

Mekong River Commission

Regional Flood and Drought Management Centre

Weekly Situation Report for the Wet Season in the Mekong River Basin
Prepared on: 28/07/2020, covering the week from 21 to 27 July 2020
Weather Patterns, General Behaviours of the Mekong River and Outlook Situation

General weather patterns

The weather outlook bulletins for the 3 months (Jul-Aug-Sep) and weather maps issued by the Thailand Meteorology Department (TMD) were used to verify the weather condition in the LMB. From 21 to 20 July 2020, there were no heavy rainfalls over the Lower Mekong Basin (LMB). The TMD expected of low pressures and air mass cells will develop around the Mekong Region at the end of July and continue to August and September which can bring above-average rainfall in the Mekong region. They also predicted of scattered to fairly widespread thundershowers with isolated heavy rain from August to September 2020. It also that will be some tropical cyclones move to dissipate nearby the LMB, which will have abundance of rainfall. **Figure 1** presented the weather map on 26 July 2020.

According to the Asian Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC), the increased shower rainfall over the Mekong sub-region, above-normal rainfall and hotspot activities will be happened in August and September 2020. In the southern ASEAN region, rainfall over most parts of the equatorial region is predicted to be above normal in August-September 2020.

Consequently, from August to September 2020, there will increasing chance of moderate rainfall to above average rainfall for most parts of the Asian countries especially in the Mekong region. **Figure 2** showed the rainfall outlook from 27 July to 09 August 2020 in Southeast Asia, which showed the above-normal rainfall for the Mekong region.

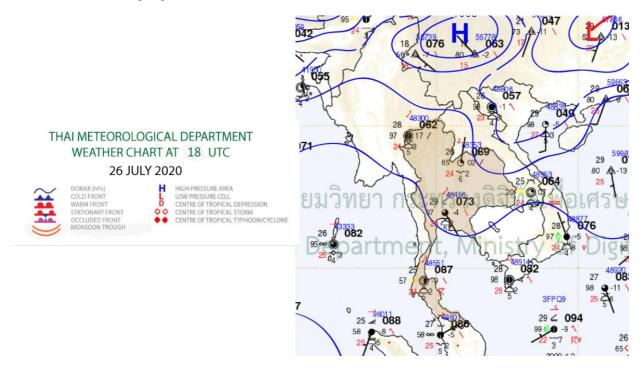


Figure 1 Summary of weather condition over the LMB on 26 July 2020

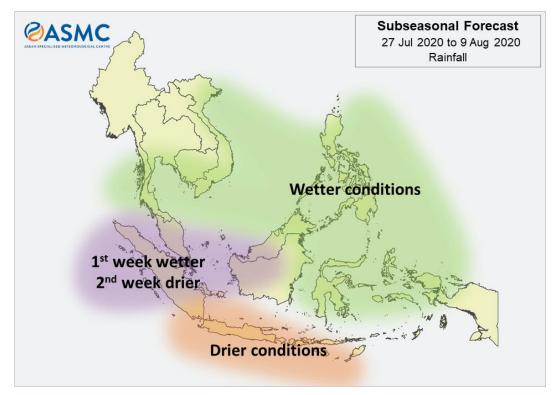


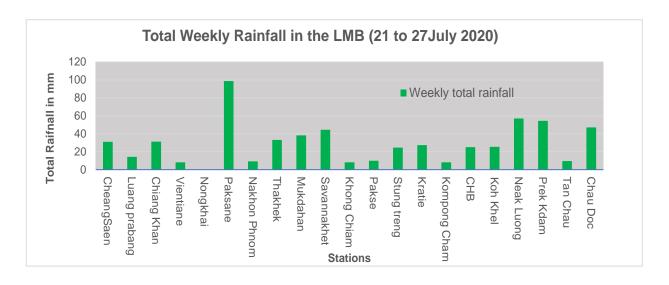
Figure 2 The Aug-Sept 2020 predicted rainfall over Asian Countries by ASMC

<u>Tropical depressions (TD), tropical storms (TS) or typhoons (TY)</u>

This week, there are no depression or tropical depression (TD), Tropical Storm (TS) or Typhoon (TY) were happened in LMB.

The rainfall pattern over the LMB

This week's rainfall is considered moderate, which varied from 1 mm to 100 mm in different stations along the Lower Mekong River (LMR). The total weekly rainfall from the selected stations over the LMB is showed in **Figure 3**, while showed higher rainfall in Paksane (100 mm) and other stations' rainfall were varied from 0.1 mm to 58 mm. To verify the area rainfall, **Figure 4** showed the weekly rainfall distribution map in the Lover Mekong Basin from 21 to 27 July 2020. It is indicated that the highest rainfalls were focused at Paksane, upstream of Sre Pok River and downstream at Tan Chau and Chau Doc, which varied 50 mm to 60 mm. Weekly rainfall map reflected the real focused rainfall in the LMB.



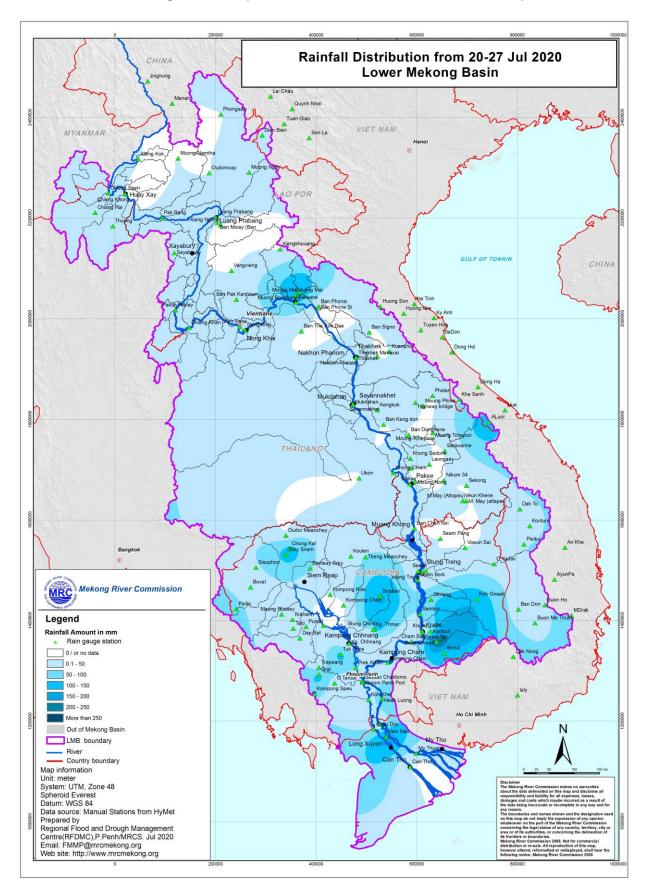


Figure 4 The weekly rainfall distribution from 20 to 27 July 2020 over the LMB

General Situation on water levels of the Mekong River from 21 to 27 July 2020

This week water levels at the upper most station at Thailand's Chiang Sean were fluctuated below their Long-Term-Average (LTA) level. This fluctuated water levels were due to the impact of inflow from upstream and the less rainfall within this week from catchments.

Water levels at Lao's Luang Prabang and Thailand's Chiang Khan are likely influent by hydropower dam at Xayaburi and upstream dams on tributaries inflows. At Lung Prabang, water levels were fluctuated below their LTA levels, varied in daily from -0.30 m to 0.17 m. It was observed at Chiang Khan (downstream of Xayaburi) in which water levels were also fluctuated below their LTA levels, varied in daily from -0.36 m to 0.11 m.

Water levels at stations in the middle part of LMB from Laos's Vientiane to Thailand's Nakhon Phanom were followed the same trend from upstream, which fluctuated in daily below their LTAs. Also, water levels at Thailand's Mukdahan to Lao's Pakse were fluctuated below their LTAs. The current water levels at these stations are lower than their Long-Term-Average (LTAs).

This week water levels at stations of Cambodia's Stung Treng, Kratie, Kampong Cham, Neak Luong, on the Mekong, Chaktomuk and Koh Khel on the Bassac and Phnom Penh Port and Prekdam on the Tonle Sap were decreased and varied from -0.22 m to 0.07 m. The current water levels at these stations are below their LTAs, although some rainfall in the area over this week.

For the 2 stations at Vietnam's Tan Chau and Chau Doc, their water levels are fluctuating below their LTAs due to the daily tidal effect from the sea. The attached hydrograph at each key station is showed in **Annex A**. **Figure 5** presented the key stations with model application for river flood forecasting during the wet season from June to October and River Monitoring from November to May for the Dry Season.

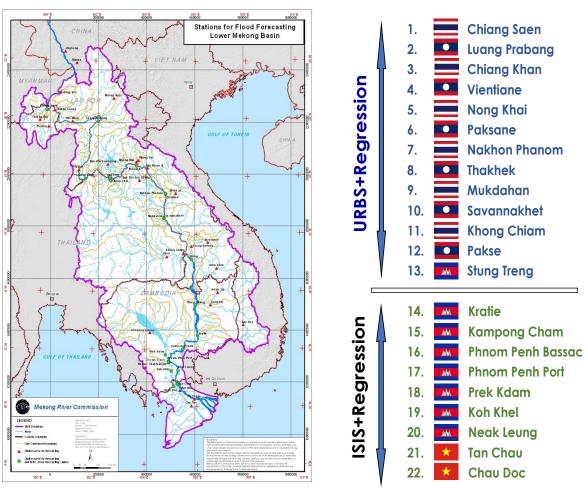


Figure 5 Key stations for River Monitoring and Flood Forecasting with Models Application

For stations from Chiang Saen and Luang Prabang

Water levels from 21 to 27 July 2020 at Chiang Sean station were fluctuated below their LTA levels, varied from -0.23 m to 0.29 m. Water levels at Lao's Luang Prabang are likely impacted by hydropower dam at Xayaburi and upstream dams from tributaries. The current water levels at these stations are below their LTAs.

For stations from Chiang Khan, Vientiane-Nong Khai and Paksane

Water levels from 21 to 27 July 2020 at Chiang Khan station were likely nominated by upstream hydropower dam of Xayaburi, which fluctuated in daily from -0.36 m to 0.11 m. For downstream from Laos's Vientiane to Paksane, water levels are mostly affected by the influence from upstream inflows and rainfall from sub-catchments. The current observed water levels at these stations are lower than their LTAs levels.

For stations from Nakhon Phanom to Pakse

Water levels from 21 to 27 July 2020 at Thailand's Nakhon Phanom to Laos's Pakse stations were fluctuated in daily, varied from -0.06 m to 0.17 m due to low inflows and less rainfall from upper subcatchments. The current observed water levels at these stations are lower than their LTAs.

For stations from Stung Treng to Kampong Cham/ Phnom Penh to Koh Khel/ Neak Luong

Water levels from 21 to 27 July 2020 at stations of Cambodia's Stung Treng and Kratie Kampong Cham, Chaktomuk, Koh Khel, Phnom Penh Port and Prekdam were fluctuated in daily, varied from -0.16 m to 0.28 m. The current water levels at these stations are lower than their LTAs.

For the tidal stations at Tan Chau and Chau Doc

From 21 to 27 July 2020, water levels at these 2 tidal stations of Tan Chau and Chau Doc were fluctuated below their LTAs due to the daily tidal effect from the sea.

The Tonle Sap Flow

At the end of Dry season when water levels of the Mekong are raised up, flows of the Mekong River are being reversed into the Tonle Sap Lake (Reversed flow/inflow). It normally happened in between May to August. **Figure 6** showed the seasonal change of inflow/reversed flows and outflows of the TSL at Prekdam, in comparison with the flows of 2018, 2019 and their LTA level (1997-2019). Up to 27 July 2020, it was observed that the reversed flows into the Tonle Sap Lake (TSL) are not happened yet. The delay of the reversed flows into the Tonle Sap Lake is due to the low water levels of the Mekong mainstream which could not push reversed flows. The low inflow from the Mekong River and the most likely highly affected by less rainfall in the upper sub-catchment areas of the Lake caused the revised flows of the Tonle Sap Lake in 2020 are very low.

Figure 7 shown the seasonal change in monthly of low volume flows hydrographs up to 27 July 2020 for the Tole Sap Lake, compared with volumes in 2018, 2019 and their LTA and fluctuated levels (1997-2019). It showed this month in July 2020 is in a critical level, compared with last year 2019 and historical minimum levels.

Table 1 showed the monthly change in flow volume of the Tonle Sap Lake, which showed the critical flow volume of the TLS Lake in July 2020, compared to its historical minimum value and volumes of 2018 and 2019. It showed that the Tonle Sap Lake has Due to the low inflow from the Mekong and the less rainfall in the surrounding sub-catchments, it could be the reason that caused the flow volumes of the TLS Lake up to 27July 2020 are in a critical situation.

The low inflows (reversed flows of the Mekong and inflows from tributaries) in the early wet season of 2020 resulted in a very critical situation of the Tonle Sap Lake.

Moreover, it demonstrates the importance and the influence of the relationships between reversed flows and water levels of the Mekong river and flow direction in a complex hydraulic environment of the Tonle Sap Lake. It is found that more than half of the annual inflow to the lake originates from the Mekong

mainstream. Thus, flow alterations in the mainstream would have direct impacts on the Tonle Sap water levels and hydrology also.

The low volume flow of the Tonle Sap Lake could affect the surrounding floodplain for fish spawning in the flooded forest, ecosystem due to the reduction of inundated area, and could face of water shortage for agricultural production in that area.

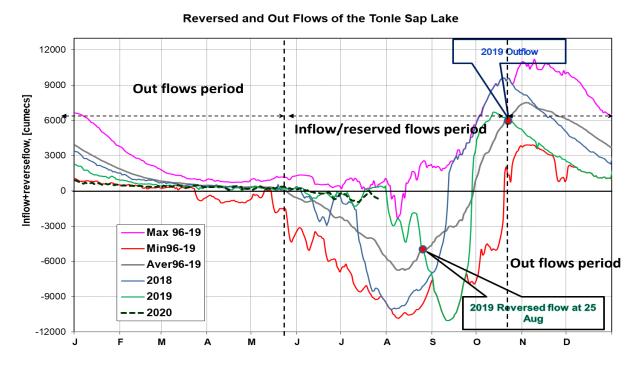


Figure 6 The seasonal change of inflows and outflows of the Tole Sap Lake up to 20 July 2020

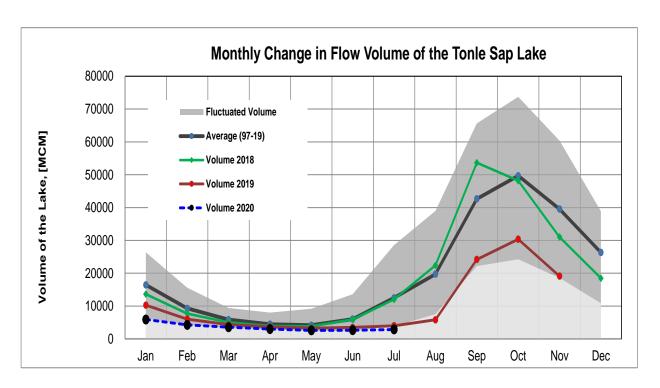


Figure 7 The seasonal change in monthly of Volume Flows of the Tole Sap Lake up to 20 July 2020

Table 1: The monthly change in flow volume of the Tonle Sap Lake up to 20 July 2020

| Month | Average Volume (97-19) [MCM] | Max Volume [MCM] | Min Volume [MCM] | Volume 2018 [MCM] | Volume 2019 [MCM] | Volume 2020 [MCM] | Percentage of Volume in 2020 [%] |
|-------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jan | 16452.95 | 26357.53 | 6272.01 | 13633.41 | 10285.31 | 5906.80 | 35.90 |
| Feb | 9312.36 | 15596.22 | 4281.41 | 7729.72 | 6019.30 | 4264.19 | 45.79 |
| Mar | 5868.92 | 9438.24 | 3350.92 | 5037.06 | 4354.62 | 3553.99 | 60.56 |
| Apr | 4474.98 | 8009.14 | 2875.42 | 3956.47 | 3667.47 | 2992.61 | 66.87 |
| May | 4166.07 | 9176.93 | 2417.81 | 3864.00 | 3266.43 | 2594.92 | 62.29 |
| Jun | 6034.10 | 13635.01 | 2470.54 | 5919.18 | 3517.06 | 2635.32 | 43.67 |
| Jul | 12502.58 | 28599.56 | 3832.51 | 12024.96 | 4001.99 | 2882.79 | 23.06 |
| Aug | 19718.46 | 39015.12 | 7554.93 | 22399.65 | 5812.35 | | |
| Sep | 42644.05 | 65632.35 | 22180.73 | 53639.54 | 24194.19 | | |
| Oct | 49698.19 | 73757.23 | 24276.79 | 48193.08 | 30358.38 | | |
| Nov | 39542.58 | 60367.33 | 18576.01 | 31036.07 | 19112.65 | | |
| Dec | 26325.13 | 38888.95 | 10869.43 | 18469.21 | 10577.29 | | |
| | Critical situation, | comapred with | historical Min v | alues | | | |
| | Normal condition | , compared with | LTA (Long ter | m average) | | | |
| | Low volume situa | tion | | | | | |

Discussion and Conclusion

From 21 to 27 July 2020, the trend of water levels at Chiang Sean was fluctuated due to the inflow from upstream and amount rainfall from catchments. Water level at Chiang Sean is relied from inflow at Jinghong Hydropower Station on Lancang and its catchment rainfall.

Luang Prabang stations is likely nominated by back water effect due to hydropower dam operation from upstream (tributaries inflow) and downstream at Xayaburi, which showed their water levels are almost stable and fluctuated below their LTA levels. It was observed that water levels at this station have been affected, since the impounding reservoir at Xayaburi in October 2019.

Water levels at stations in the middle part of the Mekong River from Vientiane to Pakse were fluctuated, following the same trend of upstream and rainfall in catchments. The recent water levels at all these stations are below their LTAs. These low water levels indicated the low inflow from upstream and less rainfall from catchments.

From Stung Treng, Kratie, Kampong Cham and Neak Luong on the Mekong, Phnom Penh Port to Prekdam on the Tonle Sap and Chaktomuk and Koh Khel on the Bassac showed their current water levels are lower than LTA levels, although some rainfall in the low-lying area in this week.

Analysis of the Mekong River Commission's data revealed that the drop of water levels along the Mekong mainstream were resulted from less rainfall from catchments inflows and low inflows from upstream since June 2020 due to reservoir operation and water retention from upstream on the mainstream and tributaries in the LMB.

Moreover, referred to Adamson et al (2010), the contribution to the Mekong river's flow from the Upper Mekong Basin in China (Yunnan component) is about 16% by the time the river discharges through the Mekong Delta into the South China Sea. By far the major contribution comes from the two majors 'leftbank' (eastern) tributaries between Vientiane – Nakhon Phanom and Pakse – Stung Treng, which together contribute more than 40% of the flows.

It was observed that since the beginning of this year 2020, water levels in the lower Mekong River are lower than their LTAs for all stations from up to downstream. Like many parts of the world, the Mekong region has been affected by the prolonged El Nino phenomenon, the phenomenon that usually causes extreme heat and insufficient rain. This climate change impact was observed since 2019. Therefore, a cause of low water levels in the Mekong mainstream in June-July 2020 are likely due to unusual low rainfall and the impact of climate change over the Mekong region.

Moreover, the amount of water flows from Jinghong dam in China could also be a potential contribution of the low flow at the upper part of the LMB (Chiang Saen-Vientiane). According to the notification from China, were decreased about 0.76m, due to the test of equipment of hydropower dam at Jinghong from 27 Dec 2019 to 4 Jan 2020.

Another potential important reason of low flow in the mainstream (Jan-Feb-Mar-April-May-June-July) were the contribution from major tributary dams. Potentially, there were storing waters that contributed to the Mekong river basin in time of no or low rainfall. This has impacted the basin situation. However, we do not have any official data to quantify their amount of contributions.

The Trend of water level and its Outlook

Based on daily flood bulletin on 28 July 2020, the forecasting water levels along the lower Mekong River from 29 July to 02 August 2020 at Chiang Saen will expect to be increased in daily from 0.04 m to 0.50 m. For Luang Prabang, water levels will be slightly increased but still stay below their LTA levels.

From Chiang Khan to Vientiane/Nong Khai, water levels will expect of slightly increase due to the expected rainfall from their catchment inflows. The forecasting water levels at these stations will increase 0.31 m in the next 4 days. From Nakhon Phanom to Pakse, water levels will increase 0.39 m in the next 2 days.

From Stung Treng to Neak Loung on the Mekong River, water levels will be fluctuated from 29 July to 02 August, varies from -0.06 m to 0.11 m.

Water levels of the Tonle Sap Lake at Prekdam and Phnom Penh Port will be increased 0.12 m from 29 July to 02 August 2020. Water levels at Phnom Penh at Chaktomuk and Koh Khel on the Bassac River will also be increased 0.12 m at the same period.

For Viet Nam's Tan Chau on the Mekong River and Chau Doc on the Bassac River, water levels will be increased and fluctuated below their LTAs, followed daily effect tidal from the sea.

Results of daily flood forecasting bulletin is available at http://ffw.mrcmekong.org/bulletin_wet.php. **Table 2** showed the daily flood forecasting bulletin from 29 July to 02 August 2020.

The weekly flood forecasting performance, the forecasted accuracy and data input evaluation from 21 to 27 July 2020 are presented in **Annex B**.

It is expected the above-normal rainfall can be occurred <u>at from August and September 2020</u>, which can contribute to the increased flow in the Mekong River.

According to the Asian Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC), the scattered hotspots were detected in Cambodia and Thailand, Lao PDR and southern Viet Nam in July 2020. However, they expected from August and September 2020, there will increase chance of above-normal rainfall in the Mekong-sub region. Although.

Additionally, some tropical cyclones from the Pacific Ocean or the South China Sea may feasibly move near or toward Mekong region, based the seasonal outlook of TMD.

Remark:

For details information on water levels and rainfall hydrographs at each key station are presented in **Annex A** and **Annex B** showed the Accuracy and performance of weekly flood forecasting activities.

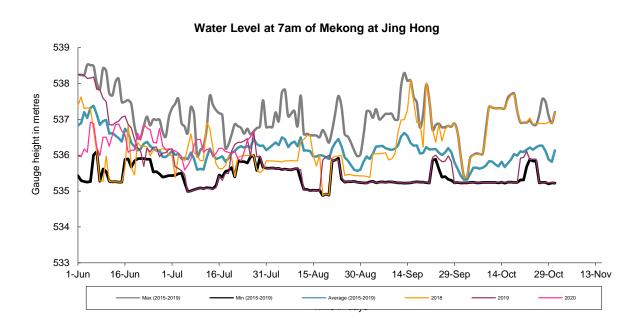
- The water levels hydrographs showing the observed water levels for the Wet Season (Annex A)
- Weekly Accuracy and Performance of weekly river flood forecasting (Annex B)

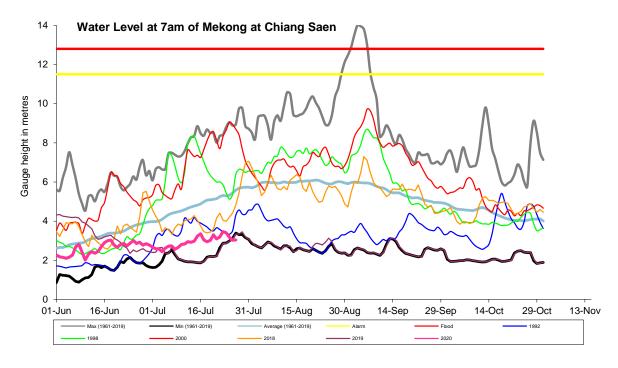
Table 2 River Flood Forecast period from: 29 July to 02 August 2020

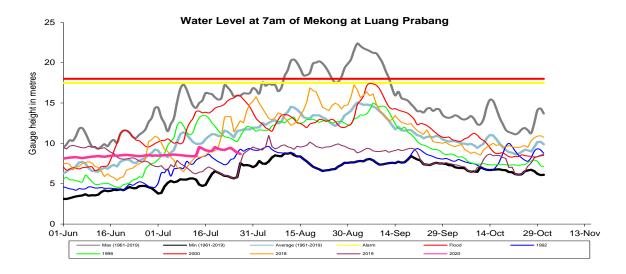
| LOCATION | Country | 24-hr Observed Rainfall (mm) | Zero gauge above M.S.L (m) | Flood level (m) | Alarm level (m) | against zer | d W. level o gauge (m) | | recasted | | | , | floo | There is currently no flood warning in place at monitored sites on the Mekong | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| | ★ ′: | 27-Jul | | | | 27-Jul | 28-Jul | 29-Jul | 30-Jul | 31-Jul | 01-Aug | 02-Aug | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | |
| Jinghong | | 2.0 | | | | 536.67 | 536.91 | | | | | | 1 | X | × | × | × | × | |
| Chiang Saen | | 78.0 | 357.110 | 12.80 | 11.50 | 3.04 | 3.19 | 3.73 | 3.85 | 3.94 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | * | * | |
| Luang Prabang | | 13.8 | 267.195 | 18.00 | 17.50 | 8.70 | 8.75 | 8.90 | 9.03 | 9.45 | 9.65 | 9.78 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Chiang Khan | | 0.0 | 194.118 | 16.00 | 14.50 | 6.68 | 6.32 | 6.27 | 6.40 | 6.75 | | | + | | 1 | 1 | * | * | |
| Vientiane | • | 0.0 | 158.040 | 12.50 | 11.50 | 3.22 | 3.18 | 3.00 | 2.96 | 3.10 | 3.43 | 3.50 | | + | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Nongkhai | | 0.0 | 153.648 | 12.20 | 11.40 | 3.73 | 3.68 | 3.51 | 3.47 | 3.62 | | | | + | | 1 | * | * | |
| Paksane | | 0.0 | 142.125 | 14.50 | 13.50 | 4.91 | 5.08 | 5.15 | 5.18 | 5.22 | 5.33 | 5.55 | 1 | | | - | 1 | 1 | |
| Nakhon Phanom | | 1.6 | 130.961 | 12.00 | 11.50 | 3.49 | 3.43 | 3.40 | 3.44 | 3.47 | | | • | | | | * | * | |
| Thakhek | • | 0.2 | 129.629 | 14.00 | 13.00 | 4.72 | 4.66 | 4.65 | 4.71 | 4.76 | 4.81 | 4.90 | | | | | | | |
| Mukdahan | | 41.0 | 124.219 | 12.50 | 12.00 | 3.49 | 3.48 | 3.78 | 3.85 | 3.87 | | | | 1 | | | * | * | |
| Savannakhet | • | 55.7 | 125.410 | 13.00 | 12.00 | 1.96 | 2.00 | 2.21 | 2.24 | 2.26 | 2.28 | 2.31 | | <u>.</u> | | | | | |
| Khong Chiam | | 4.9 | 89.030 | 14.50 | 13.50 | 3.76 | 3.77 | 3.89 | 4.28 | 4.37 | | | | <u>•</u> | 1 | | * | * | |
| Pakse | | 0.0 | 86.490 | 12.00 | 11.00 | 2.56 | 2.50 | 2.55 | 2.81 | 2.86 | 2.90 | 2.94 | + | | <u>-</u> | | | | |
| Stung Treng | <u> 1880</u> | 0.0 | 36.790 | 12.00 | 10.70 | 3.47 | 3.65 | 3.70 | 3.75 | 3.97 | 4.01 | 4.05 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | | | |
| Kratie | | 1.0 | -0.101 | 23.00 | 22.00 | 9.31 | 9.11 | 9.28 | 9.35 | 9.42 | 9.67 | 9.74 | + | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Kompong Cham | AND | 0.0 | -0.930 | 16.20 | 15.20 | 4.30 | 4.33 | 4.37 | 4.55 | 4.64 | 4.73 | 5.00 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Phnom Penh (Bassac) | <u> </u> | 0.0 | -1.020 | 12.00 | 10.50 | 2.55 | 2.56 | 2.57 | 2.60 | 2.65 | 2.70 | 2.81 | _ | | <u> </u> | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Phnom Penh Port | <u> </u> | nr | 0.070 | 11.00 | 9.50 | 1.53 | 1.56 | 1.58 | 1.61 | 1.67 | 1.73 | 1.85 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Koh Khel | <u>ada</u> | 0.0 | -1.000 | 7.90 | 7.40 | 2.61 | 2.54 | 2.52 | 2.55 | 2.62 | 2.69 | 2.80 | + | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Neak Luong | <u> </u> | 0.0 | -0.330 | 8.00 | 7.50 | 1.79 | 1.84 | 1.83 | 1.86 | 1.95 | 2.00 | 2.05 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Prek Kdam | AND | 0.0 | 0.080 | 10.00 | 9.50 | 1.60 | 1.58 | 1.56 | 1.59 | 1.67 | 1.73 | 1.85 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Tan Chau | * | 0.0 | 0.000 | 4.50 | 3.50 | 0.13 | 0.25 | 0.51 | 0.79 | 0.96 | 1.07 | 1.14 | 1 | 1 | ^ | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Chau Doc | * | 2.0 | 0.000 | 4.00 | 3.00 | 0.17 | 0.28 | 0.52 | 0.85 | 1.02 | 1.16 | 1.22 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| REMARKS: | | | | | LEGEND | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NEMARKO. | | rising water | r level | | LLOLIND | | | 1 | Note: sta | hle water la | evel is defi | ned as a da | aily cl | hange | of le | es th | an 10 |) cm | |
| -: not available. | | stable water | | | | | | | from Chia | ing Saen to | Savannal | khet; less t | han 5 | cm a | at Pa | | | | |
| nr: no rain. | | falling water | | | | | | * | Flood sta | age is whe | n the flood | from Kratie level is exc | | | | d leve | el is | | |
| | | alarm stage alarm situa | | | | | | Alarm sta | ed by the m age is defi | | tes. er levels ra | nge b | etwe | en al | arm a | nd flo | od | | |
| | | flood stage | | | | V | | | | a situation | | | er lev | el is f | oreca | sted | | | |
| | | | ed by Thaila | and, forecas | | × ★ | to reach f | lood stage | within the | next three | days. | | | | | | | | |
| | | penaing ful | u lei improv | ement of the | system | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1- | 15. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | River Floo | d Forecaste | er | K. S | wth) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | KHEM Soth | nea | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NOTE: | Discharge a | at Luang Pra | abang is infl | uent by hydr | opower on | eration (up | and downstr | eam), so th | e dischage | es at this s | tation are r | not takeina | into a | accou | ınt | | | | |
| | For futher of | letail, please | kindly refer | to the follow | ving links : | | np; http://ffw | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | p.//www. | omerorig. | .o.g., //ttp:// | | J. rg. Grg/Du | wec.pi | .ρ, παρ.//πν | IOIIIERUI | 9.019/1000 | ood.prip | | | | | | | | | |

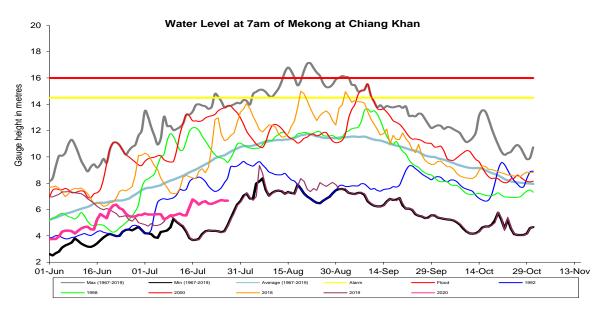
Annex A: Weekly Water Level Hydrographs at each key station

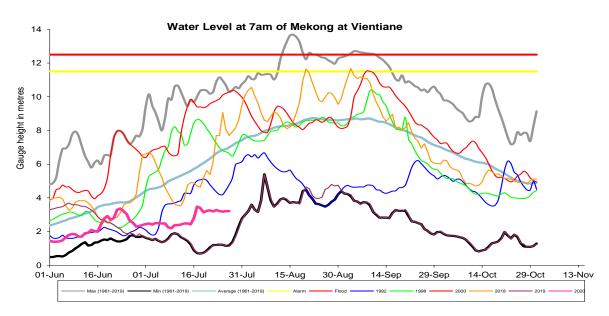
HYDROGRAPHS OF THE MEKONG AT MAINSTREAM STATIONS IN FLOOD SEASON UP TO 31 OCTOBER 2020

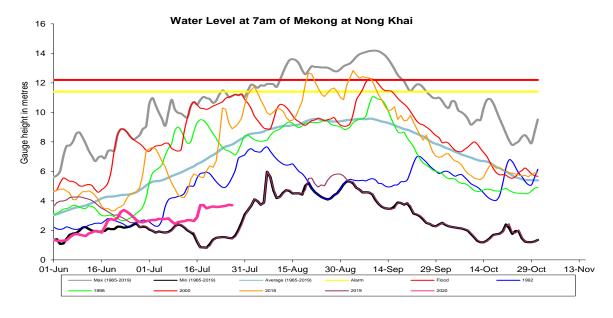


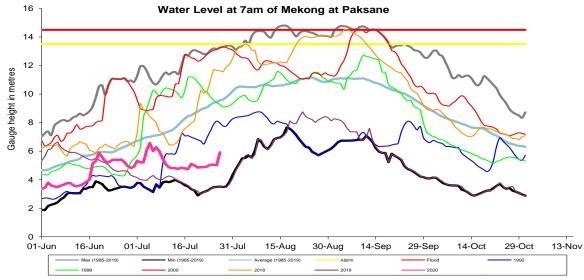


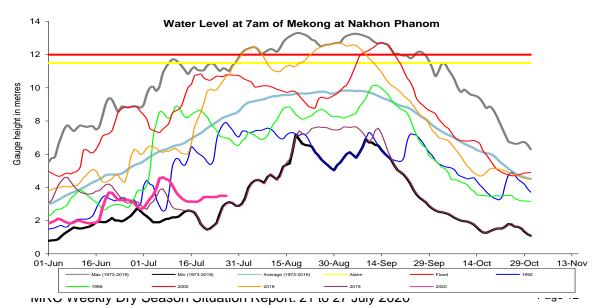


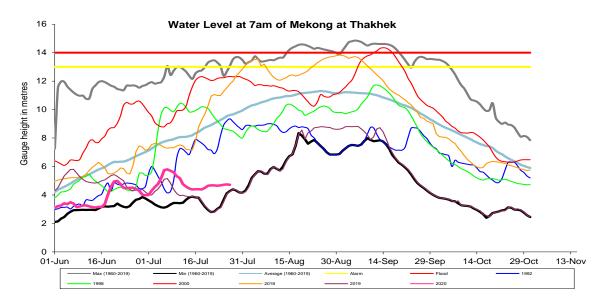


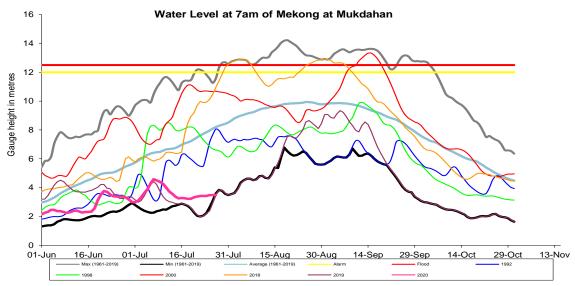


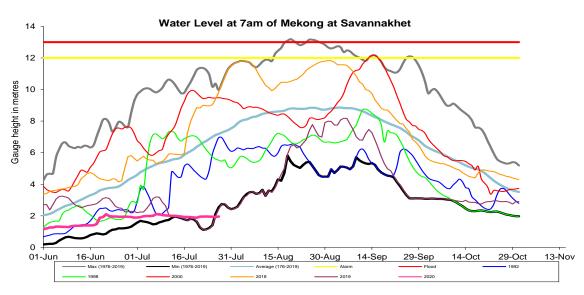


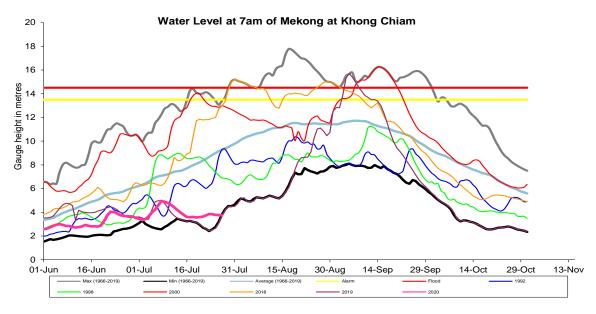


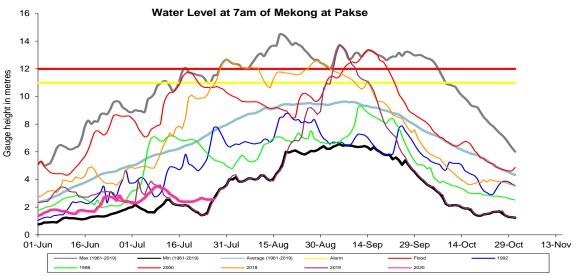


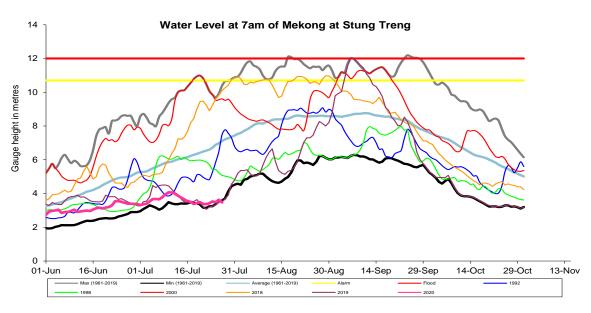




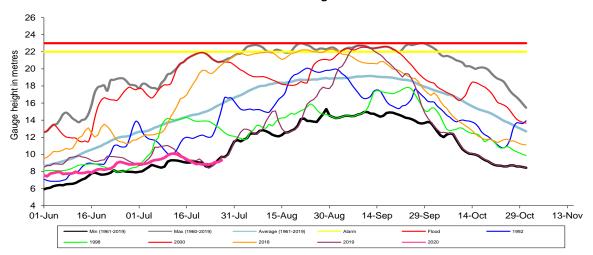


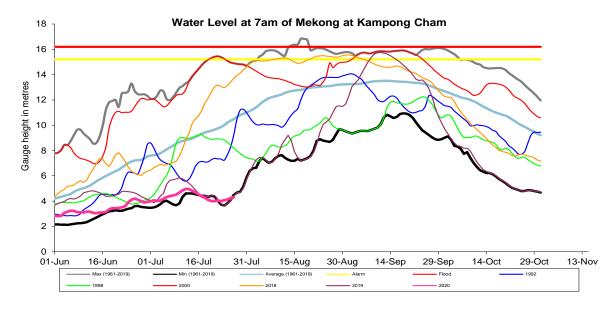


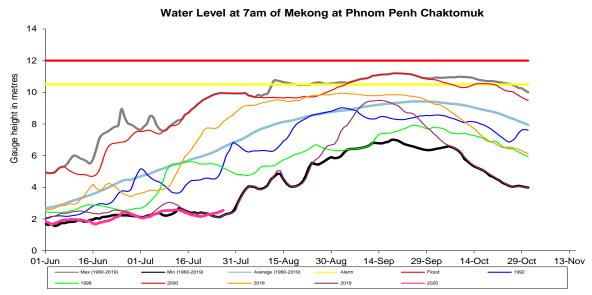




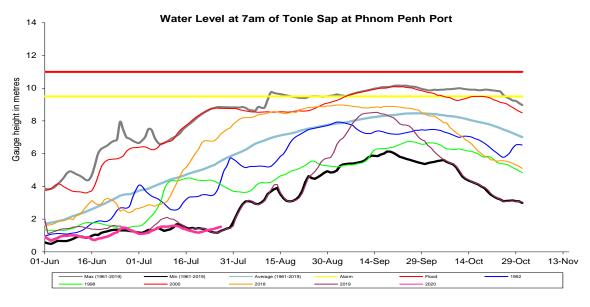
Water Level at 7am of Mekong at Kratie

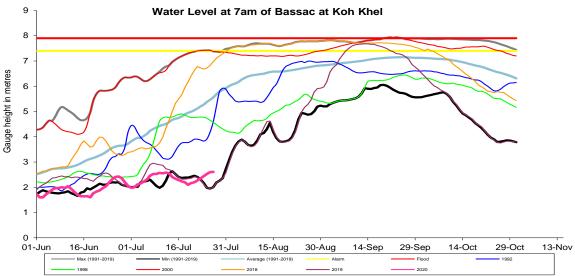


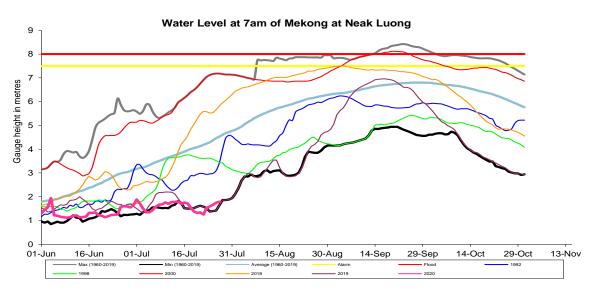


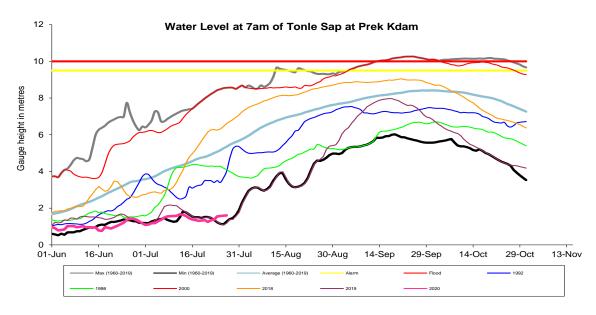


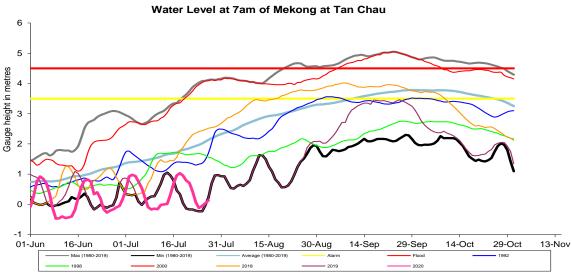
MRC Weekly Dry Season Situation Report: 21 to 27 July 2020

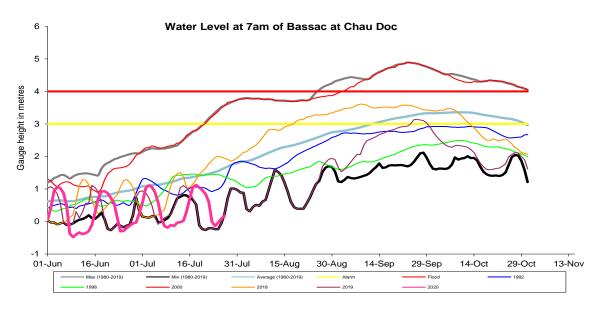










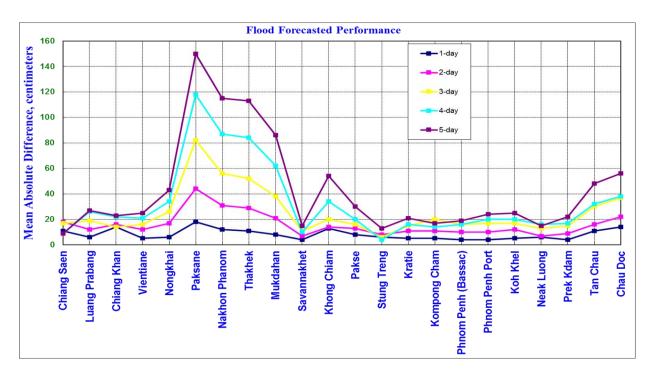


Annex B: Accuracy and Performance of weekly flood forecasting

1. Accuracy

"Accuracy" is referred to the results of the MRC Mekong Flood Forecasting System, after adjusted by forecaster and shared them in public information. The adjustment of flood forecasting outcome from the flood forecasting system, required Flood Forecasters to have strong knowledge in hydrology and statistical modelling for estimating the relationships between stations at upstream to downstream of the Mekong River Basin. The flood forecasting performance presented in a graph below showed the average flood forecasting accuracy at each key station along the Mekong mainstream from 21 to 27 July 2020.

The forecasting values from 21 to 27 July 2020 showed in overall accuracy is fair for 1-day to 3-day of forecast lead time at stations in the middle part from Paksane to Mukdahan of the Mekong River.



<u>Note:</u> The higher percentage of flood forecasting accuracy is due to some key factors as mentioned as follows:

- 1) Missing data and data input are not sufficient to be used as input into the flood forecasting model system.
- 2) Influence of hydropower operations from upstream (Xayaburi) and tributaries inflows.
- 3) Paksane station has been effected by hydropower operation of Nam Nguem (water retention and release) and rainfall always accumulated at this spot that could cause rapid high-water levels.
- 4) Rapid up and down of water levels at stations of Tan Chau and Chau Doc due to daily tidal effect from the Sea in the Mekong Delta.
- 5) Rainfall from satellite was not well represented to the actual rainfall at ground stations in some areas of the Mekong region.

Forecast Achievement

The flood forecasting achievement indicated in (%) and (cm) from 1-day to 5-day at each key station, against with New Benchmark for a successful lead-time are presented in **Table B1** and **Table B2**.

Table B1: Evaluation performance forecasting (from 21 to 27 July 2020) base on Old Benchmark (%).

Unit in %

| Lead-time Forecasted | 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 | 57.1 | 71.4 | 71.4 | 57.1 | 57.1 | 71.4 | 71.4 | 71.4 | <u>42.9</u> | 71.4 | 71.4 | 85.7 | 57.1 | 57.1 | 57.1 | 57.1 | 71.4 | 71.4 | 71.4 | <u>42.9</u> | <u> 28.6</u> | <u>42.9</u> | 61.7 |
| 2-day | 66.7 | 66.7 | <u>50.0</u> | 83.3 | 66.7 | 83.3 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 83.3 | 83.3 | 66.7 | 66.7 | <u>50.0</u> | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 83.3 | 66.7 | 66.7 | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | 67.4 |
| 3-day | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 80.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 80.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | <u>40.0</u> | 0.08 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | <u>40.0</u> | <u>40.0</u> | 60.0 |
| 4-day | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | 75.0 | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | <u>50.0</u> | 75.0 | 75.0 | 75.0 | <u>50.0</u> | 75.0 | <u>50.0</u> | 75.0 | 56.8 |
| 5-day | <u>33.3</u> | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | <u>33.3</u> | <u>33.3</u> | <u>33.3</u> | 100.0 | 66.7 | 66.7 | <u>33.3</u> | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 66.7 | 60.6 |

Table B2: Evaluation performance forecasting (from 21 to 27 July 2020) base on Old Benchmark (cm).

Unit in cm

| Lead-time Forecasted | 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 | 14 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 5 | <u>25</u> | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 15 |
| 2-day | <u>26</u> | <u>28</u> | 16 | 15 | 10 | <u>27</u> | 11 | 16 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 16 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 19 | <u>28</u> |
| 3-day | 19 | <u>45</u> | 16 | <u>23</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>29</u> | 15 | <u>22</u> | 9 | 7 | 15 | 13 | 12 | 12 | <u>20</u> | 7 | 9 | 14 | <u>20</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>34</u> |
| 4-day | <u>25</u> | <u>41</u> | 17 | <u>26</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>37</u> | 18 | <u>25</u> | 13 | 10 | <u>30</u> | <u>21</u> | 10 | <u>20</u> | 18 | 8 | 8 | 13 | <u> 26</u> | 12 | <u>20</u> | 34 |
| 5-day | <u>41</u> | <u>34</u> | 18 | <u>23</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>23</u> | <u>32</u> | 14 | 11 | <u>32</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>27</u> | 10 | 13 | 16 | <u>34</u> | 14 | 14 | 10 |

Note: Red values are not well matched with the actual values in (%) and (cm)

2. Performance based on data collection from Member Countries

Flood forecasting performance is based on hydro-met data received from Member Countries (MCs), evaluating performance indicators, missing data and completed time for flood forecasting are presented in **Table B4** and **Figure B1**, **B2** and **B3**, respectively from 21 to 27July 2020.

Table B4: Overview of performance indicators for the past 8 days from 21 to 27July 2020

| | | FF | time sen | t | | Arrival time of input data | | | | | | | | | Missing data (number-mainstream and trib.st.) | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------|---|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| 2020 | FF completed and sent (time) | Stations without forecast | FF2 completed and sent (time) | Weather data available (time) | NOAA data | China | Cambodia - DHRW | Cambodia - DOM | Lao PDR - DMH | Thailand - DWR | Viet Nam - SRHMC | Viet Nam - HMS | NOAA data/2dataset | China/2 | Cambodia - DHRW/15 | Cambodia - DOM/34 | Lao PDR - DMH/32 | Thailand - DWR/13 | Viet Nam - SRHMC/6 | Viet Nam - HMS/39 | | | |
| week | 10:11 | 00:00 | - | - | 08:15 | 07:10 | 07:19 | 08:09 | 08:22 | 08:32 | 07:24 | 08:24 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 78 | 3 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| month | 10:24 | 00:00 | - | - | 08:15 | 07:10 | 07:38 | 08:11 | 08:39 | 08:26 | 07:14 | 08:23 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 0 | 345 | 0 | 2 | 38 | | | |

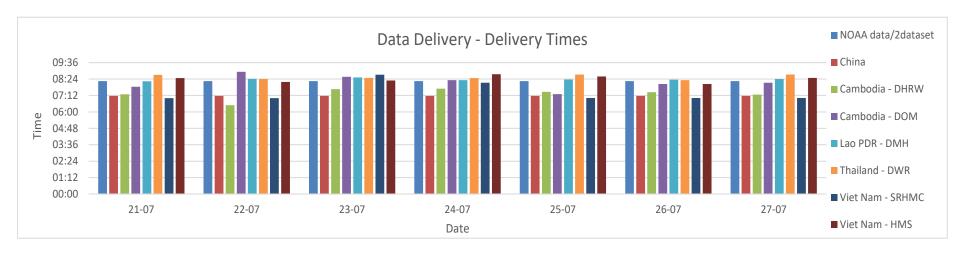


Fig. B1: Data delivery times for the past 8 days from 21 to 27 July 2020

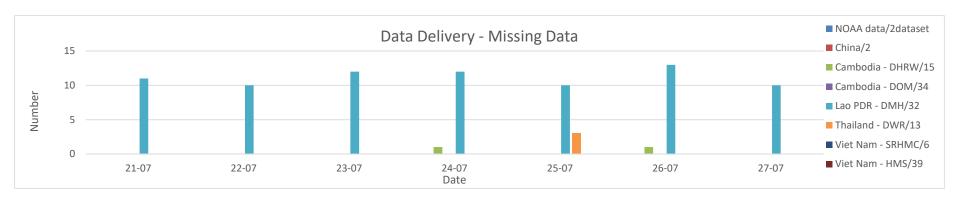


Fig. B2: Missing data for the past 7 days from 21 to 27 July 2020

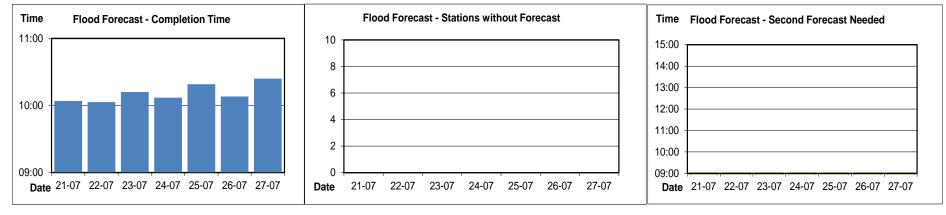


Fig. B3: Flood forecast completion time, stations without forecast and second forecast need from 21 to 27 July 2020