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SUMERNET Partners' Meeting

Wednesday, 9 November 2022, 09.00-13:00 (Bangkok Time/ICT)
Pullman Bangkok Hotel G (Gallery Meeting Room, 36th floor), Bangkok, Thailand
and Online (Zoom)
(Tentative, version: 31st October 2022)

Objectives:

1. **To strengthen partnerships** among SUMERNET grantees, Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat, thematic advisors, project mentors, project boundary partners and donor.
2. **To share achievements and lessons learned from** research and policy engagement activities addressing water insecurity in the Mekong Region during the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges, while also **learn from others**.
3. **To gather feedback and suggestions to support the implementation of grant activities** on topics including, but not limited to, conducting research and policy engagement during COVID-19, data analysis; integrating gender, human rights-based approach, conflict sensitivity and ethics in research; and monitoring & evaluation of project outcomes.
4. **To seek synergies and cooperation** among the grantees and boundary partners from different grant projects, as well as from SUMERNET SC, Secretariat and advisors.

Format: This meeting will be organised in "**Hybrid mode**" where majority of participants are expected to be attending in-person in Bangkok (Thailand), and some participants are attending through online meeting platform (Zoom). The online meeting will be recorded for future viewing.

Participants: This partner meeting is expected to host more than 100 participants including representatives from the Embassy of Sweden, SUMERNET grantees, SUMERNET Steering Committee (SSC), Secretariat, thematic advisors, project mentors and project boundary partners. SUMERNET grantees are the network members who receive the funds under SUMERNET 4 All granting opportunities below.

1. Collaborative research grants
2. Groundwater Integrated Regional Assessment (GIRA) grant
3. COVID Emerging research grant
4. Rapid response fund grants
5. Joint action grants

6. Small grants
7. Fellowship grants
8. Media-research partnership fund

Preparation before the meeting:

- *By 6 November 2022, each project team (for grant types 1-6) will submit to the Secretariat a pre-recorded PowerPoint video presentation including overview, progress, results (e.g. findings and influence to policy/practice), future key events and challenges/lessons learned of their projects. This will help manage presentation time effectively and allow more time for discussion. The PowerPoint template and instructions on how to record the video will be provided by the Secretariat. The length of the video is suggested to be a maximum of **3 minutes** for each team.*
- *On 7 November 2022: All moderators, speakers, all resource persons are requested to join a short rehearsal to test your device, presentation materials and access to the link to designated groups. Time will be informed to all speakers.*
- *By 9 November 2022: All project teams (for grant types 1-6) that would like to feature their project works through poster display or VDO clip on site, submit their posters to Secretariat.*

***Dress Code:** All participants are cordially invited to wear traditional dress from your country or any country from the Mekong Region (if possible).*

Tentative agenda

Overall co-facilitator: Ms. Sushmita Mandal (SUMERNET Research Coordinator) and Dr. Ridhi Saluja (SUMERNET Multistakeholder Engagement Coordinator) Technical support: Mr. Oungkham Oo, SUMERNET Fellow/intern, Ms. Unchulee Lualon, SUMERNET Programme Assistant, and Ms. Bouanong Lathouly, SUMERNET Fellow			
When	What	Who	Note
08:30-09:00 (30 min)	Registration Start online platform	Secretariat (Unchulee, Boualong, Nita, Financial Assistant, Thida)	For onsite participants: please bring documents necessary for reimbursement. For online participants: please rename your name in Zoom as below: • For project team: "Full name/Name of Project". • For resource persons and others, please use "Full name/SUMERNET"
Session 1: Welcoming and introduction			

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When	**What**	**Who**	**Note**
09:00-09:10 (10 min)	Welcoming and opening remarks	Prof. Dr. Chantana Wungaeo, Acting Chair of SUMERNET Steering Committee (SSC) Dr. Eren Zink, Embassy of Sweden	
09:10-09:25 (15 min)	Objectives, agenda and participants of SUMERNET Partners' Meeting 2022	Dr. Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, SUMERNET Programme Director	Vevox poll (Agus Nugroho). Link: https://vevox.app/#/m/165758163
09:25-09:35 (10 min)	Group photos		
Session 2: Learning about research teams and their work under multi-country collaborative research, GIRA, COVID emerging research rapid response research projects, Joint action and Small grants.			
9:35-9:45 (10 min)	Setting the context for Session 2	Moderator: Ms. Sushmita Mandal, SUMERNET Research for policy and practice coordinator	To explain what will happen in Sessions 2 (2a, 2b and 2c).
9:45-10:30 (45 min)	Breakout Session 2a		
	Room 1: Emerging trends on Groundwater governance Moderator: Dr. Chhinh Nyda (SSC) Discussants: Dr. Thanapon Piman (Integrated Assessment) Dr. Sizwile Khoza (Gender) Technical supporter: Mr. Agus Nugroho 1. GIRA: Strengthening Groundwater Governance in Rapidly Urbanizing Areas of the Lower Mekong Region - Dr. Sangam Shrestha (AIT) 2. Collaborative: Identifying barriers to sustainable and inclusive groundwater use for marginalized rural communities in the Mekong region - Dr. Paul Pavelic (IWMI)	Room 2: Rapid Response Projects Moderator: Ms. Sushmita Mandal (Secretariat) Discussants: Dr. Sudarat Tuntivivat (Ethics & Conflict), Dr. Le Thi Van Hue (Gender) Technical Supporter: Mr. Oungkham Ou Rapid Response Research Projects: 1. Rapid Response: Towards mainstreaming the Ecosystem-based Adaptations for Sustainable Groundwater Resources Management in the Transboundary Cambodia-Viet Nam Mekong Delta Aquifer, Lower Mekong Region (GEBA) – Dr. Ho Huu Loc (AIT)	▪ Moderator introduces the projects in the room and the discussants. ▪ Pre-recorded 3-min VDOs of projects will be screened in succession ▪ The boundary partner of each project will be invited to reflect on their experience engaging with the project. The project team can also add. ▪ Feedbacks and questions from discussants and other participants, and follow up with Q&A. ▪ Moderator concludes discussion and inform which session will be next.

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When	What		Who	Note
	3. Joint Action: Assessment of Groundwater Sustainability in the Special Economic Zone of Thailand for Operational Groundwater Management - Dr. Sangam Shrestha (AIT)	2. Rapid Response: Co-creation of Knowledges as a process to respond to water injustices of marginalized communities in Mekong Region Water Politics – Ms. Johanna Goetz (MNKI) and Dr. Ly Quoc Dang (MDI)		
10:30 - 10:45 (15 min)	Coffee break			After coffee break, online participants will come back to the plenary room automatically. The room options will be available to choose from for online participants.
10:45-11:45 (60 min)	Breakout Session 2b			Collaborative Research projects
	Room 1: Water access and quality Moderator: Dr. Chantana Wungaeo (SSC Chair) Discussants: Dr. Thanapon Piman, Dr. Sizwile Khoza (Gender) Technical supporter: Mr. Agus Nugroho Projects: 1. Collaborative: Atmospheric deposition to large river basins and potential effects on the water environment (DEPOSITION) - Prof. Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh (AIT) 2. Collaborative: Integrated assessment of domestic water accessibility for vulnerable communities in the Lower Mekong Basin (IODA-LMB) - Dr. Lam Vu Thanh Noi (SIWRR, SSC member) 3. Joint Action: Evaluating Social and Environmental Impacts of Intensive Rice Production and Pesticide Use on	Room 2: Water and energy Moderator: Dr. Francis X Johnson Discussants: Dr. Vachararuthai Boontinand, Dr. Sudarat Tuntivivat (Ethics & Conflict) Technical Supporter: Mr. Oungkham Ou Projects: 1. Collaborative: Collaborating Water Management for Small-Scale Hydropower Dams in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia (VICA) - Dr. Bui Duc Tinh (Hue University of Economics) 2. Collaborative: Strengthening pathways for rights-based approaches in Mekong hydropower: Towards inclusive and sustainable growth - Dr. Kanokwan Manorom – tbc. (Ubon Ratchathani University)	Room 3: Water and Food Moderator: Sushmita Mandal Discussants: Dr. Louis Lebel, Dr. Le Thi Van Hue (Gender) Technical supporter: Ms. Variya Plungwatana Projects: 1. Collaborative: Bringing more than food to the table: precipitating meaningful change in gender and social equity-focused participation in transboundary Mekong Delta wetlands management (BRIMOFOT) - Dr. Duong Van Nha (Kien Giang University) 2. Collaborative: Enhancing the Preparedness of Rice Production to Water Scarcity in the Lower Mekong Basin: A Transdisciplinary Approach (HCE&RAC) - Dr. Nguyen Duc Kien (Hue University of Economics)	Same process as previous session Moderator concludes discussion and inform which session will be next.

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When	What		Who	Note
	Water Quality in the Lower Mekong Region: Case Studies of An Giang, Vietnam and Chiang Rai, Thailand (SERUWA) - Dr. Trieu Anh Ngoc (Thuyloi University)		3. Collaborative: Enhancing Aquatic Habitats in Upland Environments (ENAHA) - Dr. Kaviphone Phouthavong (Living Aquatic Resources Research Center) 4. Collaborative: The role of wetlands in water security for the Mekong region - Dr. Duong Van Ni (MDI)	
11:45 – 11:55 (10 min)	Transition break, to allow participants to switch rooms			All moderators inform which sessions come next. Online participants should be able to switch room.
11:55 – 12:40 (45 min)	Breakout Session 2c			Joint action and small grant projects
	Room 1: Water and climate change Moderator: Dr. Kittima Leeruttanawisut (SSC Member) Discussants: Dr. Thanapon Piman, Dr. Vachararuthai Boontinand Technical supporter: Mr. Agus Nugroho Projects: 1. Joint Action: Participatory Flood Risk Management: A Case for Policy Implication from Ban Phai Municipality Thailand - Dr. Yanyong Inmuong (Maha Sarakham University) 2. Collaborative: Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity and Resilience of Agriculture and Aquaculture-dependent Livelihoods: Case Studies of Selected	Room 2: Water and Agriculture Moderator: Dr. Ridhi Saluja (SUMERNET Multi-stakeholder Engagement Coordinator) Discussants: Dr. Le Thi Van Hue, Dr. Louis Lebel Technical Supporter: Mr. Oungkham Ou Projects: 1. Joint Action: Out-scaling Water Saving Innovations to Reduce Water Insecurity Conditions of Poor and Marginalised Communities in Vietnam's Upper Mekong Delta - Dr. Pham Huynh Thanh Van (An Giang University)	Room 3: Small Grants Moderator: Rajesh Daniel (SUMERNET Communications Coordinator) Discussants: Ms Chau Thi Minh Long, Boripat Lebel (SSC members) Technical supporter: Ms. Variya Plungwatana Projects: 1. Small Grant: Enhance community resilience to climate change-modified water hazards in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta coastal zone (CoRe) - Dr. Phan Ky Trung (Can Tho University)	Same process as previous session Moderator concludes discussion and inform that participants will return to the plenary room.

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When	What		Who	Note
	Disaster-Prone Villages in Vietnam and Myanmar (AA-Adapt) - Dr. Aung Tun Oo (Radanar Ayar Rural Development Association) 3. Joint Action: Strengthening flood risk management induced by climate change in Stung Sen River Basin, Cambodia (FloodCam) – Dr. Oeurng Chantha (ITC)	2. Joint Action: Reaching more farmers to better cope with climate change: A practical approach to scaling up flood-tolerant seed variety in Lao PDR (Seed-UP) - Dr. Phetmanyseng Xangsayasane (NAFRI)	2. Small Grant: Leveraging Small-Scale Local Water Management Strategies in the Lower Mekong River: Kalasin, Thailand - Dr. Buapun Promphakping (Khon Kaen University) 3. Small Grant: 10 years changes of livelihoods in flood-prone areas in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam – Dr. Nguyen Duy Can (Can Tho University)	
12:40 – 13:00 (20 min)	Conclusion: Overall Facilitator (Sushmita & Dr. Ridhi) Survey on post event evaluation and any support is needed for the grantees after their project completion.			All participants are brought back to the plenary room for conclusion. The participants will be invited to participate in online survey using Vevox. Overall facilitator announces time and place of lunch break. Next event, the SUMERNET Network Meeting will be held at Gallery 1.
13:00-14:00 (60 min)	Lunch break			Lunch will be served at Tiva Restaurant (2nd floor) After lunch, all will come back to the plenary room automatically. The next session is SUMERNET Network Meeting.
End of SUMERNET Partners' Meeting 2022				