Our Areas of Expertise

We have a gamut of climate change-related expertise, in both mitigation and adaptation. Specific thematic areas include, but are not limited to, the following:

- GHG emission analysis
- Climate projection and modeling
- Climate change impact assessments
- Agriculture, forestry and other land use
- Low carbon development and technologies
- Climate change adaption for key sectors (e.g. agriculture, urban, water)
- Participatory approaches for climate change adaptation
- Climate-induced disaster risk reduction and management
- Carbon markets and financing
- Economic analysis of climate change project proposals

How Are We Structured?

Until recently, the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) had a coordinating unit focusing on Sustainable Development and Climate Change (SDCC). The newly established CCA builds on the work carried under SDCC and has now expanded to involve multiple units at AIT. These include AIT's various faculties, the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (hosting the Operational unit/Secretariat of CCA), AIT Solutions, and Extension Service.

Just as we pioneered capacity development in Asia to embrace the principles of the Stockholm Declaration in the 1970s and 1980s; the Dublin Statement on Water and Environment in the 1990s; and the Millennium Development Goals in the 2000s; we now intend to catalyze action in Asia through capacity building in line with the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Development Agenda.

How Do I Get Involved with CCA?

We welcome your participation. Contact the Climate Change Asia @ the Asian Institute of Technology at ***cca@ait.asia***, or visit our website ***(www.cca.ait.asia)*** for more information.

Expert Pool

We have over 50 technical experts at AIT working on various aspects of climate change, as well as a number of external international specialists, who together form a well-knit and robust team.

AIT Experts*

Surendra Shrestha
Vice President for Development, AIT; Strategic resource mobilization

Mukand S. Babel
Hydrology and climate change

Visvanathan Chettiyappan
Waste management

Sivanappan Kumar
Energy and climate change

Jayant Routray
Disaster risk reduction and management

Rajendra Shrestha
Agriculture, forestry, and other land use

Yousir Badir
Green innovation and technology management

Shobhakar Dhakal
Energy-Climate Policy, carbon markets and finance, Cities and climate change

Vilas Nitivattananon
Urban infrastructural and systems management

Abdul Salam
Renewable energy and energy efficiency

Oleg Shipin
Ecological engineering for climate change adaptation

Ahmad Mokbul Morshed
Community development

Sangam Shrestha
Climate change impacts and adaptation

Osamu Mizuno
International cooperation for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Manzul Hazarika
Multi-hazard risk assessment

Brahmanand Mohanty
Resource-efficient buildings, industries and cities

Victor R. Shinde
Urban water, and climate technology transfer

Mara Mendes
Climate Change Mitigation

** Partial listing*

International Experts*

Bindu Lohani
Global Head, Climate Change Practice, Centennial Group, USA; and Former Vice President, ADB, Philippines

Peter King
Senior Policy Advisor, IGES, Thailand

Robert Dobias
Senior Advisor, USAID ADAPT Asia-Pacific Project, Thailand

Kevin Rolfe
Formerly at WHO, Air Quality Management ; formerly, the CEO of Environmental Services Australia; and Member of the Oxford Round Table

Brian Baker
Former CEO, PIMCO Asia

Jeff McNeely
Formerly IUCN-Chief Scientist

Ram Shrestha
Formerly at AIT, Energy Economics and Planning

Prasad Modak
Executive President, Environmental Management Centre LLP, India

T David Hodgkinson
Principal, Emerald Capital Partners, Singapore

Ely Ouano
former OIC-Director Environment Management Bureau, Philippines

Rao Y. Surampalli
President, CEO and Chief Technology Officer, Global Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability, USA; Formerly at US EPA

Tae Yong Jung
Deputy Executive Director, Institute for Global Sustainability, Korea

Athena Ballesteros
Climate Finance Lead and Global Director, Sustainable Finance Center, World Resources Institute

Seng Chuan Tan
Regional Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific, Ramboll Environ; Formerly President of Institute of Engineers, Singapore

AIT
Asian Institute of Technology

Puja Sawhney,
Operational Unit/ Secretariat,

Climate Change Asia (CCA),
3rd floor , Outreach Building,
Asian Institute of Technology
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CLIMATE CHANGE ASIA

Catalyzing Capacity for Action

What is Climate Change Asia?

Climate Change Asia (CCA) is a Program launched at the Asian Institute of Technology to meet the diverse range of capacity building needs required to pursue low carbon development and achieve climate resilient societies in Asia. The program is designed to support the recently adopted Paris Agreement and the 2030 Development Agenda. A key feature of the program is to develop capacities in Asia **to prepare, finance, and implement 'bankable' climate change mitigation and adaptation projects.**

What We Endeavor to Achieve?

- Enhance capacities, especially in the public sector, at multiple levels, for developing quality, bankable project proposals, **through workshops and professional mentoring** that will ultimately result in implementable projects.
- Promote a shift towards low carbon development and augment climate resilience in Asia, **through capacity building programs** to meet diverse but specific needs—technical, institutional, and policy-related.
- Create an enabling environment to help diffuse climate change science into policy and practice, **through professional seminars** and **special events.**
- Become an open source for knowledge dissemination, **through flagship products** such as policy briefs, webinars, and working papers.

Why We Do This?

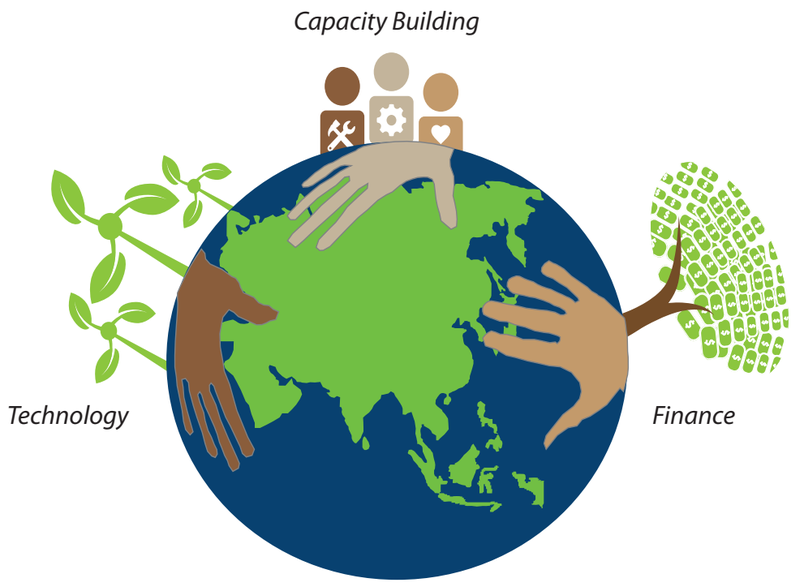
Two new global agreements have set a course for addressing climate change over the coming decades. In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Development Agenda, to be achieved through 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SDG 13 exhorts nations to ***"Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts"*** Three months later, the Paris Agreement on climate change was adopted at Conference of the Parties (COP21), aimed to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, and pursue efforts to reduce this further to 1.5 °C.

Asia is at the forefront in the battle against climate change. Meaningful progress towards meeting the global climate targets will be impossible to achieve without adequate action in ***Asia***. Despite its vulnerability to climate change, ***Asia*** appears to be poorly equipped to address this imminent threat.

There is a need to develop the capacity to prepare 'bankable' mitigation and adaptation projects based on appropriate technology that are capable of attracting domestic and international finance.

In light of the existing national plans for tackling climate change -- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Adaptation Programmes of Actions (NAPAs) and more recently the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) -- ***Asian countries*** must now enhance efforts to address widespread capacity weaknesses. Capacity building programs are needed that can design, implement and monitor ***Asian solutions for Asia's climate change challenges*** drawing on regional as well as global knowledge and experience.

The Paris agreement emphasizes on:



What Makes Us Unique?

- We are the regional partner of the **Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)** consortium—the operational arm of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism. CTCN facilitates climate-related technology transfer to developing countries at their request.
- We are the Regional Center for implementing the **Technological Needs Assessment (TNA)** Project. Led by UNEP and UNEP-DTU partnership the TNA project assists developing country Parties to the UNFCCC determine their technology priorities for the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change. Assistance is also provided to countries for developing their **Technology Action Plans.**
- We work closely with international development agencies, philanthropists and the private sector, as well as national and provincial governments in ***Asia***.

Network of partners:

International development agencies: e.g. ADB, AUSAID, CIDA, DANIDA, JICA, SIDA, USAID, World Bank, among others

UN entities: FAO, UNDP, UNEP, among others

Philanthropists and private sector: e.g. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, HSBC, Rockefeller Foundation, Sumitomo Foundation, among others

National and provincial governments: e.g. Line agencies of Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand, Stri Lanka, Vietnam, among others

- We are the **regional leader in infrastructural development solutions** related to water, energy, and transportation, which are among the key sectors for climate action.
- We have a **dedicated unit**, AIT Extension, which offers **capacity building programs** on a range of cutting- edge developmental topics.
- We house **the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC AP)**, which serves as a Secretariat or key partner for several networks and Multilateral Environmental Agreements, such as the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) and Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET).
- We also run **full-fledged masters and PhD programs** (e.g. a program in Climate Change and Sustainable Development) to build **indigenous capacities** so as to arrive at **dynamic solutions** to climate change. These programs emphasize on developing **quantitative approaches towards solving research and developmental problems.**
- We have had a **strong regional presence for more than 55 years** and are completely **politically neutral.**
- We have a network of **more than 20,000 alumni from 80 countries**, many of whom are part of the top management of their organizations in Asia. Furthermore, we have over **1700 students from 60 countries**, and **75 international faculty from 40 countries**.