

# Climate Change and Human Health Challenges, Adaptation, and Policy Perspectives in the ASEAN Region

High Level Regional Consultation Workshop  
Thailand | Indonesia | Philippines | Vietnam

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**Date and Time:**

29<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (Friday) | 13:00 – 15:00 (Bangkok Time)

**Venue:**

Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok, 494 Rajdamri Road, Bangkok, Thailand (Hybrid mode)

**Virtual Joining Link:**

<https://adpc-net.zoom.us/j/96688881114?pwd=uA8Flkbnk7C6VfYlwrFvwa1mrMxAmn.1>

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## Introduction

Climate change poses a significant threat to human health worldwide, and in the Indo-Pacific regional the crisis is deeper. The increasing variability and changes in climate patterns have led to a range of health challenges. These challenges include the rise in incidences of vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue, as well as the impacts of extreme climate events like floods and heatwaves. Given the susceptibility of countries in Asia and the Pacific to climate variability and change, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), was commissioned by the Indo-Pacific Regional Department and the South Asia Research Hub of the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the Government of United Kingdom, to do an evidence review on climate change and its impact on human health in the Indo-Pacific Region.

TERI in partnership with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) conducted assessments at the country level based on secondary research and collaborated with local experts in Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, and Vietnam for expert consultations and focused group discussions. With support from ADPC and British Embassy Bangkok, TERI is holding a regional consultation workshop aimed at sharing country-level evidence and draft recommendations for discussions with key stakeholders. The event will facilitate open discussions with relevant experts to share emerging evidence and initiatives on adaptation and resilience, and identify priority recommendations to enhance the resilience of the public health system in the region.

The study conducted between 2023 and 2024 covered eleven countries across the Indo-Pacific region. This included three countries in South Asian region (India, Bangladesh, and Nepal), six in Southeast Asian region (Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Malaysia), and two Pacific Island countries (Fiji and Tuvalu). The study looked at the causal pathways for climate sensitive diseases and the underlying drivers contributing to vulnerabilities within public health infrastructure. It assessed the capacity of health systems to withstand the impacts of climate change, alongside review of existing policies and priorities related to climate change and health in the selected countries. Special emphasis was placed on understanding how vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected and identifying strategies for building adaptive and resilient health systems to address these challenges effectively.

The results, presented as success stories and emerging good practices from the focus countries, incorporate diverse experiences and perspectives from stakeholders, along with their recommendations to pave pathways for Climate-Resilient Health Systems (CRHS). Furthermore, the outputs, including country-specific evidence and policy briefs, are expected to facilitate the identification of partnerships and collaborations at local, national, regional, and international levels to foster climate action in the health sector, aligning with international commitments and national priorities.

## Objective of the Event

The primary objective of the event is to share research findings on climate and health in selected Southeast Asian countries. Additionally, the event aims to foster discussions on evidence-based policies, strategies, and actions needed to safeguard and empower the most vulnerable populations to adapt effectively to climate-related challenges.