

Imperial – Viet Nam Workshop – Natural Hazard Risk – March 2026: Call for Participants (Imperial Staff)

Workshop Date: 12-13 March 2026 (2-day workshop)

Location: Viet Nam

Deadline for Expression of Interest: 5 Feb 2026 (submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis)

Imperial College London are inviting expressions of interest to attend a collaborative research workshop in Viet Nam with a focus on natural hazards, climate resilience and the effects of extreme weather on health. The objective of the workshop is to convene academics from Imperial and multiple university partners in Viet Nam with the aim of facilitating relationship building, co-design of research agenda and identifying areas of shared priorities for future collaboration. The long-term goal is to encourage collaboration amongst interdisciplinary teams and support the development of a holistic consortium capable of addressing natural hazard risk at scale, following additional regional-wide workshop opportunities.

Eligibility:

- Researchers who have a permanent appointment¹ from any faculty who are working on the themes of natural hazards, climate resilience and the effects of extreme weather on health
 - a ‘whole of systems’ approach to the themes, e.g. health co-benefits of natural hazards warning systems and climate resilient infrastructure are within the scope of this call and encouraged.
- Up to 8 Imperial participants will be selected

Funding:

- Imperial will cover the costs of air travel, local transportation, meals and accommodation for selected Imperial participants (according to guidance on [overseas travel rates](#)).

Expected Activities:

- 2-day facilitated workshop with a focus on relationship building and identification of shared research priorities in natural hazards, climate resilience and the effects of extreme weather on health
- Short research presentations from academic participants
- Informational presentations from other key stakeholders
- Networking reception

Expressions of Interest:

If you are interested in attending, please complete the Expression of Interest form at the following link, to provide a brief description of the research challenge that a collaboration in this region would address, its significance, and potential impact: [Expression of Interest Form](#)

Note: Attendees are expected to participate in the workshop with the aim of developing collaborative consortiums with the potential to target substantial funding opportunities in the ASEAN region.

Background:

Natural hazard risk represents a compelling strategic theme for Imperial’s engagement across the Southeast Asia region, driven by the region’s exceptional vulnerability, the significance of disaster resilience for sustainable development and the strong alignment with emerging UK-Southeast Asia funding priorities.

Southeast Asia faces converging hazard systems, with natural disasters disproportionately impacting the most vulnerable populations, making disaster resilience central to sustainable development across the region.

In 2025 ASEAN held the Strategic Policy Dialogue on Disaster Management, signalling a renewed regional commitment to innovation in disaster resilience. Strategic alignment in this thematic area

¹ Defined as a minimum of 9 months per year

between the UK and SE Asia partners continues to grow, with the UK government highlighting natural hazards and climate resilience as priority fields in bilateral dialogues and funding programmes. UKRI, FCDO and ISPF are signalling growing investment in ASEAN collaboration, with the expectation that funding mechanisms will continue to expand in coming years.

Following a Global Development Lab visit to Indonesia and Singapore in early 2025, natural hazard risk and climate resilience were identified as key priority areas for collaboration, utilising expertise in both theoretical (data, AI) and practical, applied approaches, combined with local expertise and contextually appropriate interventions.

Viet Nam is of particular interest given the signing of the UK-Viet Nam Strategic Partnership in 2025, which included commitments to joint research between universities and government agencies, and a disaster risk reduction partnership framework. Engaging with Vietnamese partners at this stage acts a pump priming exercise to engage additional countries for broader regional collaboration.

All questions related to this call should be directed to Rachel McVie (r.mcvie@imperial.ac.uk) and Jen Scurlock (j.scurlock@imperial.ac.uk).