



SEMINAR TOPIC:

WATER QUALITY AND SECURITY IN ASIA PACIFIC: IMPLICATIONS TOWARDS SDG

Date:

Venue:

Abstract

Water security is an indispensable part of the economic, social and environmental well-being of any country. In the Asia-Pacific region, this topic is particularly relevant in the context of its growing demographic and economic development. It will not be an exaggeration to state that water security governs the path to achieving national agendas and development goals such as poverty reduction, inclusive growth, food security and gender equality among others. It is expected that there will be 22 megacities in Asia-Pacific region by 2030, and the population will rise to 5 billion by 2050. Against this backdrop of rapid growth and urbanisation, it is important to highlight the dire state of water resources, availability and accessibility in the region. These problems are brought about collectively by poor infrastructure planning, economic constraints, lack of political will and public participation. It has been estimated that the cost of inaction would mean that more than 3 billion would live in water-stressed conditions in the region. Thus, it is imperative that the countries of the Asia-Pacific address the water security challenges urgently and vehemently by ensuring a holistic implementation of *reduce, reuse and recycle* (3R) strategies, within the context of SDG goals.

Speaker's Research interests

Membrane Technologies for Water and Wastewater Treatment, Cleaner Production and Industrial Environmental Management, Solid Waste Disposal and Management.

Achievements

A 28+ years of experience teaching Environmental Engineering and Management related courses at graduate level, Prof. Visvanathan is the recipient of several awards and honors, and was among the 50 leading researchers in Thailand in 2008. He has served as resource person in number of conferences and trainings and has authored more than 20 books and research articles, 35 chapters in books, 170 journal publications and 155 international conference proceedings.

About AIT

Established in Bangkok in 1959, the Asian Institute of Technology is one of the leading regional postgraduate institution and is actively working with public and private sector partners throughout the region as well as with some of the top universities in the world. AIT has been promoting technological change and sustainable development in the Asian-Pacific region through higher education, research and outreach. Recognized for its multinational, multi-cultural ethos, the Institute operates as a self-contained international community at its campus located 40 km (25 miles) north of Bangkok, Thailand.

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