## Message from Chair of the ICLPST Board of Directors



Since its establishment in 1968, the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training (ICLPST) has been devoting itself to international training on land and agricultural policies for almost 50 years. The trainings covered crucial issues of land, agricultural, rural and urban development. By the end of 2017, the Center has trained 17,677 officials, scholars and experts from all around the world. With two new participating countries, Isreal and Kosovo, there are so far 127 beneficiary countries in total, which cover East Asia and Pacific, West Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean.

In the year of 2018, in order to gain its international publicity, to strengthen its friendship with allied nations, and to boost Taiwan's image globally, the Center will be

celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with banquets and conference in which the issues of Taiwan's land policy in the 50 year's span and its influence will be addressed. With its present academic resources and alumni network, the Center is also expected to become a national think tank, to cultivate numerous experts in land policy, agriculture administration and urban development, and moreover, to be of more value for the world.

During these 50 years, the Center has made significant contributions to the world community and remains a good way for the Republic of China (Taiwan) to promote international cooperation and diplomatic space. On behalf of the Center, I would like to take this opportunity to extend sincere appreciation to the longterm partners: the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in the USA, the ROC National Development Council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior and the Council of Agriculture. I believe with their assistance and support, the Center will be able to keep abreast of the modern times and look forward to the prosperous future!

Chin-cheng Huang