







Carl Middleton, International Rivers









Mekong River's fisheries are central to regional economy and food security



- The Mekong supports the world's largest inland fishery
- First catch value is up to US\$2 -3 billion
- Economic value is up to US\$5.6 -9.4 billion
- 64-93% of rural households are involved in fisheries
- Consumption of fish/ aquatic animals contributes 47-80% of animal protein intake
- Fish are central to nutrition and food security for the 60 million people in the Lower Mekong basin

Mainstream dams will block major fish migrations



- Mainstream dams are a barrier to fish migration
- Dams on middle and lower reaches of Mekong could affect 70% of commercial fish catch
- There are no current technologies that can mitigate the impacts to fisheries



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Better electricity planning is urgently required ٠ Balanced assessment of supply and demand side electricity options urgently needed • Energy efficiency potential is huge · New renewable and decentralized technologies becoming viable Public participation • Micro hydropower turbine, crucial Thailand



Better river planning is needed before projects are developed



Poor river planning will lead to development of destructive dams, leading to fewer revenues and unsustainable economic growth.

- Critical resources like the Mekong's mainstream should be protected
- Need to recognize the role wild-capture fisheries and healthy rivers play in ensuring regional food security.

Thank you for your attention

