Muang Chum: river and forest



- River and wet forest
 - conservation
 - Established in 2000
 - Crisis in 2003: the then headman planned to chop down the trees of the wet forest
 - Mr. N explained importance of it and made the villagers embrace conservation successfully
 - Villagers renewed the rules for the preservation of the areas



11

Muang Chum: feeling of pride



- The village has received a lot of attention
 - Information on the conservation activities available on website
 - Persons who want to study its program come to the village
- Villagers feel pride
 - Not only material benefits
 - But mental benefits that make villagers willing to live there



Sorng Phee Norng: cultural renovation



- Two divisions, Huay Sa and Huay Tu
 - Huay Sa: the Lahu are dominant
 - Huay Tu: the Tai Lue ,the Akha form a majority
 - To concentrate on the Lahu division
 - The NGO's report, my interview data or
- The NGO encourages the villager

revive their old traditions

 Designated a special community forest used for a certain revived ritual

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13

Sorng Phee Norng: cattle



- Raising cattle
 - 12 head of cattle owned by villagers commonly
 - Aim
 - To get cash flowing locally and stop village youth from migrating to big cities by increasing opportunities to make a living



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Huay Ku: long report



- · Inhabited by Hmong people
 - They once fought against the Thai government
 - LANRAC wrote a fairly long research report in 2007



 It expresses the interest of the NGO in conserving the minor

CITITIE Mekong

15

Huay Ku: keeping and breeding animals



- 40 head of common cattle
 - Recommended by Mr. N
- Plans of breeding business
 - Roosters for cockfighting
 - Bulls for bullfighting
- To make a big quilt
 - To continue traditional embroidery skills will seminar on the Mekong





Educational program



- To accept study tour
 - For college students
 - One-day visits to study the idea of rural development
 - For some weeks or as long as two months to experience real rural life



 E.g. Mekong river tour to study ecosystem and social problems





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17

Lessons from the case



- How to act against exogenous development
 - In the case of the plan of a industrial park
- The idea of endogenous development
 - From the life history of Mr. N
- To Promote resilience of cultures and resources
 - Embedded in the daily livelihood of local people
 - Using eves from outside

Against the exogenous



- · A plan of industrial park in Chiang Khong
 - National project in the Thaksin perior
 - Site: more than 1,600 ha in the rice-growing district along the Ing River
- Mr. N's strategy
 - He gave up urging farmers to stop selling lands
 - To make the farmers aware of the negative impacts experienced at other industrial parks
 - Even if no property rights, people have a right to protest against the environmental degradation
 - 'Land is intrinsically public'

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19

Locally based education



- Mr. N have questioned the modern curriculum
 - It's from the west
 - · It isn't useful for local life in Thailand
 - To Attach importance to local ways and local knowledge
- The idea requests new businesses based on an endogenous point of view
 - It isn't an easy task but they would be a model for local living that maintains local culture and pride

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Embedded in daily livelihood



- Cultures and resources would be resilient only when they are embedded in the daily livelihood of local people
 - New businesses with keeping cultures and resources are embedded as well
- Autonomous organization
 - New system for conservation must be organized by local people

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2

Using impacts from outside



- · The view from outside
 - Discovers unnoticed goodness of local life
 - But the capital from outside should be rejected
 - It makes villagers proud of living there and participating in the activities
 - · Remember the case of Muang Chum
- · To make full use of various medi
 - Internet
 - Local media
 - Paper, signboard, etc.



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"localology"



- It is developed for promoting resilience and renovating villages having great difficulty in Japan
 - The keyword is "to look for what we have"
 - vs. "to want what we don't have"
- What we should discover using this method:
 - Knowledge of hydrological, botanical, climatologic, cultural and historical nature
 - It puts great importance on the role of outsiders
 - Outsiders can help villagers to notice the unrecognized value of things

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Concluding remarks



- The rural societies in the Mekong region share, more or less, the same situation as those in Japan, because we live in the one borderless world.
- It's a great pleasure for me, if my report can contribute to giving some suggestions for the coming rural prosperity in the Mekong countries.

Intern'l Seminar on the Mekong



Thank you for your attention.

International Seminar on "Cultural Diversity of the Mekong River: Sharing Experiences from the Japan and Mekong Countries"

Socio-Cultural Implications of Cash Crop Expansion in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, PRC

Xing Lu
GMS Study Center, Yunnan University

Cash Crop Expansion

- 1960's rubber expansion
- 1970's sugar and tea expansion
- 1980's private rubber expansion
- 1990's pineapple expansion
- 2000's banana expansion

International Seminar on "Cultural Diversity of the Mekong River: Sharing Experiences from the Japan and Mekong Countries"

Changes in Land Use

- The major drivers:
 - Policy
 - Market
 - Technology development
 - Agricultural Extension

Nature of Production Organization

- · Market-oriented production
- Household-dominated production
- Community's outwards instead of inwards relations
- State-dominated extension
- Natural resources-based development

Mekong Countries"

Implications of Cash Crop Expansion

- Materialism
- Individualism
- Disintegration
- Traditional cultural loss
 - Religion
 - Knowledge
 - institutional
 - Historic memory

Thank you!

M-POWER as knowledge network: Reflections from experiences

International Seminar on "Cultural diversity of the Mekong River: Sharing experiences from Japan and the Mekong countries" Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand, 19-20 November, 2009



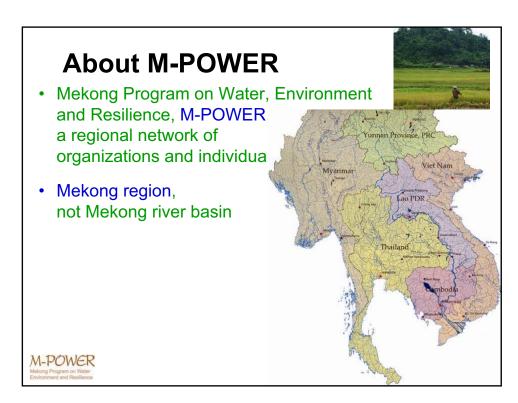


Two parts

- About M-POWER
- Some reflections







Objectives

- Improved livelihood security, human and ecosystem health in the Mekong Region through better water governance
 - Foster and contribute to the growth of regional networks of governance researchers committed to critical analyses and actions
 - Empower disadvantaged groups by facilitating forums and mechanisms whereby the views, needs and rights of marginalised and vulnerable groups are articulated



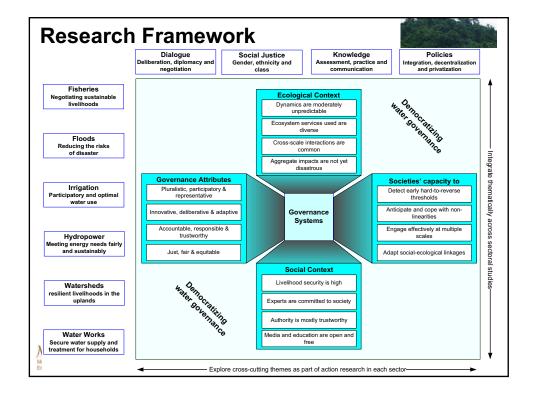


Main activities

- Research
- Regional and national events
- Publications and communications







Working groups

Floods Bach Tan Sinh

Hydropower Tira Foran Urban waterworks **Edsel Sajor**

Fisheries Richard Friend

Upland watersheds Lu Xing

Irrigation Chu Thai Hoanh

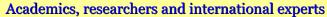
Social justice **Babette Resurreccion**

Knowledge **Antonio Contreras**

Policies Francois Molle

John Dore / Kate Lazarus **Dialogues**

Synthesis Xu Jianchu





Partner Organisations



Department of Environmental and Water Resources Engineering (DEWRE), College of Technology (CoT), Cantho University (CTU),

Center for Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge, China Centre for Study and Development in Agriculture (CEDAC), Cambodia

Centre for Water Resources Conservation and Development (WARECOD), Vietnam

Chiang Mai University Unit for Social and Environmental Research (CMU-USER), Thailand

Social Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand EcoDev, Myanmar

Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)

Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT), Cambodia

Green Watershed, China

Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, France & Laos Institute of Tropical Biology (ITB), Vietnam

Inter Press Service (IPS), Thailand

International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies (NISTPASS), Vietnam

National University of Lao PDR

Palang Thai

The World Conservation Union (IUCN)

Ubon Ratchathani University, Thailand

Yunnan University - Regional Development Research Center (RDRC), China

Capacity Building Initiative (CBI), Myanmar

International Rivers, Thailand/USA

Helsinki University of Technology (TKK)/Department of Civil and

Environmental Engineering, Finland

The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), PRC China

Griffin nrm, Thailand/Australia

Water, Research and Training Centre (WRTC), Myanmar

8 academic institutions, 11 NGOs, 7 INGOs, 3 others





Research fellowship

- M-POWER research fellowship scheme established & operational
- 8 rounds of fellowships (2 round each year) awarded 31 fellowships
- Central to our long-term objective of fostering a cohort of governance scholars





Reflections

- Collective engagement and collaboration
- Creating space for dialogue and deliberation
- Working as a knowledge hub: Policy inputs
- Some limitations: Identity and coordination





Collective engagement and collaboration

- · Comparative studies with regional focus
- Bring diverse capacities and experiences together
- · Value-added of M-POWER- working together across organizations and countries





M-POWER

There have been several outstanding efforts but still many significant un-tapped opportunities to work closely together

Creating space for dialogue and deliberation

Regionalizing an issue can provide secure spaces for individuals





Working as a knowledge hub: **Policy inputs**

- Contribute to the knowledge-base by research - inputs for policy process
 - eg. Irrigation and fisheries, floods risk adaptation, hydropower/electricity planning, PES
- Sharing the outcomes and regular interaction with stakeholders
 - Book series, working papers, research update, listserv
- 'Social capital' cohort of researchers rapid response capacity





Some limitations: Identity and coordination

- Diversity in working environment and interest of stakeholders
- Variation in compliance to the reporting requirements of coordination node
- Differences in approaches as well





M-POWER Diversity among network members creates challenges for coordination and cooperation

Conclusions

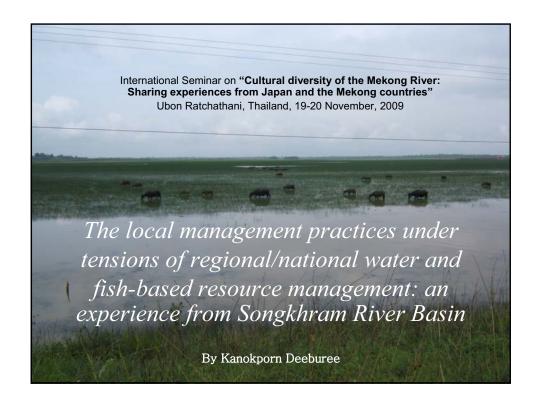
- Network of like-minded organizations and scholars is important to achieve the desired outcome
- Successful in bringing together researchers and organizations with expertise and interest in water governance
- Effort is needed to support individual identities of partners while still providing effective coordination

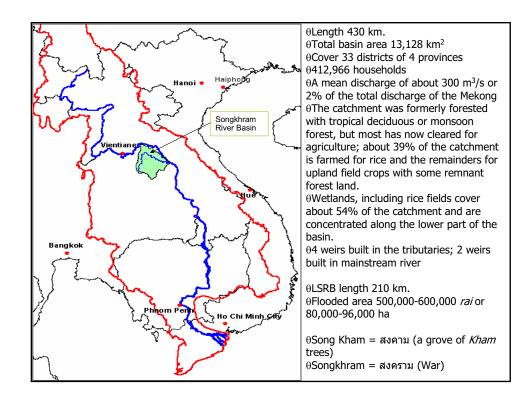


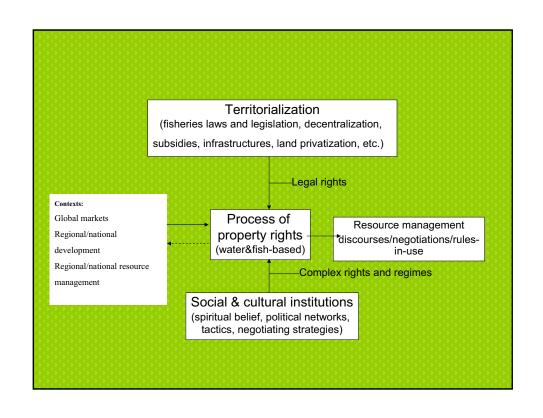
Organized but informal networks play a vital role in the governance of water in Mekong Region complimenting, informing and challenging inter-governmental processes.













Questions

- How ordinary people response to the degradation of property rights?
- How do they vindicate their rights on resource properties?

Unit of analysis:

Property right processes

(access and negotiating strategies)

Target groups

- <u>Bag net fishery group</u>: representative of individual use rights and illegal commercial fishery. (Pak Yam)
- <u>Communal fishery auction</u>: representative of community rights in fish and water resources. Utilize an illegal method, *Kad* (set bag-net) and seine nets, in harvesting fish resource in communal river. (Tha Pan Hong)



Fisher's discourse

- "Catching fish is not the crime";
- "If we don't catch them; they will be caught by other countries";
- "Who can prove that we are the cause of fish decline? (It might cause by people who catch fish in other countries)"; and
- "Should we conserve fishes for other's benefits?"















Conclusions

- Different perceptions/values: Scarce Resources VS Community Asset.
- Different power level: Local economy VS Regional economy.
- The decentralization policy reinforcing formal rights and undermining community right institutions widely.
- The social enclosure of community property rights and resource assets results the spatial enclosure of local fisheries.
- Social and cultural institutions of local communities assist to rearrange property rights that dominated by formal authorities or more powerful political agencies, to gain more opportunities in resource competition. But right recognition is unstable as long as local property rights are not accepted formally.

Hydraulics of Water Projects:

The Flows of Powers and Waters in Northeastern Thailand

Jakkrit Sangkhamanee M-POWER Fellow MSSRC, Ubon Ratchathani University

www.mpowernet.org

International Seminar on Cultural Diversity of the Mekong River: Sharing Experiences from Japan and the Mekong Countries $19^{th}-20^{th}$ November 2009, Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand



A Role of Japan Foundation, Bangkok in Promoting International Cultural and Intellectual Exchange for Sustainable Relations of the Mekong Region

Mr. Katsumi Kakazu, PhD candidate in Socio-Linguistics Executive Director, The Japan Foundation Southeast Asian Bureau Director General, The Japan Foundation, Bangkok



- 1. Summary of JFBKK Activities
- 2. JF Works with ASEAN and East Asia
- 3. JFBKK and GMS Countries
- 4. Conclusion: A Way Forward to Promote Mutual Understanding for Sustainable Relations of the Mekong Region

Summary of JFBKK Activities

The Japan Foundation, Bangkok

In 1974 it opened a liaison office in Bangkok to assist its full implementation of cultural exchange between Thailand and Japan as well as to create networks with affiliated cultural organizations and individuals in Thailand. Since 1992 its operation has been scaled up to cover the increasing occasions of cultural exchange not only between two countries but also among the respective regions.

The Japan Foundation, Bangkok has three functioning departments in conjunction with JFHQ's three major business groups as to provide respective partners with sufficient services namely.

- v Arts and Culture Department
- v Japanese Language Department
- Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Department

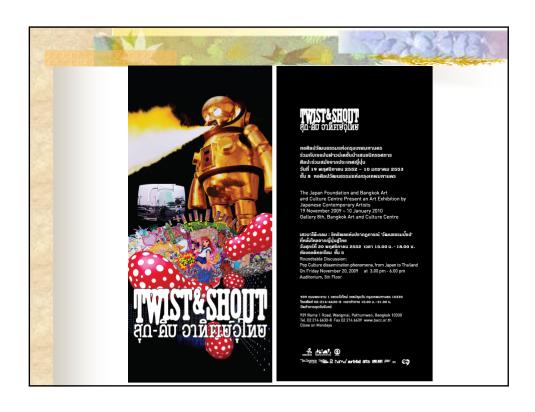
Art and Culture Department

The Arts and Culture Department carries out a variety of cultural activities to promote cultural-exchange and cultivate the cultural diversity in the region. It has initiated many events such as art exhibitions, music concerts, stage performances, academic lectures, film showings and so on.









Japanese - Language Department

It is an institution specialized in supporting activities in Japaneselanguage education in Thailand, aiming to contribute to the balanced understanding of Japan from a broad perspective.

The department is endeavoring to fulfill its mission by: (1) sending teaching specialists to universities and high schools; (2) offering a variety of Japanese - language courses offered at The Japan Foundation, Bangkok and (3) organizing related activities such as annual speech contest in August and the Japanese Language Proficiency Test in early December.





Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Department

With the aim to deepen understanding of Japan abroad and to foster and support good relations between Japan and other countries, the Japan Foundation provides a diverse range of grant programs for Japanese studies institutions and grant fellowships that enable scholars to conduct research in Japan. We also carry out intellectual exchange programs such as collaborative research projects and dialogues to enhance understanding of regional or global issues, seeking measures to solve such issues with Japanese involvements.

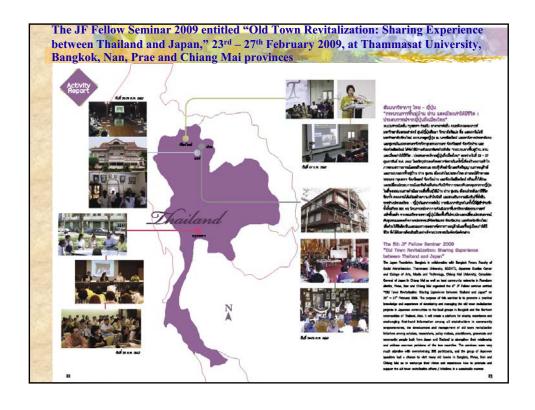
Program contents:

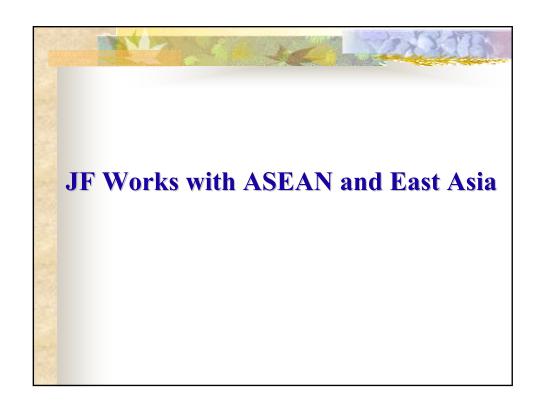
- Grant Programs to Japanese institutions abroad;
- Fellowships for scholars conducting research on/in Japan
- Support programs, both by Headquarters in Tokyo and the Japan Foundation Bangkok, for international collaborative projects and dialogues.











Japan Foundation Southeast Asian Bureau

The Bureau will act as a catalyst to form an equal, futureoriented, and multi-dimensional partnership with the people of the region from the viewpoints of

- (1) fostering Japan's relations with the respective countries;
- supporting the endeavors for community building among the countries of the region;
- (3) contributing to solve various global issues by sharing Asian cultural values such as the spirit of tolerance, which have a universal significance.

Japan Foundation Southeast Asian Bureau

Three Guiding Principles

- 1. Collaboration: multi-dimensional collaboration with the people of Southeast Asia and the formation of a regional community through network building Prioritized Areas:
 - ensuring regional security and development in planning, implementing, and supporting the collaborative efforts to solve regional and/or global common issues
 - v constructing a community that is based on social justice and dynamism
 - v facilitating dialogue and co-existence of diverse cultures and values

Japan Foundation Southeast Asian Bureau

2. Community: building a community in which citizens with different backgrounds can live together and further mutual understanding

Prioritized Areas:

- increasing mutual introduction of contemporary culture, such as "pop culture", and promoting the study of the Japanese language, culture, and society, which will lead to a more sharing attitude between Asian and Japan within the region
- shaping common culture and raising people's awareness of symbiosis through inter-cultural dialogues and activities and the building of multi-cultural societies at the grassroots level
- establishing an identity as "Asians", with an emphasis on youth exchange

Japan Foundation Southeast Asian Bureau

3. Creation: sharing, reviving, and disseminating the Asian knowledge and culture

Prioritized Areas:

- v conserving and reviving the cultural heritage and diverse knowledge of Asia
- v creating a common culture and values of Asia
- v establishing creative spheres in the region and promoting Asian brands throughout the world









International Conference on "The Prospect of Japanese Language Education in Southeast Asia" organized by Thammasat University, 16th - 17th October 2008, Bangkok, Thailand

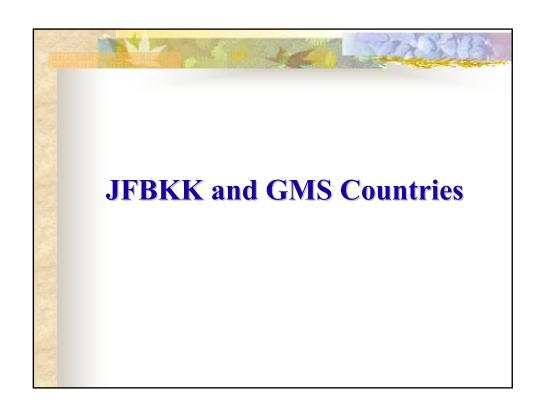


Japan – East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS)

- Based on this plan, the Government of Japan will invite students and youths mainly from the EAS member states (ASEAN, Australia, China, India, New Zealand, the ROK) every year for the next five years, with a view to establishing a basis of Asia's stalwart solidarity by expanding youth exchange. Various kinds of exchange programs including inviting and dispatching youths will be implemented in cooperation with concerned countries and organizations.
- As the first invitation project based on the program, a group of 200 Chinese senior high school students will visit Japan from May 30 (Wed) to June 7 (Thu). The group will visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and will attend a seminar on Japan-China relations in Tokyo. After that, the members of the group will interact with Japanese high-school students and citizens through attending joint classes and club activities in high schools, staying in Japanese people's homes, and visit cultural, economic, and social facilities in Yamagata, Ibaraki, Aichi, Osaka, Hyogo, Hiroshima, and Okinawa Prefectures. (The Japan-China 21st Century Exchange Program, which started last year, will be comprised in the JENESYS Programme from this fiscal year).
- Besides China, the Government of Japan intends to invite young people under this program from ASEAN countries, Australia, India, New Zealand, and the ROK.
- This program is expected to deepen mutual understanding among young people who will assume important roles in the next generation in each East Asian country, establish a basis for Asia's stalwart solidarity, and promote friendly feelings toward Japan in each country.









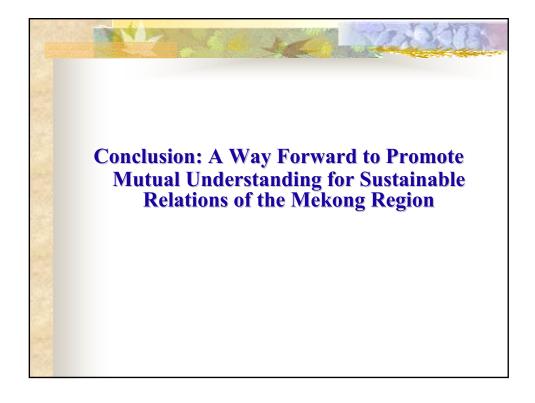












New Perspectives of promoting mutual understanding through intellectual exchange dialogues of Japan Foundation Bangkok

- i) Diversified society and public tolerance
- ii) Peace-building and culture
- iii) Environment and culture

- iv) Social values of science and technology
- v) International governance and economic prosperity

"International collaboration is crucial. International cultural and intellectual exchanges are becoming more and more important.

What the Foundation and its affiliated offices have achieved toward world peace, diversity of culture and enhancement of world culture in the last quarter of a century is no way small. The Foundation and its affiliated offices, particularly Southeast Asian Bureau and Bangkok Office, will continue to make its best efforts to pursue its objectives in this twenty first century.



THE FUTURE OF THE MEKONG COOPERATION

by Ms. Pakawan Chufamanee
Director of Mekong Affairs Division
Bureau of International Cooperation
Department of Water Resources

MRC COOPERATION

- Cooperate on the basis of sovereign equality and territorial integrity in the utilization and protection of the water resources of the Mekong River Basin
- Cooperate and coordinate to formulate Basin Development Plan
- Utilize water resources of the Mekong River System in reasonable and equitable manner
- Environmental and ecosystem protection
- Maximize water uses of the Mekong River for economic development with reliability
- Capacity building of personnel and organization



Vision for the Mekong River Basin

"An economically prosperous, socially just and environmentally sound"

Vision for the MRC

"A world class, financially secure. International River Basin Organisation serving the Mekong countries to achieve the basin Vision"

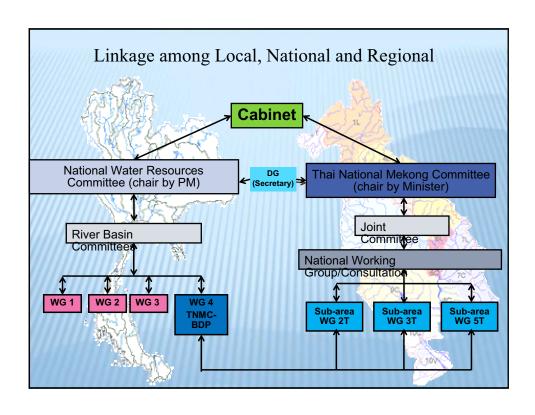
Mission of the MRC

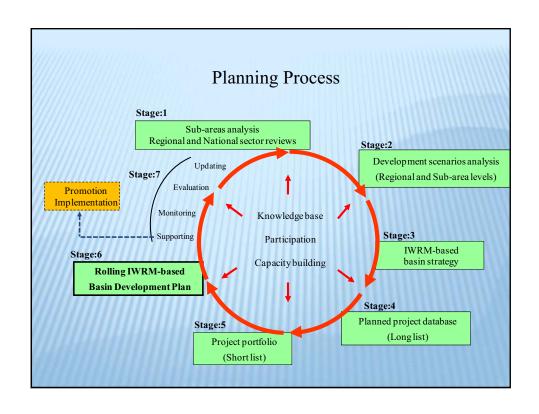
"To promote and coordinate sustainable management And development of water and related resources for the countries' mutual benefit and the people's well-being"

MRC STRATEGIC GOALS 2006 - 2010

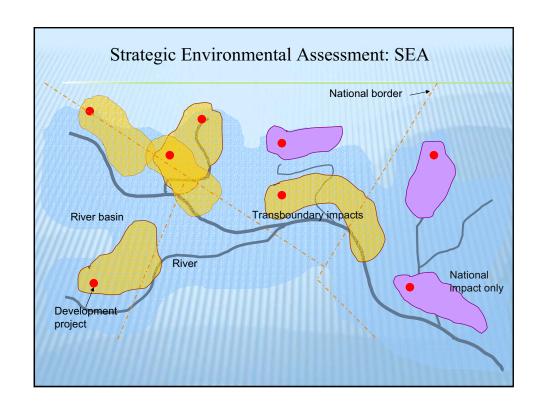
- **Goal 1**: To promote and support coordinated, sustainable and pro-poor development
- Goal 2: To enhance effective regional cooperation
- **Goal 3**: To strengthen basin-wide environmental monitoring and impact assessment
- Goal 4: To strengthen the Integrated Water Resources
 Management capacity and knowledge base
 of the MRC bodies, NMCs, Line Agencies,
 and other stakeholders

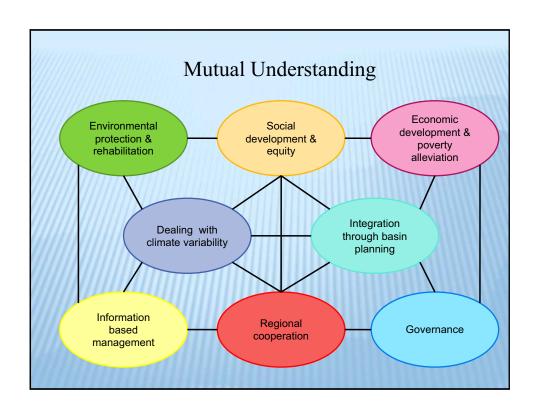


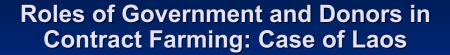




Technical	Environment	Social/Economic
Procedures /Technical	Transboundary	MRC Communication
Guidelines •Procedures for Data and	Environmental Impact Assessment (TbEIA)	Policy Strategy
Information Exchange	Assessifient (TDLIA)	MRC for Stakeholder
and Sharing (PDIES)	Strategic Environmental	Engagement
•Procedures for	Assessment (SEA)	
Notification, Prior	Hydropower on Main	Scenario impact
Consultation and	Stream	assessment on social
Agreement (PNPCA) •Procedures for Water	SFA on BDP	Social impact monitoring
Use Monitoring (PWUM)	SLA OII DDI	Social impact monitoring
•Procedures for the	Scenario impact	Scenario impact
Maintenance of Flows on	assessment on	assessment on economic
the Mainstream (PMFM)	environment	
•Procedures for Water		Benefit/Cost analysis on
Quality (PWQ)	Climate Change	hydropower projects
Decision Supporting	Adaptation Initiative (CCAI)	
	(5.5)	
Framework (DSF)		







BY Dr. Kanowan Manorom

Mekong Sub-region Social Research Center [MSSRC]

Ubon Ratchathani University

November 20, 2006

International Seminar on "Cultural diversity of the Mekong River: Sharing experiences from Japan and the Mekong countries"

Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand, 19-20 November, 2009

Contexts of Contract Farmingn

- Increased coordination of food production through forieng direct investment
- Expanding of higher-value crops
- Backward and forward market linkages need to be established
 - provision of information on market demand, technical support, rural credit, and etc

Globalization of food production (con't)

- Improved farm inputs, product accreditation, and markets for the produce
- Rural poor responds to worldwide competition governed by international trade, agreements and food safety standards and requirements

Lao Agriculture

 An estimated 80% of the national population is still employed in agriculture, producing 39.2% of GDP. The bulk of this farming is done using non-mechanized, traditional farming methods without commercial inputs.

Lao Agriculture

In 1986, Government of Laos (GoL)
introduced the 'New Economic Mechanism
(NEM) which entailed a fundamental shift
from a planned economy, managed by the
state, to a free market economy with very
little state interference.

Lao Agriculture

- Lao PDR has moved steadily to strengthening it relations with neighboring countries and participating in regional and international bodies.
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has greatly stimulated economic growth, playing a key role in poverty reduction. Laos PDR witnesses economic growth rates of 7.2% in 2008.

Lao Agriculture

- In recent years, hundreds of thousands of hectares of land has been provided to regional and international investors in the form of concessions.
- Most of the concessions have been provided on very favorable terms, for periods of 30 or more years and at amounts averaging \$6.00 per ha per year.

Arguments

- Contract farming brings two different things to farmers
 - Benefits (modern agriculture based on the idea of commodity based approach)
 - Impacts (social and environment based on neo-marxism perspectives)

Benefits of Contract Farming

- Market access
- Increased income
- Reduction of risk price fluctuation
- Credit and financial intermediation
- Timely input and production markets
- Monitoring and labor incentive
- Introduction of High value crops

Benefits of Contract Farming Cont)

- A promising tool to facilitate market linkages
- Market opportunities for high-value crops and livestock production
- A tool to enable a transition to commercial production
- An effective private-sector-led mechanism to facilitate the transition
- Improving the profitability and raise the incomes of small farmers

Challenges of Contract Farming

- Monopoly
- Burden of labor management
- · Contract enforcement
- Bias toward large farm
- Requirement for increased management skills
- Increased risk
- · Health and environmental implications

Contract farming as mechanism for poverty reduction in Laos

- China, Thailand and Vietnam are major contractors in Laos
- Example of profits from <u>rice</u> under CF: on average (ADB 2008)
 - Yield
 - 3,272 Kg/hectare (CF)
 - 2,603 KG/Hectare (Non-CF)
 - Profit per area of land
 - 2,924,000 million Kip/hectare (CF)
 - 1,751,000 million Kip/hectare (Non CF)

Conceptualizing Contract farming

- Social relations of production and control of the labor process
- CF is subsumed within a broader phenomenon of global restructuring of agrarian production relations

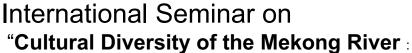
Conceptualizing contract farming

- Socio-economic differentiation
 - favor more capitalized smallholders
 - neglecting the poorest segments of the population: marginalized labor of poorer peasants

Roles of Government and Donors

- Promoting farmer cooperatives
 - Enhancing a bargaining and negotiating power
- Creating enabling environment policy for the poor farmers
 - Contract enforcement is practically possibly by legal system and court mandatory
 - Land tenure





Sharing Experiences from Japan and Mekong Countries"

Asst.Prof.Dr. Yaowalak Apichatvullop

Director, Center for Research on Plurality in the Mekong Region (CERP) Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Khon Kaen University

19 – 20 November 2009 Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand

Four thoughts on the future of Mekong

- λ Can we really prevent conflicts from happening?
- λ How can we tolerate (or even better) respect differences ?
- λ How do we achieve mutual understanding? Understanding of what?
- A How do we (as an individual as well as an organization) contribute to the promotion of mutual understanding?