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## DOCKSIDE Mobility Report

### Student Mobility between the University of Battambang (UBB)-Cambodia and Universidade de Vigo (UVigo)-Spain



Universidade de Vigo

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## I. INTRODUCTION

DOCKSIDE, which stands for DOctoral program in Khmer universities Strengthening the International Development of Environmental and maritime research, is a project co-funded by the Erasmus + Program of the European Union, KA2 Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practice between four public universities in Cambodia: National University of Management (NUM); Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE); University of Battambang (UBB) and Royal University of Agriculture (RUA). An institution support is provided by the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport (MoEYS).

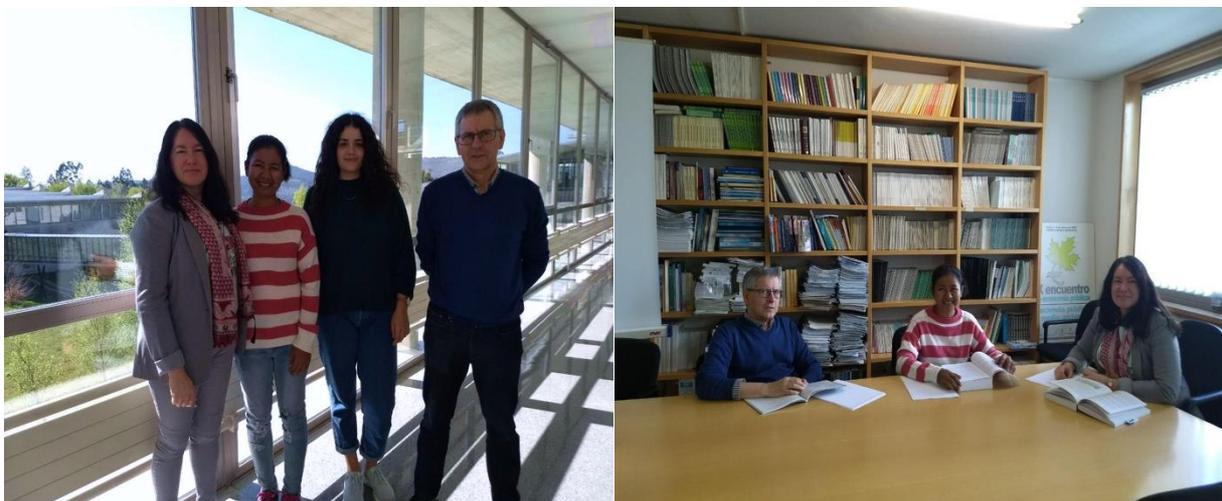
Three University in Europe: Université de Nantes (France), Universidade de Vigo (Spain) and Syddansk Universitet (Denmark) organizing training and exchange program for good

practice in order for capacity building to support Cambodian partner to strengthen the research quality of doctoral programs.

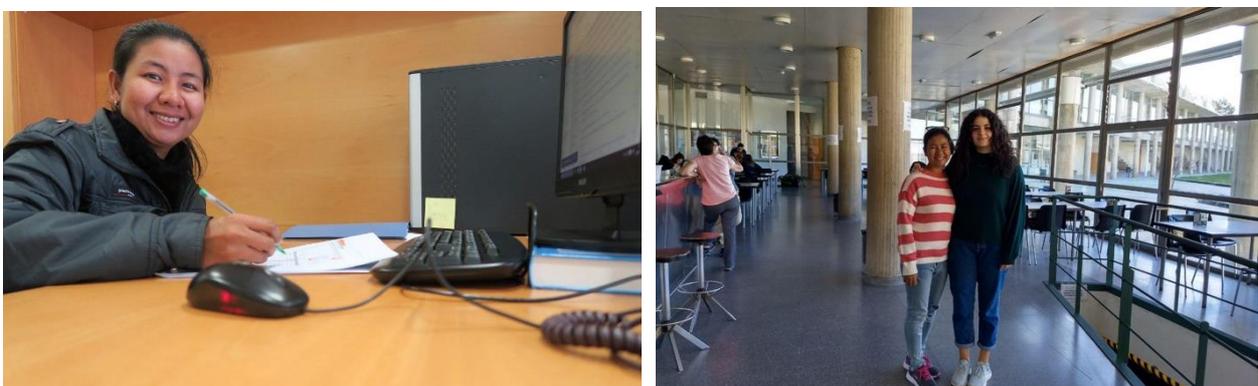
Website: <http://www.dockside-kh.eu/>

## II. MOBILITY ACTIVITIES:

On 20th March 2019; I met Ms. Iria Garcia-Lorenzo, the colleague from DOCKSIDE project in UVigo; she introduced me to the University area especially in the faculty of Economics. At the same day I got a very warm welcoming and had a meeting with Prof. Garza-Gil M. Dolores, Prof. Lucy Amigo-Dobaño and Prof. Manuel Varela-Lafuente.



Then, I did a short presentation to them about my research topic on “Effects of Socio-economic to Livelihood Around Tonle Sap Lake of Cambodia”. For methodology, I need to read more documents from books and other journals and also continue to prepare my data. After meeting, Iria brought me to make a library card and gave me a personal email address that I could access E-library in U-Vigo easily to find more documents. They also prepare an office for me to work so I could use the computer and printer there, I also can use my own laptop. For the next day; she also introduced me to know other staffs and other young researchers from different faculty and from different countries.



In 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019, I had a meeting with Prof. Garza-Gil M. Dolores, Prof. Lucy Amigo-Dobaño and Iria again to do a presentation about my topic and showing them about my research questions and variables then made appointment to meet with Prof. Carlos Jardón who supported me with R program to import my data and plan to analyze. Then, Prof. Garza-Gil M. Dolores, Prof. Lucy Amigo-Dobaño brought me to meet Prof. Carlos to analyze my data. During that time my data frame was incorrect that I need to prepare it again by meet them; sometimes through email then we keep discuss regularly on the progress of my data. After correct the data frame already because of my knowledge related to statistic and R program so low; Prof. Carlos introduced me about R commander and show me how to use it to continue to analyze my data. My co-supervisors are so kind and open mind to help me any time when I need their support. Without working on data, I also was spending time reading, working on the ArcGIS program to drawing map and cut the sample for my data. During I was staying in Vigo; I could have time to do research, could pay concentrate to complete my tasks but within three months; I couldn't finish it yet. I need to continue to do it more after I come back to Cambodia.

### III. OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### 1. International seminar of RULE staff at University of Vigo, in Law faculty on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019

On 25<sup>th</sup> March, Ms. Iria introduced me to know two staffs from Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE) from Cambodia who also got mobility for two weeks in U-Vigo; Ms. Boravin Tann and Ms. Sophorn Tuy. On 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019; I was attending in the seminar presentation by Ms. Boravin and Ms. Sophorn in faculty of Law on topics: Research line of Transitional justice process in Cambodia; Research line of Gender Equality and Women's Rights and Presentation of Master Programs of RULE University.



## **2. National congress on the constitution of law at Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019, I went to attend national conference on Constitutional law at Universidade de Santiago de Compostela with Ms. Boravin, Ms. Sophorn and Ms. Iria for the Liberty and Security in a Democratic Society session.



## **3. Attend the meeting of staff mobility from National University of Management (NUM)- Cambodia in faculty of Economic in Universidade de Vigo, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

Two mobility staffs from NUM; Dr. Kang Sovannara, Director of Graduate School and Dr. Soun Hong, Head of Department of Graduate School from National University of Management (NUM) from Cambodia; did presentation on research proposal of PhD students from NUM and also to discuss about activities and possibility to collaboration with faculty of Economics in U-Vigo.



## **4. Reconquista Festival (Reconquista de Vigo), 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

I went to visit this festival in Vigo city with two staffs from RULE; Ms. Boravin, Ms. Sophorn and accompanied by a Ph.D. student from Law faculty Ms. Sara and other colleagues. For this event, they organize in order to celebrate the reacquisition of Vigo and Galician region from France since 1809. They celebrate it annually for the whole weekend by some people wearing traditional dresses, street performance, traditional music, dance, foods, and materials, etc. After that Sara also showed us to walk around to explore some important places in the city of Vigo, and also the Castro de Vigo where we can see the whole view of Vigo city.



## 5. Visit places:

At the same day after finish national congress in Santiago de Compostela on April 6, 2019; Iria showed us about the beautiful old town in Santiago de Compostela. It was raining day in the cold weather around 5 degree Celsius.

During holidays in April, I could visit my former Spanish colleague for a few days in Madrid to have a great time with her and her family and then I came back to the residence to continued to complete my tasks.

On 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019; Ms. Iria went to visit her family in Boborás and she also gave me a great chance to visit some places along the way to her parents' home and showed me the real countryside of Galicia. She and her parents are very kind. I had a great lunch with them and also ate a lot of

cherries and test the grape wine there on the top of the mountain. We were walking along the forest that made me feel so peaceful and memorable. Thank you so much, Iria.

On 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019; I had a farewell dinner with Prof. Manuel Varela, Prof. Garza-Gil M. Dolores, Prof. Lucy Amigo-Dobaño, Ms. Iria and Mr. Marcos Pérez-Pérez in Vigo city together and then I asked permission to spend my last day on 12<sup>th</sup> June to take solo trip to explored A Coruña before I came back to Cambodia.



A trip to Boborás with Iria's family



Farewell dinner in Vigo city on June 11, 2019

#### IV. ACCOMMODATION AND LIVING CONDITION:

Complexo Residencial O Castro is about 15 kilometers from the city center located on the top of the mountain. The environment is so good and the atmosphere also great for students to pay concentrate to study. During the study in Vigo; I was staying in a single room that has a private bathroom and shared kitchen (with one room only). They prepare study table in individual room that easy to study alone. Moreover, in residence hall also have student rooms, a small café, a small gym, and the laundry room. We could connect wifi wherever in-residence area, etc. In student rooms are so good because students there respect each other during study time and we also can communicate with other students there. Vigo city not far from the beach, it also has national park and some places like the Castro de Vigo that we can bring our books to read and relax as well. During I was staying there it almost raining. The weather was changing so fast between 7 to 25 and sometimes around 30 degree Celsius.

In U-Vigo we can find the place called Commercial Center where we can buy some materials and foods from a small mall, ATM machine and most of the faculty members came to have breakfast and healthy lunch there. For each faculty also have the restaurant as well. Usually, in Commercial

Center they open during working day and closing at the weekend. So, we need to be well prepared for weekend or holidays or we can go to buy from the city. The swimming pool is so close with this area but I couldn't try.

All staffs working in residence are so friendly, so kind and helpful. Most people in the city are the same. That would be better if we can speak the local language (Spanish) to communicate with them. Vigo is a peaceful place and a beautiful city with very nice people.

## V. CONCLUSION

For three-month mobility in U-Vigo, it was a great chance for me because I could have the opportunity to learn a lot of new things. I could get support from my co-supervisors in UVigo and colleagues from DOCKSIDE project. I could get to access library and e-library to download international journal, documents and also could access other resources. I had the opportunity to meet other researchers in University and knew mobility staffs from Cambodia. It was like a dream to experience to mobility in abroad from another side of the world where I can learn and see a lot of different thing about the education system, different environment, the economic condition, living standard, get new experiences, different cultures, language, and weather etc.

I really appreciate for DOCKSIDE project for this mobility program for Cambodian students and staffs to get experiences from international mobility for capacity building and collaboration between Cambodian and European universities. I hope that the Erasmus + Program continue to support project like DOCKSIDE to allow other staffs and researchers to gain more knowledge and experiences in the European countries.

## ACKNOWLEDGE

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