



Public Policy and Global Affairs Seminar Series

*The Public Policy and Global Affairs invites you to the following
Seminar on:*

**“Designing Policies Under Uncertainty: Connecting Theory
and Practice In The Asian Context”**

By Dr Sreeja Nair

Date: Thursday, 19 April 2018

Time: 11.00am to 12.00pm

Venue: Meeting Room 4 (HSS-04-71)

Abstract

“As we navigate progress in the 21st century, we must learn to see policy-making as adaptive, more like gardening: muddy, attentive and experiential, because we really do not know what growing conditions will prevail”.....Designing Adaptive Policies, Swanson et al (2009)

Policies are continually being designed under uncertainty about how the future policy context may unfold. Even when a policy may be effective in the short-term, changes in the original policy context may render it ineffective over time. The water and agriculture sectors in different parts of Asia are affected by multiple stressors such as climate change, pollution, urbanization and demand fluctuations and how their impacts are manifested in the long-term. This talk will focus on tools such as foresight and policy experimentation that are designed to assist policymakers with flexible or adaptive policy making under such uncertainty. Insights will be drawn from application of these tools to selected cases of agriculture and water resources management in South Asia and South East Asia.

About the Speaker

Sreeja is an environmental policy researcher with a PhD in Public Policy from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (National University of Singapore) who is currently a Centre for Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) Postdoctoral Fellow at the School of Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University. Her research interests include policy design under uncertainty and impacts of environmental change on communities, focusing on water and agriculture, particularly in South Asia and South East Asia. Her doctoral dissertation focused on cases from rainfed agriculture in India to study the design and process of policy experimentation and piloting. Her research focuses on bridging socio-cultural and political dimensions with technological aspects of water sustainability projects in Sri Lanka and Indonesia. She is also an Instructor at the Public Policy and Global Affairs programme, NTU teaching undergraduate courses on Policy Design, Social Policy and Environmental Policy Design (2017/18).

~ All are welcome to attend~