

China, SEA, and Border

From Methodological Engagement to Kaleidoscopic Lifeworlds?



Yos Santasombat



Enze Han



Decha Tangseefa



Yalei Zhai



Julie de los Reyes



Tomoko Takahashi

2025

3.11 (TUE)

10:00-17:00 Japan Time

Mid-sized Meeting Room (No.332)

3rd Floor, Inamori Center, CSEAS, Kyoto University



ACCESS / WEB

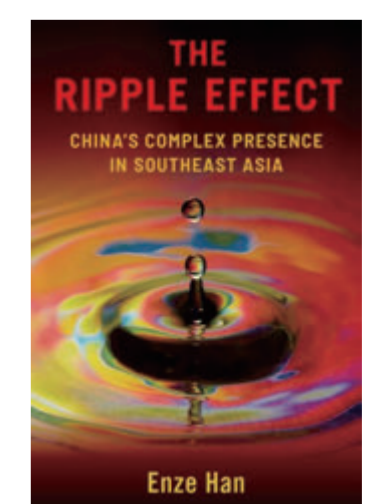
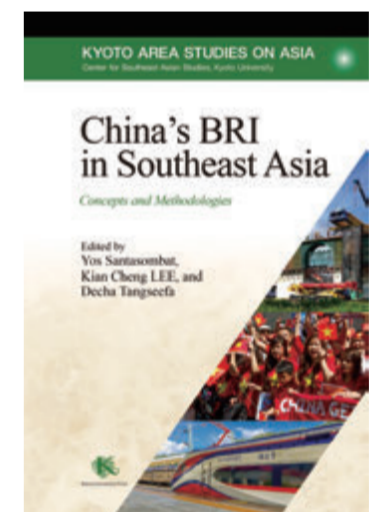
China's influence over Southeast Asia cannot be understated. Though one is a nation-state and the other is a region, both China and Southeast Asia are diverse, complex, and, at times, full of conundrums. In attempting to come to better terms with the relationship between these two political entities, the "China, SEA, and Border" event will comprise two activities: book launches and a special seminar.

Three books will be launched during this event. As the lead editor of the first two titles to be published by the end of March this year, Yos Santasombat (Chiang Mai University) will present: *China's BRI in Southeast Asia: Concepts and Methodologies* (Kyoto University Press & Trans Pacific Press, 2025) and *The Impact of China's Belt and Road Initiative in Southeast Asia: Evaluating Risks and Benefits* (Springer, 2025). The third title belongs to Enze Han (The University of Hong Kong): *The Ripple Effect: China's Complex Presence in Southeast Asia* (Oxford University Press, 2024).

The special seminar will focus on the space of border by highlighting the methodological aspect of studying this kind of terrain. With varied approaches employed over the years by the three speakers—Yos Santasombat, Enze Han, and Decha Tangseefa (CSEAS)—the seminar aims to open a space for conversation of such differences: for instance, quantitative vis-à-vis qualitative, empiricism vis-à-vis phenomenology vis-à-vis poststructuralism.

PROGRAM

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| 10:00-10:05 | Welcome Remarks: Fumiharu Mieno, Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) |
| 10:05-10:10 | A Briefing of the JSPS KAKENHI Grant No. 20H04422: "Sovereignty, Capitalization, and Uncertainty: Global Political Economy from the Vantage Points of Four SEA and GMS Borderlands":
Decha Tangseefa (CSEAS), Principal Investigator |
| 10:10-10:45 | Book Launch, Session 1: Yos Santasombat <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>China's BRI in Southeast Asia: Concepts and Methodologies</i> (Kyoto University Press & Trans Pacific Press, 2025)• <i>The Impact of China's Belt and Road Initiative in Southeast Asia: Evaluating Risks and Benefits</i> (Springer, 2025) |
| 10:45-11:15 | Discussant: Enze Han |
| 11:15-11:45 | Q&A
Moderator: Tomoko Takahashi (CSEAS) |
| 11:45-13:15 | Lunch Break |
| 13:15-13:40 | Book Launch, Session 2: Enze Han <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The Ripple Effect: China's Complex Presence in Southeast Asia</i> (Oxford University Press, 2024) |
| 13:40-14:00 | Discussant: Yos Santasombat |
| 14:00-14:30 | Q&A
Moderator: Yalei Zhai (CSEAS) |
| 14:30-14:45 | Coffee Break |
| 14:45-16:45 | Special Seminar
Studying Border: From Methodological Engagement to Kaleidoscopic Lifeworlds? |
| 14:45-15:05 | Enze Han: Quantitative vis-à-vis Qualitative |
| 15:05-15:25 | Yos Santasombat: Empiricism vis-à-vis Phenomenology |
| 15:25-15:45 | Decha Tangseefa: From Epistemic Engagement to Kaleidoscopic Lifeworlds? |
| 15:45-16:45 | Speaker Conversation & Q&A
Moderator: Julie de los Reyes (CSEAS) |



Organized by Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University

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