

# IALT Newsletter

Issue 1, March 2012

*A Newsletter of the International Association of Lowland Technology (IALT)*

## Message from President

It is a great pleasure and privilege to reach all the members of International Association of Lowland Technology and other well-wishers and interested people through this Newsletter.



The Association strives to bring all concerned people under an umbrella to address problems of Lowlands. Lowlands are regions of large populations and of high density. Livelihood, Industry and Commerce get concentrated in these areas for the obvious reason of proximity to the sea, global connectivity, etc. Concomitant with the advantages, the vulnerability of Lowlands to natural disasters is very high. The most recent event has been the unprecedented floods in Southern Thailand, especially in and around Bangkok. Loss of life and property has been enormous. Our sister Institute, the AIT was under nearly 3 m of water necessitating its closure for few months. There can be no more dramatic example for the need of an Association like ours to address and focus on the associated problems. Soliciting you active support and collaboration for the betterment of quality of life for humanity living in the Lowlands of the World.

**M. R. Madhav**

*President, IALT*

## Message from Executive President

I am very glad to connect with all the members of IALT through the IALT newsletter which has been planning to publish during March and September. So far, we have been



publishing the LTI journal twice a year (June and December). We hope that publishing frequency of LTI journal will be increased with the increasing number of papers. However, first of all, the news of lowlands will be sent to members through newly publishing a newsletter for the up to date information.

Recently, we have experienced how the lowland could be vulnerable to the power of nature such as the destructive earthquake and tsunami in Japan and the flood of Thailand. The IALT newsletter is believed to be useful also in order to share various subjects in connection with lowlands with all and to think about them. I hope IALT newsletter will act as a bridge among the members of IALT as well as with all the people related to lowlands all over the world.

**H. Araki**

*Executive President, IALT*

## Annual Council Meeting 2011 of IALT

The annual council meeting of International Association of Lowland Technology (IALT) was held on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 in the Indian Institute of Science (IIS) campus, Bangalore, India. The 2011 annual council meeting was chaired by Professor H. Araki, the executive president and the presidential speech was delivered by Professor M.R. Madhav, the president of IALT. Dr. Moqsud, secretary general of IALT introduced and reported the various agendas of the council meeting. Dr. Narumol, the former associate editor of Lowland



A moment of the council meeting 2011

Technology (LTI) reported the current status of LTI journal. The council meeting was successfully finished after discussing all the agendas.

### **The 8<sup>th</sup> ISLT will be held on 11-13, September 2012 in Bali, Indonesia**

The preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> ISLT is going on. So far we have received more than 200 abstracts from all the main themes of the conference. Manuscript submission deadline is **April 15, 2012**. The venue of the conference will be *Ayodya Resort, Nusa Dua Bali*. Last date for early bird registration is **30<sup>th</sup> June, 2012**. Please visit the official website of the 8<sup>th</sup> ISLT <http://islt2012.com/> for latest information (Dr. Tri).

### **One Year of Tohoku Earth Quake& Tsunami**

Great East Japan Earthquake was the most powerful known earthquake ever to have hit Japan, and one of the five most powerful earthquakes in the world since modern record-keeping began in 1900. The earthquake triggered powerful tsunami waves that reached heights of up to 40.5 m (133 ft) in Miyako in Tōhoku's Iwate Prefecture, and which, in the Sendai area, travelled up to 10 km (6 mi) inland. March 11, 2012 will be the one year of those tragic natural disasters. Though the reconstruction process of the tsunami devastating lowlands are going on however, still many things to do, many researches have to do to protect the future generation and make a beautiful and safe world against the natural disaster in the lowlands. Some of the members of IALT are actively participating in this research. (Dr. Moqsud)

### **Thailand Flood 2011**

From July to December 2011, severe flooding occurred in the north, northeast and central regions of Thailand, due to several tropical storms

prevailing over Southeast Asia. In the Chao Phraya river basin, floodwater spread over several provinces downstream of Bhumibol and Sirikit dams which are two large storage dams in the river basin. It was reported that this flood affected about 13.6 million people with 815 deaths, and over 20,000 square kilometers of lowland areas with 6 industrial estates were damaged. Water depths were as high as 3-4 meters in some inundated areas. Initial estimate of damages and losses caused by the flood was at 1,425 billion baht, of which the biggest damages and losses were in the manufacturing sector accounting for approximately 1,007 billion baht (32 baht = 1 US\$ approx.). It was claimed that the causes of this disaster included: 1) too much rainwater from the tropical storms; 2) high tidal water from the river mouths; 3) low drainage capacities of canals and rivers in the downstream areas; 4) not appropriate land use planning – no flood ways to divert floodwater; and 5) poor water management. (Dr. Winai)



Flooded Don Muang airport

### **Regarding the renewing Membership of IALT**

It is to inform all the members that please renew your membership of IALT by paying the annual membership fees. Being a member of IALT you will get the discounted rate for registration fees in the ISLT, you will also get the full access of all papers of [LTI journal](http://www.ilt.saga-u.ac.jp/lti/journal) and many other related facilities. Please visit our official website <http://www.ilt.saga-u.ac.jp/ialt/index.html>