

Weekly Flood Situation Report for the Mekong River Basin

Prepared on: 04/10/2010, covering the week from the 27th September to the 3rd October 2010

Weather Patterns, General Behaviour of the Mekong River and Flood Situation

General weather patterns

During the week of the 27th September to the 3rd October 2010, seven weather bulletins were issued by the Department of Meteorology (DOM) of Cambodia and made available to the MRC-RFMMC. The weather patterns of the 27th September to the 3rd October bulletins are shown below:

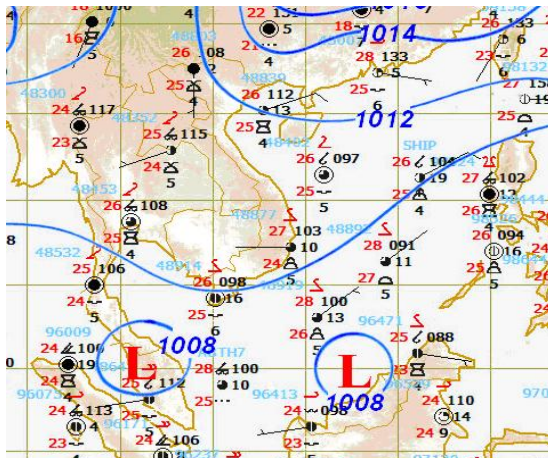


Figure 1: Weather map of 27 September 2010

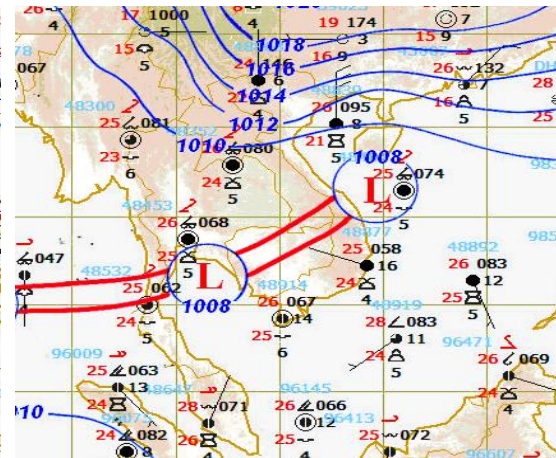


Figure 2: Weather map of 03 October 2010

Strong South-West (SW) Monsoon

From the 01st to the 03rd October, active SW monsoon trough laid across Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Viet Nam and the lower part of LMB at the surface during last week (figure 2).

Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)

ITCZ was observed from the 30th September and laid across lower part of LMB, Cambodia, Thailand, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam (figure 2).

Tropical depressions (TD), tropical storms (TS) or typhoons (TY)

No TS or TD was observed in last week.

Other weather phenomena that affect the discharge

No other weather phenomena affecting the discharge were observed.

Overall weather situation

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Normal weather situation prevailed during last week. From moderate thundershower to heavy rain occurred in Myanmar, Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Viet Nam and Lower Mekong Basin (LMB) particularly in the lower part of LMB, the middle and lower parts of Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and Cambodia.

General behaviour of the Mekong River

Water levels at most stations in the upper and middle reaches of the LMB were somewhat around or over the long-term average while water levels at stations in lower reach were below the long-term average for this time of the year. Water levels at most stations in the upper and lower reaches of the LMB were more-or-less stable while water levels at stations in the middle reach were slightly falling during the reporting period. Regarding to downstream stations at Tan Chau and Chau Doc, water levels at those stations were affected by tide with a little rising trend at the end of the week.

For stations from Chiang Saen to Chiang Khan

Water levels at those stations were more-or-less stable during last week. The stations were recording levels that were somewhat around the long-term average for this time of the year.

For stations from Vientiane/ Nong Khai to Savanakheth/Mukdahan

Water levels show a little falling trend during the reporting period. The stations were recording levels that were somewhat over the long-term average for this time of the year.

For stations Khong Chiam to Kampong Cham

Water levels were slightly falling during last week. Water levels at Khong Chiam and Pakse were somewhat around the long-term average while water levels at Strung Treng, Kratie and Kampong Cham were below the long-term average for this time of the year.

For stations from Phnom Penh Bassac/ Phnom Penh Port to Neak Luong/ Koh Khel

Water levels were more-or-less stable during last week. All stations were recording levels that are below the long-term average for this time of the year.

Stations Tan Chau and Chau Doc

Water levels at these stations have been significantly affected by sea tide. Water levels at these 2 stations were slightly rising at the end of the week. These stations were recording levels that are below the long-term average for this time of the year.

Note: for areas between forecast stations, please refer to the nearest forecast station.

Flood Situation

▪ Flood stage or alarm stage:

No alarm stage (where the forecast is expected to reach flood level within three days) was reported anywhere on the mainstream of the Mekong River during the past week. Water levels are still significantly below flood levels (as defined by the national agency) at all forecast stations.

▪ Damage or victims:

No damage or loss of life due to river flooding was recorded anywhere along the Mekong River during the past week.

For more details see the following annex:

- tables and graphs for water level and rainfall for the last week in Annex A
- a graph for accuracy in Annex B
- a table of forecast achievement in Annex B
- tables and graphs for performance in Annex B
- the water level graphs showing the observed water level for the season in Annex C

Annex A: Graphs and Tables

Table A1: observed water levels

unit in m

2010	Jinghong	Chiang Saen	Luang Prabang	Chiang Khan	Vientiane	Nongkhai	Paksane	Nakhon Phanom	Thakhek	Mukdahan	Savannakhet	Khong Chiam	Pakse	Stung Treng	Kratie	Kompong Cham	Phnom Penh (Bassac)	Phnom Penh Port	Koh Khel	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc
27/09	537.17	5.05	10.38	10.30	7.72	8.88	10.72	8.79	9.84	8.45	7.67	9.93	8.10	7.01	16.62	11.48	7.68	6.80	6.45	5.40	6.77	2.62	2.09
28/09	537.46	5.30	10.47	10.53	7.88	8.91	10.53	8.56	9.63	8.24	7.46	9.68	7.92	6.86	16.45	11.34	7.67	6.79	6.43	5.40	6.78	2.62	2.09
29/09	537.60	5.62	10.74	10.46	7.88	8.96	10.23	8.39	9.46	8.06	7.38	9.50	7.76	6.75	16.26	11.22	7.67	6.79	6.43	5.40	6.78	2.62	2.10
30/09	537.33	5.64	10.93	10.46	7.72	8.80	10.20	8.24	9.35	7.88	6.99	9.29	7.63	6.68	16.03	11.08	7.67	6.79	6.41	5.39	6.78	2.63	2.12
01/10	538.41	5.47	10.95	10.51	7.68	8.70	10.15	8.12	9.25	7.73	6.90	9.12	7.43	6.57	15.86	10.95	7.69	6.82	6.44	5.42	6.79	2.66	2.16
02/10	537.39	5.18	10.92	10.50	7.66	8.66	10.08	7.95	9.02	7.59	6.77	8.93	7.26	6.45	15.65	10.80	7.67	6.79	6.42	5.40	6.78	2.67	2.19
03/10	536.82	5.28	10.50	10.43	7.62	8.61	10.04	7.81	8.90	7.45	6.62	8.75	7.10	6.35	15.45	10.68	7.69	6.80	6.43	5.42	6.89	2.70	2.24
04/10	536.82	4.58	10.26	10.18	7.48	8.46	9.88	7.89	9.00	7.43	6.51	8.58		6.28	15.38	10.57	7.67	6.79	6.44	5.40	6.81	2.72	2.29
Flood level		11.80	18.00	17.40	12.50	12.20	14.50	12.70	14.00	12.60	13.00	16.20	12.00	12.00	23.00	16.20	12.00	11.00	7.90	8.00	10.00	4.20	3.50

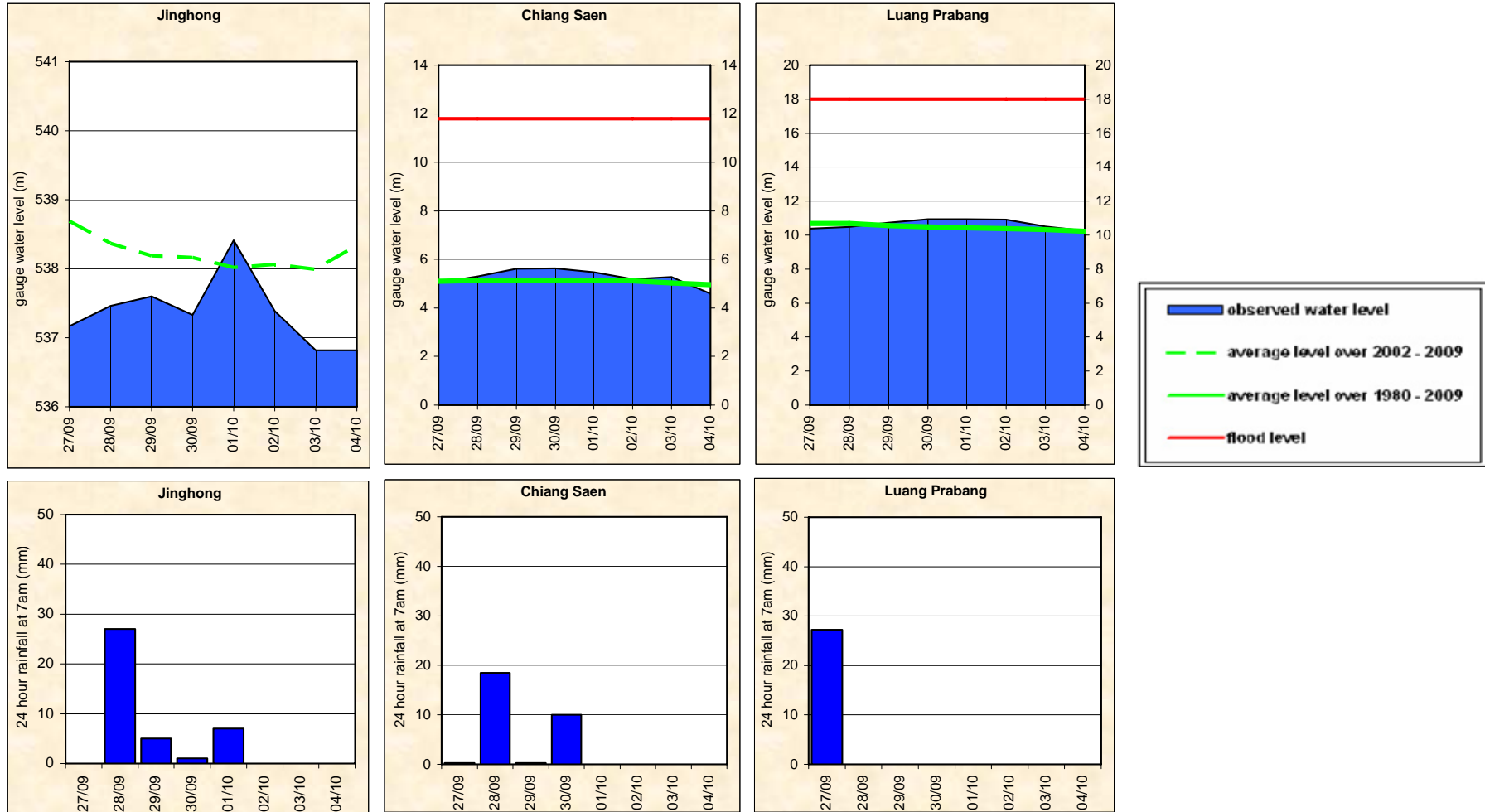
Table A2: observed rainfall

Unit in mm

2010	Jinghong	Chiang Saen	Luang Prabang	Chiang Khan	Vientiane	Nongkhai	Paksane	Nakhon Phanom	Thakhek	Mukdahan	Savannakhet	Khong Chiam	Pakse	Stung Treng	Kratie	Kompong Cham	Phnom Penh (Bassac)	Phnom Penh Port	Koh Khel	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc
27/09	0.0	0.3	27.2	97.0	7.2	7.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0		11.4	0.0	0.0	38.7	0.0
28/09	27.0	18.5	0.0	4.0	0.4	2.8	5.3	0.0	0.0	57.6	0.0	16.2	0.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	16.4	0.0	10.0	34.0
29/09	5.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	12.0	44.8	0.0	0.0	14.2	0.0	0.2		5.5	0.0	0.0	59.2	0.0
30/09	1.0	10.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	2.2	3.0	0.0	1.0	14.4	0.0	3.9		18.9	55.9	4.3	25.8	12.0
01/10	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.0	6.0	0.0	6.3	20.2		91.0	17.4	0.0	3.1	0.0
02/10	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	0.0	17.5	1.0		18.5	1.2	10.2	5.0	40.0
03/10	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.1	0.0	1.2	3.0	17.5	20.0	2.5	3.0	0.0	2.2	12.5	16.6	23.5	74.2		26.0	8.9	63.3	0.0	30.0
04/10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	2.1	41.3	41.3	15.7	17.3	0.4		2.0	66.2	0.2	3.1		7.6	0.0	0.0	11.7	13.2

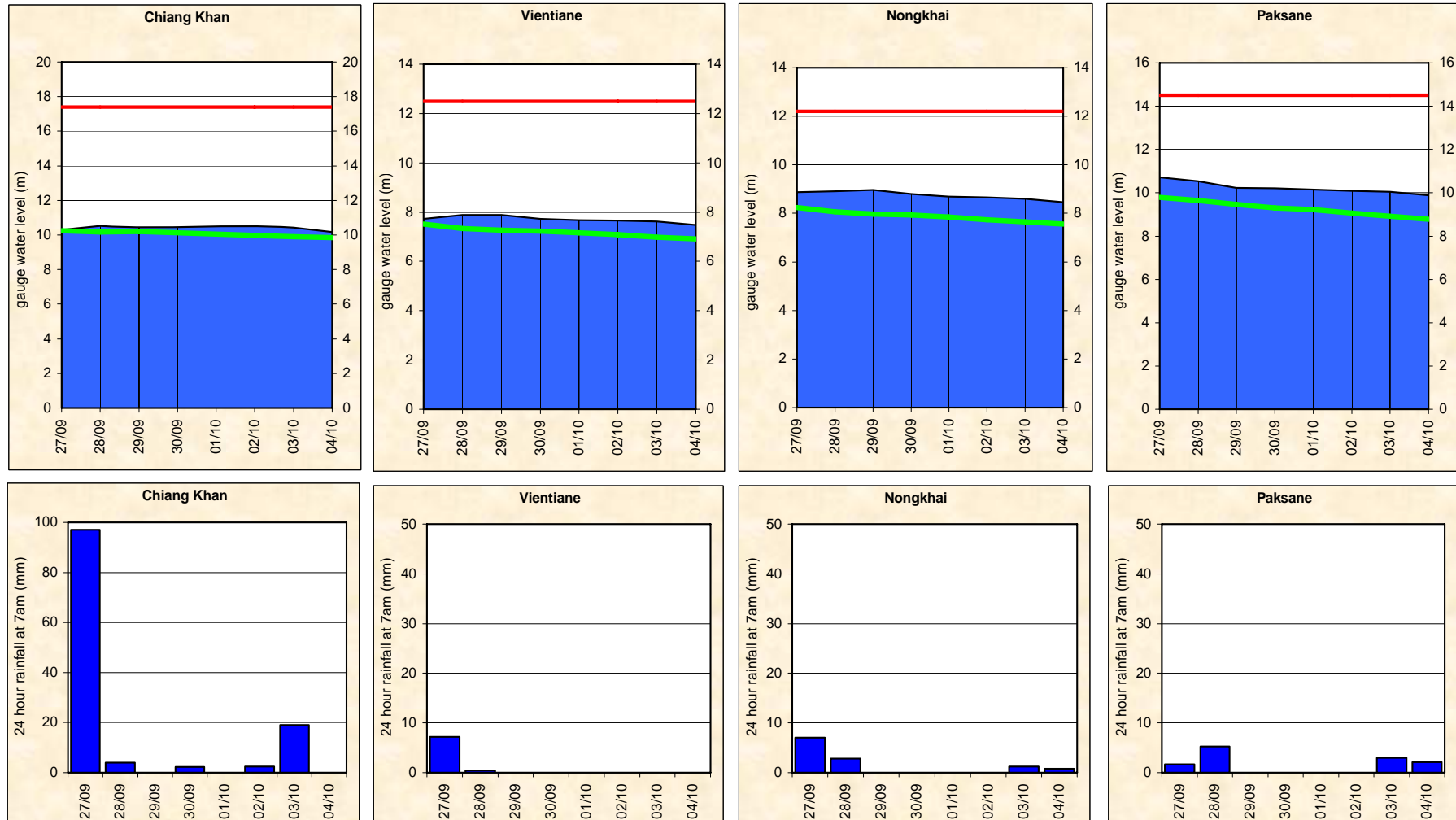
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Figure A1: Water level and rainfall for Jinghong, Chiang Saen, and Luang Prabang



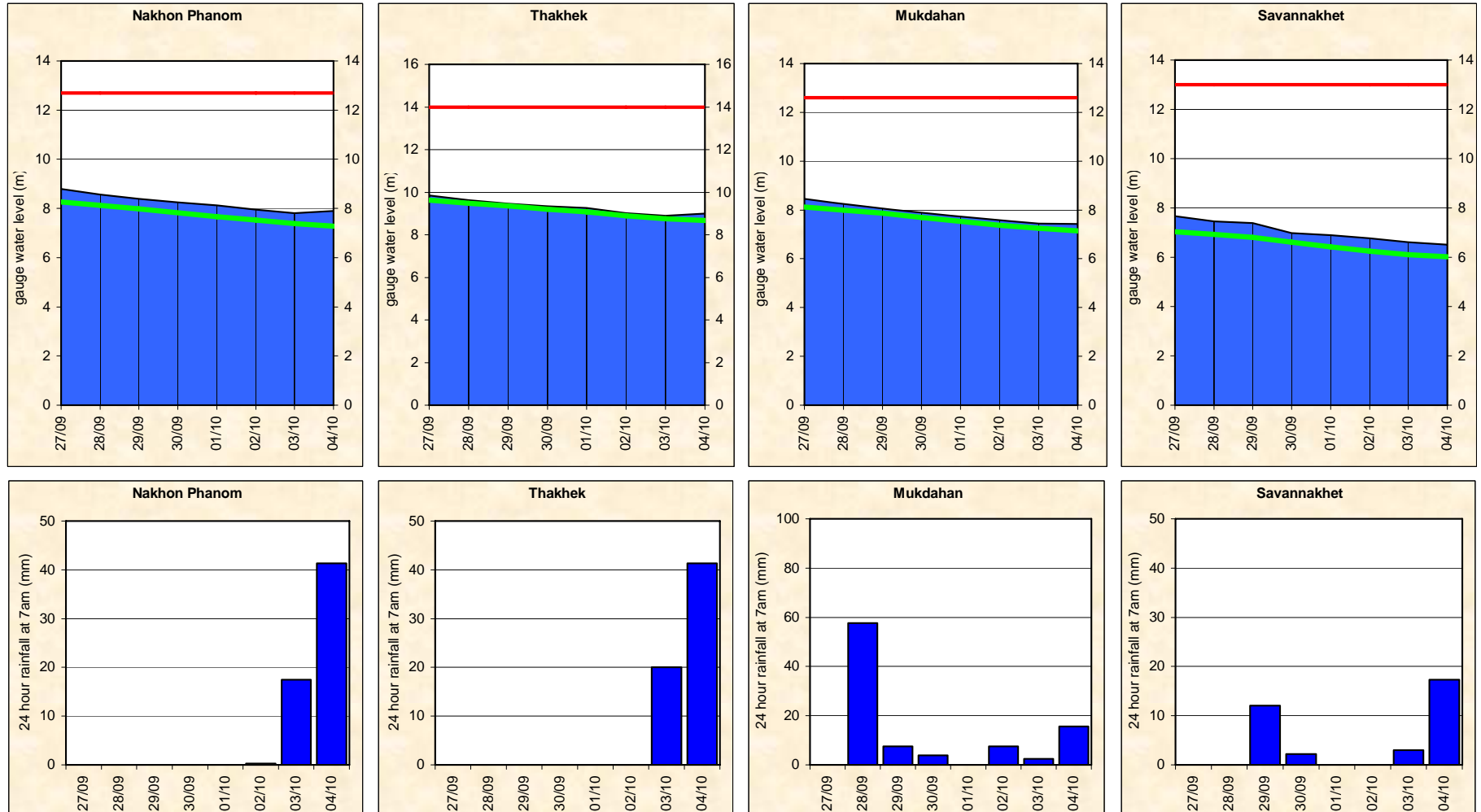
Monday, 4th October 2010

Figure A2: Water level and rainfall for Chiang Khan, Vientiane, Nongkhai, and Paksane



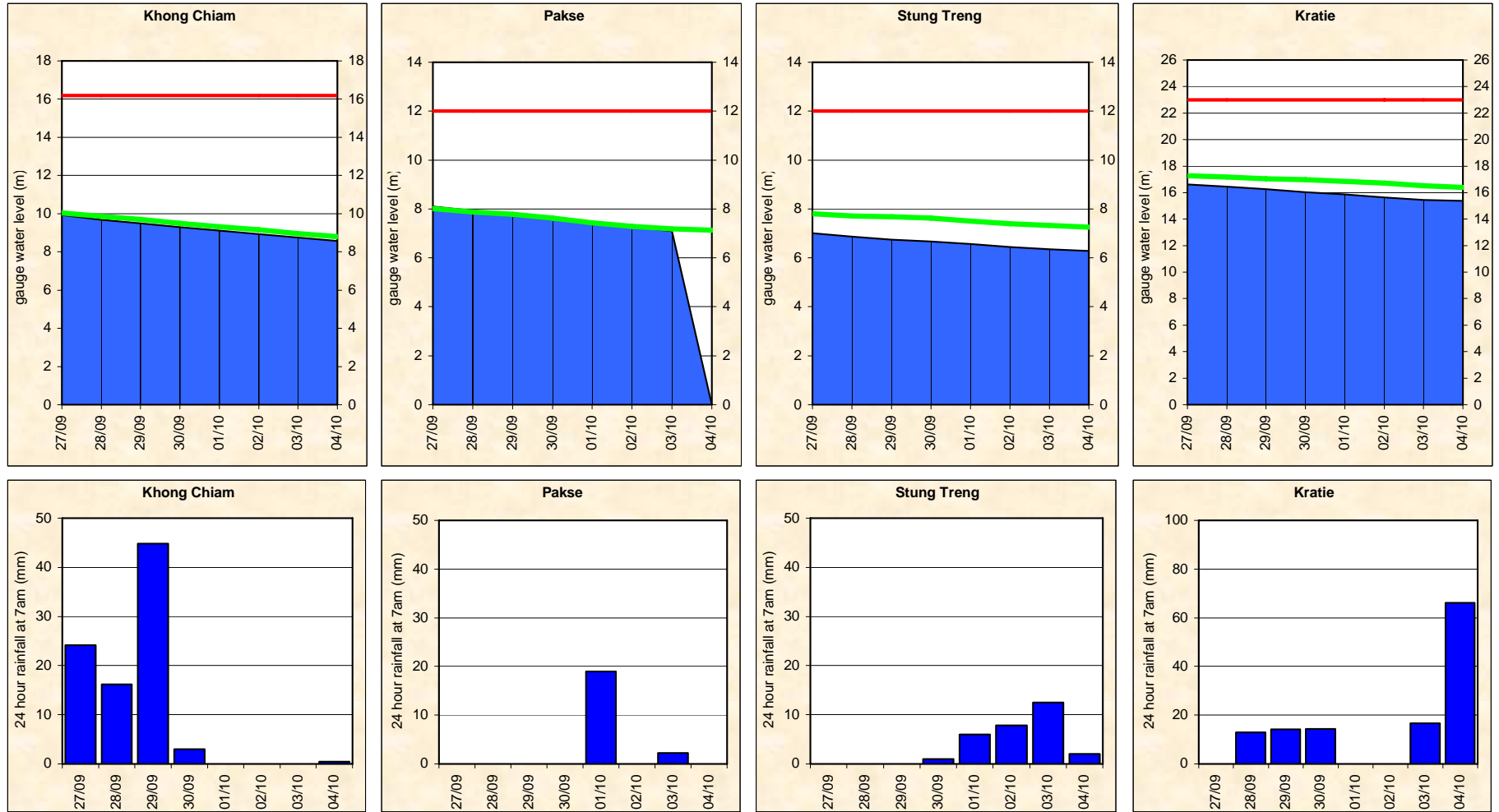
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Figure A3: Water level and rainfall for Nakhon Phanom, Thakhek, Mukdahan and Savannakhet



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Figure A4: Water level and rainfall for Khong Chiam, Pakse, Stung Treng, and Kratie



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Figure A5: Water level and rainfall for Kampong Cham, Phnom Penh (Bassac and Port), and Koh Khel

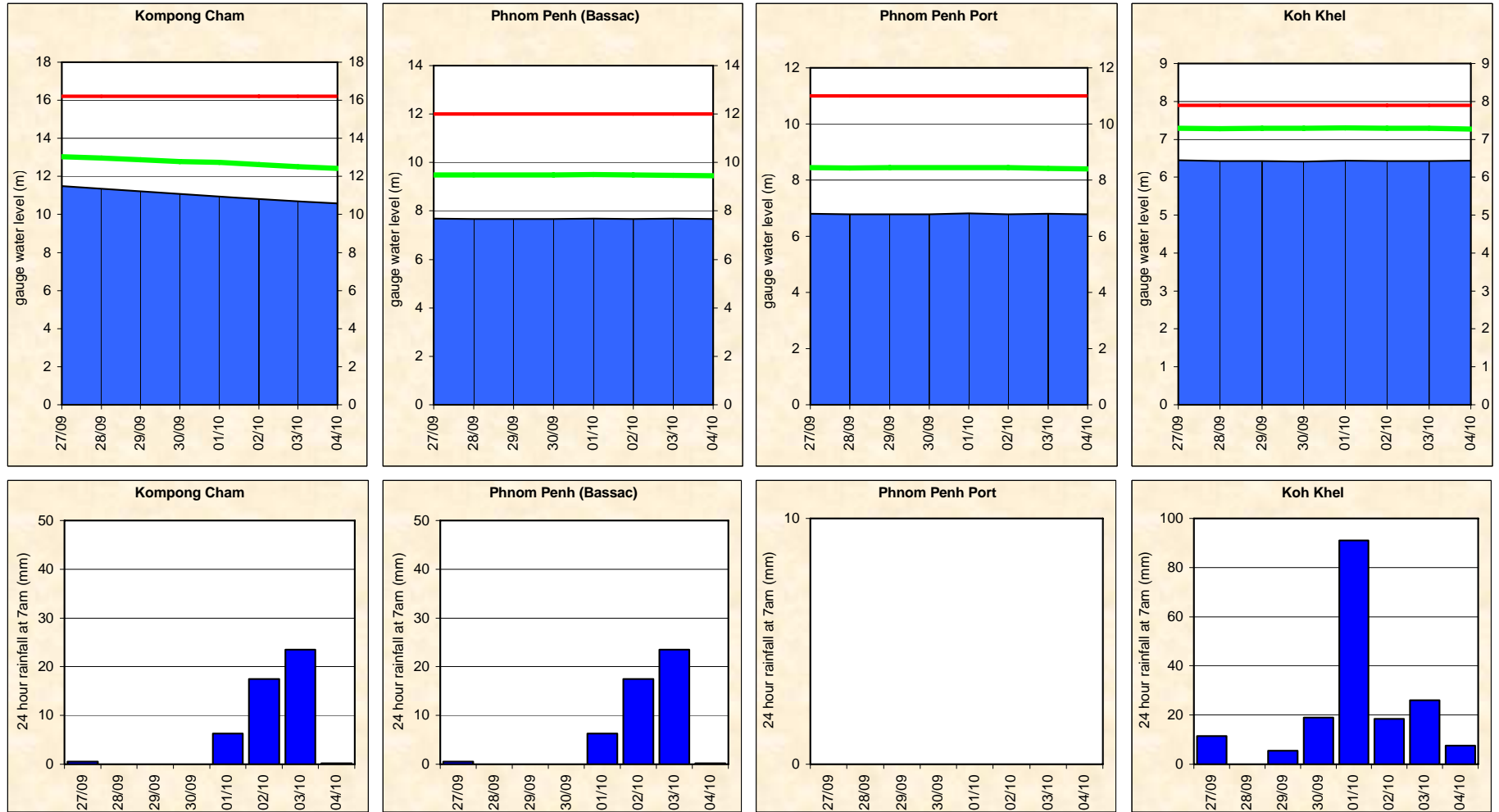
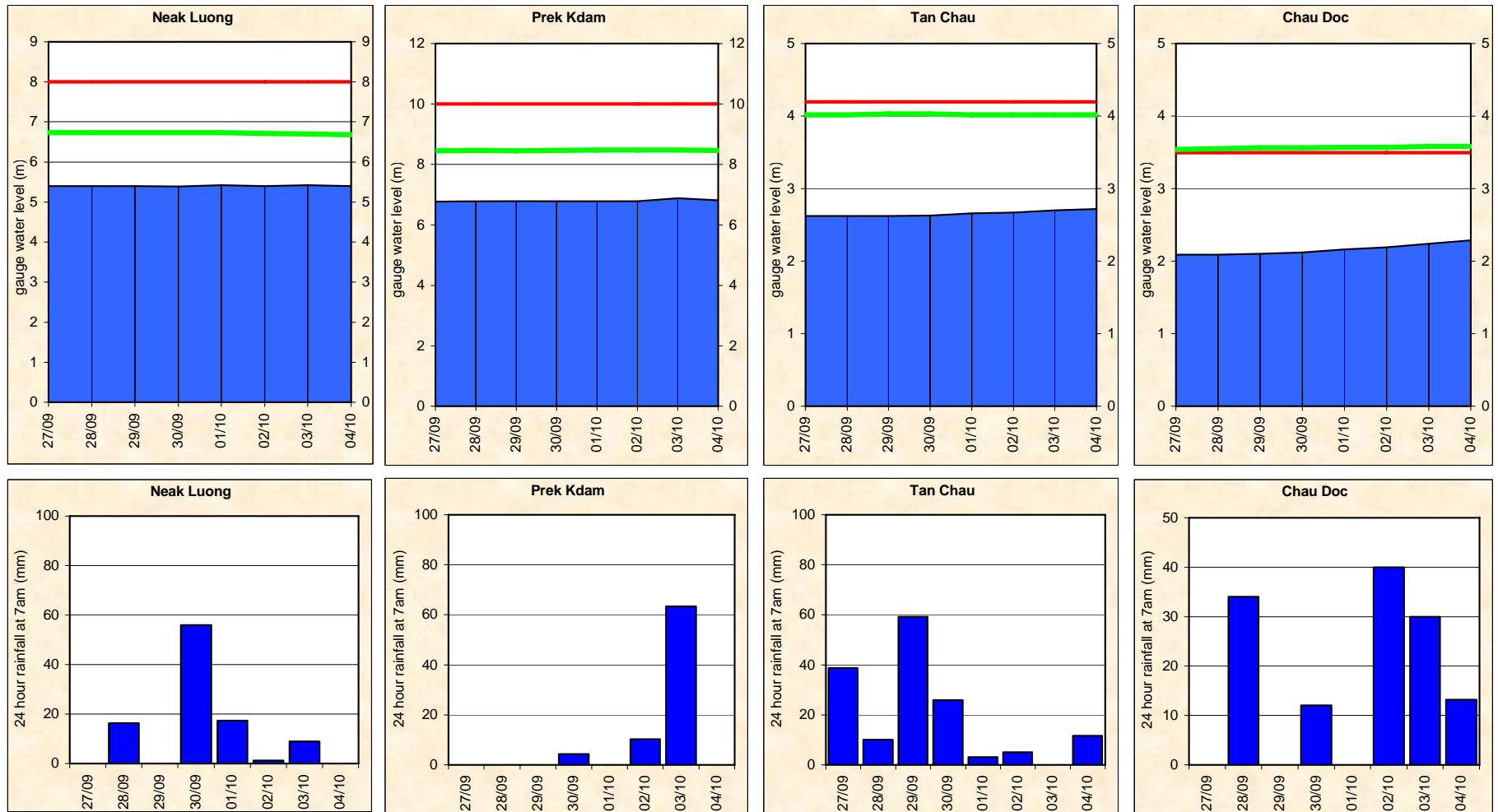


Figure A6: Water level and rainfall for Neak Luong, Prek Kdam, Tan Chau and Chau Doc



Annex B: Accuracy and performance

Accuracy

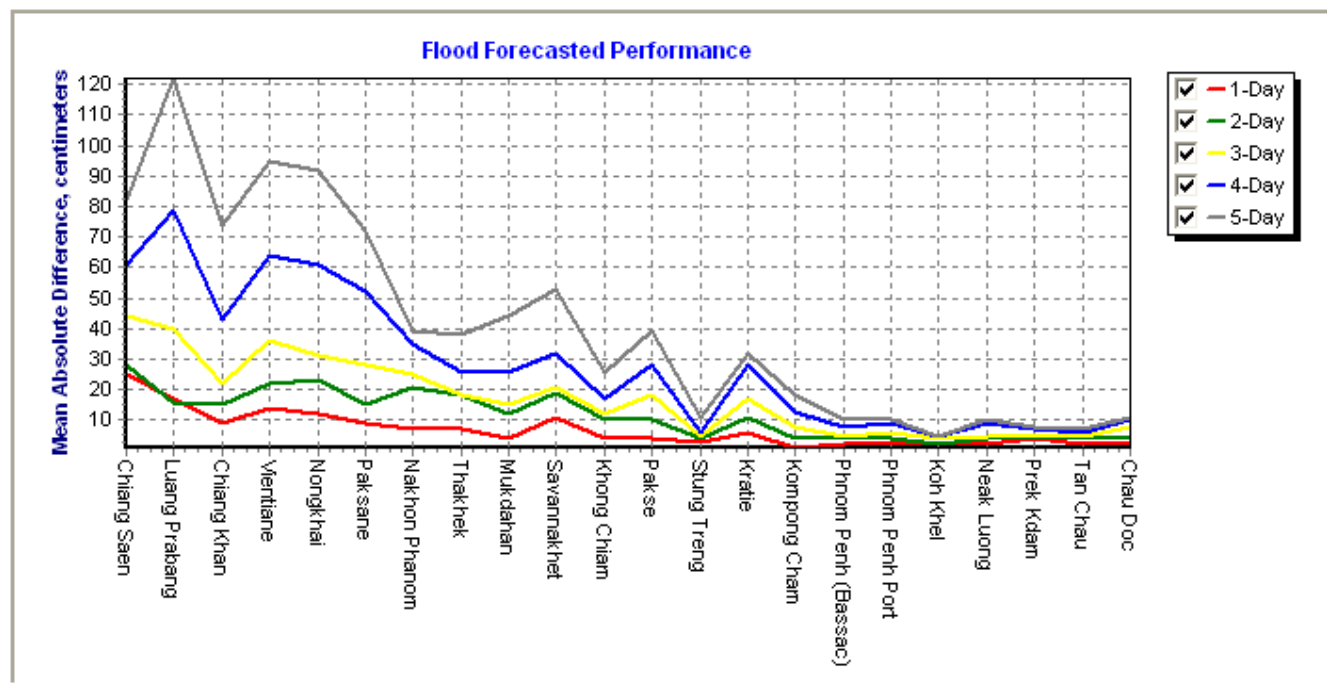
“Accuracy” describes the accuracy of the adjusted and published forecast, based on the results of the MRC Mekong Flood Forecasting System, which are then adjusted by the Flood Forecaster-In-Charge taking into consideration the known biases in input data, the knowledge of model response and the experience with hydrometeorological conditions of the Mekong River Basin. The information presented as a graph below shows the average flood forecasting accuracy along the Mekong mainstream.

The graph of average difference between forecast and actual water levels for the past week shows the normal pattern in which the accuracy is better if the forecast lead time is shorter. The forecast for 4-5 days ahead is always less accuracy than the forecast for 1-2 days ahead.

In overall, the accuracy is good for almost forecasts lead-time at most stations along the Mekong River, however, the accuracies for 4-day and 5-day forecasts at Vientiane and Nong Khai were less than expected.

The above differences perhaps caused by internal model functionality in forecasting for those stations for which the parameter adjustment is not possible for stations in the upper part of LMB.

Figure B1: Average flood forecast accuracy along the Mekong mainstream



Forecast Achievement

The forecast achievement indicates the % of days that the forecast at a particular station for a lead-time is successful against a respective benchmark (Table B2).

Table B1: Achievement of daily forecast against benchmarks

unit in %

	Chiang Saen	Luang Prabang	Chiang Khan	Vientiane	Nongkhai	Paksane	Nakhon Phanom	Thakhek	Mukdahan	Savannakhet	Khong Chiam	Pakse	Stung Treng	Kratie	Kompong Cham	Phnom Penh (Bassac)	Phnom Penh Port	Koh Khel	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc	Average	
1-day	100.0	100.0	100.0	66.7	83.3	83.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	83.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	83.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	95.5
2-day	100.0	100.0	80.0	60.0	60.0	80.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	93.6
3-day	75.0	100.0	100.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	93.2
4-day	100.0	66.7	100.0	33.3	33.3	66.7	66.7	66.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	66.7	100.0	86.4
5-day	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	86.4

Table B2: Benchmarks of success (Indicator of accuracy in mean absolute error)

Unit in cm

	Chiang Saen	Luang Prabang	Chiang Khan	Vientiane	Nongkhai	Paksane	Nakhon Phanom	Thakhek	Mukdahan	Savannakhet	Khong Chiam	Pakse	Stung Treng	Kratie	Kompong Cham	Phnom Penh (Bassac)	Phnom Penh Port	Koh Khel	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc		
1-day	50	50	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2-day	75	75	25	25	25	25	50	50	50	50	50	50	25	25	25	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
3-day	75	100	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	75	75	50	50	25	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
4-day	100	125	75	50	50	50	50	50	75	75	75	75	50	50	50	25	25	25	10	25	10	10	10	10
5-day	100	150	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	50	50	50	25	25	25	10	25	10	10	10	10

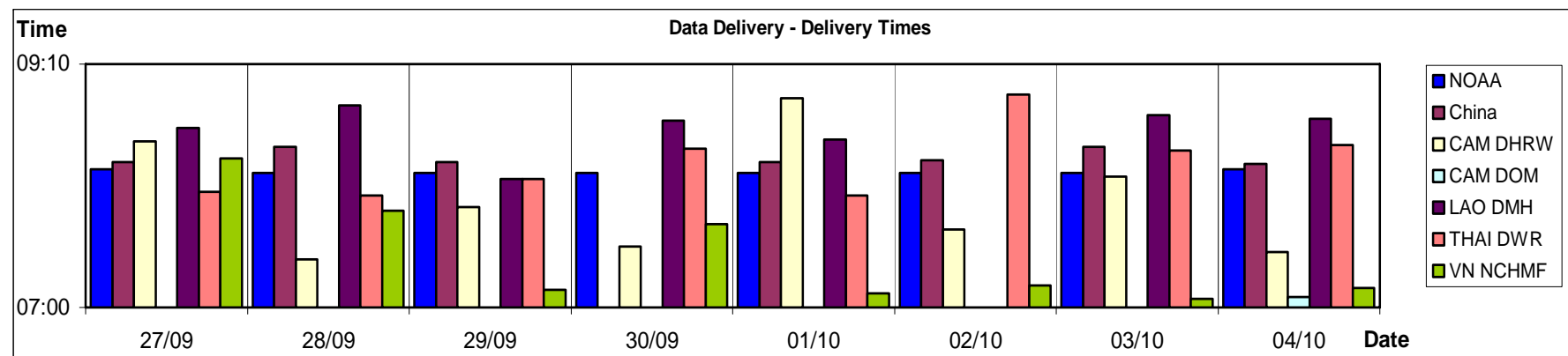
Performance

Performance is assessed by evaluating a number of performance indicators, see table and graphs below:

Table B3: Overview of performance indicators for the past 8 days including the current report date

	Flood Forecast: time sent			Weather information available (number)	Arrival time of input data (average)							Missing data (number)						
	FF completed and sent (time)	stations without forecast	FF2 completed and sent (time)		NOAA data	China	Cambodia - DHRW	Cambodia - DOM	Lao PDR - DMH	Thailand - DWR	Viet Nam - NCHMF	NOAA data	China	Cambodia - DHRW	Cambodia - DOM	Lao PDR - DMH	Thailand - DWR	Viet Nam - NCHMF
2010																		
<i>week</i>	10:15	0	-	8	08:12	08:20	07:57	05:50	08:35	08:17	07:27	0	2	3	49	149	2	69
<i>month</i>	10:18	0	-	30	08:13	08:25	07:55	05:57	08:35	08:09	07:31	0	4	6	220	595	10	253
<i>season</i>	10:37	2	-	123	18:49	08:57	08:01	06:33	08:37	08:18	07:28	0	26	62	2113	2367	65	916

Week is the week for which this report is made; *Month* is actually the last 30 days (or less if the flood season has just begun); *Season* is the current flood season up to the date of this report.



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Figure B2: Data delivery times for the past 8 days including the current report date



Figure B3: Missing data for the past 8 days including the current report date

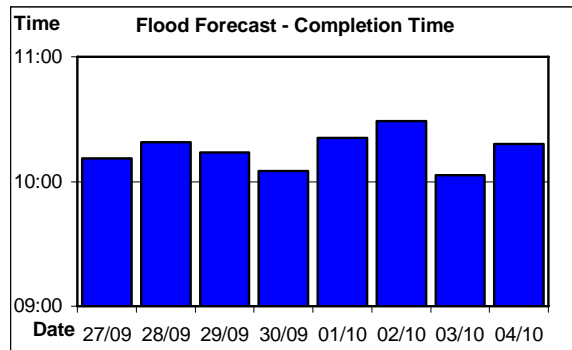


Figure B4: Flood forecast completion time

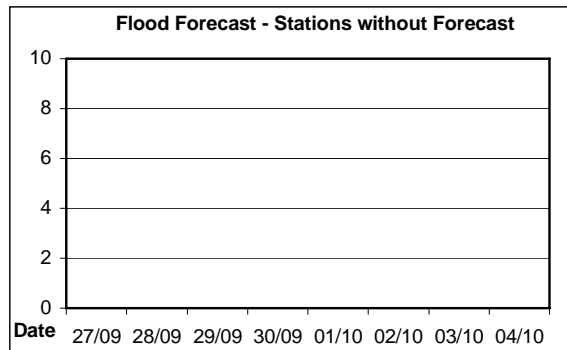


Figure B5: Flood forecast stations without forecast

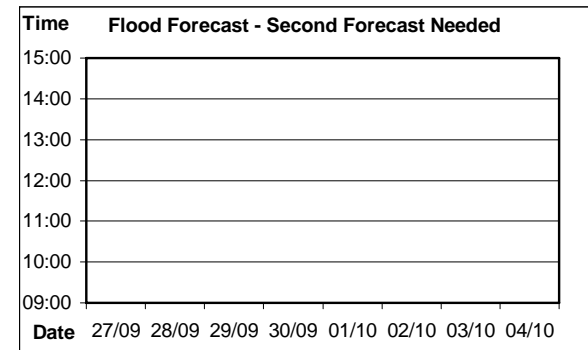


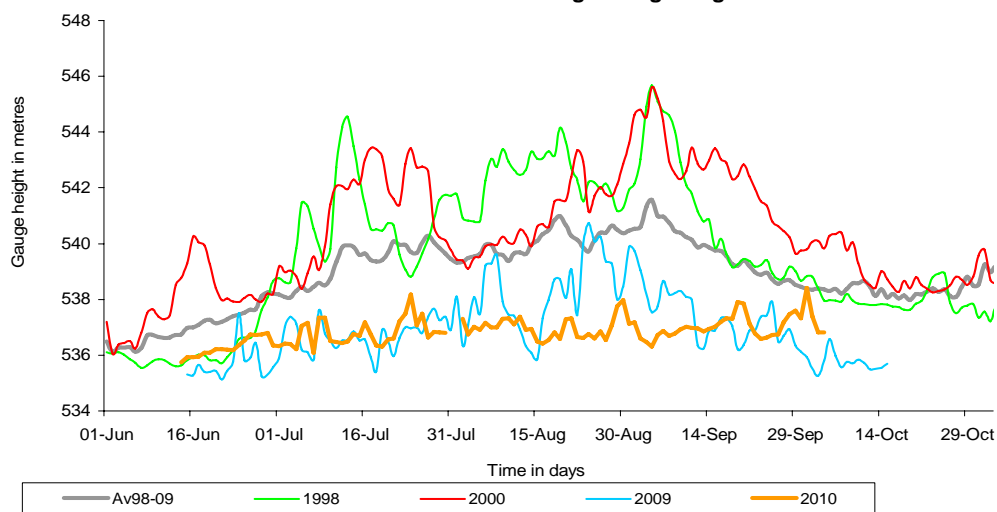
Figure B6: Second forecast needed

Annex C: Season Water Level Graphs

This Annex has the water level graphs of the report date. These graphs are distributed daily by email together with the Flood Bulletins.

HYDROGRAPHS OF THE MEKONG AT MAINSTREAM STATIONS IN WET SEASON FROM 1 JUNE TO 31 OCTOBER

Water level at 7am of Mekong at Jing Hong



Water level at 7am of Mekong at Chiang Saen

