

# FY2016 Inter-University Exchange Project Niigata University

Support for the Formation of Collaborative Programs with Universities in Asia

## 【Name of Project】(Adopted year: FY2016, (Type B, ASEAN))

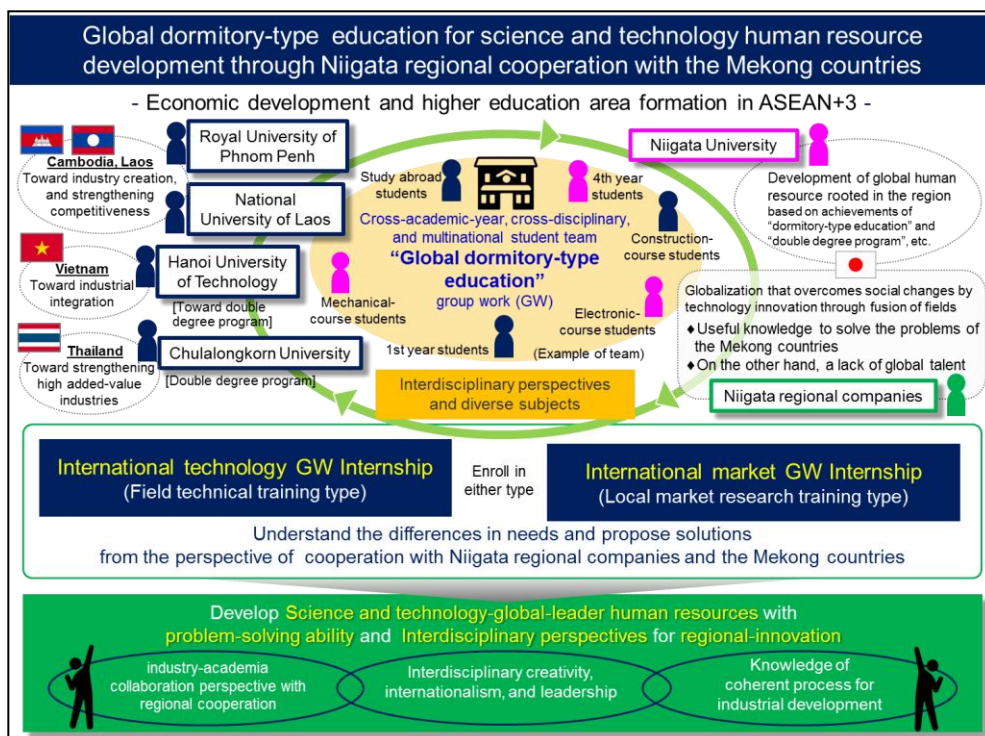
Co-creative Dormitory-type Group-work for Science and Technological Students in Japan and Mekong Countries with Regional Collaboration

## 【Summary of Project】

The purpose of this project is to foster global leaders in the field of science and technology who have the ability to solve regional vitalization issues from an integrative standpoint. This interactive educational project will be achieved through group work (GW) internships cooperated with Niigata regional companies and the Mekong countries by utilizing the information from the achievements of “dormitory-type education” developed by the Faculty of Engineering, Niigata University, and “Double Degree Program” between the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Niigata University, and Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.

\* In the “dormitory-type education”, Problem-Based Learning is conducted by student teams that cut across academic year and field of study, and students will learn leadership and cooperation as well as gaining research skills.

Human resources developed under this project will realize regional innovation and creation with a global perspective and be expected to contribute to creation and development of sustainable, high-quality industry in infrastructure and manufacturing industries. The project will also aim to expand the “global dormitory-type education” both in Japan and the Mekong countries as an international standardized GW program with quality assurance. As a result, it will contribute in a pioneering way to the economic development of ASEAN +3 and formation of higher education framework in Asia.



## 【Summary of Exchange Program】

Students from Niigata University and other universities in the Mekong countries shall form cross-academic year, cross-disciplinary, multinational student teams, which is a characteristic of “dormitory-type education”, and will conduct mainly GW in short-term (10 days), medium-term (2 months) and long-term (6-12 months) courses. In GW internships, students will experience different societies at first hand, aiming to develop knowledge of a coherent process for industrial change. This will be done with cooperation of Niigata regional companies that possess international development capabilities (including local subsidiaries in the Mekong region). In addition, students will understand the different problems and needs of different countries from the perspective of regional cooperation.

## 【Global Human Resource to be Developed on the Project】

- Practical, globally-minded human resources for science and technology that can contribute to regional innovation by identifying, analyzing and solving problems from a global viewpoint. This will be achieved through group discussions on the different needs of Japan and the Mekong countries and how they can be matched from the perspective of regional industry-academia linkage.
- Human resources that possess skills in interdisciplinary innovative creativity with a global perspective, international cooperation, English debating and leadership through GW activity experiences with cross-academic year, cross-disciplinary, multinational team members.
- Global human resources for science and technology that can contribute to industry creation, development and sophistication as well as have knowledge of a coherent process for industrial development through overall hands-on understanding of industrial globalization initiatives in Japan and industrial development in the Mekong countries.

## 【Feature on the Project】

Based on “Dormitory-type Education”, this project develops an international standardized education program for science and technology, that is aiming to promote better understanding of students on joint challenges for higher quality growth of Mekong region and further internationalization of companies in Niigata, and to cultivate their practical skills for the challenges by collaborating diverse entities.

## 【Exchange Number】

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Outbound	2	15	20	30	30
Inbound	2	15	20	26	26

# 1. FY2016 Progress

【Niigata University】

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## ■ Exchange Programs



〈 Trial Student Exchange Program 〉

FY2016 was considered as a preparation period for the actual project implementation starting the following year. We established a fundamental framework for the management of the project by launching a new “International Education Division” and organizing various internal/external committees. Brochures and website for promotion of the project were also created. Furthermore, issues that need to be clear for further improvement of the exchange programs were discovered by operating the trial student exchanges and having useful comments from participated students and the company accepting GW internship.

## Student-Mobility

### ○ Outbound

Two Japanese undergraduate students were dispatched to Chulalongkorn University (Thailand) for a short-term trial exchange program in March.

### ○ Inbound

Two undergraduate students and three graduate students from Chulalongkorn University participated in a short-term trial exchange program. Undergraduate students experienced GW internship in a regional company while graduate students mainly conducted experiments in a laboratory with Japanese students.

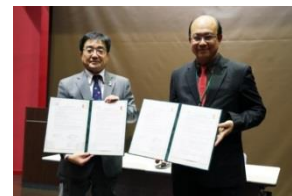
	2016	
	Plan	Results
Outbound	2	2
Inbound	2	5

## ■ Forming the University Network with Quality Assurance

Internal and external project committees composed of vice presidents and coordinators from each university formed “International Cooperation Steering Committee” as the decision-making organization responsible for quality assurance in education. “International Education Division” was newly launched to coordinate the entire project in the Education Center for Engineering and Technology which has a necessary background of managing dormitory-type education and internships. In FY 2016, we hold several committee meetings in Niigata and had a chance to hold signing ceremony of university-level agreement with Royal University of Phnom Penh (Cambodia) and Hanoi University of Science and Technology (Vietnam). “International 100-Wise-Men Network”, a group of external professional engineers providing support for internships, and “Third Party Advisory Board” responsible for evaluations and feedback were also organized as the last piece of a framework for the actual project implementation.



〈 Conference on International Cooperation Steering Committee in Niigata 〉



〈 Signing Ceremony 〉

## ■ Promotion of Student-Mobility Environment

The program manager and assistant coordinator with high English proficiency and wide-ranging overseas experience at “International Education Division” work closely with cooperated universities and provide students with a support on their study and daily life. Additionally, Placing a coordinator at each university in Mekong region facilitates the communication among universities in order to share necessary information and current situation. With this effort, students can easily have a consultation with the person who is in charge of the project and gain the latest information.

## ■ Internationalization of the University

### Information Disclosure and Publication of Outcome

We introduced the project to various stakeholders inside and outside campus at the occasion of Kickoff Symposium in December and International Forum in March. We also created brochure and website for the project written in Japanese and English, making it easy for students to access project information including outlines, achievements, exchange programs, and events.

## ■ Good Practices

By holding the first International Cooperation Steering Committee and Kickoff Symposium at Niigata University with vice presidents and coordinators from each university, we were able to share the significance of the project, and earn understanding and support from stakeholders both in Japan and Mekong region. This event including the signing ceremony holding in front of 180 participants was posted in a local newspaper and it helped the project to become recognized in public.