Report on Participation in Thailand Field Trip

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From Nov.20 to Nov.26, we went to Thailand to have an academic communication field trip. It was my great honor to go to Thammasat University and Kasetsart University in Bangkok. By listening to series of lectures, visiting around Bangkok and communicating with Professors and students in Thailand, I learnt a lot about local culture, economy and enhanced my academic knowledge.

On the first 2 days of the Thailand field trip, we went to the Thammasat University and participated in several lectures. One of the lectures was "The Current State of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Southeast Asia". SDGs are adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. And SDGs represent a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. What impressed me most was that the students from different countries (Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, etc.) shared their own points of view to SDGs. It was a precious opportunity to hear about various aspects of understanding one concept. What's more, we went to the UNSCAP in the afternoon of the first day. It gave us a direct impression of how UNESCAP assists in efforts at achieving SDGs in the Asia Pacific region. In addition, we visited the Bank of Thailand, which is the central bank of Thailand, and learnt about the development status of e-Payment & Digital Currencies in Thailand today.

Moreover, we visited the "the lung of Bangkok", and learnt about how Kasetsart University and local people strived to develop this special area. Dr. Isriya from Kasetsart University shared her research of sufficiency economy with us. SEP is a relatively new concept to me, it focuses on long-term development rather than only making rapid economic expansion. The ultimate goal of SEP is expressed as "Happiness for all". As far as I am concerned, I think it is hard to balance economic development and social welfare or happiness. Perhaps a slow pace of development would create a sustainable system, which would do good other the long-term and provide sustainable development for a country.

In the last day of this Thailand field trip, we had a student workshop together with the professors and students from both Thammasat University and Kasetsart University. I was the first person to make a presentation. My research topic is "The Impact of Mispricing on Corporate Investment for China Capital Market", and at the time I was at the stage of data disposal in my reserach. The Q&A session was the most valuable part for me. By explaining the questions which professors and participants asked, I got a more thorough understanding of the research topic, and also found out some significant points that I had ignored. Furthermore, it helped me to build a clearer and more efficient plan for my research process.

In conclusion, the one-week field trip in Thailand not only enriched my professional knowledge of sustainable economic theories, but also provided me a great chance to understand several concepts from diverse perspectives. I would like to express my heartfelt gratefulness to the Graduate School of Economics in Kyoto University for holding this helpful field trip and also Thammasat University and Kasetsart University in Thailand for drawing up such an impressive schedule.