

Press Release



ERIA concludes the ERIA/JENESYS Internship Program for ASEAN Students 13 Graduate Students from Six Countries Attended the Programme and Conducted Research Works at ERIA

September 14, 2011 - ERIA (Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia) concluded ERIA/JENESYS Internship Program from 5th to 14th of September 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Thirteen graduate students from Six Asian countries attended the events. During the programme, the students conducted research works with ERIA researchers and visited major international organizations such as the ASEAN Secretariat and Asian Development Bank (ADB) Jakarta Office.

The Internship Program was designed to help the students to understand the role of international organizations and to attract them towards working in such organizations by allowing a temporary work assignment at ERIA. This Program is a part of the ERIA/JENESYS - Next Leadership Program which was organized from August 2010 until September 2011. It is a scholarship program which aims to



give opportunities to those graduate students who have ambitions to take up leadership works in ASEAN and East Asia. The candidates were chosen on the basis of their qualification through a strict screening and selection process. They are graduate students studying in high ranked graduate school such as Tokyo University, Waseda University, GRIPS, and Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. The students belong to Asian countries of Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippine, Cambodia and Indonesia.

The Internship Program consisted of several events which included preparation of research proposal, conducting research with various kind of methodology, and reporting of the research works. The students presented a research proposal before taking up actual research work. Dr.

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Misa Okabe, Associate Professor, Wakayama University and Dr. Sothea Oum, Associate Researcher, ERIA, supervised their research. They helped the students through important suggestions and recommendations for their research. The students collected information for their research works during their visit to the ASEAN Secretariat and ADB Jakarta office. During the internship program, the students also enjoyed the Jakarta life including the excursion when they visited the famous cultural places *Kota Tua* and *Taman Mini Indonesia Indah* in Jakarta.

At the end of the JENESYS internship program, all the interns presented the results of their research work conducted by them at ERIA. The following works were completed by the interns:

International Politics and Socioeconomics in ASEAN:

1. The “ASEAN Way” : The Way to Unity
2. Demographics and Attitudes towards Institutions: Evidence from Six ASEAN Countries
3. The Role of Media in Economic Development in ASEAN Countries

Education and Cultural:

4. Strengthening Student Mobility in ASEAN: Policy Analysis and Recommendations
5. Human Capital Development in EAS: Progress, Challenges and Policy Recommendations from Gender and Cross-generation Perspective
6. *Cosplay* – a cultural transference from Japan to Vietnam

Microfinance and SMEs:

7. Commercial Banks in Microfinance in Thailand towards the Inclusive Financial System
8. Media and SME Promotion : A Case of Thai SME in Laos and Cambodia
9. Enhancing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Capacity through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Cambodia

Sustainable Energy and Eco-Tourism:

10. Propelling ASEAN Towards a Greener Future: Theoretical Framework for Promoting Actual Use of Sustainable Energy in the Region
11. The Role and Effectiveness of Signage System in *Gunung Gede Pangrango* National Park

Exchange Rate and Trade:

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12. The Influences of Exchange Rates on International Trade
13. The Opportunities and Challenges of Vietnam after joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)

It is expected that after participating in the JENESYS Internship Program, students would be able to contribute significantly towards economic growth and development in ASEAN region in the future.

For more information, please contact:

Hiroshi Okasaki (Mr.)

Director, Public Relations

Tel: +62 21 5797 4460 Ext. 201

E-mail: hiroshi.okasaki@eria.org

Fitria Abuzah (Ms.)

Public Relations Assistant

Tel: +62 21 5797 4460 Ext. 112

E-mail: fitria.abuzah@eria.org

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA):

ERIA is an international organization that supports the ASEAN Secretariat by making policy recommendations at regional governmental meetings such as the East Asian Summit (EAS), aimed at furthering East Asia's economic integration.

Office: Sentral Senayan 2, 6th Floor Jalan Asia Afrika No.8 Gelora Bung Karno – Senayan Jakarta Pusat 10270, Indonesia