

ESI-CIL Nuclear Governance Project Seminar Series

Governing Nuclear Safety in Newcomer and Mature Nuclear States The Cases of Bangladesh, Japan and South Korea

DESCRIPTION

These back-to-back seminars examine the governance of nuclear safety in two sets of cases. Bangladesh is nuclear newcomer, a neighbour to ASEAN, building its first commercial nuclear power plant. While a considerable achievement for a developing country, Bangladesh faces many significant challenges ahead. Japan and South Korea are both mature nuclear power nations that have faced crises in their governance of nuclear safety and have taken steps to improve their governance of nuclear safety. These two seminars will assess the degree to which these three countries are successfully addressing their nuclear governance challenges.

Bangladesh: A Nuclear Newcomer Bordering ASEAN

As of November 2017, Bangladesh officially joined the exclusive club of thirty-something nuclear power countries in the world. Bangladesh's nuclear dream is almost six decades in the making. Infamously dubbed a "basket case" at its birth in 1971, the country is now hitting its stride, having emerged as the fastest growing country in the Asia-Pacific region in 2019. It is one of only four countries that have made the decision to deploy nuclear power in the last three decades, markedly closing the gap with its larger South Asian neighbours and nuclear predecessors, India and Pakistan. This seminar examines Bangladesh as a newcomer nuclear country case study. Whilst each country's experience is certainly unique, other newcomers may recognise the same drivers that motivated Bangladesh's decades-long quest to acquire the technology; the challenges of building a lasting commitment within the political system; the regulatory, technological, financial, resource and other infrastructure considerations; and the importance of cultivating key relationships. An assessment will be made on what progress has been made thus far and what challenges remain, from the perspective of safety governance.

Japan and South Korea: Improving Nuclear Governance after Crisis

Japan and South Korea have nuclear power industries dating back more than 40 years. In both countries, the nuclear industries have been through recent crises that brought into question the credibility of the institutions that governed nuclear safety. Japan's crisis took the form of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in 2011. South Korea's crisis a year later revolved around the revelation of systemic corruption and collusion along the nuclear supply chains as well as profound deficiencies in the nuclear safety culture. Since then, both countries have taken steps to improve their governance of nuclear safety. This seminar assesses the extent to which these measures seem to have addressed the identified deficiencies. In particular, it will illustrate that the way in which nuclear safety is governed is highly dependent on the wider political economy and societal culture.

Date

Tuesday,
16 July 2019

Programme

14:00-17:00

Venue

Energy Studies Institute
29 Heng Mui Keng Terrace
Block A #10-01
Singapore 119620

Registration

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Click [here](#) to register
Admission is free but
registration is required.

PROGRAMME

14:00	Registration	15:30-15:45	Break
14:15 – 15:30	Seminar 1 Bangladesh: A Nuclear Newcomer Bordering ASEAN <i>Ira Martina Drupady</i> Research Associate, Energy Studies Institute	15:45-17:00	Seminar 2 Japan and South Korea: Improving Nuclear Governance after Crisis <i>Dr Philip Andrews-Speed</i> Senior Principal Fellow, Energy Studies Institute

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The Cases of Bangladesh, Japan and South Korea****ABOUT THE SPEAKERS**

Ira Martina Drupady is a Research Associate at the Energy Studies Institute of the National University of Singapore. She has been a participant in the project “Policy and Law for Nuclear Safety and Security” since 2016, contributing research on national policy and regulatory frameworks of nuclear power countries and monitoring global trends and developments in the nuclear industry. She has worked as an energy policy analyst since 2010, with a research focus on energy security in developing countries in Asia, including Bangladesh. Her main research interests are climate governance and energy access governance at the national level. She is concurrently pursuing her PhD at the National University of Singapore.

Dr Philip Andrews-Speed is a Senior Principal Fellow at the Energy Studies Institute of the National University of Singapore, and principal investigator of the project “Policy and Law for Nuclear safety and Security”. He has 40 years of experience in the field of energy and resources, starting his career as a mineral and oil exploration geologist before moving into the field of energy and resource governance. His main research interest is the political economy of energy and resource governance, at national, regional and global scales.