Mr. Kingkham MANIVONG, WRCC Secretarial, Lao PDR

Summery the Report First Trainings Program on IWRM and Strengthening of River Basin Committees 26 July – 6 August 2004.

Objective of the Training Program.

The First Training Program on IWRM and Strengthening of River Basin Committee aims to strengthening the capacity of IWRM practitioners with emphasis on putting concepts into practice. The training workshop's specific objectives are:

- Equip the water related professionals in the region to have a good understanding of the IWRM concepts;
- Present case studies and field experiences on actual water management at a basin and country level; and
- Enable the participants to translate the IWRM concepts into the planning process

Contents of IWRM Trainning Program

Concept of IWRM

- The overall problem
 - Resources under pressure
 - Populations under water stress
 - The Impact of pollution
 - Water governance crisis
- The main challenges
 - Securing water for people
 - Securing water for food production
 - Importing food country can in effect import water from more generously endowed areas
 - The concept of Virtual water
 - Developing other job creating activities
 - Protecting vital ecosystems

• IWRC Principles

• Principles I: Water as a finite and vulnerable resource

- Principles II: Participatory approach
- Principles III: The important role of women
- Principles IV: Water as an economic good

Warning Evacuation System and Public Awareness

While the non structural countermeasures focus on forecasting and warning evacuation system and public awareness improvement on sediment related disaster consist of the following activities:

- Capacity building for evacuation system
- Improvement of public awareness or sediment related disaster
- Evacuation facilities This will comprise among others 4 refuges, 20 km evacuation roads (rehabilitation and improvement), 50 sigaboards denoting evacuationroutes.
- Warning facilities
- Improvement of monitoring system

Defining flood managemment problems

Problems in the management of flood mitigation and preparedness environment with socio-economic development and changes in the environment and most important, changes in the interaction between humankind and nature. Human interaction with nature also changes with progress in science and technology enabling humankind to deal with natural calamities and to feel the need to live in harmong with nature.

Integrated Water Resource Management is a Process

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) defines IWRM as a process to improve the planning, conservation, development, and management of water, forest, land and aquatic resources in a river basin context to maximize economic benefits and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vilal environmental systems.

The IWRM planning and implementation process based on sound science which brings togethe stakeholders to determine how to meet society's long-term need for water and coastal resources while maintaining essential ecological service and economic benefits.

Law and Regulation

The law and regulation is basic IWRM, Is including such things as project approvals, registration and licensing of water use and wastewater discharge, inspection and enforcement. Some secondary legislation has been approved.

MARD is focusing its action to the preparation and issuance of regulations and licensing on water abstraction activities are carried out from the central and provincial levels.

Conflict resolution is also taking place, to a certain extent, at the international level through multilateral and bilateral efforts

Participatory Process

- people are at the heart of development ultimate beneficiaries and agents
- participation a process that enables stakeholders to influence or share control over development initiatives and over decisions and resources that affect themselves.
- involves four main phases: initiating, preparing, implementing, and sustaining
- no single answers and blueprints
- progress depends on social, economic, political and cultural conditions

Experiences on IWRM action in other country

- IWRM can be implemented or institutionalized through a step-by step process
- In the preparation of river basin plans, the application of IWRM process is far more important than having a plan
- Bublic awareness and multi-stakeholder participation is a must to ensure acceptance by public and the government

However, The role of IWRM will vary depending on the development stage of the country. Developing country in transition will all have different ways of implementing the IWRM process and derive different benefits. Development countries may see sound water resource management as a factor in addressing poverty hunger, health and environmental sustainability. Countryies in transition may see IWRM as a national approach to improvement of resource management thus assisting the continued development of our country economices, Developed my find valuable inspiration in the IWRM processes and may choose to design their own variety.