OPEN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
A PROJECT BY EAST-WEST MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE, INC

Cambodia ICT Camp 2022

Open Environmental Data

Sharing a Research Practice

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OpenDevelopment Mekong

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How do you and your organisation use environmental data, information and technology?

As part of WWF's Mekong for the Future project, Open

a PM below. To try out the survey click here.

There is an option to participate in an interview or a focus group discussion to discuss how you want to strengthen environmental data ecosystems in the Mekong Region in the coming month. If this is of interest to you, please let us know here or indicate so in the survey. Thank you for helping to shape the Mekong data ecosystem!

How do you and your organisation use environmental data, information and technology?

https://opendevelopmentmekong.net/

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ODI Approach

CONTEXTUALIZED Open Data for Sustainable Development

Providing ease of access

Creating a safer way for people to engage

Encouraging individual analysis and verification

Introducing new narratives to regional / transborder

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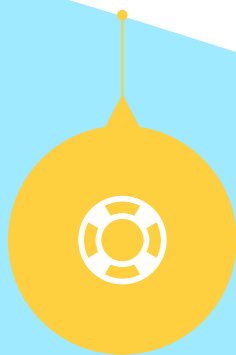
Key Features

Technical Support

Data Accessibility

Networks & Partners

Data Uploads

Improvements

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In Numbers

As of May 2022

2,760+
laws

7,250+
libraries

40+
maps & profiles

150+
agreements

1,130+
datasets

Our Users

From Jan - June 2022

518,000+
Users
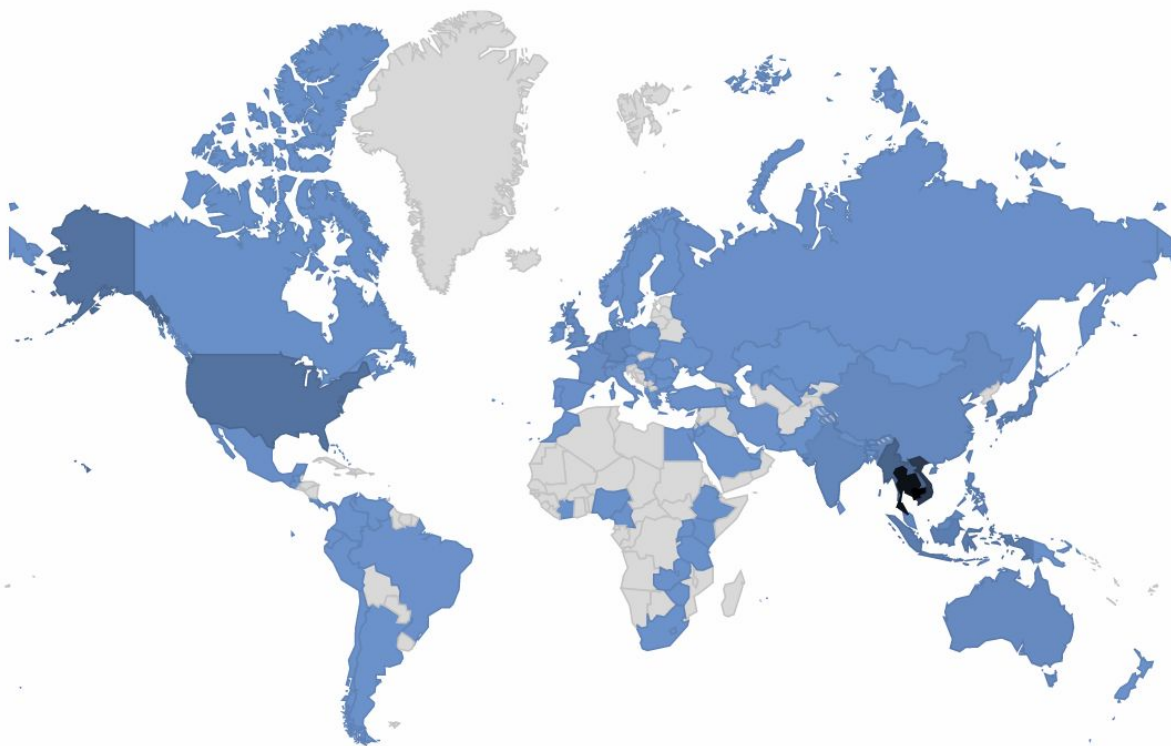
1,056,000+
Sessions

1,056,000+
Pageviews

330,000+
Datasets downloads

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User demographics

	Country
1.	Cambodia
2.	Thailand
3.	Vietnam
4.	Indonesia
5.	United States
6.	Myanmar (Burma)
7.	Laos
8.	Singapore
9.	Philippines
10.	Germany
11.	India
12.	Malaysia
13.	Japan
14.	Hong Kong
15.	Australia

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Civil society is a key to advance the state of **open data**

Timeline: ODI's Data Literacy
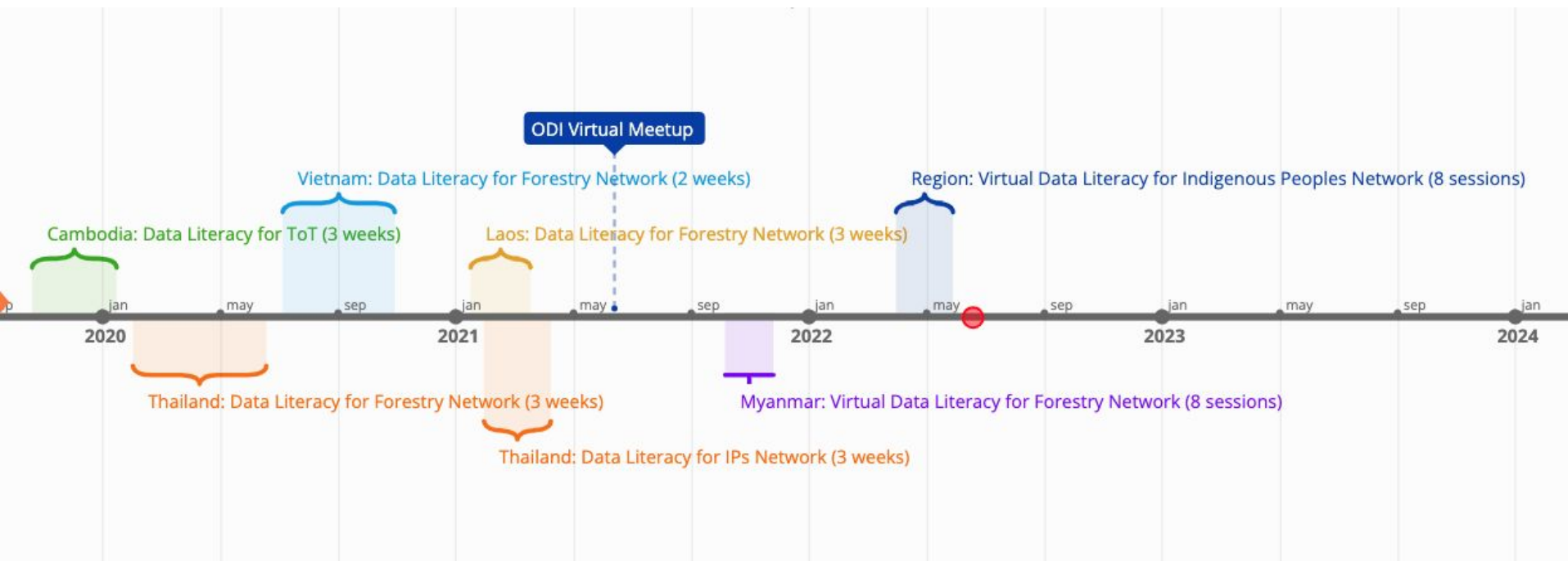
Data Literacy in the Mekong

Our **full 3-week program** covers:

1. Using data as evidence for storytelling
2. Finding and getting data from multiple sources
3. Understanding data
4. Analysing and visualizing data
5. Thinking like a journalist
6. Increasing awareness of digital security and data privacy

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120+

participants from
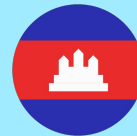local NGOs & CSOs & CBOs

Focused sectors

Disenfranchised constituents that
are part of these groups:
- Forestry and environment
- Indigenous peoples
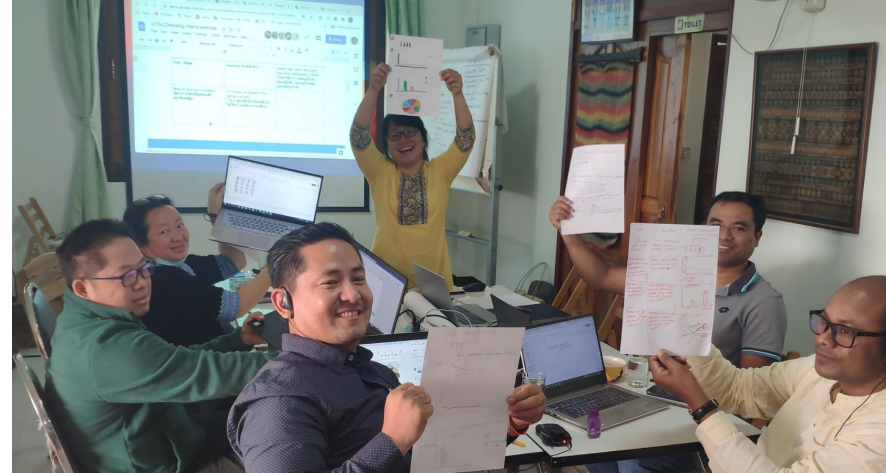- Women's groups
- Peace building

Stories of Data Literacy

- [Thai foresters complete data literacy training to advocate for improved forest governance](#)

- [Data and the untold stories](#)

- [Lao civil society improves advocacy with data visualization](#)

- [CSOs in Myanmar gain data literacy knowledge for forestry advocacy](#)

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Research on

Mapping knowledge and gaps in data, transparency, and capacity building practices in the Mekong region

Broad Definition

"

Any measurements or information that describe environmental processes, location, or conditions; ecological or health effects and consequences, or the performance of environmental technology.

It often incorporates social components as people have large implications upon resources and consequences as a result of use.

"

What are environmental data that are most relevant to you?

(20 voices)

Open
environmental
data

matters

Go to **www.menti.com** and use **the code** 41 78 33 3

In your opinion, what are key challenges to environmental data?

In your opinion, what are key challenges to environmental data? (21 voices)

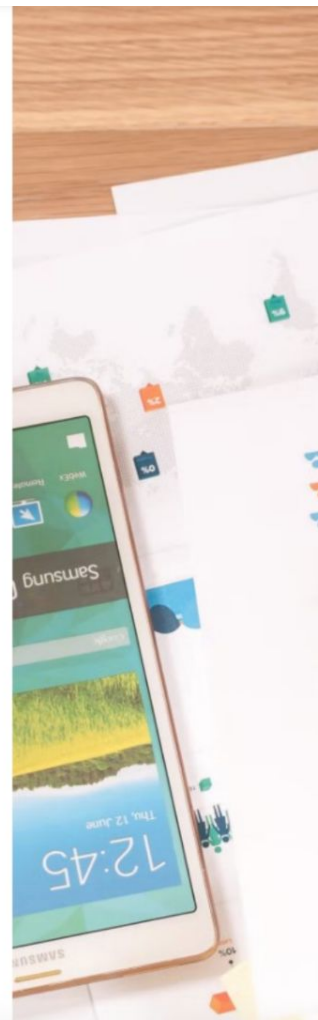|		
Lack of data	Development	Not up-to-date
Politically sensitive	Access to information	Capacity to process the data
IoT not available	Data literacy	Can't find reliable source of data

In your opinion, what are key challenges to environmental data?

Insufficient data to work with. Constraints of data collection.

Access to the data

Data collection in remote and in accessable regions.

Limited number of available data

Proving the validity of the data, removing outlier and regional factor

Demonstrating to politicians/corporations economic incentives for sustainable management (more regulations/central planning)

Data must be presented in a way that everybody can understand and make sense of it

Access to realizable and official documents of development project. For example: EIA and investment agreements.

Lack of data and access to information
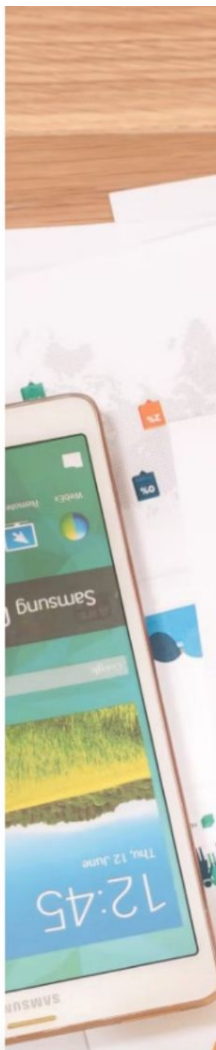
In your opinion, what are key challenges to environmental data?

Political will

Political influence

many interventions

Shortage access by many people

because a lot of raw data need to be collected to conduct data analysis to find solid environmental solutions, to find enough resource of those data is also a key challenge.

Lack of technology to get data
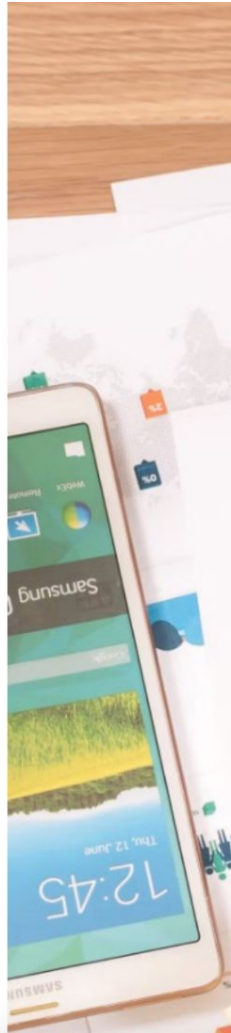
The Mekong Context

Environmental governance and advocacy are linked

The Mekong region is diverse

Standards on Data for Environmental Governance are Limited

Data is not neutral

Accessibility is Limited

Capacity Building as a Sustainable Process

We want to understand

1.
How to build a stronger **data ecosystem**

2.
what **skills and capacity** need to be built

3.
how stakeholders can **contribute** to data with greater transparency

4.
how we can improve **engagement** with environmental governance
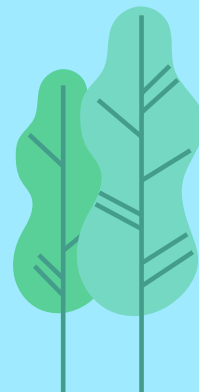
Methodologies

To strengthen the ability of **civil society organizations** in the region to coordinate their activities, improve their ability to advocate for and monitor environmental policies, increase transparency and improve their use of environmental data.

48 responses
Baseline Survey (Google Forms)
November 22, 2021 - February 28, 2022

34 interviews
Key Informant Interviews (Zoom)
December 9, 2021 - March 8, 2022

21 persons
Focus Group Discussion (Zoom)
June 1, 2022

Key Findings

(1) **Knowledge gaps**, (2) **diversity and inclusion**, and (3) **data, infrastructure and tools** - impact the environmental data ecosystem.

(1) **Security and safety** connected to a narrowing civic space, and (2) **institutional barriers** - impact all areas as cross-cutting issues.

Key Recommendations

Civic space	Renewable energy	Transboundary investment	Climate change adaptation
Building a stronger data ecosystem in a narrowing civic space through decentralised data systems and capacity building	Building skills and capacity through localised and accessible data literacy training	Contributing to data with greater transparency through open data standards, decentralised data solutions and capacity building	Improving engagement with environmental governance through security focused tools and decentralised data solutions

How we get key findings

Respondents work mainly in the forestry sector

Filter:
All

Forestry		Rights		Livelihoods	
Community Forestry **26**	Forestry protection, wildlife monitoring and other law enforcement **19**	Access to information **16**		Land tenure **18**	
	FLEGT **5**	Indigenous People's Sovereignty **14**		Fisheries (marine, freshwater and aquaculture) **7**	

Climate Change		Natural Resources		Water		Regulatory	
Climate change adaptation and mitigation **28**		Women in natural resource governance **25**		Rivers and water issues **22**		EIA, SEIAs, CSR, and other regulatory processes **12**	
Climate financing (PES, REDD+) **9**		Green and renewable energy (e.g. Hydropower, solar, wind, biogas) **12**		Training		Legal advocacy **12**	
				Community building **21**		Infrastructure Large scale infrastructure investments **9**	

What do you want the environmental data to be?

What do you want
the environmental data
to be?

- World wide data collection

- more open data (gov. & private & source, open)

- new regulations to enforce openness &
  transparency

Accurate info on plastic use
Transparency

- Trustworthy, have confidence in accuracy.

- EIA (not public)

- climate change impact/realistic rep.

- individual action for a change

- Easy to, access, distribute, understand,
- Up to date
- Reliable & Transparent
- Include detailed methodology ⟵ Data collection ⟨ on-site / online
- Interactive story telling (infographics, easy to be presented to the general public.

Thank you

https://opendevelopmentmekong.net/

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