

## Approaches to long-term planning of Mekong Delta in Vietnam



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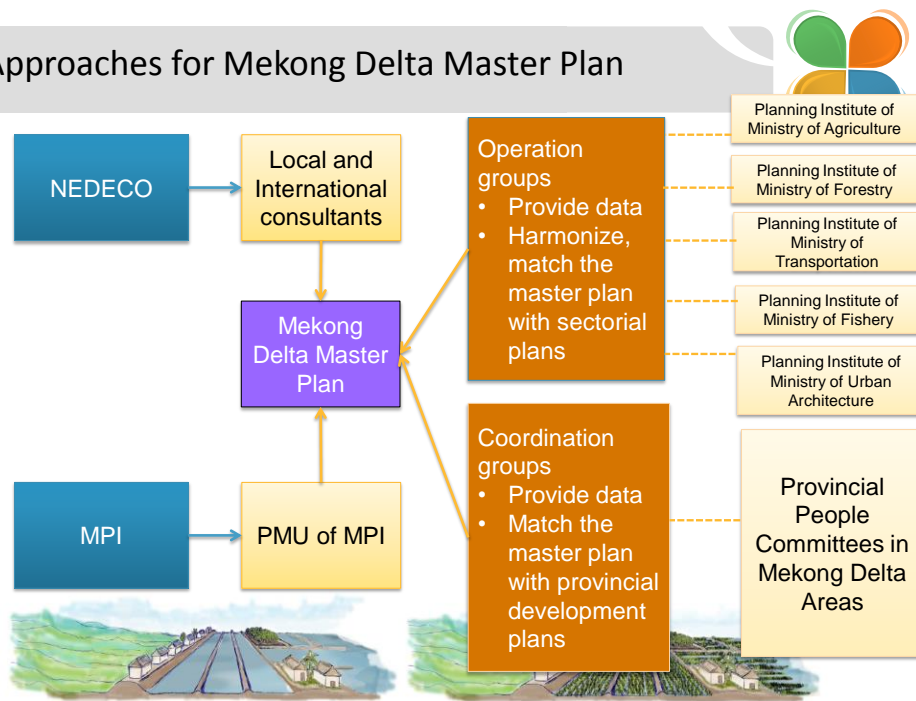
### Master Plan of Mekong Delta 1993



- Purpose: Master Plan for Mekong Delta Area
- Consulting agency: NEDECO
- Focal Point: Ministry of Planning and Investment (the ministry with critical strategic role in the economy)
- Project management unit: under MPI
- Participating partners: planning institutes of related ministries, local governments.



## Approaches for Mekong Delta Master Plan



## Approaches for Mekong Delta Master Plan

- During the planning stage:
  - All data for thematic studies and survey were collected and conduct by Vietnam partners under instruction of international experts to support for Master plan
- After the Mekong master plan completed:
  - PMU of MPI turned in to Mekong Delta Development Research Institute for further supervision of Mekong Delta area development in line with the Plan.
- Follow-up Investment projects by donor (WB, UNDP,...) use Mekong Delta master plan material and data during their projects design and implementation



## Strength



- Suitable for the planned economy of Vietnam at that moment.
- Strong and close coordination between consultants and local and central government. → consistency, high-level of enforcement.
- Cooperation between planner and donor for follow-up projects → Make the most of plan outcome.
- Participation of local universities and institute in the region → capacities enhancement for Vietnamese partners.



## Weakness



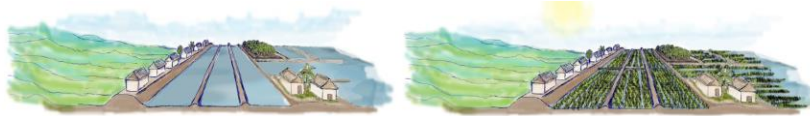
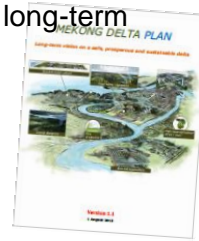
- Fail in setting a regional management board after the planning stage, to monitor implementation → Only a part of Mekong Delta development was following the MDMP orientation



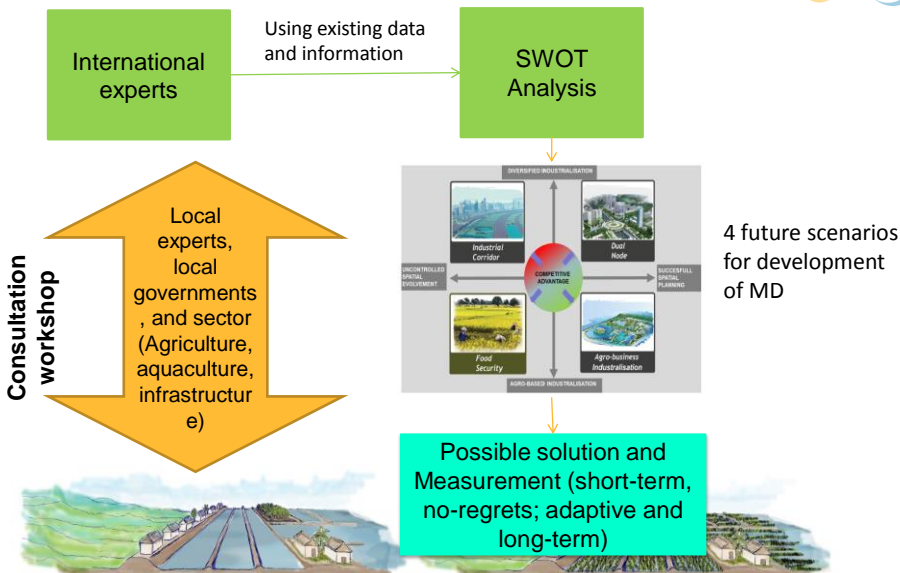
# Mekong Delta Plan 2013



- Purpose:
  - Present a long-term vision and advice to help the Mekong Delta effectively deal with the consequences of climate change, control flooding and food production
  - Giving strategic advice concerning the integrated long-term development of the Mekong Delta
  - Not a master Plan
- Consulting Agency: Royal Haskoning
  - Planning consultants: International experts
  - Data provided by DWRPIS, SiHYMETE, SIWRP, DRAGON-CTU



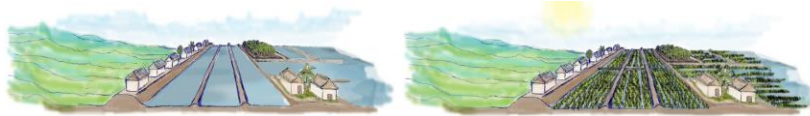
## Approaches for Mekong Delta Plan 2013



## Strengths



- More suitable with free-market economy
- Time shortened, cost reduced (by using existing data; analysis based on experts' experience and logic, rather than using complicated models)
- 4 scenarios proposed with relatively high persuasiveness



## Weaknesses



- No capacity enhancement for local officers
- Giving political suggestions and options rather than proposing landscape layout or specific investment orientation.
- Low level of dissemination
- Low enforcement, low connection with sectorial and regional plans.

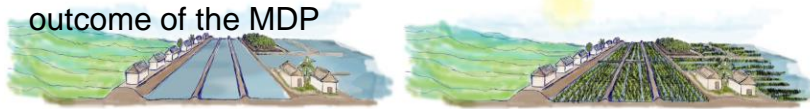


## Potentials and Obstacles



- Independent planning approaches of MDP:
  - Provide objective perspectives (not affected from politicians)
  - Challenger by changing in delta situation
  - Need more interaction between experts and local society
- The MDP will be a successful instrument if:
  - The local leaders in MD:
    - Have strategic vision
    - Be able to overcome the term-of-office mindset
    - Institution for regional linkages are set-up
    - Harmonize to the long term national development plan

→ With current Spatially fragmented institution, local leaders with term-of-office mindset → limit in applying outcome of the MDP



## Translate vision into investment and implementation programs



Successful translation requires:

- Wide-spread communication activities:
  - Educate the results of MDP to all stakeholders (people, central government, local government, investors...)
  - Maintain assiduous communication activities in future (e.g. By setting-up a specialized agency)
- Continuously update MDP in accordance with actual situations.
- Proactively giving advise to future development plans or adjust Delta Plan from national strategy.

