Intelligence des Mondes Urbains (IMU) et l’Institut d’Asie Orientale (IAO) vous invitent

Lundi 10 octobre à 18h, salle 2 de l’Institut Français de l’Education (IFE, ex INRP) à la
conférence de

Niramon KULSRISOMBAT (Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok)

*Sinking Bangkok? Living with water, in the past, present, and future*

Discussant: Eric CHARMES (EVS-RIVES, ENTPE, University of Lyon)

Bangkok was once representative of Asia’s water-based civilization. Located in a tropical and
low-lying land of the Chao Phraya river basin, Bangkok developed harmonious relationships
with its geo-climatic conditions. In the past, annual floods and high tides were welcomed by
local farmers as supplementary irrigation. The land was painstakingly prepared for receiving
water by digging canals and raising houses on piles.

Unfortunately, Bangkok lost most of its distinctive characters in the rapid urbanization
process. Since the 1960s, many waterways have been replaced by roads in the urban areas,
while agricultural lands were returned into suburban housing. Uncoordinated modern urban
development clashes with natural conditions, causing floods of alarming magnitude.

After an analysis of this situation, various attempts to alleviate the problem will be
presented as they appear in the third revised Bangkok Comprehensive Plan to preserve and
increase the water retention areas.

Biographical sketches:

Niramon KULSRISOMBAT is Assistant Professor, and the chairman of the Bachelor of
Urban Planning Program in Urban Design, Dept of Urban and Regional Planning, Faculty of
Architecture, Chulalongkorn University. A member of the Architectural Conservation
Committee, the Association of Siamese Architects under the Royal Patronage, she is involved
in significant research projects related to urban planning and design such as the *Urban Planning
Standards of Bangkok* as well as the *Third Revision of Bangkok Comprehensive Plan*. She is also leading an action-based research project for revitalizing the historic
neighborhoods in Thonburi, with a particular focus on cultural heritage conservation and civic
commitment for public spaces improvement.

Eric CHARMES is a research director, specialized in urbanism and urban studies. He is
heading a team of the UMR CNRS 5600, Recherchesinterdisciplinairesvilleespacesociété
(RIVES), located at the ENTPE, University of Lyon. He wrote a PhD on Bangkok, which was
presented in 2000. Since that, he worked on residential territorialisation, especially in suburbs
and exurbs. He is the author of several books, including: *La vie périurbaine face à la menace
des gated communities* (L’Harmattan, 2005), *La rue, village oudécor ?Parcours dans deux
rues de Belleville* (Créaphis, 2006) and *La ville émiettée. Essai sur la clubbisation de la vie
urbaine* (PUF, 2011)

Pour se rendre à l’IFE: Accès : metro ligne B direction Stade de Gerland sortie station
Debourg ; bus lignes 12E, 17, 32, 176, 179

Voir le plan d’accès en p. 2.
Bangkok s'enfonce inexorablement dans la mer

Une partie de la mégapole thaïlandaise pourrait être submergée dès 2030. Les autorités tardent à réagir.

**Bangkok Correspondant**

L'ouragan en 2004 a frappé Bangkok. Les habitants du centre de la ville ont trouvé refuge dans des édifices... (suite)

**Changement climatique**

Le niveau de la mer est en constante progression, poussant la ville à être submergée. Les autorités tardent à réagir.

**Planète**

Plusieurs mécanismes à l'œuvre:

- **Montée du niveau de la mer**
- **Inondations**
- **Affaissement du sol**
- **Sécheresse**

**Plan de solution**

- **Mesures d'adaptation**
- **Réglementation**
- **Investissements**

A plus ou moins long terme, plus d'un million d'immeubles, dont 90% sont résidentiels, sont menacés par la montée des eaux...

En conclusion, il est essentiel de prendre des mesures immédiates pour prévenir les conséquences du changement climatique sur la ville de Bangkok.