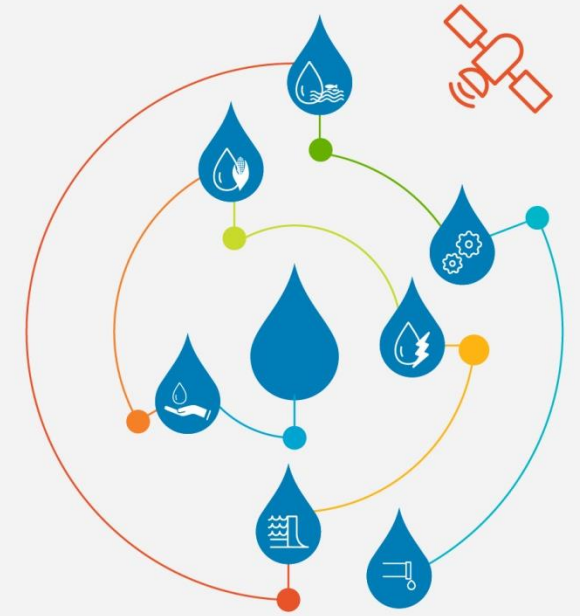


Resilient Asian Deltas: Protecting one billion people from climate change



Stuart Orr

WWF

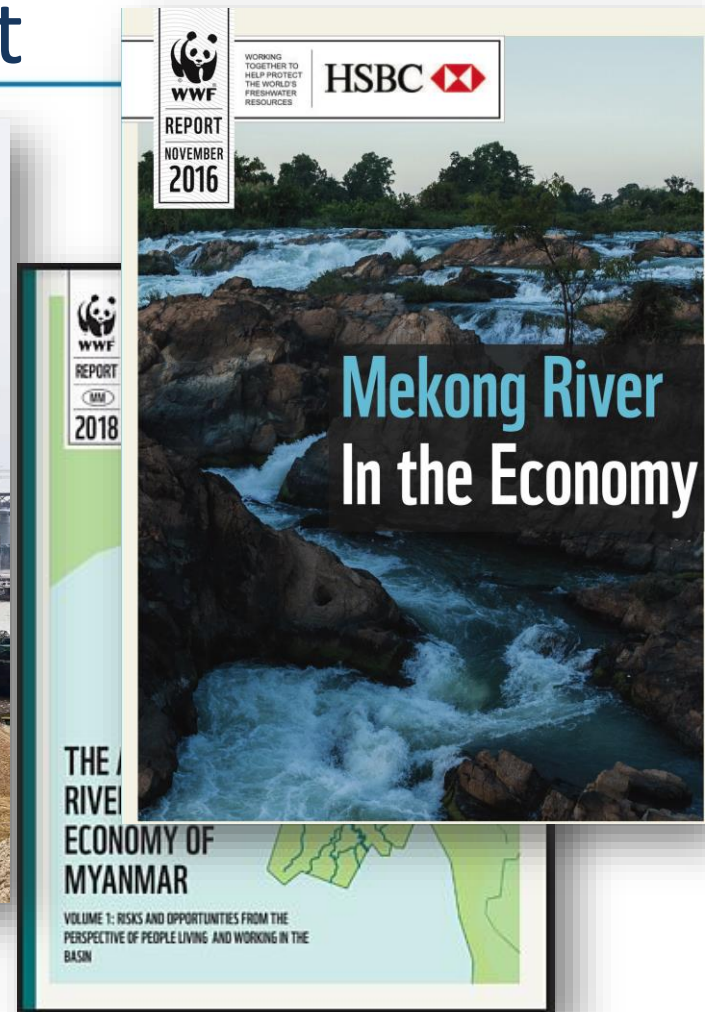
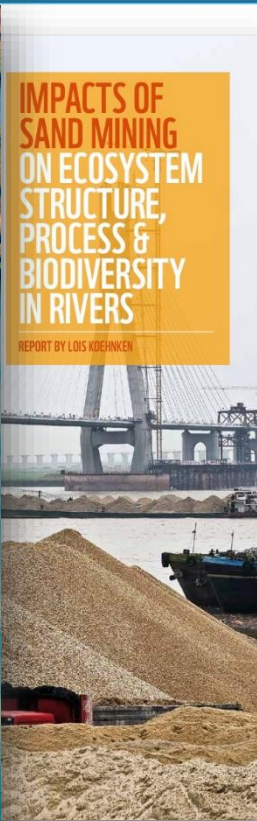
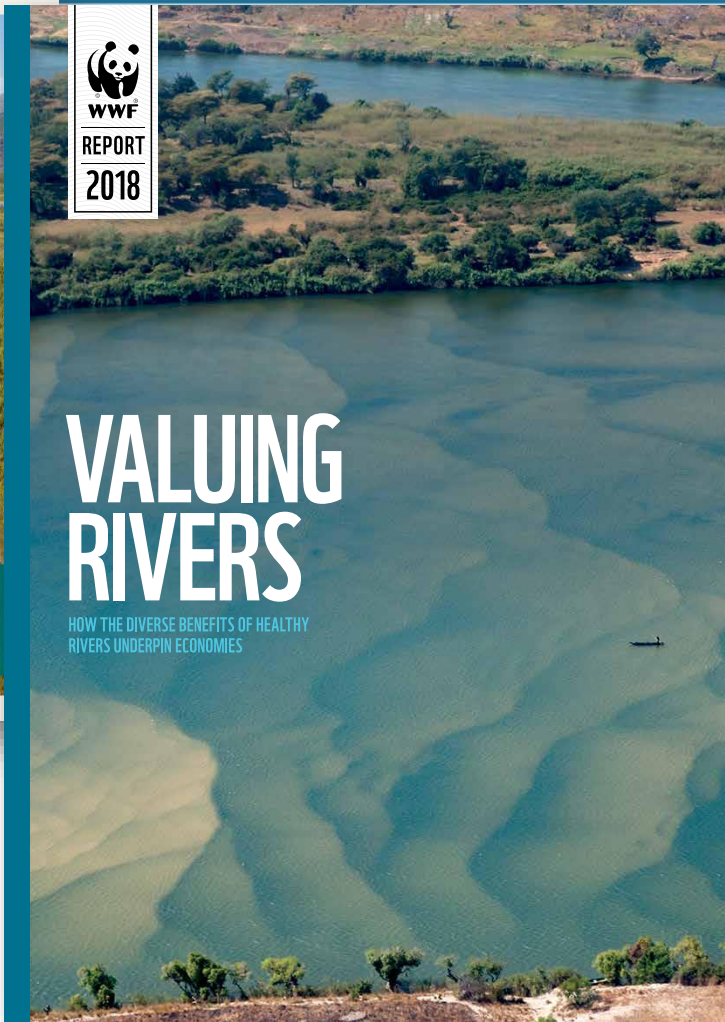
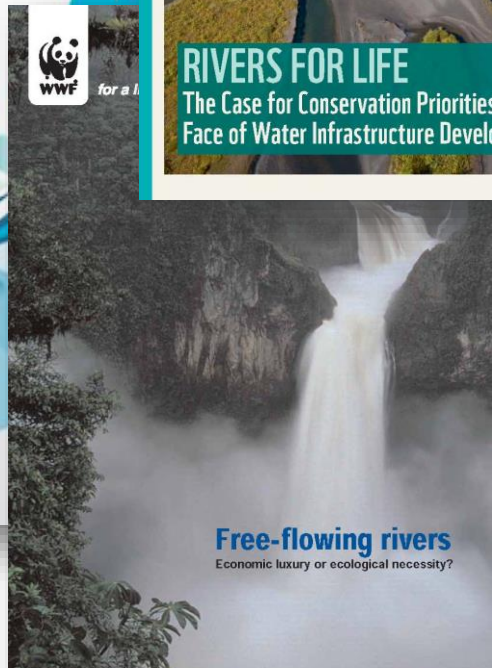
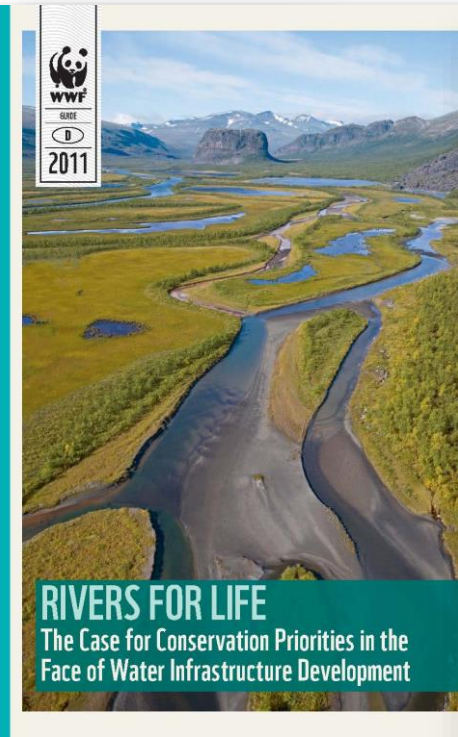
4th Oct 2018



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Undervaluing Hidden Benefits of Rivers Undermines Economies and Sustainable Development



Why Asian Deltas? The Lifeblood of Asia

Home to 1 billion people and 10+ mega cities in Asia

- 40% of Chinese GDP is generated in **Yangtze Delta**
- Vietnam is leading rice exporter because of the **Mekong Delta**
- 40% of Myanmar's population lives in the **Irrawaddy Delta**
- 75% of people in the **Indus Delta** depend on the fishing industry
- The **Ganges-Brahmaputra** is the largest and most densely populated delta in the world



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Asian Deltas are Sinking Faster than Sea Level Rise

1bn of the Most Marginalized are exposed to water stress, natural disasters & food insecurity

- **Restoring delta resilience** is the single most effective climate mitigation strategy

Infrastructure, agriculture, fisheries and supply chains are exposed to increased water risks

- **Reducing water risk** exposure in deltas is best return on investment opportunity

Delta Degradation = Loss of Species & Ecological Functions

- Largest opportunity to **bend the global biodiversity curve** in terms of number of species at risk

Landslide in An Giang Province, Vietnam in April 2017

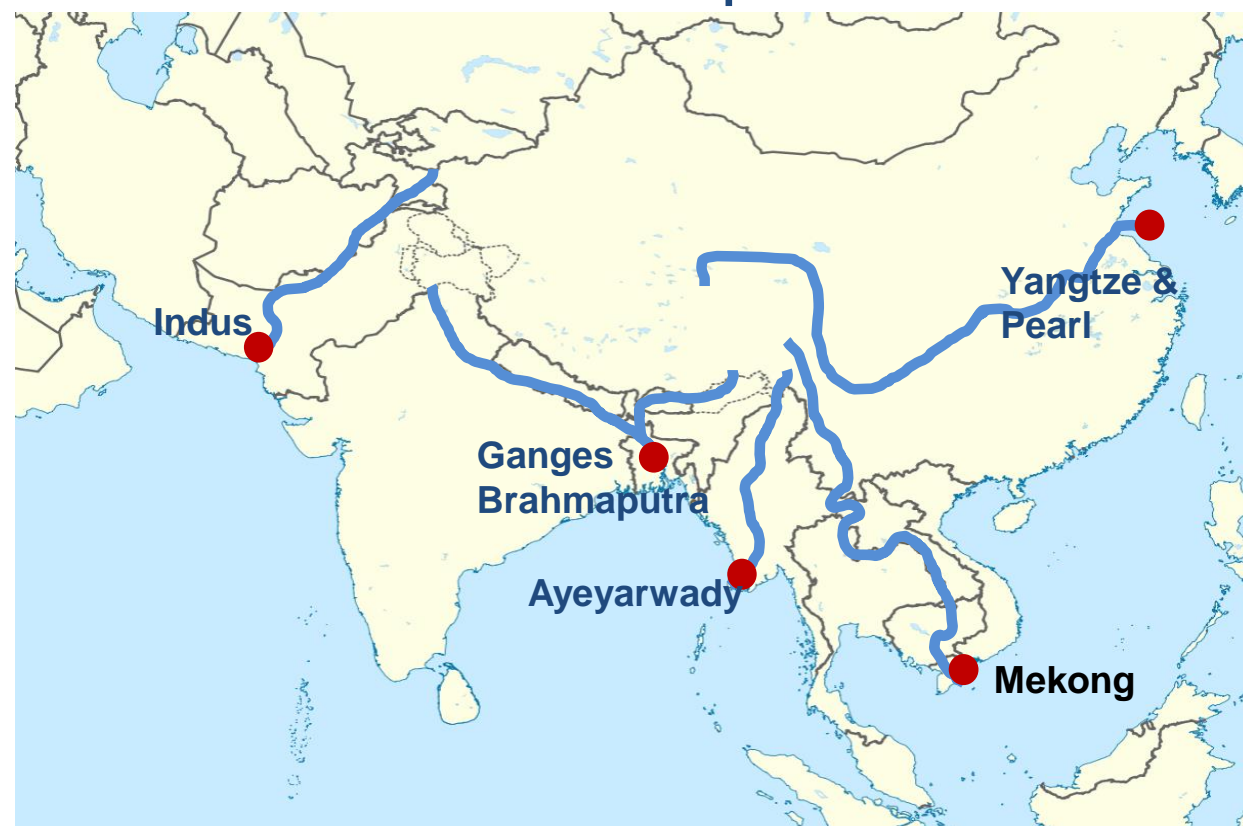


Our Vision

Restore the natural resilience of the five largest Asian deltas, as well as de-risking investments and social capital



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Theory of Change

Long-term outcomes

Outputs

Increased Political Action
for Delta Resilience

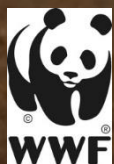
- Joint resolution by heads of states
- Vision developed for each delta

Nature Based Solutions &
Scale

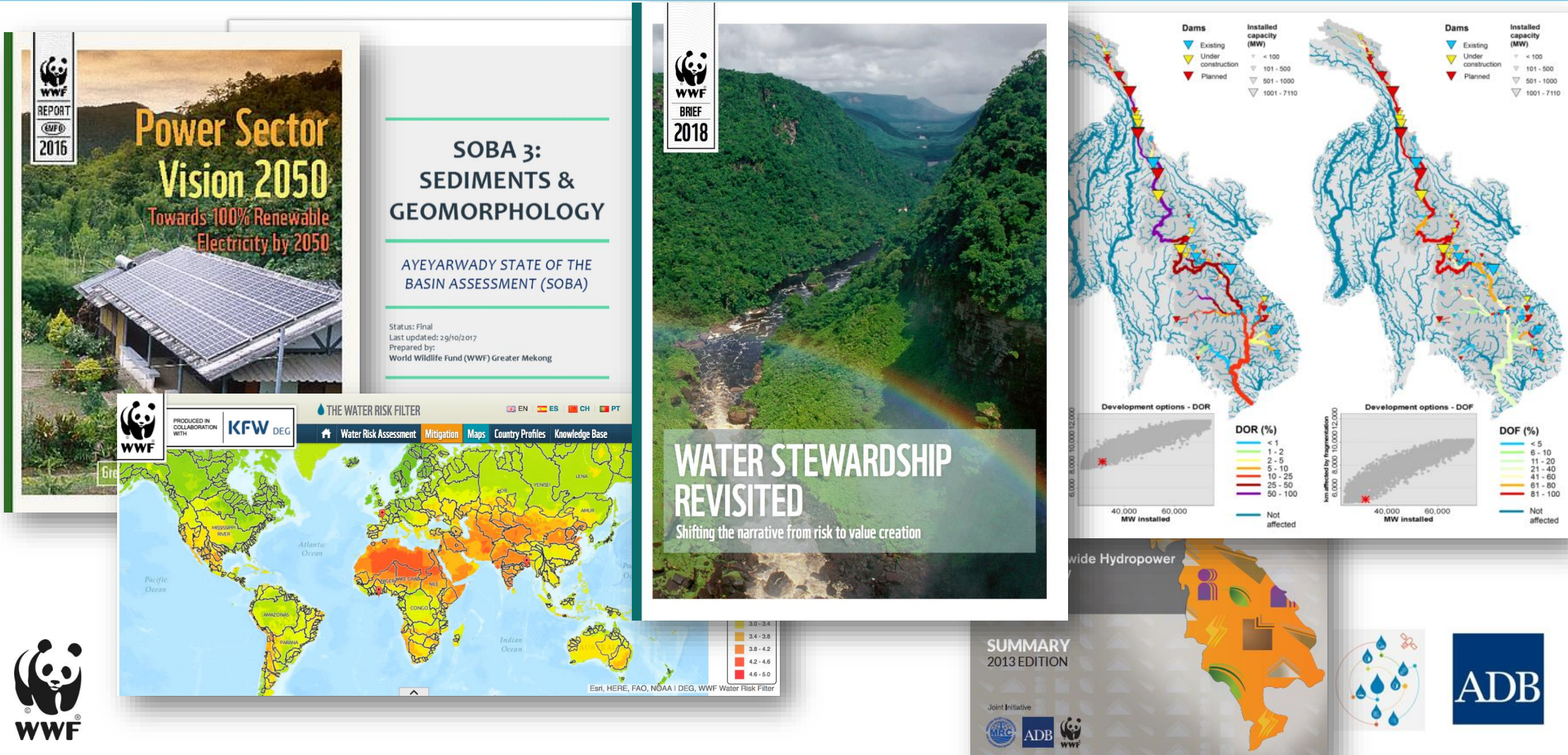
- Sediment budgets - alternative sourcing
- Power sector vision
- Guidelines/safeguards

Redirect Financial Flows to
Sustainable Practices at
Scale

- USD 10 M seed fund & USD 5 bn portfolio of projects developed & financed



Practical Tools & Approaches



Innovation & Scale through WWF Leadership



Many thanks!



Resilient Asian Deltas

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