



THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR OF REGIONAL NETWORK ON POVERTY ERADICATION

BANKING UNIVERSITY OF HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM
22 - 24th OCTOBER 2014

INTRODUCTION

In 1990, 1,909 billion people (43.1% of the world population) lived on less than 1.25USD per day and 2,864 billion people (22.4%) survived with less than 2USD per day. In 2008, the figures for the two groups were 1,289 billion (22.4% of the world population) and 2,471 billion (43%) respectively (The World Bank, World Development Indicators, 2012). As can be seen from the statistics, the poverty rate significantly reduced after almost 20 years, thanks to the growth in global economy and the efforts made by all the countries and the international community. Poverty, however, is still the one of the major concerns of human beings, especially those in South Asia and Sub-Saharan area.

Poverty is a complex global issue that has caused many problems related to living standards, economy, politics, society, culture, environment, ethics, etc. Thus, it is essential that nations themselves and the international community be committed to and put effort in eliminating poverty. According to the Millennium Declaration 2000 approved by the United Nations, poverty eradication is among the eight Millennium Development Goals - MDGs.

One topic of greatest concern is how effectively previous poverty eradication programmes have actually been organized. Besides NGOs, the private sectors as well as government agencies, universities and institutions of higher education also play significant roles in poverty alleviation. Universities have the capacity and the expertise that are necessary for solving problems related to poverty. With financial support from the private sectors, institutions of higher education can complement the initiatives of the government in poverty eradication.

The first strategy that universities can adopt is capacity building. There is an urgent need for core teams to be established at universities to help fight against poverty. These professionals will be responsible for designing programmes for the target group. Through regional co-operation, their expertise can be optimally utilized not only to address the common plights experienced by agricultural and rural communities but also to reach out to poor urban communities. The programmes that are designed for different target groups under the ambit of education will include motivational and spiritual courses, skill enhancement training, entrepreneurship strategies, initiation of economic activities, financial and management programmes.

SCOPE

- *Education and training*
- *Social issues (rural areas, rural and urban poverty, urbanization, income inequality, gender equality, child labor, etc. ...)*
- *Economics, Finance, Credit, Banking ...*
- *Culture*
- *Agriculture*
- *Environment and sustainable development*
- *Entrepreneurship*
- *Government Initiatives in poverty eradication*
- *Contribution of international organizations and, NGOs to poverty eradication*

RENPER

Regional Network on Poverty Eradication (RENPER) is considered an international forum on poverty elimination for all universities in Southeast and Southern Asia. RENPER is one of the initiatives for the internationalization of participant universities and its establishment is timely in that poverty is one of the primary concerns in all societies throughout the world in general, and within our region in particular. RENPER hopes to act as a strong coalition of universities, aiming to realize the importance of academia in complementing the roles of government and non-government agencies in combating poverty.

Previous RENPERs were held by University Malaysia Kelantan (2010), University of Battambang, Cambodia (2011), University of Bengkulu, Indonesia (2012) and University Malaysia Kelantan (2013) respectively.

RENPER 5 will be hosted by Banking University of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

OBJECTIVES

- To identify collaboration between institutions in training and research on issues of poverty eradication, execution of measures, monitoring of progress and identification of impacts and results.
- To identify research and development in relevant areas such as socio-economic, cultural, technical, financial and scientific aspects of poverty eradication.
- To strengthen co-operation among participant universities via international seminars, conferences and forum on the subject of poverty eradication.
- To provide publication and documentation on regional poverty.
- To initiate collaboration with private agencies, NGOs and the government in complementing the existing strategies/programmes on poverty eradication.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This event should be of interest to all organizations and individuals concerned with poverty eradication. These include:

- Academia
- Researchers
- Policy makers & implementers
- NGOs
- Industry personnel
- Students
- The general public

PRESENTATION

The Secretariat of RENPER5 is calling for abstracts for oral presentations. The papers will be reviewed and selected on the basis of relevance to the themes of the conference and their potential for generating discussions. Papers will be presented in English. Presenters are requested to submit their abstracts with their registration forms by **30 JUNE 2014**.

Requirements

Please submit an abstract of no more than 250 words in a single-spaced format using a 12-pt Times New Roman font and save it as a Microsoft Word file. The following items should also be provided in the file:

Titles:

A concise title that you would like to appear in the programme handbook and/or used for the proceedings.

Keywords: not more than 5

Authors and Presenters:

Name/title of author(s). The presenter should be indicated.

Institution/Agency/Company:

Name of the organization represented by author(s). The contact information of the presenter should be provided.

REGISTRATION

- There is **NO** registration fee.
- Please submit the registration form found on our website to the Secretariat **BEFORE** 31 July 2014.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Day 1

- 8:00 Registration
- 8:45 Opening Ceremony
- 9:05 Keynote Speech
- 9:50 Souvenir Awarding
- 10:00 Tea break / Networking
- 10:30 1st Session
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 2nd Session
- 16:30 Tea break/ Networking
- 18:00 Dinner

Day 2

- 8:00 3rd Session
- 10:00 Tea Break / Networking
- 10:30 4th Session
- 12:30 Lunch / Networking
- 14:00 5th Session
- 16:30 Closing Ceremony
- 16:50 Certificate Awarding
- 17:05 Tea break

Day 3

- 8:00 Local visits
- 11:00 Lunch

IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract due: **30 June 2014**
- Registration form submission: **31 July 2014**
- Notification of acceptance: **31 August 2014**
- Full papers due (to be included in the proceedings): **15 September 2014**

SUPPORT

Banking University will cover local travel expenses and accommodation for those who present their papers at the conference.

CONTACT

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VENUE

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Further information, please visit our website at:

<http://renper5-buh-vn.webnode.vn>

