## MAIRS ACTIVITIES & NASA IDS MEKONG WEF NEXUS PROJECT

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Regional Project Office – Bangalore, India

**MAIRS: Monsoon Asia Integrated Regional Studies** 



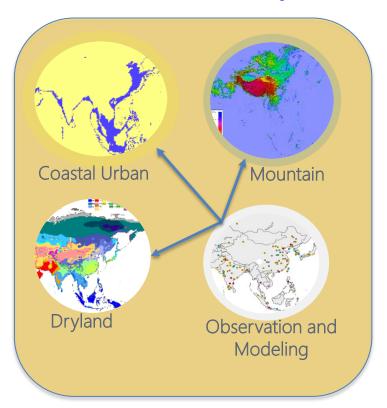


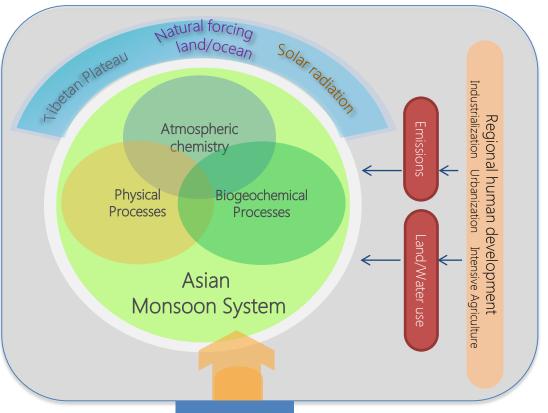
#### PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- MAIRS History
  - Phase I, II, and III
- New Priorities
  - Natural Disaster, Health and WEF Nexus
- Ongoing and Future Activities
  - WEF Nexus
  - IDS Project



## Phase I (2005-2010): Themes & Approaches





Earth System

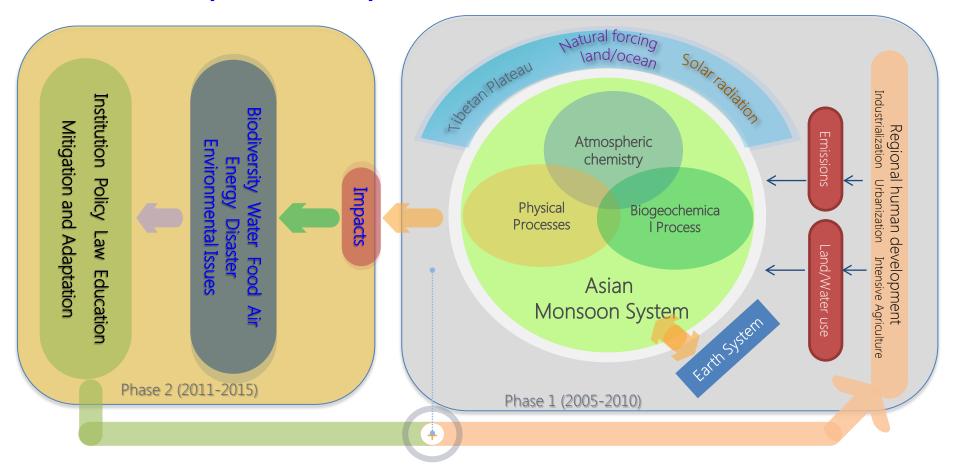


## Phase I Conclusions:

- MAIRS was highly valued for international engagements & advanced the earth system science
- Lack of social scientist and stakeholder engagements



### Phase II (2010-2015): Focusing on Impacts on Society



## PHASE II (2010-2015): THEMES AND ACTIVITIES



#### Support

Scientists from developing and under-developed countries to attend non-MAIRS conferences and workshops

04

Promotion

Enhanced collaborations with GEC programs and projects such as CEOP/MAHASRI/AMY, CLIVAR, CORDEX, AMIES, LOICZ, IGAC, iLEAPS, GLP, GCP, GWSP, NEESPI, UNESCO/IHP etc. and established links with many international organizations.

#### Scientists involved

More than 200 scientists involved in activities

02

03

#### Collaborations

05

14 Chinese key projects funded by MOST, NSFC and CAS, and 43 international projects funded by APN, NASA, JST&JSPS, EU FP7 and AusAID

#### Workshops

Hosted about 65 international workshops with 2500 participants

#### Training courses

10 young and early career scientist training courses with about 850 participants





## MAIRS Phase II Achievements

- ✓ Focused on cross-cutting global change issues for Monsoon Asia
- ✓ Developed links between research groups across region
- ✓ Established links across disciplines
- ✓ Established links between regional and global research communities
- ✓ Promoted development of Future Earth across Asia

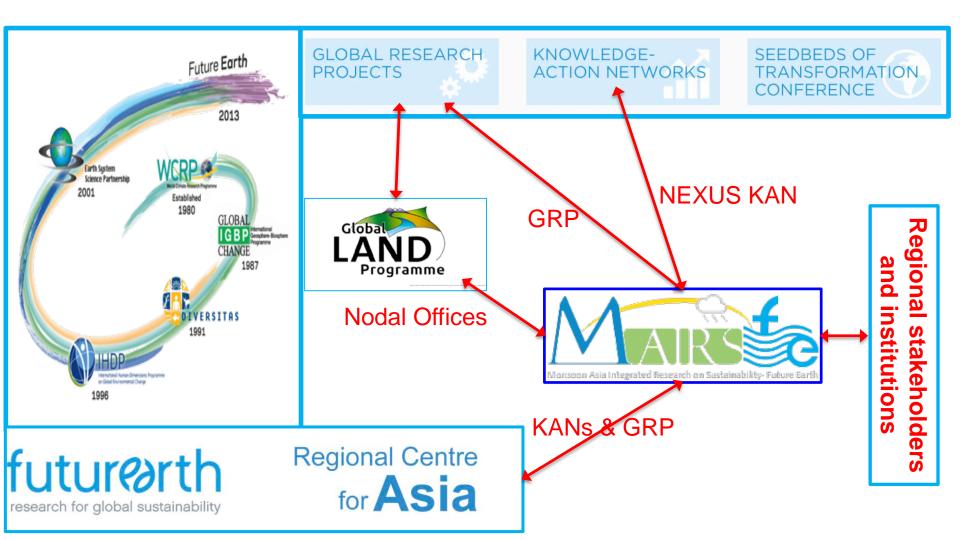


### PHASE III: MAIRS → MAIRS-FE

**MAIRS: Monsoon Asia Integrated Regional** 

MAIRS-FE: Monsoon Asia Integrated Recient ch for Sustainability





## MAIRS-FE VISION

To promote integrated regional studies across Monsoon Asia to

- Enhance the resilience of the monsoon system to human activities;
- Reduce the vulnerability of human societies to environmental change;
- Promote collaboration across disciplines and regions
- Enhance scientific capacity across the region

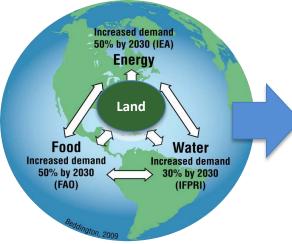


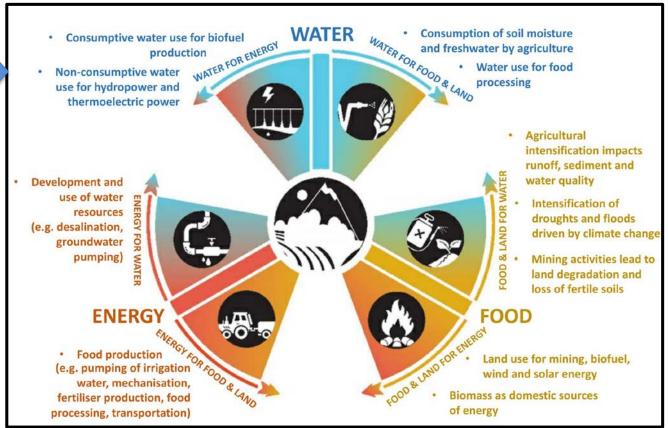
## MAIRS-FE THEMATIC AREAS

- 1. Resilience to climate-related natural disasters
- 2. Human health in monsoon Asia
- 3. Water-energy-food Nexus

NASA IDS Project — Mekong WEF Nexus







#### **UNECE 2016 & GLP**



### **NASA IDS Project in Mekong**

# JNDERSTANDING HUMAN AND CLIMATE IMPACTS ON WE TLAND ECOSYSTEMS IN THE LOWER MEKONG RIVER B ASIN

PI: Jiaguo Qi

#### **US Co investigators:**

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#### **Int'l Partners:**

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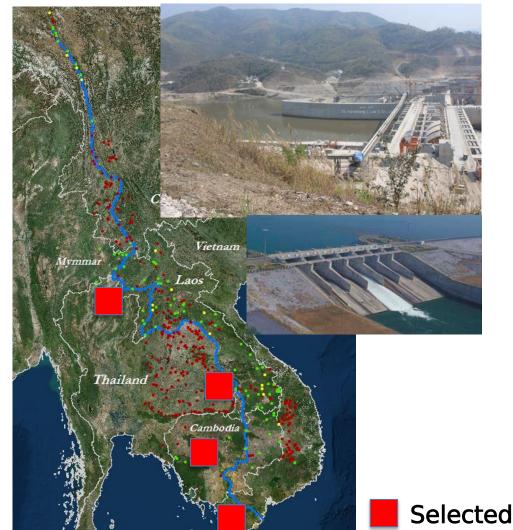


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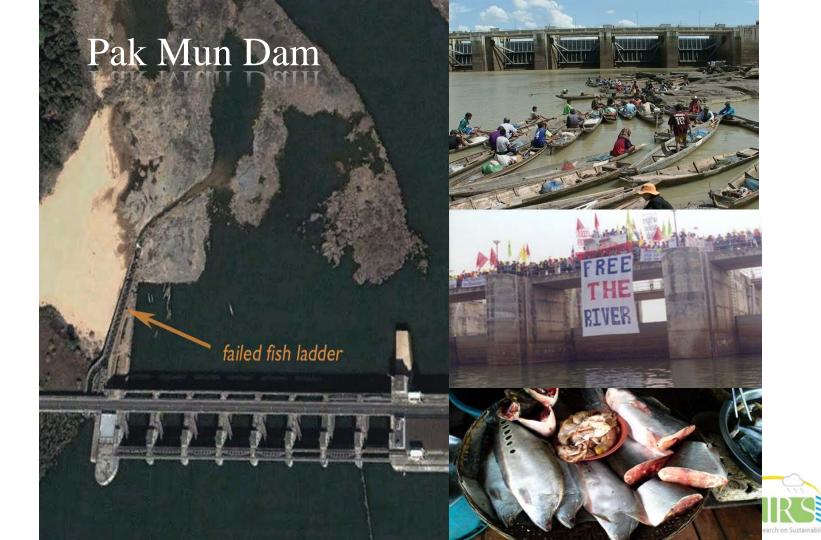
Claudia Pahl-Wostl

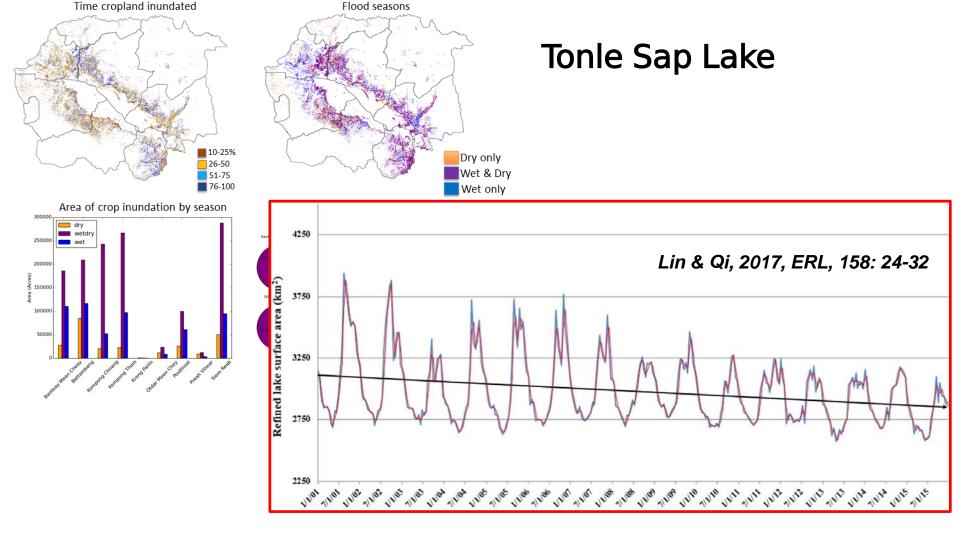


## LOWER MEKONG RIVER BASIN ISSUES

- COMPETITION FOR DIFFERENT WATER USES
- HYDROPOWER DAMS (MORE THAN 100 DAMS)
- IRRIGATION FOR CROPS
- SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS ON
  - HYDROLOGY, WETLANDS,
     AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND RURAL
     COMMUNITIES!

Selected watersheds





### So, our project goals

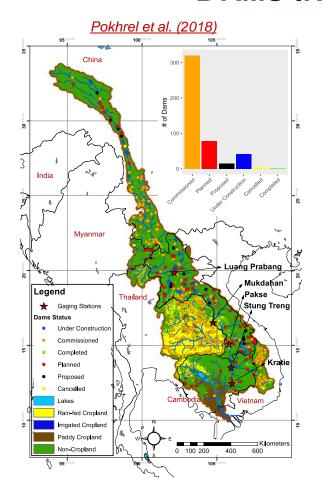
- To improve our understanding of how large-scale human activities (dam infrastructure and associated irrigation) cumulatively affect ecological processes in wetland ecosystems, and to provide a scientific basis for the improved operation of such infrastructure to help mitigate the expected effects of climate change.
- IDS Element 2: Ecology at Land/Water Interfaces-Human and Environmental Pressures



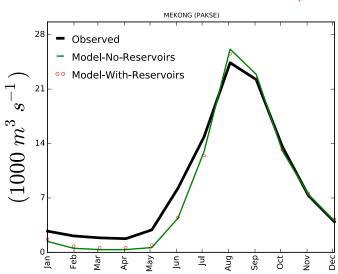
#### Drivers of Ecosystems Change (IDS and LCLUC Task 1) Land Use/Cover Change Climate Change Hydroelectric Dam Construction **Demographic Dynamics** Agricultural intensification. Spatio-temporal Site characteristics, water Population size, household structure. irrigation & land use change variability in storage and regulation of flows livelihood systems IDS: Large-scale, recent past precipitation & **IDS: Location and regulation** IDS: Ecosystem services trade-offs LCLUC: Fine-scale, long/ne temperature LCLUC: Surrounding LCLUC LCLUC: Social motivation, consequences and adaptation strategies Scale LOLLO **LCLUC Focus IDS Focus** Social Impacts and Responses(LCLUC Task 3) Hydrological Processes (IDS Task 2) (LCLUC Task 2) Social Drivers of LCLUC Spatio-temporal changes in river flow, Local and use attributes and socioeconomic floodplain inundation dynamics, drivers of land use changes groundwater, and reservoir storage Societal Responses Typology of adaptation and mitigation Impacts on Lake and Wetland Ecosystems (IDS Task 3) and Services **Trade-offs and Tipping Points** Wetland Ecology and Processes Lake Phenology and Services Ecosystem services and human wellbeing across Wetland vegetation, inundation, Lake phenology, water volume, space and time nutrient retention and quality and fish production greenhouse gas emissions Synthesis and Strategies IDS: Basin scale, coarse resolution Synthesis scenarios, planning, adaptation and LCLUC: Small watershed scale, fine resolution future development strategies **Ecological Functions** Wetland Dynamics Trade-offs and Governance Options (IDS Task 4) Wetland types, structure, composition, area expansion/shrinking, and rate of change. → Socio-ecological and socio-economic analyses of ecosystem services provided by coupled dams, irrigated agriculture, wetlands, and lakes **Ecosystem Functions** and their trade-offs across space and time Hydroperiod, phenology, thermal regulation and greenhouse gas emissions → Basin wide water strategies IDS: Basin-wide assessment with case studies **Ecosystem Services** Cropping potentials, biomass, NPP, **LCLUC: Selected rural communities** and plant biodiversity

## Approach

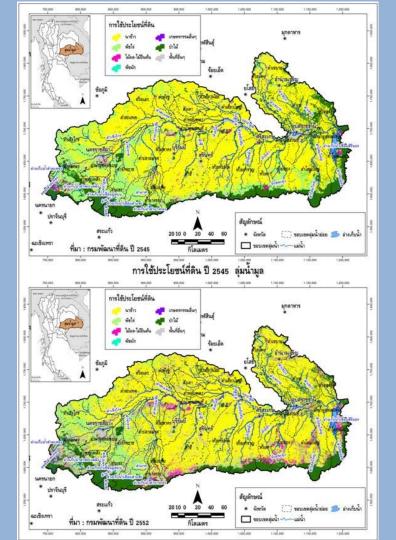
#### DAMS IN THE MEKONG



#### Pokhrel et al. 2012,



- Existing dams do not have significant impact on the flow in the mainstream
- Impacts on tributaries could be significant
- Future dams are likely to largely affect the mainstream flow



Land use type	Year 2002 (Km²)	Year 2009 (Km²)
Paddy	42,291.86	39,388.49
Vegetable	6.95	98.84
Field crops	10,751.36	8,568.19
Orchard	1,041.24	3,305.58
Other agricultural activities*	79.06	403.97
Forest	11,275.79	10,151.84
Miscellaneous**	5,613.72	9,143.06
Total	71,059.97	71,059.97

Source: Department of Land Development

<sup>\*</sup> aquaculture, diversified farm, pasture etc.

<sup>\*\*</sup> urban/built up land, water body

## Mekong researchers seek ways to improve dams

16 Mar 2018 at 14:21 791 viewed To comments From Bangkokpost, March 18, 2018

WRITER: THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION



## An international meeting on ASIA WEF NEXUS & AGRICULTURE

AUGUST 13-17, 2018 VIENTIANE, LAOS



















