

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)
- **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**
 - 1st : KNIT (2010)
 - 2nd : TU (2011)
 - 3rd – 6th : 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