

# Regional exchange on IWRM experiences in the Mekong River Basin

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Workshop on the 15-16 & 17 October 2014  
Lao Plaza Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR

## I. Objectives and content of the Workshop

### A. Objectives

1. Sharing on the latest progresses made in the different countries concerning Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), at regional, national and sub-basin scale;
2. Exchanging on the experiences at regional, national and sub-basin scale on main IWRM pillars i.e. legal and institutional organisation, participative River Basin Management Plan preparation, measures funding and collaborative data management;
3. Identifying the key messages of the countries on IWRM in the Mekong River Basin for the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum.

### B. Content

The discussions will be structured around three main topics for Participative River Basin Management Planning, where the challenge of training and capacity building will be addressed as a cross-cutting issue:

1. Legal and institutional framework
2. Collaborative data management
3. Action plan & Funding

The experts and decision-makers from each country will have the possibility to intervene on pre-selected topics, depending on their own experience and the issues they are facing, by



presenting specific examples of the work done, tools developed, encountered difficulties and successes at the national or basin scale. The agenda of the workshop will be structured in order to keep time for discussions and exchanges between each intervention.

The logic of the workshop is not to go deeply into each technical issue, but to bring forward the main challenges and prepare recommendations as well as common key messages, which will help the different countries to deal in depth with their specific problems afterwards.

English will be used as main communication language.

## **II. Organisation partners and participants to the event**

### *A. Organisation partners*

The workshop will be hosted and organized by the Laotian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE), in association with the French Embassy in Lao PDR.

The Loire-Brittany Water Agency offers the main contribution to the organisation of the event. The French delegation attending the regional workshop will be headed by Jacques Oudin, Honorary Senator and President of the international Commission of the Loire Brittany Basin committee. Extra assistance is provided by the Rhine Meuse Water Agency which is supporting various cooperation projects in the region.

The technical support for the organisation is undertaken by the International Office for Water (IOWater) and International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO) will be represented at the meeting by Jean-François Donzier, Permanent Technical Secretary.

The youth forum taking place before the workshop with 12 young participants from the six Mekong countries and the participation of the youth during the workshop are being coordinated by the International Secretariat for Water and Solidarity Water Europe.

### *B. Participants*

The workshop will gather the main competent authorities of IWRM policy of the Mekong Basin countries (China, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam), the Mekong River Commission, as well as the technical and funding partners of projects run at national and regional scales in the basin and up to all interested parties involved in aiming at tackling Mekong countries' sustainable development objectives.

### III. Agenda

<b>15 October - morning</b>	
08:30 09:00	Welcome and registration of the participants
09:00 09:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) Mr. Phousavanh FONGKHAMDENG (MC)</li> <li>- Opening speech by HE Mr Sisavath Vithaxay, Vice-Minister of Natural Resources and Environment</li> <li>- Remarks by HE Mr. Yves CARMONA, French Ambassador in Lao PDR</li> <li>- Introduction of the 50 years' experience of Loire-Brittany Water Agency in participative River Basin Management Planning Mr. Joël PELICOT, President of the Loire-Brittany Basin Committee, France</li> </ul>
09:45 10:00	- Group photo
<i>Coffee break</i>	
10:15 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of the objectives of the seminar Mr. Pierre HENRY de VILLENEUVE, project manager at the International Office for Water</li> <li><u>Plenary thematic session 1</u> - legal and institutional organisation to develop an IWRM policy</li> <li>Presentation of participative RBM Planning experiences in the Mekong countries (10 min presentation for each country), including the 3 French cooperation projects in South-east Asia: Nam Ngum project (Lao PDR), Stung Sen project (Cambodia), Dong Nai project (Vietnam) (10 min extra for the 3 concerned countries)</li> <li>Panellists:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Phousavanh FONGKHAMDENG, DWR-MoNRE, Lao PDR</li> <li>- Pr. Puy LIM, Vice Chairman of the Tonle Sap Authority, Cambodia</li> <li>- Dr. Bui Tran VUONG, Division of Water Resources Planning and Investigation for the South of Vietnam</li> <li>- Mr. HU Weizhong, Changjiang Institute of Survey, Planning, Design &amp; Research, Ministry of Water Resources, China</li> <li>- Panellist to be confirmed (Myanmar)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Rapporteur: Mr. Phousavanh FONGKHAMDENG, DWR-MoNRE Co-rapporteur: Mr. Christian SZACOWNY, International Relations, Rhine Meuse Water Agency, France</li> <li>Facilitator: Mr. Pierre HENRY de VILLENEUVE, project manager at the International Office for Water</li> </ul>
12:00 12:30	Discussions on the Mekong countries' experience for participative RBM Planning
<i>Lunch break</i>	

**15 October - afternoon**

14:00 15:15	<p>Presentation by the MRC: The vision at Mekong river basin scale Mr. Hans GUTTMAN, CEO of the Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS)</p> <p>The implementation and current updating of the IWRM-based Basin Development Strategy and example of national transcription by Mekong countries Mr. Anoulak KITTIKHOUN, Programme Coordinator, Basin Development Plan (BDP), MRCS</p> <p>Presentation by the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO): Illustration of the situation in the European international districts and current trend for RBM Planning worldwide Mr. Jean François DONZIER, Permanent Secretary of INBO</p> <p>Discussion on key points for successful participative RBM Planning</p>
<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:30 16:15	<p>Preparation of the key messages for the 7<sup>th</sup> WWForum – Experience, prioritisation and needs for IWRM implementation in the region.</p>
16:15 16:30	<p>Synthesis and conclusions of the day</p>

**16 October - 2 parallel sessions in the morning**

<p>09:00 10:45</p>	<p><u>Thematic session 2</u> – Collaborative data management for knowledge development i.e. developing collaborative data management applied to basin characterisation (as a first step for RBM Planning) and for hydrological bulletin information production and dissemination.</p> <p>Presentations by the Mekong countries and by MRC representatives of their experiences: 1/ in data management and map production for basin characterisation, 2/ on hydrological bulletin production and dissemination</p> <p>Rapporteur: Dr. Bui Tran VUONG, DWRPIS, Vietnam Co-rapporteur: Mr. Pierre HENRY de VILLENEUVE, project manager at the International Office for Water</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Paul HAENER, Head of Water Information System Unit, International Office for Water</p>	<p><u>Thematic session 3</u> – Action plan &amp; financing for RBMP concrete implementation i.e. develop action plan to tackle basin main issues (final step for RBM Planning) and insure its implementation.</p> <p>Presentations by the Mekong countries of their experiences: 1/ in the development and costing of action plan to tackle basin main issues 2/ how is organized information and coordination of the work owners to implement actions in the water sector? 3/ What are the current and prospected mechanisms to finance the water policy?</p> <p>Rapporteur: Pr. Puy LIM, Tonle Sap Authority, Cambodia Co-rapporteur: Ms. Solène FABREGES, International Office for Water</p> <p>Facilitators: Ms. Stéphanie BLANQUART, Loire-Brittany Water Agency Mr. Philippe SEGUIN, Loire-Brittany Water Agency</p>
<i>Coffee break</i>		<i>Coffee break</i>
<p>11:00 12:15</p>	<p>Presentation of other international examples Exchange, synthesis and recommendations of good practices adapted to the regional context ; Discussions and preparation of the key messages for the WWForum</p>	<p>Presentation of good practices adapted to the regional context Exchange, synthesis and recommendations Discussions and preparation of the key messages for the WWForum</p>
<i>Lunch break</i>		
<p>14:00 14:45</p>	<p>Plenary restitution of the thematic sessions</p> <p>Intervention of international donors</p> <p>Conclusion on the key messages of the countries on IWRM for the 7WWForum - Experience, prioritisation and needs for IWRM implementation in the region.</p>	
<p>14:45 15:30</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation of the youth who will attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the World Youth Parliament for Water during the 7<sup>th</sup> WWForum</li> <li>- Presentation of the youth declaration</li> <li>- Presentation of the Blue Passports</li> </ul>	
<p>15:30 16:00</p>	<p>Closing of the workshop</p>	

**17 October – Field visit**

8:00  
16:30

Field Visit in the Nam Ngum Basin

Visit of Nam Ngum Dam 1 and around; presentation of the hydroelectric issues in the basin.

Lunch on a boat on Nam Ngum Reservoir and visit of the fish conservation zones with a presentation of the specific regulations implemented in those areas