

Climate change, disasters and development



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The SEI Asia Climate Change, Disasters and Development work theme supports decision-makers and marginalized and at-risk communities in acting on climate change, enhancing disaster resilience, and working towards development that is ecologically, environmentally, and economically sustainable. We collaborate with research institutions, governments, civil society organizations, businesses, grassroots communities, and donors in Asia and the Pacific to produce credible and relevant knowledge for decision-making across all levels.

Our aim is to engage in relevant policy processes, build the capacities of key stakeholders, and facilitate the empowerment of those who are marginalized and at-risk. We do so in order to enable meaningful and inclusive action on climate change and disaster risk in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Through this work we contribute to the improvement of the health and well-being of those communities that are socially, economically, politically, environmentally, and geographically marginalized, and at risk of the impacts of climate change, disasters and unsustainable development.

Our strategic aim

Our aim is to influence the decision-making of relevant boundary and strategic partners and facilitate the empowerment of marginalized and at-risk communities. We seek to do this by harnessing and co-producing knowledge that bridges science, policy and practice in climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster resilience and sustainable development.



Image (above):

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Our outputs

Production of usable knowledge

To generate relevant, usable and credible knowledge on climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster resilience and sustainable development that contributes to greater empowerment of marginalized and at-risk communities.

Empowerment of marginalized communities

To co-generate evidence that accounts for the specific needs of marginalized and at-risk communities, and also contributes to the promotion, protection and fulfillment of their human rights through capacity-building and policy engagement.

Policy engagement

To enhance the uptake of the knowledge generated by our work on climate action, disaster resilience and sustainable development in policy processes across all levels. DRR-related policy engagement is driven by the International Centre of Excellence on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk (ICoE-TDDR) and climate change engagement occurs through various networks and consortia.

Implementation of global frameworks

To support decision-making that contributes to regional, national, and sub-national level implementation of the Paris Agreement, the SDGs and the Sendai Framework.

Understanding new priorities

To conduct cutting-edge research on emerging regional priorities, such as systemic and cascading risks; slow-onset emergencies; ocean acidification; microplastics; transboundary climate risk; sea-level rise; energy transition; climate finance; nature-based solutions; loss and damage; multi-dimensional poverty; and cultural and natural heritage management.

Our outcomes

Our work in this theme has resulted in three key outcomes:

Effective policy implementation

Policy, academic and research stakeholders have focused on the needs of marginalized and at-risk communities in their work to enable meaningful and inclusive action on climate change and disaster risk.

Empowering at-risk people

The capacities of marginalized and at-risk communities in using the knowledge we co-produced with them and other partners have been enhanced, meaning more effective engagement with relevant climate change, disaster and development policy processes at all levels.

Greater uptake of knowledge

The uptake of knowledge has been increased by our work on climate action, disaster resilience and sustainable development in policy processes across all levels. This has occurred, for example, through ICoE-TDDR's work supporting transformations towards more equitable, resilient and sustainable societies, leading to more effective implementation of the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement, and the SDGs in Asia.

Our key projects

- ASEAN CRN - GIZ Climate Smart Land Use
- Building Resilience through inclusive and climate-adaptive Disaster Risk reduction (BRDR)
- Environmental Linkages to Population Health and Wellbeing in Coastal Areas in the Bay of Bengal
- GCRF Political Capabilities and Equitable Resilience
- GCRF Living Deltas Hub
- SEI-RWI Partnership on Human Rights and Climate Change
- SEI Initiative on Integrated Climate and Development Planning
- Strategic Collaborative Events on LGBTQI and Youth
- Wellcome Trust Landscape analysis on youth, climate and health
- The Implications of Legal Pluralism to Understanding Mining Conflicts: A Socio-Legal Study of Thailand's Chatree Gold Mine
- Floating Resilience: Understanding Sea Level Rise and Human Mobility in Thailand



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Stockholm Environment Institute
10th Floor,
Kasem Uttayanin Building,
254 Chulalongkorn University,
Henri Dunant Road, Pathumwan,
Bangkok, 10330 Thailand
Tel: +66 2 251 4415

Contact:

info-Asia@sei.org

Visit us: sei.org

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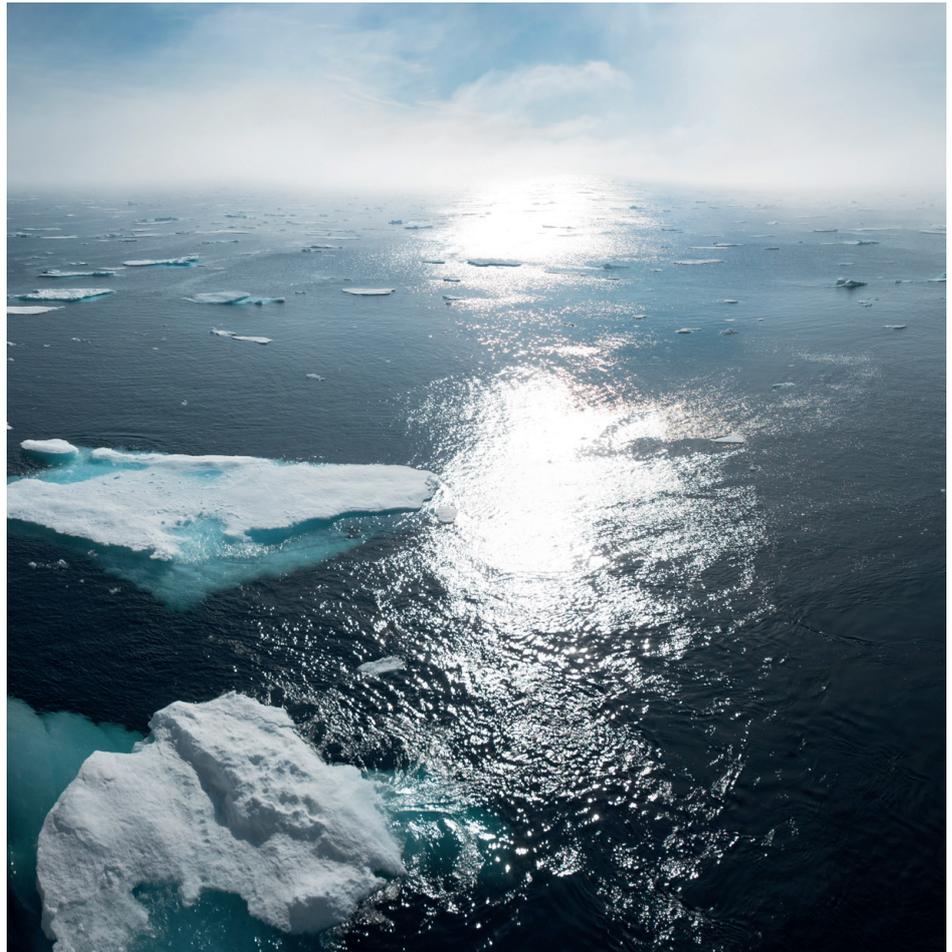
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We connect science and decision-making to develop solutions for a sustainable future for all.

Our approach is highly collaborative: stakeholder involvement is at the heart of our efforts to build capacity, strengthen institutions, and equip partners for the long term.

Our work spans climate, water, air, and land-use issues, and integrates evidence and perspectives on governance, the economy, gender and human health.

Across our eight centres in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas, we engage with policy processes, development action and business practice throughout the world.



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Our impacts

The impacts of our work can be seen in a number of areas:

- Strengthened decision-making and cooperation on climate change adaptation (CCA) and DRR at regional, national and sub-national levels, considering how equality and human rights can be better incorporated into policymaking and programming.
- Integration of health and well-being into planning for CCA, mitigation, disasters, mobility, and displacement.
- Reduced suffering of marginalized and at-risk people in the region through timely responses to critical social and environmental policies.
- More productive, resilient and sustainable practices in major Asian deltas.
- More effective international cooperation on CCA and DRR.