Climate Security

Regional Trend and Approach in Asia and the Pacific and Role of Research

1. What are the climate security risks you think are essential?

Are there any particular risks and challenges for the Asia-Pacific region?

And what kinds of policies and interventions are needed to mitigate such climate security risks?

Climate Security –

Definition (suggestive)

"Climate-related security risks" are understood as the excessive adverse impacts of climate change on:

1. Security of the state

2. International peace & security

3. Human security:

(1) Economic (2) Food (3) Health

(4) Environmental (5) Personal

(6) Community (7) Political

→ Research & programme should address these aspects

Climate Security – Regional Trend

Susceptibility to climate change and fragility

Darker: More exposed to climate events → Higher human security risks

How vulnerable is Asia Pacific?

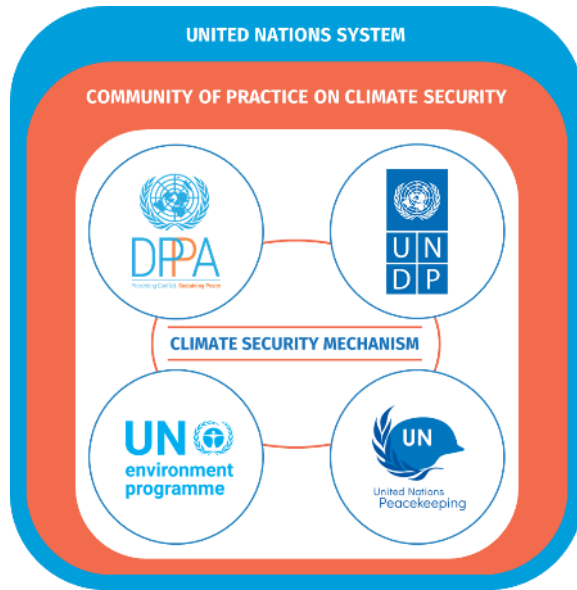1. Global Climate Risk Index (6 Asian countries among top 10 countries vulnerable to climate risks)

2. Huge population, long coastlines with industries & supply chain, low-lying islands and areas, melting Himalayan glaciers

3. Greenhouse-gas emissions

4. Nexus of climate impact, displacement, and violence/violent extremism (e.g., PH, Indonesia, PNG, Solomon I, Pakistan, Myanmar, Afghanistan, etc.)

Low   Fragility   Highest   Missing Data

UN Climate Security Mechanism (CSM) overview

Who: DPPA, UNEP, UNDP and DPO (in collaboration with the Community of Practice on Climate Security, the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, and other partners)

What: Strengthen the capacity of the UN system to more systematically analyze and address climate-related security risks

When: Established in 2018 with funding from donor countries

Where: Headquartered in New York with field initiatives around the world

Why (How): Through the Climate Security Toolbox and the CSM's four priority areas of work.

Climate Security Mechanism (CSM)
Support to analysis & action in the field

11th initiative:
Lake Chad

UNDP & IOM with PBF: CS projects

Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu & Papua New Guinea

UNDP: CS assessment or concept development

Indonesia, Solomon, SL, PK, TH, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Maldives

Regional: ASEAN-UN Dialogue on Climate, Peace and Security at ASEAN Secretariat → Policy, Strategy, and Action Plan as next steps

2. How can climate security research contribute to national, regional, and international security policies and actions?

How can researchers contribute to the international climate change and security debates?

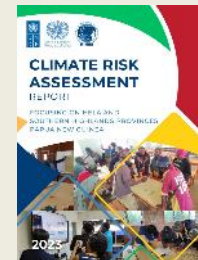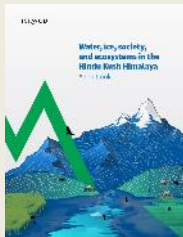# CS Research – Importance from Global Perspective

- Security Council Resolutions – recognized CS since 2007 (all Africa specific)

- In 2021, a Climate Security-focused resolution drafted but vetoed by Russia & some countries supported Russia

Lesson → <u>more evidences on causal relations btw Climate Changes & Security</u>

Climate Security Research in AP Region

1. **RSIS (Singapore)** – **Report "Climate Change and Its Impact on Peace and Security in Southeast Asia" in coordination with ASEAN**

2. **UNDP, PIF, adelphi, IOM** – **"Pacific Climate Security Assessment Guide"**

3. **ICIMOD (Himalayan Region, Nepal)** – **Report "Water, ice, society, and ecosystems in the Hindu Kush Himalaya"**

4. **UNDP** – **PNG, Philippines, Indonesia, Solomon I, Myanmar**

5. **Institutes** **UNDP have collaborated with - adelphi (Germany), SIPRI (Sweden), NUPI (Norway), etc. → mainly on Africa, Middle East**

→ **More CS research in Asia and the Pacific is in high demand**

**Proposal –
CS research contributing to policies & actions**

1. **National Development/Security Strategy –** provide CS perspectives & help concretize actions

2. **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) –** include climate security lenses

3. **Networking among institutes in AP region & elsewhere**

4. **Develop CS risk indicators –** measure the effects of CS activities

5. **Climate Security forecasting model –** collect climate, vulnerability, displacement data and predict "hotspots"

THANK YOU

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Climate Extremes – Typology in AP region

Types and at-risk areas:

1. Typhoon/cyclone – Philippines, Myanmar, Bangladesh
2. Sea level rise and low-lying atoll nations/coastal areas – Pacific, Maldives, Bangladesh, Vietnam, etc.
3. Drought – Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran
4. Change in river flow - Mekong River – Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand
5. Deforestation – Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, etc.
6. Himalayan glacial melt – max. 2 billion ppl
7. Climate induced displacement, violence, radicalization – Philippines, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea

Climate Security Project - Pacific

1. **Context**

- 3 low-lying Atoll Nations of Kiribati, Marshall Islands, and Tuvalu – Existential threat due to sea level rise, drought, salinization → affecting agriculture, water, livelihood
- Displacement: faced the lack of alternative livelihood, friction with residents

2. **Project component**

(1) Political engagement from Pacific Islands Forum

(2) Climate resilient livelihood (solar-run vertical aeroponic gardens to grow short-term crops)

(3) Awareness raising among politicians, communities, partners on climate security risks

(4) Climate security related mediation among communities, residents, displaced people

Climate Security Pilot Project – BARMM, Philippines

1. Context

- Bangsamoro - historically marginalized, prone to violent conflict, signed a peace agreement
- Last several years, more susceptible to climate change such as typhoon, flooding, drought
- Led to displacement, loss of livelihood & income, food insecurity, land conflict, radicalization

2. Project component

(1) Climate security field assessment

(2) Capacity development of BARMM Authority

(3) Dialogue on climate security risks with Authority, communities, and partners

(4) Bangsamoro National Development Plan including Climate Security component