

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics

Building research capacity and leadership to address challenges at the intersection of environment and development

SANDEE is a dynamic network that brings its expertise in environmental and development economics to feed into decision making on some pivotal challenges facing South Asia and the Hindu Kush Himalaya.

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) brings together researchers and decision makers from South Asia and the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region to address development–environment challenges. SANDEE's mission is to strengthen the capacity of individuals and institutions in the region to undertake research on the links among economic development, poverty, and environmental change and to disseminate practical information that can be applied to development policies.

Understanding the economics of environmental change and development is key to unlocking a sustainable future in South Asia.

South Asia is going through a period of rapid economic growth, which is expected to relieve the burden of poverty. However, questions remain on whether this growth is ecologically viable and whether the gains from growth will endure. SANDEE operates under the principle that greener growth and sustainable development are necessary in South Asia and the HKH region, and are possible with the implementation of evidence-based solutions.

Good policy and decision making on environment and development issues in South Asia and the HKH region require strong capacity in economics research and analysis.



SANDEE aims to:

- Strengthen the ability of researchers to undertake multi-disciplinary research on the economics of environmental and natural resource problems
- Support the growth of rigorous policy-relevant literature on economic development, poverty reduction, and environmental change
- Support environmental and natural resource economics in teaching and research institutions
- Influence policy processes through analyses, training, networking, dialogue, and dissemination of research findings



Fostering a global network of leading economists

SANDEE provides a supportive network of peers and mentors for aspiring researchers to develop a flourishing career in environmental economics. It has grown to more than 200 research associates and over 300 environmental and development economists, including a rich network of SANDEE alumni. SANDEE utilizes its network of regional and international talent to help address research problems raised by the region's researchers.



Mentoring the next generation of environmental economists

Each SANDEE grant recipient is assigned a dedicated faculty advisor from the global SANDEE network as part of a structured mentoring programme. Regular interaction, including bi-annual advisor-grantee workshops, helps guide and enrich each research project that receives funding from SANDEE.

Putting SANDEE research to use

The SANDEE secretariat ensures that findings from each research project are shared with both broad and targeted audiences. Research presentations among key stakeholders, including government officials, ensure that findings are shared with the people who can put them to use. SANDEE also supports rigorous peer review and publication of research findings from each project, including through policy briefs and journal articles.

Supporting innovative research in South Asia and the HKH

SANDEE manages two annual research grant cycles to support researchers in South Asia and the HKH in answering pressing questions related to climate change and other challenges at the intersection of economic development and environmental change. SANDEE grants:

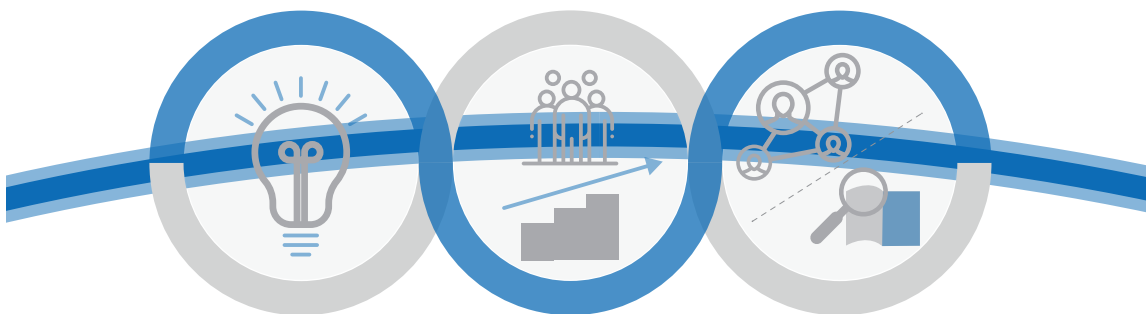
- Undergo a competitive, peer-reviewed grant-making process
- Support two- to three-year research projects
- Provide researchers with the opportunity to share their findings on regional and global stages through mobility and travel grants

Building research capacity through targeted training

Each year, SANDEE hosts an intensive summer school on environmental and resource economics, featuring leading economists from around the world as faculty. Through the summer school, participants learn the fundamentals of environmental and resource economics, present research ideas and proposals, and receive feedback.

SANDEE also hosts an annual winter school on research methods exclusively for grant recipients and one or more research and writing workshops for aspiring researchers from underserved areas or regions who need technical support for developing proposals for research grants.





SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

250+ research grants

300+ leading experts in the network

BUILDING EXPERTISE IN THE REGION

1,500+ trainees

50+ courses conducted

43 research and training workshops

PUTTING RESEARCH TO USE

Targeted research for key stakeholders

125+ working papers

100+ policy briefs

300+ peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters

3 edited volumes



SANDEE's research focuses on the economics of natural resource use and environmental change, including ecosystems management, economics of climate change, and policies and programmes for greener development. SANDEE aims to develop empirical evidence on underlying economic and institutional issues in order to inform policy and improve environmental management.

For over 22 years, SANDEE has been building a regional network of well-trained professionals in the field of environmental and development economics, who could tackle the current and emerging challenges in South Asia and the Hindu Kush Himalaya.

SANDEE advances its work through a combination of:

- Research support in the form of grants and mentoring
- Education and training related to economic development and environmental change
- Targeted institutional strengthening in underserved research areas
- Policy dissemination and networking among individuals and institutions



SANDEE is an initiative of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD). SANDEE supports ICIMOD's programmatic work and strengthens the Centre's economic and policy analysis.

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