Joint adelphi-IGES symposium
Addressing Climate-Fragility Risks in Asia and Pacific
Challenges and Opportunities for Achieving Sustainable Development

A project by:

Supported by:

A New Climate for Peace
Taking Action on Climate and Fragility Risks

A project by:

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Mandate and Background

- **Mandate:**
  - Analyse climate-fragility risks and identify possible responses
  - Build a knowledge platform for the community of practice on climate-fragility risks
- **2015:** G7 foreign ministers discussed and welcomed the report and tasked a high-level working group to:
  - evaluate the recommendations of the report
  - initiate concrete steps towards preventative action
- **2016:** G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to prioritize prevention of climate-fragility risks

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What is fragility?

![Diagram showing fragility and resilience with transitional stages](image)

- **Fragility**
  - Transitional stages
  - Resilience

- **CAPACITY**: lacking ability to carry out basic governance functions
- **LEGITIMACY**: lacking ability to develop mutually constructive relations with society
- **AUTHORITY**: lacking ability to provide basic security and failure to be seen as the overarching authority within the territory

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**Compound climate-fragility risks**

- Climate change a global threat to security in the 21st century
  
  - Focus on risks and conflict dynamics that are already observable today.
  
  - No simple causal link between climate change and state fragility.
  
  - Climate change will converge with other pressures and shocks and increase the risks to the stability of states and societies.

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**Seven compound climate-fragility risks**

1. Global pressures are increasing
   - Environmental degradation
   - Uneven economic development & inequality
   - Population growth
   - Climate change
   - Increasing resource demand

2. Creating 7 compound risks that threaten states & societies
   - Transboundary water management
   - Sea-level rise & coastal degradation
   - Unintended effects of climate policies
   - Volatile food prices & provision
   - Extreme weather events & disasters
   - Livelihood insecurity & migration
   - Local resource competition
Climate-fragility risks

- Emerge through the interaction of climate change with other pressures and stressors
- They can contribute to different situations of fragility:
  - Political unrest and instability
  - Local conflicts and violence
  - Civil war and large-scale conflict
  - Transboundary disputes
- They can have regional and international impacts, for example through conflict spill-over or migration
Civil war in Syria

Between 2006 and 2011, over half of the country had suffered under the worst drought on record. This drought was more intense and lasted longer than could be explained by natural variations in weather. This was climate change.

Nearly 85% of livestock died.

They crowded into overcrowded cities like Daraa.

This drought was more intense and lasted longer than could be explained by natural variations in weather. This was climate change.

Nearly a million rural villagers lost their farms to the drought.

Thailand

Flooding in Thailand 2011

- Strongest monsoon rains in 30 years, 2 million people across 26 provinces were affected
- Politically already fragile situation, protests against the government since 2008, new government in power
- Reaction and aid was perceived as not transparent and unfair
- Protest break out and continue until the coup in 2014

Quelle: dany13/flickr, European Commission/flickr
Policy Analysis

Complex risks need integrated answers:

- Break down sectoral barriers and integrate policies and approaches across key sectors and communities
- Resilience can provide a common goal to work towards
- Opportunity to realise synergies and co-benefits
Recommendations
A new commitment for resilience

Integration begins at home

Come together for a new dialogue

Set the global resilience agenda

Partner for resilience

GLOBAL RISK ASSESSMENT
FOOD SECURITY
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER DISPUTES SETTLEMENT
BUILDING LOCAL RESILIENCE

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