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2016-2017 ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology Fellowship



U.S.-ASEAN Science and Technology Fellows from Malaysia hold discussions at the 2015-2016 S&T Fellows orientation in Jakarta.

Photo credit: ASEAN-U.S. Partnership for Good Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security

EMPOWERING EARLY CAREER SCIENTISTS IN ASEAN

The U.S. Government, in partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), launched the inaugural ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology (S&T) Fellowship in April 2014. Since then, the S&T Fellowship has placed 21 emerging science leaders into government ministries to strengthen evidence-based policymaking. Now entering its third year, in 2016-2017, the S&T Fellowship will support 15 early-career scientist to engage in policies that drive national priorities and impact the lives of citizens in ASEAN. Modeled after the American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellowship, which has placed over 2,600 fellows in U.S. Government agencies for over 40 years, the S&T Fellowship continues to develop a cadre of ASEAN scientists who can effectively engage with policymakers and influence the policy-making process at national and regional levels.

The U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. Department of State, through the ASEAN-U.S. Partnership for Good Governance, Equitable and Sustainable Development and Security (PROGRESS) project, embeds early-career scientists within government offices in their home country for one year to work on a variety of tasks to advance ministerial, national, and regional priorities. During the 2015-2016 S&T Fellowship, for example, the Myanmar Fellow contributed to preparing the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and has developed a new biodiversity curriculum for government universities. Indonesia Fellows working in sustainable energy are tackling the palm oil production issue by linking academics and industrial practitioners to improve sustainable productivity. A Malaysian Fellow has drafted a policy brief and plan of action for solar thermal policy in Malaysia.

The S&T Fellowship also provides training opportunities for participating scientists to develop strong leadership skills and raises awareness of ASEAN goals and objectives. Previous, current and future S&T Fellows will form a network to continue to promote the program and the importance of increased dialogue between scientists and policymakers.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

S&T Fellows must be citizens of an ASEAN member state, hold an advanced degree, and have at least three years of work experience to be considered. In addition, S&T Fellows are selected based upon their technical background, professional accomplishments, leadership potential, inter-personal and outreach skills and commitment to fellowship goals. For more information, contact: ASEANsciencefellows@dai.com.

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Profiles

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Seingheng HUL - Cambodia

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Ministry of Planning



Dr. Hul is the Director of the Research and Innovation Center at the Institute of Technology of Cambodia. Through the S&T Fellowship, he hopes to gain exposure to policy making areas involved in water quality treatment and management.



Edi KURNIAWAN - Indonesia

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education



Dr. Kurniawan is a researcher at the Indonesian Institute for Sciences. As an S&T Fellow, Dr. Kurniawan looks forward to expanding his professional network and exploring multidisciplinary research and collaboration with Fellows from other ASEAN Member States.



Frida SIDIK - Indonesia

Climate Change and Climate Variability | Ministry of Environment and Forestry



Dr. Sidik is a researcher with the Institute for Marine Research and Observation at the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries. As an S&T Fellow, she hopes to support policy development and decision making regarding climate change and coastal ecosystem conservation and management.



Houmpheng THEUAMBOUNMY – Lao PDR

Sustainable Energy | Ministry of Energy and Mines



Mr. Theuambounmy is Director of Division for the Renewable Energy and New Materials Institute of the Lao Ministry of Science and Technology. As an S&T Fellow, Mr. Theuambounmy hopes to study regulations and policies on renewable energy promotion in ASEAN Member States.



Sounthisack PHOMMACHANH – Lao PDR

Sustainable Energy | Ministry of Science and Technology



Dr. Phommachanh is a lecturer at the National University of Laos. Through the S&T Fellowship, he hopes to gain more exposure to and support further research and policy making in renewable energy, such as hydropower.



Vilay VANNALADSAYSY – Lao PDR

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Ministry of Science and Technology



Dr. Vannaladsaysy is a lecturer at the National University of Laos. As an S&T Fellow, he hopes to expand his professional skillset, strengthen cooperation between academia and policy makers, and forge connections with other universities in the region.



Sawal Hamid Md ALI – Malaysia

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Academy of Sciences Malaysia



Dr. Ali is a senior lecturer at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). Through the S&T Fellowship, Dr. Sawal looks forward to preparing and drafting policies and frameworks to foster greater collaboration between science and industry in Malaysia, as well as among ASEAN strategic partners.



Zainura Zainun NOOR – Malaysia

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Academy of Sciences Malaysia



Dr. Noor is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Chemical and Energy Engineering at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia. As an S&T Fellow, she hopes to expand her understanding of policy making and support transnational collaboration on science, technology and innovation policy and initiatives.



Profiles

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Ei Ei Htwe - Myanmar

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Ministry of Science and Technology



Dr. Htwe is the Rector of the Mechanical Engineering Department at Mandalay Technological University. As an S&T Fellow, she hopes to increase her knowledge and skills in the management of science and technology policies, and help promote science and industry collaboration in Myanmar.



Aye Aye Thant - Myanmar

Sustainable Energy | Ministry of Science and Technology



Dr. Thant is an Associate Professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Yangon. Through the S&T Fellowship, she hopes to support the development of national strategies or policies to accelerate use of efficient, clean energy technologies.



Glenn BANAGUAS – Philippines

Sustainable Energy | Department of Energy



Engr. Banaguas is a Senior Researcher at De La Salle Araneta University. Through the S&T Fellowship, he hopes to learn how to transform research into action – particularly in the area of mitigating future impacts of natural disasters and climate change-related hazards in the region.



Aunchalee AUSSNASUWANAKUL –Thailand

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy | Ministry of Science and Technology



Dr. Aussnasuwanakul is a researcher with the Institute of Food Research and Product Development at Kasetsart University. She hopes to expand her network and apply her expertise in food science and sustainability in the realm of policymaking through the S&T Fellowship.



Puvadol DOYDEE – Thailand

Climate Change and Climate Variability | Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment



Dr. Doydee is a lecturer at Kasetsart University - Sakon Nakhon Province Campus. As an S&T Fellow, he hopes to strengthen his leadership skills and advance his professional goals on climate change mitigation and adaptation in the fisheries and agriculture sectors.



NGUYEN TRINH Hoang Anh – Vietnam

Sustainable Energy | Ministry of Science and Technology



Dr. Nguyen Trinh is a lecturer at the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi. As an S&T Fellow, he hopes to develop a national strategy for clean energy development and establish a research and training network for renewable energy studies in Vietnam.



NGUYEN Quynh Anh – Vietnam

Climate Change and Climate Variability | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment



Ms. Nguyen is a researcher with the National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies. Through the S&T Fellowship, she hopes to gain greater exposure to national and regional policy making and help bridge the gap between research and policy on climate change action.