

“Water scarcity in Asian agriculture”: How can we build resilience to a drier future?

Date: 16 November 2018

Time: 10.00-11.30 hrs.

Venue: AIT Conference Center (B108)



Dr. Adam Loch



Mr. David Adamson

Abstract

The expansion of irrigated production in SE Asia has increased the need for secure water supply, but with variable and changing climate, this makes existing systems vulnerable to future supply shocks. Importantly for water managers and planners, a large degree of uncertainty about the full extent of changes remains. For Asian countries, the impacts will revolve around droughts, flooding damage, food security and poverty. Typical policy responses look to engineering to secure future supply and smooth shocks; but the opportunities for engineering solutions (including modern irrigation technology) are rapidly diminishing. Demand solutions (e.g. pricing and charges, water accounting and economic efficiency, property rights and markets) offer alternative pathways, but they can be problematic depending on the objectives. This seminar will use Australia as an example of why supply shocks and uncertainty are important, and how demand solutions have enabled adaptation. Although the objectives will be very different for policy-makers in SE Asia, understanding the drivers of change in Australia should provide useful lessons to other jurisdictions.

Kindly register your participation

@ yanee@ait.ac.th or 02 524 6146 to enable us to make a better logistics.

About the speakers

Dr Adam Loch is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Adelaide. Prior to moving to South Australia Adam spent 10 years as a cotton grower and advocate for irrigators in Queensland and currently researches topics such as irrigator decision-making, water markets and institutional reform, transaction costs, and reallocation policy/program effectiveness.

Mr. David Adamson started his professional life as the economist at the CRC for Tropical Pest Management and he has worked on a range of natural resource and agricultural issues throughout Australia. David's current research activities are split between his ARC DECRA Grant DE160100213 Optimising National Benefits from Restoring Environmental Water Flows and collaborating on a European COST-ACTION Proposal titled 'Network for Evaluation of One Health'.



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