

EURASIA ERASMUS MUNDUS EXTERNAL CO-OPERATION WINDOW

Questionnaire for Post-Docs and Teachers

You are being asked to complete this questionnaire because you participated in an exchange as part of the **EURASIA EM – ECW project**. This questionnaire will ask you how satisfied you were with the experience and how important specific components of the experience were to you, in order to get your opinion about how the exchange programme can be improved. Your honest answer responses will be kept confidential and will help us improve the programme. This questionnaire should take fewer than 10 minutes to complete.

Enter your name here

Montarop YAMABHAI

I am from: Please name Home University

Suranaree University of Technology (SUT)

I did my exchange at: Please name Host University

BOKU-University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna

What were your main fields of teaching or research?

Biotechnology, focusing on improvement of biocatalysts for industrial purposes using directed evolution techniques

SECTION 1: Short Statement on Your Experiences at the Host University (with regard to academic and cultural aspects)

Academic aspects: I have a chance to teach in a class that is highly international. The facility for teaching is excellent and the laboratory equipments are very modern and nice. I also had a chance to interact with staffs and students about their research work. Both students and teaching staffs are friendly, making the atmosphere very favorable. In addition, many ideas have been discussed that will lead to more collaboration in the future.

Cultural aspects: I have learnt the similarities and differences among students and staffs in Europe, Thailand, Asia, and in the US (where I did my PhD). I am thankful that I got a chance to live in one of the nicest city in Europe (and the world), which is extremely rich in culture. I enjoy visiting to museum and classical music. Since I brought my 3-year old daughter with me, I have also experienced a cultural aspects regarding children (kindergarten, play ground), and it was very nice.

In conclusion, I am very satisfied and have had great experiences with this program.

SECTION 2: Benefits of the Exchange Experience

I am more confident in teaching and interacting with international students and staffs in European countries. I have seen new technology and equipments for teaching and performing research. Some of these will be adapted to my home university. I have got a chance to supervise my PhD students in person, which greatly help progressing her thesis work. More importantly, many more ideas and collaborating projects has been created which should lead to fruitful outcome in the future. Problem and solutions that may happen have been foreseen. These benefits cannot be obtained without personal contacts like this visit. In conclusion, the benefits are more than I expected.

SECTION 3: Improving the Programme

Please share your top three recommendations for how this programme can be improved.

Recommendation One:

The funding of the project should be extended to more than one year or there should be some kind of follow-up fellowship. This is because after the visit, I have initiated a number of possible collaborative projects, and to keep or extend a sustainable relationship, more funding is needed for sending other staffs or students between home and host universities.

Recommendation Two:

It would be nice to have a regional meeting where all participants are invited and get to know each other.

Recommendation Three:

An official one day visit for teachers to learn about host university in general might be good.

Please submit the questionnaire to the project co-ordinator:

eurasia@boku.ac.at

**University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna
Center for International Relations
Peter Jordan Strasse 82a
1190 Vienna, Austria**