Overall Approach for Technical Review of the Pak Beng Hydropower Project

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Background

- The PNPCA Technical Review aims to provide the basis for the MRC Joint Committee to consider all viable and reasonable measures to avoid, minimise or mitigate potential transboundary impacts of the proposed project.

- The Technical Review covers:
  - Hydrology and Hydraulics
  - Sediment Transport and River Morphology
  - Dam safety
  - Navigation
  - Water quality and aquatic ecosystem
  - Potential transboundary socio-economic impacts
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.
Overall Approach for Technical Review: Key references to be used

MRC Preliminary Design Guidance for Proposed Mainstream Dams in the Lower Mekong Basin (PDG)

- provides **overall guidance** to project developers and countries regarding mainstream hydropower schemes
  - guidance in the form of performance targets, design and operating principles for mitigation measures, compliance monitoring and adaptive management

- **cross-checks** against the documentation submitted.
  - fisheries/fish passage, sediment transport and morphology, water quality, aquatic ecosystem health and environmental flows, navigation and dam safety
Overall Approach for Technical Review: Key references to be used

Relevant sources for information (1/2)

- Interim Report on Guidelines for Hydropower Environmental Impact Mitigation and Risk Management in the Lower Mekong Mainstream and Tributaries
Overall Approach for Technical Review:

Key references to be used

Relevant sources for information (2/2)

- Interim Reports of the MRC Council Study on the Sustainable Management and Development of the Mekong River, including Impacts of Mainstream Hydropower Projects

- Other MRC information and knowledge including SIMVA, Water Quality, Ecosystem Health, Hydrology, Sediment,...
Thank you!