Scope of talk @ MRC-BDP consultation

To further unpack scenarios but to also widen the discussion to bring in other <u>so-called</u> <u>progressive tools</u> which could inform basin development planning and decisionmaking





M-POWER

Mekong Program On Water Environment and Resilience



www.mpowernet.org

DEMOCRATIZING WATER GOVERNANCE IN THE MEKONG REGION

> EDITED BY LOUIS LEBEL, JOHN DORE, RAJESH DANIEL, AND YANG SAING KOMA





Water

for development - national & regional

employment, energy, industry, transport



for people – increasing livelihood opportunities

food, drinking, spirituality, sanitation

for nature - healthy ecosystems

rivers, lakes, wetlands, forests, fisheries, mountains



How to decide about use, sharing, allocating?



Improving Mekong Region water sharing & allocation

CPWF Project Number 67

Examining (potentially) progressive approaches, techniques, 'tools'

This work may be of assistance to BDP2

M-POWER

Mekong Program on Water Environment and Resilience



Tools

1. Scenarios – *central to BDP2 Which might include.....*

- 2. Modelling
- 3. Environmental flows
- 4. Strategic Environmental Assessment
- 5. Cumulative Impact Assessment
- 6. Multi-stakeholder Dialogues
- 7. Consensus-building negotiations





Conclusion 1

These tools have <u>substantial unfulfilled</u> <u>potential</u> to drive improved water sharing and allocation in 'the Mekong' and elsewhere, by focusing attention on OPTIONS and IMPACTS and fostering higher quality debate between stakeholders.





Conclusion 2

Mekong Region land and water use is being transformed, with our without BDP2. It will be almost impossible for BDP2 to "keep up".

Planning is important, but don't want to over-focus on producing "the BDP2 plan" – even if it is a "rolling plan".

Need to focus on getting tools used as regular part of decision-making at different levels in all 6 of the Mekong Region countries, including for transboundary developments.





1. Scenarios

Scenarios are stories that outline possible futures

BDP1 scenarios never released? Interaction minimised.

IBFM scenarios also had problems in getting released.

BDP2 scenarios will be jointly developed? Will release also be a problem? (We all hope not!)

Will parallel scenarios processes still be required to avoid censorship and to speed up the process of exploring water futures together?

| causality v | Facts | Spect Scenarios Projections | ulation |
|-------------|-------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| | low | Uncertainty | high |
| | | Source: Based on EEA | (2005) |

| Scenario | Domestic and Industrial usage (mcm) | Irrigated areas ('000 ha) | Hydropower dams active storage volume (mcm) | | Embankment area ('000 ha) | Basin diversions (mcm) | |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|--------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| | | | LMB | China | | Intra | Inter |
| Baseline | 1,620 | 7,422 | 6,185 | - | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chinese Dams | 1,620 | 7,422 | 6,185 | 22,700 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Low Development | 3,109 | 8,316 | 12,443 | 10,300 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Embankments | 3,109 | 8,316 | 12,443 | 10,300 | 130 | 0 | 0 |
| Agriculture | 4,194 | 11,349 | 12,443 | 10,300 | 0 | 2,200 | 3,262 |
| High Development | 4,194 | 11,349 | 26,778 | 22,700 | 0 | 2,200 | 3,262 |

2. Modelling

Modelling should make scenarios more explicit, quantified and transparent

Eg. DSF Eg. WUP-FIN Eg. University of Washington

Assumptions/formulas need to be declared eg. many doubted the DSF hydrograph widely used in 2006

Models need to be publicly understood

Has the DSF been 'peer reviewed' and published about in scientific journal?



Figure 6-22. Change in area with critical salinity: Chinese Dams scenario v Baseline



Figure 6-25. Change in area with critical salinity: Agriculture scenario v Baseline



3. Environmental flows



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Informing the negotiation of flow regimes

Establishing water flow regimes which recognise ecosystem needs whilst trying to satisfy social and economic demands.

Requires integration of engineering, law, ecology, economy, hydrology, political science and communication.

Eg. Huong (Gov of Vietnam, IWMI, IUCN) Eg. Songkhram (Gov of Thailand, WUP-FIN, Eg. IBFM (MRC)

Eg. Yangtze (WWF, Ministry of Water Resour

Translations provide technical foundation for Mekong Region



4. Strategic Environmental Assessment



Pilot Projects 2006-2009

SEA of the Hydropower Master Plan in Viet Nam

SEA of the Tourism Sector in Cambodia

SEA of North South Economic Corridor (Transport & Trade/ Spatial planning)

5. Cumulative Impact Assessment

Eg. Nam Theun 2 (not widely shared) Nam Ngum (new)

Peter Adamson analysis of Lancang-Mekong cascade



6. Multi-stakeholder Dialogues



Mekong Region Waters Dialogue 6-7 July 2006 Lao Plaza Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR

湄公地区水对话 မဲခေါင်ဒေသအတွင်းရေပိုင်း ဆိုင်ရာတွေ့ဆုံဆွေးနွေးပွဲ ภามปีกสาขาลิอาการบโบธิรเธด ขากขึ้มแม่มา้ธอร สานเสรนาเรื่อง "น้ำ" ในภูมิภาคลุ่มน้ำโขง กิฐกิเกาะถึกกุฏญี่กิษีกเธากับธ่อเธเยคม Đối thoại về Nước Khu vực Mêkông









7. Consensus Building Negotiations

Eg. WUP 1999-2007? Eg. Transboundary Mitigation **Mechanism** (TMM) between Cambodia & Vietnam



Interests

Recapping.....

- 1. Scenarios
- 2. Modelling
- 3. Environmental flows
- 4. Strategic Environmental Assessment
- 5. Cumulative Impact Assessment
- 6. Multi-stakeholder Dialogues
- 7. Consensus-building negotiations

Can we do better in the Mekong Region? Where have they been used? Can these tools be put to more use? Eg. BDP2? Can work be better harmonised within MRC and with other actors?



BDP Stakeholder Consultation Meeting 12-13 March, 2008 Vientiane, Lao PDR



Strategy Implementation Integrated Programme Approach



Harmonising work between MRC programs, and with non-MRC actors

- 1. Scenarios MRC BDP2 but also possible parallel processes eg. SEI and M-POWER
- 2. Modelling MRC Water Utilisation Program (WUP) plus others like Finland Team, and Uni of Washington
- 3. Environmental flows MRC Environment Program (EP) IBFM, plus other non-MRC teams in all 6 countries
- 4. Strategic Environmental Assessment MRC Hydropower Program (HP) learning from ADB SEA experience
- 5. Cumulative Impact Assessment Moving beyond single project EIA analysis. MRC Eisheries Program (FP) etc...



Harmonising work between MRC programs, and with non-MRC actors

- 6. Multi-stakeholder Dialogues
 - Institutionalising high-quality deliberation/dialogue between governments, developers, regulators, business, civil society. Not just big meetings, but smaller roundtables on focused issues
 - Eg. finance industry's commitment to transnational codes of conduct (Equator Principles etc..
 - Eg. why are fisheries issues still marginalised from national energy policy in Lower Mekong?
 - Eg. how best to deal with water pricing in Mekong Region irrigation systems

IUCN, IWMI, TEI, CEDAC, Vietnam Water Partnership, Yunnan University, M-POWER, Gov of Finland.

7. Consensus-building negotiations informed by all of the above





Recapping.....

- 1. Scenarios
- 2. Modelling
- 3. Environmental flows
- 4. Strategic Environmental Assessment
- 5. Cumulative Impact Assessment
- 6. Multi-stakeholder Dialogues
- 7. Consensus-building negotiations

Good scenarios work uses other tools Good scenarios work is interactive Everybody learns Negotiations & decisions more informed METHODOLOGY is very important....





