



REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Flood Resilient Planning Strategies for Cultural Heritage in Southeast Asia



9-11 January 2019

Bangkok, Thailand

The Workshop titled '**Flood resilient planning strategies for cultural heritage in Southeast Asia: SEA**' is a trilateral research collaboration coordinated by Naresuan University (Faculty of Architecture): Thailand; the University of Lincoln (School of Design): United Kingdom; and the Centre for Regional Urban Studies: Vietnam. It is the 1st regional workshop under the support of the Newton Fund collaborated by the British Council and the Thailand Research Fund.

Flooding has affected many countries across the world and it has become the concern of many global and national strategies (preventive and adaptive) as well as the focus of environmental policies and strategies of the British, Thai, and many SEA governments. Particularly, water-based settlements –which are a traditional kind of habitats in SEA - have become vulnerable places affected by irregular floods leading to various negative impacts on the environmental (habitat destruction and loss of properties); on the economy (loss of jobs and productions); on society (loss of life and family; health problems); and on the cultural context/sector (loss of heritage, local identities, and cultural landscapes). Therefore, resilient planning and heritage management approaches are of mutual interests amongst the partners of this project as we aim to understand, assess and tackle the flooding impacts and to support long-term recovery strategies to protect and preserve cultural heritage.

The workshop was mutually designed and planned amongst the coordinators [Asst. Prof. Dr. Witiya Pittungnapoo: Thailand; Dr. Anna Catalani: UK, and Mr. Pham Tran Hai: Vietnam] and under the supervision of all mentors from the UK [Prof.Dr.Mark Macklin], Thailand [Dr.Weeraphan Chinawatra], Vietnam and other SEA countries to ensure all activities have fulfilled the workshop aims. There were 30 participants across multi-disciplines either scholars or practitioners joining the workshop; which are 6 participants from the UK; 10 participants from Vietnam, 4 participants from Philippines, and 10 participants from Thailand. The workshop venues were held from the 8-11 January 2019, in the IBIS Bangkok Riverside Hotel in Thailand. The welcome refreshment was held on the 8th January after all participants arrived in Bangkok.



An opening ceremony was held on the 9th January led by the Country Director of the British Council [Mr.Andrew Glass OBE] followed by delegations from the University of Lincoln: UK [Prof.Dr. Mark Macklin], the CRUS: Vietnam [Mr.Pham Tran Hai], and Naresuan University: Thailand [Asst.Prof. Dr.Sant Chansomsak: Faculty Dean of Architecture]. Photos of the delegations from left to right in respectively.



Group Photo at the Opening Ceremony: Delegations of the British Council, the University of Lincoln: UK, the CRUS: Vietnam, and Naresuan University: Thailand and 30 participants from the UK, Vietnam, Philippines, and Thailand

The workshop presentations were delivered from 16 speakers from the 4 countries started from the 9th to the 10th January. Interactive communication was delivered to encourage all potential participants to learn and discuss in a friendly environment.



Registration moments (Top Left), Speakers of Session on *Flood Resilient Planning & Practices for Cultural Heritage* (Top Right), Keynote Speech on Climate Change & Global Context by Prof. Dr. Mark Macklin (Bottom Left), and Group Discussion (Bottom Right)

Additionally, a funding opportunity was presented by Khun Pijarana Samukkan (The Research and Innovation Programme Manager) on the 10th January; then an interactive workshop was begun in the afternoon which was divided into 3 sessions



Firstly, an *Unconference* which allowed everyone to present their own research of interests; then the top 2 themes were voted for further discussion. These new research areas were discussed to extend our future collaboration as a UK-SEA network and to ensure that all partner countries are engaged and mutually benefit from the initiate. Then each group presented their works.



Secondly, a *Road Map* for future collaboration was drawn among each group to sustain a workshop connection in long term.



Thirdly, a *Certificate Ceremony* was held on the 10th January 2019 for all participants From Thailand (Top Right), the UK, Vietnam, and Philippines (Bottom-Left, Middle, and Right)



On the 11th January 2019 as the last day of the workshop, a water-based excursion was organized for all participants to join in Ayutthaya World Heritage Site [Wat Phra Srisanpet, Wat Chai Watanaram, and Wat Na Pra Meru] to explore how the cultural heritage site and architectural buildings were affected by flood and how they were protected from flooding.



The result of the workshop has addressed three key objectives. First of all, it has encouraged a dialogue between scholars and researchers (from planning, design, landscape, cultural, heritage, and relevant disciplines) in the UK, Thailand, Vietnam and Philippines by sharing and discussing future challenges for flooding issues and cultural heritage resilience through broader perspectives. Secondly, it has offered a learning platform for early career academics to develop their building capacity in planning and practice through the support of our partner mentors. Finally, a new network of research on resilience and flooding strategies for cultural heritage has further developed between the UK and Southeast Asia cities.

Reported by Asst. Prof. Dr. Witiya Pittungnapoo
Workshop Coordinator in Thailand
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