

Objectives

- ❖ To contribute to capacity building for NREM in the GMS through short courses and graduate degree programs;
- ❖ To conduct collaborative and in-depth research on regional and transboundary issues, along with other universities in the GMS and beyond; and
- ❖ To contribute to sustainable and self-reliant development in the GMS in cooperation with concerned international, regional, and national institutions, especially the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which has been facilitating regional integration and cooperation through a number of initiatives ranging from infrastructure and economic corridors to core environmental programs across the region.



Staff

To successfully operate such graduate programs in NREM, and conduct NREM research projects, academic staffs have been selected to reflect the international and interdisciplinary thrust; others are being recruited.

Academic Staff :

- Dr. Sitanon **Jesdapipat** (Thailand) : Climate Change, Trade and Sustainable Development
- Dr. Nguyen Luong **Bach** (Vietnam) : Policy Evaluation and Analysis; Systems Modeling and Management
- Dr. Suree **Bhumibhamon** (Thailand) : Tropical Forestry and Community Forest Management
- Dr. Richard **Frankel** (USA) : Industrial & Environmental Auditing for Improved Production Systems
- Dr. Khin Maung **Nyunt** (Myanmar) : Natural Resources Economics
- Dr. Trai **Pekthong** (Thailand) : Environmental Quality Management
- Dr. J. Keith **Syers** (UK) : Soil, Water, and Nutrient Management; Sustainability Assessment
- Dr. Pongmanee **Thongbai** (Thailand) : Plant Sciences and Eco-physiology

Adjunct Professors :

- Dr. William **Ascher** (Claremont McKenna College, USA) : Natural Resources and Development Policy
- Dr. Yonosuke **Hara** (University of Tokyo, Japan) : Information Economics
- Dr. Robert **Fisher** (University of Sydney, Australia) : Community-based Natural Resources Management
- Dr. Anthony **O'Donnell** (University of Newcastle, UK) : Soil and Environmental Microbiology
- Dr. Gilbert **Rochon** (Purdue University, USA) : Spatial Technologies, particularly Remote Sensing
- Dr. Jin **Sato** (University of Tokyo, Japan) : Natural Resources Policy

Program Officers & Research Associates :

- Ms. Nuttiga **Hempattarasuwan** (Thailand) : Environmental Science
- Mr. Dirk **Steenbergen** (Netherlands) : Participatory Strategies to Natural resources Management

Administrative Assistants :

- Mrs. Preeyapha **Bishop** (Thailand)
- Mrs. Kesinee **Promboot** (Thailand)

Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Management (NREM Center)



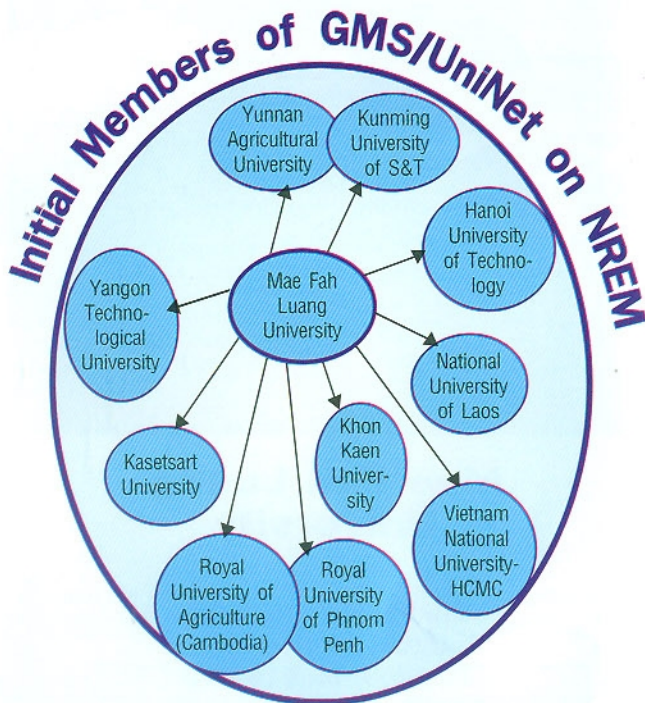
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<http://www.mfu.ac.th/nremc>

Networking

The Center has a long-term strategic working partnership with :

- ❖ International and regional organizations (e.g., ADB, IUCN, UNEP, World Bank), and NGO's for contributing to regional research;
- ❖ National government ministries relevant to NREM in the GMS for supporting national and subregional research projects; and
- ❖ Leading universities in all GMS countries, formed as the GMS/UniNet on NREM, and beyond, for developing and implementing collaborative training and research activities needed for the GMS.



About MFU

Mae Fah Luang University (MFU) was established under the Royal Charter in 1998 as an autonomous, public institution to meet the needs of the people in the North of Thailand.

As a national and regional university, it commemorates the gracious contribution of the Princess Mother to conservation and rehabilitation of nature and the environment in the north of Thailand and the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS).

The university provides high-quality educational services and human resources development for Thailand and her neighboring countries.

MFU is an attractive place to live and learn, with quality dormitories available for all students. It provides good library facilities with a network linked on-line to international databases.



MFU :
An Attractive Place
to Live and Learn

Background

Degradation of natural resources and environmental pollution have become increasingly serious problems in Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) countries.

Natural Resources and Environmental Management (NREM) in the GMS has usually involved outsiders, with little systematic policy design and implementation, and poor sharing of data and research findings at the regional level.

To achieve long-term sustainability and self-reliant development in the GMS, there is an urgent need to adopt more holistic and regionally-harmonized approaches for effective NREM policy design and implementation; and to upgrade technical and managerial skills, and competence for problem-solving of NREM issues for GMS countries.

Center Establishment

The Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Management (NREM Center) was established in October, 2005, as an independent unit within MFU, located strategically and centrally in the GMS, with the aim to proactively respond to the urgent need for NREM in the GMS.

The Center shares MFU's primary mission, as advocated by the Princess Mother, of conservation and rehabilitation of nature and the environment for sustainable development in the North of Thailand and the GMS.

Within MFU, the Center is associated with the School of Management for the award of graduate degrees.

NREM Center :
To Serve the GMS

Capacity Building

The Center will contribute to capacity building in the GMS by offering high-quality, international and interdisciplinary graduate degree (Masters and Doctoral) programs at MFU.

These programs are built on holistic and interdisciplinary approaches to innovative and practically-oriented policy, management, and implementation, with emphasis on ecosystem management and integrated land-use.

There are five core subject areas, i.e., Sustainable economic development and conservation; NREM systems and dynamics; Ecosystem form and function; Socio-economic and environmental impact assessment and risk management; and Policy and planning for NREM; followed by electives from core disciplines, synthesis courses, and thesis research on NREM topics

Target students are drawn from staff in universities, staff in national, regional, and international organizations, NGO's, and private-sector organizations concerned with NREM in the GMS and beyond.

There are two intakes of students per year (November and June) for these graduate degree programs. Further information on the programs, including application forms and procedures, is available from the university website (<http://www.mfu.ac.th>).

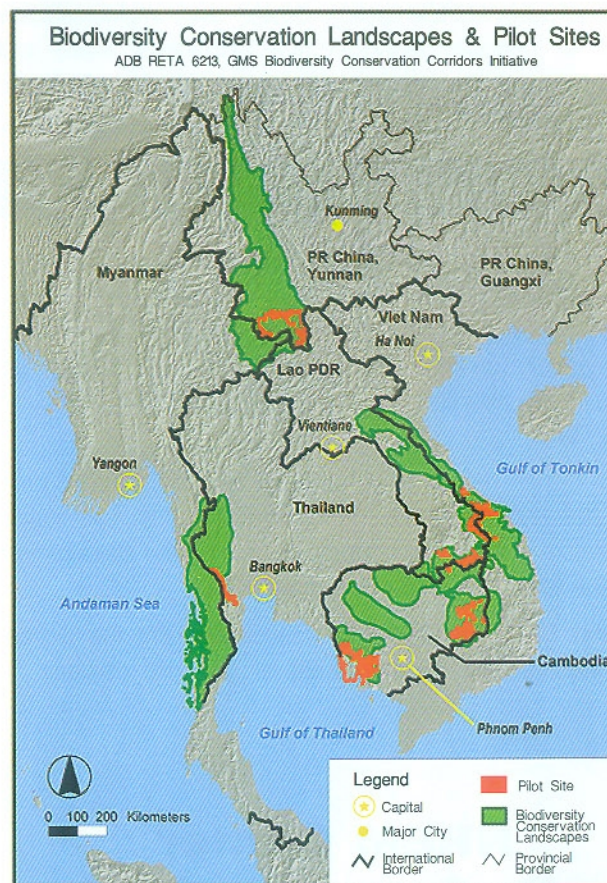
Golden Triangle



Research

The Center is currently developing the following projects:

- ❖ Data mining and synthesis from earlier NREM projects in GMS countries;
- ❖ Regional biodiversity conservation;
- ❖ Land-use change impacts on soil and water resources and socioeconomics;
- ❖ NREM policy design and implementation; and
- ❖ Trans-national issues in NREM (e.g., water and biodiversity) and developing effective solutions.



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