

SEI Asia theme: gender, environment and development



October 2018

The SEI Gender, Environment and Development (GED) work theme features a team of gender researchers who apply a gender and social equality perspective to environment and development issues for transformative social change. We conduct research on key drivers of gender and social inequality in the environment and development fields, building partnerships to complement and enhance the capacities of development practitioners and civil society groups for effective gender and social analyses. We engage with policy-makers, advocates and other knowledge producers to ensure inequalities are addressed in decision-making processes that will advance gender equality and women's empowerment.

Areas of work

GED uses critical gender analyses that focus on unequal power relations based on gender, class, ethnicity, age, (dis)ability and religion and on how they influence governance and policy action, in the following thematic areas:

- **Gender, climate change and disaster risk:** We investigate inequality drivers that shape disaster and climate change vulnerabilities that lead to displacements and weakened capacities to adapt, recover and build long-term resilience to disasters and climate change.
- **Gender and natural resource management:** We explore dynamics of gender and social equality in the use of land, water, forest, and marine and coastal resources to understand complex and intertwined issues of food and livelihood insecurity.
- **Gender and energy transitions:** We work to understand gender and social equality implications of transitioning from fossil-fuel dependence to low-carbon energy sources for workers, communities, national economies and fossil fuel corporations, and for overall energy security.
- **Gender professionals in the environment and development fields:** We work to understand gender professionals' strategies and dilemmas as they are assigned the difficult task to advance gender equality in contexts where the technical sciences traditionally define priorities for research and policy action.

Photo (above):

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Stockholm Environment Institute is an international non-profit research and policy organisation that tackles environment and development challenges.

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.

Selected projects

Gender and Social Equality at SEI: GED co-leads the SEI global programme on Gender and Social Equality (GSE) that brings together experts from across SEI to undertake cutting-edge research on GSE issues in environment and development. The programme also aims to integrate GSE issues into SEI projects.

Disasters and climate change: GED supports gender mainstreaming in USAID SERVIR-Mekong, a programme assisting Lower Mekong Countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam) to develop and access satellite imagery and geospatial technologies for environmental management and climate change responses. We conduct research on building resilience through inclusive and climate-adaptive disaster risk reduction, in addition to gender mainstreaming in GIZ (German Society for International Cooperation) Thailand climate change projects. We additionally engage in research on migration and displacement in the context of disasters and climate change.

Natural resources management: GED is supporting a regional study on improving the understanding of structural challenges that prevent equitable opportunities in coastal and marine resources management. We have also assessed gender in relation to water insecurity and supported research on gender in agriculture. We investigated women's public participation in environmental impact assessment processes in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Myanmar as part of the USAID Mekong Partnership for the Environment, and plan to work on agricultural transitions and the role of youth and circular migration.

Energy transitions: GED undertook a gender assessment of the renewable energy sectors of Lower Mekong Countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Thailand), which informed the development of USAID Clean Power Asia's Gender Implementation Plan. We also contributed to the development of approaches to advance gender equality within private sector hydropower operators in Myanmar through research on gender in hydropower development.