

# **Information Sheet**

## **The ASEAN Veterinary Student Volunteer Project 2019 (AVVP 2019)**

**The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Kasetsart University (KU), Thailand**

**In collaboration with**

**The Faculty of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine**

**Nong Lam University (NLU), Vietnam**

**June 16<sup>th</sup>-July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

ASEAN has been established since 1967 with 6 founding members; namely, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, with later addition of another 4 countries; Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. In year 2003, ASEAN agreed to initiate the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) within 2015 under the 3 supportive pillars which compose of ASEAN Security Community, ASEAN Social-Cultural Community and ASEAN Economic Community.

Thailand and other member countries may encounter both threats and opportunities when the ASEAN Economic Community is fully implemented. Certainly, there will be more mobility in the region. The educational sector must be well prepared for the new set of challenges; the freedom in education, International Quality Assurance in Education, staff and student mobility, different cultures and believes, more competitive and opened markets, etc. Business and educational sectors must work together to revamp curricula in response to these rapid changes of context, particularly in higher education. The curricula revamp should encourage and prepare students for these ever changing realities.

Since the beginning of the year 2016, the ASEAN Economic Community has officially commenced with now more than 600 million population sharing resources and services. Consequently, both highly-sought opportunities and undesirable threats are inevitably taken and changed places. The demand for better care of animals, safer food products as well as more regards for wildlife and environment protection/conservation has increased significantly in ASEAN countries because of a rapid improvement of living standards of the people. Therefore, it is crucial to educate our students based on a deep understanding and broad view under ASEAN context. The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine has been blessed with substantially developed physical resources and qualified personnel, readily to steering veterinary education and profession for ASEAN and beyond.

The ASEAN Veterinary Student Volunteer Project has been successfully launched since 2013 as a platform for Thai students and students from ASEAN and interested partner countries to exchange ideas and dialogues. Generally, a group of 60 students from about 20 veterinary institutions of 12 ASEAN member countries and other international partner countries are cordially invited to participate in this exciting project with the following main objectives:

- To promote a better professional and cultural understanding in veterinary profession and practices among ASEAN member countries and beyond
- To foster the sense of public mind of the young professionals

- To propagate friendship and networking among future ASEAN and international veterinary professionals

These set objectives are achievable through a myriad of activities including; lectures, presentation, discussion, site visits, field activities (in Thailand and co-host ASEAN country) and many cultural events during the project activity period. A 3-week activity program is meticulously organized with following components;

- Interactive presentation
- Community mini-research
- Community seminar
- Veterinary student volunteer activities (Rabies vaccination and prevention campaign in dogs and cats, vaccination in livestock, Brucellosis tests, fecal examination, beef and small-scale dairy farming, other back yard food animals rearing, tree planting, etc.)

#### Week 1: Thailand

- Welcome ceremony
- Country presentation of participants
- Harmonization of veterinary skills and field practices of participants; animal handling, sample collection, community research, etc.
- Volunteer work: Rabies vaccination and prevention campaign in dogs and cats including independent study of topics related to stray animal issues (animal health, welfare, shelter management, community perception, etc.)
- Visit various production sites of CPF company (food animal production and processing)

#### Week 2: Thailand

- Volunteer work at rural communities, mostly related to local beef cattle and goat production
- Independent survey study on topics related to rural community, e.g., livelihood, basic health care, education, socio-economic issues, etc.
- Volunteer work related to community interest

#### Week 3: Vietnam

- Volunteer work at rural communities, mostly related to small-scale dairy farming, rabies prevention in dogs and cats, etc.
- Independent survey study on topics related to rural community, e.g., livelihood, basic health care, education, socio-economic issues, etc.
- Volunteer work with villagers: Tree planting

The AVVP has become an annual signature event which many veterinary students are enthusiastically looking forward to with more and more application pouring in. It is important to accentuate the fact that the AVVP is a model project, organized and delivered by a great collaboration of Veterinary Educational Institutions, Government and Private sectors including urban and rural communities to mimic a real working scenario based on '**One Health**' approach. Clearly, the AVVP provides an excellent platform for “learning by doing” to prepare students for the real working milieu and new appreciation of global diversity in

veterinary profession. This is truly a most memorable experience with some everlasting acquired friendship for few privileged students.

### **Essential Information:**

#### **Visa Application:**

- Students must obtain entry visa to [Thailand](#) and/or [Vietnam](#) (wherever required) prior to their departure from home country.
- Students who plan to return to Thailand after the activity program in Vietnam must obtain '[multiple entry](#)' visa for Thailand.
- Please closely observe that the AVVP activity program is very tight; there is no possibility to apply for entry visa to Vietnam during the AVVP activity program in Thailand.
- Please make sure to have the correct visa information only from respective Embassy or Consulate in your home country.

#### **On Arrival: (Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019)**

- Please arrive in Bangkok prior to **18:00 on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (or a day earlier, if necessary)**.
- For international participants; please send your flight itinerary to **Dr. Suporn Thongyuan**, [fvetspty@ku.ac.th](mailto:fvetspty@ku.ac.th). We will arrange the air-port pick up for you.
- **Meeting Point at Suvarnabhumi International Airport**, Thailand: The Waiting Area nearby **the Exit Gate 1** on the Arrival Hall. At **Don Muang International Airport**, after clearing from all custom formalities, please proceed to **the Left Exit**.
- For those who plan to arrive in Thailand **before** the set schedule; please find your way to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Kasetsart University, Bangkok on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 for checking in at KU dormitory. Should you need any assistance, please contact: **Dr. Suporn Thongyuan** at [fvetspty@ku.ac.th](mailto:fvetspty@ku.ac.th) +66 (0)86 525 7421, **Ms. Supreeyanan Sankla** at [supreeyanan159@gmail.com](mailto:supreeyanan159@gmail.com) or +66 (0)89 444 8630, **Mr. Tarin Plukebamrung** at [fvettrp@ku.ac.th](mailto:fvettrp@ku.ac.th) or +66 (0)87 496 2817

#### **Departure: (July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019)**

- For those who wish to stay longer in Vietnam, please arrange your own accommodation and trip after **July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. Please inform the KU supervisors regarding your traveling plan upon arrival at KU.
- An accommodation will be arranged for the returned participants at KU dormitory, Bangkok for the night of **July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**.
- For those who wish to stay longer in Thailand, please arrange your own accommodation and trip after **July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**.

#### **"Country Presentation": (on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019)**

- Students from each country are requested to share your thought/view on the **challenging issue** (topic of your own choice) facing veterinary profession in your home country.
- In case that, there are more than one universities invited to the program from one country; please share your thought/view with your country fellows to prepare for the presentation.

- Please bear in mind that this is **not** a session for '*your veterinary school introduction*' unless that it's truly relevant to your talk.
- Time available for each presentation is **20 minutes**.

### Relevant Information:

- **Health Insurance/Issue:** Students are strongly recommended to obtain a traveling health insurance prior to their departure from home country. Important personal medication must be prepared by individual participant and (if possible) should be informed to the program supervisors. **Rabies vaccination** is recommended.
- **Alcohol Consumption:** Please closely observe that in Thailand, by law, alcohol consumption is strictly prohibited on campus.
- **Proper Attire:** During the AVVP activity program both on and off campus, a proper attire should be observed (singlet, very short shorts, sandals, etc. are not recommended). Participants are sincerely encouraged to wear the traditional attire on the opening day and other main social occasions to boost up the international festivity ambient of the event.
- **Working Gears:** Boots and scrub shirt will be provided to all participants.
- **Traveling Gears:** Participants are **highly recommended** to bring along their personal necessities, towel, sleeping bag, extra traveling bag (for a short term staying during certain part of the activity program), sneakers, sandals, etc.
- **Laundry:** Laundry times are available during the program. Students are required to cover the expenses in case of hiring service.
- **Accommodation:** During the activity program on campuses, university dormitories will be reserved for all participants. However, students should bring along their own sleeping bag, towel, toiletries, etc. Students will stay at Wats or temples while conducting the volunteer work in rural villages. Only mosquito net and bed mat will be provided. Students should arrange their own extra necessities, i.e. sleeping bag (**highly recommended**), pillow, towel, etc.
- **Meals:** Menu will be arranged with the consideration for Muslim participants. However, other food choices, i.e., vegetarian, vegans, Kosher, etc. are not available.
- **Mosquito/Insect Repellant:** June and July are the beginning of rainy season in Thailand and Vietnam. It is also a season of thick mosquitoes and other insects. Therefore, protective gears i.e., insect repellant, long sleeve shirt/pants, mosquito net, etc. are recommended.
- **Internet Access:** Wi-fi access is available at university dormitory but **not very efficient**. Students are encouraged to bring along any gadgets to facilitate personal mobile access to internet. Wi-fi is not available at field accommodation but mobile phone with 3G/4G is operational.
- **Electrical Appliances:** All electrical appliances in Thailand and Vietnam are 220V. Travel universal adapter is very helpful.
- **Talents/Skills:** Participants are strongly encouraged to share his/her own talents/skills (music, cooking, games, etc.) during the activity program and social gathering.
- **Money Exchange:** Currency exchange should be handled at the bank counters at Airports upon arrival.

For All AVVP Participants

Participants must submit his/her passport page to [fvetspty@ku.ac.th](mailto:fvetspty@ku.ac.th)

by **March 15, 2019**.