

CHSS SYMPOSIUM

VIETNAM 2026

**Cultivating the Humanities and Social Sciences
and Supporting Underrepresented Scholars of Asia**

EMPOWERING THE MARGINS DURING CONFLICTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

**30-31
JANUARY**

University of Social Sciences and Humanities
Viet Nam National University Ho Chi Minh City



**2026 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
“EMPOWERING THE MARGINS DURING CONFLICTS AND
ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES”**

**In the project: *Cultivating the Humanities and Social Sciences and
Supporting Underrepresented Scholars of South and Southeast Asia (CHSS)***

Date	:	January 30 th – 31 st , 2026
Venue	:	10 – 12, Dinh Tien Hoang Street, Sai Gon Ward, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Co-organizers	:	Association for Asian Studies (AAS) and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Viet Nam National University Ho Chi Minh City (USSH-VNUHCM)
Host	:	USSH-VNUHCM
Sponsor	:	The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)



DAY 1: JANUARY 30th, 2026 (FRIDAY)

Registration

08:00 – 08:30

USSH-VNUHCM STUDENT POSTER EXHIBITION
Interdisciplinary approach to local environmental and Social issues

08:30 – 09:00

OPENING CEREMONY

09:00 – 10:30

Panel 1: Identity in the (re)Making

Chair: Elora Shehabuddin (University of California, Berkeley, USA)

Discussant: Rajeshwari Deshpande (Savitribai Phule Pune University, India)

1.1. Politics of Shia Identity in Post-colonial Lucknow (1947–2024)

Presenter: Malka Zehra (Jamia Millia Islamia, India)

1.2. Urban Politics and Citizenship: A Discourse on Social Identity of Slum Dwellers Based on Their Homeland in Gampaha District, Sri Lanka

Presenter: Hasitha Jeewanthi (University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka)

1.3. State Categories and Everyday Life: Rethinking Identity among Kurmis and Santals in Chotanagpur

Presenter: Prosanta Sarkar (University of Hyderabad, India)

1.4. The Relationship Between Religion And Ethnic Identity: A Case Study Of The Co Ho Chil People Following Protestantism In Lam Dong

Presenter: Mai Minh Nhat (Da Lat University, Vietnam)

10:30 – 10:50

Tea-break

Panel 2: Sociocultural Pluralism and Wellbeing

Chair: Ngo Thi Phuong Lan (USSH-VNUHCM, Vietnam)

Discussant: Le Minh Cong (USSH-VNUHCM, Vietnam)

10:50 – 12:20

2.1. The complex relationship between political instability, collective uncertainty, and the deeply personal experience of trauma

Presenter: Sara Gul (Government Girls Degree College Jinnah Town Quetta, Pakistan)

2.2. Buen Vivir in the Mon Context: Accessing Mon traditional forestry practices

Presenter: Ei Ei Mon (Mon National College, Myanmar)

2.3. Welfare schemes for tribals in Maharashtra

Presenter: Shital Gaikwad (Savitribai Phule Pune University, India)

2.4. Unheard Voices: Stories of War, Dispossession and Displacement from Waziristan

Presenter: Mohammad Anwar Khan (Khushal Khan Khattak University Karak, Pakistan)

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch

Panel 3: Gendered Ecology

Chair: Nguyen Thi Hong Xoan (USSH-VNUHCM, Vietnam)

Discussant: Nancy Peluso (University of California, Berkeley, USA)

13:30 – 15:00

3.1. Unsettled, Not Erased: Women, Ecological Memory, and Climate Migration in Mahasweta Devi

Presenter: Sonalika Chaturvedi (Galgotias University, India)

3.2. Climate, Gender, and Migration: Intersectional Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity in Coastal Jakarta

Presenter: Ica Wulansari (Paramadina University, Indonesia)

3.3. Gendering the Plantationocene: Monoculture Logics, Climate Crisis, and Survival Practices in Southeast Asian Cultural Production

Presenter: Nanthanoot Udomlamun (Kasetsart University, Thailand)

3.4. Climate Change And Livelihoods For Women In The Mekong Delta, Vietnam

Presenters: Hoang Thi Viet Ha, Duong Van Khanh (Dong Thap University, Vietnam)

15:00 – 15:20

Tea-break

Panel 4: Feminist Agency in development

Chair: Ratna Noviani (Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia)

Discussant: Anagha Tambe (Savitribai Phule Pune University, India)

15:20 – 17:00

4.1. Marginalization of Women Visionaries in Leadership: A Case Study on Country's Development Process, Sri Lanka

Presenter: Lavangi Ranasinghe (Gender Equality Programme, Room to Read, Sri Lanka)

4.2. Tribal women at the margins: Understanding dispossession and agency through tribal traditional governance in India (A case study of Santals)

Presenter: Snigdha Hansda (Sido Kanhu Murmu University, India)

4.3. Women-Led Education and Community Resilience Amid Climate Crises in Hunza: Addressing Gendered Vulnerabilities in a High-Mountain Periphery

Presenter: Shehnaz Gul (Karakoram International University, Pakistan)

4.4. Decision-making power between husbands and wives in major household domains among the Co Ho people in Lam Dong province

Presenter: Nguyen Dinh Nghiep (Da Lat University, Vietnam)



DAY 2: JANUARY 31st, 2026 (SATURDAY)

09:00 – 10:30

Panel 5: Environmental Justice

Chair: Lam Minh Chau (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, VNU Ha Noi, Vietnam)

Discussant: Nguyen Cong Thao (Institute of Ethnology and Religious Studies, Vietnam)

5.1. Red River Turning Blue: Who Should be Held Accountable? Environmental justice in the Amblanga river, Cordillera Administrative Region, the Philippines

Presenter: Shania Sicuan Lucyao (Benguet State University, Philippines)

5.2. Once by custom, now by law: Understanding Institutional Changes and Interactions in the Governance of Common-Pool Resources in Vietnam's Northern Uplands

Presenter: Phan Thi Kim Tam (University of Social Sciences and Humanities, VNU Ha Noi, Vietnam)

5.3. Securitization and Climate Risk: Gendered Pathways of Resilience in Pak-Administered Kashmir

Presenter: Uzma Munshi (University of Poonch Rawalakot, Pakistan)

5.4. Environmental Sustainability from Campus to Community: Designing courses at Dong Thap Community College

Presenters: Nguyen Thi The Ha, Pham Quang Huy (Dong Thap Community College, Vietnam)

10:30 – 11:00

Tea-break

11:00 – 12:30

Panel 6: Community Responses to Climate Change

Chair: Nguyen Hong Quan (Institute for Circular Economy Development, VNUHCM, Vietnam)

Discussant: Quang Dai Tuyen (Nguyen Tat Thanh University, Vietnam)

6.1. An Integrated Approach to Anthropogenic Disasters: Leveraging Community Empowerment for Sustainable Waste Management

Presenter: Wiratni Budhijanto (Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia)

6.2. Educational leadership as a catalyst for community-led climate solutions in climate-vulnerable regions: A case study of different districts in Azad Kashmir

Presenter: Tahzeeb Mahreen (Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan)

6.3. Universitas Gadjah Mada's Disaster Early Response Unit: Servicing the communities in the margins

Presenter: Rustamaji M.Kes (Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia)

6.4. Beyond Resistance: Socio-Ecological Synergies Of Integrated Shrimp Systems As A Nature-Based Climate Adaptation Strategy In The Mekong Delta

Presenters: Nguyen Hong Nhat, Nguyen Trung Thanh (An Giang University, VNUHCM, Vietnam)

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch

13:30 – 15:00

Panel 7: Marginality & Uncertainties

Chair: Tran Hoang Vuong (International University, VNUHCM, Vietnam)

Discussant: Krisna Uk (Beyond Asia, UK)

7.1. Linguistic and Ecological Precarity: Examining the Paza Language Shift Amidst Socio-Environmental Change in Northern Laos

Presenters: Sommor Panyavong, Chanthajorn Chanthapanya (National University of Laos)

7.2. Land Grabbing by Masculine Force within a Matrilineal Society of Minangkabau: Culture and Language Shift in Conflict

Presenter: Merry Andriani (Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia)

7.3. Gender and Honour Issues among the Madiga Community in Indian State of Telangana

Presenter: Sandyapogu Prasanna (Department of Sociology at the University of Hyderabad, India)

7.4. Tourism Development in Hoi An in the Context of Climate Change: Identifying Emerging Risks

Presenter: Ho Nhu Ngoc (Thu Dau Mot University, Vietnam)

15:00 – 15:20

Tea-break

15:20 – 16:50

Panel 8: Conflicts, Contests and Changes

Chair: Hilary Finchum-Sung (Association for Asian Studies, USA)

Discussant: Furrukh Khan (Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan)

8.1. Social Suffering and the Emergence of Agency in Peasant Communities Following Land Privatization for Agro-Aquaculture Project

Presenter: Min Min Htet (Chiang Mai University, Thailand)

8.2. State and Rebel Governance in Contested Territories: The case of Naga Hills

Presenter: Rustom Kutum (Dibrugarh University, India)

8.3. Hip-Hop, Gender, and the Discourse of Youth Liberation in Post-Conflict Ambon, Indonesia

Presenter: Wening Udasmoro (Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia)

8.4. Health Insurance Utilization in a Pluralistic Health Care Context: Evidence from Đamb'ri Commune, Central Highlands of Vietnam

Presenter: Pham Nguyen Trong Nhan (USSH-VNUHCM, Vietnam)

17:00 – 17:30

CLOSING CEREMONY

Kindly scan for registration



*For further information, please contact us at
chsssymposium@hcmussh.edu.vn*