

Overview

SEI Asia's Policy Cluster supports policy processes through research, partnerships, and capacity building, aiming to equip policy actors with knowledge for informed and inclusive decisions. Working with diverse partners, we promote environmental sustainability and social inclusion at local, regional, and national levels, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our policy support aims to change agendas, enhance capacities, and improve decisions by sharing evidence-based research and engaging stakeholders from various sectors. Through long-term partnerships and knowledge co-production, we focus on critical policy areas such as environmental cooperation, water resources management, climate adaptation, and sustainable agriculture. Our goal is to facilitate policy impact and develop strategies for a more sustainable future.

Areas of focus

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Partnerships: We collaborate with a diverse range of stakeholders, including governments, academia, businesses, civil society organizations, and local communities, to promote sustainable development goals and climate resilience. By contributing evidence-based knowledge and policy recommendations, we strive for inclusive and sustainable development.



Training and Capacity Building: We provide training and capacity building to local governments, researchers, smallholders, and national and international organizations. Through policy dialogues, coaching, and training programs, we address various topics such as gender mainstreaming in agriculture, policy communication, and circular economy. We prioritize needs-based assessments and participatory approaches to design effective capacity-building initiatives.



Policy Engagement: We raise awareness of SEI Asia's science-based evidence among policy and decision-makers. We strive to integrate our research into formal and informal policy-making channels, facilitating the incorporation of our recommendations and insights. Through outreach, dissemination activities, bilateral meetings, workshops, policy briefs, and conference participation,



Thematic Research: Our policy team conducts research in key thematic areas to support partnerships, training, capacity building, and policy engagement. Our focus areas include climate and energy, sustainable agriculture and food systems, biodiversity, circular economy, and private sector engagement.





Policy initiatives



Strategic Collaborative Fund: Fostering regional cooperation and policy dialogue for sustainable development and environmental sustainability, through capacity building, knowledge sharing and increased collaboration.



Agroecology and Safe Food System Transitions in Southeast Asia: Transforming food and agricultural systems in Southeast Asia more sustainable, safer and inclusive, through harnessing the potential of agroecology.

Governing Bioeconomy Pathways Initiative: Articulating the alternative pathways available for bioeconomy development, and to identify the policies, institutions and governance mechanisms that can facilitate each of them.

Policy Outcomes



Changed Agendas:

Our co-produced knowledge and evidence influence policy agendas, strategies, and action plans, addressing poverty, social equity, and sustainable natural resource use.



Enhanced Capacities:

We strengthen the capacities of policy stakeholders through robust research, institutional analysis, applied learning, and cross-sector dialogues. **Wit**

LAND use-based MitigAtion for Resilient Climate pathways: Enhancing our understanding of the realistic potential of land-based negative emission solutions in agriculture, forestry and other land use sectors.



Just transitions for thermal coal-mining dependent regions in Colombia, South Africa, and Indonesia: Making the just energy transition and coal phase out a success.

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SEI Support for ASEAN-China Environmental Policy Development: Supporting cooperation in green and low-carbon development between China and ASEAN countries.



Improved Decisions:

Our strategic engagement, policy communication, tailored analysis, and decision-making tools contribute to improved decision processes and outcomes aligned with sustainability targets.

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SEI Asia, based in Bangkok, has a diverse team of multinational experts that integrates scientific research with participatory approaches to co-develop and share knowledge, build partnerships, and inform policy for resilient development. It focuses on gender equality and social equity, climate adaptation, reducing disaster risk, water insecurity and integrated water resources management, transitional agriculture, renewable energy and urbanisation.

SEI Asia is an affiliate of Chulalongkorn University (CU), Thailand. SEI and CU have inked a long-term agreement until 2023 to foster innovative scientific research combined with effective policy engagement on development and environmental challenges in Asia. The key areas of collaboration are: intellectual engagement for joint research applications and fund mobilization; lecturing and seminars for CU's students; post-graduate supervision and examination; and, CU-SEI employee linkages.