



MEKONG DELTA CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORKING MEETING

Concept note

As the Mekong Delta has been identified by the IPCC as one of the global ‘hot spots’ in regards to climate change impacts and an increasing number of organizations – INGOs, VNGOs, research institutes, multilateral and bilateral agencies – operate a diversity of climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programs in the region and have intentions to expand, there is a pertinent need for improved information sharing and exchange particularly focused on Mekong Delta specific issues.

Parallel formal and informal initiatives for improved coordination and information sharing have been undertaken in the past involving different type of stakeholders but none of them in the end were sufficiently sustainable because of a variety of reasons. However, due to the urgent climate challenge, it is time to revisit the past experiences and discuss potential options for the near future.

In order to identify the best mechanism and operational modalities for a regular and effective information exchange that encourages identifying synergies and potential collaboration between various parties involved, CARE, IUCN and OXFAM have joined in organizing a first *Mekong Delta Climate Change Networking Meeting*.

Main objectives:

1. To bring together interested climate change practitioners working on Mekong Delta issues for improved networking
2. To collectively look at past initiatives on information sharing and coordination in the Mekong Delta and learn from previous experiences
3. Based on lessons learned and good practices, to assess potential feasible Mekong Delta climate change networking or ‘working group’ options and agree on a way forward
4. To provide updates on climate change project and program implementation in the South

Targeted participants:

In order to keep it workable, this first networking meeting will mainly target INGO and VNGO representatives operating in the Mekong Delta such as CARE, IUCN, OXFAM, AMCROSS, ARC/GRC, AFAP,

SRD, SAVE THE CHILDREN, SNV, WARECOD, MCD, ADRA, CHALLENGE TO CHANGE, and others. GIZ will be invited specifically because of their significant work in the Mekong, including on livelihoods, gender and pro-poor adaptation. Because of their crucial role on climate change research and specific experience with CC networking in the Mekong Delta (e.g. Mekong Net), the Can Tho University – Dragon Institute will also be invited. Other research institutes can be invited once the networking mechanism is established.

Donors, multilateral and bilateral partners will be informed about the meeting and its outcomes but are not specifically targeted for this first meeting. They can however, participate as an observer.

Mechanisms for exchange and involvement of Government partners will be identified during the meeting or at a later stage.

Date: Friday 27th September 2013
Location: Ho Chi Minh City - *venue tbc*
Tentative agenda: 8.30am till 12pm (lunch will be provided to registered participants)

1	8.30-8.45	Welcoming participants – objectives of the meeting	CARE
2	8.45-9.10	Overview of past and current CC networking in the Mekong Delta and other parts of Vietnam – lessons learned	CARE and Can Tho University (tbc)
3	9.10-9.30	Options and issues to consider for CC networking in the Mekong Delta	CARE/OXFAM
4	9.30-10.15	Plenary discussion and agreement on way forward	CARE/OXFAM/IUCN
	10.15-10.30	<i>break</i>	
5	10.30-11.30	Updates and sharing from CC projects in the Mekong Delta	CARE/OXFAM/IUCN ea.
6	11.30-12.00	Conclusion and follow-up action	CARE