The 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Stakeholder Forum

First Regional Information Sharing on Pak Lay Prior Consultation Process

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Landmark Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR



# Approach and Methodology for Assessment of the Pak Lay Hydropower Project

Hydrology & Hydraulics, Sediment Transport & River Morphology

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#### OUTLINE

Overview of submitted documents

Potential changes based on recognized characteristics of the Mekong River

Relevant sources for information

Reviewed parameters for Hydrology and Hydraulics

Reviewed parameters for Sediment Transport and River Morphology

Methodology

#### **Overview of submitted documents**

#### **Submitted documents cover among others:**

- Engineering components and its drawings
- Hydrological and sediment data collection
- Sediment data sampling
- Flow/sediment analysis
- Sediment management and monitoring
- Hydraulic physical model
- Model simulation
- Automatic system of hydrological data collection and forecasting
- Impacts and mitigation on a local and a transboundary scale

AO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC PAKLAY HYDROPOWER PROJECT

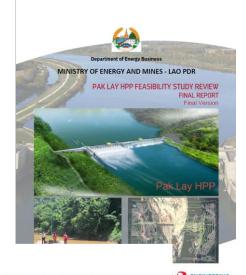
#### Feasibility Study Report

FINAL (Chapter 8 - 11)





March, 2017



PLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

#### bility Study Report

FINAL (Chapter 2 - 4)





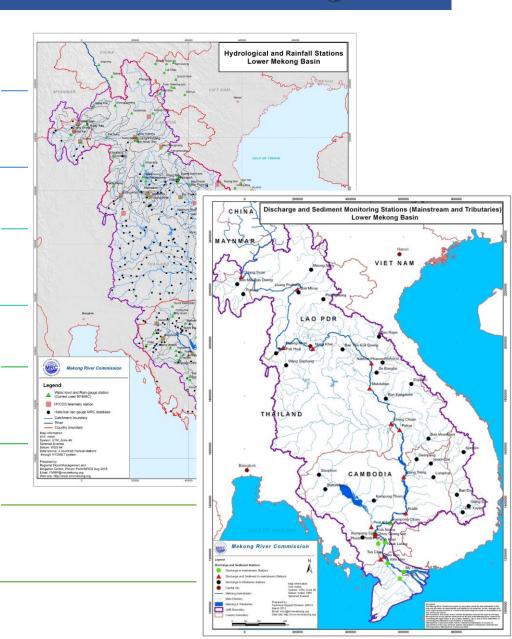
# Potential changes based on recognized characteristics of the Mekong River

**Understanding** the **nature of the river** channel in the considered region and basin-wide context (floodplain, wetland, deep pool,...)

**Records** of relevant **gauging stations** upstream/downstream of project, providing relevant knowledge on historic natural seasonal and daily variations of the Mekong mainstream

Distribution of **bedrock/alluvial/composite channels** in the mainstream and tributaries potentially affected by proposed development

Distribution of availability of data on discharge, suspended/bed load and bed materials based on the results of the Discharge and Sediment Monitoring Project (DSMP)



## **Relevant sources for information**

- Preliminary Design Guidance for Proposed Mainstream Dams in the Mekong River (PDG)
- Guidelines for Hydropower Environmental Impact Mitigation and Risk
   Management in the Lower Mekong Mainstream and Tributaries (ISH0306)
- PNPCA process for Xayaburi and Pak Beng HPPS
- (Draft) Basin-wide Sustainable Hydropower Development Strategy (SHDS)
- The Mekong Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan (MASAP)
- Xayaburi Design Changes Review
- Procedures for the Maintenance of Flows on Mainstream PMFM
- Results of the MRC Council Study
- Information available from other relevant hydropower projects (Nam Ngum, Nam Theun 2, Nam Ou, ...)
- Expert opinion from other hydrologists, sedimentologist, geomorphologists and hydropower engineers



## Reviewed parameters for Hydrology and Hydraulics

**Hydrological regimes** upstream and downstream of the project site

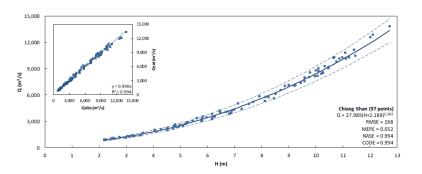
**Seasonality** of the flow (wet season, dry season, timing, ...)

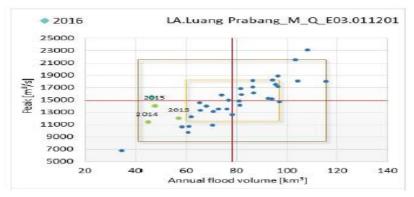
Water levels and discharge at relevant hydrological stations upstream and downstream

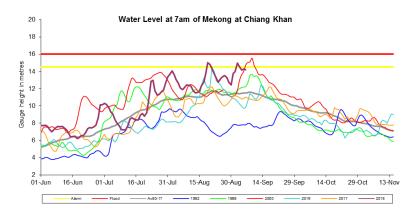
**Inflows** from tributaries/catchments

**Flow conditions** in the channel, deep pools and bank zones

Relevant hydro indicators required for evaluations for **other themes** (ecology, sediment, navigation, ...)







## Reviewed parameters for Sediment Transport and River Morphology

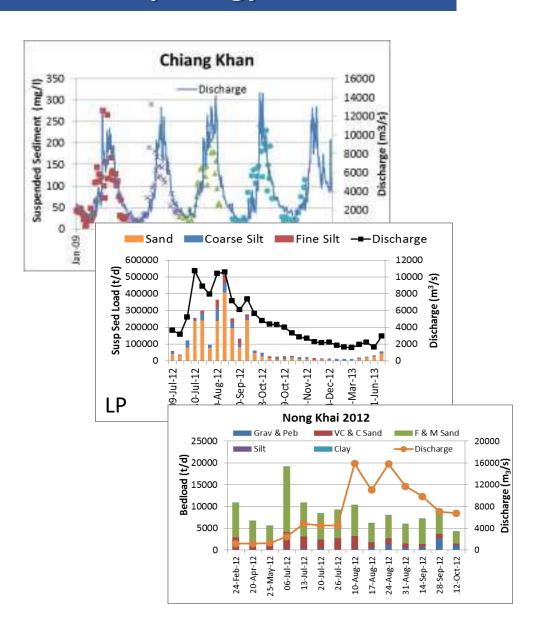
**Sediment loads:** suspended and bedload

**Sediment grain-size distribution**: Suspended load, bedload, bed materials

Seasonality of sediment transport: Dry season, wet season

Sediment characteristics: Grain-size of suspended/bedload sediment in wet/dry season

Existing hydrologic information where relevant to sediment transport



# Methodology (1 of 4)

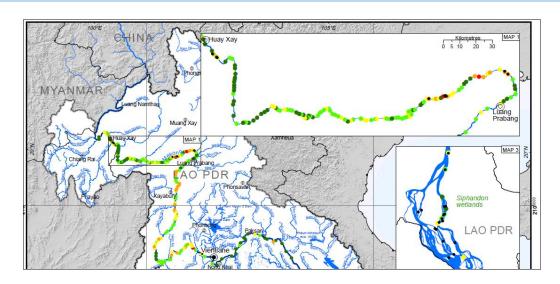
 STEP 1 – Comparison of the baseline information presented in the Pak Lay Hydropower Project reports with available information (potential causes if differences are found)

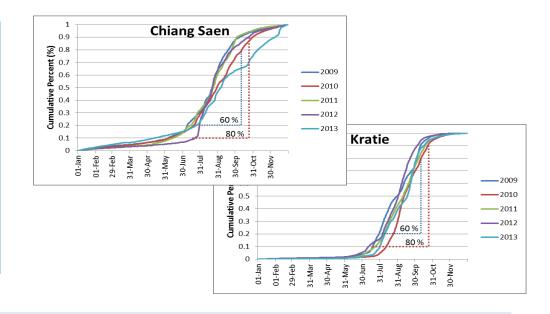


- STEP 2 Review of the proposed mitigation and management components with respect to the MRC Preliminary Design Guidance for Proposed Mainstream Dams in LMB.
  - Hydrology/Hydraulics: ramping rate, hydro peaking, downstream flow fluctuations,
     ...
  - Sediment/Morphology: reservoir sedimentation, sediment starvation downstream, strategies to maintain reservoir capacity, and sediment management and mitigation strategies, ...

# Methodology (2 of 4)

- STEP 3 Review of the dam design and proposed management and mitigation measures to ensure the passage of flows/sediments through the impoundment to minimize rapid fluctuations due to operations
- STEP 4 Evaluation of the potential residual impacts (taking mitigation measures into consideration)

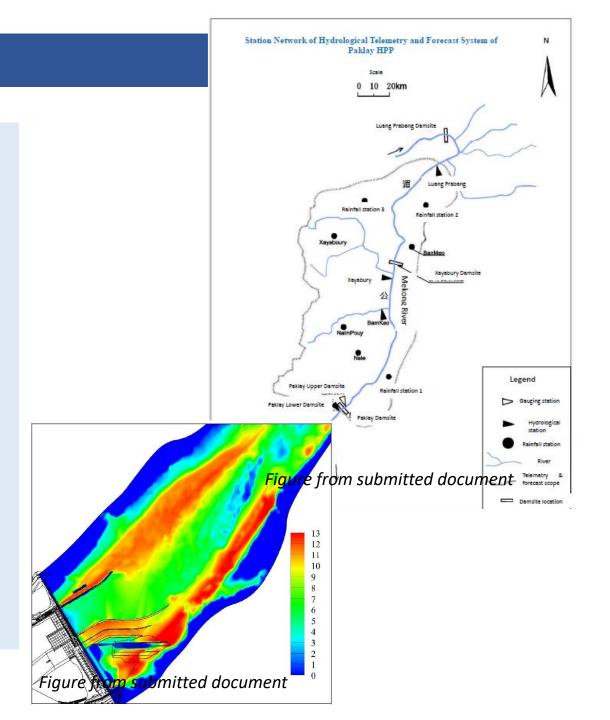




- Hydrology/Hydraulics: changes in water level/discharge or flow regimes
- Sediment/Morphology: changes to sediment transport/deposition/erosion upstream/downstream of impoundment considering potential impact on geomorphic features (river channel, deep pools or wet lands)

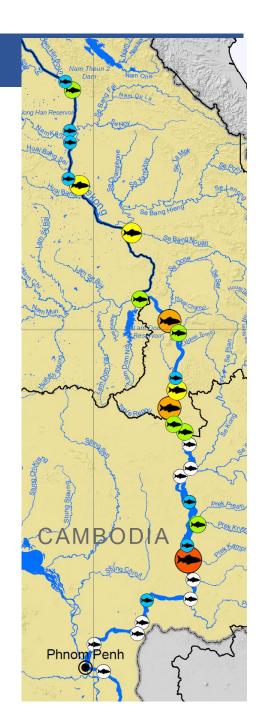
# Methodology (3 of 4)

- STEP 5 Evaluation of the proposed hydrological/sediment monitoring programme to ensure that it has the capacity to identify and quantify potential impacts
  - Compare with international best practice and scientific monitoring technique
  - Evaluate whether the spatial/temporal scales of proposed monitoring are adequate
- STEP 6 Evaluation of proposed management measures in response to changes detected through the monitoring programme (using mitigation guideline study results). If applicable, additional recommendations to maximize the potential for maintenance of the flow/sediment balance



### Methodology (4 of 4)

- STEP 7 Integration of the findings with the findings of environment and fisheries evaluation to provide an indication of how physical changes to the river channel, deep pools, wetlands and other specific conditions may affect fisheries (e.g. Council Study or mitigation guideline study)
- STEP 8 Assessment of the proposed project in a basin-wide context, including a comparison of the impacts associated with Pak Lay Hydropower as a 'stand-alone' project to the cumulative impacts of the other mainstream and tributary dams existing/planned in the Mekong Basin: Transboundary impacts at the feasibility stage is to be identified
- STEP 9 Knowledge gaps to be identified throughout the assessment process; recommending appropriate monitoring approaches and strategies to fill the gaps





# Thank you

