

Supporting policy processes for sustainability



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SEI Asia works with a diversity of partners at different scales to produce policy action for environmental sustainability and social equality. Our policy support work covers issues on local, regional and national levels, and includes a wide range of stakeholders, from governments to interest and civil society groups. In addition, our outreach also includes the private sector – a critical actor in the drive to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

SEI Asia's policy support work seeks to change agendas, enhance capacities and improve decisions through sharing knowledge and applying learnings in collaboration with partners. Research provides the basis of this support, **building evidence** on formal and informal institutions to support knowledge and processes for improving natural resource management decisions. Policy developers often require specific expertise or consultation on scientific matters that coincide with SEI's research areas. This **advisory** is provided directly to clients and based on previous research, in addition to the advice and support from SEI's Asia and globally-based experts. Policy is also developed through long-term partnerships and knowledge co-production, with the aim of developing **strategy** in new or critical policy areas such as water resources management, climate adaptation, and sustainable agriculture.

Areas of work

SEI Asia's policy support reaches across all our thematic research areas:

- Biodiversity
- Sustainable food systems
- Circular economy
- Bioeconomy
- Environmental governance
- Urban health and well-being

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.



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Selected projects

Chindwin Futures: Support for building up Myanmar's first river basin organisation, which manages and guides natural resources management in the Chindwin watershed area. This multi-stakeholder platform allows policy development and validation for regional resource governance across state actors, businesses and local communities.

SUMERNET: Policy guidance and support for the Sustainable Mekong Research Network (SUMERNET), the longest-running and largest research network for sustainability across the Mekong. SUMERNET helps to bridge science and policy by supporting policy-relevant research and outreach with partners working on sustainable development in the Mekong Region's six countries (Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam). The policy component supports research teams to ensure their research is relevant, and connects to, policy demands.

Research to Policy Impact learning programme: The programme, developed in partnership with ACIAR in the Mekong region, provides a platform for knowledge exchange, promotes policy-influence skills, and develops regional solutions for driving agricultural policy change.

Agroecological and Safe food System Transitions in South East Asia (ASSET): The ASSET project aims to develop and promote a shared vision of agroecology and safe food system transitions in South East Asia through a comprehensive approach that includes research, networking, policy advocacy, capacity development, awareness-raising and communication.

Strategic Collaborative Fund Phase 2: Raising awareness and starting conversations in regard to critical policy arenas among regional actors, including community-based organizations, NGOs, governments, regional organizations and the private sector. The Fund promotes strategic dialogue across a wide spectrum of sustainability issues in the region through events, workshops, training, online resources, coaching, and mentoring. It additionally identifies regional policy issues and initiates a conversation on joint solution pathways.