Royal Thai Embassy Project
“Study Visit on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) to Sustainable Development” in Thailand

1. Title: Study Visit on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) to Sustainable Development

2. Duration: 5 days (either from mid-July or the beginning of August)

3. Qualifications
   3.1 Age 20 to 25 years old
   3.2 Studying in the field related to agriculture, economics, rural development, social, environment and public policy
   3.3 Write an essay in 500 words maximums in English only (1 page in A4 paper) to explain “the reason why you would like to participate in this study visit and how you will promote the SEP in your country.”

4. Closing date for application: 28 May 2018

5. Background
   5.1 The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP)* was introduced in 1974 by His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej. SEP is one of the greatest legacies, which His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej bequeathed to Thailand and, which has helped improve the livelihood and well-being of the Thai people for decades. At present, more than 4,000 Royal Development Projects have been initiated and implemented throughout Thailand. The projects covered many areas such as water resources development, agricultural development, public health, transport, occupational promotion, social welfare and education. Thanks to His Majesty the late King’s noble contribution, the number of Thais struggling with poverty has dropped from 19.8 million in 1990 to 5 million as of 2015, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

   5.2 SEP is an approach for sustainable development which adopts moderation, reasonableness and prudence as development framework based on knowledge and virtue. The Philosophy attaches great importance to human development at all levels, from the individual, family and community to society as well as in all sectors of society from government, business, industry, agriculture and services. The application of this Philosophy is to help create and ensure a balanced way of life with full respect for the environment, by developing the ability to appropriately cope with critical challenges arising from extensive and rapid changes in economic, social, environmental and cultural conditions of the world.

   5.3 In pursuance of His Majesty the late King’s aims, Thailand has not only promoted and carried out the SEP-based programmes within Thailand, but has also extended her development assistance to many other neighboring countries as well as needing friends around
the world, which is also part of the world’s efforts in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

5.4 For Sri Lanka in particular, the Ministry of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage of Sri Lanka has already incorporated the SEP concept into its development efforts and collaborated with the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) in developing pilot development projects in three Sri Lankan communities based on the SEP. This initiative took the first step towards the long-term bilateral development cooperation based on the SEP between Thailand and Sri Lanka.

5.5 This is the first time that the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo will take 5 selected Sri Lankan students from prestigious Universities in Sri Lanka to learn about SEP in Thailand and how to apply SEP in local community of Sri Lanka.

* More information about SEP could be found in http://tica.thaigov.net/main/en/business

6. Objectives

6.1 To promote the concepts of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) in Sri Lanka as another approach to realising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 among Sri Lankan youth.

6.2 To share Thailand’s best practices and success stories with regard to the application of the SEP.

6.3 To discuss and exchange views and opinions between Sri Lankan participants and Thai officials as well as Thai agencies on the development-related issues and the SEP’s roles in achieving the long-lasting sustainable prosperity in conjunction with the Sri Lanka’s ongoing development efforts.

7. Expenses

7.1 The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo will support course fees during the study visits, international travel, local transportation (in Thailand), visa fees, food and accommodation in Thailand during 5 days of visit.

7.2 The participants have to pay for local transportation in Sri Lanka (from their hometown to the Airport and from the Airport to their hometown), international health insurance** and personal expenses during their stay in Thailand.

** All selected participants shall present the international health insurance to the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo before the date of departure for the study visit. (Compulsory condition.)

8. Procedure

8.1 The Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo will select 5 participants from the application forms and essays submitted only before or on the closing date (28 May 2018) to the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo.
8.2 Selected participants will be announced through the Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo’s website [http://www.thaiembassy.org/colombo/en/home](http://www.thaiembassy.org/colombo/en/home) or [https://www.facebook.com/RTEColombo/](https://www.facebook.com/RTEColombo/) on 11 June 2018 from 14.00 p.m. onward.

8.3 The Royal Thai Embassy in Colombo in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and Thailand International Cooperation Agencies (TICA) will organize a study visit in Thailand (Bangkok and nearby provinces) on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) to Sustainable development.

9. Programme

9.1 Lectures by TICA and relevant agencies
- Introduction to Sufficiency Economy Philosophy
- Sustainable Development and Sufficiency Economy
- Sufficiency Economy in Community
- Sufficiency Economy and Royal projects

9.2 Study Visits
- Amphawa Chaipattananuruk, Sumut Songkhram Province
- The Chang Hua Man Royal Project, Petchaburi Province

10. Assignment report

All selected participants are required to attend all activities during the study visit and submit a report on how to apply SEP to your country with example development project in your country within 2 weeks after the return to Sri Lanka. The selected report will be publicized on the Royal Thai Embassy’s website and facebook.

11. Contact

For more information please contact
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Royal Thai Embassy, Colombo
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