

This is a second MLI e-bulletin and first of all I would like to say Happy New Year to all. This might be a bit late for international NY but is perfect for coming Chinese New Year.

Research Exchange

Linking of Policy to Community-based Natural Resource Management: Yunnan University, Royal University of Phnom Penh and Ubon Ratchathani University

This research exchange is coming to the final stage of writing reports now. The 3 exchange visits at Yunnan University in August, Ubon Ratchathani University in October and Royal University of Phnom Penh in December have shown great progress in students' interests; abilities in asking questions; and their analytical skills. Outputs from this exchange will be:

1) 3 comparative reports by students of Yunnan, RUPP and UBU to be posted on MLI website. To be submitted by the end of March 2006.

2) A journal paper "Cross cultural peer-based learning in a regional context" by three involved lecturers and MLI team to be published in an international journal. To be finished by mid 2006.

visit: <http://www.mekong.es.usyd.edu.au/projects/mli/> click "Partner Initiatives"

3) An interactive CD Rom will be produced to be a teaching material that will be shared among MLI partners.

Community-based Natural Resource Management: Khon Kaen University and National University of Laos ([draft proposal](#))

This exchange is in the late planning stage and will be started from January to July 2006. Its objectives are to support final year students for their field research and graduation and to experiment new way of delivering knowledge to students using experiential learning methods. Detailed proposal and plan will be posted on our website soon.

Integrated Water Resource Management: Can Tho, Tay Nguyen and Royal University of Phnom Penh ([early stage proposal](#))

The idea of this exchange is to understand a complexity of transborder issue in a case of water resource management between Vietnam and Cambodia. It is on a discussion between 3 universities now.

MLI workshops

Teaching Methods

Time: 21-27 March 2006 – please **CONFIRM** me that you are available with the dates

Place: Vientiane and Theun Hinboun Dam, Laos

Participants: one partner from each university

Objectives: to experiment with role play as a teaching method about multi-stakeholder natural resource management and also to understand issues around options for development in Laos.

Using Social Science Approach to understand problems in environment

Time: early June 2006 (tentative); *Place:* either at Tay Nguyen or Can Tho University

Participants: not more than 20 teaching staff from both universities

This workshop has been initiated by Dr. Nguyen Huu Chiem, Can Tho University, to deepen their understanding of problems in Mekong with social science approach to complement their expertise in physical science. Bob Fisher will lead this workshop. It is limited to only 2 universities in Vietnam in order to cope with translation.

MLI Logo competition

MLI encourages all partners to participate in MLI logo competition. Students and staff from our partners' universities are invited to submit their idea for a logo by end of February 2006. However, it is important that you to help us distribute information and be the committee for selection. The prize will be a trip to one of our partners' countries with assistance from you and students if that area is selected! ([competition poster](#))

Australian Youth Ambassador

MLI has hosted 2 youth ambassadors and their current activities are:

Tanja McKenzie is based at Yunnan University. She is assisting Assoc Prof Chen Xiao Ping at Regional Development Research Centre (RDRC), Yunnan University developing a bilingual course on watershed management. This is the university's policy in getting Chinese students to familiarise and feel comfortable with English materials which she will also work with students closely such as discussing in English after the class. The youth leadership program is being developed. RDRC staff and her will soon introduce this idea to tentative funding organisations.

Lindsay Soutar is based at Khon Kaen University. She is taking a lead on advertising MLI logo competition. She will work with Khon Kaen students on coming research exchange with National University of Laos. Apart from this, her task will focus a bit more on regional networking in the Mekong Region with MLI.

Others

- [MLI website](#) has been developed and I would like to ask you all to send me your university and institutional logos to put on the website.
- Please feel free to use MLI website as to update what is going on in MLI and to post news from your institution (send to Tubtim).