

## *Promotion of ASEAN and East Asian Studies*

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### **Outline of the presentation**

- Background of the project
- Project's content and activity
- Lesson learned

## Background

- **Title**
  - Promotion of ASEAN and East Asian Studies
- **Rational**
  - Enhance and strengthen the regional cooperation through activity conducted by Track II
- **Objectives**
  - To create (text)books for B.A. and M.A. programs for universities in the region (13 countries)
  - To stimulate discussion and research among scholars in the region regarding regional heritage, common values and future cooperation
- **Period**
  - May 2012 – April 2015
  - Extension to May 2016

## Background

- **Outputs**
  - 3 books published by an international publisher (Routledge)
  - A network of scholars in the region titled “Community of East Asian Scholars” (CEAS) ([www.ceas-edu.org](http://www.ceas-edu.org))
- **Funding agency**
  - ASEAN Plus Three Fund
- **Implementing unit**
  - CEAS Secretariat affiliated with Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University
- **Supporting agency**
  - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## Project's content and activity

- **Book writing: 3 books**
  - **Regional Community Building in East Asia: Countries in Focus** (Country volume – 13 chapters + )
  - **Advancing the Regional Commons in the New East Asia** (Common volume – 8 chapters + )
  - **Institutionalizing East Asia: Mapping and Reconfiguring Regional Cooperation** (Institution volume – 8 chapters + )
- **Authors**
  - **33 ASIAN scholars from 13 countries** (17 universities + 1 institute + 1 association)

## Project's content and activity

- **Workshops: 6 workshops**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> : KNIT (2010)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> : TU (2011)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> : APT (2012 – 2014)
- **Internal committee**
  - 4 members (all Thai) (2012 – 2013)
  - 2 members (1 Thai, 1 Singaporean) (2014 -2015)
- **Secretariat**
  - 2 secretaries (non Thai)
  - Secretariat office: Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University

## Lesson learned

- **Proposal**
  - Framing the issue: differentiate ourselves from existing projects/ mechanism
  - Clear and possible implementation process
  - Clear and possible expected outputs
- **Proposal submission**
  - Agreement among authors in terms of content and working process
  - Formal and informal discussion with MFA, CPR, ASEAN Sec.
  - Written correspondence with MFA, CPR, ASEAN Sec.

## Lesson learned

- **Implementation**
  - Content management
  - Financial management: Cash sheet + financial report
  - Personnel management: Capable secretary
  - Network management
- **Challenges**
  - Political sensitivity
  - Balance between standard (quality) and (individual) capability ; regional and countries' perspectives ; ultimate goal and network maintenance, etc.
  - Time constrain

## Lesson learned

- **Factors for success : Content**
  - Knowledge based
  - Network of scholars
- **Factors for success : Management**
  - Patience and consistency
  - Flexibility and compromise
  - Confidence and trust
  - Transparency
- **Recommendation**
  - **Clear rules & regulations is really needed.**

• Thank you