

# Gender-Inclusive Approaches to Technology

## Lessons from Civil Society in the Mekong

Emphasizing the Intersection of  
Gender, Technology, and  
Environmental Management



# ⚡ Indigenous Women's Situated Knowledge ♀

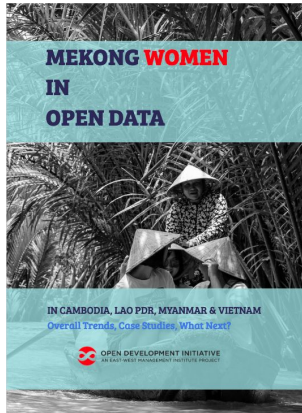
- Indigenous women often hold unique insights on ecosystems, biodiversity, and sustainable resource management due to their traditional roles in many communities.
- Their situated knowledge encompasses:
  - Complex ecological relationships
  - Historical environmental changes
  - Cultural significance of landscapes
- This knowledge offers potential for holistic environmental solutions, but often overlooked by or not captured through traditional research practices.



Photo: Indigenous Women's Network in Thailand by ODI

# Our Research

2020



We asked what limits access to data?  
Key findings:

1. Poor institutional support for increasing access to information;
2. Deeply entrenched & as-yet unaddressed gendered cultural norms
3. Lack of true leadership & inclusivity



[https://opendevelopmentmekong.net/  
programmes/mekong-women-in-data/](https://opendevelopmentmekong.net/programmes/mekong-women-in-data/)



∴  **Women in Water Governance (WIWG):**

Platforms for Collaborative Action



**Our Vision for the platform**

**Ethics & Accountability**

**Gender Analysis**

**Safe Spaces**

**Co-Creation**

**Our Purposes**

- To co-create a safe space to share knowledge information and stories about water and rivers
- To amplify women's voices in the Mekong region and beyond
- To give women's knowledge credibility and legitimacy
- To partake in collaborative learning

# MAJOR REQUIREMENTS : Inclusivity

## LEGITIMACY

The platform should serve to legitimize women's knowledge

## ACCESS (TECH)

Aligned with bringing access: connectivity through networks and equipment

## ACCESS (LANGUAGE)

From the earliest stages, be designed to serve multiple languages



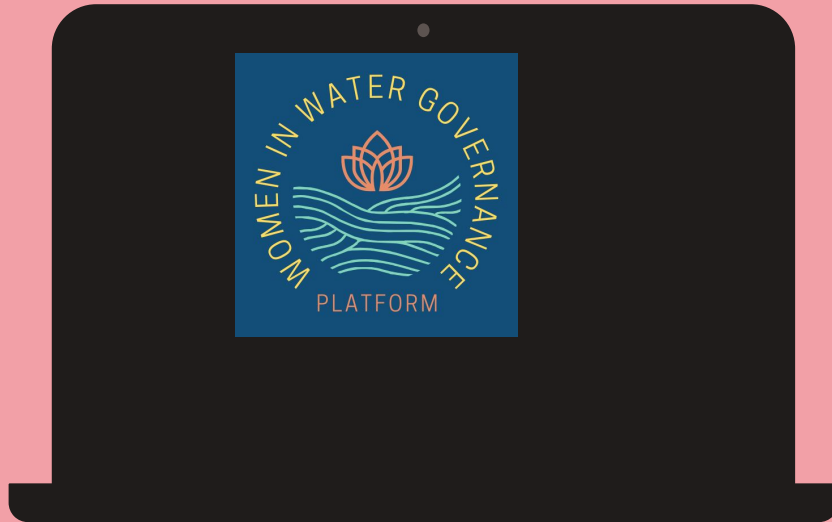
## TRANSPARENCY & INTEGRITY

Being clear about who the stories will be for (public or network) and how they will be used – 'safe space', benefits explained clearly

## INNOVATIVE

Driving innovation from the ground up

# Platform Launch 2024



Storytelling and  
collaboration  
(Initial prototype phase)

[https://wiwg.knowledge  
4development.org/](https://wiwg.knowledge4development.org/)

# Case study from Chiang Mai, Thailand



## Empowering Women, Protecting Lahu Traditions

📅 June 2, 2024   👤 Kanit Sookdaeng   📁 Climate Change, Environment, Forest, Livelihoods   📍 Local plants, Thailand, Women Empowerment

“**Na Teh Kha Village**” (in Lahu) is located in the headwaters of the Mae Taeng River, within the area of Pha Daeng National Park and Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary. Located next to the border between Thailand and Myanmar, Na Teh Kha Village is a cluster of Kae Noi Village, Moo 2, Mueang Na sub-district, Chiang Dao district, Chiang Mai province, and approximately 80 kilometers away from Chiang Dao district.



# Case study from Krabi, Thailand



## Co-creator and Protector of the Mangrove Forest of Khlong Prasong

📅 May 30, 2024   👤 WIWG Admin   📁 Forest, Livelihoods   🔗 community forest, mangrove forest, Thailand, Women Empowerment

**Kanit Sookdaeng** or **Pi Nid** (In Thailand 'Pi' is used to refer to an older person, it translates as 'older sister'), a strong 65-year-old woman, is a single mother of five children, of about the same age for over 30 years. Pi Nid is originally from Uttaradit province. She is a considerate person who enjoys helping others; no matter what she does, she always thinks of others before herself. Pi Nid is a hardworking person of the type that is hard to come by. She tells us that when she was young, she did every job a man also does. She proudly tells us many times that the floor of the Khlong Prasong Mosque building was her own work.



# Case study from Kien Giang, Vietnam



## The Role of Women in Ensuring Water Resources in Kien Giang, Vietnam

A Story from a family in Hoa Dien Commune, Kien Luong District, Kien Giang Province, Vietnam Vietnam's River System Vietnam is a country with a dense river system and relatively ... Continue reading The Role of Women in Ensuring Water Resources in Kien Giang, Vietnam

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WIWG Admin

May 31, 2024



Case Study:  
Data  
Storytelling  
Training for  
Women's  
Network



## Case study: Women's Network in Kok River Basin, Thailand



Gender-based violence and early marriage remain prevalent among women's groups in the Kok River basin in Chiang Mai. Women in this region face challenges such as limited livelihood opportunities and restricted land access. However, the incorporation of IT tools has boosted their engagement and skill development. Creating safe spaces for women has fostered empowerment and increased recognition from local authorities.



# Our Research

2024



Scan QR code to take the survey

We aim to identify barriers women face in environmental governance, enhance their data literacy and leadership, highlight best practices for empowerment, and recommend policy changes for greater inclusivity in the Mekong and Asia Pacific regions. We want to see changes around women's participation in decision making in the environmental governance.



# Thanks!

**Do you have any questions?**

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