

# Higher Education for Sustainable Agriculture (HESA) and Food Security in Thailand

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## Public Forum and Academic Dialogue

Friday, 20 March 2015

Organized by: Chulalonkongkorn University School of Agricultural Resources (CUSAR)

**Sponsored by:** Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative (SIANI) with funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

#### 9:00 – 9:15 am Welcome Remarks and Meeting Overview

- Assoc.Prof.Dr.Sunait CHUTINTARANOND, Dean of Graduate School, Representing Chulalonkongkorn University Senior Administration
- Emeritus Professor Dr. Annop KUNAVONGKRIT, Founder, CUSAR, and Alumnus, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)
- **Mr. Matthew FIELDING**, SIANI Steering Committee Member, in Residence, 2015 at Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI); Asia office, Bangkok
- Dr. Wayne NELLES, Visiting Scholar, CUSAR Brief Overview of HESA Project

9:15 – 10:45 am GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVES & POLICIES: That Higher Agriculture and Food Security Education, Scientific Research and Extension Priorities amidst National Environmental/Sustainability and Capacity Development Challenges (Panel and Dialogue)

• MODERATOR: **Prof. Dr. Surichai WUN'GAEO**, Director, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Chulalongkorn University, and Rural Sociologist

#### DISCUSSION OUESTIONS FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

- 1. What are the principal, most pressing interrelated agriculture and environment problems and food security challenges in Thailand? What is the Thai government doing (and which Ministries/Departments) to address these interconnected concerns?
- 2. What government priorities, budgets, innovations and best practices now exist to support post-secondary education, training, extension and research for sustainable agriculture to address overlapping agro-environmental problems, food security, hunger and poverty?
- 3. Can cross-sectoral/inter-departmental and government-university cooperation on education, training and research be improved to better address interrelated agriculture-environment problems and food security challenges? If so how?
- 4. What new resources, policies, plans, reforms or innovations (local, institutional, national and regional) are needed (or committed) for HESA in post-secondary institutions, programs and governments to better strengthen teaching, learning, research and extension services?
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Poonpipop KASEMSAP**, Representative of The Office of the Higher Education Commission, Ministry of Education
- Ms. Raweewan BHURIDEJ, Inspector, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- **Mr. Suppanart KETCHAROEN,** Director of Agricultural Extension Research and Development Division, Department of Agricultural Extension (DOAE)
- Ms. Kunvara CHOTIPHANSOPHON, Deputy Director, Agricultural Research Development (Public Organization) ARDA
- Ms. Ladawon KHAMPA, Deputy Secretary General, National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB).

#### **Audience Discussion**

• Open Debate/Public Input, Q/A

10:45 am – 11:00 am *Coffee/Tea Break* 

11:00 am – 12:30 PM ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVES: Thai Higher Education for Sustainable Agriculture (HESA) and Food Security Data, Issues, Challenges and Opportunities

(Panel Discussion and Open Dialogue with Audience/Participants)

• MODERATOR: **Dr. Supawan VISETNOI**, Lecturer, CUSAR

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR UNIVERSITIES and INSTITUTES**

- 1. What principal, most pressing (and related) agriculture and environment problems in Thailand should higher education (or research centers) better address?
- 2. What are examples of current or exemplary model teaching programs, research activities and best practices on sustainable agriculture and food security in your universities or institutes?
- 3. Are public investments (government policies, priorities, budgets and programs) adequate to meet existing HESA needs or future challenges?
- 4. What new resources, policies, reforms, curricula or other innovations (local, institutional, national and regional) and partnerships are needed (or committed) for post-secondary institutions, programs and governments to better strengthen HESA teaching, learning, research and university extension services?
- **Emeritus Prof, Dr. Thavivongse SRIBURI,** Unisearch and Environmental Sciences, Chulalonkongkorn University.
- **Dr. Dusit ATHINUWAT**, Organic/Sustainable Agriculture Program, Thammasat University.
- **Dr. Abha MISHRA Co-Director,** Asian Center of Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture Intensification (ACISAI), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)
- **Dr. Suparerk SOOKSMARN**, Assistant to Vice President for Research, Kasetsart University (KU).
- Dr. Theerachai HAITOOK, Lecturer, Kohn Kaen University, Faculty of Agriculture
- Assistant Professor, Dr. Chanchai SANGCHYOSWAT, Chiang Mai University; Faculty of Agriculture.
- **Dr. Kobchai WORRAPIMPHONG**, Lecturer, Department of Agricultural Development, Faculty of Natural Resources, Prince of Songkla University.
- **Prof. Dr. Rut MORAKOTE**, Head of School of Plant Production Technology, Institute of Agricultural Technology (IAT), Suranaree University of Technology (SUT), Nakhon Ratchasima
- **Dr. Unchalee SANGUANPONG**, Assoc. Prof., Director, Organic Agriculture Innovation Network, Faculty of Agricultural Technology Rajamangala University of Technology,
- **Dr. Pradtana YOSSUCK**, Assistant Professor, School of Administrative Studies (SAS), Maejo University (MJU
- **Dr. Eric KEMP-BENEDICT**, Asia Director, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

#### **Audience Discussion:**

• Open Debate/Public Input, Q/A

12:30 PM – 12:35 PM Closing Remarks/Next Steps for HESA Thailand-ASEAN Research, Networking and Partnerships through SIANI and Beyond

• Dr. Wayne NELLES, Visiting Scholar, CUSAR, HESA Coordinator