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## Regional workshop for coordination of Research on Hydropower Development in the Lower Mekong Basin

Mekong River Commission Secretariat, Vientiane, Lao PDR  
14-15 September 2010

### Overall objectives of the meeting:

Improve the research and cooperation among research/academic institutions, private sector and policy-makers in the Lower Mekong Basin in order to contribute to the sustainable hydropower development.

### Specific objectives:

1. Assess the needs in curriculum reform, research and capacity building programs at the academic level in order to contribute to sustainable hydropower development in the basin
2. Assess the relationships between research activities (ongoing or under preparation) and activities carried out by development and management actors/organisations in the basin
3. Identify the existing links, communication degree / gaps and mechanisms among the water sector actors (researchers, development actors, private sector and policy-makers) with regard to research related to hydropower development
4. Identify and assess means to enhance the application of research results to the policy and practical levels, and contribution of research activities to the sustainable hydropower development in the basin.
5. Identify and assess means to enhance the contribution of research, knowledge transfer and capacity building programmes at universities to contribute to MRC programmes in hydropower development

### **Day 1: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

During the first day, the objectives are:

- To set the stage for discussing sustainable hydropower development in the Lower Mekong basin, and the role of research in supporting that
- To assess the needs in academic activities and applications to support sustainable hydropower development, including the sound involvement of the private sector.
- To identify potential users of the research, and to assess the needs and expectation of the users:
  - How do we ensure that research responds to these needs; what are concrete actions?
  - What are the research results the users are interested in and in which format?
- To present the MRC structure and its main activities related to hydropower development, and assess how this Workshop and research networks more generally can contribute to their activities.
- To briefly overview the contribution of research to hydropower development in the Nile river basin.

8:00 to 8:30	Registration	
8:30 to 9:00	Opening ceremony	Stefan Lock



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8:30 to 9:00	<p>Opening ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EC representative</li> <li>- Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland</li> <li>- SPLASH representative</li> <li>- MRC Chief Executive Officer</li> </ul> <p>(5-7 minutes for each person)</p>	<p>Stefan Lock Helena Ahola Miriam Feilberg Jeremy Bird</p>
9 :00 to 9:40	<p>Introduction of the SPLASH project (10 min) Overview of Hydropower development in Mekong (15 min) Questions and answers (10min) Explanation of the agenda and objectives of the workshop (5 min)</p>	<p>Kim Chi Tran Lawrence Haas  Torkil Clausen</p>
9 :40 to 10 :15	Coffee break + group photo session	
10 :15 to 11:25	<p>Presentations on existing research, knowledge transfer and capacity building program in the LMB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Synthesis of the academic reviews (15 min)</li> <li>- The results of the internet questionnaire and interviews on multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA)(20 min)</li> <li>- Sustainable hydropower development- Involving the Private Sector in Research Collaboration (15 min)</li> <li>- Questions and answers (20 min)</li> </ul>	<p>Kjell Repp Mika Marttunen  Tira Foran</p>
11 :25 to 11 :40	Status of planning methods and educational programmes in support of LMB hydro power development (15 min)	Juha Sarkkula
11:40 to 11:55	Presentation of MRC programmes related to sustainable hydropower development and potential areas of future contribution by Research Networks (15 min)	MRCS (Lawrence Haas, ISH Policy and Strategy Consultant)
11 :55 to 12 :10	Hydropower development in the Nile basin (15 minutes)	David Ngula
12 :10 to 12 :30	Questions and answers (20 min)	
12:30 to 14 :00	Lunch	
14:00 to 15:20	<p>4 Round table discussions – 1<sup>st</sup> Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What kind of research, knowledge transfer and capacity building could contribute to sound private sector involvement and sustainable hydropower development?</li> <li>- What research topics and results are important to your activities – do they respond to your needs as a user, if not how could they?</li> <li>- Which methods and products are you interested in (which format)?</li> </ul>	



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15:40-16:40	<p>4 Round table discussions – 2nd session: Related to MRCS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What research topics do participants see as most important to the MRC’s Sustainable Hydropower activities?</li> <li>▪ What research topics and support are Research Networks able to provide?</li> <li>▪ What steps can be taken by Research Networks to follow-up on workshop outcomes?</li> </ul>	
16:40 to 18:15	Presentation of the results of the two round-tables discussion session (10 minutes for each rapporteur) and discussion	4 rapporteurs
18:15 to 18:30	Wrap-up Distribution of the evaluation forms	Torkil Clausen

**19h00 Reception at the Vansana Riverside Hotel, Ban Sithan Neua, Chanthabuly District.**  
Vientiane, Tel: (+856-21) 252 090-7



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**Day 2: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

During the second day, the objectives are:

- Identify opportunities and propose concrete actions to sustain the dialogue between the stakeholders
- Recommend the mean/mechanisms on how research results be used by policy-makers and practitioners in hydropower development
- Recommend future research projects and how to fund them
- Discuss the applicability of multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) methods to support the evaluation of the hydropower development projects

8:00 to 8:15	Synthesis of the first day (10 minutes)  Introduction, presentation of the agenda and objective of the day (5 minutes)	SPLASH team member Torkil Clausen
8:15 to 9:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interactions among states, private sector and academia (case studies) (15 min)</li> <li>• Application of research to policy and practical levels (15 min)</li> <li>• Improving research on hydropower development in the Lower Mekong Basin: key issues, concerns and recommendations (15 min)</li> <li>• Interactions among key stakeholders in the hydropower development in Vietnam (15 min)</li> </ul>	Jan Moen Miriam Feilberg Sam Ath Chhith Dao Trong Tu
9:15 to 9:30	Questions and answers	
9:30 to 10:15	4 round table discussions – 3 <sup>rd</sup> session: How to increase interactions among stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recommendations to improve research results transfer to users (including policy-makers and private sector)</li> <li>- How do you exchange information and knowledge with the various stakeholders?</li> <li>- How to improve and sustain the dialogues between the different actors?</li> </ul>	
10:15 to 10:35	Coffee break	
10:35 to 11:20	Presentation of the results of the round table discussions (5-7 minutes for each rapporteur) and discussion	4 rapporteurs
11:20 to 11:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution of academic activities at AIT to sustainable hydropower development in Asia (15 min)</li> <li>• Bridging the gap between research and development: CGIAR Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) experiences and strategies (15 min)</li> </ul>	Mukand Babel Kim Geheb
11:50 to 12:00	Questions and answers (15 min)	
12:00 to 13:00	4 round table discussion – 4 <sup>th</sup> session: How academic activities can contribute to sustainable hydropower development in LMB:	



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12:00 to 13:00	4 round table discussion – 4 <sup>th</sup> session: How academic activities can contribute to sustainable hydropower development in LMB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recommend future research topics/projects, knowledge transfer and capacity building programmes needed in the regions to contribute to sustainable development of hydropower.</li> <li>- Recommend on how to fund these future activities?</li> </ul>	
13:00 to 14:15	Lunch	
14:15 to 15:00	Presentation of the results of the round table discussions (5-7 minutes for each rapporteur) and discussion	4 rapporteurs
15:00 to 16:25	Special session on Multi-criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) and its application opportunities in environmental planning and decision making. The session will cover following issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phases of the analysis</li> <li>• Experiences from real-life projects</li> <li>• Application opportunities in hydro power development projects</li> <li>• Demonstration of Web-HIPRE software</li> </ul>	Mika Marttunen, Raimo Hamalainen and Juha Sarkkula
16:25 to 16:45	Coffee break+ collection of the workshop evaluation forms	
16:45 to 17:20	Wrap-up of the second day Summary of the workshop: conclusions and recommendations Closing ceremony: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EC representative</li> </ul>	Tira Foran Torkil Clausen  Stefan Lock