



Mekong River Commission

For Sustainable Development



**Sesan and Srepok River Basin and
Mekong Delta Water Resources Management Project**

Joint Transboundary Action Plan

**In the Sesan and Srepok River Basin and the Mekong Delta
of Cambodia and Viet Nam**

April 2019



Sesan and Srepok River Basin and Mekong Delta Water Resources Management Project

JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ACTION PLAN



THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP



April 2019

ABBREVIATIONS

CNMC	Cambodia National Mekong Committee
CM	Cooperation Mechanism
DHRW	Department of Hydrology and River Works
DoM	Department of Meteorology
DONRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment
DSF	Decision Support Framework
HPPs	Hydropower Plant
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JCECSTC	Joint Commission on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation
JWREG	Joint Water Resources Expert Group
LMB	Lower Mekong Basin
MD	Mekong Delta
MIWRM	Mekong Integrated Water Resources (WB Project)
M-IWRMP	MRC Integrated Water Resources Project
MRC-IS	MRC Information System
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOWRAM	Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
MRC	Mekong River Commission
MDBA	Murray Darling Basin Authority
NHMS	National Hydrological Meteorological Services
NMC	National Mekong Committee
PDIES	Procedures for Data and Information Exchange and Sharing
PDoWRAM	Provincial Department of Water Resources and Meteorology
PPC	Provincial Peoples Committee
PDT	Provincial Delegation Team
2S	Sesan and Srepok River Basins
TRBC	Transboundary River Basin Committee
VNMC	Viet Nam National Mekong Committee
WUP	Water Utilisation Programme

CONTENTS

- 1. FRAMEWORK FOR PREPARING THE JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ACTION PLAN..... 1
- 2. INTRODUCTION..... 2
- 3. METHODOLOGY 4
- 4. RECAP OF THE PRIORITY JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ISSUES 6
- 5. JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ACTION PLAN 9
- 6. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS 23

APPENDIX

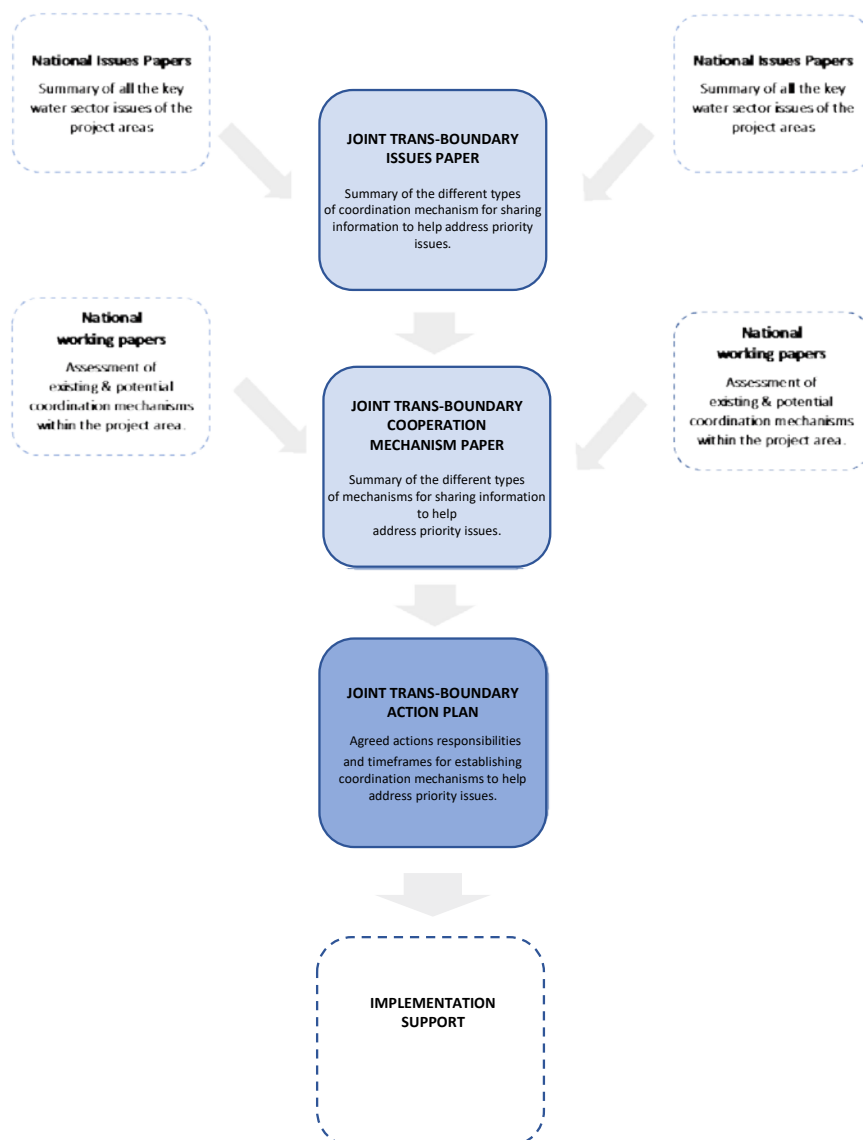
- 1. Example of a monitoring and reporting worksheet for assessing progress of the action plan 21



1. FRAMEWORK FOR PREPARING THE JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ACTION PLAN

The process of developing the Joint Transboundary Action Plan for the Sesan and Srepok River Basins and the Mekong Delta was to (1) prepare Joint Transboundary Issues Papers (one for each region) to identify priority water sector issues, the main focus for the plan, (2) prepare a Joint Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism Paper (covering both regions) to investigate suitable mechanisms to help address the priority issues and (3) prepare the Joint Transboundary Action Plan to set out joint actions between the Governments of Cambodia and Viet Nam, over the next five years, to address the priority issues (Figure 1). Extensive national consultation was undertaken throughout the process to ensure the regional outcomes were connected to the needs of stakeholders that live and work within the two regions. An iterative process was applied to ensure new and relevant information could be considered and where necessary incorporated into the process.

Figure 1 Framework for preparing the Joint Transboundary Action Plan



2. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Joint Transboundary Action Plan (Plan) is to set out clear management arrangements to support transboundary cooperation between the Governments of Cambodia and Viet Nam to strengthen sustainable water resources management and development of the Sesan and Srepok River Basins (2S River Basins) and Mekong Delta regions. These arrangements are called the Joint Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism (Cooperation Mechanism).

Under the Plan, targeted dialogue and information sharing processes are to be established to support a scientific and value based approach to transboundary water resources management decision making processes. Where possible, focus is placed on strengthening existing transboundary processes, and at all levels of government (managerial, technical and operational), to primarily but not solely address the identified priority transboundary water sector issues¹.

The *vision* of the Plan is:

By 2024, establish effective transboundary cooperation between the Governments of Cambodia and Viet Nam to support sustainable water resources management and development of the Sesan and Srepok River Basins and the Mekong Delta.

The overall *goals* of the Plan are to establish a transboundary cooperation mechanism to:

- **Minimise the impacts of flood or drought** on economic development and rural livelihoods.
- **Improve water security**, both the availability and quality of water supply, to all water users, especially those people living and working within these regions to support rural development, food security and protection of the environment.
- **Improve access to good quality water resources data and information** to support a wide range of decision-making processes, and improve understanding of the current state of the water resources within these regions.

The Plan area applies to the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta regions covering Cambodia and Viet Nam (Figures 1 and 2).

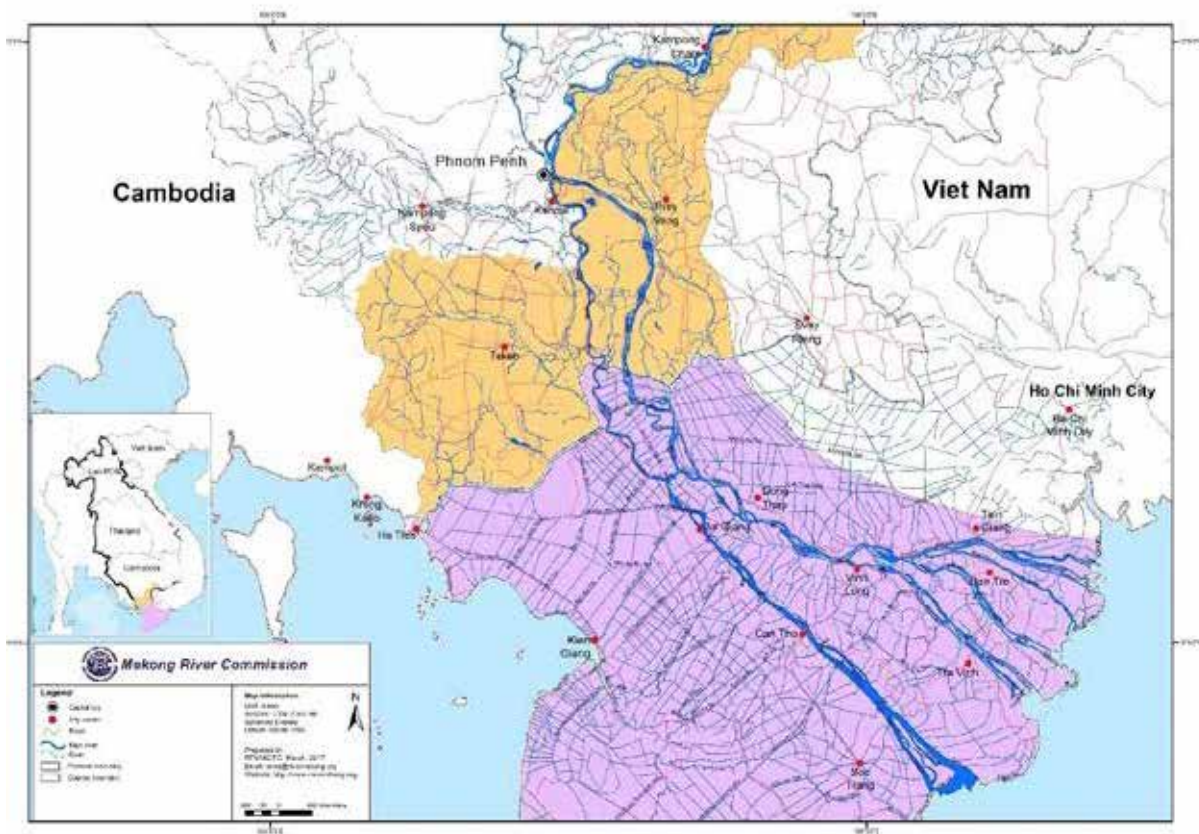
The Plan applies for a period of 5 years from 2019 until December 2024.

1 Other issues may arise over time.

Figure 1: Sesan and Srepok River Basins



Figure 2: Mekong Delta region



3. METHODOLOGY

The preparation of the Plan was based on a participatory consensus building approach to develop the Cooperation Mechanism. The process was overseen by a Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC) and Viet Nam National Mekong Committee (VNMC) Working Group (Working Group) with support from the Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS) and a representative from the World Bank (WB) Mekong IWRM Program team.

The Working Group held a number of meetings in Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Vientiane during 2018-19 to support preparation of the Plan. Representatives of the Governments of Cambodia and Viet Nam water ministries (i.e. the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MOWRAM) and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)), including provincial delegates, and national technical consultants, also participated in the meetings. Extensive national stakeholder consultation was also undertaken throughout the process within the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta.

Key principles which guided the preparation of the Cooperation Mechanism was (1) to strengthen existing processes, where appropriate, rather than implementing new arrangements, and (2) focus equally on all the following government levels: policy, planning and management; technical advisory support; and operational systems (Table 1). The result was a Cooperation Mechanism comprised of seven components (Figure 3). The specific types of water data and information to address the joint

issues were considered in shaping components of the Cooperation Mechanism.

Table 1: Government levels for transboundary cooperation

<p>Strategy and policy (High level government e.g. foreign affairs level)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highest-level government decision-making bodies that have the responsibility to oversee development and implementation of policies for ensuring sustainable transboundary water resources development in-line with international and national laws and agreements.
<p>Strategy, policy and planning development (Ministerial, CNMC and VNMC Director General and lower levels of government)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid to high level government bodies that are responsible for identifying and prioritising water sector issues, assessing the most appropriate management arrangements to address them, preparation and day-to-day implementation oversight of water resources related strategies, policies and plans. Technical advisory support is often used to inform decision making processes. • These bodies can be at all levels of government and their involvement is dependent on the type of issue. Local issues that cannot be resolved can be raised up to a higher level to find a solution. For example, a local village having access to only poor water quality may require changes to water releases across the river basin and the involvement of provincial and central levels of government.
<p>Technical advisory support (Ministry, CNMC and VNMC technical water resource managers and staff)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert technical staff and groups are those that have a high standing in a water resources related field such as hydrology (water resources model development and application), meteorology (climate science), aquatic ecology, economics, water law, sociology, irrigation and agriculture. These groups can provide on-going and demand driven services to support all levels of government. • Information and advice from these technical groups is used to inform the development of water resources related strategies, policies and planning, and to also support day-to-day water resources management. • These technical groups are not responsible for developing, approving or implementing strategic documents and plans, but may be responsible for implementing actions under these documents. • The role could include the communication of science-related matters within academic, community and industry networks to build a common understanding of the status of water resources.
<p>Operational systems (Ministry operational managers including provincial staff)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational staff and groups that oversee day-to-day management of water resources such as streamflow, water quality and water use monitoring; reservoir operations (and maintenance), including for environmental (aquatic ecosystem) water requirements; collection of hydromet data; and implementing flood emergency warning systems.

4. RECAP OF THE PRIORITY JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ISSUES

This Plan is focused on addressing the priority joint transboundary issues identified by the Working Group and supported by extensive national and provincial consultations. These issues are discussed in the Joint Transboundary Issues Reports for the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta. A summary of these priority issues are outlined in Tables 2 and 3 below.

Table 2: Priority transboundary water sector issues for the 2S River Basins

Issues (The 'problem')	Outcome statements (Types of 'solutions': what needs to happen.)
1. Monitoring and assessment of flow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of basin-wide water resources monitoring and assessment procedures to support sustainable water resources management, including basin-wide scenario assessments to improve understanding of the potential impacts of current and future development on all water users (i.e. commercial, domestic, environment, cultural).
2. Flood forecasting, flood control and flood warning mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened basin-wide flood management, including better preparedness to detect and respond to threatening flood events in advance, and predict potential and emergency flooding events, and minimise social, and economic impacts. Establishment of a modern (using mobile technology), basin-wide flood warning system that can reach all rural people living in the region that are vulnerable to the impacts of flooding.
3. Communication and coordination mechanisms on information/data sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a joint transboundary mechanisms for the sharing of water resources related information (and data), covering managerial, technical and operational aspects to support evidence-informed decision making processes to improve sustainable management of the water resources.
4. Mitigation measures to address social and environmental impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of high priority aquatic ecosystems, water quality status, and the hydrological regime requirements to maintain healthy functioning aquatic ecosystems. Basin-wide allocation procedures that incorporate environmental flows to protect the health of high priority aquatic ecosystems.

<p>5. Institutional and technical capacity to improve transboundary coordination and cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened sharing of technical information including meteorology, hydrology and ecology to support advancement of evidence-informed sustainable water resources management processes.
<p>6. Stakeholder engagement and awareness on water resources management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active engagement and broad representation of a wide range of government and non-government stakeholders, including from Farmers Water Users Committees and women’s groups, to support decision-making process especially district and provincial government levels, but also lower levels.

Table 3: Priority transboundary water sector issues for the Mekong Delta

<p>Issues (The ‘problem’)</p>	<p>Outcome statements (Types of ‘solutions’: what needs to happen.)</p>
<p>1. Flood and drought strategic planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened flood and drought management of the Mekong Delta, including better preparedness to detect and respond to threatening events in advance. • Establishment of a modern (using mobile technology) Mekong Delta flood and drought warning system that can be accessed by all rural people living in the region that are vulnerable to impacts. • Establishment of a joint rule and regulation on water uses along the border and development of a joint water resources development and planning strategy.

2. Infrastructure development and investment

- Establishment of a Mekong Delta Transboundary Infrastructure Plan to support joint planning and development of infrastructure that has the potential to have Mekong Delta wide impacts and mutual economic, social and environmental benefits. For example, flood protection embankments and water storage along and near the border.
- Establishment of the Mekong Delta Transboundary Infrastructure Working Group to oversee a collaborative approach to prepare and monitor progress of the transboundary infrastructure plan.

3. Coordination and communication mechanisms

- Establishment of joint transboundary mechanisms/processes for the sharing of water resources related information (and data), covering managerial, technical and operational, to support evidence-informed decision making to improve sustainable management of the water resources of the Mekong Delta.
- Establishment of a transboundary water resources management public education program to improve awareness of Mekong Delta water resources issues for those people living within the region in Cambodia and Vietnam.

4. Human and institutional capacity building at the managerial and technical levels

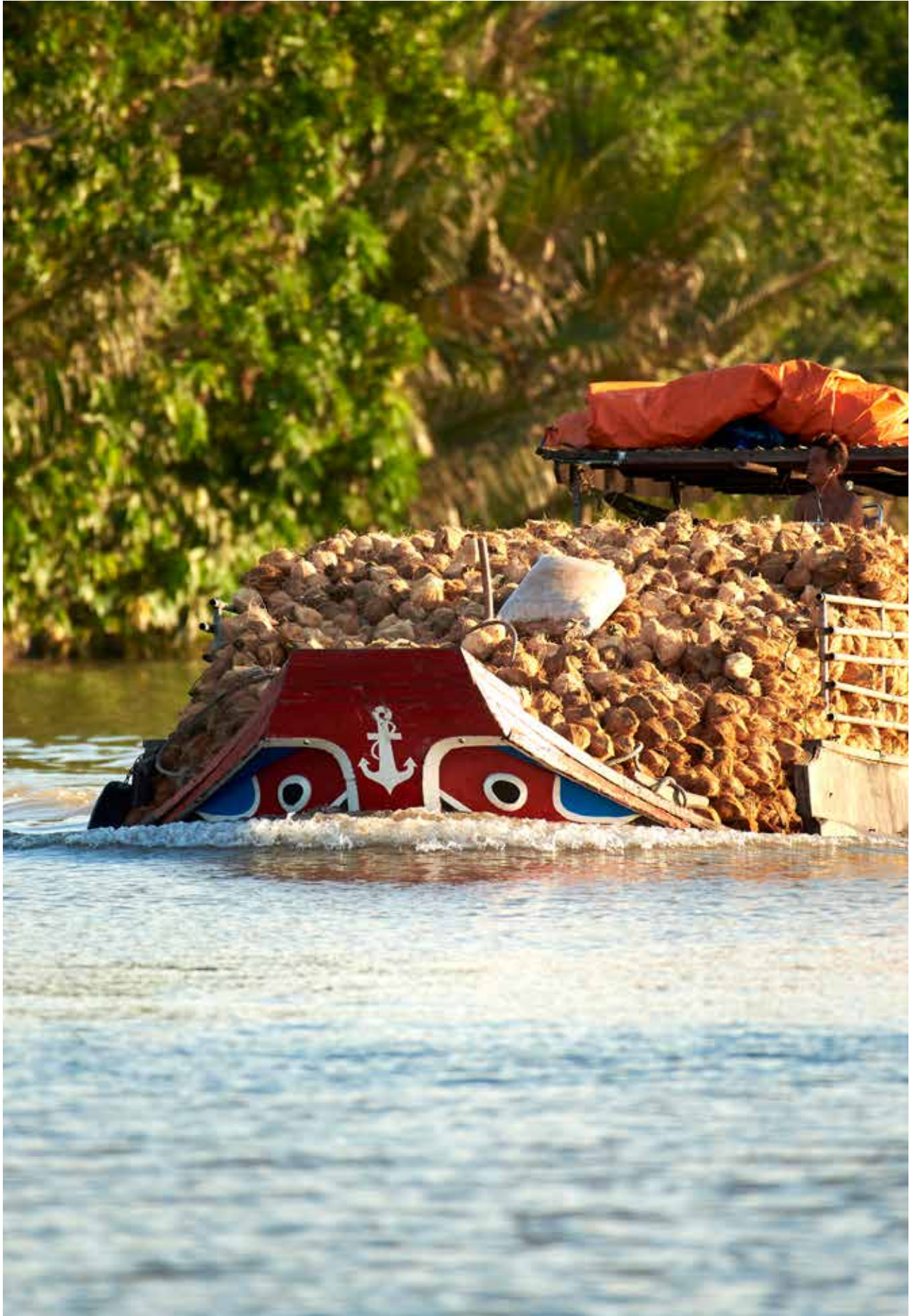
- Establishment of an on-going transboundary technical training and mentoring program to support improved water resources management practices in the Mekong Delta. Study tour or an exchange visit between both countries and internal locations of relevance to the project.

5. Environmental, social and economic impacts of development and climate change

- An up-to-date Mekong Delta Joint Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment Report and establishment of processes to support on-going reviews and updates to the report.
- An established on-going Mekong Delta Transboundary Stakeholder Engagement Program to support inclusion of different points of views, including from non-government people and women's groups, on development and climate change in the Mekong Delta region.

6. Implementation of the Navigation Agreement between Cambodia and Vietnam

- Establishment of a Mekong Delta transboundary management plan to support effective implementation of the Navigation Agreement, including routine monitoring and reporting, and resource requirements.



7. JOINT TRANSBOUNDARY ACTION PLAN

The Cooperation Mechanism and its seven components are set across a number of levels of government (Table 4). Each level seeks to support specific types of water resources related data and information to inform decision making processes to address the priority transboundary water sector issues. Figure 3 aligns the Cooperation Mechanism against important regional-wide Mekong cooperation mechanisms overseen by the MRC and the Lancang Mekong Cooperation. Figures 4 and 5 show how the Cooperation Mechanism will help to address the priority transboundary water sector issues of the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta region. Table 5 sets out the action plan (goals, objectives, activities etc.) for implementing the Cooperation Mechanism with identified lead responsibility, a tentative completion date and estimated budget implications for its implementation.



Table 4: Components of the 2S and Mekong Delta Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism

Government levels	Component	Description
Strategy and policy (High level government)	Joint Commission on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bilateral cooperation mechanism and partnership among ministries, sectors, localities between Viet Nam and Cambodia which meets to discuss coordination issues relating to security-defence, transport, infrastructure, development, industry-mining-energy, agro-forestry-fisheries, information and communications, health care, labour, social affairs, religion, culture, sports and tourism, and the environment.
Strategy, policy and planning development	A. Amend the existing MoU between the VNMC and CNMC on strengthening and enhancement of cooperation and coordination relating to Water Resources Development and Management in the Viet Nam-Cambodia Border areas to work more closely to ensure the sustainable management of the 2S River Basins and the Mekong-Delta.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables CNMC and VNMC to provide oversight support to the sustainable water resources management and development of the 2S River Basin and Mekong Delta. This includes the preparation and implementation of water resources related planning at the river basin scale including water allocation rules, water quality monitoring plans, etc.
	B. Strengthen the Provincial Delegation Teams (PDT) to address water sector issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PDTs have been established along the border between Cambodia and Viet Nam through bilateral arrangements at the provincial government level. Meetings are held every 6 months with the purpose of raising and identifying solutions to joint border issues of priority for both governments. Water resource management issues are currently not formally considered by the PDTs and therefore attention needs to be bolstered to address water sector issues.

Government levels	Component	Description
Technical Advisory Support	C. Joint Cambodia and Vietnam Water Resources Technical Expert Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Water Resources Expert Group (TWREG) to provide on-going and once off support to water resources decision-making at all levels of government to support management and operational decision-making processes. • Can be supported by one or many specialised technical expert community of practice that comprise of experienced specialists, especially in the fields of hydrology, meteorology hydrogeology, water quality and aquatic ecology. • The TWREG will advise on issues requiring expertise, competence and conduct technical reviews and prepare reports accordingly. • To provide unbiased technical advice decision-makers to help them to better predict outcomes and inform planning and management processes, including water infrastructure (e.g. reservoirs in the 2S River Basins).
	D. Strengthen sharing of data and information to support sustainable transboundary water resources management of the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MRC Procedures for Data and Information Exchange and Sharing currently does not provide targeted data and information to support day-to-day management of water resources in the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta. Targeted water resources data (e.g. water level predictions, rainfall forecasts) is urgently needed to inform water resources management decisions in these regions to meet a range of upstream and downstream water user needs, including environmental flows, and to help minimise the impacts from floods.

Government levels	Component	Description
Operational Systems	E. Improve the conjunctive operations of the 2S River Basins and management of water use in the Mekong Delta to support equitable and efficient management of water deliveries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support joint planning and management of the operations of water infrastructure to help maximise mutual transboundary water use benefits and minimise the risks of water impacts on people living within the 2S River Basins and the Mekong Delta. For the 2S River Basins, it could include the establishment of a Transboundary Storage Managers Group to support basin-wide reservoir operations, in-line with laws, standards and seasonal operation rules, to meet upstream and downstream water user needs.
	F. 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta Transboundary Emergency Response Planning Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floods and droughts are an annual occurrence in the 2S River Basin and Mekong Delta as a result of extreme rainfall events and miss-management of water infrastructure. These teams would help Cambodian and Viet Nam people living within these regions to be better prepared for emergency events. This includes, for example, supporting the operationalisation of flood forecasting and flood warning systems.
	G. Online public water resources information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A transboundary 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta online water information website that provides monthly water resources updates and other information including rainfall and temperature forecasts, stream flows and water storage levels, water quality information, flood prone regions and flood safety areas that is accessible to the non-technical person.

Figure 3: 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta Joint Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism

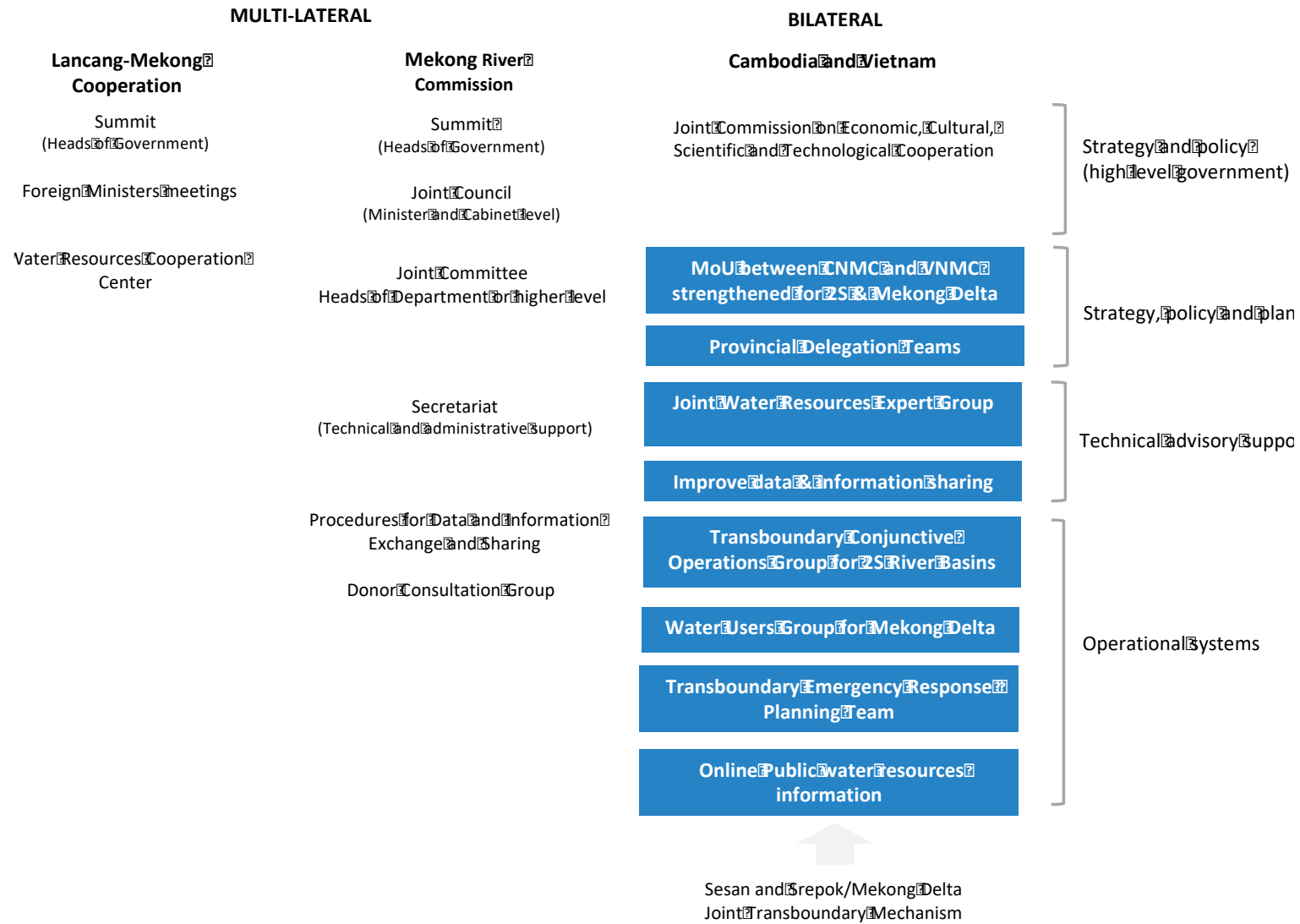


Figure 4: Joint Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism coverage of the 2S River Basins priority transboundary water sector issues

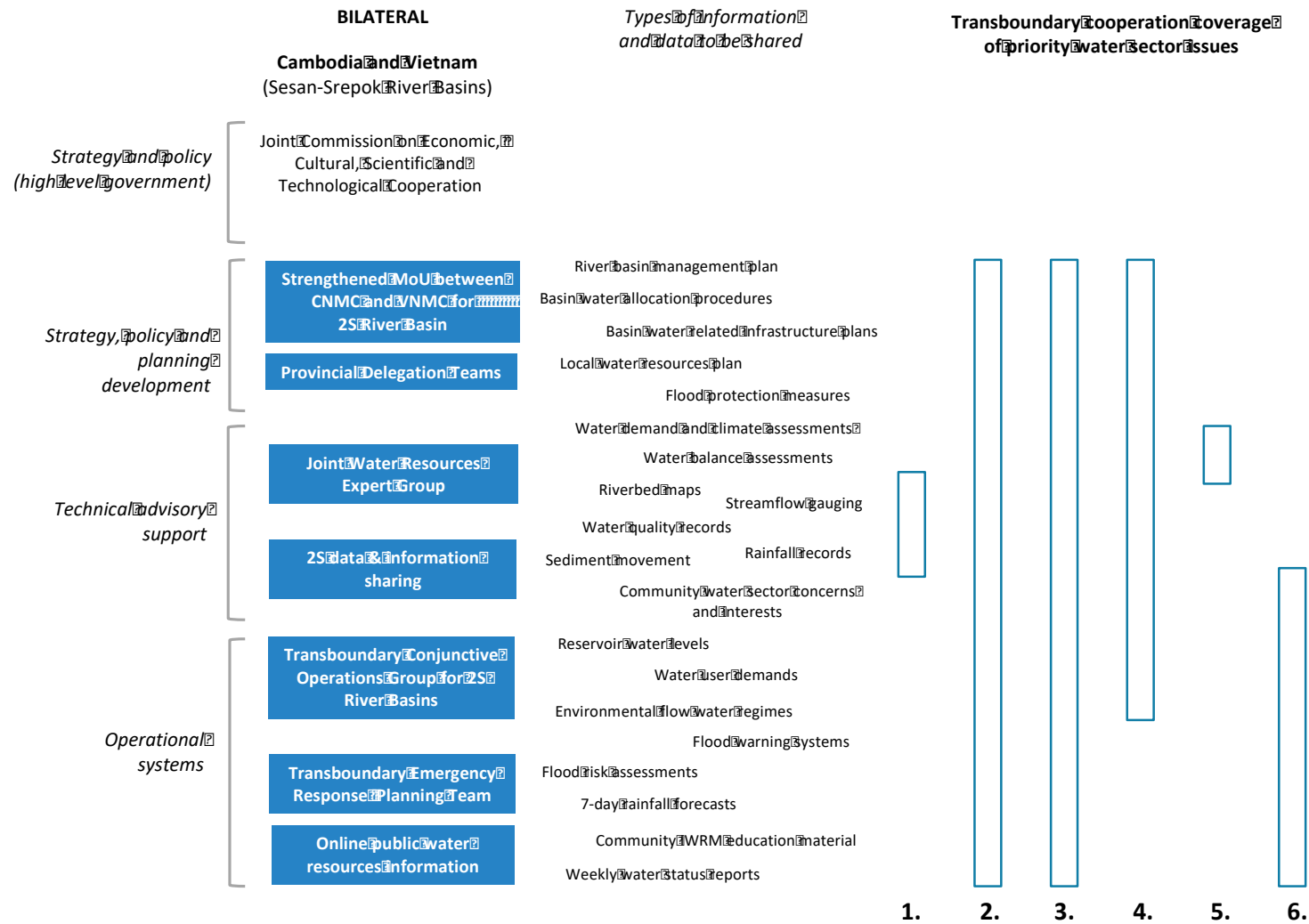


Figure 5: Joint Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism coverage of the Mekong Delta priority transboundary water sector issues

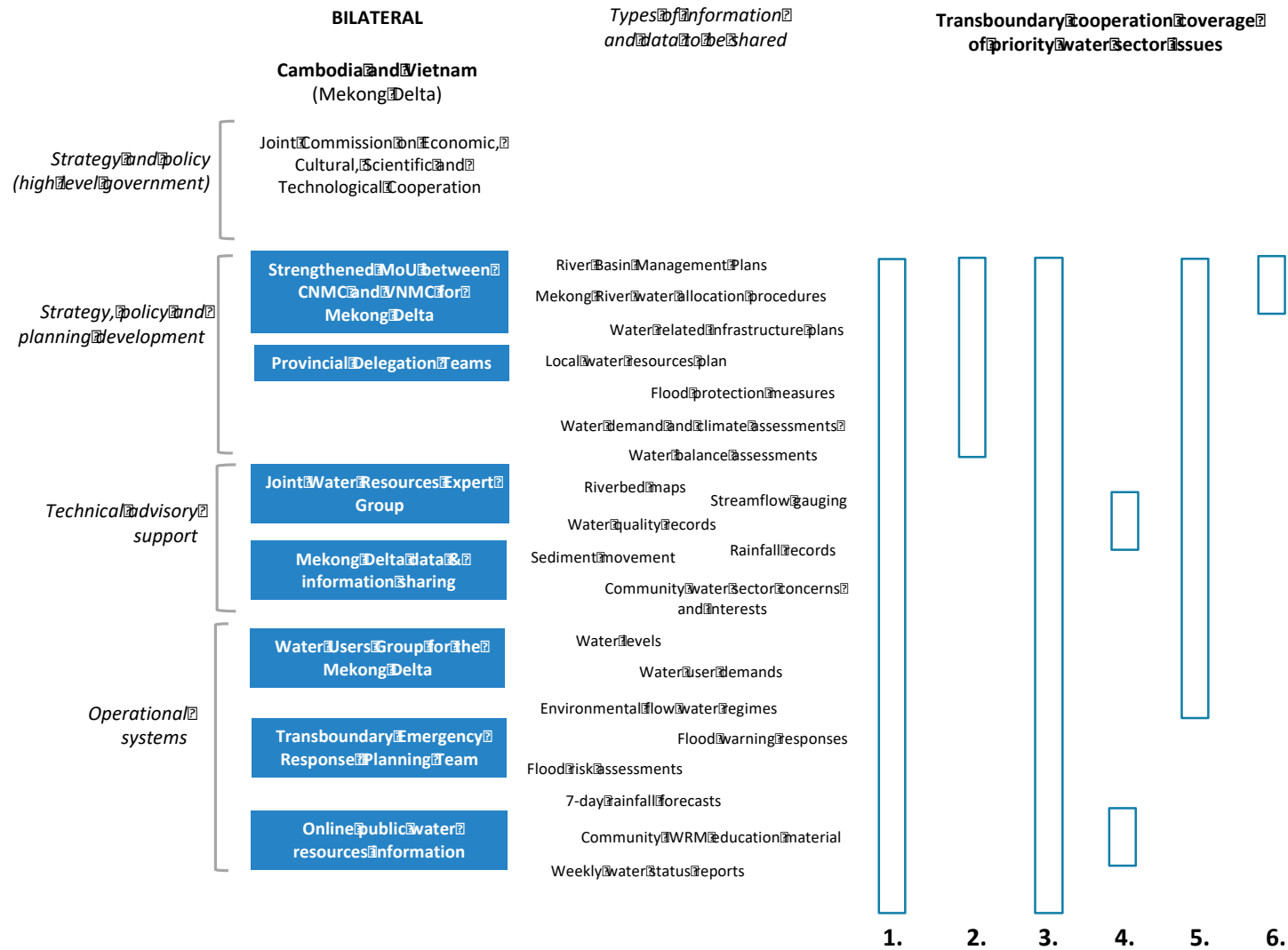


Table 5: Action Plan for the Transboundary Cooperation Mechanism for the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta

Goal	Objective and actions		Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)
Strategy and Policy					
High level joint Government understanding of 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta water related issues	Joint Commission on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation (Cambodia and Viet Nam)				
	(No objectives or actions. Processes already in place.)				
Strategy, policy and planning development					
Clear pathways between all levels of government, and processes in place to identify joint water sector issues and management actions to address them	Objective	A. Amend the existing MoU between the VNMC and CNMC on strengthening and enhancement of cooperation and coordination relating to Water Resources Development and Management in the Viet Nam-Cambodia Border areas to work more closely to ensure the sustainable management of the 2S River Basins and the Mekong-Delta	MOWRAM and MONRE		\$105,000
	Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and finalise the ToR of a high level working group for amending the existing MoU between the CNMC and VNMC 	MRCS		\$16,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a high level transboundary working group to review and amend the MoU 	CNMC and VNMC	31 July 19	

Goal	Objective and actions		Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and amend the MoU to support sustainable management of the 2S River Basins and boundary region of Mekong Delta 	Working group		\$25,000	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct consultation on the revised MoU 	CNMC and VNMC		\$45,000	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings to endorse and sign the MoU 	CNMC and VNMC	31 Dec 19	\$19,000	
	Provincial Delegation Teams					
	<i>Objective</i>	B. Support all Provincial Delegation Teams along the border of Cambodia and Vietnam in the 2S River Basins and the Mekong Delta to regularly discuss and report on the status of transboundary water issues (at the local level).		CNMC and VNMC		\$100,000
	<i>Actions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage and conduct a situational analysis of how PDTs currently deal with transboundary water issues and identify options for strengthening the process (for example, clarify protocols on data sharing and agreement on water transfers along the border) 		CNMC and VNMC	Dec 2019	\$50,000

Goal	Objective and actions		Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a joint support program, one for 2S River Basins and another for Mekong Delta, for PDTs to strengthen how they deal with transboundary water issues 	CNMC and VNMC	31 March 2020	\$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence implementation of the joint support program 	CNMC and VNMC	On-going from 2020	To be determined
Technical Advisory Support					
Clear processes in place to gather targeted technical information (scientific, economic, etc.) to support evidence informed decision-making for sustainable water resources management of the 2S River and Mekong Delta	Joint Water Resources Expert Group				
	<i>Objective</i>	C. Establish the Joint Water Resources Expert Group between Cambodia and Vietnam to support scientific based decision-making processes	CNMC and VNMC		\$80,000
	<i>Actions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold the inaugural meeting of the JWREG 	MRCS	30 Aug 2019	\$15,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and endorse the ToR (roles, chair, membership etc.) for the JWREG 	MRCS	30 Nov 2019	\$25,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and endorse the JWREG annual work plan and budget (including capacity building activities) 	CNMC and VNMC	31 Mar 2020	\$40,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence implementation of the annual work plan 	CNMC and VNMC	April 2020	To be confirmed

Goal	Objective and actions	Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)	
	Data and Information				
	Objective	D. Strengthen sharing of data and information to support sustainable water resources management of the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta	CNMC and VNMC	\$100,000	
	Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National assessment (including consultations) of the specific data and information needs to support sustainable management of the 2S River Basins and Mekong Delta. 	CNMC and VNMC	30 Sept 2019	\$40,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JWREG to assess national data and information needs to support equitable and efficient water resources management, and oversee the drafting of a protocol for strengthening transboundary data and information sharing for these regions. 	CNMC and VNMC	Nov 2019	\$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on the draft protocol for strengthening transboundary data and information sharing. 	CNMC and VNMC	31 March 2020	\$10,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsement and commencement of implementation of the protocol. 	CNMC and VNMC	On-going from April 2020	To be determined

Goal	Objective and actions	Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)	
Operational Systems					
Clear systems in place to support day-to-day management of water resources, including public information services.	Improve the conjunctive operation of the 2S Rivers and strengthen management of water use in the Mekong-Delta				
	<i>Objective</i>	E. Improve the conjunctive operations of the 2S River Basins and management of water use in the Mekong Delta to support equitable and efficient management of water deliveries.			\$100,000
	<i>Actions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare draft Concept Notes for establishing the (1) Transboundary Conjunctive Operation Group for the 2S River Basins and (2) Water Users Group for the Mekong Delta, drawing from international best practice, and including draft ToRs. 	MRCS	30 Dec 2019	\$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on the draft Concept Notes with government/non-government stakeholders. 	CNMC and VNMC	31 Mar 2020	\$30,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct inter-ministerial consultation, finalise the Concept Notes and endorse establishment of (operational) groups. 	CNMC and VNMC	31 May 2020	\$10,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold inaugural meetings, finalise ToRs and prepare annual work plans and budgets. 	CNMC and VNMC	30 June 2020	\$10,000
Emergency Response preparedness to major flood and drought disaster					

Goal	Objective and actions		Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)
	<i>Objective</i>	F. Improve public emergency response preparedness to major flood and drought events			\$100,000
	<i>Actions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare Concept Notes for establishing the (1) Transboundary Emergency Response Planning Teams for the 2S River Basins and (2) the Mekong Delta, drawing from international best practice, and including draft ToRs. 	MRCS	31 Dec 2019	\$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct consultation on the draft Concept Notes government/non-government stakeholders. 	CNMC and VNMC	31 Mar 2020	\$30,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct inter-ministerial consultation, and finalise the Concept Notes and endorse establishment of emergency response teams. 	CNMC and VNMC	31 May 2020	\$10,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold inaugural meetings, finalise ToRs and prepare annual work plans and budgets. 	CNMC and VNMC	30 June 2020	\$10,000
	Public awareness on water resources information				
	<i>Objective</i>	G. Strengthen public awareness of water resources issues and management arrangements.			\$100,000

Goal	Objective and actions		Lead	Tentative completion date	Budget implications (USD)
	Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Status of public water resources information and dissemination processes. – Stakeholder water resources information needs. – International best practice on disseminating water resources related information to the public. 	MRCS	31 March 2020	\$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare draft Communication Outreach Plans for each region, consult on draft plans, and prepare associated annual work plan and budget (to support implementation) 	CNMC and VNMC communication unit	30 June 2020	\$50,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise and commence implementation of the Communication Outreach Plans. 	CNMC and VNMC communication unit	On-going from October 2020	To be confirmed

6. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The Plan is to be implemented by CNMC, VNMC and the Governments of Cambodia and Viet Nam lines Ministries which are responsible for water resources management. The Working Group that was responsible for preparing the Plan is to continue in a new role of providing implementation oversight and support, meeting 3-4 times per year to track and identify major issues impacting on its implementation, and to ensure progress is appropriately reported through national processes. Consistent tracking of progress is to occur using a standardised framework to establish a more evidence based monitoring process and to support common understanding of what is working well and where additional efforts are required. An example of a monitoring framework is provided in Appendix 1. The MRCS is to continue as a member of this Working Group and where deemed appropriate to provide assistance to support effective implementation of the Plan.

The Plan is to be reviewed and evaluated mid-term and in its final year of 2024 to assess if it needs to be amended and strengthened and to address other issues that may arise during implementation in relation to its structure and content.



APPENDIX

1. Example of a monitoring and reporting worksheet for assessing progress of the action plan

Objective and actions	Performance indicators	Outputs (Measurement unit)	Targets					Reporting method
			2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
C. Establish the Joint Water Resources Expert Group between Cambodia and Vietnam to support scientific based decision-making processes <i>Actions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold the inaugural meeting of the JWREG Prepare and endorse the ToR (roles, chair, membership etc.) for the JWREG Prepare and endorse the JWREG annual work plan and budget (including capacity building activities) Commence implementation of the annual work plan 	Meeting held	Minutes of the meeting (submitted to NMCs)	1					
	Annual work and budget plans endorsed	Number of annual work budget plans endorsed	1	1	1	1	1	Progress reports
	Meetings held	Minutes of the meetings (submitted to NMCs)	2	4	4	4	4	Progress reports



Mekong River Commission Secretariat

P. O. Box 6101, 184 Fa Ngoum Road, Unit 18Ban Sithane Neua,
Sikhottabong District, Vientiane 01000, Lao PDR

T: +856 21 263 263 | F: +856 21 263 264

www.mrcmekong.org