

Preface

The Agricultural and Forestry Research Center, University of Tsukuba, was nominated by UNESCO as an Associated Center (AC) of Asia and the Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development (APEID) in the field of vocational and technical education. Since then, it has been holding various activities such as the annual Tsukuba Asian Seminar on Agricultural Education (TASAE) etc., in cooperation with some organizations of the University of Tsukuba ; Institute of Agriculture and Forestry, Institute of Agricultural and Forest Engineering, Institute of Applied Biochemistry, School Education Center, etc.

In the past 1979 to 1981 TASAE of the second cycle of the APEID, the importance and problems of agricultural education at the secondary level were discussed. Throughout the seminars, great importance of innovating agricultural education was emphasized not only at the secondary level of education but also at all the levels in Asian countries.

According to the conclusions of the 1981 TASAE and 1986 TASAE, the main theme of the 1982 to 1986 TASAE of the third cycle of the APEID was focused on the strategies for innovation of agricultural education in Asian countries. and that of the 1987 to 1991 TASAE of the fourth cycle was focused on education and research for increasing agricultural productivity and conserving nature and agroecosystem, respectively.

Throughout the fifth cycle (1992-1996) of the APEID, the underlying theme of TASAE is “Education and Research for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and Conserving Nature and Agroecosystem in Asian and Pacific Countries”, and the major approach for incorporation of environmental education into agricultural and forest education in all levels is going to be discussed from the technical and theoretical viewpoint for particular topics.

Through the six cycle (1997-2001) of the APEID, the underlying theme of TASAE is “Innovative Strategies for Linking Agricultural and Environmental Education in Asian-Pacific Countries for the 21st Century”. To promote mutual understanding of present situations, problems prospects and practical implementation programs for agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries for the next generation. The each year’s brief theme is as follows :

- 1997 TASAE Present situation and needs analysis regarding linking of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries.
- 1998 TASAE Application of biological resources for the innovation of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries.
- 1999 TASAE Application of global and regional information for the innovation of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries.
- 2000 TASAE Practical education for the innovation of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries.
- 2001 TASAE Innovative approaches to linking agricultural and environmental education for the conservation of agroecosystems in Asian-Pacific countries : Agenda for the 21st century.

The 1999 TASAE, entitled application of global and regional information for the innovation of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries, was held from November 8 to 16, 1999 at the University of Tsukuba in collaboration with the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO. Seven invited participants from seven Asian-Pacific countries ; Australia, China, Indonesia, Korea, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and some Japanese participants joined friendly together in fruitful discussions on this year’s theme.

This volume includes the valuable papers presented at the 1999 TASA E ; eight country reports from Australia, China, Indonesia, Korea, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Japan, and four papers presented at the Satellite Symposium held for mutual understanding on the relationship between human agricultural activities and environment, with special reference to application of global and regional information for the innovation of agricultural and environmental education in Asian-Pacific countries .

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Outline of Schedule

- Nov. 8 (Mon.) Arrival in Japan
9 (Tue.) Registration, Opening Ceremony
10 (Wed.) Country Reports A-D, Discussion
11 (Thu.) Country Reports E-H, Discussion
12 (Fri.) Drafting committee meeting for conclusion and recommendation
Satellite Symposium
Banquet
13-14 (Sat.-Sun.) Free time for discussion and information exchange among participants
15 (Mon.) Visit National Agriculture Research Center and Tsukuba Agriculture
Research Hall, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and
Fisheries(MAFF)
General Discussion, Conclusive Discussion Closing Ceremony
16 (Tue.) Departure from Japan

*UT: University of Tsukuba