

Facilitating equitable and just Southeast Asian coastal socio-ecological systems

Many Southeast Asian nations have experienced rapid coastal development in the last few decades, sometimes in response to substantial economic reforms. Strong growth outlooks within the region suggest investment is set to continue apace, heightening concerns about how issues of environmental sustainability, justice, social equality, and the dynamic spatial and temporal interactions and feedbacks that characterise all socio-ecological systems, can be given adequate space. Addressing these issues is a considerable challenge universally, and especially so in coastline areas of Southeast Asia, where a large proportion of the regional population is located, and where there is considerable vulnerability to climate change impacts.

This panel is concerned with exploring the factors that might lead to the emergence of sustainable and just socio-ecological systems in these low-lying and often densely populated zones. We invite papers that apply interdisciplinary approaches to investigate the drivers of change in coupled human-natural coastal systems, how these systems are adapting to environmental, economic and/or political change, and the barriers to adaptation, and the extent to which these processes are leading to equitable and just outcomes.

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