

# Invitation to the “Pursat study”:

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Interdisciplinary Field Work for Sustainable Livelihood Studies**

By CSEAS, Kyoto University and Royal University of Agriculture

### Background

The Center for Southeast Asian Studies of Kyoto University, hereafter CSEAS, is the leading research center in Japan, which specialized in inter-disciplinary “Area Studies” ([http://www.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/index\\_en.html](http://www.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/index_en.html)) as well as “Sustainable Humanosphere Studies” (<http://sea-sh.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/>). CSEAS had established MoU with Royal University of Agriculture (RUA) and Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA) in December 2010 for promoting the exchange of faculty members, graduate students and organizing joint researches.

The joint research in Pursat province, hereafter “Pursat study”, aims to explore the livelihood transitions in rural Cambodia. Rural livelihoods drive and reflect changing environmental regimes and political economic transformations. Livelihood systems are based on the operational interface between environment and society. Rural livelihoods in Southeast Asia are rapidly changing basically from subsistence-oriented to market-oriented system. However, the actual process of these changes and the rural households’ decisions for life improvement, which are based on their own knowledge and capacity for examining benefits and risks within new opportunities as well as cultural traditions.

CSEAS had conducted the preliminary survey of livelihood transitions in Pursat province in Sep 2011 with several graduate-students and faculty staffs of RUA (*Preliminary Survey at Pursat Province, Cambodia on Livelihood Transitions Studies*. Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University. 31 October 2011). Through this research, we consider Pursat river/ basin area is a good representative of rural Southeast Asia for the study of livelihood transition; 1) The area has a rich diversity in the biophysical environment including the lakeside coastal area, lowland and mountainous area, 2) It has a rather short development history, which the most of the area covered with dense forest until the 1960s. After this preliminary survey, CSEAS launched new collaborative research with RUA and RUFA for deepening our understanding with the livelihood transition in Pursat area, and the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop on Interdisciplinary Field Work for Sustainable Livelihood Studies was held in February 2013 with the participations of 7 Japanese professors and 19

Cambodian students and researchers.

This is to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop on Interdisciplinary Field Work for Sustainable Livelihood Studies in Pursat province will be held on 18-24 August 2014. In this time, we plan to organize several activities of instructing research methods for studying fishery and agriculture in the rural villages in the area. After the joint field survey, CSEAS would like to ask the students to submit the observation report and the proposal for the future research in Pursat province. The committee of professors of CSEAS-RUA will review them and decide the excellent proposals, which CSEAS will provide a personal research fund for his/ her research. By doing this, CSEAS will help the students to collect the data for his/ her dissertations of Master degree.

=> Research for deepening the understanding of livelihood changes of Pursat

=> Applying the opportunity to the education of Cambodian students

## Participants: 5 Japanese, 18 Cambodians

### Japanese participants

- Dr. Homma Koki (Agriculture, Crop Science), Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University
- Dr. Hori Mina (Fishery, Fish Trade), Kroshio Science Unit, Resaerch and Education Faculty, Kochi University
- Dr. Yagura Kenjiro (Rural Economics), Department of Economics, Hannan University
- Dr. Kobayashi Satoru (Anthropology, Livelihood Studies), Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University
- Some Japanese master course students

### Cambodian participants

- ◇ Cambodian teachers
  - Mr. Kim Soben, Lecture and Coordinator of Master program, RUA
  - 17 Cambodian master-course students of RUA (See Exhibit)

## Schedule and Activities:

### August 18 (Monday): *Kick-off meeting in Phnom Penh*

9:00-12:30 Self-Introduction of participants and Introduction of Program

13:30-17:30 Presentations of master thesis by 4 RUA students

### August 19 (Tuesday):

7:00 Get together at Mitthapheap Hotel, nearby Wat Koh, and travel to Pursat

12:00-13:00 Lunch at Pursat town

14:00-18:00 Preparation meeting at the conference room of Pursat Century Hotel

- Explanation of the necessary preparation for the research activities

August 20 (Wednesday):

All day (7:00-18:00): Topic (1): *Research and Analysis of "Rice Growing landscape varieties according to Agro-ecological Zones"*

- 3 groups of students visit rural villages according to 3 routes (East, Middle, West)
  - ✓ Observation of landscape and ecological settings.
  - ✓ Collect GPS data in each research site.
  - ✓ Interview with villagers on their rice growing and livelihoods

Return to the hotel in the evening

Analysis of data by each team in the nighttime (20:00-22:00)

August 21 (Thursday):

Morning (8:00-10:00): Topic (1): *Research and Analysis of "Rice Growing landscape varieties according to Agro-ecological Zones" (continued)*

- Presentations of analysis report by each team/ General discussion

Late morning and Afternoon (10:00-18:00): Topic (2): *Research and Analysis of "Rice growth volume in lowland paddies"*

- 4 groups of students visit each target plots of paddies
- Collecting the information of rice growth in each plot
- Interview with the plot owners

Return to the hotel in the evening

Analysis of data by each team in the nighttime (20:00-22:00)

August 22 (Friday):

All Day (7:00-18:00): Topic (2): *Research and Analysis of "Rice growing practices in lowland areas" (continued)*

- 4 groups of students visit each target plots of paddies
- Collecting the information of rice growth in each plot
- Interview with the plot owners

Return to the hotel in the afternoon and analysis of data by each team  
Presentations of analytical report of each group in the nighttime (20:00-22:00)

August 23 (Saturday) :

All day (7:00-18:00): Topic (3): *Research and Analysis of "Value chains of local fishes"*

- Interviews with fish sellers of the market of provincial capital
- Trace back the middlemen who are in rural district and ask their business
- Trace back the fishermen who provided fishes to the middlemen and ask about their fishery activities

Return to the hotel in the evening  
Analysis of data by each team in the nighttime (20:00-22:00)

August 24 (Sunday):

Morning (8:00-10:00): Topic (3): *Research and Analysis of "Value chains of local fishes"*  
(continued)

- Presentation of analytical report of each teams

Morning (10:00-12:00): Wrap-up meeting

- Comments from each students
- Overview of research activities

Afternoon: Travel to Phnom Penh after the lunch at Pursat

## After the Workshop

Feb 22 (Friday):

Deadline of the submission of "the research proposal/ observation report " by each participant