Dr Marvin Montefrio, Assistant Professor of environmental studies at Yale-NUS College, is a critical development studies researcher with a particular emphasis on agriculture and food. His work has contributed significantly to the understanding of sustainable food systems in Asia and the Pacific. He obtained a concurrent PhD and MPA degree in Environmental Policy and Public Administration from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry and the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, in 2014.

Prior to his academic career, Montefrio was an environmental scholar, professional, and advocate for over 15 years. His research and advocacy efforts have been instrumental in highlighting the complexities of sustainable food systems in Asia and the Pacific.

The ABSTRACT section provides a detailed overview of Montefrio's research, emphasizing the critical food trends in the region and the paradoxes and contradictions of sustainable food systems. His work utilizes political ecology and cultural politics to explore the local and organic food systems in Singapore and the Philippines, illustrating how these systems reflect ongoing tensions and negotiations on what "sustainable" food means.

The Master of Science (Environmental Management) (MEM) program at the National University of Singapore is a multi-disciplinary integrated program offered jointly by nine faculties and schools, demonstrating its broad-based approach to education in the field of environmental management. It is hosted by the School of Design and Environment (SDE).

Registration is free, and interested participants can register online at www.mem.nus.edu.sg.