

# What we may already know

- Different groups of people, especially local communities across the Lower Mekong Basin are still excluded from Mekong resource management and planning
- Understanding and knowledge of how people in the LMB use water resources is still inadequate
- High demand for Mekong water-related socioeconomic data and information ..
- and requests for more inclusive decisionmaking process









# What we may need to know

 National agencies, the MRC and many organizations have realized these needs, and have been working through different projects and initiatives

 However, the scale of existing responses is still small. There is still great need for support.

 Imminent threats from climate and suspected impacts (as well as benefits) from large-scale land use change and Mekong mainstream dams







## What we may not know

- Not only the socioeconomic data is needed
- But also
  - Set up right priorities and objectives
  - A multi-disciplinary/stakeholder platform
  - Expertise and collective capacity in designing data monitoring, surveying, sampling and upscaling methodology, and analysis
  - Open database access











#### What is going on?

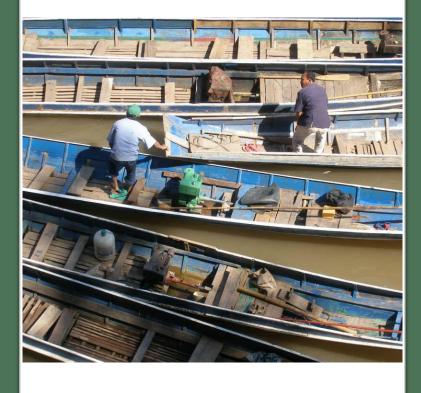
- The SIP with 20 organization and agency partners facilitated the first Mekong Socioeconomic
  Data Experts Meeting in September 2019 in Bangkok
- Among many areas of consensus, the expert team agreed that the priority of the LM region is to understand cumulative impacts of mainstream hydropower projects
- Water-related socioeconomic data and survey methodology should be designed and used for cumulative social impact assessment, and transboundary impact assessment







Photo: Nook Pattanoot









### What is next?

We need more input from you

 A capacity-building program is collaboratively being prepared with partners

 The platform is being developed within www.MekongWater.org

 We welcome you to be part of this from the beginning until the end!