Brief introduction to the MK31, MK32 and MK33 projects



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The project's goals are:

- To strengthen the capacity for undertaking research and policy engagement of scholars and practitioners of water, land and energy use, management and governance in the Salween Basin.
- To research on and raise the profile of gender and other forms of social marginalization.
- To build a learning community amongst fellows who are scholars and practitioners, and link them across the Mekong, Red and Salween River basins.

The WLE program is a "Research 4 Development" project

Who is involved?

- Centre for Social Development Studies, Chulalongkorn University (Nu-Thanlwin-Salween River Basin)
- Mekong Sub-region Social Research Centre, Ubon Ratchathani University (Mekong River Basin)
- Vietnam Academy of Water Resources (Red River Basin)
- Plus over eight "collaborating partners", including: MEI, RUPP, GMS Center, SEI, CSIRO, Ryerson University, and RCSD.
- With support from Australian Aid and the CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems













Who is involved?

You

How will these outcomes be achieved

- This project offers 36 university, civil society and government researchers a 16 month mentored fellowship program to research in the Mekong, Red and Salween River basins
- Each research fellow will produce *timely* and *needed* research, and share their findings through:
 - Writing a research report,
 - Producing a conference paper,
 - Writing a policy brief
 - Write a blog
 - Joining national and international conferences/ policy seminars

Research themes / outcomes

- Water Governance: The outcome sought under this focus is that negotiations and decisions about water-related policies, institutions and practices are more inclusive, informed and accountable
- Healthy Rivers: The outcome sought under this topic is that river management decisions within the Greater Mekong will be informed and strengthened by regionally-appropriate, equitable, river health frameworks, data collection and monitoring systems

Research themes / outcomes

- River Food Systems: Projects focusing on this topic will aim to deliver the following outcome: Decisions on locating, designing and operating water infrastructure are improved with evidence of the impacts and opportunities they create for river food systems, both now and in the future.
- Healthy Landscapes and Ecosystems: The outcome sought under this topic is that large-scale land use management decisions and investments will employ landscape planning and management methods that take into account riverine ecosystem services with a focus on river health, water supply, aquatic ecosystems and impacts on local livelihoods and development.

Research themes / outcomes

 Gender and Social Justice: Understand how gender, class and ethnic considerations/ prejudices are embedded into water governance arenas

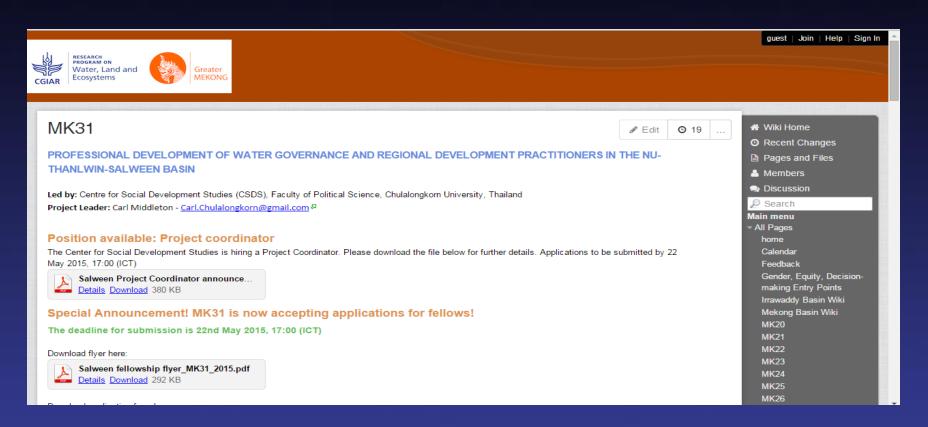
Gender is an important cross-cutting theme

More details are here...



http://wle-mekong.cgiar.org/

... and here...



http://wlemekong.wikispaces.com/MK31 http://wlemekong.wikispaces.com/MK32 http://wlemekong.wikispaces.com/MK33

... and soon here...



http://csds-chula.org/salweenmekongred-fellowship/

Opportunities for research fellows

- Capacity building and networking
 - Individual mentoring by an experienced practitioner
 - Partnership with a "buddy mentor" for practical advice and to build relationships across fellowship cohorts
 - 3 regional workshops on research design, fieldwork methodologies, and writing (2015-2016)
- Organizational capacity building
 - Water governance curriculum workshop (2017) for university researchers, government officials, and civil society

Opportunities for research fellows

- Policy engagement
 - Participate in two annual "WLE Mekong Forums on Water, Food and Energy"
 - Competitive funds available to join additional relevant conferences and policy forums
- 24 research fellows will be invited to extend their fellowships to produce a book chapter or academic paper (late 2016-2017)

Any Questions?