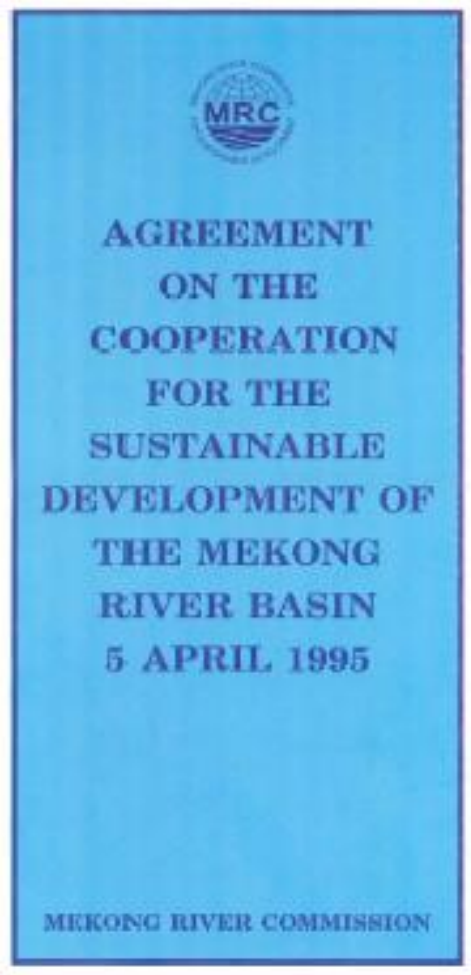
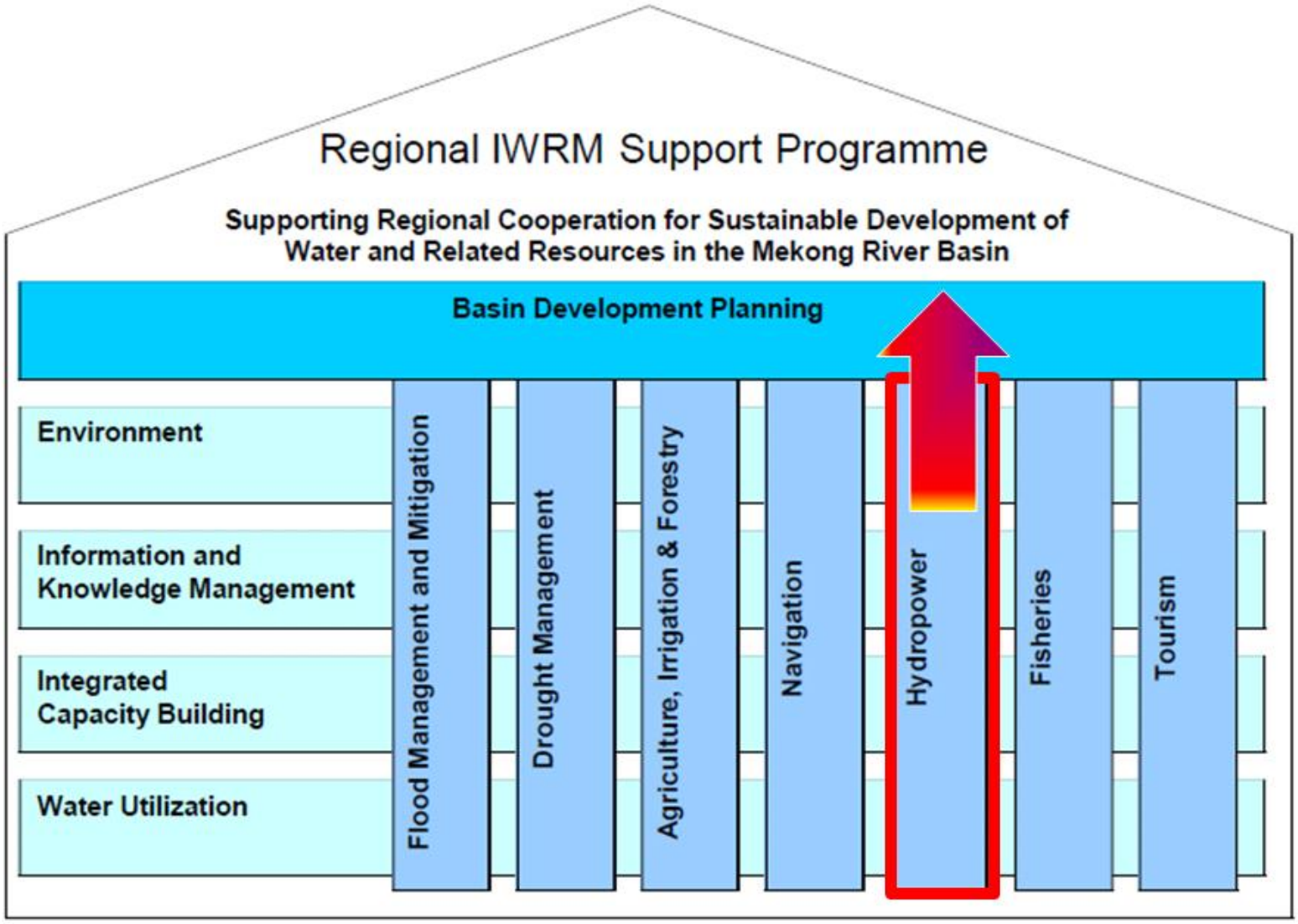
The planning and decision context for the SEA

I. 1995 Mekong Agreement

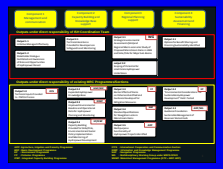


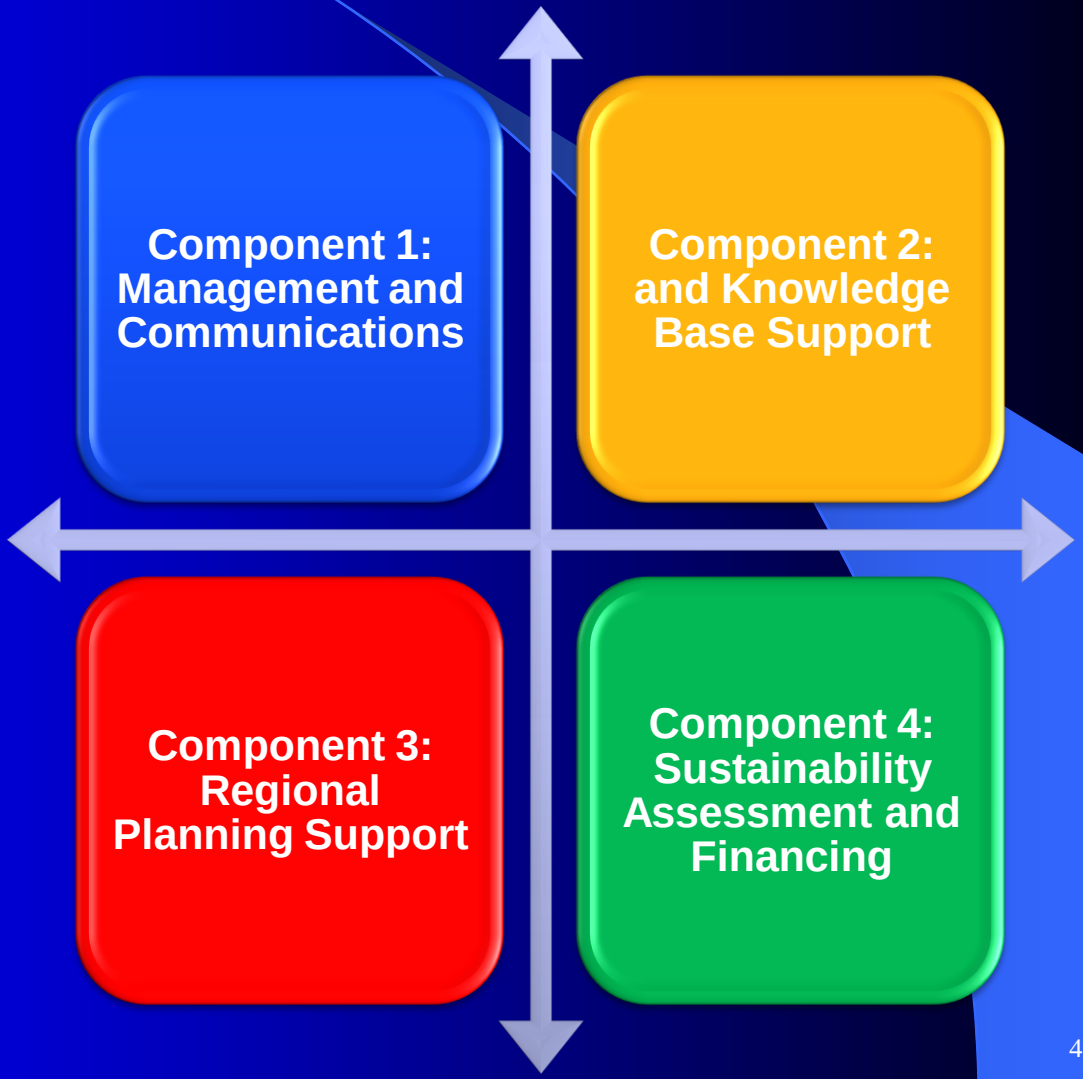
- **Advisory agreement**
- **Focus on basin-wide benefit-sharing**
- **Spirit of cooperation, joint planning and information sharing**
- **Based on rights, interests and responsibilities of riparian states for water utilization**


Regional IWRM Support Programme
Supporting Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development of Water and Related Resources in the Mekong River Basin
Basin Development Planning
Environment
Information and Knowledge Management
Integrated Capacity Building
Water Utilization
Flood Management and Mitigation
Drought Management
Agriculture, Irrigation & Forestry
Navigation
Hydropower
Fisheries
Tourism

Initiative on Sustainable Hydropower

- Cross-cutting initiative working with all MRC Programmes
- Focusing on Sustainability - balancing Social, Environmental and Economic considerations





In Practice
2 Decision Spheres

To provide a broader understanding of the risks and opportunities of proposed 11 MS dams

Integrated Basin Planning IWRM Sphere of
on making
nent)

SEA Bridge + other work

Energy Power Sector / Industry Sphere where decisions on hydropower are

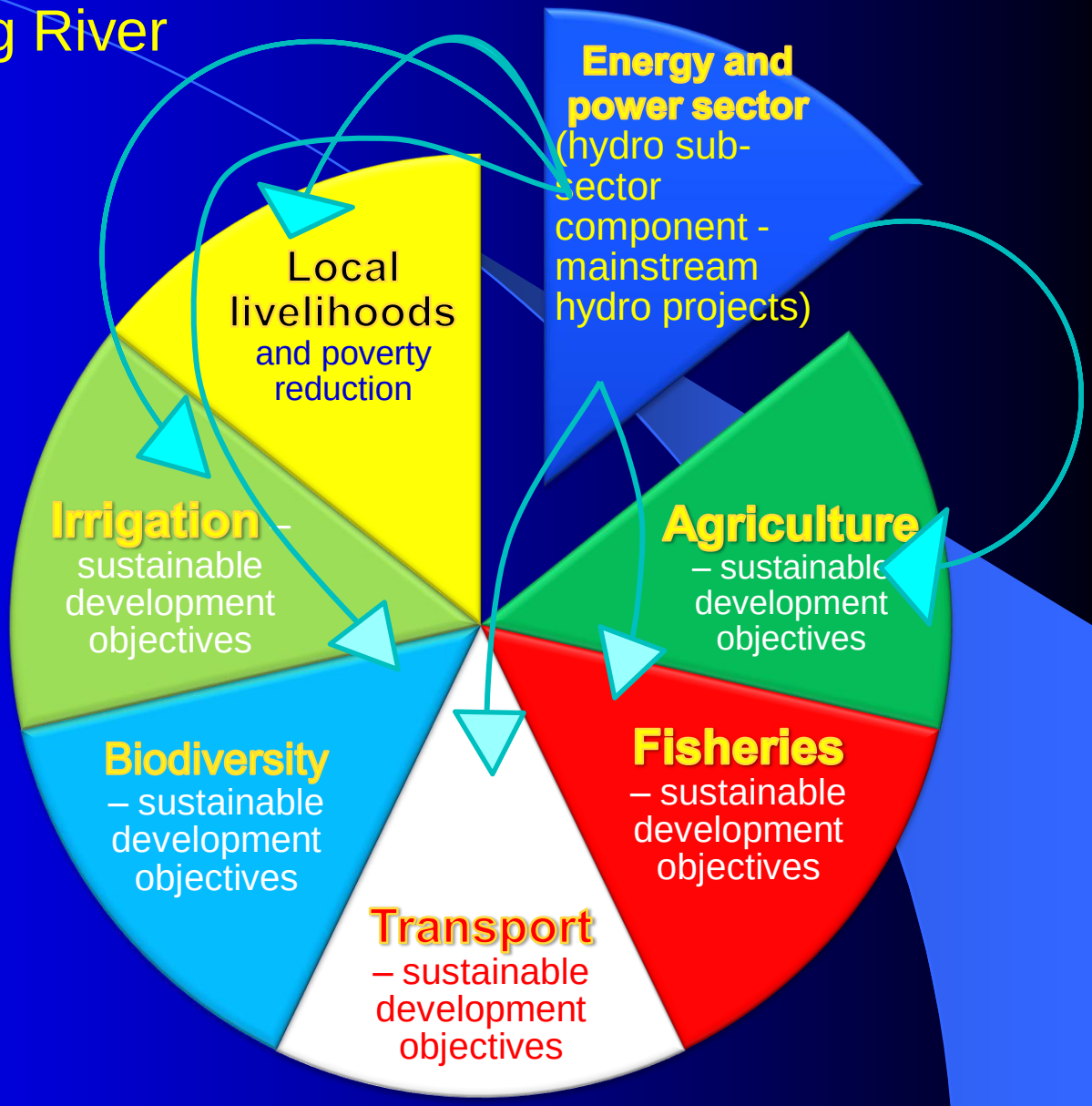
MRC Programmes

The SEA work helps bring Together the Two Decision Spheres IWRM & Power

Basin development plan and role of SEA of hydropower on the mainstream Mekong River

Functions of SEA:

1. Helps to integrate energy and power sector into the BDP
2. Assesses the effects of mainstream hydro projects on meeting the sustainable development trends / objectives of each sector
3. Provides framework for project –specific evaluation



Article 1: Areas of cooperation

To cooperate in all fields of sustainable development, utilisation, management and conservation of the water and related resources of the Mekong River Basin …

…including, but not limited to:

- irrigation
- hydro-power
- navigation
- flood control
- fisheries
- timber floating
- recreation and tourism…

Article 2: Projects, Programmes and Planning

To promote, support, cooperate and coordinate in the development of the full potential of sustainable benefits to all riparian States and the prevention of wasteful use of Mekong River Basin waters… through the formulation of a Basin Development Plan

Approved and Draft MRC Procedures

PDIES (2001); Guidelines (2002)

Procedures for Data and Information Exchange and Sharing

PWUM (2003); Guidelines (2006)

Procedures for Water Use Monitoring

PNPCA (2003); Guidelines (2005)

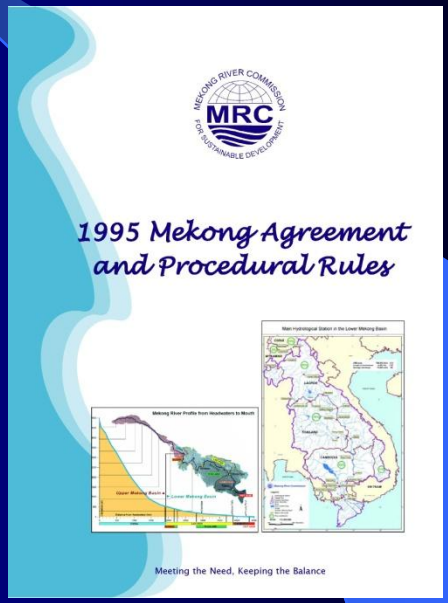
Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement

PMFM (2006)

Procedures for Maintenance of Flows on the Mainstream

PWQ (JC endorsed draft)

Procedures for Water Quality



Article 5 A and B: Reasonable and Equitable Utilization – PNPCA

experience to date

- Developments so far on tributaries
- 28 Notifications 1995 – 2008
- Initial information on mainstream dams by Lao PDR, Cambodia and Thailand

PNPCA
Main Elements of a Prior Consultation

Governing documents:
(i) PNPCA (2003);
(ii) Technical Guidelines on PNPCA (including forms) (2005)

State responsibility for process:
- NMCSs are submitting party

MRCS:

- Proactive assisting role to Joint Committee (G-PNPCA II.)
- Due diligence requirement before use (PNPCA 5.4.3.)

PNPCA
Prior Consultation Requirements
Process Closure

The Joint Committee shall:

- aim at arriving at an agreement and issue a decision containing agreed upon conditions that is recorded; and
- make a record of the use when it commences

(PNPCA 5.4.3.)

In Practice
2 Decision Spheres

Progressively Merge Spheres over Time

Locating Hydropower decisions in a basin context

Integrated Basin Planning IWRM Sphere of

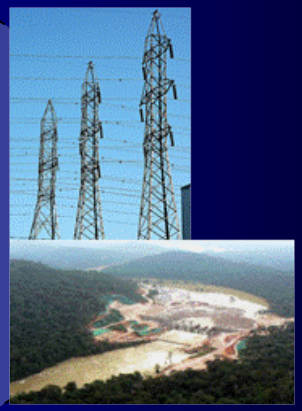
making

Agree nt)

PNPCA

SEA Bridge + other work

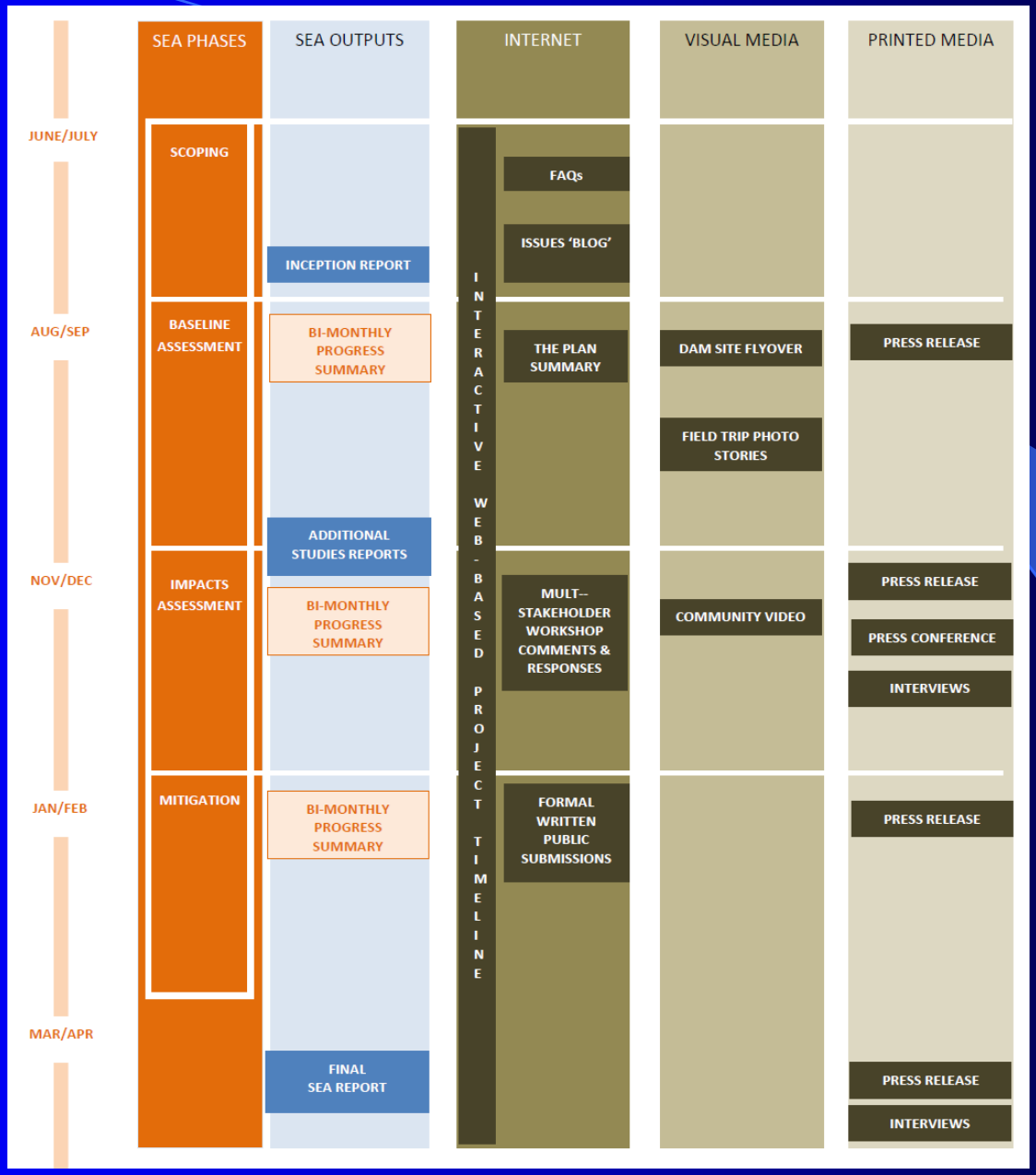
Energy Power Sector / Industry Sphere where decisions on hydropower are



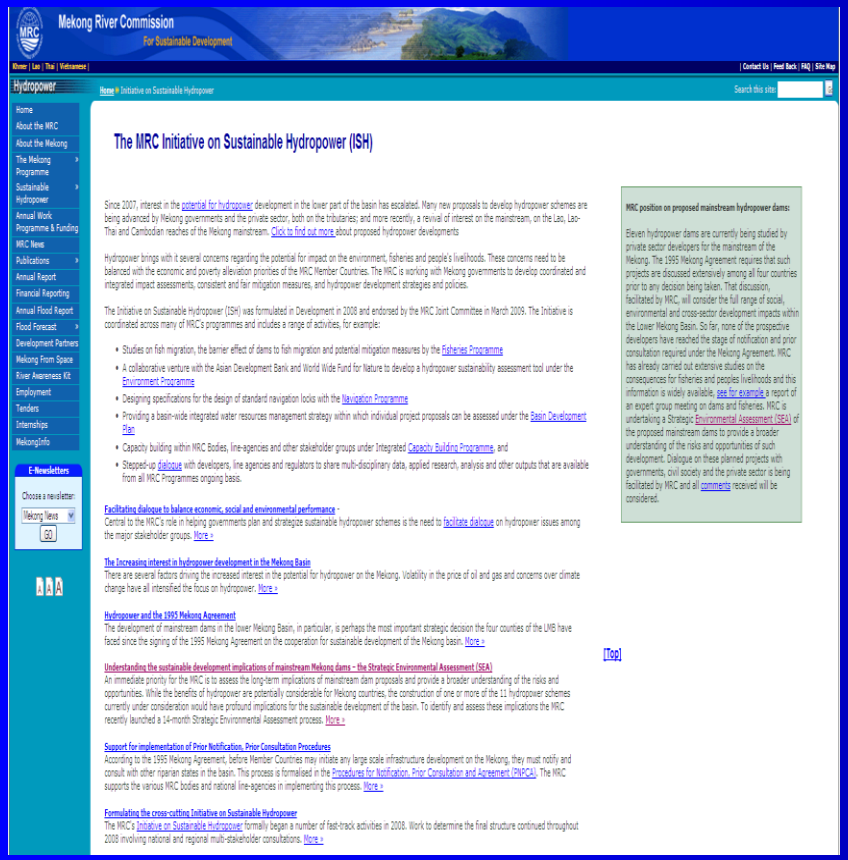
MRC Programmes

The SEA work helps bring Together the Two Decision Spheres IWRM & Power

Communications tools


SEA PHASES
SEA OUTPUTS
INTERNET
VISUAL MEDIA
PRINTED MEDIA
JUNE/JULY
AUG/SEP
NOV/DEC
JAN/FEB
MAR/APR
SCOPING
BASELINE ASSESSMENT
IMPACTS ASSESSMENT
MITIGATION
INCEPTION REPORT
BI-MONTHLY PROGRESS SUMMARY
ADDITIONAL STUDIES REPORTS
BI-MONTHLY PROGRESS SUMMARY
BI-MONTHLY PROGRESS SUMMARY
FINAL SEA REPORT
INTERACTIVE WEB-BASED PROJECT TIMELINE
FAQs
ISSUES 'BLOG'
THE PLAN SUMMARY
MULT--STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP COMMENTS & RESPONSES
FORMAL WRITTEN PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS
DAM SITE FLYOVER
FIELD TRIP PHOTO STORIES
COMMUNITY VIDEO
PRESS RELEASE
PRESS RELEASE
PRESS CONFERENCE
INTERVIEWS
PRESS RELEASE
PRESS RELEASE
INTERVIEWS

MRC Website
www.mrcmekong.org



Thank you