

4th RTWG for Council Study
10 March 2015, OSV


The Council Study

**Biological Resources Assessment
(BioRA)**

Overview & Progress

Prepared by
BioRA Team

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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)*

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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

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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*

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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)

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Field Visit Stage 1 - Itinerary



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

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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

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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

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

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