

Report on Participation in 2019 Thailand Field Research Trip

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The Thailand field trip conducted during 20-27 November was a precious chance and wonderful trip for me. I learnt much via this trip from below perspectives.

(a) Academic outcomes

Our field trip started with a lecture at Thammasat University associated with the topic of SDGs. The participants from Thammasat University introduced the current state of SDGs in Southeast Asia from their understanding and shared many opinions and advice for further sustainable development in these developing countries, which gave me several different perspectives to think about regarding the importance of sustainability and its diversity. The style of the lecture looked like the discussion of MUN (Model United Nations), and different participants represented their chosen countries and responded to the questions asked by others. This was a very good discussion that pushed me to think further about these issues. The visit to the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) gave me a good opportunity to learn how the UN plays a role in international affairs and hear the opinions and information from the staff who worked for the UN, which helped me learn more about my career planning. The field trip to Bang Krachao sustainable community organized by Kasetsart University was a good chance that showed us how to develop sustainably in reality. There were many barriers and challenges that needed to be paid attention to, and this field trip showed how a community transitioned from a rural area to a tourist place and how to help residents earn more from this new program. The field trip gave me the chance to know and think more realistically based on my observation in the practical investigation. Because my research will use a field research method, this trip gave me many thoughts and help. Our field trip ended with a workshop at Kasetsart University, and the presentation helped me to develop my ability to share my research and discuss related questions with other professors and students who came from different countries and had a varied background. I got lots of advice from this workshop, which provided me with more research perspectives and helped me improve my further research.

(b) Experiences while overseas

This field trip gave me more chances to communicate and discuss with people from different countries, and it was also a wonderful opportunity to get a deeper understanding of a foreign country, its culture, economics, policy, religion and citizen's lives. There were many new thoughts and activities every day when I visited Thailand with the other participants on this field trip. This is an experience that makes me realize my shortcomings and how can I improve in the future.

(c) The content of the program

We had totally different activities every day. The lectures included the topics: Introduction to SDGs, Thailand, and ASEAN in Agricultural Liberalization, Discuss the Digitalization and Thailand's Monetary Policy, Economics, and Sufficiency Economy. There was also a student workshop and the field trip included many activities, such as the

visit of UNESCAP, visit to the Money Museum in the BOT building, tour visit in Bang Kracho sustainable community, Campus tour at Kasetsart University.

(d) The impact of the program on my career plans

I have been interested in NGOs or IGOs for a long time, especially the work in the UN. I have collected much information about the intern work in the UN, after this UNESCAP tour in Bangkok, I realized that I really hope to be a part of this kind of organization and make my contribution to sustainable development. For now, I am planning to continue my studies and pursue a higher degree and find an intern in the UN to prepare for my career in the future.