

Tertiary education collaboration across national borders – opportunities and challenges



A joint presentation:

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The context for forestry education varies among countries



Forestry education has global application



Exchange across national borders enriches student experience and improves learning – and is attractive to students



Global issues for forestry education

Increasing

- population
- wealth
- urbanisation
- demand for goods and services
- international demand for education



New technologies

online, remote delivery, automated learning

Need for integrated, sustainable development

Student interest focused on

forest conservation, carbon and climate, forest restoration, ecosystem services, fire management, international policy





University of Melbourne, National University of Laos Research-led collaboration



The 21st C forestry student

- Has much wider interests and aspirations than those who graduated in the 20th century
- Seeks communication and facilitation skills; collaboration with other sectors seen as key needs
- Is interested in online teaching and learning
- Expects experiential field-based learning to complement online learning

Future forestry education

- Collaboration based on research-led teaching and collaborative learning
- Effective collaboration requires long-term commitment, trust, mutual understanding and alignment of interests of different institutions



Steps in developing cross national programs

Mutual Course Recognition

- Courses offered are diverse in content and depth and scope of coverage
- Mutual course recognition is required if dual degree and joint degree programs between universities will prosper
- Standards on course content, depth of treatment and outcomes expected will need to be developed
- Program accreditation will help ensure desired levels of quality

Steps in developing cross national programs

Equitable Access

- Countries vary in its students' capacity to access dual and joint degree programs
- Accessibility of dual and joint degree programs could be enhanced thru
 - Scholarship/financial assistance programs
 - Online courses
 - Satellite campuses
 - Mobility of professors
- Language could be a constraint

Existing Platforms

- Southeast Asian University Consortium
 - Consisting of 5 ASEAN universities + TUA, UBC, UG
 - Student and faculty travel grant
 - Scholarships
 - Joint research projects
 - Knowledge resources sharing

Existing Platforms

- AKECOP (ASEAN-Korea Environmental Cooperation Project)
 - Student and faculty travel grant
 - Scholarships
 - Joint research projects
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An aerial photograph of a vast, dense tropical forest. The canopy is a rich, textured green, with some taller trees visible. The horizon is hazy and blue, suggesting a distant or elevated view. The text is overlaid in the lower-left quadrant.

Case and experience of FSS, NUoL

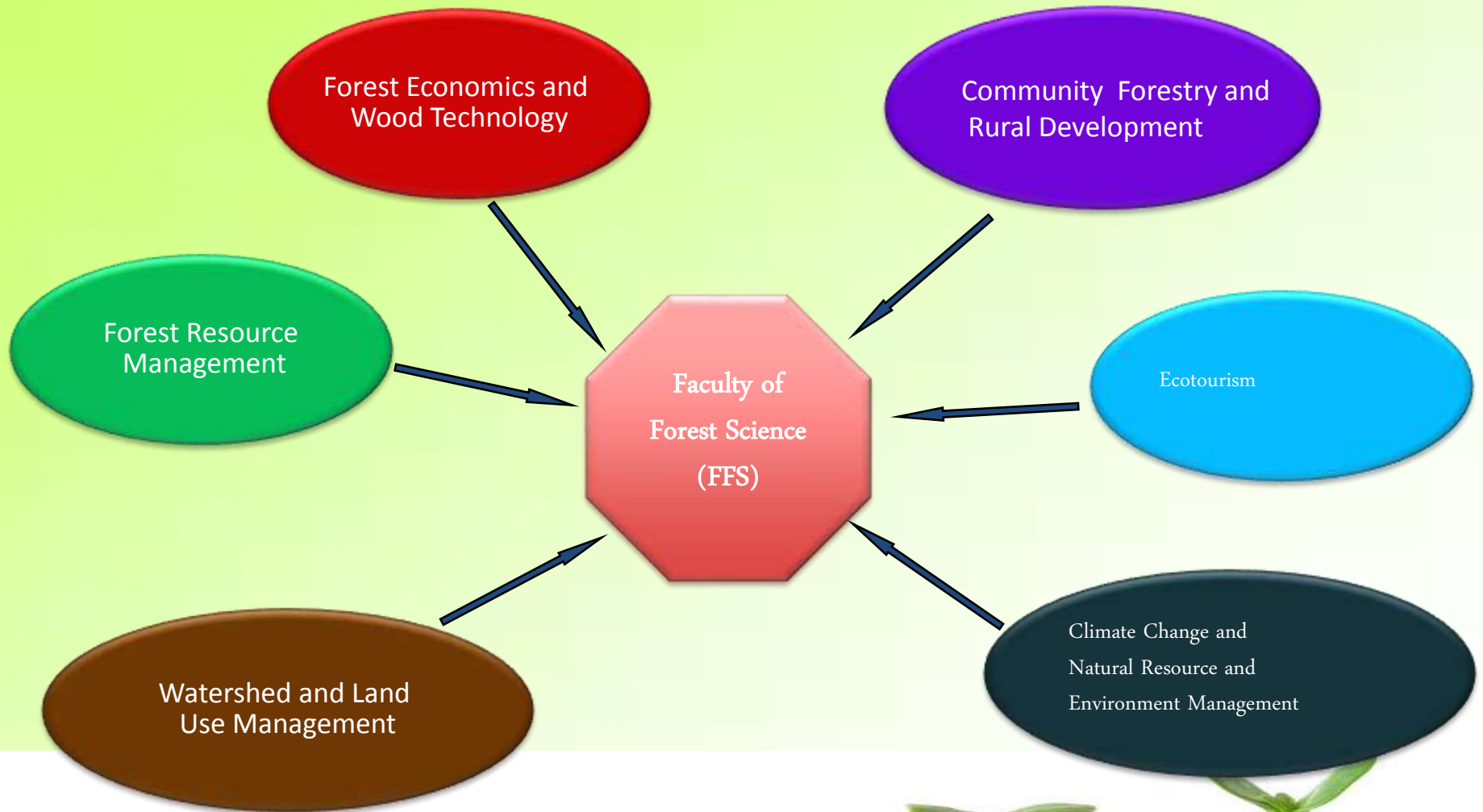
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Background

- Before 1996, all high level education institution in Laos were separate and managed by different ministries with limited resource and funding support
- A National University of Laos was established, combining all those 12 high level education institute together to share courses work, facilities, harmonizing fund from various sources

Scientific activities



Annual Field Practices of Students from FFS



Problems and Lessons learnt

- Problems:
 - Difficult to manage both administration and actual implementation (course sharing, budgeting, communication, transportation etc...) due to separate campus and offices.
 - Limitation of human resources
- Lessons learnt
 - Updating and revising curriculum
 - Re-arrangement of organization structure
 - Revising role and function of organization

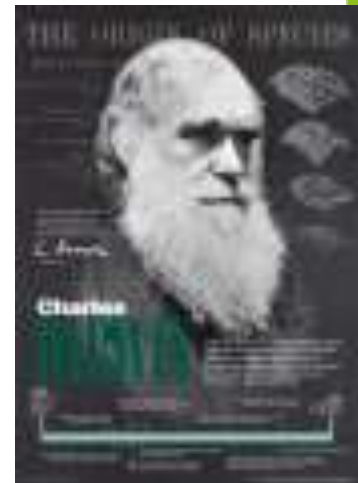
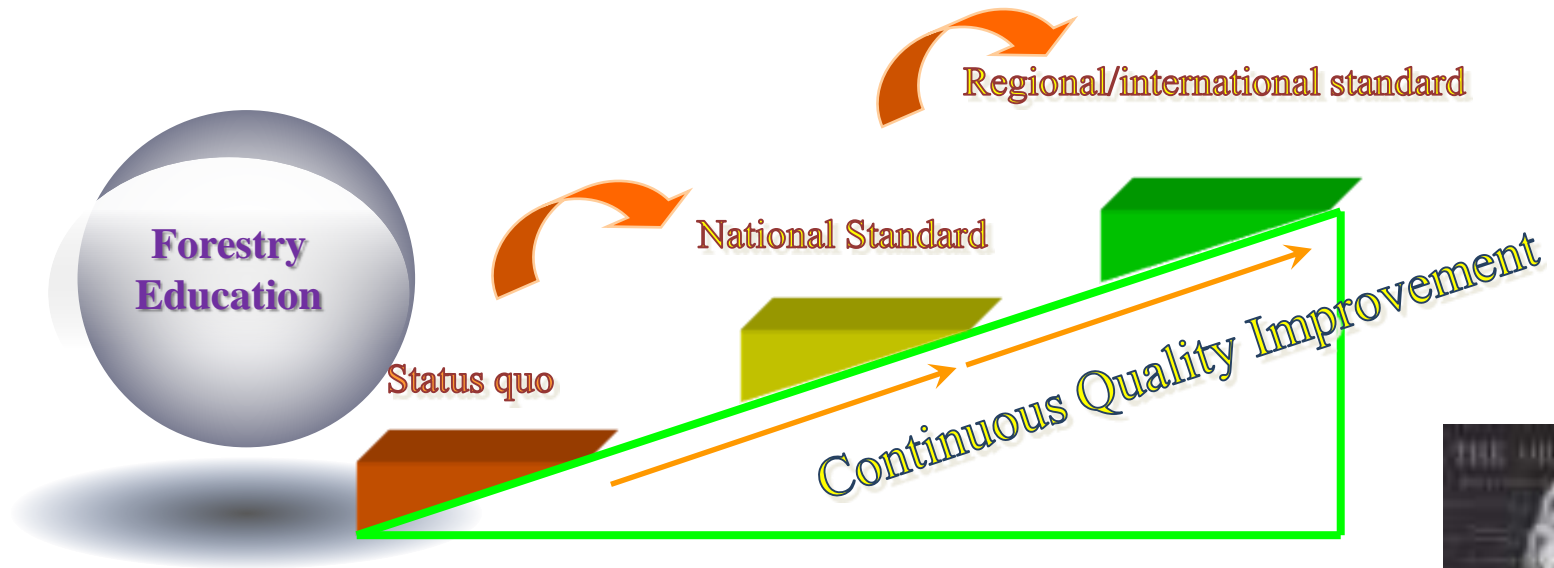
Course sharing with foreign countries

- Tropical forest management- joint program among University in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos
- *USAID LEAF's Regional Climate Change Curriculum*: 14 universities from the Asia-Pacific to develop a flexible and adaptable curriculum of high quality that they can be adapted and/or adopted in their country and in their university context
- A Master program in Sustainable forest management and livelihoods, a joint program among Universities from Finland, Switzerland and Laos
- Cooperative program between FSS and Australian Universities(Melbourne Uni.) for enhancing post-graduate education, research and research training

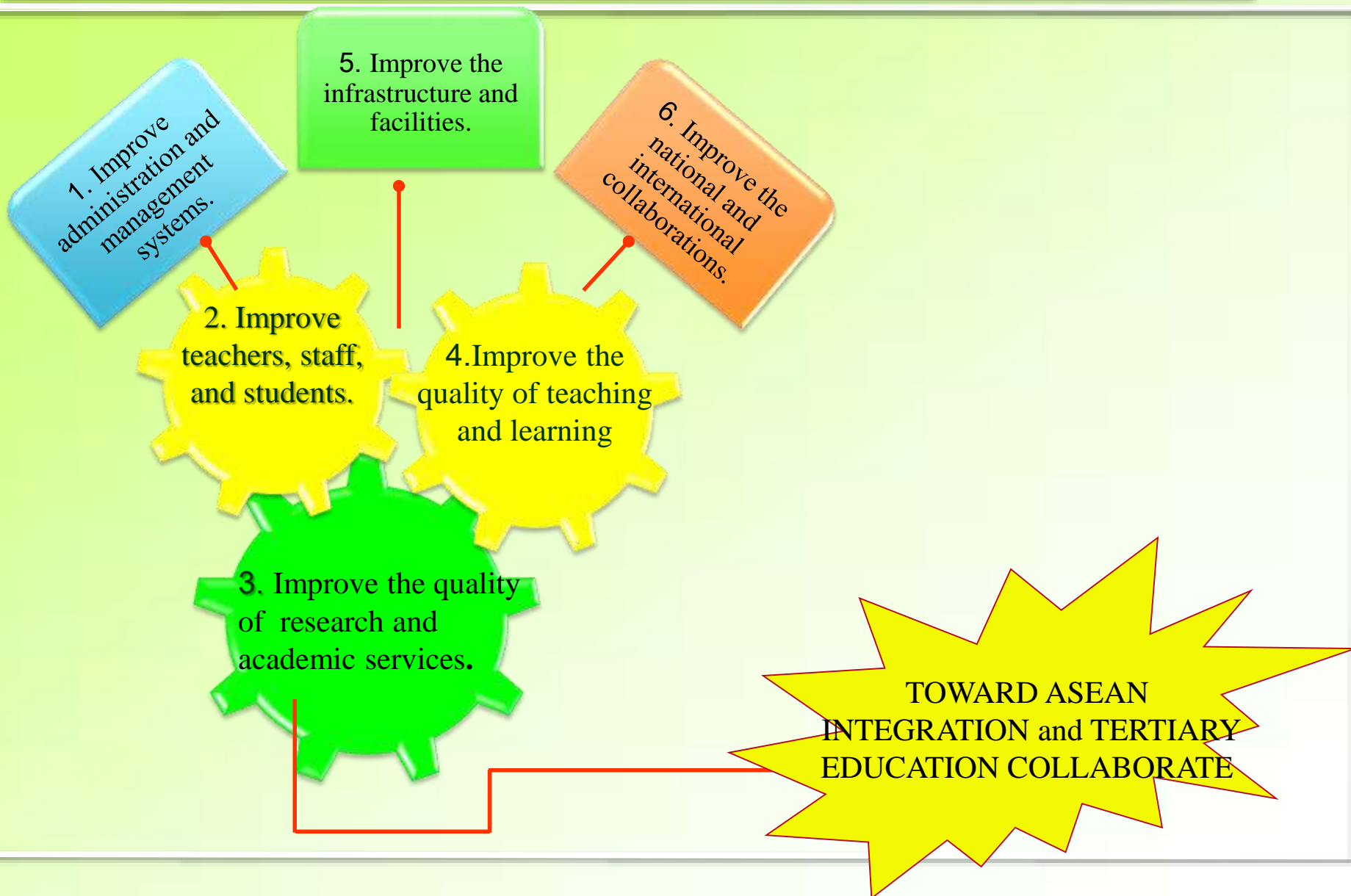
**Toward ASEAN integration and
Tertiary Education
Collaboration Cross Border**

Charles Darwin

“It is not the strongest of the species that survive,
nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change”



Strategic plan



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ACTION



British Embassy
Vientiane



UNIVERSITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
KNOWLEDGE • INNOVATION • INTERPRET

ພິທີ ເຊັນບົດບັນທຶກຄວາມເຂົ້າໃຈ
Memorandum of Understanding

ລະຫວ່າງ/between

ຄະນະວິທະຍາສາດປ່າໄມ້, ອາວິທະຍາໄລແຫ່ງຊາດລາວ
Faculty of Forestry, National University of Laos





Thank you!