

## Project SIMPLE eNews!

September 2018



**Project SIMPLE is a unique project, which enhances cooperation between universities and the professional sector, building new networks in Cambodia, Indonesia, and Thailand in cooperation with EU partners in Austria, Belgium and the Czech Republic.**

**The idea of the SIMPLE project is "Support of International Platforms Merging Labour and Education" which enables students to find a future job, increase cooperation between industry and the academic sector and increase awareness of real expectations in the job market.**

### Welcome to the Project Newsletter

Dear reader,

We are pleased to present you some of the activities organized within project SIMPLE, which was started in October 2016 and will be running till October 2019. There is a lot to report on, as the first half of the project is creating many opportunities to enhance the career platforms and services provided by universities.

Project SIMPLE team

**Based on Best Practices** for greater cooperation between universities and the professional sector, the SIMPLE project team, composed of academic staff from nine universities in [Austria](#) (University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna – BOKU, Vienna), [Belgium](#) (Ghent University - UGent), [Czech Republic](#) (Czech University of Life Sciences Prague - CULS Prague), [Cambodia](#) (Royal University of Agriculture - RUA, University of Battambang - UBB), [Indonesia](#) (Bogor Agricultural University - IPB, Tadulako University - UNTAD) and [Thailand](#) (Kasetsart University - KU, Prince of Songkla University - PSU) is working hard together, sharing experiences with professionals, students, including lessons from the field and sharing information.

**We Are Cooperating** with other Erasmus+ projects (e.g. PISAI, DOCKSIDE, FSCC), international organisations like Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD), the Agrinatura Association, and the Erasmus+ Student and Alumni Association (ESAA). Contributions to the project Platform for Cooperation with Professional Sector were set up with different organizations from both the governmental and non-governmental sector as well as NGO's (Chambers of commerce, Embassies, Ministries, and the private sector with companies such as BETAGRO, C.P., etc.). Our database now contains more than 500 contacts in the professional sector.

**Read more** about the best strategies and experiences in following SIMPLE project publications:

- 🕒 SIMPLE study [Good Practices of Alumni Centres](#) deals with the experience of Alumni and Career Centres. A set of specific best practices are identified, supported by examples of good practices.
- 🕒 SIMPLE [Guidelines Of Best Practice Examples for Alumni Centres](#) provides step by step guidance for the setting up of Alumni and Career Centres.
- 🕒 The [Action Plan for Co-operation between Alumni Centres and the Non-academic Sector](#) provides practical information for Alumni and Career Centres.



## Bringing New Knowledge, New Opportunities

**Workshop** of Best practices of Alumni and Career Centers was held at the Ghent University in Belgium in June 2017. Over three intensive days the project team focused on deep study of the best practices of Alumni and Career centers together with a number of outstanding international experts (eg. INVE aquaculture, the University of Groningen, CASE and the University of Navarra provided detailed insights into their activities.)

**Training** course for the staff of Asian Alumni Centres was held in October 2017 at BOKU, Vienna University in Austria. Twenty four participants were trained over five intensive days in fields of service such as advertising, administration and internships by BOKU experts and developed a deep insight into events like Mentoring projects, Internship Days, How to Apply, Career Calling and Job Week which are traditionally held at BOKU University.

**Improvement of soft skills** for students and staff are ensured by training and active participation in project activities (Career Days, Training, Workshops, Guest lectures). Students enhanced their language, communication, and presentations skills. CV checks were also provided for students. During Career Days students were actively involved in the preparation of the event, thereby improving their management and organizational skills.

**Guest lectures** from more than 60 representatives of the professional sector relevant to various fields of study were provided at the project partners' universities in Cambodia, Indonesia and Thailand. The project SIMPLE also supported international guest lectures.



## Building New Platforms

The project SIMPLE platform is a complex platform connecting project partners, academic staff, and administrative staff in universities, students and the professional sector. The main centres for this platform are the Alumni and/or Career Centres run in the Asian partner universities.

## Creation or Improvement of Alumni and/or Career Centre

Thanks to the effective work of project partners, Alumni and Career Centres were set up in all partner universities.

### Alumni and Career Centres:

- 📍 [UBB, Cambodia](#)  
(contact us at: [koemseang\\_vet17@yahoo.com](mailto:koemseang_vet17@yahoo.com))
- 📍 [RUA, Cambodia](#)  
(contact us at: [yasikin@rua.edu.kh](mailto:yasikin@rua.edu.kh))
- 📍 [UNTAD, Indonesia](#)  
(contact us at: [simple.untad@gmail.com](mailto:simple.untad@gmail.com))
- 📍 [IPB, Indonesia](#)  
(contact us at: [cdaipb@ipb.ac.id](mailto:cdaipb@ipb.ac.id))
- 📍 [KU, Thailand](#)  
(contact us at: [sukkrit14@gmail.com](mailto:sukkrit14@gmail.com))
- 📍 [PSU, Thailand](#)  
(contact us at: [apinya.r@psu.ac.th](mailto:apinya.r@psu.ac.th),  
[sopida.k@psu.ac.th](mailto:sopida.k@psu.ac.th))

Career Centres use the most suitable methods for cooperation and the involvement of future employers in academic activities through contacts with graduates, platforms for cooperation with the professional sector, events and by supporting internships, lectures from practitioners and the improvement of students' soft skills.







Thanks to the project SIMPLE,

**Career Days** were held at six universities: the Prince of Songkla University, Kasetsart University (Thailand), the Royal University of Agriculture, University of Battambang (Cambodia), Bogor University and Tadulako University (Indonesia). More than 150 major domestic and international companies doing business in the field of agriculture took part in these Career Days and over 5000 students were thus able to take this unique opportunity to establish contacts with potential employers and providers of professional internships.

**Internships** instruction was summarized and model documents set up with the organization of internships as a running activity by way of a follow-up to the Career Days, based on the contacts made during the Career Days. This is a long-term process, including regular contact with employers. The most common form of contact with the organisations involved are via email and face-to-face communication during organized activities.

**We Promote** our activities during various events such as conferences (Tropentag, Tropical Biodiversity Conservation Conference), meetings (Round table - Enhancement of agro-business activities in Cambodia, Forum for Development Cooperation), workshops, Career days etc.



## We Are Ready to Continue, Join Us!

Career Days pitched at a high professional level will be held at each university, supported by experience, recommendations and new equipment financed by the E+ programme of the EU. We will continue with the joint cooperation of Alumni Centres and Platforms for Cooperation with the professional sector. We will spread and increase the use of practical internships, training in soft skills and guest lectures in the curricula of the study programmes. A final assessment study will be available on the project SIMPLE web pages in October 2019.

### Schedule of main activities:

- 🕒 2018 September 21-22 - IPB Job Fair
- 🕒 2018 November 15 - PSU Career Day
- 🕒 2018 December 7- 8 - RUA Career Day
- 🕒 2019 March 26 - UBB Career Day
- 🕒 2019 March 29 - KU Career Day
- 🕒 2019 June FINAL PROJECT CONFERENCE - IPB



**Do you want** to contribute ideas to the study programs of the Asian partner universities / offer internships or guest lectures for students / find your future employees / join our events / be involved in our database? We are open to cooperation! Contact us at [projectsimple@ftz.czu.cz!](mailto:projectsimple@ftz.czu.cz)

**Help us** create more effective teaching with greater practical orientation towards the requirements of future employers, support the establishment of contacts between these two spheres, which is a priority not only of every college and its graduates but also of employers for the development of a qualified work sector.



## Read more about project SIMPLE

For more detailed information on our project please visit [www.projectsimple.eu](http://www.projectsimple.eu)

Follow us at  



## Project SIMPLE Career Days



University of Battambang, Cambodia



Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia



Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia



Tadulako University, Indonesia



Kasetsart University, Thailand



Prince of Songkla University, Thailand