



International Conference on

SDCC

Sustainable Development in the
Context of Climate Change

Asian Institute of Technology
Bangkok, Thailand

www.ait.asia

Why SDCC?

Sustainable development has been central to AIT's research and development efforts since its inception. The Institute has responded rapidly to the new challenges the region faces. Climate change is a global challenge and concerted trans-disciplinary efforts are required to develop new adaptation and mitigation strategies which will provide local communities more resilience while leading to a greener and better world.

The Asian Institute of Technology is committed to work towards this by forming strong teams, and networks and working in a collaborative manner with all stake holders.

The Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Development in the Context of Climate Change will provide greater impetus to these goals by developing a research strategy for the near and middle term.

Objectives

- Bring together thought-leaders, research groups and SDCC experts to reflect on future research, design action plans and agenda to face emerging issues and urgent themes in climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Consolidate the Institute's research efforts and partnerships by providing a platform to discuss shared initiatives with like-minded stakeholders and partners
- Launch AIT's Center for Excellence in Sustainable Development in the context of Climate Change

" AIT is positioning itself under an Institute-wide thematic research area of Sustainable Development in the Context of Climate Change, focusing on adaptation and mitigation strategies that will drive poverty reduction, reduce risk and resource consumption, and create opportunities for job creation and building sustainable livelihoods. The Centre will serve as an umbrella for specific nodal centres created in the sub-themes.

Professor Said Irandoust
President, Asian Institute of Technology



An example of how AIT deploys mobile wireless networks on an ad-hoc basis for emergency conditions, such as after a natural disaster when a fixed network infrastructure is not available or had been destroyed.

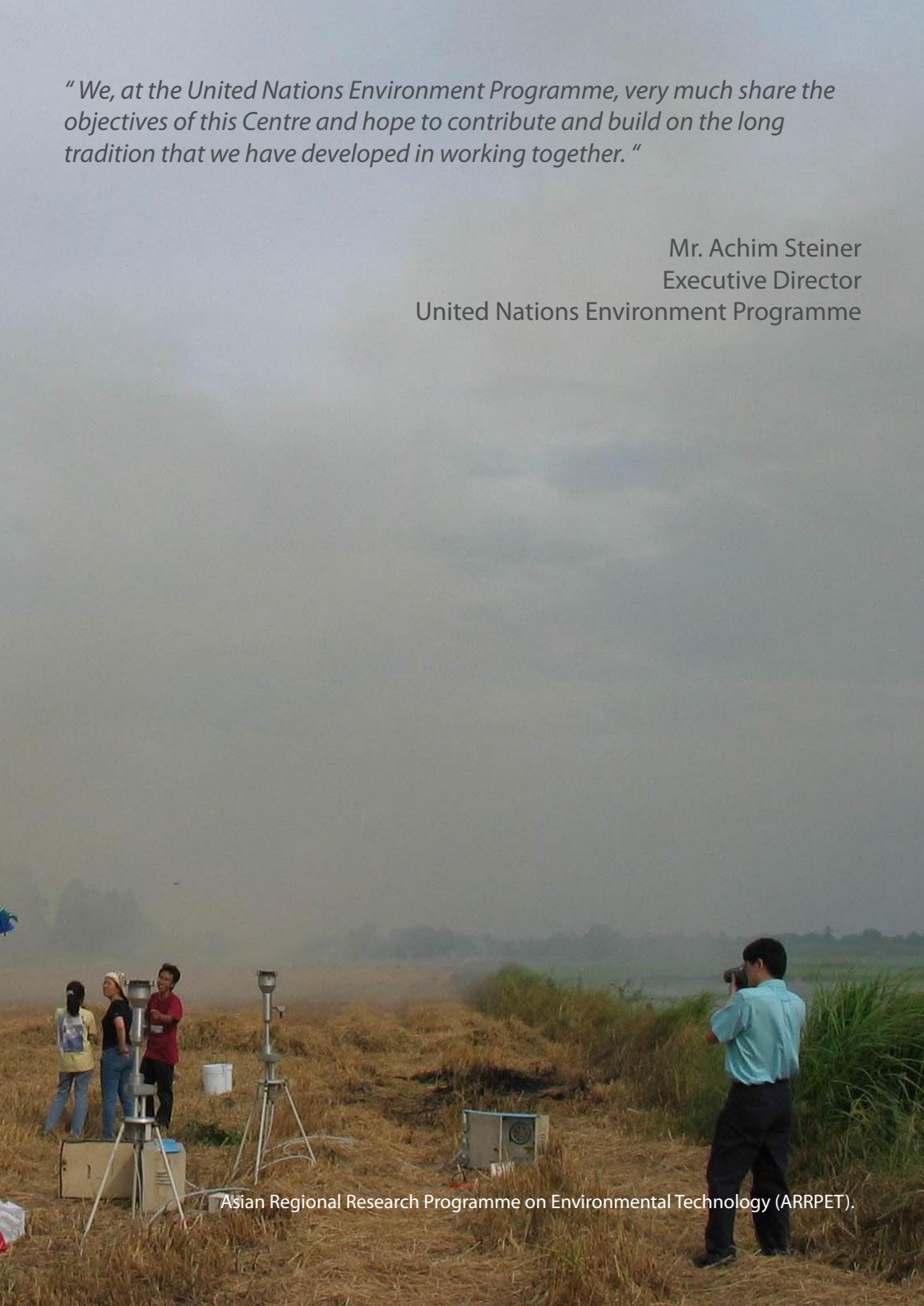
"It is essential to work as trans-disciplinary teams with a critical mass of scientists to address the universal problem of climate change. This requires that all nations, sectors of society and individuals will have to work in collaborative ways to rescue the world we live in."

Professor Sudip Rakshit
Vice President - Research
Asian Institute of Technology



“ We, at the United Nations Environment Programme, very much share the objectives of this Centre and hope to contribute and build on the long tradition that we have developed in working together. ”

Mr. Achim Steiner
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme



Asian Regional Research Programme on Environmental Technology (ARRPET).

SDCC Thematic Sub-areas



1. Vulnerability and Disaster Risk Reduction

Strengthening the capacity of stakeholders is a key element in disaster preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

AIT commits to increasing capacity in the region in disaster preparedness and adaptation even as it addresses other issues of vulnerability including the poor's access to resources and services.

Research projects include, among others, designing and applying innovative technologies during post-tsunami reconstruction, monitoring glacier lake outburst flooding in the Himalayas and installing EWS, developing appropriate multi-hazard vulnerability and risk assessments, applying community-centered processes in disaster management, and identifying knowledge gaps and research issues in climate adaptation.



2. Water Resources and Coastal Adaptation

AIT's water and engineering management research team conducts extensive work in the areas of agricultural water, coastal water, urban water, water resources, and extreme events, such as floods and droughts, and risk management within the framework of integrated water resources management.

Water related studies cross cuts through the multidisciplinary approach that the Institute adopts in analyzing sustainable development and climate change issues.



3. Urban and Rural Sustainability

AIT is committed to understanding rural-urban interaction across sectors. This combined effort is integral to a balanced and sustained development.

Ensuring the sustainability of urban and rural development processes contributes to a more robust economy and environment that are essential elements in building societies resilient to climate change impacts.

The Institute focuses on assisting stakeholders build their capacity to promote urban and rural sustainability through appropriate technology, relevant and applied research, sustainable frameworks for development and planning, informed policy making and practice applications in the region.

4. Low Carbon Society and Renewable Technology

Seeking ways to sustain and stabilize growth using renewable technology is centrally linked to achieving low carbon societies.

Greenhouse gas mitigation options (both technological and policy) and its implications for the energy resource mix, technology-mix, environmental and developmental co-benefits in terms of reduction of other pollutant emissions are a major focus of research in AIT.

Recent undertakings include cooperation and technology transfer projects to promote low carbon societies and renewable technology.



5. Agriculture, Land Use and Forestry

The Asian Institute of Technology believes that comprehensive mitigation measures in the midst of growing demand for food and forest resources have to simultaneously target the agriculture and forestry sectors.

Recognizing that agriculture is the major form of land use in tropical and subtropical continents, AIT pursues fields of expertise that enhances the capacities of people working in these sectors, encourages afforestation and improves land cover and tillage management towards achieving social, economic and environmental goals.

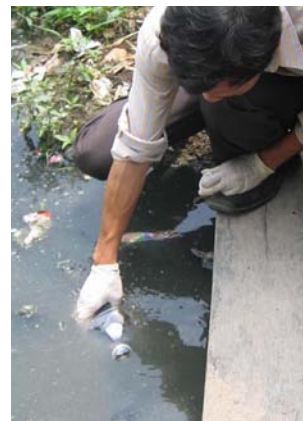


6. Cleaner Production and Waste Refinery

Cleaner Production (CP) is the continuous application of an integration of preventative environmental and business strategies for procuring resources, producing and processing products, and/or providing services at higher efficiency, increased profitability, and at reduced risks to the environment.

AIT's offerings and expertise focus on capacity building and research. A large number of research activities have been carried out on CP by faculty, staff and students at AIT.

This involves work in collaboration with industries, and assisting them in the treatment of wastes, improving energy efficiency through energy and environmental audits.



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