AIT Asian Institute of Technology

UN environment programme 1972-2022

SDG HYBRID WEBINAR: INNOVATIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

PART 1

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CIRCULAR CITIES

Friday, 5 AUGUST 2022

13:30 - 15:30 hours ICT (Thailand time)

Hybrid at AIT Entrepreneurship Center + Zoom

POTENTIALS OF SMART CITIES FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Cities around the world are finding way to promote and sustain circular economy lifestyle. Circular economy principles focus on eliminating waste, circulating products & materials and regenerating nature. Circular economy models have become fundamental principles for smart cities development. Smart cities early stages planning require data of its current waste, energy and water flows which will allow for awareness, impactful policy planning and efficient decision-making for circular economy and sustainable living.

Smart cities require effective strategy communication to citizens, private sectors, and public teams. Recognizing that core smart cities developments must include people, private enterprises, and the public sectors influence. Smart cities concepts applied to any level of an organization can build micro circular economy and sustainable practice. These types of micro smart cities applications can help build a supportive environment for wider implementation. Successful smart cities, however, look for simple technological solutions for best scalability and multifield application rather than high-tech solutions that is customized to one situation.

Thailand focuses on 7 smart fields for smart city planning: smart environment solution being a required key field for every smart city in Thailand. 6 other subfields include smart economy, smart people, smart governance, smart living, smart mobility, and smart energy. Smart cities ideally use ICT or circular economy practices to help improve operation and quality of service provided to citizens, reducing administrative task and reduce overall cost. With technology helping, smart cities can reduce their negative environmental impact and build sustainable living.

While technology are key enabling factors, smart cities strategies use of technology (IoTs, AI, Big Data, and other communication technologies) will allow for the collection and improved quality of data. Innovative ideas from smart cities developments improve networks, social services and environment and make them sustainable. Enabling environment from policy, finance, technology, business models and stakeholders are all need for a successful smart city. This course will cover the guiding principles for developing an enable environment to replicate and scale good practice for smart city success and sustainable lifestyle.

OBJECTIVE

Aims to build capacity on creating an enabling environment (policies, financing, technologies, business models, and stakeholder engagement) to replicate and scale up good practices on sustainable lifestyles.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Capacity Goals:

- Smarter Cities starting with circular economy in mind
- How current knowledge of waste, energy, and water flow in cities shape smart city planning?
- How knowledge and attitude shapes smart city planning and sustainable living success and failures?
- People Centric Planning: guiding principal that enables successful smart cities
- Copy and Paste doesn't work but people centric works

PLEASE REGISTER TO JOIN

https://bit.ly/3RHrU2J

CONTACT

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon

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PROGRAM AGENDA

13:30 – 13:35 **Welcome Remarks**

Dr. Naveed Anwar
Vice President for Knowledge Transfer
Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

13:35 – 13:45 **Opening Remarks**

Mr. Fulai Sheng
Head, Economic and Trade Policy Unit in Geneva
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

13:45 – 14:00 **Keynote Speech 1:**
Carbon Capturing and Utilization from the Incineration plan in Saga City

Mr. Makoto Tsukiji
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

14:00– 14:15 **Keynote Speech 2:**
New Sustainable Development Paradigm: *Smart Cities as a Bridge for Digital and Physical Infrastructure*

Dr. Passakon Prathombutr
Senior Executive Vice President (SEVP / CTO)
Digital Economy Promotion Agency (depa)

14:15 – 14:25 **Keynote speech 3:**
Sustainable Smart Cities with AI Technology

Dr. Mongkol Ekpanyapong
Director of AI Center
Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

14:25 – 14:40 **Keynote speech 4:**
Smart Cities for Sustainable Development: *A Policy Framework for Developing Countries*

Prof. Hari Srinivas
Professor of Environmental Policy
Coordinator, Global Development Research Center, Kobe, Japan

14:40 – 14:55 **Keynote speech 5:**
Net-zero Infrastructure Blind Spots the Need for Circular Economy Solutions

Dr. Patrick Schröder
Senior Research Fellow
Environment and Society Programme, The Royal Institute of International Affairs

14:55 – 15:25 **Session I:**
Panel Discussion – Practical Enablers Sustainable Infrastructure for Circular Cities

Moderator: *Mr. Voravate Chonlasin*
Program Director, AIT Extension, AIT

Panelist 1: Business

Dr. Tanatat Puttasuwan
Business and Investment Advisor / Former World Bank Senior Private Sector Development Specialist

Panelist 2: Technology

Dr. Arpamart Chanmeka
Deputy Director, EECO

Panelist 3: Policy

Dr. Passakon Prathombutr

Panelist 4: Capacity building and awareness

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon

15:25 – 15:30 **Closing Remarks**

Dr. Christopher J. Garnier
Executive Director, AIT Extension
Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

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SDG HYBRID WEBINAR: INNOVATIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

PART 2

INNOVATIONS AND STARTUPS IN THE WATER SECTOR

Friday, 5 AUGUST 2022

15:30 - 17:00 hours ICT (Thailand time)

Hybrid at AIT Entrepreneurship Center + Zoom

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the entire water sector - access to water supply, hygiene and sanitation, wastewater management, and ambient water quality. There are strong interlinkages between the health, social, and economic impact of COVID-19 on the water sector as a function of disruption or inequitable access to adequate quantity, acceptable quality, affordable drinking water, and increased risk of pollution of the receiving waters.

In June 2022, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) organized a webinar "COVID-19 and the Water Sector" to share and discuss the assessment report focusing on the impacts of the pandemic in the water systems.

In continuation to this webinar, UNEP and AIT are jointly organizing a webinar focusing on innovations, technologies, and startups in the water sector targeting the youth, students, and entrepreneurs who are working on green solutions related to water.

Innovations and startups for the water sector are important to accelerate the slowed down progress on Sustainable Development Goal #6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). We need more innovations and startups working to address urban water security, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), wastewater treatment, and (environmental) water pollution through indicators such as the water security index (WSI).

Youth are the frontline for innovations and startups. This webinar, as part of the UNEP-AIT project on COVID-19 and Wastewater, would create a dialogue leading to understanding the drivers and challenges for the innovations and startups in water sector. The outcome of this dialogue will feed into the science-policy process leading to creating enabling environment for innovations and startups in the water sector.

PROGRAM AGENDA

16:00 – 16:05 **Opening Remarks**

Mr.Fulai Sheng
Head, Sustainable Infrastructure from UNEP Geneva

16:05 – 16:10 **Impact of COVID-19 on Wastewater Management in Developing Countries and UNEP's Support**

Ms.Avantika Singh
Program Assistant, UNEP Nairobi

16:10 – 16:17 **The Role of Innovations and Startups for Addressing Impacts of COVID-19 on Wastewater**

Prof.Nophea Sasaki
Professor, School of Environment, Resources and Development, AIT

16:17 – 16:24 **Green Startup Opportunity during Pandemic**

Mr.BK Sinha
Founder/Director/Chief Sustainability Director, HabitatEnviro

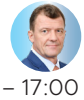
16:24 – 16:31 **Nature-based Solutions for Wastewater Management**

Ms.Jyoti Verma
National Institute of Urban Affairs, India

16:31 – 16:38 **3R Biotechnology-based on Freshwater Mangroves for Urban Sanitation and Health**

Dr. Arlene Gonzales
Assistant Professor, Mariano Marcos State University

16:38 – 16:45 **Green Startup Toolkit for the Youth**



Prof.Dieter Trau
Director, AIT Entrepreneurship Center

16:45 – 17:00 **Q&A and Panel Discussion**

Moderated by
Dr.Mushtaq Ahmed Memon

17:00 – 17:05 **Closing Remarks**

Ms.Tessa Goverse
Chief, Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities

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