

## Report of visit under The Project for Development of the Duckweed Holobiont Resource Values towards Thailand BCG Economy (Be-HoBiD), SATREPS, JICA

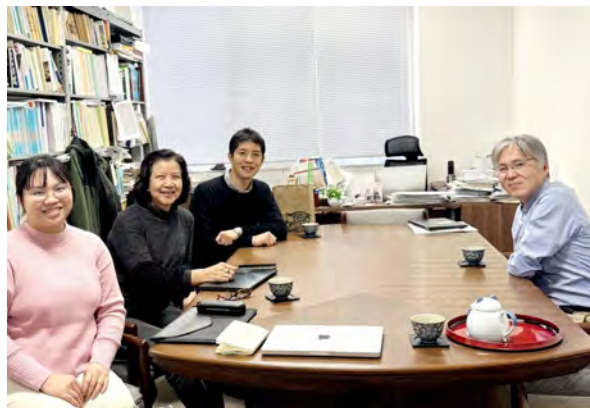
**Duration:** 28 February to 5 March 2026

**28 February 2026:** Departure from Bangkok and arrived at Osaka.

**1 March 2026:** Meeting with Prof. Seki, Professor Emeritus at Osaka University and Councillor at the Institute for Fermentation Osaka (IFO). We have discussed on the history of IFO and the success of strain preservation, collection, and distribution at IFO. I have learnt a lot from Prof. Seki valuable experiences. His idea and suggestion will be useful to develop our microbial collection from duckweeds at DHbRC.



**2 March 2026:** Meeting with Prof. Ike, Asst. Prof. Ishizawa, and Dr. Yuparat at Osaka University. The main meeting is on application of research grants. We discussed on available research grants that we could apply for continuing Be-HoBiD project after the finalization of SATREPS this year. Potential research grants include (i) e-ASIA JRP (<https://www.the-easia.org/jrp/generaldescription.html>) which is a multilateral international joint initiative between the East Asia Summit (EAS) member countries including 10 ASEAN member countries and 8 additional countries (Australia, Japan, New Zealand, China, India, South Korea, Russia, U.S.); (ii) NEDO (<https://www.nedo.go.jp/english/>) which is for Japanese site which is now calling for research field of green power; (iii) JSPS Bilateral Joint Research Projects (<https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-bilat/joint.html>) which Thailand is a counterpart through NRCT. We have also discussed for other research grants that Japanese team will apply and invite Thai team as a collaborator. Finally, we agreed to apply for 3-year NRCT-JSPS bilateral joint research grant for this year 2026.



**3 March 2026:** Meeting with Assoc. Prof. Oyama and Asst. Prof. Ito at Kyoto University. I have conveyed the discussion with Osaka team to Kyoto team. They will discuss amongst Japanese team on research grant application. We also discussed on duckweed collection, preservation, and genetic manipulation that we should continue the collaboration. Prof. Oyama also showed the current duckweed collection and transgenic duckweeds.



**4 March 2026:** Discussion with Dr. Yuparat on her future career. Since Asst. Prof. Ishizawa will move to Prof. Ike's lab at Osaka U starting from next month, he will also carry his research grant. Dr. Yuparat will then be able to work with him under his project as post-doctoral fellow. We have discussed on research collaboration between DHbRC and Osaka U in which Dr. Yuparat will be in a best position for international connection.

**4 March 2026:** Departure from Osaka

**5 March 2026:** Arrived at Bangkok

**Reported by:** Prof. Arinthip Thamchaipenet