

Wetland Ecosystem Services and Wise Use

A scenic landscape photograph showing a wide river flowing through a valley. The river is dark blue and occupies the lower half of the frame. On the right bank, there are steep, terraced hillsides with sparse vegetation and some trees. In the background, there are more hills covered in dense green forests under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

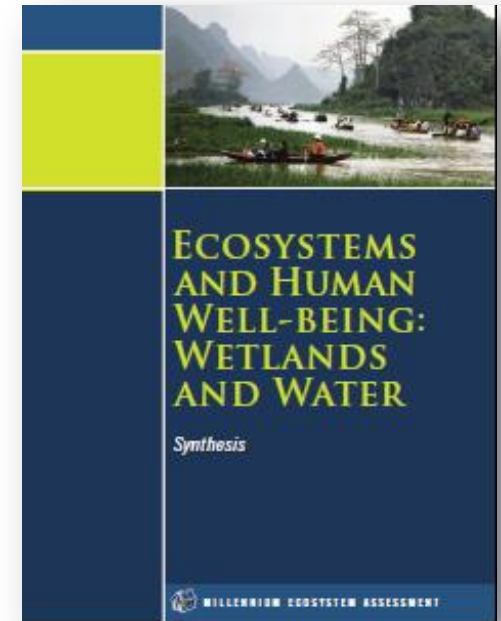
Ritesh Kumar

Conservation Programme Manager, Wetlands International-South Asia
Scientific and Technical Review Panel, Ramsar Convention

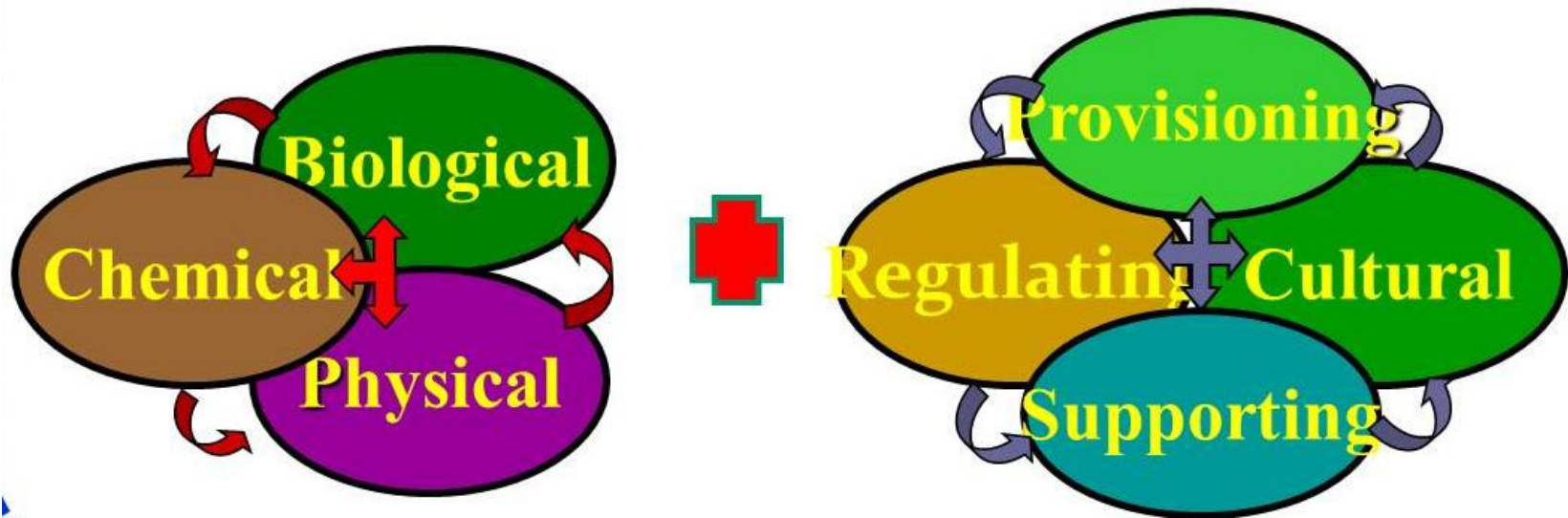
TEEB Webinar, December 12, 2013

Wise use and ecosystem services

- Wetlands are managed for wise use
- Maintenance of ecological character through implementation of ecosystem approaches, within context of sustainable development
- Ecological character includes ecosystem components, processes and services

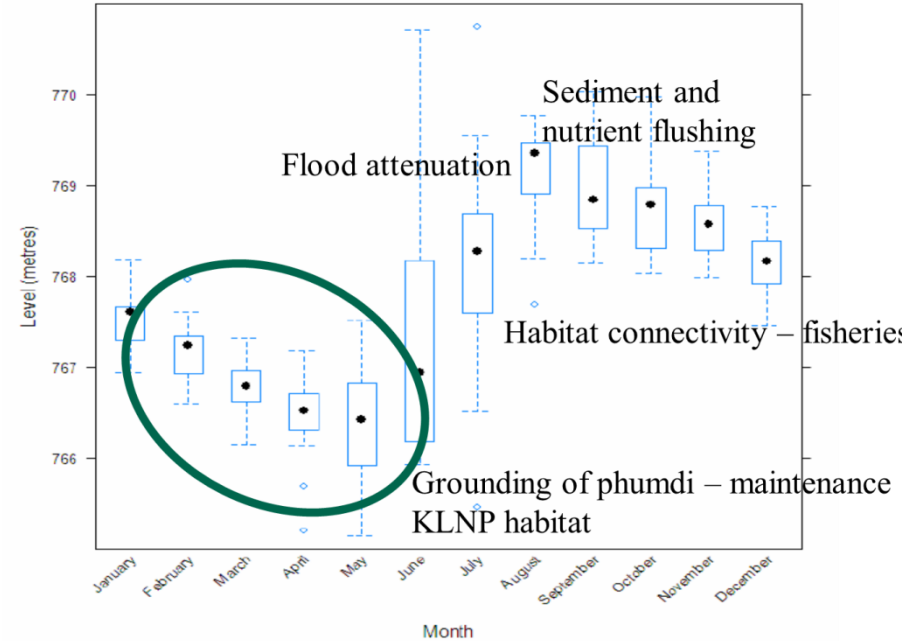
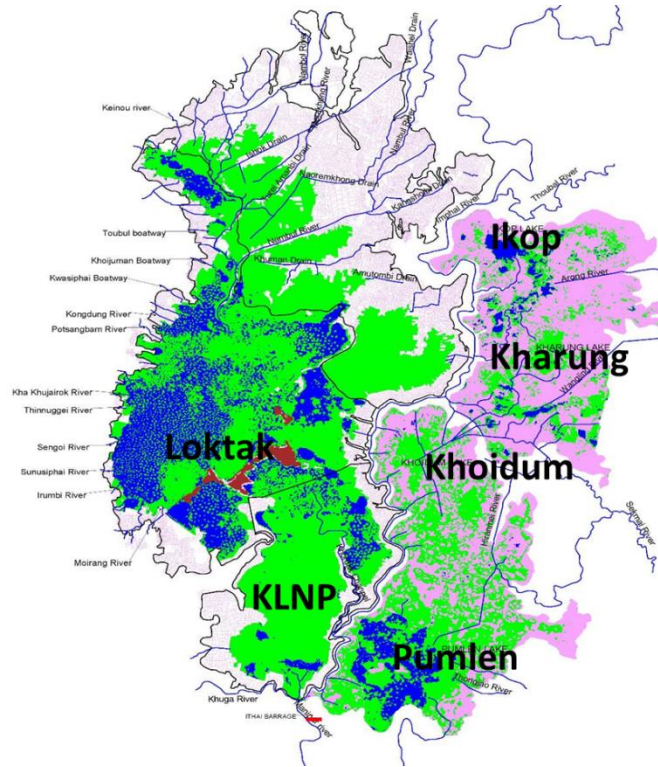


Wise use and ecosystem services



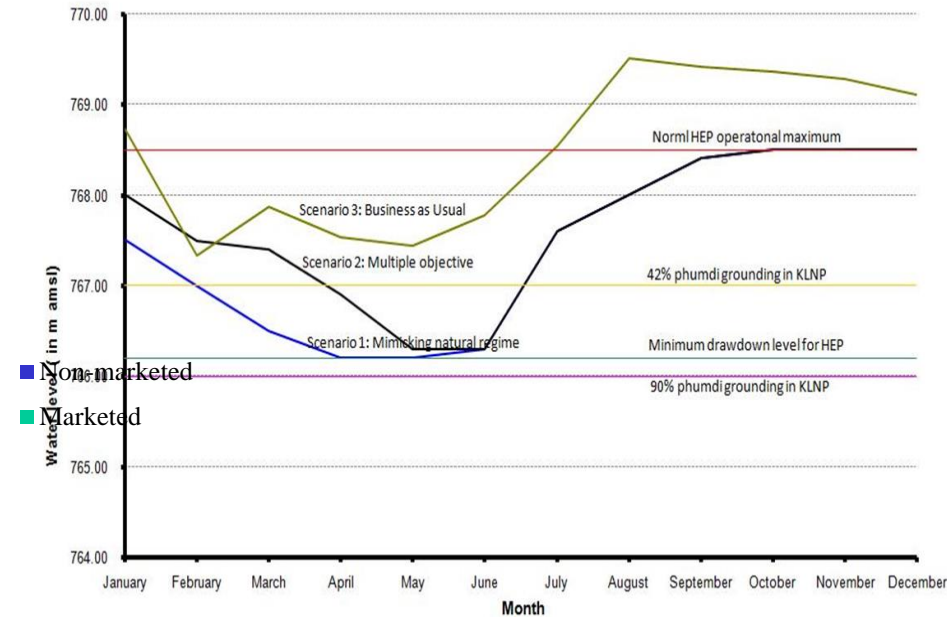
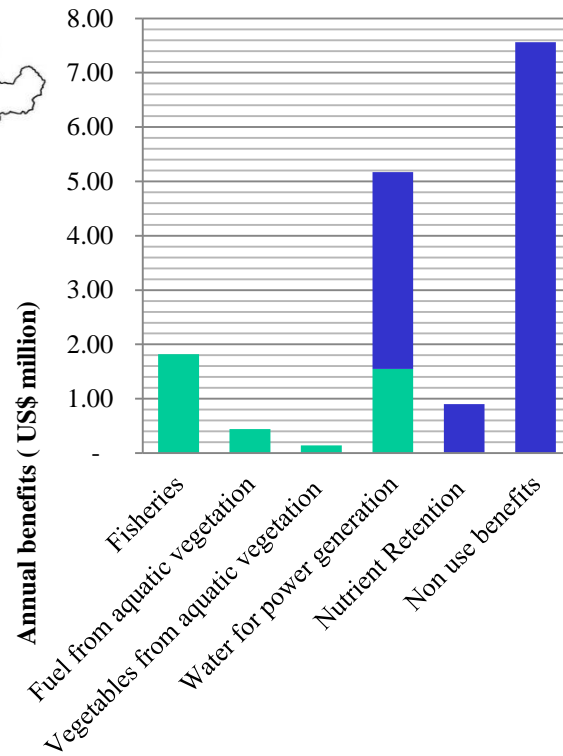
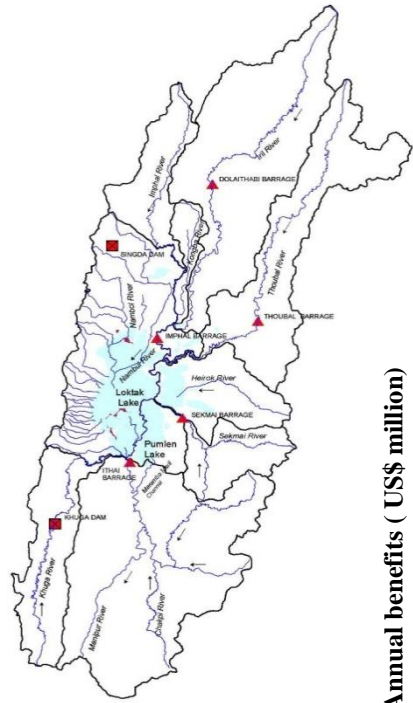
- Needs to consider maintenance of critical ecological components and processes that are required to deliver services
- Changes in ecological character lead to shifts in ecosystem services and vice-versa
- Adaptable management to address dynamism and tradeoffs

Planning for multiple ecosystem services



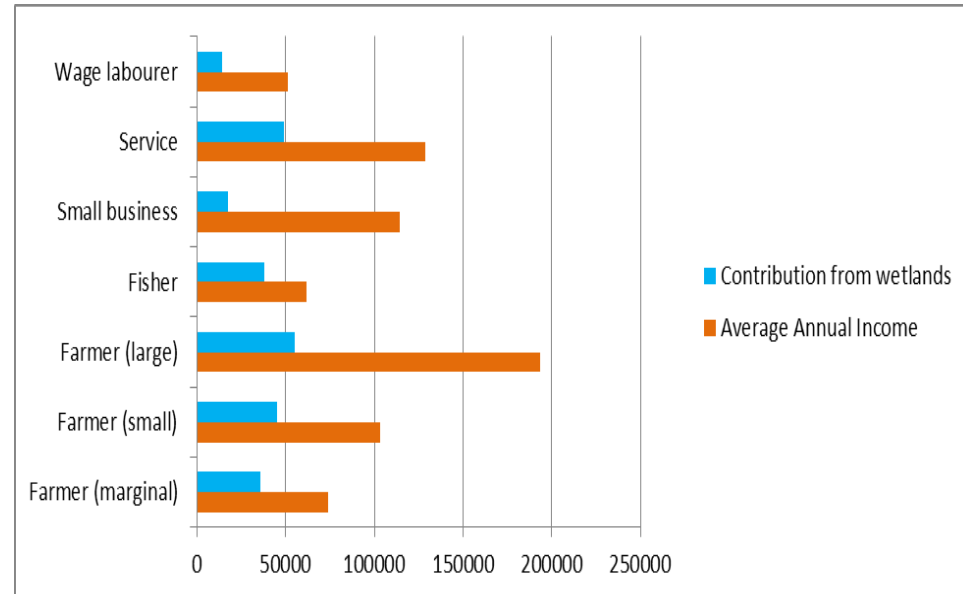
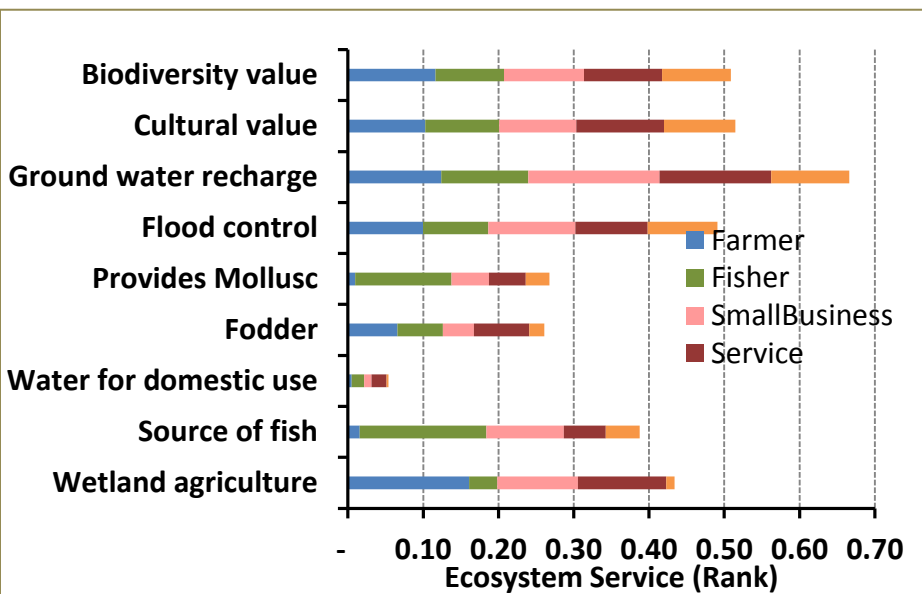
- Natural regime provide multiple ecosystem services governed by changes in water levels and inundation regimes

Planning for multiple ecosystem services

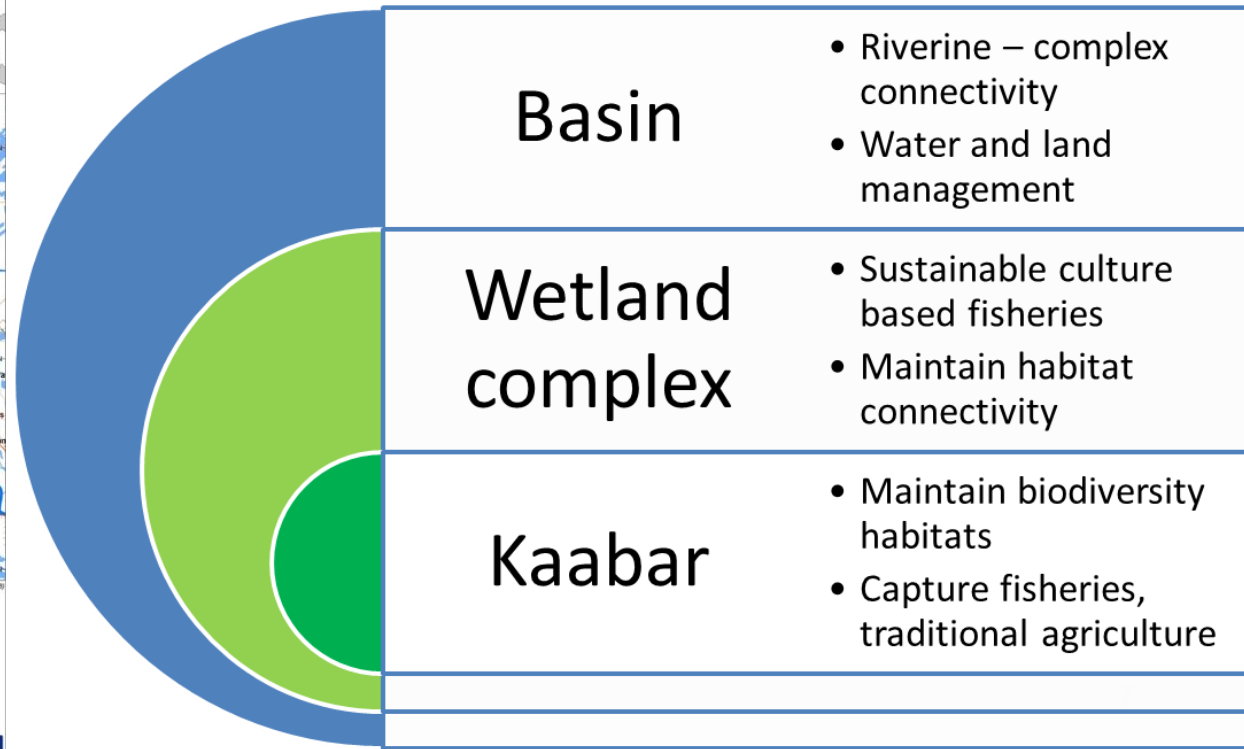


- Regulation of lake levels for increased abstraction for hydropower at the cost of deer habitat and wetland processes
- Lake management includes reoperation of barrage to restore hydrological regimes while accommodating development needs

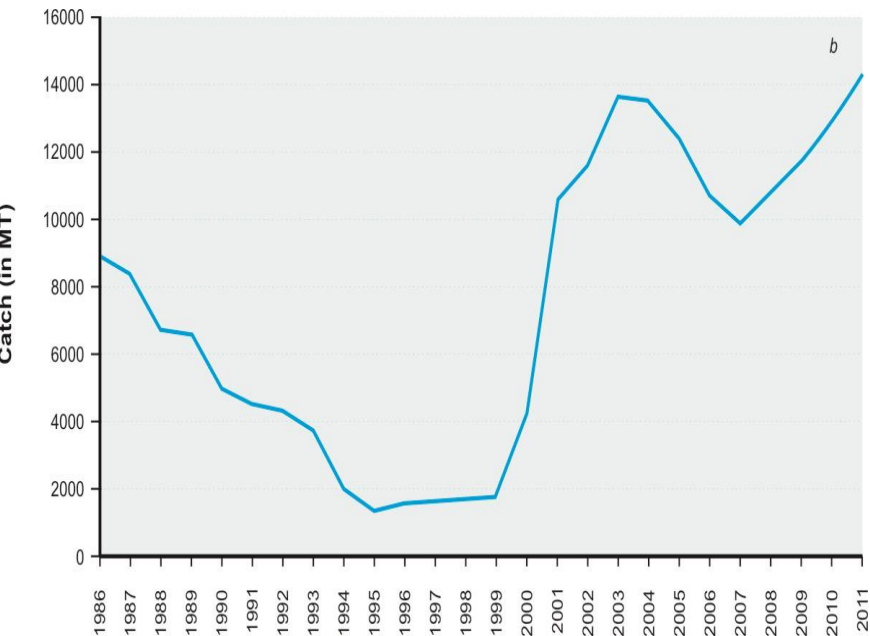
Understanding stakeholder preferences



Integrating value of water and wetlands in decision making



Ecosystem services, property rights, equity



<i>Income and expenditure:</i>		
Average annual income (per capita) in US\$ (at current prices)	84	113
Average annual consumption expenditure (per capita) in US\$ (at current prices)	85	
<i>Indebtedness:</i>		
% households having loan outstanding	86%	88%
% loans sourced from informal sector	71%	70%
Average amount of debt per fisher household (US\$)	398	738

- Revival of fisher cooperatives and linking with better marketing and credit facilities
- Regulation to protect rights

Transforming management approach

- Managing water and wetlands for full range of values
- Capitalizing on link between sustainable wetland management and livelihoods
- Managing conservation – development tradeoffs
- Communication and awareness raising

