

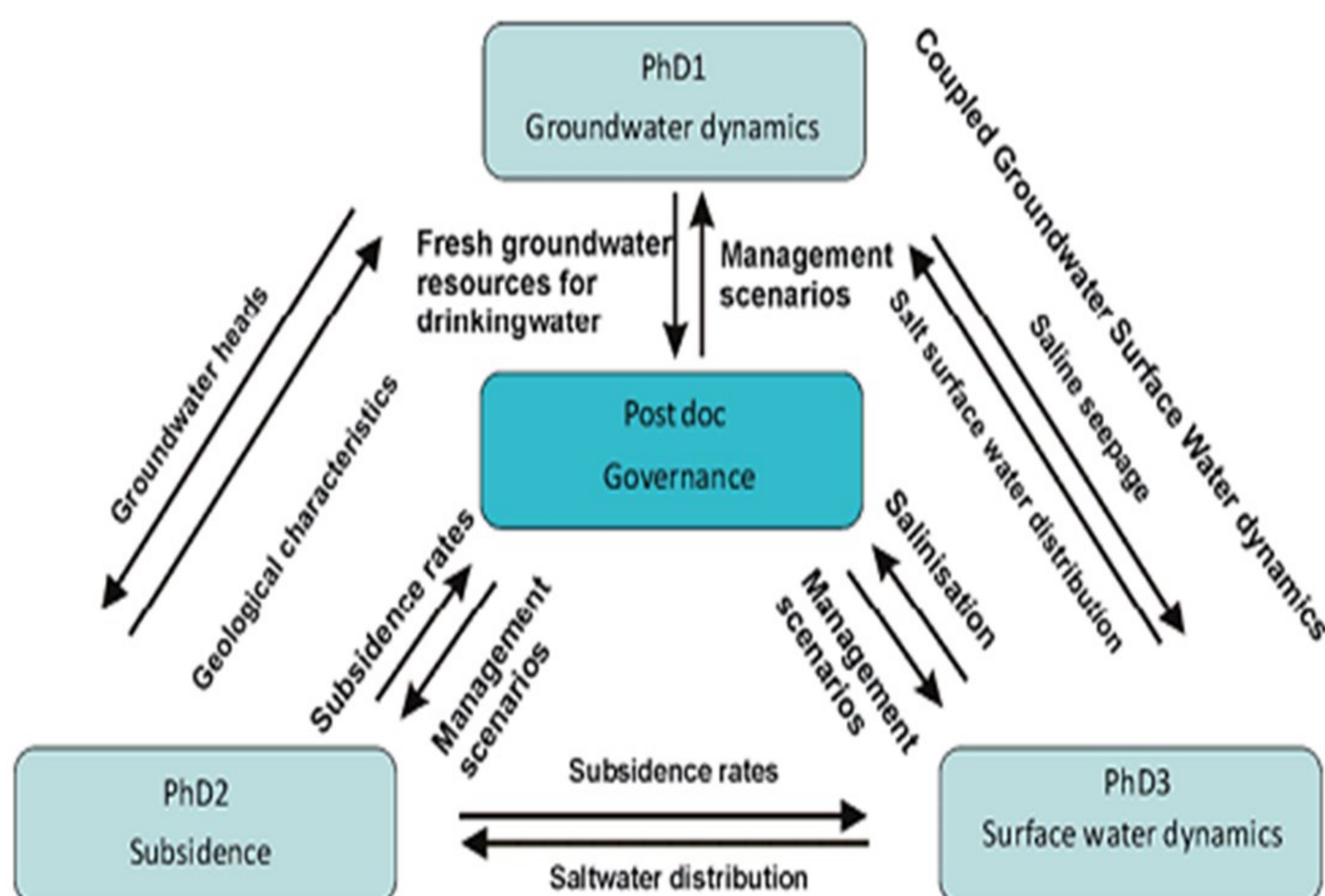
Governance conditions for adaptive freshwater management in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta

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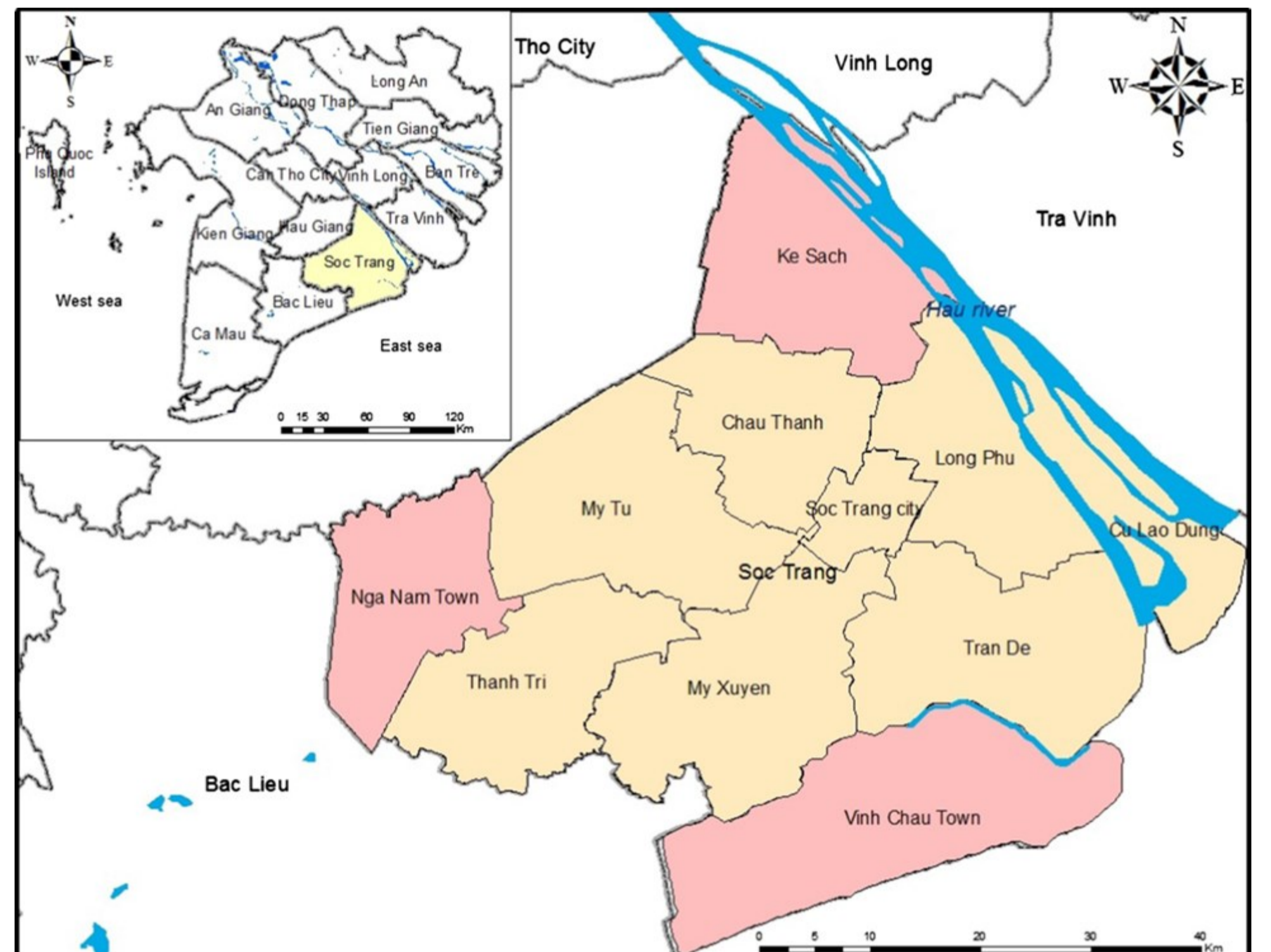
Abstract

The Vietnamese Mekong Delta (VMD) is a region of utmost importance to Vietnam's national food security. However, the availability of required freshwater resources (from both surface and groundwater sources) is currently under great threats due to dry season salinity intrusion, surface water pollution, and over-exploitation of groundwater. Global climate change, sea level rise, and upstream and in situ development activities may worsen the situation. Assuming that adaptive management could be a promising strategy to address the increasingly complex and unpredictable water-related problems in the VMD, we design and apply a framework to identify the extent to which the governance regime in this region exhibits conditions that are likely to promote adaptive freshwater management. Using both primary and secondary data, our analysis reveals that the prospects for adaptive water management in the study area are limited since several conditions were not present. We observe among others limitations in vertical and horizontal integration and public participation, restraints in knowledge and information sharing, inadequate policy development and implementation, and insufficient diversification of financial resources. Following our findings, we conclude with recommendations

The Rise and Fall project



Soc Trang Province and the locations of the interviews



Governance research approach

- . In depth case study
- . Literature review
- . Interviews
- . Workshops
- . Feasibility assessment of strategies to reduce groundwater uses in urban areas and shrimp farming
- . Scenario development
- . Valorisation workshops

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