

4th Annual Asia Research Intelligence Conference

“Universities and the Power of Data – Science for a Sustainable Society”

Chulalongkorn University

5-6 July 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

ProSPER.Net Session – International Collaboration

“Community-based Research in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”

13:45-14:30, 5 July 2017

Background

Considerable progress has been made addressing sustainable development issues. The adoption of the SDGs and the 2030 Development Agenda affirms a shift from conventional development to advancing sustainability across a wider range of issues, including social systems, markets, and the environment. Higher education’s role in the 2030 Development Agenda is especially critical, given the role higher education institutions (HEIs) play in creating the research and education programmes needed to address today’s development challenges.

Organizer

ProSPER.Net is an alliance of leading HEIs in the Asia-Pacific region which are committed to the transformation of higher education for sustainable development in the region. With its engagement on joint research projects, ProSPER.Net member institutions are leaders in working on sustainability challenges across borders and disciplines. The network’s focus on postgraduate education and research means that it is engaging with the next generation of academics, who will go on to shape higher education in their respective fields over the coming decades. With member universities across countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and their focus on sustainability education and research, ProSPER.Net is primed to be a key player in the roll out of the sustainable development agenda both throughout the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

Chulalongkorn University, one of the founding member institutions and Board member of ProSPER.Net, hosts this international collaboration session in the 4th Annual Asia Research Intelligence Conference, in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of its founding.

Objectives

The Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) launched at Rio+20 adopts the ‘whole institution’ approach to transformation of higher education institutions – curriculum, research, campus, and outreach. This ProSPER.Net session at the 4th Annual Asia Research Intelligence Conference will address research and its contribution to sustainable development in communities. As one of the largest and most diverse regions, HEIs in Asia-Pacific have considerable potential to innovate and collaborate on how their research can advance sustainability.

The panellists will be asked to address any of the following issues:

- How should research in general, community-based research in particular, be organized to support the challenges of the 2030 Development Agenda and SDGs?
- How can HEIs attract the best pool of diverse research talents, especially from gender, as well as natural and social sciences perspectives?
- How can universities manage the challenges and opportunities of the increasing availability of data and analytics for policymaking on sustainable development?
- What are key areas for collaboration among HEIs in the region in sustainable development? Can HEIs serve as a model for international cooperation on sustainable development in the region? What are your recommendations for international cooperation between HEIs?

The Panel

The panel will comprise of the representatives of the ProSPER.Net Secretariat at UNU-IAS and ProSPER.Net member institutions:

- *Moderator: Professor Mario Tabucanon, UNU-IAS*
- *Keynote: Dr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, Director of UNU-IAS*

Speakers and discussants

- *Professor Kiat Ruxrungtham, Vice President for Research and Innovation, Chulalongkorn University*
- *Professor Norichika Kanie, Keio University and UNU-IAS*
- *Professor Nestor Castro, Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs, University of the Philippines Diliman*

Expected Outcomes

- Networking opportunities for future collaboration on research projects and programmes related to community-based research for sustainable development in higher education.
- Insight into priority research areas for sustainable development in the region and how higher education can help address these areas.