Ecosystems, Water, Energy and Food

3-S River Basin: Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia

By Dr. Tracy A. Farrell
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3-S River Basin: Natural Bounty
Policy:
Water diversion for energy development
Policy:
Water diversion for agricultural development
Policy:
Land clearing for hydropower and agriculture
Understand water flows including climate/hydropower changes

Climate change and hydropower impacts on an average year

Flood extent changes during dry season (+30%):

Flood extent changes during dry season (-10%):
Optimize hydropower for energy and food security

- Consider dry season/water supply failures and sediment clogging costs to enhance energy production
- Relocate--3-S river mainstem dams developed as planned would increase dry season flows by 63% and wet season by 22%, compared to minimal additional impact from tributary dams
- Stop or redesign some--Lower Sesan II and Sambor effectively block most fish migration and sediment flow.
- Research other environmental ramifications – sediment, nutrients, food web, biodiversity including Tonle Sap.
- Plans for hundreds of thousands displaced upstream—resettlement and compensation plans disputed
Optimize agriculture for food and water security

- Explore water diversion for energy and ag impacts comparing recession rice and irrigated rice production.
- Link to changes in protein—fisheries production, rice production.
- Try to account for rice field fisheries options (future)
- Optimization favors making best use of natural systems, and holistic systems approach.
Optimize ecosystem/land use for food, water and energy security
Ideas about nexus indicators for 3-S

- Water components:
  - Indicators of flow variability, occurrence of extreme hydrological events, and climate change links

- Energy components:
  - Energy dependence and mix
  - Water availability for hydropower (dry season issues)
  - Sediment flow impacts (trapped/lost energy yields)
Ideas about nexus indicators for 3-S

• Food components:
  – Impacts of diverted water/sediment on fisheries and rice production
  – Water availability for irrigation (diversion/impoundments and impacts on rice production)
  – Losses in protein linked to above (Lysine)
  – Degree of cultivation of arable land

• Ecosystems/sustainable land use components:
  – Lands under intensification versus new clearings for crop production
  – Lands and waters under protection and effectiveness of that protection
  – Economic land concessions within versus outside of protected areas
  – Areas containing critical natural capital and their value
3-S cooperation and collaboration

- http://cambodiahydropower.weebly.com/
Next Steps for CI

- Securing partners (MRC, IUCN-Bridge, Birdlife, WWF, etc) to determine the right entry point for nexus information.
- More detail about policies and trade-off consequences.
- Sharing existing information about nexus issues to advance 3-S basin development cooperation dialogues.
- Finding information gaps and needs identified by 3-S decision makers, and filling those needs.
- Demonstration of nexus management for one or more components.
Thank you for your kind attention!!

Please feel free to contact me:

tfarrell@conservation.org

www.conservation.org
www.mekongflows.org