

Introduction to Discharge and Sediment Monitoring Project

- Background and Justification
- Objectives/Outputs
- Activity and Work plan
- Objectives of this Work Shop

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1. Background and Justification

- A discharge monitoring program of MRC has been operating on the lower-Mekong since 1960s.
- However, the collection of sediment data has been temporally and spatially sporadic with no measurements of bed load transport having been made.

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- The present discharge and sediment monitoring program is not sufficient for the current MCRS programs.
- There is a desire to coordinate discharge, sediment, water quality monitoring activities to enable multiple parameter calculations from the same samples

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- A coordinated monitoring would allow the calculation of sediment, nutrient and contaminant loads which has not been possible in the past due to separate monitoring projects.
- IKMP work plan 2008 requires that the integrated discharge and sediment monitoring project be formulated and implemented.
- The project will later integrate the water quality and bio monitoring activities.
- The project will provide basis for developing MRC integrated monitoring system, contributing to MRC Information System



Map of Mekong Hydro-Met stations

(near real time Rainfall and water level data)

AHNIP 17 stations

HYCOS (under installation)

Priority 1 23 stations

Priority 2 9 stations

Total 49 stations



2.1 Study Objectives

- To establish routine sediment monitoring
 - Mekong River mainstream
 - Tributaries
- To revise discharge monitoring activities
 - Upgrade equipment & methods
 - Introduce quality control protocols
- Undertake specific field campaigns;
- To integrate the discharge, sediment, biological & water-quality monitoring activities

2.2 Study Outputs

- A report providing overview of the work done and the MRC data / information and metadata holdings on discharge and Sediment monitoring.
- A revised and enhanced Discharge and Sediment monitoring plan including field campaigns and integration into MRC monitoring system, with budget estimation.
- The report is also prepared for fund raising purpose based on MRC report/proposal format

3. Study Activity and Work Plan

- July-December 2008, 6-month period study
- Consult MRC programs for needs assessment: IKMP, FMMP, EP, NAP, BDP, AIFP, HP etc (July-August 2008)
- Visit the four countries for data status and needs assessment (Sept.-Oct. 2008)
 - Orientation meetings
 - Site visits
 - National Consultations

3. Study Activity and Work Plan

- Prepare a revised and enhanced Discharge and Sediment monitoring plan (Oct.-Dec. 2008)
 - Regional Workshops (21-22 Oct. 2008)
 - The draft plan submitted to countries for review (early Dec. 2008)
 - Plan summary presented to TACT (Dec.2008)
 - Final Plan

4. Workshop Objective

Country/Expert presentations and discussion:

- Current discharge and sediment monitoring activities
- Proposed strategy on MRC monitoring system
- Tools for discharge and sediment monitoring
- Proposed initial work plan for the discharge and sediment monitoring including integration of water quality and biological monitoring
- View/opinion exchange, comments and advice for the final monitoring plan

Thank you for your kind attention