

"Key Issues for a Successful Copenhagen Climate Change Summit"

The Role of Emerging Countries in Asia And the Role of AIT



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Abstract:

The international community is facing one of the biggest challenges to human development in recorded history— the challenge of climate change. And nowhere in the world will communities and economies be impacted as heavily as in the Asia and the Pacific. Burgeoning coastal and urban populations, poor environmental management, and heavy dependency on subsistence agriculture compound existing development challenges in a region where more than 900 million people in the region still live on less than \$1.25 a day. Asia is vulnerable. For example, the economy-wide cost of climate change for Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam could reach 6.7% of GDP per year by 2100. For meeting the climate change targets by 2050, both developing and developed countries should be involved.

Dr Bindu Lohani will outline recent developments that increase our understanding of climate change drivers and impacts, globally and on Asia. There have been several ongoing debates around the subject of climate change. In this context, Dr Lohani will discuss the four key issues which need to be included in the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009, in particular, the role of emerging countries in Asia, to have a meaningful post-Kyoto Protocol framework for climate change. Dr Lohani will share his views about the role of a regional and international institution such as the Asian Institute of Technology in helping address the issues of climate change.

Venue: Milton E Bender Jr. Auditorium, AIT

Date: September 7, 2009

Time: 9.00 - 10.30 am