



Report of the 1st Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR

Siem Reap, Cambodia

2-4 June 2014

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Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center

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**REPORT OF THE
1ST MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP FOR FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT IN TRANS-BOUNDARY AREAS BETWEEN
CAMBODIA AND LAO PDR
2-4 JUNE 2014
SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA**

I. BACKGROUND AND OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. The 1st Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR was convened in Siem Reap, Cambodia from 2 to 4 June 2014, and was attended by the representatives from the Fisheries Administration (FiA) Cambodia, Department of Livestock and Fisheries (DLF) Lao PDR, as well as from other organizations such as the Cambodian Rural Development Team (CRDT), Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC), Asian Coastal resources Institute Foundation (CORIN-Asia), Learning Institute (LI), Mekong River Commission (MRC) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). Senior officials from SEAFDEC as well as the members of the Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN) also attended the meeting. The list of participants is as per **Annex 1**.
2. Referring to the Informal Meeting on the Development of Joint Fisheries Management between Cambodia and Lao PDR on 5 February 2014 in Champasak, Lao PDR that was supported by the SEAFDEC-Sweden project, the meeting decided that the arrangements for the joint fisheries management would be developed under the provisions of the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed in July 2010 and that a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) would be developed to support the abovementioned decision. In this respect, this meeting was organized to discuss and identify the issues and recommendations for potential areas of collaboration between the two countries as well as to finalize the draft MOA and Work Plan for 2014-2015.
3. *Mr. Ing Try*, Deputy Director-General, FiA Cambodia as well as the co-chair of the Meeting delivered his welcoming remarks. He welcomed the participants and expressed his gratitude to SEAFDEC-Sweden for willing to organize the meeting to facilitate Cambodia and Lao PDR on finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the cooperation on elements of common priorities in relation to fisheries and habitat management. He recalled that in February 2014, the meeting in Champasak, Lao PDR agreed to develop a MOA under the framework of MOU which was signed between the FiA Cambodia and DLF Lao PDR in July 2010. He also added that the Meeting is a good opportunity for both countries to understand on the status and issues pertaining to the trans-boundary and habitat management in the border areas and wished for a fruitful discussion throughout the Meeting.
4. The Director of Fisheries Division, DLF of Lao PDR, as well as the co-chair of the Meeting, *Mr. Sommano Phounsavath* delivered his remarks. Firstly, he apologized on behalf of the Deputy Director-General of DLF, *Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy* for not being able to attend the Meeting due to unavoidable reason. He was pleased to see the progress from the previous informal meeting that was convened in Champasak and emphasized that the cooperation between both countries is very crucial for managing the fisheries resources in the trans-boundary area. Furthermore, he thanked SEAFDEC-Sweden for supporting the Meeting and looked forward for the implementation of the MOU.

5. *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri*, Secretary-General of SEAFDEC delivered his opening remarks. He welcomed all the participants and thanked Cambodia for the warm hospitality and arrangements made for the Meeting. He highlighted that through sub-regional approach, the SEAFDEC-Sweden project would facilitate the countries along the Mekong river basin such as Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam to discuss and look for the effective ways to improve the management of fisheries in order to sustain the fisheries resources in the Mekong river basin sub-region. In this respect, the current Meeting was arranged to finalize the MOA between Cambodia and Lao PDR that had been drafted since the previous informal meeting on 5 February 2014 in Champasak. Finally, he encouraged the participants to actively participate and work together in order to achieve the goals of both countries and declared the Meeting open. His opening remark is as per **Annex 2**.

II. INTRODUCTION AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE MEETING

6. While introducing the background of the Meeting, SEAFDEC Policy and Program officer, *Ms. Sawitree Chamsai*, briefed the background and arrangement of this Joint Fisheries Management between Cambodia and Lao PDR would be under the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fisheries Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR signed in July 2010. With support by SEAFDEC-Sweden project, the drafted MOA to support the implementation of the collaborative activities between the two countries was developed in February 2014. This Meeting therefore aimed to finalize the MOA between the two countries as well as to discuss a preliminary study of information of on-going projects, a review of the legal framework in the two countries, and the identification of issues and recommendations for potential areas for collaboration. Her presentation is based on the Prospectus of the Meeting, which appears as **Annex 3**.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The Agenda of the Meeting which appears as **Annex 4** was adopted.

IV. PRESENTATION OF COUNTRY REVIEWS ON LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

8. *Mr. Pich Sereywath*, Deputy Director of the Community Fishery Development Department (CFDD) and legal specialist from Cambodia presented the Cambodian's Reviews on Legal Framework and Policy Development. He explained the legal instrument that supported the fisheries sector in Cambodia, policy of the fisheries sector as well as the seven (7) targets that supported the policy statement. The Fisheries law in Cambodia contains 17 Chapters and 109 articles. Furthermore, he also elaborated the administrative structure of the FiA whereby there are seven (7) Departments, 5 Inspectorials and 24 Cantonments under the FiA and also the jurisdiction of each department under the Fisheries law. Meanwhile, the Meeting recalled regarding the MOU between FiA Cambodia and DLF Lao PDR that was signed in 2010. His presentation appears in **Annex 5**.

9. The Meeting noted that the provincial government may develop their own fisheries plan but it has to be in line with the decision of the central government.

10. The Director of Fisheries Division, DLF Lao PDR, *Mr. Sommano Phounsavath* presented the Overview of Legal Framework and Policy Development for Fisheries

Management in Lao PDR (**Annex 6**). He informed that the development of the fisheries sector in Lao PDR took off after year 2000 and onwards while the fisheries law was established in 2009 and elaborated the status of fisheries sector in Lao PDR and the organizational structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) as well as DLF which is under the MAF. In addition, the Meeting was also briefed on some important provisions under the Lao Fisheries Law 2009 and also the National Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development.

11. *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri* commented that many activities had been undertaken and the legal framework for fisheries management is also in place. He added that however the fisheries law alone is not sufficient to manage the fisheries resources, especially in trans-boundary context. Other common laws in relation to the environment and water resource management should be applied as well in order to properly manage the fisheries resources in holistic manner.

12. The Meeting noted that the MRC Fisheries Program supported one project on hydro aquatic survey of deep pool and identified that from the total of 72 fisheries conservation zone, only 20 were real deep pools. However, due to lack of support and staff DLF could not implement any conservation projects in that area.

13. *H.E. Watt Botkosal* suggested that there should be clear scope of collaboration between the two countries in Stung Treng and Champasak provinces. He also added that both countries should consider the integrated water resource management by involving different institutions and stakeholder from both countries and not limited to fisheries department only.

V. PRESENTATION OF THE STATUS OF MANAGEMENT MEASURES OF THE TRANS-BOUNDARY SPECIES AND CONSERVATION AREAS FOR IMPORTANT HABITATS

14. The representative from FiA Cambodia, *Mr. Phay Somany* presented the Status of Management Measures of the Trans-boundary Species and Conservation Areas for Important Habitats. His presentation focused on location and situation of trans-boundary area near Kratie and Stung Treng provinces, past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for the Mekong River dolphin management and issues and threats to the trans-boundary fisheries especially for the critically endangered Mekong River Dolphins. FiA has been conducting various activities such as establishment of fisheries communities along the Mekong river, including the border area between Champasak and Stung Treng provinces, carrying out researches and surveys for dolphin management, dolphin eco-tourism management, alternative livelihood development activities, awareness programs as well as policy and strategy development as part of the fisheries resource management program. While noting the existing framework for aquatic fisheries management in Cambodia, the Meeting was also enlightened with the issues and threats to the trans-boundary fisheries in Cambodia. His presentation is as per **Annex 7**.

15. With regard to the research work on trans-boundary/migratory fish species in Cambodia, the Meeting was clarified that research on fish migration was conducted by Mekong River Commission (MRC) long time ago and that there was no research on migratory fish species at present. However, FiA is planning to conduct research on fish migration which is still at the proposal stage.

16. The Meeting was informed that the fish health monitoring project along the Mekong River was only conducted at one targeted fishing village. In this connection, more projects will

be conducted in Stung Treng province but the projects will be focused on fish migration in order to collect more evidence for fisheries resource management.

17. *H.E. Watt Botkosal* shared that in May 2014, there was a workshop on conservation of endangered species along the Mekong River and suggested that information from such workshop could be useful for the establishment of trans-boundary collaboration between Cambodia and Lao PDR.

18. *Ms. Sisamouth Phengsakoun* from DLF, Lao PDR, presented the Status of Management Measure of trans-boundary Species and Conservation areas for Important Habitats in Lao PDR as per **Annex 8**. In her presentation, she highlighted the previous and on-going project in Khong District that was implemented by the government departments and supported by the international organizations as well as the existing laws and regulations pertaining to the fisheries management in Lao PDR. She also presented the fisheries status and fisheries management in Khong District and provided the summary of total conservation areas in Khong District and Mounlapamok District.

19. With respect to the dolphin management in Lao PDR, the Meeting was informed that first of all, the conservation zone was set up and village community was established at the conservation area in order to manage the area, including patrolling as means of enforcement. Furthermore, the project also supports livelihood activities for the village community.

20. In addition, *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri* commented that awareness should be created among the stakeholders with regard to the extinction of river dolphins in order to protect the species, ecosystem as well as the livelihood of the fishers in long term period. Furthermore, plenty of research had been conducted regarding the endangered species, habitat and conservation areas and that comparative studies on similar management activities in both countries should be conducted to identify the restrictions and limitations in order to fill in the gaps.

21. While recognizing the efforts and commitments that has been taken by Cambodia and Lao PDR to manage the fisheries resources in the Mekong River, *H.E. Watt Botkosal* requested both countries to fully participate and undertake collaborative management actions in order to protect the fisheries resources, including endangered species as well as the livelihood of the people who are benefiting from the fisheries resources.

VI. CAPTURE FISHERIES, COMBATING ILLEGAL AND DESTRUCTIVE FISHING INCLUDING TRADE OF AQUATIC SPECIES/PRODUCTS

22. *Mr. Chhuon Kimchhea* from FiA presented the Capture Fisheries, Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing including Trade of Aquatic Species/Products in Cambodia. He elaborated the overview of capture fisheries in Cambodia, existing Fisheries laws, the inland fisheries domain and close fishing season enforced in Stung Treng and Kratie provinces. The inland fishing practice is classified into three (3) types of fishing gears i.e. small-scale fishing gears, middle-scale fishing gears and large-scale (industrial) fishing gears. His presentation also included the prohibited fishing gears and methods that are currently enforced in Cambodia, strategies to combat illegal and destructive fishing and proposed action to be taken. The detail of his presentation is as per **Annex 9**.

23. The Meeting was clarified that the production had been increasing since 2008 but the export value varied because the population in Cambodia is increasing as well as the demand for fish and therefore the fish has been supplied to the domestic market to cater the increasing demand.

24. In order to improve the statistical data on fisheries production/landing, different approach such as interviewing the fishers and calculating the estimated catch/production per day might help to produce more reliable data rather than relying on the fishers to fill in the log book which might not be accurate.

25. The Meeting also noted that before 2013, the Working Commission in Cambodia which was formed under the Council of Ministers had established 75 river guards and after the election, the administration structure was reshuffled and the Working Commission was shifted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, under the responsibility of FiA. Since then, the river guards have been functioning to control the illegal and destructive fishing activities along the Mekong River. This activity had proven to enhance the fisheries resources in the Mekong River whereby the density of fries increased from 20 to 30 fries/m³ to more than 400 fries/m³.

26. The representative from Lao PDR, *Mr. Bouasavanh Viengsombath* presented the country's review on Capture Fisheries, Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing including Trade of Aquatic Species/Products (**Annex 10**), focusing on Sipahndone area. He elaborated on the status of capture fisheries in Lao PDR, laws and regulations related to illegal and destructive fishing and also laws pertaining to the fisheries trade, import and export. The Meeting noted that DLF is currently drafting specific regulation on fisheries trade including the import and export of aquatic products.

27. With regard to the fisheries patrol activity at the trans-boundary area in Lao PDR, the Meeting was informed that at the moment, DLF has been cooperating with the local communities to carry out the patrolling activity. Nevertheless, under the long term plan, the department will establish fisheries inspector to conduct the enforcement activity as it is clearly stipulated in the Fisheries Law of Lao PDR. However, it will take about two (2) to three (3) years to establish the fisheries inspector system.

28. One of the delegates from Cambodia expressed his views that trans-boundary fisheries and shared stock is very important, especially for the local communities who utilize these resources. Therefore, he suggested that the MOA should also consider the livelihood of people in the trans-boundary area.

29. For the benefit of the Meeting, *Mr. Sommano Phounsavath* informed that DLF will conduct the National Fisheries Sector Meeting in end of June 2014 and invite the relevant stakeholder, including departments and ministries that have links to the fisheries sector. The event is anticipated to increase cooperation among the ministries in developing the fisheries sector in Lao PDR. He also added that DLF had developed the National Fisheries Strategies to ensure the sustainability of fisheries sector.

VII. COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

30. The representative from Cambodian Rural Development Team (CRDT), *Ms. Ul Socheat* expressed her gratitude to SEAFDEC for inviting CRDT to the Meeting. She gave a brief

overview on the activities of CRDT conducted in Cambodia especially on the livelihood development program implemented in Kratie and Stung Treng of Cambodia. She informed the Meeting that livelihood development for fisheries management has been conducted through community-based organizations (CBOs) to ensure food security and improve living standard of people. The program also included community-based ecotourism (CBET) within dolphin pools and environmental education to combat illegal fishing and to protect the dolphins. She highlighted that the alternative livelihood diversification plays a crucial role to support conservation effort and fisheries management of the Mekong river. Her presentation appears as **Annex 11**.

31. The Meeting was clarified that Community-based Organizations (CBOs) are recognized at commune level in order to avoid complicated process like CFi and CF, which are under the Fisheries Laws, and CBOs support community fisheries and forestry management. The CRDT allocated seed money to support activities of the CBOs. The Meeting then suggested that such CBOs would be also called as livelihood or interested groups considering that the structure of the group is informal based on their interests.

32. The representative from Cambodia National Mekong Committee CNMC), *H.E. Watt Botkosal* expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for extending the invitation to CNMC to attend the Meeting. He introduced the Mekong Integrated Water Resources Management Project (M-IWRM) of MRC which supports national and trans-boundary fisheries and water resources management. He informed the Meeting that the project aims to improve the enabling framework and capacity for IWRM in the Lower Mekong Basin Countries and strengthen the role of MRC as the facilitator of significant water resources development, guided by IWRM principles. The project comprises of two main components: 1) support for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management, and 2) support for River Basin Management and Coordination with Riparian Countries. His presentation appears in **Annex 12**.

33. The representative from CORIN-Asia, *Ms. Rebeca Fontanilla Andong* shared the information regarding the activities under the purview of CORIN-Asia. She pointed out that CORIN-Asia's activities are focused in the coastal area and added that there is always room for the expansion of scope whether in the freshwater, marine or coastal areas. With regard to the projects at the coastal area of Cambodia, CORIN-Asia cooperates with the local institutions, local authorities and local communities and had facilitated in the establishment of models for livelihood development, mechanisms, tools and techniques for coastal fisheries management and that the knowledge could be helpful in the discussions. She added that CORIN-Asia is looking forward to explore possible areas of collaboration with Cambodia and Lao PDR for better fisheries resource management.

34. *Mr. Siv Sokngy* representative from the Learning Institute shared the activities related to fisheries that have been conducted. SEAFDEC had funded a project on strengthening fisheries communities in seven (7) provinces, whereby three (3) provinces are located near the Tonle Sap Lake and four (4) provinces are located nearby the coastal area. The Meeting also noted that Learning Institute had carried out many trainings focusing on gender and facilitation skills and that women group were established in all of the seven (7) provinces. Besides that, some budget was allocated for the communities to implement activities related to fisheries management and awareness rising. The Learning Institute is also working closely with FiA by attending meetings with FiA at the provincial level and also sharing research materials for improvement of fisheries management.

35. The representative from Mekong River Commission (MRC), *Mr. Peter Degen* presented the MRC-FP Approach to Promoting Trans-boundary Fisheries Management (**Annex 13**). His presentation encompassed three (3) parts i.e. background and principles of MRC projects, MRC-FP trans-boundary project design and the fisheries project links with four (4) components of the MOA. The MRC uses the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) principles or also known as the Dublin Principles and emphasizes on two (2) principles out of four (4), which are the participatory approach and role of women. He also explained the overall goal of the MRC project and the development of the trans-boundary fisheries management mechanism as well as elaborated the projects' activities and its link to the four (4) components stipulated under the MOA.

36. *Mr. Sommano Phounsavath* informed that there are two (2) ongoing bilateral fisheries related projects with Cambodia whereby one (1) project is supported by MRC and the other one is supported by SEAFDEC-Sweden and that both projects should not duplicate. However, he suggested that the same working group could be used due to lack of staff and if possible, the same approach could also be used for both projects.

37. The representative from World Wide Fund for Nature-Cambodia (WWF-Cambodia), *Mr. Nou Chanveasna* expressed his appreciation to SEAFDEC for inviting WWF-Cambodia to the Meeting. He informed the Meeting that one of the main target areas of work of WWF-Cambodia is in Si Phan Don-Stung Treng-Kratie (SSK). The areas are habitats for Dolphin home range, the Stung Treng Ramsar site, the Mekong Flooded Forest. He highlighted that WWF-Cambodia supported FiA financially and technically for training on law enforcement by setting up of river guards as well as development of community fisheries. His presentation appears as **Annex 14**.

38. In response to the query on the work of WWF-Cambodia in Champasak, Lao PDR, the Meeting was clarified that through its internal communication between WWF-Cambodia and WWF-Lao PDR, they have conducted dolphin survey in the trans-boundary area and added that WWF-Lao also conducted programs on community development and awareness building on dolphin conservation.

39. The expert, *Dr. Oopatham Pawaputanom Na Mahasarakarm* commented that adequate information is available such as the migration pattern of the trans-boundary species, spawning seasons and spawning grounds of the species and suggested that the information could be used to develop management approach. He also added that the importance and benefits of fisheries management should be explained to the fishers for better understanding. In addition, he expressed his views on stock enhancement through captive breeding may be one of the option to increase the resources. There are many important species in Mekong River that could be bred in captive environment by collecting the matured broodstock and spawn in hatcheries and this activity may not impact the genetic loop so much.

40. While noting that captive breeding could support the stock enhancement in Mekong River, the Meeting also agreed that there are many constraints in conducting research on breeding technology such as obtaining the matured broodstock and long life span of the species. Therefore, this kind of research should be treated as ad hoc rather than including in the long term planning.

VIII. GROUP DISCUSSION ON THE WORK PLAN

41. The participants were divided into 2 groups according to their respective countries and were tasked to discuss on two (2) components i.e. 1) management measures of trans-boundary species; 2) capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing including trade of aquatic species/products. Both groups had deliberated and proposed a matrix work plan for 2014 and onwards which included the issues, problems and gaps, short term and long term activities and responsible agencies.

IX. GROUP PRESENTATION

42. On behalf of the Cambodian group, *Mr. Phay Somany* presented the output of the group discussion. He highlighted that the focus area was Kratie, Stung Treng and Preah Vihear provinces and explained the issues, problems and gaps, objectives as well as short-term and long-term activities that were identified by the group. The matrix Work Plan proposed by the Cambodian group is as per **Annex 15**.

43. Representative from Lao PDR group, *Ms. Sisamouth Phengsakoun* presented the matrix Work Plan (**Annex 16**) that was discussed during the breakout session.

44. The Meeting noted that there was another on-going project in relation to the Mekong Irrawaddy Dolphin that was funded by WWF Lao PDR and that the project will continue for another 2 years. Therefore, the Mekong Irrawaddy Dolphin was not included in the proposed work plan in order to avoid duplication.

45. While noting that joint commitment is needed to protect the small remaining population of the dolphin, there was suggestion to reduce the use of gillnet along the trans-boundary area in Lao PDR. In this respect, alternative livelihood should be introduced to the related communities whom may be affected by the conservation management measures. With regard to that, relevant organizations shall cooperate and ensure that necessary conservation measures are being undertaken and the livelihood of the communities is being taken care as well.

46. *Mr. Ing Try* recalled that during the previous meeting in Champasak, the Meeting agreed to review the existing policy and regulations pertaining to fisheries. He pointed out the importance to review the existing laws and regulations, not only focusing on fisheries laws but also laws related to other ministries that might have some connection to fisheries management and suggested that the activity should be included as one of the short term activity in the work plan.

47. The Meeting noted that both countries may have different concerns but most of the issues are similar. Therefore, the common area of interest should be identified and incorporated to develop a collaborative management plan for fisheries management in the trans-boundary area.

X. DISCUSSION ON DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) AND WORK PLAN

48. The Draft MOA between FiA, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, The Kingdom of Cambodia and DLF, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao People's Democratic Republic was discussed thoroughly and some amendments were made to the draft.

49. The Meeting agreed to stipulate Stung Treng, Preah Vihear (Cambodia) and Champasak (Lao PDR) provinces in the MOA as the areas of trans-boundary between Cambodia and Lao PDR.

50. The signatory for Lao PDR was changed from *Mr. Sommano Phounsavath* to *Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy*.

51. The Meeting was clarified that the MOA was being developed under the scope of MOU between Cambodia and Lao PDR and it shall be signed before the expiry of the MOU.

52. The Meeting also agreed that the edited draft MOA will be circulated to all participants the next morning (5 June 2014). The amended draft MOA appears in **Annex 17**.

XI. AGREED ON THE WORK PLAN FOR 2014-2015

53. Some common issues and proposed activities were identified from the outputs of the group discussions and these inputs were listed as the collaborative activities under the work plan for 2014-2015. Some of the proposed activities included the review of existing data and information, sharing of information and strengthening of communication between both countries, forming of joint working groups, joint stocking program, etc.

54. The Meeting agreed that other activities such as organization of meetings, seminars and workshops will be detailed out and categorized according to its respective levels i.e. local, national, sub-regional level by the secretariats.

55. It was agreed that the activities should also include the translation of existing laws and regulations related to trans-boundary fisheries to alternate languages (Khmer to Lao; Lao to Khmer) for sharing between Cambodia and Lao PDR. The translation should also include English version as master copy to avoid misinterpretation.

56. The Meeting concluded that the edited draft MOA between Cambodia and Lao PDR will be circulated the next morning (5 June 2014) and the annex 1 for the draft MOA (Work Plan for 2014-2015) will be circulated by 13 June 2014 for comments and consideration by both countries. The agreed deadline for comments is 20 June 2014.

57. The agreed Work Plan for 2014-2015 is as per **Annex 18**.

XII. EXPERIENCES FROM THE STUDY TRIP

58. The study trip was conducted on 4 June 2014, participants visited Kampong Phlouk Fishery Community, which lies on the shores of Tonle Sap Great Lake. The participants from Lao PDR and Cambodia had the good opportunity to observe fishing activities around the Tonle Sap Great Lake and share experience with the member of the Kampong Phlouk Fishery Community in different aspects such as structure of the committee and its institution, enforcement, gender, etc.

XIII. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

59. The Chairman, *Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri* expressed his sincere gratitude to all participants for their active participation throughout the Meeting and was glad that the preparation of the

MOA and the work Plan for 2014-2015 progressed very well. He added that the lesson learned from the MRC Fisheries Project would be the basis for many works on fisheries management. Furthermore, he also uttered gratefulness for the effort and support from Cambodia, Lao PDR and other organizations for providing useful inputs for the development of the MOA and Work Plan and agreed that in principle, the MOA is a form of close collaborative effort between both countries on the same area of work. Finally, he hoped that people's awareness on the importance of fisheries could be inculcated from this cooperation to achieve a better management with regard to sustainable fisheries sector. After wishing the participants safe journey to their respective home countries, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

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Opening Remarks

By Dr. Chumnarn Pongsri, SEAFDEC Secretary-General

Mr. Ing Try, Deputy Director General of Fisheries Administration, Cambodia, Distinguished delegates from Cambodia, Lao PDR and relevant agencies in the Mekong region, Representatives from the SEAFDEC Secretariat, Members of the Regional Fisheries Policy Network, Ladies and Gentlemen, a very good morning!

On behalf of SEAFDEC and the SEAFDEC-Sweden project, I am pleased to welcome you all to the First Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR. I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Cambodia for the hospitality in welcoming us to the magnificent Angkor Wat, a World Heritage place, Siem Reap.

As you may be already aware that during the last few years, SEAFDEC has provided support the Member Countries of the region to dialogue in aspects related to fisheries, which has gradually been addressing the need to manage over-fishing, to combat illegal fishing, and to integrate fisheries management with habitat management and to restore and maintain important habitats in sub-regions, one of the most important area is the Mekong region.

Through sub-regional approach, the SEAFDEC-Sweden project has been facilitating the Mekong countries such as Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam to discuss and look for the effective ways to improve the management of fisheries in order to sustain the fisheries resources in this sub-region. We all know that the nature of fisheries, migration of fish and the mobility of people and vessels involved in the sector are important factors that cannot be disregarded and implies that cooperative management is needed to address the trans-boundary issues.

As a good opportunity we are now conducting this meeting for Cambodia and Lao PDR to get together to finalize the MOA between the two countries that has been drafted since the previous informal meeting on 5 February 2014, Champasak, Lao PDR and identify the future activities as well. therefore, over the next two days, we will have some focused discussions on: (1) preliminary study of information of on-going projects, review of legal framework, and identification of issues and recommendations for potential areas for collaboration; and (2) finalized MOA between Cambodia and Lao PDR including the list of prioritized collaborative activities as well as national activities to be carried out by each country. Interestingly, there will be a field trip to share experience on community fisheries management (Co-management) from Cambodia in the last day of the meeting.

I am confident that your goals will be reached and accordingly recognized as a consistent outcome with the hopes and expectations of the countries involved since I can see the characteristic dedication and commitment of all our participants.

On behalf of the organizers of this meeting, we wish to express our gratitude to all the participants, especially the representatives from our Member Countries and relevant NGOs for enjoying your stay here in Siem Reap. Your active participation would surely enhance the cooperation that we have initiated for the promotion of sustainable fisheries in the Mekong region thus, also achieved the objectives of this meeting.

With that note ladies and gentlemen, I now declare the 1st Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR open. Thank you and have a good day!

Provisional Prospectus

Background

The Mekong Basin has one of the world's largest and most productive inland fisheries, second only to Amazon River and supports the world's largest freshwater capture fishery. The annual flood pulse of the river continues to support a rich fishery, while there are reports of declining catches [1]. The resources provided by the river is the basis for the livelihood of people throughout the Mekong River Region. "By hook or by crook", human societies in around the Mekong is linked to the wetlands and related products at different intensity depending on the location and time of the year.

Given the large amount of people involved in catching fish and fisheries products catch or production estimates based on "catches" has not been able to match the actual level being caught for consumption and processing. To get a more accurate figure the Mekong River Commission (MRC) in cooperation with others has been making estimates based on the consumption pattern and level of consumption. Recent estimates by the MRC indicates that 2 million tons of fish are landed a year, in addition to almost 500,000 tons of other aquatic animals [2]. Aquaculture yields about 2 million tons of fish a year [3]. While an estimated commercial value of freshwater capture fishery of US\$3.9-7 million/year [4]. To get a picture of the total value and importance of the Mekong River there is a need to add the production of aquatic plants (water spinach, kang kong, Mekong weed, etc) which to a large extent is harvested and marketed outside of any statistically system – and in addition estimates should be made of the perhaps most important wetland plant, rice.

An assessment on the importance and values need to include aspects that make reference to the adaptive capacity to live with the large fluctuations of climate variability and seasonal variation (dry and wet season dynamics) that is a dominating feature of the Mekong River Region. To work towards long-term sustainability it is crucial to ensure interconnectivity throughout the river system and to keep fish migration paths open. There is a need to define and protect conservation areas by securing deep pools and dry season refuges for fish and other aquatic animals. A major constraint for the management of fisheries and wetlands and the need to consider and build upon the benefits of annual floods is that all maps for "development" planning is based on a dry season picture of the water coverage.

Concerning the importance of fisheries in the basin, countries along the Mekong River, in particular Cambodia and Lao PDR have promoted cooperation for the achievement of their parallel objectives in fisheries management and development as supporting by the MRC 1995 agreement. The two countries therefore signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fisheries Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR on July 2010. The objectives of the 5-year MOU are to encourage direct communication and cooperation between their respective staff; to promote cooperation within

¹ MRC. 2010a. IWRM-based basin development strategy for the Lower Mekong basin. 4th draft. Mekong River Commission.

² K. G. Hortle (2007). ["Consumption and the yield of fish and other aquatic animals from the Lower Mekong Basin"](#). MRC Technical Paper No. 16. Mekong River Commission.

³ [Mekong River Commission \(2010\). "Assessment of Basin-wide Development Scenarios: Technical Note 11: Impacts on Fisheries"](#). Mekong River Commission.

⁴ MRC. 2010b. State of the Basin Report 2010. Mekong River Commission.

areas of common concern that are mutually agreed upon including the following activities which are: exchange of information related to fisheries management, research and development, identification and implementation of strategies and schemes for joint management of shared trans-boundary fishery resources, aquaculture development and prevention of fish disease and spread of disease, visits by and exchange of staff, including joint meeting and workshops, and together looking for third parties to support human resource development in the fisheries sector of both countries.

Based on the Informal Meeting on the Development of Joint Fisheries Management between Cambodia and Lao PDR on 5 February 2014 in Champasak, Lao PDR with supporting by SEAFDEC-Sweden project, the meeting agreed that arrangements for the Joint Fisheries Management would be developed under the provisions of the existing the July 2010 MOU. The meeting also agreed to draft the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to support the implementation of the collaborative activities between the two countries with support for the process of cooperation from the SEAFDEC-Sweden project. The MOA would be developed based on the July 2010 MOU with the long term perspective that trans-boundary national committee as mentioned in the MOU should be designated while in the short term, in order to facilitate an immediate start Cambodia and Lao PDR are willing to set up a “Technical Working Group”. The aspects to be considered under the drafted MOA includes; 1) livelihood development or alternative livelihoods, 2) prevention of illegal fishing activities, 3) destructive fishing methods, and 4) joint planning for management of trans-boundary stocks while capacity building on fisheries management for government officers and awareness building campaign on sustainable fisheries for local communities should be developed.

In this connection, SEAFDEC through the SEAFDEC-Sweden project was requested to facilitate the initial study on legal agreements and institutional arrangements as well as comprehensive review information and outcomes of previous and existing projects in the trans-boundary areas between Champasak, Lao PDR and Stung Treng, Cambodia before the next meeting between the two countries.

Rationale

Through a broad range of initiative of sub-regional or local nature experiences has been gained – both positive and negative – that in combination would provide a rich source of reference on the Mekong and the dynamic seasonal aquatic fluctuation. Indications would, based on experiences, be provided on how to strengthen the sustainable use of its living aquatic resources to the benefit of the people – especially the rural people that are more directly dependent on the fish and other aquatic resources.

In this connection, taking into account the provisions provided by the 2011 Resolution and Plan of Action (no. 34) underline the development of inter-agency coordination (national/sub-regional) on multiple-use water resources of the wetlands/flood-plains to sustain freshwater fisheries, mitigate conflicts between users and also encourage better coordination to address trans-boundary inland fisheries management issues. In this respect the joint fisheries management between Cambodia and Lao PDR would serve multi-agency cooperation for trans-boundary management in respective area.

Objectives:

With the above concerns, this meeting supports the arrangements for the Joint Fisheries Management between Cambodia and Lao PDR. The meeting aims to discuss a preliminary study of information of on-going projects, a review of the legal framework in the two countries,

and the identification of issues and recommendations for potential areas for collaboration. The meeting also aims to finalize the MOA between the two countries, which has been drafted since the previous informal meeting on 5 February 2014, Champasak, Lao PDR, as well as identify future activities.

Expected Outputs:

- Endorsement of the preliminary study of information of on-going projects and the review of the legal framework in the two countries.
- Identification of issues and recommendations for potential areas for collaboration.
- Finalized MOA between Cambodia and Lao PDR including the implementation plan of such collaborative activities as well as national activities to be carried out by each country.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased collaboration and understanding between the two countries on trans-boundary stocks and other relevant trans-boundary activities.
- Enhanced awareness on sustainable fisheries management for authorities and local communities.
- Improved cost-effectiveness of management through the possibility of cost-sharing of activities.

Impacts:

- Sustainable use of aquatic resources in trans-boundary areas.

Period and Venue:

The First Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR will be organized from 2-4 June 2014 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Expected Participants:

The expected participants are the officials from the central government and provincial levels responsible for the issues identified in the draft MOA. The participants also included local agencies and NGOs who are working on the identified areas.

Agenda

- Agenda 1 Opening of the Meeting
- Agenda 2 Introduction and arrangement of the Meeting
- Agenda 3 Country reviews on legal framework and policy development
- Agenda 4 Presentation of the status of management measures of the trans-boundary species and conservation areas for important habitats
- Agenda5 Capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing, including trade of aquatic species/products
- Agenda 6 Cooperation with International/Regional Organizations
- Agenda 7 Group Discussion on the Workplan
- Agenda 8 Group presentation
- Agenda 9 Discussion on Drafting Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Workplan
- Agenda 10 Agreed on the Workplan for 2014-2015
- Agenda 11 Closing of the Meeting

Country Review on Legal Framework and Policy Development

Mr. Pich Sereywath
Deputy Director of CFDD, Legal Specialist

Legal Instrument Supporting to Fisheries

- Cambodia's millennium Development Goal
- National Strategy Development Plan (NSDP)
- Decentralization and Deconcentration

Harmonization and alignment in Fisheries

- Promoting Integrated approach
Take into consideration on integrated cross-sectoral approach aimed at involving partners in the management and development and conservation of fisheries in Cambodia
- Recognizing a participatory in decision making: formed Technical Working Group on Fisheries, to promote and foster transparency and accountability
- Respecting regional/international obligation

Fisheries Sector Policy

Royal Government has put in place the Rectangular Strategy.

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One side of the Rectangular Strategy is devoted to fisheries reforms which aim is law enforcement, making action plans, and strengthening all relevant institutions to achieve the national goals of environmental fisheries protection, conservation of biodiversity, socioeconomic development, good governance and poverty alleviation

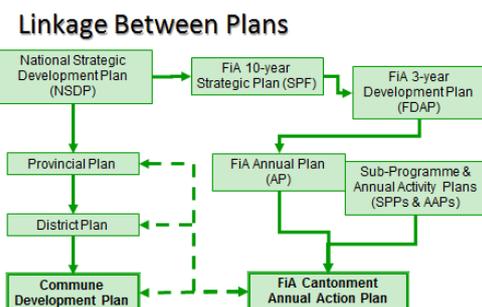
Vision

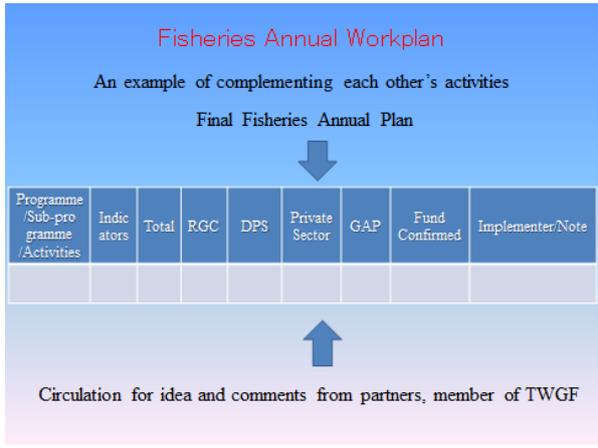
Policy Statement on Fisheries Sector

"Management, conservation, and development of sustainable fisheries resources to contribute to ensuring people's food security and to socio-economic development in order to enhance people's livelihoods and the nations' prosperity"

Policy, Law and legal instruments

- Seven Set Targets supporting the policy Statement
1. Contribution of the fisheries sector to national development in a significant and sustainable manner
 2. People's livelihoods in this sector have been improved and are at a higher than average level, determined at national level.
 3. Fishing ground and other sources of fisheries resources are in a good and appropriate condition and have been sustainably managed.
 4. Fish is the sources of variety of food to ensure health and dignity.
 5. The fishing business is lucrative, stable and responsible.
 6. The fishing grounds have been managed, developed, and conserved in close cooperation with neighboring countries
 7. The political and legal environment and support for this sector is appropriate, sufficient and enables implementation





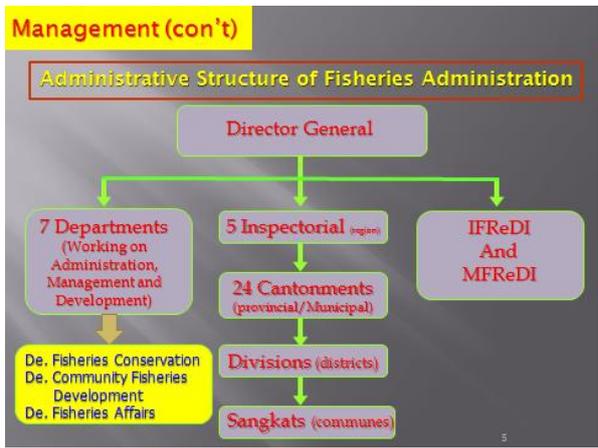
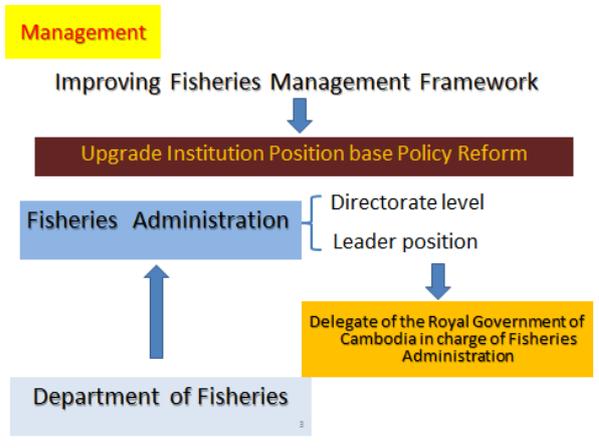
Law on Fisheries

Can be born after 6 years of consultation process within stakeholders

It was signed by the King, 21st May 2006

17 CHAPTERS (109 ARTICLES)

- Chapter1: General Provision covers 3 articles (1-3)
- Chapter2: The Fisheries Administration covers 2 articles (6&7)
- Chapter3: The Fisheries Domain cover 6 articles (8-13)
- Chapter4: The Sustainability of Fishery Management covers 4 articles (14-17)
- Chapter5: Fishery Protection and Conservation covers 8 articles (18-25)
- Chapter6: The Management of Mangrove and Inundated forests covers 4 articles (26-29)
- Chapter7: The Management of Fishery Exploitation covers 9 articles (30-38)
- Chapter8: Inland Fisheries Exploitation covers 5 articles (39-44)
- Chapter9: Marine Fisheries Exploitation covers 8 articles (45-52)
- Chapter10: Aquaculture Management covers 6 articles (53-58)
- Chapter11: Fishery Communities covers 3 articles (59-63)
- Chapter12: Transport and Trade of Fisheries Products covers 6 articles (64-69)
- Chapter13: Licensing covers 2 articles (70-71)
- Chapter14: Procedures for Solving Fisheries Offences covers 14 articles (72-85)
- Chapter15: Penalties covers 19 articles (86-104)
- Chapter16: Enforcement of the Court Judgment covers 3 articles (105-107)
- Chapter17: Final Provisions covers 2 articles (108-109)



Fisheries Law and its power to each department under Fisheries Administration

Department of Administrative Affairs and Litigation

- Chapter 12: Transport and trade of fishery products (p35-38), 6 articles (64-69)
- Chapter 13: (Licensing) p38-39, 2 articles (70-71)
- Chapter 14: (Legal procedures for fishery offence solving) p39-46, 14 articles (72-85)
- Chapter 15: Penalties, p47-68, 19 articles (86-104)
- Chapter 16: Enforcement of the Court Judgment, p68,3 articles (105-107)

The Department of Community Fisheries Development

Chapter 11 of the Law on Fisheries (p34-p36, 5 articles (59-63))

- Royal Decree No. Nor.Ror./Ror.Kor.Tor./0505/250 dated 29 May 2005 on the Establishment of Community Fisheries
- Sub-decree No. 25 OrNorKror. Borkor. Dated 20 March 2007, on the Management of Community Fisheries,

The Department of Community Fisheries Development ...Con't

- Prakas No. 316 Prorkor.KorSorSor. dated 13 July 2007 on the Guidelines for Community Fisheries
 - Model of community fisheries by-laws
 - Model of community fisheries internal rules
 - Model of community fishing area agreement
 - Model of community fishing area management plan



The Department of Fisheries Conservation

Chapter 5 of the Law on Fisheries (p12-p17, 8 articles (18-25))

- Prakas (proclamation) on the measure to protection Endangered Fisheries Species
- Sub-decree on the Determination of Type of Fisheries and Endangered Fisheries Products
- Sub-decree on the establishment of fisheries conservation sanctuaries in Kampong Cham, Prey Veng and Takeo province

The Department of Fisheries Conservation...Con't

- Sub-decree on the Mekong River Dolphin's Managerial Protection Zone
- Prakas on the establishment of management and conservation of fisheries diversity in the Mekong River



The Department of Aquaculture Development

Chapter 10 of the Law on Fisheries (p30-p33, 6 articles (53-58))

- National Strategy for Aquaculture Development
- Aquaculture Standard.



Department of Fisheries Affairs (DFA)

Chapter 6,7, 8, 9, of the Law on Fisheries (p30-p33, 6 articles (53-58))

- Chapter 6: Inundated and Mangrove Forest Management (p17-p19), 4 articles (26-29)
- Chapter 7: The Management of Fisheries Exploitation (p20-24), 9 articles (30-38)
- Chapter 8: Inland Fisheries Exploitation (p24-27), 6 articles (39-44)
- Chapter 9: Marine Fisheries Exploitation (p26-30), 8 articles(45-52)



Department of Fisheries Post-Harvest Technologies and Quality Control (DFPTQ)

Chapter 5 of the Law on Fisheries (p16), articles 25 (point: 4&5)

Chapter 7, article 37 (p21), & article 36 (p22)

Chapter 12, article 68 (p37) & 69 (p38)-1 (Buying, selling processing, stocking and transporting of fishery products from illegal fishing or using illegal fishing gears).



Fisheries Resources Management and Conservation

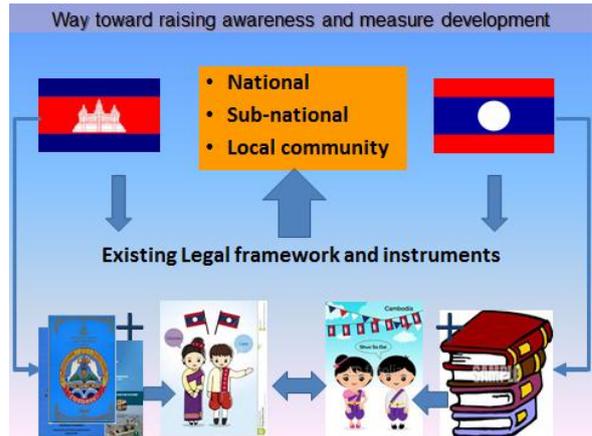


Transboundary Focus: LAOS-CAMBODIA

Under Government and Government Effort

- The Minute of the meeting between Chapassak and Stung Treng on Transboundary Wetland Management in Stung Treng and Champassak Provinces
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Fisheries Administration, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Department of Livestock and Fisheries, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao PDR
- MOU between IFRDI and LARReC which also expired in 2009





Issues

- Limited understanding of existing legal instrument, policy, management and conservation measure, and political will
- Lack of information sharing
- Less join effort in management and conservation of shared stock and shared critical habitats
- Improper fisheries governance to eliminate to externalities of transboundary fisheries resources
- Day-to-day degradation of transboundary resources
- Households' livelihood problem
- Strong Effort in Recourse utilization for just living
- Become offense of the nature and the state

Action to be taken

Finding from group discussion



THANKS!



Annex 6

Overview of Legal Framework and Policy Development for Fisheries Management in Lao PDR

Mr. Sommano Phounsavath
 Director, Fisheries Division, Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Lao PDR

OVERVIEW OF LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN LAO PDR

By: Mr. Sommano Phounsavath, Director, Fisheries Division, Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Lao PDR
 E-mail: sommanop@gmail.com



The 1st Meeting of the Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas between Lao PDR and Cambodia



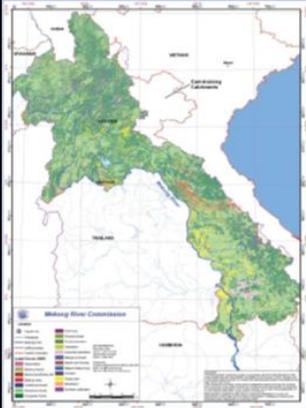
Presentation Outline

1. General information;
2. Status of fishery resources;
3. Institutional and legal framework;



Topography of Lao PDR

- 87.7 per cent of the country area (207,674 km²) drains into the Mekong River;
- Making up 26.1% of the Mekong Basin;
- Contributing about 35% of the Mekong River's discharge and another 12.3 % in the north-eastern area drains to the north of Viet Nam into rivers that flow to the China Sea.
- Capture fisheries and aquaculture in Lao PDR are based on water resource ecosystems mainly consisting of rivers and streams, hydropower and irrigation reservoirs, diversion weirs, small water bodies, flood plains and wet-season rice fields;
- The total area of water resources for capture fisheries is believed to be more than 1.2 million ha.

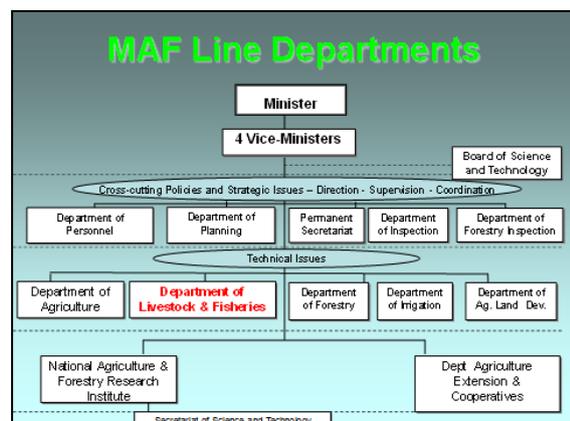


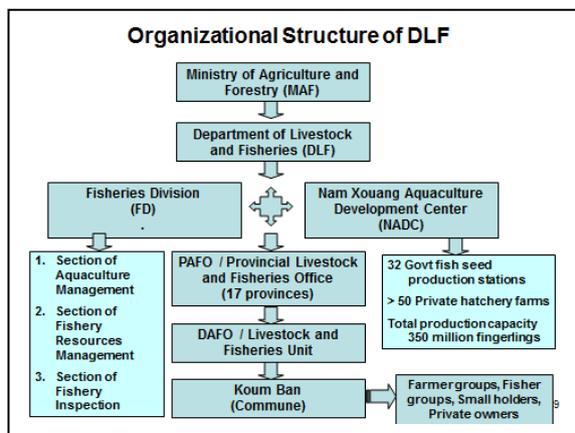
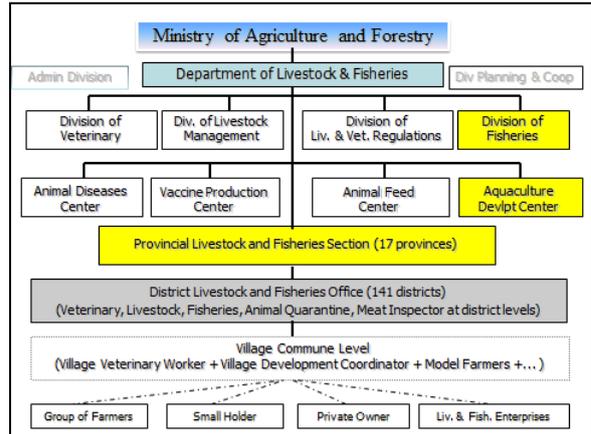
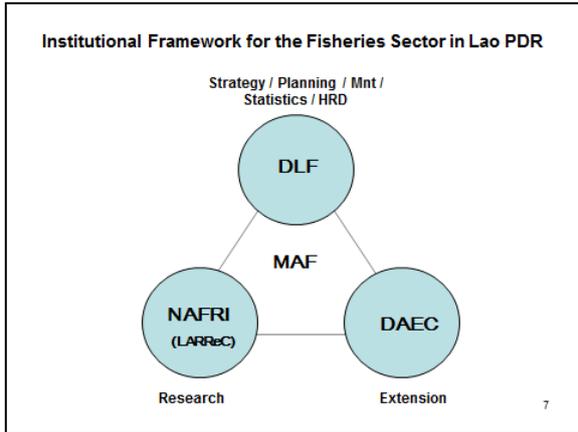
Status of the fishery resources in Lao PDR

- The total area of water resources for inland capture fisheries is estimated to be more than 1.2 million ha.
- The estimated consumption of inland fish is approximately 167,922 tonnes per year.
- Consumption of other aquatic animals is estimated at 40,581 tonnes per year.
- Total estimated value at almost US\$150 million per year.
- The people of Lao PDR, especially in the rural communities which account for more than 75 per cent of the population, still depend upon the country's fish and other aquatic animals as their most reliable sources of animal protein intake.
- More than 481 fish species have been identified in Lao PDR, including 22 exotic species, and more species are being discovered regularly.
- Among other aquatic animals, about 37 amphibians, seven species of crabs and 10 species of shrimps have been recorded, but these records would cover only about 15 per cent of the estimated total. (Phonvisay, 2011)

Government Administrative System
 18 ministries and 3 equivalent agencies:

1. Government's Office
2. Bank of Lao PDR
3. the State Inspection Committee and Head of Anti-Corruption Agency
4. Ministry of National Defense
5. Ministry of Public Security
6. Ministry Foreign Affairs
7. Ministry of Justice
8. Ministry of Finance
9. **Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) – DLF, DOI, DOF**
10. Ministry of Industry and Commerce
11. Ministry of Energy and Mining
12. Ministry of Public Works and Transport
13. Ministry of Planning and Investment
14. Ministry of Education and Sports
15. Ministry of Public Health
16. Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism
17. Ministry of Labour Social Welfare
18. Ministry of Interior
19. Ministry of Science and Technology
20. **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) – DWR, DFRM,**
21. Ministry of Post, Telecommunication and Communication





Lao Fishery Law (2009)

- The Lao fishery law was developed by the DLF with the active participation of central and local authorities and other key stakeholders;
- The fishery law was endorsed by the national assembly on 9th July 2009;
- The fishery law was officially declared in force on the 20th July 2009 by a presidential decree No 074.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

The Lao fishery law consists of 10 parts, 10 chapters and 72 articles:

- Part I: General provisions;
- Part II: Fishery;
- Part III: Fishery enterprise & protection;
- Part IV: Use of aquatic animals;
- Part V: Prohibition;
- Part VI: Conflict resolution;
- Part VII: Fishery mnt & inspection;
- Part VIII: Reward & sanction measures;
- Part IX: National fish release day;
- Part X: Final provisions.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 4. The ownership of fish and other aquatic fauna

Fish and all other kinds of natural aquatic fauna, which are not the property of any individuals or organizations within the territory of the Lao PDR, shall be the property of the national community and shall be centrally governed by the State uniformly throughout the country.

The State recognizes the use rights of individuals and organizations in accordance with laws and regulations.

Fish and other aquatic fauna which any individuals or organizations have brought for aquaculture in a certain area at their own labour or funds shall be the property of individuals or organizations with the exception of the breeding stock and the first generation of protected aquatic fauna, and the breeding stock of controlled aquatic fauna for commercial aquaculture and fisheries which shall be approved by the agriculture and forestry authority.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 5. State policies on fisheries

The State promotes aquaculture, conservation, protection, development, expansion of aquatic fauna and the management of their exploitation according to the local potential by the issue of policies, regulations, provision of funds, promotion of technical expertise, research, the use of technology, information and various measures in order to have an ever-increasing number of aquatic fauna to meet the demands of all Lao peoples.

The State encourages individuals and organizations, domestic or foreign, to invest in aquaculture, conservation, protection, development, species expansion and the processing of fish and other aquatic fauna through the implementation of various policies such as credit policies and exemptions or reductions of taxes and duties in accordance with laws and regulations.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 5. State policies on fisheries (continued)

The State supports the formation of fishermen's groups, associations and cooperatives to promote methods of production and processing of fish and other aquatic fauna to ensure the quality of the products.

All individuals as owners of aquatic products shall engage in fisheries management to make it effective and operate fisheries activities in accordance with laws and regulations.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 6. Basic principles of fisheries

1. Engagement in aquaculture, conservation, protection, development and expansion of the species of fish and other aquatic fauna in a sustainable manner shall be work in which all people participate;
2. Engagement in aquaculture, conservation, protection, development and expansion of the species of fish and other aquatic fauna shall be the important tasks in the management of fisheries of fish and other aquatic fauna;
3. Exploitation of aquatic fauna shall be in accordance with laws and regulations, effective and sustainable without creating negative impact on environment, society or nature;
4. Establishment and protection of conservation zones for aquatic species and of their habitats, and food sources are to create the best conditions for their growth and proliferation and are aimed at maintaining the ecosystem balance;
5. Conservation, protection, development, exploitation of aquatic fauna, the management and inspection of fisheries shall be in conformity with international treaties to which the Lao PDR is a party.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 48. Fishermen's associations

A Fishermen's Association is a social organization, voluntarily established by and with the agreement of members involved in fisheries and is under the management of the relevant Agriculture and forestry sectors.

Fishermen's cooperatives may also be established provided that the relevant sectors are in agreement.

The management, operations, rights and responsibilities of these associations and cooperative are defined in specific regulations.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 50. Establishment of Fisheries Management Committees (FMCs) in Water Bodies

The Fisheries Management Committees in Water Bodies, which shall include the participation of fishermen, shall be established in order to ensure the effective management of fisheries resources.

- The District Governor, the Municipal Head shall approve the request and appoint the committee as proposed by the village authority;
- The Provincial Governor, the Capital Mayor shall approve the request and the appointment of the Committee. In the event that the boundaries of the fisheries resource area are in two districts or municipalities in the the province upon the proposal from the relevant District Governors or the Municipal Head;

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 50. Establishment of Fisheries Management Committees (FMCs) in Water Bodies (continued)

- The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry shall approve and appoint the Committee, in the event that the boundaries of the fisheries resource area are in two provinces, capitals or more upon the proposal of the relevant Provincial Governors or the Capital Mayor;

The decision of the District Governor, the Municipal Head and the Provincial Governor, Capital Mayor to the appointment of a Fisheries Management Committee shall be proposed and submitted to the relevant agriculture and forestry sectors for control and inspection.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 51. Structure of Fisheries Management Committees in Water Bodies

Committees for the Management of Fisheries in Bodies of Water shall comprise representatives from the various organizations as identified below:

1. Representatives of the village, district or provincial fisheries organizations (local authorities);
2. Representatives of the fishermen;
3. Representatives of village or district social organizations;
4. Village, District or Municipal Security Officers;
5. Representatives of other relevant sectors as deemed necessary.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 52. Rights and duties of Fisheries Management Committees in Water Bodies

1. To prepare plans for the management and development of fisheries within their own water resource areas, namely: identified fisheries areas, conservation zones, protected areas, fish spawning grounds, areas for the expansion of fish species, fish release areas and others;
2. To propose plans and regulations for the management of fisheries including the use of fishing gear and methods, seasons and prohibitions related to the catching or trapping of certain protected aquatic animals and submit these to the municipal, district administration authorities for their consideration, approval and adoption;
3. To disseminate and publicize the fisheries management plans and regulations by means of posters and announcement in the mass media;

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 52. Rights and duties of Fisheries Management Committees in Water Bodies (Continued)

4. To protect the rights and benefits of the fishermen including the settlement of disputes arising in the management of the water resources areas under their control;
5. To guide, follow up, and inspect the implementation of fisheries management regulations in the areas under their control;
6. To seek funding for the support to fisheries management and development in the water resources areas under their control;
7. To collect annual statistics related to fisheries, including the production, details of the fishermen, fish conservation zones and summaries and reports and submit these to the local authorities and the relevant sectors;
8. To exercise other rights and duties as assigned by the relevant sectors.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 53. Village fisheries regulations

At the village level, the management of fisheries operations shall be regulated through the issue of regulations governing fishing in certain designated areas, namely set aside as conservation, protection and development areas, and the use of fisheries resources as established by the village authority in consultation with the Fisheries Management Committee, villagers, neighbouring communities and in coordination with the Village Agriculture and Forestry Unit or the district, municipal Agriculture Forestry Offices in the event that the regulations apply to many villages within a single district.

The village fisheries regulations shall come into force after endorsement by the District Governor and the Municipal Head.

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Lao Fishery Law (2009)

Article 54. Contents of the Regulations

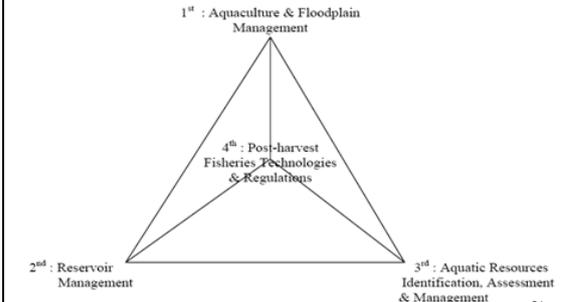
At the village level, the fisheries regulations shall include the following:

1. The purpose;
2. Any fish conservation zones or prohibited fishing areas;
3. The species of fish and other aquatic animals;
4. The fishing gear and methods;
5. The policy for rewards for good work and penalties;
6. The implementation;
7. Other information as deemed necessary.



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National Strategy for Fisheries Management and Development from present to 2020



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Fisheries Co-management Guidelines (DLF, 2009)

Key Steps in developing regulations for Participatory Aquatic Resources Management



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Map showing the location of Fish Conservation Zones (FCZ) established by DLF with support from the Community Fisheries Project (ComFish/WWF) for the period from 2005-2011



- 151 FCZs
- 149 villages
- 1,097 ha
- 7 provinces (Bokeo, Bolikhamxay, Khammouane, Savannakhet, Champasak, Sekong, Attapeu)

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Case Study 1: Pilot Areas of Fisheries Co-management in Lao PDR



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The Status of Management Measure of the Trans-boundary Species and Conservation Areas for Important Habitats

Mr. Phay Somany
Deputy Heads of Aquatic Endanger Species Office of DFC



THE STATUS OF MANAGEMENT MEASURE OF THE TRANSBOUNDARY SPECIES AND CONSERVATION AREAS FOR IMPORTANT HABITATS

Presenter Names: Ouk Vibol and Phay Somany
Director of the Fisheries conservation department (DFC)
Deputy Head of Aquatic Endanger Species Office of DFC
Meeting: 02_04 June 2014

Presentation overview

- Location and situation of the trans-boundary area
- Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for the Mekong river dolphin management
- Issues and threats to the trans-boundary fisheries, in particular for the Critically Endangered Mekong River Dolphins.

Location and Situation

- Six trans-boundary villages including Ou Svay (192 families and 955 people), Koh Pnové (105 families and 508 people), Koh Ngor (71 families and 368 people), Anlong Svay (141 families and 614 people), Cheuteal Thom (105 families and 516 families) and Cheuteal Touch (107 families and 508 people)
- One enforcement out post is located and functioning by five river guards
- Dolphin core conservation zone under the Sub-Decree
- Six individuals remaining
- Isolated population based on the survey result during the past 8 years
- Represents last chance for survival



Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for dolphin management

Community Fisheries: Four of the trans-boundary villages are community fisheries established by the Fisheries Administration with support from both local in international NGOs

Research:

- Mekong biological surveys
- Joint dolphin population monitoring using photo-ID
- Establishment of local dolphin mortality reporting network
- Establishment of dolphin movement reporting network
- Site status assessment: socio-economic and ecological conditions; identification of current threats; identify local issues; identify key community, Government and business stakeholders
- Joint monitoring of water quality
- Evaluation on impact of tourism and boat traffic on dolphins
- Dolphin biopsy survey
- Analysis of dolphin stomach contents
- census of a number of critically endangered birds.

Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for dolphin management

Dolphin Eco-tourism Management

- Blup Baitong's community-based ecotourism development at Prah Runkel commune is strongly focused on the promotion of ecotourism in both forestry and fisheries communities and was developed on April 2007
- Mekong Discovery Trail Project was developed in 2007 through the collaboration between World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) and Ministry of Tourism
- Commission of Dolphin Conservation was dissolved at the end of 2013

Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for dolphin management

Alternative livelihoods:

- Undertook livelihood development activities in Anlong Svay and Koh Ngor villages through collaborating partner CRDT in 2007
- Alternative rural livelihood schemes as well as water and sanitation initiatives were developed to improve local standard of living in these villages. This is producing spin off benefits for dolphin conservation, given the impoverished nature of these villages and reliance on fishing.
- CRDT has been carrying on its activities at other priority villages adjacent to the dolphin core habitats
- With technical and financial supports from Oxfam Australia, CEPA and the Fisheries Administration, 50 fisheries communities were developed in Stung Treng province and four of them located at the trans-boundary area

Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for dolphin management (con't.)

Awareness:

- Public awareness on relevant legislations concerning over the Mekong dolphin conservation, dolphin conservation issues and threats to the ecology of the TBP and local livelihoods targeting local Government, communities and business
- Community workshops to analyze results of site status assessment and provide input into development of strategies to reduce threats
- Develop guidelines on good dolphin viewing practice, train boat drivers, provide information to tourists

Policy and strategy development:

- Conducted series of consultation meetings with the Lao PDR to discuss strategies to mitigate threats
- Developed a number of legislation, strategies and roadmaps for aquatic fisheries management and conservation (see next slides).

Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for dolphin management (con't.)

Existing framework for aquatic fisheries management at the Cambodia's upper Mekong, in particular for biodiversity, Mega fish and the Mekong river dolphin

- The law on fisheries
- The Sub-Decree on the Mekong River Dolphins' Managerial Protection Zones
- Minute of the meeting between Chapassak and Stung Treng on Trans-boundary Wetland Management in Stung Treng and Champassak Provinces
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Fisheries Administration of Cambodia and the Department of Livestock and Fisheries of the Lao PDR
- MOU between IFReDI and LARReC which also expired in 2009
- The Draft Management Plan for the Stung Treng Ramsar
- Roadmap for effective enforcement in the Mekong Dolphins' Managerial Protection Zones
- The Cambodian Mekong River Dolphin Conservation Strategy
- The Kratie Declaration

Past efforts and existing framework for fisheries management, in particular for dolphin management (con't.)

- the Sub-Decree on the Determination of Types of Fisheries and Endangered Fisheries Products that provides full protection to 58 threatened fisheries species including Irrawaddy dolphins
- the Proclamation (Prakas) on the Measure to Protect the Endangered Fisheries Species
- Proclamation on the creation of the Mekong fisheries biodiversity conservation and management area.

Issues and threats to the trans-boundary fisheries, in particular for the Critically Endangered Mekong River Dolphins

- Dolphin by-catch in gill net
- Illegal fishing
- Lack of network and information sharing
- Poor dolphin ecotourism management (no actual plan)
- No formal benefit sharing from dolphin ecotourism
- Lack of baseline information on fish species and ecology
- No mechanism of activity implementation at grass root levels
- Potential and under-constructed dams at upstream
- Increasing human development
- Climate change.

Gill nets

> Research clearly shows that gill nets kill dolphins. Enforcement measure to enforce the Sub-Decree on the Mekong River Dolphins' Managerial Protection has resulted in reducing the Mekong Dolphin mortality.



> The large number of nets at the TBP are a serious threat to the dolphins, especially in the dry season when movement is restricted and fishing effort with nets is high

Poorly planned dolphin tourism

- > International research shown that uncontrolled dolphin viewing tourism can:
 - Directly result in deaths of dolphins e.g. propeller in Chilika lake, India
 - Cause stress to dolphins (e.g. Mahakam, Indonesia), negatively impact on breeding and feeding, resulting in poor health and reduced immunological function, disease more likely



- > No. of tourists at TBP is increasing each year
- > Increasing use of boats
- > No evidence of awareness/guidelines on good practice for tourist and boat drivers
- > Inequitable cost-benefit distribution



Increasing human development

- > Increasing **fishing pressure** on fish stocks locally and outside TBP reduces prey species for dolphin and places more nets in TBP.
- > Increasing **boat traffic** disturbs normal dolphin behaviour and increases stress levels
- > Increased **pollution**: domestic waste, plastics, agricultural chemical runoff. Increases dolphin stress levels and reduces immunological function increasing chances of disease

Thanks

Annex 8

The Status of Management Measure of the Trans-boundary Species and Conservation Areas for Important Habitats

Ms. Sisamouth Phensakhoun

Staff of Fisheries Division, Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Lao PDR

The Status of Management Measure of Trans-boundary Species and Conservation Areas for Important Habitats

The 1st Meeting of the Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR

Contents

1. Back ground
2. Fisheries status
3. Information of previous and ongoing projects
4. Fisheries management in Khong District
5. Conservation areas Khong District

1. Back ground

- Fisheries sector is one of the important for economically since it has provided sustenance for generation of both the rural and urban population in Lao PDR
- The fisheries sector intends to focus on the management and protection of the biodiversity and aquatic resources specially on fish habitats and spawning areas, and strict on implementation of the fishing regulation to ensure of their sustainability.
- The Mekong river is not just another river but it's an important for the livelihoods of people living along lower Mekong basin

2. Information of previous and ongoing projects in Khong District

No	Name of the projects	Project duration	Implemented	Supported
1.	Deep pool survey	2003-2004	LARReC PAFO, DAFO, Fisheries Unit/ Khong DAFO,	MRC
2.	Management of Fisheries in Khong District	2005-2010	LARReC PAFO, DAFO, Fisheries Unit/ Khong DAFO	MRC
3.	Awareness on Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation (Community Fisheries II)	2009-2011	DLF PAFO, DAFO, Fisheries Unit/ Khong DAFO,	WWF
4.	Management and sustainable use of aquatic animal resources in Siphandone	2012-2016	DLF PAFO, DAFO, Fisheries Unit/ Khong DAFO,	WWF

Law and Regulations

No	Name	Implemented by	Support Project	Approved by
1.	Village Fisheries Regulations + VFMC, Khong District	Hang Khone, Hang Sadam, Done nang Khoat, Pimanphone, Donehouat	MRC	District Governor, Khong District
2.	Village Fisheries Regulations +VFMC, Khong District	16 Villages	DLF/WWF	District Governor, Khong District
3.	Village Fisheries Regulations + VFMC Mounlapamok District	15 Villages	DLF/WWF	District Governor, Mounlapamok District

Law and Regulations Con't

No	Name	Implemented by	Approved by
4.	Regulation on Dolphin Conservation	Hang Khone and Hang Sadam Villages	District Governor, Khong District
5.	Agreement on Fisheries Management Committee and Dolphin Conservation, Village level	Hang Khone and Hang Sadam Villages	District Governor, Khong District
6.	Regulation on Role and Responsibilities Fisheries Management Committee and Dolphin Conservation, Village level	Hang Khone and Hang Sadam Villages	District Governor, Khong District

3. Fisheries status in Khong District

- Khong area in Champasak province of Lao PDR is also known as the Siphandone or “four thousand islands” wetlands. It covers an extensive area where the Mekong River braids to form numerous islands and several river channels that contain diverse habitats including rapids, riffles, deep pools and cascades. The fisheries in this important area are probably the most abundant of the country due to the diverse and productive habitats.

3. Fisheries status in Khong District Con't

- From 1993 to 2000 many studies and development activities on fisheries assessment and management were implemented by various fisheries research and development projects and institutions in the Khong area. However, there was limited use of the data and information generated by these projects for management. Since 2000 LARReC continued CPUE data collection, evaluation of Fish Conservation Zones in deep pools and conducted the first hydro-acoustic survey of Mekong deep pools (2003-2004) in the Khong area. From 2004-2010, the MRC Fisheries Programme facilitated a consultation process with the local authorities, fishing communities and other key stakeholders in order to identify problems and opportunities related to the improvement of management system of the fisheries in the Khong area.

4. Fisheries management in Khong District

- Dissemination on National Fisheries Law
- Collaborate on sustainable use of natural resources
- Management plan for Siphandone nature conservation areas development
- Community-based patrolling system
- Develop community fisheries organization
- Environment education
- Establish fisheries management committee in target areas

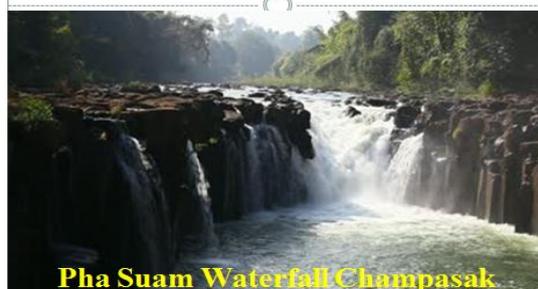
5. Summary Total Conservation Areas in Khong District

No	Cluster	Village Name	Conservation Name	Total areas (Ha)
1		Robpady Kang	Tha Ban;	5.55
			Vang Houa kang Chok	4.93
2		Hang Chang Pai	Vang Sa Nean	2.26
3	Robpady	Robpady Po Cak	Vang Hin Ngoum	4.63
4		Robpady Chok	Vang Ta Nai	6.77
5		Robpady khone Noy	Vang Kang Khan Yang	7.65
			Vang Done Kouay	9.65
6		Beunggam	Vang Khan Lueing	2.27
			Vang San Lai	2.18
7	Ka Dan	Done Choum	Vang Tha Done Choum	1.63
8		Doone Pheng	Vang Tha Done Pa pheng	64.12
Total		8 Villages	11 Conservations	

5. Summary Total of Conservation Areas in Mounlapamok District

No	Cluster	Village Name	Conservation Name	Total areas (Ha)
1	Veun kanh	Tha Hear	Vang Hin Bong	4.90
2		Luang So	Vang Veun Pak kha	2.95
3		Veun Kean	Vang Khoum Kai Diew	8.29
4		Pa Mok	Vang Ta Pok Yai	0.18
			Vang Khan Leuang	0.42
6		Sa Phang	Vang Khoum Dane Nguan	4.05
7	Saphang	Houay Yang	Vang Veun Sa La	24.55
8		Na Khame	Veun Ta Kou	9.10
9	Na dy	Veun Yang	Vang Veun Yang	1.78
Total		8 Villages	9 Conservations	56.22

Thank you for your kind attention



Pha Suam Waterfall Champasak.

Annex 9

Capture Fisheries, Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing Including Trade of Aquatic species/product

Ms. Chhuon Kimchhea
Fisheries Administration, Ministry of Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia



Outline

- Introduction
- Overview of capture fisheries
- Combating illegal and destructive fishing including Trade of aquatic species/products
- The priority issue in trans-boundary areas
- Proposed action to be taken

Introduction

- Fisheries sector has contributed significantly to the employment and livelihoods of the poor, to food security, and to GDP and foreign exchange balance. Cambodia's fisheries provide full-time, part-time and seasonal employment for up to 6 million people and the fisheries sector contributes to domestic food security, providing over 81% of the animal protein in the national diet and also forming a critical source of essential vitamins and macro-nutrients.
- Fisheries productions is estimated to be worth around US\$ 200-300 million per year at the point of landing and fisheries harvesting, processing and trade contributes 8-12% of GDP. The value of fish export has been estimated to be as high as US\$ 100 million per year.
- The values of fishery products is estimated about US\$ 1200-1500 million per year.

Overview of capture fisheries

Inland fishing practice is classified into 3 types of fishing gears:

- 1. Small-scale fishing gears**
shall be operated at anytime in the open access area and CFI areas and during the closed season. (No fishing license and fishing fees).
- 2. Middle-scale fishing gears**
shall be get fishing license and fishing fees to the state.
- 3. Large-scale (Industrial) fishing gears**
shall be get fishing license and fishing fees through public bidding

The above mentioned types of fishing gears shall be determined by the proclamation of MAFF.

Overview of capture fisheries (Con't)

The inland fishery domain

- The concession fishing lots area
- Fishery conservation areas
- Inundated forest areas
- Community fisheries area
- The open access area

Close fishing season

Stung Treng and Kratie province in the upper Mekong River the close season from June to September.

Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Kratie									Close fishing season			
Stung Treng									Close fishing season			

Overview of capture fisheries (Con't)

The inland fishery domain

- The concession fishing lots area
- Fishery conservation areas
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- Community fisheries area
- The open access area

Close fishing season

Stung Treng and Kratie province in the upper Mekong River the close season from June to September.

Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Kratie									Close fishing season			
Stung Treng									Close fishing season			

Overview of capture fisheries(Con't)

Fisheries production trend from 2008-2011 (tons)

Fishing type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Inland Caught Fish	365,000	390,000	550,000	608,000	682,000
Marine Caught Fish	66,000	75,000	85,000	91,000	99,000
Aquaculture	39,100	50,000	59,936	71,908	73,855
Total Fish Production (including shrimp)	470,100	515,000	694,936	770,908	854,855
Crocodile (head)	156,500	185,000	283,000	230,000	250,000

Source: Planning, Finance and International Cooperation Department, FIA 2010

Overview of capture fisheries(Con't)

Fish and Fishery Products Export

- The export of product from Cambodia is growing in response to increasing international demand for fish and the increasing prices achieved in other countries.
- Much of the fish exported is not officially recorded making estimates of the total amount and value difficult.
- Fish transported by truck and boat to Vietnam, Thailand and Lao
- In case of transporting fish from StoungTreng to Champasak is illegal as medium and large scale fishing is prohibited along the Mekong River.

Overview of capture fisheries(Con't)

Fish and Fishery Products exported

- Frozen shrimp goes to Australia, Hong Kong, USA, and Japan.
- Seaweed is mainly exported to China, Malaysia, and Korea
- The main exported products are fish paste, smoked fish, dried fish, snackerhead, *Nototerus chitala*, *Nototerus lopis*, and *Kryptoterus* sp. In the coast grouper, bobster, crab, shrimp and seaweed are important exported.
- The fish exports to Thailand have been recorded in several surveys while the movement of fish into Vietnam is less clear. In practice, exports of fish products to Vietnam are higher than, those to Thailand both legal and illegal practices.
- Fish and fishery products of Cambodia has never been exported to EU.

Overview of capture fisheries(Con't)

Export of fish and fish products in metric tons from 2009-2011

Year	Exported
2009	5,936
2010	7,452
2011	6,653
Total	20,041

Source: Planning, Finance and International Cooperation Department, FIA 2010

Overview of capture fisheries(Con't)

It is absolutely prohibited of fishing activities by using:

- Electro-fishing, explosive stuff or poisonous substance
- Nets or seines with mesh size > 15 or < 1.5 centimeters
- Trawling, V-shaped Push Net Mounted on a boat
- Fishing gears made of mosquito net, modern fishing gears, newly invented fishing gears, new fishing methods or fishing gears not listed in the Prakas by MAFF
- Gill net along Mekong River in Kratie and Stung Treng province to protect and conserve dolphins.



Combating illegal fisheries and destructive fishing

Before reform: Inspection system

- At MAFF/FiA, national level: Inspection body
- Provincial FiA: Inspection Unit

After deep fisheries reform

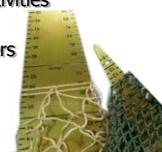
- All concession fishing lots area were cancelled and converted to community fisheries areas and reserved for fish conservation areas
- All large-scale (Industrial) fishing gears, except for Dai fisheries were cancelled
- Middle scale fishing operation are not allowed to operate
- Small scale fishing gear are enlarged in terms of number and length.

Combating illegal fisheries and destructive fishing (con't...)

Strategies to combat illegal and destructive fishing

Approach:

- Development of policies at the national level
- Dissemination of the policies to the different stakeholders
- Networking and cooperation among stakeholders
- Creation of committee to combat illegal activities related to the natural resources
- Promotion of participation of all stakeholders especially with the community fisheries



Combating illegal fisheries and destructive fishing (con't...)

Mechanism to combat illegal and destructive fishing

- National level
 - (Council Minister; MAFF; FiA, provincial governor, other relevant ministries)
 - MAFF/FIA committee
- Sub-national level: provincial, district, and commune, FiA Cantonment.
- At Community Fisheries Level: Patrol team

Special case for Dolphin: 75 river guards (ranger) and 16 outposts- combat illegal fishing within the dolphin pool and remote areas close to Lao border

Combating illegal fisheries and destructive fishing (con't...)

TRADE

Non-endangered species

- Quota: issued by MAFF
- A license has been issued by Central FiA
- A license has been issued by FiA cantonment

Inspection bodies

- MAFF
- FiA
- Concerned agencies

Endangered species within the country

- FiA
- Other concerned agencies

Outside the country

A license issued by the CITES Management Authority of Cambodia for endangered species listed in the CITES appendix and by the Minister of MAFF for the endangered species are not listed in the CITES.

The Priority Issues in Trans-boundary Areas

- Use of electro-fishing, explosive/dynamite and poisonous substance
- Use of gill nets with mesh size of > 15 centimeters
- Use of gill net along Mekong River in Kratie and Stung Treng province that causes the dolphin in danger
- Poaching in the fishery conservation areas
- Use of fishing gears not allowed during the closed fishing season
- Export of fishery products without license
- Export endangered species without license from CITES

Proposed Actions to Be Taken

- 1) Establish Joint Working group(JWG) for trans-boundary fisheries management
- 2) Conduct two JWG meetings per year (review and monitor progress)
- 3) Organize capacity building events to raise awareness of fishing community on fisheries resources protection and conservation
- 4) Building the capacity of the authorities enforcing the Fishery Laws in the ground level
- 5) Building a strong network among stakeholders(including the communities) at the provincial and national level
- 6) Conduct livelihoods needs assessment of rural households and provide alternative livelihoods to selected target households

Capture Fisheries, Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing Including Trade of Aquatic species/product

Mr. Bouasavanh Viengsombath

Deputy Director, Fisheries Division, Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Lao PDR

CAPTURE FISHERIES, COMBATING ILLEGAL AND DESTRUCTIVE FISHING INCLUDING TRADE OF AQUATIC SPECIES/PRODUCTS

The 1st Meeting of the Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas between Lao PDR and Cambodia, 2-4 June 2014, Siem Reap Cambodia

The Siphandone area is in the southern part of Champasak province. Siphandone in Lao means 4000 islands, the Mekong splits into a number of different channels and also passes over a geological fault line, which causes many waterfalls and rocky rapids. There are therefore a multitude of habitats. It is hugely important for fish and contains three types of key fish habitat:

1. Deep pools
2. Spawning grounds
3. Migration routes

Location of Siphandone

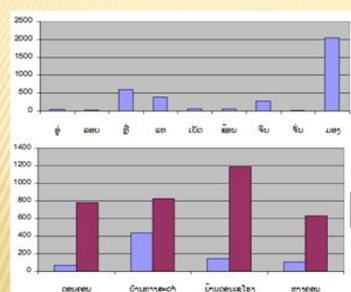


CAPTURE FISHERIES

- Management and Sustainable use of Fisheries and Natural Aquatic resources in Siphandone conducted household survey that indicate a total of 41 different species being caught with 9 different kinds of gear .
- For fish we have established an effective fish catch monitoring system. Four villages joined with our project to record their fish catch from November 2011 to May 2012. I will show some results in the next slides.



Siphandone: Species monitoring



This chart shows how many kg of fish are caught by different gears; extreme right is gill nets

This one shows how many are eaten (blue) and how many sold (purple)

Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing

Objectives of the Fisheries Law

- The Fisheries Law specifies the principles, regulations and measures governing the organization, implementation, management, [and]² inspection of the work of fisheries, the promotion of aquaculture³, conservation, protection, development and the sustainable exploitation of aquatic fauna⁴ to [ensure] the provision of fish and other aquatic fauna as a food [source] for all Lao peoples [and] the protection of the environment [forming] part of the economic development of the nation.

Law and Regulation to Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing

- Refer to Lao Fisheries Law (Article) 38 on prohibitions, Clearly defined illegal and destructives fishing gears and methods such as dynamite fishing, poison, electro fishing, use of small mesh size net ect..
- Based on this Law, the Provincial and District Governor have issued official instruction to local authorities and villages

Law and Regulation to Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing



- The poster to promote on prohibitions on illegal and destructives fishing



- Department of Livestock and fisheries (DLF) support to established Village Fisheries Management Committee (VFMC) and village fisheries regulations.
- The total of the VFMC 16 villages in Khong District, 8 village in Mounlapamok District
- The patrolling survey activities are under responsible for VFMC to surveillance for any illegal fishing activities

Law and regulations for fisheries trade, import and export

- ✦ DLF is presently drafting specific regulations on fisheries trade (Import and export of aquatic products).
- ✦ Trade aquatic products mostly supplies for domestic market.
- ✦ The control and management of trans-boundary trade aquatic products is under local trade authorities.



Cambodia Rural Working Group Ms. UL Soheat Partnership Manager



Cambodian Rural Development Team

Presentation at
The First Meeting of the Technical Working Group for
Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas
between Cambodia and Lao PDR
2-4 June 2014, Siem Reap, Cambodia

By: Ms. UL Soheat
Partnership Manager





Content

- Background and programs of CRDT
- Target Areas
- Livelihoods development in support of fisheries management
- Impacts
- Conclusion

A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



Vision and mission

- **Vision:** A Cambodia free from poverty and environmental degradation.
- **Mission:** To improve food security, incomes, and living standards of subsistence rural communities in support of environmental conservation throughout Cambodia.



A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



Programmes

<p>Livelihoods Development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Security 2. Income Generation 3. Water and Sanitation 4. Renewable Energy 5. Environmental Education and Waste Management 	<p>Social Enterprises (2006)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CWF: Conversation With Foreigner 2. CRDTours : Cambodian Rural Development Tours 3. Le Tonle: Tourism Training Center 4. MCA: Mekong Credit Association
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A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



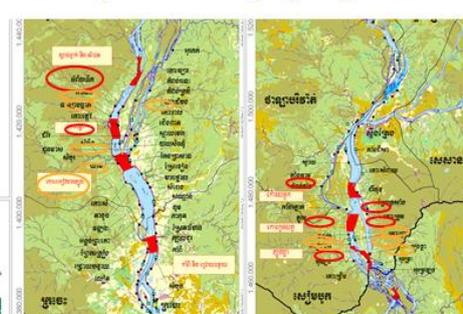
Where we work



A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



CRDT Target Areas from KT to ST (Livelihoods program)



A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



Livelihoods development for fisheries management

1. Livelihoods CBOs to bring food security and to improve living standard
2. Community-based ecotourism (CBET) within dolphin pools
3. Environmental education to combat illegal fishing and to protect dolphins

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1. Livelihoods CBOs



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2. Community-based ecotourism



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3. Environmental education



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Impacts

- In 2013, the time people in the target communities spent exploiting forest resources and fish were decreased by 42 % (while our expectation was 15%).
 - Forest: 69% reduction
 - Fishing: 25% reduction

A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



Conclusion

- Alternative livelihood diversification plays a crucial role to support conservation effort and fisheries management of the Mekong river.



A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation



Thanks for your attention

A Cambodia free of poverty and environmental degradation

Presentation highlighting the M-IWRMP of MRC to support National and Transboundary fisheries and water resources management

**Mr. Watt Botkosol Deputy Secretary General,
National M-IWRMP Coordinator Cambodia National Mekong Committee**

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For sustainable development
Mekong IWRM Project



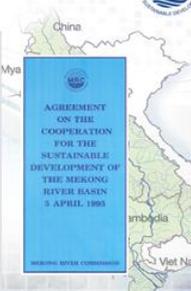
Presentation highlighting the M-IWRMP of MRC to support National and Transboundary fisheries and water resources management

By
Watt Botkosol
Deputy Secretary General,
National M-IWRMP Coordinator
Cambodia National Mekong Committee

Siem Reap, 2 June 2014

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1995 Mekong Agreement and MRC
Mekong IWRM Project



- 1995 Mekong Agreement signed on 5 April 1995 by Lower Mekong Basin countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam, outlines the legal mandate of the Mekong River Commission (MRC).
- Agreement for the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin sets high-level goals for achieving social and economic development, environmental protection and inter-dependent sub-regional growth and cooperation through implementation of the Agreement.
- It is the International River Basin Organization implementing its functions to support the countries' development and cooperation based on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) principles.

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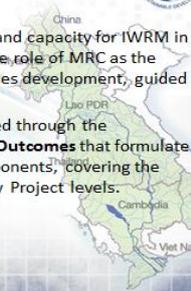
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M-IWRMP background
Mekong IWRM Project



- The Mekong IWRM Project has been formulated in a partnership between the World Bank (WB), the Mekong River Commission (MRC) and its Member Countries in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB), and the Australian Agency for International Development (AUSAID).
- The Project follows up on the Water Utilisation Start-up Project (WUP) implemented by the MRC with funding from the Global Environmental Fund through the WB.
- Project is the three tier approach to address IWRM in the LMB, the synergy between its three respective components (regional, national and trans-boundary), and the bringing together of the various stakeholder groups at different levels.

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Objective of M-IWRMP
Mekong IWRM Project



- To improve the enabling framework and capacity for IWRM in the LMB Countries and strengthen the role of MRC as the facilitator of significant water resources development, guided by IWRM principles.
- The Project Objective will be achieved through the achievement of **three Intermediate Outcomes** that formulate the Project in three interlinking components, covering the regional, national and trans-boundary Project levels.

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OVERVIEWS OF M-IWRMP IMPLEMENTATIONS
Mekong IWRM Project



COMPONENTS:

- 1 Regional Component**
 - 1. Improve information systems and media tools
 - 2. Completion of technical guidelines and support to implementation
 - 3. Link and integrate procedures in IWRM framework
 - 4. Increase capacity for implementation
 - 5. Improve reporting mechanisms
 - 6. Engagement of Upper Riparians
- 2 Trans boundary Component**
 - Supports 5 Bilateral Projects
 - 1. Cambodia & Laos - Fisheries
 - 2. Laos & Thailand - River Basin Committees
 - 3. Cambodia & Thailand - Sharing Best Practices: Learning from the lakes
 - 4. Cambodia & Viet Nam - Agreeing Water Management Issues in Sesan-Sre Pok
 - 5. Cambodia & Viet Nam - Agreeing Water Management Issues for the Delta
- 3 National Component**
 - 1. Laos - Improve Water Law, Flood Plain Management
 - 2. Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam - Improved Hydromet Monitoring
 - 3. Thailand - Improved River Basin Governance

RESULTS:

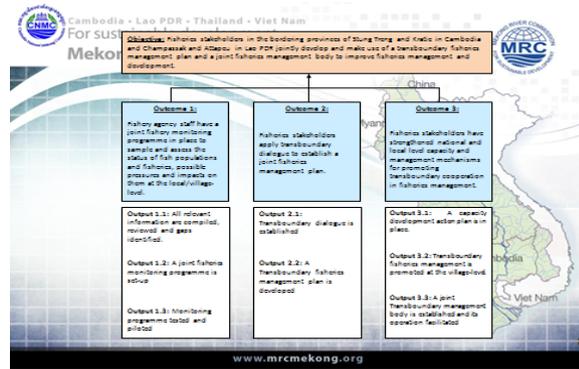
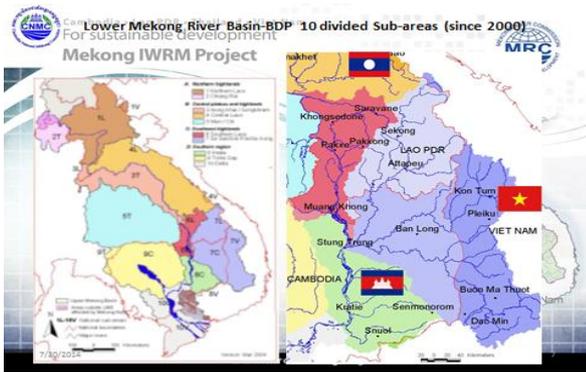
- Regional IWRM Based Existing Framework to Implement the Mekong Agreement
- Improved Cooperation and Priority-Related Projects Jointly Designed
- Strengthened IWRM Policies and Agencies

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TRANSBOUNDARY PROJECTS
Mekong IWRM Project

#	Names of TBs.	By countries
1	Tonle Sap-Songkhla	Cambodia-Thailand
2	Mekong-Sekong	Cambodia-Lao PDR
3	Mekong-Delta	Cambodia-Viet Nam
4	Sesan-Sre Pok	Cambodia-Viet Nam
5	Nam Kam-Xhe bang hieng	Lao PDR-Thailand

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Component 1: Support for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management

- The component objective is to establish sound management in the mainstream Mekong between Kratie and Stung Treng, and the Sekong River, in Northern Cambodia where significant number of critical habitats are located.

This would be achieved through:

- (a) establishment of community fisheries (CFI), and
- (b) strengthening public sector capacity regarding surveillance and monitoring, research, and restocking.

The component has been designed based on the experience of various Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) that are active in the field, and would comprise the following sub-components similar to Component 3-2 of M-IWRM1.

Sub-component

- (1-1) Fostering development of Community Fisheries including: (a) establishment of community-based fisheries management organizations; (b) development of fisheries management plans; (c) demonstration of supplementary livelihood activities; and (d) providing support for local government capacity building and rural infrastructure;
- (1-2) Strengthening public sector fishery management, including: (a) fish catch data collection, monitoring and enforcement of regulation; (b) supporting indigenous species aquaculture and stocking through construction of a small hatchery in Stung Treng; (c) technical studies for assessing water resources infrastructure impacts on the fisheries; (d) technical research on key selected species; and
- (1-3) Component management and administration, including support for logistics, office equipment, and incremental operating

Component 2: Support for River Basin Management and Coordination with Riparian Countries.

The component's objectives are to:

- assist the RGC to improve the effective and sustainable management of water resources in the 4P sub-basin covering the provinces of Kratie and Mondul Kiri; and in the lower 3S sub-basin covering the provinces of Stung Treng, Mondul Kiri and Rotanakiri;
- establish planning and monitoring capacity for effective water resources monitoring.

Sub-component

- (2-1) Support for coordination mechanisms, including: (a) institutional and legal groundwork for the establishment of coordinating mechanisms for river basin management; (b) development of organizational structure and business plans and provision of the minimum hardware and software for basic operation of the organization and (c) capacity building in IWRM principles and hydro-meteorological monitoring;
- (2-2) Support for basin plans and technical studies including: (a) update of the existing basin profiles; (b) development of multi-sectoral basin plans in the context of upstream development and climate change; (c) technical studies into critical issues such as sedimentation, land use change impacts, hydropower operation, water quality, biodiversity etc.;
- (2-3) Support for water resources monitoring, hydro-meteorological network improvement and information sharing, including: (a) design of a water information system; (b) improving water resources monitoring system in critically-identified locations including investments into hydromet stations and flow gauging; and (c) transboundary data and information sharing in the 3S sub-basin – in addition to the support provided to transboundary dialogue from MRC under M-IWRM1.
- (2-4) Project Management and Support for Regional Coordination

MRC-FP Approach to Promoting Trans-boundary Fisheries Management

Mr. Peter Degen

Cambodia • Lao PDR • Thailand • Viet Nam
For sustainable development

MRC
Fisheries Programme

Cambodia – Lao PDR
Trans-boundary Fisheries Management
in Stung Treng and Champassak
SEAFDEC-Sweden supported Initiative

**MRC-FP Approach to Promoting
Trans-boundary Fisheries Management**

1st TWG Meeting
Siem Reap, Cambodia, 2-4 June 2014

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Outline

Part I:
CONTEXT: Principles, MRC, Basin-wide picture

Part II:
MRC-FP overall TB project design

Part II:
FP links with 4 MOA components

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IWRM Principles

4 **Duolida Principles**

1. **Water is finite and vulnerable resource**
2. **PARTICIPATORY APPROACH**
3. **ROLE OF WOMEN**
4. **Social and economic value of water**
5. **Integrating three E's**
 - **Economic efficiency** in water use;
 - **Equity**: The basic right for all people to have access to water of adequate quantity and quality for the sustenance of human well-being;
 - **Environmental and ecological sustainability**: The present use of the resource should be managed in a way that does not undermine the life-support system thereby compromising water use by future generations.

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MRC IWRM
Competency Framework

Transboundary IWRM addresses the design and facilitation of the processes (i.e. projects, initiatives) to:

1. identify water-related problems early on (and analyse causes),
2. carefully define the problem, understanding the interests of those involved and/or affected by it and its solution,
3. design the process towards solving the problem, and
4. facilitate that process and bring it to a satisfactory conclusion.

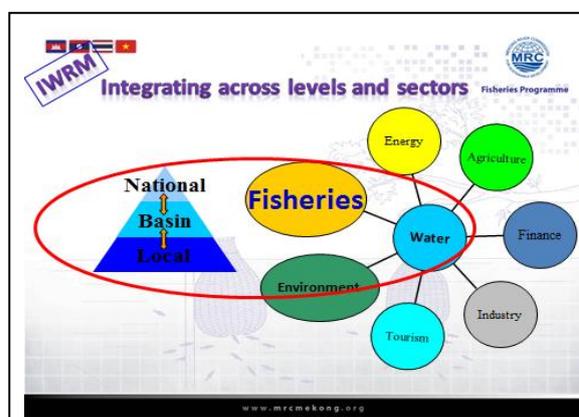
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Three pillars of IWRM

Implementing IWRM process is a question of getting the "three pillars" right:

1. Moving towards enabling environment of appropriate policies, strategies and legislation
2. Putting in place the institutional framework (through which policies can be implemented)
3. Setting up the management instruments required by these institutions to do their job

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Basically.....

- ☑trans-boundary projects are about **INSTITUTION BUILDING**
- ☑based on **organization, structures and capacities available at the various levels**
- ☑consider **existing (traditional) knowledge**
- ☑provide **stakeholders opportunity to craft appropriate management mechanism**
- ☑use of **Appreciative Inquiry** should encourage action

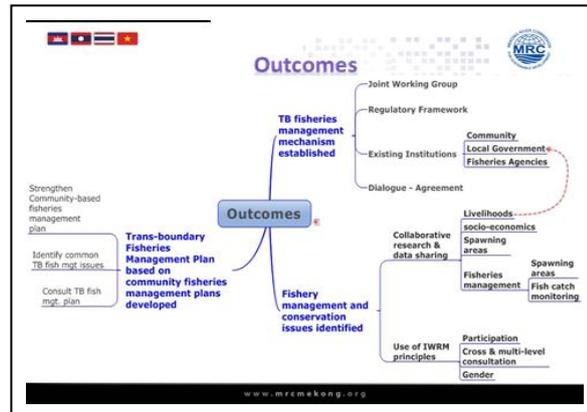
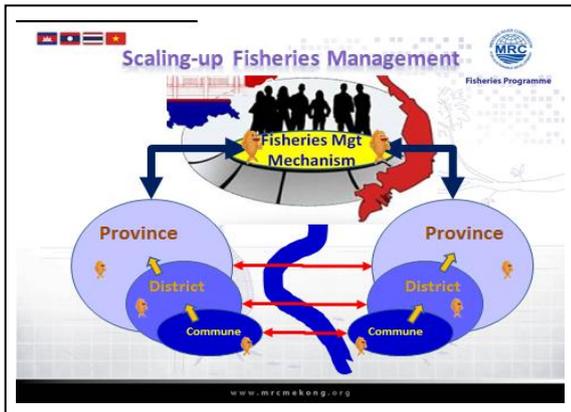
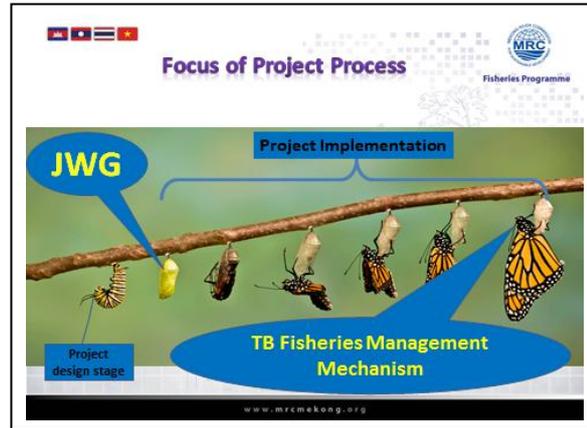
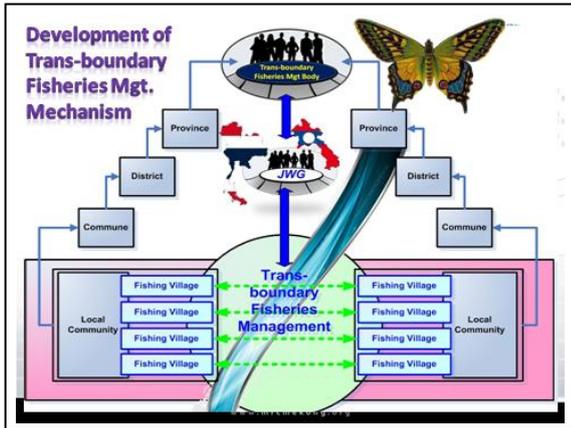
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Overall Goal

**Strengthen [the development of] a
trans-boundary fisheries management
mechanism**

- ✓ In two MRC Member Countries
- ✓ Between two neighbouring provinces
- ✓ In selected project target communities/communes

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Component 1: Legal framework and policy development

SEAFDEC Sweden	MRC-FP
Share information on the scope and rationale of national laws and regulations relevant to the management of fisheries & related aspects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of regulatory framework: ⇒ harmonizing fisheries rules Understanding local fisheries management: ⇒ take existing systems (traditions) into account
Identify areas/types of fishing where regulations and reporting needs to be improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRA, baseline studies, cases of conflict resolution Guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock enhancement TB movement of aquatic organisms

Component 2: Management measures on trans-boundary species and conservation areas for important habitats

SEAFDEC Sweden	MRC-FP
Compile available data & info on trans-boundary species including endangered species and important dry season refuge areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct base line studies, PRA Monitor fish catch & fish sampling Identify fish spawning areas
Identify areas needing additional research to formulate recommendations on "strategies and schemes for joint management of shared trans-boundary fishery resources".	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen local fisheries management plans, identify trans-boundary issues ⇒ scale up into trans-boundary fisheries management plan

Component 3: Capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing including trade of aquatic products

SEAFDEC Sweden	MRC-FP
Increase awareness on critical habitats and the impacts of illegal and destructive fishing. Increase awareness on critical habitats and the impacts of illegal and destructive fishing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRA mapping of fishing grounds & fishing gear use / seasonally Identification of spawning areas Access rights to OAA (⇒ gender) Consult (revised) local fisheries management plans Strengthen participation in (trans-boundary) fisheries mgt.

Cross-cutting: Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

SEAFDEC Sweden	MRC-FP
Support communication and cooperation in priority areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use existing mechanisms of cross-border communication and cooperation Strengthen local fisher organization Identify complementary livelihoods opportunities (o.f.) Enhance engagement and participation of all relevant stakeholders
strengthen local communities, alternative (including non-fisheries) income generating activities, capacity to manage micro-finance schemes, and activities to reduce, and to combat illegal and destructive fishing etc.	




Bigger Picture

Contribute to the development of a Basin-wide fisheries management and development strategy

through & with
Regional Technical Advisory Body on Fisheries Management (TAB)

⇒ *Basin Development Strategy*

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Trans-boundary Fisheries Management Plan



ສາມາດແກ້ໄຂ & ຂອບໃຈຫຼາຍໆ

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**Provincial Conservation Planning Coordinator
WWF-Cambodia SSK Landscape Program
Mr. NOU Chanveasna**



The 11th Meeting of TWG for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary Areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR

Agenda 7: Cooperation with International/Regional Organizations

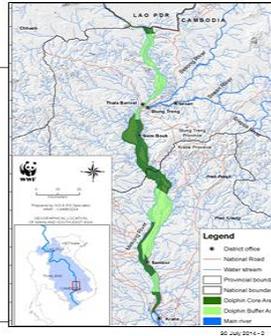
NOU Chanveasna
Provincial Conservation Planning Coordinator

WWF-Cambodia
SSK Landscape Program
02 June 2014



Siphandon-Stung Treng-Kratie Landscape

- Siphandon - Stung Treng – Kratie (SSK) landscape is located northeastern of Cambodia.
- It covers the stretch of the Mekong river from Kratie up to the Cambodian-Lao border.
- **Species:** Dolphin, giant soft-shelled turtle, hog deer, white-shouldered ibis, lesser adjutant, vulture, abundance of fish
- **Habitat:** Dolphin home range, the Stung Treng Ramsar site, the Mekong Flooded Forest



Legend

- District office
- National Road
- Water stream
- Provincial boundary
- National boundary
- Dolphin Core Area
- Dolphin Buffer Area
- Ramsar site
- Main river

02 July 2014-3



Partnership

- Fisheries Administration
- Forestry Administration
- Ministry of Environment
- Cambodian Rural Development Team
- Association of Buddhists for the Environment
- Asian Institute of Technology
- BirdLife
- Conservation International
- Oxfam Australia
- Provincial, district, and local leaders
- International Donors



02 July 2014-4



Legal Framework and Policy Development

- Cambodian Mekong dolphin conservation strategy (including Kratie declaration)
- Dolphin sub-decree on Mekong dolphin protection and management zone
- Designation of Mekong fisheries biodiversity conservation and management zone
- Support on development process of management plan of Stung Treng Ramsar site



02 July 2014-4



Status of Management Measures of the Trans-boundary Species and Conservation Areas for Important Habitat

- Dolphin population estimation
- Dolphin mortality investigation
- Dolphin biopsy survey
- Study on prey of dolphin by analyzing dolphin's stomach content and fish head photo
- Dolphin behavioral study (infanticide)
- Study on impact of hydro-power dam, tourism and boat traffic on dolphins



02 July 2014-5



Capture Fisheries, Combating Illegal and Destructive Fishing Including Trade of Aquatic Species/Product

- Support FIA on law enforcement – river guards
- Support community fishery development
- Livelihood development – Cambodian Rural Development Team (CRDT)
- Education and awareness – Association of Buddhism for Environment (ABE)



02 July 2014-6



Thank you

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02 July 2014-7

**The Matrix Work Plan Proposed by the Cambodia
The 1st Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR
2-4 June 2014, Siem Reap, Cambodia**

Issues	Problem/Gap	Objectives	Collaborative Activities/Actions		Remarks
			Short-term (2014-2015)	Long-term (2016-2019)	
Management of Transboundary species, conservation areas, and important habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> limited baseline data and information on species and habitats, in particular for endangered fisheries species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve data and information on species and habitats, in particular for endangered fisheries species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing data and information Analyze gape Conduct study on fish species and habitats Identify areas along the Mekong in Kratie and Stung Treng including Tonle lopoav in Praeh Vihear province Set up baseline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct study fish species on and study Set up clear boundary of the areas Set up database and disseminate information 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of community facilities/infrastructure including materials, equipments, boundary demarcation, mechanism etc... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacity community fisheries in management and conservation of trans-boundary fisheries resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop CFi management plan Conduct PRA at Kompong Srolau I and II to establish new CFi (management plan) Build capacity of local authorities and communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacity on management and livelihoods Equip communities with facilities and infrastructures Exchange knowledge and experience through study trip Promote credit scheme 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No pole /signboards and boundary demarcation of relevant conservation and protection areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make local communities and stakeholders aware of clear demarcation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify location for installation Demarcate boundary of the identified areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install pole and signboards Produce maps 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustain aquatic fisheries resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct PRA Conduct series of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement management plan 	

			consultation meetings/workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop management plan 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited livelihood diversification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve income generation and reduce fishing effort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential livelihood options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide livelihoods and look for markets 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited communication and coordination among stakeholders and agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form coordination team Organize consultation meetings on relevant issues and share information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop communication and coordination plan Develop action plan 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited understanding of local community people on trans-boundary fisheries management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmonize local communities in trans-boundary friendly management and protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct stakeholder meetings on trans-boundary collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop ITC Organize joint events 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of lesson learned and knowledge sharing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve knowledge among stakeholders of the two countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct series of meetings and/or study tours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up the understanding through coordination and communication Involve NGOs stakeholders 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No joint stock enhancement programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase fish stock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify species and develop plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement plan 	
Capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing including trade of aquatic species/products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> limited baseline data and information on fisheries production and trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve fisheries data statistic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing data and information Analyze gape Conduct study on fisheries production and trade Build capacity of staff Set up baseline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve IT and monitoring system Build capacity of communities and stakeholders 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited capacity in controlling and monitoring of fisheries product and trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve fisheries management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify gaps Provide trainings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action plan for controlling and monitoring 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited understanding on legal framework and instruments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Widely understanding on legal frame work and instrument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct awareness raising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct awareness raising Involve stakeholders in inspiring 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of alternative livelihoods to compensate the use of some fishing gears during the closed fishing season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve income generation and reduce fishing effort among fishing communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential livelihood options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide livelihoods and look for markets 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No management and implementation mechanism at the trans-boundary area (Stung Treng, Prah Vihear and Kratie) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve management and government of aquatic fisheries resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a need for better management, communication and coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up clear mechanism and develop action plan including Ad-hoc 	

Annex16

**The Matrix Work Plan Proposed by the Lao PDR
The 1st Meeting of the Technical Working Group for Fisheries Management in Trans-boundary areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR**

2-4 June 2014, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Issues	Problem/Gap	Objectives	Collaborative Activities/Actions		Remarks Responsible
			Short-term	Long-term	
Management of Trans-boundary species, conservation areas, and important habitats	1. Fish decrease Quantity of catch 1.1 Migration sp. eg. Pa soi, Pa pak Pa Phia, Pa Phor, Pa kae, Pa nanor, Pak Jok	1. Review of existing information 1.1 Study on missing data information on migratory fish spp and fish habitats 1.2 Support breeding program and stocking (Endanger spp)		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO
	2. Dissemination of Fisheries Law to local people is not sufficient	2. Disseminate Fisheries Law to all villages 2.1 Awareness creation on fisheries management		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO
	3. Still exist of illegal fishing, eg. Poison, electro fishing	4. Training on conservation Fisheries Law to Provincial and District officer, villages, fishers, community leader, 1.3 promote and establish FMCs (Co-management) 1.4 Exchange visit and joint meeting workshop between (Lao PDR and Cambodia) 1.5 Monitoring and set indicator evaluation		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO, DGO, DJO
	1. Still exist illegal fishing (eg. Electro fishing etc...;)	1. Create awareness educate local people on Fisheries Law 1.1 Establish monitoring control surveillance 1.2 Support training on MCS to provincial,		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO, DGO, DJO, DONRE,

Capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing including trade of aquatic species/products		district staff, local authorities and communities			DTO
	2. Promote alternative livelihood	2. Activities on 2.1 Aquaculture 2.2 Culture based fisheries 2.3 Others...		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO
	3. Still exist illegal trade (Endangered spp)	3 Create awareness educate local people on Fisheries Law 3.1 Establish monitoring control surveillance 3.2 Support training on MCS to provincial, district staff, local authorities and communities		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO, DGO, DJO, DoNRE, DTO, DIC
	4. Still exist of illegal fishing, eg. Poison, electro fishing	4 Training on conservation Fisheries Law to Provincial and District officer, villages, fishers, community leader, 4.1 promote and establish FMCs (Co-management) 4.2 Exchange visit and joint meeting workshop between (Lao PDR and Cambodia) 4.3 Monitoring and set indicator evaluation		1 year	DLF, PAFO, DAFO, DGO, DJO, DONRE, DTO

Remark: DLF-Department of Livestock and Fisheries

DIC-District Industry Commerce

PAFO-Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office

DTO-District Training Office

DAFO-District Agriculture and Forestry Office

DONRE- District of Natural Resources and Environment

DGO-District Governor Office

DOJ-District Justice Office

Annex17

(Draft as of 3 June 2014)
**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the Fisheries Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, hereinafter referred to as FiA with offices at 186 Preah Norodom Boulevard, Khan Chamcar Mon, Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, represented herein by Mr. Ing Try, Deputy Director- General of the Fisheries Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Kingdom of Cambodia;

WHEREAS the Department of Livestock and Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, hereinafter referred to as DLF with offices at Khounta Village, Sikhottabong District, Souphanouvong Avenue, Vientiane, Lao PDR, represented herein by Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy Deputy Director-General of the Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR;

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is entered into between FiA and DLF under the purview of the Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Cooperation in the Fisheries Sector between Fisheries Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Kingdom of Cambodia and Department of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR signed in July 2010;

WHEREAS, this MOA is developed to support the implementation of the collaborative activities between the two countries with support for the process of cooperation from the SEAFDEC-Sweden project;

NOW, therefore, in consideration of their mutual desire for cooperation, FiA and DLF agree as follows:

Article I

The objectives of this MOA are to enhance communication and cooperation in areas of common concern to Cambodia and Lao PDR in the neighboring provinces of Stung Treng and Preah Vihear (Cambodia) and Champasak province (Lao PDR), specifically on:

1. Exchange and sharing information, experiences and technology in relation to trans-boundary fisheries management, research and development, such as laws and regulations, statistical data, research results and publications, policy papers, extension materials, etc.;

2. Identification and implementation of strategies and schemes for joint management of shared trans-boundary fishery resources including the development of conservation areas; and aquaculture development as well as alternative livelihoods;
3. Strengthening local involvement of the people depending on aquatic resources in the management of conservation areas, improved social well-being through generating alternative incomes opportunities; and
4. Promoting and strengthening capacity for the trans-boundary fisheries governance of local agencies and communities.

Article II

Three main components and one cross-cutting theme have been identified jointly by both countries, and would be conducted under this MOA, *i.e.*:

Component 1: Legal framework and policy development

This component includes activities that focus on sharing of information on the scope and rationale of national laws and regulations of relevance to the management of fisheries and related aspects. It includes the identification of areas/types of fishing where regulation and reporting systems needs to be improved as well as to address existing management arrangements, local management and regulations that need to be improved.

Component 2: Management measures on trans-boundary species and conservation areas for important habitats

This component includes activities related to the compilation of available data and information on trans-boundary species including endangered species and important dry season refuge areas, with a view to identify areas needing additional research and surveys (if required) to form the basis for recommendations on “strategies and schemes for joint management of shared trans-boundary fishery resources”.

Component 3: Capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing including trade of aquatic species/products

This component supports increased awareness on protecting critical habitats and minimizing the impacts of illegal and destructive fishing including trade of aquatic species/products.

Cross-cutting: Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

To support communication and cooperation in priority areas efforts should be made to strengthen “human resource development in the fisheries sector of both countries” in areas of relevance to the three components indicated above. Priority should be given to strengthening of local communities, alternative (including non-fisheries) income generating activities, capacity to manage micro-finance schemes, and activities to combat illegal and destructive fishing, etc.

Article III

This MOA shall be governed by the following considerations:

1. Each party shall nominate members of the Technical Working Group which shall be responsible for executing the overall activities under the terms of this MOA, as well as identifying the focal points for each component in Article II;
2. The initial period of validity of this MOA is from the date of signature to XXXX;

3. The annual plan shall be developed by consensus of both countries and the plan of activities including financial resources under this MOA is attached as Annex I, which forms a part of this MOA;
4. Annual meeting of the two countries shall be conducted to review the implementation under this MOA;
5. This MOA has been done in English in two copies and one copy for each Party; and
6. Dispute and disagreement relating to this MOA shall be resolved amicably by negotiations between the FiA and DLF.

The Memorandum of Agreement is signed in xxxx, on xx July 2014.

For the Fisheries Administration

For the Department of Livestock and Fisheries

Mr. Ing Try

Deputy Director-General,
Fisheries Administration
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and
Fisheries
Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr. Bounthong Saphakdy

Deputy Director-General,
Department of Livestock and Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Lao People's Democratic Republic

Collaborative work plan for 2014-2015

Participants agreed that the immediate work (coming six months or up until the end of year) should focus on the Review of existing data and information on a) Laws, regulations and policy statements; b) Past and current status of resources and habitats; c) Study on livelihood patterns and livelihood options, including traditional norms/local knowledge. The reviews under b) and c) should be done in a consultative and inter-active manner that will allow for local involvement including provincial administrations and community members as practical to facilitate information sharing and capacity-building. In the drafting of T.o.R indication will be given on the link to the three identified Components and the Cross-cutting element of providing capacity-building. The recommendations from the countries included with regards to the management of trans-boundary species and important species and specifically with regards to capture fisheries and the combating of illegal and destructive fishing to need for knowledge sharing on “laws and regulations” and the need to create awareness and “increased knowledge on rules/regulations by stakeholders”. These recommendations should be reflected in the recommendations for the reviews of laws and regulations and subsequent capacity-building.

Cambodia and Lao PDR should suggest and appoint members for the “joint technical working group” to facilitate implementation and joint action including information sharing and capacity-building. Members should include people from central and local agencies, NGO’s, research organizations and communities.

Timelines for actions to take place the coming six months:

- Establishment/appointment of “joint technical working group” – end of June 2014. Link with MRC trans-boundary IWRM program in Champassak and Stung Treng to see that the activities are linked (appointment of common members)
- Consultants appointed, review groups established and sub-contracts for community-focused activities established by end of July 2014
- Time-lines, frequency and location for sub-regional, national and local consultations indicated by mid-August 2014
- Budget estimates (consultants, sub-contracts, consultations, etc) for activities to be taken up until the 2nd Technical Working Group Meeting estimated by mid-August 2014
- 2nd Technical Working Group Meeting to be held during first quarter 2015

The reviews will provide inputs to a second Lao PDR - Cambodia Technical Working Group Meeting that will aim to further work out and specify continued collaborative efforts for the implementation of joint and of coordinated action under the MoA between Cambodia and Lao PDR

Activities	Objectives and expected outcomes	Responsibilities	Financial resources	Remarks
<p>1. Form/establish the joint technical working group and national coordinators</p> <p>Facilitate visits (study tour) of the Cambodian (provincial) working group to Lao PDR, Champassak and for Lao (provincial) working groups to Cambodia, Stung Treng</p>	<p>To establish mechanism for implementation of national and joint action</p> <p>Share of experiences and information, including efforts to initiate trans-boundary team-building</p>	<p>FiA/DLF, Local agencies, NGOs, communities</p> <p>Appointed contact persons from each country to facilitate</p>	<p>In kind by/from appointed partners</p> <p>SEAFDEC-Sweden and “in-kind”</p>	<p>Appoint contact persons</p>
<p>2. Review of existing data and information.</p> <p>T.o.R’s to be drafted. Names and Working Groups to be appointed. Consultants to appointed with regards to:</p>	<p>* Provide a baseline on available information to be able reduce gaps and to improve data and information on species and habitats, including information on endangered species.</p> <p>* Improve knowledge through sharing of information and coordination among stakeholders of the two countries</p>	<p>T.o.R’s by SEAFDEC in consultation with Cam and Lao</p>	<p>SEAFDEC-Sweden and “in-kind” as well through cooperation with other partners (MRC and others)</p>	<p>Note: that reviews would be cross-cutting in the work to be done by review teams with regards to Component 2 (<i>Management of Trans-boundary species, conservation areas and important habitats</i>) and Component 3 (<i>Capture fisheries, combating illegal and destructive fishing, including trade of aquatic species/products</i>)</p>
<p>2.1 Review of laws, regulations and policy statements</p> <p>Specific points to include (from Siem Reap):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries and related laws (habitats and conservation measures) • Community fisheries (CFi, FMC), Provincial and commune administration, other community rules • Rules and regulations on trade in fisheries products • Rules and responsibilities with regards to monitoring and control of fisheries and habitats protection • Rules and regulations indicating defined fishing practices as illegal, including illegal practices destructive to the habitats • Rules to be applied in establishing and demarcating fisheries conservation areas, closed season and protection of important habitats (refuges, parks, ramsar sites, etc.) <p>Consultations/training to be organized with a purpose to increase understanding of the legal and institutional structure of both countries</p>	<p>Increased knowledge and awareness on rules and regulations among stakeholders of the two countries, with specifics on the provisions provided of the legal structures of the two countries</p>	<p>Experts for Lao PDR and Cambodia, contracts to be issued</p>	<p>SEAFDEC-Sweden</p>	<p>Consultants to be recommended by Cambodia and Lao PDR</p>

Activities	Objectives and expected outcomes	Responsibilities	Financial resources	Remarks
(dissemination) Extract existing laws and regulations in relation to trans-boundary management and translate into Eng as well as alternate languages (Lao to Khmer and Khmer to Lao)				
2.2 Past and current status of resources and habitats, including fishing effort and practices. Specific points (from Siem Reap) include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish species and important habitats • Information on “conservation and refuge areas during dry season” along the Mekong (Champassak, Stung Treng and Preah Vihear) • Established and demarcated conservation areas • Productivity (catches) of fish and other aquatic species, including types of fishing (gear, areas, etc.) • Existing fisheries management plans and habitat protection plans • Fisheries production and trade (patterns) • Existing practices to monitor and control fisheries production and trade • Available information on illegal and destructive fishing practices (see also 2.1 on practices defined as illegal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness among stakeholders on the status and trends in resources utilization and the conservation of important habitats • Capacity-building and training through active participation by provincial staff in studies of past and current status • Improve fisheries statistics • Improve (joint) management and governance of aquatic resources utilization and trade (medium term), including systems for monitoring and control 	Technical working groups, Cam and Lao from central admin and provinces	SEAFDEC-Sweden and “in-kind”	Names of Working Group members, including staff from government, provinces, NGOs and projects Review available studies and other sources of information
2.3 Study on livelihood patterns and livelihood options, including traditional norms and local knowledge In the process strengthening of community fisheries (CFi and FMC) Identify alternative/supplementary livelihood opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved knowledge on existing livelihood patterns • Strengthen capacity of community fisheries in management and conservation of trans-boundary fisheries resources and habitats • Promote alternative and supplementary livelihood options through diversified income generation 	Working group with institutions working in the areas/sub-contract	SEAFDEC-Sweden with inputs from ongoing projects	CRDT, WWF (Lao and Cam), LI, others Build upon the MRC trans-boundary fisheries community cooperation model, by designating 5-6 villages in Lao PDR and Cambodia, respectively

Activities	Objectives and expected outcomes	Responsibilities	Financial resources	Remarks
<p>2.4 Capacity building of communities and local agencies in a trans-boundary perspective</p> <p>Initially through active participation in the activities indicated under 2.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacity of community fisheries (CFi and FMC) in management and conservation of trans-boundary fisheries resources and habitats Promote alternative and supplementary livelihood options through diversified income generation 	<p>Working group with institutions working in the areas/sub-contract including provincial administration, NGO's and others</p>	<p>SEAFDEC-Sweden and "in-kind" as well as through cooperation with other projects and partners (MRC and others)</p>	<p>CRDT, WWF (Lao and Cam), LI, others</p> <p>Build upon the MRC trans-boundary fisheries community cooperation model, by designating 5-6 villages in Lao PDR and Cambodia, respectively. Link with MRC trans-boundary IWRM program in Champassak and Stung Treng.</p>
<p>3. To facilitate the review of existing data and information and to provide a basis for awareness-raising and capacity building (see above 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3), Conduct a series of consultation meetings and workshops to collect and share information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sub-regional - National - Local <p>Time and frequency to be established</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extract information. identify gaps to improve baselines for policy recommendations Sharing of information and strengthening communication between relevant provinces of the two countries 	<p>FiA and DLF with support from local and regional partners as needed in connection with each specific event</p>	<p>SEAFDEC-Sweden and "in-kind" as well as through cooperation with other projects and partners (MRC and others)</p>	<p>Time, frequency and location to be established in consultation with FiA, DLF with support from local and regional partners.</p>
<p>4. Organize a "high level" joint event to release fish (joint stocking program), with Cambodia and Lao PDR</p>	<p>To raise attention to the collaborative work to raise awareness on the importance to take joint actions between the two</p>	<p>FiA and DLF with support from local and regional partners</p>	<p>SEAFDEC-Sweden and "in-kind" as well as through cooperation with other projects and partners (MRC and others)</p>	<p>Preparation and organization by FiA and DLF with support from local and regional partners</p>
<p>5. 2nd Technical Working Group Meeting for fisheries Management in Trans-boundary areas between Cambodia and Lao PDR</p>			<p>SEAFDEC-Sweden, "in-kind" and with inputs from on-going projects</p>	<p>First quarter 2015</p>