

## Report on Participation in [KUASU Challenge+]

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Year level: D2

Graduate School of Economics

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My research topic is on green public procurement and its effect on innovation in Europe, Japan and China. I accepted instruction from a host professor and conducted interviews during the program.

My host professor gave me suggestions on understanding green public procurement from a legal perspective, as well as from a policy mix angle. His advice helped me construct a fixed foundation for my research. What's more, from the various discussions during the program I learned knowhow regarding how to contact interviewees, select interview method, set interview questions and how talk to interviewees. These skills will further promote my research in Japan and in China in the future.

I interviewed seven people in Europe who are officers in governments, NGOs and universities. Five of the interviews were face-to-face, one by skype and one by email. One of the interviewees worked for Chinese cities on green public procurement, and she shared her thoughts relating to green public procurement in China. The interviewee in Amsterdam discussed the pros and cons of Japan and China to uptake green public procurement based on his experiences. The interviews were successful, with the information I gained I can explain my former analysis and get insights for future research. This was not only an exercise in data collection, but also academic skill training.

Except for the interviews, I furthered work on Eurostat data application by finishing the academic institution identification. With the suggestions from the host professor and interviewees, I improved my former research by making green contract selection more concrete, and started a new chapter on influential factors of green contracts.

With the help of my host professor, I was able to connect with other scholars in the field of green public procurement: Professors in the University of Groningen working on public procurement legislation, as well as scholars in the Central University of Finance and Economics working on public finance aspects. In addition, the practitioners on green public procurement possess their special understandings of the topic. These thoughts matter although not from academic perspective. This period of research abroad reminded me of the importance of communications and close connections with other senior scholars who research in similar fields. The communication with them led me to a broader viewpoint, and encouraged me a lot. In addition, I am invited preliminarily to a conference directed by my host professor next year (2020). I am planning to present my research paper relating to air pollution and environmental policy in China.

I made full use of my time to travel and learn about the history of where I visited on weekends. The museum exhibits give evidence of historical interactions between Europe and Asia, both reciprocity and invasions. Each interaction had its own influence on both sides. This trip to the Netherlands also has an effect on my understanding of the world. I am very grateful to the KUASU Challenge+ program for supporting me on my exploration. Overseas studies introduced me to new knowledge, new inspirations and new people enabling a better future for me. In the future, I will keep contact with the scholars in Europe and in China that I interacted with during my trip, and will continue to study with passion.

Please allow me to show my appreciation again to those who offered me help, financially, administratively or academically, during this overseas study experience.