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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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MULTI-COUNTRY PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project Title: Triangular Cooperation Project on Sustainable Development in the Lower Mekong Basin based on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus. (RoK-UNOSSC Facility: Phase 3)

Project Number: 00127005
Start Date: 15 September 2021 **End Date:** 31 December 2025
PAC Meeting date: 9 June 2021
Countries Participating:

Region	**Implementing Partner**	**Outputs to be delivered by country/partner**
1. Mekong Basin	UNDP-UNOSSC	Outputs 1, 2 and 3
Region	**Responsible Parties**	**Outputs to be delivered by country/partner**
1. Mekong Basin	Mekong River Commission (MRC)	Facilitating Coordination of stakeholders
2. Mekong Basin	Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI)	Implementing WEF Nexus Model and appropriate technology
3. Mekong Basin	Mekong Institute (MI)	Capacity building-Implementation

Brief Description

Outcome 3 of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation South-South Strategic Framework (2018-2021) relates to the South-South and triangular cooperation partnership and demand-driven programmes facilitated to address sustainable development needs of developing countries. The countries in the Mekong Basin are experiencing climate-change and resource extraction and use-induced development challenges. These challenges include frequent threats of overuse of natural resources (overfishing, land clearance for urbanisation and agriculture). The threat to energy, food, and water security requires an integrated approach to policy making and deploying appropriate technologies to mitigate these negative impacts.

The triangular cooperation project will be funded by the Republic of Korea, the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT). It will be implemented under the Direct Implementation arrangement (UNDP-UNOSSC). The UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) in Bangkok, Thailand, will be the Coordinating Office. The Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI), the Mekong River Commission (MRC), and the Mekong Institute (MI) will be Responsible Parties. STEPI will enlist the support of governmental, academic, and private sector in the modelling of Water, Energy and Food (WEF) Nexus pilots.

The project will review past and ongoing projects in the Mekong Basin focussing on the water, energy and food nexus and compile knowledge that will be given to the selected countries for pilot area selection and design of the pilots projects in each country. The models will be piloted in four countries, namely, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam. In addition, the project, which has been selected as the RoK's regional development cooperation initiative under its *New Southern Policy* and *Green New Deal (GND)*, will aim at helping the Mekong Basin countries nurture a people-centred community of peace and prosperity with a particular focus on science, technology and innovation approach to the development challenges.

Contributing Outcomes (UNOSSC SSC Framework):

Outcome 3: South-South and triangular cooperation partnerships initiatives and demand-driven programmes facilitated to address sustainable development needs of developing countries.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker[2]:

Output 1: Knowledge and data collected for purposes of selecting pilot projects. Five (5) WEF nexus projects in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) and other regions analyzed and reports prepared.

Gender marker: GEN1

Output 2: Three (3) WEF nexus models designed: based on identified project sites, WEF Nexus policy, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), South-South learning and partnerships.

Gender marker: GEN1

Output 3: Three (3) WEF nexus pilots implemented.

Gender marker: GEN 2

Total resources required:		3,960,395
Total resources allocated:		
	UNDP TRAC:	0
	Republic of Korea (RoK):	579,846.14
	Government:	
	In-Kind:	
Unfunded:		
	UNDP TRAC:	
	Republic of Korea (RoK):	3,380,548.86
	Parallel Funds:	TBC
	In-Kind:	TBC

Agreed by (signatures)[1]:

United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)	Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), Republic of Korea	Mekong River Commission (MRC) Secretariat
Adel Abdellatif UNOSSC Director a. i. Adel Abdellatif	Seong Gyu Kim Director-General, International Cooperation Bureau	An Pich Hatda Chief Executive Officer
Date 31-Aug-2021	Date 01-SEP-2021	Date 3. Sept. 2021

[1] Note: This document, including the signature page, may be customized as needed. Separate signature pages (one per country) can be created and signed if needed to facilitate timely approval and budget revision if multiple countries are participating. Separate signature pages should still reflect all participating partners.

[2] The Gender Marker measures how much a project invests in gender equality and women's empowerment. Select one for each output: GEN3 (Gender equality as a principle objective); GEN2 (Gender equality as a significant objective); GEN1 (Limited contribution to gender equality); GEN0 (No contribution to gender quality)

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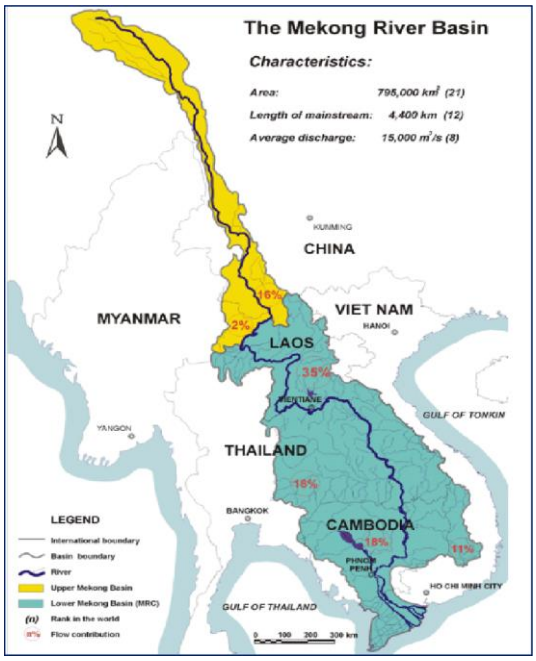
I. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

The Mekong River is the longest river in Southeast Asia, it runs approximately 4,900 km from the Tibetan Plateau in China to the South China Sea in southern Viet Nam. The Mekong region consists of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Thailand and some Chinese Provinces, namely Yunnan and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Geographically, the region is divided into Upper Mekong Basin (Myanmar and China) and Lower Mekong Basin (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam). Approximately 72 million people live and derive their livelihoods in the Mekong basin area.[2]

Figure 1: Mekong River Basin Flow



Source: Pacific Institute[3]

The issues pertaining to the Mekong River Basin's water, energy and food are summarised by the Mekong River Commission (MRC) in the *Basin Development Strategy (BDS) 2021-2030*.

Unequitable development

The Region is well-endowed with natural resources and characterised by rapid economic development in the past few decades, increasing urbanisation, and reduced poverty. There have been gains in rising incomes, improved food security and improved access to energy (electricity), as well as access to water and sanitation. These gains have not been equally distributed across the populations living in the Mekong Basin. According to the Mekong River Commission, "There are significant inequalities between different groups in society."[4] Among the disadvantaged they identify large numbers of poor people drawn from resource dependent communities, rural populations and gender in-equalities driven by disparities in paid and unpaid work. Water related development operations are expected to have an increasing impact on the livelihoods of the vulnerable communities.

Some of the expanding economic activities in the water related sectors include agriculture, fisheries and forestry. Although the basin countries' growth trends away from these sectors, large numbers of people are still employed in them. Based on National Plans, irrigated agriculture, hydropower, navigation and aquaculture are likely to continue to be a part of the economic development of the Basin. Furthermore, in the assessment of the Mekong River Commission, integrated Basin-wide thinking is necessary to ensure inclusive growth and sustainability.

[2] UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). 2013. *The Status of Water-Food-Energy Nexus in Asia and the Pacific*, p 45.
[3] Pacific Institute. 2009. "Understanding and Reducing the Risks of Climate Change for Transboundary Waters".
[4] Mekong River Commission (MRC). 2021."Basin Development Strategy for the Mekong River Basin 2021 – 2030".

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Changing Water flow Pertains

Water management for hydro-electricity generation is changing water flows in the Mekong Basin. Recent patterns of increased flows in the dry season and rainy season decrease in the Upper Basin have been observed. Construction of and uncoordinated operation of hydropower facilities are a main source of the fluctuations. Climate variability is also contributing to the changing water flow patterns. The fluctuations will impact water quality and habitat for aquatic life.

Impact on the Basin

Industrial activities are also causing pressure on the environment. There is increased risk of flooding due to climate change given that there is reduced replenishment of sedimentation from upstream areas due to dam construction. This has resulted in deeper channels more susceptible to tidal erosion, and increased salinity intrusion.

The Mekong River Commission also indicates that there are "signs of heavy fishing pressure and fish populations are also under threat from habitat destruction and in-stream barriers limiting migration, leading to decreased fish yields"[5].They conclude that fish species of the future will likely differ in terms of types and abundance.

Wetland areas have declined in the Basin and those that remain are increasingly degraded. The ecosystem services they provide including habitat, floodwater storage, and protection against coastal erosion, are under threat. Watersheds and floodplains face pressure from land use changes driven by population and economic growth.

Stakeholder Priorities

Given these developments, stakeholders are increasingly concerned about sustainable development in the Mekong Basin, particularly for development to be characterised by a long-term view, including on issues of water, food and energy security. As noted in the Mekong River Commission's *Basin Development Strategy for the Mekong River Basin (MRC BDS) 2021-2030*, "experience from other regions suggests that joint management and development, with cost and benefit sharing agreements, will be necessary if the people of the Mekong region are to transition to middle/high income status in a manner that is in long-term balance with the basin's ecosystems"[6].

Some data from Mekong Basin

Based on the Mekong River Commission, data and knowledge collected over the past 60 years will be useful in achieving the objective of an optimal development mix for the Basin. Table 1 provides some economic and demographic data for some countries in the Mekong Basin.

Table 1: Demographic Data for the Mekong Basin countries

COUNTRY	AREA OF COUNTRY IN THE BASIN (KM^2)	AS % OF TOTAL AREA OF BASIN	AS % OF TOTAL AREA OF THE COUNTRY	COUNTRY POP. (2019) IN MILLIONS	% OF POP. LIVING IN THE LOWER BASIN AREA	CONTRY GDP (USD) (2019) IN BILLIONS	COUNTRY ANNUAL GDP GROWTH (2019)
CAMBODIA	155,000	20	86	16.3	21.7	27.1	7.1%
LAO PDR	202,000	25	85	7.2	8.67	18.2	4.7%
MYANMAR	24,000	3	4	54.0	N/A	76.1	2.9%
THAILAND	184,000	23	36	69.6	38.5	543.6	2.4%
VIET NAM	65,000	8	20	96.5	31.2	261.9	7.0%

Source: MRC[7] and World Bank[8]

[5] ibid

[6] ibid

[7] Mekong River Commission (MRC). 2010. *State of the Basin Report 2010*, p32.

[8] World Development Indicators Database.

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The data above shows that major parts of the countries are part of the Basin, it is 86% in Cambodia and 85% Lao PDR. However, in terms of the country's area in the Basin, Thailand (23%) is next to Lao PDR (25%) while Cambodia comes in third at (20%).

Institutional Arrangements for Mekong Basin Management and Development

Mekong related Cooperation Frameworks

Mekong River Commission[9]

Over the past several decades, the Mekong Member Countries have made joint efforts to institutionalize regional resource management mechanisms focused on technical cooperation. The Mekong River Commission (MRC) was established in 1995 based on the *Mekong Agreement* between Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam, building on the work of its predecessor, the Mekong Committee (1957-1994). In 1996, China and Myanmar joined as MRC's Dialogue Partners.

The MRC promotes and facilitates sustainable management and development of water and related resources for mutual benefit and the people's well-being for countries in the region by providing guidance, conducting impact assessments and providing platforms for dialogue. As the leading regional multilateral cooperation platform, the Commission works closely with National Mekong Committees of each Member State. The Committees are composed of government entities responsible for water management and related sectors, including the foreign affairs and planning ministries. Decisions are made through Summits of Heads of Governments, Council of Ministers and a Joint Committee facilitated by the MRC Secretariat (MRCS). The MRC also collaborates with development partners, UN agencies and research institutions.

National Mekong Committees (NMC) of Line/Implementing Agencies[10]

Each MRC member country has a National Mekong Committee (NMC) constituted of Line or implementing agencies in water and related sectors, as well as those agencies relevant to Mekong cooperation (e.g. planning and investment and foreign affairs). Each NMC is supported by a national Secretariat (NMCS) to carry out cross sectoral, cross-agency coordination, communication and reporting. These NMC Secretariats are attached to the Ministry responsible for water resources management and/or environmental management. The NMCs are chaired at the level of Deputy Prime Minister or Minister, and the members are vice minister and Director General level from key line and implementing ministries.

ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation[11]

In 1996, the ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation was created to promote economic integration among the Member Countries and to contribute to the building of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015. The cooperation framework has contributed to the development of infrastructure and human capital in the sub-region and enabled the sharing of resources between ASEAN Member States and Mekong riparian countries, including China, while promoting inclusive and equitable growth in the region. It has also led to the international recognition of the sub-region as a growth area**.**

Mekong - Lancang Cooperation (MLC)[12]

The Mekong – Lancang Cooperation is an economic cooperation framework among six (6) member countries which comprise, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. The framework focuses on three pillars namely 1) politics and stability; 2) economic and sustainable

[9] Mekong River Commission (MRC). History.

[10] Mekong River Commission (MRC). Governance and Organizational Structure.

[11] Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). ASEAN Mekong Basin Development Cooperation (AMBDC) Overview.

[12] Lancang-Mekong Cooperation. A Brief Introduction.

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development; and 3) social, cultural and people's interactions that are aligned with three (3) pillars of the ASEAN Community.

Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS)[13]

The Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) is a cooperation framework between Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The framework aims to bridge the economic gap among the member countries and to promote sub-regional prosperity withstanding diversified economic capabilities. It focuses on trade and investment facilitation, agricultural cooperation, industrial and energy cooperation, transport linkages, tourism cooperation, and human resource development.

Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)[14]

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) comprises of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China (PRC), - specifically Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. In 1992, with assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), these six countries started a programme of subregional economic cooperation, designed to enhance economic relations. The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Program, with support from ADB and other partners, supports the implementation of high-priority subregional projects in agriculture, energy, environment, health and human resource development, information and communication technology, tourism, transport and trade facilitation, and urban development.

Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) [15]

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) is a decade-long partnership between the United States (US), Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam to advance sustainable economic growth in the region. The initiative supports collaboration among member countries through programmes that address shared challenges in the region. The LMI is supported through two inter-disciplinary pillars: the Nexus Pillar (covering environment, water, energy and food), and the Human Development and Connectivity Pillar (covering STEM education, health, women's empowerment, and economic integration).

Mekong-Japan Cooperation

The Government of Japan and the Mekong Member States have been working closely towards achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* in the Mekong region. During the tenth *Mekong-Japan Summit* in 2018, the parties agreed on the "New Tokyo Strategy 2018" action plan, which is focused on three pillars: 1) vibrant and effective connectivity, 2) people-centred society, and 3) the realization of a Green Mekong.

Mekong Institute (MI)[16]

In 1996, the Mekong Institute (MI) was established as a regional capacity development arm to foster regional cooperation and integration among six countries in the Mekong region, namely Cambodia, P.R. China (Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. The Institute prioritizes three regional thematic areas (agricultural development and commercialization, trade and investment facilitation, and innovation and technological connectivity) and three cross-cutting issues (gender equality, environmental sustainability, and labour mobility). The MI provides educational and training opportunities for capacity building and networking in line with its strategic approach to strengthen public-private partnerships, promote private sector engagement and share development experiences of the Mekong with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) community.

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13 Department of Foreign Trade, Government of Thailand. ACMESC-WGTIF.

14 Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). About the Greater Mekong Subregion.

15 USAID. LOWER MEKONG INITIATIVE (LMI).

16 Mekong Institute. About MI.

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ASEAN/Mekong-Republic of Korea (RoK) Cooperation

In 2017, the President of the Republic of Korea (RoK) announced the *New Southern Initiative* focused on three pillars for development cooperation with Southeast Asian countries. These three pillars are: Promoting a Community of People, Prosperity and Peace (3Ps). The RoK and countries in the Mekong region have closely worked together through the Mekong-RoK Cooperation Summits and joint projects to bridge the development gap and enhance connectivity among themselves.

The initiative for the RoK's capacity building in the area of the WEF Nexus is derived from the Co-chairs Statement of the 2019 ASEAN-Republic of Korea Commemorative Summit. In several parts of the statement, the Heads of State/Government from ASEAN "welcomed the RoK's commitment under its *New Southern Policy*, to further strengthen relations with ASEAN in line with the three pillars of the ASEAN Community and appreciated the RoK's contribution to the region's development." (Para 2). Furthermore, in paragraph 8, ASEAN and the RoK called for enhancement of cooperation "to address traditional and non-traditional threats including natural disasters, food and energy security, nuclear safety, climate change-related disasters and environmental management".

The *Mekong-Han River Declaration for Establishing Partnership for People, Prosperity and Peace*, is the outcome document of the First Mekong-ROK Summit in 2019. The document calls for greater collaboration on management of water, biodiversity, and environment infrastructure to move towards green growth and sustainable development. Specifically, the parties agreed to establish joint research centres on water resource and biodiversity in response to the development demands of the region (under Section 2, Future Direction of the Mekong ROK Cooperation).

Following the 2019 ASEAN-ROK Commemorative Summit, the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) of the RoK established the ASEAN-RoK Science and Technology Cooperation Centre in Jakarta to promote and encourage scaled-up and tailored use of science and technology for development. As related in previous paragraphs, several institutions have engaged with the ASEAN Region on the WEF Nexus. However, the Republic of Korea institutions, particularly the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI), have selected to respond to the Water-Energy-Food Nexus with a particular emphasis on technology and innovation. The reasons for this are as follows. The RoK is a country that only emerged from development country status a decade ago. Its success is partly attributed to technological innovation. From the experience of the RoK, STEPI has thought out and tested development assistance approaches that are appropriate for developing countries. In February 2013, STEPI, working under the triangular cooperation project with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), published a Policy Research paper on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). Entitled, "Innovation System Diagnosis and STI Strategy Development: The Case for Nepal", STEPI indicated that following its "successful development through STI policy," Korea uses its experience as a way to distinguish its development cooperation efforts from other developed countries.[17]

In the case study, STEPI further stated that its Centre for STI Development had constructed a new methodology for diagnosing and preparing a development strategy to tackle systematic constraints in Least Developed countries. The STEPI Centre for STI development underlined that "the methodology", differs from previous methods because it takes a holistic and intuitive approach based on Korean experiences to understand the overall innovations system of a country. In a similar vein, the approach to the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus will be taken in the context of the Mekong Basin through a holistic approach.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) is entering its third Phase of collaborating with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). Under the second Phase of this collaboration, one of the components implemented was an integrated community development

[17] Lee et al. 2013. "Innovation System Diagnosis and STI Strategy Development: The Case of Nepal". Policy Research Series 2013-24-02, Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI).

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initiative. Implemented in Cambodia and Indonesia, the pilot approach will be scaled up by the Government of Indonesia to share its experience with other countries in the Global South. UNOSSC and MSIT will encourage Indonesia to continue sharing its experiences with the Mekong Basin countries. Such collaboration had already been established with Cambodia under Phase 2 of the RoK-UNOSSC Facility.

Roles of MSIT and UNOSSC

The Republic of Korea (RoK), with its long association with technical cooperation among developing countries and South-South cooperation (SSC), and its institutions, is uniquely qualified to spearhead a WEF nexus approach that is relevant for developing countries in line with the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) strategy for developing countries. From the late 1960s, the RoK dispatched experts to other developing countries and expanded its efforts to broaden its technical assistance focused on health, vocational training and technology transfer. This effort was largely led by the Ministries of Science and Technology and Foreign Affairs. The country emerged as a pivotal provider of technical cooperation among developing countries and subsequently, South-South cooperation (SSC). Building on this momentum, the RoK government focused on providing a platform for STI discourse, promoting its appropriate technology knowledge and know-how through the launch of the Korea Techno Peace Corps (TPC) programme in 2006. Since 2014, the RoK has established appropriate technology centres in developing countries including the Innovative Water Centre in Cambodia and the Sustainable Energy and Agriculture Centre in Lao PDR. These STI activities are aligned with the country's *Framework Action for Science and Technology*, Article 18- Promotion of Internationalization of Science and Technology. Additionally, these initiatives support the *Mid-term Strategy for Development Cooperation* (2016-2020), and the *Regulations on International Cooperation in Science and Technology* (2017 Presidential Decree, Article 5 - Promotion of Science and Technology Cooperation).

The ROK increased its Official Development Assistance (ODA) from USD 1.74 billion in 2013 to USD 2.52 billion in 2019.[18] The *Regulations on International Cooperation in Science and Technology* (Presidential Decree 2017, Article 5), encourage the promotion of Science and Technology Cooperation. In 2018, the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) reiterated its new roadmap to deepen STI development cooperation with the vision of "creating synergies between partner countries". This also entailed moving towards linking the country's ODA work with domestic R&D initiatives, referred to as "science and technology convergence project"[19] that would strengthen collaboration among RoK line ministries as well as promote public-private partnerships.

The UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) promotes, coordinates and supports South-South and triangular cooperation (SS & TrC) globally and within the UN system. By identifying, showcasing and encouraging the sharing of forward-looking Southern solutions among development partners, that is, Member States, UN entities, multilateral bodies, private sector and civil society organizations - it fosters collective self-reliance in the South and through it, the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the SDGs, worldwide. UNOSSC hosts programmes implemented by member states to pilot innovative or unique programmes such as the India, Brazil, South Africa Fund (IBSA); the Japan-ABC[20](Brazil)-UNOSSC Capacity Development Training; the India-UN Partnership Fund and the RoK-UNOSSC Facility. All these initiatives have unique approaches driven by the wishes and circumstances of the funding partner and supported by UNOSSC.

UNOSSC has a longstanding partnership with the RoK. In 2000, the predecessor to UNOSSC, the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (SU-TCDC), with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), collaborated with the Government of the RoK and convened the *Forum on South-South Cooperation in Science and Technology (The Seoul Accord)*. To date, two Phases of capacity development projects on STI through SS & TrC modality have been

[18] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Republic of Korea.
[19] Kim, W. et al. 2019. "Analysis and Strategic Direction of S &T ODA", Policy Research Series 2019-9, Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI).
[20] Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC, in the Portuguese acronym)

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jointly carried out, known as the “RoK-UNOSSC Facility” (2011 – 2021). Phase 1 (2011 –2015) focused on sharing the RoK’s experiences in education, science and technology development with interested developing countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania. Building on the successes from Phase 1 and responding to the demand from partner countries, MSIT and UNOSSC extended their partnership under Phase 2 supporting 14 countries in Asia-Pacific.

Some of the achievements of Phase 2 include supporting integrated village development in Srey Santhor, Cambodia and Sukabumi (West Java), Indonesia. The integrated project focused on sustainable agriculture, school and community health, renewable energy, water and sanitation for schools, supporting women businesses through ICT and entrepreneurship training. In Cambodia, two local women farmer associations were established and registered under the local government. These associations have enabled the women farmers to increase their vegetable sales by 13.71% (from 2018 to 2019. The increase in sales resulted from higher quality products and the use of ICT for distribution. In Indonesia, the women entrepreneurs under the Project received the Food Production Certificate (Home Industry) from the local government legalising manufacture of home-made food thus meeting the national safety and nutrition standards. The certification increased visibility and credibility of these products. At the same time, these home-produced foods which are bought and sold by local supermarkets, are now also available on Indonesia’s ecommerce platform, Tokopedia.

The “Healthy School Development Project” provided access to safe drinking water, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities, and enhanced public awareness of and understanding on the importance and interconnections of health, sanitation and nutrition for youth. This understanding led to the development of a new health education curriculum for students and faculty. The project installed solar panels at schools and farms, as well as biogas digesters for piloting purposes. Waste and residues from the community serve as source of renewable energy for cooking. These pilot projects have demonstrated how multi-stakeholders including RoK institutions, partner governments, local institutions, can collaborate to enhance living standards of communities. The Government of Indonesia decided to create an “Indonesian Village Innovation Centre” building on this pilot and its own well-funded village development project.

The second component of the RoK-UNOSSC Facility was the Platform for STI under which RoK institutions offered advisory services and capacity building. STEPI supported the Government of Cambodia to establish a Technology-based Business Incubator (TBI) and the Government of Indonesia to harmonise two sets of indicators of village development into one - now the country’s village index.

The third component of the RoK-UNOSSC Facility, the Scaled-up project, strengthened the application of South-South cooperation between Asian countries through advanced joint research and technical exchanges on electron beam (EB) technology application in diverse areas such as degradation of industrial effluents in water and food preservation and production. Malaysia provided technical support to Sri Lanka through a joint feasibility study on industrial application of EB for strengthening cables and wires at the EB facility in Malaysia. Consequently, Sri Lanka’s public sector was able to showcase the efficiency of an EB facility to its industrial partner, ACL Cables. Another collaboration took place between Indonesia and Mongolia. Indonesia provided Mongolia with irradiated oligo chitosan and biofertilizer to be used for an experiment on the growth of sweet pepper and tomato plants. The experiment resulted in sweet pepper fruit with 100% increased yield while tomato plants achieved a 263% increase in yield. Since 2017, seven new EB Facilities have been established and 103 new employment opportunities have been provided in participating countries. In addition, the project facilitated raising the public and policymakers’ awareness on electron beam applications in countries without the facilities.

Building on this momentum and aligned with the Outcome Document of *Second High-level UN Conference on South-South Cooperation* (BAPA+40) calling upon Member States and the UN Development System to further incorporate SS & TrC in technology facilitation mechanisms at a global and regional levels, where appropriate, in order to increase matchmaking between technology

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needs and solutions, support project implementation, and to assess opportunities for triangular partnership-building", MSIT and UNOSSC have agreed to extend their partnership in support of a *Regional Project on Sustainable Development in the Mekong Basin based on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus and South-South and Triangular Cooperation* (RoK-UNOSSC Facility – Phase 3). The collaboration is timely as 2021 has been designated as "Mekong-ROK Exchange Year" under the *Han-Mekong River Declaration* to strengthen seven development cooperation areas including human resource development, rural development, infrastructure, ICT, environment and security.

Lessons Learnt

In designing Phase 3, UNOSSC and the MSIT have utilised the findings of the Phase 2 mid-term evaluation and the preliminary findings of the final evaluation of Phase two. These are outlined in the following paragraphs:

In December 2018 - January 2019, a mid-term evaluation was undertaken to provide a comprehensive assessment of the project progress at its mid-way point to strengthen implementation for the remaining duration of the project. The evaluation was conducted based on desk reviews of project documents including bi-annual reports, meeting reports, and steering committee meeting minutes; focus group interviews; and analyses of key findings. The evaluation helped stakeholders to understand the barriers that some of the institutions face in implementing the project. The Government of Indonesia recognized the value of "knowledge transfer". The Government of Cambodia appreciated the science and technology network created through the Facility, which has enabled them to handle various development issues through access to expertise. The RoK institutions also highlighted the added value of working together with diverse expertise as demonstrated by all three components of the Facility. Most of all, the Facility created new opportunities for partner countries to share their own development experiences and technical expertise driven by South-South cooperation principles. However, localization, communication, risk identification and administration/logistics were identified as challenges for better delivery. Hence in this design, UNOSSC will appoint a project Manager to ensure that these challenges experienced in the early part of Phase 2, do not recur. Furthermore, an inception programme at the initial stages of implementation will be put in place to facilitate a smooth take-off of the programme.

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus

In 2014, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations compiled a publication entitled, "The Water-Energy-Food Nexus: A new approach in support of food security and sustainable agriculture." In the publication, FAO indicated that this new approach was needed as global projections were indicating that demand for freshwater, energy and food would increase "significantly" over the next decades under pressure from population growth and mobility, economic development, urbanization and climate change, among other factors.

The "Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus" concept has been applied for several years particularly in developed countries. First introduced at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in 2011, the approach describes the interlinkages between the three sectors, with the ultimate goal to identify potential synergies and minimise trade-offs between the three sectors.[21] It aims to facilitate a more integrated process entailing cost effective policymaking, planning, implementation, as well as monitoring and evaluation related to the cross cutting WEF Nexus, while promoting active multi-stakeholder dialogue and engagement. The WEF interlinkages are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

[21] Hoff, H., 2011. Background paper for the Bonn 2011 Nexus Conference: The Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus. Stockholm Environment. Institute, Stock.

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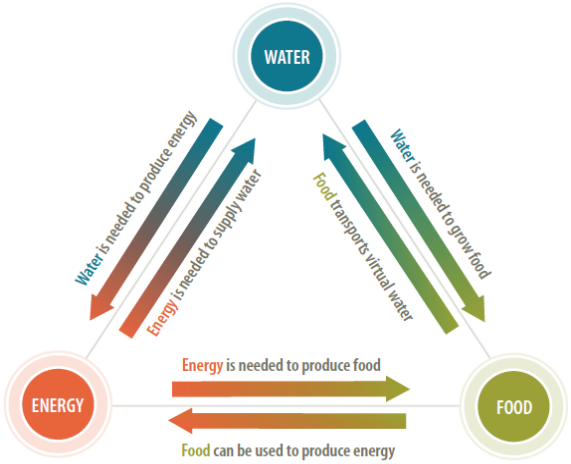
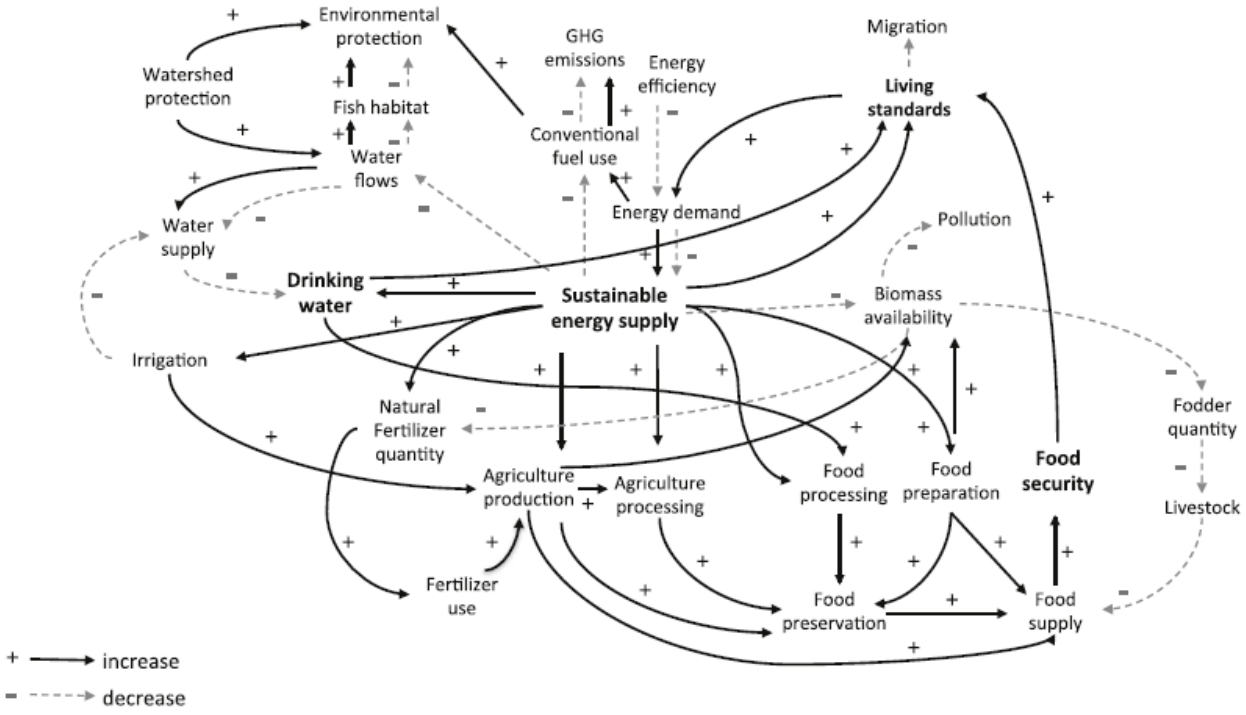
Figure 2: Interlinkages of water, energy and food



Source: UNU-FLORES. The Nexus Approach (2018)[22]

Figure 3: Mapping illustrating how sustainable energy supply, water and food influence each other at local level in developing countries



Source: J. Terrapon-Pfaff et al. (2018)

A study by J. Terrapon-Pfaff et al. (2018) analyses the linkage between small-scale energy projects in developing countries and the food and water aspects of development. Through analysing a sample of 103 projects, the authors concluded that that complex links exist between sustainable energy projects and the food and water sectors[23] as shown in Figure 3. The study identified the complex links that exist between sustainable energy projects and the food and waters sectors, and trade-offs that can be avoided to enhance the achievement of development outcomes and the impact of energy projects. The study also concluded that these needs are currently not systematically integrated in project design and evaluations. The authors therefore recommended "a more systematic approach, integrating water and the food pillars in energy planning at local level in the global South."

[22] United Nations University (UNU)-FLORES. 2018. The Nexus Approach.

[23] J. Terrapon-Pfaff et al., 2018. Energising the WEF nexus to enhance sustainable development at local level. Journal of Environmental Management 223. pp. 409–416

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WEF Nexus in Mekong Basin: Past and Ongoing Initiatives

The WEF Nexus is not a new concept for Mekong. The *First Mekong Forum on Water, Food and Energy (2011)* and the *Mekong2Rio Conference (2012)* provided opportunities for policymakers, governments, academia, civil society, private sector and development practitioners to examine the interdependencies of natural resources in the context of the Mekong with reference to case studies from other parts of the globe and to discuss joint actions going forward through research, programming and policy recommendations. Since then, a wide range of WEF Nexus initiatives were introduced in regional and national development work supported by investment banks, research institutions and development agencies.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The ADB has focused on accelerating regional green investment under its Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) programme since 2012. The GMS Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Programme (SAFSP) was launched in 2019 to support all six countries of GMS (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, P.R. China, Thailand and Viet Nam) to implement the *Siem Reap Action Plan 2018-2022 and GMS Strategy for Promoting Safe and Environment-Friendly Agro-Based Value Chains.* In particular, SAFSP will help create enabling conditions and strengthen capacities for leveraging knowledge and investments in three priority areas: (i) climate smart, inclusive and gender-responsive agri-food value chains; (ii) food safety and quality systems; and (iii) climate-adaptive agriculture in the context of water-food-energy security nexus.[24]

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)

The Research Programme on Water, Land and Ecosystem (WLE) and the Challenge Programme on Water and Food (CPW) are flagship programmes of the "Australian Mekong Water Resources Programme". AusAID carries out research, facilitates knowledge sharing and capacity building as well as providing technical assistance on integrated water management and cross-cutting development issues through the WEF nexus approach. AusAID supported hosting the first Mekong Forum on Water, Food and Energy in Phnom Penh in December 2011 through its CPW Mekong Basin Programme. The event served as a knowledge sharing and networking platform on rapid developments and changes in the Mekong Basin for water, food and energy security.

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

The WWF implements the "WWF-Greater Mekong" initiative in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam, which is a comprehensive, large-scale conservation programme covering 600,000 km^2 of the most biologically diverse, economically important and seriously threatened forests and rivers of the Greater Mekong region.[25] In 2014, the WWF, in partnership with the Australian National University (ANU), and the Luc Hoffmann Institute rolled out the Mekong Nexus Project to investigate key relationships, conflicts, and benefits between biodiversity conservation in response to climate change and supply of energy, food and water.

The Mekong – U.S. Partnership

The Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI, 2009-2020) prioritized Water, Energy, Food, and Environment Nexus as one of the two pillars of programming. Under this cooperative platform, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and the United States of America, in collaboration with other development cooperation stakeholders, carried out several projects on the WEF Nexus. Some of these initiatives include "NexView" and "LMI Nexus Futures Program". The "NexView" aims to promote good governance and transboundary cooperation by providing multidisciplinary decision support by identifying synergies and to assess trade-offs for various development scenarios that consider the nexus of the water, energy, food, and environment sectors. In consultation with Mekong partners, the "NexView" is developing a decision support model on water management. Some of the data, analysis and tools are featured on the "MekongWater.org" platform.[26] The "LMI Nexus Futures

[24] Asia Development Bank (ADB). 2019. Regional: Greater Mekong Subregion Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program.

[25] World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF). 2021. WWF-Greater Mekong.

[26] Mekong-U.S. Partnership. 2020. Mekongwater.org.

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Programme" (2016-2018), funded by the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES), has the objective to create a water, food, energy, and environment nexus assessment of the 3S river system, that is, tributaries of the Mekong (Sesan, Srepok, and Sekong Rivers).

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

USAID provides policy guidance, technical assistance and research to explore feasible solutions using adaptive technologies such as the geospatial information system for land-use planning and remote sensing for crop monitoring. The "Mekong Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change" (ARCC) project (2011-2016) identified the environmental, economic and social effects of climate change in the Lower Mekong Basin. In particular, it assisted highly exposed and vulnerable rural populations in ecologically sensitive areas in Thailand, Vietnam, Lao PDR, and Cambodia to increase their ability to adapt to climate change impacts on water resources, agricultural and aquatic systems, livestock, and ecosystems.[27] One project component focused on establishing a nexus between climate science and on-the-ground community-led responses to changing climate in certain economic sectors and ecosystems for Chiang Rai and Sakon Nakhon Provinces in Thailand, implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN).[28] Community-level adaptation plans were developed through bottom-up and participatory decision-making approaches.

The USAID, US National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre jointly launched a five-year "SERVIR-Mekong" programme in 2014.[29] It aimed to help Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) countries to utilise satellite imagery for the purposes of land-use planning, infrastructure development and disaster risk management. Specifically, it addressed enhancing estimation and predictability of water resources for integrated water management by co-developing tools that empower decision makers to reach informed decisions to create and/or implement adaptation strategies including the Water-Energy-Food Nexus approach. Some of these decisions support tools include the Regional Land Cover Monitoring System, Surface Water Mapping Tool, Mekong Drought and Crop Watch, Mekong Air Quality Explorer and Gender Equality Monitoring (GEM) Platform.

The German Agency for International Development (GIZ)

The GIZ in partnership with the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (ESCAP), in partnership with the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), conducted the "Integrated Resource Management in Asian Cities: The Urban Nexus" project. The work covered 12 project cites and 7 countries in the Asia-Pacific region to assess, design and implement innovative solutions in the areas of water supply, wastewater management, energy and solid waste management[30]. Chiang Mai (Thailand), Nakhon Ratchasima (Thailand) and Da Nang (Viet Nam) were three cities participating from the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) A holistic urban development framework was designed focused on five dimensions (urban planning, STI, governance, inclusive decision making, and finance/business) to mainstream the WEF nexus approach in resilient urban development. Several Nexus pilot investment projects costing less than USD 1 million were implemented and financed by the project cities, resulting in improvements in residents' lives and cost savings for the municipalities.

The Urban Nexus introduced solutions that were new to cities such as innovative wastewater management using vacuum sewer systems and climate change-resilient pilot house (CCRPH). The project worked with Chiang Mai city to include passive and active energy-efficient features, proposing the use of natural daylight and shading, insulation, concrete cooling, LED lighting and a heating, ventilation and air-conditioning evaporator with inverter, which would improve on the initial building designs. Da Nang was the first city in Southeast Asia to pilot the vacuum sewer wastewater.

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[27] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2014. Climate Change Impact and Adaptation Study for the Lower Mekong Basin.

[28] International Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN). USAID Mekong Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change.

[29] Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC). ABOUT SERVIR-MEKONG.

[30] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).2019.The Urban Nexus Integrating Resources for Sustainable Cities.

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The WEF Nexus in response to Climate Change Adaptation

As climate change is one of the drivers of the changing ecosystems in the Mekong Basin, an analysis of the interrelationships between the WEF Nexus and Climate Change is undertaken in this section. Table 2 shows that management of WEF has an impact on climate adaption, and that policies responding to climate adaptation have critical implications for Nexus issues (Rasul & Sharma, 2016).[31]

Table 2: Complementarities and co-benefits from nexus-based adaptation

Complementarities and co-benefits from nexus-based adaptation

Key characteristic	Nexus approach	Climate change adaptation	Complementarities and co-benefits from nexus-based adaptation
Goal	Achieving water, energy, and food security objectives and sustaining resources through efficient use of available resources	Build resilience and enhance adaptive capacities against climate and other risks	Understanding adaptation to climate change is critical for addressing nexus challenges, and efficient use of resources is critical for effective adaptation
Core principles	Minimize resource waste and maximize economic efficiency, while accelerating the sustainable supply	Reduce vulnerability by managing climate risks and building response capacity	Since resource scarcity often increases people's vulnerability, the nexus approach may contribute to facilitating adaptation and vice versa
Main focus	Provide integrated solutions at multiple scales	Minimize shock, risks, and vulnerability and address impacts and risks associated with climate change	Understanding vulnerability to climate change is crucial for assessing nexus challenges; equally, integrated nexus solutions can contribute to reducing vulnerability and poverty
Broad strategies	Policy integration, harmonization, and governance to build synergies and generate co-benefits across sectors by engaging multiple stakeholders, public–private partnership	Addressing the drivers of vulnerability to climate change in specific sectors through building adaptive capacity and resilience	Cross-sectoral nexus analysis identifies trade-offs and synergies and integrates policy implementation; diversification increases resilience; nexus strategy is critical for integration of climate adaptation and mitigation, while broadening the scope to address poverty–vulnerability linkages

Source: Golam Rasul & Bikash Sharma (2016)[32]

There are examples where the WEF Nexus approach integrated with climate change has been developed as a policy and applied. One such example is Tanzania where policies for climate change adaptation for water, agriculture and energy sectors responding to the threat of climate change were developed.[33] Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices were implemented at the local level resulting in decreased economic losses, increased resilience in the agriculture sector, and enhanced productivity and farmer incomes as well as contributions to climate change mitigation.[34]

[31] Golam Rasul & Bikash Sharma (2016), "The nexus approach to water–energy–food security: an option for adaptation to climate change", Climate Policy, 16:6,682-702, DOI: 10.1080/14693062.2015.1029865

[32] Ibid

[33] Joanna Pardoe, Declan Conway, Emilinah Namaganda, Katharine Vincent, Andrew J. Dougill & Japhet J. Kashaigili (2018) Climate change and the water–energy–food nexus: insights from policy and practice in Tanzania, Climate Policy, 18:7, 863-877, DOI: 10.1080/14693062.2017.1386082

[34] International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT); World Bank. 2017. Climate-Smart Agriculture in Tanzania. CSA Country Profiles for Africa Series. CIAT; World Bank, Washington, D.C. 25 p.

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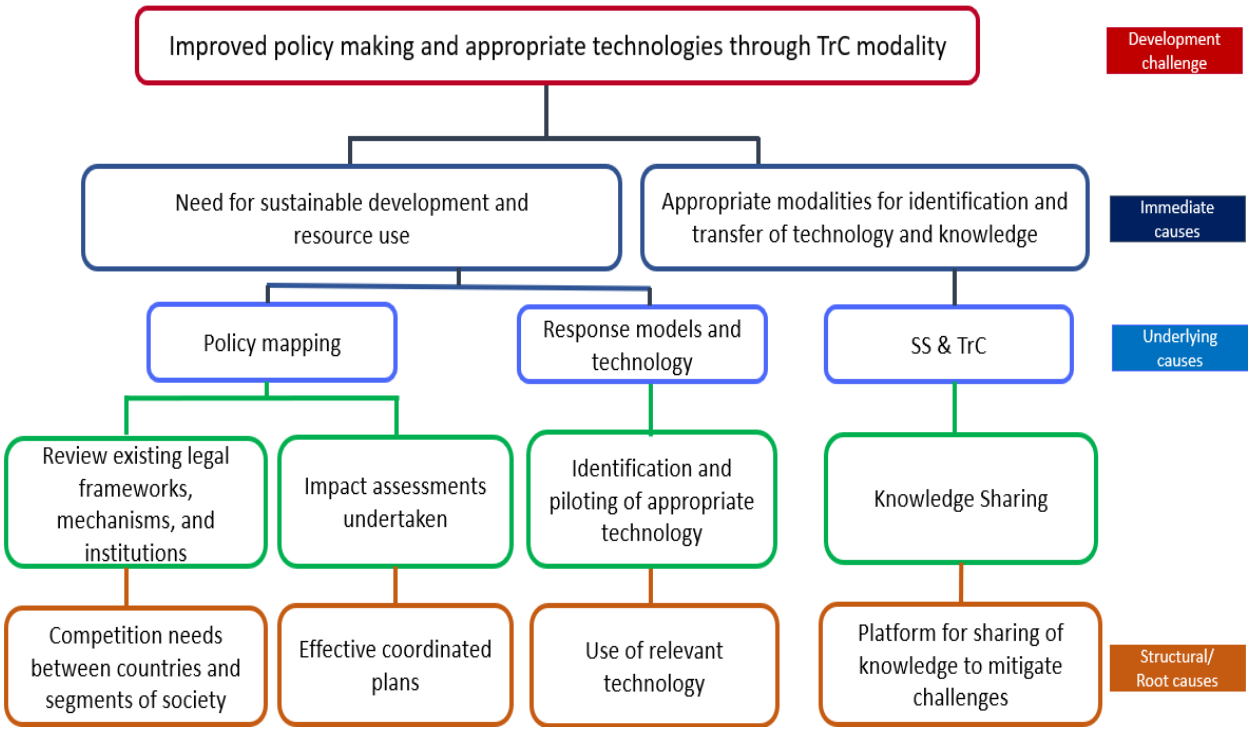
Theory of Change

The theory of change is to enable the Mekong region's countries and their institutions to plan more interactively and apply appropriate technology to mitigate the adverse impacts of natural hazards from climate change and man-made threats particularly emanating from population pressure and risk-laden resource use with the objective to have a prosperous and resilient region. The Theory of Change for the RoK-UNOSSC Facility (Phase 3) is illustrated in Figure 4.

Figure 4: RoK-UNOSSC Facility (Phase 3) Theory of Change



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II. STRATEGY (1/2 PAGE - 3 PAGES RECOMMENDED)

The paper by J. Terrapon-Pfaff et al. (2018) cited in previous paragraphs suggests a four-step nexus assessment approach to operationalise the WEF nexus at the local level as follows: (1) qualitatively map the WEF nexus links; (2) quantify the links; (3) identify critical links; and (4) leverage the results to improve project design and implementation.

In October 2020, the United Nations Regional Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) led a series of webinars on "Addressing the WEF Nexus in the Context of Climate Change and Sustainable Development". The seminars took place as a part of ESCWA's regional training on renewable energy technologies under the framework of the Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region (REGEND). Participants highlighted the nexus approach as a tool for achieving the sustainable development goals. In particular, the seminar focussed on small-scale technologies as follows:

Small-scale Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs)

RETs refers to the technology which converts renewable Energy (RE) sources into electrical or thermal energy with an output power capacity up to around 100 kW. The main small-scale RE technologies include solar energy, wind energy, marine energy, hydropower, geothermal energy, and bioenergy. The assessment of small-scale RETs can be categorized into technical suitability, economics, environmental aspect, and social impact. The methodology for mapping the RE types and RETs follows 4-steps:

1. Identify and select RE sources by quantifying availability of each RE type and screening unviable sources.
2. Identify projects needs to determine the energy requirements at the rural site.
3. Map RE types and technologies by listing suitable RETs based on previous steps.
4. Evaluate mapped options (Technical feasibility, costs, environmental and social impact etc.)

Examples of RET's in the WEF Nexus in rural areas [35]

1. Small-scale Renewable Energy Technologies (RET) in Irian Jaya village, Indonesia
   - A micro-hydropower supply was installed in the village where the community relies primarily on subsistence farming and fishing. The government financed the mini-grid and house wiring.
   - A few villagers generated additional income by using lamps for small poultry businesses. The quality lighting at home was also used by students thus improving their educational learning environment.

2. Small-scale RET in Chorbane, Tunisia
   - Electricity was generated using solar PV systems. The electricity was used by dairy farmers at the cooperative, milk cooling at the farm, and, for pumping drinking

3. Regional Initiative for Promoting Small-Scale Renewable Energy (RE) Application in Lebanon
   - In Lebanon, a solar PV system, including a lithium-ion battery storage for supply to three cooperatives for a sowing factory and for solar water heater were installed in each village.
   - A capacity building programme includes managing cooperatives, operation and maintenance of solar systems etc.
   - The project had an impact on reducing the load on a weak electricity grid, water and energy conservation, and food safety.

[35] United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Addressing the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus in the Context of Climate Change and Sustainable Development.

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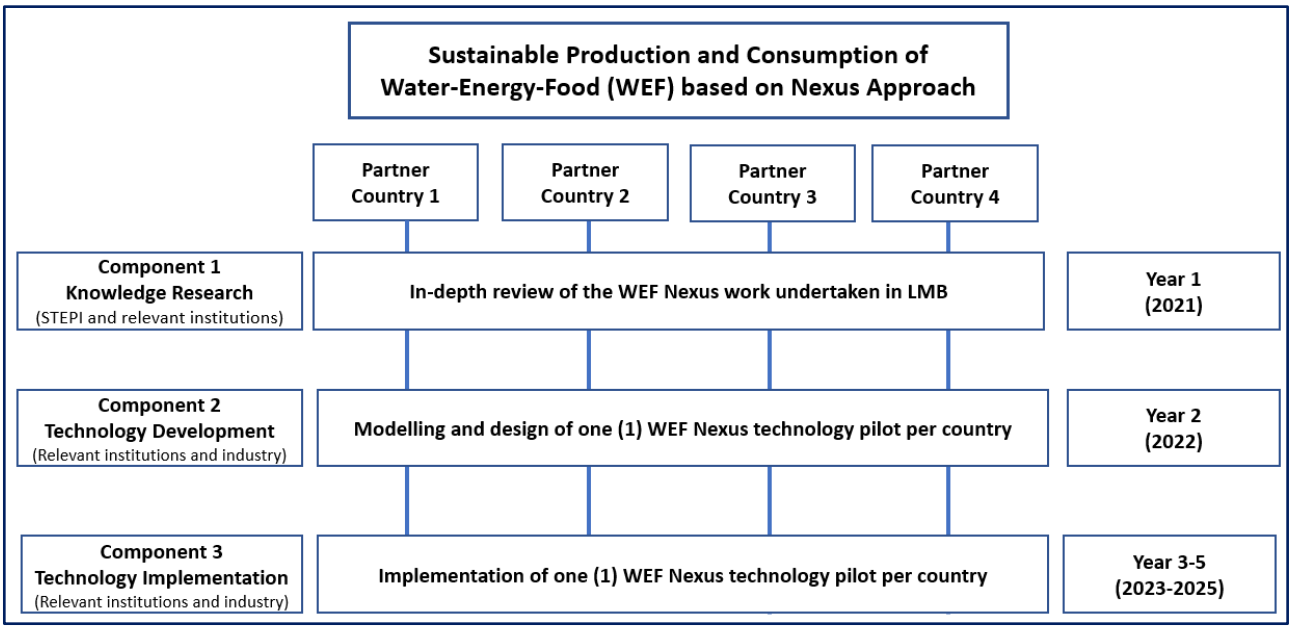
Project Approach

The project will model a set of pilot projects within the first two years and implement the pilots in the next three years. The modelling will be guided by the four-step process as well as the location of pilots as identified by the stakeholder countries, the technology to mitigate climate change will be driven by lessons learnt from South-South and triangular cooperation. The project will also build on the work undertaken by Basin institutions as a way to build a complementary process under the RoK/UNOSSC Facility.

The structure of the project is illustrated in Figure 5. There are three components for the project, which are knowledge research, technology development and implementation.

Figure 5: Structure of the project



In the first year, the partners will focus on knowledge and data gathering. This will include a more in-depth review of the WEF Nexus work undertaken in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB), review of case studies from other countries and holding stakeholder consultations towards identification of the pilot areas. The pilot areas may include a rural area, a mixed rural/urban area and an urban area and would be determined in consultation with the respective National Mekong Committees.

In the second year, the modelling of pilot projects will take place taking into account the mix of developmental challenges, the policy options available, and the appropriate technology that can also contribute to climate mitigation. Relevant institutions including government, private sector, and academic institutions will identify and develop the pilot projects. One pilot project will be identified by each partner country. The design process will be based on extensive consultations with stakeholders including the local government and experts in each partner country. The demand of partner country and local situation will affect the procedure of identification and development of appropriate Nexus technology.

The introduction of new and appropriate technologies can improve resource efficiency in the water, energy, food sectors, and contribute to their security and sustainability. Developing renewable energy and improving energy efficiency, modern and precision agriculture, water recycling, and wastewater reuse are some examples of enhancing innovation for the WEF Nexus technology. Technological and innovative solutions within the WEF Nexus, where the three resources are integrated as inputs to each other, not only enhances resource efficiency, but also expands the available natural resource base and thus delivers an even greater contribution to the sustainability and security of the three resources. In order to construct a small scale WEF Nexus technology pilot, new technologies may be identified that combine existing technology and the WEF Nexus technology.

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In the last three years of the project, the pilots will be implemented. There will be a series of consultations, monitoring and evaluation processes and workshops regarding WEF Nexus, problem solving, technical approaches, improving strategies, and operation and management of Nexus technologies. Capacity building for implementation will be key, with a need for training to policymakers, communities and other stakeholders.

Developing strategies

In developing the Strategy, two main resources were drawn upon. The first is *the Mekong River Commission Strategic Plan (MRC SP) for 2021-2025*, which they refer to as "a unified corporate plan that is fully integrated with the *Basin Development Strategy (BDS) 2021-2030* through the implementation of the strategic basin planning". The BDS focuses on five (5) dimensions of the Mekong River Basin Indicator Framework (MRB-IF), that is: environment, social, economic, climate change, and cooperation. The second resource is the Republic of Korea's Science, Technology and Innovation Approaches further buttressed by research methodology and South-South learning.

The Mekong countries have a long history of cooperation dating back to the establishment of the Mekong Committee under the auspices of the United Nations in 1957. The countries raised this cooperation to a higher level through the 1995 Mekong Agreement with its commitment to coordinated planning and joint management of the Mekong River Basin for its sustainable development.

The *BDS 2021-2030* sets out how water and related resources of the Mekong River Basin will be sustainably developed, utilised, managed and conserved over the period 2021-2030. It is based on the shared perspectives of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam (the Lower Mekong River Basin countries). It is also in line with their commitment to the 1995 Mekong Agreement.

The Outcomes and Outputs for this collaboration are tentative and will depend on the iterative process of data gathering and modelling. However, at the outset, tentative outcomes and outputs are identified. Countries in the Mekong Basin will enlist development cooperation assistance through the triangular cooperation modality from the Republic of Korea (RoK) to enhance the region's responsiveness to the threats and challenges to the people and the environment of the Mekong River Basin. In response, the Republic of Korea, aided by the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), will use the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach to respond to this demand.

Demand-driven approach

Although designed as a component of the Republic of Korea collaboration with ASEAN under the *New Southern Policy*, UNOSSC and the Government of Korea are extensively engaging intergovernmental institutions and the countries in the Mekong Basin to ensure that the project is in line with the Member States agenda and to build in stakeholder input in the progress review from the outset. The project is designed based on demand-driven programming and will be implemented within the framework of the partner countries' planning frameworks and the involvement of regional intergovernmental institutions.

Cross-sectoral and integrated approach through multi-stakeholder engagement

The project will have a multiplicity of stakeholders, that is, government, intergovernmental organisations, communities, the private sector and civil society. It will be supported by the United Nations with the development cooperation modalities and concepts of sustainability, South-South and triangular cooperation as overriding issues. Along with the thematic focus areas of water, energy and food, the project will use science, technology and innovation for remedies to the development challenges in the Mekong Basin. Participating Korean institutions are expected to be from government and the private sector.

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To help achieve the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, multidisciplinary approaches with clear focus should be taken to develop comprehensive solutions and produce meaningful change on the ground. In other words, it is necessary that the development issues are not compartmentalized. Typically, development issues are interlinked, and solving such complex problems would therefore require synergic collaboration in a team of experts (e.g., policymakers, government officials, academia, private sector, civil society and community leaders, etc.).

UNOSSC and MSIT acknowledge the importance of laying baselines and collecting adequate data to show results. In turn such data is useful in convincing national governments to make investments in the areas that can make a difference for their communities. Therefore, the Steering Committee of the project will allocate more resources for monitoring and evaluation and ensure systematic management of the project. Resources will also be allocated for RoK inputs through translation of documents and convening local consultative meetings among basin communities to help them learn from each other and strengthen their capacities to deliver knowledge and transfer technologies effectively.

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III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The RoK-UNOSSC Facility (Phase 3)'s outcomes and outputs are partly derived from the *Basin Development Strategy (BDS) 2021-2030* of the Mekong River Commission. The project will aim to strengthen water, food and energy for vulnerable communities living in the Lower Mekong River Basin. This will be achieved through strengthening development approaches and management in these sectors; increasing access to safe water, energy and food while ensuring an integrative approach in policymaking, planning and implementation to benefit communities living in the Basin, especially the vulnerable resource reliant communities.

Outcome 1: Strengthened access to water, energy and food security for basin community well-being.

- Output 1: Knowledge and data collected for purposes of selecting pilot projects. Five (5) WEF nexus projects in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) and other regions analyzed and reports prepared. [Year 1 and 2]
  - Activity 1.1: Analyse five (5) WEF Nexus projects
    - 1.1.1: At least two (2) case studies WEF nexus projects in which the ROK is a partner reviewed.
    - 1.1.2: At least two (2) cases studies of WEF nexus projects for SS and TrC comparisons analysed.
    - 1.1.3: At least one (1) case study on WEF nexus and climate change compiled.
    - 1.1.4: Across all five case studies, assess impact of WEF nexus projects on women and other disadvantaged groups.
  - Activity 1.2: Convene consultative and planning meetings.

Outcome 2: Increased employment and reduced poverty among vulnerable people dependent on river and wetland resources.

- Output 2: Four (4) WEF nexus models designed, and based on identified project sites, WEF nexus policy, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), South-South learning and partnerships. [Year 2 and 3]
  - Activity 2.1: Identify technologies for food and energy production focusing on surface and ground water for agriculture, aquaculture, irrigation; hydro and other energy sources.
  - Activity 2.2: Identify one area in each of following countries (member states): Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Areas may include rural, urban-rural and urban.
  - Activity 2.3: Identify and select research institutions, academia and private sector companies to help assess technological needs.
  - Activity 2.4: Assess appropriate technology for each pilot.
  - Activity 2.5: Identify areas to maximise support to women and other disadvantaged groups including women's employment opportunities.
  - Activity 2.6: Consultative meetings with stakeholders.

Outcome 3: South-South and triangular cooperation approaches used to facilitate quick transfer and adaptation of development solutions and technology applications conducive for supporting development solutions against gender related and other disadvantage groups across participating countries.

- Output 3: Four (4) WEF nexus pilots implemented. [Year 3-5]
  - Activity 3.1: Procure appropriate technology.
  - Activity 3.2: Monitor progress through consultations, monitoring visits and interim evaluations.
  - Activity 3.3: Capacity building (training) for implementation.

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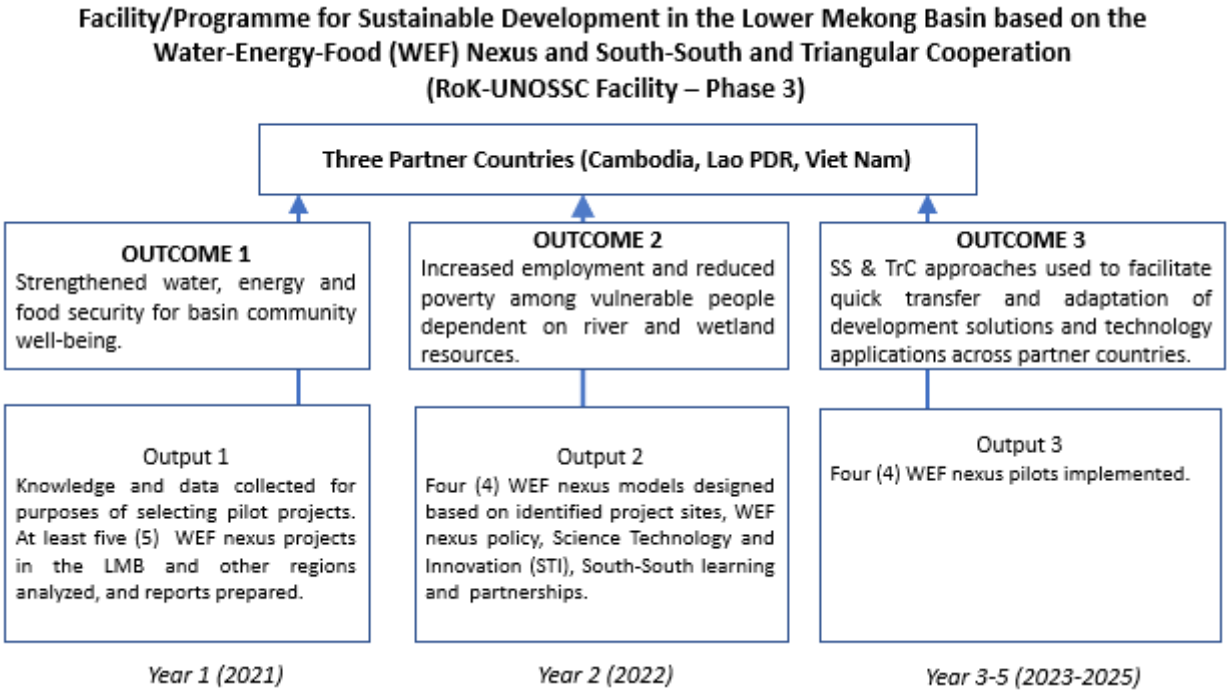
The outcomes and outputs are illustrated in results framework (Figure 6).

Figure 6: RoK-UNOSSC Facility (Phase 3) – Results Framework



Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

The resources needed to achieve the stated project outputs are as follows: Specifically,

a) The Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI), the Mekong River Commission (MRC), and the Mekong Institute (MI) will be the Responsible Parties and to this end UNOSSC will come up with an agreement to provide resources for their roles;
b) The Project Steering Committee, will, based on the selection criteria prepared, endorse the participation of Republic of Korea private sector institutions, that will work under STEPI for technical guidance. These institutions will be provided grants at a level agreed by the Steering Committee. Alternatively, a procurement process consistent with UNDP/UNOSSC operational guidelines or STEPI procurement processes maybe applied.
c) It is envisaged that there will be consultative workshops with national focal points for knowledge sharing, resources will be required depending on whether it is feasible to have these online or not.
d) In implementing Phase 2 of the RoK-UNOSSC Facility, it became clear that communication is a vital ingredient for success. The project should have a project Manager. This will be financed through the direct costs (up to 6%) of Budget.
e) UNOSSC will undertake Project Monitoring and Coordination activities; and
f) UNDP offices will support procurement, and resources are required to pay for these services.
g) The Mandatory General Management Service (GMS) Costs of 8% of budget will be required by UNDP.

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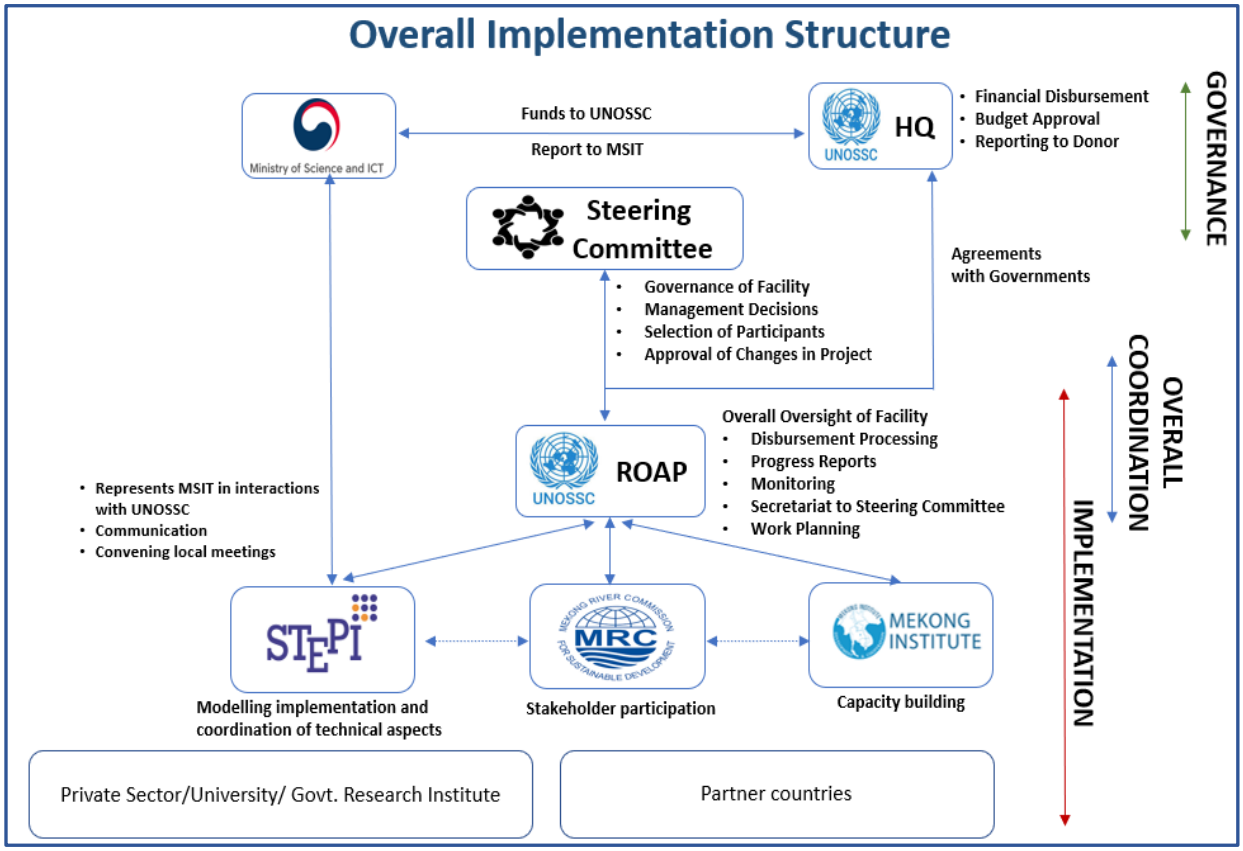
Partnerships and Roles

RoK-UNOSSC Phase 3 project will build partnership with following stakeholders:

Figure 7: Implementation Structure



Lower Mekong Countries

1. The project will be only implemented after endorsement of the four member countries through their Mekong Committees.
2. The National Mekong Committees will collectively agree on the nature of their participation in the Steering Committee of the Project.
3. All activities undertaken in each country will be endorsed by the Mekong Committee.
4. Regardless of the nature of the Member States participation in the Steering Committee, all the countries will participate in the consultative meetings that will be convened by the MRC Secretariat, Mekong Institute and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.
5. Pertaining to the varying development status of the countries in the region and their eligibility to receive funds, UNOSSC and the Government of the Republic of Korea will be flexible to allow the countries to agree on the mode of their participation.
6. By the very nature of their participation, the four countries will be providing in-kind contributions in the form of staff time, hosting of meetings and use of their infrastructure.
7. Member States may voluntarily support the project by hosting at their own cost such consultative meetings and other knowledge-sharing meetings for synergy with other activities in the lower Mekong.
8. Furthermore, regardless of the mode of participation, the Member States will provide guidance for greater project impact, visibility and sustainability through the MRC Secretariat and will receive updates on project implementation from MRC and UNOSSC.

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UNOSSC Headquarters

1. Will enter into cooperating agreement with the Ministry of Science and ICT of the Republic of Korea.
2. Will provide quality assurance for the project design and implementation.
3. Will facilitate exercise oversight on annual work plans, reporting and lead the project Steering Committee
4. Will disburse funds to Implementing institutions
5. Will provide financial reports to the funding partner annually
6. Will perform Quality Assurance of the project at design, implementation and closure stages.
7. Will design and manage independent Mid-term Review and Final Evaluation aligned with UNDP Evaluation Policy.
8. Will assure quality and consistency of AWP in line with approved Project Document.

Government Partner in RoK: Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT)

1. Will sign cooperating agreement with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.
2. Will provide resources annually to a total of USD 3,960,395 over 5 years.
3. Will participate in the Steering Committee discussions and annual work plan approval.
4. Will assign the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI) to be its representative in discussions with UNOSSC, a role separate from STEPI's role as a Responsible Party.

UNOSSC Regional Office

The Asia-Pacific United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation will be the main coordinating Office and will ensure that apart from the coordination, a South-South and triangular cooperation approach will be applied in the implementation of the project. The specific responsibilities of the Regional Office will be as follows:

1. Prepare and get project document through the Project Appraisal Committee.
2. Prepare a project kick-off training/consultation after project signature.
3. Finalise selection criteria for cooperating institutions.
4. Participate in the selection of institutions.
5. Support disbursements of resources to Implementing and cooperating institutions.
6. Manage financial and progress reporting in line with the Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT).
7. Ensure that due diligence procedures are duly completed for stakeholders of whom such action is required.
8. Prepare reports and organise Steering Committee Meetings at least once per year and as required.
9. Organise exit strategy consultations.

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Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI)

- Responsible Party: Implementation of modelling (technology and Capacity building) and coordination of technical aspects

The Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI) will lead the delivery of the technical project as follows:

1. Participate in the design of project document as delegated by Government.
2. Review and prepare catalogue of technologies likely to be applied in Mekong River.
3. Participate in stakeholder meetings convened by UNOSSC and MRC.
4. Undertake feasibility study and field assessment of work to be done.
5. Design pilot models for implementation in 4 countries depending on MSIT budget.
6. Participate with UNDP-UNOSSC and Mekong Institute (MI) in selection of the RoK private sector institutions to participate as Cooperating Partners.
7. Prepare selection criteria for the Cooperating Partners.
8. Supervise the technical Agencies (Cooperating Partners)
9. Prepare reports for the Ministry of Science and ICT in Korean with close liaison with UNOSSC.
10. Participate in the Steering Committee
11. Participate in the monitoring and evaluation.

The Mekong River Commission

- Responsible Party: Stakeholder participation

As per 1995 Agreement, the Mekong River Commission (with the MRC Secretariat as the technical and administrative arm of the MRC) has the responsibility for coordinating development cooperation for the Lower Mekong Basin. In this context, the UNOSSC will work and be advised by the MRC on coordination of stakeholders under this project. The responsibilities of MRC as a Responsible Party will consist of the following:

1. Participation and providing advisory services in the preparation of the project document.
2. Ensuring Member States Participation in consultations and capacity building activities.
3. Support for reports to the Steering Committee.
4. Co-organising consultative meetings with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.
5. Informing other development partners, including United Nations Coordinators of the Collaboration with UNOSSC and Republic of Korea; and,
6. Supporting any evaluation and monitoring.
7. Facilitate the following Meetings:
    - Kick-off meeting after project document is signed in close collaboration with UNOSSC, to include National Mekong Committee (NMC) representatives.
    - Annual Consultation of stakeholders
    - Exit strategy meeting in 2024.
    - Facilitate stakeholder meeting for end of project consultation in 2025.

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Mekong Institute

- Responsible Party: Capacity Building

Based on preliminary consultations, the current stakeholders agree that for the WEF Nexus to be successful, there should be effective and participatory Mekong basin management which should be coupled with incorporating the Nexus approach into Mekong economic development and integration. This implies recognizing the relevant mechanisms and stakeholders in the region. In this context, the Capacity Building part of the project will require deep-seated knowledge of the region. The Mekong Institution has the knowledge to fill in this gap on capacity building of institutions in the basin.

Their role is expected to be as follows:

1. Participate and provide advisory services in the preparation of the project document
2. Participate in stakeholder meetings convened by UNOSSC and MRC
3. Take stock of WEF Nexus (policy and technical) capacity needs in the Lower Mekong Basin in close consultation with UNOSSC, MRC and STEPI
4. Develop training curriculum and modules for capacity building
5. Co-organise capacity building workshops with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation and other responsible parties
6. Support in the preparation of reports to the Steering Committee

The Role of Mekong Institute will be further developed in the Letter of Agreement (LOA) between UNOSSC and MI.

Role of RoK Institutions

1. Selected RoK institutions will provide the technical know-how in the design of the pilot areas.
2. The institutions will also be enlisted to assess and procure the relevant technology for the selected pilots.
3. The institutions will include inter-governmental, academic and private sector, the most appropriate partnership engagement and procurement tools will be used to recruit them.
4. The RoK institutions will primarily work with STEPI for delivery on their identified tasks.
5. The Institutions will be selected based on terms of reference and vetting procedures that are required by UNDP/UNOSSC provisions.
6. The institutions may enter into contracts with UNOSSC or STEPI as determined by the Steering Committees.
7. The number of RoK institutions engaged will depend on the various stages of work and availability of disbursed resources at that particular stage of work.

Private Sector/University/GRI (Government Research Institute)

The private sector, university, and Government Research Institute (GRI) have a central role in the implementation of this project. The Ministry of Science and ICT and UNOSSC are looking to tap on the latest appropriate technology. Private sector companies, universities, and GRI from the Republic of Korea are willing to work as part of the Republic of Korea's triangular cooperation to transfer the latest technology in water, energy and food production and preservation in the Mekong Region. The selection of the participating institution will be on a competitive basis based on the activity areas agreed to by the Regional Institutions and participating countries.

Civil Societies/Non-Governmental Organization

The project activities will affect communities in the Mekong Basin. Many NGOs are particularly involved in the riparian rights of communities and the impact policies and activities have on them. It is therefore envisaged that civil society organisations will be involved in some of the consultations and knowledge sharing workshops and meetings.

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Risks and Assumptions

The development challenges the project will aim to mitigate are mainly transboundary and result from climate change and human activities. These aspects will remain out of the ability of the project to control and hence there will be many external and internal risks.

External

Description	Mitigation plans
Financial: Budget, unexpected emergencies may result in reduction of budget	Encourage parallel financing from the implementing institutions, seek out other funding partners.
Political: Opposing interests among the participating countries result in stagnation of project progress	Involvement of intergovernmental regional institutions with clearly defined roles critical to unlock conflicting interests of countries.
Occurrence of another pandemic/other disasters. COVID-19 already demonstrated that mobility, particularly outreach to communities can be affected.	Project planning will increasingly rely on digital tools where possible.

Internal

Description	Mitigation plans
Slow take-off of project due to need for the stakeholders to understand UNDP project management processes.	Project management to have a project inception/stakeholder training at the earliest opportunity.
UN protocols: The project will rely on private sector companies to deliver technological input. The companies will have to pass due diligence.	Build awareness for due diligence requirements as early as possible in the selection process.
Financial: Private sector compliance with HACT. Private sector companies with strong financial management systems may find HACT challenging.	Capacity building of the private sector companies required at the outset.
Financial: some of the project management processes, like giving grants to private sector may be more challenging than giving to intergovernmental or civil society organisations.	Processes through the Implementing partner rather than UNDP should be considered.

Stakeholder Engagement

The project is targeted at changing planning and coordination at policy level and to introduce new technologies. The primary target beneficiaries are the Regional Intergovernmental and Government institutions and their staff working on policy and coordination of resource use in the Mekong Basin. However, the transformation, if adopted and scaled up, will ultimately result in positive changes for the people living in the Mekong Basin. The ultimate objective of the project is to reverse the adverse trends in opportunities for livelihoods and deteriorating environment. Such negative trends invariably affect the more vulnerable, women, children and disabled. Usually, affected communities may act directly, in which case it would be possible to engage them in some of the discussions. However, in most instances they will be represented by Government and non-governmental organisations. Therefore, non-governmental organisations working on riparian rights in the Mekong Basin will be included in the discussions.

The other stakeholders are the United Nations Country Teams in the participating countries. They will also be given opportunity to comment on the project document before approval.

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South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SS & TrC)

This project is triangular cooperation project as the Republic of Korea will provide resources and technical assistance while working very closely with the United Nations Development Programme. The activities will be in support of intergovernmental organisations, namely, Mekong River Commission and the participating countries. The South-South cooperation aspects of the project will be realised in the envisaged knowledge exchanges during the piloting and exit strategy formulation thereafter.

Knowledge

A number of outputs from the project including the initial mapping of legal frameworks, institutions and policies will be compiled in publications. Furthermore, the piloting of the model and technology will be closely monitored and results disseminated to the participating countries. The project will also assist the participating countries' governments in identifying opportunities for effective peer-to-peer practitioner learning from the results produced by this project.

The peer-to-peer learning can be on the institutional and human development for better integrated WEF policymaking, and programmes through science and technology applications that will drive inclusive, sustainable and resilient development in ASEAN region.

Visibility of stakeholder efforts has been one of the important objectives of knowledge dissemination under Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the RoK-UNOSSC collaboration. Similarly, under Phase 3, reports will be produced by the Regional Office and the South-South Trust Fund Teams. Furthermore, the knowledge products will be uploaded on the South-South Galaxy[36]. Last but not least, the partners and project management will take advantage of UN activities to convene seminars or workshops as side-events to the main event. In the past such side events were mounted at the Global South-South Development Expo and even at the *Second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South Cooperation* in Argentina.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

As a triangular and South-South cooperation project, this initiative has to adhere to the principles of South-South cooperation particularly respect for sovereignty of the participating countries and ownership of the development process. Thus, in the process to finalise the project document and to initiate project implementation, the Intergovernmental organisations and through them, the country representing institutions should be fully engaged. Furthermore, it is proposed that the intergovernmental institutions are engaged as cooperating agencies so that in the eventual withdrawal of UNOSSC and the Government of the Republic of Korea, the intergovernmental and national institutions can remain doing the work.

The project is about sustainable development in the face of natural and man-made challenges. In that regard, the solutions and technology piloted should be appropriate, affordable and accessible so that if countries need to scale up the pilots, they can do so.

[36] UNOSSC. South-South Galaxy. https://www.southsouth-galaxy.org/home-page/

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IV. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost Efficiency and Effectiveness

As indicated before, this project will have many stakeholders, several of whom will be unaccustomed to working with each other. To achieve cost-efficiency and effectiveness, the delivery by each of the participating institutions will be clearly stated. Furthermore, the role of each institutional signatory to the grant must be taken seriously, this is something that the management team will focus on during spot checks and during evaluations as well. Furthermore, the Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) processes ensure that no further advancements are made unless the grantee has met all the requirements.

UNOSSC, as the implementing Partner of the RoK-UNOSSC Facility Phase 3, will use UNDP procurement systems including engaging experts from existing rosters. This can speed up the process and reduce costs. UNOSSC can link the RoK-UNOSSC Facility with other ongoing projects for synergy, examples are the South-South Network for Public Service Innovation (SSN4PSI) which promotes digital innovations in public service delivery. Furthermore, the project will have a project manager responsible for coordinating and liaising project activities with engaged stakeholders for effective communications and management.

Project Management

The project will have the following management arrangements.

- **Project Coordinator** is the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), specifically, the Regional Office in Bangkok. In this role UNOSSC is responsible for designing and appraisal of the project, consolidating monitoring and reporting, facilitating joint activities and convening joint management meetings. UNOSSC will also select the implementing institutions.

  The costs to UNOSSC will be covered through the Direct Cost.

- **Project Board (Steering Committee)**

  UNOSSC and the Government of the Republic of Korea will convene a Steering Committee which will consist of two senior officials from UNOSSC, two senior officials from MSIT, and two designated representatives from the Mekong River Commission (MRC), i.e. Joint Committee (JC) Chair for the respective year and a senior representative of the Secretariat (Chief Strategy and Partnership), Mekong Institute (MI) and the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI). Other relevant partners may be invited as observers in the Steering Committee by the core of the Steering Committee (UNOSSC, MSIT, MRC, MI and STEPI). The Steering Committee will have oversight over project governance and will be responsible for approving the project's annual work plan, providing strategic guidance, and facilitating synergies with other partners. The Steering Committee will meet at least once a year, convened by the Chair. (Annex 5: Steering Committee)

- **Project Manager**

  A Project Manager will be recruited by the project coordinator in Bangkok, Thailand. The Project Manager ensures that the project activities have been undertaken, will report the project progress and may seek guidance from the UNOSSC's Project Management Unit. (Annex 6: Project Manager TOR).

- **Project Assurance**

  Project Assurance role will be the Project Management Unit in New York. The PMU will supervise and assure compliance of the Project Coordinator and compliance with UNOSSC Strategic Framework and UNDP's rules and regulation during the implementation of the project. The PMU will act on behalf of the Project Board to carry out the project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures that the appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed according to UNDP standards and regulations as per the signed project agreement with MSIT.

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V. MULTI-COUNTRY RESULTS FRAMEWORK[37]

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNOSSC Strategic Plan (2018-2021): Outcome 3: South-South and triangular cooperation partnerships initiatives and demand-driven programmes facilitated to address sustainable development needs of developing countries.
3.1.3: Number of new funding arrangements initiated to support the scaling up of proven Southern development solutions. 3.1.4: Funds mobilized through the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, the IBSA Fund, PGTF, India-UN Partnership Development Fund, the Climate and Sustainability Programme, and other mechanisms for supporting South-South cooperation initiatives. 3.1.5: Mechanisms for outreach, advocacy and strategic communication established to support partnership and demand-driven programming. 3.2.1: Number of Southern countries participating in demand-driven initiatives and programmes organized or supported by UNOSSC. 3.2.6: Number of women and youth who participate in and lead South-South cooperation initiatives.
Applicable Output(s) from the UNOSSC Strategic Plan (2018-2021): Output 3.1: Multi-stakeholder partnerships forged and resources mobilized in order for the United Nations to coherently support demand-driven South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives and programmes. Output 3.2: South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives and programmes supported with coordinated assistance from the United Nations system.
Project title and Atlas Project Number: Triangular Cooperation Project on Sustainable Development in the Lower Mekong Basin based on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus (RoK-UNOSSC Facility – Phase 3); Project ID: 00127005

[37] Multiple countries/IPs can contribute to the same output and can share the same indicators. UNDP publishes its project information (indicators, baselines, targets and results) to meet the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards. Make sure that indicators are S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound), provide accurate baselines and targets underpinned by reliable evidence and data, and avoid acronyms so that external audience clearly understand the results of the project.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS[38]	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)						DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	FINAL	
Output 1 *Five (5) WEF nexus projects in the Lower Mekong Basin and other regions analyzed and reports prepared*	*1. Five (5) WEF Nexus projects analysed – case study reports completed*	*Government*	*0*	*2021*	*1*	*4*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*5*	*Quantitative & Qualitative data to be collected through desk study and follow up interviews*
	1.1. Two (2) case studies of WEF nexus projects in which the ROK is a partner reviewed -	*KOICA, other Korean Govt. Institutions*	*0*	*2021*	*1*	*1*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*2*	*Desk review of cases particularly preferably outside Asia-Pacific and follow up with interview or questionnaires*
	1.2. Two (2) case studies of WEF nexus projects for SS and TrC comparisons analysed	*Relevant countries*	*0*	*2021*	*0*	*2*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*2*	*Desk review of cases particularly preferably outside Asia-Pacific and follow up with interview or questionnaires*
	1.3. One (1) case study of WEF nexus projects on WEF nexus and climate change compiled	*Relevant countries*	*0*	*2021*	*0*	*1*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*1*	*Review of case, evaluation reports and follow-up with interview.*
	1.4. Across all five case studies, assess impact of WEF nexus projects on women and other disadvantaged groups	*Relevant countries*	*0*	*2021*	*1*	*4*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*5*	*Quantitative & Qualitative data to be collected through the review of case studies*
	2. One (1) partner consultative meeting and planning meetings convened-	*MRC, MI and UNOSSC*	*0*	*2021*	*1*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*1*	*Agreement on relevant partners and facilitation by MRC.*

[38] It is recommended that projects use output indicators from the Strategic Plan IRRF, as relevant, in addition to project-specific results indicators. Indicators should be disaggregated by sex or for other targeted groups where relevant.

Output 2 *Four (4) WEF nexus models designed, and: based on identified project sites, WEF nexus policy, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), South-South learning and partnerships*	1. *Four (4) WEF nexus models designed for food and energy production focusing on surface and ground water for agriculture, aquaculture, irrigation; hydro and other energy sources based on identified project sites, WEF nexus policy, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), SS learning and partnerships, one area Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam. Areas may include rural, urban-rural and urban.*	*STEPI, UNOSSC, and Cooperating partners*	*0*	*2022*	*0*	*4*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*4*	*Identification of areas by targeted countries. May be delayed by continued focus of the region on COVID-19 response and recovery*
	2. *At least one (1) appropriate technology for each pilot selected.*	*STEPI, UNOSSC*	*0*	*2022*	*0*	*4*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*4*	*Accessing the appropriate technology may take time subject country's policies for importing technology.*
	3. *Strategies including women's employment opportunities developed and data collected on support to women and other disadvantaged groups. Disaggregated data approach applied across activities 2.1 & 2.2*	*UNOSSC*	*0*	*2022*	*0*	*TBA*	*TBA*	*TBA*	*TBA*	*TBA*	*Review of case, evaluation reports and follow-up with interview.*
	4. *Two (2) consultative meetings with stakeholders during WEF model design.*	*MRC, MI and UNOSSC*	*0*	*2022*	*0*	*1*	*1*	*0*	*0*	*2*	*Access to communities and other stakeholders will still depend on post-COVI-19 recovery*
Output 3 *Four (4) WEF nexus pilots implemented*	1. *Four (4) areas where appropriate technology is procured in pilot areas.*	*STEPI*	*0*	*2023*	*0*	*0*	*4*	*0*	*0*	*4*	*Technology should be procured in year three to allow completion in time. May depend on availability of resources which are disbursed on an annual basis.*
	2. *Progress monitored through progress reports compiled on quarterly basis, at least two (2) monitoring visits per year, interim and end of project evaluations conducted*	*Steering Committee, UNOSSC*	*0*	*2023*	*0*	*0*	*4 reports, 2 monitoring visits, mid-term eval.*	*4 reports, 2 monitoring visits*	*4 reports, 2 monitoring visits and final evaluation*	*12 reports, 6 monitoring visits, 1 midterm and 1 final evaluation*	*Coordinated by UNOSSC.*
	3. *Six partner and stakeholder consultative and planning meetings held*	*MRC, MI and UNOSSC*	*0*	*2023*	*0*	*0*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*6*	*Consultative meetings showing collective responsibility under SSC convened annually, after annual work plan and end of year.*
	4. *Three capacity building and training activities conducted for institutions and stakeholders*	*MI/UNOSSC*	*0*	*2023*	*0*	*0*	*1*	*1*	*1*	*3*	*Capacity building events for communities need to be on site, for other stakeholders, they may be designed to be on-line. A conducive Post-COVID environment is necessary.*

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VI. MONITORING AND CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED FOR INSTITUTIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans: *[Note: monitoring and evaluation plans should be adapted to project context, as needed]*

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Annually	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.	UNOSSC, STEPI, MRC and MI	
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	UNOSSC	
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	STEPI/UNOSSC	
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	UNOSSC HQ and UNOSSC ROAP	
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	Steering Committee	

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Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk log with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)	Annual Steering Committee Meeting	UNOSSC	
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	UNOSSC	

Evaluation Plan[39]

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNDAF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
Mid-Term Evaluation	UNOSSC	UNOSSC SF 2022-2025		June 2023	UNOSSC	$30,000
End of Project Evaluation	UNOSSC	UNOSSC SF 2022-2025		December 2025	UNOSSC	$30,705

[39] Optional, if needed

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VII. MULTI-YEAR WORK PLAN BY PARTNER COUNTRY[4041]

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned Budget by Year					RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1: Knowledge and data collected for purposes of selecting pilot projects. Five (5) WEF nexus projects in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) and other regions analyzed and reports prepared. [Year 1 and 2] *Gender marker; GEN1*	1.1 Analyse five (5) WEF Nexus projects									
	1.1.1: Two (2) case studies WEF nexus projects in which the ROK is a partner reviewed	36,000	36,000	-	-	-	STEPI/ UNOSSC	ROK	Int. consultant	72,000
	1.1.2: Two (2) cases studies of WEF nexus projects for SS and TrC comparisons analysed	-	72,000	-	-	-	STEPI/ UNOSSC	ROK	Int. consultant	72,000
	1.1.3: One (1) case study on WEF nexus and climate change compiled	-	36,000	-	-	-	STEPI/ UNOSSC	ROK	Int. consultant	36,000
	1.1.4: Across all five case studies, assess impact of WEF nexus projects on women and other disadvantaged groups	-	-	-	-	-	STEPI/ UNOSSC	ROK	N/A	0
	1.2 One partner consultative and planning meeting convened, and technical support to MRC (*30,000/each *1)	30,000	-	-	-	-	MRC/ UNOSSC	ROK	Workshops	30,000
	MONITORING	5,000	-				UNOSSC	ROK	Travel	5,000
	Sub-Total for Output 1-1									**215,000**
Output 2: Four (4) WEF nexus models, and: based on identified project sites, WEF Nexus policy, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), South-South learning and partnerships. [Year 2 and 3] *Gender marker: GEN1*	2.1: Four (4) WEF nexus models for food and energy production focusing on surface and ground water for agriculture, aquaculture, irrigation; hydro and other energy sources designed: based on identified project sites, WEF nexus policy, Science Technology and Innovation (STI), South-South learning and partnerships, one area Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam. Areas may include one rural, one urban/rural and one urban, and where nexus projects have not been implemented. *At least one (1) appropriate technology for each pilot selected. (45,000/each)	-	180,000	-	-	-	STEPI/ UNOSSC	ROK	Int. consultants (5)	180,000
	2.2: Two (2) consultative meetings with stakeholders during WEF model design, and technical support for MRC. (*30,000/each)	-	30,000	30,000	-	-	MRC/ UNOSSC	ROK	Workshops	60,000
	2.3: Identify areas to maximise support to women and other disadvantaged groups including women's employment opportunities. Apply disaggregated data approach across 2.1 and 2.2	-	-	-	-	-	UNOSSC	ROK	N/A	0
	MONITORING		10,000				UNOSSC	ROK	Travel	10,000
	Sub-Total for Output 2									**250,000**

[40] Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness costs to be charged to the project are defined in the Executive Board decision DP/2010/32

[41] Changes to a project budget affecting the scope (outputs), completion date, or total estimated project costs require a formal budget revision that must be signed by the project board. In other cases, the UNDP programme manager alone may sign the revision provided the other signatories have no objection. This procedure may be applied for example when the purpose of the revision is only to re-phase activities among years.

Output 3: Four (4) WEF nexus pilots implemented. [Year 3-5] *Gender marker: GEN2*	3.1: Four (4) pilot areas procured.	-	-	1,275,704	649,000	649,000	UNOSSC/ STEPI	ROK	Grants	2,573,704
	3.2: At least six (6) partner and stakeholder consultative and planning meetings held, and technical support for MRC. (*30,000/each)	-	-	60,000	60,000	60,000	UNOSSC/ MRC	ROK	Workshops	180,000
	3.3: At least three (3) capacity building and training activities conducted for Institutions and stakeholders. (*40,000/each)	-	-	40,000	40,000	40,000	UNOSSC/ MI	ROK	Training	120,000
	MONTORTING			10,000	10,000	10,000	UNOSSC	ROK	Travel	30,000
	Sub-Total for Output 3									**2,903,704**
Evaluation *(as relevant)*	EVALUATION (mid-term and end of end project)	-	-	30,000		30,705	UNOSSC	ROK	Int. consultant	60,705
Sub-total of 3 Outputs and Evaluation		71,000	364,000	1,445,704	759,000	789,705				3,429,409
Direct Cost (6%)		47,525	47,525	47,525	47,525	47,525	UNOSSC	ROK	Admin. fee	237,624
General Management Support (8%)		9,482	32,922	119,458	64,522	66,978	UNDP	ROK	Admin. fee	293,363
Sub-total		128,007	444,447	1,612,687	871,047	904,208				**3,960,395**
TOTAL										

*Note: For consultancy services, based on average cost of 30 working days**

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VIII. LEGAL CONTEXT

Option c. For Global and Regional Projects

This project forms part of an overall programmatic framework under which several separate associated country level activities will be implemented. When assistance and support services are provided from this Project to the associated country level activities, this document shall be the "Project Document" instrument referred to in: (i) the respective signed SBAAs for the specific countries; or (ii) in the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document attached to the Project Document in cases where the recipient country has not signed an SBAA with UNDP, attached hereto and forming an integral part hereof. All references in the SBAA to "Executing Agency" shall be deemed to refer to "Implementing Partner."

This project will be implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) ("Implementing Partner") in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply**.**

IX. RISK MANAGEMENT

Option b. UNDP (DIM)

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)

2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the project funds are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (http://www.undp.org/ses) and related Accountability Mechanism (http://www.undp.org/secu-srm).

4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

5. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

6. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient:

    a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA *[or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document]*, the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP's property in such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:
        i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;

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ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's security, and the full implementation of the security plan.

b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party's, subcontractor's and sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud or corruption, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption and anti-fraud policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

d. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices and (b) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.

e. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.

f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud or corruption with due confidentiality.

Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

g. *Option 1:* UNDP will be entitled to a refund from the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail any responsible party's, subcontractor's or sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

h. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

i. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

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j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled “Risk Management” are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled “Risk Management Standard Clauses” are adequately reflected, *mutatis mutandis*, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

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X. ANNEXES

1. **Project Quality Assurance Report**
2. **Social and Environmental Screening Report**
3. **Risk Analysis**
4. **Capacity Assessment:** Results of capacity assessments of Implementing Partner (including HACT Micro Assessment) (TBA)
5. **Terms of Reference of the Project Board (Steering Committee)**
6. **Terms of Reference of Project Manager**
7. **MRC Procedures for Data and Information Exchange and Sharing (PDIES)**
8. **Proposed Work Plan for Year 1 (2021)**

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Annex 2: Social and Environmental Screening Report (2021 SESP Template, Version 1)

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document at the design stage. Note: this template will be converted into an online tool. The online version will guide users through the process and will embed relevant guidance.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Triangular Cooperation Project on Sustainable Development in the Lower Mekong Basin based on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus. (RoK-UNOSSC Facility – Phase 3)
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	127005
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Regional (Mekong River Basin)
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	30 April 2021

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach
The project aims to enhance the availability, accessibility and quality of water, energy and food related benefits and services including employment opportunities for potentially marginalized individuals and groups living in the Mekong River Basin, and to increase their inclusion in decision-making processes that may impact them. This will be achieved through strengthening development approaches and management in these sectors; increasing access to safe water, energy and food while ensuring an integrative approach in policymaking, planning and implementation to benefit communities. The local communities will be better equipped and empowered to design and implement practices and technologies that are at the same time climate-compatible and protective of the range of land and water services.
Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment
Through the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus approach, the project will contribute to reduction in vulnerability by enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience for populations affected by climate change impact on water, land and food production, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable population groups and applying a gender-sensitive approach. This will provide benefits for gender experts and gender analysis.
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience
The project addresses environment-development linkages (poverty, water, energy, food nexus, environmental dimensions of climate mitigation and adaptation. It will provide capacity building including adaptation training, tools and techniques, involvement in stakeholder led participatory adaptation planning, increased participation in local environmental governance processes. This will result in greater social resilience, higher livelihood, water and food security as well as reduced exposure to climate-related disaster risks.

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Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders
The project will support meaningful participation and inclusion of all stakeholders, in particular marginalized individuals and groups, in processes that may impact them including design, implementation and monitoring of the project, e.g. through capacity building, creating an enabling environment for participation, ensuring access to relevant information, etc. (consistent with participation and inclusion human rights principle).

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5*			**QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High**
Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)	***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)***	***Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)***	***Comments (optional)***	***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High***
Risk 1: In designing models for the pilots, RoK institutions will introduce new technologies that may affect the environment.	I = 3 L =1	**Low**	Consultative processes are built into the project implementation process and any technologies that pose environmental risks would have to be approved by Steering Committee. Technology assessment should also include impact on environment.	**N/A**
Risk 2- Implementation of pilots results in unintended adverse impacts on the environment.	I = 2 L = 1	**Low**	The pilots will be designed, among other things, to address the environmental threats unfolding in the Mekong Basin. It is therefore unlikely that intended remedies can be risky for the environment.	**N/A**
[add additional rows as needed]				

QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?		
Low Risk	v	
Moderate Risk	☐	
Substantial Risk	☐	

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	High Risk	☐			
	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)				
	Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects				
	Is assessment required? (check if "yes")	☐			***Status? (completed, planned)***
	if yes, indicate overall type and status		☐	Targeted assessment(s)	
			☐	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	
			☐	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	
	Are management plans required? (check if "yes)	☐			
	If yes, indicate overall type		☐	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)	
			☐	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	
			☐	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	
	Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?		**Comments (not required)**		
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind				
	Human Rights	☐			
	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	☐			
	Accountability	☐			
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	☐			
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	☐			
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	☐			
	4. Cultural Heritage	☐			
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	☐			
	6. Indigenous Peoples	☐			
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	☐			
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	☐			

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Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	***Date***	***Description***
QA Assessor Denis Nkala	5/5/2021	UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver		UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair Xiaojun Grace Wang		UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

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SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks	
INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the SES toolkit for further guidance on addressing screening questions.	
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind **Human Rights**	**Answer (Yes/No)**
P.1 Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	*No*
P.2 Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	*No*
P.3 Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	*No*
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:	
P.4 adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	*No*
P.5 inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?[1]	*No*
P.6 restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	*No*
P.7 exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	*No*
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	
P.8 Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	*No*
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:	
P.9 adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	*No*
P.10 reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	*No*
P.11 limitations on women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? *For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being*	*No*
P.12 exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? *For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc*.	*No*
Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below	

[1] Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender and transsexual people.

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Accountability		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
P.13	exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	*No*
P.14	grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	*No*
P.15	risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project?	*No*
Project-Level Standards		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
1.1	adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? *For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes*	*No*
1.2	activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	*No*
1.3	changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	*No*
1.4	risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)?	*No*
1.5	exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	*No*
1.6	introduction of invasive alien species?	*No*
1.7	adverse impacts on soils?	*No*
1.8	harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	*No*
1.9	significant agricultural production?	*No*
1.10	animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	*No*
1.11	significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? *For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction*	*No*
1.12	handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?[2]	*No*
1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)[3]	*No*
1.14	adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	*No*
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
2.1	areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	*No*
2.2	outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters?	*No*

[2] See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

[3] See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

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	For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes	
2.3	increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)? *For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding*	*No*
2.4	increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	*No*
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
3.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams)	*No*
3.2	air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	*No*
3.3	harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	*No*
3.4	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	*No*
3.5	transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	*No*
3.6	adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	*No*
3.7	influx of project workers to project areas?	*No*
3.8	engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	*No*
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
4.1	activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	*No*
4.2	significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	*No*
4.3	adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	*No*
4.4	alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	*No*
4.5	utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	*No*
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
5.1	temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	*No*
5.2	economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	*No*

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5.3	risk of forced evictions?[4]	*No*
5.4	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	*No*
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
6.1	areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	*No*
6.2	activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	*No*
6.3	impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? *If the answer to screening question 6.3 is "yes", then the potential risk impacts are considered significant and the project would be categorized as either Substantial Risk or High Risk*	*No*
6.4	the absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	*No*
6.5	the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	*No*
6.6	forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above*	*No*
6.7	adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	*No*
6.8	risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	*No*
6.9	impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.*	*No*
Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)		
7.1	working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	*No*
7.2	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	*No*
7.3	use of child labour?	*No*
7.4	use of forced labour?	*No*
7.5	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	*No*
7.6	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	*No*
Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		

[4] Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights.

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8.1	the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	*No*
8.2	the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	*No*
8.3	the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	*No*
8.4	the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? *For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Montreal Protocol, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention*	*No*
8.5	the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	*No*
8.6	significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	*No*

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Annex 3: OFFLINE RISK LOG

(see Deliverable Description for the Risk Log regarding its purpose and use)

Project Title: Triangular Cooperation Project on Sustainable Development in the Mekong Basin based on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus. (RoK-UNOSSC Facility – Phase 3) **Project ID:** 127005	**Award ID:** 97662	**Date:** 30 April 2021

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability[1]	Countermeasures / Mngt response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
1	Occurrence of another pandemic/other disasters. COVID-19 already demonstrated that mobility, particularly outreach to communities can be affected.	3 March 2021	Environmental	P = 2 I = 4	Project planning will increasingly rely on digital tools where possible.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.
2	Opposing interests among the participating countries result in stagnation of project progress.	10 March 2021	Political	P = 1 I = 4	Involvement of intergovernmental regional institutions with clearly defined roles critical to unlock conflicting interests of countries.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.
3	Budget, unexpected emergencies may result in reduction of budget.	5 March 2021	Financial	P = 2 I = 3	Encourage parallel financing from the implementing institutions, seek out other funding partners.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.
4	Slow take-off of project due to need for the stakeholders to understand UNDP project management processes.	3 March 2021	Organizational	P = 2 I = 3	Project management to have a project inception/stakeholder training at the earliest opportunity.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.
5	UN protocols: The project will rely on private sector companies to deliver technological input. The companies will have to pass due diligence. Some may not.	15 March 2021	Organizational	P = 2 I = 1	As responsible party, STEPI will vet and engage private sector, academia and other partners in line with its institutional regulations under oversight of the Steering Committee.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.
6	Private sector compliance with HACT. Private sector companies with strong financial management systems may find HACT challenging.	3 March 2021	Financial/ Organizational	P = 2 I = 1	UNOSSC will provide Capacity building of the private sector companies at the outset. The delay may affect STEPI's ability to report quarterly. Training will ensure that STEPI, as Responsible Party, should get input to report timely.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.
7	Some of the project management processes, like giving grants to private sector may be more challenging than giving to intergovernmental or civil society organisations.	3 March 2021	Financial/ Operational	P = 1 I = 1	The Responsible Party (STEPI) will engage the most suitable partner through their engagement modalities.	Denis Nkala	Denis Nkala	30 April 2021	N/A-project has not started.

[1] Describe the potential effect on the project if this risk were to occur, probability on a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high), impact on a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high)

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Annex 5: Terms of Reference of the Project Board (Steering Committee)

UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) of the Republic of Korea will convene a Steering Committee which will consist of two senior officials from UNOSSC, two senior officials from MSIT, and two designated representatives from the Mekong River Commission (MRC), i.e. Joint Committee (JC) Chair for the respective year and a senior representative of the Secretariat (Chief Strategy and Partnership), Mekong Institute (MI) and the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI). Other relevant partners may be invited as observers in the Steering Committee by the core of the Steering Committee (UNOSSC, MSIT, MRC, MI and STEPI).

The Steering Committee will meet at least annually to consider annual report but may meet more often depending on the urgency of issues arising in the course of the year.

The Steering Committee members will have the following responsibilities:

1. Oversight on implementation of the programme
2. Review matters brought before it by UNOSSC and the Project Management
3. Assess the overall progress in programme implementation
4. Suggest or give consent to changes in programme implementation
5. Determine all issues of funding and suggested changes.

Members of the Steering Committee will not be compensated under the project nor receive honorarium.

The Project Management cannot be at the same time participate as member of the Steering Committee.

A meeting will at least have 5 participants including at least one representative of UNOSSC, MSIT, MRC, and STEPI.

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Annex 6: Terms of Reference of Project Manager

Duty Station:	Bangkok, Thailand
Educational Qualification:	Master's Degree or equivalent in International Relations, Social Sciences, Economics, Journalism or closely-related field.
Required Work Experience:	At least 7 years of experience in development issues and projects
Required Language:	Fluency in written and spoken English and proficiency in Korean will be an added advantage.
Period of Appointment:	One year and extendable for one-year periods over the life of the project (2022-2025)

Role: The Project Manager will manage the project under the guidance of UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and will carry out the decisions of the Steering Committee.

Responsibilities:

1. Ensure implementation of project according to agreed upon operational procedures, and as per UNDP programming manual.
2. Facilitate coordination of partners under the RoK-UNOSSC Facility (Phase 3).
3. Execute decisions of the Steering Committee.
4. Prepare consolidated annual workplan for the project.
5. Prepare consolidated annual progress report for the project.
6. Undertake monitoring missions and lend advice to stakeholders.
7. Undertake budget revisions for the Facility.
8. Liaise with UNOSSC Programme Management Unit (PMU) for quality assurance.
9. Provide financial and progress reports as requested by the Steering Committee.
10. Provide annual UNDP Certified Financial Reports (CFRs) to MSIT.
11. Undertake assessment of responsible parties and participating institutions.
12. Assess risks and enter risk log issues in UNDP Atlas.
13. Assess if project implemented in line with Social and Environment Screening (SES).
14. Undertake any other duties assigned by the supervisor.

Reporting

Will report to the UNOSSC Regional Coordinator and representative for Asia-Pacific or any person designated by the UNOSSC Management for day-to-day supervision and performance appraisal.

Date of entry on duty: October – November 2021

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Mekong River Commission

For Sustainable Development

Procedures for Data and Information Exchange and Sharing

P.O. Box 1112, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Telephone: (855-23) 720 979
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MEKONG RIVER COMMISSION
PROCEDURES FOR DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND SHARING

CONTENT OUTLINES

PREAMBLE

1. DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

2. OBJECTIVES

3. PRINCIPLES

4. DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND SHARING

5. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS
   - 5.1. CUSTODIANSHIP OF MRC-IS
   - 5.2. REPORTING

6. ENTRY INTO FORCE

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PREAMBLE

Recognizing the existing cooperation in data and information collection, exchange, sharing and management through the Mekong cooperation frameworks from 1957 to date;

Affirming the imperative for operationalizing an effective, reliable and accessible data and information system for the Mekong River Commission (MRC) and its member countries to implement the AGREEMENT ON THE COOPERATION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEKONG RIVER BASIN, signed in Chiang Rai, Thailand on 5th April 1995, hereinafter referred to as the "Mekong Agreement";

Pursuant to the Council Resolution on the Water Utilization Programme of 18th October 1999, and the Decision of the 13th Meeting of the Joint Committee of 8th March 2001,

WE hereby approve the following procedures for data and information exchange and sharing:

Definition of Key Terms

For the purpose of the present Procedures, the following terms shall mean, unless otherwise stated:

Data: representations of facts, in a formalized manner, suitable for communication, interpretation or processing.

Data and information exchange: reciprocal transfer of data and information among the member countries.

Data and information sharing: provision of full access to data and information maintained in the MRC-IS to the member countries through MRCS.

Information: data interpreted, processed and refined, and then displayed by the competent authorities having ownership or possession thereof, which is required for exchange and sharing for the purpose of the implementation of the Mekong Agreement.

Standards: guidelines for data handling that are recognized as best practice in their relevant scientific or technical disciplines, with the objective to minimize the transaction costs of using data.

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2. Objectives

The objectives of the undertakings under the present Procedures are to:

- Operationalize the data and information exchange among the four MRC member countries;
- Make available, upon request, basic data and information for public access as determined by the NMCs concerned; and
- Promote understanding and cooperation among the MRC member countries in a constructive and mutually beneficial manner to ensure the sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin.

3. Principles

In conformity with the provisions of the Mekong Agreement, the data and information exchange and sharing among the MRC member countries should be governed by the following principles:

- Subject to the laws and regulations in their respective countries, in particular concerning the national defense or security, and commercial-in-confidence and copy right protection, exchange, on a regular basis, data and information that are necessary to implement the Mekong Agreement;
- Data and information exchange and sharing, including the prioritization of information needs should be based on an efficient, equitable, reciprocal and cost effective manner.
- The data and information contained in the MRC-Information System that is maintained by MRCS (hereinafter referred to as "the MRC-IS"), should be relevant, timely and accurate, and exist in established usable formats for MRC and its member countries through an appropriate network and communication system.
- Any additional and unavailable data and information that is required from time to time to facilitate MRC activities, programs and projects will be agreed by the MRC Joint Committee, including procedures and cost sharing arrangements for collecting the minimum necessary data at the lowest feasible cost in a timely and equitable manner.

4. Data and Information Exchange and Sharing

Each NMC and MRCS shall cooperate with one another in the following:

a. Supporting and promoting the implementation of the present Procedures;
b. Providing data and information to the MRCS, as appropriate and where applicable subject to the following requirements:

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- Major Groups/types of data and information required for implementation of the MRC program/activities and Mekong Agreement, inter alia:
  - Water Resources;
  - Topography;
  - Natural resources;
  - Agriculture;
  - Navigation and Transport;
  - Flood management and mitigation;
  - Infrastructure;
  - Urbanization/Industrialization;
  - Environment/Ecology;
  - Administrative boundaries;
  - Socio-economy; and
  - Tourism.
- Standards to be determined by MRCS and approved by the Joint Committee, including but not limit to the format, standardization, classification, and acceptable level of data quality;
- Delivery schedules; and
- Modalities for exchange and sharing.

c. Endeavouring to provide, on a case-by-case basis, historical data required for the implementation of the Mekong Agreement.

Cost for collecting additional data and information other than those required for the implementation of the MRC projects, programs, and not available shall be borne by any requesting party.

Channel of communication shall be made through MRCS.

5. Implementation Arrangements

The MRC Joint Committee shall oversee the effective implementation of the present Procedures as required by the Mekong Agreement.

5.1 Custodianship of MRC-IS

The MRC Secretariat shall be responsible, as custodian, for the following:

A/ Obtaining and updating of required data and information;
B/ Managing of this on behalf of the Mekong River Commission (MRC);
C/ Ensuring proper access to, and maintenance and quality of the data and information that meet the required standards;
D/ Providing a recognized contact point for the distribution, transfer and sharing of the data and information;
E/ Estimating and collecting cost incurred according to Section 4; and
F/ Preparing the MRC guidelines on custodianship and management to be adopted by the MRC Joint Committee.

The obligations and responsibilities of users, on the use of the data and information shall be elaborated in the MRC guidelines on custodianship and management of the MRC-IS.

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5.2 Reporting

Report will be made annually by the MRCS to the MRC Joint Committee and Council respectively as to the overall effectiveness of the present Procedures, the status of the MRC-IS and the suitability of the technical guidelines and standards for ensuring the protection and integrity of the data, information and systems and its accessibility and quality, as well as the remedial and rectifying measures taken, and recommendations for further guidance and direction, including modification and amendments of the Procedures and related guidelines, if any.

6. Entry into Force

The present Procedures shall take effect among the member countries on the date of the signature by the MRC Council Members.

Adopted by the Council on 1st November 2001 at its Eighth Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

MRC Council Member for the Kingdom of Cambodia

MRC Council Member for the Lao People's Democratic Republic

MRC Council Member for the Kingdom of Thailand

for MRC Council Member for the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

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Annex 8: Triangular Cooperation Project on Sustainable Development in the Lower Mekong Basin based on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus [RoK-UNOSC Facility (Phase 3)]

Proposed Work Plan for Year 1 (2021)

I. Time Frame: 15 September – 31 December 2021

II. Expected Output: The first year will only focus on Output 1

- Knowledge and data collected for purposes of selecting pilot projects. Five (5) WEF nexus projects in the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) and other regions analyzed and reports prepared.

III. Annual Work Plan (AWP) Summary

*as indicated on the Project Document

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME		RESPONSBILE PARTIES (RP)	BUDGET DESCRIPTION	PLANNED BUDGET (USD)
	Q3	Q4			
1.1: Analyse five (5) WEF Nexus projects (Note: USD 36,000/case)					
1.1.1: At least two (2) case studies WEF nexus projects in which the ROK is a partner reviewed	0	1	STEPI/UNOSSC	Int. consultant	36,000
1.1.4: Across all five case studies, assess impact of WEF nexus projects on women and other disadvantaged groups	0	1	STEPI/ UNOSSC	N/A	0
1.2: One (1) partners consultative and planning meeting convened (USD 30,000/workshop)	0	1	MRC/UNOSSC	Workshops	30,000
Monitoring and Visibility	*throughout*		UNOSSC	Travel	5,000
Total					101,000

IV. Detailed Workplan

TIMELINE	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	RESULT FR.	Budget description	RP	EXEPCTED BUDGET
Sep. – Dec.	One (1) case study of WEF nexus projects in which the ROK is a partner identified and completed through a hired national consultant, including travel and printing.	1.1.1 & 1.1.4	National Consultant, Printing, Travel	STEPI/ UNOSSC	36,000
Early - Mid Sep.	Inception/kick off meeting convened with all stakeholders with objective to prepare Year 1 and resolve outstanding institutional arrangements. Face to face workshop proposed for October.	1.2	Workshop, Travel, Background documents	MRC/ UNOSSC/ MI/STEPI	30,000
Oct. – Dec.	Project manager recruited and in place	overall	Direct Cost	UNOSSC	TBA
Sep.– Dec.	UNOSSC staff and project manager participation in meetings (travel)	monitoring	Travel	UNOSSC	5,000
Early Jan.2022	Review initial progress and prepare Work Plan for 2022 Organize a review and work plan development meeting to monitor progress in 2021 and joint plan for 2022	1.2	Workshop, Travel, Background documents	MRC/ UNOSSC/ MI/STEPI	30,000 Depending on the type of meeting (virtual/face-to-face)