ABSTRACT: The need to increase food and energy supplies globally are driving construction of hydropower dams, dikes and intensification of agricultural production, particularly on the fertile floodplains of major rivers. This policy study in the Mekong highlights the risk of negative impacts of poorly planned and implemented hydroelectric infrastructure on water availability and food security. Dr. Kien’s work draws on empirical research to examine the links between infrastructure development, agricultural and aquaculture development, and nutrition in farming communities in the Mekong Delta. The recent development of dams, high dikes and the focus on the intensification of rice production, upland crops and cattle rearing in the upper part of the Vietnamese Mekong Delta has significantly diminished wild fish catch, an important food source for poor and middle-income rural residents.

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