**(1) Title**

Multicultural Societies and Civic Vision to Bridge Divisions in Myanmar, Thailand, and India

**(2) Convener**

Makiko Takeda (Aichi Gakuin University, Japan)

Wanwalee Inpin (Mae Fah Luang University, Thailand)

**(3) Description of Panel`**

The lack of a collective civic vision have caused hindrance in Myanmar, Thailand and India. In addition, globalization, urbanization, and industrialization, although beneficial overall, have left numerous populations and communities on the sidelines, not reaping the benefits of these transformative processes. Such marginalized groups of people and communities lack (1) freedom from man-made and natural disasters, (2) freedom from inequalities, and (3) freedom from want. Against this backdrop, this overarching theme holds significant relevance on today’s interconnected world, where local communities grapple with both opportunities and challenges adapting to changing societal structures.

The salient aspect of the panel is to highlight the grassroots roles that communities play across diverse boundaries in knowledge transfer, social development, and building community resilience. Given that political contention, conflict, and antagonism arising from differences are not uncommon in societies like India, Myanmar, and Thailand, our goal is to explore viable alternatives and draw insights from case studies that require careful consideration in bridging the divisions within each society.

As civic identity demands individuals and states to respect the rights and self-determination of people of different identity groups, especially those who are marginalized, the panel is proposed in dynamic interplay between civic vision and the establishment of a multicultural society in order to bridge multiple divisions through strengthening resilience. By recognizing that civic identity necessitates the respect for the rights and self-determination of individuals from different identity groups, particularly those marginalized, the proposed panel focuses on the dynamic intersection of civic vision and the establishment of a multicultural society. This approach seeks to bridge multiple divisions by strengthening resilience and fostering a more inclusive and harmonious community.

Civic identity and civic engagement should also not overlook the role of communication, which is at the centre of every community, country and the world as it raises public awareness regarding crucial public issues. This responsibility lies not only with the authority of governments but also with the cooperation of citizens in a functional alliance and correspondence with related organisations, including educational institutions. Through our collaborative presentations, we aim to highlight both interim and end-results through five dimensions: causative, curative, preventive, promotive, and innovative approaches in analyzing case studies to yield meaningful contributions to the fields of civic vision, resilience, multiculturalism, and development.

**(4) Double Sessions**

**Presenters:**

1. Dr. Wanwalee Inpin (Mae Fah Luang University, Thailand)
2. Dr. Michal Lubina (Jagiellonian University, Poland)
3. Dr. Soumen Mitra (Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, India)
4. Dr. Satoshi Ota (Tama University, Japan)
5. Maya Dania (Mae Fah Luang University, Thailand)
6. Dr. Chosein Yamahata (Aichi Gakuin University, Japan) & Dr. Win Myint (Environmental Care and Community Security Institute, Myanmar)

**Discussant:**

Dr. Chosein Yamahata (Aichi Gakuin University, Japan)