P17 / Towards Just and Sustainable Land Allocation for Displaced Farmers: Climate Change Adaptation in Southeast Asia

Topic : ENVIRONMENT, SDGs, ENERGY

Chair : Warathida Chaiyapa (Chiang Mai University School of Public Policy)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

Panel Overview:
Climate change poses a severe threat to Southeast Asia's agricultural sector, with farmers in facing increasing displacement due to extreme weather events like floods and droughts. These changes not only jeopardize agricultural productivity but also threaten the livelihoods of millions of small-scale farmers. As the backbone of rural economies, the displacement of these communities has far-reaching consequences, both economically and socially. Current adaptation efforts, such as Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) in Thailand and Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Cambodia, are steps in the right direction, but the harsh reality remains: many farmers are forced to abandon unviable lands.

This panel seeks to address the urgent need for a just and sustainable framework for land allocation for displaced farmers, which goes beyond humanitarian aid and focuses on long-term solutions to support their livelihoods. The discussion will focus on policy innovation and strategies for ensuring climate-resilient agricultural systems through equitable land distribution. Key issues such as environmental suitability, market access, and social integration will be explored, alongside how to address land rights conflicts and incorporate the needs of marginalized groups such as women, children, ethnic minorities, and disabled individuals.

General Objectives:
The panel aims to explore how land allocation can serve as a vital strategy for fostering resilience among climate-displaced farmers. Specifically, it will:

Investigate the key elements of a just and sustainable land allocation framework.
Propose inclusive policies to address the needs of vulnerable groups within displaced farming communities.
Discuss the alignment of land allocation with broader climate adaptation strategies and development plans.
Provide policy recommendations that promote the long-term sustainability and self-sufficiency of resettled farming communities.

Key Research Questions:

What are the essential components of a land allocation framework that ensures justice and sustainability for displaced farmers?
How can land allocation policies be inclusive and address the needs of vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly, and ethnic minorities?
How can land allocation strategies align with national and regional climate adaptation and development plans, while addressing conflicts over land rights?
What lessons can be drawn from current adaptation efforts in Southeast Asia for developing policies that promote resilient, climate-smart agricultural communities?

Scientific Relevance:
This panel contributes to the ongoing discourse on climate adaptation by providing a comprehensive examination of land allocation as a strategy for climate-displaced farmers. It addresses the intersection of land rights, environmental sustainability, and social justice, with a focus on vulnerable populations. As Southeast Asia is a key agricultural region, the discussions in this panel will not only provide context-specific insights but also offer lessons applicable to other regions facing similar climate challenges. The panel aims to fill critical knowledge gaps by advancing innovative policy approaches that integrate climate resilience, agricultural sustainability, and social equity, particularly for marginalized communities.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The panel welcomes papers on following topics. While Southeast Asia is a primary focus, the papers investigating cases of other regions are encouraged to apply.

1) **Designing a Climate-Resilient Land Allocation Framework for Southeast Asia**

This paper would explore the key principles and criteria for developing a sustainable and just land allocation framework, with a focus on environmental sustainability, market access, and the long-term resilience of farming communities displaced by climate change.

2) **Incorporating Gender and Social Equity in Land Allocation Policies**
This paper would focus on the specific needs of marginalized groups, such as women, children, the elderly, ethnic minorities, and disabled individuals, examining how inclusive land allocation policies can be developed to ensure equitable access and support for these vulnerable populations.

3) **Land Rights and Climate Justice: Resolving Conflicts in Displaced Communities**
This paper would analyze the legal and policy challenges surrounding land rights in the context of climate displacement, addressing how to resolve land tenure conflicts and promote fair access to land for displaced farmers.

4) **Linking Climate Adaptation and Land Allocation to National Development Plans**
This paper would discuss how land allocation strategies can be effectively integrated with national and regional development plans, including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other climate adaptation frameworks, to ensure long-term agricultural and economic viability.

5) Case Studies of Climate-Displaced Farmers in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam or other countries which are facing similar challenges.
This paper would present empirical case studies from Southeast Asia, highlighting the experiences of displaced farmers, examining how different land allocation approaches have succeeded or failed, and drawing lessons for future policy design.

6) The Role of Community Engagement in Sustainable Land Allocation
This paper would explore the importance of involving local communities and civil society organizations in the design and implementation of land allocation policies, focusing on participatory approaches that ensure social integration and the sustainability of resettlement programs.

7) Climate-Smart Agriculture and Land Allocation: Synergies for Sustainable Development
This paper would investigate how land allocation policies can be linked with climate-smart agricultural practices to foster both environmental sustainability and economic resilience, with a focus on strategies that improve productivity while reducing vulnerability to climate risks.

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Session 1

Wednesday, July 2nd 13:45 to 15:45 (C4)

Historical Review and Analysis of Land Allocation Policies Cambodia

Sineath Hong (National Institute of Social Affairs)

Climate crisis and human mobilities in the Andean Region: Insights and policy proposals from 4 case studies

Jorge Forero (Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences)

Post-conflict land allocation in the context of climate policy: Lessons learned from Lao PDR

Micah Ingalls (Mekong Region Land Governance)

Naomi Basik Treanor (Mekong Region Land Governance)

Land Allocation Policy in Vietnam: Process, Participation, and Power

Nguyen Tan (Hue University (Vietnam))

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Session 2

Wednesday, July 2nd 16:00 to 18:00 (C4)

Stakeholder Identification and Analysis in Social Land Concession (SLC) In Cambodia – Based on Archon Fung's Democracy Cube

Sam Chanthy (National Institute of Social Affairs)

Climate Vulnerability and Impacts on Farming Communities in Cambodia, Increasing Climate Migration Trend

Sam Chanthy (National Institute of Social Affairs)

I Don't Want to Go Anywhere Else; I Want to Die Here: Factors Influencing Migration Decisions in Response to Climate-induced Disasters– A Case Study of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai Provinces, Thailand

Niranrak Pathan (Chiang Mai University School of Public Policy)

Karanyapas Pooyongyuth (Chiang Mai University School of Public Policy)

Jarukit Kanokjaros (Chiang Mai University School of Public Policy)

Lakchayaporn Thansiri (Chiang Mai University School of Public Policy)

Loss and Damage in the Highlands: Perspectives from indigenous farmers in Atok, Benguet

Francis Uldric San Juan (Manila Observatory)

Jameela Joy Reyes (Ateneo de Manila University)

Laurice Jamero (Manila Observatory)

Doreen Allasiw (Benguet State University)