

South South Capacity Building for Ecosystem Management in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)



International Ecosystem Management Partnership
国际生态系统管理伙伴计划



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EMPL Project Team



**8 different UNEP technical units and
UNEP collaborating centers,
from 3 UNEP divisions
and 4 UNEP Regional Offices**



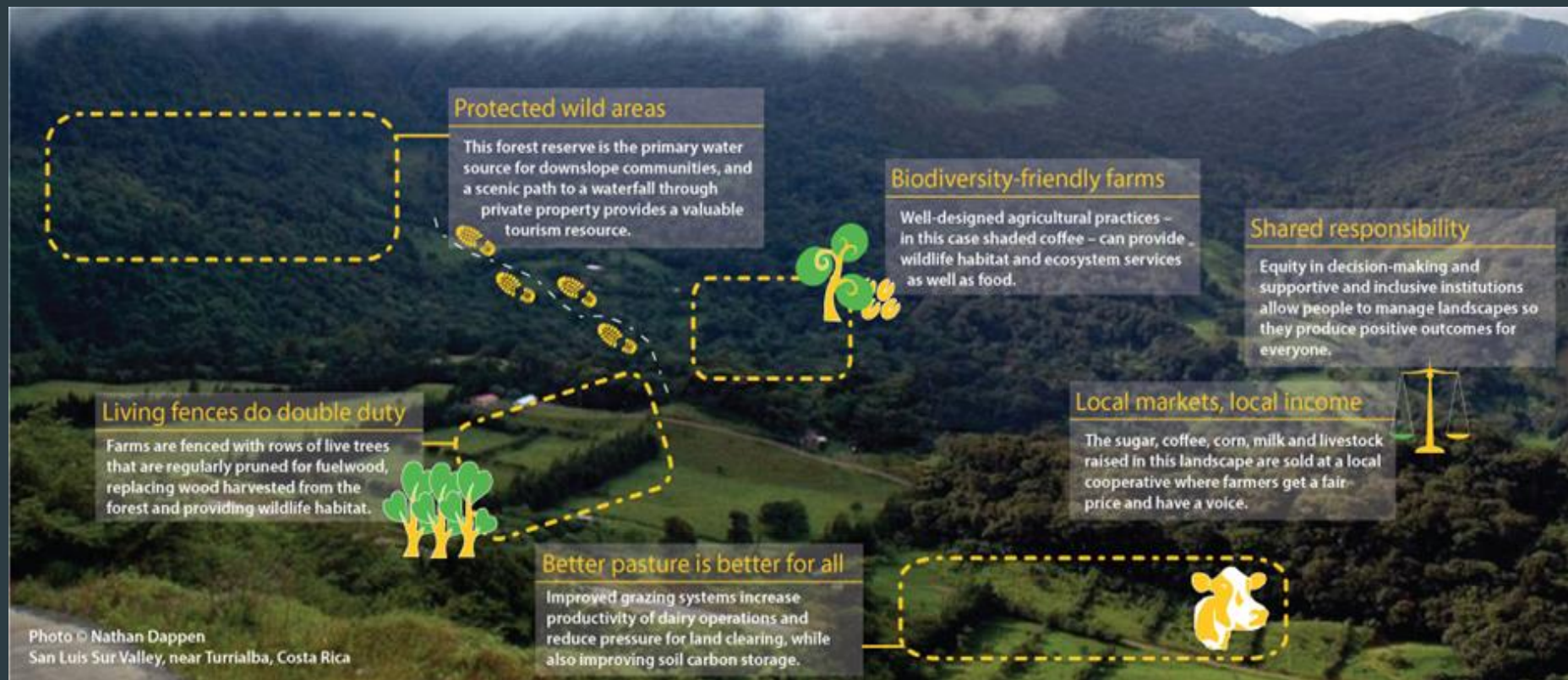


Ecosystem Management

through the 'landscape' approach

- ▶ The 'Landscape Approach'
- ▶ The EMPL project - *ecosystem management of productive landscapes* - supporting the **UNEP-IEMP Greater Mekong Sub-region initiative**





“LANDSCAPE APPROACHES SEEK TO PROVIDE TOOLS AND CONCEPTS FOR ALLOCATING AND MANAGING LAND AND WATER RESOURCES TO ACHIEVE MULTIPLE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES IN AREAS WHERE AGRICULTURE, HYDROPOWER, MINING AND OTHER PRODUCTIVE LAND USES COMPETE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND BIODIVERSITY GOALS” (UNEP PROJECT DOCUMENT)

Contents

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- 6) One regional team/One Mekong spirit

Project Justification

- ▶ Covers an area approximately 800,000 km sq
- ▶ Home to ~75 million people
- ▶ Depends on ecosystem goods and services
 - a) Provisioning services (food, fibre, water)
 - b) Supporting services (nutrient cycling, seed dispersal, biodiversity conservation, primary production)
 - c) Regulating services (carbon sequestration, waste decomposition, flood regulation, water supply and purification, sediment and nutrient retention, erosion control)
 - d) Cultural services (ecotourism, aesthetic value, recreation, education)

Project Justification

- ▶ Human-ecosystems interactions:
 - a) Fisheries along the length of the Mekong River
 - b) Aquaculture in the Mekong River Delta
 - c) Intensive paddy agriculture in the lowlands
 - d) Shifting cultivation in the uplands
 - e) Rice terraces and tea plantations in sub-tropics
 - f) Agro-pastoral system on the high plateau

Project Justification: environmental degradation

- ▶ Habitat destruction through 'slash-and-burn' agricultural practices
- ▶ Deforestation and loss of forest cover
- ▶ Damming of rivers for generation of hydro-electricity
- ▶ Over-fishing
- ▶ Construction of bridges for roads and railways

Aim of Project

Enhancing ecosystem management capacities



Kick-off a basin-wide process on capacity building for integrating ecosystem management into national and regional development planning



Identifying and prioritizing capacity needs, methods and tools, interactive consultation in the GMS

Issues

- ▶ Lack of regional consensus on key capacity needs for basin-wide ecosystem management in GMS
- ▶ Lack of methods and tools for integrating of ecosystem approach into national plans
- ▶ Lack of regional framework for capacity building
- ▶ Disconnection between upper and lower reaches
- ▶ Disconnection between science and policy

Activities

Activity 1: Engaging key stakeholders, including government representatives of the 6 GMS countries, regional institutions and development partners

Activity 2: Assessing the capacity needs to integrate ecosystem management into national plans and regional cooperation framework in the GMS

Activity 3: Building consensus on a framework for regional cooperation on capacity building in the GMS

CONNECTING SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY, POLICY-MAKERS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY VIA CAPACITY BUILDING INCEPTION WORKSHOP

DONGYING, CHINA
25-26 June 2015



Activity 2 with 4 Steps & 5 themes

- ▶ Step 1: Develop socio-economic scenarios (working partners: CAS-IGSNRR & ADB-EOC)
- ▶ Step 2: Impact assessment and implications of changes on ecosystems services including a field survey to typical sites (working partner: ICRAF)
- ▶ Step 3: Consultation on key lessons and experiences of national governments(after GMS inception/working with 6 GMS countries)
- ▶ Step 4: Gap analysis and development of a regional strategy for ecosystem management (working partners: ADB-EOC & MRC)

Activity 2: Framework of capacity needs assessment for ecosystem management in GMS (with 5 themes)

- ▶ Theme1: Ecosystem (forest, farmland, grassland, wetland and coastal)
- ▶ Capacity issues: ecosystem services
 - ▶ Provisioning: water, food & energy
 - ▶ Regulating: water storage, soil conservation, carbon sequestration
 - ▶ Supporting: biodiversity
 - ▶ Cultural: recreation and ecotourism

Activity 2: Framework of capacity needs assessment for ecosystem management in GMS

- ▶ Theme2: Economy/Business
- ▶ Capacity issues:
 - ▶ Input prices (land, water, energy)
 - ▶ Competition, structural change, output continuity, employment and tourism decline, waste, pollution, climate change

Activity 2: Framework of capacity needs assessment for ecosystem management in GMS

- ▶ Theme3: Community
- ▶ Capacity issues:
 - ▶ Equality, social exclusion, social cohesion
 - ▶ Physical health issues
 - ▶ Access to resources and services, costs of essential goods and services such as utilities pricing
 - ▶ Food costs and diet, liveability (for instance, accessibility, safety, amenity)

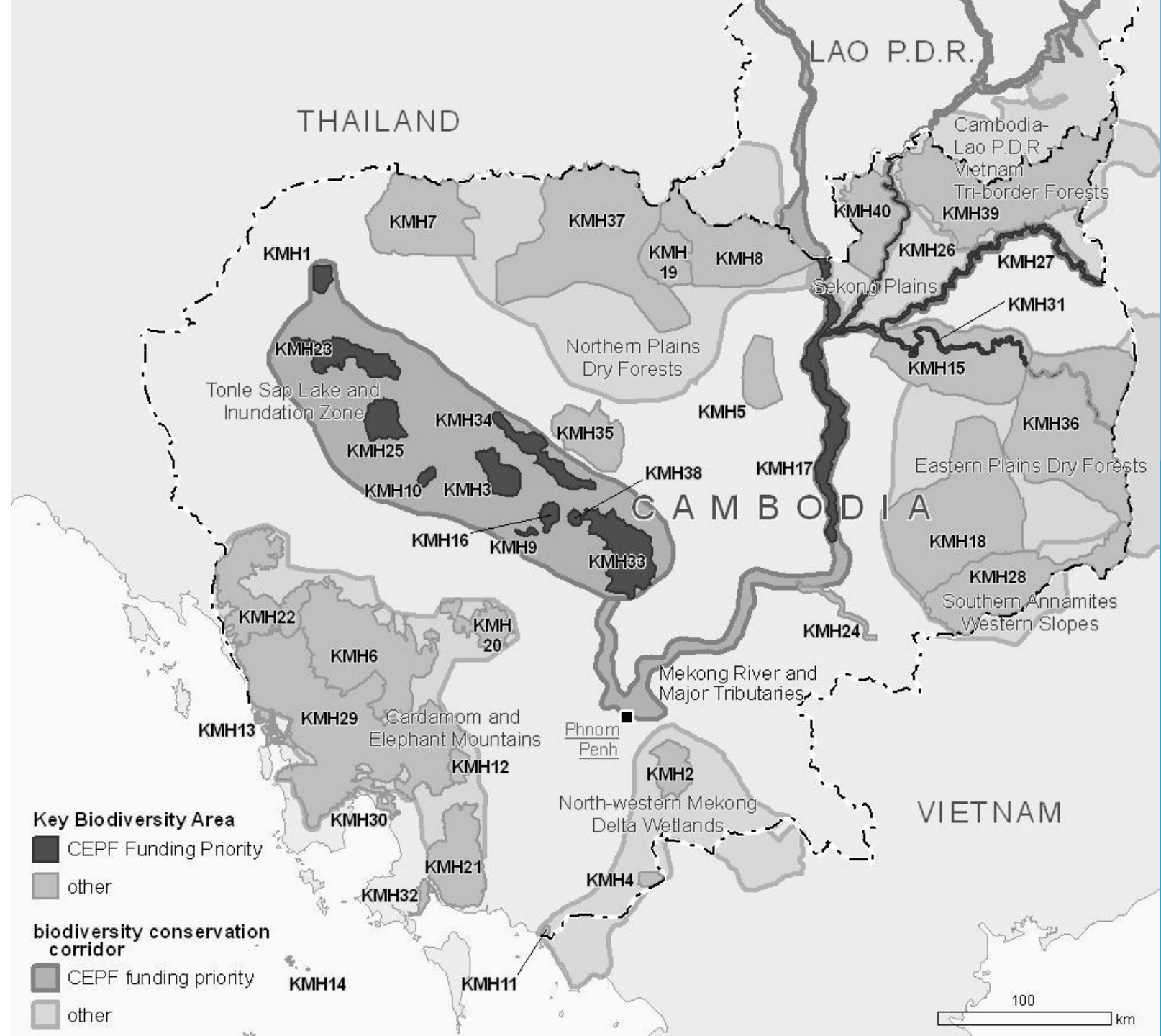
Activity 2: Framework of capacity needs assessment for ecosystem management in GMS

- ▶ Theme4: Infrastructure
- ▶ Capacity issues:
 - ▶ Transport, communications, urban facilities, maintenance and replacement, accessibility, institutional capacity etc.

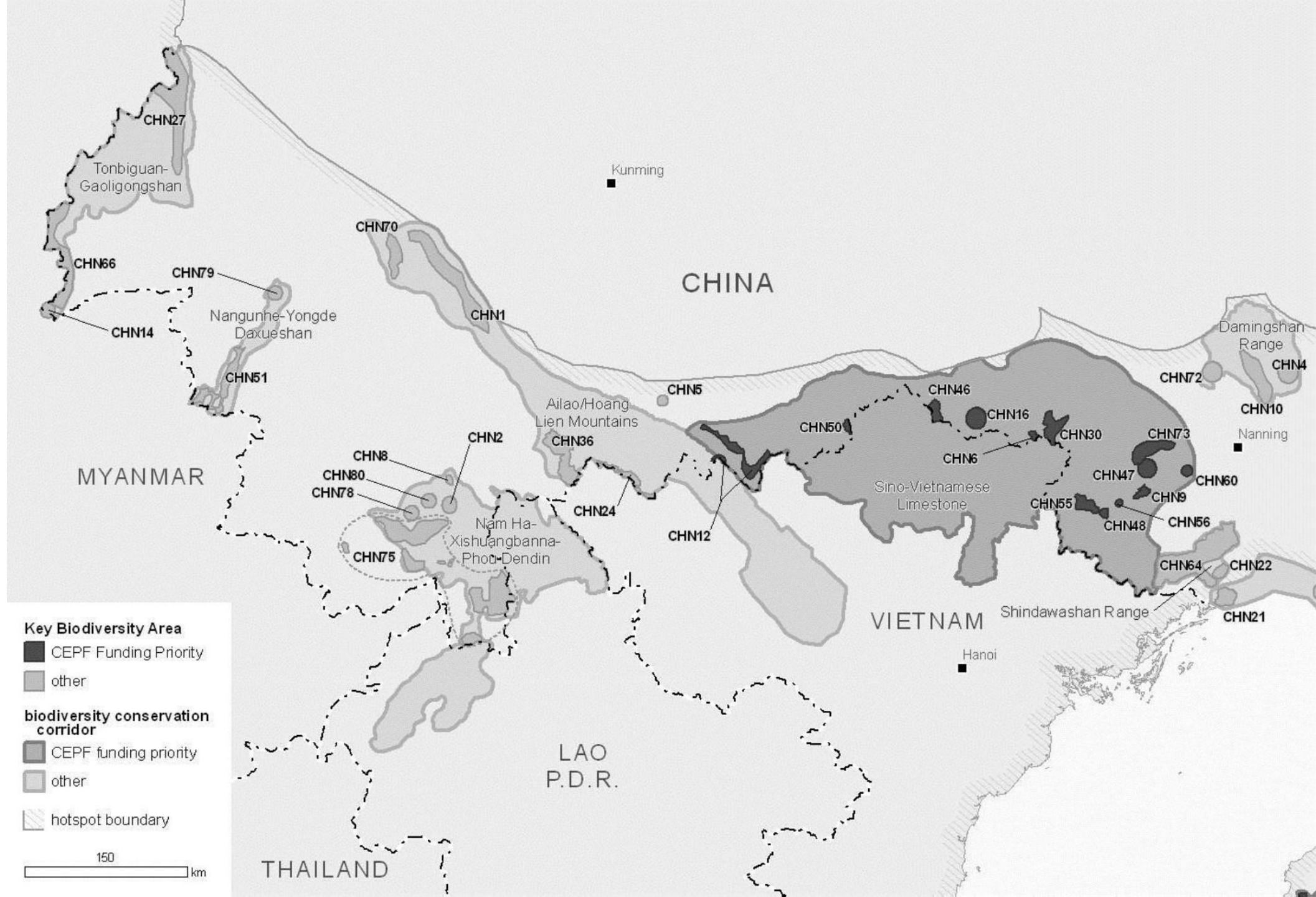
Activity 2: Framework of capacity needs assessment for ecosystem management in GMS

- ▶ Theme5: Capacity assessment/Primary stakeholders of GMS (regional, national, local levels)
- ▶ Capacity issues:
 - ▶ Monitoring and research facilities
 - ▶ Accessibility to data, information and expertise
 - ▶ Institutional capacity to use ecological data and information
 - ▶ Ability to mobilize the resources - financial, information/knowledge, human resource and technology
 - ▶ Pattern of coping with changes /impacts

CAMBODIA



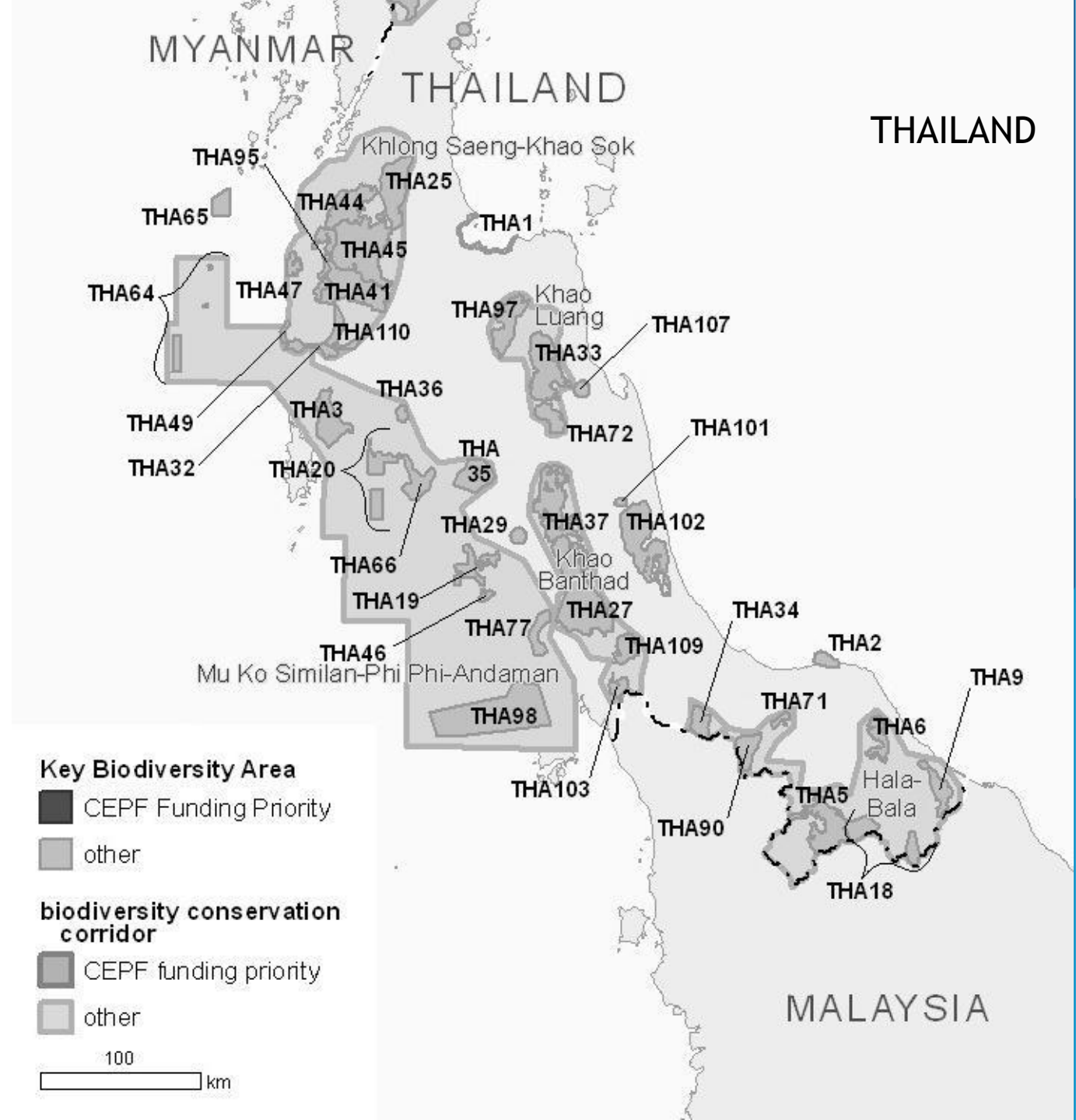
CHINA



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Activity 3

Building consensus on capacity needs and priorities, as well as increased capacity on ecosystem management of participating countries and organizations (partners: CAEC + MRC)

Drivers

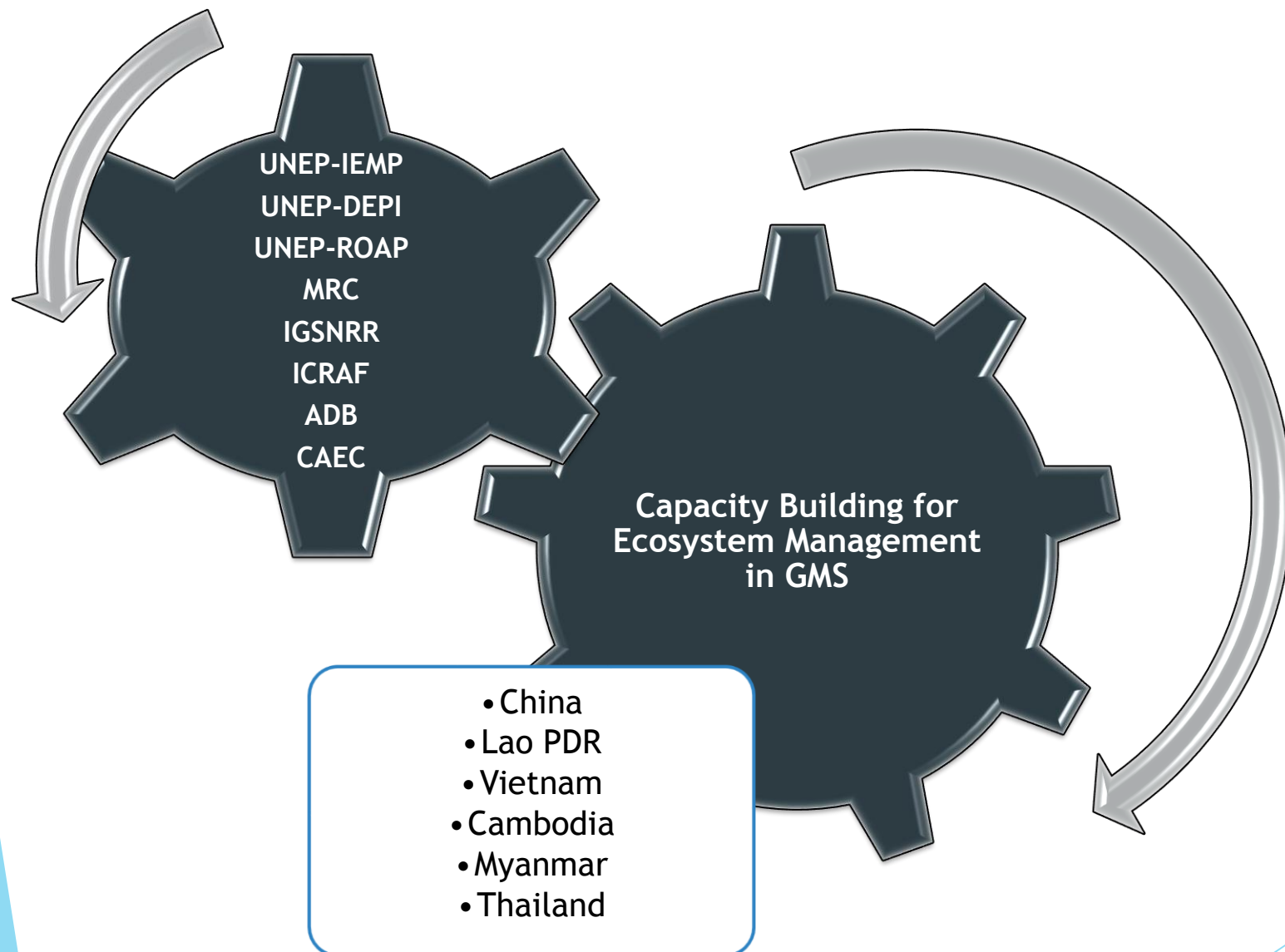
- ▶ Land use and development characteristics
- ▶ Resource use, production and consumption processes
- ▶ Social dynamics and governance
- ▶ Climate change, natural disasters and extreme weather

ONE REGIONAL TEAM
ONE MEKONG SPIRIT

CONNECTING UPPER WITH LOWER MEKONG

COMPLEMENTING
ECOSYSTEM
MANAGEMENT
WORKS
IN THE GMS







THAILAND



LAO PDR

Thank you very much

- ▶ COOPERATION
- ▶ PARTNERSHIP
- ▶ OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION (GMS) TO CREATE ENABLING CONDITIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS BY BRIDGING SCIENCE-POLICY GAPS