Demographic accounts of Asia document an unprecedented and dramatic shortage of women in some countries. Widespread sex-selection in favour of boys and female migration flows create regional and local ‘female deficits’ in communities and on marriage markets. More recently, attention has turned to the potential dramatic consequences of a large pool of ‘surplus men’ who will not be able to marry. Most studies paint a bleak picture. Based on a decade of research about population and gender issues in Asian context, Danièle Bélanger will provide a critical analysis of this new 'demographic crisis'. Drawing from recent fieldwork she and her colleagues conducted in Vietnam, China, and India, she will share preliminary insight into how local communities and families adapt to the new demographic structure.