

SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin



ISSN 0859-9084/ September 2010

Message from the Centre Director *Professor Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas*

Welcome to the third volume of 2010 SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin. June 2010 was a busy month for SEAMEO RIHED, with 3 activities in that month. The first activity established cross-organisational collaboration in quality assurance in higher education in Southeast Asia. SEAMEO RIHED, AQAN and AUN co-organised *The Meeting of AQAN-AUN-RIHED: Tripartite QA Synergistic Relationship*. Following that event, the *Workshop on Design and Management of Higher Education Systems: The role of steering policies and governance reforms in the management of higher education* was held with the kind cooperation of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and UNESCO Bangkok. The workshop discussed the appropriate methodology for carrying out case studies on governance and management of higher education.



Also in June 2010, the Office of Higher Education Commission, Thailand and SEAMEO RIHED took the lead in conducting *the South-East Asian Policy Forum: Regional Credit Transfer System: Lessons Learnt from UCTS*. The Policy Forum was held as part of the UCTS International Conference 2010. The Conference and the policy forum were hosted by Office of the Higher Education Commission (Thailand), UMAP, ASEAN University Network (AUN) and SEAMEO RIHED. . The policy forum was initiated in order to develop the template of a Southeast Asian Credit Transfer System, based on the existing UMAP Credit Transfer System. The new proposed Southeast Asian Credit Transfer System will be the main mechanism to promote and facilitate mobility programmes across the sub-region.

In July 2010, the Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education ran in Indonesia, with the kind cooperation of the Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia, SEAMEO RIHED and IIEP. *The 6th SEAMEO RIHED-IIEP Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education and Educational Trip to Indonesia*. The workshop focused on recent changes in university management including a focus on increasing relevance, improve efficiencies in operation, and diversifying sources of funding. Please enjoy reading!



UPDATES

The 2010 SEAMEO Centre Directors Meeting 13-15 June 2010, Bangkok, Thailand



The Centre Directors Meeting 2010 was convened 13 to 15 July 2010 at the S31 Sukhumvit Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. The 73 participants comprised the Centre Directors and key officials of the SEAMEO Centres, the SEAMEO Secretariat Director and staff; representatives from SEAMEO Associate and Affiliate Members (Australia, the University of Tsukuba, and the British Council); invited observers and guests included UNESCO Bangkok, the ASEAN Secretariat, Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC), Educational Assessment Australia - University of New South Wales

Global (EAA), and the Attache of Education and Culture of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia. The CDM 2010 was chaired by Dato' Dr Ahamad bin Sipon, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat.

SEAMEO RIHED proposed the Progress Report on Harmonisation in Higher Education in Southeast Asia' to the meeting. More information on the meeting can be accessed at http://www.seameo.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=491&Itemid=1.

International Deans' Course Southeast Asia 24-25 June 2010, Berlin, Germany

The International Deans' Course Southeast Asia was held 24 to 25 June 2010, in Berlin, Germany. The workshop was hosted by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and aimed to prepare a group of about 30 deans, vice-deans, and heads of departments from Southeast Asian universities for the challenges of holding a dean's position in the changing higher education landscape.

Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director was invited to be a speaker on the topic of Quality Assurance in Southeast Asia. The event also allowed DAAD-SEAMEO RIHED-AUN (ASEAN University Network)-AQAN (ASEAN Quality Assurance Network) to meet to discuss the upcoming Workshop on Quality Assurance in Southeast Asia. The meeting mapped partners' profiles in the field of quality assurance and regional integration initiatives. The next meeting between DAAD-SEAMEO RIHED-AUN-AQAN will be hosted by AQAN in November 2010, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



The Meeting of AQAN-AUN-RIHED: Tripartite QA Synergistic Relationship

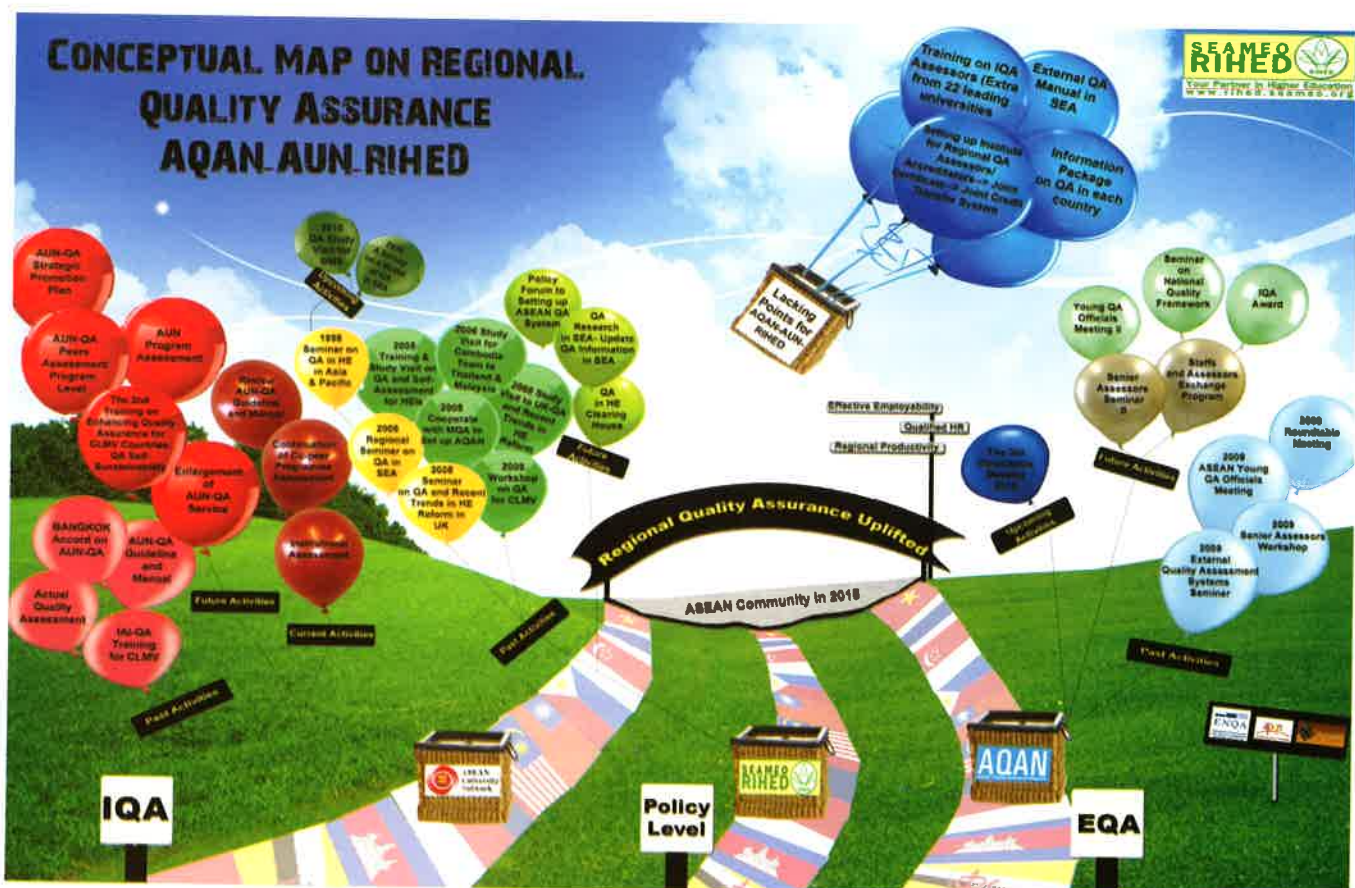
15 June 2010, SEAMEO RIHED Office, Bangkok, Thailand



In order to establish cross-organisational collaborations in quality assurance (QA) in the Southeast Asian higher education sector, SEAMEO RIHED, AUN (ASEAN University Network) and AQAN (ASEAN Quality Assurance Network), with the kind cooperation of Office of the Higher Education Commission Thailand, held the workshop on AQAN-AUN-RIHED: 3 Tripartite QA Synergistic Relationship on 15 June 2010 at the SEAMEO RIHED Office, Bangkok, Thailand.

The Synergistic Relationship Workshop will promote cooperation between the three agencies. All agencies will present their QA activities work plan and discuss how to fulfill the remaining, unattended QA aspects.

During the meeting, the President of AQAN, the Director of SEAMEO RIHED and the Executive Director of AUN Secretariat signed a Partnership Statement to establish cross-organisational collaborations in QA in higher education in Southeast Asia.



The 6th IIEP-SEAMEO RIHED Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education



and Educational Trip to Indonesia



19 – 25 July 2010 at Nusa Dua Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia



Institutional restructuring involves changes in both the governance and management of institutions. Governance involves structures and processes of decision-making, whereas management implies the implementation of those decisions. Making and implementing decisions might entail, therefore, the creation of new structures, specified criteria for the allocation of resources to various activities, the allotment of tasks to various groups, and the evaluation of performance. Structure mainly concerns offices, positions and formal roles within an organisation. Criteria refer to norms that form the basis for the distribution of responsibilities and resources to all lower-level units within an organisation.



SEAMEO RIHED, in collaboration with the International Institute for Education Planning (IIEP-UNESCO, Paris) initiated a research programme to study the restructuring processes and its effects, both from a macro and an institutional point of view. These studies were carried out by national teams and focussed on the implementation of restructuring processes, difficulties encountered, and the effects on university management.



The 6th IIEP-SEAMEO RIHED Workshop is based on these and other studies carried out in the region. After completion of the studies, a policy forum to share the findings was organised at Hue University in 2004. As the follow-up to the Policy Forum, the workshops on the same theme were subsequently organized in Manila in 2005, Lao PDR in 2006, Cambodia in 2007, Myanmar in 2008 and Malaysia in 2009. These workshops oriented university administrators to the process of the restructuring experienced in the region. IIEP, SEAMEO RIHED and UNESCO Bangkok have played the facilitating role in all these activities.

Objectives

The workshop focused its deliberations on the recent changes in university management in their efforts to increase relevance, improve efficiency in operation, and diversify sources of funding. More specifically, the workshop had the following objectives:



- i) discuss the trends in changes in higher education in the context of globalisation, GATS and cross-border education;
- (ii) highlight the institutional restructuring process initiated at many universities;
- (iii) discuss changes in resource mobilisation strategies and staff management policies adopted by various institutions;
- (iv) acquaint the participants with approaches and methods of financial and staff management in higher education;
- (v) discuss issues related to the growth and expansion of private universities.



Again in 2010, thanks to the close cooperation of Dr. N. V. Varghese from IIEP and Prof. Dr. Molly Lee from UNESCO, Bangkok, the 6th SEAMEO RIHED-IIEP Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Southeast Asia was organised at Nusa Dua, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia and held 19 to 25 July 2010. The Workshop was co-organised by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia; the IIEP and SEAMEO RIHED. The Workshop was attended by 27 invited participants from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The other 9 participants from Thailand were on the fee-based invitations.



In addition to the main workshop, Thai senior university administrators attended an educational trip to Udayana University and Indonesia Arts Institute (ISI), to study Indonesian university management and cultivate personal and institutional cooperation with Indonesian higher education institutes.



The workshop addressed the issues of: an overview of higher education in Indonesia; 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 7th workshop is tentatively scheduled for July 2010 held in Thailand and hosted by Office of the Higher Education Commission, Thailand.





The South-East Asian Policy Forum: Regional Credit Transfer System: Lessons Learnt from UCTS



UMAP
University Mobility
in Asia and the Pacific

29-30 June 2010 at Bangkok, Thailand

The development of a credit transfer system for countries in the Southeast Asian region is an infrastructure that will enhance the future comparability of different study programmes and higher education systems. Therefore, it was agreed during the 3rd Meeting of Director General/Secretary General and Commissioner responsible for Higher Education (held on 29 January 2009) that Thailand and SEAMEO RIHED would take up a key role in developing a template of Southeast Asian Credit Transfer System, based on the existing UMAP Credit Transfer System. The proposed Southeast Asian Credit Transfer System is the main mechanism to promote and facilitate mobility programmes across the sub-region.



SEAMEO RIHED took the lead in conducting the South-East Asian Policy Forum: Regional Credit Transfer System: Lessons Learnt from UCTS, at the UCTS International Conference 2010, New Dynamics of Student Mobility & UMAP Credit Transfer Scheme: Connecting the Asia-Pacific Higher Education. The conference was hosted by Office of the Higher Education Commission (Thailand), UMAP, ASEAN University Network (AUN) and SEAMEO RIHED on 28 to 30 June 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. The forum proposed the 6 Recommended Key Principles for Credit Transfer in Proposing SEA-CTS and the characteristic of the key principles are summarised below:

- 1) To use for credit transfer in higher education program
- 2) To transfer credits for courses or groups of courses in higher education programs or equivalent
- 3) A grade shall not be lower than C or 2.00 score level or equivalent for Bachelor degree, and not be lower than B or 3.00 score level or equivalent or the S score level for graduate degree
- 4) Contents shall cover less than three fourths of individual courses or groups of courses to be equated with.
- 5) In bachelor degree, transferred credits shall not be more than one third of the total credits of the study programs into which to transfer
- 6) A transferred credit will not be included in the calculation for the cumulative grade point average (Optional).

The 6 Recommended Key Principles for Credit Transfer in Proposing SEA-CTS will be tabled for discussion at The 5th Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia will be held in the beginning of 2011 in Nha Trang, Vietnam.



Workshop on Design and Management of Higher Education Systems: The role of steering policies and governance reforms in the management of higher education



21-22 June 2010 at Bangkok, Thailand

On 21 to 22 June 2010, the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP); UNESCO Bangkok and SEAMEO RIHED organised a Workshop on Design and Management of Higher Education Systems: The role of steering policies and governance reforms in the management of higher education in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop aimed to identify the appropriate methodology for carrying out case studies on governance and management of higher education. The research programme is an effort to analyse both the reform measures and their effectiveness in varying development and regional contexts, at both the national and institutional levels. The first phase of the research focuses on Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan and Vietnam.



Fifteen participants at the workshop came from Department of Higher Education of MoEYS and University of Battambang, Cambodia; Institute of Higher Education of the East China Normal University, China; Board of Higher Education, MoHE, Indonesia; Research Institute for Higher Education, University of Hiroshima, Japan; and SEAMEO RETRAC, Vietnam (mainly research team members). There were also representatives from IIEP, UNESCO Bangkok and SEAMEO RIHED.

After the meeting, all research team members reviewed governance reforms and universities selected for in-depth study for the impact of governance reforms on case universities. It will be followed by the development of the instrument, identifying persons to interview by questionnaires, collection of data, data analysis and submission of first complete draft of the report at the end of October 2010. The meeting to discuss the draft report has tentatively set up on 10-12 November 2010 at SEAMOLEC, Vietnam.





Regional Seminar on Quality Assurance in Southeast Asian Countries

22 September 2010

At the Office of Higher Education Commission Building, Bangkok, Thailand



**The 4th SEAMEO RIHED-InTREC
An Intensive Course on University Management for
the 21st Century at University of Cambridge**

24 - 31 October 2010, United Kingdom



**The First Conference on
Pioneering ASEAN Higher Education Research Clusters**

26 - 27 November 2010

Amari Watergate Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

For more information, please contact:



Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director

If you wish to contribute comments or information, please contact:

Bulletin Consultant: Dr. Nopraenue S. Dhirathiti, Mahidol University

Staff Bulletin: Ms. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer

Ms Fuchsia Hepworth, Policy Officer (Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development),

Mr. Nopporn Kongtharat, IT Officer and

Mrs. Pichaya Pansawat, Data Processing Officer.

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 9856-62, 0-2644 5591, Fax: (66) 0-2644 5421, 0-2644 9863

E-mail: rihed@rihed.seameo.org Website - www.rihed.seameo.org