



## Bridging Science and Policy

The Stockholm Environment Institute is an international non-profit research organization that has worked with environment and development issues from local to global policy levels for a quarter of a century. SEI works to shift policy and practice towards sustainability.

**H**umankind has made dramatic progress in reducing poverty, fighting disease and improving living conditions, but development has also taken a toll on our planet.

*How can we provide food, water and energy for billions of people, balance competing demands for scarce resources, protect ecosystems, and curb greenhouse gas emissions while adapting to changing environments?*

*At SEI we help to find scientifically robust, sustainable responses to these challenges.*

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Executive Director



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## SEI in brief

**We are an** international nonprofit research organization that has worked with environment and development issues from local to global policy levels for a quarter of a century. SEI bridges science and policy to find robust responses to the challenges of sustainability.

**SEI's vision is** a sustainable future for all. Our mission is "to support decision-making and induce change towards sustainable development around the world by providing integrative knowledge that bridges science and policy in the field of environment and development".

**To deliver on** our mission, we work across issues like climate change, energy systems, water resources, air quality, land-use, sanitation, food security, and trade, and we approach these issues from a range of perspectives from the natural and social sciences.

**We combine** scientific research with policy analysis, connecting our work to decision-makers and civil society in global governance, national public policy, regional cooperation, local planning, and the private

sector. We generate and share knowledge that catalyses action, and always take a highly collaborative approach: stakeholder involvement is at the heart of our efforts to build capacity, strengthen institutions, and equip partners for the long term.

**Making** scientific knowledge accessible is a priority. We publish our own series of open-access reports and briefs, alongside articles in leading academic journals, and work creatively through a range of media to ensure that our research is available to those that need it. We convene seminars and conferences that bring together decision-makers, academics, and practitioners to debate key issues and share knowledge, and engage in and inform policy processes, development action, and business practice worldwide.

**We are committed** to transparency and believe that full disclosure of our finances and funding builds trust in our work. Sida is our most substantial donor, but we also receive broad support from development agencies, governments, NGOs, universities, businesses, and financial institutions.

## SEI is:

- **International** – SEI is distributed across nine locations around the world, works locally, regionally and globally, and has a diverse international staff.
- **Trusted** – both policy-makers and the academic community recognize SEI as an independent and non-partisan institute.
- **Credible** – SEI's research is objective, and supported by a rigorous system of internal and external peer review.
- **Integrated** – only joined-up research can solve joined-up problems. SEI places a strong emphasis on making connections across the natural, physical, and social sciences, allowing us to approach sustainability challenges from new angles and offer robust and insightful policy advice.

# SEI INITIATIVES

To more effectively address key issues in sustainable development, we're investing in a set of initiatives that will serve as research hubs, connecting and synergizing our projects and activities. Eight SEI Initiatives were launched in 2015, supported by both core and project funding. We will also add to this portfolio and consolidate other areas of our expertise, specifically in cities, climate services, and gender and social equity.

## ***Behaviour and Choice***

This initiative will examine how to bring about changes in behaviour, choice and decision-making at the household level. By doing so it will support the design and implementation of more effective development programmes and governance interventions.

## ***Low Emission Development Pathways***

This initiative will study the effects of integrated mitigation of short-lived climate pollutants as well as other air pollution and greenhouse gases, and the realization of multiple benefits. It will support practitioners to more effectively integrate the many dimensions of air pollution and climate change into their plans and strategies, in both the near and long term.

## ***Fossil Fuels and Climate Mitigation***

This initiative aims to understand the factors that support movement towards and away from fossil fuel development through high quality and timely research. It will do this to influence policies, plans and investment decisions in a manner that makes the pace and location of further fossil fuel development and trade more consistent with long-term sustainability objectives.

## ***Climate Finance***

This initiative aims to untangle key controversial issues that have emerged as impediments to the mobilization, delivery and scaling up of climate finance. It will do this to contribute to better governance and more effective and efficient use of climate finance.

## ***Producer to Consumer Sustainability***

The P2CS initiative aims to understand the sustainability implications of the evolving trade, production and consumption patterns of major traded commodities in an increasingly resource-scarce and globalized world. By doing so it will support more informed decision-making along supply chains to deliver positive economic, social and environmental outcomes.

## ***The Water, Energy and Food Nexus***

This initiative will apply a nexus toolkit to address interconnected water, energy and food development challenges at different levels. It will do this to enable those who govern and manage these systems to work together to ensure basic access, efficiency and sustainability.

## ***Transforming Development and Disaster Risk Reduction***

This initiative will connect disaster risk reduction (DRR) with inclusive, equitable and sustainable development. Research into socio-economic changes and environmental risks in specific contexts will generate knowledge that can both enable communities to cope with hazardous situations and support policy and practice to pursue development that takes account of new and emerging risks.

## ***Sustainable Sanitation***

This initiative will seek to inject new momentum into the search for sustainable ways to boost sanitation provision in low- and middle-income countries through new research, knowledge exchange, capacity building and advisory services. It will focus on "productive" solutions that offer multiple benefits in terms of food security, environmental sustainability, livelihoods and health.



### **SEI Stockholm and SEI HQ**

SEI in Stockholm comprises SEI headquarters and the Stockholm Centre. SEI HQ serves all the SEI centres and includes the Executive Director, Deputy Directors, and the communications, finance and human resources departments. The Stockholm Centre is divided into three operational units: Natural Resources, Environment and Development; Governance and Institutions; and Climate Energy and Society. Key areas of expertise include energy access and system planning; sanitation; the water-energy-food nexus; climate mitigation and adaptation; and private sector engagement for sustainable business models.

### **SEI Africa**

SEI's Africa Centre collaborates closely with African organizations and networks on key environment and development issues, acting as a hub for SEI's engagement across the continent. The SEI Africa is based in Nairobi, Kenya, and is hosted by the World Agroforestry Centre. The centre's work focuses on four key areas: climate change adaptation; sustainable energy development; agriculture, livelihoods and rural development; and urbanization.

### **SEI Asia**

The SEI Asia Centre in Bangkok has a multinational staff with strong connections across the region. Its work is focused on two key areas: climate change and resilient development in Southeast Asia and the governance of disaster risk and adaptation at multiple scales. The centre prioritizes building a strong network of research and policy organizations in the region and to provide platforms to share knowledge and engage stakeholders.

### **SEI Tallinn**

SEI Tallinn focuses on policy analysis and implementation via applied research, stakeholder engagement and capacity building in the contexts of the Baltic Sea Region and the EU. Key areas of expertise include environmental governance, policy impact assessment, nature conservation, urban biodiversity, climate adaptation, renewable energy, transport, resource efficiency, waste management, sustainable development indicators, ecosystem services valuation and analysis of market-based instruments.

### **SEI Oxford**

SEI Oxford has expertise in vulnerability assessment, adaptive planning and risk governance in

the fields of climate change, water and food security, agriculture and ecosystems management. It also focuses on the synergies between climate change adaptation and mitigation, and hosts weADAPT, a collaborative platform for climate adaptation.

### **SEI U.S.**

The U.S. Centre has three offices in Boston, Massachusetts; Davis, California; and Seattle, Washington. The centre conducts applied research drawing on engineering, economics, ecology, ethics, operations research, international relations and software design. It also builds capacity in the developing world through training and collaboration, while its decision-support tools are used widely around the globe.

### **SEI York**

The SEI York Centre is embedded in the Environment Department at the University of York. The centre's research falls into four broad categories: atmosphere, climate change and biogeochemical cycling; agricultural water management and governance; sustainable consumption, production and trade; and human wellbeing and behavioural change.