AIT Partners with Green Technology Center in Korea

18 July 2018, GTC, Korea

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Asian Institute of Technology and Green Technology Center (GTC) on Friday 6 July 2018 to enable cooperation between AIT and GTC to establish and develop an international cooperation network between officials, faculty members, and students associated with the two institutions.

This partnership aims to benefit from each other’s initiatives to advance research on green climate technology.

Dr. Dhakal also attended the 1st Global Advisory Committee Meeting of GTC in Korea on 18 July 2018 that aims to gather feedback from renowned experts on setting the future directions.

Bangabandhu Chair Professor, Prof. Joyashree Roy Joined the EECC Department

1 August 2018, Asian Institute of Technology

Prof. Roy is the inaugural Bangabandhu Chair Professor at AIT. Prior to joining AIT, she was with Department of Economics, Jadavpur University where she initiated and was coordinator of the Global Change Programme. Prof. Roy was among the network of scientists IPCC-2007 Nobel Peace Prize winning panel, has been a chapter author of Global Energy Assessment. She is in the winning team of Prince Sultan Bin Aziz award for water. She has published more than 100 peer reviewed journal articles, authored and edited books.

Her research interests: Economics of Pollution and Climate Change, Modeling energy demand, Economy-wide modeling exercises for deriving policy implications, Water quality demand modeling, Water pricing, Sustainable development, Natural resource accounting, Valuing environmental services, Developmental and environmental issues relevant for informal sectors, Coastal Ecosystem service evaluation.

A Bangabandhu Chair on Sustainable Energy at the Asian Institute of Technology was formally inaugurated on 15 March 2018 following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Asian Institute of Technology and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh.
Dissemination Workshop of the AIT-LU Newton Fund Project
19 July 2018, Hotel Novotel, Bangkok

The Dissemination workshop of the AIT-LU Newton Fund project on 'Food Waste to Energy and Resource Recovery in Thailand: Options, Opportunities, Issues and Challenges' was held on 19 July 2018 at Hotel Novotel, Bangkok.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. P. Abdul Salam, from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change (EECC), School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) welcomed the stakeholders to the workshop.

Ms. Chanya Tangsuk, Head of Education and Science, British Council Thailand, Mr. Parinand Varnasavang, Senior Policy Researcher, National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office (STI), Thailand, and Dr. Tanja Radu, Lecturer, Loughborough University (LU), UK gave the opening remarks.

Prof. C. Visvanathan from the EECC Department, SERD, AIT presented the technical aspects of decentralized community scale anaerobic digestion system with remote monitoring and controlling for treating source-separated food waste. Dr. Salam explained the best waste management practices and business models for community to promote 'Food Waste to Energy and Resource Recovery'.

Dr. Tanja Radu briefed on success stories from UK on decentralized anaerobic digestion system to treat source separated food waste.

Mr. Twarath Sutabutr, Director General, Energy Policy Planning Office, Thailand presented on "Policy framework to promote anaerobic digestion for waste to energy: Present status, constraints and opportunities in Thailand".

Mr. Luca Talia, Head of Engineering and General Manager, Sebigas UAC Company Ltd., Thailand discussed about the issues and challenges on anaerobic digestion business in Thailand.

Dr. Stephen P Etheridge, Chief Executive Officer, Biotrix Asia Co. Ltd., Thailand threw light on issues and opportunities in digestate management.

Ms. Rathanit Sukthanapirat, Vice Dean, Kasetsart University, Dr. Tanja Radu, Mr. Luca Talia, Mr. Parinand Varnasavang presented a panel discussion on 'Promotion of food waste based decentralized anaerobic digestion: Barriers and opportunities' which was moderated by Prof. Visu. Various questions from audience were also addressed.

Prof. Visu in his closing remarks thanked British Council, STI Thailand, Loughborough University and all the stakeholders in the workshop.

Prof. Visu, Dr. Radu and Mr. Luca were interviewed in the afternoon for British Council's promotional activities.

Delegates from UNESCAP and DEDE Visits EECC Department
20 July 2018, AIT, Thailand

On 20th July 2018, delegates from UNESCAP and Department of Alternative Energy Development and Efficiency had a meeting with Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal and Prof. Sivannapon Kumar to discuss on a suitable way forward for renewable energy policy planning in Thailand, particularly evidence based energy policies in the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Meeting discussed possible cooperation on

1) Analysis of current status of energy system and impacts of consumption from different sectors

2) Supporting the current training activities of the DEDE training centre.

The meeting discussed the potentials to conduct an evidence based analysis of Thailand's RE policies and make scientifically backed recommendations that align with achieving SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy). Potentials to develop a policy tool that could support other countries to use this for developing their own energy strategies was also discussed.

The delegates from UNESCAP was led by the Director of UNESCAP’s Energy Division Mr. Hongpeng Liu and DEDE's Director of Energy Coorporation Section, Ms. Munlika Sompranon.
Delegation of Faculty Members and Students From College of Environment and Resource Science, Zhejiang University Visited the Asian Institute of Technology
23 July 2018, Asian Institute of Technology

Tsinghua University Faculty and Students at AIT for a Week Long Program
31 July - 6 August, Asian Institute of Technology

Korea Water and Wastewater Works Association (KWWA) visited Visited EEM Lab
12 July 2018, Asian Institute of Technology

Third AIT-Tiger Leong International Innovation and Leadership Camp Students Visited EEM Lab
17 July 2018, Asian Institute of Technology
Mr. Ahmad Rashid Khoshbeen from Afghanistan, an Environmental Engineering and Management Master Degree Student at the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change received 40 Under 40 (40U40) Award from Kardan University in Afghanistan.

Mr. Ahmad’s award was in recognition of being the first Afghan student to receive the prestigious Her Majesty the Queen Scholarship at Asian Institute of Technology to pursue his Masters in Environmental Engineering & Management and for his academic research on Solid Waste Management of Kabul city under the supervision of Prof. Chettiyappan Visvanathan.

Mr Ahmad believes his research topic played an important role in the selection process of the award and thanked his advisor, Prof. Visu for his wisdom and guidance.

He is currently serving as the President of Afghan Student Association in AIT and regularly volunteer for the AIT student union.

Kardan University initiated 40U40 award in 2016 to recognize Kardan University’s rising stars. 40 exceptional alumni and students under 40 with a proven track record, achievements and persistence in the categories of Leadership, Service, Impact and Academics are awarded. It is awarded to 40 students out of 15000+ alumni and 2000+ currently enrolled students.

Mr. Sajid Sohail, a graduate of Masters in Environmental Engineering and Management, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change topped the Civil Engineering Examination in Andhra Pradesh, India.

The examination was conducted by the Andhra Pradesh government in India for the post of Assistant Professors. Mr. Sajid scored 199.98 marks, which happens to be the top score in all the departments.

As a top scorer, he can join any of the top state universities (Andhra University Vishakhapatnam, JNTU Kakinada, JNTU Anantapur, SV university Tirupati and ANU Vijayawada) in the next couple of months. Mr Sajid is currently preparing for multiple interviews with various universities.

In his email, Mr. Sajid expressed gratitude to his adviser Prof. Visu. “With your blessings and guidance I can clear any hurdles left and hope to join as Assistant Professor in a good university.”