



Conference on  
 New Thinking on Water Governance  
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 Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
 National University of Singapore

National Presentation:  
 Establishment of Local River Basin Organization  
 to promote Water Governance

By

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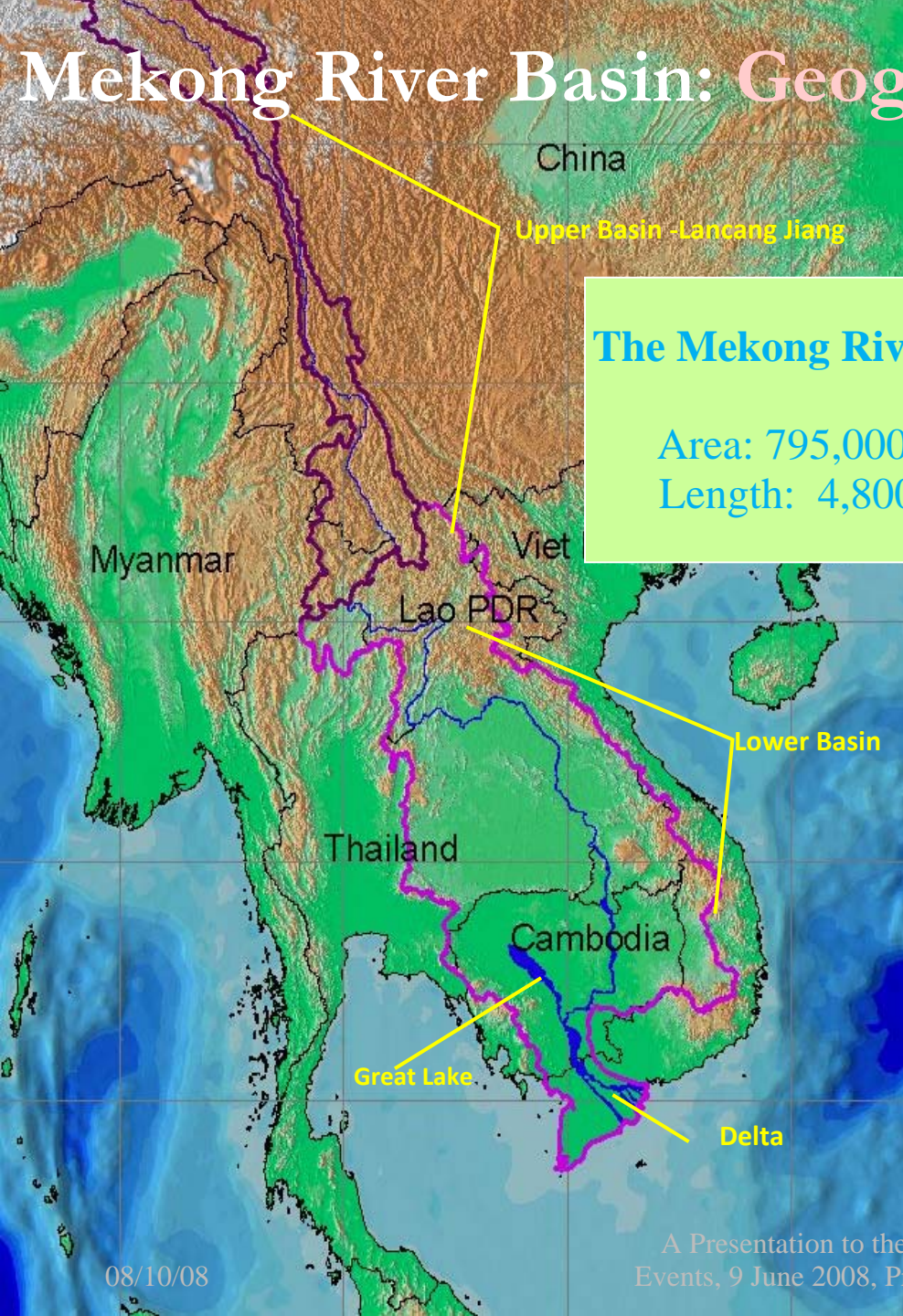
Director of Planning Department

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***Piloting river basin approach to IWRM  
 in Eastern Cambodia***

A Pilot and Demonstration Activity under  
 Asian Development Bank RETA 6325:  
 Promoting effective water policies and practices (Phase 5)

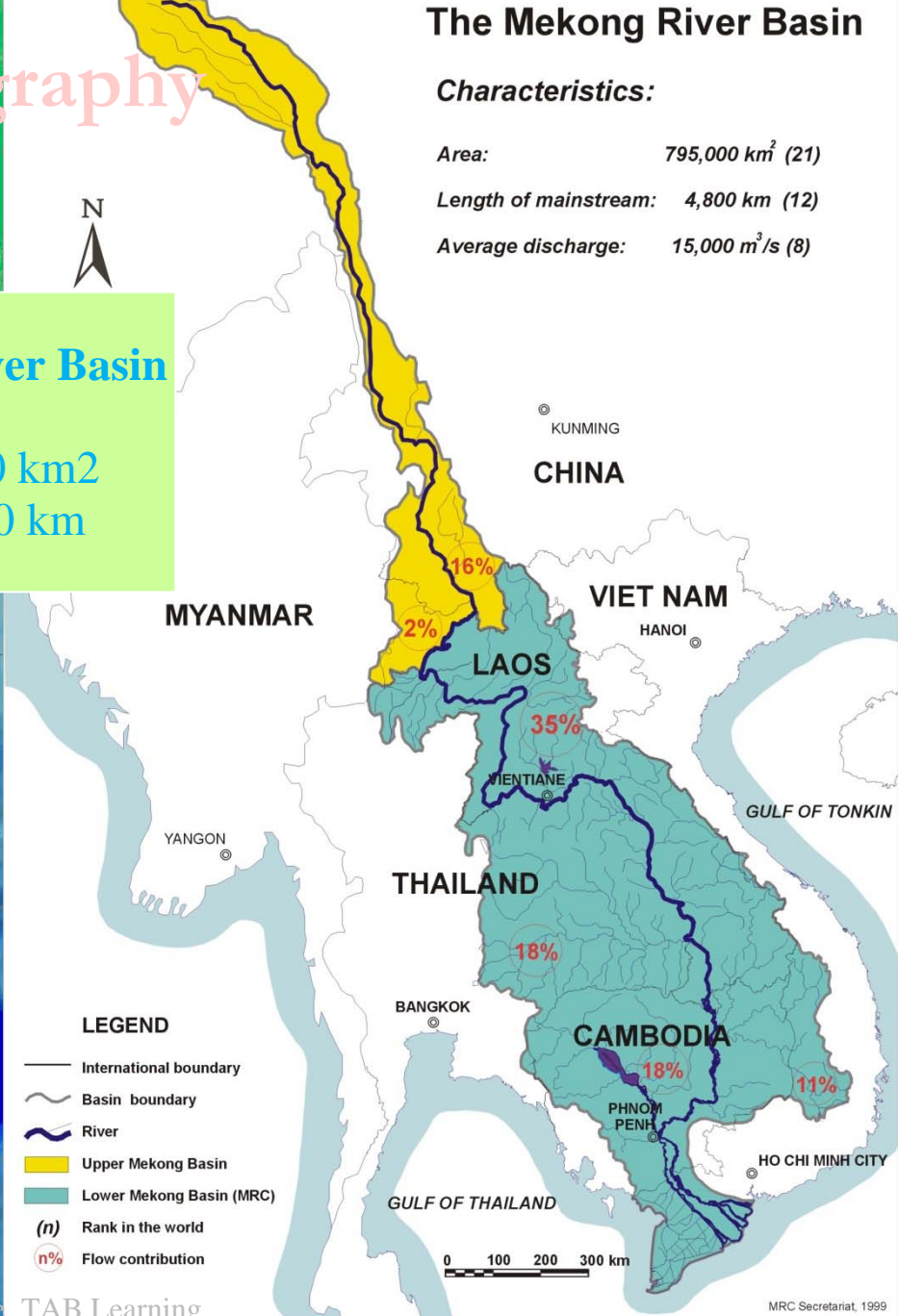
# Mekong River Basin: Geography



**The Mekong River Basin**  
 Area: 795,000 km<sup>2</sup>  
 Length: 4,800 km

## The Mekong River Basin

- Characteristics:**
- Area: 795,000 km<sup>2</sup> (21)
  - Length of mainstream: 4,800 km (12)
  - Average discharge: 15,000 m<sup>3</sup>/s (8)



- LEGEND**
- International boundary
  - ~ Basin boundary
  - ~ River
  - Yellow box: Upper Mekong Basin
  - Green box: Lower Mekong Basin (MRC)
  - (n) Rank in the world
  - (n%) Flow contribution

A Presentation to the TAB Learning Events, 9 June 2008, Prey Veng Province

08/10/08

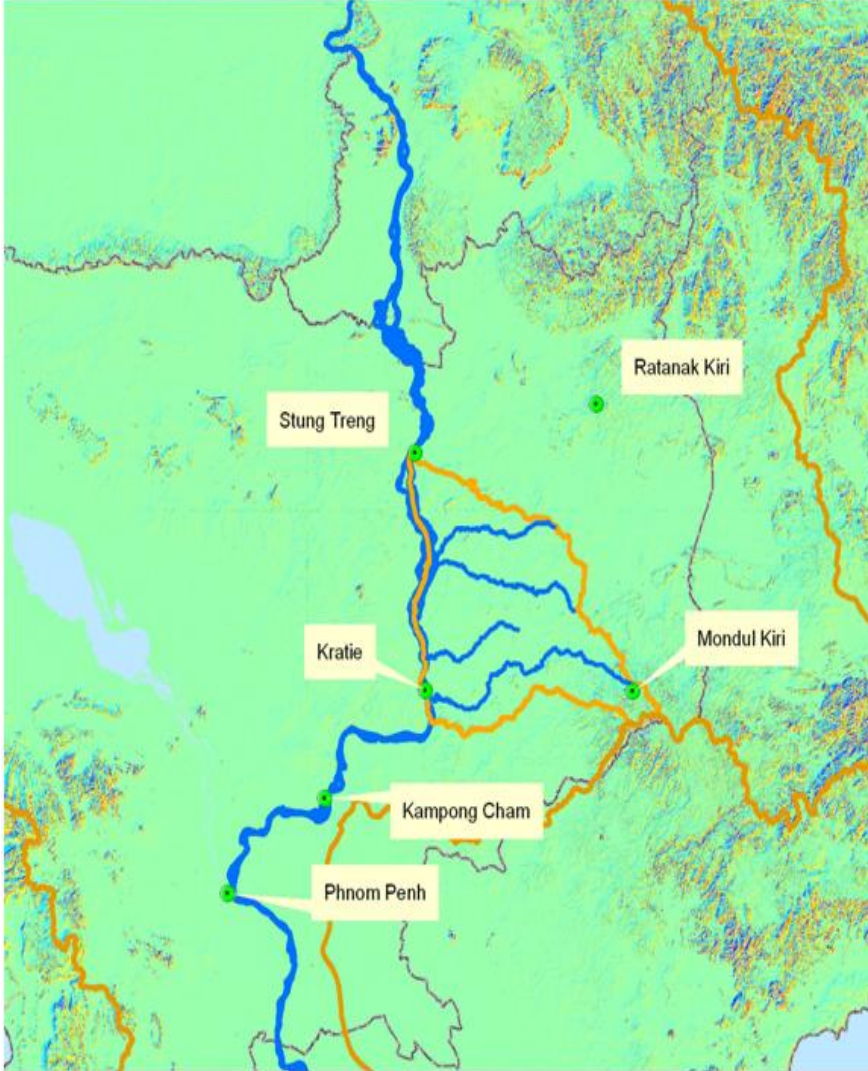
MRC Secretariat, 1999

# Local River Basin Approach

- ADB PDA TA6325 (2008)
- local river basin called 4-Ps Basin was determined for promotion of water governance to protect and converse natural resources in the basin level by developing the new river basin organization to promote full stakeholders participation in two provinces. : Kratie and Mondulkiri.

## Location of 4-Ps Basin



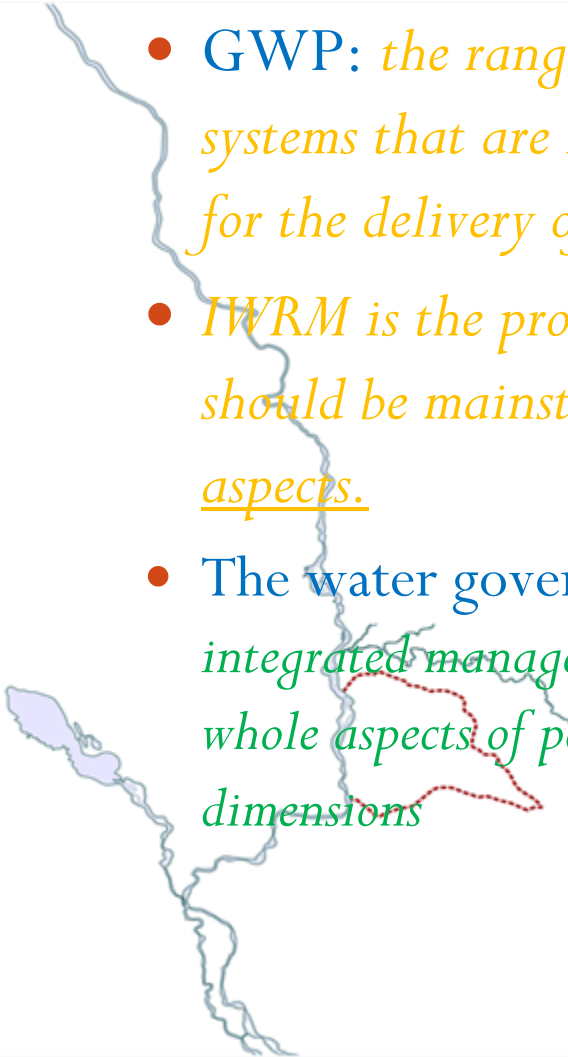


- The 4-Pros Basin Pilot Project is located in **eastern part of Cambodia within two provinces** and covers **11,237 km<sup>2</sup>** (7% of country's area), of which Kratie Province (downstream) covers 45% and Mondul Kiri Province (Upstream, a plateau landscape) covers 55%
- Population of 4-Pros Basin is about **143,290 persons** (1.1% of national population).



# Understanding of Water Governance

- **GWP:** *the range of political, social, economic and administrative systems that are in place to develop and manage water resources and for the delivery of water services at different levels of society.*
- *IWRM is the process to promote good water governance, its concepts should be mainstreamed to all social, economic and environmental aspects.*
- *The water governance is a process to promote and coordinate the integrated management of water and related resources by building the whole aspects of policy, regulation, institution and human resource dimensions*



# National policies and legislatives to support Water Governance



- National Water Resources Policy (MOWRAM, 2004): *Vision for Water to ensure the effective, sustainable, wise and equitable use of water resources. a part of broad programme to protect, manage, and assure sustainable exploitation of both freshwater and marine resources while enhancing bio-diversity and sustainability for equitable benefit to the public*
- **Water resources management** will be integrated all aspects
  - of agricultural development;
  - water resources development – Irrigation for increasing productivity;
  - Fisheries development – natural capture and aquaculture;
  - Hydropower development;
  - Navigation;
  - Watershed management;
  - Tourism and recreation;
  - Water supply and sanitation and
  - Flood management and mitigation.





## The Government Rectangular Strategy-Phase II defined four IWRM-relevant strategic growth rectangles:

- i) agricultural productivity, diversification, and competitiveness;
- ii) private sector growth and employment;
- iii) rehabilitation and construction of physical infrastructure; and





➤ iv) capacity building and human resource development, based on which 5 water related national development goals were developed in line with National Strategic Development Plan (2006-2010) with regard to

- (1) national economic development;
- (2) food security; poverty alleviation in towns and in rural areas;
- (3) Rural livelihood consolidation and development;
- (4) Environmental protection and
- (5) International competitiveness to WTO member as well as ASIAN.







## Law on Water Resources Management in Cambodia:

Article 4: Water resources shall be developed and managed following the IWRM approach, by considering all aspects of water resources; linkages between the water resources and other aspects of the natural environment, all demands for effective and sustainable water utilization for human and environmental purpose. The implementation of the IWRM approach should be work at the same time and collaborative among all line ministries.

Article 7 : collaboration among and participation of Royal Government of Cambodia institutions, private investors, stakeholders, beneficiaries at all levels, NGOs and international organizations shall be promoted, in activities related to the management, investment, exploitation, protection and development of water resources.

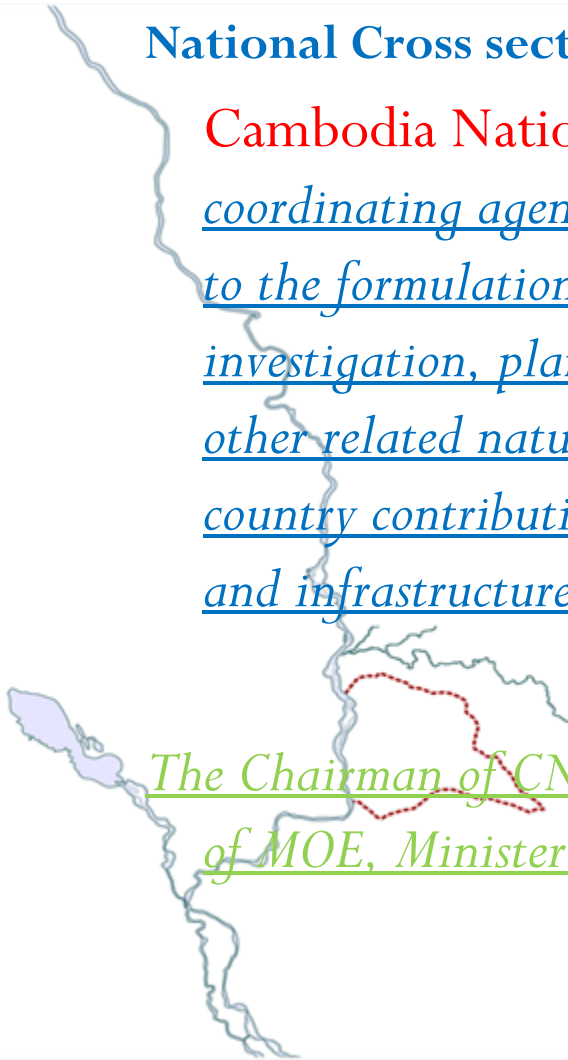


## Roles of national key water related institutions

### National Cross sectoral coordinating agency:

**Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC)** is a national coordinating agency to assist and advise the latter in all matters relating to the formulation of water policy, strategy, management, preservation, investigation, planning, restoration and the development of the water and other related natural resources of the Mekong River Basin within the whole country contributing to the sustainable development of national economy and infrastructure for the benefit of the country and people.

The Chairman of CNMC is Minister of MOWRAM, Vich-chaimen: Minister of MOE, Minister of PWT., Perminant Vice-Chairman





# Roles of national key water related institutions (Water regulatory agencies)

**Ministry of Water Resources (MOWRAM):** mandate to define policies relating to and strategic development of water resources, to research and investigations of water resources; to prepare plans for water resources development and conservation; to manage direct and indirect water resources use, and mitigate water-related disasters; to draft water law and monitor its implementation; to gather and manage hydro-meteorological data and information; to provide technical advice; and to administer international collaboration including that within the Mekong River basin.





*Other key related agencies:*

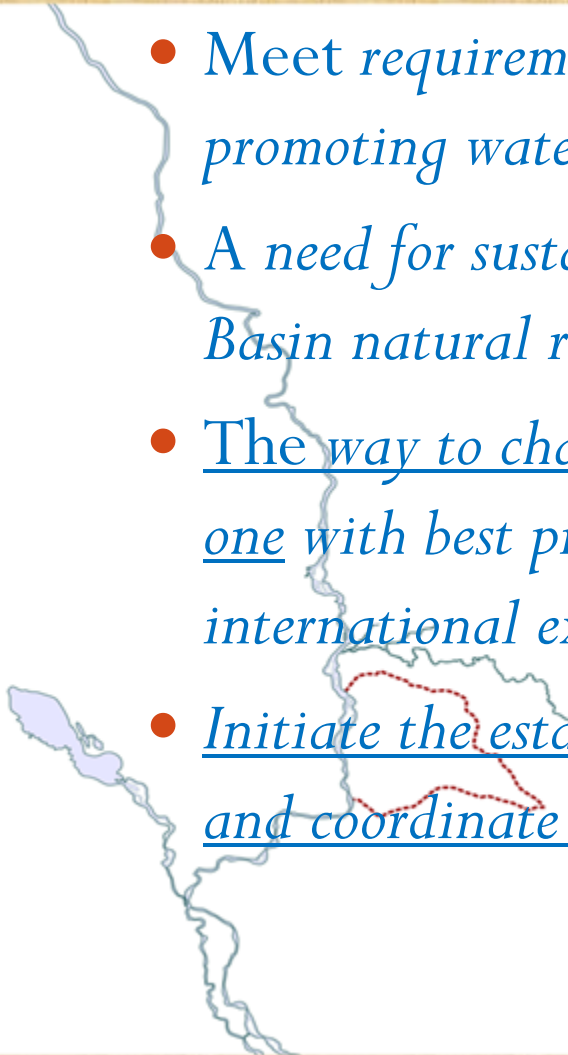
- *Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy*
- *Ministry of Rural Development*
- *Ministry of Public Works and Transport*
- *Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority (PPWSA)*
- *Ministry of Environment*
- *Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries*
- *Ministry of Planning*
- *Ministry of Urbanization, land Management and Construction*





## Outcomes of IWRM implementation at local river Basin

- *Meet requirement of local people, engage them involved in promoting water governance.*
- *A need for sustainable development and management of 4-Ps Basin natural resources*
- *The way to change traditional sectoral approach to integrated one with best practical experiences of national, local as well as international experiences.*
- *Initiate the establishment of local water partnership to support and coordinate IWRM implementation process.*





- *To get agreement among stakeholders on management and development of water and related resources through local river basin approach to determine the 4-Ps Basin based on basin boundary and administration of two provinces Kratie and Mondulhiri*
- *To promote good coordination, cooperation among different agencies and engage all stakeholders involved in decision making process, planning development, implementation and monitoring and evaluation process*
- *To mobilize top management support and to promote a participatory decision making process on water governance*
- *To form the modality of stakeholders' participation and strategies for stakeholders engagement in development planning process*





- To get best practices by encouraging local knowledge and aspects for water resources issues and identified options for solution with new IWRM concepts.
- To create the river basin organization and management at local river system called 4-Ps Basin Coordinating Committee for development and management (BCCDM)
- *Provide strategic concept for multi-purpose development project identified*
- *Helps solve interest conflict among different interest stakeholders of different sectors, find a ways to cooperate, to implement the Government laws, policies, strategy and help to develop the bottom-up development plan as well as new program for enhancing water governance system at local river basin system.*





## Strategic priorities:

- Economic development and poverty alleviation;
- environment protection;
- social development and equity;
- flood and drought management;
- integration through basin planning;
- water resources information management;
- regional cooperation; and
- Governance

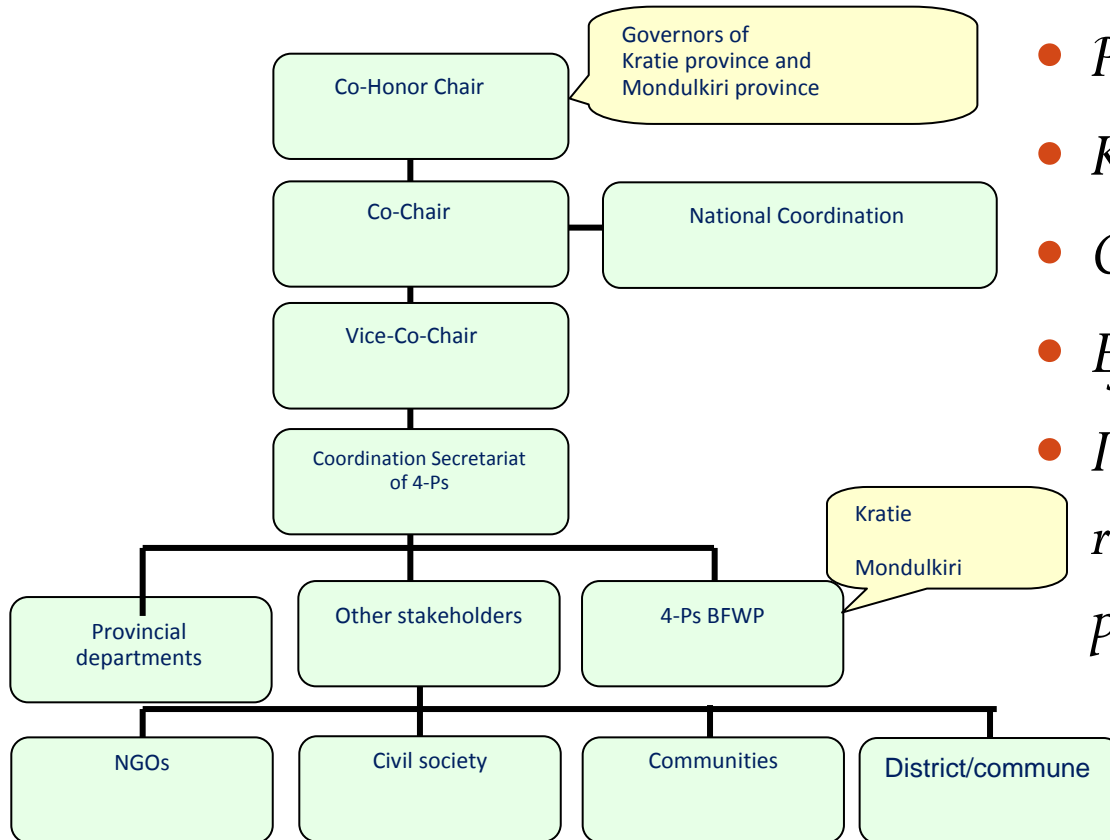






# Structure of the 4-Ps BCCDM

## key elements for water governance



- *Political Will*
- *Knowledge*
- *Community involvement*
- *Effective Partnership*
- *IWRM-based development roadmap for investment program*

# Challenges in water governance promotion and improvement



- **Strong commitment** for IWRM promotion and implementation of agencies related to water management and development by overcoming their fragmented responsibilities and overcome and change the traditional single sector management approach to integrated or multi-sector management approach.
- **Set-up proper mechanism** with full participatory approach for monitor and evaluate the decree of enforcement of policies and strategies as well as water Law





- **Set-up proper mechanism** with full participatory approach for monitor and evaluate the degree of enforcement of policies and strategies as well as water Law
- **Improve and update existing legislative framework** to be IWRM-based for water and related resources development, management and protection.
- **Mobilizing financial resources for IWRM investment** at national and local level for water and related sectors.





# Needs for water governance

- Existing policies and strategies and development plans of water and related resources are required to be reformed and revised with integration of IWRM aspects
- Set-up effective mechanism that participated by key identified stakeholders and build its capacity to assist review national policies and strategies for promotion of water governance at national and local level.
- Water Law and other related natural resources laws are required to be widely oriented and its interpretation would be made for better understanding and simple and effective enforcement by all



- 
- A faint map of Cambodia is visible in the background, showing the country's outline and major river networks. The map is light blue and white, with a red dashed line indicating a specific region or boundary.
- **Set-up a national IWRM framework** that orient for social, economic development and environmental protection based on that IWRM-based strategic plan and action plan setting up.
  - **Set-up clear financial instruments and incentives** for supporting of IWRM implementation at national and local level



- *Strengthen and build up capacity in IWRM institution and human resources* in terms of decision making, public participation, technical and legal, economic, social and environmental aspect.
- *Set-up the strategy and guideline* for river basin organization and management at the *national, provincial and transboundary* (with different countries) level.



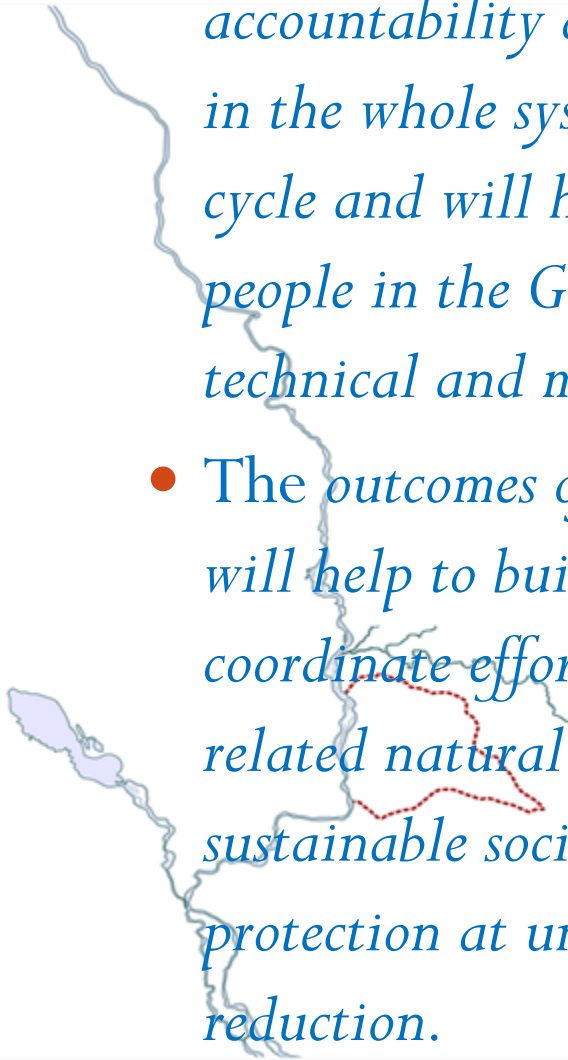


# Conclusion and Discussion

- Local water governance system will help to establish a concrete and fundamental system at local river basin for sustainable socioeconomic development and environmental protection orientation, enhance effective enforcement of Water Law with aspects of better water governance at local river basin system.
- The effective water governance in this context will help to correct or improve the implementation of national policies between local and national level, to avoid any overlap responsibilities, but well coordinate among different level as well as people concerned in water and related natural resources actors.



- *The water governance will set up better transparency, accountability and sustainable and strong public participation in the whole system of decision making and development plan cycle and will help to promote better governance, aspiration of people in the Government system in terms of administration, technical and management aspect.*
- *The outcomes of local water governance system implementation will help to build strong capacity of local institutions that coordinate efforts to manage water with efforts to manage other related natural resources in wider sector aspects to achieve sustainable socioeconomic development and environment protection at under-national level especially for poverty reduction.*





Thank you very much for  
your kind attention

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