Objectives of BioRA

To provide clear and comparable information on the impacts of proposed thematic developments on the aquatic resources of main-stem Lower Mekong River, inclusive of the Tonle Sap Great Lake and the Mekong Delta.

To estimate positive and negative impacts on ecosystem/habitat/biota/fish, etc. due to the changes in flow, sediment, water quality, etc. associated with development scenarios in the six thematic areas.
Progress
December 2014 to February 2015

- Finalized contractual arrangements with lead specialists – (90% completed)
- Identified and contract national counterparts – (underway)
- Reviewed IBFM predictive tool and highlight how it relates to DRIFT in the Council Study - (January 2015)
- Initiate liaison between:
  - BioRA and Social team members – (done)
  - Lead geomorphologist and WQ specialist and IKMP – (done)
  - Tonle Sap process specialist and IKMP – (done)

Planned Activities: March 2015

- Conduct BioRA Preparation Meetings and 1st Field Visit in Cambodia and Viet Nam 19-28 March 2015
  - Finalise focus site/reach selection
  - Identify draft BioRA indicators and linkages between indicators
  - Explain DRIFT DSS
  - Initiate discipline specific collation of data and reports
  - Schedule and plan Knowledge Capture Workshops.
  - Plan 2nd Field Visit for Lao PDR and Thailand
Preparation Meetings (2 parts)

Part 1: Before Field Visit at OSV
  - March 19 and 20th 2015

Part 2: After Field Visit in Siem Reap
  - March 27 and 28th 2015

Field Visits

- Will be conducted in two stages:
  - Stage One: Cambodia and Viet Nam (Tonle Sap and Delta) – 21-26 March 2015
  - Stage Two: Lao PDR and Thailand (Mekong River) – to be scheduled (in May or June)
Field Visit Stage 1 - Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Overnight location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1: Wed 18</td>
<td>Arrival at OSV</td>
<td>Vientiane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 2: Thu 19</td>
<td>Preparation meeting (Part 1) at OSV</td>
<td>Vientiane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 3: Fri 20</td>
<td>Preparation meeting (Part 1) at OSV</td>
<td>Vientiane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 4: Sat 21</td>
<td>Travel to Ho Chi Minh</td>
<td>Ho Chi Minh City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 5: Sun 22</td>
<td>Travel to Delta and visit sites in Delta</td>
<td>Tan Chau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 6: Mon 23</td>
<td>Visit sites in Delta</td>
<td>Tan Chau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 7: Tue 24</td>
<td>Take boat from Tan Chau to Phnom Penh. (Fly to Siem Reap in afternoon same day)</td>
<td>Siem Reap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 8: Wed 25</td>
<td>Visit Kampong Khleang in Tonle Sap</td>
<td>Siem Reap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 9: Thu 26</td>
<td>Take boat to visit Tonle Sap (visit Prek Toal, Biosphere Reserve)</td>
<td>Siem Reap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 10: Fri 27</td>
<td>Preparation meeting (Part 2) at hotel</td>
<td>Siem Reap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 11: Sat 28</td>
<td>Preparation meeting (Part 2) at hotel</td>
<td>Siem Reap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outputs of Preparation Meetings and Field Visits

- **Report: Site Selection and Field Visits.** This will contain, *inter alia:*
  - Proposed final selection of focus sites/areas
  - Site descriptions from individual specialists for the Tonle Sap rivers, the Tonle Sap Great Lake and the Delta

- **Report: BioRA Indicator Selection**
  - The preliminary lists of BioRA drivers and indicators
  - Linkages between BioRA drivers and indicators (BioRA assessment framework)
  - Relationship to MRC/BDP/Scenario indicators
  - Suggested additions/adjustments to MRC/BDP/Scenario indicators

- Schedule of follow-up activities
- Summary of main issues arising for Preparation Meetings Part 1 and 2
- Copies of presentations made at Preparation Meetings Part 1 and 2
Next Planned Activities

Rationalise focus site selection in liaison with IKMP and social team

Receive baseline (1985-2007) hydrological sequences

Receive baseline WQ and sediment (1985-2007) sequences

Finalise indicators and linked indicators in liaison with – inter alia - IKMP and social team

Set up the DRIFT DSS

DELIVERABLES:
  • DSS Setup and Report

This set of activities is dependent on timely receipt of the baseline hydrological sequences

The RTWG may wish to take note of progress and provide further guidance