# International Training Course on "Food System: the Challenge to Changing the Global Environment"

# Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies Mahidol University, Thailand September 1 – 8, 2021

## 1. Course Title:

Food System: the Challenge to Changing the Global Environment

#### 2. Duration

September 1 - 8,2021

#### 3. Background and Rational

Food is a topic that becomes the center of all aspects of modern life today. Our body need food as well as need clean water and fresh air. At present, the world has developed rapidly. Questions about the production of quality food that is sufficient for people on earth and the process does not destroy the environment, what healthy food is? How to produce food and manufacture any type of food is best for the environment. Food education has become a part of a wide range of educational programs ranging from science to humanities and has created literature about food systems and relationships with modern life. Health professionals and the public have realized that food is not just a food source. But also reflects the value and culture of each individual. The increased attention on food as a result of a period of radical changes in the way food production, food manufacturers and food factories.

One of the important components of the food system is food security. The World Food Summit (1996) states that food security "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

In addition, the second goal of sustainable development is to zero hunger from the world by year 2030. This involves promoting sustainable agricultural practices: supporting small scale farmers and allowing equal access to land, technology and markets.

In the past decades, Thailand has changed from being an agricultural country to a semi-industrialized country and food products have become the top products in the country. Thailand's food system is a diverse food source for consumers in the country and the world population. Thai food is diverse and is a favorite of people around the world. Thailand want to be the world's kitchen.

The food system of Thailand ranges from small, households, community-level to large-scale export companies, which most of all sectors have adopted the sufficiency economy philosophy of King Rama IX as a guideline in practice. In addition, Thailand needs to develop the country in order to achieve sustainable development. However, the future of the world is likely to change, especially in climate change. Therefore, Thailand, which has a reputation for food systems, must be prepared to continue to maintain good food systems for the local and global population.

Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University, has foreseen that food system will be an enormous critical issue for scientists, politicians and the human system. Thus, this training and workshop has been designed to be a wakeup call for humans to take

responsibility of food security and food system, regardless of whether they act as producers, consumers or middlemen, sharing knowledge and data and setting up a platform of possibility of creating a food system network.

# 4. Objectives

- 4.1 To provide a broad overview of the methods and tools available for conducting knowledge regarding the food system context in various dimension;
- 4.2 To exchange experiences and knowledge about food systems in order to eliminate hunger from all mankind

#### **5. Course Contents**

#### **5.1 Course Outline**

- 1. Overview of the food system
- 2. State of the art of Food Policy in Thailand
- 3. Climate change impact on water and rice in Thailand
- 4. Water for agricultural stability
- 5. Food production and community farming in Thailand
- 6. Community food security and marketing management during the COVID-19 pandemic in Thailand
- 7. Cracks in the global food system during the COVID-19 crisis
- 8. Food and nutrition
- 9. Management seafood and stability to the outbreak of COVID-19: Case study at Samut Sakorn province
- 10. Food Waste management

#### 5.2 Workshop/Practices

Case studies on the application of food system

# **5.3 Study Trips/Field Trips**

One-day field trip to visit food factory

#### 6. Participant Criteria

- Age: Less than 40 years old
- Work experience in related fields: More than 2 years
- Education: Equivalent to Bachelor Degree or Higher
- Language: Good command in English
- Computer literacy
- Able to participate in the online training course for the entire duration

#### 7. Venue

This eight-day online course will be conducted September 1 - 8, 2021 via Zoom cloud meetings from Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand

# 8. Expecting Results

Upon completion of the course, participants are expected to have:

- Better understanding of food system
- Meaningful information about the food system in Thailand
- Better understanding in further applications through practical sessions and excursions

#### 9. Evaluation

- No paper examination after completing this training course
- Participants must attend the class, field trip and workshop no less than 80% of the total training period

#### 10. Institution

## 10.1 Executing/Implementation Agency

## - Implementation organization:

Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University

# - Staff availability:

10 Lecturers will participate in this training.

30 Supporting staff will be in charge in this training.

## - Training materials:

Handouts, VDO clip and other documents related to course topics will be given/available to trainees.

#### - Other facilities:

Phone, fax and internet access are available

#### - Address:

Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University 999 Phuttamonthon 4 Rd., Salaya, Phuttamonthon, Nakhon Pathom 73170

#### - Course Leader:

Dean of Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies

#### - Course Director:

Associate Professor Dr Nathsuda Pumijumnong

#### - Contact Person:

Ms. Vilinthorn Xuto

Office of Academic Services in Environment and Science (OASES)

Tel: 0-2441-5000 ext. 2225 Fax: 0-2441-9509-10

E-mail: vilinthorn.xut@mahidol.ac.th