



EMBASSY OF SWEDEN

Regional Workshop

CO-CREATION FOR TRANSFORMATION

Effective Delivery on SDGs through Enhanced Cross-Sectorial Interaction

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Bangkok



Message from the Embassy of Sweden – Better Results with Co-Creation



Thank you for participating in and contributing to the Embassy of Sweden's regional workshop 2017. It was designed in collaboration with you, our partners, to facilitate an active engagement in finding ways to jointly deliver more effectively on the implementation of the Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Swedish Strategy for Regional Development Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Region 2016-2021.

The Strategy for Sweden's Regional Development Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Region 2016-2021 shall contribute to sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific through mutual interaction between human rights, democracy, gender equality, environment and climate change through:

- Enhanced regional collaboration to strengthen resilience to mutual environmental and climate problems and natural disasters
- Improved regional collaboration and sustainable use of transboundary natural resources
- Strengthened capacity of regional actors to promote greater accountability and increased democratic space
- Strengthened capacity of regional actors to promote human rights and gender equality

For effective delivery and good results, it is important that partners in Sweden's regional development cooperation work strategically together and use each other's competencies for beneficial interaction between human rights and environment. During the two days of the workshop, we had the chance to exchange perspectives and expert knowledge on gender equality, environment, human rights, and the prevention of conflicts over natural resource and many collaborative ideas were discussed. It was inspiring to see and listen to all the shared visions, experiences, and challenges from various sectors and how opportunities were found to co-create and strategize for constructive collaboration. We are grateful for all the contributions from everybody, which made the event truly co-creative. In particular we appreciate everybody's positive and open attitude to find new partners and to come up with new ideas for collaboration.

The workshop brought together 163 participants (84 women and 79 men) from international and local NGOs, governments, businesses, media organizations, research organizations, and UN agencies. We are happy to report that 89% of the participants were satisfied with the workshop. 78% of the participants felt that the workshop helped them to identify strategic partners and collaboration and 20+ new collaborative ideas were created at the workshop which should be explored further. These ideas are included in the Annex. Overall, a majority of the participants enjoyed the multi-sectoral and process oriented approach.

This workshop has hopefully provided a platform for partners to continue to contribute to sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific region and towards a future where environment and human rights are protected and respected. We look forward to hear more about your ideas on how you jointly can take action to work smarter and deliver effectively. Please keep in touch and let us know how we can support and collaborate with you to speed up the implementation of the SDGs and the Swedish Regional Development Cooperation Strategy.

Anne-Charlotte Malm
Head of Development Cooperation – Regional Asia and the Pacific

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Summary

Co-creation – where multiple stakeholders come together to develop practices that are mutually beneficial and result in value creation – can be used as a methodology for organizational change. The Embassy of Sweden organized the annual workshop 2017 using this methodology to facilitate the active engagement of its partners in development to find pathways to jointly deliver effectively on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Staff of the Do School from Berlin led the participants through this methodology.



The objective of the workshop was to inspire and increase awareness among partners in development around co-creation as a means to deliver on sustainable and peaceful development. During the workshop, partners in the Swedish Regional Development Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific shared their visions, experiences, and challenges from various sectors and provided opportunities for learning about each other's work, in order to co-create and strategize for mutually beneficial collaboration to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the two days the participants took part in two major panels, and six parallel sessions led by partners to the Embassy. Participants were also involved in three plenary sessions; *Innovative methods to reach change through enhanced collaboration*, *Drivers of change for enhanced respect for human rights* and *Conflict and dialogue as a driver for transformation*. The latter two set the scene for the following six breakout sessions.

Day 1: Drivers of change for enhanced respect for human rights. With the three parallel breakout sessions:

- Partnerships for oceans governance
- Advocating for Responsible Investments and Finance for Human Rights
- Collaboration for transformation of value chains to generate economic and environmental gains

Day 2: Conflict and dialogue as a driver for transformation. With the three parallel breakout sessions:

- Decent Work & Sustainable Global Supply Chains
- Democratic Processes for Climate Resilience & Finance
- Democratic Processes in Environmental & Natural Resource Governance

Welcome and Introduction

The workshop was opened by a conversation between Staffan Herrström, Ambassador of Sweden to Thailand, Myanmar and Lao PDR, and Anne-Charlotte Malm, Head of Regional Development Cooperation, Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok. They agreed that in order to proceed towards the sustainable development goals, it is



critical to build partnerships and co-create for designing innovative programs. This is especially true for the Asia Pacific region, due to the significant challenges faced in relation to the environment, climate change, human rights and freedom of expression. Staffan also emphasized that as Sweden has the first feminist government, it is important to apply feminist perspective in government interventions; this requires for example that men also speak out for gender equality.

Anne-Charlotte gave a brief overview of the 'Strategy for Sweden's Regional Development Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Region 2016–2021, and challenged the participants to use the two day workshop to co-create concrete actions to effectively deliver on the sustainable development goals. She also highlighted that conflict sensitivity analysis is critical for effective implementation of all development interventions.

What are the Drivers to Change Behavior?

Josie Raine from the Freeland Foundation shared her insights on behavior change communication, which is the strategic use of communication to encourage or enable people to act, based on proven theories and models of behavior change. She presented the various stages of behavioral change to move from awareness to education and finally to action. Behavioral change depends on various complex contextual influences and Josie gave examples of effective advocacy programs that focused on increasing the perception of risk rather than the perception of reward to reach the desired result.

Josie emphasized the importance of understanding cognitive dissonance (a negative, unpleasant state that occurs whenever a person holds two psychologically inconsistent cognitions) and context. Using an example from Afghanistan, Josie explained how understanding the barriers to action (cultural beliefs) and working with key change agents (men, religious leaders and effected women) was the key to the successful implementation of the treatment for sand-fly bites that caused social stigma for women. She talked about how context-specific channels are necessary to share awareness.

The session also included an exercise where the participants identified a challenge, decided on which group of people whose behavior needs to change and brainstormed about the barriers to achieve this change.



Panel 1: Drivers of Change for Enhanced Respect for Human Rights

The objective of the multidisciplinary panel discussion was to identify drivers of change for strengthened capacity of regional actors to promote human rights and gender equality for greater regional collaboration and sustainable use of trans-boundary natural resources. The panel was moderated by Jaldeep Katwala, Project Manager, Southeast Asia Fojo Media Institute.



Jerker Tamelander, Head of the Coral Reef Unit of UN Environment, emphasized the importance of taking a regional approach as well as the significance to work from local to global levels. He pointed out different social determinants, such as gender and migration, to emphasize how these are linked with environmental degradation. Jerker stated that fragmented policies are one of the biggest challenges, and emphasized that it is critical to create a common platform across all sectors and include the private sector for effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Petra Hamers, Program Lead for Transparent and Accountable Finance of Oxfam Novib, focused her discussion on fair finance and emphasized the importance of knowing who is behind the cooperation and who is profiting from it. It is critical to understand how banks, as loan providers, are influencing the private sector. She stressed the importance of advocating for better regulations in the financial sector for sustainable investments.

Viveka Risberg, Program Director of AxFoundation and Kristina Areskog Bjurling, Sustainability Manager at AxFood addressed the audience via a video message. Kristina shared that AxFood, a large food retailer in Sweden, is working to mitigate migrant workers' exposed situations in Thailand, through collaboration with the BCI Thai working group. This group includes 20 European food companies that work together to set guidelines for ethical recruitment, capacity building and top management meetings. Viveka shared that they are launching a public-private partnership project in Thailand for decent factory working conditions using a training tool called Quizrr which is a user friendly application to educate workers and managers in labor rights. Working together is key to reach long-term sustainability.

Katarina Veem, Director of Swedish Water House, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) spoke of the importance of challenging water policies that are not inclusive and fair. She addressed the importance of

women's issues. Women are almost always responsible for fetching water for family needs and in addition to that, women are particularly affected by unhygienic water. She shared SIWI's multidisciplinary work with communities, UN agencies and governments to ensure regulations for access to safe water. She also underlined that increasing levels of corruption is one of the main challenges for sustainable development.

Laurent Meillan, UN Office for High Commissioner on Human Rights, presented various human rights challenges, such as shrinking democratic space, a lack of monitoring mechanisms in ASEAN countries and a lack of freedom of expression. Human right defenders are facing threats, and so do ethnic minorities, members of LGBTQI communities and migrants. Land grabbing incidents are taking place since justice systems are not working systematically. Police are failing to investigate and governments are showing apathy. He stated that there is a need to focus more on inclusive and preventive approaches, and to provide spaces for civil society.

Jaldeep asked the panelists to discuss barriers to working together and how these can be overcome. The panelists agreed on the importance of platforms where different stakeholders can participate to express their different needs. Another challenge raised was that stakeholders often are forced to compete rather than cooperate and each organization has their own mandate. SIWI shared that they have established a platform for collaboration called the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation. It is an informal network for water resources adaptation to climate change, focused on supporting experts, decision makers, and institutions within the water community to find common solutions for sustainable water resources management

Participants in the audience raised questions and comments about how to integrate existing tools for collaboration and make them effective for practitioners to use. Some participants also brought up the shrinking democratic space and the need to share stories and strategies. Some questions concerned the importance to focus on the impact for people living in poverty.

Key Messages

- Fragmented policies are one of the biggest challenges to promote human rights and gender equality for greater regional collaboration and sustainable use of trans-boundary natural resources.
- It is critical to create a common platform for integrated approaches, across all sectors that include the private sector.
- In order to have an effective platform for collaboration, there is a need to understand the mandate and intention of all stakeholders. It should also emphasize inclusive approaches and to provide democratic space for all stakeholders especially those of civil society.
- It is important to address the issue of corruption for effective implementation of any initiative.

Break-out Session: Multisector Partnerships for Oceans Governance

This session was led by UN Environment and the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA). Environmental challenges in the marine environment require integrated and ecosystem-based approaches and partnerships at the regional level. This includes the problem of marine litter, which has widespread implications in South East Asia, with impacts on people, their living environment and their access to safe and healthy food. Many of the solutions to marine litter lay upstream, spanning plastic production, waste management, and consumer behavior. The problem with marine litter can be tackled through regulatory or voluntary action, and through public or private sectors or through civil society. But consideration of the human rights and gender dimensions of the impact of marine litter as well as solutions is crucial and current work on this is limited.

The objective of the session was to explore opportunities drawing on experiences from the fisheries sector, including in relation to application of the voluntary guidelines for small scale fisheries. Labor in the fishing and seafood industry as well as coastal community-based initiatives were also on the agenda. Jerker Tamelander from UN Environment presented a brief introduction on the marine litter initiative and posed the following challenge questions for the participants: What are the national and regional aspects of the problem? Where are the entry points to reduce the problem, and through what actions?

Participants worked in groups and highlighted the following challenges:

- Marine litter is a regional issue
- Corruption makes it challenging to work on these issues
- Domestic use of plastics is one of the root causes for marine litter
- Large amount of plastic used in domestic waste is because of the use of the small plastics products like shampoo sachets, containers and bottles.

Participants came up with the following ideas or solutions

- Promote bio-degradable plastic use
- Training on using natural products instead of plastic
- Put regulations on using plastic bags, and educate communities
- Use social media as a tool for awareness
- Formalize the informal sector and train workers and women's groups to separate degradable and non-degradable waste, and formalize the work
- Establish regional centers to conduct awareness programs and recycling.



Break-out Session: Advocating for Responsible Investments and Finance for Human Rights

Led by OXFAM, this session addressed the guiding question: How can we strengthen existing ways and /or co-create new ways to make the financial sector more responsible on a regional level by using existing structures and initiatives?

Can global and regional financial institutions be drivers for enhanced respect for human rights? Financial sector actors have a responsibility to demand from their loan/investment clients the adoption of responsible business practices that take Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) criteria into account in their business performance and to be accountable for the impact of their activities on society. Civil society has a key role to play in pushing financial institutions and their regulators to ensure this accountability. Inspired by the example of Fair Finance Guide International (FFGI - with specific experiences in Indonesia and Japan) and the Responsible Business Conduct Agreements in the Netherlands, participants co-created input to provide added value to an upcoming Fair Finance Asia program.

Participants were asked to create a map by adding stakeholders they believe are relevant to the topic and program of their own organization.

The group came up with ideas to tackle the challenge:

- Use of industry communication lines to spread narratives
- Campaign on current constraints and impact on human rights and environment and promote SDGs as way forward for finance institutions
- Access qualified/evidence- based information for decision making
- Develop business cases emphasizing the cost of not taking action
- Strengthen the capacity of Asian journalists to report on regional economic development, money streams, dealing with big data and liaising with financial research institutions.



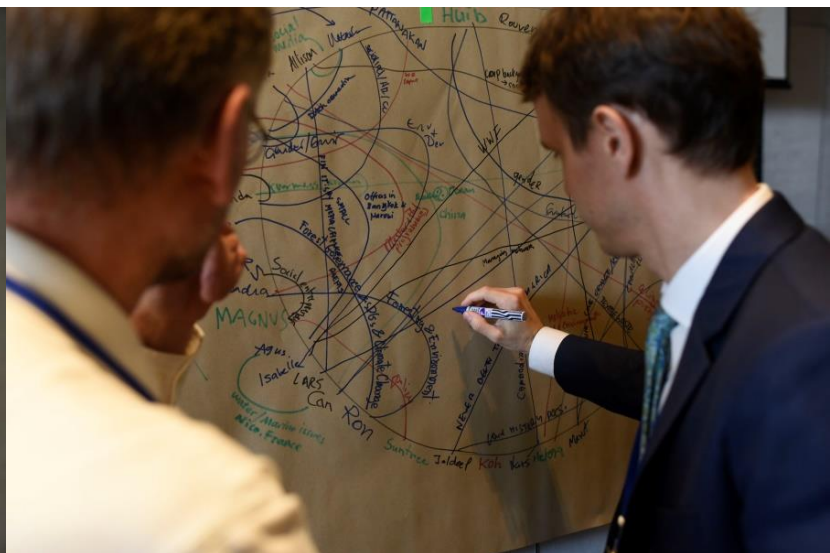
Break-out Session: Collaboration for Transformation of Value Chains to Generate Economic and Environmental Gains

This breakout session was led by Katarina Veem, Swedish International Water Initiative (SIWI) and started with a brief overview the Sweden Textile Water Initiative (STWI). She described that capacity building and technical support on resource efficiency, global data benchmarking, improved governance and a global platform is important to accelerate the momentum of the adoption of industrial sustainable practices and formats in the textile industry. Discussant Helena Olsson from the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) emphasized that it is critical to identify change agents within the private sector in particular in order to tackle human rights issues in value chains. She identified the 'big elephant in the room', and spoke about how to convince Chinese companies to join the human rights agreements. Lars Svensson presented IKEA's approach to support entrepreneurship with a long term commitment and emphasized the critical need for IKEA to secure sustainable partnerships holding strong values and commitment for human rights in their supply chains. Ronnakorn Triraganon from RECOFTC shared his experience with FLEGT Forest Law Enforcement and Trade, where they are trying to bring the key actors affected by the timber trade to implement timber governance. He emphasized the importance of identifying the key actors, developing mechanisms to continue engagement and strategy for knowledge transfer.

After the initial discussion, participants were divided into groups to identify problems and then develop action plans for the transformation of value chains to generate economic and environmental gains. Participants identified various problems such as consumer trends, demographic, depletion of natural resources, shifts in political economy, inequality and digitization and connectivity.

Participants developed action plans and here are some of the concrete recommendations:

- Support policymaking at local government level to create the right incentives to enforce regulations
- Promote decent jobs, with equal pay which can lead to upward mobility
- Information sharing between organizations to distribute to local people
- Engage with youth to initiate dialogue and build capacity on sustainable lifestyles.



Sustainable Food Journey

Day one ended with a unique sustainable reception led by UN Environment in collaboration with Novotel Bangkok Sukhumvit 20. The menu included five food stories - responsible seafood, vegan/vegetarian proteins, community raised livestock, food waste prevention and organic certification and to promote SDG goal 12 to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns and SDG goal 2 to end hunger by achieving food security and improved nutrition through sustainable agriculture.

Seafood was sourced from Fisher Folk Bangkok that operates under the Federation of Thai Fisherfolk Association, a network in all fishing communities in Southern Thailand. Fisherfolk's philosophy is to support environmentally friendly fishing methods, to not use illegal fishing tools, or destructive fishing practices, including the use of trawling the sea floor. All fish are organic and formaldehyde free. Fisher men and women get a fair and reliable income for what they produce.

Sustainably sourced pork and chicken came from Surin farm, which is a family run small scale farm certified as a 'smart farm', and partner to the King's Swine Project to bring incomes to Thai family farms. They don't use chemicals or hormones, and the pigs have 150% of the space needed under organic standards. They recycle the manure, use environmentally friendly housing and cleaning products and follow the Korean Method of natural farming, to feed livestock home grown fermented feed, through efficient microorganisms.

The story of food waste was addressed by adding dishes such as soup and fruit tart which used vegetables and fruit scraps. One third of food produced globally is wasted, which carries a high environmental footprint. Food is sometimes wasted because it goes off – and that can be prevented by better logistics and management. Thus it is important to share stories on how to use produce efficiently to cut food waste.



Panel 2: Conflict and Dialogue as a Driver for Transformation

Åsa Wallton, Senior Policy Specialist, Peace and Security at Sida and Chetan Kumar, Senior Advisor on Peacebuilding, UNDP, set the scene with two opening presentations day two.



Åsa emphasized that addressing conflict and violence are keys to poverty reduction and sustainable development. Conflict sensitivity in practice includes context knowledge, minimizing negative impact and maximizing positive impact on peace, conflict intervention and detecting and acting on conflict risks. Sida has developed a new Peace and Conflict Tool Box that provides thematic method support and guidance. It targets Sida staff as well as partners and other stakeholders. The Peace and Conflict Tool Box also includes three different kinds of materials: Tools, Issue Briefs and Thematic Overviews. The Tool Box is now launched with a first set of Tools, but will continuously be updated with additional materials based on identified needs, interests and priorities.

Chetan Kumar provided a regional perspective on conflict and its effect on development in the region. Conflict over natural resources is critical in the region, as for example the Chinese dam investment in Cambodia, where the investment was usurped by the Cambodian mafia. Chetan emphasized that it is critical to build local capacities and to bring all stakeholders together to discuss and resolve issues.



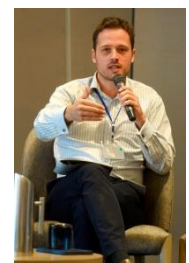
In the following panel, Dr. Seree Nonthasoot, Thailand's Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, spoke of the need to foster participatory and meaningful conflict resolution. Businesses should be recognized as actors in conflict solution, and engaged in meaningful dialogue. The lack of information is another key barrier. It is important for ASEAN to ratify international mandates on peace resolutions and to replicate good practices.

Maria Holtsberg, Gender Specialist of the Asia Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), spoke on how the root cause of disaster is socially constructed inequality. ADPC focuses on understanding the consequences, using sex and age disaggregated data to target people in high risk areas in urban or rural settings, coastal areas and landslide-affected areas. Environmental threats and conflicts can hinder disaster recovery.



Lars-Åke Bergqvist, Global Code of Conduct Coordinator of garment brand H&M, talked about how the company works with various suppliers that have their own sub-contractors, and have faced various labor conflicts. He gave the example of a recent complicated situation in Myanmar, where work is going on to resolve the situation through engagement with national committees and labor unions. Lars-Åke emphasized that H&M is committed to sustainability, fair wage and of creating good working conditions for all workers in the garment supply chain.

Daniel King, Mekong-Myanmar Program Director of EarthRights International (ERI), shared some challenges around community organising in post-conflict societies of Vietnam and Cambodia. The political freedoms in both Cambodia and Vietnam are limited, and contextual strategies are needed to be able to work directly and sustainably with communities facing negative impacts from large-scale projects like hydropower or coal plants, mines and plantations. These projects in turn often cause conflicts within and between communities. The



poorly planned cascade of hydropower dams on the Mekong River will have devastating impacts on biodiversity and riverine communities in the Delta and Tonle Sap, and will also amplify the negative impacts of climate change. The cascade of dams is already creating upstream and downstream conflict across borders. Initiatives that prioritise community organising and community engagement in policy and planning are currently not prioritised enough.

Key Messages

- Addressing conflicts and violence, and risk of conflict, is key to poverty reduction
- It is critical to create common platforms for an integrated approach, across all sectors and including the private sector.
- Sida has developed a new Peace and Conflict Tool Box that provides thematic method support and guidance.
- It is critical to build local capacities on conflict sensitivity and to bring all stakeholders together to discuss and resolve issues.
- Market mechanisms can provide ways for NGOs to engage with governments that are resistant to address conflict issues.
- Private sector needs to build partnerships with national bodies, INGOs and trade unions to mitigate conflict, which affects their supply chain.
- There is a need to foster participatory and meaningful conflict resolution throughout the region.
- Socially constructed inequalities need to be addressed through conflict sensitive approaches.

Break-out Session: Decent Work and Sustainable Global Supply Chains

This session was led by Lara White, Senior Labor Migration Specialist, International Organization for Migration (IOM) with a focus on collective and participatory processes for labor rights and equal distribution of resources. Participants discussed their approaches to social dialogue, industrial relations, and recruitment practices of migrant workers that have contributed to minimizing inequality and conflicts.

Lara presented how the IOM works for the protection of migrant workers to address exploitation through employment. Lara underlined that lack of regulations is the primary cause for labor migration exploitation. She explained that the ILO 'General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment' is a non-binding instrument. The Principle is intended to cover the recruitment of all workers, including migrant workers, whether directly by employers or through intermediaries. The Principles apply to recruitment within or across national borders, as well as to recruitment through temporary work agencies, and cover all sectors of the economy. Implementation of these principles and guidelines at the national level should occur after consultation between the social partners and the government.

Cristina Martinez, Senior Specialist on Environment and Decent Work of ILO, stated that companies can facilitate mapping of the workers' safety, health and environmental issues. She mentioned that there is a need for improvements in workers working conditions within the local value chains, and addressing the lack of contracts and child labor. The global value chain sector provides a large amount of employment, thus presents a great opportunity to influence the framework of decent work. Cristina also mentioned that the Fair Recruitment Initiatives can follow the guidelines of SDG 8 on Decent Work and Economic Opportunity.

Achieving stability in the workplace, and in the relation between workers and employers, is critical for business predictability, according to Lars-Åke Bergqvist from H&M. H&M is working with ILO and Sida in Myanmar with the main objective to improve the social dialogue.

Naw Hel Lay Paw from the Burmese Women's Union (BWU) talked about the state of labor issues in Myanmar. Though employees pay for social welfare monthly, the workers are not getting the benefits, such as for maternity leave. There is a lack of labor unions and there are barriers to freedom of expression. There are reported cases of violence and abuse in the factories, and no law for workers' rights, nor policy for workers'



benefits and health issues. There is a surge of foreign investments which leads to women working more hours for very little wages. She emphasizes the need for policy development through a bottom up approach which includes the workers.

Participants discussed the roles of regional labor laws and need to enforce them across countries, especially in countries such as China and Myanmar. They also discussed the volatility of depending on foreign investments, that can move on quickly to the next cheapest labor market.

Key Messages:

- Lack of regulations is the primary cause for labor migration exploitation; therefore ILO has introduced a non-binding instrument 'General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment'.
- Global value chain provides a large amount of employment, thus presents a great opportunities to influence the framework of decent work.
- Stability is the driver for the private sector to engage in decent work dialogues with NGOs, governments and UN agencies
- There is a need for policy development through a bottom up approach which engages workers

Key Collaborative Ideas

- Women as partners in productivity - A Pilot training will be conducted in a factory in Myanmar to be conducted by ILO together with RWI, with advice from Burma workers union.
- Awareness raising for migrant workers in sending and receiving countries to ensure they know their rights.
- Whistleblower international – whistleblower mechanism for reporting abuse or injustices of workers' rights safely and effectively
- Regional cooperation on the use of ICTs to ensure decent working condition on fishing vessels



Break-out Session: Democratic Processes for Climate Resilience and Finance

This session focused on strategic collaboration for disaster preparedness, climate-resilience and finance. The panelists addressed the question: How do we better address women's and men's needs in climate adaptation and disaster prevention? The aim was to discuss ways forward to promote accountability, democratic space, and conflict prevention.

Hans Guttman, Executive Director of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) opened the discussion by emphasizing that the awareness for disaster preparedness is still not effective and it has to be made more practical. There is a need to focus on the impact assessments of all interventions, and to mainstream gender, based on an understanding that women and children are affected by disasters at many levels. Democratic processes for disaster risk reduction need to be transparent and accountable.

David Molden, Director General of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) stressed the importance of building capacity and creating a resource hub to share knowledge and information. He shared the experience of ICIMOD of working with stakeholders and setting up a regional space to share experiences, and mentioned the limited number of warning systems and challenges to translate all information into local languages. ICIMOD has been working with women in climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives, such as the community-based warning systems on floods, and provides capacity building for financial management.



Sudha Gooty, Governance and Climate Change Finance Advisor of UNDP explained their work on climate finance in regard to public finance, as work on budget and impact coding of climate investments. One obstacle is that departments working on climate issues do not want to talk about budgeting and finance; another obstacle is getting accurate information to convince stakeholders. Currently there is very limited involvement of stakeholders in the climate budget processes so UNDP is trying to address this by creating multi-stakeholder climate dialogues. Sudha also mentioned various tools they have developed to measure impact of climate investment and the cooperation with UN Women and across other UN Agencies and sectors.

Pavit Ramachandran, Senior Environment Specialist of Asian Development Bank (ADB) summarized lessons learned from 10 years of experience in climate mitigation. There is a lot of evidence from the ground, especially from the agriculture sector, which emphasizes the need to promote low carbon footprints and build capacities. ADB works with policy decision makers and they are developing business models to engage the private sector and Foreign Direct Investments (FDI). Pavit underlined that it is important to understand and use the language of the financial sector to be able to engage with them effectively.

Esther Penunia, Secretary General of the Asia Farmers Association, (AFA) spoke of the various challenges of poor farmers related to land rights, gender inequality and integrating organic farming with adaptation and mitigation interventions. She explained how AFA works at the national and international levels to advocate for land rights and that there have been successes where small group of farmers in the Philippines have been able to get their

land back through cooperation. AFA advocates for sustainable agriculture as a rehabilitation mechanism for disaster relief.

Kalpna Giri, Research Fellow of Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) presented research findings on gender and climate finance. Climate finance is an effective tool for discussing climate change and gender equality, and provides a great opportunity to gain a deeper understanding for all stakeholders. There is a need for a democratic approach and it is critical for donors and financing agencies to specify how much money actually is used for improving gender equality. Kalpna highlighted that the monitoring and evaluation processes should not only report on results but also identify weaknesses of implementation.

Key Messages:

- Disaster preparedness needs to focus on transparent and accountable impact assessments and to assure that gender equality is mainstreamed, based on an understanding that women and children are affected by disasters in different ways than men.
- There is a need to build capacities and create resource hubs to share knowledge and information on disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Engaging with the private sector is critical for climate change interventions.
- Land rights, gender equality and sustainable agriculture are key rehabilitation mechanism for disaster relief.
- Climate budget processes needs to be inclusive and include multi-stakeholders.
- Climate finance presents new opportunities to address gender inequality but it requires a transparent monitoring and evaluation process.

Key Collaborative Ideas

Legal frameworks such as building codes, land laws, planning laws, and environmental impact assessments, should adequately interpret and fairly manage disaster and climate risks.

- Empower community organizations for equitable and just disaster preparedness and readiness. Participatory planning to design response for diverse needs.
- Data for targeted disaster services needs to be disaggregated and used to plan emergency services.



Break-out Session: Democratic Processes in Environmental and Natural Resource Governance

The objective of this session was to look at regional drivers to promote greater accountability, increased democratic space, and human rights and gender equality in relation to the management of natural resources. In this session, partners shared their experiences of working with processes of environmental impact assessments such as those of community based interventions and collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Partners discussed their challenges and offered ideas as to who they need to collaborate with for transformation. Thin Lei Win, Asia Resilience Correspondent of Thomson Reuters Foundation moderated the panel discussion.

Daniel King from Earth Rights International (ERI) stressed the importance of communication mechanisms for compliance as well as for gaining access to information. He spoke of the potential threats that human rights defenders face. Prevention from legal and digital attacks, protection from identified threats is crucial concerns related to environmental human right defenders. He also stressed the importance of creating platforms for the communities to engage. Livio Sarandrea, Programme Specialist Rule of Law of UNDP gave an example from Mozambique, a country which is rich in natural resources yet highly affected by internal conflict that has made its citizens more vulnerable. The government was building a seaport which resulted in that many people became homeless, losing their livelihoods as fisher folk and turning to farming, without knowledge of how to farm. He suggested that UN's Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights should be kept in mind as good guidance. He suggested concrete National Action Plans for implementation of the Business and Human Rights framework is a way forward and several countries in ASEAN have taken steps in the area. He underlined the importance of community-driven operations. He also emphasized the need to focus on gender dimension because women are highly affected by disasters and in most of cases men are given the compensation and women lose their livelihoods.

Christy Owen, Country Director/Chief of Party of Mekong Partnership for the Environment, PACT stressed the importance of involving stakeholders to increase transparency and accountability as well as to strengthen the regional approach. Christy underlined that it is crucial to identify who are the decision makers and who are the champions. Since governments hold the power and play crucial roles in decision making, it is very important to involve government officials from different ministries in dialogue exchange. Even though it is difficult to engage with all the countries, regional level engagement provides an opportunity to identify what has worked and not worked; it also provides space for transparency and a platform for knowledge dissemination. She reiterated the significance of understanding gender issues in decision making process.



Edmund Bon Malaysia Representative of ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) reported on the challenges in the ASEAN region, especially issues related to poor knowledge management mechanisms. Although AICHR is working in ten countries on water, sanitation and human right issues, there is no baseline study. ASEAN countries should find ways to strengthen collaboration and build consensus.

Key Messages

- Creating inclusive platforms for the communities to engage with governments and the private sector is critical for the prevention of legal and digital attacks and protection from identified threats for environmental human right defenders.
- There is a need for concrete national action plans for human rights and to involve stakeholders to increase transparency and accountability as well as to strengthen the regional approach.
- ASEAN countries should find ways to strengthen collaboration and build consensus.

Key Collaborative Ideas

- Voices for the future: Voices and concerns of local women and marginalized people are included in FDI decision making process
- Regional mechanism for extra territorial obligation on business and human rights/ due diligence
- Judges' council for corporate accountability: Creating a non-judicial recommendation mechanism within ASEAN.
- Super regional network of academics, campaigners, community organizers, journalists and lawyers-peoples' regional platform for rights- based and responsible FDIs, bringing together different civil society groups in platform to be more networked
- Full non-financial disclosures: Creation of a reliable and accessible database with information and tools on 'disclosures'.
- Highlight good investment practices to promote sustainable investments (FDI)



Annex 1 - Workshop Collaborative Ideas

Throughout the two day workshop, participants were asked to come up with ideas to solve various development problems identified during the breakout sessions. On the final session of day two, participants were asked to place their idea sheets within the four working areas of the 'Strategy for Sweden's Regional Development Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Region 2016–2021':

1. Enhanced regional collaboration to strengthen resilience to mutual environmental and climate problems and natural disasters
2. Improved regional collaboration and sustainable use of transboundary natural resources
3. Strengthened capacity of regional actors to promote greater accountability and increased democratic space
4. Strengthened capacity of regional actors to promote human rights and gender equality

Please find below the ideas shared by the participants. It should be noted that these ideas are just copied from the flip-charts where the participant's contributions were written down and no further analysis or development has been made. We trust that those who wrote the suggestions will recognize them and take them forward if deemed worthwhile. It should also be noted that the ideas do not necessarily fit only with one of the working areas.

1. Enhanced Regional Collaboration to Strengthen Resilience to Mutual Environmental and Climate Problems and Natural Disasters

Name	Disaster and Climate Pooling Legal Frameworks
User	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct user: government, implementing agencies • Indirect user: private sector, CSOs and citizens
Description	Building code, land law, planning laws, environmental impact assessments adequately interpreted and fairly managed disaster and climate risks
Goals	Country has a fair and just legal framework that is disaster and climate proofed
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline study with recommendations, using both national and international experts • Multi-stakeholder consultations- across government departments, CSOs and private sector • Drafting legal instruments such as laws, regulations and implementing guidelines • Broad multi-stakeholder consultations on national reform processes • Formal approvals • Implementation which leads to resilient citizens.
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Name	Empower Community Organizations for Equitable and Just Disaster Preparedness and Readiness
User	Government, implementing agencies, private sector, CSOs and communities
Description	Empower Community Organizations for Equitable and Just Disaster Preparedness and Readiness
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-prepared, empowered women and men • Sustainable and resilient communities
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize, sensitize, organize and build groups in community • Training and capacity building • Facilitate collective action • Involvement in policy-making, program design and implementation, budgeting/climate finance • Well-prepared empowered women and men • Sustainable resilient communities
Contact	Ester Penunia, Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), afaesther@asianfarmers.org Magnus Persson, We Effect, magnus.persson@weeffect.org Phan Kahn Nam, Economy and Environment Partnership for SEA

Name	Sim Hazard
User	Kim 14-16 year-old
Description	Disaster computer game linked to IRL and organizations
Goals	Kim learns how to prevent and respond to natural disaster
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim playing game, google, Facebook promoting • Kim's school teachers on the game • Kim connects to NDMOS, CSOs and other DRR organizations • Kim's parents work at Google and help promote game
Contact	

2. Improved Regional Collaboration and Sustainable Use of Transboundary Natural Resources

Name	
User	Potential investors
Description	Highlight good investment practices
Goals	Promote sustainable investments (FDI)
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate indicators for the best practices • Develop good practices through funding mechanisms for innovative business practices • Collect examples of good investments • Find respected business actors who can lead by example • Statement of intention between companies and stakeholders • Capacity building on standards and compliance
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Name	Regional Cooperation on the Use of ICTs to Ensure Decent Working Condition on Fishing Vessels
User	Primarily fisheries enforcement authorities (and large enforcement agencies)
Description	Use of GPS, vessel data, workers' manifests, wages payment data to workers from workers, integrated in 'live' databases at national levels and regularly. Updated by members of vessel inspections and port and any case of abuses, flagging suspected vessels for check by enforcement authorities with technology to conduct inspection of working conditions.
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legally enforced GPS installation on all fishing vessels employing workers, agreed in SE Asia • Technology developed bringing data in workforce on vessels with wage data and vessel (GPS data) • Regional agreement (SE Asia) to cooperate in liking database (in collaboration with SEAFDEC) • Systems established for monitoring check on fishing vessels; routine, random checks and on those where complaints made

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intercepts of vessels, for inspections undertaking to assist workers in suspected abusive cases • Data systems monitoring working conditions on boats linked to traceability of fish (labor and IUU monitoring in one system)
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreements between countries to share data and monitor boats • All fishing boats employing workers fitted with GPS • All respective regional authorities proactively responding to reported cases and monitoring vessels and updating database
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Name	Community Trust Fund
User	Communities and effected people
Description	Set up independent fund to support court cases
Goals	Community support on legal action for safeguard social and environmental matters
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community proposal • Mechanisms of trust fund established • Institutional set up, responsible units, banks, civil society, organizations (the partners to the communities) • Implementation plan, application process, mobilization – crowd findings • Case funded • Lessons learned, scaled up, change for the communities
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3. Strengthened Capacity of Regional Actors to Promote Greater Accountability and Increased Democratic Space

Name	W+ Standard to measure and monetize women's empowerment
User	Project implementer
Description	Project implementers use W+ standard to measure and monetize women's empowerment results in climate projects
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To achieve effectiveness and social justice (gender and women's empowerment) of climate action To provide economic empowerment opportunities to women's groups
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access information about W+ process Analyze costs and benefits of using W+ in projects and staff capacities to do so Select key domains to be measured and plan for activities for those indicators Search for funder or buyer of W+ units Implement activities, measure results, verify through independent auditors Sell units and share at least 20% revenues with women's groups Women's groups use money for own activities
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Name	Full Non-Financial Disclosures
User	Business, civil society, communities, governments, academics
Description	Creation of a reliable and accessible database with information and tools on 'disclosures'
Goals	Transparency and accountability to ensure that projects meet the needs of society
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of issues, covered or to be addressed Selection and adoption of relevant (international) standards Decision documented on which companies to report Decision documented on content of disclosure Grievances and feedback mechanism established and operational Database designed, host, selected and made operational
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Name	Our Land, Our Right
User	Local community
Description	Pushing the government to recognize, promote and protect genuine ownership and control of land/ resources by local communities
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land rights and resources in the hands of the community • Governments (national and local level) who recognize and uphold these rights • Communities are key decision makers in FDIs
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building from local CSOs • Advocacy and lobbying: national, regional and international levels • Negotiating with local power holders: military, NSAG, community leaders and local authority • Participation in FDI decision making
Contact	

Name	Open Investment Data
User	The public
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making information about investment projects in Asia available and accessible
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business accountability • Government accountability
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building open data platform • Collect data • Curate data • Disseminate information • Engage stakeholders • Using and advocating
Contact	Petra Hamers, OXFAM, petra.hamers@oxfamnovib.nl

Name	Super Regional Network of Academics, Campaigners, Community Organizers, Journalists and Lawyers
User	Journalists, researchers, community organizers, campaigners and lawyers
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A peoples' regional platform for rights- based and responsible FDIs • Bringing together different civil society groups in platform to be more networked
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen regional civil society engagement in rights- based and responsible Foreign Direct Investment <p>Outcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence based advocacy and influence • Linking and learning between the stakeholders and trust building • Case studies/ tools/ engagement will empower the stakeholders

Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network mapping of each stakeholder • Identification of leaders and champions who have regional perspectives for each stakeholder group • A series of regional trust building and strategizing events
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Name	Making FDIs Publicly Accountable
User	Local communities
Description	Campaign to pressure companies and government to implement more responsible investments
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make foreign direct investment (& agreements) publicly accountable • Make FDIs socially responsible • Alleviate impacts on local communities including indigenous people
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the problem • Collect the evidence • Develop media, education and awareness campaign • Run the campaign • Pressure governments and companies to change and become more accountable FDIs
Contact	

Name	Judges' Council for Corporate Accountability
User	ASEAN Judge's council
Description	Creating a non-judicial recommendation mechanism within ASEAN
Goals	Ending corporate impunity
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene Judges • Convince Judges • Capacitate Judges • Collaboration • Adjudicate • Remedy/compensation
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Name	Regional Mechanism for Extra Territorial Obligation on Business and Human Rights/ Due Diligence
User	One-ASEAN member state
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mechanism will be put in place to monitor extraterritorial obligation on business and human rights due diligence • The mechanism will be used to also monitor compliance with environmental standards based on human rights -based approach to environmental protection
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up ASEAN accountability mechanism that can be enforced through national legislation that obliges companies (private companies or state owned enterprises) to respect and promote human rights within and outside the country in which they are registered. • For the purpose of this mechanism, environmental violations from duty bearers should be considered human rights violation of right holders
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiative from one-member state based on national consultation • Drafting of a document detailing the initiative by a technical working group-composed of regional reps/stakeholders • Validation of the text of the document from stakeholders at political level • Adoption of the regional framework on extraterritorial obligation on human right • Adoption of legislation at national level on extraterritorial obligation and implementation • Regional monitoring mechanism/ peer review
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Name	Voices for the Future
User	Local communities: Women and marginalized people
Description	Voices and concerns of local women and marginalized people are included in FDI decision making process
Goals	Fair and equitable decision making on FDI initiatives related to hydropower
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory situation analysis • Community leadership programs • Community networking: mobilization of local groups • FPIC (Free prior and informed content) on FDI initiatives • Policy/investment dialog processes with decision makers • Participation of women and marginalized groups in decision making processes

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Name	Whistleblower International
User	Abused workers
Description	Whistleblower mechanism for reporting abuse or injustices of workers' rights safely and effectively
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informed about workers' rights and responsibility • Reduced violations of workers in the supply chain • Improved working conditions and increased rights awareness of workers • Reporting system piloted and in place for complaints • Functioning database for complaints registration
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coalition building with stakeholders : agreed and signed function • Design of complaint system : launched system • Awareness raising whistleblowers international : active and passive recognition of rights and responsibilities • Knowledge of how to report a complaint to the system : database • Summarizing the complaints : conflicts solved, complaints, workplace • Expose abuses bringing cases to justice : functioning grievance system
Contact	Cristina Martinez, ILO, martinezc@ilo.org

4. Strengthened Capacity of Regional Actors to Promote Human Rights and Gender Equality

Name	
User	Migrant fishers
Description	Awareness raising for migrant workers in sending and receiving countries to ensure they know their rights
Goals	Migrant fishers are organized and have knowledge and capacity to claim rights
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In consultation with local communities, unions/ NGOs in sending countries, develop information material on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ minimum wage ○ working hours ○ working conditions ○ right to keep passport ○ right to written employment contract ○ right to change employers ○ right to organize • develop information centers in receiving countries with complaints mechanism
Contact	

Name	C² Team
User	Textile workers
Description	Certification of vocational skills in textile supply chain
Goals	Recognition of workers in textile supply chain to achieve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mobility, fair wages • increased competitiveness of the workers • increase competitiveness of the sector
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • online certificate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ searchable by code: companies pay a fee to search the database and message contacts • certified skills (developed by employers, workers organizations, ministry of education, academia) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ weaving and dyeing ○ design, printing ○ environmental sustainability ○ community specific methods • Optional skills: entrepreneurship, marketing and accounting
Contact	

Name	Data for Targeted Disaster Services
User	Community members
Description	Disaggregated data collected and used to plan emergency services. Participatory planning to design response for diverse needs
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse communities are better understood • Different needs are fulfilled by disaster response actors and local authorities • Evidence base for better planning • People protected during and after emergencies • People empowered • Regional capacity built
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaggregated data collection • Systems improvement and multi-sectoral data sharing • Vulnerability and capacity analysis • Participatory design of emergency response services • Capacity building to empower marginalized community members • Analysis / evaluation of targeted disaster response services
Contact	Maria Holtsberg, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, mariah@adpc.net

Name	Women as Partners in Productivity
User	Factory owners, senior/middle managers in garment industries in SEZ
Description	Pilot training in factory in Myanmar to be conducted by ILO together with RWI, with advise from Burma workers union
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase awareness of factory owners, senior/middle managers on workers rights, focusing on eliminating gender discriminatory attitudes towards women workers. • Linked to Sweden's regional development in Asia strategy: strengthened capacity of regional actors to promote human rights and gender equality
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Chambers of Commerce to identify factory for pilot training • Identifying factory and meeting with owner/s • Consultations with senior and middle managers for identification of needs and key issues in workplace • Design curriculum • Training of middle managers • Middle managers implement what they learned in training • Feedback/learning on impact of implementation of skills/knowledge from training • Working with chambers of commerce for training to be conducted in other factories • Reporting back about project results
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Name	
User	Consumers – Garment Buyers
Description	Develop an app for consumers that links to existing platforms for workers in supply chains to self-report working conditions
Goals	To inform consumers on the working conditions of factory workers on products before they buy them. This puts pressure on buyers to source from (or work with) responsible suppliers and puts pressure on suppliers to enact better working conditions
Activities and milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a platform that connects existing “labor voices” platform to a consumer friendly app. • Work with buyers to on-board app such that they can use it in their supply chains • Buyers/ brands put app use into working agreement with factories • Buyers / brands work with other organizations (ILO, Ministry of Labor, UN) to develop working conditions parameters • Buyers’ market app use in store • Consumers have app and information on labor conditions for products that they buy
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Name	International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)
User	Government
Description	
Goals	Government to improve laws protecting migrants, based on International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) developed by IOM
Activities and milestones	
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Annex 2 - List of Participants with Contact Information

**Sweden's Regional Workshop
CO-CREATION FOR TRANSFORMATION
Effective Delivery on SDGs through Enhanced Cross-Sectorial Interaction
21-22 March 2017**

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