

Bilateral research collaboration with the Asia-Pacific region 2013-2016

Short course for Science Administrators of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, The Philippines, Vietnam and Switzerland

Background

The State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) in Switzerland has commissioned ETH Zurich as Leading House (LH) to explore new strategic partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region as the currently most dynamic part of the world with respect to economic growth as well as science, technology and innovation.

During the past three years ETH Zurich organised several activities in order to identify the most promising and active countries in the Asia-Pacific region concerning scientific collaborations with Swiss universities and research centers. These activities comprised a survey conducted in 2013 among Swiss higher education and research institutions on their existing collaborations with partners in the Asia-Pacific region and a validation workshop in Switzerland. Four countries stood out of this exercise: Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

In 2014 ETH Zurich conducted a workshop at the Singapore ETH Center in Singapore and invited high-level representatives from Universities and ministries of the above mentioned countries to discuss common fields of interest, science policies, funding structures and scientific core areas in the different countries.

Two calls for seed money funding in 2014 and 2015 gave Swiss scientists the opportunity to consolidate existing partnerships or initiate new scientific collaborations with researchers from the Asia-Pacific region. The response rate on these grant calls was overwhelming, showing the great interest of Swiss researchers to collaborate with scientists and institutions in the region. The demand for pilot projects revealed the Philippines as fifth country with high potential for increased partnerships, beyond the four countries mentioned above.

Goals and objectives of the short course

The goal of the course for science administrators is to strengthen the network and contacts to key institutions in the five countries of major interest to Swiss scientists: Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam. Unlike the previous workshops and activities, this course is targeted particularly at science administrators, i.e. staff members of international/ mobility/ grant offices, tech-transfer offices, university foundations or other units dealing with the management of international research projects.

The following objectives shall be achieved:

- Mutual understanding of the role of science administration in international research projects taking into account country-specific conditions and requirements.
- Increased awareness of similarities and differences in project processes, planning and budget periods, accountabilities, reporting and evaluation requirements and other aspects of science management.
- Have a clearer idea of funding schemes offering grant opportunities for scientific collaborations between Switzerland and the above mentioned countries.
- Establish a network of key contacts in universities or research institutes of the above mentioned countries.

Structure of the short course

The course is divided in two regional workshops of three days each.

Workshop A

The first workshop will take place in Switzerland and invite science administrators from selected universities of the target countries to Switzerland to introduce them to Swiss higher education institutions, including the national governance bodies ¹ and funding agencies. The first part of the workshop is devoted to topical discussions (compare detailed programme of Workshop A below), the second part offers excursions to Swiss Universities and the third part brings together embassy representatives of the target countries with a representative of the Swiss State Secretary for Education Research and Innovation (SERI).

Time: May 23 - May 25, 2016

Venue: OVR B.115

School of Business

University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW)

Von Roll-Strasse 10

CH-4600

Workshop B

The second workshop will take place in Singapore and shift the focus to the political and regional context of South-East Asia with its fast developments and investments in the field of higher education. Regional networks and investment entities, such as ASEAN or the newly funded Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will be part of the programme and share their assessment of the current developments in the field of international scientific collaborations. In addition, the second workshop will further develop the topics raised in the first workshop.

The participants ideally attend both workshops. Exceptions can be granted by the organization committee.

Time: November 2 - November 4, 2016

Venue: The Singapore-ETH Centre

1 CREATE Way

#06-01 CREATE Tower

Singapore 138602

¹ In Switzerland, the Swiss State Secretary for Education Research and Innovation (SERI) is similar to the science and technology ministries in other countries.

Detailed Programme Workshop A

Day 1

The core of Day 1 consists of a series of short presentations and subsequent discussions. Each participating institution chooses, prepares and delivers a topic from the list below. If there are more than 5 participating institutions, the workshop management team will decide which topics will be actually presented. Ideally, each domain should be addressed by an Asian and a Swiss representative.

The first topic of the day will be an **introduction of the Swiss higher education landscape** (scientific institutions, governance, funding institutions, the role of the government).

The other topics are grouped into domains; each topic is intended to be country or region specific. The country or region will be determined by the institution which presents the topic. The idea is to have at least one presentation from each domain. Suggestions from participants for alternative topics in the domains are encouraged and evaluated by the workshop management team.

Domain 1: Science policy and international scientific collaboration

- Science policy and international scientific collaboration: what are the goals and constraints? who are the key actors and what are their roles?
- What is the agenda of the government / the universities regarding international scientific collaboration in the coming 5 to 10 years?
- What are the scientific disciplines or domains which are of particular political interest for international scientific collaboration?
- Decision-making mechanisms / roles of different actors?
- Legal issues in international collaboration: suitable legal forms for project organisations and long-term collaborations; issues in the domain of IP protection: pitfalls and best practices; ramifications of national labour laws and labour market regulations on projects with an international workforce.

Domain 2: Funding and supervision of international scientific collaboration

- Funding of international scientific collaboration projects: institutions, criteria, procedures, and political goals
- How are scientific institutions funded? What are the specific challenges and advantages of this funding system in the context of international scientific collaboration?
- Degrees of freedom for universities in identifying topics or participating in their choice?
- Incentive systems / selection criteria
- Time horizon of research projects

Domain 3: Cultural context of scientific activities

- The value of autonomy: how autonomous should the universities be?
- The role of science in the development of the society and the individual: what is the expected impact of the scientific activities?
- Cultural values in science: is there "good" and "bad" in science?
- Education and research, welfare and poverty reduction: synergies and antagonisms
- Handling of IP: are there cultural differences across different regions?

Domain 4: Governance / Organisational aspects

- Top-down versus bottom-up approaches
- How is compliance organised inside the Higher Education Institution (HEI)?
- Who are the "science administrators" inside the HEI and how is their working relationship organised towards the scientists?

All participants will respond to a questionnaire based on this list of topics, and share their specific experiences in advance.

Day 2

Day 2 will offer the participants the opportunity to visit two Universities, please compare registration form. In the afternoon the excursion will lead the participants to national agencies in Bern.

The participants will share their impressions, questions and suggestions on day 3. FHNW will provide a suitable platform for storing, communicating and updating the findings. The programme of the visits will be defined by the host universities but shall contain: visits of the facilities, meeting with key persons, and information exchange about common issues of science administration.

All participants will join in the evening for dinner and exchange of impressions. The dinner will be in Bern and permit the Swiss “hosts” to join the group.

Day 3

The day will start with a presentation of a delegate from one of the Embassies related to the SEA countries attending the workshop, giving the audience an insight in the topic of science collaboration from the point of view of an Embassy. In addition, the SERI should be represented through a high level official. After the presentations a panel will be held, summing up the experiences of the participants as well as providing an opportunity to discuss the outlook on Workshop 2.

The day will officially close by a farewell address around 12:00. A lunch is offered to all participants and the facilities will be operational until 18:00 for bilateral talks and follow-up.

Detailed Programme Workshop B²

Day 4

Day 4 will focus on the specific situation in the region, particularly in the ASEAN states. The presentations and discussions will be focussed on emerging issues of scientific collaboration in regional networks. If possible also general funding or lending institutions like the newly founded Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) or the World Bank will be given a platform to present their specific views about the development of scientific collaboration in this region and between the region and Europe with a clear focus on Switzerland.

Day 5

Day 5 will provide a second opportunity for discussing subjects raised during the Workshop A in Switzerland and expand the topical discussion of Day 1.

Day 6

Based on the outcomes of days 1 to 5, day 6 will address the question of how to shape future collaboration between Switzerland and the region in order to maximize its impact.

² Subject to change. The detailed programme of Workshop B will be communicated in late summer 2016.

Schedule of Workshop A

Day 1: 23 May 2016

Start	End	Activity	Speaker	Institution
08:30	09:00	Registration <i>Coffee/Tea Refreshments</i>	Atrium A OVR OVR B.015	
09:00	09:10	Welcome addresses	Prof. Markus Freiburghaus	FHNW
09:10	09:15	Opening speech	Dr. Barbara Becker	ETH Zurich
09:15	09:30	Goals and objectives of the Short course for Science Administrators and Workshop A	Dr. Barbara Becker	ETH Zurich
09:30	10:00	Introduction of the participants	All Participants	
10:00	10:45	Introduction to the Swiss higher education landscape	Anouk De Bast, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation	SERI
10:45	11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	Atrium B OVR	
11:15	12:00	International scientific collaboration a map of key aspects	Prof. Markus Freiburghaus	FHNW
12:00	13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	FHNW Olten campus restaurant	
13:30	13:45	Domain "Science policy and international scientific collaboration" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation 1 ▪ Presentation 2 ▪ Presentation 3 ➤ Discussion 	Prof. Sansanee Chaiyaroj Prof. Nguyen Thu Thuy Prof. Jose M P Balmaceda Dr. Martin Jaekel	MU
13:45	14:00			FTU
14:00	14:15			UPD
14:15	14:35			ZHAW
14:35	14:50	Domain "Funding and supervision of international scientific collaboration" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation 4 ➤ Discussion 	Dr. Tran Mai Dong Dr. Gabriela Tejada	UEH
14:50	15:10			EPFL
15:10	15:40	<i>Coffee break</i>	Atrium B OVR	
15:40	15:55	Domain "Cultural context of scientific activities" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation 5 ▪ Presentation 6 ➤ Discussion 	Prof. Farok Bin Zakaria Dr. Emilyn Q. Espiritu Dr. Teresa L. Freiburghaus	UMK
15:55	16:10			AMU
16:10	16:30			FHNW
16:30	16:45	"Domain Governance / Organisational aspects" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation 7 ▪ Presentation 8 ➤ Discussion 	Prof. Mohd Shahir S Omar Dr. Mayrianti Annisa Anwar Dr. Yasmine Inauen	UTM
16:45	17:00			BAU
17:00	17:20			UZH
17:20	17:30	<i>Short Break</i>		
17:30	17:45	Introduction to the excursions	Dr. Teresa L. Freiburghaus	FHNW
18:30	21:00	<i>Dinner</i>	Restaurant Lungomare in Olten	

Day 2 – 24 May 2016

Start	End	Activity	Speaker	Institution
07:00	08:30	Meeting and group formation for the excursion <i>Coffee/Tea Refreshments</i>		FHNW Venue OVR B.015
08:30	10:00	Transfer to Swiss Universities	Assistants	FHNW
10:00	12:00	Swiss institutions visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ETH Zurich + Zurich University ▪ Swiss TPH + Basel University ▪ EPFL + Lausanne University 	Host universities	Host universities
12:00	13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	<i>Host universities - Restaurant</i>	
13:00	15:00	Transfer to Swiss National Science Foundation in Bern	Assistants	SNSF Wildhainweg 21
15:00	15:30	Swiss governmental agencies presentation	Evelyne Glättli, Deputy Head International Co-operation, SNSF	SNSF
15:30	16:00	Commission for Technology and Innovation, CTI	Alain Dietrich, Deputy Head Research and Development Grants and Barbara Pfluger, Programme Manager	CTI
16:00	16:30	Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries, KFPE	Dr. Jon-Andri Lys, Executive Secretary	KFPE
16:30	17:00	Networking reception	All participants	SNSF, CTI, KPFE, Representatives of Swiss Universities
17:00	18:30	<i>Sight-seeing in Bern</i>	<i>Voluntary basis</i>	
18:30	20:30	Networking dinner	Volkshaus Restaurant in Bern Zeughausgasse 9 CH-3011 Bern	
21:04	21:30	<i>Back to Olten</i>	<i>Train</i>	

Day 3 – 25 May 2016

Start	End	Activity	Speaker	Institution
08:30	09:00	<i>Coffee/Tea Refreshments</i>		FHNW Venue OVR B.015
09:00	09:30	Keynote from the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation, SERI	Ms. Beatrice Ferrari Deputy Head International Relations	SERI
09:30	09:45	Speeches by representatives of Embassies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1st Speech ▪ 2nd Speech ▪ 3rd Speech ▪ 4th Speech 	H.E Madam Tess Lazaro, Ambassador Mr. Dinh Ngoc Linh Minister Consul General Ms. Deborah Tan Chargé D'affaires t.b.c	Embassy of The Philippines Embassy of Vietnam Embassy of Malaysia Embassy of Indonesia
09:45	10:00			
10:00	10:15			
10:15	10:30			
10:30	11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Atrium B OVR</i>	
11:00	12:00	Interactive Panel	Prof. Markus Freiburghaus	FHNW
12:00	12:30	Lessons learnt, conclusion of workshop A and outlook to workshop B in Singapore	Dr. Barbara Becker	ETH Zurich
12:30	14:00	<i>Farewell lunch</i>	<i>Restaurant Arte in Olten</i>	

Participants and Institutions

Science administrators and representatives of governmental agencies who have register to workshop A:

- Ateneo de Manila University - AMU
- Bogor Agricultural University - BAU
- École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne - EPFL
- Embassy of The Philippines
- Embassy of Vietnam
- ETH Zurich
- Foreign Trade University - FTU
- Institut Teknologi Bandung - ITB
- Mahidol University - MU
- State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation - SERI
- Swiss National Science Foundation - SNSF
- Universiti Teknologi Malaysia - UTM
- University Malaysia Kelantan - UMK
- University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland - FHNW
- University of Economic of Ho Chi Minh City - UEH
- University of the Philippines Diliman - UPD
- University of Zurich - UZH
- Zurich University of Applied Sciences and Art - ZHAW

Contact

ETH Zürich ETH Global	University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW
<p>Dr. Barbara Becker Director Global Transformation Affairs ETH Global</p> <p>Rämistrasse 101, HG E 68.3 8092 Zürich Phone: +41 44 632 53 39 E-Mail: bbecker@ethz.ch Web: www.global.ethz.ch</p>	<p>Dr. Teresa L. Freiburghaus Head of South East Asia Center School of Business, FHNW</p> <p>Riggenbachstrasse 16 4600 Olten Phone: +41 62 957 22 64 E-Mail: teresa.freiburghaus@fhnw.ch Web: http://www.fhnw.ch/business</p>
<p>Ms. Patricia Heuberger-Meyer Programme Manager (R4D) ETH Global</p> <p>Rämistrasse 101, HG E 68.1 CH-8092 Zürich Phone: +41 (0)44 632 56 13 E-mail: patricia.heuberger@sl.ethz.ch Web: www.global.ethz.ch/</p>	<p>Ms. Gwendolyn Nützi Assistant of South East Asia Center School of Business, FHNW</p> <p>Riggenbachstrasse 16 4600 Olten Phone: + 41 62 957 28 08 E-mail: gwendolyn.nuetzi@fhnw.ch Web: http://www.fhnw.ch/business</p>