

The countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion

The six nations, in whole or in part, that share this geographical region are defined as Mekong countries because they share some part of the waters of the great Mekong River. The countries are:

Kingdom of Cambodia [Cambodia]
People's Republic of China [Yunnan Province]
Lao People's Democratic Republic [Lao PDR]
Union of Myanmar [Myanmar]
Kingdom of Thailand [Thailand]
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam [Viet Nam]

Their geographical relationship is shown in the regional map (Figure 1). In the case of China, Yunnan Province is the only part of this country that is formally classified as part of the Greater Mekong Subregion. However, in this monograph some data from Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Hainan Province are also included because of their regional geographic importance in malaria epidemiology by virtue of sharing a border (Guangxi) with Viet Nam and population movement to and from the region more strictly defined by transit of the Mekong River through the corresponding territory.

Each country is coded in a color that is used in a selected number of other maps in this volume, in order to facilitate reference back to this basic positional map.

Net national figures are given for total population numbers based on official estimates from UN agencies or from the country concerned. Because of variability in approximation methods year to year differences may not always be consistent as adjustments may be made irregularly. These net national figures underscore the diversity of population size in relation to geographical area.

Data sources: The national population figures for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam are based on those cited for 1997 in the Human Development Report (UNDP, 1999) with some corrections from national sources. For the Provinces of China these figures for 1997 were provided by the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine from national sources. The regional map was generated by ACASIAN by integrating national maps.

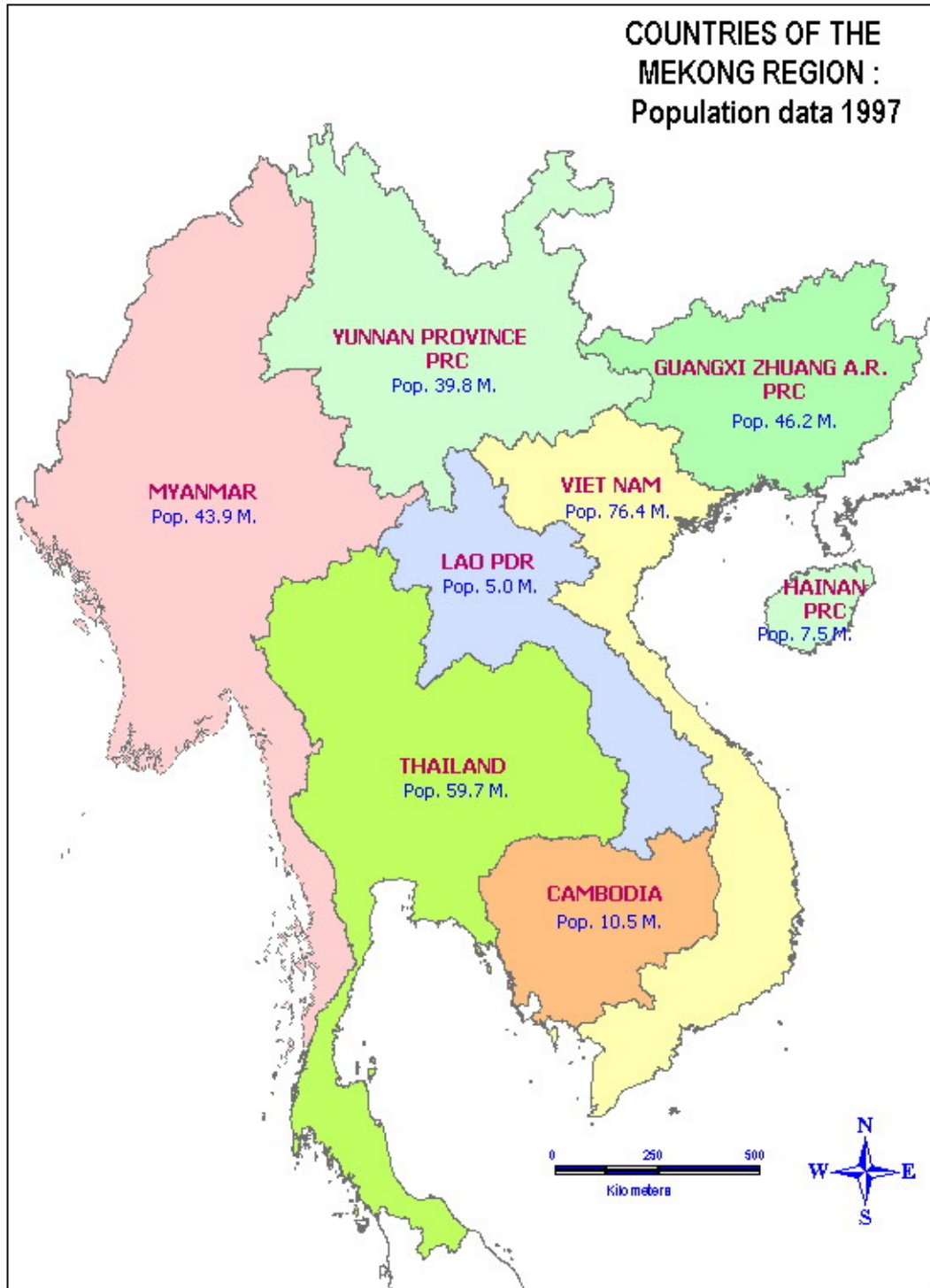


Figure 1.