

Table 5: Twelve Regional Environmental Assets of Importance and Priority in the Lower Mekong Basin indicating their Respective Risks and Opportunities

Name of REA and location	Ecoregions Represented	Regional Risks and Opportunities
Nam Et Phoulei National Park, north-eastern Lao PDR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Northern Indochina Subtropical Forest 2. Luang Prabang Mountain Rainforest 	Planned hydropower, mining and agriculture development within the NP could affect its condition and integrity. Provides watershed protection, groundwater recharge and reduced sedimentation and erosion.
Nong Bong Kai, Wiang Nong Lhom and Mainstream Mekong, northern Thailand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Northern Indochina Subtropical Forest 2. Northern Thailand/Laos Moist Deciduous Forest 	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development, rock blasting and dredging for international navigation and land use/resource conflict. Provides flood protection, groundwater recharge and reduced drought impacts.
Lower Songkhram River, north eastern Thailand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Northern Khorat Plateau Moist Deciduous Forests 2. Northern Annamites Rainforest 	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides flood protection, groundwater recharge and reduced erosion and drought impacts. Occasionally creates a backflow effect similar to Tonle Sap, Cambodia.
Xe Champhone Ramsar Wetland, south eastern Lao PDR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Indochina Dry Forest 2. Southern Eastern Indochina Evergreen Forest 	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides watershed protection, groundwater recharge, maintains dry season flow and reduces erosion, flooding and impact of drought.
Beung Kiat Ngong Ramsar Wetland, southern Lao PDR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Indochina Dry Forest 	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides important component of the sites hydrological system, with lateral groundwater inflows critical for maintaining the wetlands water balance. Also provides protection from flooding, and erosion.
Khao Yai and Thap Lan National Park (Dongphayayen-Khaoyai Forest Complex), eastern Thailand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Indochina Dry Forest 2. Southern Eastern Indochina Evergreen Forest 3. Cardamom Mountain Rainforest 	<p>At risk from large scale linear developments.</p> <p>Provides watershed protection, freshwater supply, groundwater recharge and discharge, and reduced sedimentation and erosion.</p>
Virachey National Park, north-eastern Cambodia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Indochina Dry Forest 2. Southern Eastern Indochina Evergreen Forest 	At risk from upstream hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides watershed protection to the Sesan and Sekong Rivers, ground water recharge, carbon storage, protection from flooding and reduced sedimentation and erosion.
Sre Pok Wildlife Sanctuary, eastern Cambodia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Indochina Dry Forest 	At risk from upstream hydropower development, mining, agriculture development, impacts of climate change and land use/resource conflict. Provides watershed protection, ground water recharge, and reduced flooding, erosion and drought impacts.
Yok Don National Park, central highlands, Viet Nam	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Indochina Dry Forest 2. Southern Eastern Indochina Evergreen Forest 	Provides watershed protection, fresh water supply, ground water recharge and discharge, and reduced sedimentation and erosion.

Name of REA and location	Ecoregions Represented	Regional Risks and Opportunities
Tonle Sap Multiple Use Area, central Cambodia	1. Tonle Sap Freshwater Swamp Forest	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides important function for the LMB hydrological system for the 12,876 km ² Cambodian floodplain that that the Mekong replenishes with water and sediments annually.
U Minh Thuong National Park, Mekong delta, Viet Nam	1. Indochina Mangroves 2. Tonle Sap Mekong Peat Swamp Forest	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides important role in maintaining the soil and water quality in the buffer zone by preventing the acidification of topsoil and surface water, filtering ground water, and storing freshwater during the dry season.
Mui Ca Mau National Park, Mekong Delta, Viet Nam	1. Indochina Mangroves	At risk from cascading hydropower development, agriculture development and land use/resource conflict. Provides important protection from saltwater intrusion, and erosion and transports sedimentation and nutrients upstream.