



Report Learning Express 2026

with Singapore Polytechnic
from 30 March to 10 April 2026

At Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna , Chiang Mai,
Thailand

By Office of International Relations, RMUTL



Executive Summary

Brief overview of students performance

Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna (RMUTL) has established an academic collaboration with Singapore Polytechnic (SP), Singapore. Since 2016, both institutions have jointly organised the Learning Express (LeX) workshop. In 2026, SP coordinated with RMUTL to conduct the Learning Express 2026 programme from 30 March to 10 April 2026.

The programme aimed to promote student engagement through a multidisciplinary team approach, bringing together students from RMUTL and SP to develop social innovation solutions for local communities. Participants applied Design Thinking methodologies to design and develop prototypes under the guidance and supervision of faculty members from both institutions.

Major milestones achieved

Strengthening Student Collaboration

Successfully strengthened academic collaboration between Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna (RMUTL) and Singapore Polytechnic (SP) through active student and staff exchange initiatives, fostering cross-cultural learning and professional development.

21st Century Skills Development

Enhanced students' competencies in key 21st century skills, including critical thinking, creativity, teamwork, and effective communication through active participation in collaborative and experiential learning activities.

Social Innovation Experience

Provided students with hands-on experience in developing innovative solutions for communities, enabling them to apply design thinking concepts to real-world contexts.

English and Intercultural Skills

Strengthened students' English communication skills and enhanced their intercultural awareness through active engagement in cross-cultural collaboration and learning activities.



Sense, Sensibility and Empathy

Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna (RMUTL) hosted the Learning Express 2026 (LeX 2026) programme, bringing together over 80 faculty members and students from RMUTL, Singapore Polytechnic (Singapore), and Nanhua University (Taiwan).

Participants joined a community immersion experience across selected communities in Chiang Mai, focusing on hands-on learning in Social Innovation.



Learning Approach

Throughout the three-day programme, participants:

- Engaged directly with community leaders and local stakeholders
- Explored real-world challenges within each community
- Applied the Design Thinking process to develop practical solutions

Community Projects

- **Group 1:** Ban Ton Haen Noi (Flash Flooding)
- **Group 2:** Ban Nam Ton (Pottery)
- **Group 3:** Ban Laung Tai (Tai Lue Cotton Textiles)

The activities encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and English communication in a multicultural setting, while strengthening students' global learning experience.

Sense, Sensibility and Empathy

Ban Ton Haen Noi (Flash Flooding)



Problem

Ban Ton Haen Noi, located in Tha Wang Phrao Subdistrict, San Pa Tong District, Chiang Mai Province, is highly prone to flash flooding from the Khan River, particularly during the rainy season. Large volumes of water flowing down from Samoeng District often accumulate and cause the river to overflow, resulting in sudden flooding in the area.



Community Project Aims

Focused on analyzing and designing solutions to mitigate flash flooding issues



Students and faculty members conducted a community immersion in Ban Ton Haen Noi, where they stayed closely with local residents.

During this period, they carried out interviews to understand the community's way of life and the challenges related to recurring flooding.



The insights gathered were used to generate ideas and develop potential solutions to address the flooding issues in the community.

Sense, Sensibility and Empathy

Ban Nam Ton (Pottery)



Problem

Ban Nam Ton, located in Mae Wang District, Chiang Mai Province, is a community known for its traditional pottery craftsmanship, particularly Nam Ton vessels and Pang Prateep (clay oil lamps). These crafts have long been part of the local way of life and a source of income for the community. However, only a small number of residents continue to practise this craft today, and the number of artisans is gradually declining.



Community Project Aims

Aimed at enhancing local wisdom in pottery craftsmanship to create added value and promote sustainability.



Students and faculty members conducted a community immersion in Ban Nam Ton, where they learned about the traditional craft of Nam Ton pottery from a local artisan, Sala Daeng. They also interviewed other craftsmen to understand their way of life, production processes, and the challenges they face, particularly the declining interest in this craft.

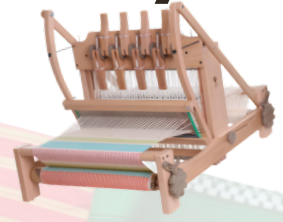


The insights gathered were then used to generate ideas and develop potential solutions to help preserve and revitalise the local pottery tradition.



Sense, Sensibility and Empathy

Ban Laung Tai (Tai Lue Cotton Textiles)



Problem

Ban Laung Tai, located in Doi Saket District, Chiang Mai Province, is a Tai Lue community known for its traditional handwoven textiles, produced through a full process from cotton cultivation and natural dyeing to intricate weaving techniques. The village is especially recognised for its unique Tai Lue patterns and cotton fabric products. However, the community faces ongoing challenges, as the number of artisans is decreasing, interest among younger generations is declining, and there is limited market demand for the products.



Community Project Aims

Focused on promoting the identity of Tai Lue cotton textiles through creative design and product development aligned with modern market demands.



Students and faculty members conducted a community immersion in Ban Laung Tai, where they learned about the daily lives of elderly women who practise traditional weaving. They also interviewed local artisans to understand Tai Lue textile production, including their way of life, weaving processes, and the challenges they face, particularly the declining interest in this craft.



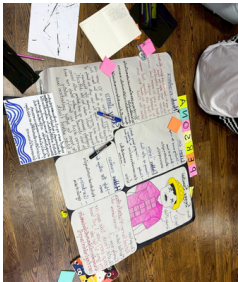
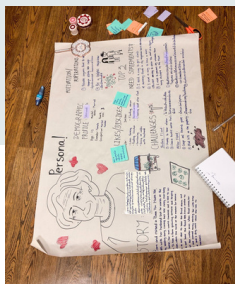
Ideation

From Insights to Ideas

Participants transformed community insights into meaningful ideas through a structured ideation process.

Key Activities

- Clustered field data to identify key themes and opportunities
- Developed clear project statements based on real community needs
- Created personas to better understand target users
- Applied brainstorming tools to generate a wide range of ideas



Concept Development

- Refined ideas using the SCAMPER technique
- Transformed ideas into design concepts
- Evaluated feasibility and impact of each concept

Prototype Direction

- Selected the most promising ideas
- Finalised concepts for prototype development

& Prototyping & Co-creation

From Ideas to Action

Participants transformed their selected ideas into practical prototypes aimed at addressing real community challenges.

Prototype Development

- Designed and created initial prototypes based on ideation outcomes
- Tested concepts through hands-on making and team collaboration



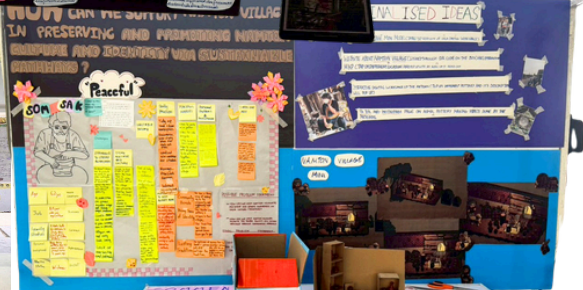
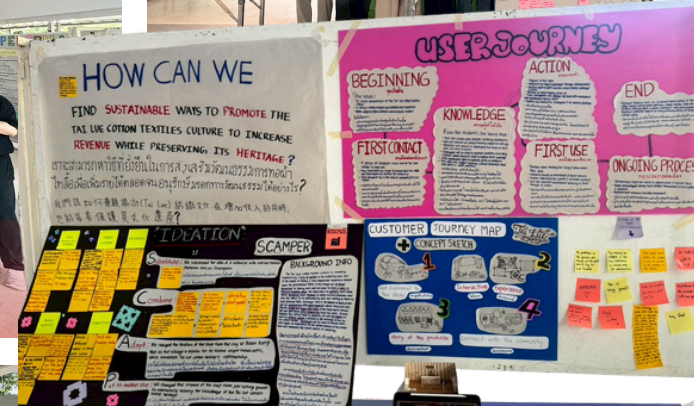
Community Co-creation

Participants returned to all three communities, namely Ban Ton Haen Noi, Ban Nam Ton, and Ban Laung Tai, to present their ideas and initial prototypes to local residents. During these sessions, they engaged directly with community members, gathering valuable feedback and suggestions, which were then used to further refine and improve their proposed solutions.



Gallery Walk

On 8 April 2026, students from Singapore Polytechnic, Nanhua University, and RMUTL presented their community innovation projects in a Gallery Walk at the RMUTL cafeteria.



- **Flash Flooding** (Ban Ton Na Noi): Risk reduction and early warning solutions
- **Pottery** (Ban Nam Ton): Product design and market development
- **Tai Lue Textiles** (Ban Luang Tai): Modern product ideas preserving cultural identity

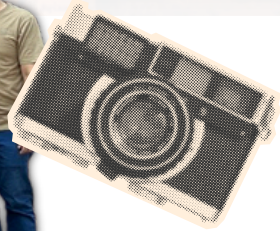




Local Cultural Immersion



As part of the programme, participants joined a series of cultural field trips to key landmarks in Chiang Mai, including Doi Suthep Temple, Umong Temple, Central Festival Chiang Mai, and the Sunday Walking Street.



These visits allowed students to experience the rich cultural and social environment of the city beyond the classroom. At the temples, participants gained insight into local traditions, beliefs, and ways of life, while visits to modern spaces such as Central Festival Chiang Mai and the walking street exposed them to contemporary lifestyles, local products, and community interactions.

The field trips also provided valuable opportunities for informal learning, cultural exchange, and relationship building among students from different countries, contributing to a more holistic international learning experience.



Organising Team



Rmutl Facilitators

Asst. Prof. Dr. Suphrapan Khonchiab
Mr. Supachart Krudthong
Ms. Sumana Sorathiwa
Ms. Tulaya Darun
Mr. Wattanyu Chaiya
Ms. Minkwan Gunjina
Ms. Krittika Inta
Ms. Arpasri Tewata
Ms. Silin Munpanya
Ms. Ampika Rachakom
Asst. Prof. Dr. Thammanoon Buphate
Dr. Peeratham Techapalokul
Asst. Prof. Pataravadee Tongngam
Dr. Jureepon Lueakha
Dr. Paweeya Raknim
Ms. Supaporn Supaponlakit



SP Facilitators

Mr. Soh Chee Meng
Mr. Richard Ng Weng Chuen
Ms. Lee Mee Fah



Office of International Relations Staffs

Ms. Rungarun Kantawang
Ms. Ausadaporn Kuntha
Ms. Kaewsai Lopetch
Ms. Pornsawan Sombatnan



Intern Students

Ms. Bussarin Suya
Mr. Supakit Sriwichai
Ms. Sirinapa Sittilor
Ms. Kunlanit Donchai
Ms. Thitiraya Lueangtairat



Thank You

Office of International Relations



Our Contact Information :

 053-921444 ext. 1015 or 1016

 oir@edu.rmutl.ac.th

 <https://oir.rmutl.ac.th>

 Oir Rmutl