



Insights on international development and its role in supporting sustainable practices for fish friendly water resources management (WRM)

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Strategic Position of Fish Friendly WRM in ADB Strategy

ADB Strategy 2030: Tackling Climate Change, Building Climate and Disaster Resilience, and Enhancing Environmental Sustainability, 2019-2024 (PRIORITY 3)



Natural capital management. ADB will assist DMCs to achieve the government's goals and targets related to natural capital management and biodiversity.

Sustainable water management. ADB will promote sustainable water management to address protect and restore biodiversity while supporting community livelihoods. This will include support for restoration, conservation and sustainable use of a range of important habitats.

Sustainable infrastructure design. ADB will focus its efforts to support the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services on linear infrastructure, biodiversity in agriculture landscapes, and environmental flows in hydropower projects.

Promote access to finance. ADB financing will support the greening of existing infrastructure in key sectors, such as natural resources management, ecosystem services, and biodiversity.

Fishways also Contribute to Other Priorities in ADB Strategy 2030

Operational Priorities

Addressing remaining poverty and reducing Inequalities (PRIORITY 1)



Promoting rural development and food Security (PRIORITY 4)



Contribution of Fishways

Fish are an essential dietary component and represent a livelihood opportunity. For impoverished people, the catching of wild fish or the raising of fish represents both survival and commercial options. Fishways are necessary for the preservation and maintenance of wild fish and other aquatic life.

Fishways are the very definition of climate-smart practices and improved natural resource standards. They are essential for food security and nutrition. They are also potentially economically viable and have rapid payback in some circumstances, as evidenced by the application of the Lower Mekong Fishway Support Tool.

Ongoing Projects for Fish Friendly Irrigation

Lao PDR: Northern Rural Infrastructure Development Sector Project (2010-2025)



Washed Away Nam Beng Weir



Improperly Designed
Fish Ladder



After Reconstruction

Fish Species
Caught in Nam
Ben Fishway



Ongoing Projects for Fish Friendly Irrigation Lao PDR: Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Watershed Management Sector Project (2020-2027) -

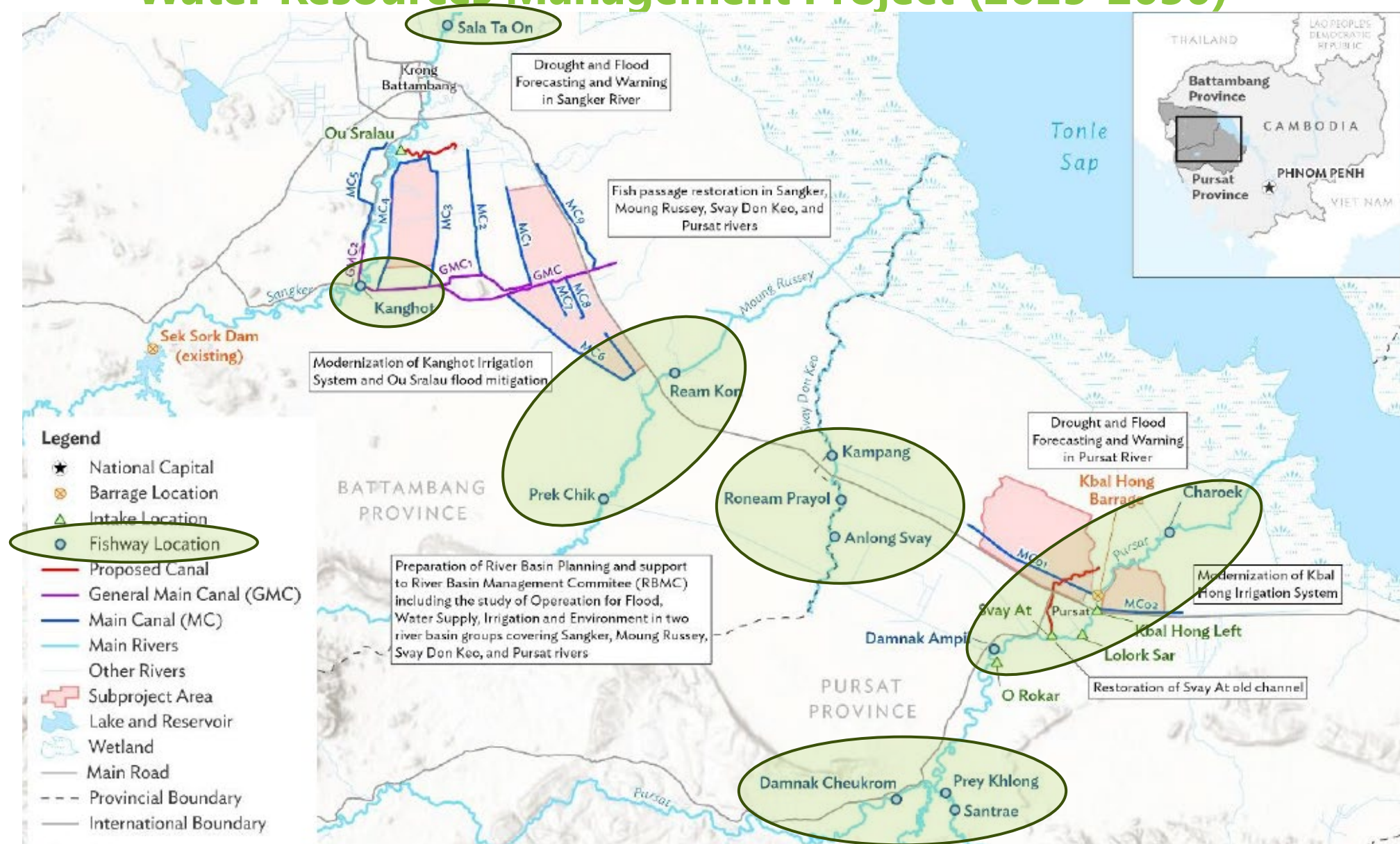
Houay Mak Hiao fishway was constructed on one of the flood regulators at “That Luang Marsh”, Vientiane Capital.



Fish Species
Caught in Houay
Mak Hiao
Fishway



Planned Constructions or Remodeling of Fishways under CAM: Integrated Water Resources Management Project (2025-2030)



Recommended Approach for Further Supports from ADB and others

- Fish Friendly WRM approach should go far beyond safeguard requirements.
- Agriculture, fish and fisheries, and WRM should be integrated when designing projects to realize greater synergistic benefits and foster a sustainable, nutritious and resilient food system, particularly in Lower Mekong River including Tonle Sap Basin.
- The above approach should become standard approach in WRM projects to be financed by donors.
- The above approach should be the good showcase and need to be replicated in other countries and basins.

Thank you very much for your
attention!

