

Call for applications: SEI Asia media grants for environmental reporting for period Oct-Dec 2020

Background

The Stockholm Environment Institute (Asia) is providing **six grants** to selected local and regional journalists in Asia to showcase impactful stories that highlight critical environmental sustainability issues in the region. Each grantee will receive US\$2,000 to produce and publish their proposed story.

SEI will provide mentorship and related scientific research to support the production of the stories. The proposed stories must revolve around the following areas of SEI's work:

- Air quality (pollution, health, vulnerable communities)
- Climate Change and disaster risk reduction
- Mekong region water insecurity
- Bioeconomy
- Urban governance (green spaces, city health)

The application deadline is 11 October 2020, 11:59 p.m. (Bangkok time).

Objectives

The grants aim to:

- Build media capacity on contextual and in-depth reporting of environmental topics;
- Strengthen media partnership to aid in knowledge and evidence sharing on critical sustainability issues to policy makers.

Who can apply?

Six grants worth US\$2,000 each will be awarded to selected applicants.

- Individual or a group of journalists working in print, digital, radio and television in Asia. Both freelance and staff journalists can apply.

- Multimedia producers that work with photography, audio, video, and/or animation
- Freelance journalists are encouraged to provide a supporting letter of intent from an outlet or organization that will disseminate their work.
- The outputs can be in English and/or a local language publication (but English translations to be provided by the journalist to SEI Asia).
- Preference is given to early-career, female journalists living in the Mekong Region.

All applications will be handled with strict confidentiality.

Required outputs

Grantees need to submit at least one of the following:

- *Text-based stories with accompanying images:* 1,000-3,000 words + 2-3 images
- *Short films or video interviews (6-10 minutes)* with 200-word written summary
- *Audio podcast:* Not longer than 20 minutes with a 200-word written summary

Selection criteria

Relevance: The story proposal must be relevant to the SEI topics mentioned above. It must explain why the chosen topic is relevant to the current environmental scenario in the grantee's country or in the region of Asia as a whole.

Angle: if the central topic has already been addressed, then the story should highlight how it is different and focuses on a new worthwhile aspect of the environmental issues. Journalists are encouraged to report on these environmental issues with a policy lens.

Impact: The story must inform, encourage discourse and urge policy action.

Feasibility: all facets of the project must be realistic and achievable within the given timeline.

Diversity: the project should include as much gender, ethnic, linguistic, geographic, and cultural diversity as possible

Publishing: The applicants will need to propose where their stories (or multimedia) will be published indicating the names of the respective website or news outlet.

Application and selection process

1. Applicants can submit their application through the online form available at this link: <http://bit.ly/SEIAsiaMediaGrant>.

The following information will be required to be uploaded:

Required

- Recent Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- A brief proposal of not more than 500 words for the article or multimedia product, choosing one (or more than one, if cross-cutting) of the SEI work areas mentioned above. The proposal should outline what the key aspects of the story or product are and relevance to the chosen area of SEI work.

Optional: reference letter from a regional media institution or news outlet.

2. Application submission deadline: **11 October 2020**, 11:59 p.m. (Bangkok time).

Contact

For further inquiries, please contact:

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