Abstract

Large deltas are facing common environmental problems mainly due to human activities such as water development projects, water use demands, industry, agriculture, and groundwater over-exploitation. The main objective of this paper is to provide an overview of the major environmental problems on the deltas of Nile and Mekong rivers and to introduce an ongoing international research platform aiming to propose strategies to mitigate those problems. The intensive literature review and on-going researches allowed us to identify eight major environmental problems including increasing water demand, pollution, water management, and so forth. Therefore, research and governmental institutions in five countries tackle with those major problems from the viewpoint of integrated watershed-coast management, water resources, water quality, and climate and social impacts. Through this platform within the life span of the project, it is expected to identify potential mitigation strategies to reduce the present and anticipated negative impacts on delta environments.

Keywords: Mega Deltas, Nile Delta, Mekong Delta, Water Resources Management, Environmental Management, Trans-boundary Rivers