



# Multilevel Water Governance: lessons learned from **Thailand**

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Asia Focus: Strengthening Governance to address Asia's Water Challenges  
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- Mainstreaming **water security** strategy into National Water Strategy by implementing **AWDO** framework, **water productivity & water governance**
- Towards **better water governance** with coherence of **multilevel** water governance

# 1<sup>st</sup> level: National strategy 20 years (2018-2037)

Office of the National Economic and Social Development (NESDB)



## Thailand's Vision (2037)

Thailand to become

“a developed country with security, prosperity and sustainability in accordance with the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy”



### Security

- The nation enjoys solidarity and is resilient to both internal and external threats and changes, with established social, economic, environmental, and political security.
- National sovereignty is secured.
- People live in harmony and unity. Their lives are secured in terms of occupations, income, housing, as well as safety of life and property.
- The country has food, energy, and water resources security.



### Prosperity

- The country enjoys constant economic growth and becomes a high-income economy with decreased development disparity. Citizens benefit from development on an equal basis.
- The country has considerable economic competitive capacity and develops its economy and society of the future to promote regional connectivity in terms of transport and logistics, production, trading, and investment.
- The country has all of the necessary capital for continuous development including human capital, intellectual capital, financial capital, and so forth.



### Sustainability

- Development should promote constant growth in terms of people's income and quality of life in an eco-friendly manner without exploitation of natural resources.
- Production and consumption are conducted on an environmentally-friendly basis and in line with regulations recognized by the global community.
- People embrace social responsibility with a focus on sustainable public interest. All sectors uphold and follow the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> level: Master plans under national strategy (2018-2037)



## 23 master plans

1. Security
2. Foreign issue
3. Agriculture
4. Manufacturing
5. Tourism
6. City
7. Logistic and digital
8. Business
9. Sufficiency economy
10. Culture
11. Lifelong learning
12. Education
13. Mental issue
14. Sport
15. Social power
16. Local business
17. Social welfare
18. Sustainable development
- 19. Water management**
20. Government
21. Corruption issue
22. Laws
23. Innovation

# 6 water issues

1. Water for domestic
2. Water for production
3. Flood management
4. Water quality
5. Upstream conservation: forest
6. Water management



# Linkage of Water Security Strategy in Thailand Master Plans

## 1 National strategy 20 years (1<sup>st</sup> level)

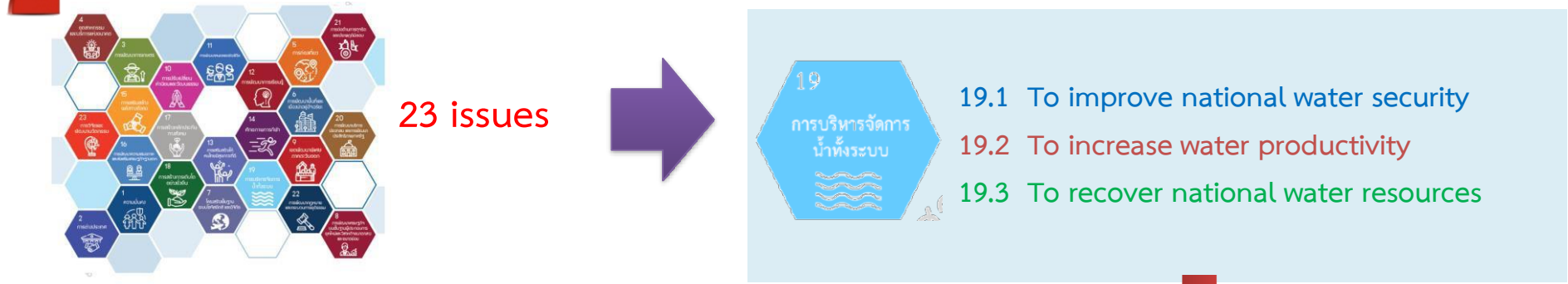
: National development targets



Office of the National Economic and Social Development (NESDB)

## 2 Master plan under national strategy (2<sup>nd</sup> level)

: 19<sup>th</sup> issue: water management



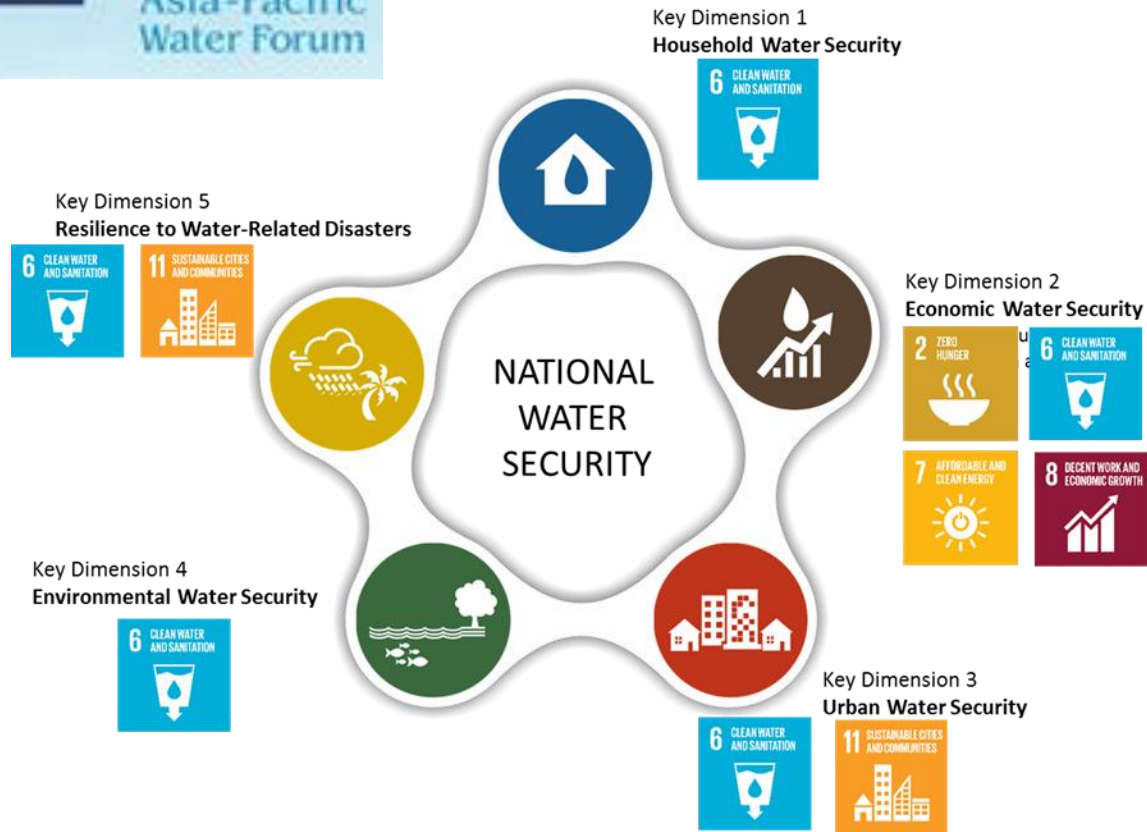
## 3 Master plan on water resources management (3<sup>rd</sup> level)

: To support the 2<sup>nd</sup> level

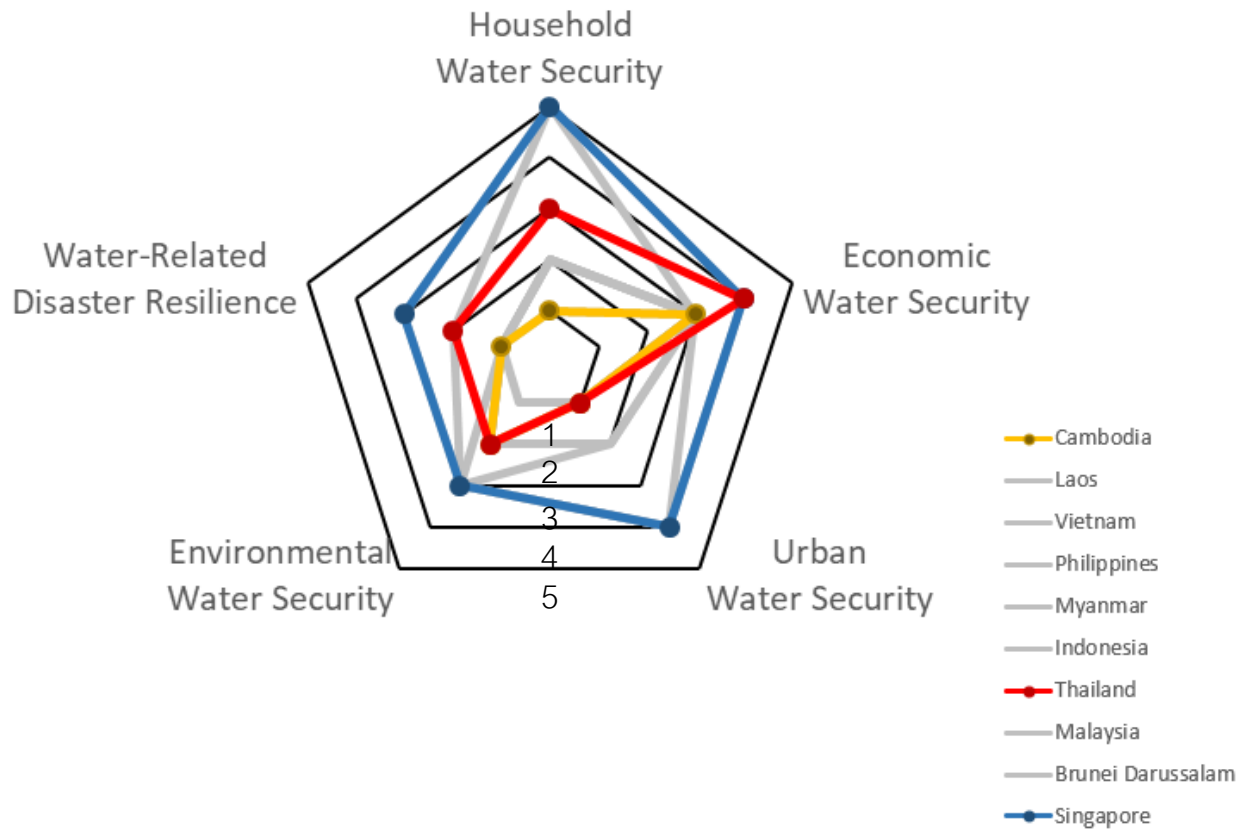


Office of the National Water Resources

# AWDO 2016 Framework: Tool for Dialogue and Development



## ASEAN Water Security Index in 2016

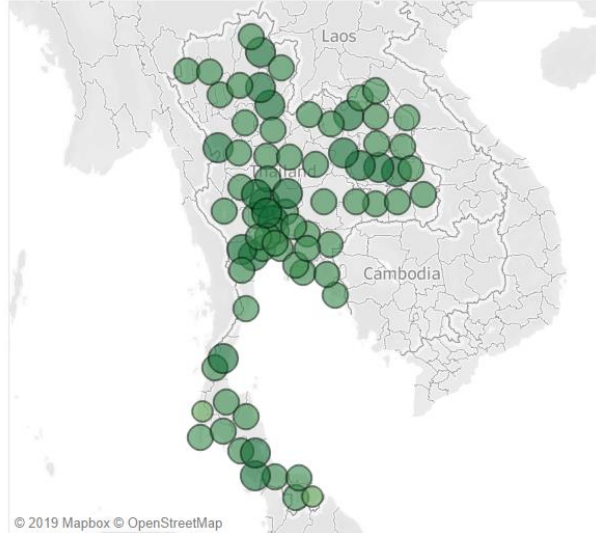


# Adapting AWDO 2016 Framework for Provincial Water Security Assessment

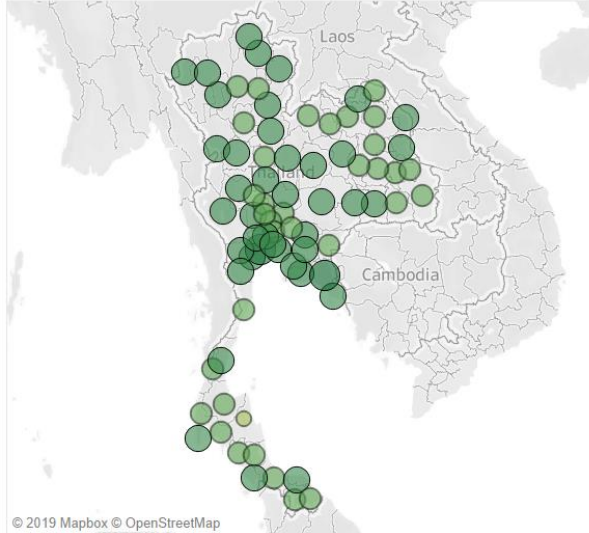
Ruangrassamee et al. (2019)



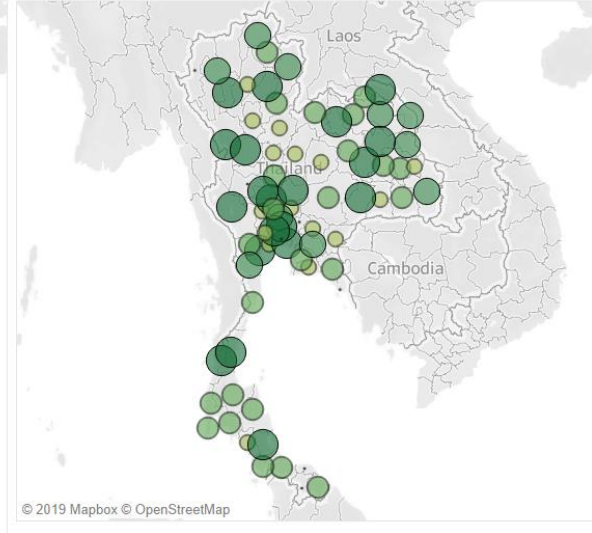
KD1



KD2



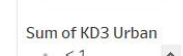
KD3



KD1 Household



KD1 Household



Sum of KD3 Urban



Sum of KD3 Urban



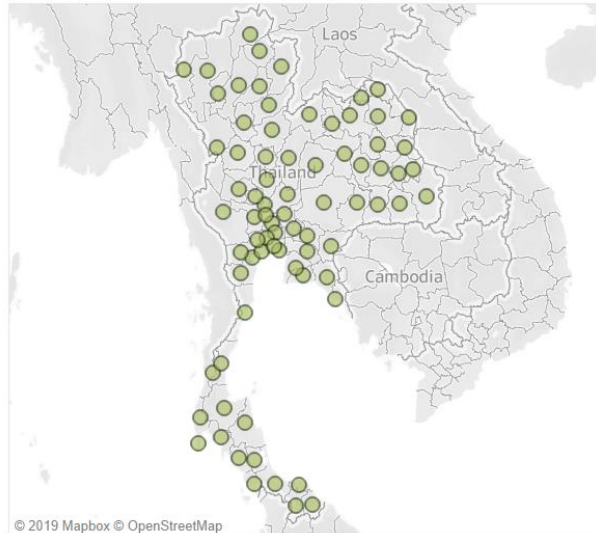
KD2 Economic



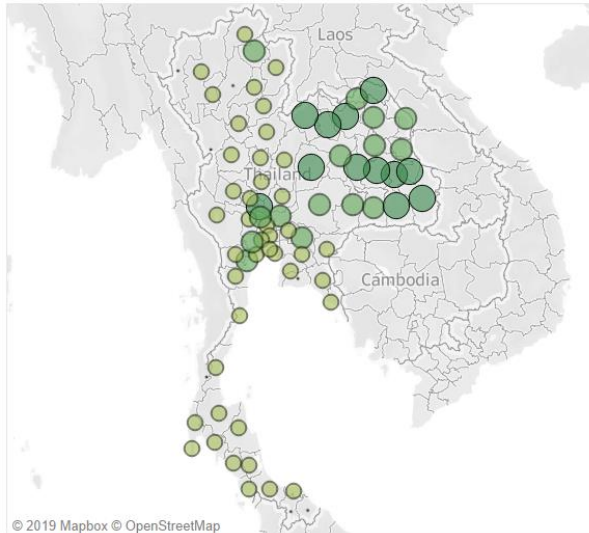
KD2 Economic



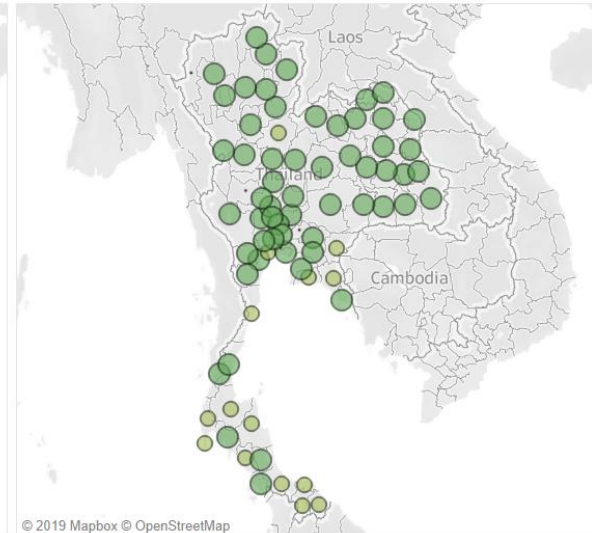
KD4



KD5



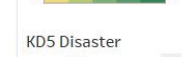
KD SUM



KD4 Envi



KD4 Envi



KD5 Disaster



KD5 Disaster



Sum of KD sum



Sum of KD sum





The National Water  
Resource Committee  
(NWRC) (2015)

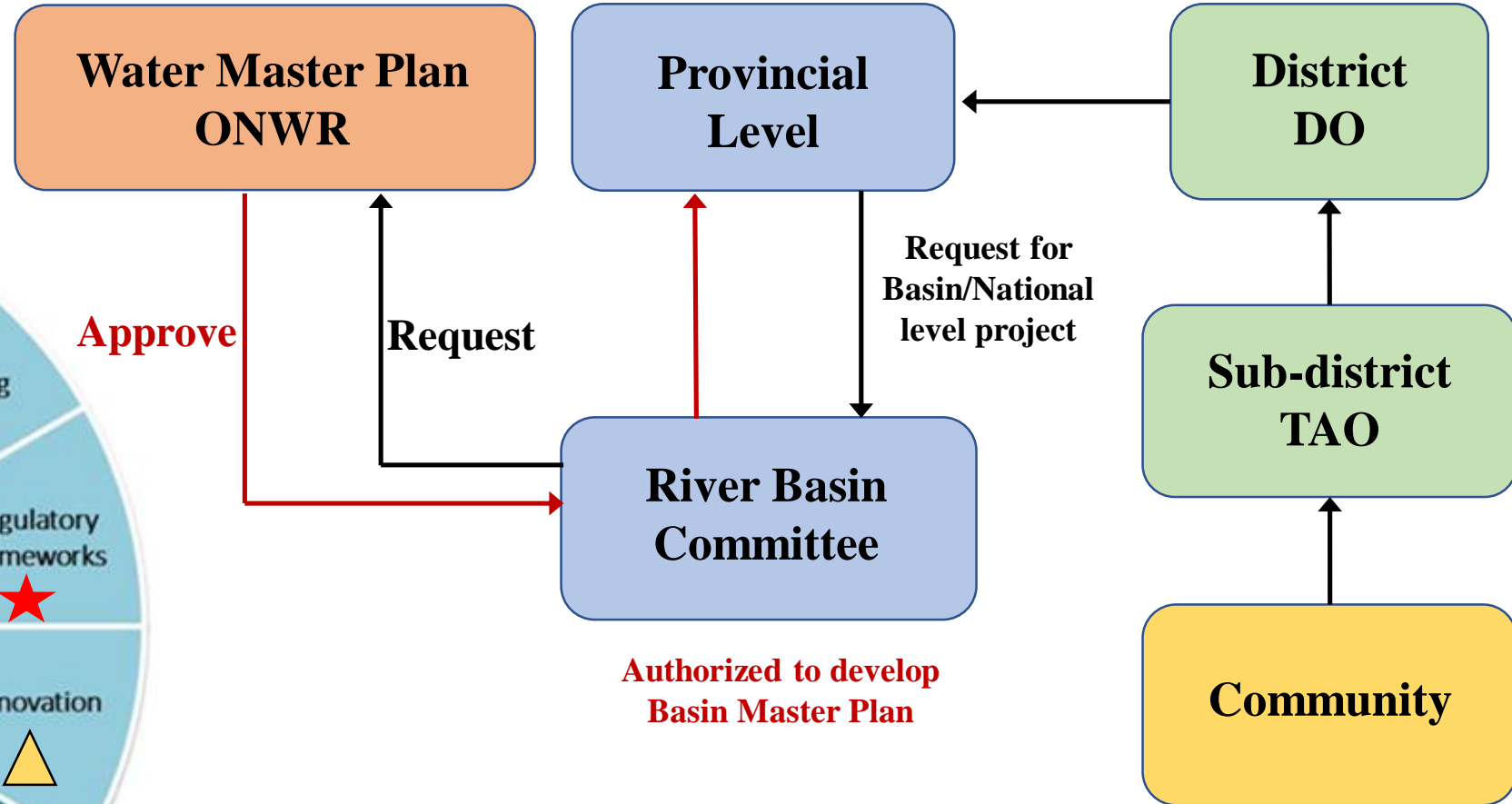
Office of the National  
Water Resources  
(ONWR)  
(October 2017)

Water Resources Law  
(2018)

# Multilevel Water Governance in Thailand



## OECD



★ **Expected to improve**

▲ **To be defined at each level**

## Before Water Resources Law

- Each agencies had its **own way** of managing water, management, governance, and goals.
- There are some **good practice** cases at each level for water governance (e.g. community irrigation management in northern region, etc.)

## After Water Resources Law

- The role, responsibilities, policy coherence, early warning system, regulatory framework, stakeholder participation, evaluation are to be **improved, standardized and more proactive.**
- Capacity building, appropriate scale, trade-offs, transparency, financing, and innovation are to be **defined and aligned** at each level within the time limit.

- Office of the National Economic and Social Development (NESDB), **National Strategy (2018-2037)**
- Office of the National Water Resources (ONWR), **Master Plan on Water Resources Management (2018-2037)**
- **Thailand Water Resources Law (2018)**
- OECD (2015), **OECD Principles on Water Governance**
- Ruangrassamee et al. (2019), **Research Project on “Analysis of water security, water productivity and water-related disaster for water resources master plan”, supported by Thailand Science Research and Innovation (TSRI)**