“A Pilot Project on Quality Improvement of Thai Journal Titles for Indexing in Scopus

“Proactive Training, Mentoring and Title Suggestion”

(TCI-TRF-Scopus collaboration project: 28th Apr 2017- 27th Apr 2020)

By

Narongrit Sombatsompop

31 October 2018
Aims & Scope and Funding for TTS Project

Aims:
1. To develop and establish professional *editors as career* choice. (Editors’ Certificate Program, ECP) in Thailand.
2. To explore ways to *reduce turnaround time* for Scopus title evaluation process, from submission to final decision.
3. To *proactively suggest 40 journal titles* from Thailand to be indexed in Scopus database during 2017-2020 (3 years).

Scope of work:
1. To build-up high potential editors and Scopus local boards of Thailand through a series of *trainings and workshops*.
2. To develop *mentoring processes* between Thai local boards and Editors towards title submission to Scopus database.
3. To proactively improve quality and visibility of journals published by publishers in Thailand for *suggesting* them for review in Scopus.

Funding: The Thailand Research Fund / a support from Scopus
Project Period: (Starting 28th Apr 2017-27th Apr 2020)
736 journal titles in TCI Database

TCI Tier#1 (412 titles)

ACI (126 titles)

Pre-selection to TCI-TRF-Scopus project (40 titles)

Training and Mentoring Programs

TCI Tier#2 (236 titles)

Upgrading evaluation

TCI Tier#3 (88 titles)

NS and local boards against Scopus Criteria

Project workflow

TCI national evaluation

ACI Evaluation Criteria
Project workflow (cont.)

Apr 2017 – October 2018 (43 Trainings)
5 selected editor’s trainings/workshops
6 local board’s trainings
27 mentoring (LB-editor) meetings
5 TCI editors meeting
TTS project requires Resources, capabilities and mindset

• TCI is an independent unit/team, fully autonomous, but sustained by the impact of its works in the national level during 2001-present (18 years).
• TCI has a strong engagement with Thai editors by a number of activities for 18 years with friendly commitment, dedication and passionate.
• The evaluation results from TCI and ACI databases (came up with selected titles)
• Academic linkages with professors in various subject fields (leading to dedicated local boards)
• Continuous experiences and partnership with Scopus team and Scopus Subject Chairs at least 8 years by involving in the CSAB meetings.
• TRF and OHEC (Ministry of Education) have fully financially supported TCI during the past 17 years and seen the values and impacts of TCI.
• Thailand 4.0 aims to put up universities to international visibilities (university ranking systems and innovations).
Some examples of 40 journal titles pre-selected to be in the project
Potential Thai journals to be submitted to STEP for Scopus database in 2017-2018 (subject to change based on journal performance)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>ISSN</th>
<th>Source Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0858-0855</td>
<td>ABAC Journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0859-3957</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Journal of Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2539-6161</td>
<td>Engineering and Applied Science Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1686-5456</td>
<td>Environment and Natural Resources Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1905-9094</td>
<td>GMSARN International Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1686-9141</td>
<td>International Journal of Agricultural Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1906-4675</td>
<td>International Journal of Behavioral Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>0857-6149</td>
<td>Journal of Metals, Materials and Minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>0857-717X</td>
<td>Journal of Population and Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>0125-1570</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical Sciences Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>0125-152X</td>
<td>Siriraj Medical Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>0858-849X</td>
<td>Suranaree Journal of Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1685-9057</td>
<td>Thailand Statistician</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1513-9700</td>
<td>Tropical Natural History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1905-050X</td>
<td>ECTI Transactions on Computer and Information Technology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Potential Thai journals to be submitted to STEP for Scopus database in 2018-2019 (subject to change based on journal performance)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1906-8107</td>
<td>Pacific Rim International Journal of Nursing Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0859-4074</td>
<td>Science &amp; Technology Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2229-127X</td>
<td>ASEAN Engineering Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2586-9396</td>
<td>Current Applied Science and Technology Journal</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>2586-940X</td>
<td>Journal of Health Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>0857-6084</td>
<td>Thai Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>0125-2488</td>
<td>PASAA</td>
</tr>
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<td>8</td>
<td>0857-7099</td>
<td>Journal of the Siam Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1906-9685</td>
<td>Journal of Nonlinear Analysis and Optimization: Theory &amp; Applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2287-0741</td>
<td>Applied Environmental Research</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>2286-8984</td>
<td>Southeast Asian Journal of Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>0859-9920</td>
<td>MANUSYA, Journal of Humanities</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>2351-0307</td>
<td>ASEAN Journal of Management &amp; Innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>0857-8664</td>
<td>Genomics and Genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>0857-6033</td>
<td>The International Journal of East Asian Studies</td>
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</tbody>
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Potential Thai journals to be submitted to STEP for Scopus database in 2019-2020 (subject to change based on journal performance)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1906-4063</td>
<td>International Journal of Applied Biomedical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1905-7172</td>
<td>International Journal of Renewable Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0858-7027</td>
<td>International Journal of the Computer, The Internet and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1905-7326</td>
<td>LEARN Journal : Language Education and Acquisition Research Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1905-7210</td>
<td>Nakhara: Journal of Environmental Design and Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1865-8646</td>
<td>Journal of English Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>0125-796X</td>
<td>Journal of Fisheries and Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2228-8279</td>
<td>Journal of Urban Culture Research</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>0859-5747</td>
<td>Thammasat Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2287-9674</td>
<td>The Bangkok Medical Journal</td>
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A complete list of Thai local boards
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Local Board</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agricultural &amp; Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Theeraphap Chareonviriyaphap</td>
<td>Kasetsart University</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities; Language, Linguistics, Communication and Media</td>
<td>Budsaba Kanoksilapatham Dumrong Adunyarittigun</td>
<td>Silpakorn University Thammasat University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>Pimchai Chaiyen</td>
<td>Mahidol University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Business, Management &amp; Accounting</td>
<td>Nopadol Rompho</td>
<td>Thammasat University</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>Narongrit Sombatsompop</td>
<td>King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Tawan Sooknoi</td>
<td>King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkkrabang</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Choochart Haruechaisak</td>
<td>National Electronics and Computer Technology Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Decision Sciences</td>
<td>Sooksan Kantrabutra</td>
<td>Mahidol University</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>Prasit Pavasant</td>
<td>Chulalongkorn University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Local Board</td>
<td>Institution</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Earth &amp; Planetary Science</td>
<td>Suksun Horpibulsuk</td>
<td>Suranaree University of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Economics, Econometrics &amp; Finance</td>
<td>Kriengkrai Techakanont</td>
<td>Thammasat University</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>Mahidol University</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>Mahidol University</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Health Professions</td>
<td>Thawatchai Akaraviputh</td>
<td>Mahidol University</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Immunology &amp; Microbiology</td>
<td>Tanapat Palaga</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Law, Crime, Criminology and Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Supasawad Chardchawarn</td>
<td>Thammasat University</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Library and Information Sciences</td>
<td>Srichan Chancheewa</td>
<td>Navamindradhiraj University</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Local Board</td>
<td>Institution</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<td>Chulalongkorn University</td>
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<td>MULTIDISCIPLINARY</td>
<td>Teerasak Markpin</td>
<td>King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
<td>Poramate Manoonpong</td>
<td>Vidyasirimedhi Institute of Science &amp; Technology</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Orawan Kaewboonchoo</td>
<td>Mahidol University</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmaceutics</td>
<td>Pornsak Srimaormsak</td>
<td>Silpakorn University</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Physics &amp; Astronomy</td>
<td>Sukit Limpijumnong</td>
<td>Suranaree University of Technology</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Kullaya Pisitsungkagarn</td>
<td>Chulalongkorn University</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>Nongyao Sripromsuk</td>
<td>Thai-Journal Citation Index Centre (TCI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Veterinary</td>
<td>Alongkorn Amonsin</td>
<td>Chulalongkorn University</td>
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</table>
Activities related to TTS pilot project during the past 18 months
**Discussion with Elsevier/Scopus Subject Chairs**

### Discussion with Elsevier Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} Discussion with Elsevier Representatives</td>
<td>19 Jan 2017</td>
<td>KMUTT, Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2\textsuperscript{nd} Discussion with Elsevier Representatives</td>
<td>9 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Elsevier, Singapore</td>
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</table>

### Discussion with Scopus Subject Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} Discussion in 16\textsuperscript{th} Subject Chair meeting</td>
<td>31 May 2017</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2\textsuperscript{nd} Discussion in 18\textsuperscript{th} Subject Chair meeting</td>
<td>1 June 2018</td>
<td>San Francisco, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd} Discussion in 19\textsuperscript{th} Subject Chair meeting</td>
<td>31 Oct 2018</td>
<td>Bangkok, Thailand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Training, Mentoring & workshops

28 April 2017 – 28 October 2018 (43 Trainings in 18 months)

1. 5 Editor’s trainings & workshops
   • 1 Editors + TCI (120 participants)
   • 2 Editors + Elsevier team (250 participants)
   • 2 Editors + Subject chair + Elsevier team (350 participants)

2. 6 Local board’s trainings
   • 3 Local boards + TCI (62 participants)
   • 2 Local boards + Elsevier team (50 participants)
   • 1 Local boards + Subject chair (25 participants)

3. 27 Mentoring meetings
   • 27 TCI + Editor & Editorial team + Local boards (17 Local boards + Editor & Editorial team)
4. TCI annual meeting: TCI met with editor & Local board member in the 12th TCI Symposium (9th March 2018) (650 participants)

5. 4 Regional trainings: TCI met with editors & board members for brainstorming criteria for 4th TCI Re-evaluation (1,520 participants)

- September 28th, 2018 at the Convention Hall, Ambassador Hotel, Sukhumvit 11, Bangkok (600 participants)
- October 2nd, 2018 at the Kantary Hills Hotel, Chiang Mai (170 participants)
- October 9th, 2018 at the AVANI Khon Kaen Hotel & Convention Centre, Khon Kaen (230 participants)
- October 17th, 2018 at the Convention Hall, Ambassador Hotel, Sukhumvit 11, Bangkok (520 participants)
Editors + TCI trainings & workshops (14 March 2017)

- History of the project, development plan and the preparation processes by Prof. Dr. Narongrit Sombatsompop (TCI)
- Scopus’s Journal Selection Criteria by Prof. Dr. Narongrit Sombatsompop (TCI)
- 120 Editors and editorial board members attended the seminar.
Editors + Elsevier team trainings & workshops (28 April 2017)

- Overview on Scopus database: how to evaluate journal titles for indexing in Scopus? by Mr. Shareef Bhailal (Elsevier)
- Research metrics, Mendeley, and Scopus training/workshops by Alexander van Servellen, Woon Qing Yong and Derrick Duncombe (Elsevier)
- Q&A session by Prof. Dr. Narongrit Sombatsompop (TCI) and Elsevier team
Editors + Subject chair trainings & workshops (3 July 2017)

• Criteria used by the Scopus Content Selection and Advisory Board (CSAB) to evaluate candidate journals for Scopus inclusion by Prof. Peter Brimblecombe (Scopus Subject Chair)

• Workshop on Journal evaluation for Scopus Inclusion by Prof. Peter Brimblecombe and Prof. Dr. Narongrit Sombatsompop

• For Thai Local Boards: Discussion with Prof. Peter Brimblecombe, Scopus Subject Chair
Local boards + TCI Meeting (21 April 2017)
Local boards + Subject chair training (3 July 2017)
Local boards + Elsevier team training (8 March 2018)

• “Enrichment process for title submission in STEP” by Mr. Shareef Bhailal (Product Manager Scopus Title Evaluation Platform, Elsevier)

• “Scopus journal re-evaluations criteria” by Mr. Shareef Bhailal

• “Q &A session followed by meeting with Thai Local Boards” by Mr. Shareef Bhailal & Prof. Dr. Narongrit Sombatsompop
Local board + Editor & Editorial team mentoring meetings (Environment and Natural Resources Journal)

• 2 meetings with TCI (5 Sep & 6 Sep 2017)
• 1 meeting with Local board (5 Sep 2017)
• accepted date = 18 Sep 2017
Effect of new academic promotion system (2017) on the quality of the journals indexed in the TCI database

Local contents and Scopus Database: Current and future developments

The Development of Thai journals to E-Journals for possible indexing in international databases

2018 Editor’s Certificate Program for Outstanding Editors
TCI meets with 1,520 editors & board members for 4th Re-evaluation

28 Sep 2018
Bangkok

2 Oct 2018
Chiang Mai
TCI meets with 1,300 editors & board members for 4\textsuperscript{th} Re-evaluation

9 Oct 2018
Khon Kaen

17 Oct 2018
Bangkok
Suggesting titles
reviewed and final-decisioned
Thai titles accepted in Scopus

1) Thailand Statistician
Owner: Thai Statistical Association
Subject Chair: Ashok Raina
Accepted date = 15 July 2017

2) Tropical Natural History
Owner: Chulalongkorn University (Chulalongkorn University Museum of Natural History, Faculty of Science)
Subject Chair: Chris van Kessel
Accepted date = 14 September 2017

3) Environment and Natural Resources Journal
Owner: Mahidol University (Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies)
Subject Chair: Peter Brimblecombe
Accepted date = 18 September 2017
Thai titles accepted in Scopus

4) Journal of Metals, Materials and Minerals
Owner: Chulalongkorn University (Metallurgy and Materials Science Research Institute)
Subject Chair: Evan Bieske
Accepted date = 13 October 2017

5) GMSARN International Journal
Owner: Asian Institute of Technology (GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH NETWORK)
Subject Chair: Peter Brimblecombe
Accepted date = 5 November 2017

6) Journal of Population and Social Studies
Owner: Mahidol University (Institute for Population and Social Research)
Subject Chair: Richard Whatmore
Accepted date = 26 November 2017
Thai titles accepted in Scopus

7) Pharmaceutical Sciences Asia
Owner: Mahidol University (Faculty of Pharmacy)
Subject Chair: Peter Stambrook
Accepted date = 23 January 2018

8) Engineering and Applied Science Research
Owner: Khon Kaen University (Faculty of Engineering)
Subject Chair: Manolis Papadrakakis
Accepted date = 16 January 2018

9) Suranaree Journal of Science and Technology
Owner: Suranaree University of Technology (Institute of Research and Development)
Subject Chair: Manolis Papadrakakis
Accepted date = 6 February 2018
Thai titles accepted in Scopus

10) ABAC Journal
Owner: Assumption University
Subject Chair: Julie J. Li
Accepted date = 20 February 2018

11) International Journal of Behavioral Science
Owner: Srinakharinwirot University (The Behavioral Science Research Institute)
Subject Chair: Richard Whatmore
Accepted date = 21 April 2018

12) Siriraj Medical Journal
Owner: Mahidol University (Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital)
Subject Chair: Karen Holland
Accepted date = 23 May 2018
Thai titles accepted in Scopus

13) Asia-Pacific Journal of Science and Technology
Owner: Khon Kaen University (Research and Technology Transfer Affairs Division)
Subject Chair: Manolis Papadrakakis
Accepted date = 13 May 2018

14) International Journal of Agricultural Technology
Owner: Association of Agricultural Technology in Southeast Asia (AATSEA)
Subject Chair: Chris van Kessel
Accepted date = 24 June 2018

15) ECTI Transactions on Computer and Information Technology
Owner: ECTI Association
Subject Chair: Jörg-Rüdiger Sack
Accepted date = 5 Sep 2018
Thai titles accepted in Scopus

16) Pacific Rim International Journal of Nursing Research
Owner: Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council
Subject Chair: Karen Holland
Accepted date = 17 Sep 2018

17) Science & Technology Asia
Owner: Thammasat University (Research Administration Division, Office of the Rector Building)
Subject Chair: Jaya Raju
Accepted date = 14 Oct 2018
Immediate impacts for TCI-TRF-Scopus project (Phase 1)

- **17 Journals** have been indexed in Scopus (acceptance rate of 100%).
- The 17 accepted journals have immediately attracted the attentions from all editors to improve the quality of their journals (so many contacts to TCI). Main questions are referred to Scopus criteria and processes to get indexed.
- Some (large) universities starts to set up internally official publication units for running and improving their in-house journals to meet with international standard.
- The editors (whose journals accepted and indexed in Scopus) have made announcements across the country that the journals got indexed in "Scopus database" and graduate students can publish their works in the journals. Free adverts to new generation researchers.
- Starting from 2019, TRF by Academic Division has officially announced a new criteria that the Thai journals accepted in Scopus can be used to close the funded projects, equivalent to papers from WoS or Scopus(Q1-Q2).
- Ministry of Education has now recognized the outcome of the project and in the process of implementing to the new academic promotion system.
- The pilot TTS project will be extended and replicated to other regions, starting from ACI journals.
TCI-TRF-Scopus (TTS) project (Phase 2): ONLY For Newly Indexed Thai Journals (2018-2021)

• TTS editors for newly indexed journals will be “mentor” for other editors of Thai and ASEAN journals to improve the quality of the journals by organizing more frequent workshops and meetings among editorial board members for sharing experiences and best practices.

• **Involving the university administrators** (President, VP and Directors for Research) in the projects for improving further the journal quality. TCI aims for considerations of matching-funds from universities and changes in criteria for faculty promotion.

• TCI with TTS editors will organize more international conference in niche subject areas, aiming is to attract more international papers to sustain international identity and visibilities of the newly indexed journals.

• The expected output is to **lift up the quality** of newly indexed Thai journals to Q1 and Q2 in Scopus.
Pre-selection criteria by TCI on document preparations before submitting to STEP (Scopus)
What TCI look at, before inviting the editors and team.

1) **Eagerness/Enthusiasm of the editor in chief**
2) **Citations (in Scopus, ACI, TCI) and citing countries.**
3) **Good and comprehensive website**
4) **Article (scientific contents and format)**
5) **Diversities of authors and editors**
6) **Discipline / Distinctiveness of the journal**
Website

1) English language (all)
2) Archives (on time & at least 10 years back issues)
3) Current issue (on time)
4) Publication ethics
5) Article Publication charges
6) Editorial boards (name, institution, country)
7) Aims & Scope (focus areas, type of peer-review, type of articles)
Articles

1) Clear abstracts with good English and scientific details
2) Full author’s affiliations
3) Clear and clean figures & tables
4) Consistent article format (especially cited reference section)
5) Conformity of articles with stated aims and scope
Thank you for your kind attention

Thai-Journal Citation Index (TCI) Centre
Thailand