



## one **AIT** for all!

AIT RETURNS HOME: TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

**ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**24 February 2012**

The Asian Institute of Technology has just endured a very difficult period in its half-century history. The flooding of AIT on October 21, 2011 impacted our institute tremendously, affecting the entire AIT Community.

AIT bowed but did not break, and for this we wish to thank all of those who made this possible. The disaster provided a backdrop for our students, faculty, staff, alumni, partners and friends to rise to the occasion as one community, despite the odds. AIT has now returned home from its temporary relocations and classes resumed on February 15th. We are now united in hope to aim for a sustainable future for the Asian Institute of Technology.

But this will present challenges in itself. Climate change is a global reality, and is not going away. The recent flood in Thailand was a devastating example of how an entire society can be completely disrupted. Well into the New Year, there are already disquieting predictions for heavy rainfall in 2012. Now it is time to think about the future; to explore ways to make our campus a model for green living that is safe, secure and sustainable, and able to adapt and cope against potential calamities.

“AIT Returns Home: Towards a Sustainable Future” is designed to elicit the interest of the AIT Community and to capture the collective imagination for what lies ahead. It is intended to engage our partners and stakeholders with an exciting plan for the future of the campus.

Given the enormity of the last four months, it is important that we make the highest efforts to strengthen trust and unity. Looking at the broader picture, we want to amplify the spirit within our community, and to send a positive message of a forward-looking vision for our society.



**AIT**  
Asian Institute of Technology

# PROGRAMME “AIT RETURNS HOME: TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE”

Venue: AIT Library

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|---------------|--|
| 8:40 – 9:00   | <p>Welcome in front of AIT Globe next to the administration building</p> <p>Registration in front of the event location: AIT Library</p>   |
| 9:00 – 9:10   | Songs on stage by the children of the AIT International School   |
| 9:10 – 9:20   | Welcome Address by Prof. Said Irandoust, President of AIT  |
| 9:20 – 9:40   | <p><b>First session</b></p> <p><b>FLOODS: TURNING THE PAGE, A NEW CHAPTER OF SUSTAINABILITY?</b></p>   |
| 9:20 – 9:30   | Dr. Seree Supharatid, Director of the Centre on Climate Change and Disasters, Rangsit University, AIT Alumnus  |
| 9:30 – 9:35   | Dr. Sutat Weesakul, Director of Research Projects, Water Engineering & Management Field of Study, SET, AIT   |
| 9:35 – 9:40   | Dr. Masahiko Nagai, Associate Director, Geoinformatics Center (GIC), Seconded Visiting Faculty by JAXA, RS & GIS Field of Study, SET, AIT  |
| 9:40 – 10:10  | <p><b>Panel Discussion and Q&amp;A session:</b></p> <p>Dr. Seree Supharatid, Dr. Sutat Weesakul and Dr. Masahiko Nagai</p> <p><b>Themes for consideration:</b></p> <p>The Flood / What we learned? / How Thailand and Pathumthani can be better prepared for the future? / Climate Change and Future Disasters, do universities have a role? / What’s the answer: mega-engineering or a return to practical living and applying knowledge existing in the past? / Can Thailand turn this crisis into a regional opportunity?</p> |
| 10:10 – 10:25 | Song interlude by AIT band and refreshments  |
| 10:25 – 11:15 | <p><b>Second session:</b></p> <p><b>TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR AIT</b></p>   |
| 10:25 – 10:30 | 1. Pre-flood & Flood: Lessons Learned by Dr. Sangam Shrestha, Assistant Professor at the Water Engineering & Management Field of Study, SET, AIT   |
| 10:30 – 10:40 | 2. Post-Flood Rehabilitation Overview by Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, Vice President for Resource Development, AIT  |
| 10:40 – 10:50 | 3. AIT Research Strategy Presentation 2012-2016 by Prof. Sudip Rakshit, Vice President for Research, AIT   |
| 10:50 – 11:10 | <p>4. New campus development plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Short term, midterm and long term plans by Prof. Said Irandoust, President of AIT, and Mr. Weerawudht Otrakul, Architect, Poomiwudht Co.</i></li> <li>• <i>Vision of a secure, safe and sustainable campus by Prof. Soontorn Boonyatikarn, Director, Center of Excellence for Building and Environmental Technology, Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University</i></li> </ul>  |
| 11:10 – 11:15 | 5. Prof. Said Irandoust, President of AIT, announces the AIT Community Photo Competition that reflects the theme of “Towards a Sustainable Future”   |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Tree Planting ceremony for VIPs near the Library   |
| 11:15 onward  | Tree Planting ceremony for the AIT Community on the Schools premises   |
| 11:15 onward  | International Food Fair for the AIT Community  |