



Editorial

The first edition of this newsletter that you are holding in your hands is a part of South-East-Asian-Germany Inter-Alumni Programme supported by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) and established in close co-operation with the Centre for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture and Forestry (CeTSAF), University of Göttingen, the Institute for Socio-cultural and Socio-economic Studies (ISOS), University of Kassel, Witzenhausen and Institute for Co-operation in Developing Countries, Philipps-University Marburg (ICDC). The NEWSLETTER should make possible an intensive Communication between German Universities and Universities in South-East-Asia and between the members of the scientific community in agricultural sciences in the Region.

The first edition of the NEWSLETTER is intended to give graduates of the two universities information about the kind of co-operation designed to improve mutual learning, and it is hoped that future editions will include contributions that cover the scientific and staff development strategies evolved by scientists from the South-East Asian region. (Editors)

Impressum

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South-East-Asian-Germany-Inter-Alumni-Net (SEAG)

The Centres for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture and Forestry in the University of Göttingen, the Institute for Socio-cultural and Socio-economic Studies in the University of Kassel - Witzenhausen and the Institute for Co-operation in Developing Countries, University of Marburg have established an Alumni-follow-up working group to provide an efficient service for the numerous former graduates from their Universities. The three Universities acknowledge the need for a networking in South-East Asia. In this networking, graduates from German Universities with different scientific backgrounds will be included, and the following are the reasons for the networking:

- High number of graduates in South-East Asia
- The lack of a network of South-East-Asian alumni in German Universities
- High number of graduates from German Universities without any kind of support by German Government (scholarships etc.)
- High number of highly qualified graduates returning home after education in Germany
- The need for an efficient network and information system between German and South-East Asian Universities
- The need for mutual improving of learning, teaching, research and extra-mural activities like management and organisation skills

Students that have been awarded a PhD at the University of Göttingen in recent years, graduates with PhD from German Universities participated in one of the 33 professional courses on Higher Education in Witzenhausen

between 1973 and 1999 and students from University of Marburg are the main alumni.

There are fair connections existing between South-East Asian Universities and Universities of Göttingen and Kassel. A follow-up meeting with 50 - 60 participants has been planned at Bogor University in September 2000. During this follow-up meeting the establishment of an alumni-network is planned as well. In the next two years, two further follow-up meetings have been planned to take place in the South-East-Asian Region. The aim is to establish scientific conferences, to improve a regional networking and a sustainable communication system. At the same time, more and more German Universities should be integrated in the whole programme to enable an efficient scientific service system to develop and enlarge the possibilities of a broad usage of a variety special scientific fields in Agriculture and corresponding scientific areas.

In this edition of the newsletter, further detailed information is given about the nature of the follow-up meeting.

(S. Amini, ISOS)

Do you want to contribute to Newsletter?

- contributions should not exceed 1,5 pages
- information should be of general interest
- the editorial team must reserve the right to select or condense contributions for publication
- contributions which relate to a particular topic of the previous newsletter are particularly welcome
- please add full name and address

Centre for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture and Forestry in the University of Göttingen

The Centre for Tropical Studies is a joint scientific institution of both the Faculties of Agriculture and Forestry of Georg-August-University Göttingen.

There are presently 14 full-time professors in our centre from the Faculties of Agriculture, Forestry, Geo-Sciences and Biology. The Institutes of Agronomy and Animal Sciences in the Tropics and Rural Development are represented by 7 professors and 15 academic staff members. The libraries of these institutes include some 320.000 volumes and 400 periodicals. These institutes publish their own periodical.

The Centre promotes and co-ordinates interdisciplinary co-operation in teaching and research in the fields of tropical and subtropical agriculture and forestry. This includes (among others) the organization and co-ordination of courses, guest lectures, international seminars and symposia.

The centre is also responsible for developing curricula for teaching projects and study programs. It conducts three M.Sc. courses: "Tropical and Subtropical

Agricultural Sciences", "Integrated Tropical Agriculture and Forestry Sciences", and "Agribusiness in Asia". The two latter using English as a teaching medium are provided in close co-operation with international Universities. So far 120 graduates from 12 developing countries have participated in the Centre's MSc-courses. The Centre closely co-operates with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), political and religious foundations and with national and international development organizations (DED, GTZ, KfW, etc.).

In addition, the Centre organizes work-study programs and academic exchanges abroad for undergraduate or postgraduate or PhD students. More than 40 professors from the Faculties of Agriculture, Forestry, Geography and Biology are engaged in international research projects and postgraduate programs.

For more than 30 years, CeTSAF has developed close links with educational and research institutions in developing countries such as Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico,

Pakistan, Sudan, Turkey, etc. (joint research projects, academic exchange of staff and students). Scientists from developing countries receive care and support during their research periods in Göttingen.

The Centre regularly sponsors and organizes symposia on interdisciplinary aspects of research and development topics in co-operation with the Universities of Kassel, Hohenheim and Berlin.

The Centre is closely linked with European institutions of higher learning and research in agriculture (member of NATURA, EADI). The Centre also manages ERASMUS/SOKRATES programs of the Agricultural Faculty, which carries out exchanges among European Universities (Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom).

(Centre for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture and Forestry, University of Göttingen)

Institute for Socio-cultural and Socio-economic Studies (ISOS) University of Kassel- Witzenhausen

ISOS is an institute of the faculty of Ecological and International Rural Development at the University of Kassel. The Institute is interdisciplinary and synthesizes social, cultural and economic subject areas. ISOS works in close association with the Center for Tropical Studies. This cooperation between the Center and ISOS concentrates on the socio-economic and socio-cultural issues in rural development.

ISOS endeavors to contribute to and support:

- interdisciplinary seminars at the University of Kassel and at international universities around the world (UNISTAFF)
- involvement of students and communities in participatory actions that reflect the guiding ideas of ISOS
- the development of a holistic approach to teaching and research
- practice fields which experiment with new modes of research investigation and application
- intercultural settings that expand the

awareness and cooperation potential of its students, colleagues, university and community.

Teaching: ISOS conducts regular courses as part of the curriculum for ecological agriculture and international rural development. Here the emphasis is on social ecology, agrarian politics and agrarian economics as well as education and extension.

Experiential approaches to teaching have become the benchmark for other faculties and institutes at the university.

Research: Research focuses on university development, socio-cultural and socio-economic rural development, and participatory consultancy in national and international contexts. A number of publications have resulted from the individual and joint research carried out by ISOS.

Consultancy and Services: Based on years of professional experience in their field, ISOS acts as consultant and offers its services to various institutions. ISOS has established a name for itself especially on matters of project and program design, evaluation,

project management, organizational development, staff development and intercultural communication.

In 1995, a four-year pilot project was initiated at the University of Kassel at the ISOS institute. It was a joint project with an alliance being forged with the Federal Government of Germany, the State of Hessen and the University of Kassel. The concept of a holistic approach to learning and teaching was the goal that was concentrated on by the institute.

In the design, development and implementation, ISOS took the lead in its participation in this partnership. The research and the practices developed by ISOS corresponded to the ongoing political discussion-taking place at the university level.

ISOS has already supported the initiatives of UNISTAFF-Alumni in establishing local UNISTAFFs in Southeast Asia (Indonesia/Gaja Mada) and in Central America in close cooperation with German development Foundation (DSE). The Establishment of local UNISTAFF in East Africa is also planned in the very near future.

(Siawuch Amini, ISOS)

Institute for Co-operation in Developing Countries, Philipps-University Marburg (ICDC)

The Institute for Co-operation in Developing Countries was established in 1963 following recommendations of the III. International Conference of Co-operative Science. Since 1964, the ICDC organises the Master's Programme in Co-operative Economics within the Department of Economics of the Philipps-University Marburg. In addition, the Institute conducts 2 optimal subjects ('Economic Issues in Developing Countries' and 'Co-operative Science') for students of the degree courses in economics and business administration. The international Master's Degree Programme is designed especially for graduates from Africa, Asia, Latin America and European economies in transition. It comprises studies in economics with a special focus on 'co-operative self-help'. Apart from the core subjects 'Economic Issues in DCs' and 'Co-operative Science', students have to take 3 additional subjects in economics and business administration such as general economics, development economics, theory of economic systems, business administration and management. At present, 8 full-time professors are working at the Institute, frequently joined by international visiting professors. The library, specialising in co-operatives, self-

help organisations and land tenure, includes some 19,000 volumes and 41 periodicals. Since 1964, 190 men and women have graduated in Co-operative Economics so far, among them 40 students from South and East Asia, not taking into account numerous graduates of the 'conventional' degree courses coming from the countries in question.

In the future, after institutional reforms and in view of globalising markets and competition, co-operative self-help immensely will gain in importance for responding to economic as well as societal challenges. The ICDC faces this challenge by strongly linking teaching, research and co-operation with co-operative organisations in different regions and cultures of the world. Accordingly, fields of research of the Institute lie in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Middle and Eastern Europe. Co-operation partners include the DAAD, the State Ministry of Hesse for Science and Fine Arts, political foundations and international development and research organisations (GTZ, KfW, World Bank, FAO, IFPRI, ILRI, etc.). To enhance dialogue and exchange the ICDC regularly organises and hosts round table meetings on recent issues of interest.

Follow-up meeting in University Bogor, September 2000

The Symposium has two main objectives: Firstly, new approaches and findings in the field of Sustainable Development in the Context of Globalization and Locality will be presented and it will provide a forum for the exchange of experiences. Secondly, the establishment of a long-term and sustainable alumni network as a new challenge will be discussed together with South-East Asian graduates. In the field of sciences, plenary sessions or working groups will be organised where South-East Asian and German scientists will present papers and contribute professional experience. Three main Working Groups are envisaged: Sustainability (environmental, resource, social & economic equilibrium), Globalization vs. Locality? and Science and Development.

Our South-East Asian colleagues are kindly invited to contribute papers in order to make a success of this event. An editorial committee has been set up headed by Dr. Andriyono Kilat Adhi, Indonesia, Tel.: Fax Priv. 0062-251-340051; Mob.: 0062-811 11 2491

A one page summary of your paper is required before the end October. Time allocated for the presentation of papers will be 20 minutes followed by a 10 minute period for discussion. Papers are intended for publication.

Special excursions to Bandung and several

agricultural enterprises are planned in order to gain practical insights. The German counterparts include scientists and staff of the University of Göttingen, Kassel-Witzenhausen, as well as representatives of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Embassy. Dr. Andriyono will make the necessary preparation for the establishment of a systematic alumni network. The personal links which have existed up to now between South-East Asian graduates and their German host institutions will hopefully be intensified and regular contacts established. An independent office and databank will be set up in Bogor in order to distribute information to those interested.

This Symposium is being seen as the first of a series of further Symposia. If our Symposium meets with success and if the network functions well, we believe that funding institutions such as DAAD will contribute to further support such seminars and workshops of Indonesian graduates of German Universities.

We are also planning a second symposium next year in Indonesia and would like to ask for ideas and suggestions for its implementation. We need your support and co-operation. We look forward to visiting Indonesia again and hope to meet many old friends and colleagues.

(Diethard Mai, CeTSAF)

University Staff Development

Universities need to transform themselves into learning organisations, if they are to survive in the „age of knowledge“. This is not possible without a concrete awareness of the systemic interaction within institutions of higher education: scholars, students, curricula, institutional structure and cultures, and -last, but not least - the context.

Every programme for improving this kind of interaction should focus on competencies of the staff members as the most influential institutions and be geared towards cognitive development and towards the strengthening of academic key competencies, including emotional and social qualifications. This is probably to be realised efficiently by training courses with an orientation towards practical work, which in addition to dialogue and training, give the participating staff members the opportunity to identify an essential challenge within their institutions and to focus their energy on preparing practical and solution oriented project-work. Training courses for this purpose focus mainly on three relevant activities of the faculties: organisational development, teaching and learning and research management, which cover consistently intensive dialogue and training in university structures, change management and communication; curriculum development, quality assurance and evaluation; co-operative disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

The University Staff Development Programme Witzenhausen was established at the Institute for Socio-cultural and Socio-economic Studies in close co-operation with the DAAD and the DSE in 1994. Since this time 108 faculties from Asian, African and Latin-American countries have participated in these programmes, which take place once a year for two months of training in Witzenhausen.

The need for establishing similar courses at local level is growing rapidly. It is now time to prove that such courses can be organised also in South-East Asian region for improving the skills required to manage the necessary changes in universities and contributing to the generation of a community of scholars committed to scientific quality as well as to social and environmental responsiveness. A UNISTAFF local programme has already started at Gadjamada University and will continue to establish the programme in the planned follow-up meeting in Bogor in September 2000.

(Institute for Socio-cultural and Socio-economic Studies, Witzenhausen, University of Kassel)

Bogor Agricultural University (IPB)

Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), which so called Bogor Agricultural University, was founded in 1963 with basic philosophy to develop higher education in agricultural sciences and technology in Indonesia. Moving through rapid growth of development in the last three decades, IPB has stated its vision as a centre of excellence in the development of science and technology with agriculture as its core competence. With this vision, although agriculture is the core competence, IPB has a flexibility to develop its program based on present and future needs of society. The mission to be accomplished are : 1) Higher learning education with the highest possible quality relevant to the present and future needs of society, 2) Creation and application of knowledge through advanced research, and 3) Enhanced university social responsibility by providing relevant expertise and programs to community in a more extended area with focused, effective, and high quality services.

IPB consists of 7 Faculties, 31 Departments plus one Department providing General Basic Courses for first year students. Currently IPB offers 28 diploma study programs, 33 undergraduate study programs, 34 graduate study programs offering Masters program and 23 graduate study programs offering Doctoral program. As of September 1999, the IPB student body was 19,440

students with 1,327 of faculty members.

In line with its research-based philosophy, IPB maintains 16 research centres, with three of them being Inter-University Centres. The Community Services Institute maintains 6 centres for conducting training, technology dissemination and public services.

Development of the services conducted by IPB is reflected in the wide range of agricultural sciences covered by the Departments and research centres, from social-economic sciences, to natural and environmental sciences, marine sciences, mathematics, engineering, and computer science and information services. The study program offers the wide range of competence currently required in the development of agricultural industries, marine resources and sustainable development.

IPB has carried out various international collaborative programs, involving various universities, research institutes and organisations. Among others, the very first joint Master of Science in Agricultural and Forestry Sciences as conducted in collaboration with the University of Gottingen. This cooperation continued in joint research activities for the period of approximately 15 years on the Tropical Forest Margins.

Tentative Programme of the Work-Shop

17.9.2000	Arrival	
18.9.2000	8.30	Registration
	9.30	Opening
	11.30	Break
	12.00	Keynotes I
	13.30	Lunch
	15.30	Keynotes II
19.9.2000	9.00	Plenary
		Presentation of Papers in disciplinary groups
	13.00	Lunch
	14.30	Preparation of Presentation
20.9.2000	9.00	Presentation of Results, Lunch
	13.00	Lunch
	14.30	Group Work Networking
21.9.2000	9.00	Presentation of Results
	13.00	Lunch
	14.30	Recommendation, Evaluation
22.9.2000		Excursion
		Bandung
23.9.2000		Steering Committee, Departure

Internet based SEAG-Services

Within the SEAG-Inter-Alumni-Net, several internet-based services have been set up, which are described briefly: First of all, there is a WWW-site available at the URL <http://www.seag-network.de>. Construction of the pages is still in progress, so visit the SEAG-Home regularly. Once completed this site is supposed to be a platform for dissemination and exchange of information within the SEAG-Inter-Alumni-Net. Secondly, the SEAG-Network has an own email-address: any enquiries

or comments concerning the SEAG-Network can be mailed to support@seag-network.de.

Another internet-based service is the newly created discussion list *seag-l*, which is intended to be a platform for discussions and information exchange within the SEAG-Network. Once subscribed to the list, everyone can make contributions by simply sending an email to seag-l@listserv.gmd.de. This message will be redistributed to every person

subscribing to the list who then can read it and maybe post a reply to your request. In order to allow fruitful discussions, a critical mass of persons must subscribe to the list. Therefore everyone is highly encouraged to join the list. Subscribing is very easy, just visit the URL <http://www.listserv.gmd.de/htbin/wa.exe?SUBED1=seag-l&A=I>. A subscription form will appear. Type in your email-address and your name and press the button *Join the list*. (You may also use the link on the SEAG-home <http://www.seag-network.de>.) For security reasons, your request needs to be confirmed again. You will promptly get an email telling you how to do that. From then on, you will receive all postings to the list and you will be able to send requests to the list. Without any doubt, the discussion list has the inherent potential to become a valuable tool for communication between all persons involved within the SEAG-network, both from the German and the Asian side. It's completely up to you to use our offer. So subscribe today!

(Dr. Andreas Deininger, SEAG)

