



GREATER MEKONG  
SUBREGION  
**CORE ENVIRONMENT  
PROGRAM**

## **The Watershed Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (W-VAA) Guidelines**

### **The Practitioner Workshop: Testing the Untested**

**21-22 September 2017**

**Novotel, Siam Square, Bangkok, Thailand**

#### **1. BACKGROUND:**

**THE ROUNDTABLE:** Three years ago, the Asian Development Bank's Greater Mekong Subregion (ADB-GMS) Core Environment Program (CEP) initiated an Adaptation Roundtable to provide a forum for institutions working on climate change adaptation in the GMS. These institutions, through their various projects, have gained deep experience conducting climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessments (VAA) and implementing adaptation actions. The Adaptation Roundtable stimulates collaboration among these institutions, documents lessons learned, and provides thought leadership on climate change adaptation and a community of practices. Partners in the Roundtable include the ADB-GMS EOC; FAO; IGES; MRF; IUCN; SEA-START; SEI; TEI; UNEP; USAID and USFS.

#### **The GUIDELINES: Watershed-scale Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments**

The guidelines for Watershed-scale Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments (WVAA) have been developed and revised a few times since late 2014. It is written by members of CCA roundtable, with the aim of sharing their practical experiences with GMS development practitioners and planners facing the challenges of integrating CCA concerns into long term planning to enhance its robustness and resilience. This is particularly relevant for those who work with river basin committees in the Mekong region at watershed scale, where integrated basin planning is of emerging importance. The guideline could also apply to subnational planning and inter-provincial planning that situate in a defined eco-unit.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2017, the Guidelines have gone through a series of review and technical editing and they are in their final stage. For next steps, the roundtable, support by CEP, will bring the late version to a "user's workshop" to be held on 21 – 22 September 2017. Potential users from GMS countries such as advisers to RBOs, individual experts, academia from universities, national and subnational development planners will be invited to the workshop to work with CCA roundtable members to:

- a) **Validate the Guideline:** To **receive** comments from watershed level planners on the usefulness, relevance of the guideline to their work, the ease of application, and gaps. Inputs for improvement of guidelines
- b) **Strategic outreach with this knowledge product to potential users in the GMS**  
The workshop will serve as “advance announcement” or notification of “the much sought after guidelines” on mainstreaming VAA/ CCA into planning at watershed scale.

**2. EXPECTED OUTPUTS / RESULTS**

- Feedback from potential users received, for finalization of Guidelines
- Awareness of the availability of the guidelines
- Mailing list of potential users generated from the participants
- Network of Watershed planners/ practitioners – for future exchange across GMS

**3. PARTICIPANTS: 40**

The guideline is intended for development planners, those who work with basin organizations or the likes. These include also those whose work deal with spatial planning or landscape level planning cutting across eco-units such as watershed or sub –watershed. For example provincial development plan or inter- provincial plan, and Protected Area Management plans (Wetlands, Biodiversity corridor).

Five carefully selected participants will be invited from each of the 6 GMS countries representing different river basins, as well as other scope of planning defined above. These will include individual experts known to roundtable working in support to RBOs, university, training institutes, NGOs, CSOS, government office working in extension support to regional local staff on planning. This would be people who might apply the WVAA themselves or in position to train others at operational level. Some of the roundtable members noted that the W VAA is useful for government agency to use for developing TOR for training. This elements will be considered when brainstorming the list of participants.

**4. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Day 1: 21 September**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Speaker/Facilitator</b>
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	EOC & SEI
9:00 – 9:30	Setting the context: Participants composition and program overview	Suchat Katima, EOC Team Leader
9:30 – 10:30	WVAA framework, principles and methods	CCA Roundtable members (Alex, Albert, Suppakorn)
10:30 – 11:00	Break and networking	
11:00 – 12:30	Introducing WVAA Practical Guideline and followed by plenary discussion - Do you think the W-VAA guidelines	CCA Roundtable members (Alex, Albert, Suppakorn)

WVAA Regional Workshop 21-22 Sept 2017

	<p>are useful?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Do you think the W-VAA guideline sections are sufficiently clear?</li> <li>- Are there things that would make help improving the guidelines?</li> <li>- Would you use the guidelines in your future work?</li> </ul>	
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch break	
13:30 – 14:30	<p>W-VAA: Processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generic process framework</li> <li>- Six examples for context-specific implementations</li> <li>- Q &amp; A</li> </ul>	Alex, Albert and Suppakorn
14:30 – 15:30	<p>Break-out session (4 groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exercise with 4 different case studies</li> <li>- Prepare a detailed project work plan for a watershed vulnerability and adaptation assessment</li> </ul>	Each group will be facilitated by CCAR members
15:30 – 16:00	Break	
16:00 – 16:30	Report back by each group rep. followed by plenary discussion	Alex
16:30 – 17:00	Wrap up and Synthesis of Day 1 outputs	Alex
17:30	Reception and Cocktail hosted by ADB - EOC	

Day 2

Time	Activity	Speaker/Facilitator
9:00 – 9:15	Recap Day 1 outputs and Day 2 Program Overview	Alex
9:15 – 10:00	<p>W-VAA: Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generic overview</li> <li>- Tool expert panel: Presentations of tools developed for the GMS</li> <li>- Q &amp; A</li> </ul>	CCA Roundtable members (Alex, Albert, Suppakorn)
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Break-out session (4 groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exercise with 4 different case studies</li> <li>- Which tools would be needed for which step to conduct which dimension of the assessment?</li> </ul>	CCA Roundtable members (Alex, Albert, Suppakorn and ---) will facilitate each group discussion

WVAA Regional Workshop 21-22 Sept 2017

11:00 – 11:30	Break	
11:30 – 12:00	Report back and plenary discussion on WVAA tools	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break	
13:00 – 14:30	<p>Break-out session (4 groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How to utilize the WVAA guidelines in watershed-scale planning? (How to integrate/mainstream WVAA principles, process and tools into watershed planning process?)</li> <li>- What are recommended strategies and approaches to promote this WVAA guidelines to Watershed-scale planners and development practitioners?</li> <li>- If there was training for the guidelines, what would we need to focus on?</li> </ul>	Each group will be facilitated by CCA members
14:30 – 15:00	Break	Each group will be facilitated by CCAR members
15:00 – 15:30	Report back and plenary discussion	Alex
15:30 – 16:00	Conclusion and Way Forward	Alex