

Integrated River Basin Management approach to water use and supply management in the Sedone River Basin, Lao PDR

By:

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Outline of Presentation

1. Brief Overview of Lao and water management
 - **Water Resources Management Framework for Laos**
2. From framework to local implementation: Sedone Basin experience and approaches
 - **Basin-wide implementation (Provincial level)**
 - **Houay Champi Sub-basin Management (District and village levels)**
3. Challenges and lessons learned

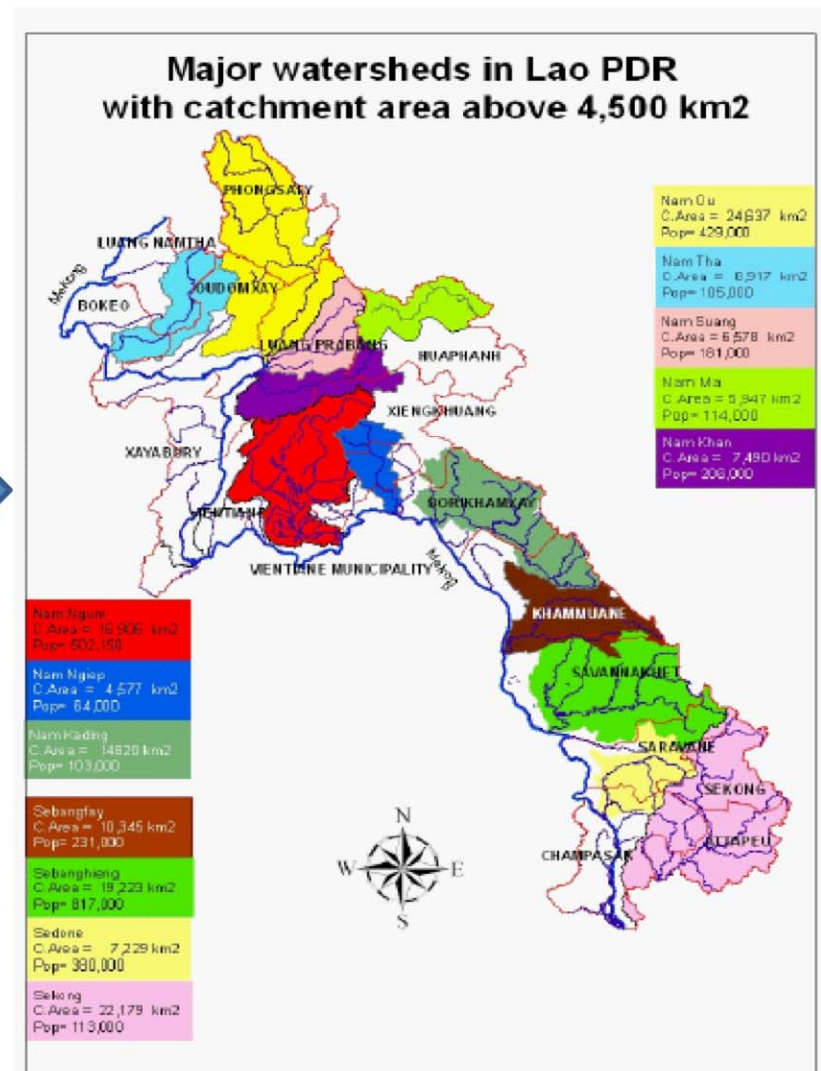
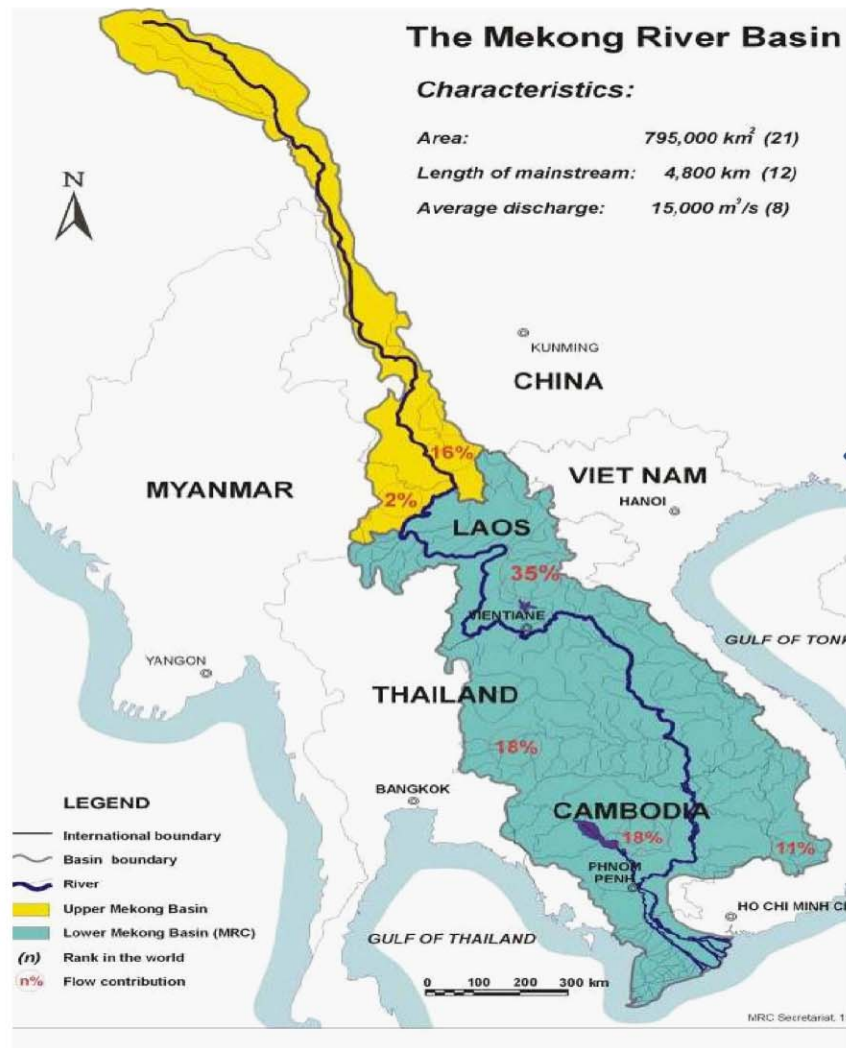
1. Overview-

Water Resources in Lao PDR

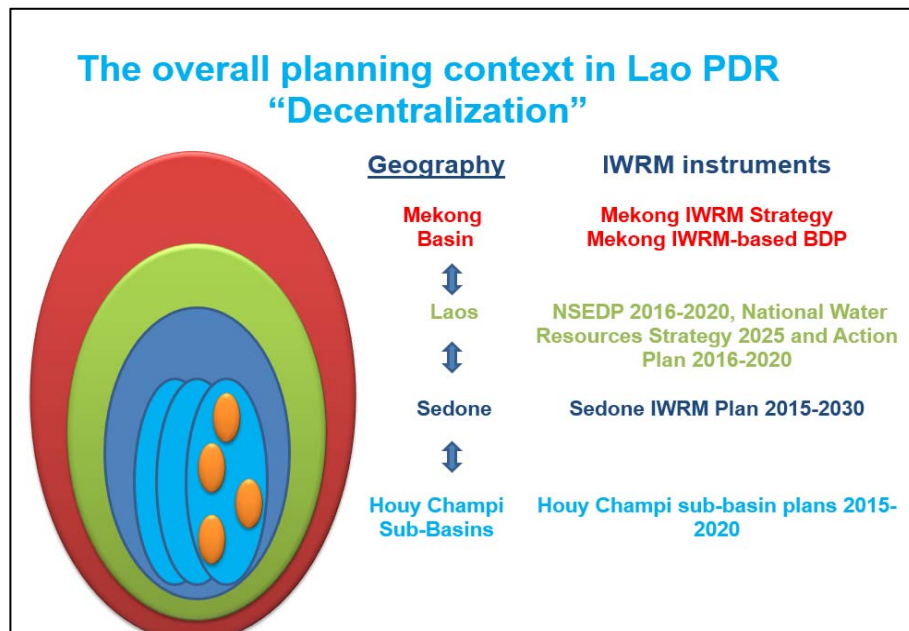
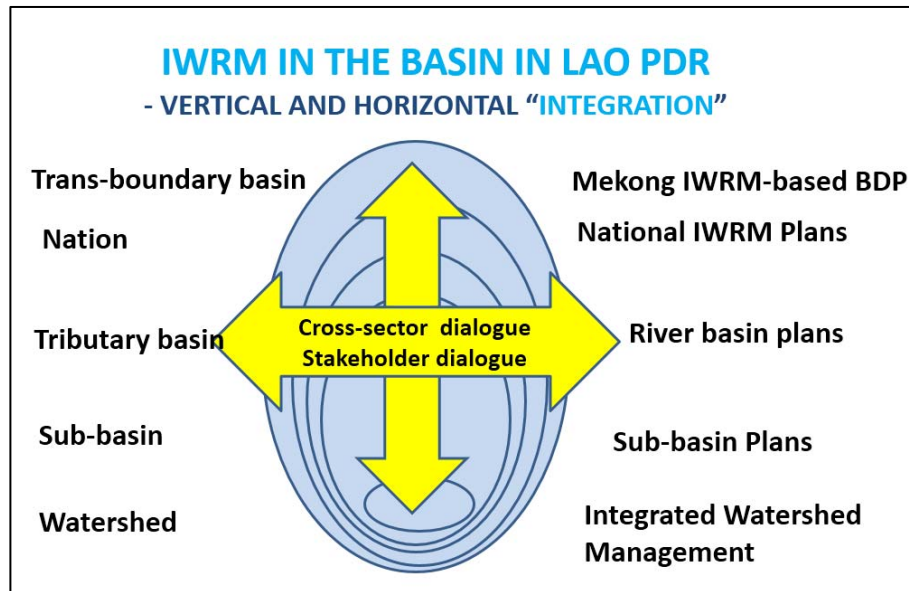
- Area = 236,800 km²
- Population = 6.2 Mil. people
- 90% of the country are in Mekong Basin
- Per capita water resource = 55,000 m³ per year
- 35% of annual flow (or 270,000 mil. m³) in Mekong is from Lao tributaries



Overview - The Basin Linkages



Water Resources Management Framework for Laos



National Water Resource Strategy

1. Institutional Strengthening & Coordination
2. Legislation, Plans and Implementation;
3. RB and Sub-RBs WR Planning;
4. Groundwater Management;
5. Data & Information Management;
6. Water Allocation;
7. Protection of WQ and Ecosystems;
8. Wetland Management;
9. Flood and Drought Management;
10. WR Risk Mgt. & CC Adaptation;
11. IWRM Financing;
12. Awareness, Participation & Capt. Building

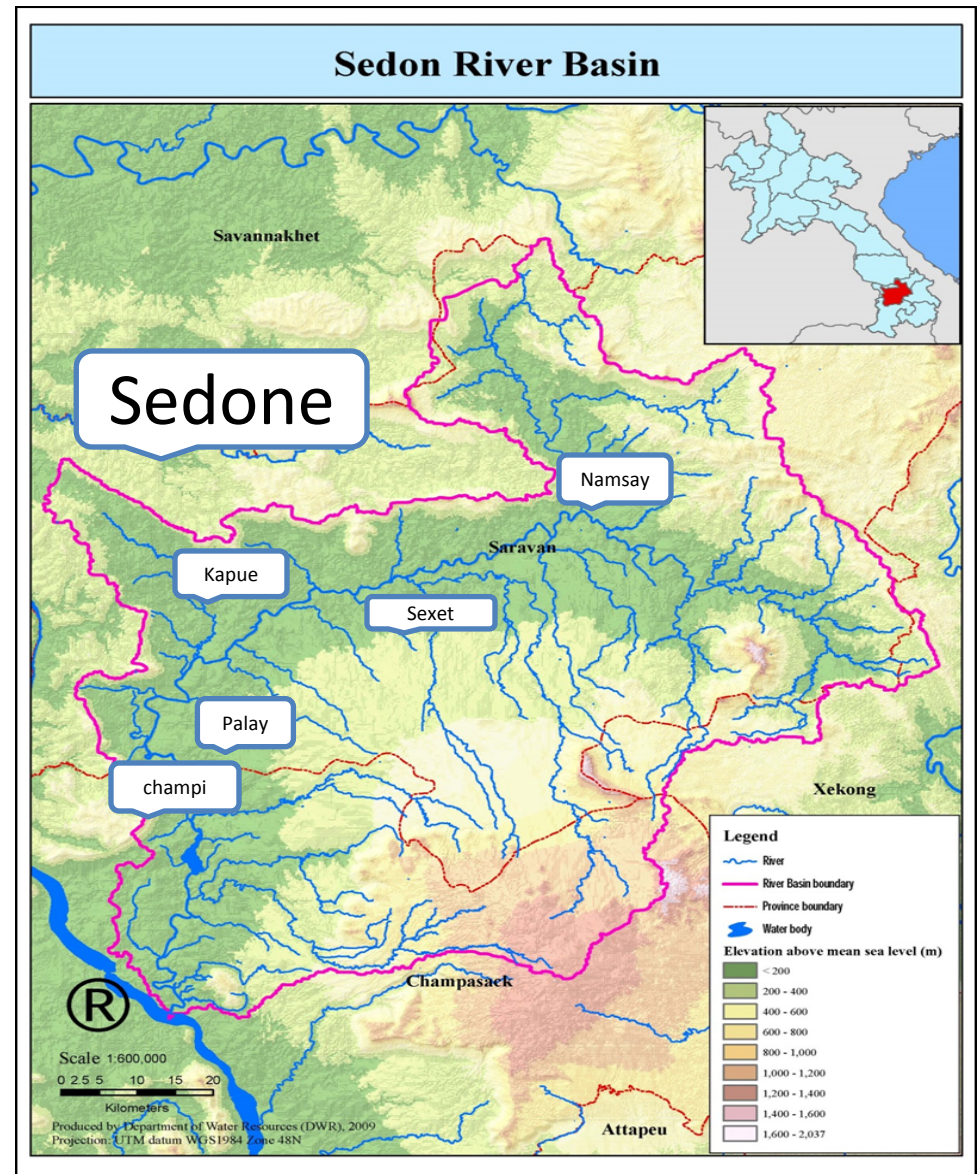
Challenges in implementing the framework



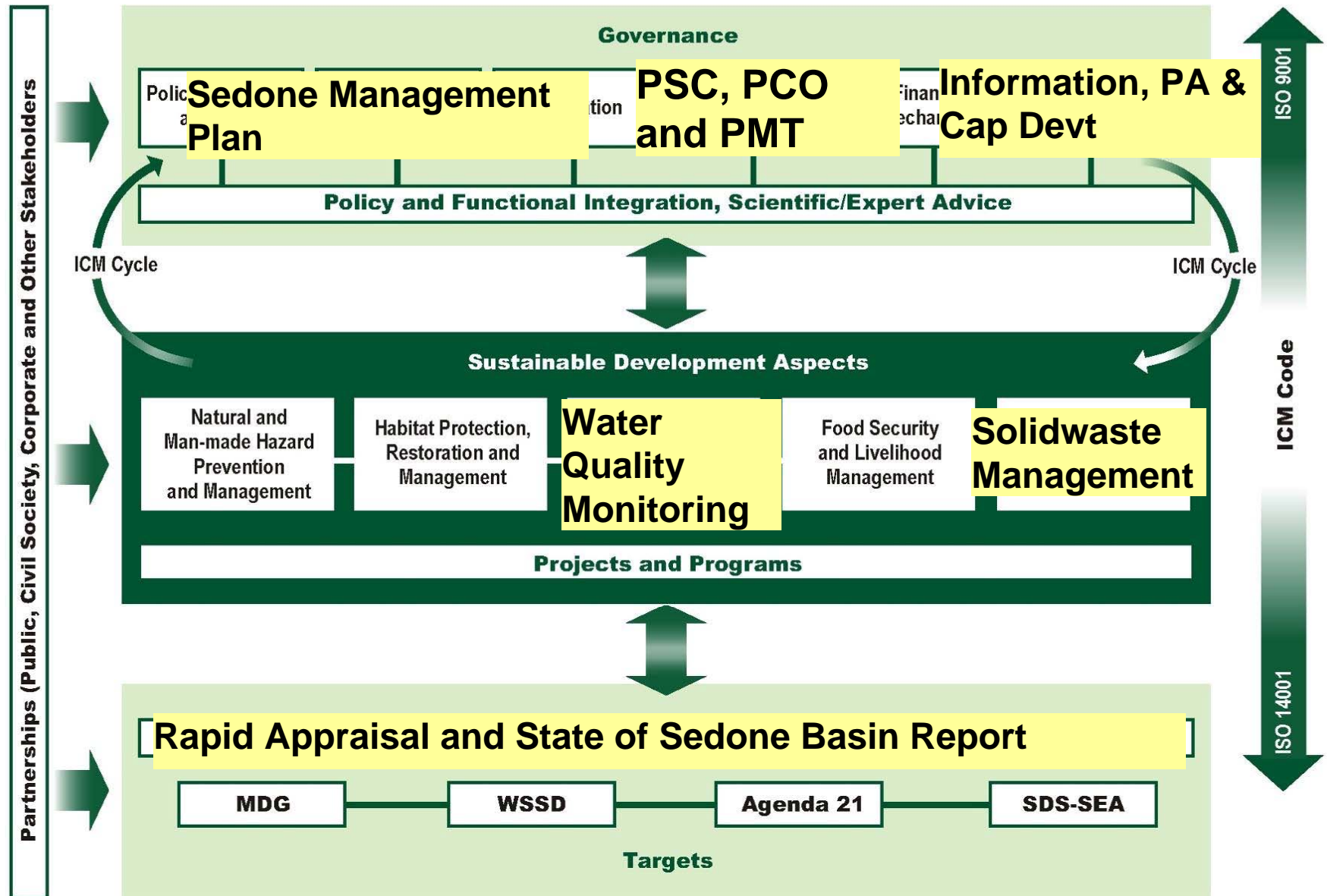
- ✦ Legislations, guidelines need to develop & improve;
- ✦ Capacity of concerned staff on IWRM application, RB planning & management + public awareness & local participation on IWRM;
- ✦ Lack of efficient & accurate WR data & information to support the national water resource planning & management;
- ✦ Natural disaster frequently happened - floods, drought & CC impact on water countrywide;
- ✦ Limit financial support & sustainable mechanism – incl. equipments, tools for water resource surveys, etc;

3. Local Implementation: Sedone Basin

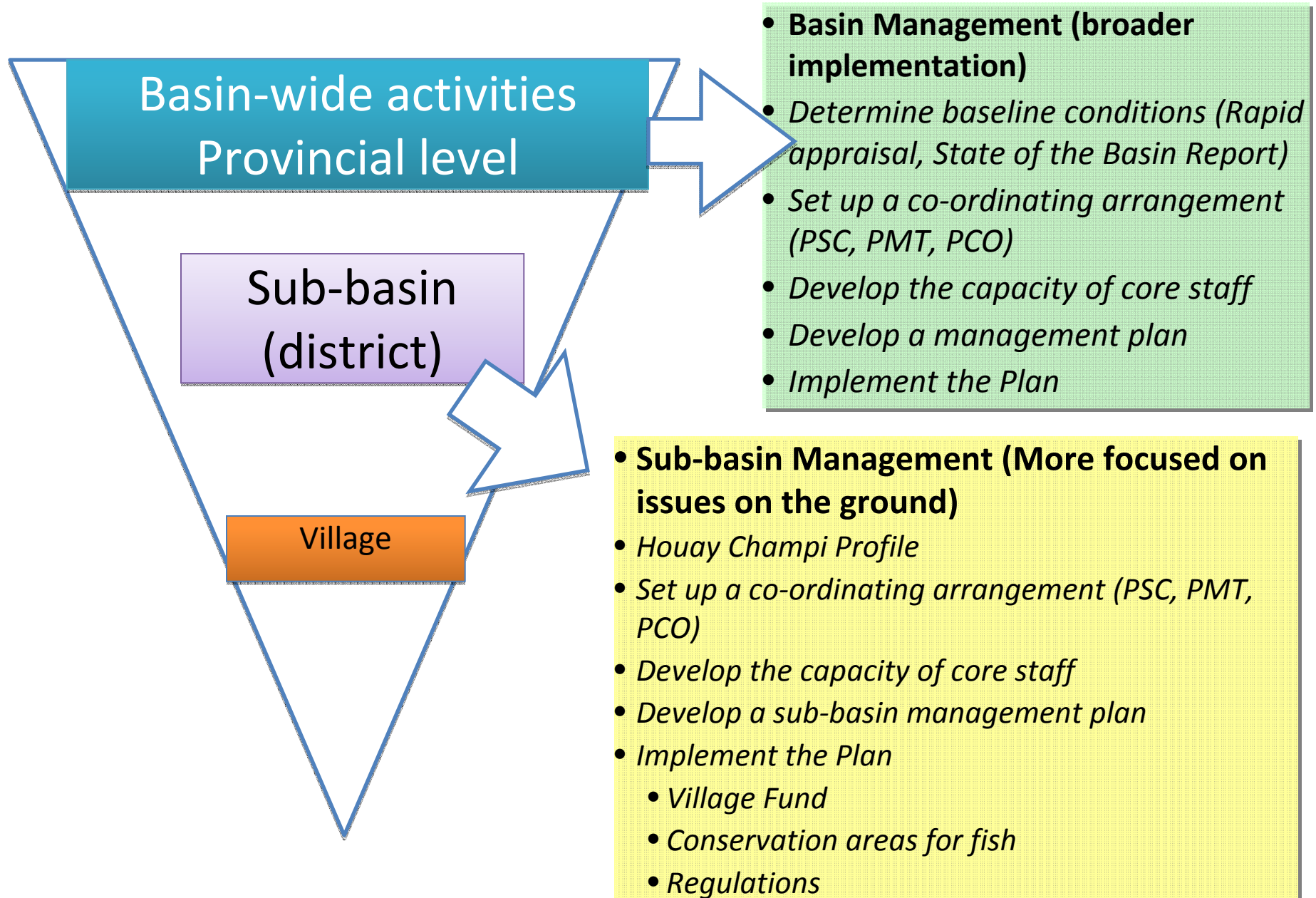
- One of 12 Mekong tributaries
- Total area = 7,229 km²
- Main stream length = 228 km.
- Provinces covered
 - Saravanne province
 - Champasack province
 - Sekong province
- Sedone Implementation was initiated with assistance of PEMSEA.
- The process and framework used for ICM implementation was applied in Sedone

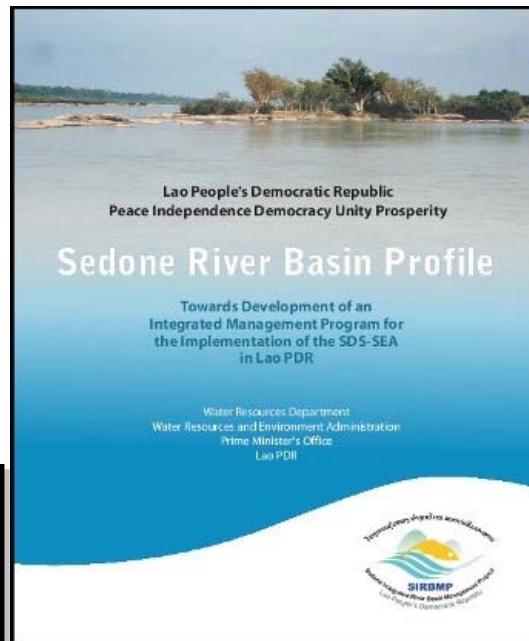


Adopting the ICM framework to be used in the Basin Level



From basin level (Provincial) to Sub-basin (District): Houay Champi Sub-basin
Management





Sedone Management Plan



Key output and outcomes: Basin-wide



Sub-basin: Houay Champi results



Village regulation development



Conservation area for fish



Village billboard to disseminate regulation



Water quality monitoring



Water quantity monitoring



Water conservation fund for village

3. Challenges and Lessons Learned

1. **There is a process that must be followed, at different levels.** Better appreciation of a **step-wise** and a **gradual approach** to implementation.
 - IRBM implementation should be established at the grassroots level and not only on a broader scale
2. **Link between water conservation and management to livelihood of villages.** We need to provide practical benefits so that people can fully appreciate water management

3. Multisectoral participation is essential in IWRM, but it takes time to convince the different stakeholders who have different interests.
4. Limited data and information is a constraint, but not a barrier to sub-basin management. Even in the absence of scientific data and information, the projects can still be designed based on stakeholder knowledge of their environment
5. An incremental and longer-term approach to capacity development makes for a sustainable program.

Thank you