Towards optimal development of Mekong River Basin

### OBJECTIVES

Review the implementation of current Basin Development Strategy (BDS):
- Compare perceptions of ongoing BD
- Find way to increase mutual understanding

Discuss the assessment of development trends, needs and opportunities in MRB in the medium and long term:
- basin-wide energy, food and flood security and climate change resilience
- Way for increasing benefit sharing from basin development while minimizing adverse impacts

Provide broad feedback and inputs to the updating of BDS:
- If proposed updated Strategy will lead to optimal development and increased levels of cooperation and regional integration
- Role of the MRC, national agencies and broader stakeholders (other regional initiatives, private sectors, and civil society)

### ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

Shared knowledge and increased understanding of how the basin’s water and related resources can be developed and managed considering plausible long-term needs, opportunities and risks.

Inputs gained from stakeholders on implementation and updating of BDS, including key messages to be considered by Government representatives during negotiation of the updated BDS (for 2016-2020).

Views documented in Forum proceedings.
FORUM FORMAT

• Plenary and parallel sessions;
• Dynamic presentations and time for open interactions;
• Interaction among governments, private sector, international and regional CSOs, and partners.
• Documentation for reflection by MRC member countries.
• Field visit
**Session Flow Map**

**Nov 20**
- 08.30 – 10.30: Opening and Stage Setting
- 10.50 – 15.00: Session 2: Getting engaged Pass, Current and Future in LMB and Upper Mekong
- 12.15-13.00: Tour Exhibition
- 13.00-14.15: Lunch

**Nov 21**
- 08.30 – 12.15: Parallel Session 3: Critical dialogue on Basin Planning
  - Session 3A: Results from Basin Strategy Implementation
  - Session 3B: Assessing benefit sharing Options
  - Session 3C: Updating Basin Development Strategy
- 14.00-17.15: Plenary Session 4: Synthesis and formulation of key messages
  - Reports from parallel Session 3A, 3B and 3c + Q&A and Discussion
  - Panel of MRC and Line Agencies Officials – Synthesis and Key Messages
- 17.15-17.45: Closing Session - Summary and Next Steps
  - Closing Remarks

**Nov 22**
- 08.00 – 13.00: Field trip – ancient hydraulic city, and Tonle Sap Floating village and Flooded Forests
- 19.00-21.00: Reception
Area: 2500 – 15000 km²
Volume: 1.3 – 70 km³
Water depth: 0.7 – 9 m
Catchments: 13
Catchment area: 90’000 km²
We hope you find this forum very interesting and enjoyable