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e-ASIA JRP

The e-ASIA Joint Research Program

12th ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

*Summary of the 12th annual activities from
September 2023 to August 2024*

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Basic Information

This yearly report summarizes the activities of the e-ASIA Joint Research Program during the period from the 12th Annual Board Meeting on September 6, 2023 (Hybrid) to September 10, 2024.

First Edition:

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THE E-ASIA JOINT RESEARCH PROGRAM ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT: **SUMMARY**

1. Program Administration

1.1 The 12th Annual Board Meeting

1.1.1 The 12th Annual Board Meeting was held on September 6-7, 2023, by Zoom platform and onsite (Hybrid), with Ms. Emi Kaneko, Secretary General and Dr. Yukio Kemmochi, e-ASIA Special Program Coordinator serving as the meeting’s moderators. The Board Members and the representatives, including other participants from 18 out of 25 Member Organizations (MOs) of the Program from 12 out of 14 countries have attended this meeting.

1.1.2 The board discussed on promoting international collaboration such as knowledge exchange between MOs, explored the addition of new members for network expansion and listened to the introduction of other international players such the Belmont Forum, the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

1.1.3 Tentative schedule for the 13th Call for Proposals was shared by the Secretariat that was then broadly approved by the Board.

Events	Date
Board’s Decision on Next Call Topics	Sep 7, 2023
Submission of Letter of Intent (LoI) from MOs	Mid-Nov 2023
Launch Call for Proposals	December 16, 2023
Closing of Call for Proposals	March 31, 2024
Eligibility Check and National Review by MOs	April – August 2024
Joint Review Meeting and Board Meeting	September 2024
Announcement to Applicants	November or December 2024
Start Funding	January 2025 (depending on each MO’s policy)

1.1.4 There were reports from four call development workshop sessions on the topics of Agriculture (Climate-Smart Food Production), Food and Health (Personalised Nutrition, Functional and Future Foods), Alternative Energy (Renewable Energy, Energy storage, Energy management systems) and Health (Infectious Diseases and Immunology, including Antimicrobial Resistance) which were held one day prior to the Annual Board Meeting. The Board approved for MOs to further explore these potential call topics with the Main MOs being JST, PMU-B, DOST-PCIEERD and NHMRC, respectively.

1.1.5 The Secretariat suggested to conduct the impact assessment on the e-ASIA Joint Research Program, in hope for improving program operations which will eventually promote MO achievements and engage new institutions. The Secretariat called for volunteers to be discussion group members to initiate designing how the impact assessment will run.

1.2 The 41st ad hoc Board Meeting

1.2.1 The 41st ad hoc Board Meeting was held via email sent on December 26, 2023.

1.2.2 The approved item by Ad hoc Board meeting was the following:



- Confirmation for comments from SAC & Experts to 22 Project Reports

2. Member Organizations and Guest Partner







2.1 Current Member Organizations

2.1.1 List of current Member Organizations and their Board Members and representatives in alphabetical order by country, as of September 2024, is as follows:

*24 Member Organizations from 14 countries

No	Country	Name	Title & Organization
1	 Australia	Dr. Nicholas Johnson	Executive Director, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
2	 Cambodia	Dr. Fidero Kuok	Director General, National Institute of Science, Technology & Innovation, Ministry of Industry, Science Technology and Innovation (MISTI)

No	Country		Name	Title & Organization
3		Cambodia	Dr. Kheng Sim	Deputy-Director, Communicable Disease Control Department, Ministry of Health (MOH)
4		Indonesia	Prof. M. Faiz Syuaib	Director, Research, Technology, and Community Services, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
5		Indonesia	Prof. Agus Haryono	Deputy Chairman, Facilitation of Research and Innovation, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
6		Japan	Dr. Yasushi Ogasaka	Managing Director, Department of International Strategy, Japan Agency of Medical Research and Development (AMED)
7		Japan	Dr. Kazuhito Hashimoto	President, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) (as the agent of MEXT)
8		Lao PDR	Dr. Rattanaxay Phetsouvanh	Director General, the Department of Communicable Diseases Control, Ministry of Health (MOH)
9		Lao PDR	Mr. Southiphong Vongxaiya	Director, Research and Development Management Division; Cabinet of Lao Academy of Science, Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES)
10		Malaysia	Dr. Balamurugan A/L Nallamuthu	Under Secretary, International Division, Ministry of Science, Technology Innovation (MOSTI)
11		Myanmar	Dr. Phyu Phyu Win	Director General, Department of Research and Innovation (DRI), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
12		New Zealand	Prof. Sunny Collings	Chief Executive, Health Research Council (HRC)
13		New Zealand	Dr. Loveday Kempthorne	Manager, International Science Partnerships Department, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)
14		The Philippines	Dr. Leah J. Buendia	Undersecretary for Research and Development, Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
15		Russian Federation	Mr. Alexander Usoltsev	Head, International Relations, Russian Centre for Science Information (RCSI) (former Russian Foundation for Basic Research)
16		Russian Federation	Mr. Andrey Blinov	Deputy Director General, Russian Science Foundation (RSF)
17		Singapore	Prof. Andy Hor	Deputy Chief Executive (Research), Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)

No	Country		Name	Title & Organization
18		Thailand	Ms. Kunvara Chotiphansophon	Deputy Director, Agriculture Research Development Agency (ARDA)
19		Thailand	Prof. Sompong Klaynongsruang	Director, Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
20		Thailand	Dr. Uracha Ruktanonchai	Executive Vice President, Thailand National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)
21		Thailand	Dr. Wiparat De-ong	Executive Director, National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
22		Thailand	Associate Prof. Dr. Pongpan Kaewtatip	Vice President, Thailand Science Research and Innovation (TSRI)
23		United States of America	Ms. Joyelle Kalei Dominique	Director, Office of Global Research, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
24		Vietnam	Ms. Le Thi Viet Lam	Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)

2.2 Guest Partner Organization

2.2.1 National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka is the Guest Partner organization in the Program since October 2017.

3. Joint Calls for Proposals

3.1 The 12th Joint Calls for Proposals

3.1.1 The 12th Joint Call for Proposals on the topics of **“Climate Change and Health Research”** opened from December 15, 2022 to March 30, 2023. Out of 34 proposals submitted, the following four projects were approved by the Board to be supported:

Climate Change and Health Research

Project 1

“Eliminating S. mekongi – The Final Push”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Title/Affiliation
Australia	Catherine Gordon	Professor, The Council of the Queensland Medical Research Institute
Lao PDR	Somphou Sayasone	Doctor, Head of Department, Lao Tropical and Public Health Institute
Cambodia	Virak Khieu	Doctor/Deputy-Director of National Centre for Parasitology, Entomology, and Malaria Control, Ministry of Health
Japan	Megumi Sato	PhD/Associate Professor, Niigata University

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Australia	New funds	National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
Lao PDR	In-kind participation	Ministry of Health
Cambodia	In-kind participation	Ministry of Health
Japan	New funds	Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

This cooperative research project aims to eliminate *Schistosoma mekongi* in Lao PDR and Cambodia by using an intensive multi-component “One Health” approach. Climate prediction models show that the Mekong region will be significantly impacted by climate change leading to extending transmission season of *S. mekongi*, as well as shifting or expanding habitats. Thus, now is the critical time to eliminate *S. mekongi* before the effects of climate change are felt.

Project 2

“Uncovering the Burden of Asymptomatic Malaria: Dissecting Immune Responses to Infection to Overcome Immunosuppression and Improve Vaccination Strategies”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Australia	Diana Silvia Hansen	Prof/Laboratory Head, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute
Indonesia	Indra Wibowo	Dr/Assistant Professor, School of Life Sciences and Technology, Bandung Institute of Technology
Japan	Takafumi Tsuboi	Distinguished Professor, Ehime University
USA	Stephen Hoffman	Chief Scientific and Executive Officer, Sanaria Inc.

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Australia	New funds	National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
Japan	New funds	Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
USA	In-kind participation	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

This cooperative research project aims to undertake a comprehensive immunological and molecular analysis of individuals experiencing asymptomatic malaria in an endemic area of Indonesia. The project will uncover that these non-febrile infections cause strong immunosuppression, are not benign as previously thought, and prevent the host to efficiently control infection and respond to immunization. Our research will also allow us to identify critical immune responses to eradicate these persistent infections through innovative attenuated whole parasite vaccination strategies.

Project 3

“Nontuberculous Mycobacterial (NTM) Infections Associated with Climate Change and Major Weather Events: Enhancing Surveillance and Mitigation Strategies”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Australia	Rachel Thomson	Professor/Lead, Mycobacterial Diseases & Bronchiectasis Research Unit/Head, Greenslopes Clinical Unit, The University of Queensland
USA	D Rebecca Prevots	Chief of Epidemiology Unit, National Institutes of Health
Japan	Kozo Morimoto	Principal Research Scientist, Research Institute of Tuberculosis/Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association (RIT/JATA)
Thailand	Surakameth Mahasirimongkol	Director of Department of Medical Sciences, Ministry of Public Health
Cambodia	Sokleaph Cheng	Deputy head of Medical Biology Laboratory and Head of Laboratory of Mycobacteriology, Institut Pasteur du Cambodge (IPC)

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Australia	New funds	National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
USA	New funds	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
Japan	New funds	Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)
Thailand	New funds	Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
Cambodia	In-kind participation	Ministry of Health

This project will assess and predict the impacts of major weather events and climate changes on NTM incidence and geospatial distribution in Australia, US, Japan, Thailand, and Cambodia. Major weather events cause aerosol dissemination of NTM from the environment, resulting in acute increases in human exposure, and further increases in disease occur because of the impacts on drinking water distribution systems (DWDS). Novel therapies will be evaluated to control NTM growth in the biofilm of DWDS to reduce transmission.

Project 4

“Climate Change Adaptation to Smoke Haze for Improved Child Health in Southeast Asia”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Australia	Sotiris Vardoulakis	Professor of Global Environmental Health, Australian National University
Thailand	Kraichat Tantrakarnapa	Associate Professor of Environmental Health, and Deputy Dean for Facilities and Environment, Mahidol University
Indonesia	Budi Haryanto	Professor and Director of Environmental Health Science, University of Indonesia
Cambodia	Vannak Ann	Vice-Dean/Lecturer in Hydrology, GIS and Remote Sensing, Institute of Technology of Cambodia
Lao PDR	Keophousone Phonhalath	Assistant Professor, Deputy Head of Environmental Engineering Department, National University of Laos

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Australia	New funds	National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
Thailand	New funds	Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
Cambodia	In-kind participation	Ministry of Health
Lao PDR	In-kind participation	Ministry of Health

This interdisciplinary research project aims to assess the effectiveness of climate change adaptation interventions for strengthening community resilience to smoke haze in Southeast Asia and increasing their adoption and implementation in the region to protect children’s health. The project takes an integrated and multi-sectoral approach to manage the inter-related factors of adaptation interventions, such as early warning systems, clean air rooms, and targeted public health information, in culturally appropriate ways that promote their acceptance and implementation in local communities.

3.1.2 The 12th Joint Call for Proposals on the topics of “**Environment (Low Carbon Society)**” opened from January 10, 2023 to April 28, 2023. Out of 34 proposals submitted, the following five projects were approved by the Board to be supported:

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Environment (Low Carbon Society)

Project 1

“Coastal ecosystems as nature climate solution in Asia”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affitiation
Thailand	Anchana Prathep	Dean, Prince of Songkla University
Japan	Ken-ichi Hayashizaki	Associate Professor, Kitasato University
Indonesia	Nurjannah Nurdin	Professor, Hasanuddin University

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Thailand	New funds	Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
Japan	New funds	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)

This project aims to assess the carbon potential of coastal ecosystems, which can be utilized by countries for climate change mitigation strategies, and combine research, social aspects, and private stakeholders to develop the potential mechanisms to include these ecosystems in national policies for carbon dioxide offset. This research will provide each country with a strategy on how to manage these ecosystems with the goal of increasing carbon sequestration, which can be relayed to national policies as well as social security for the local communities.

Project 2

“Developing integrated agriculture wastes – carbon capture model for mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions in rice production in Asia (IAW-CCM Asia)”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Thailand	Jonaliza Siangliw	Senior Researcher, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC)
Japan	Kosuke Noborio	Full Professor, Meiji University
Indonesia	Chusnul Arif	Associate Professor, IPB University
Lao PDR	Phetmanyseng Xangsayasane	Senior rice scientist/Director, National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Thailand	New funds	Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B)
Japan	New funds	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)
Lao PDR	In-kind participation	Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES)

Rice production is part of the culture in Asia and the staple food in the region. Linked with the production is the emission of carbon and other greenhouse gases. This cooperative research project aims to utilize agricultural (specifically rice) and food waste for composting and transformation to products that will enhance carbon capture and utilization and the reduction of carbon and GHGs through the application of azolla and alternate wet and dry systems of rice cultivation.

Project 3

“Closed-loop Recycle Process of Spent Primary and Secondary Batteries and the Reutilization for the Environmental Applications & Circular Economy (ReSPEC)”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Thailand	Rojana Pornprasertsuk	Associate Professor, Chulalongkorn University
Japan	Tomoaki Watanabe	Vice President/Professor, Meiji University
Indonesia	Lukman Noerochim	Associate Professor, Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology (ITS)

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Thailand	New funds	National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
Japan	New funds	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)

This research project aims to cooperatively closed-loop recycle Mn, Zn and C from spent alkaline and Zn-C batteries and Li, Mn, Co, Ni, C from spent Li-ion battery collected in Thailand, Japan and Indonesia to be reutilized for the environmental applications as follows: (i) Zn and Ni/Co/MnOx/C for rechargeable Zn-ion battery, (ii) Li/Ni/Mn/AlOx for high-performance LIB with fast-charging capability, (iii) NaFeMnOx for Na-ion battery and (iv) Ni/Co/Mn/ZnOx composites as photocatalysts for the waste water treatment and hydrogen production.

Project 4

“Design of Innovative Sustainable Urban Mobility in Asia (DISUMA)”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Japan	Hironori Kato	Full Professor, The University of Tokyo
Thailand	Saksith Chalermpong	Associate Professor/Deputy Director, Chulalongkorn University
Indonesia	Muhammad Zudhy IRAWAN	Ph.D., Gadjah Mada University

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Japan	New funds	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
Thailand	New funds	National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)

This collaborative research aims to perform international case studies incorporating participatory processes of stakeholders for proposing guidelines towards the development of sustainable mobility system in Asia. The Japanese research team will design and lead the study process, supervising the entire research activities through organizing participatory workshops with international comparisons of case studies while Thai and Indonesian teams will perform case analyses on sustainable mobility strategies in each country, where local contexts and unique solutions against local challenges are investigated.

Project 5

“AI-supported tool development for decarbonized food system”

PI & Affiliation

Country	PI	Position/Affiliation
Japan	Eri Amasawa	Project Associate Professor, The University of Tokyo
Thailand	Santi Phithakkitnukoon	Associate Professor, Chiang Mai University
Indonesia	Zainal Arifin Hasibuan	Lead, University of Dian Nuswantoro

Funding Modality

Country	Funding Modality	Funding Agency
Japan	New funds	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
Thailand	New funds	National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)
Indonesia	New funds	Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology (DIKBUDRISTEK)

There is an urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from food systems, which account for one-third of global anthropogenic emissions. This project aims to develop a decarbonization strategy using Artificial Intelligence (AI) at each life-cycle stage of the food system. We will use AI in farm management, calculate GHG emissions from menus using image recognition and machine learning, and build a matching platform to reduce food waste. This can propose advanced decarbonization initiatives from upstream to downstream of the food system.

3.2 The 13th Joint Call for Proposals

3.2.1 The 13th Joint Calls for Proposals in the field of “Health Research” on the topic of “Infectious Diseases and Immunology (including Antimicrobial Resistance)”, in the overarching field of “Food and Health” on the topic of “Personalized Nutrition”, in the field of “Alternative Energy” on the subtopics of “Renewable Energy”, “Energy Storage” and “Energy Management Systems”, in the field of “Agriculture (Food)” on the topic of “Climate-Smart Food Production” were opened from December 15, 2024 to April 29, 2024. These calls have been participated by the following Member Organizations (listed in alphabetical order):

Participating Member Organizations and their funding modalities for the 13th Call for Proposals.

Participating Member Organization	Research Field			
	Health Research	Food and Health	Alternative Energy	Agriculture (Food)
	Research Topic			
	<i>Infectious Diseases and Immunology (including Antimicrobial Resistance)</i>	<i>Personalized Nutrition</i>	<i>Renewable Energy, Energy Storage and Energy Management Systems</i>	<i>Climate-Smart Food Production</i>
NHMRC (Australia)	New	New		
MISTI (Cambodia)		In-kind		In-kind
MOH (Cambodia)				
BRIN (Indonesia)	New, In-kind	New, In-kind	New, In-kind	New, In-kind
JST (Japan)			New	New
AMED (Japan)	New			
MOH (Lao PDR)	In-kind	In-kind		
MOES (Lao PDR)				
MOST (Myanmar)		In-kind		In-kind

Participating Member Organization	Research Field			
	Health Research	Food and Health	Alternative Energy	Agriculture (Food)
	Research Topic			
	<i>Infectious Diseases and Immunology (including Antimicrobial Resistance)</i>	<i>Personalized Nutrition</i>	<i>Renewable Energy, Energy Storage and Energy Management Systems</i>	<i>Climate-Smart Food Production</i>
MBIE (New Zealand)			New	
DOST-PCAARRD (Philippines)				New
DOST-PCHRD (Philippines)	New	New		
DOST-PCIEERD (Philippines)			New	
A*STAR (Singapore)	In-kind			
NRCT (Thailand)				New
PMU-B (Thailand)		New	New	
NIAID (USA)	New, Re-budgeting, In-kind			

3.3 Preparatory discussion for the 14th Joint Call for Proposals

3.3.1 For the preparation of future calls for proposals, more extensive deliberations were recommended during the 11th Annual Board Meeting compared to the preparation duration for the past call. In line with this, the Secretariat, similar to last year, had conducted the questionnaire for potential call areas this year, specifically from April through June.

3.3.2 The questionnaire results were compiled and shared with each Member Organization, and four preparatory discussions were held on July 1, 30 and 31, 2024 respectively to narrow down the themes for the 14th call for proposals. The overview of the discussions is as follows:

- 3.3.3 In the first discussion meeting on July 1, 2024, the Secretariat showed the overview of the questionnaire results with a high likelihood of developing as call topics, where proposals from three or more countries overlapped or could be merged. Simultaneously, the Secretariat emphasized the need for additional participation in areas with proposals from fewer than two countries.
- 3.3.4 The Secretariat held the second discussion meeting on July 30 and 31 2024, (taking into consideration the availability of MOs but with the same agenda), participating Member Organizations deliberated on the themes for the workshops, considering options in Health Research (Infectious Diseases and Immunology), Interdisciplinary Research (focusing on innovative material with potential application in agriculture and disaster risk reduction), and Alternative Energy. MOs agreed to hold a workshop along with these potential call topics as a sideline event of the 13th Annual Board Meeting.
- 3.3.5 After some communications between MOs, Disaster Risk Reduction became a separate call topic apart from Interdisciplinary Research. It was agreed that the call development workshop should be held in the topics of Health Research, Alternative Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction, with responsible MOs for each topic being AMED, DOST-PCIEERD and JST, respectively.

4. Stakeholder Interactions

4.1 e-ASIA Joint Research Program Workshop

- 4.1.1 The e-ASIA Joint Research Program Workshop on Health (infectious disease and immunity), Food (Food and Nutrition and personal health), Alternative Energy (bio resources, chemical resources and energy management) and Agriculture (climate-smart agriculture) @ Western Australia Department of Health, Perth, Australia
- 4.1.2 The workshop was held on September 5, 2023 via Zoom platform and onsite (Hybrid). This workshop was co-organized by National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B), Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology, Research and Development (PCIEERD), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and e-ASIA

Secretariat.

4.1.3 This workshop was divided into four sessions: (1) Health (infectious disease and immunity), (2) Food (Food and Nutrition and personal health), (3) Alternative Energy (bio resources, chemical resources and energy management) and (4) Agriculture (climate-smart agriculture). Holding this workshop aimed to promote collaborative research in Asia through build a team of researchers to apply for the 13th e-ASIA JRP calls on Health, Food, Alternative Energy and Agriculture calls.

4.2 The e-ASIA JRP Workshop - Regarding to 2024 Funding Calls

4.2.1 The workshop was held on 16-17 January 2024 on Zoom Platform. This workshop was co-organized by Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation (PMU-B), Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology, Research and Development (PCIEERD), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and e-ASIA Secretariat.

4.2.2 This workshop was divided into four sessions: (1) Health (infectious disease and immunity), (2) Food (Food and Nutrition and personal health), (3) Alternative Energy (bio resources, chemical resources and energy management) and (4) Agriculture (climate-smart agriculture). This workshop aimed to promote collaborative research in East Asia through building international research teams to apply to the 13th e-ASIA JRP calls on these topics.

4.3 The first Knowledge Sharing Workshop

4.3.1 The workshop was held on April 18, 2024 via Zoom platform with speakers and participants invited from MOs (not open to the public). This first workshop was organized by the Secretariat and aimed to (1) enhance understanding among MOs of the diverse methodologies employed in proposal evaluation, (2) identify potential avenues for MOs to refine existing methodologies and (3) gain consensus or recommendations regarding the theme of subsequent workshops. Speakers from NHMRC, BRIN, AMED, MOSTI, DOST-PCHRD and PMU-B

5. Impact Assessment

The idea of conducting an impact assessment on the e-ASIA Joint Research Program was raised by the Secretariat at the 12th Annual Board Meeting, was received broadly favorably by the Board. In response to the Secretariat's call for volunteers, JST, DOST-PCIEERD and NIAID, together with the Secretariat, formed a working group and held discussion meetings on October 25 and November 17 in 2023 and on February 2 and March 19 in 2024. During these meetings, the working group members shared their methodologies for impact assessment and broadly agreed to proceed with data which could be extracted from exiting reports from expired e-ASIA projects and new surveys to be conducted on PIs of these projects.

---End of the Report---

For more information, please visit the following website:

<http://www.the-easia.org/jrp/>



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