



## PANEL DISCUSSION

# The New Mekong: Changes and Expectations

*Hanoi. October 29, 2015*

The intactness of the lower Mekong River finished since the Xayaburi dam started in 2012. In the past few years, the Lower Mekong region has been in turmoil with voices and concerns over large hydropower dams on the mainstream and tributary of the Mekong river. Following Xayaburi, Don Sahong, Pak Beng, and other coming dams are game changers not only in terms of ecological conditions but also social, economic, geopolitical and development cooperation contexts in this part of the world. We're witnessing a new Mekong after decades of silence of the untamed river.

PanNature and the Stimson Center cordially invite you to a panel discussion to share different views and analysis on this context. We aim to bring new narratives on on-going development of the Mekong river and future scenarios based on current understanding and available knowledge.

**Time:** 08:30 – 12:00, 29 October 2015

**Venue:** Melia Hotel, 44B Ly Thuong Kiet, Hanoi

**Participants:** Interested parties from government agencies, non-governmental organizations, research institutions, development partners, and the media.

### **Program:**

- Mekong dams at a glance – PanNature
- Overview of Mekong basin development strategy – Mr. Nguyen Hong Toan, former VNMC Secretary General
- New narrative on the future of Mekong hydropower – Dr. Richard Cronin, Stimson Center
- Emerging development on the Mekong and implications on regional cooperation – representative of the Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies.
- The UN Watercourse Convention and potentials for resolutions of transnational river development cooperation – Mr. Jake Brunner, IUCN.
- Open discussions: What do we expect for the future?

**PanNature** is a Vietnamese not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting and conserving diversity of life and improving human well-being in Vietnam by seeking, promoting and implementing feasible, nature-friendly solutions to important environmental problems and sustainable development issues. More information: [www.nature.org.vn/en](http://www.nature.org.vn/en) and [www.fb.com/PanNature](http://www.fb.com/PanNature)

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