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Council Study

Day 1 Recap - Key Comments



5th RTWG Meeting
Siem Reap, Cambodia
13-14 August 2015

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Overall Progress

- Progress since the previous RTWG Meeting related to key action items should be provided
- Implementation arrangement including coordination between teams and communication with NMCs need to be improved
- Budget allocation to the different teams reported to RTWG but not approval
- Conduct and report performance evaluations of consultants



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Overall Approach and Roadmap – Development Scenarios



- Agreed in principle with the concept of thematic sub-scenarios
- Agreed in principle with the number of development scenarios
 - 3 main development scenarios (2007, 2020, 2040)
 - 3 climate change scenarios (subject to detailed presentation of CCAI)
 - Up to 18 thematic sub-scenarios
- All scenarios will be assessed using the same methodology (DSF, DRIFT-DSS, and SE Methodology)

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Overall Approach and Roadmap – Development Scenarios (2)



- National Consultations
 - All thematic teams combined
- 6th RTWG Meeting
 - approve all development scenarios and associated data

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Dev Scenarios - Irrigation



- Agreed in principle on the proposed three irrigation sub-scenarios
 - Definition of low, medium, high are confusing – need to be clarified
 - Involved too much uncertainty in the analysis of the drivers and the number of possible combinations or scenarios

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Dev Scenarios - Irrigation



- Issue related to data that will not be provided as per practice or policy for basins that are not direct tributaries of the Mekong mainstream
 - Water use information from tributaries will be provided as lump values at outlet to mainstem (note: all scenarios)
 - Related to the definition of tributary (refer to JC Meeting minutes) vs. what is in Inception Report
 - Implication on modeling approach. Approach may have to be adjusted to conform with “alternative” data being provided instead
 - Thematic Team to propose on how to “fill” the data gaps after collecting the data they can collect
 - Influence on other MCs providing data on a selective basis

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Dev Scenarios - Agriculture and Land Use Change



- Agreed in principle on the proposed three agriculture and land use change sub-scenarios

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Dev Scenarios - Hydropower



- Agreed in principle on the proposed three hydropower thematic sub-scenarios
 - Sub-scenarios on operation of dams are important
- Concern on data and assumptions used for China dams
- DSF is limited with respect to accounting for operation rules
 - Hourly data should be used

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Dev Scenarios – Domestic and Industrial



- Agreed in principle on the proposed three hydropower thematic sub-scenarios
 - Not new issue
 - Not main water use (less than 30 percent)
- Concern on availability of additional data source and the data quality for sand mining/extraction. Use only WWF data

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Dev Scenarios – Flood Protection/Floodplain Infrastructure



- No thematic sub-scenarios will be proposed
 - Only collecting data for the 3 main development scenarios
- Plan to use same set of national consultants for Council Study and Initial Study
 - Need to communicate properly and work with FMMP national coordinators
 - None of the national consultants have been contracted in the Council Study
- Discipline teams normally are responsible for conducting assessments
 - However, Flood Team will assess flood risk and damage associated with thematic scenarios

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Dev Scenarios – Navigation



- No thematic sub-scenarios were proposed
- Taking advantage of Regional Master Plan
 - Dev Scenarios for Master Plan by Oct 2015
 - Dev Scenarios for Council Study by Dec 2015

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Progress on Modelling



- Modelling Approach was approved at two levels: 10th TACT and 4th RTWG
- Required documentation and concerns
 - Requested WUP-FIN document will be submitted to MCs by Friday (15 August 2015)
 - eWATER Source document on IQQM conversion available and will be provided asap
 - Concerns and questions on WUP-FIN will be addressed in the WUP-FIN meeting on 20 August 2015
 - Role of WUP-FIN Team need to be clarified
 - Evaluation of eWATER Source should also include calibration performance

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Progress on Modelling



- Need to have full set of National Modellers and Asst Modellers on board
 - TNMC by end of this month will be able to provide modellers
 - Viet Nam national modeling experts are not available due to ongoing commitment on Mekong Delta Study
- Modeling options for Delta in Council Study
 - VNMC does not agree with first option that involves use of Delta Study results. It will be inappropriate for assessing and comparing several scenarios
 - CNMC agree to continue to use WUP-FIN in Delta
 - Will be discussed further during WUP-FIN meeting

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Baseline for Council Study



- Should be based on technical criteria and not on budget and time
- TNMC prefers option 2000
- LNMC is leaning to option 2000
- VNMC prefers option 2007
- CNMC prefers option 2007 (?)
- Mekong Delta Study originally was using 2007/2008 for baseline but now is using 2013
- Baseline is a reference against which future impacts are assessed. It does not mean that changes in conditions before the baseline are not important

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“Food for Thought” - Baseline for Council Study



- John Dore: Baseline is a reference against which future impacts are assessed. It does not mean that changes in conditions before the baseline are not important
- Baseline Model: Baseline or Reference Conditions for which Predicted Changes by the Model Can be Compared With
 - Model can be applied across and results can be compared consistently
- There is always the flexibility that other targeted/more focused assessments can be done (analysing what happened in the past)
 - Comparison between 2000 vs 2007
 - Restrospective assessment of the past (not based on the modeling approach but base on data, other related studies, and expert opinions)

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“Food for Thought” - Baseline for Council Study



- CS is estimating impacts as a result of changes in level of developments (time-irrelevant) BUT not predicting the future impacts – closing knowledge gaps
- However, we can also analyze changes in conditions in the past (because it happened already) – base on observed data, expert interpretation, and supplemented by modeling

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Key Activity - Agreeing on What will be in the Assessment Reports



Chapters

- Predicted Impacts of Developments in the Future – Environmental and Socio-Economic
 - Chapters on 2020 and 2040
 - Chapters on Thematic assessments
- Comparison of 2000 vs. 2007 (Targeted Time Period)
 - Based on observed data and supplemented by models
- Retrospective assessment of the past based on other methodology (from Natural Conditions)
 - Based on data
 - Quantification of MRC framework indicators
 - Perhaps similar to SOB methodology

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Thank You



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