The 5th Asian Conference on Geography Held in Thai Nguyen, Vietnam

From September 5th to 9th, 2022, the 5th Asian Conference on Geography (ACG) was held in Thai Nguyen, Vietnam. As the key biennial academic event under the auspice of Asian Geographical Association (AGA), this conference was co-organized by Thai Nguyen University (TNU), Association of Vietnamese Geographers (AVG), Institute of Geography, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST). Under the theme “Geography in Dynamic Asia”, the conference was attended by over 360 participants from 26 countries and regions worldwide physically and virtually.

The opening ceremony took place on the morning of 6th at Grand Hall of Thai Nguyen University of Education. The kick-off event began with speeches by Prof. Dahe Qin, President of the AGA; Prof. Hoang Van Hung, President of the TNU and Prof. Nguyen Cao Huan, President of the AVG, who extended warm welcome to the delegates on-site and via online.

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony was followed by plenary lecture session, co-chaired by Prof. Lai Vinh Cam, Vice President of the AGA and Prof. Yukio Himiyama, Past President of the International Geographical Union (IGU). Six keynote talks were given: Promoting Geography for Sustainable Development by Prof. Bojie Fu, Vice President of the IGU, Chairman of Supervisory Board of the Geographical Society of China (GSC); Ethnic Inequalities in Healthcare Access among Older Adults in the Rural Areas in Vietnam: Does Travel Distance Matter? by Dr. Phuong Huu Khiem from the TNU; Challenges of Mountain Environments: Land Degradation and Conservation
Strategies in the Indian Himalayan Region by Dr. Prabuddh Kumar Mishra from Shivaji College, University of Delhi; Land use/Land cover dynamics in Houaphan (Laos) and Son La (Vietnam) from 1990 to 2020, by Prof. Nguyen Dinh Duong from Institute of Geography, VAST; The Evolution of Confucian Landscape in the Andong Cultural Region, Korea: Universalism or Particularism? by Prof. Je-Hun Ryu from Korea National University of Cultural Heritage, and Data-based Approach to Decision Making Process by Prof. Bui Quang Thanh, from Hanoi University of Science, Vietnam National University.

Cultural Programme

During the conference, seven technical sessions and a workshop were organized by spanning a broad spectrum of geography and related various disciplines, focusing on the latest and recent achievements in the study of geography and the most concerned issues about Asia. The key topics of the sessions included Geographical Aspects and Sustainable Development, Socio-Demographic Variables and Globalization, Localization, Urbanization and the Future of Asian Cities, Climate Changes and Ecosystem, Natural Disasters and Remote Sensing - GIS, Geography of Culture and Tourism, Economic Geography and Global Shift in Asia and Asian Atlas of Culture and Heritage. A total of 93 oral presentations were made during one and a half days.
AGA Meeting

On the afternoon of 8th, the AGA Council Meeting 2022 was also convened in a hybrid format. 31 delegates, invited guests and observers were present. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Dahe Qin and Prof. Lai Vinh Cam. The AGA meeting was a great success.