



Mekong River Commission

Weekly Wet Season Situation Report in the Lower Mekong River Basin 02 – 08 July 2024

Prepared by
The Regional Flood and Drought Management Centre
09 July 2024

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Key Messages

Key messages for this weekly report are presented below.

Rainfall monitoring and forecast

- In the period of 02 – 08 July 2024, there has been light to heavy rainfall has been observed over the LMB. Especially, during this period, heavy to very heavy rainfall has been observed over the LMB in Chiang Sean, Nong Khai, Vientiane, Paksane, Muong Kao, Kratie, and Kampong Cham.
- During 09 – 13 July 2024, the accumulated rainfall over the entire Lower Mekong Basin is distributed with light to heavy rain. Moderate rainfall is expected to occur in most parts of Laos, south-western & north-eastern Cambodia, and the 3S basins. However, heavy rainfall may likely occur in some areas such as Paksane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, Pakse on 10 July and the 3S basins on during 09-13 July.

Water level monitoring and forecast

- At 22 key monitoring stations along the Mekong mainstream from 02 – 08 July 2024, water levels are normal, and the flow threshold (PMFM 6C) are under normal conditions. It is also the same condition for Tan Chau and Chau Doc monitoring stations, which are significantly influenced by sea tidal fluctuation.
- In the period of 09 – 13 July 2024, Water levels are forecasted to be slightly increasing at upper stretches of LMB from Chiang Saen to Nongkhai stations. However, water level from Paksane to Pakse will drop, while from Stung Treng to Prek dam, they will rise. At Tan Chau and Chau Doc stations, the water levels are predicted to be also fluctuated, resulting from the influence of sea tidal patterns. Water levels at most of the stations are expected to be below their long-term averages (LTAs).

Drought condition and forecast

- During 2-8 July 2024, the LMB was generally normal in most parts of the region. Some moderate drought was taking place in Khammuan and Champasack of Laos, and Nong Khai, Sakon Nakhon, and Nakhon Phanom of Thailand. However, they were taking place in just a small extent. No significant impact of drought was expected for the current work.
- From July to September 2024, it is expected to bring drought conditions to certain areas of the LMB. In July, eastern Cambodia, 3S area, and northern Lao PDR are the most severe areas. In August, severe and exceptional droughts are forecasted for the upper part of the LMB. Other areas are likely normal or wet. In September, moderate to severe drought is forecasted for the northern Cambodia and 3S area, while other areas are likely normal or wet.

1 Introduction

This Weekly Wet Season Situation Report presents a preliminary analysis of the weekly hydrological situation in the Lower Mekong River Basin (LMB) for **02 – 08 July 2024**. The trend and outlook for water levels are also presented.

This analysis is based on the daily hydro-meteorological data provided by the Mekong River Commission (MRC) Member Countries – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam – and on satellite data. The water level indicated in this report refers to an above zero gauge of each station.

The report covers the following topics that are updated weekly:

- General weather patterns, including rainfall patterns over the LMB.
- Water levels in the LMB, including in the Tonle Sap Lake.
- Flash flood and drought situation in the LMB.
- Weather, water level and flash flood forecast, and
- Possible implications.

Mekong River water levels are updated daily and can be accessed from:

<http://ffw.mrcmekong.org/bulletin.php>.

Drought monitoring and forecasting information is available at:

<http://droughtforecast.mrcmekong.org>

Flash flood information is accessible at: <http://ffw.mrcmekong.org/ffg.php>

2 General Weather Patterns

During the last week, the Lower Mekong Basin was influenced by the low-pressure cell and the moderate southwest monsoon. The light to heavy rainfall has been only observed over this region.

Figure 1 presents the mean sea level pressure over the region. It is forecasted that the moderate southwest monsoon and the low pressure will be impacted on the Lower Mekong Basin from 02 - 08 July. Therefore, in the upcoming seven days, the Lower Mekong Basin is expected to experience light to heavy rainfall, especially heavy rain that may potentially occur in Paksane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, and Pakse from 10 - 13 July and the eastern part of the Lower Mekong Basin from 13-14 July.

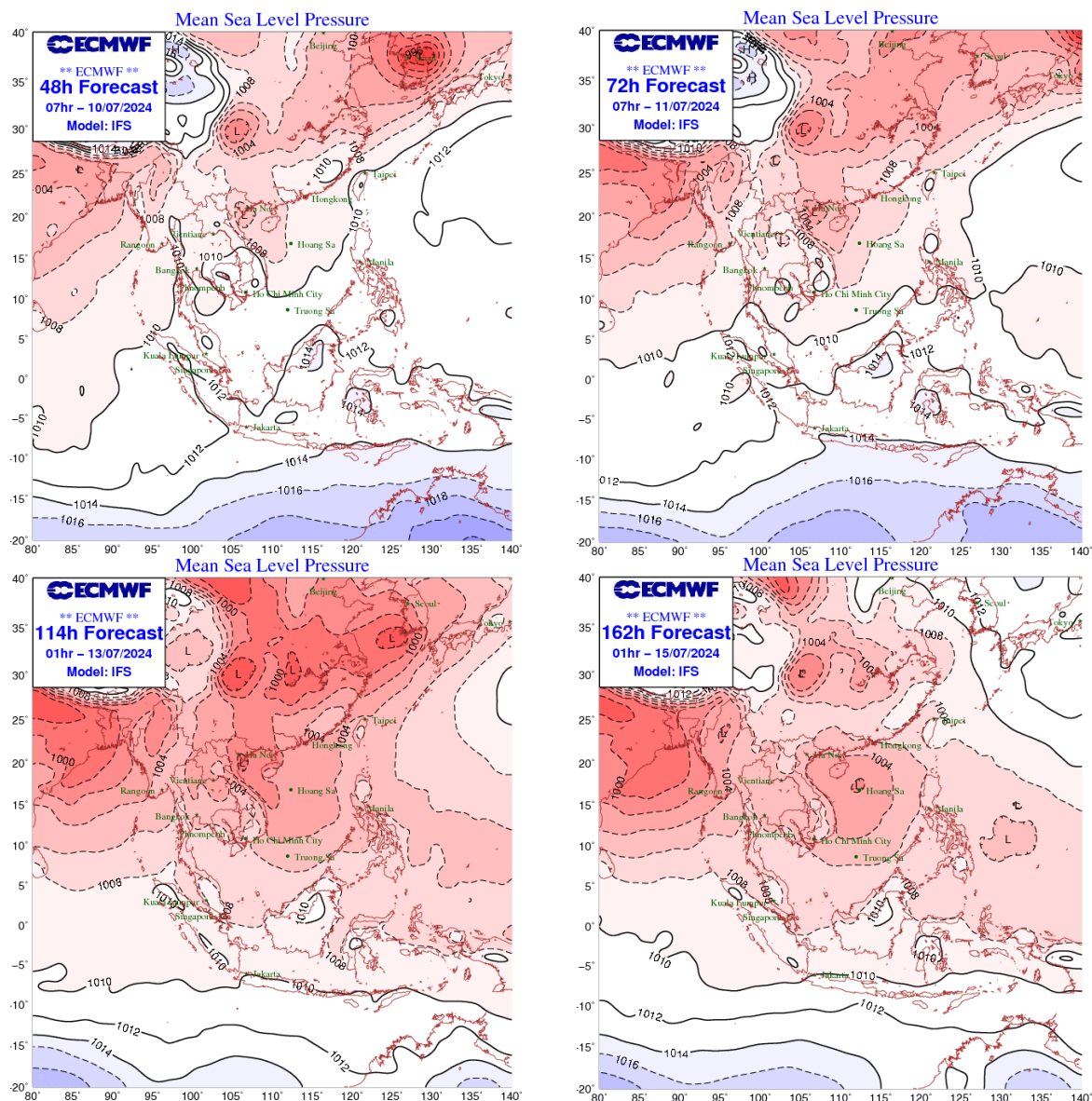


Figure 1: Weather conditions over the LMB

According to the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC, <http://asmc.asean.org/home/>), the subseasonal weather outlook (08 – 21 July 2024) indicates that entire Lower

Mekong Basin (LMB) is likely in in drier conditions in the upper part for 1st week and followed by wetter condition at the lower part for 2nd week. The warmer conditions will be expected in the upper part of LMB during abovementioned period. **Figure 2** shows the outlook of weather condition from 08 – 21 July 2024 in Southeast Asia based on results from the NCEP model (National Centres for Environmental Prediction).

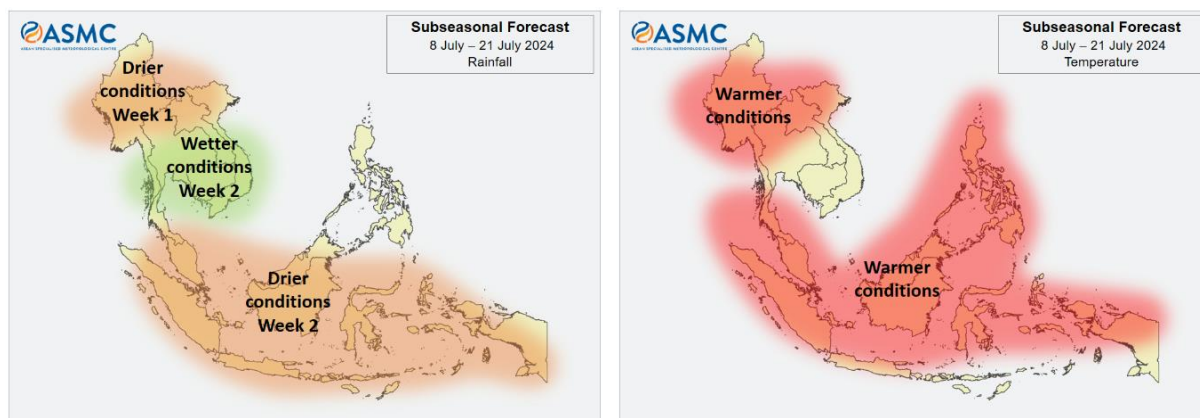


Figure 2: Outlook of wet and dry conditions over the Asian countries by ASMC.

Based on the tropical storm risk (TS) (<https://www.tropicalstormrisk.com/>), there is no active NW pacific system as of 08 July 2024 as displayed in **Figure 3**.

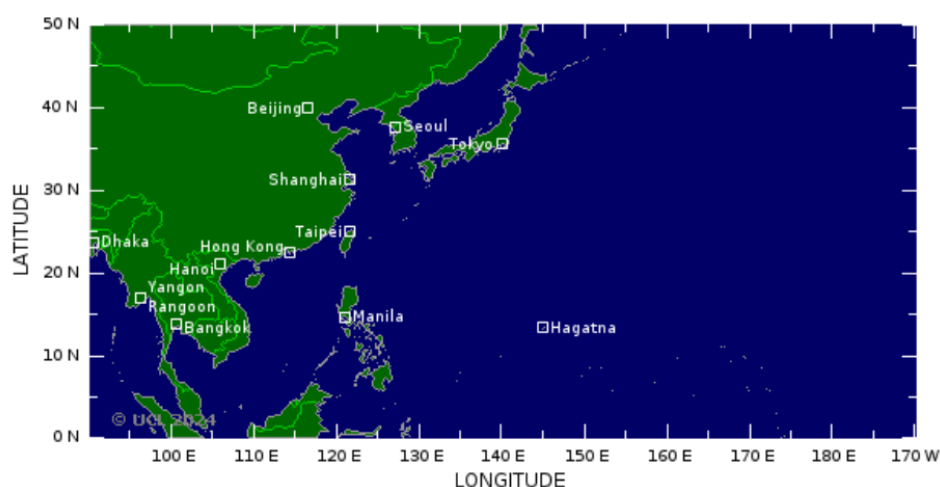


Figure 3: One tropical storm risk observed on 08 July 2024

3. Rainfall and Water Level Monitoring

3.1. Rainfall monitoring

The weekly accumulated rainfall is based on the observed data provided by the MRC Member Countries – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam – from 02 - 08 July 2024 (**Figure 4**). There has been light to heavy rainfall has been observed over the LMB. Especially, during this

period, heavy to very heavy rainfall has been observed over the LMB in Chiang Sean, Nong Khai, Vientiane, Paksane, Muong Kao, Kratie, and Kampong Cham.

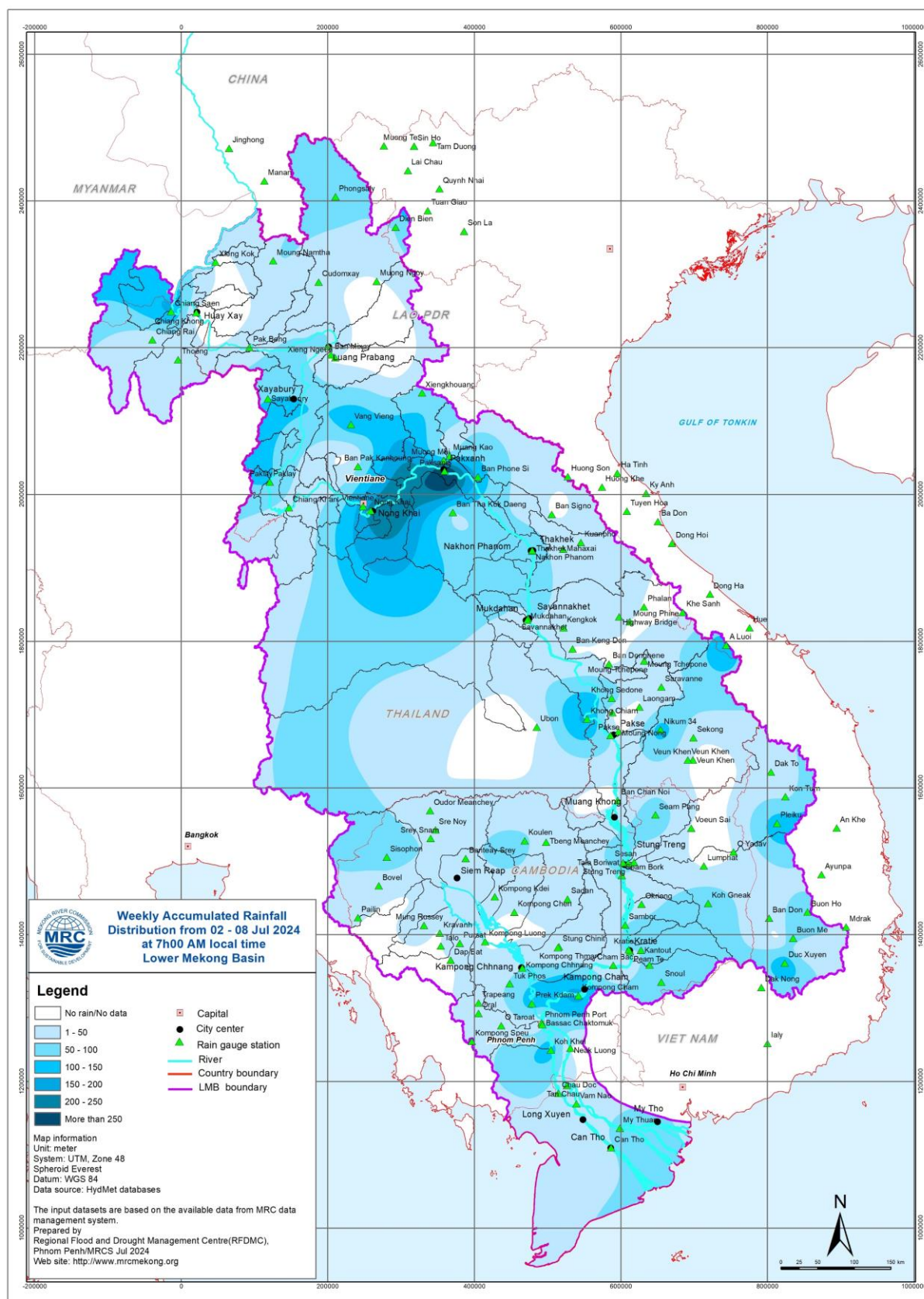


Figure 4: Weekly rainfall distribution over the LMB during 02 – 08 July 2024

3.2. Water level monitoring

The hydrological regimes of the Mekong mainstream are illustrated by recorded water levels and flows at key mainstream stations: at Chiang Saen to capture mainstream flows entering from the Upper Mekong Basin (UMB); at Vientiane to present flows generated by climate conditions in the upper part of the LMB; at Pakse to investigate flows influenced by inflows from the larger Mekong tributaries; at Kratie in Cambodia to capture overall flows of the Mekong Basin; and at Viet Nam's Tan Chau and Chau Doc to monitor flows to the Delta.

The key stations along the LMB and their respective model application for River Flood Forecasting during the wet season from June to October and River Monitoring during the dry season from November to May are presented in **Figure 5**. The hydrograph for each key station is available from the MRC's River Flood Forecasting: <http://ffw.mrcmekong.org/overview.php>.

During 02 – 08 July 2024, the observed water level (WL) at Jinghong hydrological station¹, was almost constant and ranges between 536.00 m and 535.96 m, which are corresponding to the outflow between 1,370.00 m³/s to 1,340.00 m³/s (recorded on 7:00 am), respectively (**Figure 6**). The water level in Chiang Saen station also indicated a slight fluctuation ranging from 3.36 m to 3.05 m. At the same period, the water level in Luang Prabang station also slightly decreased with an approximate value of -0.28 m from 10.08 m to 9.8 m as compared to the previous week.

During the same period, the water levels observed at Chiang Saen, Vientiane, Nongkhai, and Paksane have slightly decreased from 7.88 m to 6.82 m, 5.16 m to 4.14 m, 5.02 m to 3.68 m, and 6.89 m to 6.26 m, respectively. However, from Nakhon Phanom to Kratie, water levels have increased. At Nakhon Phanom, Thakhek, Mukdahan, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, Pakse, Stung Treng and Kratie, water levels have increased from 5.42 m to 5.93 m, 6.57 m to 7.04 m, 4.98 m to 5.93 m, 3.37 m to 4.32 m, 5.2 m to 6.69 m, 3.82 m to 5.1 m, 4.4 m to 5.2 m, and 10.55 m to 12.63 m, respectively.

Moving down to the floodplain area at Kampong Cham, Phnom Penh (Bassac), Phnom Penh Port, Koh Khel, Neak Luong and Prek Kdam the water levels have increased from 4.84 m to 6.54 m, 2.68 m to 3.59 m, 1.55 m to 2.35 m, 3.1 m to 3.64 m, 2.15 m to 2.39 m, and 1.78 m to 2.71 m, respectively from previous week.

Similar to the previous week, the water levels from 02 to 08 July 2024 at Viet Nam's Tan Chau and Chau Doc fluctuated between their LTA values due to daily tidal effects from the sea. At the Tan Chau station, the water levels varied between 0.86 m and 0.52 m, while at the Chau Doc station, they ranged from 0.66 m to 0.40 m.

¹ Near-real time data of hydro-meteorological monitoring at the Jinghong hydrological station is available at <https://portal.mrcmekong.org/monitoring/river-monitoring-telemetry>.

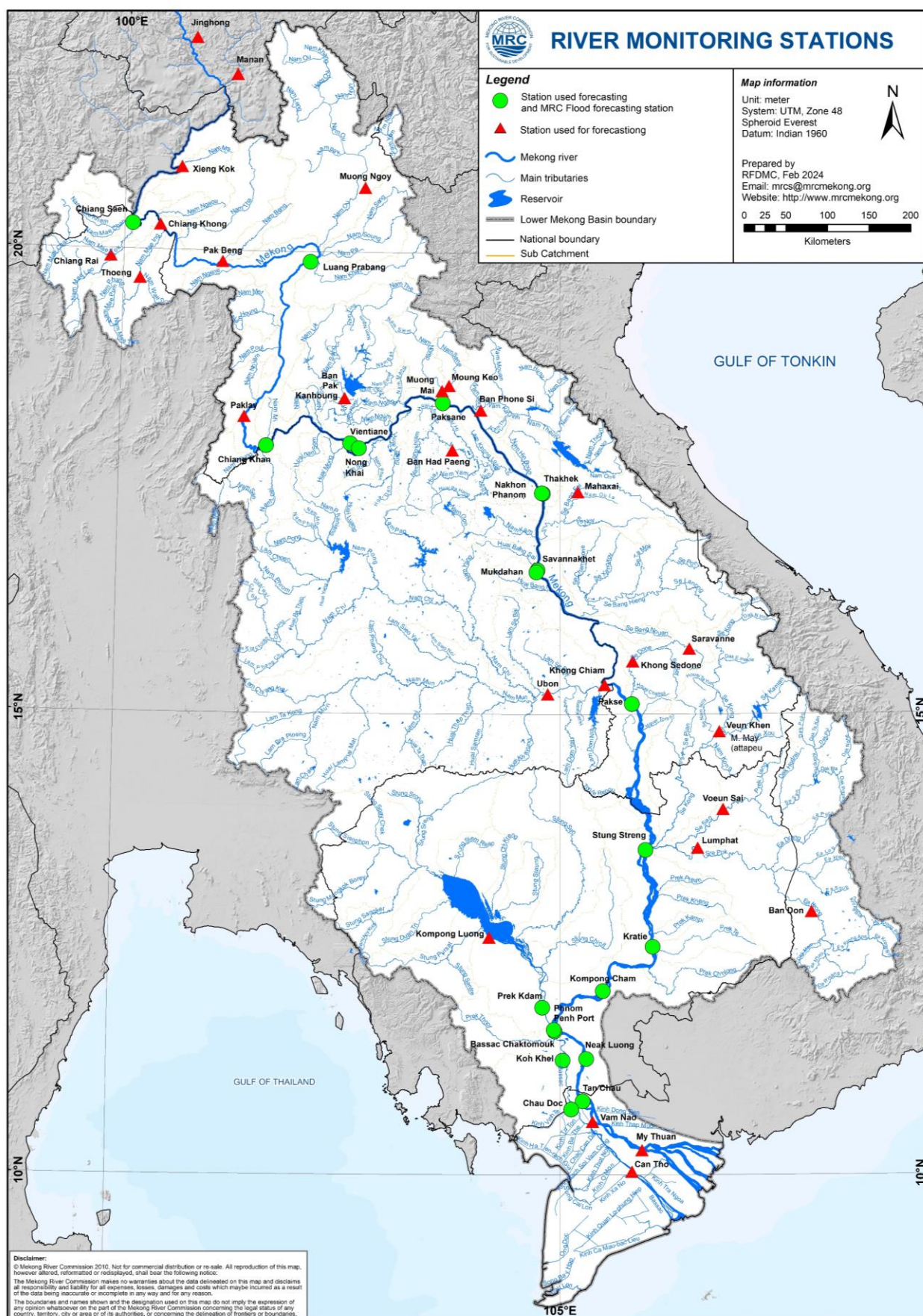


Figure 5: The key stations along LMB for river flood forecasting

The water levels in key monitoring stations on 08 July 2024 are below their long-term averages (LTAs) except for the Luang Prabang station. Moreover, all stations with available PMFM (Article 6C) thresholds are in normal conditions. The graphics of water level monitoring in all key stations are presented in **Annex A** and the weekly water levels and rainfall at each key station are summarised in **Annex B**.

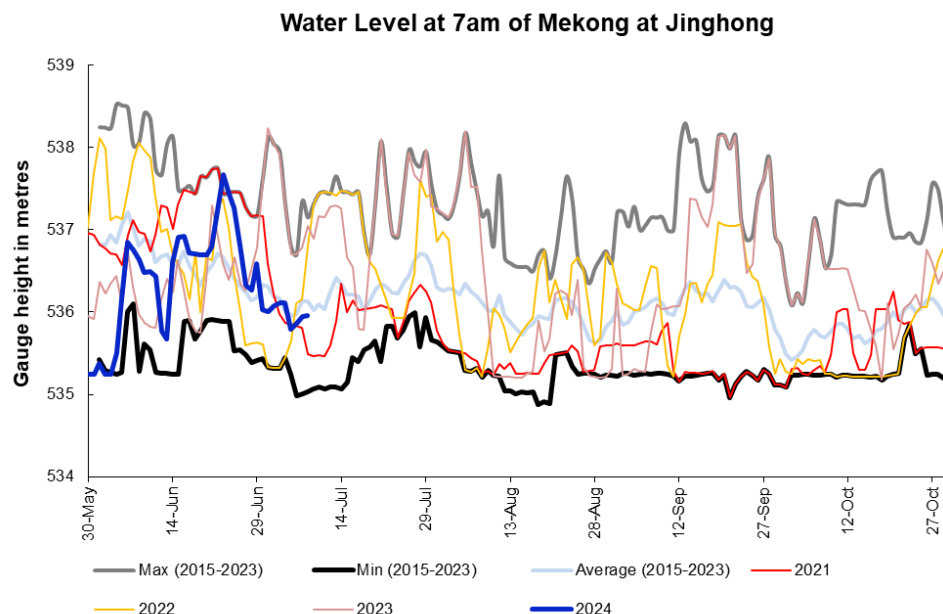


Figure 6. Water level at the Jinghong hydrological station up to 08 July 2024.

At the end of the wet season, when water levels along the Mekong River subside, the outflow of the Tonle Sap Lake (TSL) returns to the Mekong River and then to the Delta. This phenomenon normally takes place between September and October. Based on flow observation at Prek Kdam monitoring station, the inflow/reverse of the Tonle Sap Lake took place since 29 June 2024.

The outflow flow is calculated based on a formula of rating-curves using by difference of water levels at Kompong Luong and Phnom Penh Port stations for slop and Prek Kdam as cross-section of the Lake. The formula of flow is as follows:

$$Flow = WL_{Prek\ Kdam}^{1.2} \times \sqrt{|WL_{Phnom\ Penh\ Port} - WL_{Kompong\ Luong}|}$$

Where, WL is water level in m (msl).

The seasonal changes of the inflow/reverse flow and the outflow of the TSL at Prek Kdam in comparison with the flows of 2020, 2021 and 2022, 2023 and their LTA level (1997-2023) are illustrated in **Figure 8**. Up to 08 July 2024, it was observed that the main outflow to Tonle Sap Lake decreased due to limited rainfall and less inflows from upstream (**Figure 8**). This decreased outflow of Tonle Sap Lake was most likely caused by low inflows from its tributaries.

The seasonal changes in monthly flow volumes up to 08 July 2024 for the TSL compared with that in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and their LTAs, and the fluctuation levels (1997–2023) are presented in **Table 8**. The mean monthly water volume of the Tonle Sap Lake in June 2024 is lower than its LTA (about 62.92 %), 2023 and 2022 but higher than that in 2019, and 2020 during the same period (**Figure 8 and Table 1**).

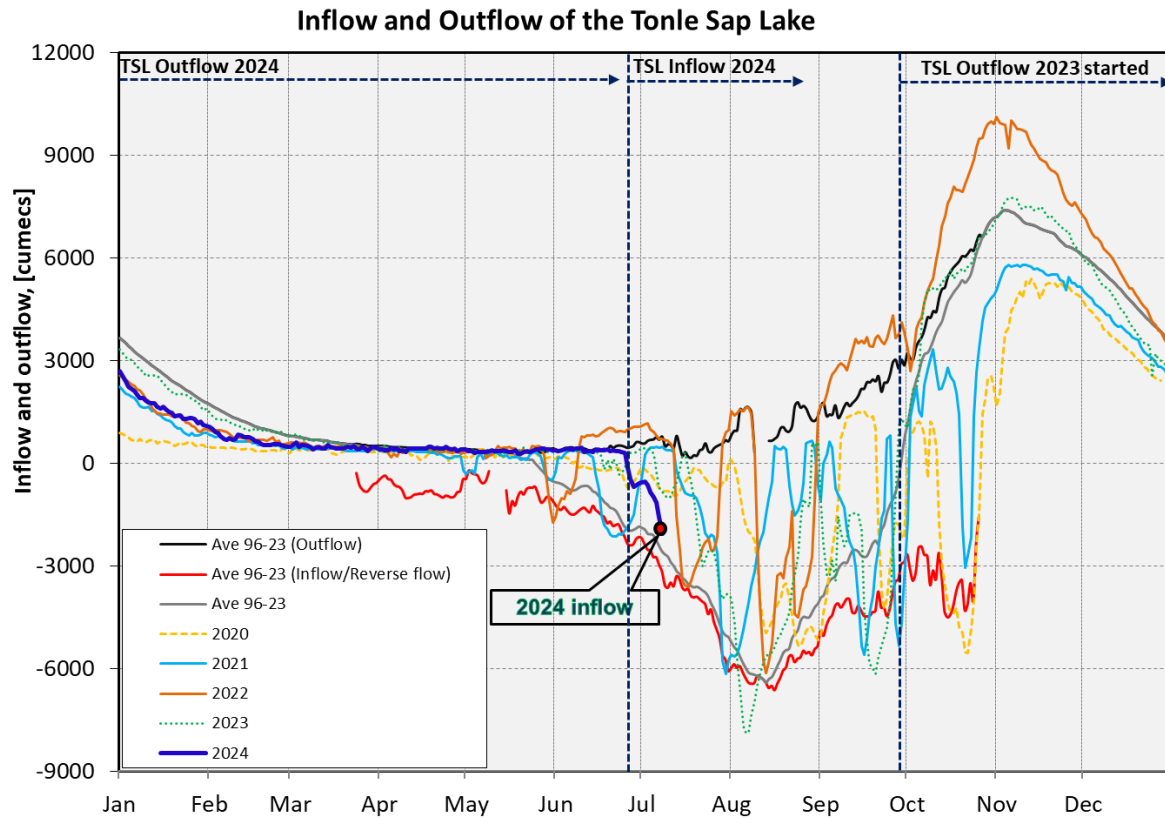


Figure 7: Seasonal change of inflows and outflows of Tonle Sap Lake.

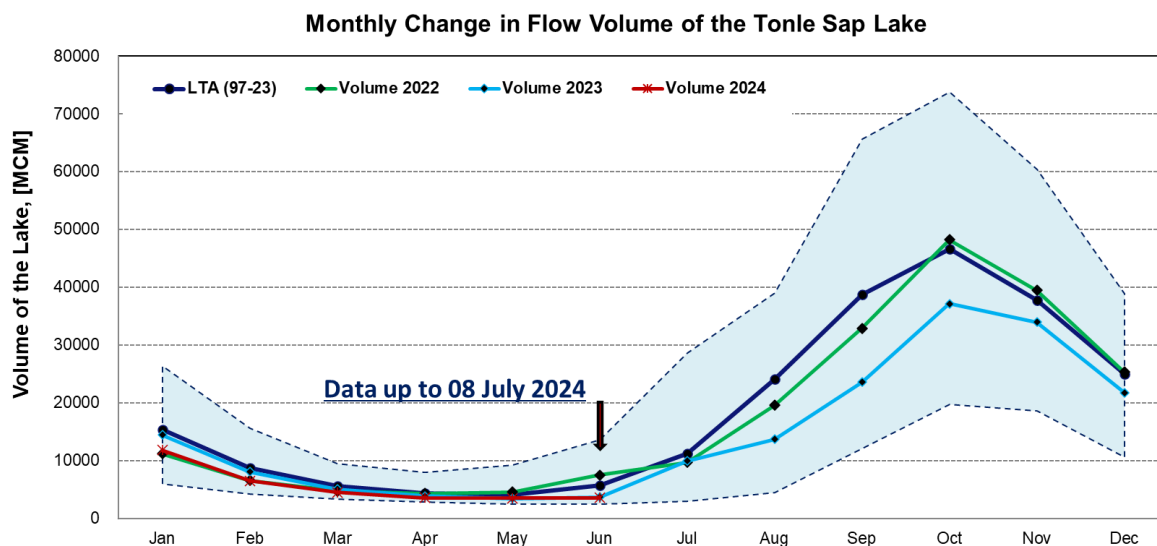


Figure 8. The seasonal change in monthly flow volume of Tonle Sap Lake.

Table 1. The monthly change in the flow volume of Tonle Sap Lake.

Month	LTA (97-22) [MCM]	Max Volume [MCM]	Min Volume [MCM]	Volume 2019 [MCM]	Volume 2020 [MCM]	Volume 2021 [MCM]	Volume 2022 [MCM]	Volume 2023 [MCM]	Volume 2024 [MCM]	Volume in 2024 [%], compared with its LTA
Jan	15322.86	26357.53	5906.80	10285.31	5906.80	9923.80	11214.32	14422.11	11824.86	77.17
Feb	8723.39	15596.22	4198.60	6019.30	4264.19	5832.97	6558.79	8069.29	6505.88	74.58
Mar	5602.68	9438.24	3347.07	4354.62	3553.99	4264.88	4736.52	5080.64	4488.23	80.11
Apr	4327.36	8009.14	2866.91	3667.47	2992.61	3556.68	4288.31	3884.16	3569.01	82.48
May	4027.82	9176.93	2417.81	3266.43	2594.92	3240.78	4556.83	3438.66	3517.79	87.34
Jun	5699.50	13635.01	2468.70	3517.06	2641.88	3798.29	7489.04	3689.97	3586.07	62.92
Jul	11188.79	28599.56	2925.86	4001.99	2925.86	5346.73	9703.79	9953.41		
Aug	24070.98	39015.12	4433.46	7622.71	5941.07	10547.80	19554.70	13694.57		
Sep	38787.47	65632.35	12105.31	24194.19	12105.31	16382.34	32860.34	23550.60		
Oct	46562.09	73757.23	19705.50	30358.38	20799.13	27318.21	48199.12	37141.40		
Nov	37739.30	60367.33	18534.61	19112.65	27546.80	28982.93	39452.53	33929.52		
Dec	25009.52	38888.95	10563.49	10577.29	18251.65	20170.76	25346.65	21757.70		
	Critical situation: lower than long-term minimum values (LTMIN)									
	Normal condition: within the range of long-term min (LTMIN) and max (LTMAX) values									
	Low volume situation: lower than long-term average (LTA)									
Unit: Million Cubic Meter (1 MCM= 0.001 Km ³)										

Remarks: the volume of Tonle Sap Lake in 2024 is updated until 08 July 2024.

4. Flash Flood in the Lower Mekong Basin

During the weekly monitoring period from 02 – 08 July, the LMB received light to heavy rain and thunderstorms in some areas.

According to the Southeast Asian Flash Flood Guidance System (SEAFFGS) and analysis, flash flood guidance was detected high level in the next 1, 3, and 6 hours in some areas of Cambodia, and Lao PDR during this period, the reporting period as shown in [Figure 14](#) and [Table 2](#).

Table 2. Detected low-risk flash flood in the LMB on 04 July

FLASH FLOOD GUIDANCE IN THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN IN CAMBODIA - 03 JULY								
In the next 01 hour			In the next 03 hour			In the next 06 hour		
Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG
Mondul Kiri	Kaoh Nheak	moderate	Mondul Kiri	Kaoh Nheak	moderate	Mondul Kiri	Kaoh Nheak	moderate
Mondul Kiri	Pechr Chenda	high	Mondul Kiri	Pechr Chenda	moderate	Mondul Kiri	Pechr Chenda	moderate
Mondul Kiri	Ou Reang	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ta Veang	high	Ratana Kiri	Ta Veang	high
Mondul Kiri	Kaev Seima	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Veun Sai	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Veun Sai	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Ta Veang	high	Ratana Kiri	Andoung Meas	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Andoung Meas	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Andoung Meas	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ou Chum	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ou Chum	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Veun Sai	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Lumphat	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Lumphat	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Ou Chum	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ou Ya Dav	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ou Ya Dav	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Lumphat	moderate	Stung Treng	Siem Pang	moderate	Stung Treng	Siem Pang	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Ou Ya Dav	moderate	Stung Treng	Sesan	moderate	Stung Treng	Sesan	moderate
Stung Treng	Siem Pang	moderate						

FLASH FLOOD GUIDANCE IN THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN IN CAMBODIA - 03 JULY								
In the next 01 hour			In the next 03 hour			In the next 06 hour		
Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG
Stung Treng	Sesan	moderate						

FLASH FLOOD GUIDANCE IN THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN IN CAMBODIA - 04 JULY								
In the next 01 hour			In the next 03 hour			In the next 06 hour		
Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG
Kampong Speu	Samraong Tong	moderate	Kampong Speu	Samraong Tong	moderate	Kampong Speu	Samraong Tong	moderate
Kampong Speu	Kong Pisei	moderate	Kampong Speu	Kong Pisei	moderate	Kampong Speu	Kong Pisei	moderate
Kampong Speu	Basedth	moderate	Kampong Speu	Basedth	moderate	Kampong Speu	Basedth	moderate
Kampong Speu	Aoral	moderate	Kampong Speu	Kong Pisei	moderate	Kratie	Sambour	moderate
Kratie	Sambour	high	Kratie	Sambour	moderate	Kratie	Preaek Prasab	moderate
Kratie	Kracheh	moderate	Kratie	Kracheh	moderate	Kratie	Snuol	high
Kratie	Preaek Prasab	high	Kratie	Preaek Prasab	moderate	Kratie	Chhloung	moderate
Kratie	Snuol	high	Kratie	Snuol	high	Mondul Kiri	Kaoh Nheak	moderate
Mondul Kiri	Kaoh Nheak	high	Kratie	Chhloung	high	Mondul Kiri	Pechr Chenda	moderate
Mondul Kiri	Pechr Chenda	high	Mondul Kiri	Kaoh Nheak	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ta Veang	moderate
Mondul Kiri	Kaev Seima	moderate	Mondul Kiri	Pechr Chenda	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Veun Sai	high
Mondul Kiri	Ou Reang	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ta Veang	high	Ratana Kiri	Ou Chum	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Ta Veang	high	Ratana Kiri	Veun Sai	high	Ratana Kiri	Koun Mom	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Veun Sai	high	Ratana Kiri	Andoung Meas	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ou Ya Dav	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Andoung Meas	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Koun Mom	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Lumphat	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Koun Mom	high	Ratana Kiri	Ou Ya Dav	moderate	Stung Treng	Siem Pang	high
Ratana Kiri	Ou Ya Dav	high	Ratana Kiri	Lumphat	moderate	Stung Treng	Thala Barivat	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Lumphat	moderate	Ratana Kiri	Ou Chum	moderate	Stung Treng	Stueng Traeng	moderate
Ratana Kiri	Ou Chum	moderate	Stung Treng	Thala Barivat	high	Stung Treng	Sesan	moderate
Stung Treng	Thala Barivat	moderate	Stung Treng	Siem Pang	high			
Stung Treng	Siem Pang	high	Stung Treng	Sesan	moderate			
Stung Treng	Sesan	high						

FLASH FLOOD GUIDANCE IN THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN IN LAO PDR - 03 JULY								
In the next 01 hour			In the next 03 hour			In the next 06 hour		
Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG	Province	District	Level of FFG
Bolikhamxay	Thaphabat	moderate	Bolikhamxay	Thaphabat	moderate	Vientiane	Keo oudom	moderate
Khammuane	Hinboon	moderate	Khammuane	Hinboon	moderate	Vientiane	Phonhong	moderate
Khammuane	Thakhek	moderate	Khammuane	Thakhek	moderate	Vientiane	Thoulakho	moderate
Khammuane	Nongbok	moderate	Khammuane	Nongbok	moderate	Vientiane	Xanakham	high
Phongsaly	Nhot ou	moderate	Vientiane	Keo oudom	moderate	Vientiane	Sangthong	moderate
Vientiane	Vangvieng	moderate	Vientiane	Phonhong	moderate	Xaysomboun	Longxan	moderate
Vientiane	Feuang	moderate	Vientiane	Thoulakho	moderate			
Vientiane	Keo oudom	high	Vientiane	Xanakham	high			
Vientiane	Phonhong	high	Vientiane	Sangthong	moderate			
Vientiane	Met	moderate	Xaysomboun	Longxan	moderate			
Vientiane	Thoulakho	moderate						
Vientiane	Xanakham	high						
Vientiane	Sangthong	high						
Xaysomboun	Longxan	moderate						
Xiengkhuang	Morkmay	moderate						

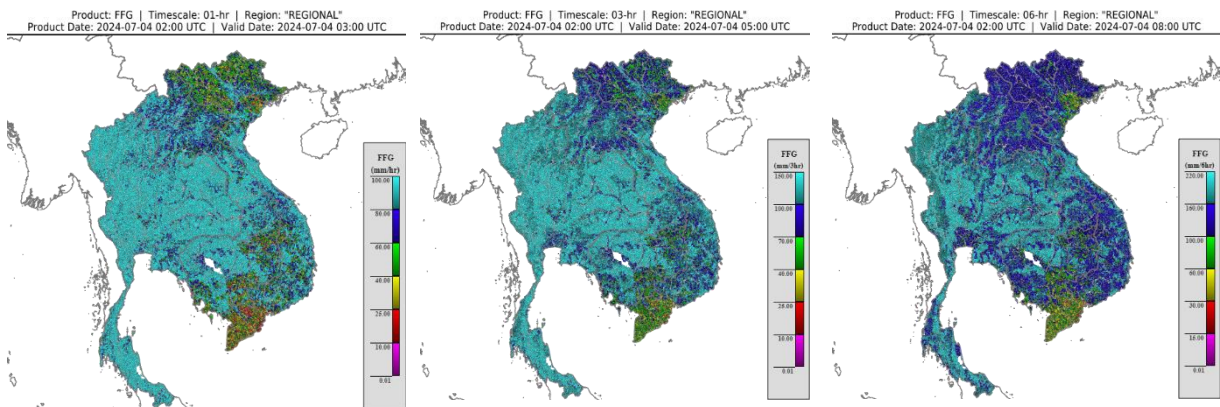


Figure 9. Flash Flood Guidance for the next 1-hr, 3-hr, and 6-hr on 04 July

5. Drought Monitoring in the Lower Mekong Basin

5.2. Weekly drought monitoring from 2 to 8 July 2024

Drought monitoring data for 2024 are available from Monday to Sunday every week; thus, the reporting period is normally delayed by one day compared to Flood and Flash Flood reports. We adopt the Index of Soil Water Fraction (ISWF) data obtained from FFGS to represent soil moisture of agricultural indicator for both dry and wet seasons.

- **Weekly Standardised Precipitation Index (SPI1)**

As indicated in **Figure 10** below, during July 2 to 8, the LMB was facing some moderate and severe meteorological droughts. Severe drought took place in Kampong Chhang, Salavan, Savannakhet, Attapu, Chiang Ria, Phayao, Bueng Kan, Sakon Nakhon, Kalasin, Nakhon Ratchasima, and Dak Lak.

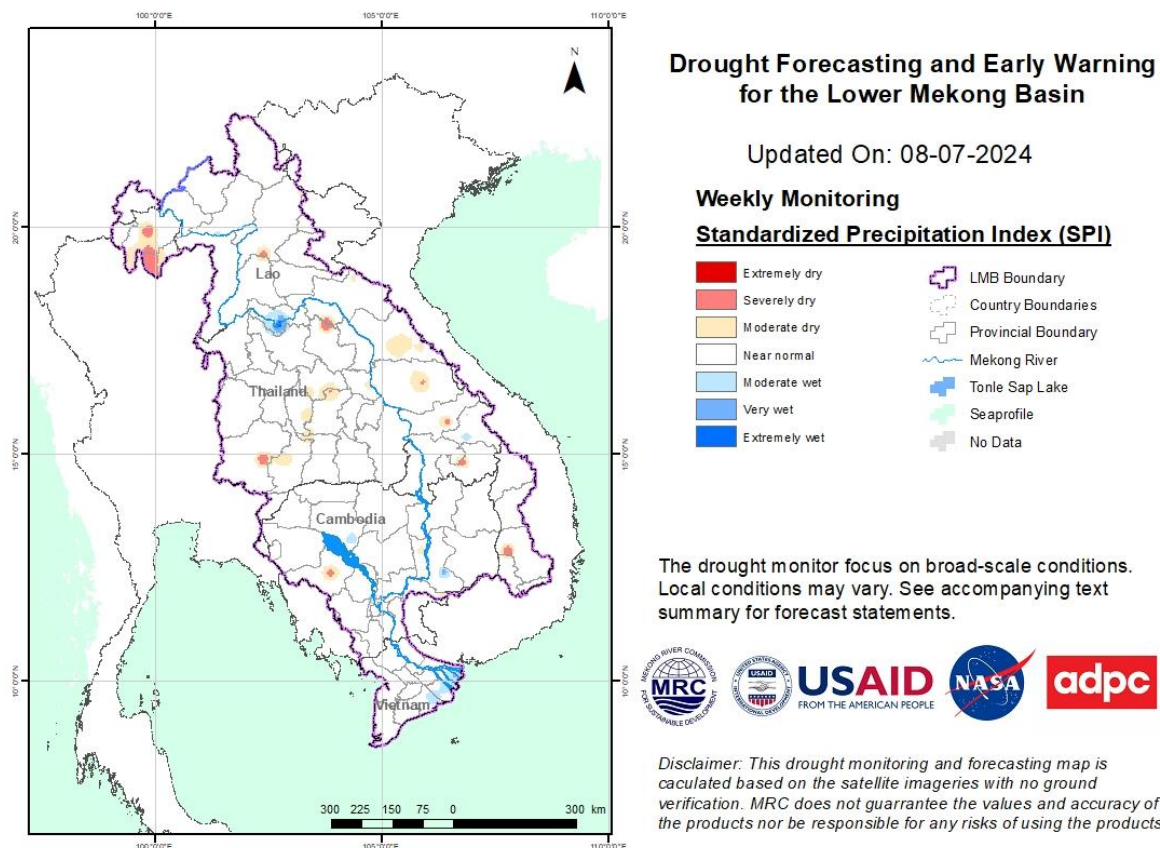


Figure 10: Weekly standardized precipitation index from July 2 to 8.

- **Weekly Index of Soil Water Fraction (ISWF)**

Some moderate and severe agricultural droughts, as displayed in **Figure 10**, were taking place in Champasak, Khammuan and attapu of Lao PDR. Other areas were normal or wet during the monitoring week from July 2 to 8.

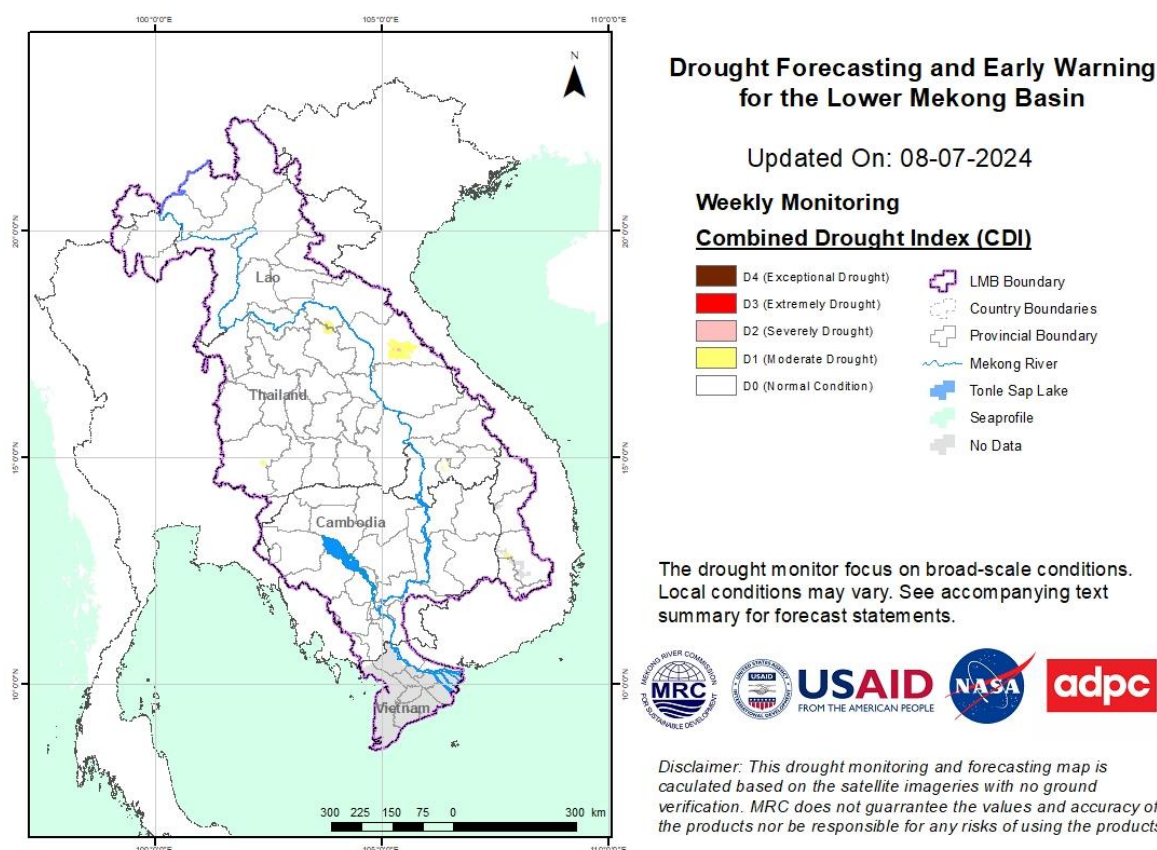


Figure 12: Weekly Combined Drought Index from July 2 to 8.

More information on Drought Forecasting and Early Warning (DFEW) as well as the explanation is available here: <http://droughtforecast.mrcmekong.org/templates/view/our-product>. DFEW provides not only weekly monitoring and forecasting information but also a three-month forecast of drought indicators with seasonal outlook which are updated every month based on international weather forecast models. Details on drought forecast are described in section 6.4 of this report.

6 Weather and Water Level Forecast and Flash Flood information

6.1 Rainfall forecast

From 09 to 13 July 2024, the accumulated rainfall over the entire Lower Mekong Basin is distributed with light to heavy rain based on CHIRPS-GFS (**Figure 12**). moderate rainfall is expected to occur in most parts of Laos, south-western & north-eastern Cambodia, and the 3S basins. However, heavy rainfall may likely occur in some areas such as Paksane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, Pakse on 10 July and the 3S basins on during 09-13 July.

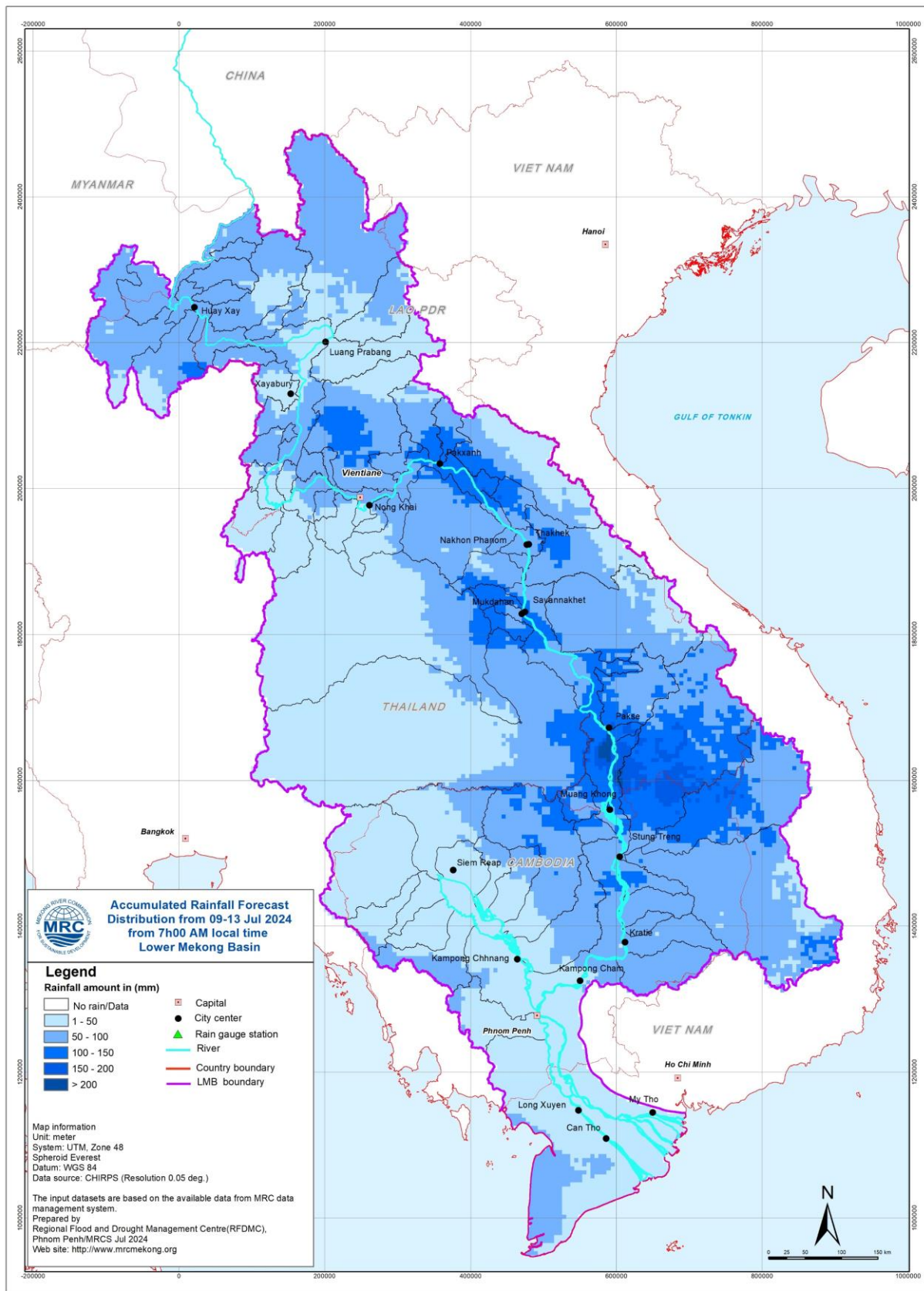


Figure 13: Accumulated rainfall forecast from CHIRP-GFS (09 – 13 July 2024)

6.2 Water level forecast

In Chiang Saen monitoring station, the water level is expected to be fluctuated over the forecasting period of 09 – 13 July 2024. However, it will slightly increase from 3.05 m to 3.34 m. The water levels in Luang Prabang affected by backwater and Chiang Khan stations are likely increasing approximately 0.75 m.

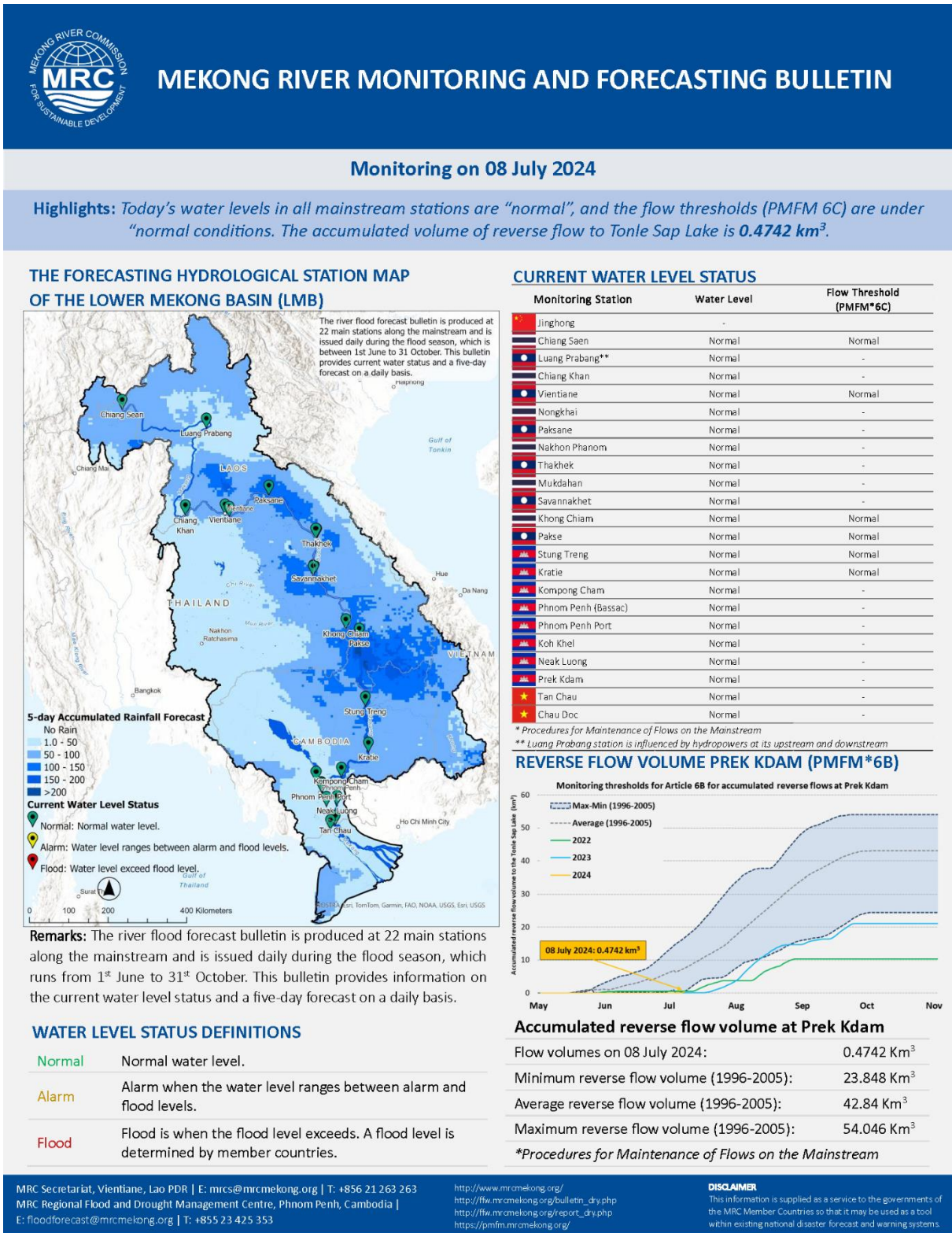
Along the Mekong mainstream, the water levels at all other upper stations from Chiang Khan to Nongkhai are expected to slightly increase. At Chiang Khan, Vientiane, and Nongkhai, water levels are expected to decrease approximately 0.53 m, 0.38 m, and 0.38 m, respectively. However, at Paksane, Nakhon Phanom, Thakhek, Mukdahan, Savannakhet, Kong Chiam, and Pakse are likely decreasing approximately -0.40 m, -0.48 m, -0.57 m, -0.54 m, -0.55 m, and -0.42 m, respectively. At stations located from Stung Treng to Prek Kdam stations, water levels are likely increasing. At Stung Treng, Kratie, Kompong Cham, Phnom Penh (Bassac), Phnom Penh Port, Koh Khel, Neak Luong and Prek Kdam, water level is likely rise with approximated value of 0.41 m, 0.26 m, 0.19 m, 0.30 m, 0.31 m, 0.22 m, 0.18 m, and 0.29 m, respectively as compared to the previous week.

For the Tan Chau station on the Mekong River and Chau Doc station on the Bassac River, water levels will be fluctuating approximately ranging from 0.52 to -0.12 m and 0.40 to -0.07 m, respectively, following daily tidal effects from the sea.

The water levels at key stations are forecasted to be below their LTAs except for Luang Prabang station from 09 to 13 July 2024.
























The weekly River Monitoring Bulletin and forecasting issued on 08 July 2024 can be found in **Table 2**. Results of the weekly river monitoring and forecasting bulletin are also available at <http://ffw.mrcmekong.org/bulletin.php>

Table 3. River Monitoring and Forecasting Bulletin.



Forecasting from 09 to 13 July 2024

Highlights: In the next five days, it is forecasted that water levels at all the mainstream stations will not reach the “alarm” levels.

Forecasting Station	24 h Observed Rainfall (mm)	Zero gauge above M.S.L (m)	Observed Water Level against zero gauge (m)		Forecasted Water Level (m)					Alarm Level (m)	Flood Level (m)	Forecasted Water Levels Change in 5 days (m)	Max. Water levels change within next 5 days (m)	Min. distance to alarm level within next 5 days (m)	Min. distance to flood level within next 5 days (m)
	07-Jul		07-Jul	08-Jul	09-Jul	10-Jul	11-Jul	12-Jul	13-Jul						
 Jinghong	0.0	-	535.95	→ 535.96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
 Chiang Saen	4.0	357.110	3.07	↓ 3.05	→ 3.05	→ 3.11	→ 3.15	↑ 3.25	→ 3.34	11.50	12.80	↑ 0.29	0.29	8.16	9.46
 Luang Prabang	22.2	267.195	9.44	↑ 9.80	↑ 9.93	→ 10.00	↑ 10.18	↑ 10.48	→ 10.55	17.50	18.00	↑ 0.75	0.75	6.95	7.45
 Chiang Khan	12.2	194.118	6.40	↑ 6.82	↑ 6.95	→ 7.02	→ 7.18	→ 7.27	→ 7.35	14.50	16.00	↑ 0.53	0.53	7.15	8.65
 Vientiane	23.2	158.040	4.19	↓ 4.14	→ 4.23	→ 4.34	→ 4.46	→ 4.56	→ 4.52	11.50	12.50	↑ 0.38	0.42	6.94	7.94
 Nongkhai	0.0	153.648	3.93	↓ 3.68	↑ 3.83	→ 3.85	→ 3.97	→ 4.08	→ 4.10	11.40	12.20	↑ 0.42	0.42	7.30	8.10
 Paksane	10.7	142.125	6.67	↓ 6.26	↓ 6.01	→ 5.92	→ 5.85	→ 5.80	→ 5.86	13.50	14.50	↓ -0.40	-0.46	7.49	8.49
 Nakhon Phanom	0.0	130.961	6.25	↓ 5.93	↓ 5.68	↓ 5.55	→ 5.48	→ 5.40	→ 5.45	11.50	12.00	↓ -0.48	-0.53	5.82	6.32
 Thakhek	0.0	129.629	7.34	↓ 7.04	↓ 6.80	↓ 6.67	→ 6.60	→ 6.54	→ 6.60	13.00	14.00	↓ -0.44	-0.50	6.20	7.20
 Mukdahan	1.0	124.219	6.18	↓ 5.93	↓ 5.67	→ 5.58	→ 5.50	→ 5.42	→ 5.36	12.00	12.50	↓ -0.57	-0.57	6.33	6.83
 Savannakhet	0.0	124.219	4.59	↓ 4.32	↓ 4.08	→ 4.00	→ 3.91	→ 3.82	→ 3.78	12.00	13.00	↓ -0.54	-0.54	7.92	8.92
 Khong Chiam	6.5	89.030	6.85	↓ 6.69	→ 6.62	↓ 6.40	↓ 6.12	→ 6.04	↑ 6.14	13.50	14.50	↓ -0.55	-0.65	6.88	7.88
 Pakse	9.2	86.490	5.21	↓ 5.10	↓ 4.95	↓ 4.82	↓ 4.68	↓ 4.60	↑ 4.68	11.00	12.00	↓ -0.42	-0.50	6.05	7.05
 Stung Treng	0.0	36.790	5.32	↓ 5.20	→ 5.16	↓ 5.10	↑ 5.15	↑ 5.34	↑ 5.61	10.70	12.00	↑ 0.41	0.41	5.09	6.39
 Kratie	0.0	-0.101	12.40	↑ 12.63	→ 12.49	→ 12.51	→ 12.50	↑ 12.60	↑ 12.89	22.00	23.00	↑ 0.26	0.26	9.11	10.11
 Kompong Cham	0.0	-0.930	6.24	↑ 6.54	↑ 6.59	↓ 6.53	→ 6.51	↑ 6.56	↑ 6.73	15.20	16.20	↑ 0.19	0.19	8.47	9.47
 Phnom Penh (Bassac)	nr	-1.020	3.35	↑ 3.59	↑ 3.76	↓ 3.79	→ 3.82	→ 3.84	↑ 3.89	10.50	12.00	↑ 0.30	0.30	6.61	8.11
 Phnom Penh Port	nr	0.070	2.05	↑ 2.35	↑ 2.53	↓ 2.56	→ 2.59	→ 2.61	↑ 2.66	9.50	11.00	↑ 0.31	0.31	6.84	8.34
 Koh Khel	0.0	-1.000	3.26	↑ 3.64	↑ 3.76	↓ 3.83	→ 3.84	→ 3.84	→ 3.86	7.90	8.40	↑ 0.22	0.22	4.04	4.54
 Neak Luong	0.0	-0.330	2.20	↑ 2.39	↑ 2.59	↓ 2.55	→ 2.55	→ 2.55	→ 2.57	7.50	8.00	↑ 0.18	0.20	4.91	5.41
 Prek Kdam	0.0	0.080	2.47	↑ 2.71	↑ 2.86	↓ 2.90	→ 2.94	→ 2.96	↑ 3.00	9.50	10.00	↑ 0.29	0.29	6.50	7.00
 Tan Chau	0.0	0.000	0.74	↓ 0.52	↓ 0.23	↓ -0.10	↓ -0.21	↓ -0.16	↑ -0.12	3.50	4.50	↓ -0.64	-0.73	3.27	4.27
 Chau Doc	nr	0.000	0.86	↓ 0.40	↓ 0.05	↓ -0.18	→ -0.20	↑ -0.13	↑ -0.07	3.00	4.00	↓ -0.47	-0.60	2.95	3.95

WATER LEVEL FORECASTING DEFINITIONS

↑	Rising water level.
→	Stable water level: stable water level is defined as a daily change of less than 10cm from Chaing Saen to Savannakhet; less than 5cm at Pakse and Stung Treng; and no more than 3cm from Kratie downstream.
↓	Falling water level.
X	No data available.
Alarm stage	Alarm stage is when the water level ranges between alarm and flood levels.
Flood stage	Flood stage is when the flood level exceeds. A flood level is determined by member countries.

NOTES

- For **09-13 July**, moderate rainfall is expected to occur in most parts of Laos, south-western & north-eastern Cambodia, and the 3S basins. However, heavy rainfall may likely occur in some areas such as Paksane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, Pakse on **10 July** and the 3S basins on during **09-13 July**.
- On **08 July**, water levels at all stations are in normal conditions, which do not reach alarm and flood levels. However, the **accumulated volume** of the **reverse flow to Tonle Sap Lake is 0.4742 Km³**.
- For **09-13 July**, water levels at Chiang Saen to Nong Khai are expected to increase and from Paksane to Pakse stations are likely decreasing. However, water levels from Stung Treng station downward are expected to increase. Water levels at all stations are expected to be below their long-term averages (LTAs).
- Water levels at Tan Chau and Chau Doc are forecasted to fluctuate due to tidal influence.

DISCLAIMER

6.3 Flash Flood Information

With the predicted rainfall for the coming week, flash floods might be detected in some areas in the LMB. Local heavy rain in a short period of time is possible with unpredictable short flash floods.

Further detailed information on Flash Flood Guidance Information, as well as its explanation, is available for download [here](#).

6.4 Drought forecast

There are several climate-prediction models with different scenarios in the upcoming months. The MRC's DFEWS adopts the global scale of North America Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) with downscaled 5km combined drought indicator.

Figure 13 below shows the monthly drought forecast for July, August and September 2024 over the LMB area.

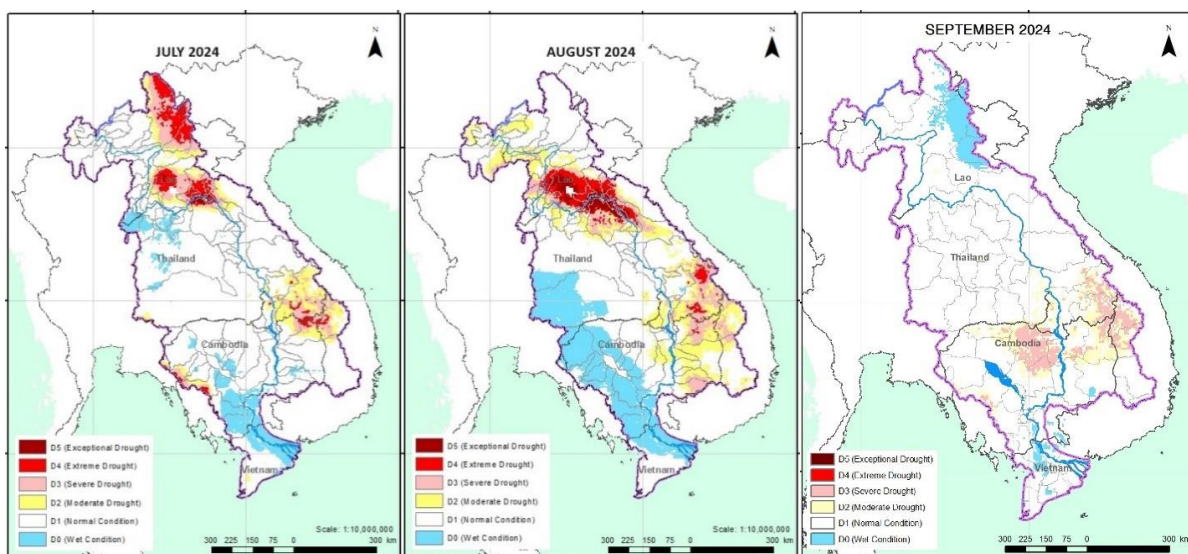


Figure 14. Monthly drought forecast for July, August, and September 2024.

From July to September 2024, it is expected to bring drought conditions to certain areas of the LMB (**Figure 13**). In July, eastern Cambodia, 3S area, and northern Lao PDR are the most severe areas. In August, severe and exceptional droughts are forecasted for the upper part of the LMB. Other areas are likely normal or wet. In September, moderate to severe drought is forecasted for the northern Cambodia and 3S area, while other areas are likely normal or wet. Severe drought is likely taking place in some areas of Otdar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Stung Treng, Ratanakiri, and Kampong Thom of Cambodia, Xekong and Attapu of Lao PDR and Kon Tum and Gia Lai of Viet Nam.

7 Summary and Possible Implications

7.1. Rainfall and its forecast

In the period of 02 – 08 July 2024, there has been light to heavy rainfall has been observed over the LMB. Especially, during this period, heavy to very heavy rainfall has been observed over the LMB in Chiang Sean, Nong Khai, Vientiane, Paksane, Muong Kao, Kratie, and Kampong Cham.

During 09 – 15 July 2024, the accumulated rainfall over the entire Lower Mekong Basin is distributed with light to heavy rain. Moderate rainfall is expected in most parts of Laos, the southwestern and northeastern parts of Cambodia, and the 3S Basin of Sekong, Sesan, and Srepok. However, heavy rainfall may occur in Paksane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, and Pakse from 10 - 13 July and the eastern part of the Lower Mekong Basin from 13-14 July.

7.2. Water level and its forecast

At 22 key monitoring stations along the Mekong mainstream from 02 – 08 July 2024, water levels are normal, and the flow threshold (PMFM 6C) are under normal conditions. It is also the same condition for Tan Chau and Chau Doc monitoring stations, which are significantly influenced by sea tidal fluctuation.

In the period of 09 – 13 July 2024, Water levels are forecasted to be slightly increasing at upper stretches of LMB from Chiang Saen to Nongkhai stations. However, water level from Paksane to Pakse will drop, while from Stung Treng to Prek kdam, they will rise. At Tan Chau and Chau Doc stations, the water levels are predicted to be also fluctuated, resulting from the influence of sea tidal patterns. Water levels at most of the stations are expected to be below their long-term averages (LTAs).

7.3. Flash flood and its trends

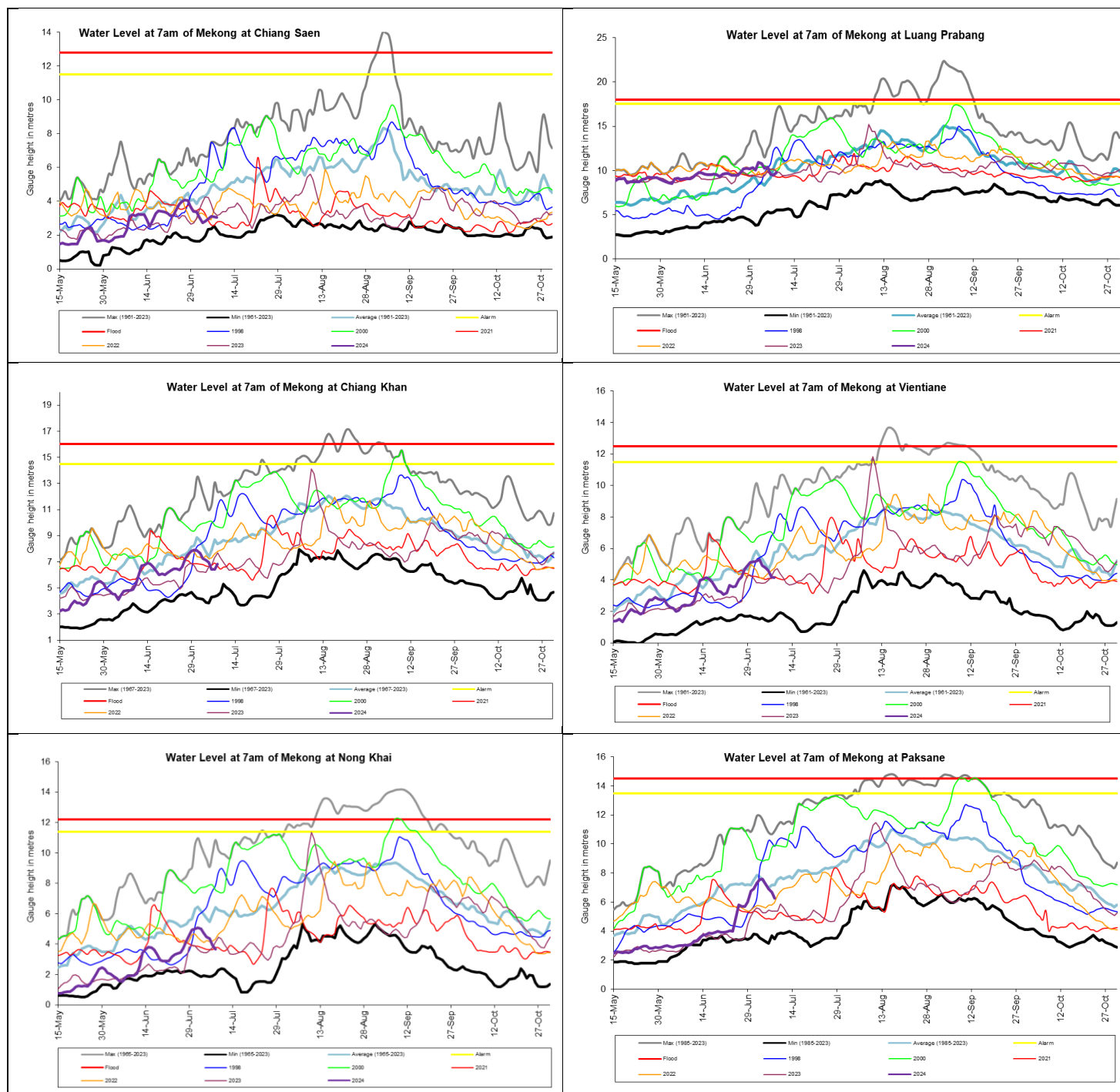
With the predicted of rainfall for the coming week as mentioned earlier in part 2, the flash flood guidance at a low to high level will likely be detected in some areas of the LMB.

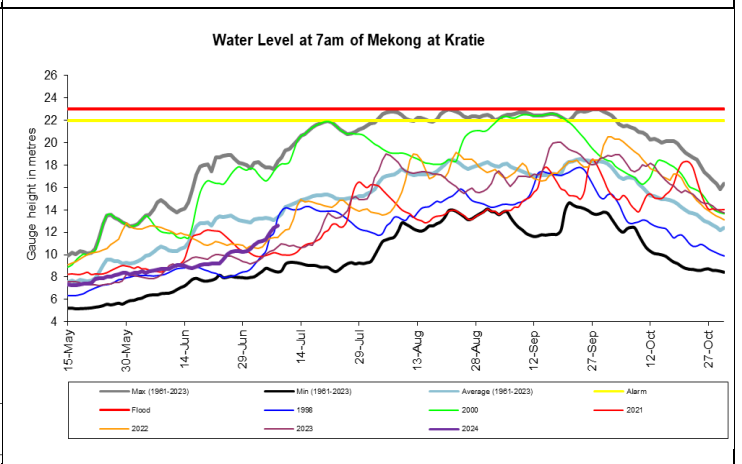
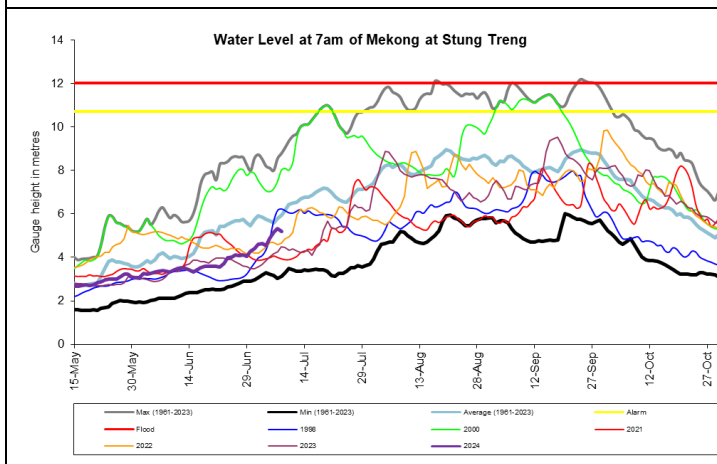
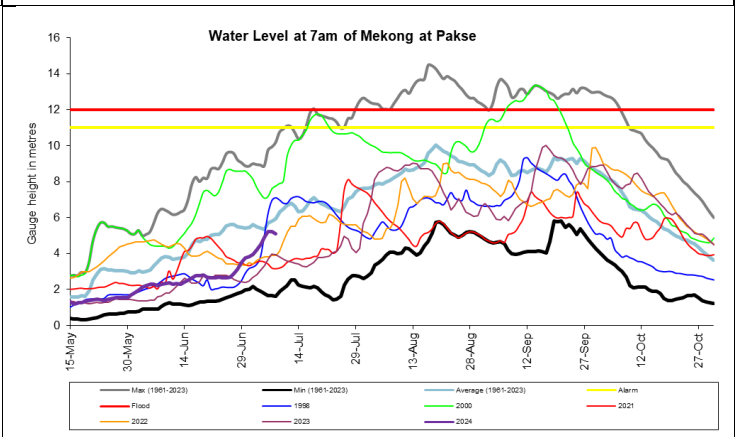
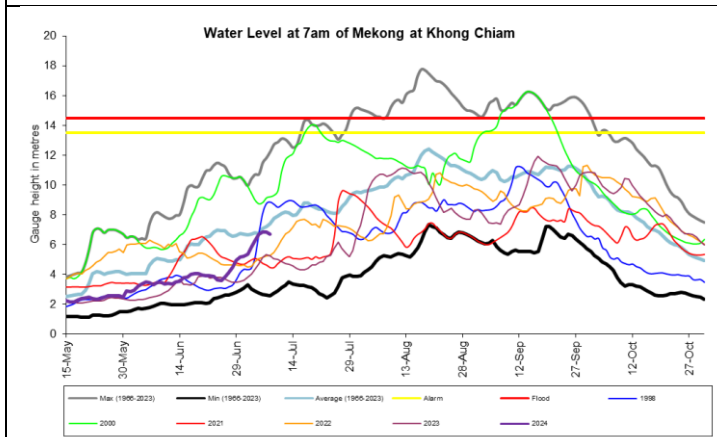
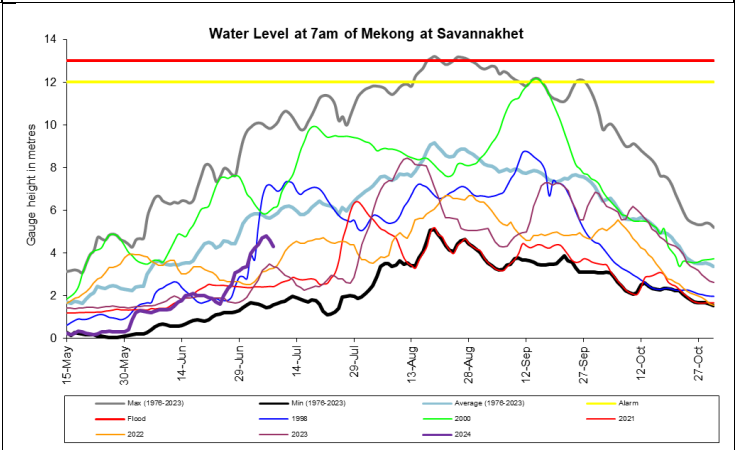
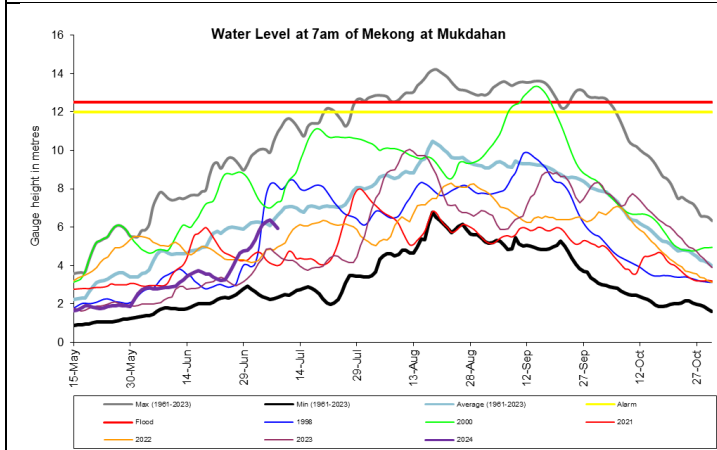
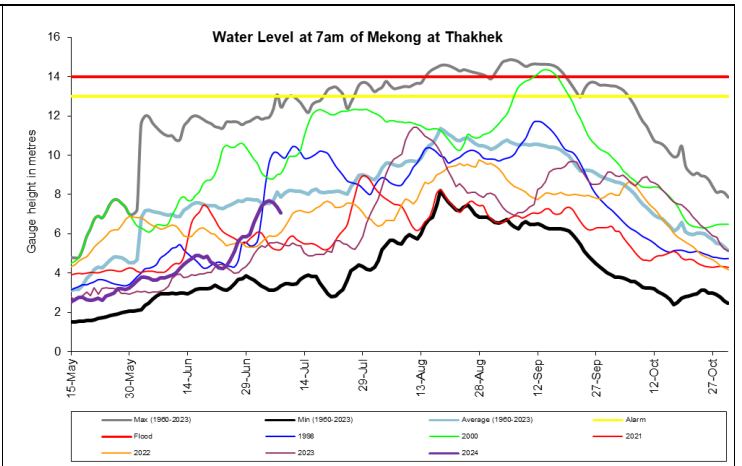
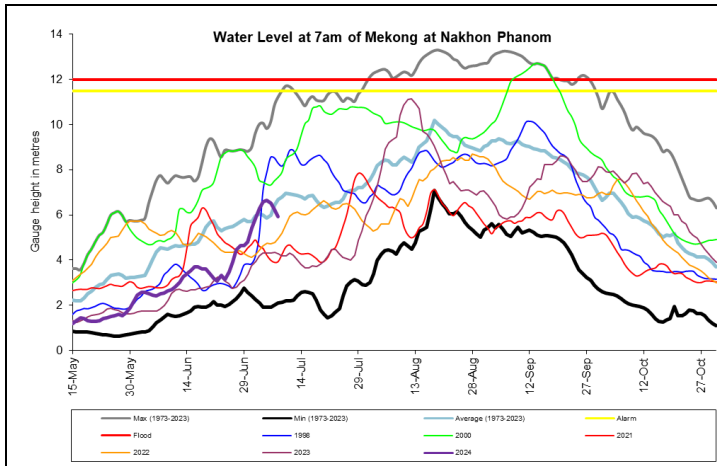
7.4. Drought condition and its forecast

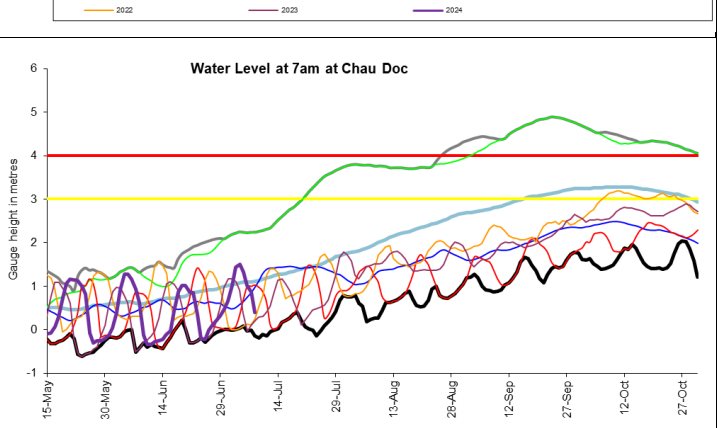
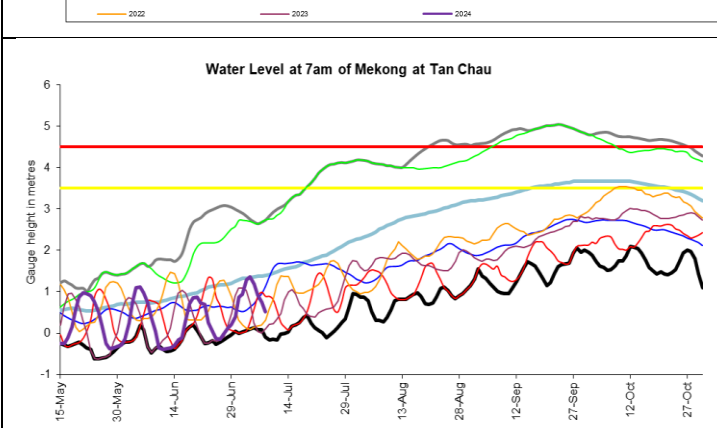
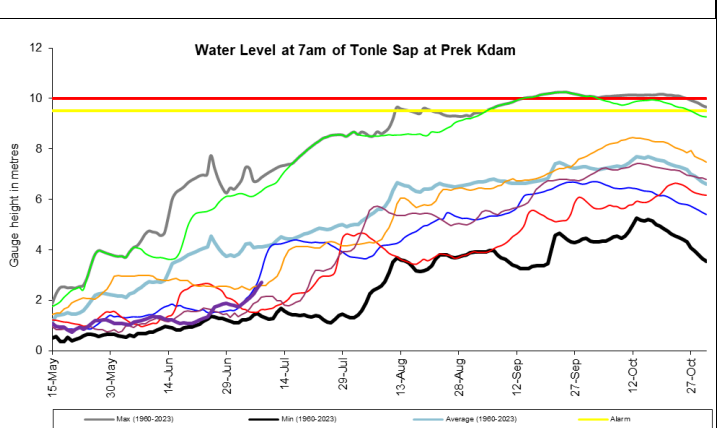
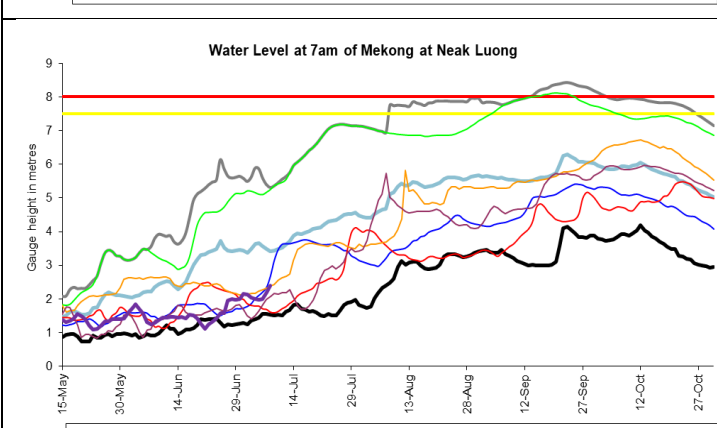
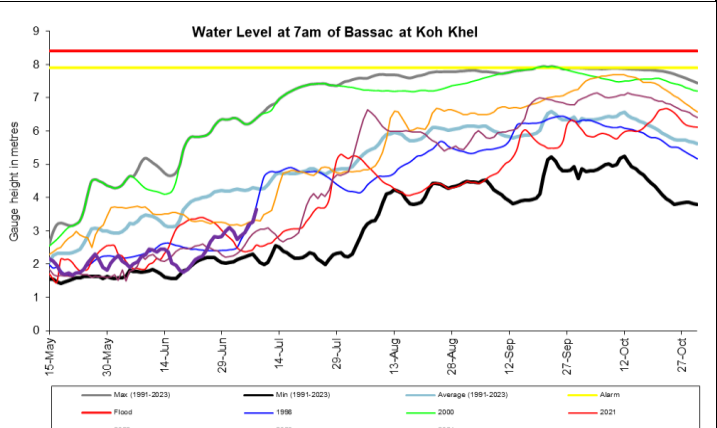
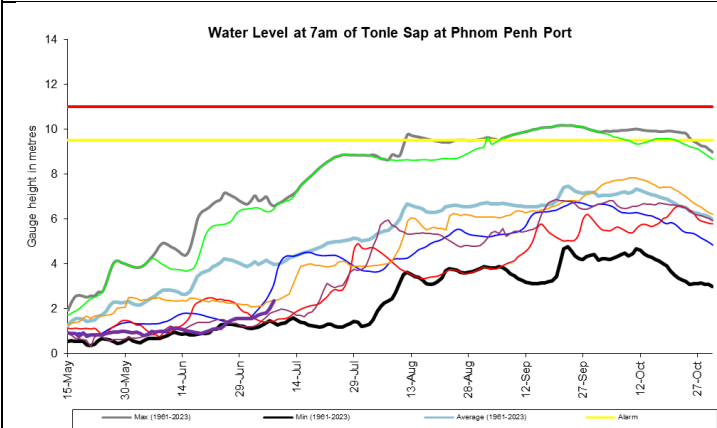
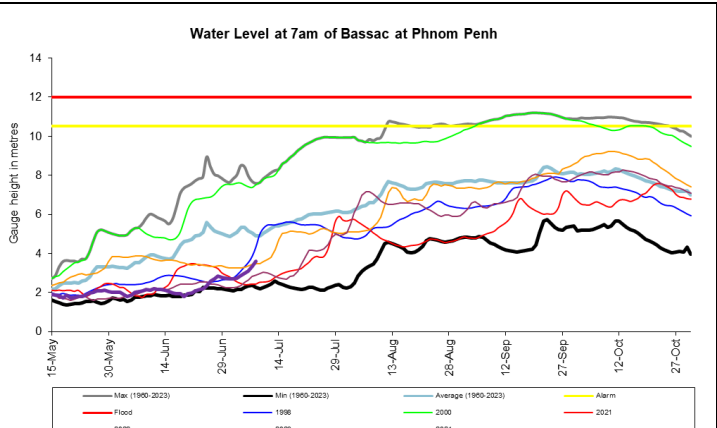
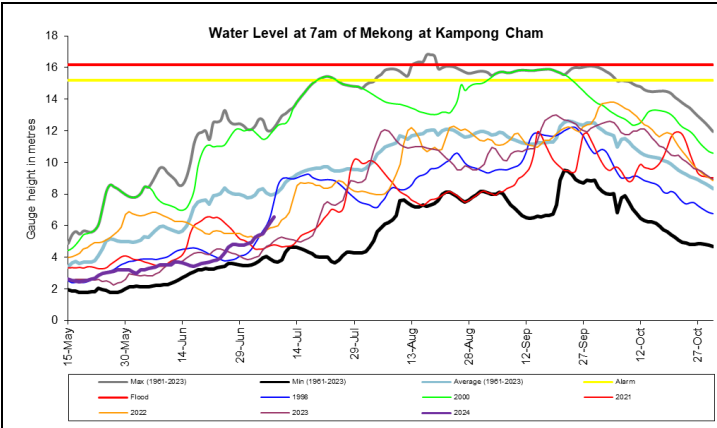
During 2-8 July 2024, the LMB was generally normal in most parts of the region. Some moderate drought was taking place in Khammuan and Champasack of Laos, and Nong Khai, Sakon Nakhon, and Nakhon Phanom of Thailand. However, they were taking pace in just a small extent. No significant impact of drought was expected for the current work.

From July to September 2024, it is expected to bring drought conditions to certain areas of the LMB. In July, eastern Cambodia, 3S area, and northern Lao PDR are the most severe areas. In August, severe and exceptional droughts are forecasted for the upper part of the LMB. Other areas are likely normal or wet. In September, moderate to severe drought is forecasted for the northern Cambodia and 3S area, while other areas are likely normal or wet. Severe drought is likely taking place in some areas of Otdar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Stung Treng, Ratanakiri, and Kampong Thom of Cambodia, Xekong and Attapu of Lao PDR and Kon Tum and Gia Lai of Viet Nam

Annex A: Weekly water level monitoring at the 22 key stations







Annex B: Tables for weekly updated water levels and rainfall at the Key Stations

Table A1: Weekly observed water levels

2024	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
02-07-2024	536.08	3.05	10.90	7.66	5.20	5.08	7.31	5.83	6.97	5.35	3.97	5.37	3.95	4.61	10.85	4.94	2.69	1.57	2.97	2.14	1.74	0.93	1.01
03-07-2024	536.11	2.74	10.76	7.24	5.30	5.00	7.53	6.29	7.37	5.78	4.20	5.80	4.18	4.65	11.13	5.26	2.75	1.62	2.74	2.04	1.84	1.29	1.44
04-07-2024	536.11	2.81	10.28	7.13	4.92	4.72	7.59	6.57	7.62	6.12	4.41	6.21	4.52	4.54	11.19	5.38	2.88	1.72	2.84	2.00	1.97	1.36	1.50
05-07-2024	535.79	2.94	10.36	6.96	4.77	4.46	7.19	6.65	7.67	6.29	4.71	6.70	4.88	4.86	11.38	5.48	2.98	1.77	2.96	1.98	2.12	1.18	1.32
06-07-2024	535.86	3.12	9.58	6.41	4.60	4.38	6.89	6.53	7.57	6.37	4.80	6.85	5.20	5.17	12.00	5.82	3.11	1.83	3.18	2.00	2.26	0.92	1.02
07-07-2024	535.95	3.07	9.44	6.40	4.19	3.93	6.67	6.25	7.34	6.18	4.59	6.85	5.21	5.32	12.40	6.24	3.35	2.00	3.26	2.20	2.47	0.74	0.86
08-07-2024	535.96	3.05	9.80	6.82	4.14	3.68	6.26	5.93	7.04	5.93	4.32	6.69	5.10	5.20	12.63	6.54	3.59	2.35	3.64	2.39	2.71	0.52	0.40
Flood level		12.80	18.00	16.00	12.50	12.00	14.50	12.50	14.00	12.50	13.00	14.50	12.00	12.00	23.00	16.20	12.00	11.00	7.90	8.00	10.00	4.50	4.00

Table A2: Weekly observed rainfall

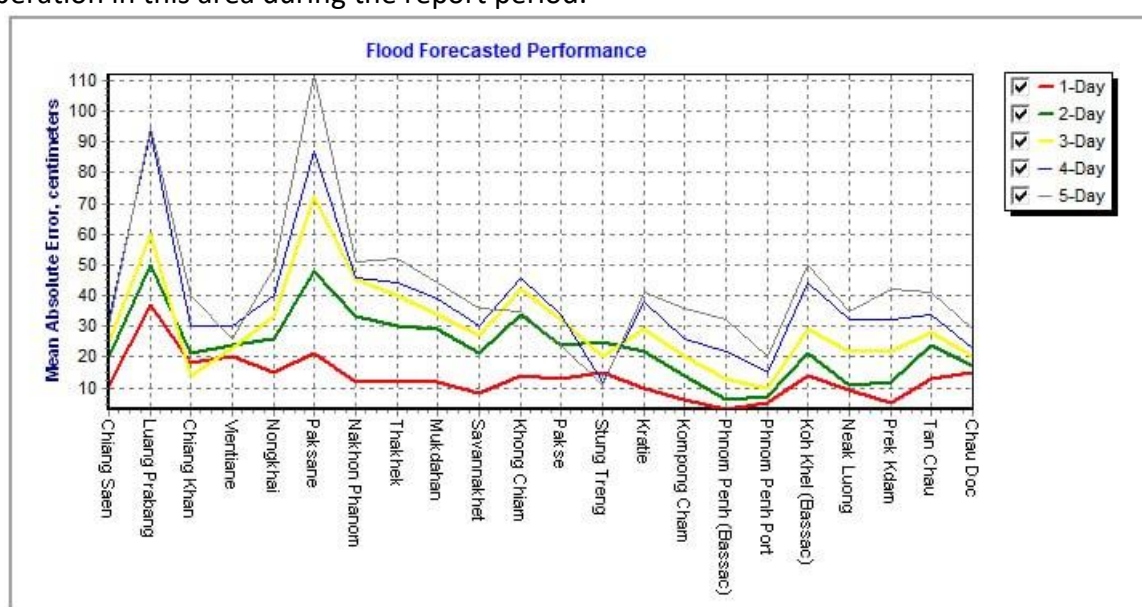
2024	Jinghong	Chiang Saen	Luang Prabang	Chiang Khan	Vientiane	Nongkhai	Paksane	Nakhon Phanom	Thakhek	Mukdahan	Savannakhet	Khong Chiam	Pakse	Stung Treng	Kratie	Kompong Cham	Phnom Penh (Bassac)	Phnom Penh Port	Koh Khel	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc
02-07-2024	1.5	0	12.8	0	2	8	193.5	4.2	3.5	0	1	22.1	14.5	47	0	0	0.3		0	0	12.4	0	0
03-07-2024	6	24.6	0	13.5	122	195	4	6.9	3.9	1.5	3	38	9	34	7.6	29	2.1		54.6	1.6	7.3	7.7	24
04-07-2024	35.5	11.2	7.8	2.6	11.2	9	14.2	21.4	53.5	6.7	3.2	79.5	0	3	72.1	11	52.5		20.1	0.2	6.2	0	1.1
05-07-2024	12	98.5	0	0	0	1.1	80	24.5	59.4	11.5	37.4	4.4	0	1	0	80	9.7		42.7	1.5	65.4	0	0.1
06-07-2024	0	3.5	6.4	2	0	3.6	22.6	4.8	4.5	2	7.2	0	1.4	0	0.5	0	3.8		0	0	32.3	0	0
07-07-2024	0	8.3	0	2.7	10	0	22.5	0	0	0	0	3	15.2	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
08-07-2024	0	4	22.2	12.2	23.2	0	10.7	0	0	1	0	6.5	9.2	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Sum	55.0	150.1	49.2	33.0	168.8	216.5	347.5	61.8	124.8	22.7	51.8	153.5	49.3	85.0	80.2	120.0	68.4	0.0	117.4	3.3	123.6	7.7	25.2

Annex C: Performance of the weekly flood forecasting

“Accuracy” here refers to the state where data recorded in the MRC’s Mekong River Flood Forecasting System are cleaned and verified.

The adjustment of flood forecasting outcomes from the flood forecasting system requires flood forecasters to have extensive knowledge in hydrology and statistical modelling for estimating the relationships between stations upstream and downstream in the Mekong River Basin. Flood forecasting performance presented in the graph below shows the average flood forecasting accuracy at each key station along the Mekong mainstream from 02 to 08 July 2024.

The forecasting values from 02 to 08 July 2024 show that the overall accuracy is fair for a four-day to five-day forecast in lead time (less than 250 cm) for all of the stations from the upper to the lower parts of the Mekong River with combine information of rainfall and reservoirs' operation in this area during the report period.



Note: The higher percentage of flood forecasting accuracy is due to several key factors as follows:

- Missing rainfall in Cambodia (DOM) data and data input are not sufficient to be used for inputting into the flood forecasting model system.
- Chiang Saen station is influenced by hydropower upstream operation from China.
- Luang Prabang to Chiang Khan and Paksane to Stung Treng to Kratie have been influenced by hydropower operations upstream, tributaries inflows.
- The influence of heavy rainfall caused by storms and hydropower operations from upstream, tributaries inflows and the lower part of the Mekong floodplain, including the 3S (Stung Treng and Kratie).
- Fluctuations of the water levels at Tan Chau and Chau Doc stations were due to daily tidal effects of the sea in the Mekong Delta.
- Satellite rainfall data were not representative of the actual rainfall at ground stations in some areas of the Mekong region.



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