



Mekong River Commission

**Weekly Dry Season Situation Report in
the Lower Mekong River Basin
03 – 09 March 2026**

Prepared by
The Regional Flood and Drought Management Centre
10 March 2026

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Key Messages

Key messages for this weekly report are presented below.

Rainfall monitoring and forecast

- In the period of 03 – 09 March 2026, light to moderate rainfall that is expected to occur in some areas in the LMB, including the northern part of Lao PDR, Cambodia, and the Mekong delta.
- During 10 – 16 March 2026, light to moderate rainfall that is expected to occur in some areas in the LMB, including the northern part of Lao PDR, Cambodia, and the Mekong delta.

Water level monitoring and forecast

- At 22 key monitoring stations along the Mekong mainstream from 03 – 09 March 2026, at most of stations, the water levels are above LTAs except for Nongkhai, Paksane, Thakhek, and Savannakhet. However, the 6 monitoring stations remain in normal condition with respect to the flow threshold (PMFM Thresholds). 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 10 – 16 March 2026, water levels at most of stations water levels at most of stations are expected to be in normal conditions. At Tan Chau and Chau Doc stations, the water levels are predicted to be also fluctuated, resulting from the influence of sea tidal patterns. At most of stations, water levels are above LTAs except for Nongkhai, Paksane, Thakhek, and Savannakhet.

Drought condition and forecast

- During 03 - 09 March 2026, the combined drought indicator (CDI), that no drought in the LMB, except some areas in the central part of Lao PDR, the northeastern part of Thailand, and Cambodia.
- The weekly forecast from 10 - 16 March 2026 indicates that the LMB is likely to experience moderate to severe drought condition in some areas in the central part of Lao PDR, northeastern part of Thailand and Cambodia based on the Combined Drought Index.

1 Introduction

This Weekly Dry Season Situation Report presents a preliminary analysis of the weekly hydrological situation in the Lower Mekong River Basin (LMB) for **03 – 09 March 2026**. 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

From 10 – 16 March 2026, it is forecasted that the moderate high-pressure system affected the upper part of the Lower Mekong Basin. Under this circumstance, light to moderate rain occurred in some areas in the Lower Mekong Basin including in the centre and southern part of Lao PDR, Cambodia, and the Mekong delta

Figure 1 presents mean sea level pressure over the region in the next 7 days.

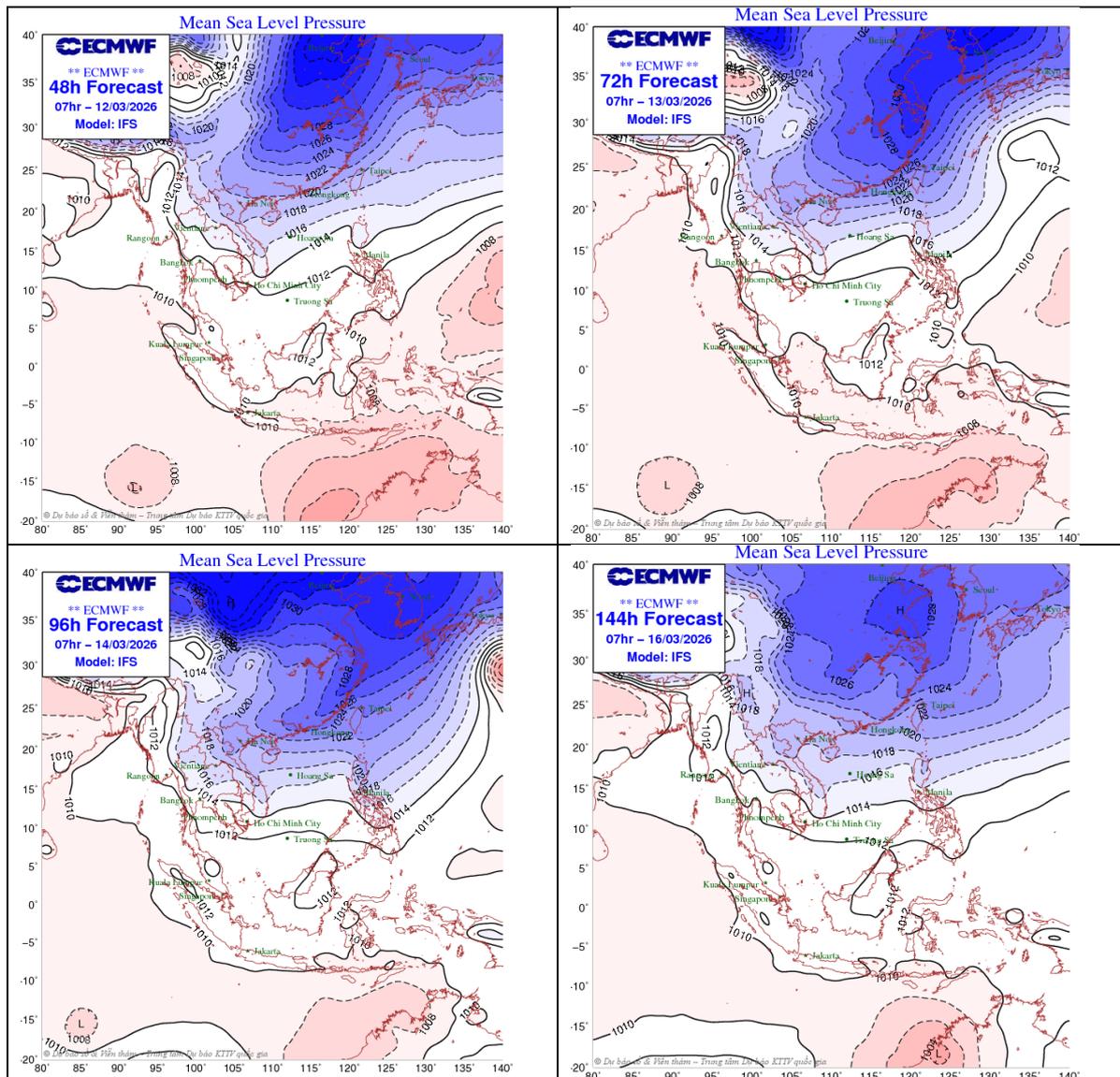


Figure 1: Weather conditions over the LMB

According to the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC, <http://asmc.asean.org/home/>), Wetter and drier conditions are not predicted over parts of western and central LMB in Week 1 (02 – 08 March). However, cooler than usual temperatures are predicted to develop. These cooler conditions are likely to persist in Week 2 (9 – 15 March). **Figure 2** shows the outlook of weather condition from 02 to 15 March 2026 in Southeast Asia based on results from the NCEP model (National Centres for Environmental Prediction).

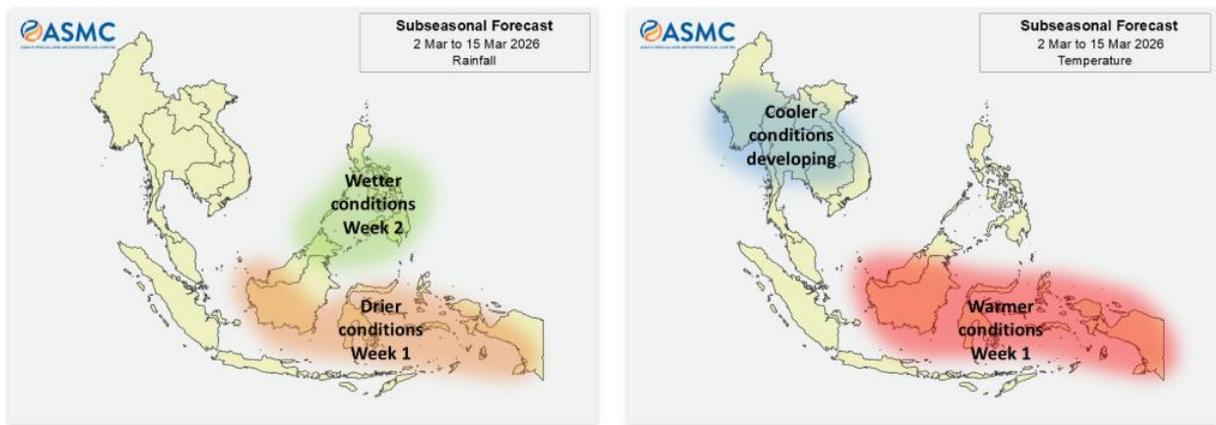


Figure 2: Outlook of wet and dry conditions over the Asian countries by ASMC.

Based on the JMA tropical storm (TS) information (https://www.jma.go.jp/bosai/weather_map/#lang=en), there is no active NW pacific system as of 09 March 2026 as displayed in **Figure 3**.

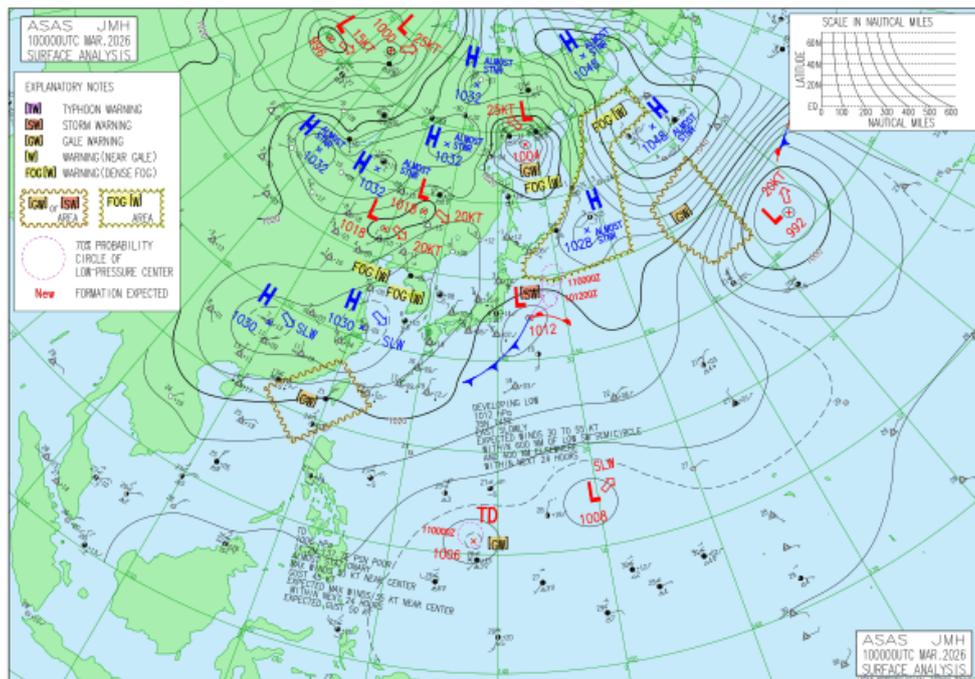


Figure 3: One tropical storm risk observed on 09 March 2026

3. Rainfall and Water Level Monitoring

3.1. Rainfall monitoring

The weekly accumulated rainfall based on the observed data provided by the MRC Member Countries – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam – from 03 – 09 March 2026 (**Figure 4**). Light to moderate rain occurred in some areas in the Lower Mekong Basin including in the centre and southern part of Lao PDR, Cambodia, and the Mekong delta.

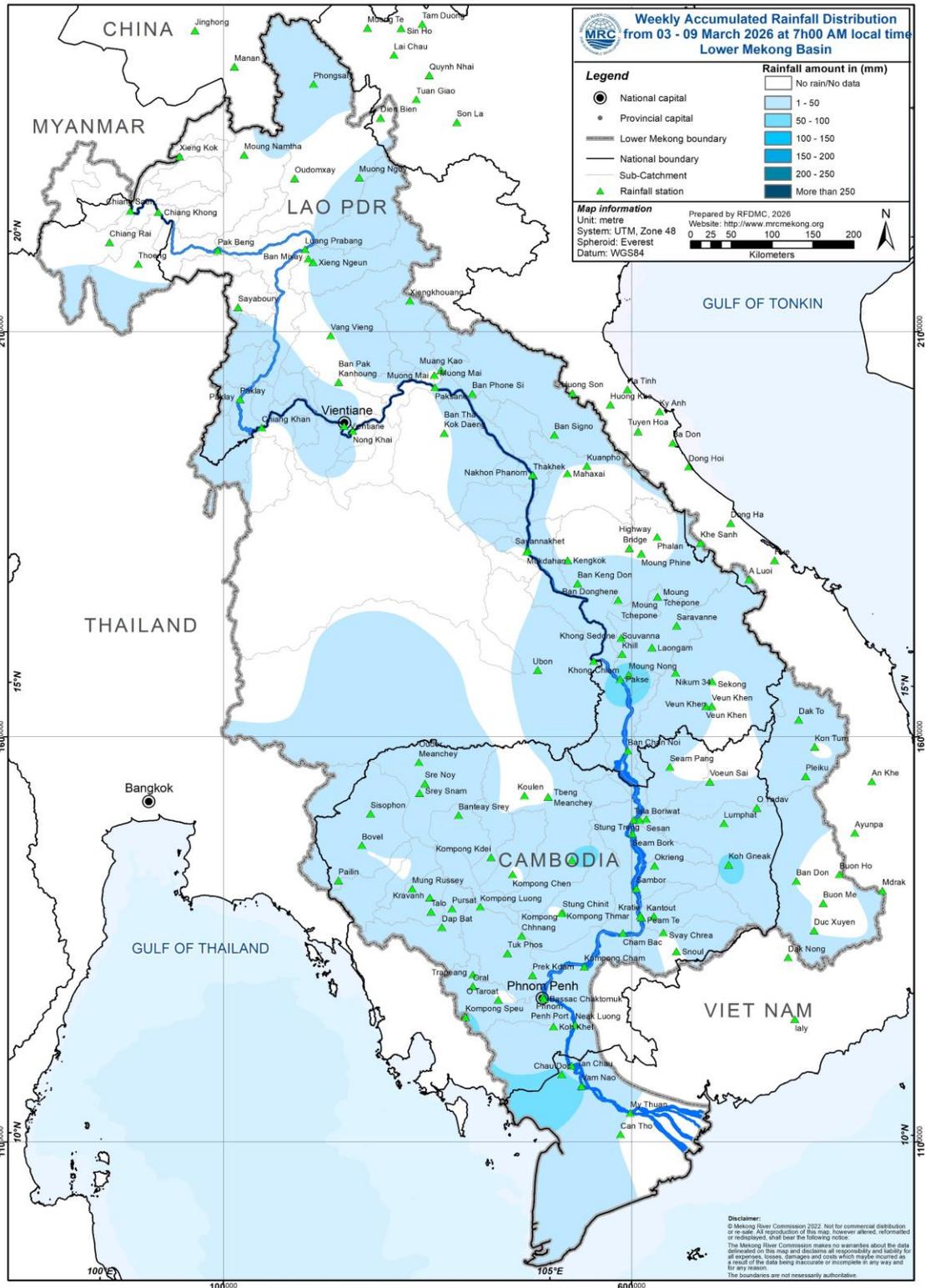


Figure 4: Weekly rainfall distribution over the LMB during 03 – 09 March 2026

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 03 – 09 2026, the observed water level (WL) at Jinghong hydrological station¹, was almost constant and ranges between 536.68 m and 537.43 m, which are corresponding to the outflow between 1,890.00 m³/s to 2,520.00 m³/s (recorded on 7:00 am), respectively (**Figure 6**). The water level in Chiang Saen Station also indicated a slight fluctuation ranging from 2.62 m to 3.19 m. At the same period, the water level in Luang Prabang station has slightly decreased from 8.78 m to 9.44 m compared to the previous week. The water level at Chiang Khan Station also increased from 4.72 m to 5.32 m. During the same period, the water levels observed at Vientiane, Nongkhai, and Paksane have increased from 2.85 m to 3.04 m, 1.76 m to 1.93 m, and 2.62 m to 2.62 m, respectively. At Nakhon Phanom, Thakhek, Mukdahan, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, and Pakse stations, the water levels have been stable as compared to the previous week.

Moving down to the floodplain area at Stung Treng, Kratie, and Kampong Cham, water levels have also increased from 2.95 m to 3.03 m, 7.78 m to 8.11 m, and 3.05 m to 3.38 m, respectively. However, water levels at Phnom Penh (Bassac) and Phnom Penh Port, Koh Khel and Prek Kdam, the water level have increased from 2.14 m to 2.34 m, 1.15 m to 1.33 m, 2.29 m to 2.36 m, 1.46 m to 1.58 m, respectively. The water levels at Neak Luong have decreased from 1.94 m to 1.63 m.

Similar to the previous week, the water levels from 03 to 09 March 2026 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 1.20 m and 0.21 m, while at the Chau Doc station, they ranged from 1.30 m and 0.24 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>.

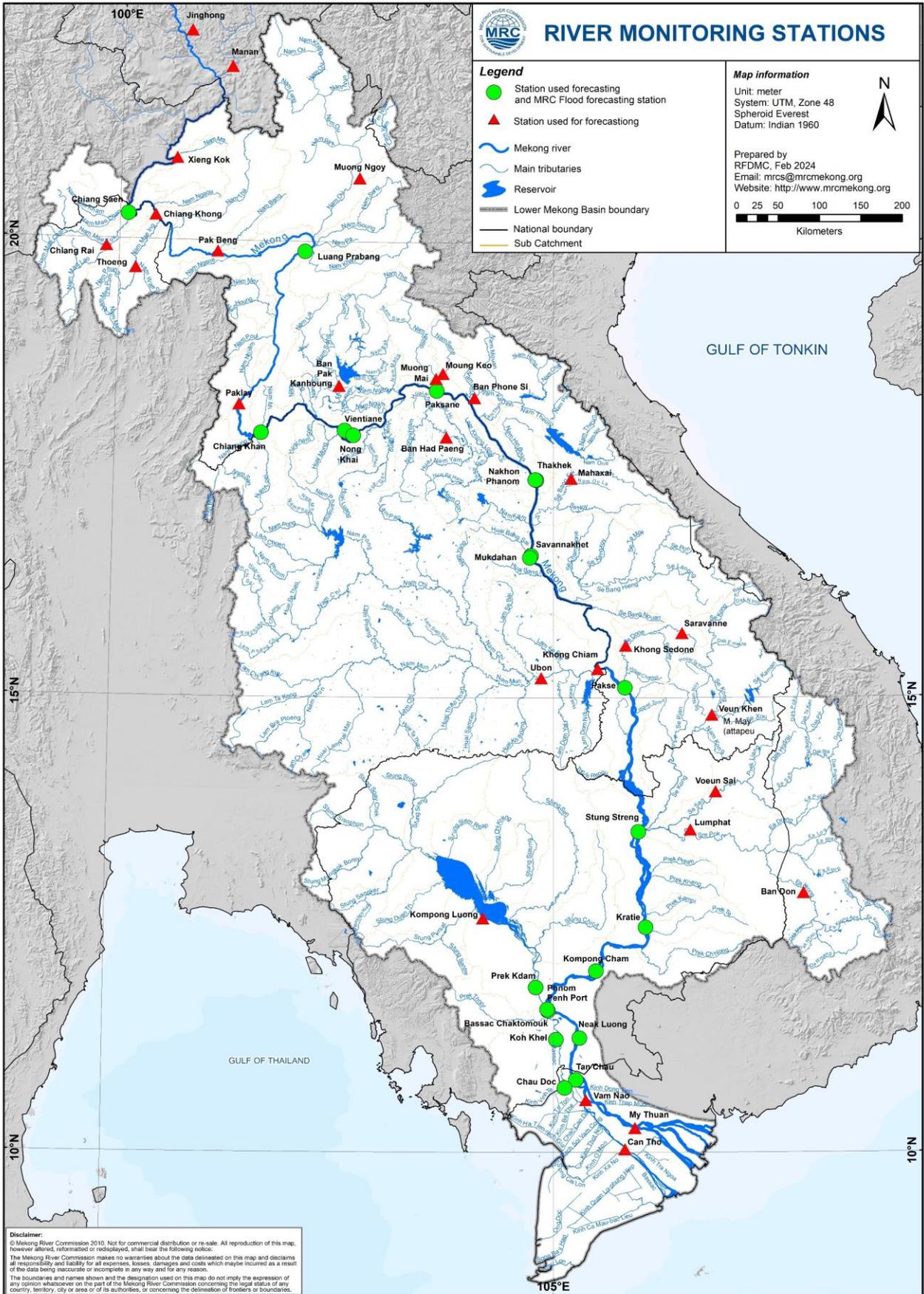


Figure 5: The key stations along LMB for river flood forecasting

The water levels in key monitoring stations on 09 March 2026 are in normal conditions. At most of stations, water levels are above LTAs except for Nongkhai, Paksane, Thakhek, and Savannakhet. Moreover, all stations with available PMFM 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**.

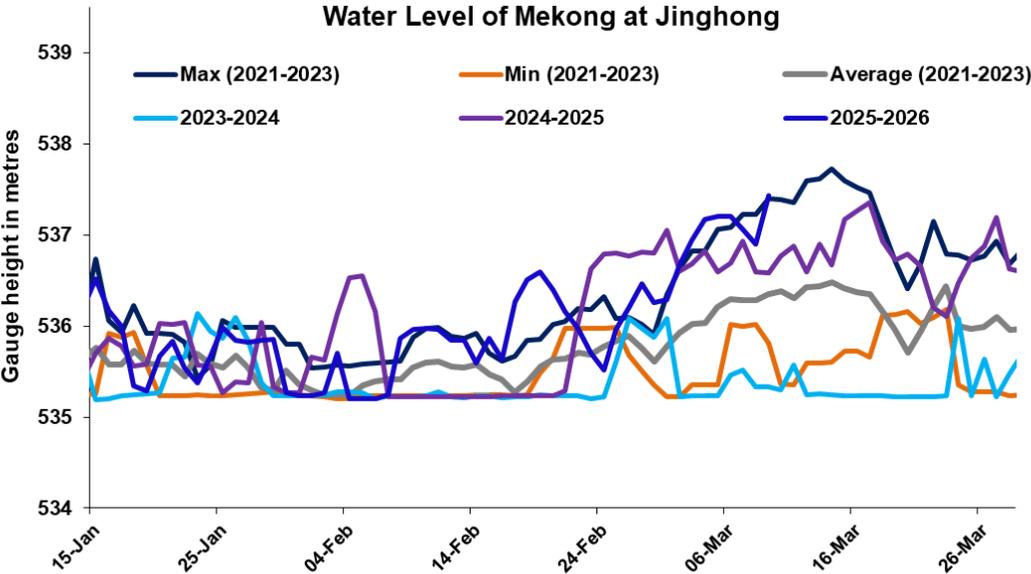


Figure 6. Water level at the Jinghong hydrological station up to 09 March 2026

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 outflow of the Tonle Sap Lake took place since 14 September 2025.

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, 2024 and their LTA level (1997–2024) are illustrated in **Figure 8**. Up to 09 March 2026, it was observed that the main outflow from Tonle Sap Lake has recessing (**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 09 March 2026 for the TSL compared with that in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and their LTAs, and the fluctuation levels (1997–2024) are presented in **Table 1**. The mean monthly water volume of the Tonle Sap Lake in January 2026 is higher than its LTA (about 98.87 %), and all recent years (2020 to 2025) during the same period (**Figure 8 and Table 1**).

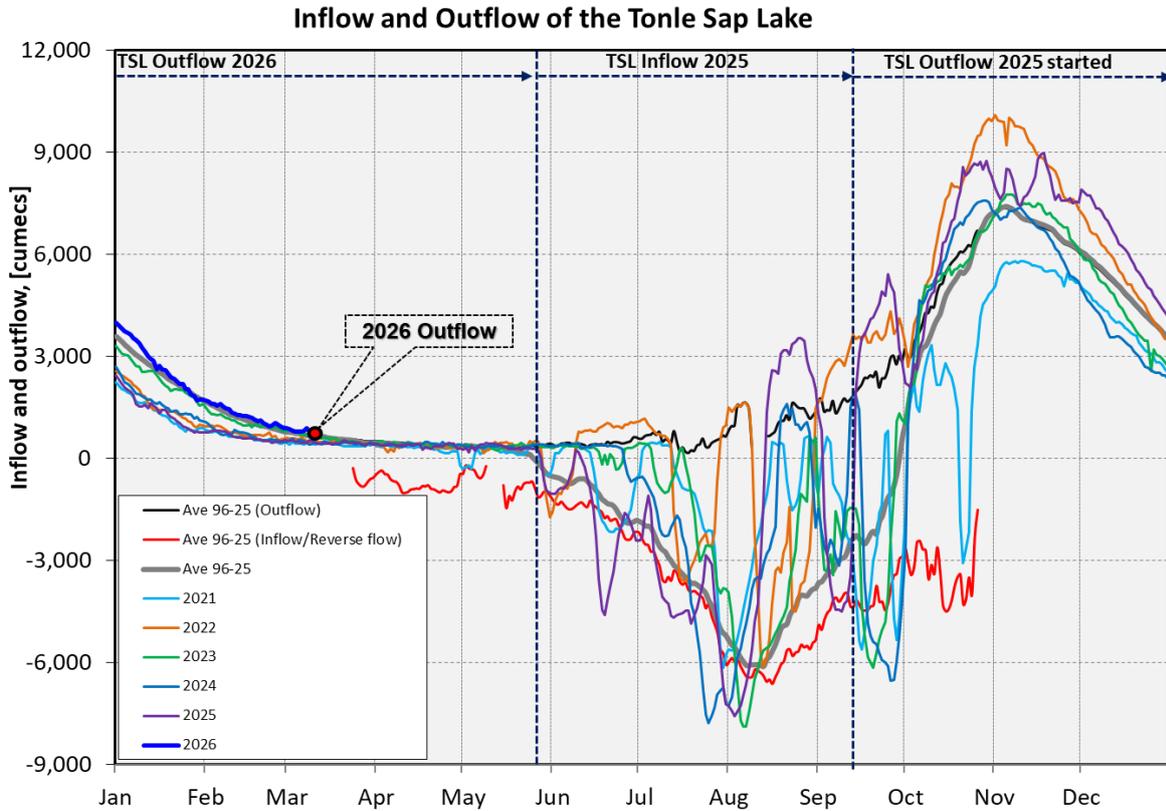


Figure 7: Seasonal change of inflows and outflows of Tonle Sap Lake.

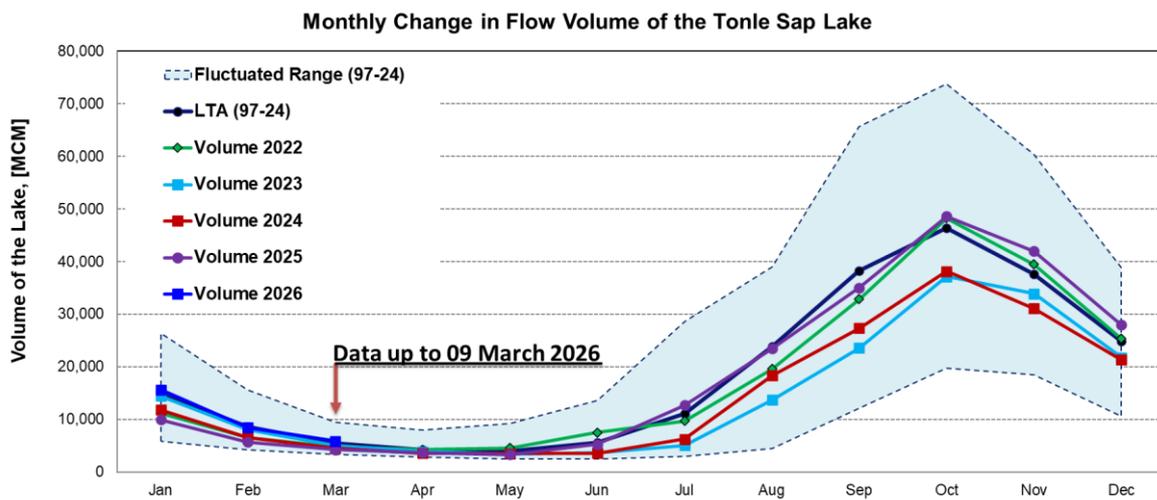


Figure 8. The seasonal change in monthly flow volume of Tonle Sap Lake.

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

Month	LTA (97-24) [MCM]	Max Volume [MCM]	Min Volume [MCM]	Volume 2020 [MCM]	Volume 2021 [MCM]	Volume 2022 [MCM]	Volume 2023 [MCM]	Volume 2024 [MCM]	Volume 2025 [MCM]	Volume 2026 [MCM]	Volume in 2026 [%], compared with its LTA
Jan	15016.17	26357.53	5906.80	5906.80	9923.80	11214.32	14422.11	11824.86	9927.00	15639.19	104.15
Feb	8543.47	15596.22	4198.60	4264.19	5832.97	6558.79	8069.29	6505.88	5690.52	8447.12	98.87
Mar	5522.42	9438.24	3347.07	3553.99	4264.88	4736.52	5080.64	4488.23	4256.33	5880.76	106.49
Apr	4279.51	8009.14	2866.91	2992.61	3556.68	4288.31	3884.16	3569.01	3697.92		
May	3985.91	9176.93	2417.81	2594.92	3240.78	4556.83	3438.66	3517.79	3322.45		
Jun	5612.10	13635.01	2468.70	2641.88	3798.29	7489.04	3689.97	3586.07	5278.20		
Jul	11070.72	28599.56	2925.86	2925.86	5346.73	9703.79	5062.21	6247.29	12706.40		
Aug	23851.22	39015.12	4433.46	5941.07	10547.80	19554.70	13694.57	18304.81	23464.06		
Sep	38261.48	65632.35	12105.31	12105.31	16382.34	32860.34	23550.60	27310.26	35010.86		
Oct	46341.38	73757.23	19705.50	20799.13	27318.21	48199.12	37141.40	38139.87	48583.60		
Nov	37653.83	60367.33	18534.61	27546.80	28982.93	39452.53	33929.52	31056.48	41943.59		
Dec	24911.64	38888.95	10563.49	18251.65	20170.76	25346.65	21757.70	21328.51	27941.36		
	Critical situation: lower than long-term minimum values (LTMIN)										
	Normal condition: within the range of long-term average (LTA) 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 2026 is updated until 09 March 2026.

4. Flash Flood in the Lower Mekong Basin

During the weekly monitoring period from 03 - 09 March 2026, the LMB received light to moderate rain in some areas.

According to the Southeast Asia Flash Flood Guidance System (SEAFFGS) and analysis, no flash flood risk over the LMB.

5. Drought Monitoring in the Lower Mekong Basin

5.2. Weekly drought monitoring

Drought monitoring data for 2026 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)**

Meteorological indicator shows that from 03 - 09 March 2026, as shown in **Figure 9**, the LMB were facing normal conditions.

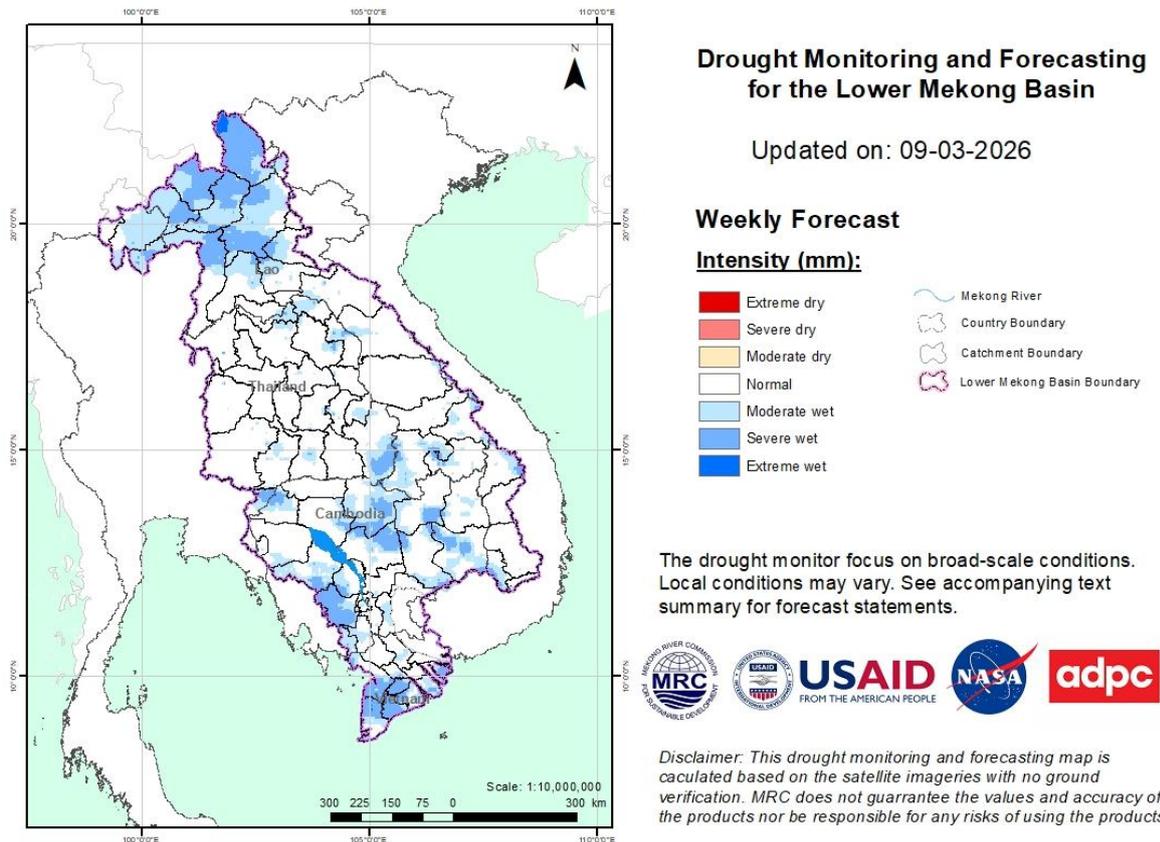
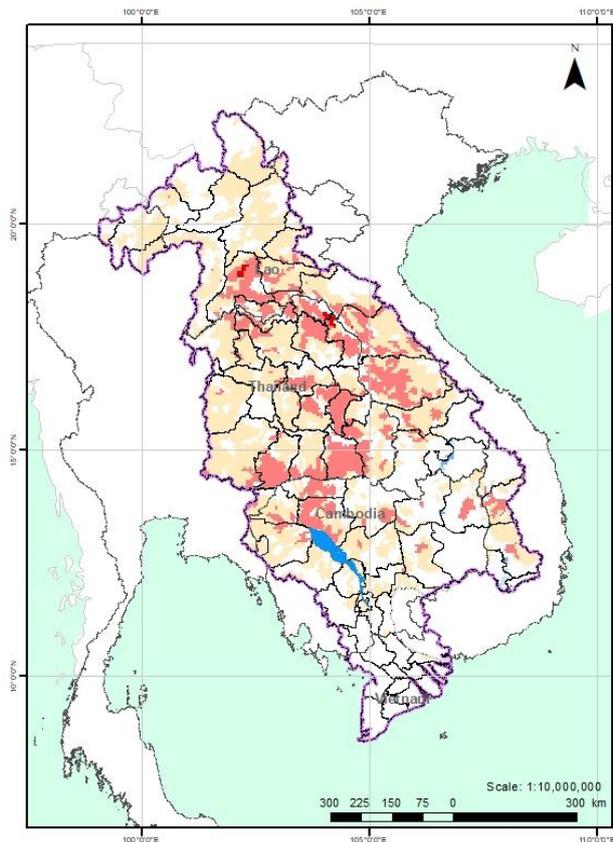


Figure 9: Weekly standardized precipitation index

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

Soil moisture conditions from 03 - 09 March 2026, as displayed in **Figure 10**, the LMB was facing moderate to severe drought conditions.

Note: *The index of soil water fraction presents the current soil water fraction conditions compared with normal month; therefore, it normally shows extremely dry during dry season which is completely different from SPI that is standardized to its specific month of the years. However, this does not mean that the areas are threatened by agricultural drought as generally during transition period of wet and dry seasons and dry season only the irrigated areas are used for agricultural plantation.*



Drought Monitoring and Forecasting for the Lower Mekong Basin

Updated on: 09-03-2026

Weekly Forecast

Intensity (mm):



The drought monitor focus on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



Disclaimer: This drought monitoring and forecasting map is calculated based on the satellite imageries with no ground verification. MRC does not guarantee the values and accuracy of the products nor be responsible for any risks of using the products.

Figure 10: Weekly Index of Soil Water Fraction

- Weekly Combined Drought Index (CDI)

The combined drought indicator, **Figure 11**, shows that no drought in the LMB, except some areas in the central part of Lao PDR, the northeastern part of Thailand, and Cambodia (the detailed areas in the table below).

Number	Country	Province	Moderate	Severe	Extreme	Exceptional	Number	Country	Province	Moderate	Severe	Extreme	Exceptional	Number	Country	Province	Moderate	Severe	Extreme	Exceptional
1	Cambodia	Banteay Meanchey					24	Lao PDR	Bolikhamsai					47	Thailand	Nong Khai				
2	Cambodia	Battambang					25	Lao PDR	Champasak					48	Thailand	Roi Et				
3	Cambodia	Kampong Cham					26	Lao PDR	Khammouan					49	Thailand	Sa Kaeo				
4	Cambodia	Kampong Chhnang					27	Lao PDR	Louangphabang					50	Thailand	Sakon Nakhon				
5	Cambodia	Kampong Speu					28	Lao PDR	Oudomxai					51	Thailand	Si Sa Ket				
6	Cambodia	Kampong Thom					29	Lao PDR	Phongsavali					52	Thailand	Surin				
7	Cambodia	Kampot					30	Lao PDR	Salavan					53	Thailand	Ubon Ratchathani				
8	Cambodia	Kandal					31	Lao PDR	Savannakhet					54	Thailand	Udon Thani				
9	Cambodia	Koh Kong					32	Lao PDR	Vientiane					55	Thailand	Yasothon				
10	Cambodia	Kratie					33	Lao PDR	Vientiane Capital					56	Viet Nam	Dak Lak				
11	Cambodia	Mondulkiri					34	Lao PDR	Kaisomboum					57	Viet Nam	Gia Lai				
12	Cambodia	Otdar Meanchey					35	Lao PDR	Kekong					58	Viet Nam	Kon Tum				
13	Cambodia	Pallin					36	Thailand	Amnat Charoen											
14	Cambodia	Preah Sihanouk					37	Thailand	Bueng Kan											
15	Cambodia	Preah Vihear					38	Thailand	Buri Ram											
16	Cambodia	Prey Veng					39	Thailand	Chantaburi											
17	Cambodia	Pursat					40	Thailand	Chiang Rai											
18	Cambodia	Ratanakiri					41	Thailand	Kaohsiang											
19	Cambodia	Siem Reap					42	Thailand	Khon Kaen											
20	Cambodia	Stung Treng					43	Thailand	Maha Sarakham											
21	Cambodia	Takeo					44	Thailand	Mukdahan											
22	Lao PDR	Tboung Khmum					45	Thailand	Nakhon Phanom											
23	Lao PDR	Attapu					46	Thailand	Nakhon Ratchasima											

Risk areas for overall drought, combined drought indicator (CDI) - S: Short-term drought (less than 4 weeks); L: Long-term drought (more than 4 weeks)

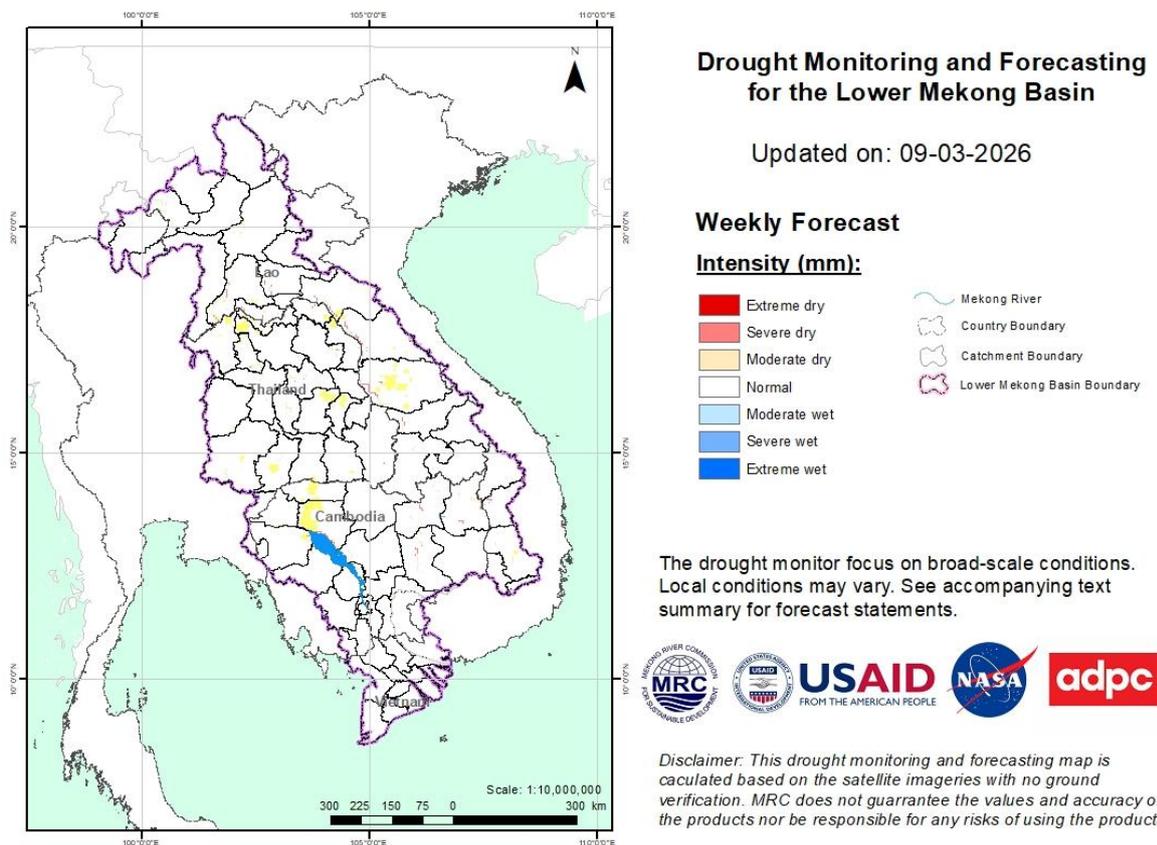


Figure 11: Weekly Combined Drought Index

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

During 10 – 16 March 2026, the accumulated rainfall over the entire Lower Mekong Basin is distributed with the light to moderate rainfall is expected to occur in some areas in the LMB, including the northern part of Lao PDR, northeastern part of Thailand, and Cambodia based on CHIRPS-GFS (**Figure 12**).

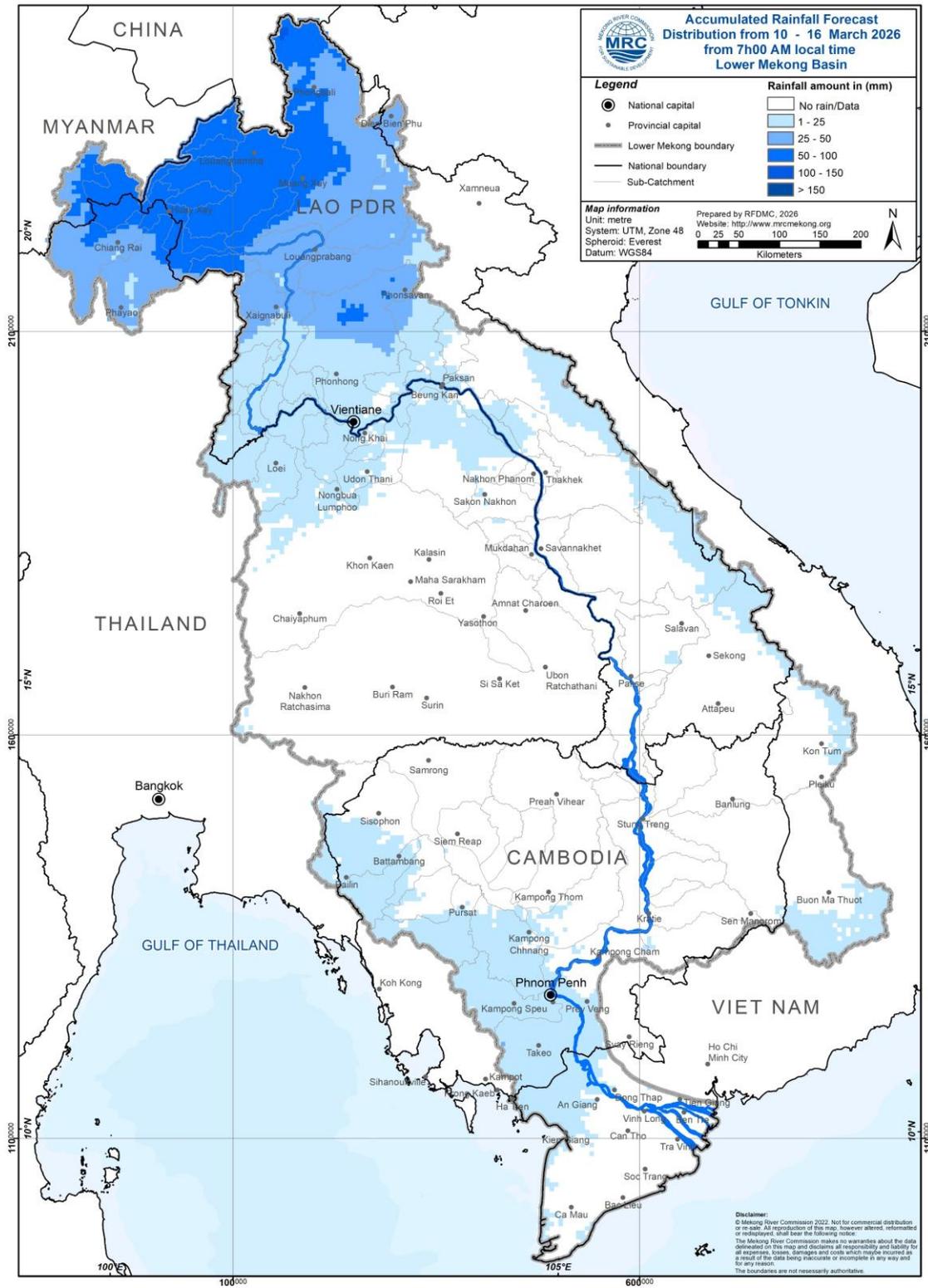


Figure 12: Accumulated rainfall forecast from CHIRP-GFS (10 – 16 March 2026)

6.2 Water level forecast

From 10 to 16 March 2026, water levels at most of stations are expected to be in normal conditions. water levels at most of stations are expected to be above LTAs except for Paksane, and those from Phnom (Bassac) downstream. The water levels at all stations are expected to rise except for those from Phnom Penh (Bassac) downstream for the next week.

In Chiang Saen monitoring station, the water level is expected to be fluctuated with stable trend over the forecasting period of 10 – 16 March 2026. The water level in Luang Prabang stations affected by backwater is likely slightly fluctuating from 9.44 m to 9.35 m with decreasing trend. Moreover, at Chiang Khan, the water level is expected to increase from 5.32 m to 5.50 m.

Along the Mekong mainstream, the water levels at Vientiane, Nongkhai, Paksane, Nakhon Phanom, Thakhek, Mukdahan, Savannakhet, Khong Chiam, and Pakse, water levels are expected to increase next week approximately 0.36 m, 0.42 m, 0.50 m, 0.42 m, 0.41 m, 0.38 m, 0.38 m, and 0.37 m, respectively.

Moving down at Stung Treng, Kratie, and Kompong Cham, and Neak Luong stations, water levels will slightly rise of approximately, 0.10 m, 0.21 m, 0.02 m, and 0.07 m respectively. However, at Phnom Penh (Bassac), Phnom Penh Port, Koh Khel and Prek Kdam stations, the water levels have dropped approximately -0.11 m, -0.11 m, -0.02 m and -0.11 m, respectively.

For the Tan Chau station on the Mekong River and Chau Doc station on the Bassac River, water levels will be fluctuating approximately ranging between 0.97 m & 1.18 m and 0.96 m & 1.20 m, respectively, following daily tidal effects from the sea.

The water levels at key stations are forecasted to be above their LTAs from 10 to 16 March 2026 except for Paksane, Phnom Penh (Bassac), and Phnom Penh Port. However, from Nongkhai to Savannakhet and from Kompong Cham to Phnom Penh Port, they are expected to be below LTAs.

The weekly River Monitoring Bulletin and forecasting issued on 09 March 2026 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>

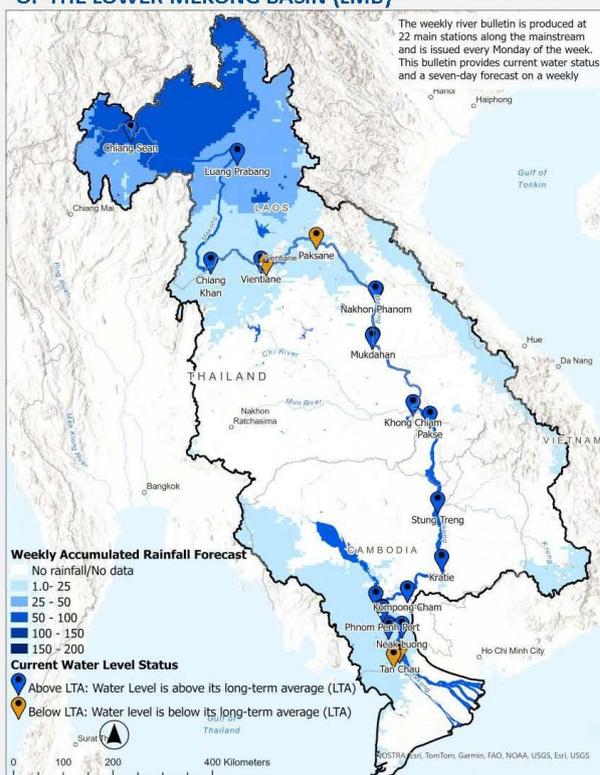
Table 2. Weekly River Monitoring Bulletin.

MEKONG RIVER COMMISSION
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MEKONG RIVER MONITORING AND FORECASTING BULLETIN

Monitoring on 08 March 2026 and weekly forecasting from 09 to 16 March 2026

Highlights: Today's water levels at all stations are in normal conditions. In the next 7 days, at upper part, most of water levels are expected to be above LTAs, and increase except for those from Phnom Penh (Bassac) downstream.

THE FORECASTING HYDROLOGICAL STATION MAP OF THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN (LMB)



NOTES

- Today's water levels are in **normal conditions**. At most of stations, water levels are **above LTAs** except for **Nongkhai, Paksane, Thakhek, and Savannakhet**.
- In the next 7 days, the **light to moderate rainfall** is expected to occur in some areas in the LMB, including the **northern part of Lao PDR, northeastern part of Thailand, and Cambodia**.
- In the next 7 days, water levels at most of stations are expected to be above LTAs except for **Paksane**, and those from **Phnom (Bassac) downstream**. The water levels at all stations are expected to **rise** except for those from **Phnom Penh (Bassac) downstream**.

CURRENT WATER LEVEL STATUS

Monitoring Station	Rainfall (mm)	Zero gauge amsl (m)	Water level against zero gauge (m)		Current Status	Flow Threshold (PMFM*6A)
	08-Mar		08-Mar	09-Mar		
Jinghong	0.0	-	536.90	537.43		
Chiang Saen	0.0	357.110	3.27	3.19	Above LTA	Normal
Luang Prabang**	0.0	267.195	9.24	9.44	Above LTA	-
Chiang Khan	0.0	194.118	5.16	5.32	Above LTA	-
Vientiane	0.0	158.040	3.10	3.04	Above LTA	Normal
Nongkhai	0.0	153.648	1.90	1.93	Below LTA	-
Paksane	0.0	142.125	2.61	2.62	Below LTA	-
Nakhon Phanom	0.0	130.961	1.75	1.86	Above LTA	-
Thakhek	0.0	129.629	2.47	2.52	Below LTA	-
Mukdahan	0.0	124.219	2.20	2.21	Above LTA	-
Savannakhet	0.0	125.410	0.70	0.71	Below LTA	-
Khong Chiam	0.0	89.030	2.69	2.68	Above LTA	Normal
Pakse	0.0	86.490	1.64	1.64	Above LTA	Normal
Stung Treng	0.0	36.790	3.10	3.03	Above LTA	Normal
Kratie	0.0	-1.080	8.13	8.11	Above LTA	Normal
Kompong Cham	0.0	-0.930	3.38	3.38	Above LTA	-
Phnom Penh (Bassac)	0.0	-1.020	2.26	2.34	Above LTA	-
Phnom Penh Port	nr	0.000	1.25	1.33	Above LTA	-
Koh Khel	0.0	-1.000	2.34	2.36	Above LTA	-
Neak Luong	0.0	-0.330	1.62	1.63	Above LTA	-
Prek Kdam	0.0	0.080	1.68	1.58	Above LTA	-
Tan Chau	0.0	0.000	0.39	0.21	Below LTA	-
Chau Doc	nr	0.000	0.35	0.24	Below LTA	-

* Procedures for Maintenance of Flows in the Mainstream
 ** Luang Prabang station is influenced by hydropowers at its upstream and downstream

WEEKLY WATER LEVEL FORECAST

Forecasting Station	Forecasted Water Levels (m)						Status	Trend
	10-Mar	11-Mar	12-Mar	13-Mar	14-Mar	15-Mar		
Jinghong	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Chiang Saen	3.05	2.94	2.92	2.98	3.08	3.19	3.29	Above LTA Increasing
Luang Prabang	9.52	9.48	9.36	9.26	9.23	9.28	9.35	Above LTA Stable
Chiang Khan	5.56	5.86	5.94	5.81	5.64	5.51	5.50	Above LTA Increasing
Vientiane	3.19	3.49	3.69	3.73	3.61	3.47	3.40	Above LTA Increasing
Nongkhai	2.07	2.40	2.65	2.72	2.61	2.46	2.35	Above LTA Increasing
Paksane	2.70	2.86	3.09	3.37	3.38	3.23	3.12	Below LTA Increasing
Nakhon Phanom	1.88	1.92	2.08	2.29	2.38	2.36	2.28	Above LTA Increasing
Thakhek	2.57	2.57	2.74	2.98	3.08	3.04	2.93	Above LTA Increasing
Mukdahan	2.23	2.23	2.30	2.50	2.63	2.65	2.59	Above LTA Increasing
Savannakhet	0.72	0.72	0.79	1.00	1.14	1.15	1.09	Above LTA Increasing
Khong Chiam	2.64	2.63	2.63	2.71	2.91	3.03	3.04	Above LTA Increasing
Pakse	1.64	1.64	1.63	1.69	1.86	1.99	2.01	Above LTA Increasing
Stung Treng	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.08	3.11	3.13	Above LTA Increasing
Kratie	8.06	8.07	8.07	8.08	8.12	8.22	8.32	Above LTA Increasing
Kompong Cham	3.37	3.33	3.32	3.32	3.32	3.35	3.40	Above LTA Stable
Phnom Penh (Bassac)	2.33	2.32	2.30	2.28	2.27	2.26	2.23	Below LTA Decreasing
Phnom Penh Port	1.32	1.31	1.29	1.27	1.26	1.25	1.22	Below LTA Decreasing
Koh Khel	2.38	2.38	2.37	2.36	2.35	2.35	2.34	Above LTA Decreasing
Neak Luong	1.75	1.94	1.91	1.89	1.83	1.77	1.70	Above LTA Increasing
Prek Kdam	1.59	1.57	1.54	1.53	1.52	1.50	1.47	Above LTA Decreasing
Tan Chau	0.08	0.16	0.31	0.57	0.79	1.01	1.18	Above LTA -
Chau Doc	0.10	0.18	0.33	0.59	0.81	1.03	1.20	Above LTA -

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<http://www.mrcmekong.org/>
http://fm.mrcmekong.org/bulletin_dry.php
http://fm.mrcmekong.org/report_dry.php
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 This information is supplied as a service to the governments of the MRC Member Countries so that it may be used as a tool within existing national disaster forecast and warning systems.

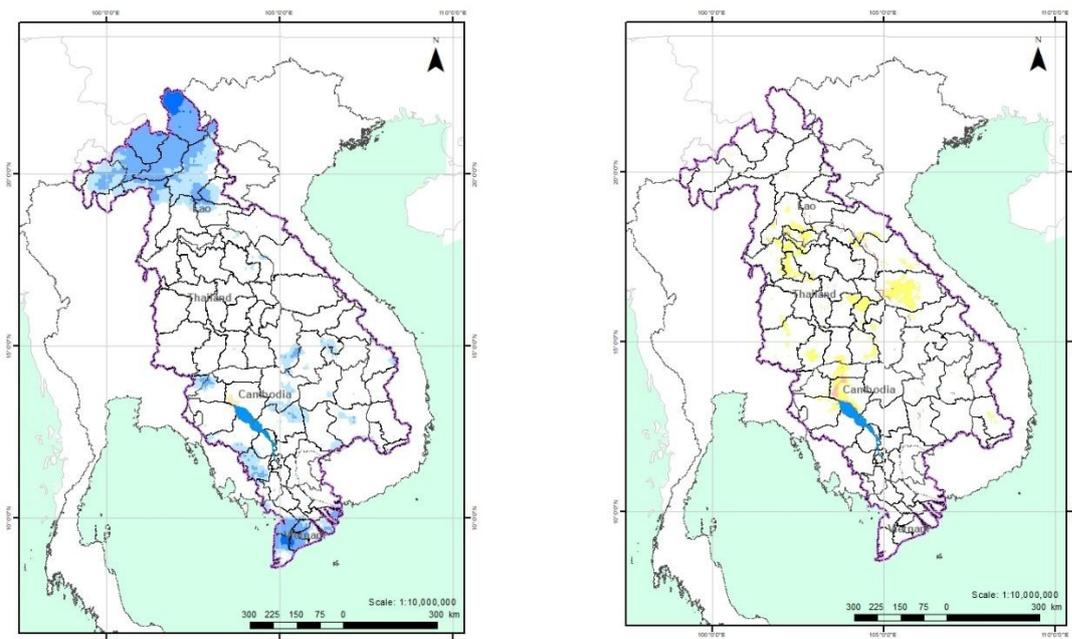
6.3 Flash Flood Information

Flash flood events are not likely to happen in the LMB next week. However, local heavy rain in a short period of time might still be possible with unexpected short flash floods. During the dry season if extreme weather occurs, the information on flash flood guidance for the next one, three, and six hours is updated at <http://119.15.81.22:8000/bulletin/>

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

6.4 Drought forecast

The weekly forecast from 10 - 16 March 2026 indicates that the LMB is likely to experience moderate to severe drought condition in some areas in the central part of Lao PDR, northeastern part of Thailand and Cambodia based on the Combined Drought Index (the detailed areas in the table below). **Figure 13** below shows the weekly forecasts for SPI and CDI.



The Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) Forecast

The Combined Drought Index (CDI) Forecast

Number	Country	Country	Province	Moderate	Severe	Extreme	Exceptional	Number	Country	Province	Moderate	Severe	Extreme	Exceptional	Number	Country	Province	Moderate	Severe	Extreme	Exceptional
1	Cambodia	Cambodia	Banteay Meanchey					24	Lao PDR	Bolikhamxai					47	Thailand	Nong Khai				
2	Cambodia	Cambodia	Battambang					25	Lao PDR	Champasak					48	Thailand	Roi Et				
3	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kampong Cham					26	Lao PDR	Khammouan					49	Thailand	Sa Kaeo				
4	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kampong Chhnang					27	Lao PDR	Louangphabang					50	Thailand	Sakon Nakhon				
5	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kampong Speu					28	Lao PDR	Oudomxai					51	Thailand	Si Sa Ket				
6	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kampong Thom					29	Lao PDR	Phongsavali					52	Thailand	Surin				
7	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kampot					30	Lao PDR	Salavan					53	Thailand	Ubon Ratchathani				
8	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kandal					31	Lao PDR	Savannakhet					54	Thailand	Udon Thani				
9	Cambodia	Cambodia	Koh Kong					32	Lao PDR	Vientiane					55	Thailand	Yasothorn				
10	Cambodia	Cambodia	Kratie					33	Lao PDR	Vientiane Capital					56	Viet Nam	Dak Lak				
11	Cambodia	Cambodia	Monduliri					34	Lao PDR	Xaisomboun					57	Viet Nam	Gia Lai				
12	Cambodia	Cambodia	Otdar Meanchey					35	Lao PDR	Xekong					58	Viet Nam	Kon Tum				
13	Cambodia	Cambodia	Pailin					36	Thailand	Amnat Charoen											
14	Cambodia	Cambodia	Preah Sihanouk					37	Thailand	Bueang Kan											
15	Cambodia	Cambodia	Preah Vihear					38	Thailand	Buri Ram											
16	Cambodia	Cambodia	Prey Veng					39	Thailand	Chantaburi											
17	Cambodia	Cambodia	Pursat					40	Thailand	Chiang Rai											
18	Cambodia	Cambodia	Ratanakiri					41	Thailand	Kalasin											
19	Cambodia	Cambodia	Siem Reap					42	Thailand	Khon Kaen											
20	Cambodia	Cambodia	Stung Treng					43	Thailand	Maha Sarakham											
21	Cambodia	Cambodia	Takeo					44	Thailand	Mukdahan											
22	Lao PDR	Cambodia	Tboung Khmum					45	Thailand	Nakhon Phanom											
23	Lao PDR	Lao PDR	Attapu					46	Thailand	Nakhon Ratchasima											

Figure 13. Weekly forecasts for SPI and CDI

7 Summary and Possible Implications

7.1. Rainfall and its forecast

In the period of 03 – 09 March 2026, light to moderate rain occurred in some areas in the Lower Mekong Basin including in the centre and southern part of Lao PDR, Cambodia, and the Mekong delta

During 10 - 16 March 2026, light to moderate rainfall that is expected to occur in some areas in the LMB, including the southern part of Lao PDR, Cambodia, and the Mekong delta.

Water level and its forecast

At 22 key monitoring stations along the Mekong mainstream from 03 – 09 March 2026, at most of stations, the water levels are above LTAs except for Nongkhai, Paksane, Thakhek, and Savannakhet. However, the 6 monitoring stations remain in normal condition with respect to the flow threshold (PMFM Thresholds). 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 10 – 16 March 2026, water levels at most of stations water levels at most of stations are expected to be in normal conditions. At Tan Chau and Chau Doc stations, the water levels are predicted to be also fluctuated, resulting from the influence of sea tidal patterns. At most of stations, water levels are above LTAs except for Nongkhai, Paksane, Thakhek, and Savannakhet.

7.2. Flash flood and its trends

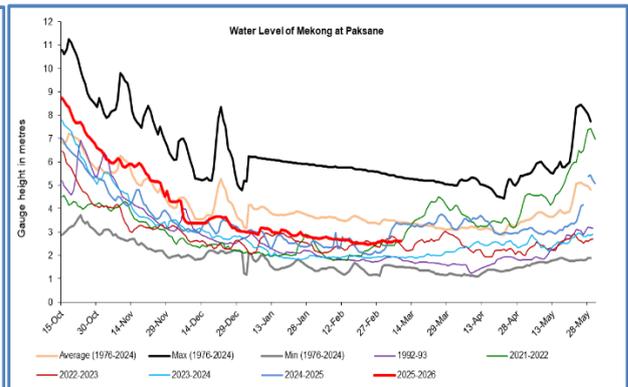
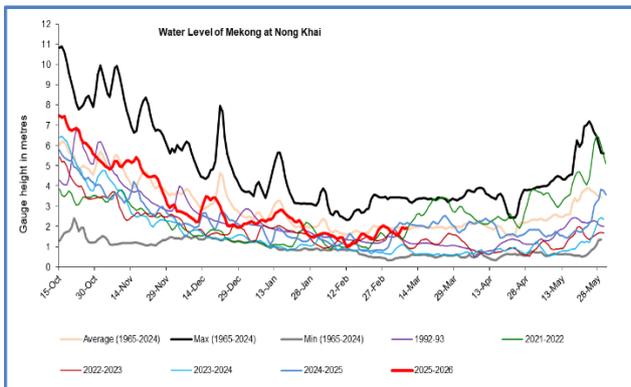
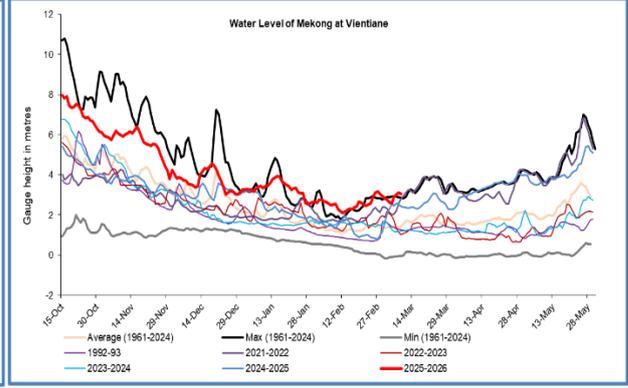
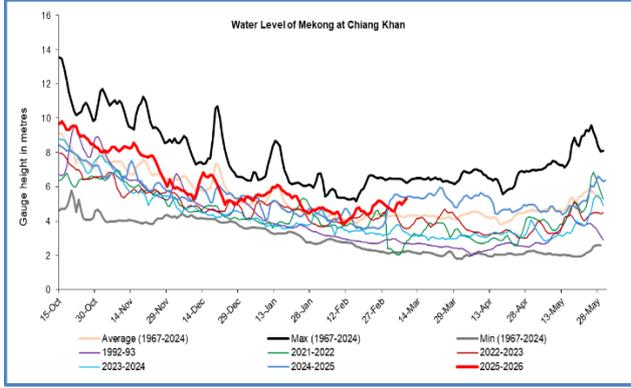
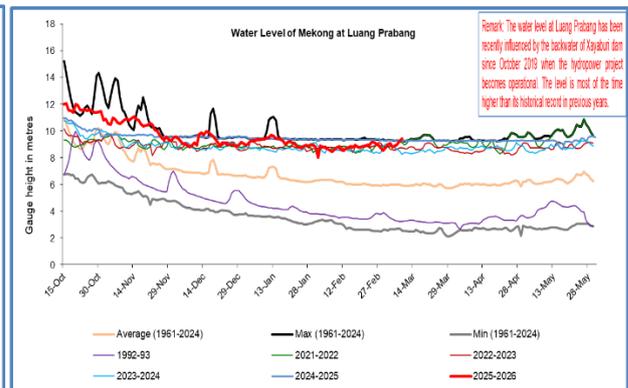
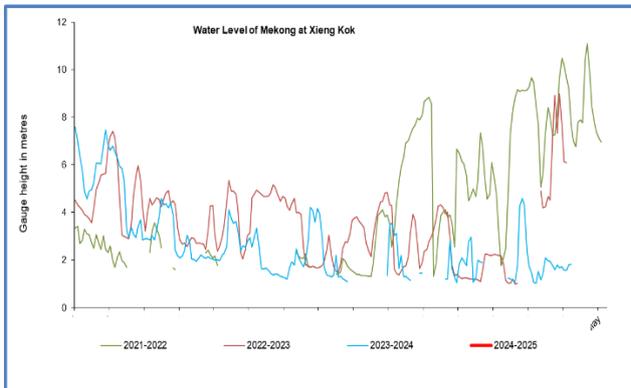
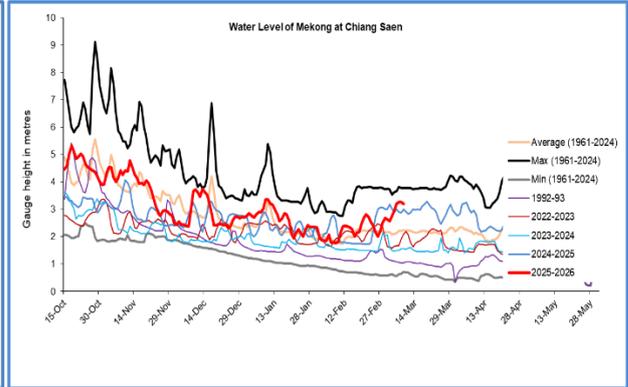
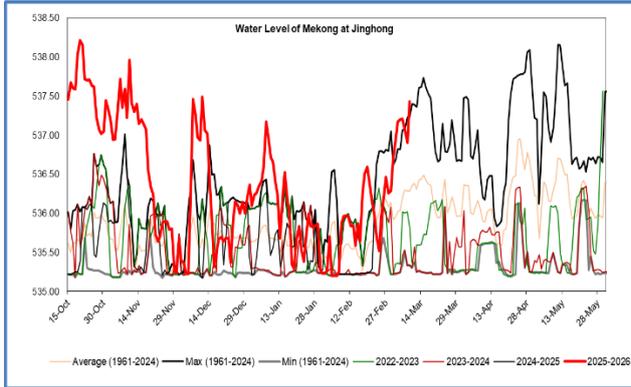
With the predicted of rainfall for the coming week as mentioned earlier in [section 6.1](#), major flash floods are not likely to happen in the LMB.

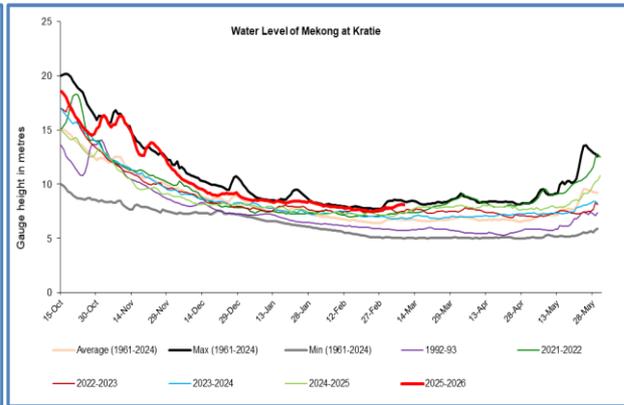
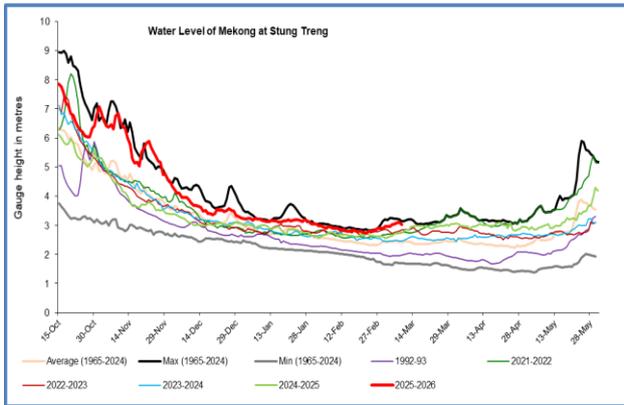
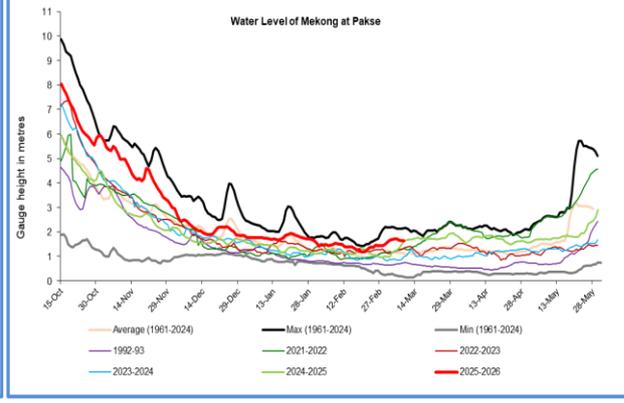
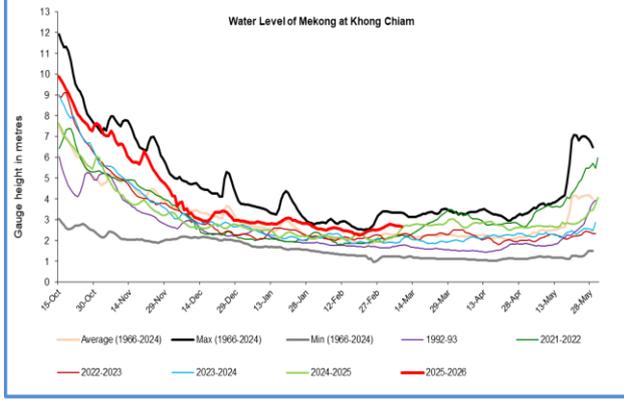
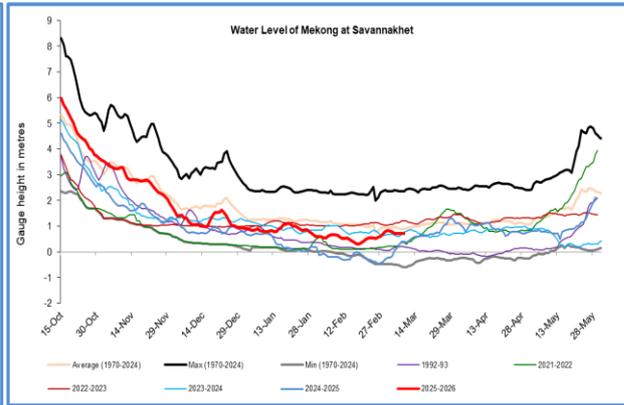
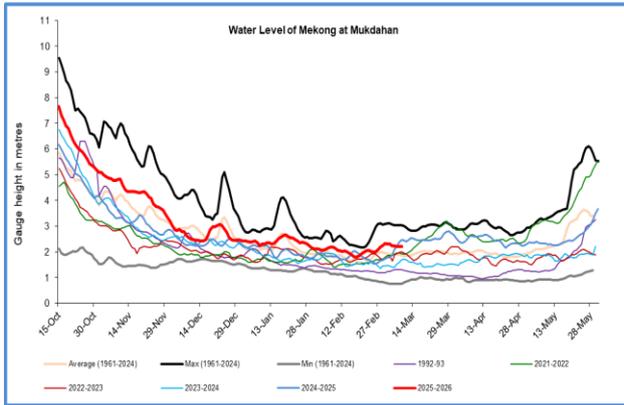
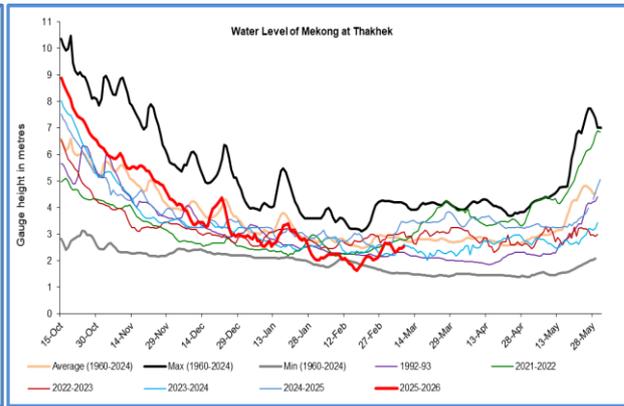
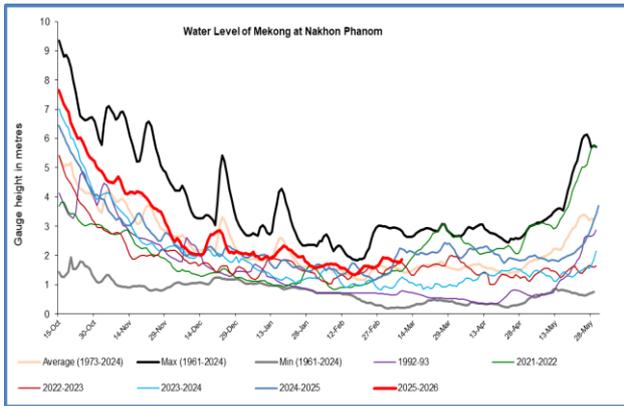
7.3. Drought condition and its forecast

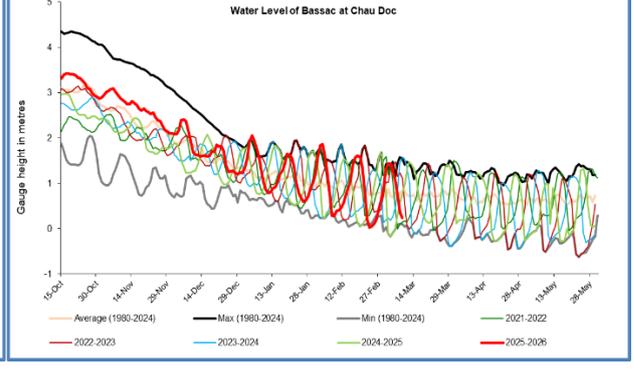
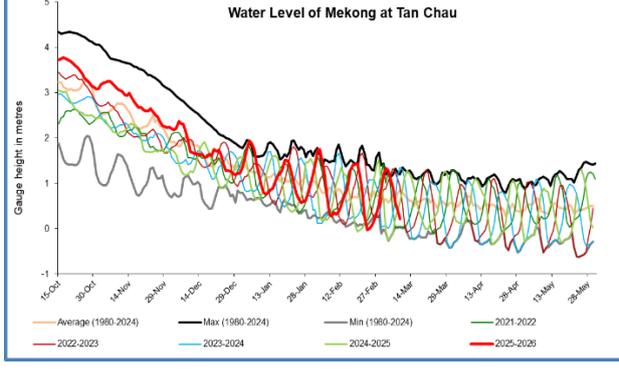
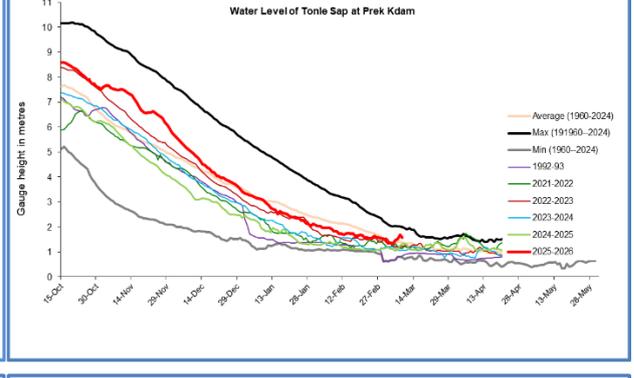
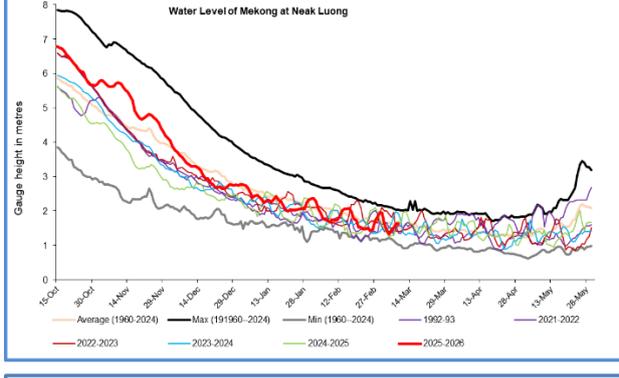
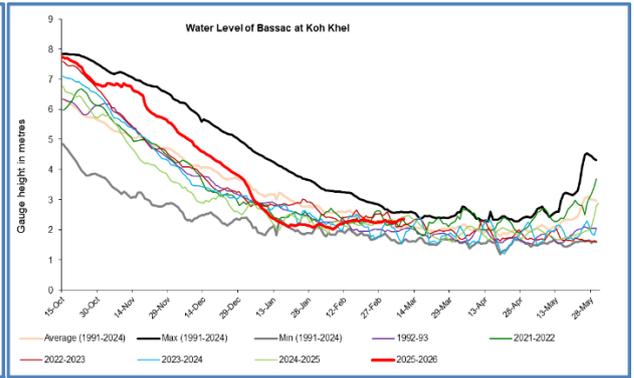
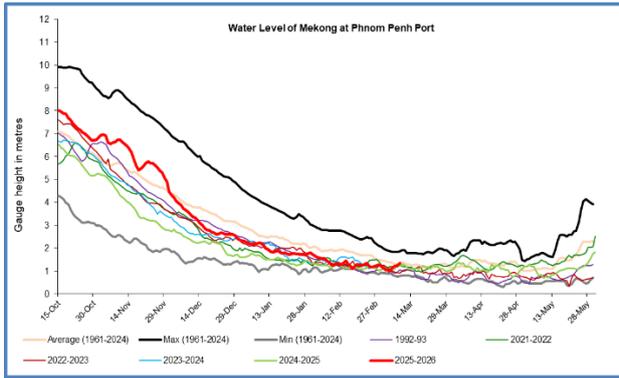
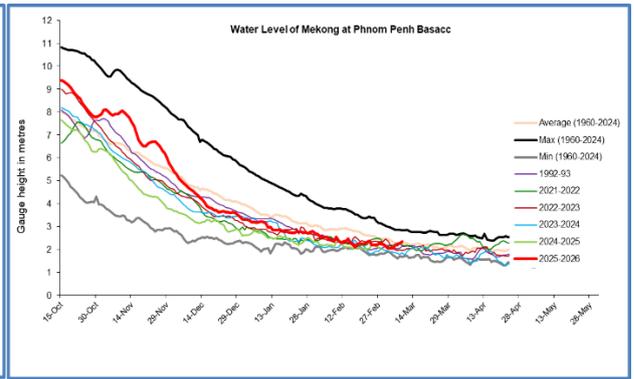
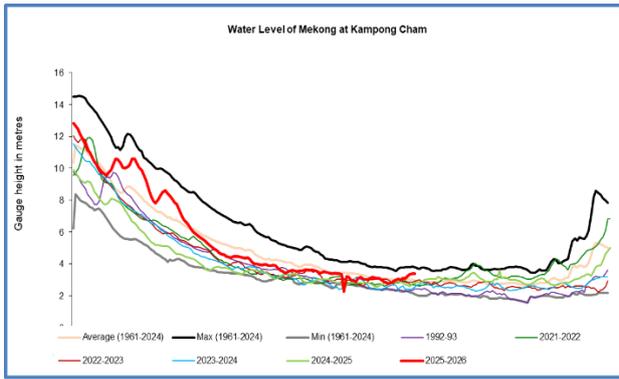
During 03 – 09 March 2026, the combined drought indicator (CDI), that no drought in the LMB, except some areas in the central part of Lao PDR, the northeastern part of Thailand, and Cambodia.

The weekly forecast from 10 – 16 March 2026 indicates that the LMB is likely to experience moderate to severe drought condition in some areas in the central part of Lao PDR, northeastern part of Thailand and Cambodia based on the Combined Drought Index.

Annex A: Weekly water level monitoring at 22 key stations







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

Table A1: Weekly observed water levels

2026	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 Kheh	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc
03/03/2026	536.94	2.57	9.00	4.57	2.75	1.72	2.57	1.91	2.65	2.31	0.81	2.74	1.66	2.96	7.82	3.00	2.03	1.04	2.25	1.64	1.35	1.33	1.43
04/03/2026	537.17	2.74	9.08	4.62	2.64	1.62	2.56	1.86	2.50	2.29	0.79	2.78	1.70	2.96	7.80	3.10	2.05	1.06	2.23	1.42	1.36	1.29	1.43
05/03/2026	537.20	2.96	8.80	5.02	2.58	1.55	2.55	1.80	2.33	2.22	0.72	2.77	1.72	3.02	7.90	3.10	2.04	1.05	2.26	1.32	1.34	1.08	1.29
06/03/2026	537.21	3.19	8.90	5.11	2.89	1.73	2.60	1.80	2.35	2.22	0.71	2.73	1.72	3.05	8.05	3.24	2.18	1.16	2.27	1.44	1.45	0.90	1.07
07/03/2026	537.06	3.26	9.00	4.97	3.02	1.95	2.62	1.78	2.47	2.21	0.71	2.69	1.66	3.09	8.06	3.34	2.23	1.21	2.32	1.52	1.53	0.58	0.69
08/03/2026	536.90	3.27	9.24	5.16	3.10	1.90	2.61	1.75	2.47	2.20	0.70	2.69	1.64	3.10	8.13	3.38	2.26	1.25	2.34	1.62	1.68	0.39	0.35
09/03/2026	537.43	3.19	9.44	5.32	3.04	1.93	2.62	1.86	2.52	2.21	0.71	2.68	1.64	3.03	8.11	3.38	2.34	1.33	2.36	1.63	1.58	0.21	0.24
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

2026	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 Kheh	Neak Luong	Prek Kdam	Tan Chau	Chau Doc
03/03/2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
04/03/2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
05/03/2026	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.4	0	1.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	10.7	0.7
06/03/2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	5.4	5.2	0	3	26	56.2	0	0	48	7.8	0.0	0	0	16.3	0	0.9
07/03/2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0.0	3.7	22.2	0	19.2	57
08/03/2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
09/03/2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
Sum	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	1.3	5.4	5.2	0.0	3.1	28.4	60.2	1.5	0.1	48.0	7.8	0.0	3.7	22.2	16.3	29.9	58.6



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