Preparation of Technical Review Report of Pak Beng Hydropower Project – Overview and Background

The 2nd Regional Stakeholder Forum
The Pak Beng Hydropower Project
5th May 2017
Vientiane, Lao PDR
Background (1)

- Provide basis for the MRC Joint Committee to consider all measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate potential transboundary impacts.

- The Technical Review covers:
  - Hydrology and Hydraulics
  - Sediment Transport and River Morphology
  - Dam safety
  - Navigation
  - Water quality and aquatic ecosystem
  - Fish ecology and passage
  - Potential transboundary socio-economic impacts
Background (2)

- **Six Expert Groups established**
  - Fisheries, Fish Passage and Aquatic Ecosystems Group (FEEG);
  - Hydrology group (HEG);
  - Dam Safety group (DSEG);
  - Navigation Expert Group (NEG);
  - Sediment group (SEG); and
  - Socio-economic group (SOEG)
MRC Framework for Prior Consultation

The PNPCA process aims at reaching agreement on:

1. Whether the proposed use reflects a **reasonable** and **equitable use** of the River System pursuant to Article 5 of the 1995 Mekong Agreement;

2. The acceptability or otherwise of any possible impacts associated with the construction & operation of the Project;

3. Proposed **measures** to **avoid**, **minimise** and **mitigate** these impacts; and

4. Opportunities for **joint benefits** and **cooperation** relating to development

The PNPCA Technical Review aims to provide the technical due diligence to support discussions towards these goals.
Scope of the review and conditions

The PBHPP was submitted at the Feasibility Stage of development;

The measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate can refer to any of the upcoming stages.
Avoid, minimise and mitigate

The use of the terms in the TRR are as follows.

Measures that;

• “Avoid” means any harmful effects will be negligible after implementation;

• “Minimise” means that harmful effects, or the risk of harmful effects, will be reduced considerably after implementation; and

• “Mitigate” means the residual negative impacts on people and the economy will be reduced after implementation.
Contents of the TRR

1. Background
2. The Pak Beng HPP Prior Consultation Process
3. The Pak Beng HPP
4. Technical Review
5. Transboundary Impacts
6. Recommendation and Way forward

Annexes: include all 7 review reports by expert groups

➢ Summary of this TRR is available at MRC website
➢ Full TRR will be made available, once the final report is endorsed by the Joint Committee
➢ Detailed reviews will be presented by respective expert group members
Thank you