

FinCEAL Plus supported visit to the SEA-EU-NET Closing Event in Brussels, Belgium on 27th of April and seminar on Antibiotic Resistance in Human Impacted Environments in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 10th of May.

FinCEAL Plus Asia Targeted Travel Grant- SEA-EU-NET Closing event in Brussels

This spring I attended the SEA-EU-NET closing event in Brussels on 27th April 2017. The event aimed to provide an overview on the activities and results of the SEA-EU-NET project and to assess the impact of the project. This partnership project between South East Asia and EU on Science and Technology was originally started in 2008 and was funded by FP7. The program of the event can be found in [1].

A roundtable discussion on future cooperation between SEA-EU on Science and Technology was held during the event. The discussions focused to answer key issues and reasons of the decreasing of cooperation numbers between SEA and EU, such as the priority of thematic that can be tackled together, political agenda to support financial and operational tools for the cooperation, opportunity of SEA to participate in European Joint Programming Initiatives and the role of EU to promote more comprehensive cooperation with SEA.



Key messages to be taken back home from the SEA-EU-NET closing event:

- An agency, especially in South East Asia, which work focus on international collaborations and do not change is needed to maintain the collaborations that has been initiated.
- One of the reasons that cause the drop of collaborations between SEA and EU was that in H2020 there was no focus on SEA and there is a change in consortium regulations that there was no need from developing country; Therefore, there was no thematic focus on SEA and promoting H2020 in SEA
- However, the bilateral collaborations between countries in SEA and EU are still continually working well and productive.

I am so grateful for the travel grant from FinCEAL Plus to support my trip to attend this event. I learn about the current issues on cooperation between SEA and EU and build new networking with other stakeholders from SEA and other EU countries. The final report of SEA-EU-NET Project can be found in [2].

FinCEAL Plus Asia Event Grant- Seminar in Indonesia

FinCEAL Plus Asia sponsored a joint seminar between University of Helsinki (UH)-Finland and University Gadjah Mada (UGM)-Indonesia on “Antibiotic Resistance in Human Impacted Environments” which was held at University Club Seminar Hall in UGM, Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 10th May 2017. The objective of the half-day seminar was to raise awareness and improve the understanding of the risk of antibiotic resistance spread in the environment for wider audiences. Around 200 participants attended the seminar including master and PhD students, researchers, healthcare workers, veterinarians, animal farmers, and governmental employee in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The seminar was also a part of the Academy of Finland Project: Antibiotic Resistance in Indonesia [3], led by Prof. Marko Virta from the Department of Food and Environmental Science, UH and in collaboration with the Center of Environmental Studies (Pusat Studi Lingkungan Hidup-PSLH), UGM.

The Research Director of UGM, Prof. Sri Raharjo opened the seminar and The Signing Ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Research between UGM and UH. This was followed by the welcoming speech from the host of the seminar, the Head of PSLH-UGM, Dr. Subaryono. Two keynote speakers, Dr. Widyastuti Wibisana from WHO Indonesia presented the National Action Plan (NAP) of Indonesia [4] and Prof. Marko Virta from UH talked about the occurrence of antibiotic resistances and methodology required to study antibiotic resistance in the human impacted environments. Continued with presentations about antibiotic resistance in wastewater treatment plants, in animal husbandry, and in aquaculture environments by Dr. Jenni Hultman, Dr. Christina Lyra and Dr. Windi Muziasari from UH, respectively. The seminar offered the participants to better understand on the risk of antibiotic resistance that it is not only threat in hospital or clinical environments but also in the surrounding environments including the animal farm and aquatic environments. To increase the dissemination of

information the seminar was also covered by several local media [5]. The seminar booklet is available in [6].



References/Links:

- [1] http://unipid.fi/assets/FinCEAL/SEA-EU-NET_Closing_event_compact_version.pdf
- [2] http://unipid.fi/assets/FinCEAL/0_SEA-EU-NET_final_report_public_version.pdf
- [3] <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/researchgroups/molecular-environmental-biosciences/antibiotic-resistance-in-indonesia>
- [4] http://unipid.fi/assets/FinCEAL/Indonesia%20NAP_Wibisana.pdf
- [5] <http://unipid.fi/assets/FinCEAL/Antibiotic%20Resistance%20Publications%20Report%202017.pdf>
- [6] http://unipid.fi/assets/FinCEAL/Booklet_Antibiotic%20Resistance%20Seminar%20in%20Yogyakarta_Copy.pdf