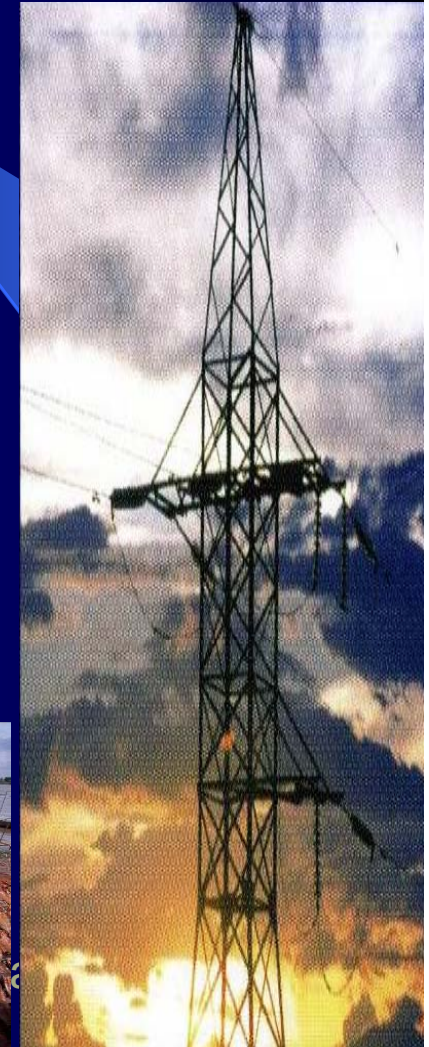




THE SEA OF THE PROPOSED HYDROPOWER DAMS ON THE MEKONG MAINSTREAM

MRC Initiative on Sustainable Hydropower (ISH).



Two worlds: Water resources – Energy resources

-IWRM

- Dublin principles
- sustainability
- poverty reduction
- MDGs
- participation
- public finance
- ...

Water




**resources
planning**

**Procedures
for prior consultation**

**Basin Development Plan,
Strategic Environmental
Assessment,...**

Energy



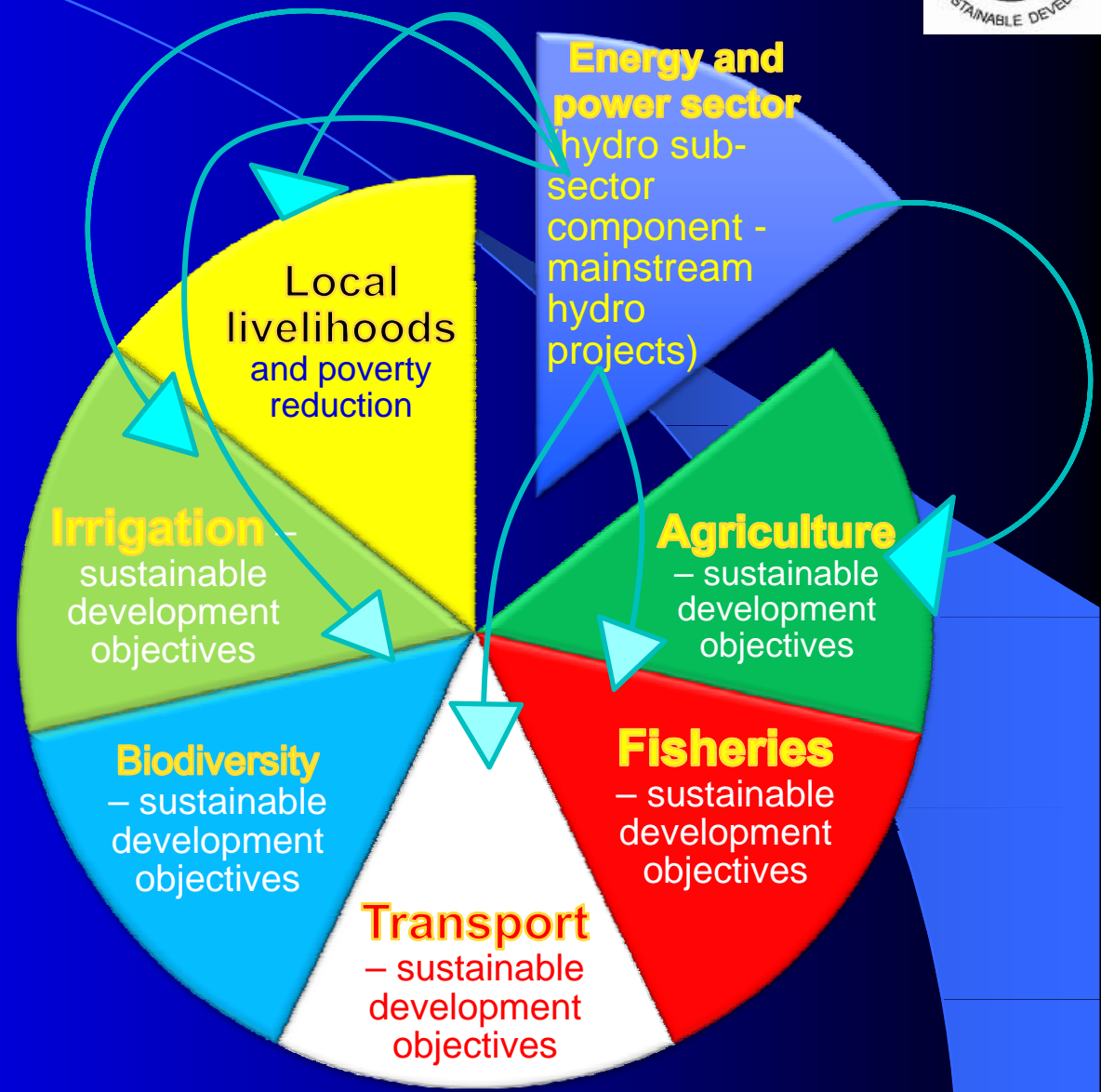
**sector
planning**

- Concession agreements
- power purchase agreements
- tariff negotiations
- regional trading
- peaking power
- ...

BDP and role of SEA

Functions of SEA:

1. Helps to integrate energy and power sector into the BDP
2. Assesses the effects of mainstream hydro projects on meeting the sustainable development trends / objectives of each sector
3. Provides framework for project –specific evaluation



Objectives of the SEA

Hydropower - Opportunities and risks :

1. Provide an understanding of the implications of mainstream hydropower development
2. Provide specific policy-level recommendations to support decisions on whether and how those hydropower projects should best be pursued;
3. Provide an initial baseline and assessment framework for individual mainstream project EIAs, thereby supporting the MRC Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA)

SEA as a tool in development planning:

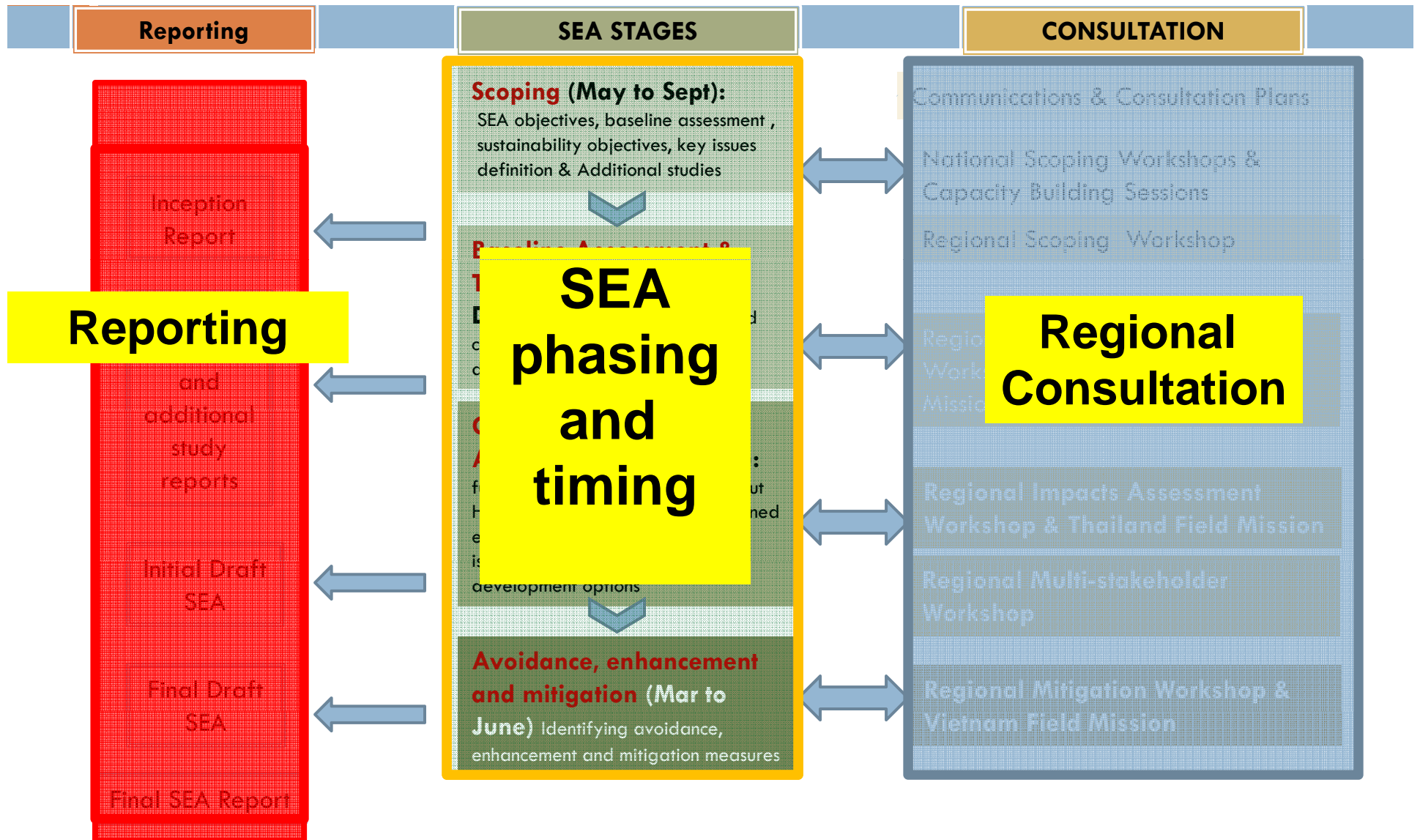
1. Serve as a methodological framework for sub-basin hydropower SEAs in the LMB, which will be carried out as input to MRC's Basin Development Plan; and
2. Include capacity building to strengthen the respective analytical SEA capabilities in the concerned line agencies of the MRC Member States.

Objectives of the preparatory phase

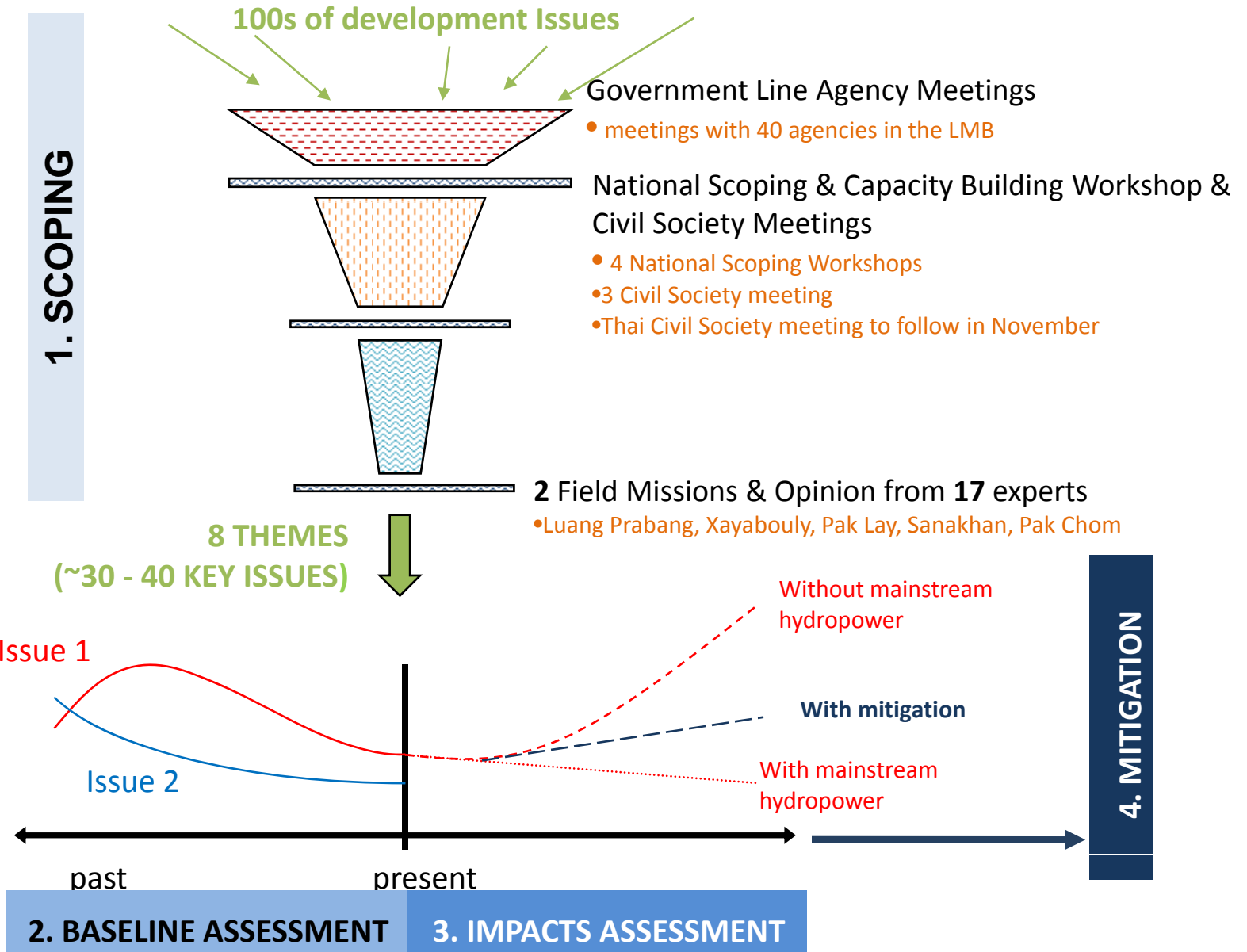


1. Define the scope of the SEA and key strategic issues for development of the mainstream Mekong River;
2. Review and finalise the methods and phasing for the assessment;
3. Identify additional studies required as part of the SEA;
4. Define collaborative relationships between SEA activities and other MRC initiatives and programs and embed the SEA into the MRC operational and institutional structure and processes;
5. Develop a communications and consultation plan for the SEA which all stakeholders will respect as balanced and appropriate way to engage them in the process; and
6. Identify data sources and define operational plans for the baseline assessment and information gathering in each country.

The SEA process for mainstream developments



Methodology overview



Comparison of key national themes

- A. Fisheries
- B. Agriculture
- C. Wetlands & biodiversity conservation
- D. Navigation
- E. Health
- F. Local Livelihoods & Poverty reduction
- G. Migration
- H. Irrigation
- I. Energy Security/ energy poverty

- A. Fisheries (1)
- B. Power generation (2)
- C. Navigation (2)
- D. Tourism (3)
- E. Manufacturing/processing Industry (4)
- F. Water Quality, sedimentation & erosion (5)
- G. Resettlement & cultural heritage (6)

THAILAND

LAO PDR

CAMBODIA

VIET NAM

- A. Fishery (1)
- B. Power & Energy (1)
- C. Poverty and livelihood (2)
- D. Hydrology and water quality (2)
- E. Agriculture and water supply (3)
- F. Terrestrial ecology and land use (3)
- G. Aquatic diversity and ecosystems and fisheries (3)
- H. Navigation

- A. Agriculture (1)
- B. Fisheries (2)
- C. Transport & inland waterways (3)
- D. Ecosystem integrity and environment (3)
- E. Hydrology and climate change (4)
- F. Power generation (unranked)

Consolidated themes & SEA theme papers

1. Fisheries

2. Energy & power security

3. Agriculture

Terrestrial systems

4. Hydrology & sediment

5. Poverty & livelihoods

Social systems

6. Aquatic biodiversity

Aquatic systems

7. Climate change

8. Navigation/transport

Economics

9. Tourism

10. Migration

11. Health

12. Manufacturing



The next steps

REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS				
Cambodia		Baseline Assessment Phase		OCT - DEC
NOV/DEC	02-03	Follow Up: KH Government line agency meetings		BASELINE ASSESSMENT What are the past & current trends for these issues?
	04-05	Cambodian Field Mission: Stung Treng, Sambor	Sambor	
	07-08	Regional Baseline Assessment Workshop	Phnom Penh	
Lao PDR		Impacts Assessment Phase		JAN - MAR
MAR	15-16	Follow up: LAO Govt line agency meetings	Vientiane	RISK ASSESSMENT What are the future trends for these issues, with & without mainstream hydropower?
	18	Regional Multistakeholder Workshop	TBD	
	19-20	Lao Field Mission: TBD	TBD	
Thailand				
MAR	22-23	Follow up: THAI Govt. Line agency meetings		RISK ASSESSMENT What are the future trends for these issues, with & without mainstream hydropower?
	25-26	Regional Impacts Assessment Workshop	Bangkok	
	27-28	Thai Field Mission: Ban Koum	Ban Koum	
Vietnam		Avoidance, Enhancement & Mitigation Phase		MAR - JUN
JUN	18, 21-22	Follow up: Vietnam Government line agency meetings	Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh	MITIGATION What measures will be useful in enhancing the benefits and avoiding or mitigating the negative effects of mainstream hydropower?
	24-25	Regional Mitigation Workshop	Can Tho	

Conclusions

Methods

- trend analysis as the main assessment tool and
- two main BDP scenarios (with and without the LMB mainstream hydro project proposals) as the focus of risks and opportunities assessment.

Scope

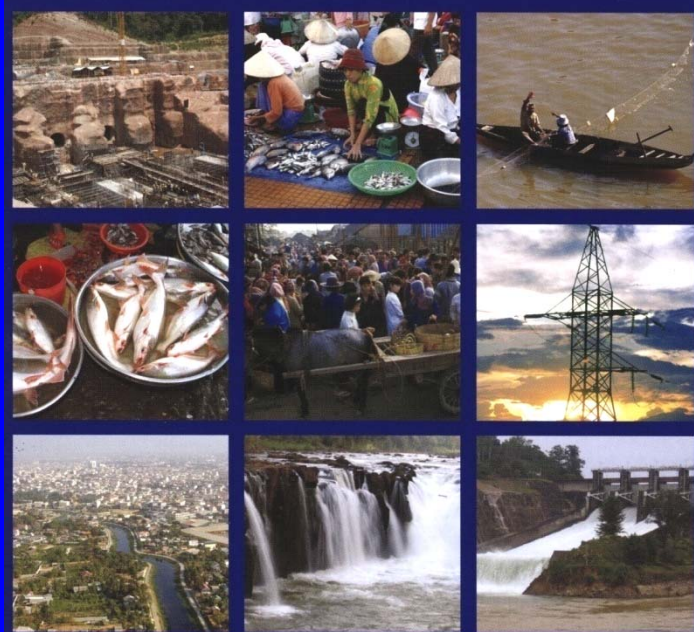
- focus on agriculture, fisheries, hydrology/sediment flows and power security, with four other themes also identified for priority assessment.

Phasing and timing

- SEA has four phases – preparatory, baseline assessment, risk/opportunities assessment and mitigation/enhancement.
- Preparatory phase has run from June to October with the baseline assessment phase commencing November.

Integration with MRCS programs

- MRC programs have been involved in preparation of scope and methods theme papers including guidance on integration approaches.
- An SEA coordination working group has been established and theme working groups proposed.
- A special relationship has been forged between the BDP scenario assessment and SEA teams to define common and consistent methods and approaches and to share information.



THANK YOU!