

**Alumni:** Fitra Jehwoh

**Project Title:**

Pattani- Chiangmai: Environmental Studies for Youth

**Brief description of the project**

Youth Movement on Environmental Issues is a two weeks workshop focuses on various environmental issues in Thailand. Youths that attend the workshop will be selected from various schools, colleges, and universities from the conflict zones in southern parts of Thailand including Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat province. The main activities for the workshop will take place at two locations; the first week in Pattani, and the second week in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

**Project Description:**

Since 2004, the conflicts in southern regions of Thailand including Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat province have created different ongoing issues. These issues include economic instabilities, misunderstanding in community between the Muslim and Buddhist locals, and hinders various fields of development such as health, infrastructures, and education system. Due to these impacts, many areas in the community are neglected including in the field of environmental awareness and protection.

Although the amount of natural resources in southern regions are abundant, its current state are being threatened by the local people themselves due to inadequate knowledge regarding environmental sustainability. The current unrest also created more tension between the Muslim and Buddhist locals, making it even more difficult for the local and youths to collaborate among each other. Therefore, Pattani- Chiangmai: Environmental Studies for Youth workshop focuses on two main goals:

1. To connect the different levels of community in society
2. To increase awareness in environmental issues among youths and local people

Pattani- Chiangmai: Environmental Studies for Youth Workshop is a two weeks program where the first week will be held in Pattani and the second week in Chiang mai. During the workshop, students will be divided into small groups based on their common environmental interest and a mentor will be assigned to each group. Each team will then have to collaborate with local organizations, communities, or with our partners; visit various environmentally concerned sites, and engage in providing solutions to help improve the issues of concern. The workshop allows students to employ problem-based learning method, debate, group discussion, creative learning, critical thinking, and finally students have to present their solutions to the general public.

It is expected that the workshop will help reconnect youths from both the Muslim and Buddhist communities, to further inspire the youths to work for the improvement in their communities, and to increase awareness regarding various environmental issues in Thailand. The workshop is to take place during August- September.

**- Target audience**

Twenty students aged between 16-20 years old (including students from High School, Islamic secondary schools, College, and University) from Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat province.

**- Partners:**

The team consists of members from various regions in Thailand and the US. The members also have good connections with various local organizations or partners from previous collaborated projects.

**In Pattani:**

Greenpeace Thailand (workshop and guest speaker)  
Rabbit in the Moon Organization (workshop and guest speaker)  
Talok Kapour village and beach  
Yaring Mangrove forest and learning center  
Pattani Landfilled, Pattani Municipality

**In Chiang Mai:**

Phan Ohn Temple, Chiang Mai (Green market & Waste management)  
Chan Oi, Biodegradable Packaging for Environment Co., Ltd.  
Darunee Cotton (natural dyed cotton)  
Organic Farming, Faculty of Agriculture, Chiang Mai University  
Doi Samoeng Community Forest

**Project location:**

The first location for the workshop will take place in Pattani province where each team will visit various environmentally concerned sites to study, observe, and further understand different causes and effects of local environmental issues. Each team will then collaborate with local communities, organizations, or with one of our partners to offer the solutions to improve the concern environmental issues.

The second location for this workshop will take place in Chiang Mai province. Although Chiang Mai is geographically different from the southern province, we believed that Chiang Mai provides good examples in terms of how different levels in the community work together in tackling various environmental issues. By bringing students to learn and observe the different case studies in Chiang Mai will help expand students' mindset, allow students to explore various solutions to environmental issues, and promote cooperative learning among the youths.

**Techniques and methods**

Pattani- Chiang Mai: Environmental Studies for Youth workshop is innovative because we are employing Problem-Based Learning method based on current environmental issues happening in the region. The workshop also encourages students to work together as a team, engage in debate, group discussions, creative learning, critical thinking, information mining skills, presentation skills to the general public, and allowing students to learn through hands-on experience. Each team will be assigned with mentors that had similar experiences of learning regarding various environmental issues during SUSI (Study of The US Institute). After the workshop is completed, students will have to continue or start their own project in local schools or communities.

