Title: Personal Disaster Preparedness: A Case Study of 2011 Flooding Effected to The Staff of The Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR) Mahidol University

By: Farid Agushyvana
    Nara Khamkhom

Abstract
Flooding is a disaster that occurs more frequent than other types of natural disaster. At the end of 2011, Salaya area was affected by flooding. Thus, IPSR-Mahidol University was surrounding by high level water. Not only staffs who live around Salaya affected but also one who lived outside Salaya. The way how they response to it and the preparation they did would be a good lesson learn for disaster management purposes.

The objectives of this research are 1) to identify the meaning of flooding 2) to explore the experiences of staff on the last flooding 3) to describe the 2011 flooding response behavior and 4) to identify the needs of personal disaster preparedness of the staff. This is a multisource case study. Four administrative staff of IPSR has been selected to be
interviewed. We used ‘in depth interview’ to collect information from our informants.

The study found that before flooding informants prepared to response to situation at some level but not enough, their responses was spontaneously, not a planned response. They still lost their belongings and felt stress in some degree. During the flooding, some of them were escape to their relative but elderly persist to stay home. Relative’s house was the main destination place where they evacuated. Communication with their colleague and contact from their supervisor was helping them to relief from stress more or less. Government took important roll to provide food to them and funding to them to repair their house. However, there was no warning system or information to the expected flooding. Lesson from the last flooding might made them to better preparation to response to the expected flooding or other disaster.

KEY WORDS: Flooding/ Disaster/ Preparedness/ IPSR/ Mahidol University

Title: Being foreign students in Mahidol University; A case study of ASEAN student.

By: Busakorn Sangkaew, Suchita Manajit and Natchaphon Auampradit

Abstract
In year 2010, the overall total of international has increased by 5.7% from the year, 2009. Mahidol University ranked as one of the top ten
universities that had number of international students by The Office of the Higher Education Commission.

There is limited number of studies of Asian students living in ASEAN countries. The lack of research in this area is therefore making this issue interesting especially the predictions of the number of international students from Asian countries that come to study in Thailand.

The objectives of this research are 1) to identify motivated factors influence ASEAN students to study in Mahidol University 2) to determine their expectation for being student here 3) to identify the their adaptation in difference culture 4) to investigate the need for ASEAN students to improve the learning process. Purposive sampling procedure is designed to select the cases. Case study approach was used by interview. 2 Indonesian, 1 Vietnamese and 1 Burmese were conducted.

The result shows that there is no communication problem in class because English is the medium language. But it's hard for ASEAN students to communicate with Thai people in their daily life because of the language barrier. The reason for selecting Thailand to study is because the cost is cheap. Moreover, ASEAN countries have similar culture, which doesn't require much of adaptation. Students reveal that study oversea will give them a better opportunity to get a better paid. Mahidol University provides knowledge and practice that is suitable for their career. They also suggest that university should encourage better international environment between Thai and international students. The result of the study will serve universities seeking the need of growing international students, there is much yet to be learned. It is
recommended that more study on students from other ASEAN countries also needed.

Moderator: Charamporn Holamhyong

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Title: Do Bhutanese People Deny Fast Life, the Paradox of Poverty and Development?

By: Associate Professor Amara Soonthorndhada

Abstract

Bhutan, a Himalayan kingdom is composed of 800,000 people in total which 20,000 of those are Buddhist monks and nuns. Bhutan is the only place in the world that measures prosperity as GNH (Gross National Happiness) instead of GNP (Gross National Product). The Bhutanese intensely follow the teachings of Buddha and are happy to discuss how good their lives are and how they have no worries about what they might be missing.

This talk will be based on a quick glance of fact shared during the 2nd international seminar hosted by Sherubtse College, the Royal University of Bhutan from 5-6 October 2012 with support of UNFPA, Bhutan. The major issues were raised regarding a rapid change in population in which Bhutan is now facing with. The growth of urbanization attributes many changes. It is estimated that around 50-70% of Bhutan's
population will live in urban areas by 2020. Thimphu, the capital city itself is already experiencing 10% growth rate annually. One of the most important threats to Bhutan’s environment is the problem of ever increasing solid waste. The increase in waste generation is primarily attributed to factors such as rapid rates of urbanization, rural-urban migration (about 7%), changing consumption pattern and high population growth rate (11%). The daily waste generation increased by fourfold from 17.5 tons in 1992 to 64.5 tons in 2007.

Arguably, Bhutan relies heavily on agriculture as it still provides livelihood to almost 70 % of the people and contributes significantly to the national income. In the midst of globalization and social changes, there is always a gap between the indigenous way of life and the so called modernization.

Moderator: Manasigan Kanchanachitra

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Title: Filipino Migration in Thailand: Current Trends and Migrants’ Experiences in the Process of Moving

By: Mary Rose Geraldine A. Sarausad
Ph.D. Candidate in Demography
IPSR

Abstract
In recent decades, the Asian region has witnessed a shift in the flow of people across boundaries, and the complexity in which it is occurring. The diverse profiles of migrants, the patterns of movement, and policies towards migration have been overwhelming. Several structural features in the economies have contributed to the migration trends in many countries in the region such as labour and skills shortages in destination countries, growing labour surplus and the widening inequalities in origin countries. With these trends, several countries have been managing migration through policies that provide legal opportunities for labour mobility and restrict irregular migration; however, the presence of illegal channels that offer cheap and unprotected source of labour is prevalent in an alarming number within Asia. The 'hidden economy' or the unregulated, informal sector is where other challenging issues persist such as exploitation of irregular migrants, trafficking and prostitution of women and girls, and other human rights violations. Thailand, like several other countries in the ASEAN region, has been experiencing an increasing trend particularly in irregular migration coming from neighboring countries like Myanmar. Moreover, data also showed that the country has a growing stock of Filipino migrants for the last five years, and that a growing number of the migrants are irregular.

This research adapted Drachmann's stages of migration process framework in analyzing the migration patterns and experiences of Filipino migrants in Thailand. It discusses the experiences of migrants, the actions taken and their passage from one stage to another by analyzing migration as a process; first, focusing on the various factors that facilitated the movement and shifting the analysis to the state of the migrant. This study uses both quantitative and qualitative approaches.
and techniques, with a lot of data acquired from the survey of 354 Filipino migrants in various provinces in Thailand, and from the perspectives of the surveyed migrants themselves through 25 in-depth interviews, direct observations, 5 key informants interviews and survey of around 200 threads on online forums and blogs frequented by Filipino migrants in Thailand. Findings from this research reveal the various risks each migrant had to go through in order to migrate to Thailand, the magnitude of irregularity among Filipino migrants in the country, their location in the labour market and the extent through which many of them have been victimized and exploited. Moreover, social networks and intermediaries have a significant role in promoting and perpetuating irregularity.

Moderator: Kritaya Archavanitkul

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Title: Asian Marriage Patterns: Examining Over a Century of National Censuses

By: Dr. Peter Xenos
Lecturer
Chulalongkorn University, College of Public Health Sciences

Past is the time when Asian marriage patterns could be described simply in terms of marriage delay. Recently the patterns have grown much more complex. Emerging are distinct national patterns with regard to: (1) the prevalence of teen marriage; (2) the probabilities of union after age
30 or so; (3) the ultimate level of non-marriage or celibacy. It is of considerable interest to know whether these differences should be interpreted in terms of different nuptiality regimes, perhaps reflecting deeper differences across the societies, or merely as indicators of different paths toward the same “very late” marriage regime in due course. The speaker will consider these issues on the basis of census marital status distributions by age and sex, which are combined with census and other information on possible causal factors. Among the explanatory variables are Maddison’s GDP per capita data set, and the Barros-Lee estimates of human capital, both matched to the census cohorts. A body of data has been assembled for a virtually complete set of Asian censuses – at present numbering 185 spanning 25 countries. The analysis features a cohort arrangement of the census age-by-year information into true cohorts within each country, and the force of nuptiality is measured by age-specific marriage ratios based on pairs of censuses. This is important given the complexity of modern Asian marriage trends because two-census measures relate to specific age groups and well-defined inter-censal intervals. Nearly 200 inter-censal intervals (country/year/age group combinations) are available for analysis.

Moderator: Kanokwan Tharawan