

Synthesis of Good Adaptation Practices and its Challenges in the Lower Mekong Basin

**: Lessons and experiences learnt from the 1st Meeting of Climate Change Adaptation
Demonstration Projects**

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Objectives of the Meeting

- To provide an opportunity for the practitioners to share practices, tools, experiences, lessons learned and challenges as well as to exchange knowledge on planning and implementing adaptation activities to climate change within the Lower Mekong region; and
- To provide networking opportunities that facilitate further cooperation, replication and up-scaling of climate change adaptation activities

Map of Adaptation Practices in the Lower Mekong Basin



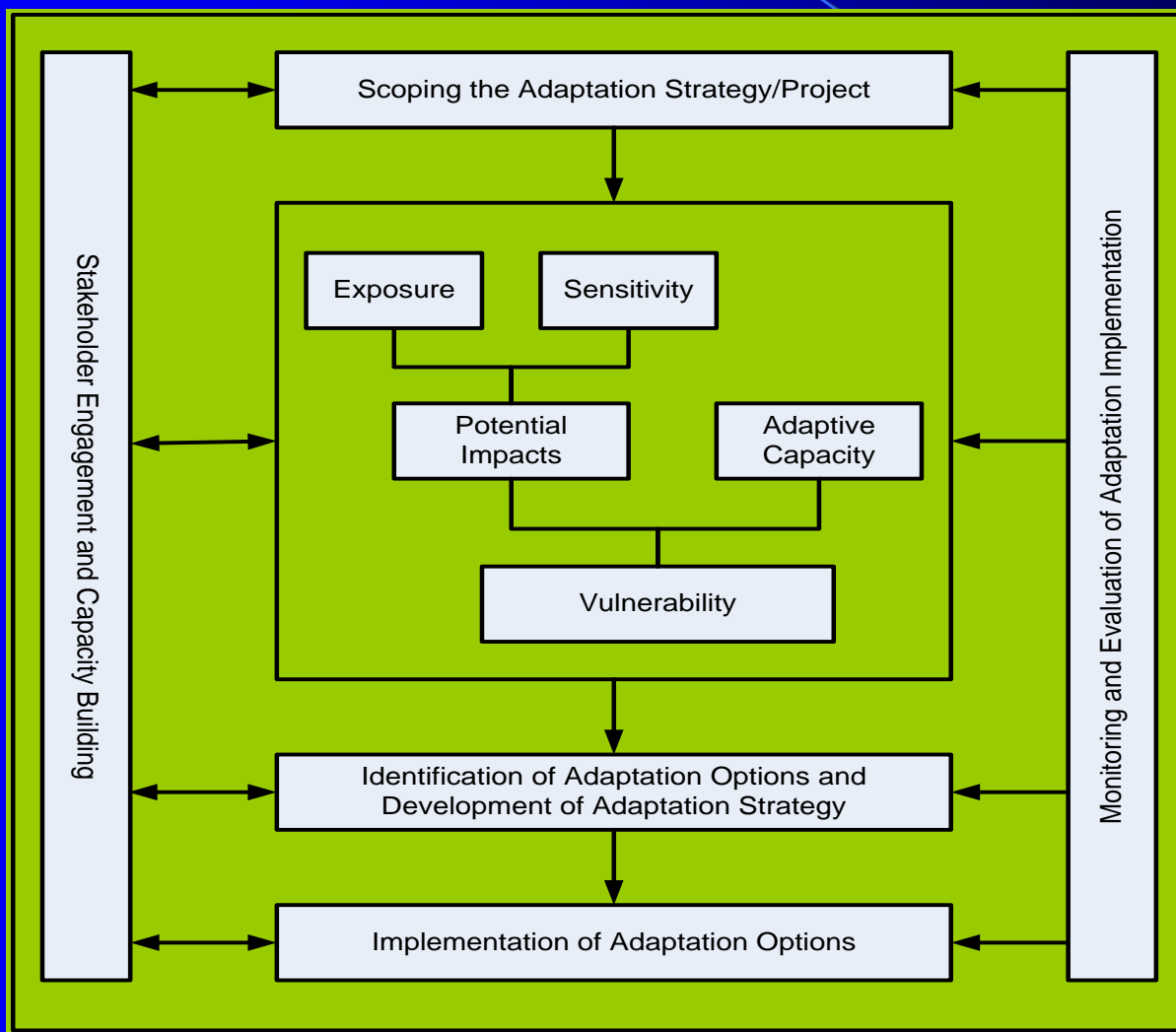
- Development and Implementing organizations
 - GIZ, SEI, MRC, WWF, UNDP, UN-Habitat, ADPC,
- Research Institute
 - TEI, IRRI, SEA START, CSIRO, Can Tho University, AIT, ISET
- Government – provincial working group
 - Chiang Rai WG, Can Tho CC office, NMCs
- International and local NGOs
 - Oxfam, CARE, LWD, Caritas, KID, CEDAC, ENF

Mapping of Adaptation Practices in the Lower Mekong Basin

How we synthesize lessons learnt

- Analysis of lessons and challenges can be organized by different aspects:
 - The target groups (local, provincial, national and regional level);
 - The sectors covered; and
 - The various steps of the adaptation planning framework;
 - Scoping of adaptation (or climate change risk screening);
 - Climate Change impact and vulnerability assessment;
 - Identification of adaptation options and development of adaptation strategy;
 - Implementation of adaptation options;
 - Stakeholder engagement and capacity building; and
 - Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation options

Climate Change Adaptation Planning Process/Mainstreaming



Key message 1:

- The majority of lessons and experiences on climate change adaptation mainstreaming have focus and initiative at local and community level and with linkages to the higher level; municipality and provincial level. **Yet a few efforts go so far as up to national and basin/transboundary/regional level.**

Level of climate change adaptation mainstreaming	No of lessons learnt
particularly at local and community level	12
link to city/provincial level	9
supportive to national level	3
considering of basin/transboundary/regional level	3

Key message 2:

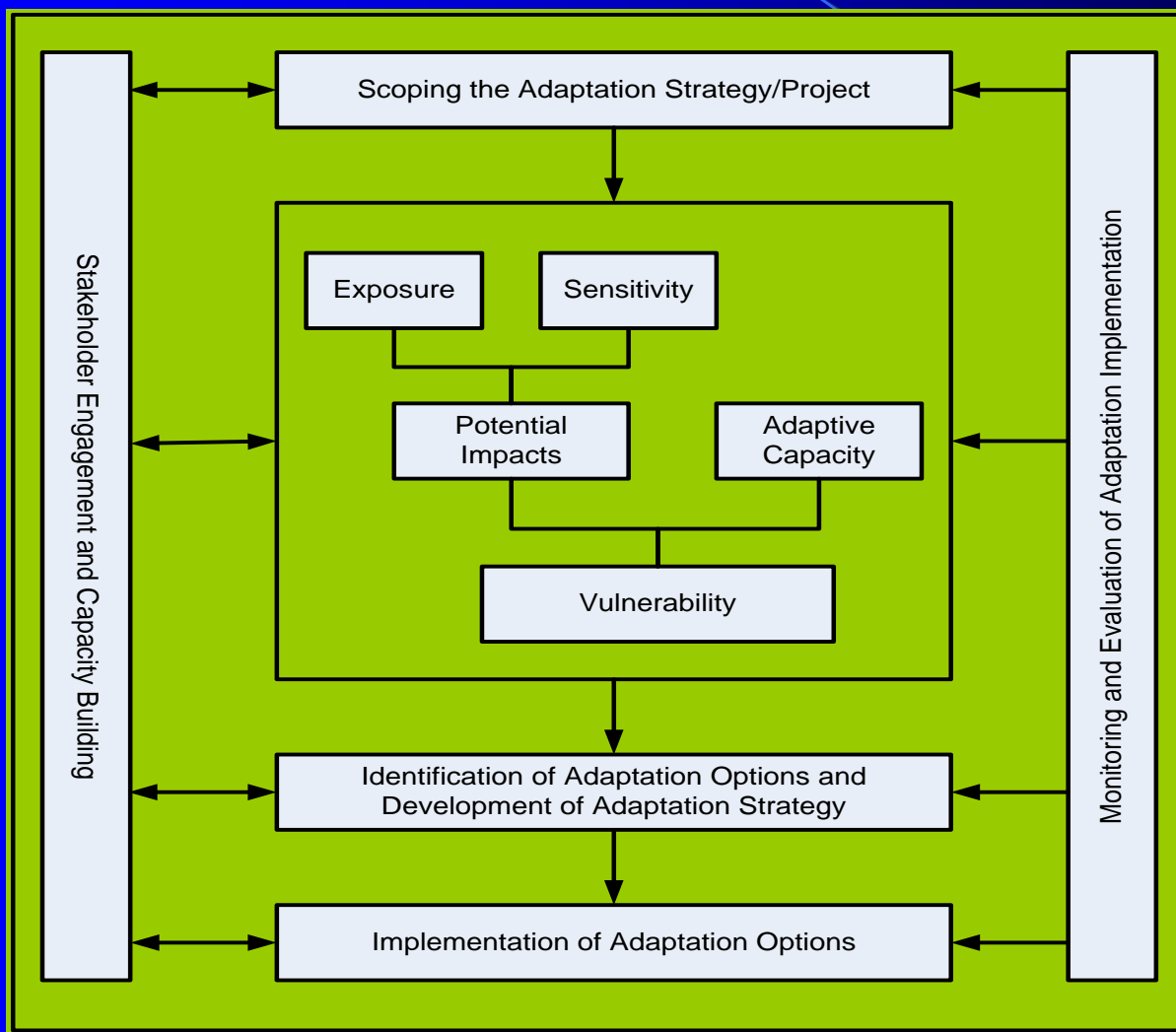
- Lessons learned of climate change adaptation mainstreaming so far **reflect high priority development sectors namely agriculture, flood and drought management.** Some development sectors are still considered of less priority (such as fishery and tourism) or see insufficient effort (such as energy sector incl. hydropower)

Development sectors in climate change adaptation mainstreaming	No of lessons learnt
Agriculture	8
Flood and drought management	6
Irrigation	3
Natural systems (i.e. forest, wetland, mangrove)	3
Energy incl. hydropower	0
Navigation and transport	2
Tourism	2
Disaster risk reduction and preparedness	3
Fisheries	1

Key message 3:

How far we implement climate change adaptation mainstreaming	No of lessons learnt
less than 2 mainstreaming components	7
2-3 mainstreaming components	15
4-5 mainstreaming components	3
all 6 mainstreaming components	0

Climate Change Adaptation Planning Process/Mainstreaming



Key message 3:

- Most shared lessons of climate change adaptation mainstreaming reflect a focus only on specific components;
- **The majority implement less than three mainstreaming components** namely stakeholder engagement and capacity building and trial implementation of adaptation options.
- **It may require more and continued efforts to allocate further efforts on some mainstreaming components** such as monitoring and evaluation of adaptation options linked to sustainability.

Challenges Ahead

Adaptation Planning Process /Mainstreaming Component	Number of lessons learnt	Challenges ahead
1) Scoping of adaptation (or climate change risk screening)	4	High
2) Climate Change impact and vulnerability assessment	8	Medium-High
3) Identification of adaptation options and development of adaptation strategy	6	High
4) Implementation of adaptation options	19	Medium
5) Stakeholder engagement and capacity building	23	Medium
6) Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation options	2	Very high

Challenges ahead

- This initial synthesis of lessons learned leads to the impression that the Lower Mekong River Basin **has made a considerable progress on climate change adaptation mainstreaming.**
- **Recent studies and efforts are assisting different levels particularly the local/community level at risk.** However, the initial synthesis provides us a holistic overview of climate change adaptation status and progress so far.
- The **challenges ahead are preliminary identified to achieve a long-term capacity** for climate change adaptation at different levels and throughout the Mekong river basin.

Global Phenomenon
Regional Collaboration
Local Action

Thank you



Mekong River Commission

Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative

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