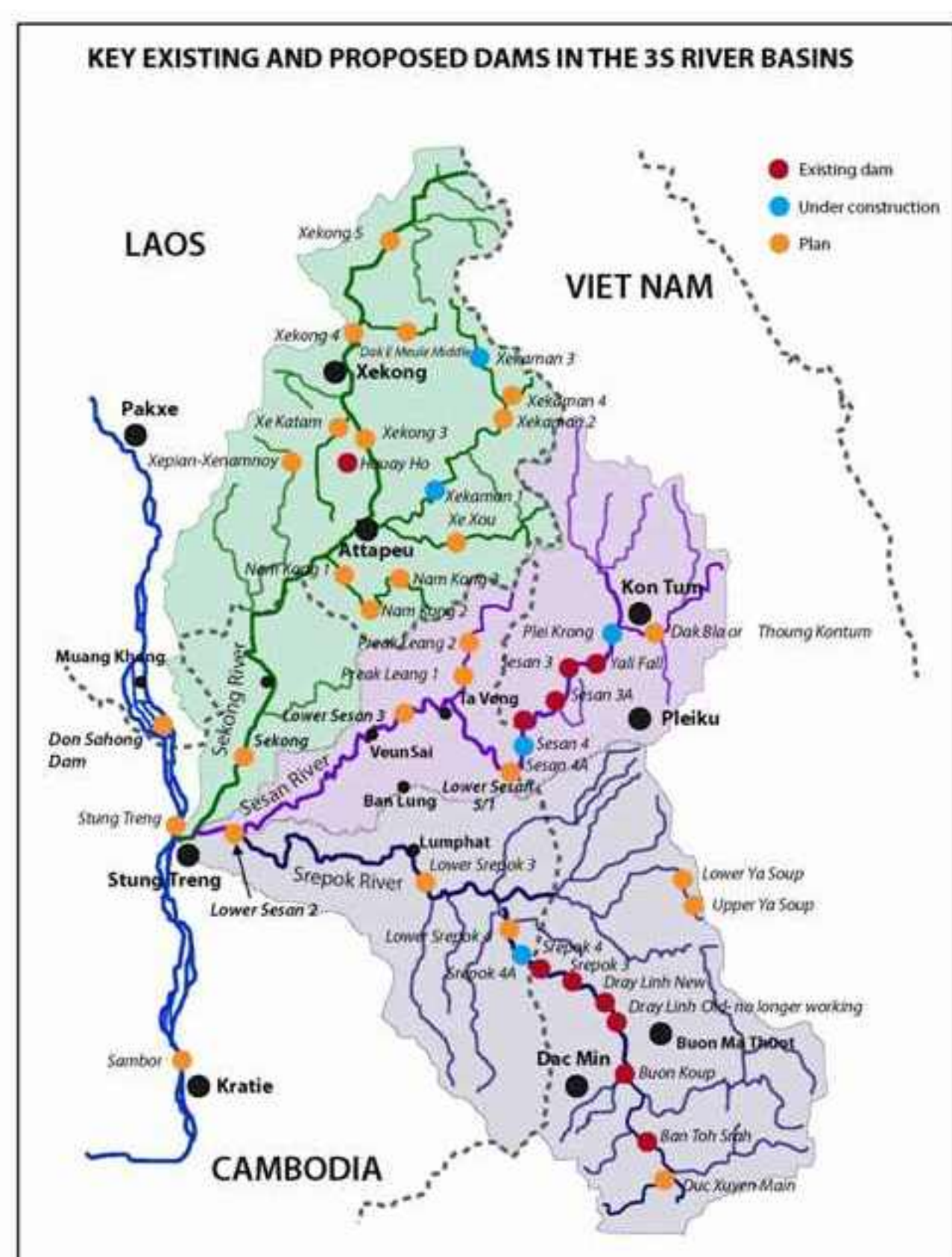


## Lower Sesan 2 (LS2) Hydropower Project

The Lower Sesan 2 (LS2) Hydropower Project will be located on the Sesan River in Sesan District, Stung Treng Province, Cambodia, 1.5km downstream from its confluence with the Srepok River and 25km from where the two rivers meet the Mekong River mainstream. The project was approved by Cambodia's Cabinet in November 2012, despite its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report failing to meet international best practice.



Key Existing and Proposed Dams in the 3S River Basins (Grimsditch 2012)

### Basic features of LS2

**Installed capacity:** 400MW  
**Height:** 75m  
**Length:** 6km  
**Reservoir size:** 33,560ha  
**Estimated cost:** 781 million USD

LS2 is a build-operate-transfer (BOT) project. The project's construction is expected to take five years. After 40 years of operation, its ownership will be transferred to RGC. According to the government's announcement, generated power will be sold to the Electricite du Cambodge (EDC), but it may still be exported to Vietnam.

**Developers:** The Hydropower Lower Sesan 2 Company, a joint venture between Cambodia's Royal Group (39%) and China's Hydrolancang International Energy (51%) and EVN International Joint Stock Company (EVNI), a subsidiary of the Electricity of Vietnam (EVN) (10%).

**Financers:** The Hydropower Lower Sesan 2 Company's capital (30%) and an undisclosed bank loan (70%), most likely from China.



Life at waterside(left) Villagers' protest march(right)

Although technically a tributary dam, LS2, if built, will have significant negative impacts on the fisheries and biodiversity of the entire Lower Mekong Basin. A 2012 study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* points out that the dam will cause a 9.3% drop in fish stocks basin-wide, putting more than 50 fish species into extinction. Experts have also warned that LS2 will contribute to the changing of hydrology of the Mekong River and Tonle Sap Lake, as well as reducing sediment flows by approximately 6.0 to 8.0%. The dam will have the largest impact on fish biomass amongst planned tributary dams in the Lower Mekong Basin. Its impacts will be felt as far downstream as the Mekong Delta in Vietnam and as far upstream as Laos and Thailand.

Tens of thousands of villagers living along the Mekong River, as well as its tributaries, will experience negative impacts on their livelihoods, food security, and lives because of LS2.

### View LS2 Factsheet in various languages:

- [LS2 Factsheet in Japanese \(September 18, 2014\)](#)
- [LS2 Factsheet in English \(September 18, 2014\)](#)
- [LS2 Factsheet in Khmer \(September 18, 2014\)](#)
- [LS2 Factsheet in Chinese \(September 18, 2014\)](#)
- [LS2 Factsheet in Vietnamese \(August 05, 2013\)](#)



A scenery of Sesan River

### Reports

Baird, Ian G. 2009. *Best Practices in Compensation and Resettlement for Large Dams: The Case of the Planned Lower Sesan 2 Hydropower Project in Northeastern Cambodia*. Rivers Coalition Cambodia. <http://www.3spn.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Baird-2009-Compensation-and-Resettlement-FN.pdf>

Vicheka S. 2012. *Lower Sesan 2 Hydropower Dam: Current Livelihoods of Local Communities (A Baseline Study)*. The NGO Forum of Cambodia. [http://www.ngoforum.org.kh/docs/publications/RAN\\_2013\\_01\\_23\\_Lower%20Sesan2\\_English\\_Final.pdf](http://www.ngoforum.org.kh/docs/publications/RAN_2013_01_23_Lower%20Sesan2_English_Final.pdf)

Ziv, G., Baran, E., Nam, S., Rodríguez-Iturbe, I., and Levin, S. 2012. "Trading-off Fish Biodiversity, Food Security and Hydropower in the Mekong River Basin," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*. <http://www.pnas.org/content/109/15/5609.full.pdf+html>

### Related Links

3S (Sesan-Srepok-Sekong) Rivers Protection Network (3SPN) [www.3spn.org](http://www.3spn.org)

International River (IR): Lower Sesan 2 Dam <http://www.internationalrivers.org/campaigns/lower-sesan-2-dam>

### Statements by LS2 Affected Communities

- Nov.23, 2014  
To the Cambodia National Assembly; Intervene to immediately cancel the project  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)  
[Chinese](#)  
[Japanese](#)  
[Press Release in English](#)
- Oct.16, 2014  
NGO Public Statement; Call for release of information on project redesign and a new EIA  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)  
[Chinese](#)
- Oct.3, 2014  
To the ministries; Cancel LS2 immediately and compensate for the loss of trees from reservoir clearance activity  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)  
[Japanese](#)
- Sep.29, 2014  
To the Committee for Solving Impacts of LS2; We refuse to leave our village (by Srekor Villages)  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)
- Sep.29, 2014  
To the Committee for Solving Impacts of LS2; We refuse to leave our village (by Kbal Romeas Village)  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)  
[Japanese](#)
- Feb.11, 2014  
To the Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy; We reject Compensation and Resettlement Policy of LS2 signed in January 2014 by the government  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)  
[Chinese](#)
- Dec.12, 2013  
To the Chinese Ambassador; Withdraw China's involvement in the LS2  
[Cambodian\(Original\)](#)  
[English](#)  
[Chinese](#)