

PANEL

Land, Risk, and Knowledge Production in Conflict-Affected Chin State

Convener

Sena Galazzi Lian

Panel Description

The panel brings together four papers that analyse material survival under insecurity while reflecting on the epistemic challenges of producing knowledge in a civil war context. “Gendered Impacts of Explosive Ordnance in Chin State” (Cer Len Ci & William Bawi Hein) investigates how landmine contamination structures mobility, exposure to risk, and participation in decision-making, highlighting gendered patterns of vulnerability and humanitarian response. “Coping with Crisis: Farming and Food Insecurity in Post-Coup Chin State” (Biak Lian Thang) explores how smallholder farmers adapt to displacement, disrupted markets, and rising insecurity, situating these strategies within broader debates on agrarian transition and food sovereignty. “Natural Resource Management and Climate Futures in Chin State” (Molley Htar Maung) analyses forestry governance and climate resilience in a politically marginalised and conflict-affected setting. Complementing these empirical studies, a fourth paper examines research practice itself in conditions of civil war, drawing on interviews with Chin researchers and applying conceptual insights from conflict research scholarship to interrogate insider–outsider positionality, risk distribution, and community accountability. By centering Chin experiences and adopting the principle that those affected must shape the knowledge produced about them, the paper situates CSARN’s work within wider methodological debates on conducting research under protracted conflict. Together, the panel demonstrates that land, livelihood, and environmental risk are inseparable from the politics of knowledge production. By linking explosive ordnance contamination, agrarian survival strategies, environmental governance, and reflexive methodological analysis, the panel contributes empirically grounded and theoretically engaged insights to debates on environmental justice, rural political economy, and conflict research methodology in contemporary Burma/Myanmar Studies.