

# Workshop on Water Resources Management



## **VIETNAM** **Water Resources Management**

**A COUNTRY PROFILE**

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- Water resources and use;
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# Water resources and use



- **Highly complicated river network**
  - 2,372 rivers with length of over 10 km and 26 tributaries.
  - 13 main rivers, 10 are transboundary (international) river basins.
  - Provides an abundant supply of water of 255 bill. m<sup>3</sup> /year
- **Rain Water**
  - Long term annual rainfall total of 1.960mm
  - Total water volume of 640 billion m<sup>3</sup> annually
  - Viet Nam is one of the world's highest-rainfall countries, but unevenly distributed both in space and time.

# Water resources and use

- **Surface water**

- The total annual surface water is about 830 – 840 billion m<sup>3</sup>.
- of which 310 - 315 billion m<sup>3</sup> is generated within country's territory.

- **Groundwater**

- The total water reserves in all aquifers (sea island areas not included) is around 2.000 m<sup>3</sup>/s, equipvalent to 63 billion m<sup>3</sup> per year



# Legal and institutional frameworks

## Legal framework

- ❑ The Law on Water Resources (20/Aug/1998) (*soon to be revised*)
- ❑ Secondary legal documents:
  - ❑ The Decree on stipulating the implementation of the law on water resources (30/Dec/1999)
  - ❑ The Decree on Water resource information management (19/Dec/2003)
  - ❑ The Decree on Licensing for exploitation, utilization, use and discharge waste water (27 Jul 2004)
  - ❑ The Decree Integrated river basin management (submitting)
  - ❑ The Decree on sanctions against administrative violations of water resources management regulations (17 Mar 2005)
  - ❑ The National strategy on water resources to 2020 (14 Apr 2006)
  - ❑ ..... and so on.

# Challenges of water resources management in Vietnam

- **Lack of awareness** of the importance of water resources management in sustainable development .
- **Conflicts** between protection of water resources and water supply, water security for development .
- **Incomplete legal system** for water resources management;
- **Inadequate organisation and management capacity** in water resources;
- **Lack of mechanisms and policies**, especially economic and financial policies in water resources;
- **Inadequate and inaccurate information and data** on water resources and constraints on information sharing .

# Priority actions and projects

- Develop a **uniform way of water management** in all fields based on a river-basin approach.
- Allow a shift in policies from **supply-focused to demand-focused** approach for the irrigation sector;
- Strengthen the **policy and institutional framework** for water demand management;
- Improve **compliance and enforcement** and deepen public **participation and involvement**;
- Expand and diversify **investment in infrastructure** for irrigation;

# Priority actions and projects

- Reflect the **nature of water service** products more effectively.
- Allow **the (re)implementation of fees**, duties and tax policies.
- Reflect the **real costs of a water** unit in order to ensure the security and sustainability of water services.
- Promote more **proactive engagement** in regional riparian cooperation and improving information management,
- Complete **separation of the water management and service functions** to support further decentralization of management authorities,

Thank you!

