International Workshop on Global Powers and Local Resources in Southeast Asia: Impact of International Forces on Local Society and Environment

17 January 2013

Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University, Kyoto Japan A project of the "Southeast Asian Studies for Sustainable Humanosphere" Research Initiative

Since mid-2000s, the inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has increased monumentally in Southeast Asia. The total FDI inflow to the region grew from US\$28.2 billion in 1995 to US\$41.1 billion in 2005, reaching US\$76.2 billion in 2010.

This fast and dramatic increase has spurred foreign-invested businesses in a wide range of sectors: from mining and quarrying to agriculture, fisheries, forestry, manufacturing, trade, financial services and real estate. The growth of these business activities had direct impact on local people and natural resources, and as such directly affected local societies and environment giving rise to numerous conflicts.

The fervour in which foreign capital to Southeast Asia is being pursued today has resulted in central governments as well as local political and social actors to directly collaborate and negotiate with foreign players including multi-national companies, international NGOs, and the governments of consuming countries.

How have these international forces played a role in social and environmental changes in Southeast Asia? How do the relationships among foreign players, power brokers and businesses at national and local levels have an impact on the local society and environment as a whole?

The workshop aims to discuss the political and social dynamics of foreign-venture businesses having direct impact on local people and natural resources as well as the impact on local society and environment in Southeast Asia from local, national and global perspectives.

The participants will present a paper each, which will be compiled as articles in a special edition of CSEAS academic journal *Southeast Asian Studies* by the end of 2013 as a final output of the workshop.

<u>Venue</u>

Seminar Room, 3rd Floor of Inamori Foundation Memorial Building, CSEAS, Kyoto University

Workshop Agenda (January 17th, 2013)

- 09:00-09:10 Overview/Introduction Dr. Akiko Morishita
- 09:10-09:50 Development or Plunder? The Impact of Foreign and Local Capital upon Sarawak's Environment and Local Communities Dr. Andrew Aeria (Universiti Malaysia Sarawak)
- 09:50-10:30 Political and Social Dynamics of Trans-Kalimantan Railway Project in Indonesia (tentative title) Dr. Akiko Morishita (CSEAS, Kyoto University)
- 10:40-11:20 Impacts on Chinese Investment for Rubber Plantation on Local Society in Laos (tentative title) Dr. Hiroyuki Seto (CSEAS, Kyoto University)
- 11:20-12:00 Workers' Views on Global Regulation of Factory Conditions: The Case of Apparel and Shoe Factories in Vietnam Dr. Jee Young Kim (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- 12:00-12:40 Political and Social Dynamics of the Issue of Lynas's Rare Earth Power Plant in Malaysia (tentative title) Dr. Phua Kai Lit (Monash University, Sunway Campus)

Lunch Time

Moderator: Jafar Suryomenggolo (Program-Specific Researcher, CSEAS)