

**“SOCIAL AND SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCES IN THE ASEAN COMMUNITY:  
A Regional Research Symposium and Academic Policy Dialogue”**

**(19-21 August 2015)**

**Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, THAILAND**

**REVISED DRAFT PROGRAM OUTLINE  
(20/05/2015)**

**To Be Further Revised/Corrected  
and Updated**

**DAY 1 - Wednesday, 19 August 2015 (FULL DAY)**

8:30 – 9:00 am **Registration**

9:00 – 9:30 am **Welcome Remarks (Hosts/Partners) and Meeting Overview**

- ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat, Bangkok
- Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok
- National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Bangkok, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education

9:30 – 10:45 am **Session 1 - Setting the Scene – Global/Regional Contexts for Meeting –  
(Guiding Themes and Questions for 3 Key Note Presentations)**

- Why focus on Social and Sustainability Sciences (together)?
- Why focus on ASEAN and Mekong Sub-Regions (together)?
- Regional Social and Sustainability Science Policies, Planning and Programs in the ASEAN Community (AC)
- Integrating Post-“Rio+20” Mandates for education and sciences with launch of a New AC (end of 2015), and emergent “Southeast Asian Higher Education Area” (SEAHEA)
- Southeast Asian Sciences in a Global Knowledge and Learning Community - “ASEAN Plus” External Academic and Research Partnerships affecting Regionalism
- UNESCO’s Historical Commitment and Current Roles to Study and Support Capacity Strengthening for Social and Sustainability Sciences

**Participant Discussion**

- Q/A

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

## SESSIONS 2, 3 & 4.

*(National reviews on the state of social and sustainability sciences - curricula, funding, programs, institutions, research capacities, theoretical debates, faculty types, student numbers, published research, etc. - in each Southeast Asian country).*

11:00 am – 12:30 PM **Session 2 - National Reviews on State of Social and Sustainability Sciences (Middle or High Income ASEAN Countries)**

- Thailand
- Brunei
- Malaysia
- Singapore

12:30 PM – 13:30 PM **Lunch**

13:30 PM – 15:00 PM **Session 3 - National Reviews on State of Social and Sustainability Sciences (Middle or Low Income and CLVM ASEAN Countries)**

- Indonesia
- Philippines
- Viet Nam
- Lao PDR

15:00 PM – 15:15 PM **Coffee/Tea Break**

15:15 PM - 17:00 PM **Session 4 - National Reviews on Social and Sustainability Sciences (Low Income/CLVM ASEAN Countries Plus Timor Leste)**

- Cambodia
- Myanmar
- Timor Leste

17:30 – 19:00 **Welcome Reception**

**DAY 2 - Thursday, 20 August 2015 (FULL DAY)**

**SESSIONS 5-6. MORNING –  
Regional, Sub-regional, and Comparative – Co-Organized by SEI and Partners)**

9:00 – 10:30 am **Session 5 - Social and Sustainability Sciences in the Mekong/ASEAN Nexus: (Social/Environmental Issues, Institutional Cooperation, Regional Integration, Research Outcomes and Policy Lessons - Bridging Political-Economic-Cultural and Eco-Geographic Regions)**

- 3 to 4 papers (Topics/Themes TBA)
- Case Studies of ASEAN Universities, Institutes and Research Networks and partners in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) using Social and Sustainability Sciences to study critical issues, inform policies and programs and engage governments
- E.g. the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), SUMERNET, and others' work with international agencies, governments and universities in the region.
- Reflections on unique but overlapping government agendas for Mekong sub-regional development and broader ASEAN Regional integration (including roles of external/"ASEAN Plus" actors) comparing and contrasting eco-geographical and political-economic issues, contexts and tensions.

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

11:00 am – 12:15 PM **Session 6 - Social and Sustainability Sciences Through “ASEAN Plus” External Partnerships with Southeast Asian Universities, Research Institutes and Scholarship**

- 3 to 4 papers (Topics/Themes TBA)
- Reflections on priorities and implications of international research linkages, university partnerships or projects, international education programs and donor agendas studying or impacting ASEAN Social and Sustainability Sciences (Australia, Canada, China, EU, Germany, Japan, Korea, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, and others)

12:15 PM – 13:00 PM **Short Lunch**

**SPECIAL EXTENDED JOINT SESSION #7  
(AFTERNOON)**

13:00 PM – 16:30 PM **Session #7 - The Science Policy Nexus in an Unequal World– Thailand in ASEAN and Global Contexts**

(\*\*\*NOTE: **Separate Venue** - Centara Hotel/Next to Central World)

- Sponsored by National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) in partnership Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok
- 3 to 4 papers reflecting on the Science-Policy interface and how academic sciences and research councils do or could influence policy from interdisciplinary, regional and global perspective

***Sessions 8-9 Integrating Theoretical Issues,  
Practical Concerns and Policy Implications for ASEAN***

9:00 am – 10:30 am **Session 8 - Social and Sustainability Sciences contributions to understanding ASEAN integration and its three “pillars” (ASEAN security community (ASC); ASEAN economic community (AEC); and ASEAN socio-cultural community (ASCC)).**

- 3 to 4 papers (Topics/Themes TBA)
- Theoretical, policy and empirical issues about social sciences as they relate to broader ecological, social and economic sustainability challenges for Southeast Asia and ASEAN including but not limited to ASEAN priorities, policies, committees, institutional challenges and programs.
- Reflections on regional cooperation (and conflict) concerning priorities programs and power dynamics, tensions and policy coherence among different government agendas and ASEAN Regional integration for the ASC, AEC, and ASCC including influences of external/ASEAN Plus government actors, private sector interests, etc.
- How can Social/Sustainability Sciences analyze linkages, regional dynamics, political processes and policy implications?

10:30 am – 10:45 PM **Coffee/Tea Break**

10:45 am - 12:15 PM **Session 9 - Applied ASEAN Social and Sustainability Sciences: Linking Research, Policy, Evaluation and Impact Assessment**

- 3 to 4 papers (Topics/Themes TBA)
- Analyses about how social or sustainability science research is now (or could be) used by ASEAN governments and others.
- Questions for consideration: Do social scientists already have established connections to ensure there are clear pathways so that good social science research can better inform policy? How should we assess the value of Social and Sustainability Sciences? How should we measure impacts? How do governments in Southeast Asian currently seek information from social science institutions or scholars, and of what types, for what purposes? How can we build or strengthen these relationships?
- Practical considerations about institutional reform and regional cooperation including methods, tools, resources and networking for assessing and strengthening social and sustainability sciences and complementary disciplines, particularly sustainable development teaching, learning and research capacities among Southeast Asian universities, colleges, and research institutes and their partners.

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM **Session 9 - CLOSING PLENARY  
Summary/Reflections (Lessons from Symposium, Assessment of Next Steps for ASEAN Social and Sustainability Sciences)**

- ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat, Bangkok
- Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Bangkok, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch

**(Post-Conference Workshop  
OPTIONAL 1/2 DAY  
Afternoon Session)**

13:30 PM – 16:00 PM

- Dialogue and Planning Workshop on Establishment of an “*ASEAN Social Sciences and Sustainability Sciences Network*”
- Hosted/sponsored and facilitated by ASEAN University Network (AUN) Secretariat