

**Academic Symposium on
ASEAN Comparative Studies in Public Administration and Cultures and Societies &
NIDA-ASEAN Scholar Workshop: Research Innovation and Academic Collaboration
National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), Bangkok, Thailand
August 9 - 10, 2017**

Concept Paper

I. Rationale

According to the ASEAN community vision 2025, ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together, one propose is to promote understanding and appreciation of the political and legal systems, culture and history of ASEAN Member States to enhance awareness of our people-oriented, people-centered community by promoting greater political security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation. The conceptualization and process of community building does not only involve states but also proper conceptual understanding and active involvement of population and other regional non-state actors. In other words, there must be a sense of belonging to the individual state's population in the area of regional community. While members of ASEAN countries perceive the necessity of having integration, they also see their own public administration and cultures and societies characteristic as an important factor influencing a meaningful integration of ASEAN community.

II. Background

ASEAN and Asia Studies Center (AASC) at National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), Bangkok, Thailand has its vision to become a regional research center particularly on ASEAN and Asia. AASC is determined to inspire research and debates within scholarly circles, enhance public awareness, and facilitate the search for viable solutions, especially in the realm of ASEAN and Asia Studies.

At present, the second and third collections of the ASEAN and Asia Studies Archive Project entitled Comparative Studies in ASEAN Public Administration and Comparative Studies in ASEAN Cultures and Societies are ready. This collection is expected to extend knowledge on public administration as well as cultures and societies of all ten ASEAN countries and provide in-depth information and comprehensive perspectives of the ASEAN public administration and cultures and societies that will be informative and insightful for scholar, public and private sector. Therefore, AASC proudly organizes an Academic Symposium titled "ASEAN Comparative Studies in Public Administration and Cultures and Societies" on August 9, 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Followed by the NIDA-ASEAN Scholar Workshop, this event will take place on August 10, 2017 with a specific theme on "Research Innovation and Academic Collaboration". The objective of this half-day event will be intended to provide a platform for scholar, academia from ASEAN countries and NIDA scholar to exchange views on the relevance of networks for ASEAN especially opportunities and potential collaboration across scholars in ASEAN.

III. Objective

1. To provide a public stage for international academics and scholars in the fields of Public Administration as well as Culture and Societies
2. To facilitate a networking for academics, scholars, public and private sector in the fields of ASEAN and Asia.
3. To promote cooperation among ASEAN countries to enhance connectivity, research innovation and collaboration.

IV. Targeted participants:

1. Academic Symposium on ASEAN Comparative Studies in Public Administration and Cultures and Societies

Around 70 representatives of the following will be invited:

- 20 scholars from countries in ASEAN as presenters
- Around 50 participants from academics and scholars in the fields of ASEAN, public administration and cultures and societies, university faculty staffs and students, government officers and private sectors

2. NIDA-ASEAN Scholar Workshop: Research Innovation and Academic Collaboration

Around 30-40 representatives of the following will be invited:

- ASEAN Scholar: academics and experts from 10 ASEAN member states
- NIDA Scholar: Lecturer, expert, and researcher in a field of development administration at NIDA

V. Expected Outputs:

1. Participants aware and understand on public administration and cultures and societies of ten ASEAN countries.
2. A network of academics, scholars, public and private sector in the fields of ASEAN and Asia.
3. A list of recommendations on enhancing connectivity, research innovation and collaboration among scholars in ASEAN countries

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