

早稲田大学 グローバルCOE 「アジア地域統合のための世界的人材育成拠点」
調査研究支援スキーム 成果報告

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渡航地 (国・都市名)

Bangkok, Thailand, Singapore and Hanoi, Vietnam

リサーチ目的

The main purpose of this trip is to interview the administrators and scholars from international and regional organizations and higher institutions to get the insights of firstly, the role of these organizations in promoting cooperation and integration among East Asian countries in the field of higher education; secondly, their opinions and evaluations on the prospect of East Asian integration in this area.

Another objective of the trip is to collect data and information on relevant policies, programs/activities of these organizations and national strategies of Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam in the area of internationalization of higher education.

The trip also focuses on seeking the assessment of the international and regional organizations about Vietnam's higher education, as well as their recommendations on how to further improve Vietnam's performance in this regard.

研究課題

Internationalization of Higher Education in Vietnam: Is Vietnam moving more towards Asian Regional Cooperation and Integration?

Since the last two decades, globalization has become an irreversible and the most influential process which takes place in almost all fields of the human life and undoubtedly education is also one of these impacted sectors. While globalization is seen as an objective and unalterable process, internationalization is considered to be a response of countries and higher educational institutions all over the world to this process.

The recent years have witnessed remarkable growth of student mobility amongst East Asian countries and increasing number of inter-university linkages within the region. East Asia is a vast and diverse region in terms of ethnicity, culture, language, religions, political regimes, socioeconomic development and topography. In the field of higher education, varieties between East Asian countries are also remarkable. However, despite these diversities and varieties, higher educational systems in East Asia are also facing with similar problems and challenges. Therefore, it is meaningful to build

up closer cooperation within the region in order for these countries to develop mutual understanding, share lessons of experience and to support countries in need to solve persistent problems and overcome obstacles to develop their higher education systems.

Since its adoption of the “Doi Moi” line in 1986, Vietnam, an East Asian developing country, has been in a dual process of transitioning from a central planned economy to a socialism oriented market economy and integrating into a rapidly changing world. Along with the open door policy and market-oriented reforms, in recent years, Vietnam has accelerated its international integration in many fields of the socio-economy, including education. In the field of higher education, Vietnam has achieved remarkable progress in terms of magnitude, quality and efficiency, contributing to narrowing the lagging gap with regional countries. However, like many other systems in the region, higher educational system of Vietnam is also struggling with a range of chronic and emerging problems and challenges. While internationalization is identified to be one of the utmost priorities at both national and institutional levels in the higher educational development and reform strategies and policies of Vietnam, it is meaningful and necessary for Vietnam to strengthen and accelerate cooperation and collaboration with other East Asian countries in the field. The paper aims at studying the Asian regional cooperation and integration trend in the internationalization of higher education in Vietnam from 1991.

The paper will first analyze the realities and future cooperation trends and possibilities amongst Asian countries and universities in their higher education internationalization strategies. Secondly, it will examine the internationalization of higher education in Vietnam and its Asian regional cooperation and integration trend. Thirdly, the research will propose implications for the Vietnamese government and higher educational institutions on their future direction and strategies for internationalization.

成 果

From June 3rd-10th, I conducted research in Bangkok where I visited and interviewed with administrators and scholars from international and regional organizations as mentioned hereinafter:

- Commission on Higher Education: Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond- Deputy General Secretary
- UMAP International Secretariat (University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific): Asst. Prof. Dr. Voravan Limtong - Executive Director
- RIHED (SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development): Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas - Executive Director
- AUN (ASEAN University Network): Assoc Prof. Dr. Pinitit Ratananukul - Executive Director
- SEAMEO Secretary (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization): Dr. Wahdi Yudhi - Deputy Director (Program and Development)
- UNESCO BKK: Prof. Jianxin Zhang - Director of Research Institute of Higher Education in Yunnan University - Visting Researcher

Interviews, data and information gained after the research show that international/ regional education organizations have been actively promoting regional cooperation through various programs, projects and activities. For example, RIHED has been pioneered in accelerating the harmonization process within ASEAN countries in order to tackle the issue of access, equity, participation and quality in higher education in the region. A framework for closer harmonization in higher education has been set up which includes a system of Quality Assurance and a system of Readable and Comparable Degrees. Activities and initiatives such as ASEAN Quality Assurance Agencies Roundtable Workshop and a Human Network of QA People are being carried out in order to realize and promote harmonization in the region. AUN also has various programs and activities with an effort to increase the ASEAN awareness and strengthen the relationship and cooperation among ASEAN higher education institutions, people and countries.

The research finds that results achieved so far are not as expected and more need to be done to improve the effectiveness of these programs and activities. The impediments in promoting East Asian integration in higher education mostly identified by the interviewees are: language, finance, education quality, diverse credit, curriculum and grading systems, and lack of commitment from countries and institutions.

Besides, East Asia does not have a region-wide cooperation program in the field of higher education. Instead, cooperation is conducted mainly through the framework of ASEAN + 1. Also in Bangkok, I had a chance to conduct some literature review in the library of UNESCO BKK, which is of significance to my research.

From June 10th-17th, I was in Singapore where I visited the National Institute of Education (NIE). Here, I interviewed with Professor Jasson Tan and conducted literature review in NIE's library. I also interviewed with one person from the Ministry of Education who is in charge of the international relations. From these interviews, I have a more comprehensive view and insights of the internationalization strategies and process of Singapore. Also, these interviewees gave out their opinions on the prospect of East Asian integration in higher education which they believed to take a long time and great efforts of all the countries, institutions and stakeholders to reach the target.

From June 17th-27th, I conducted the research in Hanoi where I collected data and information related to the internationalization of higher education at both national and institutional level of Vietnam from the Ministry of Education and Vietnam National University, Hanoi.

In conclusion, the research trip is very fruitful and helpful for my research in the sense that it helps me understand more about the role of international and regional organizations in promoting East Asian integration in higher education as well as the impediments of this process. From that, I can have better analyses of the situation and give out proposals to help

realize and accelerate East Asian cooperation and integration in the field.

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* A 42 枚以内。各項目のスペースはご自由に変更下さい。