Designing for the legal framework for the river basin organization for international water resources

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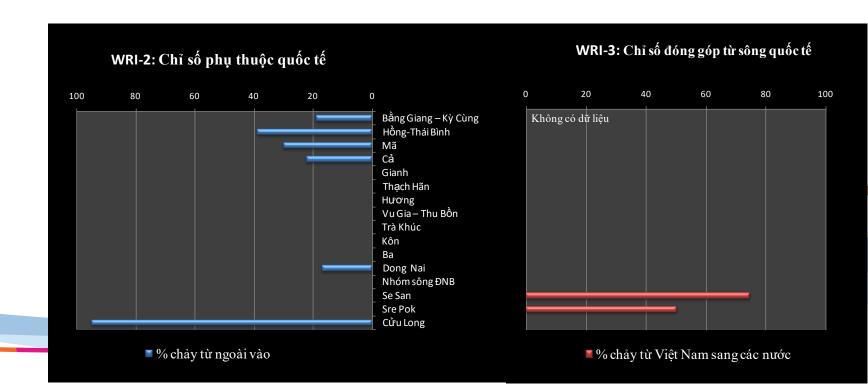
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Conclusion

- 3,450 rivers and streams with lengths from 10 km, located in 108 river basins with a total area of over 1,167 million km2, including 9 large river systems (basin area greater than 10,000 km2), including: Hong, Thai Binh, Bang Giang Ky Cung, Ma, Ca, Vu Gia Thu Bon, Ba, Dong Nai and Mekong River.
- The total average annual amount of surface water is 830-840 billion m3, of which more than 60% of the water is generated from the upstream countries
- Vietnam's four key river basins, where 80 percent of Vietnam's GDP is produced, are already facing water stress in the dry season: Hồng, Thái Bình, Dong Nai, Cuu Long and South East River Cluster (3/4 are international water sources)

The important role of international water sources



History of the RBO in Vietnam – toward IWRM approach

3 River Basin Environment **Protection Committees** (RBEPCs) (with greater environmental focus) established by MONRE and located in VEA since 2006.

2006

A new Division of River Basin Management under MONRE's Department of Water Resources management was established to coordinatewater resources manage- ment and monitoring at river basin scale, including theestablishment of new RBOs.

2014

1998

Law on Water Resources 2001

8 River Basin Planning Management Boards (RBPMBs) established by MARD with international support from 2001-2006

2008

The Prime Minister offcially assigned MONRE to coordinate water resources management in river basins, including **River Basin Organizations** (RBOs). MONRE has since prepared to instate a River

Basin Committee (RBC)

Law on Water Resources

2012

2020

Assign additional functions of RBOs of the Cuu Long, Sesan - Srepok river basin to the Vietnam MRC

2022

Law on Water Resources (Amended)







Mekong River Commission

1995 – Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin, with C, L, T and V as members. China and Myanmar joined as "Dialogue Partners" in 1996.

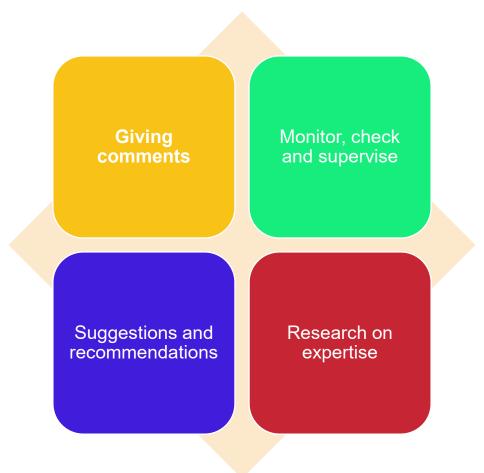
- Legal: Mekong Agreement (replaced all previous MC agreements), added MRC Procedures Institutional: MRC (Council, JC, Secretariat), added Summit, Expert Groups, committees, Regional Stakeholder Forums
- Strategic: formulated Basin Development Strategy, other thematic/sector strategies, but no BDP yet
- Technical: expanded monitoring, added forecasting, improved assessments/studies, guidelines



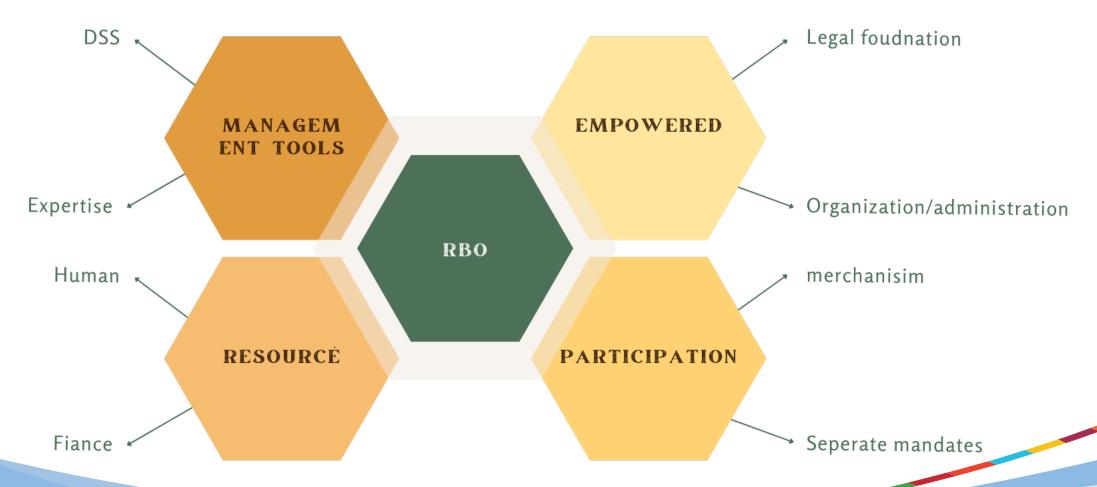
RBO: challenges and opportunities



Legal foundation for RBO in the LWR (amended)



Way forwards



Thank you!

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