

Office of Agricultural Economics and Japan International Cooperation Agency

ASEAD News

Project on Agricultural Statistics and Economic Analysis Development/ 農業統計及び経済分析開発計画

Issue No. 18

1 December 2007

Technical Exchange between MAF-Lao PDR and OAE



During 12-16 November 2007, the high rank officers concerning to the agricultural statistics in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Lao PDR visited OAE for the technical exchange under support of JICA project in Lao PDR “The Capacity Building Project for Strengthening of Agricultural Statistics System” and ASEAD Project. The team led by Mr. Khamphanh Meuansitthida, Deputy Director General, Permanent Secretary Office, MAF, Lao PDR. The purpose of visit was to exchange knowledge and experience in data collection, data processing and information technology in agricultural field at OAE.

Technical Exchange between MAF-Lao PDR and OAE

CAI and OAE welcomed the team visit and provided the presentation on the working process of each division in CAI. Besides the rice topic, Thai side also presented additional contents on livestock and fisheries and etc. The representative of Lao PDR presented on statistics situation in Lao PDR and information network system of Lao PDR as well.



After the presentation, both side discussed on the future cooperation and development of the statistics field in Thailand and Lao PDR. The Technical Exchange between two countries will make an impact on the future development of statistics of both



At the end, OAE invited the team for dinner reception at DairyQueen restaurant. Mr. Apichart Jongskul, the Secretary-General, was the host of dinner and many people joined the dinner, such as Dr. Apichart Pongsrihadulchai attended the reception as the honor guest.



Technical Exchange between MAF-Lao PDR and OAE

Besides the intense meeting of the technical matter, the team joined the Major Rice crop cutting training which was organized by CAI at Methavalai Hotel, Cha-Am District, Phetchaburi province during 14-16 November.



In that occasion, the team observed the major agricultural trading market in Phetchaburi province and also visited 7th ROAE (Ratchaburi branch). Mr. Sommart Yingyuad, the director of 7th ROAE (Ratchaburi branch), presented the roles and responsibilities of ROAE for the technical exchange team from Lao PDR.

Finally, I hope that the team visited could gain many advantageous knowledge and techniques from this technical exchange in Thailand.

(Mr. Surachai Chanakai, Division of Field Crop Information)

Counterparts Training in Japan

I (Miss Patchara Wongngamkum), Mr.Sathaporn Polipod, Miss Supatra Chungsri and Mr.Sanguansak Palawong, got the opportunity to visit Japan for counterpart training on “Analysis and Use of Production Statistics” during 24 September –13 October 2007 under support of JICA and OAE cost share. In the same period, there was another counterpart group from OAE, which comprised of Mrs.Unchana Tracho, Mr.Teerachai Chanin and Mr.Thanin Tongkarn; they attended the training on “Crop Forecasting” . It was a great opportunities and impressive for us that learn new things and apply it to our current work.

Most part of the training was conducted at Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and it major contents was about Simulation and Practice of the Crop Forecasting, Public Relations and Information Strategy, Creation of Explanatory Documents and Publication and Activities of Public Relation on Agricultural Statistics. We learnt the simple rules of data dissemination for “easy to understand” , “easy to use” and “timely published” . Lastly, the simplest rule when dealing with press is to make data attractive for mass media. We also learnt how to make “First Report” that use for data dissemination after the completion of survey; it will be shown as “the Country Report” its data are easy to understand with flow chart.

Besides of the training at MAFF, we visited Oita’ s Regional Agricultural Office, Department of Statistical Data in Kyushu. Oita prefecture is one of the highest rice cultivation areas in Japan. We observed rice crop cutting method in order to apply new technique to our current job in OAE. We also observed the OCR system that use in Oita’ s Regional Agricultural Office, it is similar to ICR program that we are using in OAE. Besides many rice cultivation areas in Oita prefecture, there are many hot spring called “Onsen” , Japanese people believes that Onsen make good skin but we did not try it because we were shy by the tradition that Onsen bathing has to be naked.



Rice crop cutting



Rice threshing



Sushi for lunch



Onsen (Hot spring)



Really Hot!!



Nikko



On the train to Hakone



Raining day in Hakone



Kamakura



Disneysea



Disneyland



Nikko

After the intense study, we spent our holidays at Disneysea, Disneyland, Hakone Kamakura and Nikko. There were the impressive history for each place and we got very impressive moment by the place that we visited.

We would like to say thank you to OAE leaders and JICA for kindly support and gave us opportunities to learn and experience new things in Japan, we are highly appreciate for the opportunity to attend the training in Japan. We also appreciate the warm welcomed and hospitality from JICA officers and sample farmer that we went for crop cutting practice. It is hard to forget these memorable moments. Thank you.

(by Miss Patchara Wongngankum, Division of Horticultural Crop Information)

XML Data Interoperability & Web Services for Transformation” at AFSIT Center

During 15-19 October 2007, CAI has organized the training on “XML Data Interoperability & Web Services for Transformation” at AFSIT Center. The objective of the training is to enhance the understanding of OAE officers in data transformation and develop the information system for data exchange in OAE by using web services technology.



XML Data Interoperability & Web Services for Transformation” at AFSIT Center

Total participants in the training is 18 person, all participants have basic knowledge on XML, Web services, HTML language, DHTML. They have been attended in “Application of Web Services” and “XML Web Services for OAE” .

We, CAI appreciated for the financial support from JICA in order to hire outsource lecturer. Lecturer gave great performance in the training, all participants also concentrated to the training. We believe that OAE will have the data transformation through web services technology on website soon.

(by Miss Gulya Chatbusayamas, Division of Information Technology and Agricultural Database)



Crop Cutting Training on Sugarcane and Cassava

By the cooperation of OAE and JICA, we organized the crop cutting training on Sugarcane and Cassava during 6-8 November 2007 at Rimpao Hotel, Kalasin province. 60 participants, who came from 3rd and 4th ROAE office and SKTs (Enumerators) attended the training.

JICA experts joined the training and gave recommendation to 3rd and 4th ROAE officers and SKT on future development of data collection method. Both ROAE officers and SKTs learnt and got training on crop cutting survey method in order to prevent the mistake that could happen during the actual survey.

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



Introduction of Counterparts

Miss Patchara Wongngamkum (Statistician 8)



Responsibility: Prepare data, analyze and making report of Longan, Coffee and Coconut

It is a great opportunity for us that ASEAD Project provided many opportunities for OAE officers in order to increase statistical data accuracy and develop data collection method, especially on crop cutting method. Data and information that we gain are considered as important factor for policy making. Besides this, we could learn how to make effective publication method.

Mr. Thanin Tongkarn (Statistician 4)



Responsibility: Analyze data and making report of Rice crop cutting

We could obtain knowledge, experiences and new technique in order to improve our job responsibility and make data to be more reliable and precise.

Voice of Counterpart



3rd ROAE with the cooperation of JICA ASEAD Project has conducted the crop cutting survey yield per rai on Major rice, Second rice, Maize, Soybean, Cassava and Sugarcane. The area responsible is in Udonthani, Leoi, Nongbualumpoo, Nongkai, Sakonnakorn and Nakornpanom province. SKT and ROAE officers have knowledge on both theory and practical part. They could apply theory of crop cutting survey in the actual survey. We considered crop cutting survey is the accurate and reliable method by the weighing and measuring process.

However, if officers and staffs of OAE have not enough discipline, we will not have the accurate data even we have the best operation plan. Therefore, we should develop our human resources in ethical way as well.

(by Mr. Sawat Jumpeesri, 3rd ROAE)

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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