

# E-NEWSLETTER

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change  
School of Environment, Resources and Development  
Asian Institute of Technology



October 2017  
Volume 1, Issue 1



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## Welcome to our e-newsletter!

Greetings and a warm welcome to the first issue of our new monthly e-newsletter!

We couldn't be more excited to have made it to this point. We hope you will enjoy this new way to keep you informed of the exciting news of our faculty, students and alumni of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

Please take some time to get to know the layout of our e-newsletter. You will notice the four categories of Feature

Story, Spotlight Articles, Month Highlights, and Research & Innovation.

In every issue there will be a spotlight article of faculty members in order to know the faculty better. Likewise there will also be a student/alumni say section to highlight a current or former student, the lifestyle at EECC and the different career prospects.

Every issue will feature the latest news and events of the month.

If you haven't checked with us lately, I think you will be surprised and excited about all the wonderful things happening in the EECC Department. We hope to hear from you soon, and we welcome your feedback!

If at any point you no longer wish to receive the e-newsletter, simply click on the unsubscribe link in the footer of each issue. Feel free to forward this to your friends. They can subscribe through the link below.



## Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal to Co-chair Scientific Steering Committee of IPCC Sponsored Global Conference on Cities and Climate Change Science

5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018, Edmonton, Canada

The conference aims to inspire the next frontier of research focused on the science of cities and climate change.

The primary goal of the conference is to assess the state of academic and practice-based knowledge related to cities and climate change, and to establish a global research agenda based on the joint identification of key gaps by

the academic, practitioner and urban policy-making communities.

The conference seeks to forge stronger partnerships among these communities and catalyze new processes for joint knowledge production; connect existing data platforms and potentially initiate new ones; as well as catalyze funding to meet these goals.

It will bring together representatives from academia, scientific bodies, other research organizations and agencies; member states of the United Nations; city and regional governments; and urban and climate change practitioners and policy-makers.

[Read more](#)

## Conference Objectives

- Identify key research and knowledge gaps with regard to cities and climate change
- Inspire global and regional research that will lead to peer-reviewed publications and scientific reports, co-designed and co-produced knowledge leading to effective and inclusive urban practices
- Stimulate research on Cities and Climate Change during the AR6 cycle

## Dr. Shobhakar Actively Contributes to the International & Scientific Arena

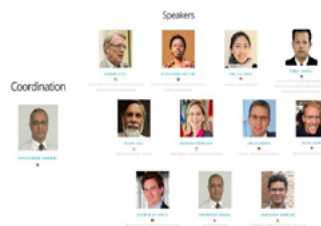
### Urban Design and Sustainable Buildings (UDSB)

23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Brussels

Dr. Shobhakar organizes a key Theme 'Urban Design and Sustainable Buildings' at Global Science, Technology and Innovation Conference in Brussels.

Sustainable buildings are key cornerstones of the global sustainability

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*Highlighted key challenges and opportunities for sustainable building with focus on energy*

*Presented key technologies and knowhow that are critical*

*Provided insights on key barriers for these technologies*

*Discussed key policy changes that needs to happen for transformative change*



Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal is the Head & Associate Professor at the Department of EECC | SERD | AIT [Read more...](#)

*“develop a better knowledge-base towards deep de-carbonization of cities”*

*Dr. Shobhakar*

Participants, representing policymakers, technology researchers, business and industry captains, and civil society attended the meeting.

### Cities and Climate Change 2017 Conference, Potsdam

21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal urges the science, policy and practice communities to develop new solution-oriented knowledge towards deep de-carbonization of cities as a keynote speaker to Cities and Climate Change 2017

Conference at PIK (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research) on 21st Sept 2017.

Cities are key to new global actions for short and long-term consistent to Paris Agreement,

New Urban Agenda, SDGs and Sendai Framework for DRR.

[Read more...](#)

## Professor C. Visvanathan and His Global Interactions

### Design, Operation and Maintenance of Reverse Osmosis

24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Islamabad, Pakistan

Institute of Environmental Science and Engineering (IESE) of National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), Islamabad, Pakistan invited Prof. Visu to coordinate a 2 day Professional Training Program on “Design, Operation and Maintenance of Reverse

Osmosis (RO)”.

The program saw more than 30 participants from the industrial sector in Pakistan

From the sidelines of the training, they explored the possibility of a joint activity

between AIT and NUST to organised a Technical Tour and Training Program in 2018. To re-activate earlier proposal on AIT- NUST joint degree program on Environmental Engineering and Management was also discussed.

[Read more...](#)

Professional Development Centre (PDC)  
National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)



*Training in Islamabad, Pakistan*

### Global Dialogue on Technology for Resilient Cities

17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Osaka, Japan

Global Dialogue on Technology for Resilient Cities was organized by UNEP, International Environmental Technology Centre, Osaka, Japan.

related to resilient cities and to discuss innovation and explore partnerships.

Prof. Visu presented on “Academic Curriculum on Holistic Waste Management”. He talked on the AIT’s leading role in development of the 33 credit course curriculum developed for the Professional Master’s program on Holistic

Waste Management with 6 University consortium.

[Read more...](#)

*The Global Dialogue highlighted the importance of urban resilience and climate resilience though adopting and developing technology. Education, awareness and capacity building for resilient cities, was one of the 6 parallel session conducted in the meeting.*

The objective of this session was to share the experiences on education, awareness and capacity building approaches

### Environmental Management and Climate Change

20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam

Prof. Visu was the Resource Person at the 3 day Training Program on “Environmental Management and Climate Change” organised by Centre for Research and Development of Safety and Environment Petroleum (CPSE), Ho Chi

Minh City, Vietnam held from 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017. Professor Visu lectured on current status of environment in Southeast Asia region, and a review on industrial environmental management practices in Asia. Specific focus

was on how to develop EMS and ISO14000 certification process for petro-chemical industry.

He is also a visiting professor at the HCMC University of Technology.

[Read more...](#)



Professor C. Visvanathan lecture at the Department of EECC | SERD | AIT [Read more...](#)

## Energy Resources and Technologies Field Trip

2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Study tours provide plenty of opportunities for the students to connect their classroom-theoretical knowledge to the real life applications. Such a practical orientation not only cement the learning but also facilitate to explore novel solutions to the existing challenges or to generate new ideas for further development.

Keeping the importance of practical orientation to complement theoretical learning, the course administration of the Energy Resources and Technologies (ED72.01) has organized a field trip. Dr. Abdul Salam, the course instructor, led the team of over 50 people successfully in association with Dr. Hien Vu Duc, Senior Laboratory Supervisor and Khun Phornshinee Thanara, Administrative Secretary.

The 5 days field trip covered nine energy establishments including seven power plants, one coal mine, and an oilfield. The field trip has complemented our theoretical learning of energy and electricity technologies including sources, production processes, and operation and management of the plants.

It provided adequate opportunities for the student to witness the operation of the plants, to know the machineries, to observe the magnitude of the plants and required operational tools, security issues, challenges and the overall management.

This study tour has also introduced the participants indirectly to the energy and electricity policies and strategies of the Thai government. They got a workable idea of the structure of the electricity sector of Thailand including demand and supply dynamics, responsible entities, mix of energy sources for electricity generation, outsourcing mechanism, and technology and technical know-how.

It is reasonable to expect that many of the participants have come across new ideas from this practical orientation. Surely, the acquired knowledge and ideas, and the orientation to the Thai electricity policies and strategies will help many participants to undertake suitable initiatives in development of the electricity and energy sectors of their own countries.

Read the full report [here](#)

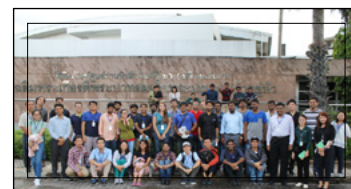
### Field Trip Objective

*'to introduce the students to the practical working environment in order to enable them to match their theoretical learnings with their real life applications'*



*This article is contributed by Mr. Mohammed Robayet Khan, a PhD student in Energy Academic Program specialising in Energy Policy, Planning and Economics. Mr. Khan received his MBA from Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and Master of Development Economics (Advanced) from The University of Queensland, Australia.*

*Prior to joining AIT for PhD degree, Mr. Khan has worked at various capacities from Assistant Commissioner to Senior Assistant Secretary in Bangladesh. Mr Khan belongs to Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Cadre.*



## The 18<sup>th</sup> GEIA Conference: Emissions Science for Healthy Environment

2<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, Hamburg, Germany

Dr. Ekbordin Winijkul was invited for a presentation on "Current and Future Particle Number Size Distribution Emission Inventory of On-road Vehicles in Southeast Asia"

at the 18<sup>th</sup> GEIA conference: Emission Science for Health Environment in Hamburg, Germany. This emission inventory is the first inventory that focuses on particle number

distribution from transportation in Southeast Asia, and can be directly linked to better understanding of health impacts of emission from transportation.

[continue reading...](#)



Dr. Ekbordin is an Assistant Professor at the Department of EECC | SERD | AIT [Read more...](#)

## TORUS Project 5th Thematic Workshop

4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Nong Lam University, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam

Prof. Kim Oanh participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Toward an Open Resources Using Service (TORUS) project thematic workshop on "Remote Sensing and Image Analysis in Environmental Science Applications". The workshop was coordinated by the NLU, and saw participation by all

project partners from France, Belgium, Italy, Thailand and Vietnam.

Field excursion to the Can Gio mangrove forest was arranged on the first day of the workshop. Various training topics were delivered during the workshop including the cloud

computing application using the server installed at AIT. Prof Kim Oanh led the AIT team in the discussion of project activities during the workshop and participated in the project steering committee meeting held on the last day of the workshop.

[continue reading...](#)



Prof. Kim lecture in EEM at the Department of EECC | SERD | AIT [Read more...](#)

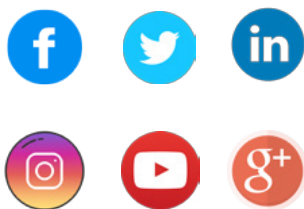
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## Scholarship Deadline For January Semester is Just a Week Away!

15<sup>th</sup> November 2017

In less than a week, we will be closing our scholarship application for **January Semester 2018**.

Scholarships for January Semester is limited, we

recommend prospective students to apply early to maximise the scholarship opportunities.

Create an account today on our Application Portal and/or

bring it to the notice of other aspirants to apply online by the **November 15** deadline to join us!

[Apply Now](#)

## Bangchak Scholarships

**Fully funded**

Bangchak Initiative and Innovative Centre (BIIC@AIT) located at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Thailand is currently looking for excellent graduate applicants with interests in green Energy such as smart energy platform and Bio-based product with a focus on value-added from Algae.

The Bangchak Initiative and

Innovative Centre addresses fundamental and applied research challenges facing the Renewable energy industry worldwide and its objective is to inculcate entrepreneurship and creation of enterprises on knowledge-based innovation. The research program concentrates on smart energy platform which includes energy storage, smart device and

energy efficiency and bio-based product which can be biomaterial, biodegradable and biomedical.

The Centre is generously funded to collaborate closely with top industries and universities domestically and internationally.

[Read more...](#)

## AITCV Silver Jubilee Scholarships and Fellowships

**Tuition + Registration fees + Accommodation + Bursary for living**

AIT Vietnam's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scholarship Program is for full-time studies at AIT Bangkok to celebrate the partnerships which have helped AIT to be successful in Vietnam and

acknowledge the contributions of the nearly 4,000 alumni of AIT in Vietnam.

The program also identifies the most gifted potential

graduate students and those who come from economically disadvantaged families throughout Vietnam.

[Read more...](#)

## AIT Fellowships

**Partial Tuitions Fees**

We offer generous fellowships for students who can contribute to the learning experience and make a positive impact on society.

The Master and Doctoral degree applicants have an opportunity to qualify for these generous academic fellowships.

A large number of no-bond AIT Fellowships are available for students from all countries.

As Asia's leading international higher learning institute, the AIT Fellowships are intended to increase the number of skilled international scientists, engineers, and managers

required to meet the future challenges of the emerging Asian Economic Community region and beyond.

Apply early to improve your chances of a fellowships.

[Read more...](#)

## EECC Department's Website

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change has launched its new website in October. It will serve as the primary source of information (dissemination and collection) of the department to the world.

The website offers an accurate picture of the programs and curriculum, the people & expertise, events & news, research & publications, and a

many more. You may visit our site at the following link

[www.eccc.ait.ac.th](http://www.eccc.ait.ac.th)

*"AIT develops global citizens for the sustainable future of mankind"*

*Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, President, AIT*

## Social Media

To engage the potential & current students and also to keep connected with the alumni & donor community, we have opened the social media accounts alongside the website.

Please feel free to like, follow, share, and comment on our social media pages. Our followers will receive exclusive offers and stay updated on the latest developments and special events on campus and beyond.