

SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin



ISSN 0859-9084/ September 2009



Message from the Centre Director Professor Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas

Welcome to the third volume of 2009 SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin. Following the 2nd SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Visit to the US (17-25 April 2009), our distinguished participants have requested that SEAMEO RIHED hold the **Post-departure Meeting** in order for them to share their learning's experiences during the trip. Therefore, we scheduled the event to be held on 14 June 2009 in Bangkok. In this particular month, we joined force with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and ASIA SEED INSTITUTE to organise the **'Workshop on The Analysis of Cross-border Higher Education for Regional Integration and Labour Market in East Asia'** in Bangkok, Thailand on 30 June 2009. Participants from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Korea, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan joined the event to conduct a study on the impact of cross border higher education and the development of regional and national higher education policy. In late July, there was an annual event held by SEAMEO RIHED and International Institute for Education Planning (IIEP, UNESCO Paris). **The 5th SEAMEO RIHED-IIEP Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Southeast Asia** was organized at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, during 28 July – 1 August 2009. The Workshop was co-organised by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia and Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

In August, we had the opportunity to welcome **His Excellency Mr. Jurin Laksanawisit, SEAMEO Council President and Minister of Education of Thailand**, at SEAMEO RIHED office. In his Excellency's visit, SEAMEO RIHED was mandated to prepare a proposal for the development of ASEAN Credit Transfer System and Mobility Programme for SEAMEO Member Countries. The idea was later proposed to the **17th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in August 2009. The 17th Meeting agreed that a pilot project to launch a mobility programme in 3 countries, namely Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand should be initiated. Following the 17th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting, a **Preliminary Meeting on Student Mobility Programme in Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand: A Pilot Project** was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 28 August 2009 by Office of Higher Education Commission (Thailand); Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education (Malaysia); Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia; and SEAMEO RIHED.



Enjoy reading!

Official Visit of the SEAMEO Council President and Minister of Education, Thailand

7 August 2009, SEAMEO RIHED Office, Bangkok, Thailand



His Excellency Mr. Jurin Laksanawisit, SEAMEO Council President and Minister of Education of Thailand, visited the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) in Thailand on 7 August 2009.

In his visit, Prof. Dr. San Worainthara, Senior Advisor for Local Wisdom Development, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand, (a representative of Dr. Sumate Yamnoon, Secretary General, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand and Chairperson of SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board) welcomed His Excellency and his group. Prof. Supachai

Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director presented the progress report of the centre's activities and also highlighted the project to raise the awareness among key players in higher education sector within the region on the significance of promoting a common space in higher education and the harmonisation process in Southeast Asia. The SEAMEO Council President shared his view on strengthening programs and initiatives of the Centre. His Excellency echoed the idea of 'the promotion of student mobility in Southeast Asia under the harmonisation framework' and urged SEAMEO RIHED to launch a mobility programme as a pilot project in participating countries.

Following SEAMEO Council President's visit to the Centre, SEAMEO RIHED was mandate to prepare a proposal for the development of ASEAN Credit Transfer System and Mobility Programme for SEAMEO Member Countries. The idea was proposed to the 17th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in August 2009.

The 2009 SEAMEO Centre Directors Meeting 4-6 August 2009, Bangkok, Thailand

The SEAMEO Centre Directors Meeting is being convened by the SEAMEO Secretariat annually to provide a forum for SEAMEO Centres to update on programmes and projects, discuss on common issues and priorities, and recommend matters for decision of the SEAMEO High Officials and the SEAMEO Council.

Nineteen (19) SEAMEO Regional Centre Directors and key officials of each centres, some Associate and Affiliate Members, development partners and invited guests engaged in a three-day discussion of the 2009 SEAMEO Centre Directors Meeting from 4 to 6 August 2009 at the Arnoma Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. Discussion items included the need to develop long-term cooperation among the Centres, the support of the Centres in the implementation of the 10 collaborative projects to Reach the Unreached and provide Education for All in Southeast Asia by 2015, and other initiatives that call for stronger partnership between and among the SEAMEO Centres and development partners in the region and beyond.



SEAMEO RIHED proposed a progress report on 'A Structured Framework for Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia: The Road towards a Common Space' to the meeting. More information of the meeting can be accessed through http://www.seameo.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=412&Itemid=27.

The Post Departure Meeting of the 2nd SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Visit to the United States of America: University Governance for Members of University Council and University Administrators

14 June 2009, Bangkok, Thailand

The 2nd SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Visit to the United States of America: University Governance for Members of University Council and University Administrators, was organised by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) and SEAMEO RIHED. The program was designed to opportunity to bring chairmen, vice chairmen, members of university council, presidents and senior university administrators from Thailand to visit higher education institutions in the United States of America (San Diego and Los Angeles) and also to attend the 2009 AGB's National Conference on Trusteeship in San Diego. The objectives of the program are to provide the opportunity for senior university administrators and members of university councils to participate in professional development activities and to improve their insights as well as knowledge on recent and current development of the US university governance.



Following the educational programme, all distinguished participants from the educational trip agreed to organize a meeting to share their learning's experiences during the trip. With the kind support of Dr. Sunthorn Arunanondchai, Member of Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi Council, SEAMEO RIHED organised the post-departure meeting of the above programme on Sunday 14 June 2009 at The Grand Mercure Fortune Bangkok. Participants joined in to share experiences on US University Governance and discuss on the future of university governance in Thailand.

The meeting was attended by 16 distinguished participants, including three former Ministers: The former Minister of Education -- Professor Dr. Wichit Srisa-an, Chairman of Suranaree University of Technology Council, Walailak University Council and Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University Council; the former Minister of University Affairs and former Minister of Foreign Affairs -- Mr. Prachuab Chaiyasan, Chairman of Ramkhamhaeng University Council; and the former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Professor Dr. Krasae Chanawongse, Chairman of Princess Naradhiwas University Council. The Chairman of Sripatum University Council, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kanchit Malaivongs and a vice chairman of Phranakhon Rajabhat University Council, Dr. Tanom Intarakumnerd also participated in the event.



In this meeting, an open seminar on University Governance for Members of University Council and University Administrators in Thailand: Experience from the 2nd Educational Visit to the USA was planned to be held in November 2009. The aims of the open seminar is to disseminate the information and share the knowledge about the US university governance and university council with the public and the distinguished participants from the educational trip will join in the panel of speakers.

The 17th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting

17-18 August 2009, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The 17th Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) Governing Board Meeting was convened at The Impiana KLCC Hotel & Spa, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 17-18 August 2009, with the kind support from the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia.

The SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting was attended by members of SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board from Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Representatives of Governing Board Members from Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Vietnam were also present along with the Director of SEAMEO Secretariat and the Director of SEAMEO RIHED. The representatives from Office of Higher Education Commission, Thailand, the Commission on Higher Education, the Philippines, and the Department of Higher Education, Department of Higher Education, Malaysia, participated in the 17th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting, as observers.

The meeting reviewed the progress of the Centre's activities implemented in FY 2008/2009 and approved the work plan for 2009/2010. SEAMEO RIHED proposed Programmes for FY 2009/2010 as follow:



Trainings/Workshops

- 1) The 5th Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia
- 2) Workshop on Quality Assurance for the University Administrators in the Greater Mekong Sub-region
- 3) The 4th Study Visit Programme to United Kingdom (UK) for Senior Staff from Thai and Southeast Asian Universities
- 4) The 3rd SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to the USA: University Governance for members of University Council and University Administrators
- 5) Workshop on the Analysis of Cross-border Higher Education for Regional Integration and Labour Market in East Asia

Research Project

- 6) A Study on Quality Assurance Models in Southeast Asian

Clearing House and Publication

- 7) Book Translation Project: Phase I – Professor Michael Shattock's 'Managing Successful Universities'

Seminars and Conferences

- 8) The 3rd ASEAN Quality Assurance Roundtable Meeting
- 9) SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting's Back-to-Back Regional Seminar on "Student Mobility in Southeast Asia"
- 10) The 4th Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner responsible for HE in Southeast Asia
- 11) Lecture Series: Open Seminar on National Research Management System in SEAMEO Member Countries
- 12) Workshop on ASEAN Credit Transfer System: Lessons Learned from the UCTS
- 13) Projects in Collaboration with other SEAMEO Centres
- 14) Information Paper on E-learning and Mobile Learning Programme

More information on SEAMEO RIHED activities for FY 2009/2010 is available at www.rihed.seameo.org/activities2010.

The Back to Back Regional Seminar on Student Mobility in Southeast Asia

18 August 2009, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Student mobility is one of the main priorities that SEAMEO RIHED aspires to promote as part of its initiatives on the harmonisation of higher education in Southeast Asia, as mentioned in SEAMEO RIHED's proposal on *A Structured Framework for Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia: The Road towards a Common Space*'.

The Back to Back Regional Seminar on Student Mobility in Southeast Asia was convened at The Impiana KLCC Hotel & Spa, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 18 August 2009, with the kind support from the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia, with the aim to share and update relevant information on student mobility in Southeast Asian region. With the kind contributions from SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Members, all the presentations in the seminar were delivered by either SEAMEO RIHED's respective Governing Board Members or their representatives as follow:

- 1) **Mr. You Virak**, Deputy Director, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, CAMBODIA
- 2) **Prof. Dr. Johannes Gunawan**, Expert on Higher Education Development, Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of National Education, INDONESIA
- 3) **Dr. Phonephet Boupha**, Director General, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education. LAO PDR
- 4) **Dato' Prof. Ir Dr. Radin Umar bin Radin Sohadi**, Director General, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, MALAYSIA
- 5) **Dr. Saw Pyone Naing**, Pro Rector, Mandalay University, MYANMAR
- 6) **Hon. Dr. Emmanuel Y. Angeles**, Secretary/Chairman, Higher Education Development Centre, Commission on Higher Education, The PHILIPPINES
- 7) **Prof. Tan Oon Seng**, Dean of Foundation Programmes, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, SINGAPORE
- 8) **Miss Sumantana Chantaroagwong**, Educational Officer, Bureau of International Cooperation Strategy, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, THAILAND
- 9) **Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Chinh**, Vice-Director, R&D and Post Graduate Department, University of Danang, VIETNAM

In addition to the presentation on the background of higher education system in 9 countries; current status of student mobility in higher education in each country; and the future direction were also highlighted.

More than 50 university administrators and scholars from Malaysia attended the event. Papers and Presentations on the Regional Seminar can be accessed through <http://www.rihed.seameo.org/mbseminar>.



The 1st M-I-T Meeting on Student Mobility Programme in Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand: A Pilot Project

28 August 2009, Commission on Higher Education Building, Bangkok, Thailand



The Preliminary Meeting on Student Mobility Programme in Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand: A Pilot Project, held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 28 August 2009, was attended by Dr. Sumate Yamnoon, Secretary General, Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond, Deputy Secretary General and representatives from the Bureau of International Strategy, Office of Higher Education Commission (Thailand), Prof. Dr. Rujhan Mustafa, Deputy Director General, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education (Malaysia), Prof. Dr. Illah Sailah, Director of Academic Affairs, Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of National Education (Indonesia) and Prof. Dr. Ir. Didik Sulistyanto, Education Attaché, Indonesian Embassy, Bangkok. Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, Director of SEAMEO RIHED, and Dr. Nopraenue S. Dhirathiti, Senior Specialist (Higher Education Research), SEAMEO RIHED, also attended the Meeting



Director of SEAMEO RIHED outlined the participants about the purpose of the Meeting and stressed that the outputs from the Meeting will be used to develop a 'Roadmap for Student Mobility and Credit Transfer System', which was the assignment tasked to SEAMEO RIHED by H.E. Mr. Jurin Laksanawisit, Minister of Education (Thailand) and President of SEAMEO Council.



During the course of discussion, matters of particular interest included the selected mobility areas, the length of the mobility period, the use of the UCTS, support from the host/home government, language preparation, and the targeted number of students to participate in the pilot programme. The meeting came to a mutual understanding that the programme is to be launched for undergraduate students in 2010. The meeting also agreed on the selected disciplines are following areas: 1) Agriculture, 2) Language/Culture, 3) Hospitality and Tourism,

4) International Business, and 5) Food Science and Technology. And the duration of the mobility programme should be carried out for at least 1 semester. The Meeting also requested SEAMEO RIHED to bring up the issue on harmonising academic calendar in the SEAMEO meetings to encourage more mobility in the future.

The Meeting reached a decision that a follow-up meeting to identify and compare course syllabus will be held during 15-16 October 2009 at the Office of Higher Education Commission, Bangkok, Thailand. Participating universities will be provided by the respective Department and Office of Higher Education in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.



The 5th Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia

26 July – 2 August 2009, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

In cooperation with the International Institute for Education Planning (IIEP, UNESCO Paris), SEAMEO RIHED conducted a research project to study the restructuring process of higher education and its effects towards higher education institutions and higher education systems in Asia. These studies on the implementation and the difficulties encountered as a result of the restructuring process as well as the effects of the globalisation were conducted by country coordinators and national teams in 2001.



After the completion of the studies, a policy forum to share the finding was organized the Policy Forum Workshop, in Hue University in Vietnam to disseminate the findings gathered by national teams to the public. From 2005 to 2008, four workshops were subsequently organised in the Philippines, Lao PDR, Cambodia and Myanmar, respectively. These Workshops were designed to introduce to the university administrators in Southeast Asia the process of higher education restructuring, its effects and best practices adopted by higher education institutions across the region.



Again in 2009, with the close cooperation with Dr. N. V. Varghese from IIEP and Prof. Dr. Molly Lee from UNESCO, Bangkok, the 5th SEAMEO RIHED-IIEP Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Southeast Asia was organised at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, during 28 July – 1 August 2009. The Workshop was co-organised by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia; Universiti Malaysia Sabah, the IIEP and SEAMEO

RIHED. The Workshop was attended by 14 invited participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The other 10 participants from Thailand were on the fee-based invitations.

The workshop addressed on the issues of: the overview of higher education in Malaysia; globalisation and cross-border education; quality assurance and its implications to higher education; a common space in higher education in Southeast Asia; institutional autonomy and university governance in Southeast Asia; higher education indicators; leadership development in higher education; financial and resource allocation mechanisms and strategies; strategies for resource mobilisation and student loans; the use of ICT and quality assurance; and staff development and the engagement of

key persons in institutional restructuring and university governance. The 6th workshop is tentatively scheduled to be held during 19-23 July 2010, in Bali, Indonesia.



Workshop on the Analysis of Cross-Border Higher Education for Regional Integration and Labor Market in East Asia

30 June 2009, Bangkok, Thailand



On 30 June 2009, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), ASIA SEED INSTITUTE and SEAMEO RIHED joined force to organise the 'Workshop on The Analysis of Cross-border Higher Education for Regional Integration and Labour Market in East Asia' in Bangkok, Thailand. The objective of the workshop was to get inputs and comments from the delegates from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Korea, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan for the further study on the impact of cross border higher education and the development of regional and national higher education policy.



The objective of the research study is to examine the function of higher education sectors in the virtual integration of labor markets in Asia. Firstly, it focuses on higher education exchange programs in order to understand the prevailing situation. Next, to analyse these exchange programs' performances in the labor market and also to learn the example of Malaysia in promoting international higher education exchanges and equivalent programs. This project explores also effective approaches to knowledge creation and human resource development.



Twenty six delegations helped comment on the draft questionnaires, selection methods of sample universities and internationally collaborated degree programs as well as the implementation methods and research schedules. More information of the research project and the progress can be found in <http://jica-ri.jica.go.jp/research/aid-strategy/emerging-aid-agenda/index.html>.

For more information, please contact:



Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director
If you wish to contribute any comments or information, please contact:
Bulletin Consultant: Dr. Nopraenue S. Dhirathiti, Mahidol University
Staff Bulletin: Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer,
Mr. Nopporn Kongtharat, Mrs. Pichaya Pansawat, and
Mr. Preecha Anghong.

SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED)

5th floor, Commission on Higher Education Building, 328 Sri Ayutthaya Road, Rajthwee, Bangkok 10400
THAILAND Tel: (66) 0-2644 9856-63, 0-2644 5591, Fax: (66) 0-2644 5421
E-mail: rihed@rihed.seameo.org Website – www.rihed.seameo.org