

Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping in Southeast Asia

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In early 2009, EEPSEA published a report entitled "Climate Change Vulnerability Mapping for Southeast Asia." This report identified the provinces/districts most vulnerable to climate change in the region. The report defined vulnerability as a function of exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity. It measured exposure to five climate hazards: tropical cyclones, floods, landslides, droughts, and sea level rise. It examined sensitivity using population density as a proxy for human sensitivity and the extent of protected areas as a proxy for ecological sensitivity. Adaptive capacity was measured based on selected socio-economic variables, technology, and infrastructure. Vulnerability to climate change was then illustrated through spatial maps showing the hotspots in seven countries in Southeast Asia.

This talk will present the indices of climate change vulnerability of sub-national administrative areas in seven countries in Southeast Asia, i.e., Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Indonesia. Specifically, it will highlight EEPSEA's cross-country climate change adaptation case studies in Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines. These studies, which are complementary to the mapping study, determine the adaptive strategies of households, communities and local government units when confronted with extreme climate events.



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