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**Mahasawat Agro-Community Tourism**

**Location:** Mahasawat Canal, Mahasawat and Salaya Sub-disctrict, Nakhon Pathom Province

**Date & Time:** 19 December 2019; 8.00 hr. – 16.30 hr.

**Participants:** 30-50

**Cost:** 1,000 baht

**Description:** “Mahasawat Agro-Community Tourism”

Mahasawat Agro-community Tourist area is one of the areas under research project of Mahidol University. It situates at Mahasawat Sub-district and Salaya Sub-district, Phuttamonthon District, Nakhon Pathom Province, and along *Mahasawat Canal* which was built around 150 years ago during King Rama V era to connect Chao Phya River and Ta-Chin River. The traditional livelihood of people and communities in this area is agriculture including rice farming, fruit orchards and vegetation. Originally Mahasawat area was under the administration of Nakhon Chaisri district which is famous for delicious rice and pomelo. Nowsaday, Mahasawat community continues to preserve their agricultural livelihoods such as lotus farming, rice farming, pomelo orchards, orchid gardening and etc. Though people in this community suffered from the large flooding crisis in 2011, they could their local wisdom from agricultural livelihoods to build community resilience in a short period. The initiative on agro-tourism in this community have been for more than 15 years with many famous organic community products/ cuisines such as Riceberry crackers, Lotus leaf-wrapped bite appetizer and Lotus tea. There are also several attractions and activities, for example; boat trip to visit canals and gardens, boating in lotus farm, riding a rice farm tractor, and demonstration of traditional cuisines and snacks (e.g. rice crackers, dried rice balls).

**Tentative Schedule**

8.00 hr. Leave from RILCA, Mahidol University

8.30 hr. Arrive Mahasawat Community

8.45 hr. Boat trip visiting Uncle Bonlert orchards – Riding a rice tractor, demonstration of making dried rice ball and lotus leaf-wrapped bite appetizer

9.45 hr. Visit Orchid garden and Gac (Baby Jackfruit) garden

11.00 hr. Demonstration of making Rice crackers; Lunch

13.00 hr. Boating in Lotus farm, tasting Lotus tea and Lotus decoration activity

14.45 hr. Visit Suvannaram Temple

15.15 hr. Leave from the community by Bus

16.30 hr. Arrive the RILCA, Mahidol University

Note: We will travel by boat throughout the visit within Mahasawat community.