

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

Strengthen cooperation among all countries and stakeholders

OUTCOME 5.1 Strengthened Mekong River Commission for more effective implementation of the Mekong Agreement

OUTCOME 5.2 Increased joint efforts and partnerships for more integrated management of the entire river basin

OUTPUT 5.1.1 Implementation of the MRC Procedures enhanced

5.1.1.1 Synthesise evaluation results, lessons learned from emerging work on the implementation of the MRC Procedures, and develop a comprehensive technical proposal for their improved implementation through the Joint Platform

5.1.1.2 Based on the agreed proposal, improve the Technical Guidelines (TG) for implementing the PNPCA

5.1.1.3 Based on the agreed proposal and the implementation experience of MRB IF and DAGAP, improve the Technical Guidelines (TG) for implementing the PDIES

5.1.1.4 Implement the PNPCA taking into account the updated TG and related technical guidelines for other Procedures

5.1.1.5 Implement the PDIES, taking into account the updated TG and related technical guidelines for other Procedures, through the MRB IF and DAGAP

OUTPUT 5.1.2 Organisational development of the Mekong River Commission

5.1.2.1 Prepare and implement an organisational development plan for the MRC towards 2030 (including the Council, JC, MRCS (and RFDMC), NMCs, NMCSs and Expert Groups) based on agreed vision of future capacity, diversity and gender, revised ROPs, organisational structure, function, and personnel, and operating arrangements

5.1.2.2 Coordinate and build capacity for national implementation of decentralised CRBMs to achieve regional objectives, planning and management including through joint basin expert groups

5.1.2.3 Institutionalize 'uptake of Outputs' as part of the development and implementation process for all MRC products and services based on the Uptake Guidelines

5.1.2.4 Establish a staff secondment programme between regional level and national implementing agency levels (all 6 countries) building on the Junior Riparian Professional Programme

5.1.2.5 Manage human resources and procurement in-line with HR and Procurement Manuals and Fraud Prevention and Anti-Corruption (FPAC) Mechanism

5.1.2.6 Operate the new financial management information system in line with Finance Manual and FPAC, and in support of work planning, budget monitoring and reporting

5.1.2.7 Enhance internal controls, including operationalization of the Audit Committee and Internal Auditor

5.1.2.8 Organise and coordinate MRC governance meetings including 2022 Summit, Council, Joint Committee, Joint Committee Task Force, and Budget Committee

5.1.2.9 Prepare the multi-year work plans to implement the MRC SP

5.1.2.10 Support the preparation and implementation of the National Indicative Plans to implement the BDS 2021-2030 and MRC SP 2021-2025 and 2026-2030

5.1.2.11 Prepare the MRC SP 2026-2030 to implement the remaining five years of the BDS 2021-2030

5.1.2.12 Monitor, evaluate and report on the implementation of the MRC SP, NIPs and the contribution of water-related activities (projects and programmes) of Mekong-related regional cooperation mechanisms to the BDS

OUTPUT 5.2.1 Common understanding on the potential future institutional arrangements for entire basin management

5.2.1.1 Further clarify mandates, areas of common interests, and comparative advantages in the changing basin context for Mekong related regional cooperation mechanisms and frameworks

5.2.1.2 Explore and evaluate in a participatory manner the institutional options for managing the Mekong River Basin by 2030

OUTPUT 5.2.2 Significant joint infrastructure projects and national projects of basin-wide significance and associated measures agreed based on consideration of trade-offs, benefit sharing and risks

5.2.2.1 Facilitate consideration of proposed joint projects and national projects of basin-wide significance including trade-off and benefit sharing discussions, and the comparison with benefits and costs of existing national plans for river and floodplain development

5.2.2.2 Support the preparation of concept notes for agreed significant joint infrastructure projects and national projects of basin-wide significance

OUTPUT 5.2.3 Mekong water-related cooperation mechanisms and relevant partnerships implemented in synergy

5.2.3.1 Implement and enhance partnerships between MRC and Dialogue Partners as well as the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation on Water, including agreements for year-round data sharing on river flows and dam operations

5.2.3.2 Implement and enhance partnerships between MRC and other Mekong water-related programmes of regional cooperation mechanisms (including ASEAN, GMS, ACMECS, LMI, Mekong-Japan and Mekong-ROK)

5.2.3.3 Implement and enhance partnerships towards BDS Strategic Priorities between MRC and all other relevant partners, including development partners, international organisations, RBOs, research institutes and universities, non-governmental organisations and the private sector

5.2.3.4 Explore the options for establishing a Mekong Fund mechanism through multiple partnerships and financing sources for the benefit of environmental assets and vulnerable social groups

OUTPUT 5.2.4 Joint Basin Expert Groups

5.2.4.1 Building on the current MRC Expert Groups (which will be dissolved), establish Joint Basin Expert Groups with representatives from all six basin countries starting with groups for: basin management coordination, and DSS related activities (incl. information management and communications), and later for entire basin-wide planning and strategy coordination

5.2.4.2 Coordinate and support the operations of the Joint Basin Expert Groups

OUTPUT 5.2.5 Harmonised basin-wide stakeholder platform

5.2.5.1 Develop a Multiple Stakeholder Platform for the whole basin with MLC Water and in consultation with other relevant partners (to consolidate and align) including clear objectives and guidelines on participation and contribution

5.2.5.2 Coordinate and support the management and operations of the Multiple Stakeholder Platform (including the regional stakeholder forum) including consistent recording, reporting and impact tracking procedures in response to stakeholder input

5.2.5.3 Implement proactive engagement and communication with stakeholders, the media, and the public