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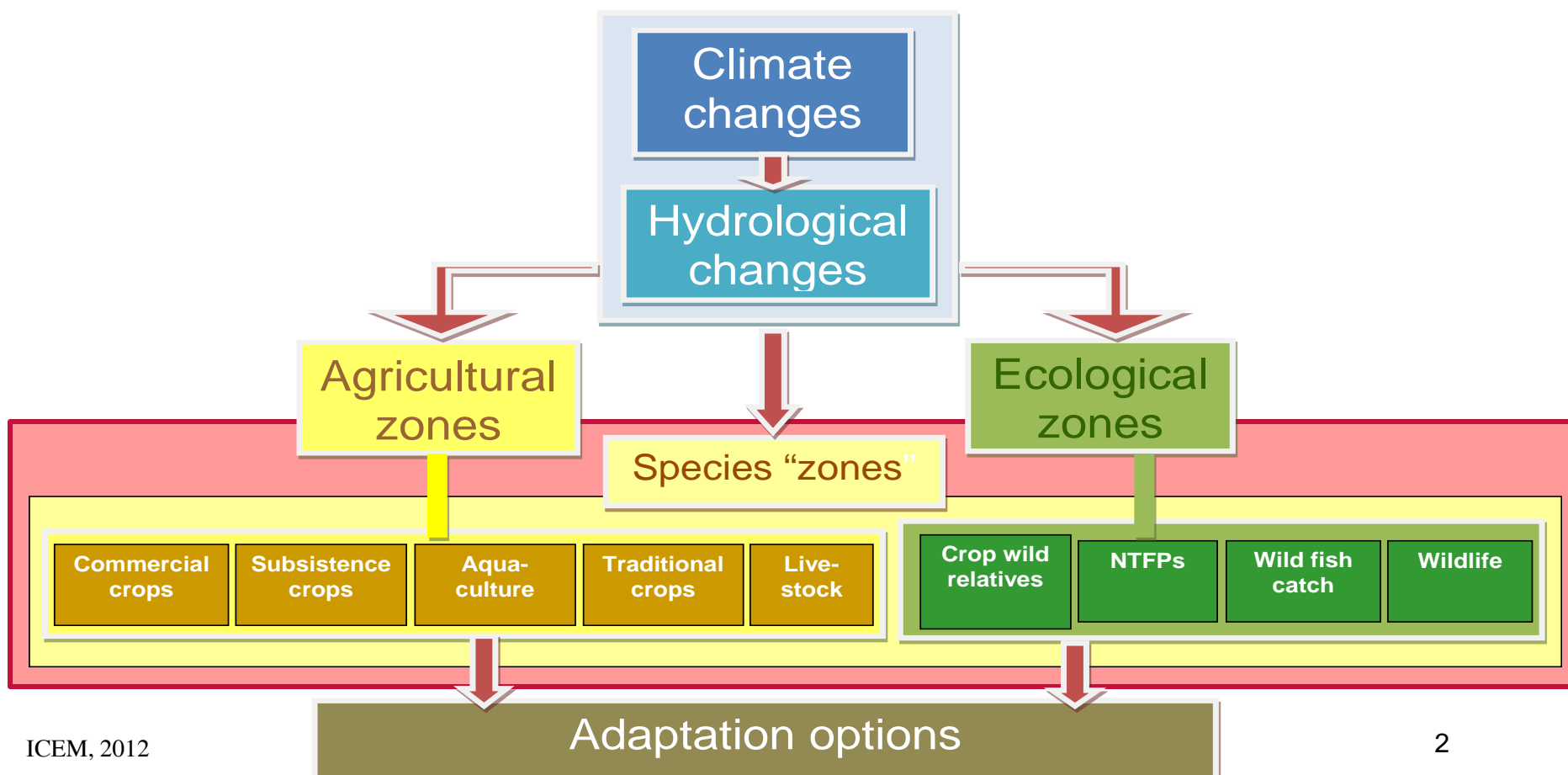
Mekong ARCC Climate Change Impact and Adaptation Study for natural and agricultural systems

Jeremy Carew-Reid,
ICEM – International Centre for Environmental Management
www.icem.com.au

May 2012, Bangkok

1a

Assessing climate change threats to agriculture and subsistence livelihoods



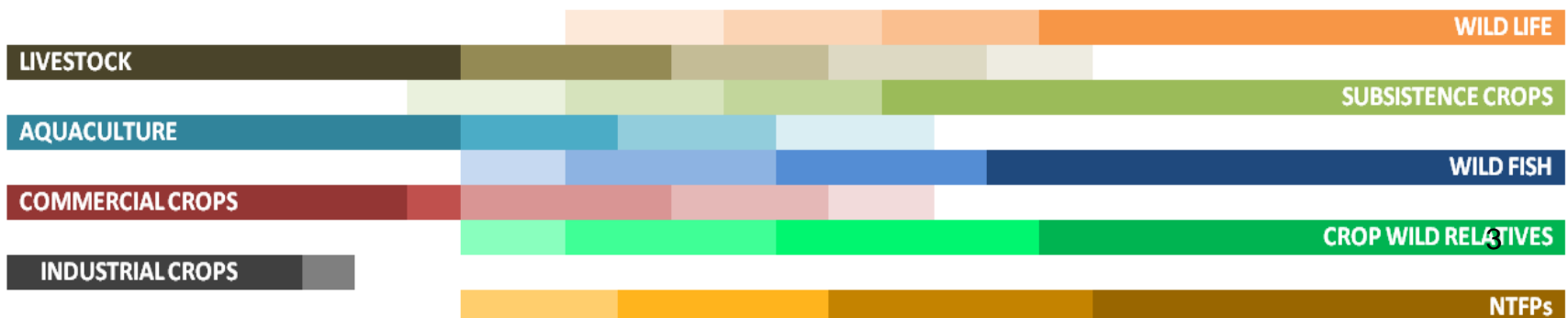
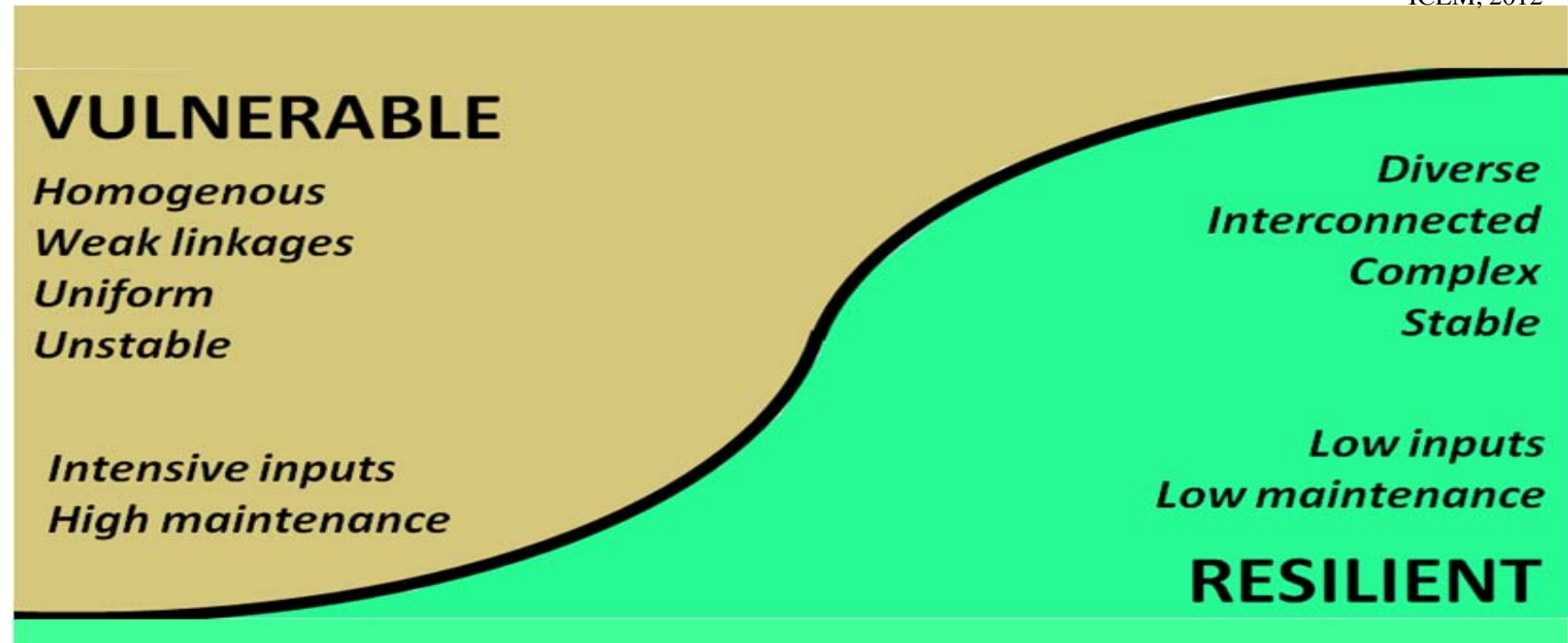


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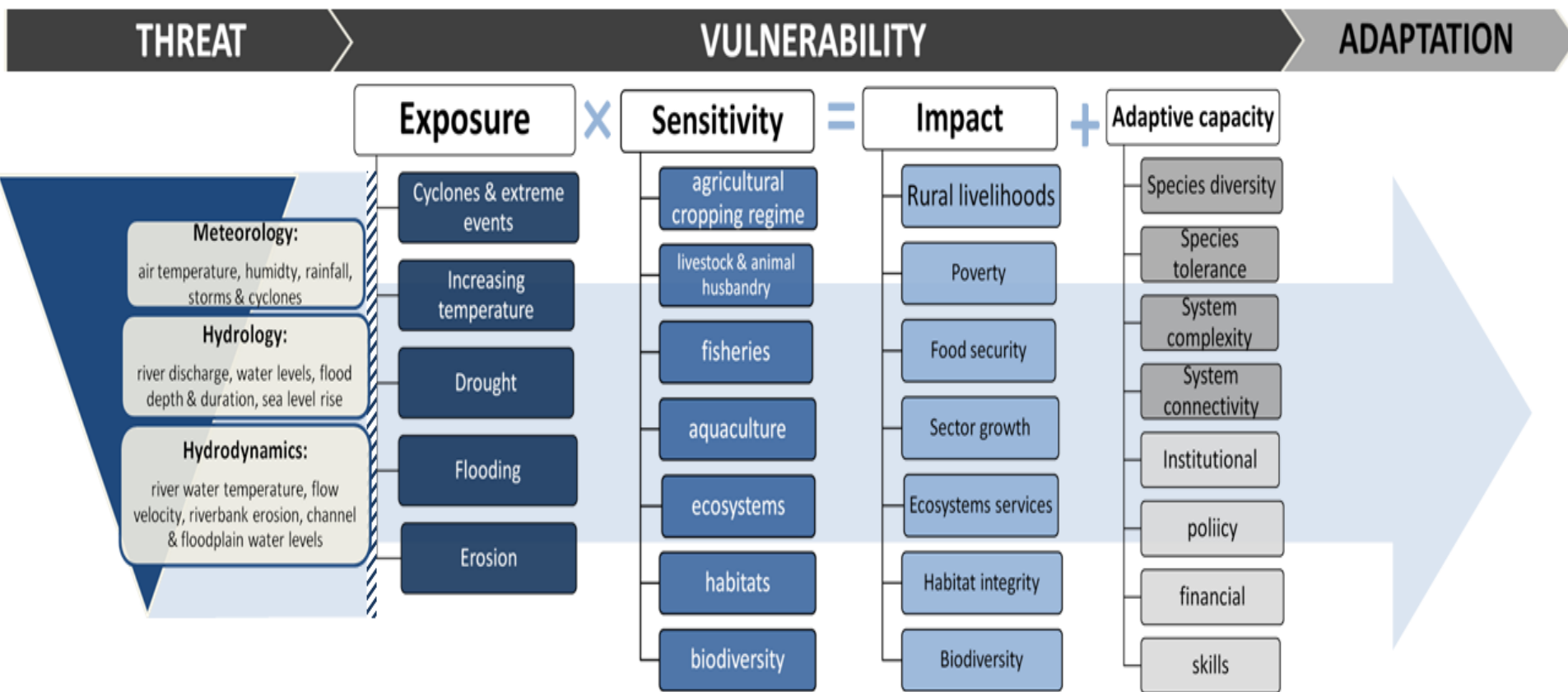


Agricultural systems and climate change continuum

ICEM, 2012



CAM method





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Climate and hydrological changes

Climate changes

Regular (daily and seasonal)

- Increase in CO₂
- Change in temperature
- Change in rainfall

Extreme events

- Storms
 - Rainfall
 - Wind
 - Low pressure

Hydrological changes

Regular (daily and seasonal)

- Water availability
- Runoff and flow
- Regular flooding
- Evapotranspiration
- Saline intrusion
- Sea level rise

Extreme events

- Flooding (fresh and salt water)
- Flash flooding
- Drought
- Storm surge



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System assets

Top commercial crops

Vietnam	Laos	Thailand	Cambodia
Rice, paddy	Rice, paddy	Rice, paddy	Rice, paddy
Coffee, green	Maize	Rubber	Cassava
Cashew nuts, with shell	Coffee, green	Cassava	Maize
Cassava	Tobacco,	Sugar cane	Bananas

Fruit trees: Bananas and mangoes

Vegetables: Sweet potatoes, tomatoes, beans, chilli

Subsistence crops

- Lowland and upland rice
- Cassava
- Maize
- Peanuts

Traditional crop varieties

- Rice (more than 13,000 identified in Lao)
- Eggplant (more than 3000 in Lao)
- Papaya
- Banana (centre of origin)
- Mango (centre of origin)
- Pineapple
- Water melon
- Passion fruits

Wild plants

- Cardamom,
- Rattan and bamboo
- Orchids
- Mushrooms

Crop wild relatives

- Glutinous rice (centre of origin)
- Eggplant (centre of origin)

Centre of origin for: coconut palm, sugarcane, clove, nutmeg, black pepper, onion, cucumber



Key assessment concepts

Zones

- Climate change, Ecological, Agricultural

Shifts

- Geographic, Elevation, Seasonal

Hotspots

- Exposure, Sensitivity, Adaptive capacity



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Climate change overlaid on “**zones**”

Zones provide the common analytical framework for the study team

Purpose of zoning is to:

- Identify areas of the basin with common bio-physical and socio-economic characteristics
- Observe “shifts” in the zones with climate change

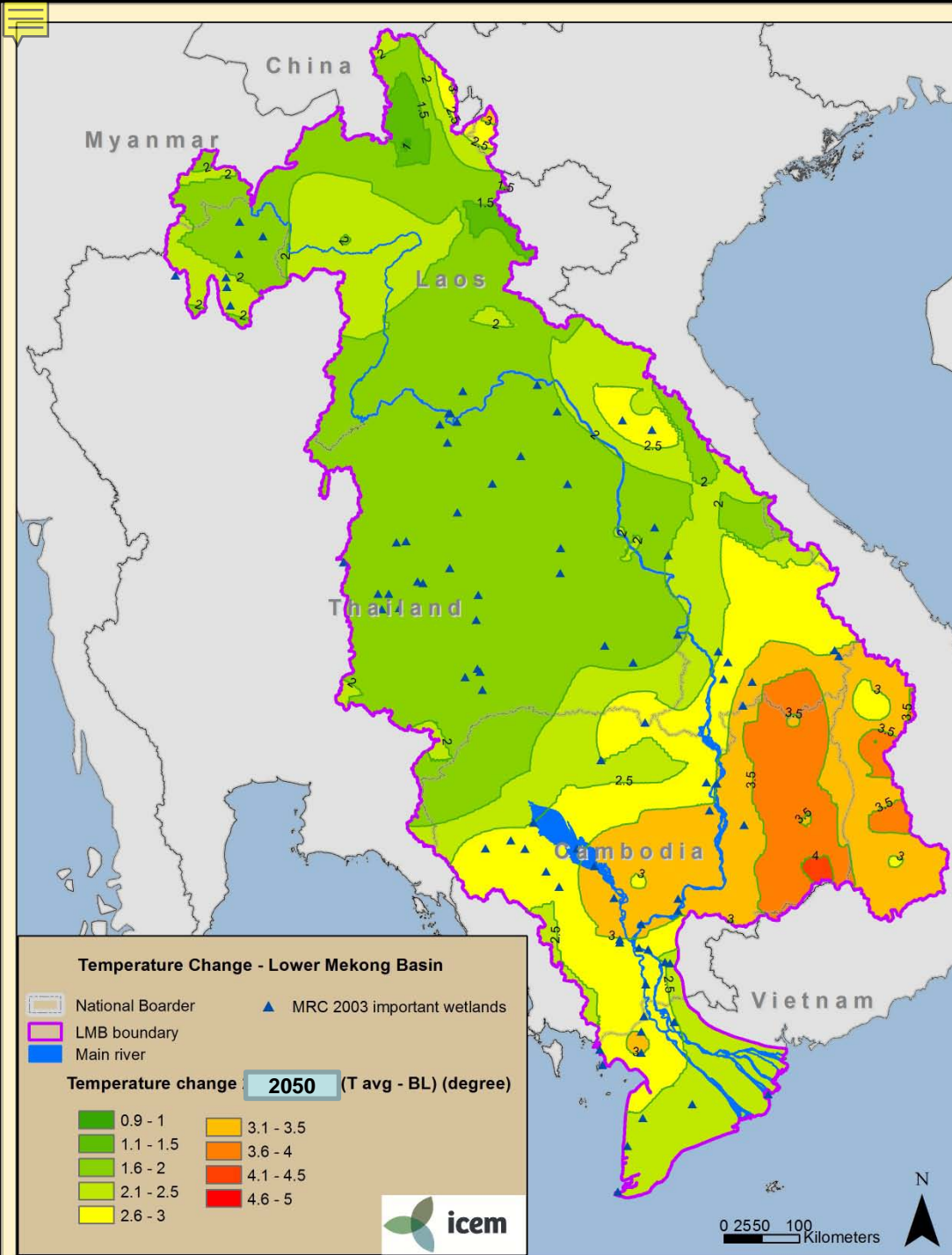
Three types of zones:

1. **Climate change zones** – temperature, rainfall and hydrology
2. **Agricultural zones** – agricultural land uses and natural conditions
3. **Ecological zones** – natural habitat, species and genetic resources

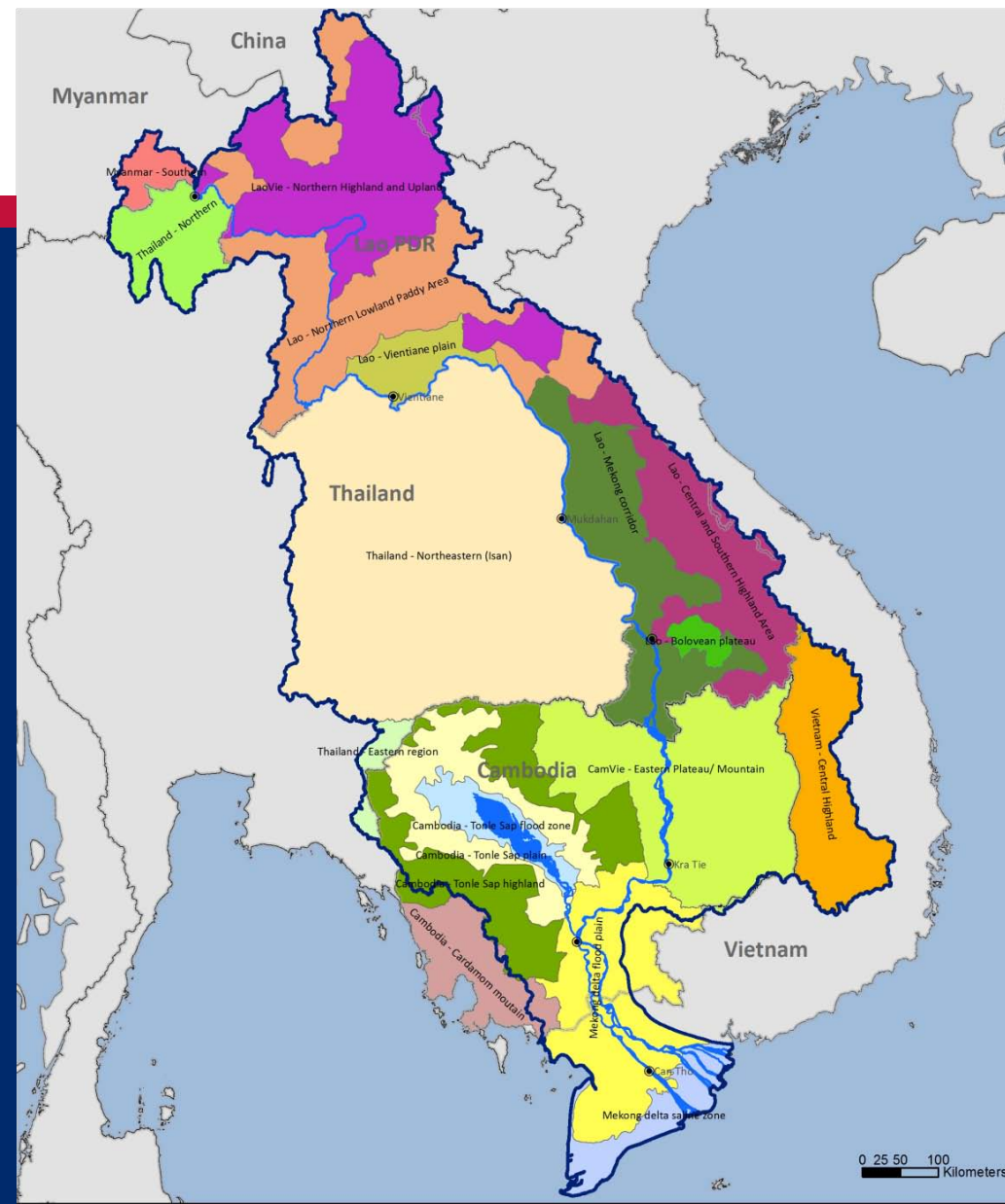
Climate change zones

Areas experiencing similar climate change

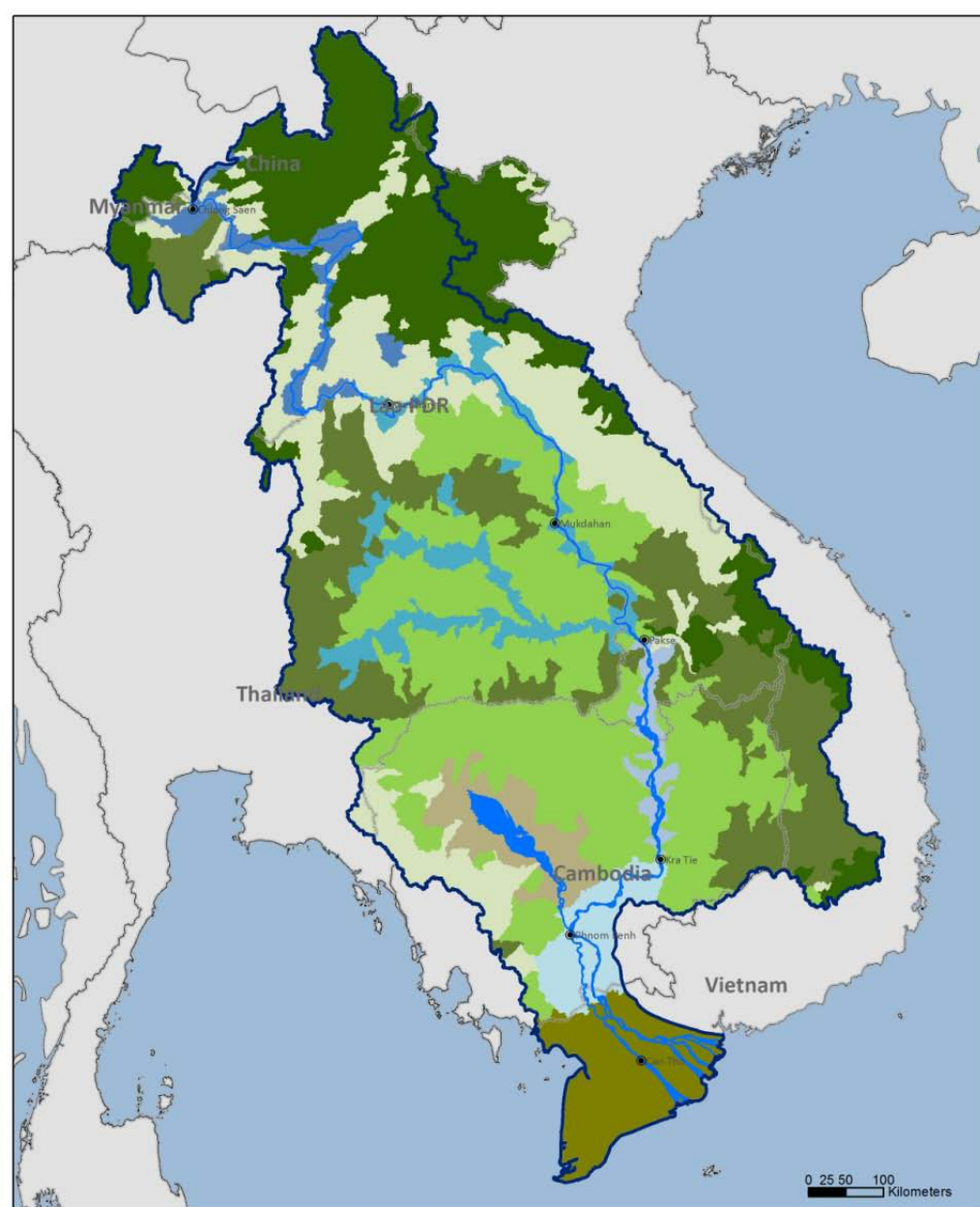
1. Annual + seasonal rainfall averages & extremes
2. Annual + seasonal temperature averages & extremes
3. Specific tolerance & threshold maps



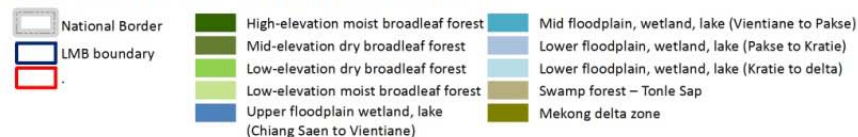
Agriculture zones



Ecozones



ECOZONES IN THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN



Data Source:
ICEM 2012;
WWF 2005
MRC GIS Database



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Climate change **shifts**

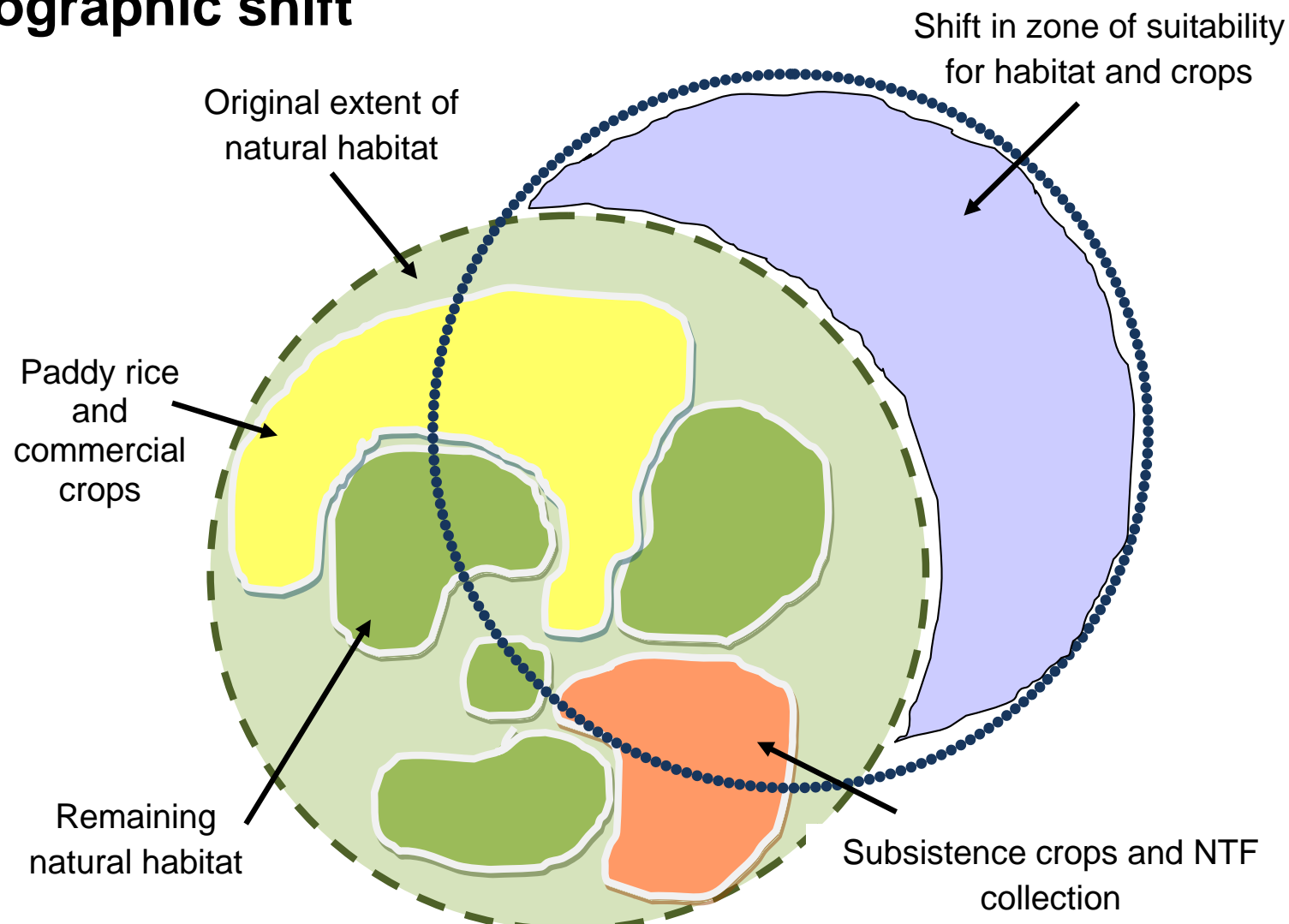
Regular climate

1. **Geographic shifts** – change in area of suitability
2. **Elevation shifts** (for highly restricted habitats and species) – change in (i) location and (ii) elevation
3. **Seasonal shifts** – change in (i) yields, (ii) cropping patterns

Extreme events

4. **Extreme event shifts**
 - Micro – eg flash flooding and soil loss in uplands
 - Macro – eg saline intrusion in Delta; cyclone landfall

Geographic shift

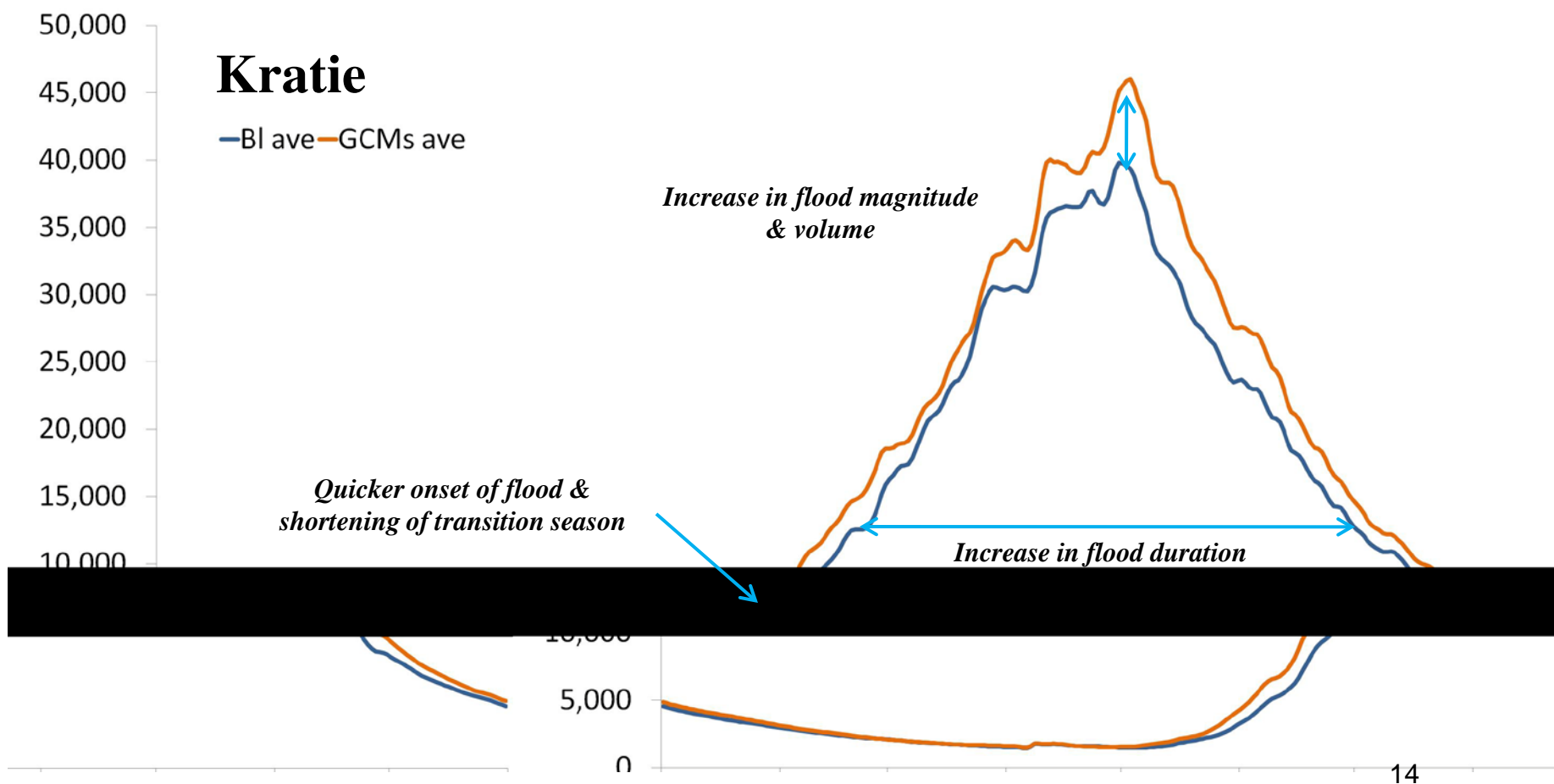




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Seasonal shifts



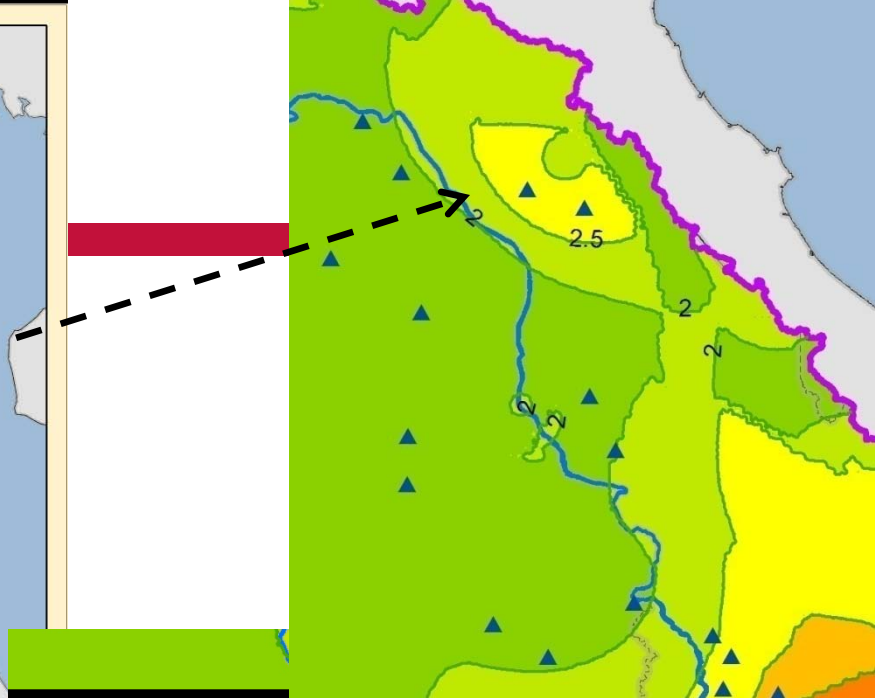
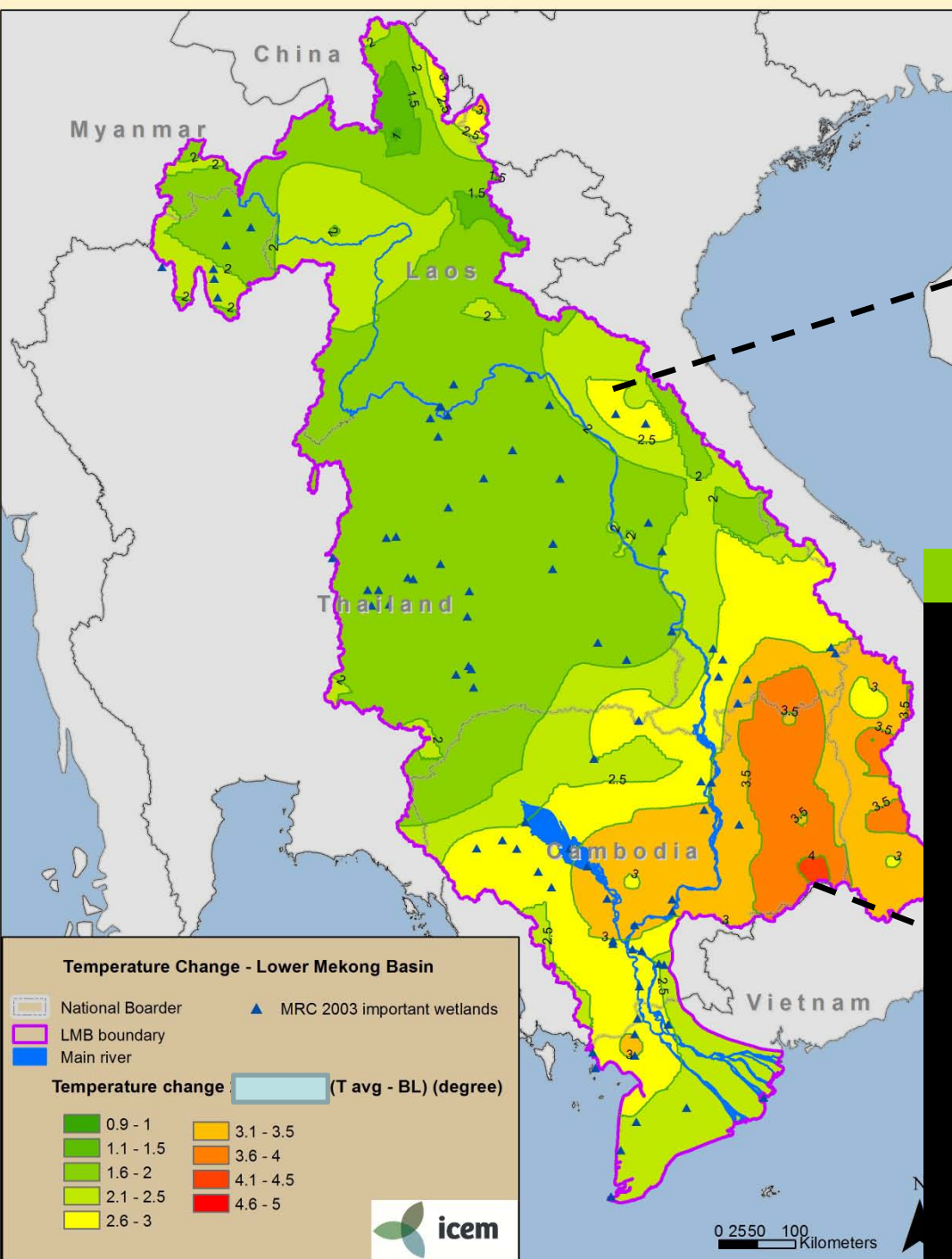


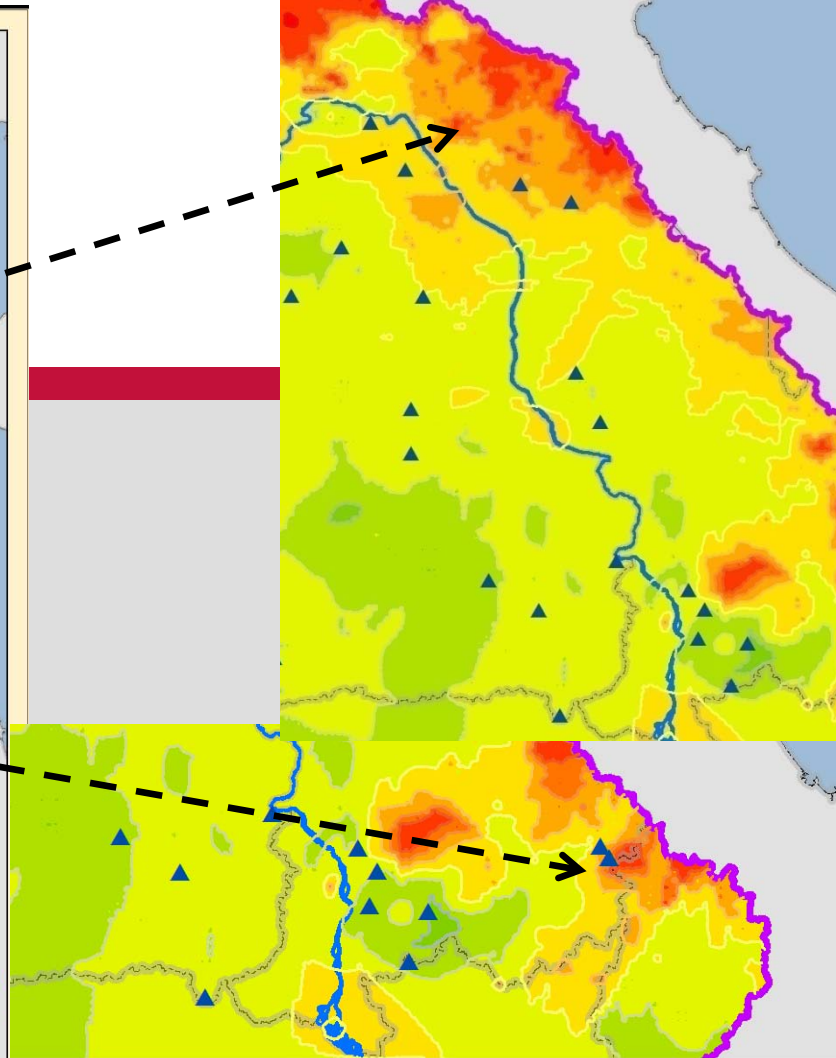
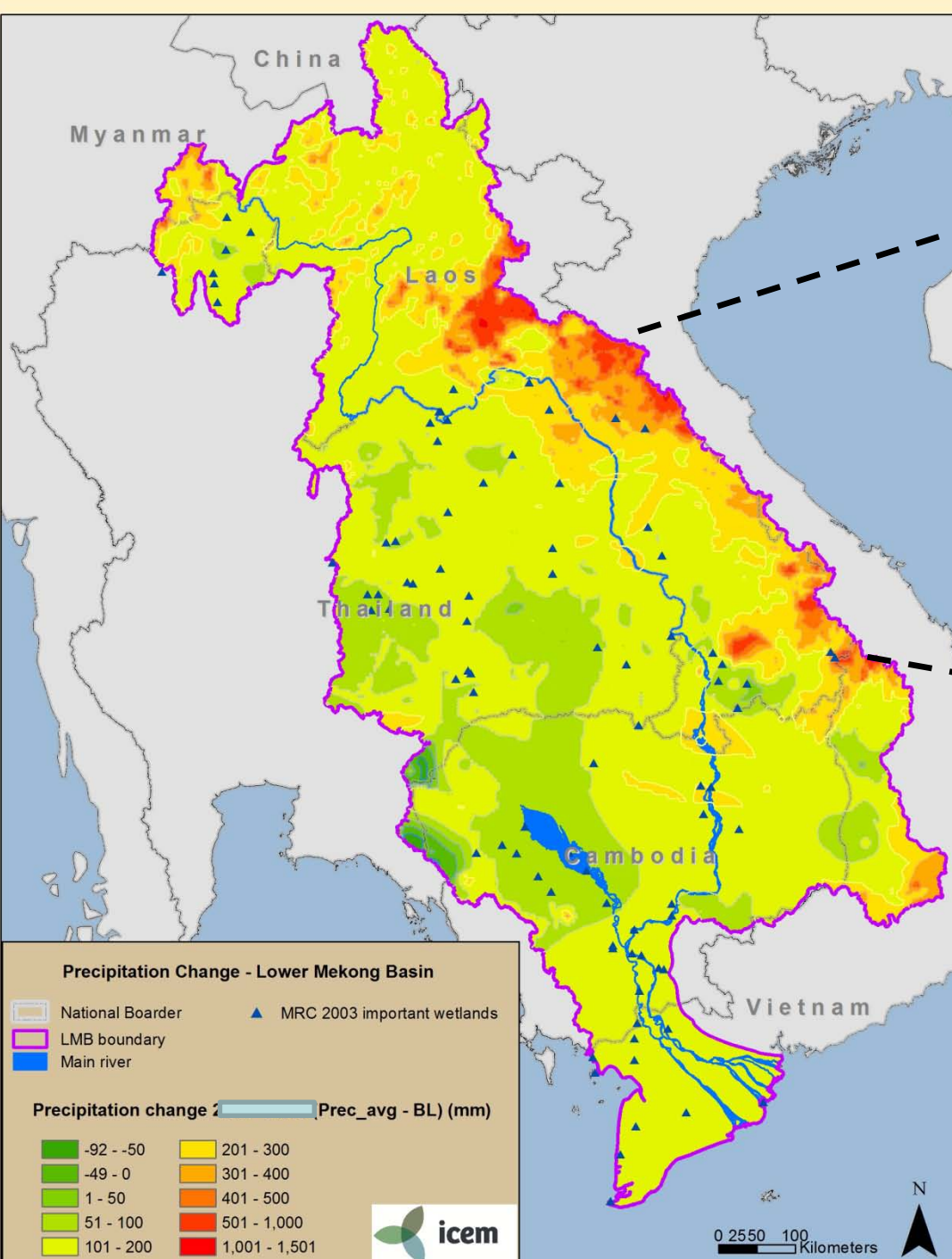
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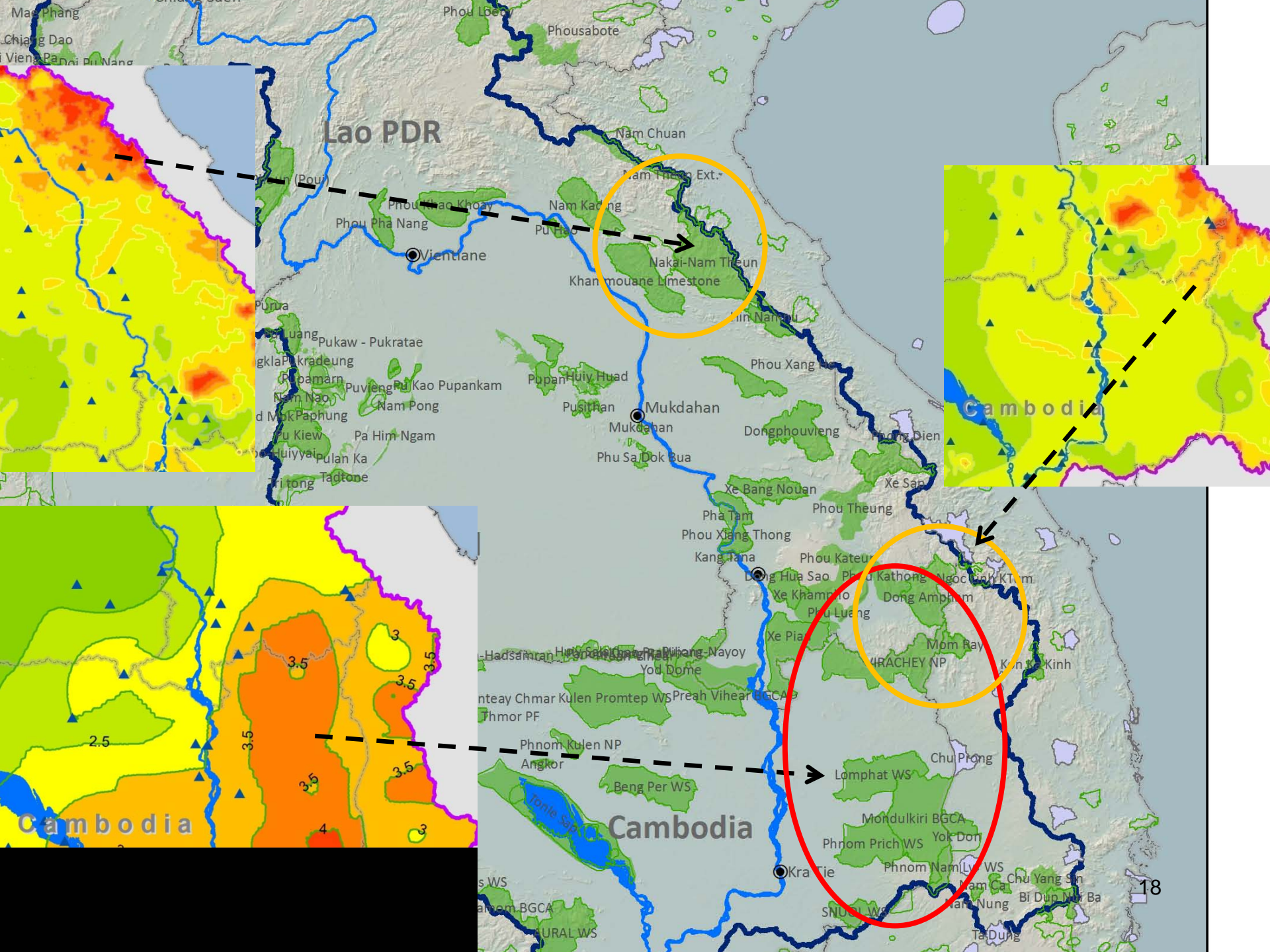


Identifying climate change “hot spots” – i.e. highly vulnerable areas

- High **exposure**:
 - significant climate change relative to base conditions
 - exposure to new climate/hydrological conditions
- High **sensitivity**:
 - limited temperature and moisture tolerance range
 - degraded and/or under acute pressure
 - severely restricted geographic range
 - rare or threatened
- Low **adaptive capacity**
 - Poor connectivity
 - Low diversity and tolerances
 - Homogenous systems









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Sensitivity assessments: climate tolerances



Optimal growing conditions: mean annual precipitation





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Models

CC downscaling (6GCMs, A1B)

Hydrological & flood modeling
(VMod, MIKE 11)

LUSET – Land Use Suitability
Evaluation Tool (IRRI)

AQUACROP (FAO)

Outputs

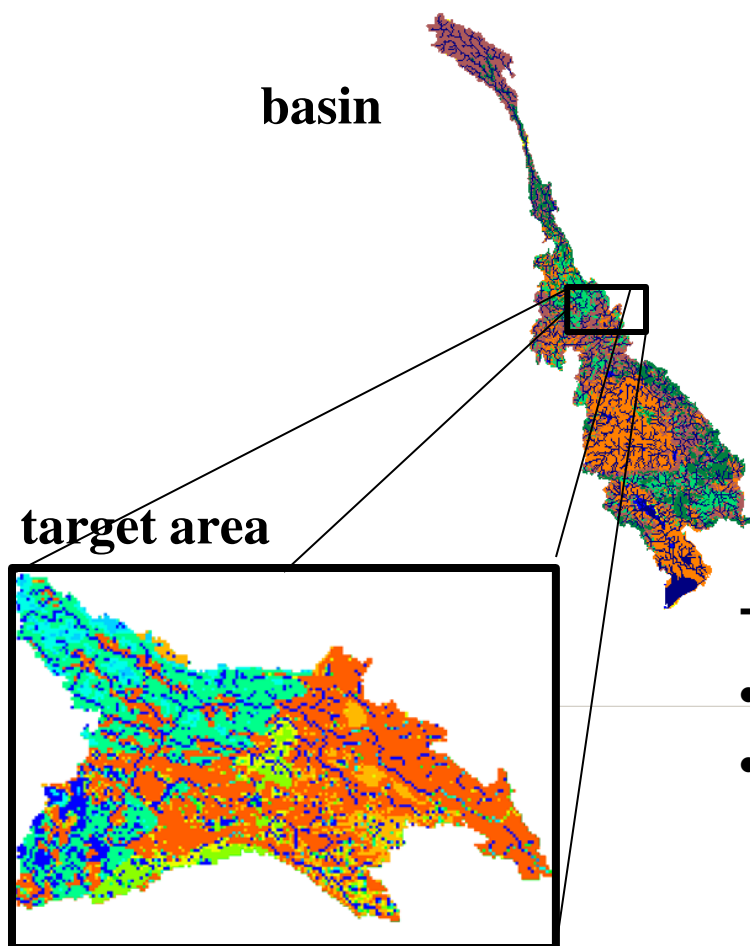
Geographical shifts in climate (CC
zones)

Geographical shifts in natural
systems (ecozones)

Geographical shifts in crop
suitability

CC exposure for natural systems,
agricultural, fisheries and socio-
economic systems

Predicting future changes in land suitability



basin

target area

Basin – crop suitability

- Agro & eco zoning of basin characteristics
- Historic suitability of basin for a range of commercial and subsistence crops
- Suitability with climate change
- Assessment of transitions and shifts in geographical and seasonal suitability

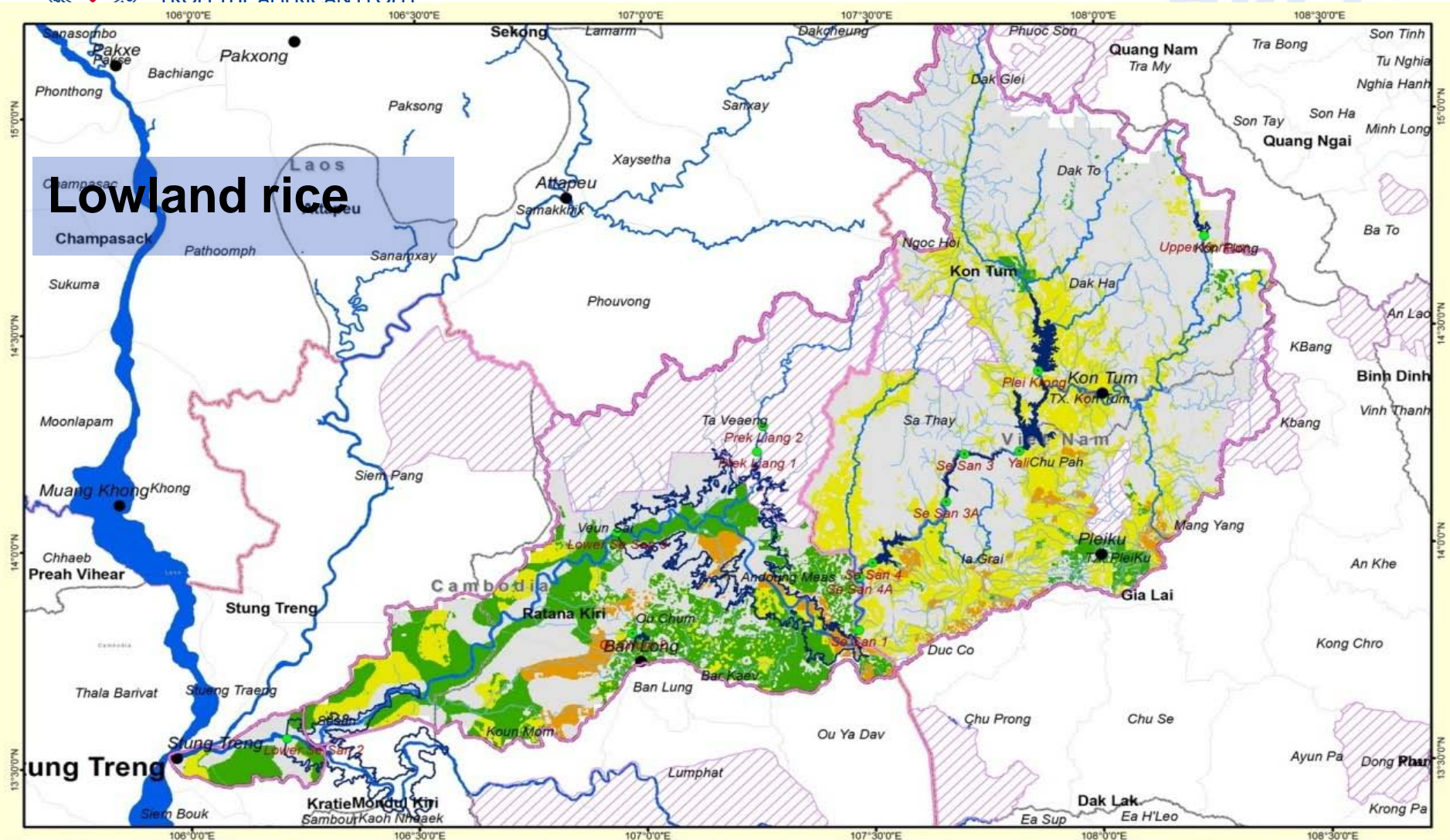
Target areas – crop yields

- Losses in crop yields within transition zones
- Yield potential for new crops in transition zones

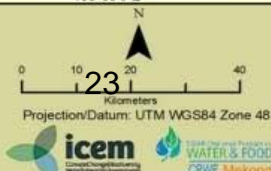


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Mekong ARCC
Adaptation & Resilience to Climate Change



**CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Lowland rice**

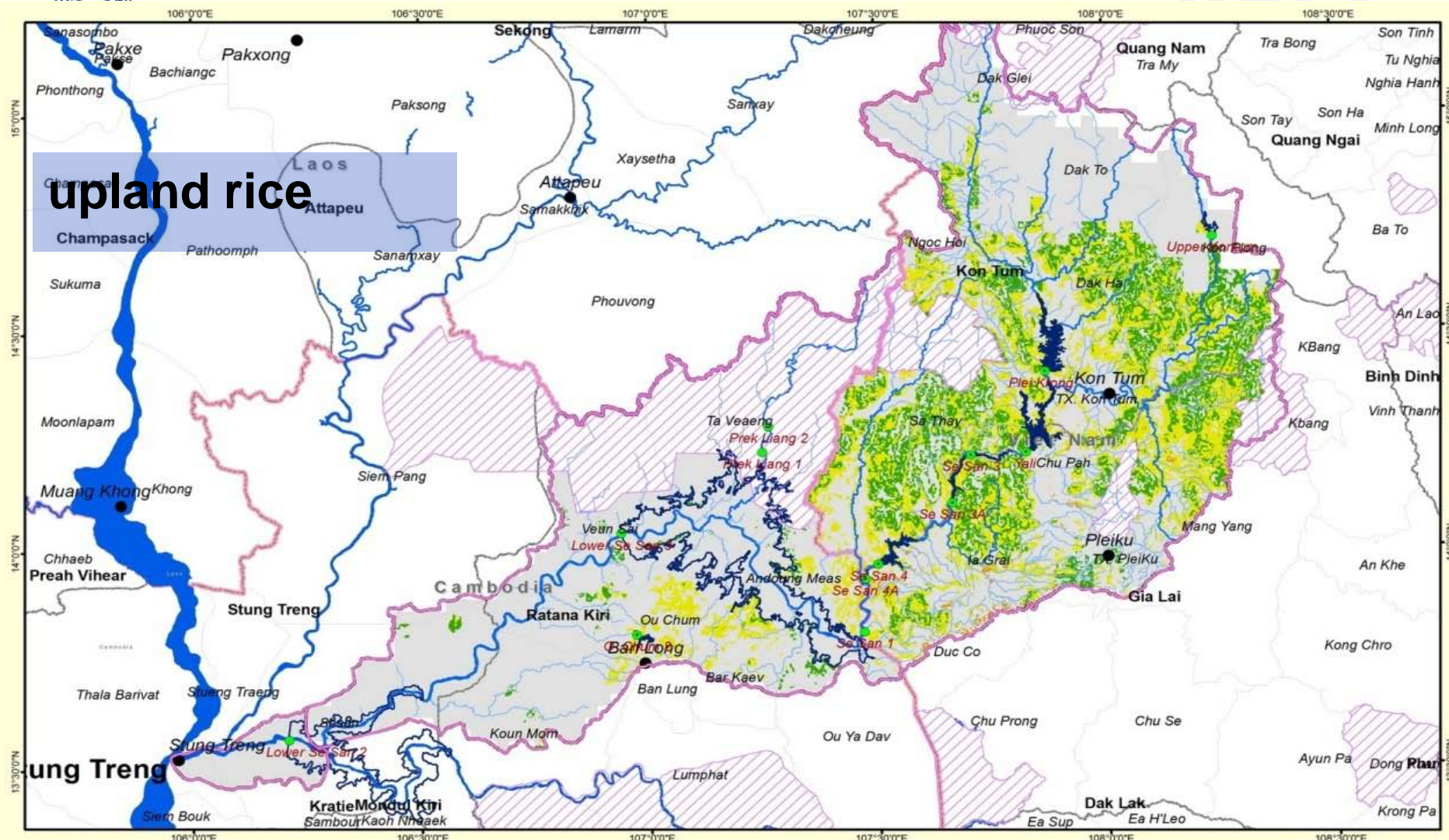




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upland rice



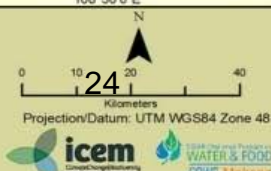
Key to Features

- National boundaries
- Province boundaries
- District boundaries
- Major Cities
- Major rivers
- Minor rivers
- Sesan basin boundary
- Existing dam
- Planned dam
- Protected area
- Existing reservoirs
- Proposed reservoirs

Land use suitability

- Highly suitable
- Moderately suitable
- Marginally suitable
- Not suitable

**CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Upland rice**

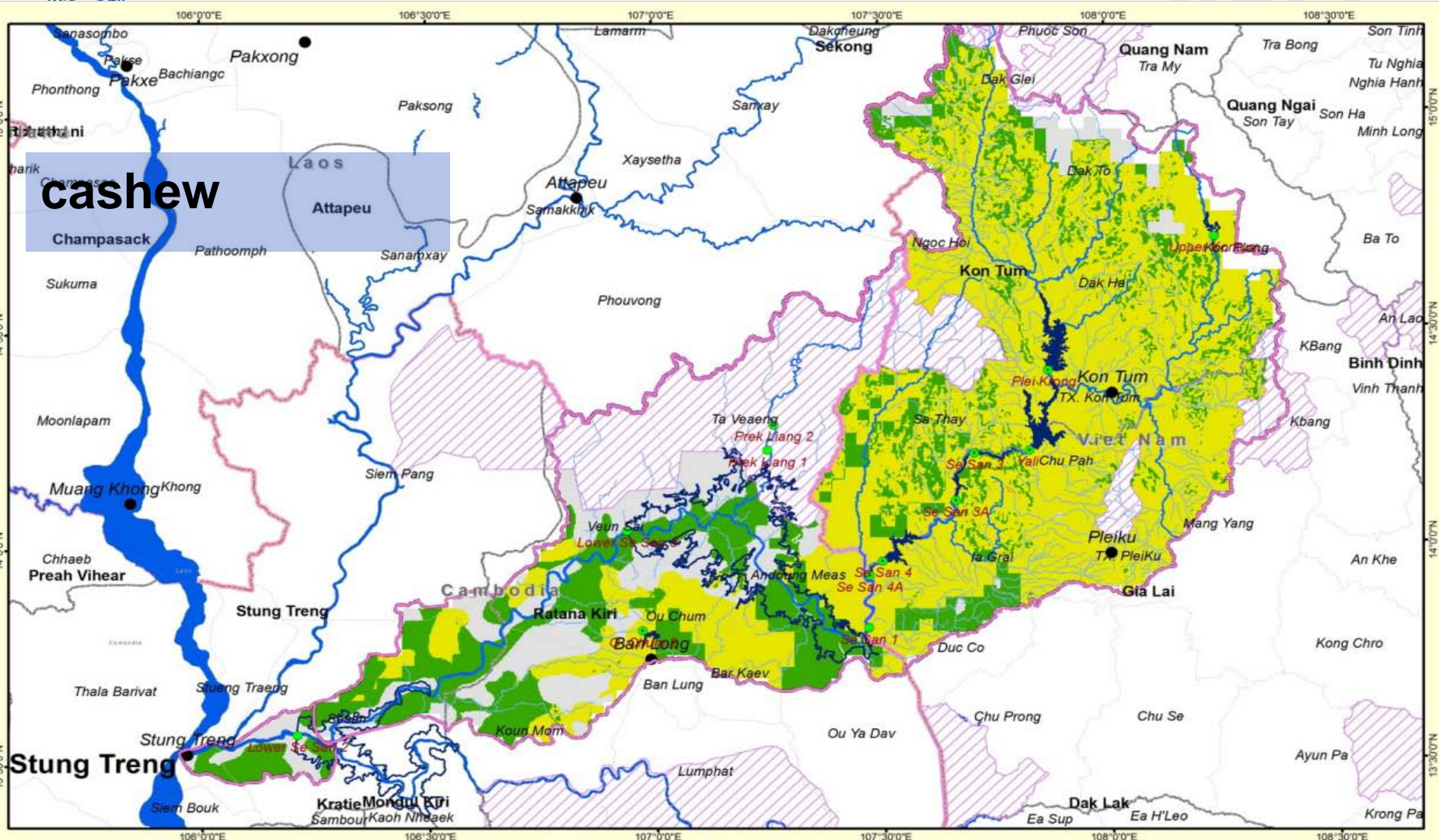




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Mekong ARCC
Adaptation & Resilience to Climate Change

cashew



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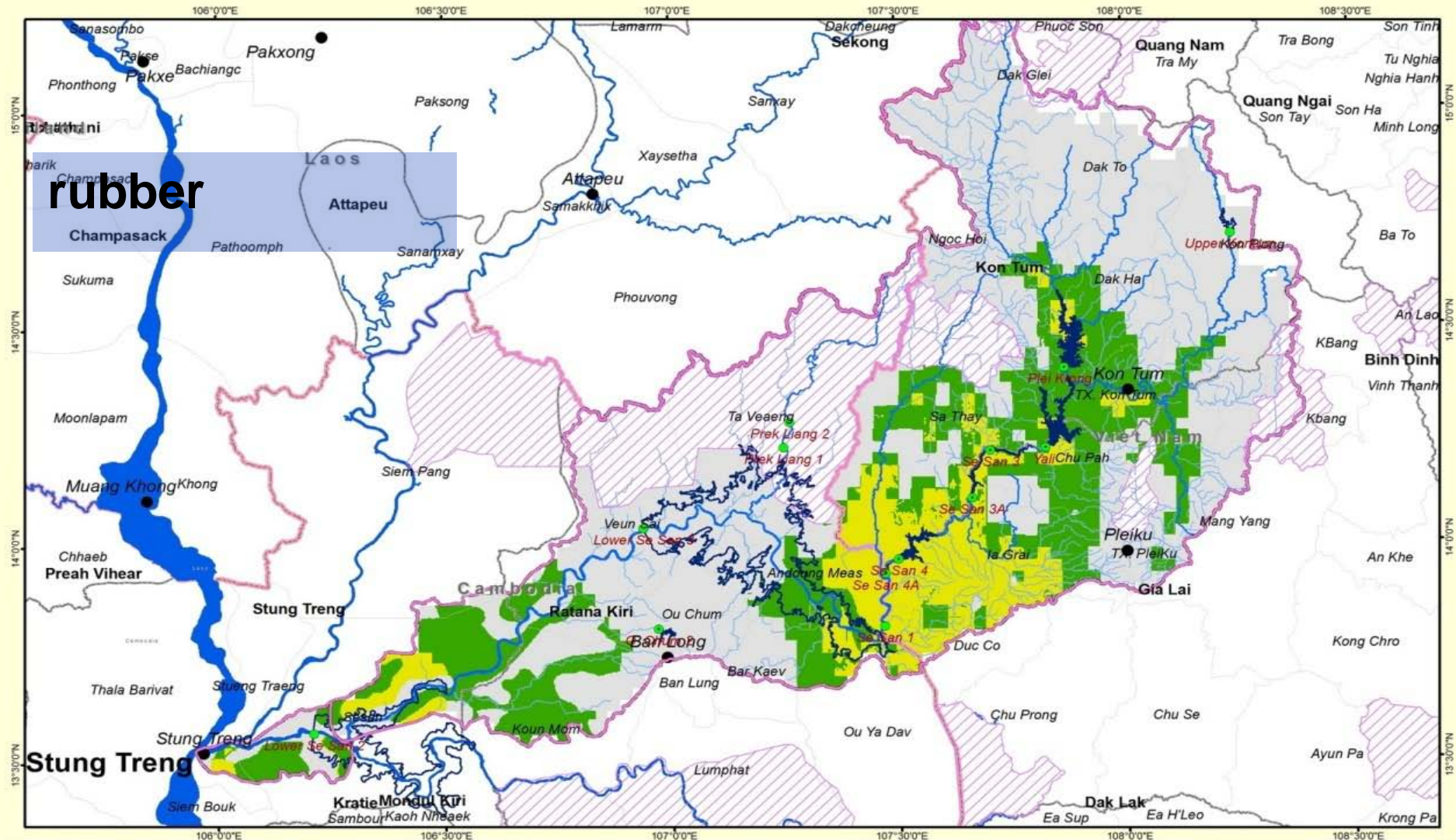
**CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Cashew**



0 10 25 40
Kilometers
Projection/Datum: UTM WGS84 Zone 48
icem
Water & Food
CPWF Mekong



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Land use suitability

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**CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Rubber**



Scale bar: 0 10 20 40 Kilometers

Projection/Datum: UTM WGS84 Zone 48

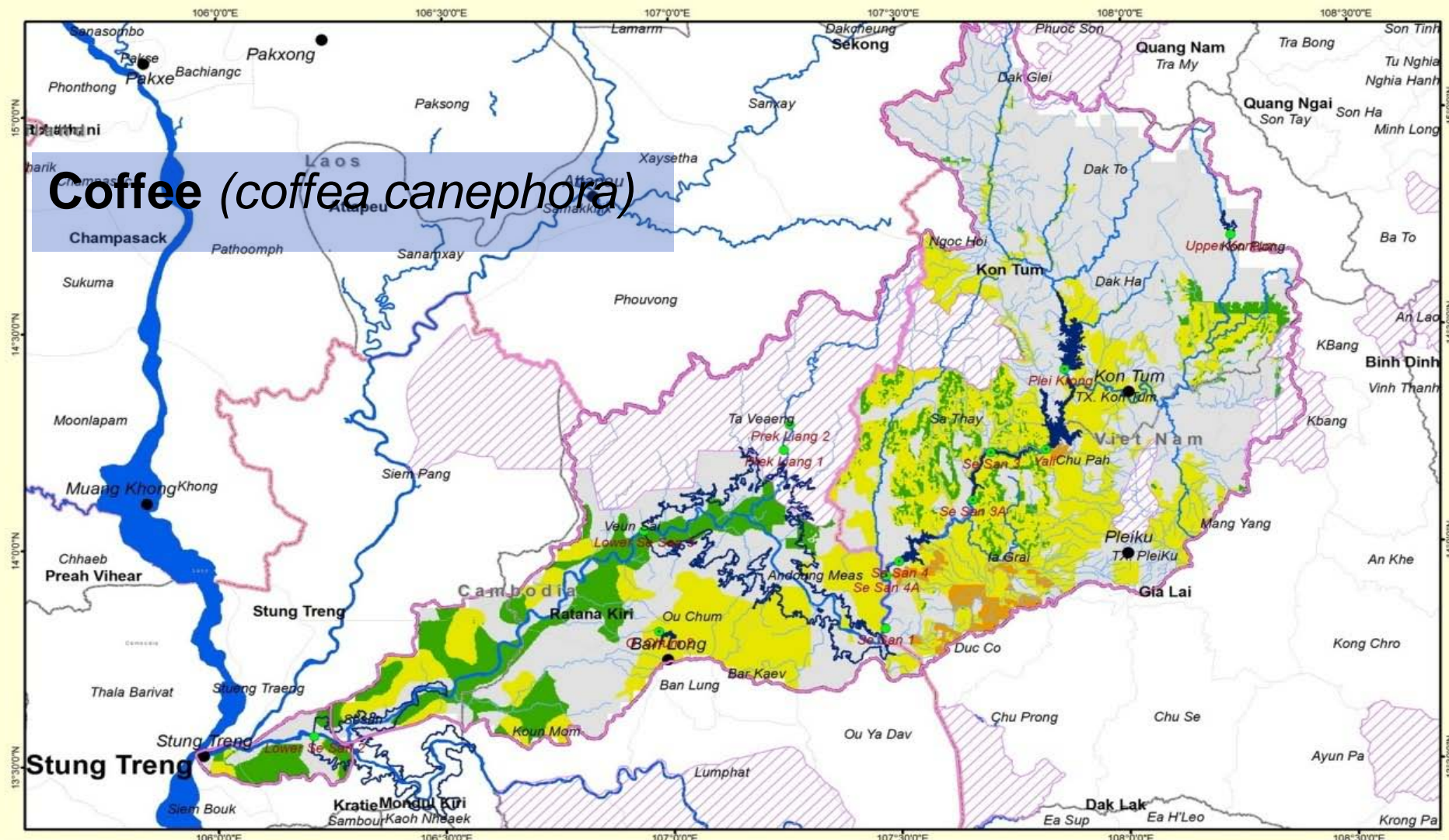
icem **WATER & FOOD CPWF Mekong**



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Mekong ARCC
Adaptation & Resilience to Climate Change

Coffee (*cofea canephora*)



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**CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Coffee**



0 10 20 40
Kilometers

27

Projection/Datum: UTM WGS84 Zone 48

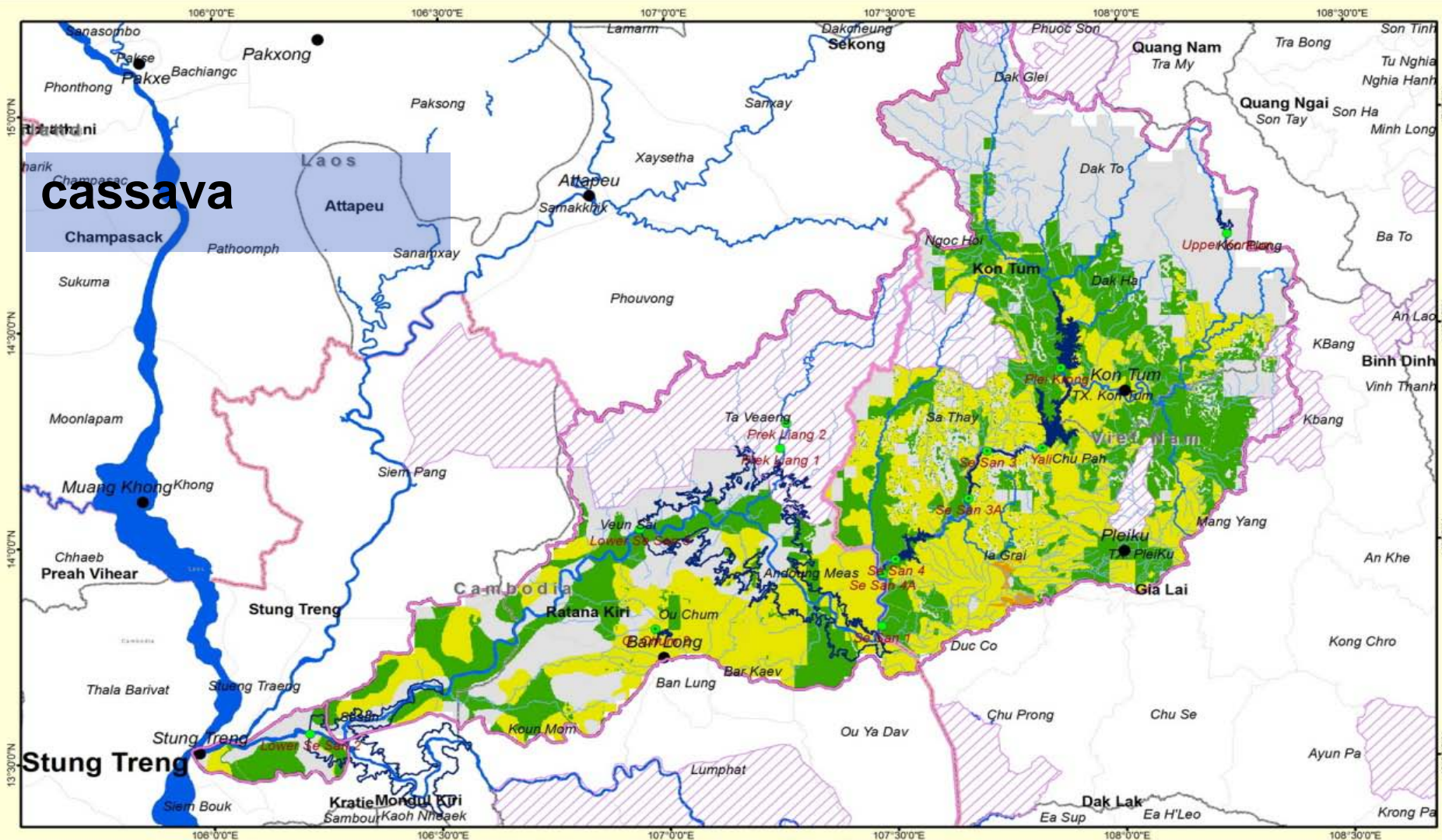
icem
International Centre for Environmental Modelling and Assessment

CPWF Mekong
Cooperative Program for Watershed Assessment



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Mekong
ARCC
Adaptation & Resilience to Climate Change



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CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Cassava



0 10 20 40
Kilometers
28
Projection/Datum: UTM WGS84 Zone 48

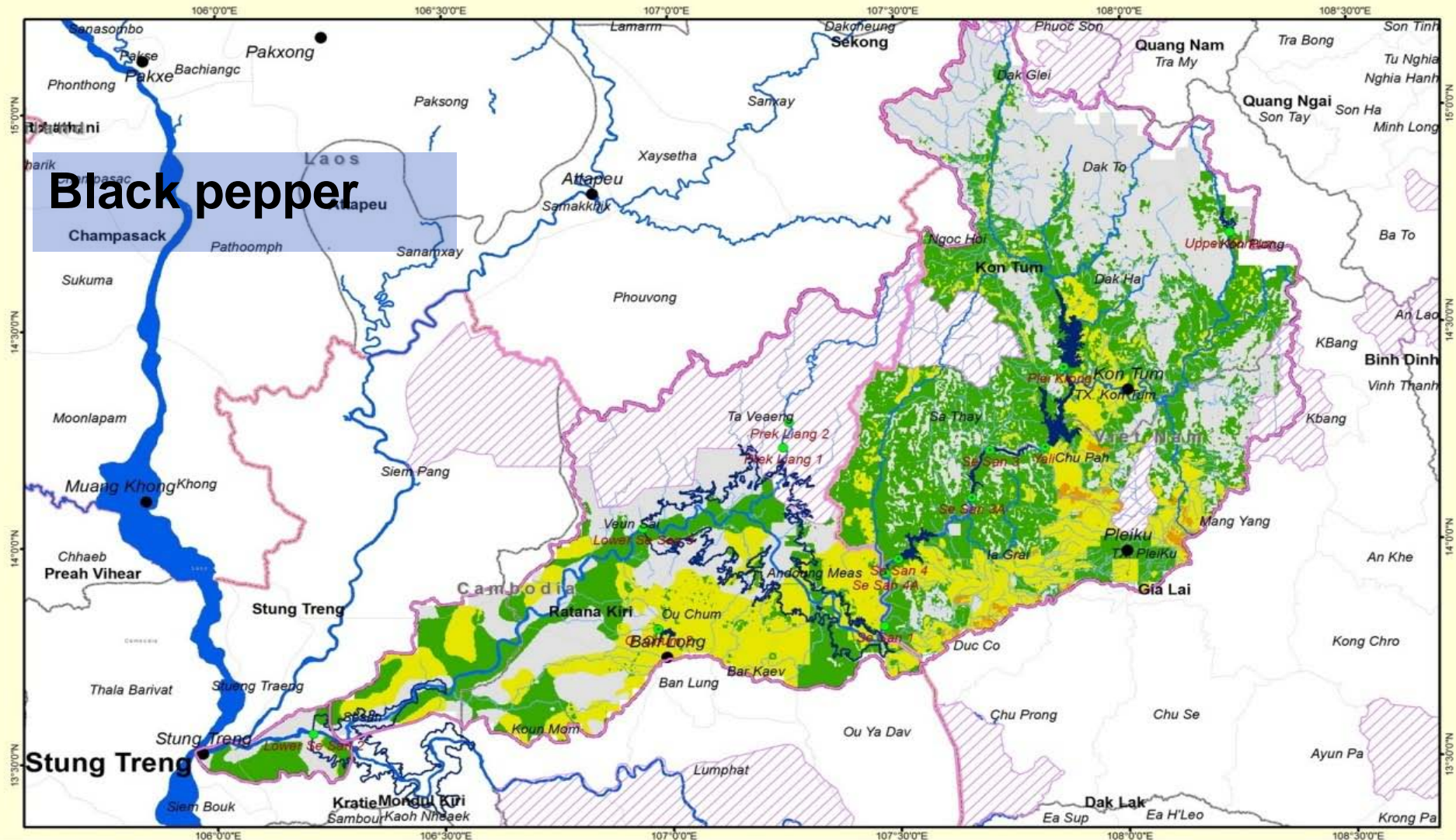




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Black pepper



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Land use suitability

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- Not suitable

CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Black pepper



0 10 20 40
Kilometers

29

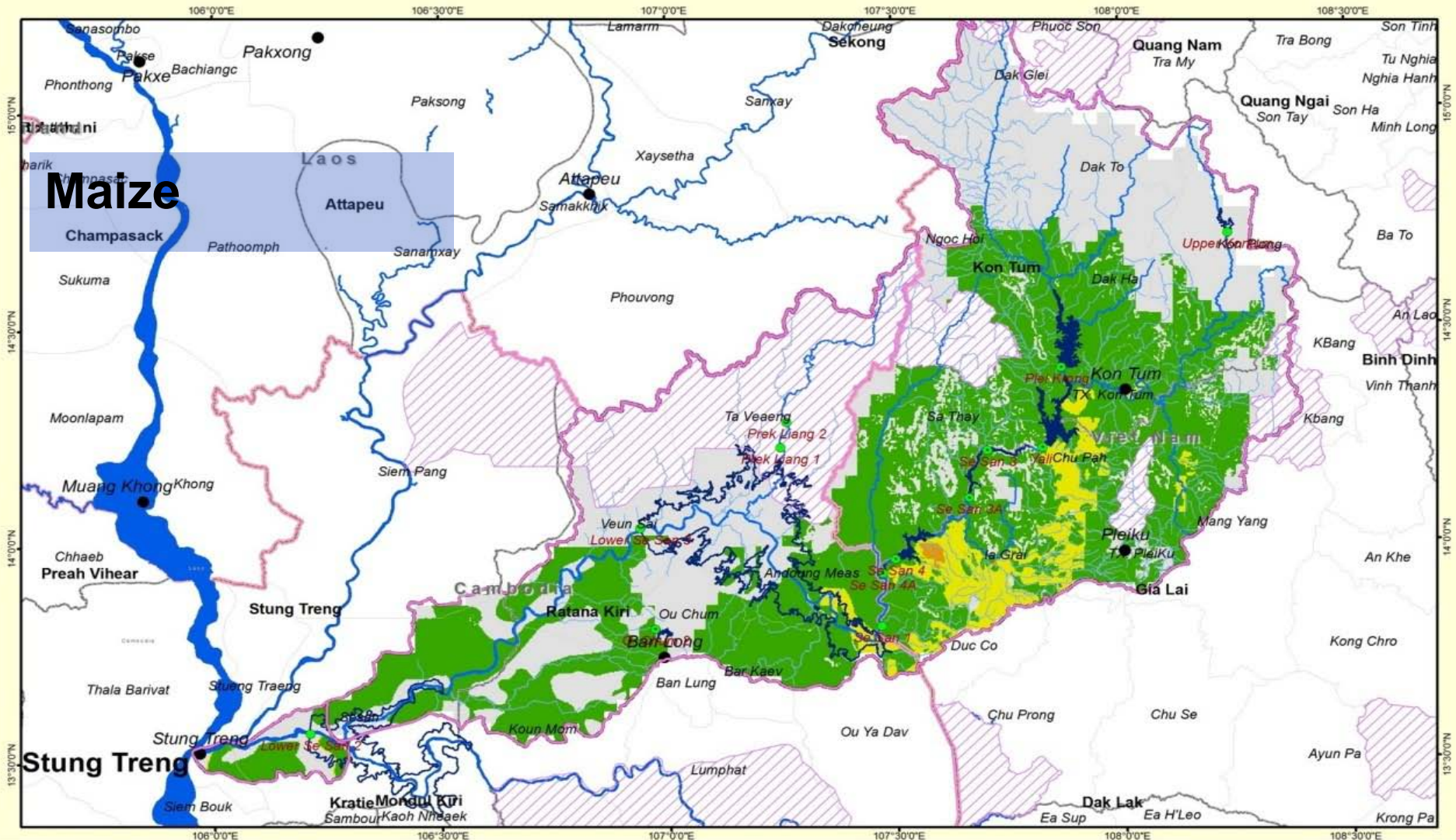
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icem

WATER & FOOD
CPWF Mekong



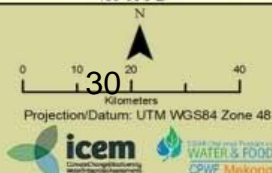
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**CPWF Mekong Basin Development Challenge
MK3 optimising cascades of reservoirs
Land use suitability: Maize**





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Adaptation Pathway - addressing the **adaptation deficit**

