

Announcement

International Symposium



On

Sufficiency Economy, Participatory Development, and Universities

15 - 16 December 2007

**Hotel Windsor Suites Bangkok
Sukhumvit Road, Bangkok, Thailand**

Organized by



Faculty of Social Administration
Thammasat University



The Commission on Higher Education
Ministry of Education

In collaboration with



Faculty of Management Sciences
Ubon Rajathanee University



Southeast Asian Ministers of
Education Organization



Institute of Liberal Arts
Walailak University



United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

The Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University and the Commission on Higher Education, in collaboration with Faculty of Management Sciences, Ubon Rajathanee University; Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO); the Institute of Liberal Arts, Walailak University; and UNESCO are pleased to announce the international symposium on

SUFFICIENCY ECONOMY, PARTICIPATORY DEVELOPMENT, AND UNIVERSITIES

**15 – 16 DECEMBER 2007
AT HOTEL WINDSOR SUITES BANGKOK,
SUKHUMVIT ROAD, BANGKOK, THAILAND**



BACKGROUND

The International Symposium on ‘Sufficiency Economy, Participatory Development, and Universities,’ planned as a post-UNESCO’s 11th APEID conference, reflects an emerging interest and commitment shared by academics of the South and the North on the urgent need of universities and higher education institutions to reexamine and reflect on their purposes and roles as key collaborator in participatory development. While academics in large numbers have become socially engaged and have made significant contributions towards integrating key missions such as teaching, community services and research, making universities “relevant and responsive” to societal challenges such as poverty, ecological crises and social exclusion of various forms, university community as a whole has yet to contemplate further on how to better become responsive and effective as development alliance, as the global community faces crises of greater magnitude.

Outside academia, it is interesting to observe the resurgence of alternative thinking and practice--an attempt by people at the grassroots level to search for solutions to problems produced by imbalanced development--with the goal of creating sustainable livelihood. Alternative livelihoods practiced by communities around the world speak to the centrality of ideological commitment to the integral goal of sustainability and the security of human and natural ecology. Currently in the Thai context, the King’s Sufficiency Economy exists in harmony and with strong conceptual links to other alternative strands of development thinking and practice. It has become a movement which provides an inspiration for people from all walks of life, from those whose dreams of

wealth collapsed during economic crisis a decade ago, to those whose practices of moderation have long been part and parcel of their livelihood. Sufficiency thinking has re-emerged, igniting all sorts of debates, research and social experimentation. In some Thai universities, degree programs in sufficiency economy have begun. University-community partnership in organizing meaningful and relevant education has taken place, with local intellectual playing an active part in the process. Co-designing sufficiency economy curriculum in higher education institutions with collaborative spirit provides an example of how university can embrace participatory paradigm in an effort to reinvent the structure, process, and intervention of higher education so that university becomes a site of direct and active social engagement and a transformative community for learners, teachers, thinkers and actors to co-exist and work side by side towards a sustainable and inclusive global society.

To gain an in-depth understanding of why universities as institution of higher learning should practice participatory development and what roles alternative theories of development play in light of our common goal of creating a just and sustainable world, it is an opportune time that alliances of development collectively contemplate on the relationship between alternative development theories and practice as well as the purposes and roles of higher education in the processes of development. It is hoped that the conference will be the site where concrete steps for constructive changes be created so that universities and partners of development can fruitfully engage in the social change agenda.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide the opportunity for collaborative dialogue among partners of social development, academics, and higher education administrators on the roles of university in participatory development
- To identify directions, goals and means, as well as future possibilities in strengthening the role of higher education institutions as development alliance within the philosophical framework of sufficiency economy and participatory development paradigm



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (CONFIRMED)

- **Kruba Sutthinun Pratchayapruet**, Local intellectual/Board member of Ubon Rajathanee University's Council, Thailand
- **Preecha Piampongsarn**, Thailand
- **Chan Lean Heng**, School of Social Sciences, Science University of Malaysia, Malaysia

PANELISTS (CONFIRMED)

- **Peter Taylor**, Team Leader, Participation, Power and Social Change Team, University of Sussex, the UK
- **Apichai Puntasen**, Dean, Faculty of Management Science, Ubon Rajathanee University, Thailand
- **Krissanapong Kirtikara**, Advisor to King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand
- **Leonora Angeles**, Centre for Human Settlements, School of Community and Regional Planning, University of British Columbia, Canada
- **Faustino Cardoso Gomes**, President, National Electoral Commission (CNE), and director, National Research Centre, National University of East Timor (UNTL), East Timor
- **Suwatchara Piemyat**, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University, Thailand
- **Grant Charles**, Coordinator of Field Education, School of Social Work and Family Studies, University of British Columbia, Canada
- **Vimala Veeraraghavan**, Professor and Director General, Amity Institute of Behavioural (Health) and Allied Sciences, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh
- **Pisit Chansnoh**, Yadfong Association, Thailand
- **Payong and Rawewan Srithong**, Project for Agroecological and Plant Genetic and Resource Conservation, Thailand
- **Stan de Mello**, Lecturer/Practicum Coordinator, School of Social Work, University of Washington, USA
- **Suthida Whyte**, Faculty of Management Science, Ubon Rajathanee University, Thailand

CHAIR AND DISCUSSANT (CONFIRMED)

- **Uthai Dulyakasem**, Dean, Institute of Liberal Arts, Walailak University, Thailand
- **Titiporn Siriphant Puntasen**, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University, Thailand
- **Jitti Mongkolnchaiarunya**, Dean, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University, Thailand
- **Parichat Valaisathien**, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University, Thailand
- **Peter Boothroyd**, Professor Emeritus, Centre for Human Settlements, University of British Columbia,

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

DAY 1: December 15, 2007
8:00 – 17:30

Registration

Opening Ceremony:

Welcoming Remarks: Chair, Program Committee

Report: Dean, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University,

Welcoming Address: Secretary-General, The Commission on Higher Education

Welcoming Address: Rector, Thammasat University

First Keynote Address: Kruba Suddinun Prachayapruk, Thailand

Session 1: Roles of Universities in Social Development

This session highlights thoughts and reflection of educators on universities' capacities and roles in social development. Discussion will include intervention at the institutional-structural level as a potential impetus for universities to become socially engaged.

Second Keynote Address: Preecha Piampongsarn, Thailand

Session 2: Conceptual Relationship between Sufficiency Economy, Participatory Development, and Higher Education Institutions

In an effort to keep His Majesty's Sufficiency Economy alive, this session explores conceptual relationship between sufficiency economy, participatory development and higher education institutions. With the assumption that SE is not a frozen framework we (have to) adopt, but a sustainable framework which combines all dimensions of life and sciences, the session critically examines issues of power and knowledge by asking: Whose Knowledge? (Whose sufficiency economy?) Whose (participatory) development? to continue an intellectual tradition whereby critical questions are welcome, as we collaboratively attempt to rekindle various missions and roles universities (can) play by creatively integrating community service, research and teaching.

Session 3: Field Education and Social Engagement

This session focuses on the learning process approach which is part and parcel of social work education, and the field of social development. Speakers will share their experience and approaches in combining teaching/learning and social engagement.

Session 4: People's Research: Toward Eco-Sufficiency and Social Justice

This session highlights the ongoing work of peoples around Thailand whose quest for knowledge is based principally on their will to live. To create knowledge by and for themselves (knowledge from within) is to enter the process of political empowerment. The session will help us in academia further reflect on the purpose, relevance, limitations, and strengths of "spectator knowledge" conducted on the people, while seeking ways to enhance people-university collaborative research for social change.

DAY 2: December 16, 2007
9:00 - 12:30

Third Keynote Address: Chan Lean Heng, Malaysia

Session 5: Putting Participatory Development into Practice: Prospects and Challenges

This session explores experiences of universities in social engagement, moving beyond project-based discussion to the issues of how to enhance structural transformation in higher education institutions as newer goals and values are being embraced. Participatory methodologies for institutional self-knowledge production and development will be critically examined.

Conquary Agenda: Reinventing Higher Education via Inter-institutional Collaborative Inquiry

Conference Synthesis Presentation and Closing

VENUE

Hotel Windsor Suites Bangkok

8-10 Sukhumvit Soi 20 Sukhumvit Road Bangkok 10110 Thailand

Tel : (66) 0-2262-1234

Fax: (66) 0-2262-1212

For Reservations: Boonchaluy@windsorsuiteshotel.com; Boonchaluy_j@hotmail.com

Website: <http://www.windsorsuiteshotel.com/index.php>

REGISTRATION FEES*

Foreign Participants	US\$ 175
Local Participants	US\$ 125
Students	US\$ 50

* Lunches, coffee breaks and hospitality dinner on December 15th included

FIELDTRIP

Fieldtrip to communities practicing sufficiency economy in the greater Bangkok area is offered with no additional charge on Sunday afternoon after the symposium (December 16th). Please visit our website for a detailed summary of each site and choose the community of interest in the registration form. For further inquiry, please contact the Conference Secretariat or write directly to sifmu@hotmail.com.

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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Nittaya Thongsukdee Email: nittayathong@yahoo.com	Member and Assistant Secretary
Jarupa Panitchpakdi Email: sodarak@hotmail.com	Member and Coordinator



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Email: fsa.che@gmail.com

<http://www.sepdu.com>

Registration Form
Sufficiency Economy, Participatory Development, and Universities
December 15-16, 2007, Bangkok, Thailand

DEADLINE: November 16, 2007

Registration Instructions:

Please print and return by regular mail or fax to

Conference Secretariat
 Faculty of Social Administration,
 Thammasat University, Prachan Road,
 Bangkok 10200, Thailand
 Tel: 662-224-1351; 66-89-440-1511
 Fax: 662-224-9417
 Email: fsa.che@gmail.com

For on-line registration, see <http://www.sepdu.com>

A registration receipt and conference details will be mailed to you only if we receive your registration by November 16, 2007. Registration cancellations must be received by November 16, 2007 for a refund.

Please note that there will be no on-site registration.

Please complete and return the following information

Registration Information

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ Post/Zip Code _____

Country _____

Telephone (area code): _____

Facsimile: _____

Email Address _____

PREFERRED NAME ON CONFERENCE IDENTIFICATION BADGE _____

Registration Fees

Conference fees include entry to conference sessions, lunches, breaks, and dinner on December 15th, bag containing registration materials, copy of proceedings, and field-trip.

<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Participants	US\$ 175
<input type="checkbox"/> Local Participants	US\$ 125
<input type="checkbox"/> Students*	US\$ 50

*Please include a copy of your valid student card!

Method of Payment: Payment must accompany Registration Form
All fees must be submitted in US dollars (US\$ only)

MasterCard Visa Cheque Telegraphic Transfer

Name Printed on card

Credit Card Number Expiration Date

Signature Date

Please make **Telegraphic Transfer** to the following account. To enable us to identify your payment, please ensure your name and SE PD U appears on your transfer. Please submit a copy of transfer to the Conference Secretariat.

SWIFT code: TMBKTHBK
 Account Name: SE-PD-U Conference
 Account Number: 155-2-05973-3
 Bank: Thai Military Bank
 Branch: Thammasat - Ta Prachan

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 Faculty of Social Administration,
 Thammasat University, Prachan Road,
 Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Fieldtrip to communities practicing sufficiency economy in the greater Bangkok area is offered with no additional charge on Sunday afternoon after the symposium (December 16th). Please visit the website for introduction of field sites and tick one of the following boxes:

Klong Chinda, Sampran district, Nakhon Pathom

Tawee Wattana district, Bangkok

Nong Jok district, Bangkok