Reporting on Langcang from the China Side

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Wang Yan
Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
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Content

1. Situation in Source of Lancang
2. Lancang-Mekong as a River System
3. Opportunities and Challenges
Situation in the source of Lancang
Religious and Cultural background vs. local landscape

Naibeng Mt.

Walie Mt.

Dorje Senpa Mt.
Unique topography and embedded temple
nature culture religion and people

Temple and hermit lama
Although China boasts about 10,000 protected areas, it lacks a unified system to regulate and safeguard these regions.

In June 2015, the central government announced nine pilot national park projects (up to 13 until today) to be launched across the country.

One of these pilot park areas will be in a 123,000-square-kilometer region within Qinghai Province’s Sanjiangyuan Area.
Sanjiangyuan Area

The headwaters of the powerful Yellow, Yangtze and Mekong rivers all flow from this region, which provides 15 percent of the Mekong’s water discharge, 25 percent of the Yangtze’s and 49 percent of the water surging in the Yellow River.

Qinghai Province
Lancangjiang National Park

An area of 13,700 square kilometer including five towns with over 30,000 local people, most are nomads.
Lancang-Mekong as a River System

Background

- Reporting on individual side of the story --> journalists' cross border collaboration on reporting a transboundary river
- Competition and confliction water resource management --> International cooperation perspective
- Reporting on unfulfilled dams, impact and benefits etc. --> Mechanism of potential cooperative management of existed hydro facilities along the river
Opportunities and Challenges as Journalists

- Reporting from the cultural perspective of local communities along the river. e.g. Exploring cultural connotations of the river in the source area, so that the planning national park could protect both ecology as well as people's cultural and religious heritage.

- Reporting on the international interaction among riparian countries through platforms and programs by regional intergovernmental organizations including LMC and MRC.
Challenges

- 1. Balancing report on transboundary rivers
- 2. Opportunities and funding resources to cover transboundary river from other countries