperation (ATC) Budget (US\$)	N/A								
Total Donor Support/ Committed (US\$)	1.5 million								
Development Partners contributing to the programme	Denmark, Finland and France								
Work Programme budget and unding per component	<p>The chart displays the budget breakdown for the MRC Water Management Trust Fund. The total budget is 3.0 million US dollars. The first 1.5 million is categorized as 'Funded/Committed' (blue bar), and the remaining 1.5 million is 'Unfunded' (red bar). The x-axis ranges from 0.0 to 3.5 million US dollars in increments of 0.5.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>MRC Water Management Trust Fund (2006-2010) Work Programme Budget Total: US\$ 3 m.</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Amount (US\$ million)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Funded/Committed</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unfunded</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>3.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Amount (US\$ million)	Funded/Committed	1.5	Unfunded	1.5	Total	3.0
Category	Amount (US\$ million)								
Funded/Committed	1.5								
Unfunded	1.5								
Total	3.0								
Priority Activity for funding	<p>The Trust Fund was created to address with flexibility new problems in Integrated Water Resources Management in the Mekong region and to respond to emerging demands. As such there is no priority activity for funding, as those will be defined within the evolving environment and according to possible requests from the Member Countries.</p> <p>Current activities waiting for fund availability include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call down arrangement for a legal adviser related to PNPC implementation; • AIFP Document reformulation; • Comparative analysis of alternative watershed management initiatives in relation to hydropower development. 								



Mekong River Commission

Annex : MRC Strategic Outputs 2006-2010



Annex : MRC Strategic Outputs 2006-2010

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose? What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section *	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
GOAL 1: To promote and support coordinated, sustainable, and pro-poor development					
1.1 To establish a system for analysing water demand, water supply and water use in the basin to support the basin development planning process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgraded modelling toolkit and decision support framework (DSF) Water supply and demand maps Basin-wide water resources development scenarios and options A series of water accounts and verifiable water use indicators to guide decision-making and development strategy formulation 	WUP WUP BDP BDP	High High/Medium High Medium	Partial None Partial Partial	
1.2 To establish processes and mechanisms enabling the balancing of trade-offs between economic and political net benefits of different sectors, areas, and regions; and benefits from environmental and social protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline thematic maps of water and related resource and beneficiaries Consolidated trade-off analysis of development scenarios based on assessed and quantified net impacts on economic, ecological and social values Process of discussions on trade-offs and mutual benefits in basin development, including forum/ policy dialogue meeting. 	BDP BDP BDP	Medium High High	Partial Partial Partial	
1.3 To produce a regularly updated rolling plan applying the planning process for identification, categorization and prioritization of projects and programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An IWRM rolling plan Collaborative basin development planning processes for project identification and prioritization in water related sectors 	BDP BDP	High High	Partial Partial	

* It is not always possible to determine a single lead programme as often several programmes will cooperate and contribute to a key action/output.

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose?</i> <i>What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section*	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Strategy supported by assessed development scenarios and options • MRC projects and programmes database • Cumulative impact assessment studies of development scenarios 	BDP BDP BDP	High High High	Partial Partial Partial	
1.4 To screen, formulate and promote wise development options at the transboundary and basin levels for preparation and implementation by other appropriate development agencies ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to identification and preparation of balanced sustainable development options in partnership with donors, development partners and investment banks. • Support to Line Agencies with knowledge and expertise in preparation of project proposals, focusing on joint and basin-wide projects and national projects with significant basin impacts • Project promotion and fund-raising services for joint and basin-wide projects 	BDP BDP BDP	High Medium Medium	Partial Partial Partial	
1.4.1 To support sustainable land and water development through more effective and integrated utilization of agricultural, irrigation, drought, and watershed management systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed management policy guidelines and proceedings • Best practices on watershed management and technologies • Support to line agencies on identification and preparation of BDP watershed management projects • Basin-wide irrigation efficiency improvement strategy • Institutional and managerial guidelines to improve irrigation efficiency 	AIFP AIFP AIFP AIFP AIFP	Medium Medium Medium Medium Medium	Partial Partial Partial None Funded	

¹ Supported by sector specific objectives: 1.3.1 through 1.3.7.

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose? What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of irrigation efficiency in the basin Assessment of groundwater potential for irrigation Support to line agencies in identification and preparation of BDP priority irrigation development and rehabilitation projects 	AIFP AIFP AIFP	High Low Medium	Partial None None	
1.4.2 To assist in the development of the basin's hydropower potential to ensure safeguarding of the environment and social interests while meeting the Basin's increasing need for energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update assessment of hydropower potential in the Mekong Basin Update basin-wide hydropower development strategy Update hydropower database of planned and existing dams Impact assessments of hydropower projects Best practices to mitigate negative impacts of hydropower focussing on environmental and social impacts 	Operation Division Operations Division Operations Division Operations Division Operations Division	Medium Medium High High High	None None Partial None None	
1.4.3 To achieve more active and efficient river transportation through increased freedom of navigation to increase social development, international trade and tourism opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional master plan for navigation Legal Framework for Cross-border Navigation Aids to Navigation Systems 	NAP NAP NAP	High High High	Partial Partial Partial	

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose?</i> <i>What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section*	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic safety management system • Improved risk and emergency management capacity as related to navigation • Navigation emergency management plan • Navigation pollution control system and environmental management tools and best practices for navigation and river works • Mekong River Navigation Information Systems • Support to line agencies in identification and preparation of BDP priority navigation development projects 	<p>NAP</p> <p>NAP</p> <p>NAP</p> <p>NAP</p> <p>NAP</p> <p>NAP</p>	<p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>Partial</p> <p>None</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p>	
<p>1.4.4 To build regional flood and drought management capacity for prevention, minimization or mitigation of people's suffering and economic losses due to floods and droughts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood probability maps • Fully operational flood forecasting and warning system using a comprehensive data set • Hydro-meteorological monitoring network (real-time) • Hydro-meteorological data base • Hydro-meteorological year book (bulletin, CD ROM) • Annual hydro-climatic assessment report • Guidelines for flood proofing and mitigation measures • Transboundary flood mediation and coordination mechanisms • Flood emergency management and preparedness system with full 	<p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p> <p>FMMP</p>	<p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p> <p>High</p>	<p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>Funded</p> <p>Funded</p> <p>Partial</p>	

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose? What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section *	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
	<p>coverage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use planning and management guidelines • Support to line agencies in identification and preparation of BDP priority flood management projects identified through BDP • Drought forecasting and early warning system based on detailed data • Drought risk maps • Drought mitigation and management policy guidelines 	<p>FMMP FMMP DP DP DP</p>	<p>High High High High Medium</p>	<p>Partial Funded None None None</p>	
<p>1.4.5 To maintain productive Mekong fisheries and enhance aquaculture of indigenous species for increased food security and economic output</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on commercial fish species and production • Inland fisheries development strategy • Increased capacity of local and national fisheries bodies • Technologies for aquaculture of indigenous species adopted • Coordination services in the field of sustainable fisheries development • Support to line agencies in identification and preparation of BDP priority sustainable fisheries development projects 	<p>FP FP FP FP FP FP</p>	<p>Medium High High Medium Medium Medium</p>	<p>Partial Partial Partial Partial Partial Partial</p>	

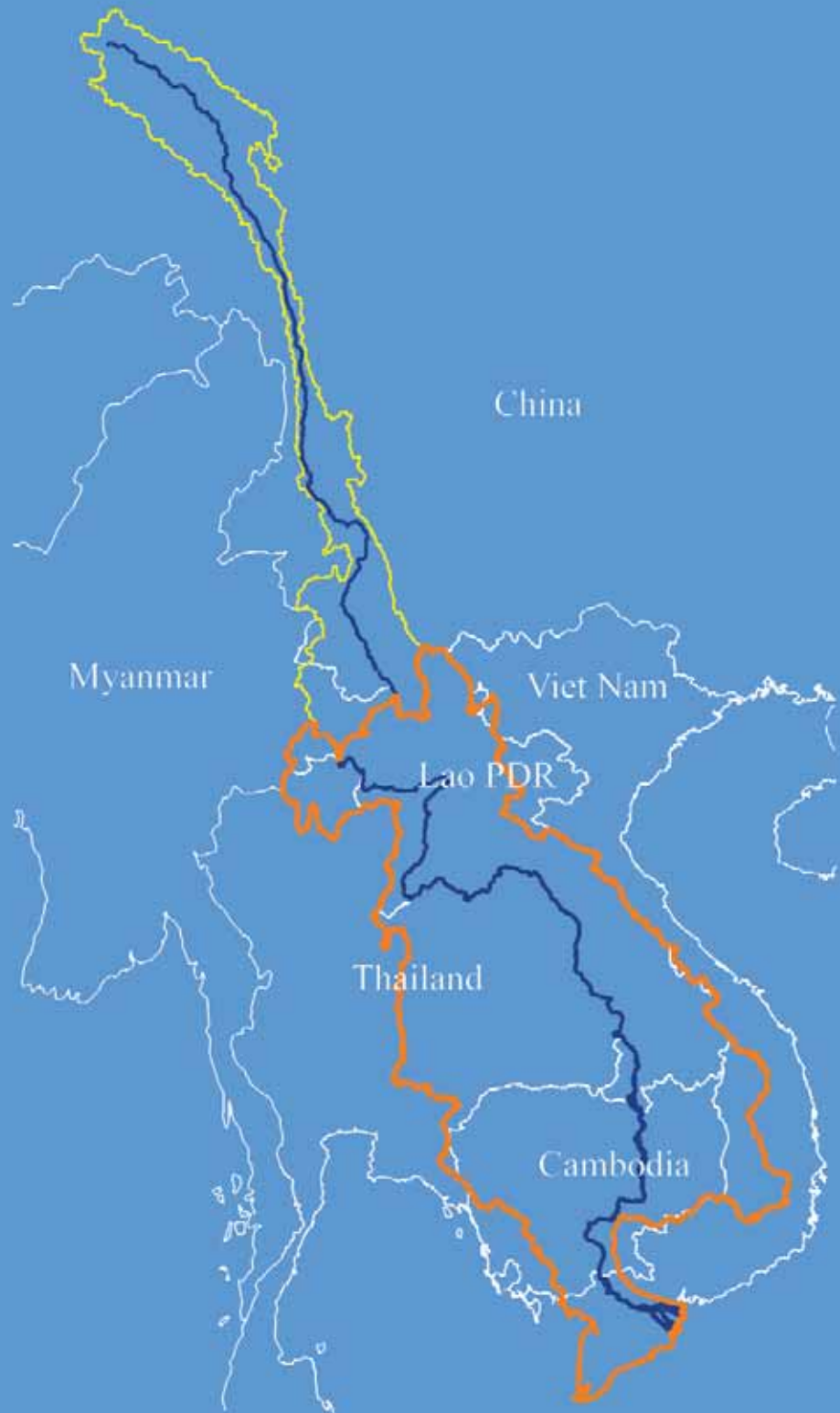
Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose?</i> <i>What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
1.4.6 To develop the tourism potential of the Mekong benefiting local economies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism development strategy to benefit local people • Development of tools and best practices to reduce negative impacts of tourism on environment and social conditions • Support to line agencies in identification and preparation of BDP priority sustainable tourism development projects 	<p>Operations Division</p> <p>Operations Division</p> <p>Operations Division</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p> <p>Medium</p>	<p>None</p> <p>Partial</p> <p>None</p>	
1.4.7 To assess domestic water supply and sanitation options to ensure adequate protection and improvement of peoples' lives and the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on domestic water supply and sanitation needs in the basin • Water supply and sanitation development strategy • Support to identification of BDP priority water supply and sanitation projects 	<p>Operations Division</p> <p>Operations Division</p> <p>Operations Division</p>	<p>Low</p> <p>Low</p> <p>Low</p>	<p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>None</p>	
GOAL 2. To enhance effective regional cooperation					
2.1 To increase MRC's function as a transparent and effective cooperation mechanism among Member States and to develop and demonstrate enhanced linkages, compatibility and complementarities of partnerships with other regional organizations and initiatives such as GMS, the World Bank's MWRAP, ACMECS, ASEAN, etc., including sub-basin organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased cooperation between MRC Member States • Partnership agreements (MoUs) with development partners, International River Basin Organisations, and research institutions 	<p>ICCS</p> <p>ICCS</p>	<p>High</p> <p>High</p>	<p>Partial</p> <p>None</p>	

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose?</i> <i>What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section*	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
2.2 To complete, adopt and make applicable mechanisms, procedures and guidelines as required under the 1995 Mekong Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical guidelines for implementing the procedure for maintenance of flows on the mainstream • Guidelines for transboundary environmental impact assessment • Procedures/Guidelines for water quality • Technical Guidelines for implementing the procedures for water quality • Adopted procedures are implemented 	WUP WUP WUP WUP WUP	High High High High High	Partial Partial Partial Partial Partial	
2.3 To identify potential transboundary issues for negotiation, mediation and conflict prevention; and develop mediation and conflict management capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capacity for managing transboundary issues • Development of awareness of tools and approaches to mediation and conflict management in natural resources issues • Inventory of issues and areas with potential for conflicts in use and impacts related to water • Development of mechanisms to address environmental issues 	WUP WUP WUP WUP	High High High High	Partial Partial Partial Partial	
2.4 To promote and improve dialogue and collaboration with China and Myanmar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased cooperation with upstream riparian countries through joint studies and projects 	OCEO	High	Partial	
GOAL 3. To strengthen basin-wide environmental monitoring and impact assessment					
3.1 To improve monitoring of the environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental water quality monitoring system 	EP	Medium	Partial	

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose?</i> <i>What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section *	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
condition of the Mekong River basin, focusing on water quantity and quality, ecological health and social impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social impact monitoring system • Mekong River ecological health monitoring system • Model of the Mekong Basin's aquatic ecosystems 	EP EP EP	High High Medium	Partial Partial Partial	
3.2 To regularly report on the environmental condition of the Mekong River basin and disseminate this information widely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated environmental status report • Updated State of the Basin Report • Updated Basin Report Cards on environmental and social conditions • Guidelines on best environmental management practices 	EP EP EP EP	High High High Medium	Partial Partial Partial Partial	
3.3 To raise awareness of MRC, NMCs, and line agencies on transboundary and basin-wide environmental issues and to increase the capacity to address them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training modules on the use of EIA, SEA, and other tools • Environmental educational kits • Environmental awareness on transboundary issues 	EP EP EP	Medium Medium High	Partial Partial Partial	
3.4 To ensure that development initiatives are planned and implemented with a view to minimize negative environmental impacts;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support line agencies in identification and preparation of BDP priority environmental management projects and protection • Upon request of Member States, screening of projects for environmental impacts (technical support to project level SEA, 	EP EP	High High	Partial Partial	

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose? What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section *	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
	<p>independent review of EIA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and support the implementation of transboundary EIA 	EP	High	Partial	
3.5 To ensure that social, economic and environmental concerns are incorporated into basin-wide water resources development strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic environmental impact assessment (SEA) • Environmental impact assessment (EIA) • Promote stakeholder discussions to identify valuable assets in water resources which are to be protected • Providing information and knowledge to decision makers through the IBFM process on economic benefits and environmental and social impacts of development as related to changes in the flow regime. • A set of spatial tools to enable planners to take into consideration environmental and social aspects of development plans and projects. Initially covering, wetlands, protected areas, vulnerability and dependence on aquatic resources. 	EP EP EP EP EP EP	Medium Medium High High High High	Partial Partial Partial Partial Partial Partial	
GOAL 4. To strengthen the Integrated Water Resources Management capacity and knowledge base of the MRC bodies, NMCs and line agencies and other stakeholders					
4.1 To improve management systems to allow MRC to operate as a highly effective, transparent and innovative International River Basin Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management policies, systems and manuals 	OCEO	Medium	None	
4.2 To establish a technical coordination capacity for preparing and coordinating the implementation of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical coordination advisor and efficient programme coordination 	OCEO	High	Partial	

Goals / objectives <i>What is our purpose? What do we want to achieve?</i>	MRC Key actions / outputs <i>What are the goods and services to be delivered?</i>	Lead Programme/ Section	Priorities (High, medium, low)	Funding (Funded, none)	status partial,
MRC's Work Programme applying IWRM principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mechanisms in place Annual work programmes Harmonized project progress reports 	OCEO OCEO	High Medium	Funded Partial	
4.3 To enhance and maintain a common GIS-based information and knowledge management and dissemination system to support all MRC activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational information system and information management and dissemination tools (GIS, remote sensing, portal) supporting all MRC programmes Information and datasets provided to outside users 	IKMP IKMP	High High	Partial Partial	
4.4 To maintain partnerships with leading organizations, universities and civil society stakeholders for programme-focussed collaboration of common interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network of partners (universities, research institutes, civil society and other interested and relevant organizations) established Assessment of research priorities to support MRC's mission 	ICCS OCEO	High Medium	None Partial	
4.5 To strengthen the human resources capacities of the MRC, NMCs and the line agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity needs assessment reports Training modules and toolkits Training sessions and study tours for JC, NMCs, MRCS staff and line agencies 	ICBP ICBP ICBP	High High High	None None None	
4.6 To develop and update as new knowledge becomes available regional assessment tools (EIA, SEA, DSF, TB-EIA, RAM, SIA etc.) for all development projects to be implemented in the lower Mekong River basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional assessment tools available and promoted for use by NMCs and Line Agencies 	ICCS	High	Partial	



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