

Kyoto University On-site Laboratory: Kyoto University On-site Laboratory at Mahidol University for Educational and Research Collaboration in Environmental Studies



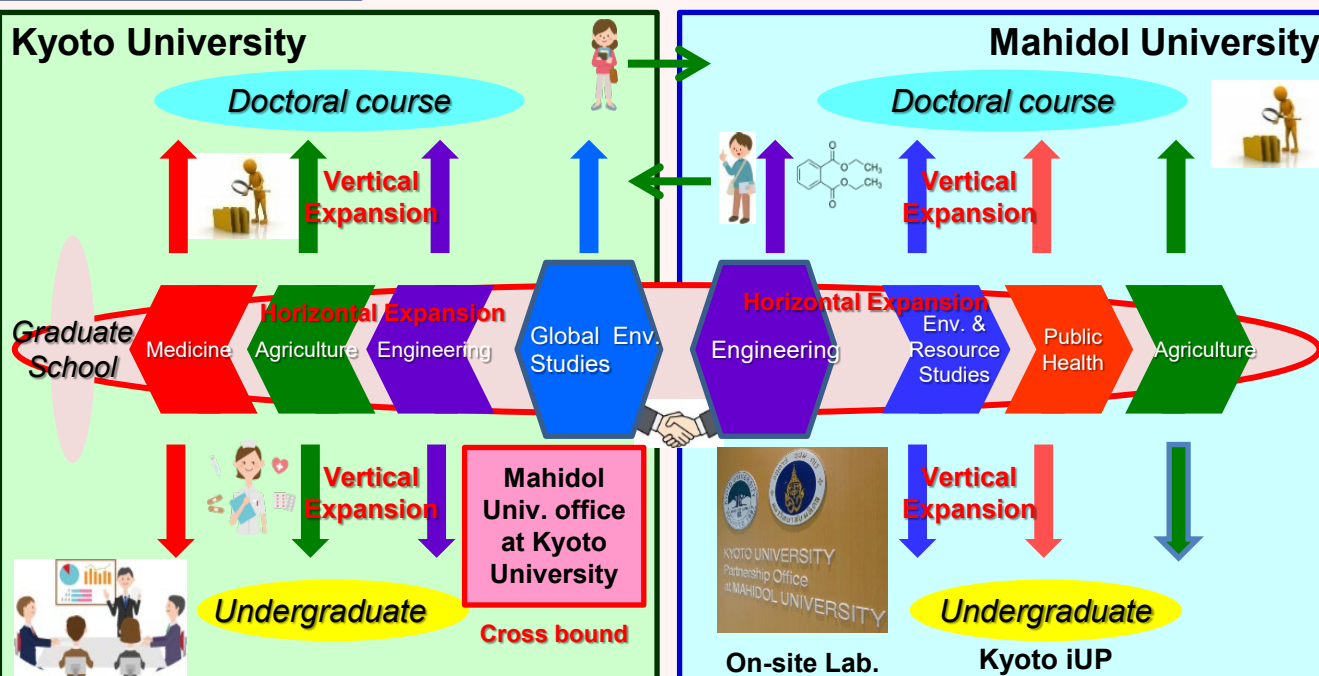
General Information

- ◆ **Approval Year:** FY 2018
- ◆ **Establishment:** March 2019
- ◆ **Implementing Schools:** Graduate School (GS) of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES); jointly implemented by GS of Engineering, GS of Agriculture, and GS of Medicine after FY 2020.
- ◆ **Partner institution:** Mahidol University, Thailand
- ◆ **Purposes:** To solve environmental problems in Japan and Thailand and to foster the next generation of researchers and high-level practitioners.
- ◆ **Location:** Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand (outbound)
- ◆ **Activities:** Joint education and research activities on environmental studies, recruitment of talented international students, and development of international joint programs

Positive ripple effects to the university's activities

- Research collaboration with local companies
 - Recruitment of talented international students
 - Education and training for local students
 - Extension of joint/double degree programs
 - Fusion of the humanities and sciences
 - Expansion to cross-bound type
- [FY 2018–2025]
- **On-site Laboratory Workshops:** Held nine times so far at least annually. In addition, the International Symposium was co-hosted (on-line, November 30–Dec 1, 2020). In 2025, an additional mini-workshop was held in September to enhance research collaboration.
 - **Double master's degree programs:** the Graduate School (GS) of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES), the School of Public Health, GS of Medicine, and GS of Agriculture were concluded in 2016, 2019, and 2022, respectively. As of the end of March 2026, 1 KU student and 14 Mahidol students have enrolled/will enroll in the GSGES program, one KU student has enrolled in the Agriculture program, and 2 Mahidol students in the Public Health program.
 - **Exchange of students & faculty members:** In 2018–2019, 52 people of 17 groups from Mahidol and 57 people of 15 groups from KU visited each other. In 2020–2022, only 9 people of 7 groups from Mahidol and 1 from KU visited each other due to COVID-19. In 2023–2025, 88 researchers/students of 19 groups from KU and 61 of 13 groups visited each other.
 - **Others:** Joint lectures, joint research, co-authored research presentations, internships, etc., were conducted.

Activity Overview



Expansion in Thailand



Main Activities in FY 2025

① Symposium/workshops

- 9th Kyoto University-Mahidol University On-Site Laboratory Workshop, Feb 20 and 21, 2026: 140 participants (69 onsite (at MU Salaya Campus) and 71 online participants). In the plenary session, Prof. Yasuyuki Kono, Vice President of KU, Prof. Izuru Saizen, Vice Dean of GSGES, and Prof. Pattaraporn Posoknistakul, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Engineering of MU, gave opening remarks. This was followed by reports from each session (“Environmental Engineering,” “Chemical Engineering,” “Agriculture and Ecosystems,” and “Public Health”) and general discussions and ended with closing remarks by Prof. Posoknistakul and Prof. Chihiro Tanaka, Dean of GSGES. Individual sessions were held in either Salaya, Kanchanaburi, or Phayathai Campus.
- In addition to the annual workshop, a mini-workshop was held on September 15 and 16, 2025, with the primary objective of fostering new collaborative research (primarily focused on sustainable water and waste management systems for suburban areas using energy-efficient and low-maintenance decentralized technologies). The total number of participants was approximately 60, with 22 local participants from Japan—a higher number than in the regular workshops. Intensive discussions were held on planning joint projects that transcended the boundaries of individual subcommittees, including issues related to immigration. As a result, this led to multiple research proposals.

② Student exchange/degree programs

- In addition to the Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies (2016) and the School of Public Health (2019), the Graduate School of Agriculture signed an agreement for the establishment of a master’s double degree program with Mahidol University Kanchanaburi Campus in July 2022. Preparations for the new double degree programs are also underway at the Graduate School of Engineering (with MU Faculty of Engineering) and the Graduate School of Agricultural Science (with MU Faculty of Science). Furthermore, an interdepartmental student exchange agreement was concluded between GSGES and the MU School of Public Health in March 2024.
- Two students on the double degree program (who entered Engineering, MU in August 2022, and GSGES, Kyoto University in April 2023) came to Kyoto University in April 2023 and left in March 2024. They received a master’s degree from KU in March 2025 and from MU in summer 2025.
- Two students on the double degree program (who entered Engineering, MU in August 2023, and GSGES, Kyoto University in April 2024) came to Kyoto University in April 2024 and left in March 2025. They received a master’s degree from KU in March 2026.
- Two students on the double degree program (who entered Engineering, MU in August 2024, and GSGES, Kyoto University in April 2025) came to Kyoto University in April 2025 and left in March 2026, expecting to receive Master’s degrees in 2027.
- One student who entered MU Engineering in August 2025 was selected for the double degree program. She plans to stay at GSGES for one year from April 2026.
- One master’s student from the Graduate School of Agriculture was dispatched to the MU Faculty of Agriculture (from January 13, 2025).
- Joint research with Mahidol University, Chulalongkorn University, and the National Nanotechnology Center, led by the Department of Chemical Engineering, has been selected for JST’s NEXUS (Young Scientist Exchange Program) in FY2025 (exchange support period is one year).

③ Publication of collaborative research results in internationally co-authored academic papers

- Research results produced through collaboration between the two universities have been published in 2 peer-reviewed co-authored papers.