

Applying best practice river basin planning in Lao PDR - Opportunities and lessons

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Achieving SDG6 in a Changing Climate



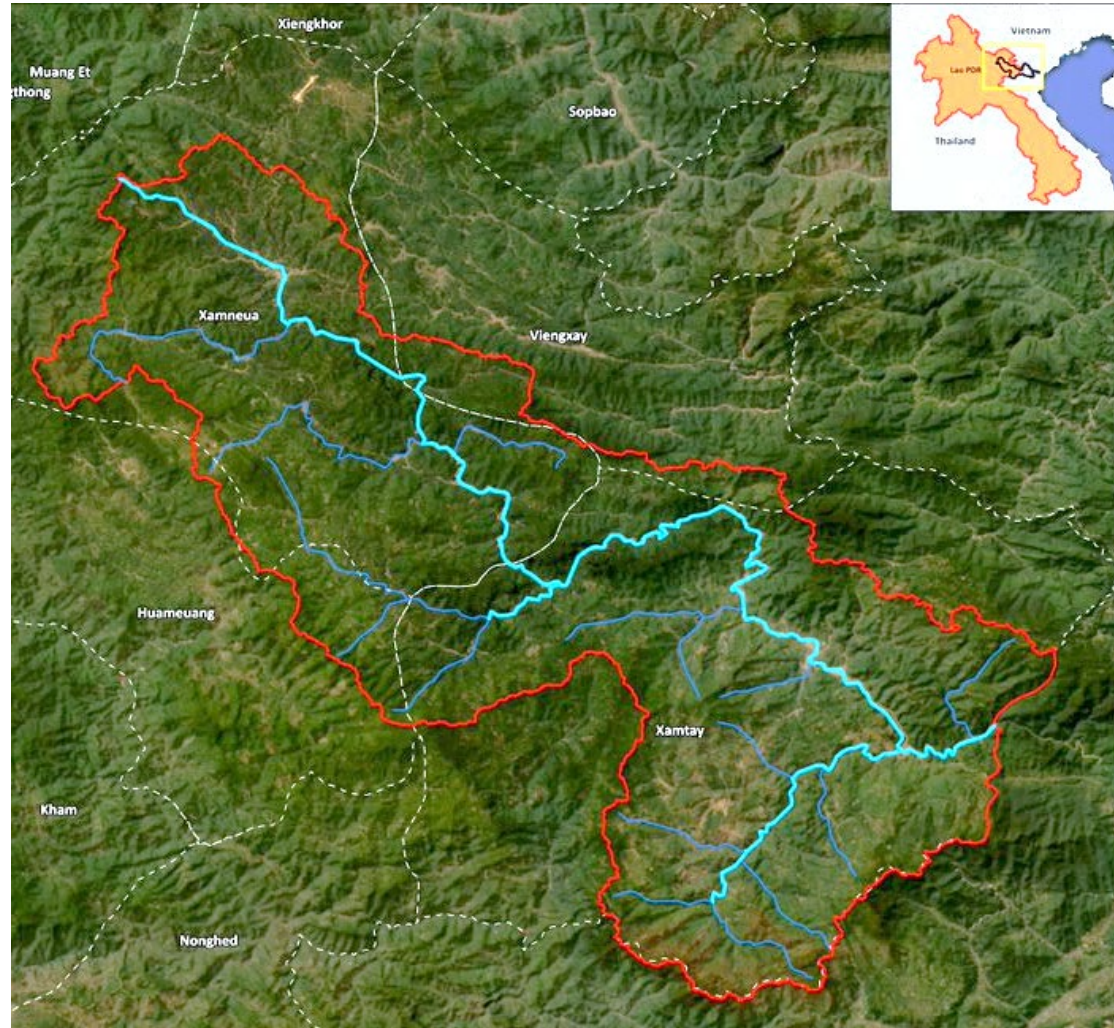
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Background

- The Lao Department of Water Resources are developing integrated river basin management plans
- Australian Water Partnership is providing technical support through Alluvium, AMPERES, UTS, and IWC to showcase best practice approaches for river basin planning in the **Nam Xam Basin**
- Lessons from basin planning in the Nam Xam will inform similar processes in other priority basins.



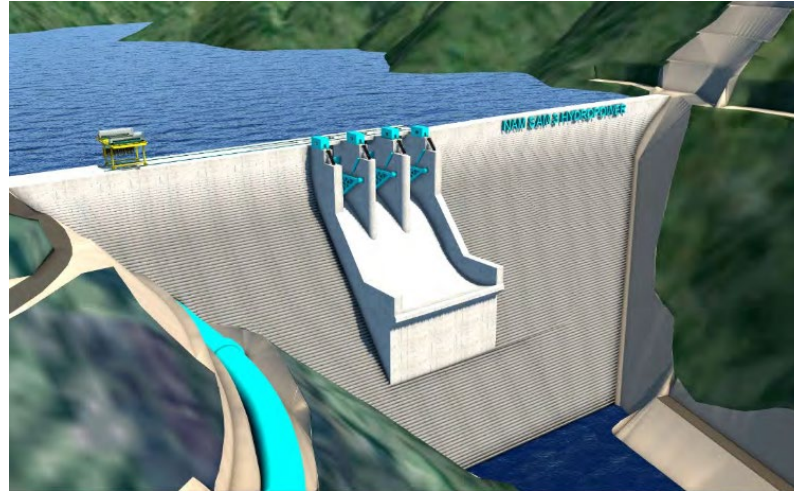
About the Nam Xam



Key drivers for basin planning



Mitigating flood and droughts



Hydropower development



Deforestation

Applying best practice

Key points of difference compared to Laos business as usual:

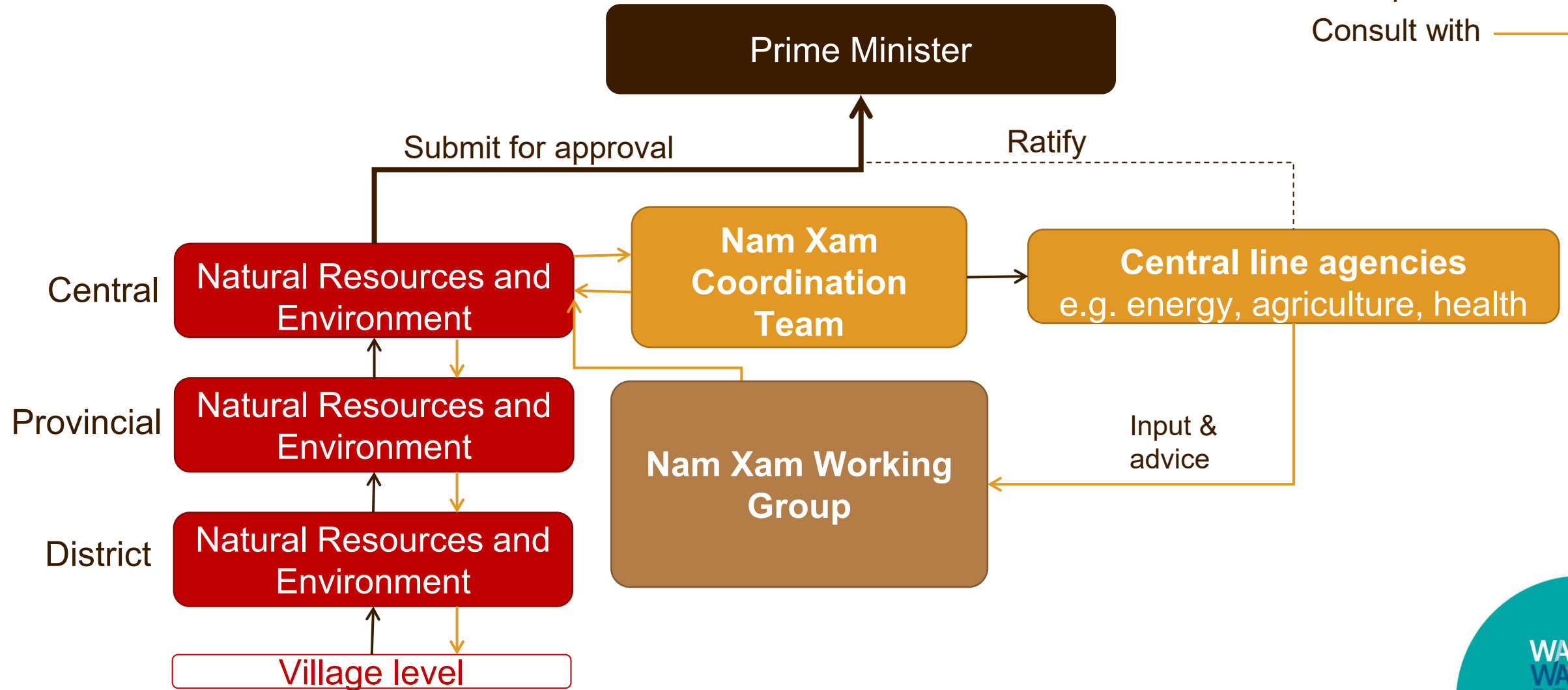
- Proactive and inclusive stakeholder engagement
- A commonly developed basin vision to set the tone
- A new governance structure for the Central Ministries



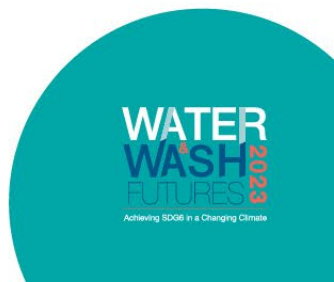
Source: *BasinGuide: A guide for river basin planning* (Alluvium et al, 2020),

Supporting governance mechanisms

Report to →
Consult with →

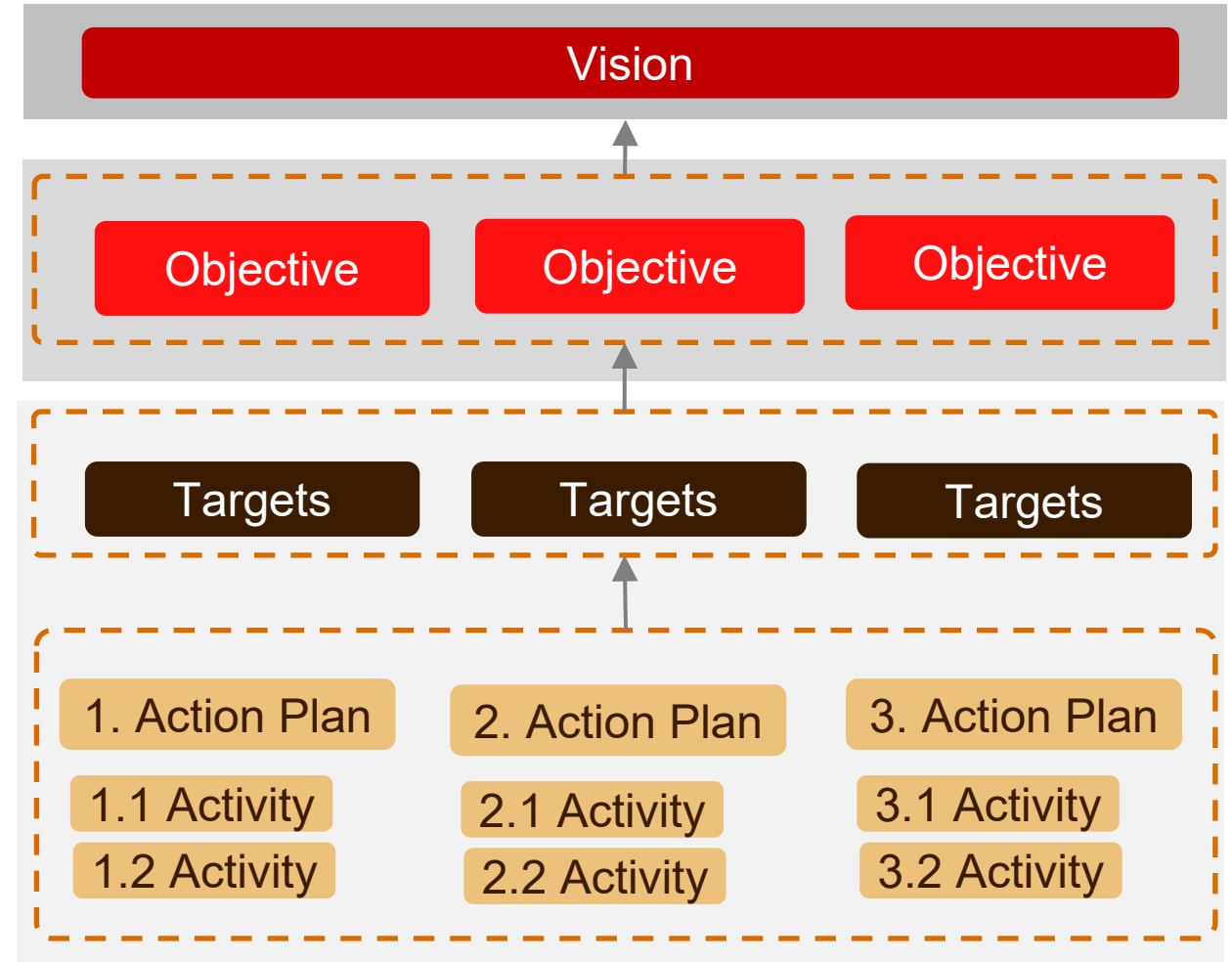


Inclusive stakeholder engagement

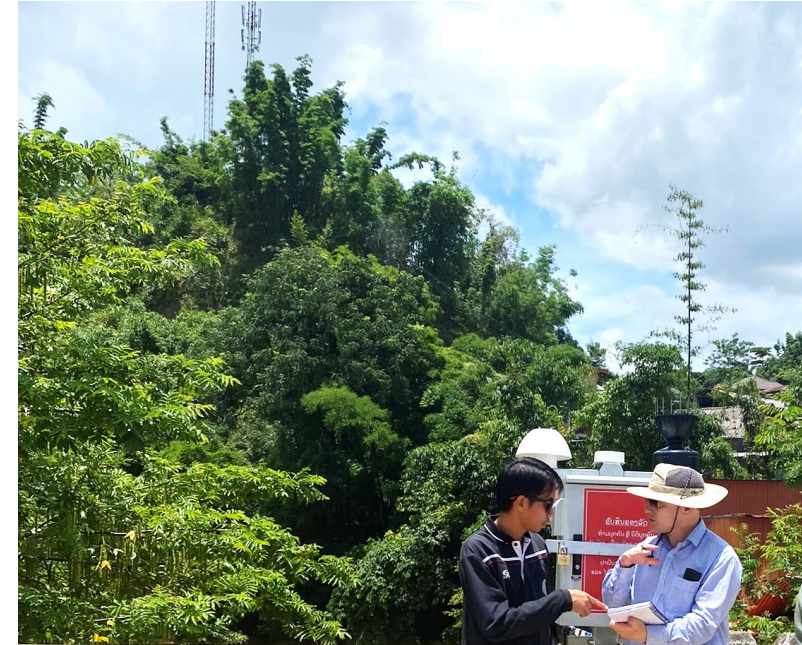


The vision

*A **clean, pollution-free** Nam Xam River Basin that can conserve **biodiversity**, support **abundant livelihoods** and **agriculture** for all its residents and be an **ecotourism** destination.*

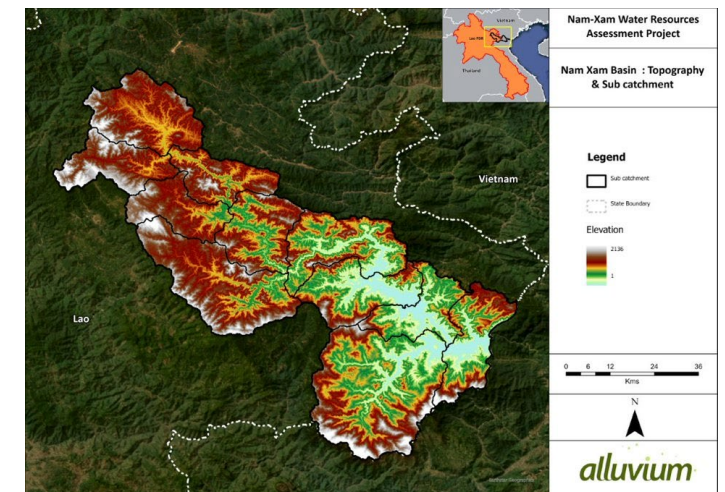


Lao-Aus Partnership



Key lessons and opportunities

1. Establish a strong enabling environment with robust supporting governance mechanisms
2. Foster cross-sectoral collaboration
3. Contextualised approaches to best-practice as appropriate for the context
4. Hear all voices to reflect the real situation and issues
5. Build strong working relationships to enable success.



Thank you

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