

## Advancing Skill Creation to ENhance

Newsletter: May, 2017

After the successfully 6 days training program and consultative meeting at Sri Lanka in March 2017, the interim report has been submitted to EU by WP2 in April 2017, whereas WP4 is currently developing a trial course in the Virtual Learning Environment platform.

The important activity that planned for this year is the 7th International Conference on Building Resilience, with the theme 'Using scientific knowledge to inform policy and practice in disaster risk reduction'. It is jointly organised by the Global Disaster Resilience Centre at the University of Huddersfield (HUD) in the United Kingdom, and Chiang Mai University (CMU), Naresuan University (NU) and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in Thailand. The conference will be held at Swissotel Le Concorde, Bangkok, on 27-29 November 2017. Along the conference, the Steering Committee Meeting will also take place.



Ahead of the conference, NU and CMU will host 3 days training workshop at NU, Phitsanulok, Thailand. The training contains the session of WP5, 6, 7 and 8. For WP5, Dr Evie Petridou and Dr. Jörgen Sparf will deliver the session on formal social network analysis and critical perspectives on research interviews. For WP6, Dr. Jörgen Sparf and CMU team will deliver a session on “International collaboration and teaching”, which addresses English language issues and cultural sensibilities. WP7 will focus on “establishing and maintaining international network”. For WP8, Prof. Arturas Kaklauskas will deliver the training on MOOCS based self-learning material and a session of sharing the knowledge on case study of secondment plan based on Thailand context by NU team.

The Social Policy Analysis and Research Center (SPARC), Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo in partnership with the School of Global Health (CSGH), University of Copenhagen organized a three-weeks field course for students following the Masters Programme in Disaster Management . The field work (2017) was conducted in Ruwanmaduwa and Kiwulekada villages in the Anuradhapura district of the North Central Province of Sri Lanka. Assistant Professor Emmanuel Raju, the course leader of the Masters programme and Ms. Mariel Britanico, Program Coordinator accompanied the students in the excursion. At the end of the training students and staff from Copenhagen University highly appreciated the wealth of knowledge that they gained through the entire exercise and the high standards maintained by the SPARC team in organizing the programme and for the guidance provided by Dr. Nishara Fernando and also the concise and comprehensive interpretations of the interpreters. The field training programme allowed both the partners to share knowledge and expertise on application of VCA tools, to identify unique features of the local informal disaster management systems and modes of resilience of the villagers in Ruwanmaduwa and Kiwulekada.



In 24 April 2017, Dr. Phisut Apichayakul (NU) joined as the guest speaker to share among academics in Thailand about his experience on Erasmus+ project in the “Erasmus+ Seminar and Info Day” at Chiang Mai University, which was organised by Chiang Mai University and EU Delegation.



Dr. Sarintip Tantanee (NU) was invited to participate in the Erasmus+ Regional Seminar for Asia on 23-25 May 2017, at Ho Chi Min city, Vietnam. The seminar’s objectives are to explain the opportunities for Asian countries in Erasmus+ programme as well as providing their opportunity to enhance their network. Erasmus+ is an EU-funded programme offering a wide range of opportunities for mobility of individuals, capacity building and internationalization of institutions and modernisation of higher education institutions and systems. Complementing Erasmus+, the EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, offer opportunities for researcher mobility and cooperation.



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