



The Council Study: Social assessment approach and methodology

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Mekong River Commission (MRC) Secretariat

Social Assessment of Development Scenarios

Topics in this presentation:

1. Introduction
2. Approach and methodology
3. Data availability
4. Next steps

1. Introduction

Objectives

As set out for the Council Study as a whole:

1. Further understand the **socio-economic consequences** of water resources development (positive and negative); and
2. **Enhance the BDP process** to support the Member Countries (MCs) in the sustainable development of the basin; and **promote capacity building**, raise awareness and build trust

Scope

Drivers

- ❑ All MRC-related water resource developments **and impacted by scenarios**
- ❑ Exogenous developments and their **estimated** impact on social conditions in **2007**, 2020 and 2040

Spatial

- ❑ All areas within the LMB impacted by water resources development

Technical

*Based on the agreed **MRC Indicator Framework** Strategic indicators:*

- ❑ Living conditions and well-being
- ❑ Livelihoods and employment in MRC sectors

Philosophy behind approach

The approach and methodology builds on that used in previous assessments by BDP and IBFM

What's different?

We now have data! – two SIMVA surveys (2011/2013-14) focussed on the mainstream corridor and a MRC basin-wide socio-economic database populated with national statistics typically at district and/or provincial levels.

These data enable the more comprehensive approach envisaged earlier and only now possible (exposure and dependency)

Philosophy behind approach

What's also different?

In response to CS objectives, the social assessments are designed to evaluate **cumulative impacts** at each time step (2007, 2020 and 2040).

This approach provides:

- ❑ A projection of the **overall consequences** at each time step, enabling consideration of **equity**
- ❑ Alignment with the concept of the **SoB monitoring** actual development impacts **in order to see whether we achieve the objectives**
- ❑ The basis by which to assess incremental impacts between time steps, paving the way for later **exploration of optimal and sustainable development** pathways

Philosophy behind approach

What's also different?

Assessment indicators have been reviewed and revised, taking into consideration:

- ❑ The requirements of the CS for **comprehensive evaluation** of the consequences of water resources development
- ❑ The need for assessment indicators that are **responsive** to the changes brought about by water resources development
- ❑ Defining indicators in a manner that **maximises use of assembled data** and minimises further data collection needs

The assessment approach has also been improved by factoring in the historic development trends and exogenous and development, together with greater opportunities to employ spatial (GIS) analysis.

2. Approach and methodology

Strategic and assessment indicators

Strategic indicators

Living conditions and well-being

Employment

Assessment indicators

- Water security
- Food security
- Income security
- Health security

- Employment
- Gender equity

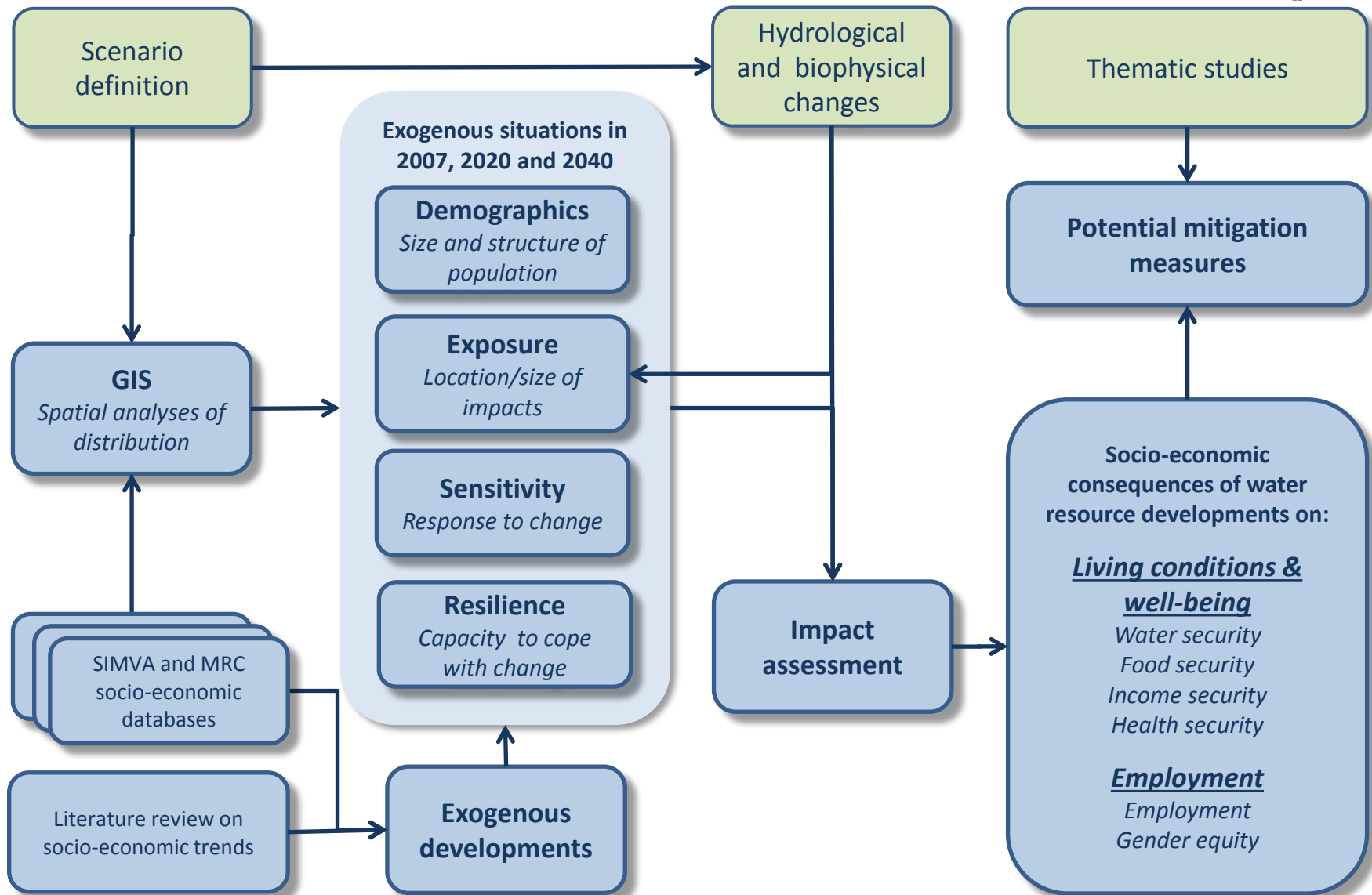
Previously expressed as simply levels of resilience, now expressed in terms more tangibly related to the consequences of water resources development

Overall approach to social assessment



Other CS teams

Socio-economic team

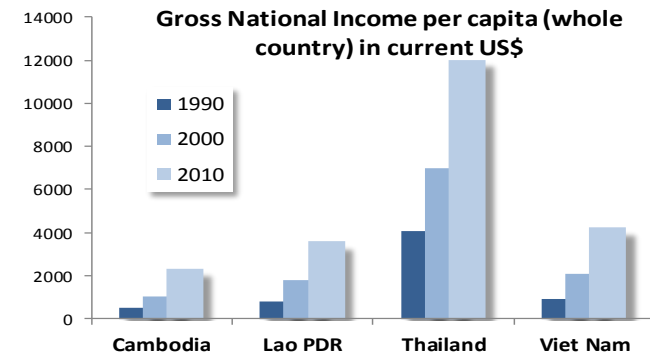


Trends analysis and exogenous development

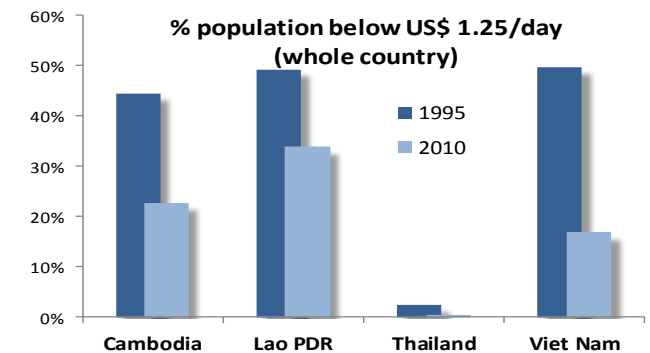
Development trends and projections by BDP reveal that the socio-economy of the LMB is rapidly changing

This will impact on the **numbers and resilience of the rural population** to withstand change and will increase the value of vulnerable assets

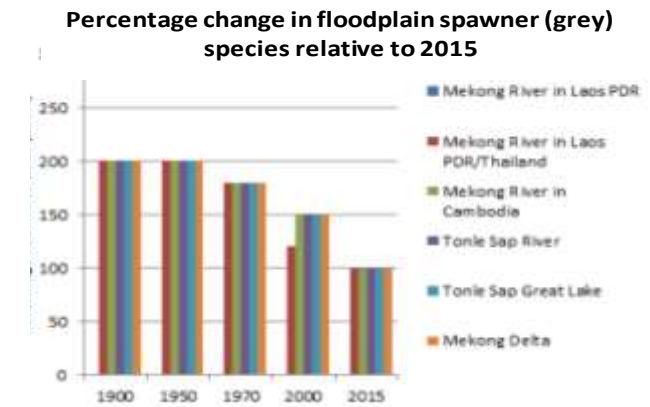
These analyses will be reviewed and extended to determine the impacts of exogenous development on the **status of those exposed to water resource development impacts in 2007, 2020 and 2040**, much of which will lead to improved social conditions



Sources: World Development Indicators, World Bank, 2013

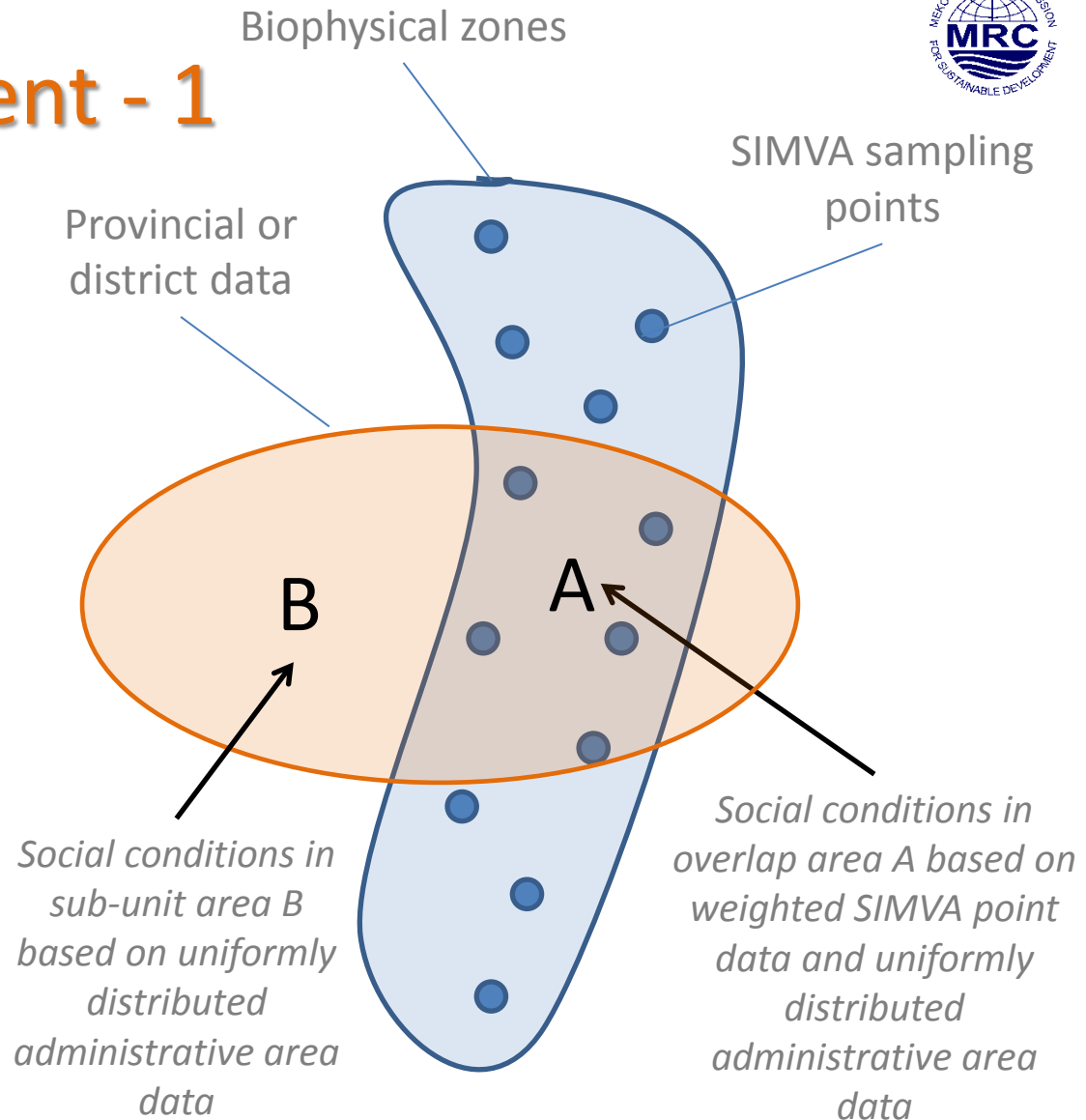


Sources: World Development Indicators, World Bank, 2013



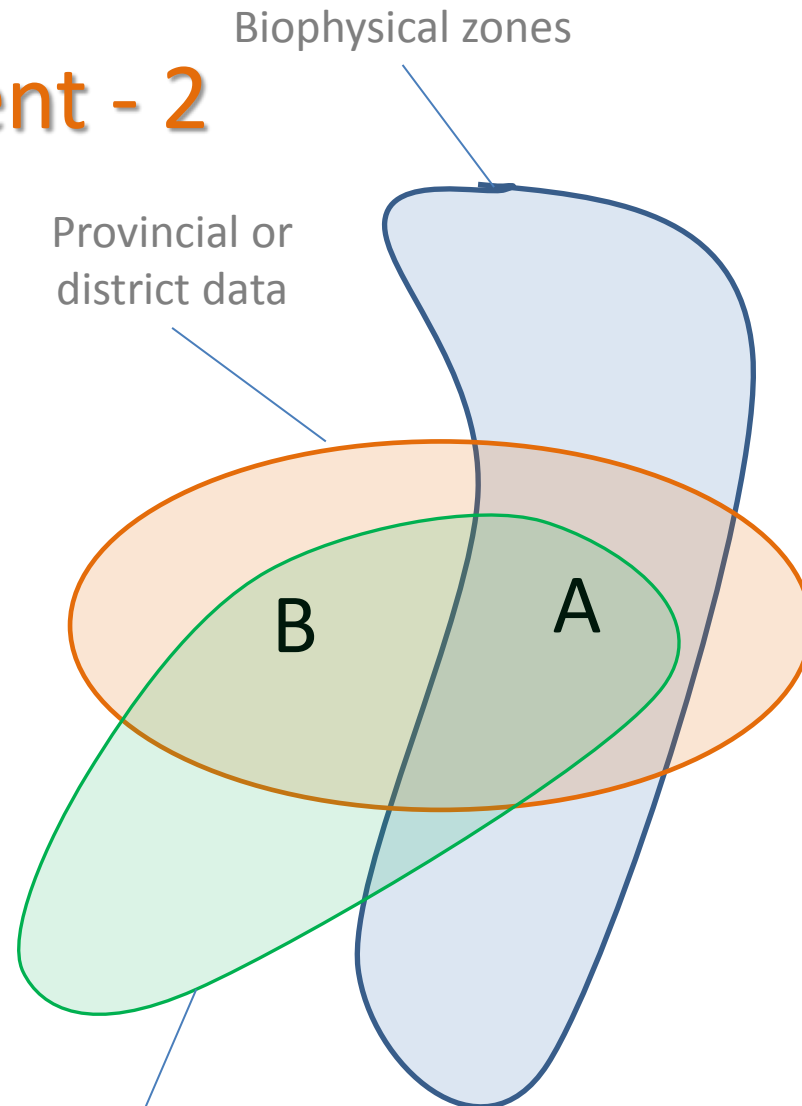
Impact assessment - 1

1. The LMB is spatially analysed by overlaying biophysical zones and administrative areas
2. Demographic and social condition data are determined for each sub-unit of area (eg A and B)
3. Demographic and social condition data sets are estimated for 2007, 2020 and 2040



Impact assessment - 2

4. Impacts associated with biophysical changes are uniformly spread across each bio-physical zone and calculated against social data for sub-unit area A
5. Other potential impacts, eg irrigation development, are evaluated through further spatial analysis overlain on sub-units areas A and/or B



Other impact areas (generally not biophysical), eg irrigation, reservoir development etc

3. Data availability

Data needed and sources

Strategic indicator 1: Living conditions and well-being

Assessment indicators	Data needed	Data sources
Water security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantity & quality Safe water supply for household consumption Water for agriculture and irrigation Water for fishing and aquaculture Flood & drought management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIMVA 2011 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIMVA 2013-2014 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MRC Socio-economic database <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thematic studies/MRC discipline database <input type="checkbox"/> Additional national statistics
Food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to sufficient and safe food for household consumption Ability to purchase food 	
Income security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Money generated by themselves or received as remittent Diversity of income generation/alternatives Actual/expected income 	
Health security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to available health facility Health status 	

Data needed and sources

Strategic indicator 2: Employment

Assessment indicators	Data needed	Data sources
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependency on fish • Dependency on OAAs • Dependency on irrigations and riverbank cultivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIMVA 2011 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIMVA 2013-2014 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MRC Socio-economic database <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thematic studies/MRC discipline database <input type="checkbox"/> Additional national statistics
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of women positive impacted and • % of women negative impacted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIMVA 2011 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIMVA 2013-2014 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MRC Socio-economic database <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thematic studies/MRC discipline database <input type="checkbox"/> Additional national statistics

4. Next steps

Next Steps:

- Preparation of report with a detailed description of the socio-economic impact assessment approach and methodology
- Presentation and discussion of the report during the 6th RTWG meeting

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Thank you for your attention