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Photo selection for EU APFSD

Marginalised and vulnerable community groups

The SUCCESS project collaborated with community-based and grassroots organisations to engage with socially vulnerable and marginalised groups to assess climate vulnerability and develop resilience strategies. Marginalised and vulnerable community groups include those living in informal settlements located in city centres (e.g Khon Kaen, Ban Phai and Nong Samrong), coastal areas (e.g. Balasoh in Songkhla) or along canals. They live in naturally risky areas and in poor housing conditions without basic infrastructure, such as electricity, piped water, sanitation and drainage, and are faced with eviction threats and multiple hazards, including floods and coastal erosion.



Description

A single mother with her children, nieces and nephews living in Khon Kaen Mittraphap community, an urban informal settlement located in Khon Kaen City centre. The community is residing on land belonging to the State Railway of Thailand. With development plans of high-speed and dual-track railway, many informal settlements across Thailand, including the Mittraphap community, are faced with eviction and relocation pressure.

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(All photos taken by Dr Pakamas Thinphanga)





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Urban infrastructure and systems

With rapid urbanisation, local governments struggle to provide adequate and effective urban infrastructure and systems, such as drainage, to meet increasing demands. Unplanned and unregulated transformation of rural, agricultural, and ecological landscapes is changing hydrological patterns, causing water-related problems, such as floods and waters supply shortages. Climate change is exacerbating all existing water-related issues. Responses to hazards are reactive to immediate problems involving engineering and hard infrastructure options. The SUCCESS project supported governments in identifying climate adaptive and resilience strategies involving ecosystem-based approaches through participatory planning processes informed by climate vulnerability assessments.



Description

To keep the business centre of Khon Kaen city dry, the municipality employs multiple water pumps for floodwater diversion. The water pump in this photo redirects floodwater into a natural canal that runs through the Mittraphap railway community. Over the years the canal has been filled in and blocked. Without a drainage system in place, floodwater diversion is causing prolonged floods in the informal settlement worsening socio-economic and health issues.

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(All photos taken by Dr Pakamas Thinphanga)





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Stakeholder engagement for knowledge and policy dialogues

The SUCCESS project engaged with local multi-stakeholders, particularly women, community leaders, and vulnerable groups, to build knowledge capacity and technical skills in urban climate resilience. The aim was to empower CSOs, marginalised and vulnerable communities as well as local governments to better plan and address cross-cutting issues of climate vulnerability, inequalities and poverty. Local working groups in each of the project sites were formed to participate in the project. Engagement and collaboration approaches involved multiple site visits, onsite meetings, as well as facilitated knowledge, shared learning, and policy dialogues with government officials and academics.



Description

A meeting with Ban Phai Working Group in Khon Kaen province to discuss the impacts of Typhoon Podul, railway development proposals and community resettlement plans. Ban Phai Working Group consists of community leaders and members of Ban Phai informal settlement.

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(All photos taken by Dr Pakamas Thinphanga)

