

Program for Advancing Strategic International Networks to Accelerate the Circulation of Talented Researchers
Japan-ASEAN Collaboration Research Program on Innovative Humanosphere in Southeast Asia:
In search of Wisdom toward Compatibility Growth and Community in the World

Report

Period of inviting: 5 days

Place of accepted: ASAFAS, Kyoto University

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The main purpose of my visit was to conduct a research and present my working paper in the seminar “Problems of Democracy in Thailand” on 4th March 2016. This research on “Political Frontier of the Rubber Plantation in the Northeastern Thailand” studies politics of rubber plantation policy in the Northeastern Thailand. The research covers a long period of time and many aspects related to the rubber policy in Thailand. Therefore, visiting Kyoto University enabled me to talk and discuss with a few researchers to help me complete this work before presentation.

Researchers at Kyoto University have conducted some valuable research on palm oil and rubber plantation in Southeast Asia. Meeting with them and studying their works helped me grasp the overview of the rubber plantation in the Southeast Asian region and the comparative perspective to make my research stronger. I discussed with Prof. Yoshifumi Tamada about the political transformation in Thailand between 1980s and 1990s and receive a lot of useful information as well as recommendation for writing the paper.

Since this work is related to the electoral politics, I have learnt a great deal from Assoc. Prof. Siripan Nogsuan Sawasdee on how the electoral system changed the voting behavior in the early 1990s and how the electoral campaign utilized agricultural policy at that period. Furthermore, the anthropology aspect is included in the field research. Hence discussion about changing situations of rural society with Dr. Yukti Mukdawijitra, a prominent Thai anthropologist and currently a visiting scholar at Kyoto University, is very beneficial for analyzing the village level case study.

I presented a working paper at the seminar on March 4th. Many questions and discussion from the panelists as well as from the audiences helped me clarify some weak points toward the better version.



Prof Viengrat is speaking at the seminar on March 4, 2016



Prof Viengrat is taking with participants at the seminar on March 4, 2016