

Office of Agricultural Economics and Japan International Cooperation Agency

ASEAD News

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2nd Rice Crop Cutting in Kamphaeng Phet



2nd Rice Crop Cutting was conducted by 2nd ROAE, CAI and ASEAD Project in Kamphaeng Phet province on February 23, 2006.

11 enumerators participated in the training. The above photo shows that Mr. Sanguan guided enumerators how to do crop cutting in field.

2nd ROAE Director Mr. Pramot also attended and gave them advices.

The training was completed successfully with participant's cooperation.

(by Mr.Surachai Chanakai, Field Crop Information Division, CAI)

Technical Exchange

In Lao PDR



We left Bangkok for Vientiane, LAO PDR. on November 13, 2005

November 14; we visited JICA LAO Office and met Mr. HATANO Makoto, Assistant Resident Representative.

After that, we visited MAFF and met Mr. Bunkwang Suwannapim, Director General, Department of Planning, MAFF and Mr. Savanh Hanephom, Director of Statistics Division. Then we gave a short lecture on agricultural data collection in Thailand as well as the techniques of crop cutting in Thailand.

November 15; We gave a lecture on area survey and crop cutting for cassava and maize in MAFF.

November 16; there was a field trip to Sombudi Village, Chaithani, Vientiane. Cassava crop cutting was held. When we met a head of the village and a farmer, officers interviewed them for some necessary information about cultivation. We demonstrated crop cutting technique.

November 17; we explained a summary on the result of cassava Crop Cutting at MAFF.

November 18; we visited Provincial Agricultural & Forestry Department to have a meeting with Mr. Sompong Padid, Director General.

November 19; we left Vientiane for Bangkok.

Technical exchange was very useful for us.

(by Mr. Amorn Sangprohm, Division of Field Crops Information, CAI)

From Sri Lanka

A technical exchange team from Sri Lanka visited OAE, CAI, ROAE1 and ASEAD from 16th to 20th Jan., 2006. In this occasion, presentations were given by CAI, ASEAD and Sri Lanka. We understood agricultural situation each other.

A JICA expert from Sri Lanka, Mr. M. Kawaguchi said “I was surprised whenever I visited here, it had developed rapidly. I would like to establish a similar project in Sri Lanka”. Mr. Gunawardena said “ASEAD



Project activities are more relevant to agricultural information needs and to broaden our vision for Sri Lanka”. Mr. Kamal Karunagoda said “I am really impressed with the activities that ASEAD Project has initiated. The project activities provide useful guidance to other countries in the region, especially to south asian countries.” They thanked very much for OAE’s hospitality and cooperation.

Agricultural Statistics Data Processing and Reporting System

According to the ASEAD project, Ms. Gulya Chatbusayamas was invited by JICA for training at MAFF in Japan from 28th November to 17th December 2005.



(by Ms. Gulya Chatbusayamas, Division of information technology and agricultural database, CAI)

The contents of training consisted of:

- 1) Agricultural statistics survey data processing system in MAFF
- 2) Survey information processing
- 3) Information system and agricultural statistics database
- 4) Computer system and communication network link
- 5) Data Transfer between MAFF's offices
- 6) Japan E-government policy
- 7) Web Pages in MAFF
- 8) Publication of Agricultural statistics reports
- 9) Advanced communication and network technology

And also made a trip to Fukushima Prefecture and visited NTT, HITACHI Company.

Benefits from the training are new knowledge and new experience that we can use to improve survey data processing and the OAE's Information network technology.

Macro Economic Model

On 22 January to 11 February 2006, Our Macro Model team: Ms. Supaporn Bongsunan, Ms. Jariya Sudthichaiya, Mr. Narongsak Karun (from Bureau of Agricultural Development Policy and Planning) and I (from Centre for Agricultural Information) had a chance to attend the training course "Macro Economic Model" by JICA in Japan.

The course compounded with:

- 1) Outline of Agricultural Statistic in Japan
- 2) Input-Output Analysis and Macro Economic Model
- 3) Input-Output Analysis: Energy and Environment Analysis
- 4) Method of National Wealth Estimates
- 5) Observation on Agriculture.

We had good opportunity to got very interesting lecture from Prof. Osada-Nagoya University, Prof. Yamada-Chukyo University and Prof. Nomura-Keio University. During weekend, we went to Kyoto, the beautiful old capital city.

Besides the idea related to the subjects, we also had experiences, cultural exchanged and idea exchanged with Japanese. We would like to express special thank for MAFF and JICA staff.

(by Ms. Busaya Pinsuwan, Division of Field Crops Information, CAI)



Mr. Yoshizumi, Short Term Expert from Japan

Data Analysis Function on Crop Cutting Web Database System

I was dispatched to Thailand from 16 October to 17 November, 2005 to assist the following matter.

1. Development of an analysis function on Web Database System.

OAE staff uses a Web Database System for data input. In a case of analysis with the Web Database System, 2 steps are requested. Before they analyze data by software such as Excel, they had to download survey data in a CSV file.



The newly developed analysis programme on a Web Database System is that we can confirm survey results by a graph instantly. ROAE staff as well as OAE staff can confirm it on internet browser on their spot in real time.

2. An advantages of an analysis function

The following advantages are brought by adding the new analysis function to an existing system.

- (1) To show various survey results by graphs and tables. In other words, we can easily confirm survey result.
- (2) To find unusual data by input errors or survey errors. In addition, we can confirm unusual data in every ROAE if necessary.
- (3) To show the progress of crop cutting survey. In other words, we can remind a person in charge.
- (4) To show progress of yield/rai data. In other words, we can easily forecast survey result.



3. Future development of Web Database System

We added the new analysis function for a maize crop cutting survey at this time.

We can easily apply this function to other crops' analysis such as rice, soybean, sugar cane, and cassava.

In addition, we will be able to forecast survey result timely and correctly by adding weather data; precipitation, sunshine, and temperature data.

In this occasion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the staff of OAE and ROAE.

(by Mr. Yoshizumi, Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Fishery in Japan)

Computer maintenance training at new AFSIT center



CAI and ASEAD Project held Computer maintenance training for 46 OAE's staff from 15th to 17th February 2006 at AFSIT training center where 4 plasma displays were installed late December, 2005.

The objective of this training is how to maintain computer and how to use utility programs. It is very important for us to get the full capacity about them. The participants could also get skill to solve simple problems such as virus etc by themselves.

This training consisted of lecture and practice with computer to make understanding well.

The training was very useful for all participants to reach a goal of work for OAE. In addition, it also reduce computer and hardware's maintenance cost. To economize expenditures is one of the government's policies.

(by Ms. Natagam Jeankao, Division of information technology and agricultural database, CAI)

AFSIS National Seminar in Vietnam

National Seminar on Food Security Information System was held by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in Hanoi from 8th to 9th December, 2005.

The seminar aimed to introduce the project under which the ASEAN +3 food security information system is due to established (ASEAN +3 includes the 10 ASEAN countries and Japan, China and Korea), assess the current food security situation, introduce the Vietnamese Government's policies and working plans on food security, introduce methods to improve the information quality of supervision and assessment systems for agricultural production, nutrition security, poverty reduction and hunger elimination in Vietnam, and share the food security experiences of Vietnamese areas and organizations.

About 70 delegates attended the seminar.

(by Ms. Anyada Penpon, Division of Agricultural Forecasting , CAI)



Mid-term Evaluation Team visiting

A mid-term evaluation for ASEAD Project activities has started. A consultant is visiting OAE, ROAE and ASEAD to evaluate actual situation of ASEAD Project. The photo shows that he is interviewing Thai counterparts at 1st ROAE. and JICA experts of ASEAD Project.

Results of the evaluation will be informed in the occasion of 3rd Joint Coordination Committee.



International seminar will be held

International Workshop on Agricultural Economic Analysis will be held at Grand Hotel in Bangkok from 13th to 15th of March, 2006. Those who participate in the workshop from ASEAN countries will present the agricultural economic analysis. Participants will be estimated 120 members. The detail of the workshop will be announced on ASEAD web page.



Voice of Counterpart

In the present world, data accuracy is very important. OAE with the cooperation of ASEAD Project under JICA has brought Crop Cutting method to use as a tool to calculate yield per rai. This method is based on statistical pattern which uses the real data such as harvested production, planted area etc. as a source to find the accurate yield per rai. Some data has been collected by local enumerators called “SORGORTOR”

This is another way to provide knowledge to farmers, later on they can find they own yield per rai by themselves. Yield per rai is used as indicator to improve agricultural productivity in the future.

(by Mr. Thawatchai Prayoosin, Chief of Agricultural Information group, ROAE 6th)

ASEAD Project issues newsletter to make better communication between Project and the person concerned. We are planning to issue timely news. Please access to our HP “<http://asead.oae.go.th>”

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