

# NEWSLETTER

Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University



Issue 14 – August 2014

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## RETROSPECTIVE

By Emeritus Prof. Dr. Supang Chantavanich



Chulalongkorn University will celebrate its centennial anniversary in 2017. At its inception in 1917, King Vajiravudh (Rama 6) who was the founder of the university would like it to bear the name of his father, King Chulalongkorn (Rama 5), because King Chulalongkorn initiated the idea to set up the first university in Siam where **"people from all walks of life, noble or commoner, can enjoy higher education"** according to his will. That was how our university got the name **"Chulalongkorn"** and why we have a statue of the two kings together in front of the main auditorium. The Faculty of Political Science is one of the four oldest faculties in Chulalongkorn. The other three are Faculties of Science, Arts, and Engineering. As it was earlier established as a School of Public Administration, the Faculty of Political Science got its official commencement as a Faculty in 1948.

This year of 2014, the Faculty of Political Science will celebrate its 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It has produced thousands of graduates to contribute to the development of Thailand and the ASEAN Region. The logo of the The Faculty is Black Lion or "Singh Dam". Why Singh Dam? Because Singh is the emblem of the Ministry of Interior, and early batches of graduates were recruited into this Ministry.



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In 2003, the Faculty of Political Science inaugurated the first international program, The Master of Arts in International Development Studies (MAIDS). With active participation of the faculty members, the program has become a success and played a significant role in human resource development at the national and regional level, not to mention the international body of students from all parts of the world who come here to learn more about the region. We are here at the crossroads of internationalization of our Faculty, our University, and our society. This is the will of our university's forefather and our present commitment. *Happy Anniversary to Faculty of Political Science, Appreciate the past and keep moving forward!*



### MAIDS NEWSLETTER #14

Supported by: Research Unit (RU) Chulalongkorn University and The Ratchadaphiseksomphot Endowment Fund of Chulalongkorn University (RES560530225-HS)

Editor: @tarmed

Master of Arts in International  
Development Studies

Faculty of Political Science,  
Chulalongkorn University  
Henri-Dunant Road, Bangkok  
10330, Thailand  
Tel. +66-2-218-7313  
Fax. +66-2-252-6277  
Email maidschula@gmail.com

[www.ids.polsci.chula.ac.th](http://www.ids.polsci.chula.ac.th)



## TIPS AND TRICKS WHILE STUDY IN MAIDS PROGRAM

By Zar Ni Maung (MAIDS 2013)

MAIDS program is an intensive one year master course. It is based on trimester course system and each semester takes **four months**. The first two trimesters are **course works**. At the first trimester you have to take **two compulsory courses and three elective courses**. At the second semester, you have to choose **two compulsory courses and one elective course**. Although you have fewer courses at the second semester, you have to finish your thesis proposal during this semester. So, it is quite stressful for those who are not familiar with the system of MAIDS program. You will have no idea to cope with courses at the first semester. But, at the second semester, you can cope with the courses easily.

The main thing is ***you have to read a lot within a very limited time***. During first semester, two courses need **reflection papers**. Those two courses are at least **two or three times** per week. So, it means that you have to do two or three reflection papers within a week. For reflection, you need to choose one theory or concept in the reading material and try to link case study or practical experience within a limited word of **300 or 400 words**. We have to submit reflection before 4:00 p.m. one day ahead of the course. According to my opinion, it is very challenging. The problem is how to choose one theory or one concept from one lecture. The purpose of reflection is to read ahead before the course start. So, you have to skim the one lecture in advance. If you want to choose one theory or concept and do not understand it very well, the best way is ***to find in Wikipedia and watch clips on YouTube related to that topic***. After browsing Wikipedia and watching YouTube clips two or three times, you will understand a little and furthermore you will understand completely.

Another challenging is **group work**. For group work, ***you must have good interpersonal skills***. ***You must actively participate in the group work***. Even though your communication skills are not perfect, ***you need to contribute so that your peers can feel comfortable working with you and the assignment can be finished on time***.

***You should use the central library effectively***. It is very quiet and the facility of internet, air-condition is very good. Moreover, near central library there is canteen and the food are cheap and good. Here are some useful words you have to know in Thai Language

for ordering food: ***Kai for chicken, Muu for pork, Plaa for fish***. So, when you get back your apartment, you are already full and don't need to worry about food. Moreover, although you are very busy, ***you should go to the gymnastic at least one or two times per week***. In the gymnastic building, there is also swimming pool.

During pre-session course, you have much free time. You should use that one month free time effectively and wisely for your whole life of one year in Thailand. You should study some basic communication of Thailand language including counting number from YouTube. You should know how to say ***one to one hundred in Thai***, it will help you when buying things and bargain for the price. Otherwise, you will regret the whole year because most of the Thai local people cannot speak English and you have to use body and sign language of pointing this and that by your hand during the whole year.

So, you will have difficulties not only in lectures but also language. But, keep in mind that everybody can overcome it. As afore-mentioned, the tips are you have to use wisely your pre session course ***to learn some basic communication of Thai language*** from YouTube. As soon as the semester starts, ***you should use central library***, it has so many academic resources which are useful for you. Moreover, if you don't understand some lectures you can watch clips on YouTube as mentioned earlier. In addition, you should go to the gymnastic to relax. ***If you follow those tips, your student life in Thailand will be smooth***.

To end this tips and tricks, keep in mind that you study not only to get good grades, therefore try to enjoy the experience as a whole. If you face any difficulties, it is always good to consult with your colleagues and your academic advisors. They will be glad to help and support you as long as you know what your difficulties are and then after discussing with them, ***try to think about what is your plan to overcome it***. All the best and Sawatdee Krub!



## Teaching innovatively: Course development workshop on Innovation for Inclusive Development at Chulalongkorn University

by Dr. Carl Middleton



Teaching Innovation for Inclusive Development (IID) in a masters-level program invites all involved to think in new ways about how we teach and how we learn. This was the main message from a two day workshop held at Chulalongkorn University on 21 and 22 April, 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand. With support from the UNIID-SEA network, the workshop was organized by the MA in International Development Studies (MAIDS) program in the Faculty of Political Science of Chulalongkorn University. The goal of the workshop was to lay the foundations for developing a MA-level module that will commence in December 2014 proposed to be titled “Principles, tools and practices of Innovation for Inclusive Development (IID) in Southeast Asia.” and that will also aim to

In Southeast Asia, despite remarkable economic growth and general trends of rising human development, inequality is also rising, and for those at the bottom of the pyramid, poverty remains entrenched. The proposed MA-level module aims to respond to these challenges. As explained at the workshop by Dr. Segundo Joaquin E. Romero, Director of UNIID-SEA, ‘inclusive innovation’ is innovation by and with the poor, the vulnerable, the disadvantaged, and the marginalized. Whilst conceptually appealing, designing a module that meaningfully teaches ‘inclusive innovation’ raises a number of challenges, but also, of course, opportunities.



On the first day of the workshop, a diverse group of scholars and experts, together with civil society groups and several students from the MAIDS program, mapped out the key issues associated with IID. The presentations and ensuing discussion in the morning first focused on the meaning and practice of IID across Southeast Asia, considered both as a national and regional policy framework and research agenda, as well as a community strategy at the grassroots level. For the case of Thailand, Dr. Pun-Arj Chairatana showed how four generations of research policy since 1956 had increasingly shifted towards concepts of ‘People-Centered Development’ and ‘Meaningful Research for All.’ He noted, however, that challenges remain including the need for more effective communication and knowledge management as well as further promotion of the ‘community service concept’ amongst research universities. Ms. Poonsap Tulaphan, country director of the civil society organization Homenet Thailand Foundation for Labor and Employment Promotion (FLEP),

meanwhile, presented case studies of inclusive development in action in Bangkok, including promoting access to public bus services in underserved areas where many informal workers live, and a community lawyers and paralegals project that increases informal workers’ access to legal and social protection.

How topics consistent with IID are currently taught in universities in Southeast Asia was also discussed, as well as the linkages between this teaching and existing research programs. Presentations were made by Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), Universiti Malaya (Malaysia), Ateneo School of Government (the Philippines), Hoa Sen University (Vietnam), and Institut Pertanian Bogor (Indonesia). The presentations revealed the wide range of activities across the region, including university outreach programs and community engagement initiatives, participatory action research projects, other forms of creative partnerships such as volunteer or local researcher arrangements, and ongoing courses that have already sought to teach IID or that incorporate elements of it.

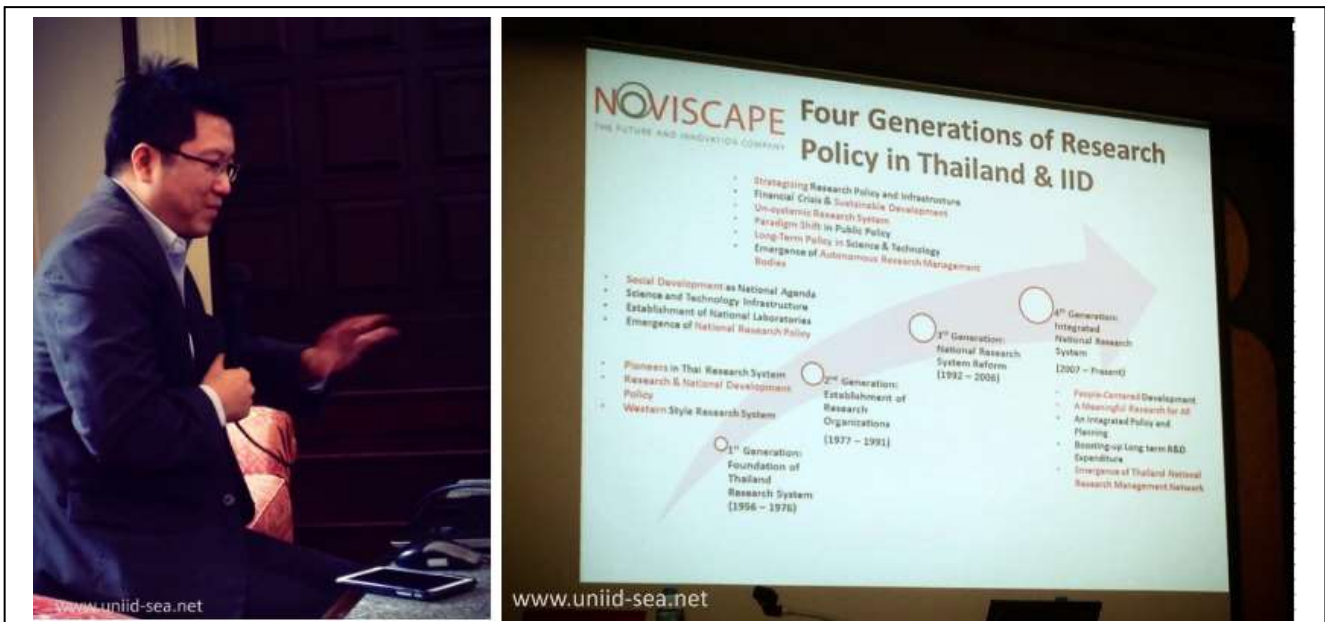
The group discussed how higher education institutions might approach teaching IID, including goals, teaching methodologies, and some of the practical challenges that might be anticipated. Father Joe Meier of the Mercy Center observed that “universities are often five to ten years behind realities,” thus laying down the challenge of how universities can better build relationships with marginalized communities, and how students, in addition to formal study, should both partner with and learn from communities outside of the classroom. Dr. Narumon Arunotai of the Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute also highlighted how power inequalities presently exist



in the creation and deployment of knowledge, and argued that to redress this situation knowledge must be co-created between university lecturers, students and the communities themselves in any course that seeks to teach IID

*“...to equip students with the skills and techniques of IID to be able to work with communities, and also to encourage students’ critical thinking, and to foster a passion for working directly with communities.”*

On the second day of the workshop, a smaller group of scholars discussed in more detail how a MA-level module on IID might be designed and taught, and how it might be integrated with existing research and outreach partnerships. It was discussed that a course on IID should aim to equip students with the skills and techniques of IID to be able to work with communities, and also to encourage students’ critical thinking, and to foster a passion for working directly with communities. Conceptually, the module would seek to link macro processes of international development to micro processes of the household, focusing on the issue of inclusion and exclusion, and the processes of various forms of innovation (technological, social, and political). There would be a need to explore about the dynamic interactions across local, national, regional and global scales, and incorporate pedagogic methods to observe, conceptualize, and gain practical insights from these processes.



The larger portion of the course, however, would be orientated towards praxis, providing students’ with knowledge, tools and skills for IID in practice. It was early on established that teaching IID could not adopt a business-as-usual teaching methodology. Learning must take place both within the classroom and within excluded communities. An experiential learning approach would need to be adopted to develop the necessary skills, including of facilitation, observation, communication, and relationship building. These skills underpin the philosophy of IID which, as emphasized by Dr. Romero, is inclusive in process and outcome, and embraces co-diagnosis, co-design, co-delivery, and co-deployment with local communities to chart pathways out of poverty. By adopting such a grounded approach, students will also be encouraged to review - and even to reconceptualize - foundational concepts such as those of poverty and development.

The MAIDS program expects that the proposed module “Principles, tools and practices of Innovation for Inclusive Development (IID) in Southeast Asia” will be a valuable experience with our students, supporting them to bridge the world of development in theory to development in practice. In undertaking to prepare the course, we also hope that it will foster our students’ formal academic and emotional growth, as well contribute towards a society that is more democratic, inclusive and just.

## *MAIDS Alumni: Where are you?*



Ms. Yeji Yoo (MAIDS 2012)



Mr. Rual Lian Thang (MAIDS 2011)

### ***What is your year of MAIDS graduating batch? Who was your thesis supervisor?***

I entered MAIDS program in 2012 and my supervisor was Dr. Carl Middleton.

I studied at MAIDS Chulalongkorn University from 2011-2012 academic years. I was supervised by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Niti Pawakapan and Michael George Hayes.

### ***Tell us where you are now; What is your current position and your main responsibility?***

Now I am in Seoul, Korea. I am working at Institute for East Asian Studies, Sogang University (SIEAS) as an assistant researcher. I did my first MA in Department of Political Science at Sogang University so I am happy to come back to my graduate school again after finishing MAIDS Program. I have assisted professors on matters of international journal, *TRaNS (Trans -Regional and -National Studies of Southeast Asia)*, published by Cambridge University Press. Also, I am working on 2<sup>nd</sup> Korea-ASEAN Roundtable to be held in Seoul, in August 2014. The Roundtable is co-organized by SIEAS and CSIS (Center for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta, Indonesia) and funded by the Korea-ASEAN Cooperation Fund. I have prepared monthly meeting with advisory committee composed of former Korean Ambassadors and academics to finalize agenda for the Roundtable and communicate with officers of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Korea to work on administrative matters. At the same time, I am working with Energy and Climate Policy Institute (ECPI), a Korean environmental NGO and think-tank as a part-time researcher. The recent paper I wrote with ECPI colleagues was about power sector of Myanmar and its development plan.

Currently, I am based in Yangon, Myanmar. I am working at Heinrich Böll Stiftung, a foundation politically affiliated to Green Party in Germany as Program Coordinator of Yangon office. The Myanmar office seeks to contribute towards a democratic transition and an inclusive and sustainable development for the benefit of all people in Myanmar. We work closely with partners from both international organizations and local civil societies. As program coordinator, I have to develop our programs, we have two programs: Natural Resource Politics and Political Culture to look and comprehensive social, political, and economics issues of the country and work with local civil society and promote local community participation on natural resource governance. It is exciting as well that I have to travel to many countries such as India, Thailand, and Germany to host conferences and meeting. Regionally, we are working on Environment, Natural resources, Climate Change, Democracy, and international river issues such as Salween and Mekong together with HBS offices from India, Thailand, China, Cambodia

### ***How is your study at MAIDS contributing to your professional career at the moment? What were your favorite subjects back then?***

My favorite subject was Environmental Policy and Politics of 1<sup>st</sup> semester lectured by Dr. Carl Middleton. Before I joined the MAIDS program, there was no opportunity to learn and study environmental politics systematically in Korea. So, I was very glad to have the lecture introducing diverse theories of environmental politics and case studies occurring in Southeast Asia. It was very interesting and Dr. Carl always gave students supportive advices and comments on our assignment and final papers. Another favorite subject was Development Practicum of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester

Of course my study at MAIDS tremendously contributes to my professional career and changes my perspective on social-political development in many deferent ways. Especially, I had an opportunity to build up professional skills relation to research, management and evaluation of development projects which really help me with my day to day working life. I also had an opportunity to explore contemporary theories of social change and learn how to analyze development policies and practices

providing an opportunity for practical applications of previously studied development theories. I was interning at MEE Net (Mekong Energy and Ecological Network) and this was a meaningful experience for me to apply development theories or conceptual frameworks which I studied in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester to environmental and energy-related issues. Also, MEE Net helped me to organize my fieldwork by introducing activists and specialists in the field. Consequently, MAIDS Program allowed me to learn how to connect theories and concepts with cases and to create a new network with Southeast Asian students, activists, and academics. This has been contributing my career in a way that I research environmental issues in Southeast Asia with help from my Southeast Asian network.

which really help me to understand the issues faced in the developing country like Myanmar as well as the functioning of governments, non-profit organizations and international bodies such as the World Bank. I would say every subject I took during my studies were very interesting and hard to choose which one is the most favourite to me but I would say environmental policy and practices class was most interesting to me and I think is the closest to my current field of work.

### ***What are the most memorable moments during your study at MAIDS?***

The most memorable moment is thesis proposal defense in the late of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. It was my first thesis proposal presentation because there was no proposal defense at my first MA program in Korea. I remember that I was very nervous and presented with a quivering voice but my thesis committee member, Prof. Jakkrit Sangkhamanee, Prof. Decharut Sukkumnoed, and my supervisor Dr. Carl Middleton gave me lots of useful comments and cheered me to start my own research project. So, although it was a very nervous moment for me, it gave me a power to go to the field for my thesis.

Well! My first day of class was very exciting moment as I met and introduced with students from many different countries and shared and exchanged our deferent experiences. My thesis writing period was also one of most memorable as well as challenging periods of my student life in Chulalongkorn University. I owe many thanks to Ajarn Naruemon and thesis committee members who helped me day and night to finish my thesis paper until the last hour.

### ***Tell us a little about the International Field Trip during your year, how was it?***

It was amazing. We went to Myanmar for the International Field Trip and we stayed together in the same hotel and going everywhere together during the field trip. So, it made us much closer than before. The field trip, of course, was very meaningful in that we could see changing Myanmar society and meet key persons working for development, education, and democracy of the country. So, I would like to suggest you not only to learn and study from the field, but also to use the international field trip as the last chance to be closer friends each other.

I always love to travel and explore culture and life-style of people from countries I have never been to. And I see it was really great that MAIDS program provides the opportunity to do international field trip. We went to Vietnam as my first time there and had chance to visit some villages, tourist sides and met with people from civil society, university students and lecturers and international bodies like Asia Development Bank.

### ***How is your relationship with your former classmates now?***

I sometimes talked to my classmates via Facebook message. It is sad that we hardly meet each other because we are living in diverse countries in the world. I hope we can meet somewhere soon again as we are working on similar areas and issues.

I still keep in touch with some of my classmates via social network such as Facebook and group e-mail. Some of them visit Myanmar and have so many good times meeting with them. I also try to contact students who are still in Bangkok every time I go back to Thailand. They all have become very good friends to me.

### ***Do you have any messages for the MAIDS program, lecturers, and current students?***

For the current students, do your best to absorb everything from lectures and field trips and then connect the knowledge with your own ideas and experiences. I am sure you will not regret your choice on MAIDS program like me. For the MAIDS program officers and lectures, I sincerely appreciate your help and passion for MAIDS students.

Studying at Chulalongkorn University, MAIDS is one of the excellent choices I have ever made. To MAIDS and all my lectures, I want to say that I owe you what I am today and million thanks for your support and helps during my study. To current and future students, I am sure that you will learn incredible knowledge and skills from MAIDS program.

***Thank you for your stories and we wish you best of luck!***

## 2013 – 2014 Student Thesis Topics

NAME	THESIS TITLE	SUPERVISOR(S)
MR ZAR NI MAUNG	THE IMPACTS OF TOURISM ON LOCAL COMMUNITY	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Niti Pawakapan
MS ELLEN SASHA	AINDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN MIMIKA DISTRICT WEST PAPUA, INDONESIA	Asst. Prof. Dr. Jakkrit Sangkhamanee, Dr. Yanuar Sumarlan
MS NWE NI WIN KYAW	INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BY USING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) POLICY: A CASE STUDY OF YANGON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EXPANSION, MYANMAR	Asst. Prof. Dr. Pakorn Siriprakob
MR SOTHY LEK	CIVIL SOCIETY'S RESPONSES TO SEXUAL ORIENTATION DISCRIMINATION: A CASE STUDY OF RAINBOW COMMUNITY KAMPUCHEA, PHNOM PENH	Assoc. Prof. Soravis Jayanama, Dr. Michael Hayes
MR SOVANNY SRENG	SAND MINING AND PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOOD IN CHROY SVEY VILLAGE, KOH KONG PROVINCE, CAMBODIA	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Niti Pawakapan
MS LAHPAI NAM SAM AWNG	THE ROLES OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: A CASE STUDY OF KACHIN INTERNAL DISPLACED PERSONS IN MAI JA YANG, MYANMAR	Asst. Prof. Dr. Naruemon Thabchumpon
MR SUPATSAK POBSUK	NEGOTIATING THE POWER OF IDENTIFICATION REGIME: A CASE STUDY OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN MAE LA TEMPORARY SHELTER AND BORDERLAND	Asst. Prof. Dr. Jakkrit Sangkhamanee
MS OHNMAR NYUNT	REFORMATION OF PRINT/ONLINE MEDIA IN MYANMAR: PRESS PERFORMANCE AND FREEDOM	Asst. Prof. Dr. Pirongrong Ramasoota. Dr. Michael Hayes
MR VONGSA CHAYAVONG	HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PROSECUTION AND PROTECTION OF TRAFFICKED LAO GIRLS : A CASE STUDY OF REINTEGRATION PROCESS IN THAILAND AND LAO	Emeritus Prof. Dr. Supang Chantavanich, Dr. Ratchada Jayagupta
MS HKAWN JA AUNG	SOCIAL MOVEMENT ON MYITSONE HYDROPOWER DAM PROJECT IN KACHIN STATE, MYANMAR	Dr. Carl Middleton
MS NI NI WIN	PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS IN ARMED CONFLICT IN MYANMAR: A CASE STUDY OF CHILD SOLDIER IN KACHIN STATE	Emeritus Prof. Dr. Supang Chantavanich
MS CLAUDINE CLARIDAD TANVIR	EDUCATION FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE: A CASE OF THE 'DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ACADEMY' IN ALBAY PROVINCE, THE PHILIPPINES	Dr. Carl Middleton
MRS MAURA CUSACK	A STUDY OF THAILAND'S HIGH SCHOOL POLICY, CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY FOR INCORPORATION OF LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER (LTLT) PRINCIPLES	Dr. Carl Middleton, Mr. Jerrold W. Huguet
MS JULIA MACHER	DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR: A CASE STUDY OF SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY TYPHOON HAIYAN (YOLANDA) IN THE PHILIPPINES	Asst. Prof. Dr. Naruemon Thabchumpon, Dr. Albert Salamanca
MS KAI LING PHOEBE YEE	THE ROLES OF VALUES AND BELIEFS IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE OF A CHRISTIAN FAITH-BASED DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION IN HILLTRIBE COMMUNITIES IN THAILAND	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chantana Banbasirichote-Wun'Gaeo
MRS SATOMI ASO	COMMUNITY RADIO AND EMPOWERMENT OF MYANMAR MIGRANT WORKERS: A CASE STUDY OF MAP RADIO IN THAILAND	Asst. Prof. Dr. Pirongrong Ramasoota
MS THITA ORN-IN	THE EMERGENCE OF PUBLIC-SOCIAL-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN VERY SMALL POWER PRODUCERS (VSPPs) IN THAILAND: IMPLICATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE	Dr. Carl Middleton



MS REBECCA JANE  
CARDEN

HUMAN SMUGGLING OF FEMALE MIGRANT WORKERS FROM MYANMAR  
TO THAILAND

Emeritus Prof. Dr. Supang  
Chantavanich

MS LISA SCHIMETAT

POLITICS OF KNOWLEDGE OF WATER: A CASE STUDY OF THE  
KAMOTHWAY RIVER IN TANINTHARYI REGION, MYANMAR

Asst. Prof. Dr. Naruemon  
Thabchumpon

## 2013 - 2014 Guest Lecturers

*MAIDS would like to thank all of the Guest Lecturers and hope to meet you again soon!*

- Prof. Dr. Charles Elworthy, Visiting Business Fellow at the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment at the University of Oxford, and the Head of Research at Craigmores Sustainable
- Dr. Pipat Yodprudtikarn, Director at Thaipat Institute
- Dr. Nualnoi Treerat, Chulalongkorn Faculty of Economics
- Dr. Alexander Horstmann, Associate Professor of Southeast Asian/ Thai Studies at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- Dr. Philippe Doneys, Assistant professor in the Gender and Development Studies program at the Asian Institute of Technology.
- Dr. Hermann J. Tillmann & Dr. Maria Angelica Salas, Heinrich Böll Stiftung Southeast Asia
- Dr. Chanida Jittaruttha, Political Science Chula
- Dr. Mike Hayes, Director of the Masters in Human Rights program at the Institute for Human Rights and Peace Studies at Mahidol University
- Dr. Decharut Sukkamnerd, Lecturer in the Faculty of Economics, Kasetsart University, Thailand, and the manager of Thailand Healthy Public Policy
- Dr. Babette Resurreccion, Senior Research Fellow at the SEI Asia Centre
- Dr. Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, Deputy Director of the Stockholm Environment Institute - Asia (SEI-Asia)
- Dr. Eric Kemp-Benedict, Director of SEI-ASIA Senior Scientist at the Stockholm Environment Institute

- Dr. Wanhua Yang, Legal Officer of Division of Environmental Law and Convention out-posted in the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok
- Dr. Pakorn Siriprakob Political Science Chula
- Dr. Eakpant Pidavanija, Political Science Chula
- Dr. Hans Günter Brauch, FU Berlin (Ret.), UNU-EHS, Bonn; AFES-PRESS chairman; Editor, Hexagon Book Series (HESP), Springer Briefs on Pioneers in Science and Practice (PSP) and SpringerBriefs in Environment, Security, Development and Peace (ESDP), Springer Publishers
- Prof. Dr. Úrsula Oswald Spring, Social anthropologist and ecologist, Research professor at National University of Mexico UNAM/ CRIM in Cuernavaca
- Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond, Political Science Thammasat University
- Dr. Michael Medley, International Development Consultant
- Dr. Natthanan Kunnamas, Political Science Chula
- Dr. Danny Unger, Associate Professor of Political Science Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL
- Dr. Edsel Sajor, Associate Professor, Coordinator, UEM Field of Study Country of Origin: Philippines, AIT
- Dr. Yanuar Sumarlan, Lecturer IHRP-Mahidol University.
- Mr. Jerold W. Huguet, a demographer who worked with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MAIDS Graduating Batch 2014!





## Abstracts Corner

**“Wreck/Conciliation? The Politics of Truth Commissions in Thailand”**

Duncan McCargo (University of Leeds)  
Naruemon Thabchumpon (Chulalongkorn University)

**ABSTRACT:** More than 90 people died in political violence linked to the March-May 2010 ‘redshirt’ protests in Bangkok. The work of the government-appointed Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand (TRCT) illustrates the potential shortcomings of seeing quasi-judicial commissions as a catch-all solution for societies struggling to deal with the truth about their recent pasts. The 2012 TRCT report was widely criticized for blaming too much of the violence on the actions of rogue elements of the demonstrators, and failing to focus tightly on the obvious legal transgressions of the security forces. By failing strongly to criticise the role of the military in most of the fatal shootings, the TRCT arguably helped pave the way for the 2014 coup. Truth commissions which are unable to produce convincing explanations of the facts they examine may actually prove counter-productive. Following Quinn and Wilson, this article argues that weak truth commissions are very prone to politicization and are likely to produce disappointing outcomes, and so may be worse than useless.

NOTE: Full Paper will be available on Journal of East Asian Studies

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**Social movement on Myitsone Hydropower Dam Project in Kachin State, Burma.**

Hkawn Ja Aung

**ABSTRACT** Myitsone Dam is one of the seven cascade dams to be built by Burmese and Chinese governments. It is built at the confluence of Mali Hka and Nmai Hka Rivers - the source of Irrawaddy River that provides the millions of people livelihoods along the river. Most of project benefit goes to China. But, millions of people who depend on the river in Burma have been affected and will suffer due to environmental and social impacts. Project construction and relocation of the villages were started in 2009. The construction has produced immediate impacts such as loss of livelihoods, properties, lands, migration of fish species and deforestation. Hence, local people have initially opposed the project and media, non-state actors and political parties has concerned and participated in the movement process. On 30th September 2011, President Thein Sein has officially suspended the construction of Myitsone Dam in his presidential term until 2015. The research emphasizes the emergence of social movement particularly looking at the case of Myitsone Hydropower Dam project in Kachin State. It looks at the organizing skills of communities, the supports of outsiders and political opportunities. This paper analyzes the mobilization of local communities, evaluates the support of outside resources and determines facilitation of emerging political opportunities. This study sees that how the decision for suspension of this project will affect and influence the further implications of the mega project governance in Burma particularly in hydropower projects. This research uses

qualitative methodologies in data collection – reports and document analysis, focus group discussion, semi-structure and in-depth interviews with key respondents in field work. Data information is gathered from local communities, civil societies, politicians and activists mainly in Kachin State and Yangon.

*Note: This paper will be presented at The 3rd MSSRC International Conference on “Mekong Region and ASEAN in Transition: People and Transborder Issues” 11 -12 September 2014 Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand. Available via the author <hjakbc@gmail.com>.*

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**Urbanization and Sustainable Development in the Mekong Region**

By Carl Middleton and Dusita Krawanchid

**ABSTRACT** In the Mekong region, a growing proportion of the population lives and works in urban areas. At best, urban areas, as centers of economic growth, employment, education, and innovation can offer opportunities for economic and social development and cultural enrichment. At worst, urban areas, as centers where there is a lack of basic services, employment opportunity, and decent housing are places of poverty and environmental degradation. Ensuring that urbanization is sustainable and fair is one of the greatest challenges facing policymakers and the public in the region. The chapter maps out the opportunities, challenges, and prospects for urbanization in the Mekong region. The chapter highlights how the experience of urbanization differs by socioeconomic groups, and that creating livable cities for all inevitably is, and will continue to be, an intensely political process. Managerial and institutional deficits in urban planning are often identified as important reasons for environmental and social shortcomings in the region’s urbanization processes, where influential international and domestic investors and large urban landholders have often bypassed planning processes and regulations. Counterbalancing these interests in the pursuit of livable cities requires democratized, deliberative, and decentralized decision-making, accountable government, and the participation of empowered citizens. The chapter argues that creating livable cities and ensuring sustainable urbanization can only be attained in the context of ensuring sustainability across the wider region. Therefore, it is crucial that the interconnectedness between urban areas and rural hinterlands—for example the flows of people, finances, resources, and waste—are recognized and accounted for in decision-making, including those that are principally considered as urban.

*Note: This is available as Book chapter in Livelihoods, ecosystem services and the challenges of regional integration in the Mekong Region edited by Louis Lebel, Chu Thai Hoanh, Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa, and Rajesh Daniel. Published by SIRD/Gerakbudaya, Malaysia. <http://www.sei-international.org/publications/?pid=2544>*

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## Continuity and Change in Bangkok's Jatujak Weekend Market

By Chaiyaporn Singdee

**ABSTRACT:** With over hundreds of thousand visitors each day and more than 15,000 stalls, Jatujak Weekend Market is not only the biggest market in Thailand—it is also the largest of its kind in the world. From its humble beginning as a small flea market to forced relocation by the state that led to reinvention and subsequent growth, the market has been a location of constant change, whose survival continually rests on cultural creativity, entrepreneurship and the will to adapt against the odds of shifting political-economic circumstances. Drawing from documentary and field research among the merchants in the market, this paper seeks to explore the questions of how Jatujak Weekend Market, formed in 1948, has evolved over the past 65 years to become what it is today as well as how the market people adapt to the changing social and cultural environments. In doing so, a brief historical background is provided as a context to the discussion of the various social and cultural mechanisms—from the appropriation of global cultural trends to social networking and differentiation of products that give rise to diverse niche markets within—which have allowed the market to reposition and redefine itself over time. Through in-depth interviews and participant-observation, the mobilization of merchants to fight against the threat of being driven out by Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and State Railway of Thailand since 2010 is highlighted to illustrate the significance of social networks and the will to adapt as crucial factors in the survival of the market.

*Note: This work is a master thesis from Southeast Asian Studies Program of University of Wisconsin-Madison, available upon request. Contact the author via <singdele@gmail.com>*

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## Nexus Nirvana or Nexus Nullity?: The need for a more dynamic approach to security and sustainability in the water-energy-food nexus

By Jeremy Allouche, Carl Middleton, and Dipak Gywali

**ABSTRACT** Over the last several years, the water-energy-food (WEF) nexus has emerged as an increasingly prominent global policy, governance and research agenda. Water, energy, and food security are often framed to be within a contested trade-off relationship between actors, and this framing has been reinforced by a 'scarcity crisis' narrative put forward by a number of influential global policy actors promoting the WEF nexus. In this working paper, we argue that the governance of water, energy and food security - historically concerned with safety and certainty from contingency - has privileged control-orientated solutions, in particular the construction of large dams for water storage, in the belief they are more secure and more sustainable. We critically explore the associated risks and uncertainties of this pathway, and highlight that WEF systems are by nature complex and

dynamic. Furthermore, recognizing the power inequalities that often close down the consideration of alternative development pathways, we make legible the multiple framings of water, energy and food security between actors and how these are shaping policy objectives and project outcomes. Responding to the emerging WEF nexus discourse, we seek to introduce a more dynamic perspective to water, energy and food security, and argue that a shift in governance is required towards also incorporating solutions where the limits to control are acknowledged. We propose that plural water storage systems that accommodate a variety of large- and small-scale solutions are an appropriate response to such conditions of complexity and uncertainty and if social justice is to be incorporated within the WEF nexus.

*Note: STEPS Working Paper. May 2014. <http://steps-centre.org/publication/nexus-nirvana-nexus-nullity-dynamic-approach-security-sustainability-water-energy-food-nexus/>*

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## "Human Security, Flooding and Migration Amongst Fishing-Farming Communities Around The Tonle Sap Lake, Cambodia"

by Carl Middleton, Borin Un, and Naruemon Thabchumpon

The lives and livelihoods of fishers and farmers living around the Tonle Sap Lake, Cambodia are intimately tied to the annual seasonal ebb and flow of the lake. This chapter presents the results of ethnographic research in six fishing-farming communities in the flood plains of three provinces around Tonle Sap Lake. The chapter demonstrates that the year-to-year characteristic of the flood of Tonle Sap Lake is an important factor shaping fishing and farming livelihoods, and, in the context of fisheries decline and agricultural intensification where migration is considered an important means to reduce household vulnerability, the seasonal flooding is an important factor shaping migration patterns that differ between fishing and farming households. Furthermore, the chapter argues that whilst resource degradation is an important factor in decision to migration, also important is a regime of unequal access rights to resources – including land and fishery resources – built upon socio-economic and political inequality. The chapter concludes that policies on agriculture, fisheries and migration need to be better integrated and prioritize reducing the vulnerability of households through protecting and ensuring equitable access to fishery resources and farming land, and reducing the risks of international migration.

*Note: This is available as a book chapter in [On the Move: Critical Migration Themes in Southeast Asia](#) published by International Organization on Migration (IOM) and the Asia Research Center on Migration (ARCM), Chulalongkorn University ([http://www.arcmtailand.com/publications\\_detail\\_view.php?id=106](http://www.arcmtailand.com/publications_detail_view.php?id=106)). This work was supported by the Higher Education Research Promotion and National Research University Project of Thailand, Office of the Higher Education Commission (HS1069A).*

## MAIDS Network



*“Advocating peaceful international relations, internalized human rights and sustainable development in Southeast Asia through academic cooperation.”*

Launched in 2010, The International Conference for International Relations and Development (ICIRD) Knowledge Network is a platform for academic cooperation between four of Thailand’s foremost providers of research and higher education, namely:



These four institutions are loosely affiliated in a knowledge sharing network in order to establish Thailand and its universities as a venue for international scholarly exchange and academic networking among renowned scholars around the world.

*MAIDS hosted the 3rd International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD 2013) “Beyond Borders: Building a Regional Commons in Southeast Asia” 22 - 23 August 2013, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, THAILAND. ICIRD 2015 will be hosted by IHRP-Mahidol University*

For the details of activities and programs carried out under the ICIRD Knowledge Network, please visit <[www.icird.org](http://www.icird.org)>



*“A concerted effort for Human Rights”*

The Southeast Asian Human Rights Studies Network (SEAHRN) is a consortium of academic institutions which provide human rights education through study programs, research and outreach activities within the Southeast Asian region. The network, which was established in 2009, has 14 founding member institutions from 5 countries. The SEAHRN was born out of a common dream to enhance and deepen the knowledge and understanding of students and educators as well as other individuals and institutions from Southeast Asia in human rights. This goal will be achieved by engaging in collaborative research, improving course curricula and training programmes, sharing of best practices and conducting capacity building training of educators, staff and students and other interested individuals and institutions. Furthermore, it seeks necessary regional academic and civil society cooperation to sustain the effective promotion and protection of human rights in the region. The network desires to open its doors to interested institutions and individuals who share its vision for human rights in Southeast Asia.

*MAIDS is a member of the network which allow students to contribute and deepen the knowledge and networks in Southeast Asia about Human Rights issue.*

**The Third International Conference on Human Rights and Peace & Conflict in Southeast Asia** is organized by the Southeast Asian Human Rights Studies Network and the Faculty of Law and Human Rights Research Centre, Universiti Malaya **will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15 - 17 October 2014**

For details, please visit <<http://www.seahrn.org>>



The Universities and Councils Network for Innovation for Inclusive Development (UNIID-SEA) is a project of the Ateneo School of Government (ASoG), in collaboration with the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP), and is supported by Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

UNIID-SEA works with universities and research councils in Southeast Asia to promote action research and facilitate the development of programs that support innovation for inclusive development (IID). This three-year initiative is a follow up to an earlier project on Science and Technology Innovations for the Base of the Pyramid in Southeast Asia (iBoP Asia) supported by IDRC.



## Call for Papers

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### First International Conference on Salween-Thantlwin-Nu Studies: "State of Knowledge: Environmental Change, Livelihoods and Development"

Hosted by the Regional Centre for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD), Chiang Mai University

Organized by the Salween-Thantlwin-Nu (STN) Studies Group

14-15 November 2014

The Salween-Thantlwin-Nu (STN) Studies Group will hold the First International Conference on STN Studies on 14-15 November 2014 at Chiang Mai University. The conference will provide an opportunity for scholars, policy makers, community groups and civil society from Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, China and internationally to exchange information and to learn from one another about critical environmental change, livelihoods and development issues in the Salween River Basin. Interested participants should submit a paper title and abstract with keywords (300 words maximum) by September 15, 2014 to [salween.studies@gmail.com](mailto:salween.studies@gmail.com).

Further details at <http://rcsd.soc.cmu.ac.th/> and <http://salweenstudies.wordpress.com/>



### "Rights-based governance beyond borders" The role of extraterritorial obligations (ETOs).

Chumpot Pantip Conference Room, Prajadhipok  
Rambhai-Barni Building,  
Chulalongkorn University,  
9:00 - 17:00, September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014

Co-organized by: the ETO Consortium; MA in International Development Studies (MAIDS), Chulalongkorn University; Focus on the Global South; the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development; and the Stockholm Environment Institute

This international conference brings together academia, civil society organizations, UN and government institutions to discuss the implementation, challenge and prospects for extraterritorial obligations globally and in Southeast Asia. The conference will share lessons on the implementation of ETOs in Asia and globally, and explore their role in rights-based national and global governance.

For more details and conference agenda, visit <http://www.ids.polsci.chula.ac.th/>



## The Third International Conference on Human Rights and Peace & Conflict in Southeast Asia

15-17 October, 2014  
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