

The 3rd International Workshop
**Biotic Ligand Model for Tropical Environment: Calibration and Application in Mekong
River Countries**
(Quy Nhon, Vietnam, March 6-7, 2017)

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INTRODUCTION

Loyola University Chicago has collaborated with Khon Kaen University in Thailand, Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City, and Kunming University of Technology in China on a research project to calibrate the US Cu Biotic Ligand Model (BLM) to Mekong River organisms and water since 2011. The project has been conducted successfully. A significant data set that supports calibrating the US Cu BLM to the Mekong River watershed has been generated. Our goal is to have the model available for application in setting relevant water quality standards for Cu in the Mekong River ecosystem. Thus far we have conducted two BLM workshops in the region. The first workshop was organized in Hanoi in March, 2013. The second workshop was in Bangkok in March, 2015 (photos below). The purpose of this third workshop is to train the users on implementing the BLM in environmental standard setting and operation.



PROPOSED MEETING PLAN

This workshop is proposed to be organized in 1 and 1/2 days at the International Center for Interdisciplinary Science Education (ICISE) in Quy Nhon, a city in central Vietnam and by the ocean. ICISE has great meeting facility and has its own beach on the east side and mountains in the back (photos below). It was designed by a French architect and built in 2013.



Meeting Outline:

- 8:30: Introduction
- 8:35: Remark of Vietnam Environment Administration
- 8:40: Remark of Mekong River Commission
- 8:45: Remark of USAID
- 8:55: Remark of sponsors
- 9:00: Overview of BLM: water chemistry and species needed, worldwide applications, tier approaches (Bob Santore)
- 9:50: Mekong Cu BLM Project (Tham)
- 10:00: Coffee break
- 10:20: Environmental monitoring and standards for Mekong River Ecosystem (MRC)
- 10:40: Environmental monitoring and standards in Mekong countries (Vietnam and Thailand)
- 11:20: Calibration of the Cu-BLM to Mekong River organisms and water (Tham, Chuleemas, VNU)
- 12:00: Lunch
- 1:30: Calibration of the Cu-BLM to Mekong River organisms and water (Bob Santore)
- 1:50: Combine SSD and temperate (Bob Santore)
- 2:10: Case studies: Colorado River and Kansas River ecosystems (Bob Santore)
- 3:20: Coffee break
- 3:40: Questions and answers
- 4:00: Review of guidelines for metal water quality standards in developed countries (Eric and Bob Dwyer)
- 5:00: End and back to Seagull Hotel
- 6:30: Dinner

Day 2: Meeting

8:30: Practice on running the BLM and application on participants laptop (Bob Santore, Eric, Tham)

9:45: Coffee break

10:15: Questions and discussion: potential application of salt water BLM (Bob Dwyer, Tham)

12:00: Closing and lunch

1:30-6:00: visit Thi Nai Lagoon and Nhon Ly Island

Participants:

We proposed to invite 40 scientists and managers from five Mekong countries and 20 from other countries to attend the workshop.