



GREATER MEKONG
SUBREGION
CORE ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM

Regional Conference

Biodiversity Conservation in Tropical Forests of the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS)

Experiences from GMS Core Environment Program

Siem Reap, 23-25 March 2016

(No Maps Version)

**Teo Dang Do, Biodiversity Landscapes & Livelihoods Coordinator
ADB- Environment Operations Center**

Ecosystem Service Value



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US\$ 153 billion in
pollination for
agriculture



US\$ 157 billion
Marine & related
industries



US\$ 200 billion
Cosmetics



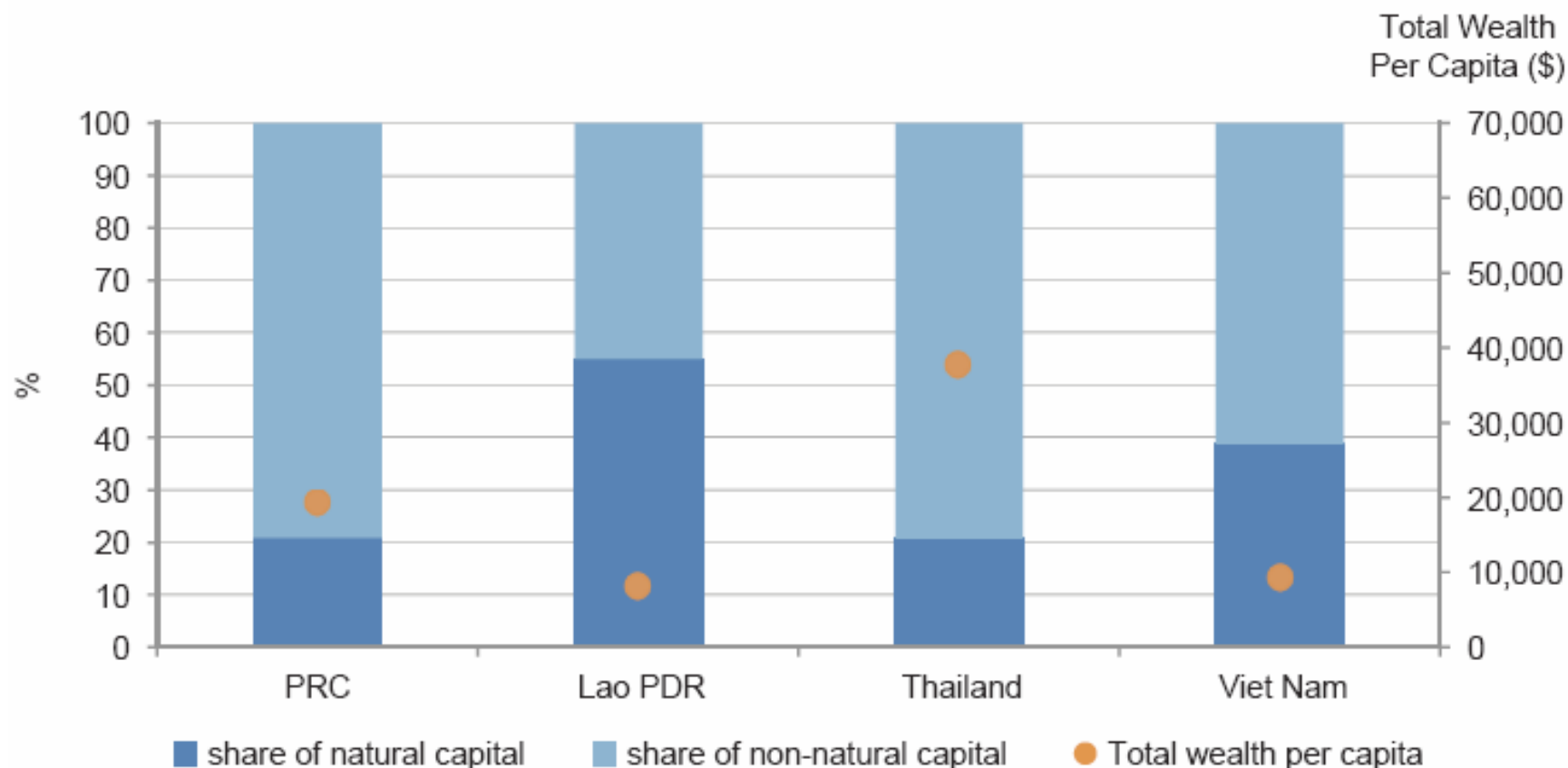
US\$ 400 billion
Timber industries

(Source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005)

Contribution of Natural Capital to the Total Wealth of GMS Countries



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PRC = People's Republic of China, GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion, Lao PDR = Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Note: No available data on Cambodia and Myanmar. Natural capital is calculated as the sum of the value of crop and pasture land, timber and non-timber forest products, protected areas, oil, natural gas, coal, and minerals. Non-natural capital is the sum of the value of net foreign assets, produced capital, and intangible capital.

Source: World Bank (n.d.[a]).

Two Faces of Development in GMS

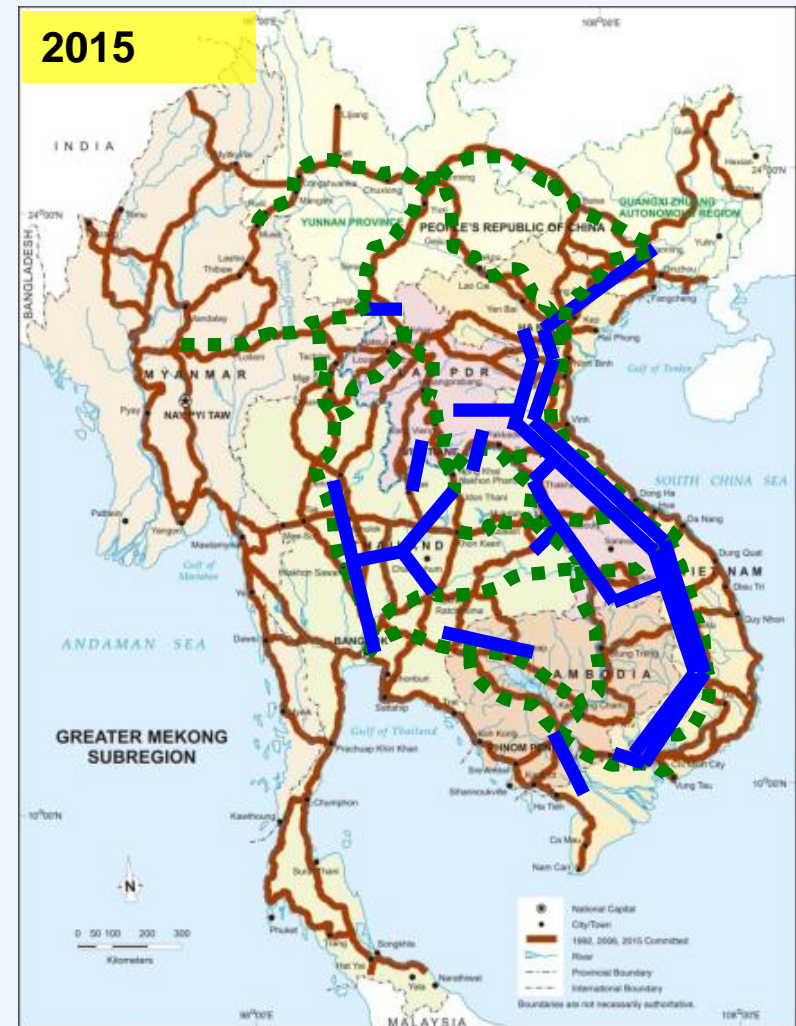


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Lost **10-12%** of
GDP in GMS



15 mil ha
forest lost
(**1/3 Laos**)



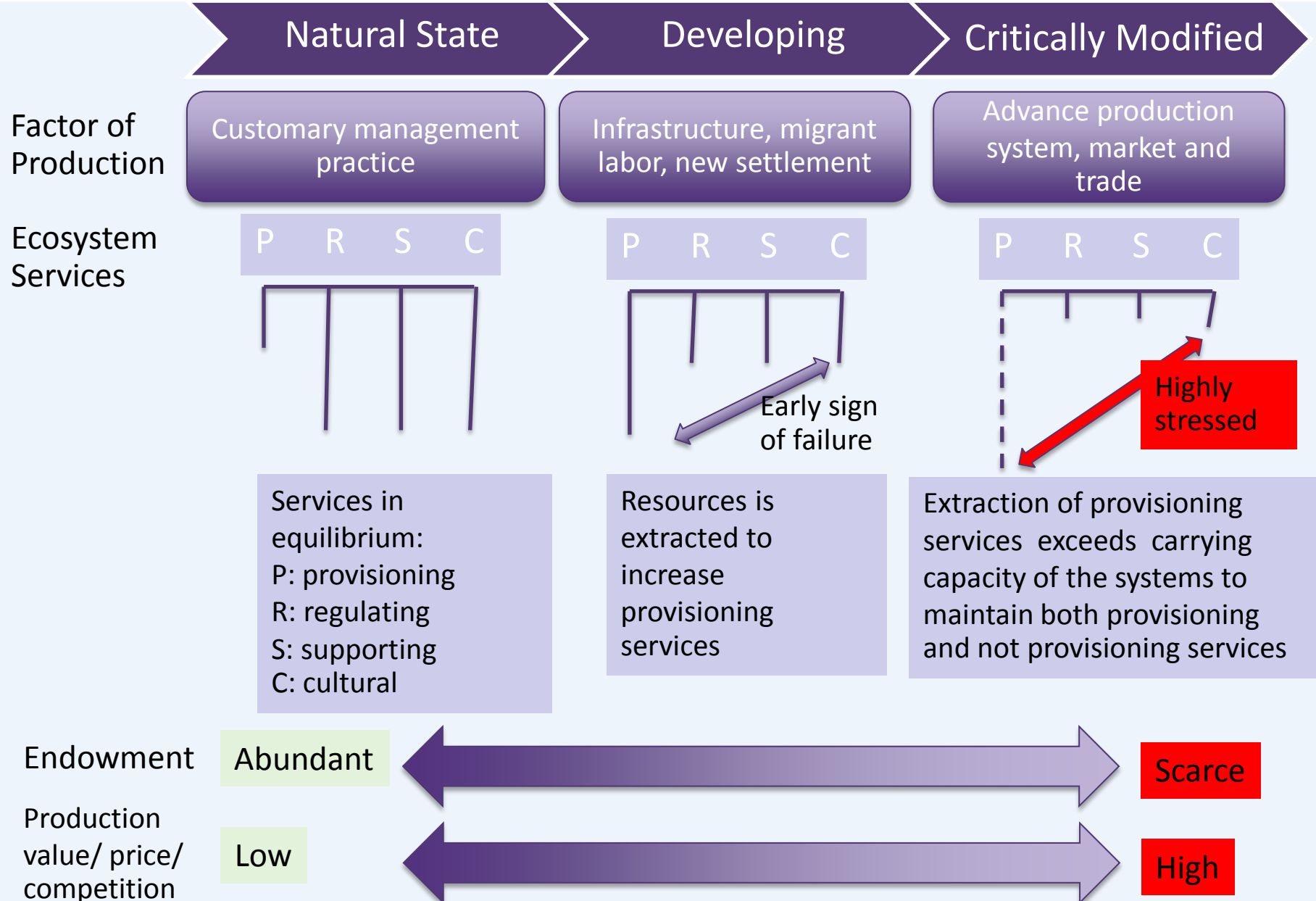
Roads
Telecommunications
Power Transmission Line

Forest loss 2000-2012 (Hansen et al., 2013)

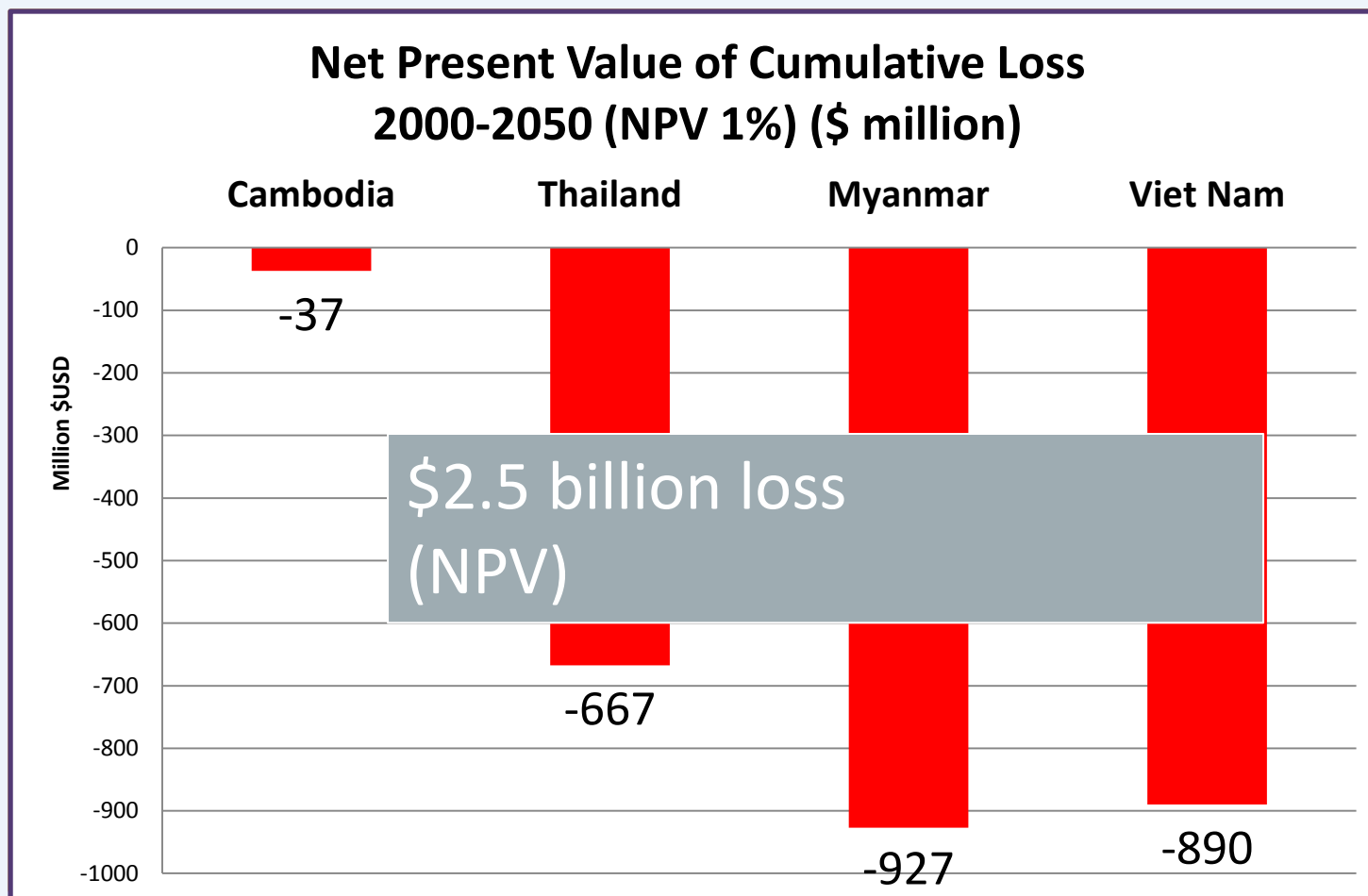
Modification of natural capital



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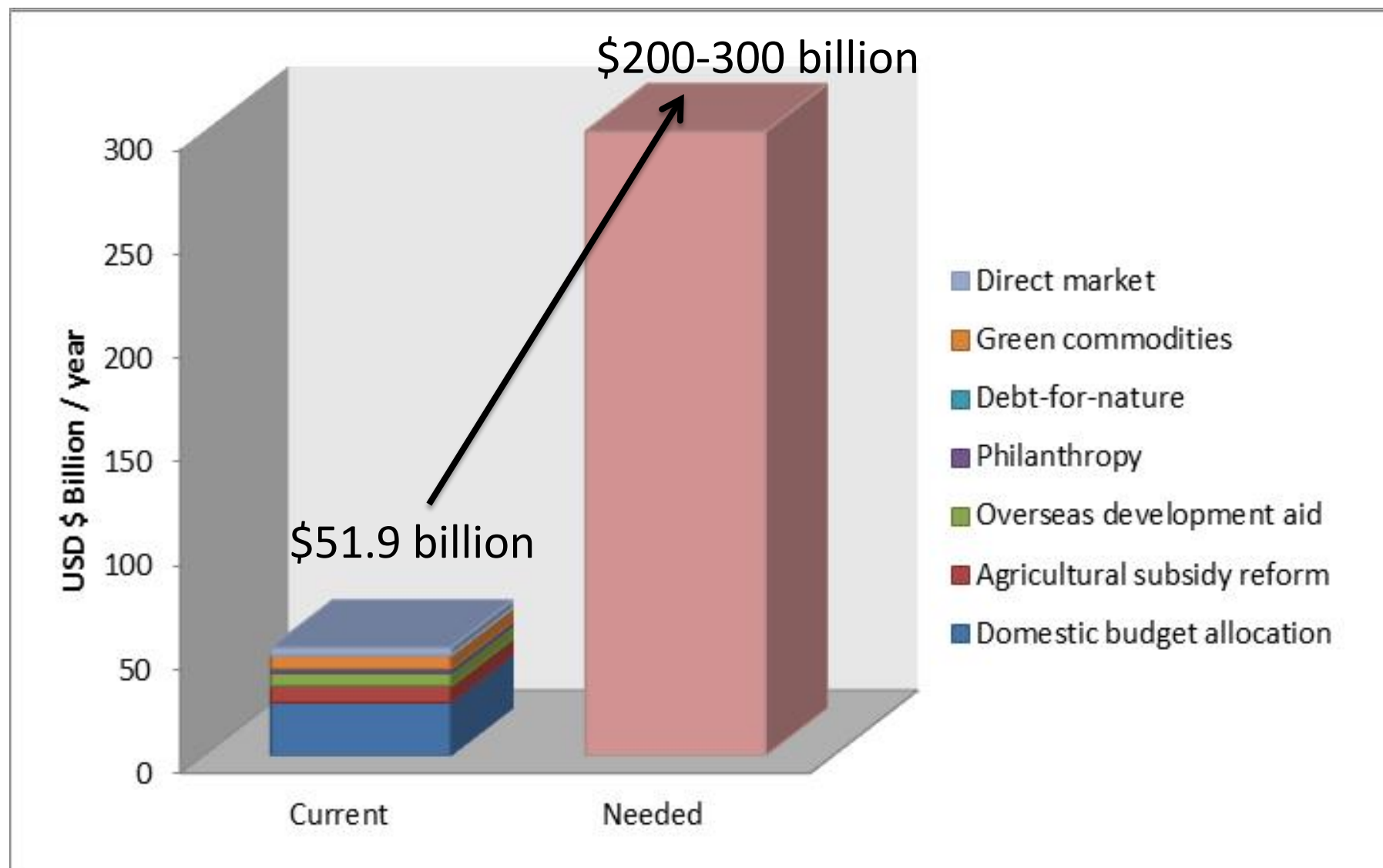
Implications of loss? Example



Investment gap and financing options

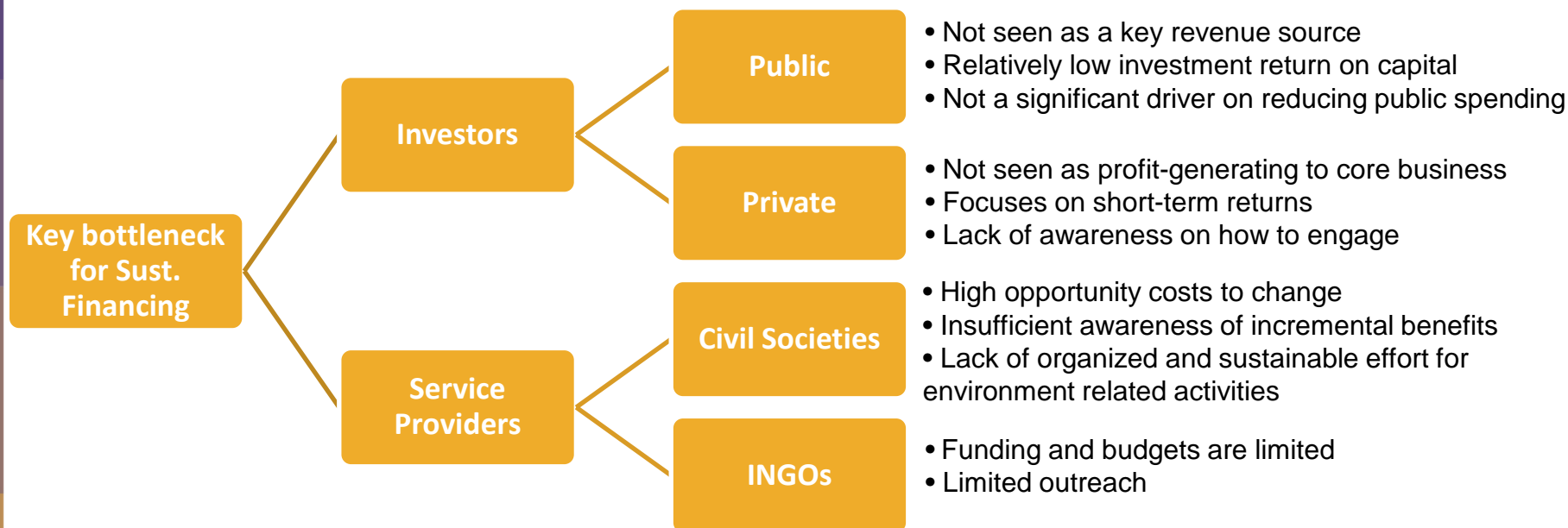


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Source: WWF and Credit Suisse Group, and McKinsey & Company (2014)

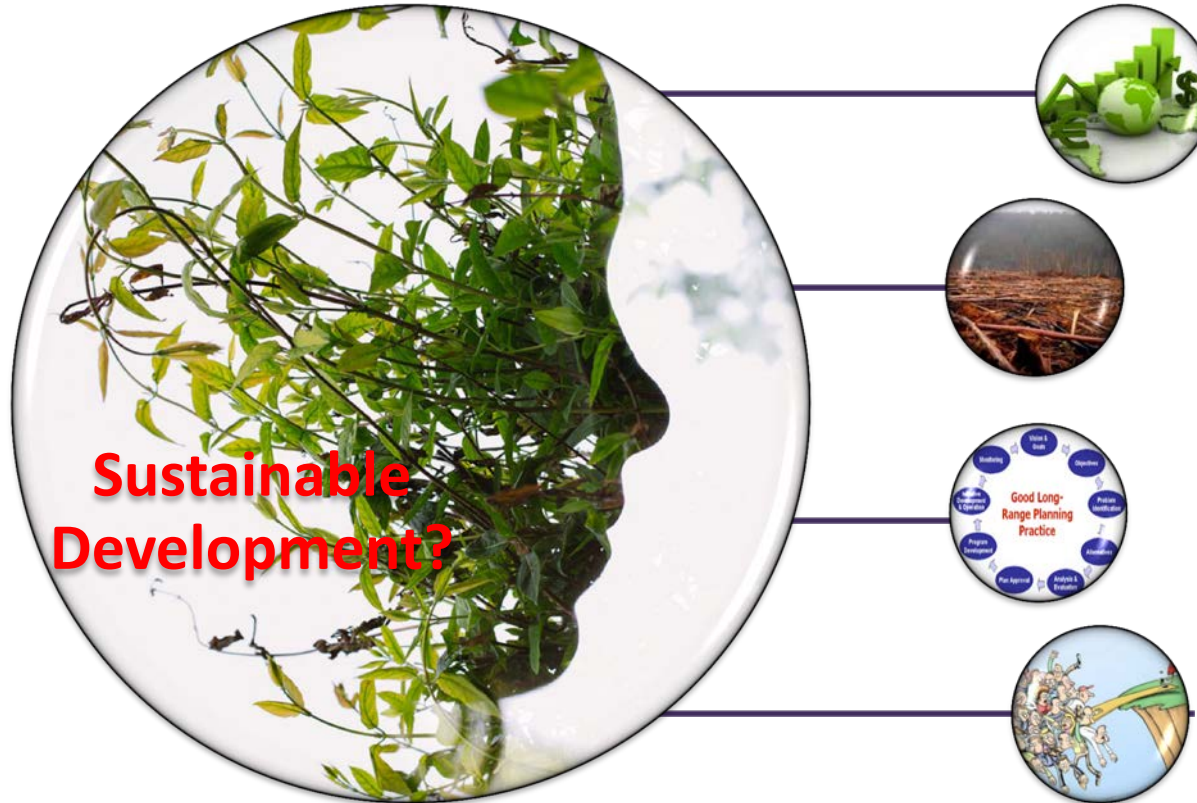
Challenges of mobilizing investments



How to Address the Emerged Challenges?

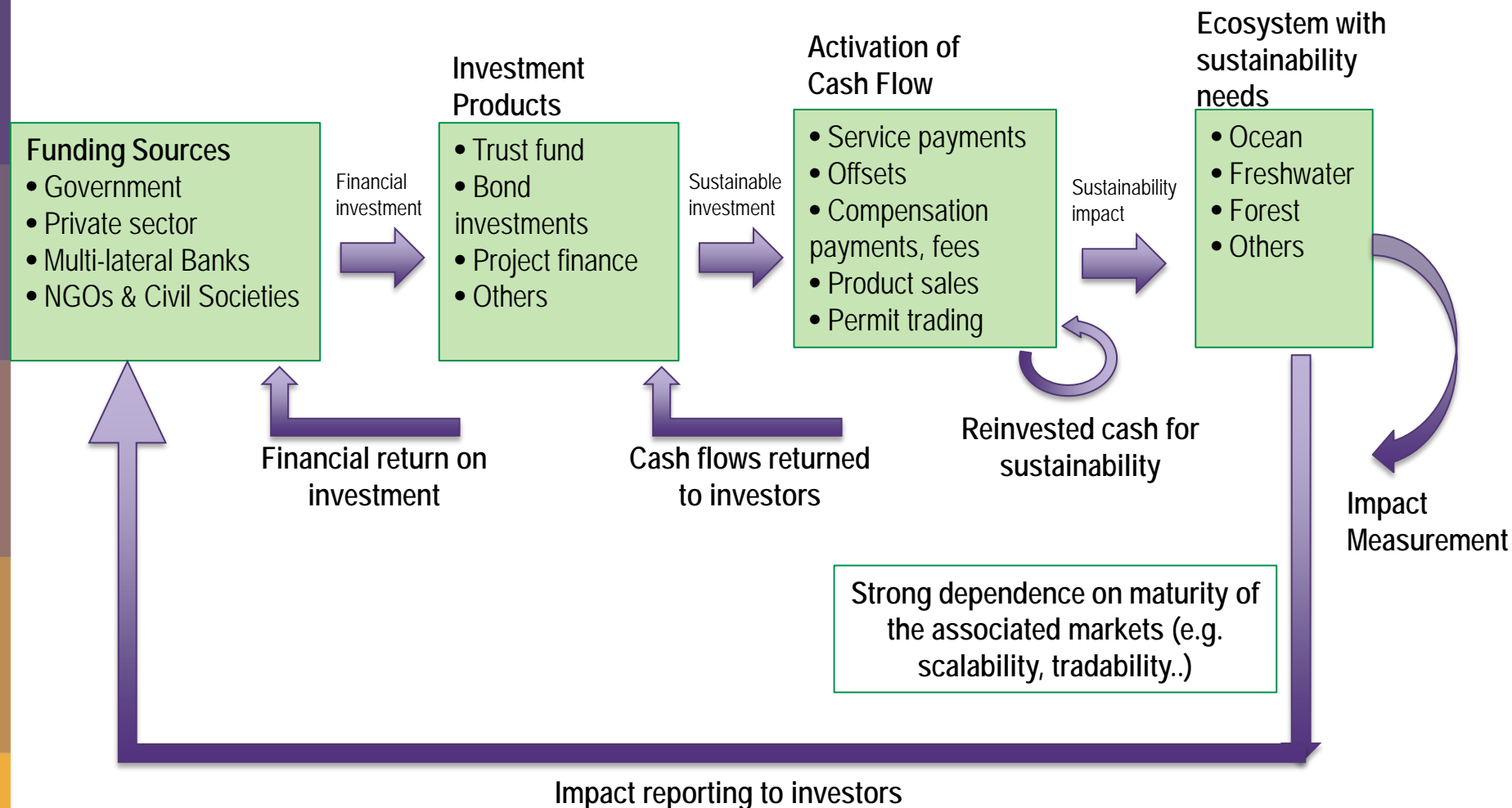


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Greater Mekong Subregion
Core Environment Program
(CEP)

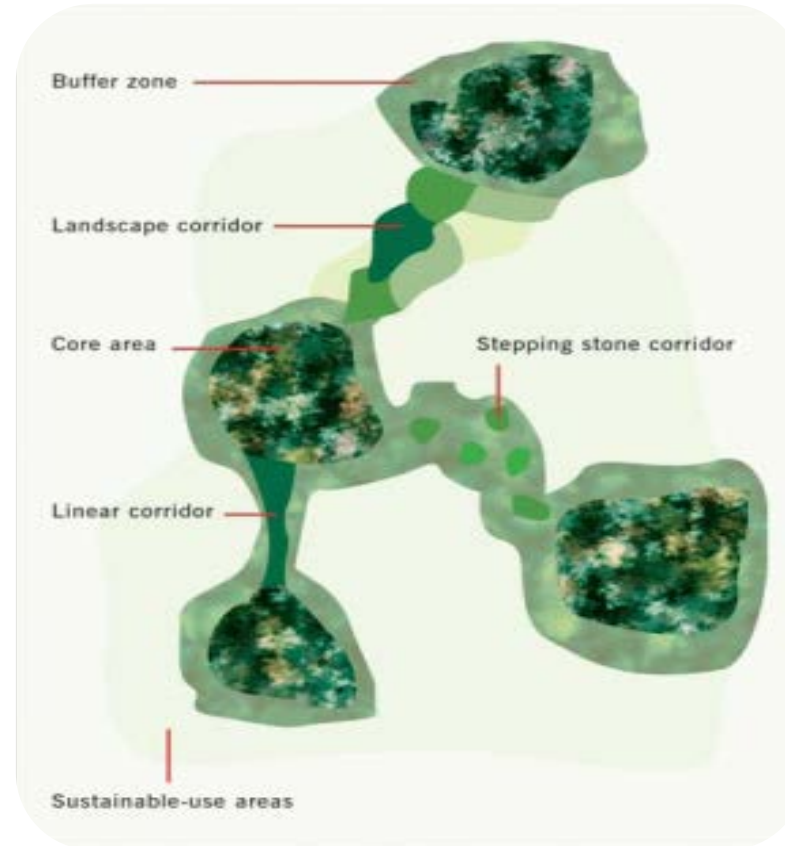
Recommendations: Sustainable Financing Design for NRM



Technical Resolutions: GMS CEP is catalyzing changes in conservation paradigm...



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Protected
Area

Biodiversity
Corridor

Landscape
Management

...by facilitating investment in natural resources management



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...To date CEP has leveraged over US\$ 90 million investment in natural resources & biodiversity conservation...

...Total value of ecosystem services assessed in biodiversity conservation corridor areas amounts to US\$ 9.3 billion...

...Significant potential for value chain development and employment generation....

Seven Landscapes in the GMS



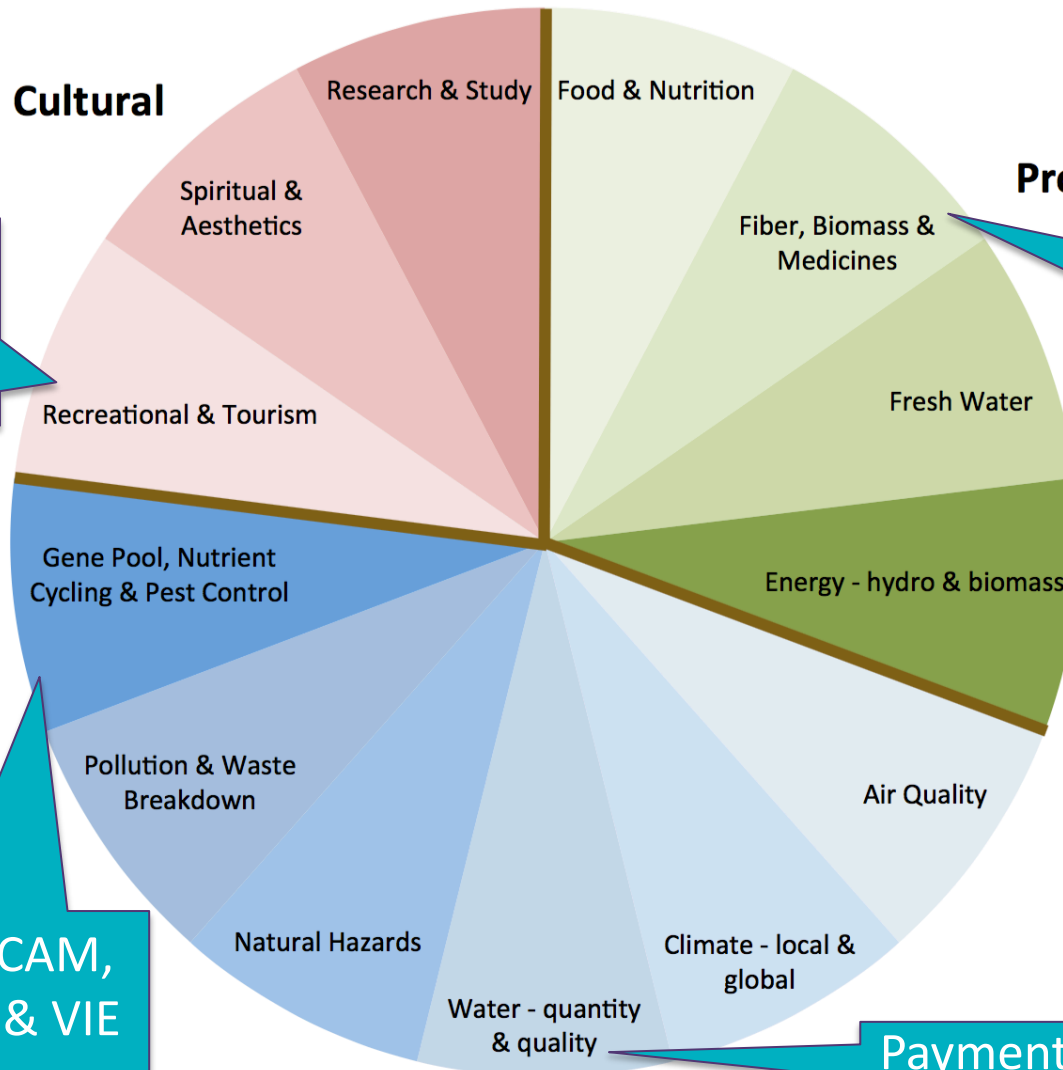
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Landscapes	Countries
Mekong Headwaters	PRC, Lao PDR, Myanmar
Sino-Vietnamese Karst Landscapes	PRC, Viet Nam
Central Annamites	Lao PDR, Viet Nam
Tri-border Forest	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam
Eastern Plains Dry Forest	Cambodia, Viet Nam
Cardamom Mountains	Cambodia, Thailand
Western Forest Complex	Myanmar, Thailand

Key Outcomes on Ecosystem Services



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Ecotourism in Myanmar

Contingent valuation in Laos

- PES in Viet Nam & Laos

Biodiversity in CAM, PRC, LAO, THA & VIE

Payments for Ecosystem Services in Viet Nam & Laos

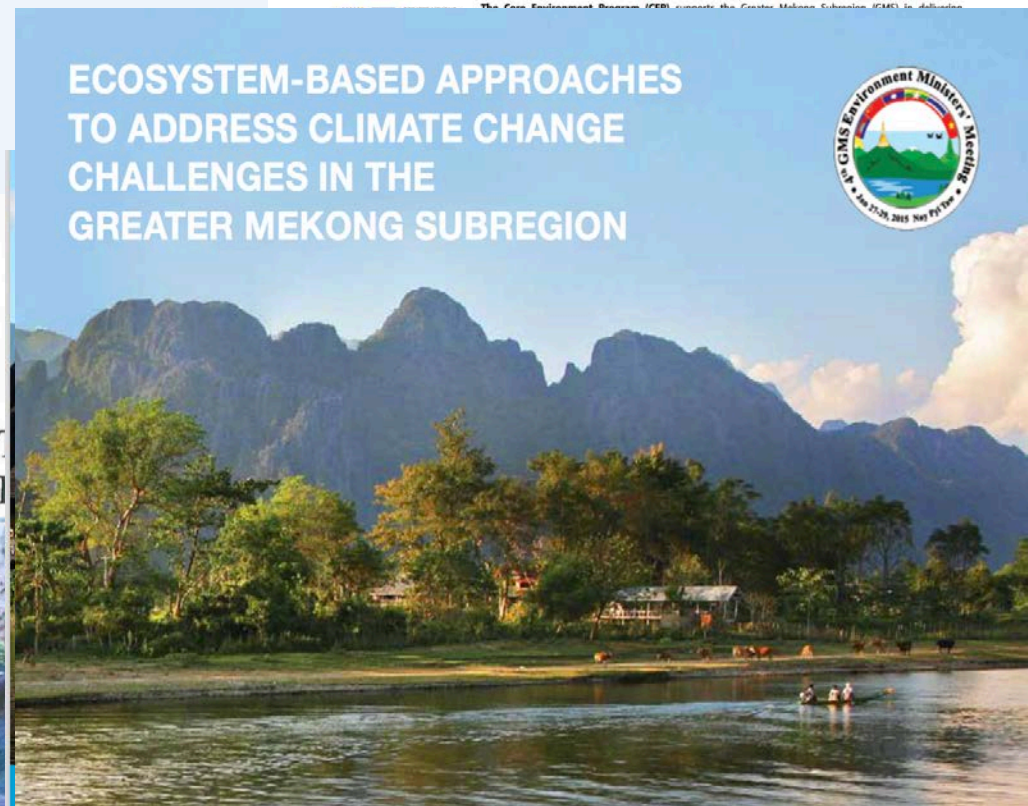
Regulating and Maintenance

Example: Leverage & Deliverables



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- **69 Million USD** to invest into biodiversity corridor conservation projects in Cam, Laos, Viet Nam



To safeguard the region's natural wealth and development gains in the face of climate change challenges, GMS countries need to strengthen the resilience of their natural and human systems.

The GMS must also harness opportunities to reduce its contribution to climate change. Ecosystem-based approaches can help GMS countries address these challenges by making use of ecosystems and

Key Messages

1. Ecosystem-based approaches are considered cost effective due to the multiple environmental, economic, and social benefits they can provide for human wellbeing and economic development.
2. Ecosystem-based approaches can strengthen the management of transboundary biodiversity.

Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation Cooperation



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1. Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) of Guangxi (PRC) and Cao Bang (Viet Nam) signed in May 2015

- Goals: Strengthen transboundary on biodiversity conservation via 5 priorities: (e.g. Development of a long-term joint management strategy for transboundary bio. Conservation)

2. MoU of Yunnan (PRC) and Luang Namtha (Laos) signed in early Sept 2015

E.g. Trans-boundary Elephant Survey and its Protection Action Plan

Survey on its population, habitat and mitigations pattern. And then to design the Action Plan for conserving them.

GMS Statistics

Browse Indicators

GMS Overview

Country Overview

Cambodia

Guanxi PRC

Yunnan PRC

Lao PDR

Myanmar

Thailand

Viet Nam

GMS Statistics

Browse Indicators

GMS Overview

Country Overview

» Cardamon Mountains

» Eastern Plains Dry Forest

» Sino-Vietnam Karst

» Mekong Headwaters

» Tri-Border Forest

» Western Forest Complex

» Central Annamites

Site Overview

GMS Maps

Map Archive

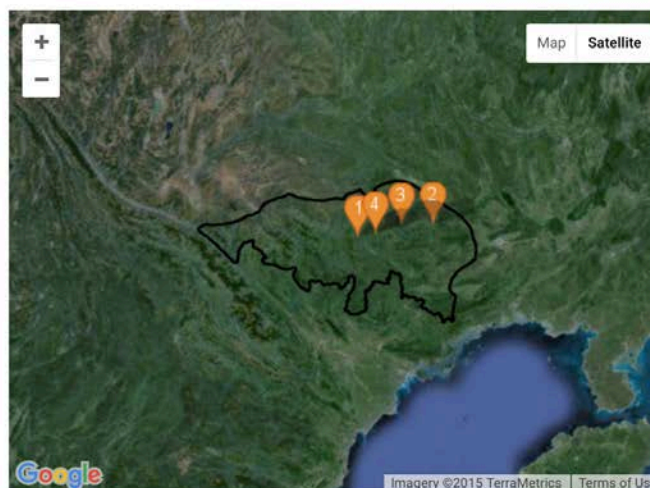
Interactive Maps

GIS Data

Key Indicators for Sino-Vietnam Karst

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Sino-Vietnam Karst

This Karst area is characterized by a unique surface and subterranean geomorphology, forming a diverse and visually impressive landscape, which creates many niche habitats for rare species, including the Cao-Vit gibbon.

[View stories](#)

Quick Facts

People and economy

Indicator	Year
Area of Transboundary Biodiversity Landscape (TBL)	2009 5,848,840 hectares

Environment and Natural Resources

Indicator	Year
Protected Areas	2009 36 area(s)

Lessons Learned



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1. **Political willingness** and **strong commitment** from Gov't
2. Active **participation and contribution** from academics, civil societies and private sectors
3. **Enabling conditions** and guidance- policy framework;
4. **Communications**, awareness raising and **capacity building**.
5. **Adequate resources and facilities** provided for practical implementation.
6. ***“ If we don't consider natural capital as important as financial capital, we will bankrupt” (ADB)***



Thank you!

Don't forget to visit:

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www.gms-eoc.org/gms-statistics

www.gms-eoc.org/online-library

Teo Dang Do

teododang@gmail.com