

FY2013 Inter-University Exchange Project (AIMS Program)

Sophia University in FY2016

【Name of project】(Adopted year: FY2013, AIMS Program)

Trans-Disciplinary Human Development Education Program Aiming for Harmonized Diversity

【Aim of project, Ideals of Global Human Resources on the project】

Aiming to establish a new model for international higher education through collaboration between Japan and Southeast Asian countries, this project provides an educational platform in which students from Southeast Asia and Japan study together to analyze and engage in global issues in Asia and the world.

【Summary of project】

The Sophia AIMS Program (SAIMS) is a trans-disciplinary program focused on "Human Development," which combines the disciplinary frameworks of the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. "Human Ecology: Diversity and Connectivity of Society and Nature" is the main theme, under which students will select courses from the areas of "Engineering" and "Language & Culture," while taking one required course, "Introduction to Trans-Disciplinary Human Development (TDHD)." Students may also participate in the fieldwork seminar "Human Ecology: Rivers" and the Summer Session in Asian Studies offered in August.

Program with Quality Assurance

- Fieldwork Seminar in "Human Ecology: Rivers" (July, February; Kushiro)** ⇒ The instructors visited various places in Kushiro in preparation for the seminar and designed program details such as scheduling, guest speakers and syllabus. A total of 13 students joined the seminar held in the summer of 2016.
- ASEAN Week (October; Sophia)** ⇒ An event was held to provide cultural and study abroad information in ASEAN countries in order to motivate the students leading to an application.
- SAIMS Lectures (October; Sophia)** ⇒ In order to promote the interests of the students on ASEAN region, SAIMS team invited Sophia graduates who have actually been working in ASEAN countries for lectures.
- The 10th Review Meetings of AIMS Program (November; Malaysia)** ⇒ Program leader, full-time faculty and staff members participated in the review meetings in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; collected information, networked, and introduced the SAIMS program.
- Regional exchange event for incoming students (November; Soshigaya)** ⇒ "Sophia University Soshigaya Cultural Festival" held with the residents of Setagaya-ku, where the dormitory for incoming students, Soshigaya International House, is located. A productive exchange program was prepared with the help of the incoming students and a successful exchange event was held with the local residents and pupils of regional primary and secondary high schools.
- Joint conference of partner universities (January; Thailand)** ⇒ At Chulalongkorn University, a partner university, a joint conference of seven partner universities was held. Sharing the achievements obtained and problems yet to be solved in the four years of the Program, discussions were held on the efforts to be made to continue and promote future student exchange program.
- SEAMEO-RIHED Open Forum (February; Thailand)** ⇒ Participating in the Forum, Sophia University staff were given the opportunity to deepen understanding of the internationalization of universities and academic exchanges, as well as to strengthen cooperation with partner universities in the ASEAN region in terms of the international exchange of students and faculty.
- Assessment Committee Meeting for International Collaborative Education (March; Nagoya)** ⇒ Program achievements were reviewed and continued development discussed with experts of quality assurance of higher education and experts of overseas development programs of international agency and private sectors. These objective evaluations of the Program will lead to improvement of the Project.
- Follow-up training and evaluation** ⇒ In the follow-up session, students made presentations and sunk in what they gained in the study abroad for attaining their goals. Students also discussed how to improve the program.

Contents of the Program 【Sophia AIMS Program (SAIMS)】

Partner Universities in SEA

- ◆ **Indonesia**
Bogor Agricultural Univ. (Food Science and Technology)
Gadjah Mada Univ. (Agriculture, Economics)
- ◆ **Thailand**
Chulalongkorn Univ. (Language & Culture, Economics)
Mahidol Univ. (International Business)
- ◆ **Philippines**
Ateneo de Manila Univ. (Language & Culture, Economics)
De La Salle Univ. (International Business, Engineering, Economics,)
- ◆ **Malaysia (New partner university from 2015)**
The National University of Malaysia (International Business, Language & Culture)

25 - 42
students

← OUT

Target
Number

IN →

27
students

Sophia University (SAIMS Program)

Trans-disciplinary
program

- ◆ Required Course "Introduction to TDHD"
- ◆ Opening of 13 courses designed for SAIMS
Environmental Science, Conservation, Sustainable Development, Urban Ecology, Environmental Change and Human Development
A Critical Approach to Sustainable City
- ◆ Electives
【Engineering】 Basic Environmental Science, Applied Environmental Engineering, etc. (approx. 59 courses)
【Language & Culture】 Culture & Society, Global Affairs, Environmental Studies, etc. (approx. 91 courses)
- ◆ Fieldwork Seminar - Human Ecology: Rivers (Elective)
- ◆ Summer Session in Asian Studies (Optional)

Note: Figures of FY2013 to FY2016 show the actual result, while those of FY2017 show the planned goals.

Student-Mobility (Target number of students)

	2013			2014			2015				2016				2017			
	I	T	P	I	T	P	I	T	P	M	I	T	P	M	I	T	P	M
Outbound	0	0	0	2	8	5	5	8	3	1	9	13	13	2	14	13	13	2
Inbound	0	0	0	3	1	4	4	11	10	1	1	8	10	2	27			

I: Indonesia T: Thailand P: Philippines M: Malaysia (From 2015)

Promotion of Student-Mobility Environment

【for all participating students】

- Counselling and individual support by the SAIMS Program Coordinators
- Course advising and guidance by the registrars
- Program which enables students from SEA and Japan to study together
- Program orientation and all SAIMS students gathering
- Program assessment through follow-up orientation
- Campus publicity through flyers, official website, and Facebook

URL: <http://dept.sophia.ac.jp/pj/saims>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Sophia.AIMS.SAIMS.Program>

【for ASEAN students】

- Counseling services in English
- Active interaction with Sophia students and international students at the Sophia Soshigaya International House

【for Sophia students】

- Information session at Study Abroad Fair
- Study abroad safety and security guidance, study abroad safety tips and advice
- The experience sharing meeting for SAIMS Program returnees



Fieldwork Seminar - Human Ecology: Rivers



Required Course "Introduction to TDHD"



The Experience-Sharing Meeting



TALK LIVE during ASEAN Week