Multi-stakeholders partnership for Environmental Capacity Development

Perspectives from the Asian Institute of Technology

Professor S. Kumar
Dean, School of Environment, Resources and Development
June 26-27, 2009

Email: kumar@ait.ac.th

About the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

Mission: (使命)
“To develop highly qualified and committed professionals who will play a leading role in the sustainable development of the region and its integration into the global economy”

Facts: (概要 施設 学生数 国籍)
• 3 Schools, AIT Extension, Satellite centres
• >2300 students, 100+ faculty, 700+ staff
• > 30 nationalities
A note on possible initiatives
実施可能なイニシアティブについて

Education and Training: （教育とトレーニング）
• Joint formal and training programs

Research: （研究）
• Joint research on climate change, sustainable development issues

Outreach: （外部との連携活動）
• Organisation of workshops, seminars, conferences
• Policy dialogues

Policy support from the institute
AITによるアジアの持続性のための政策支援

• AIT Strategy 2013 （AIT戦略2013）
• Some core questions: （主要な議題）
  • How can communities, organizations and individuals adapt to the effects of impacts of global warming and climate change?
  • How can Asia ensure that it will meet its rapidly growing demand for energy, water and food?
  • How can Asia recreate its cities as sustainable cities, while improving the quality of life?
  • What part will Asian business and entrepreneurship play in the sustainable development of Asia?
  • How can technology and business contribute to poverty reduction?
• Four Strategic Themes （4つの戦略的テーマ）
  • Internationality as a Regional Network Institute
  • Excellence and Relevance in Education, Research and Outreach
  • Positioning and Branding
  • Development and Resources Management
Characteristics of partnership building
パートナーシップ形成の特徴

Education: (教育)

- Masters Programs in “Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation and Management” (with Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre and others) and “Energy and Environment” (with University of Sriwijaya) (共同修士プログラム 防災、被害の緩和、管理、エネルギーと環境)
- Professional Degree for Poverty Reduction and Agricultural Management (PRAM) (with Ministry of Agriculture in Laos, Thai institutes and others) (専門学位 貧困撲滅と農業管理)
- International Training Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Higher Education (with Ramboll Natura, Sida and others) (持続可能な開発に関する国際研究プログラム)
- With UNEP-Tongji Institute for Environment and Sustainable Development in the leader ship programme and Masters course in Sustainable Development (member of consortium) (同済大学との共同国際修士プログラム 環境と持続可能な開発)

Research and Development: (研究と開発)

- Renewable Energy Technologies in Asia Programme (RETS in Asia) (more than 14 partners in South and South East Asia) (再生可能なエネルギー技術に関するアジアプログラム)
- The Asian Regional Research Program on Environmental Technologies (ARRPET) (more than 20 partners in South and South East Asia) (環境技術に関するアジア地域共同研究プログラム)
- The Asian Regional Research Program in Energy, Environment and Climate (ARRPEEC) (more than 20 partners in South and South East Asia) (エネルギー、環境、気候に関するアジア地域共同研究プログラム)
- CIDA-AIT Collaborative South East Asia-Urban Environmental Management Applications Project (more than 30 partners in South East Asia) (東南アジア都市環境管理応用プロジェクト)
- Wetland Alliance Program (WAP): Building Local Capacity for Sustainable Wetlands Management with WWF, Prince of Songkla University and others (湿地同盟プログラム)
Outreach: (外部との連携活動)

- Designated by the United Nations as the site of the world’s first Regional Centre of Excellence on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), dedicated to the promotion and achievement of the MDGs in Southeast Asia through education and training.

- A “Yunus Center at AIT” is being established at AIT to address issues of food security, social business in agriculture, applications of ICT in agriculture, and to act as a watchdog to encourage research that will have a positive impact on poor people’s lives.

- Promotion of Sustainability in Postgraduate Education and Research (ProSPER.Net): Network of several leading higher education institutions in Asia and the Pacific that have committed to work together to integrate Sustainable Development (SD) into postgraduate courses and curricula.

3R Regional Knowledge Hub – with ADB, UNEP, ESCAP

Building partnership: Possibilities and challenges

- The institutions need to have common agreed vision and goals (合意された共通のビジョンと目標) for the partnership on addressing issues

- The partnership could be for specific projects or long term programmes (特定の事業、または長期的なプログラム) towards capacity building, institutional building, research outputs, etc

- Long term commitment by the partners and financial security (パートナーからの貢献と財政的安定) made available through internal or external sources for the partnership to survive and grow

- Linkages by partners (educational and research institutions) with private and public sector (公共セクターと民間セクターとの連携)

- Follow up of the partnership activities once specific projects are completed (パートナーシップ継続のためのフォローアップ)

- Good knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of partner institutions to ensure compatibility and filling (適合性と補てん) up the deficiencies
Building partnership: Possibilities and challenges
パートナーシップ形成 : 可能性と課題

- Long term vision regarding the partnership – most are project based activities
パートナーシップに関する長期的なビジョン

- Adequate funding to carry out the tasks
財政基盤

- How to disseminate the results obtained in a manner that it can be replicated, duplicated, enhanced?
成果の普及

- Capacity of personnel to adequately carry out all planned activities
担当者の能力

SERD/AIT Selected Indicators
SERD/AIT 指標 (抜粋)

- Students (35 countries- January semester 2009) (学生数) 702
- Master 404
- Doctoral and others (261) 298

- Total faculty (including visiting, etc) (教員数) 63

- Staff in SERD (Administrative and Projects) (スタッフ) 165

- Courses offered at SERD (コース数)
  2007: Jan - 73; Inter-sem - 9; August - 75
  2008: Jan - 75; Inter-sem - 6; August - 73

- Sponsored research and capacity building (外部資金による研究と能力開発)
  Number of projects initiated in 2008 43
  Total budget of projects initiated in 2008 >190 million Baht
  Total budget of projects initiated in 2007 >180 million Baht
SERD/AIT Networks

Student/faculty exchange; research; training; testing; dissemination

Universities (大学)
- North America: USA, Canada
- Europe: UK, France, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland
- Asia: Japan, Korea, China, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand

International Organizations (国際機関)
- UNEP, FAO, ESCAP, UNIDO, UNESCO, IAEA, WHO, WB

Regional Organizations (地域機関)
- ADB, ADBI, ACE, ICIMOD, IGES, ADPC

Governments/Ministries (政府/省庁)
- Agriculture, Education and Human Resource Development, Rural Development, Natural Resources and Environment, Energy/Power, Science and Technology

Other Organizations & institutions (その他の団体、機関)
- EVN, Petro Vietnam

A note on possible initiatives

Education and Training: (教育とトレーニング)
- Joint formal and training programs

Research: (研究)
- Joint research on climate change, sustainable development issues

Outreach: (外部との連携活動)
- Organisation of workshops, seminars, conferences
- Policy dialogues
Thank you for your attention

For additional details, please contact: (連絡先)
E-Mail: kumar@ait.ac.th