



Your Partner
In Higher Education

SEAMEO RIHED Annual Report 2017/2018



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Your Partner in Higher Education



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INTRODUCTION

from the Centre Director

DR. CHANTAVIT SUJATANOND
Centre Director, SEAMEO RIHED



Dear Readers,

Advancing cooperation, alignment and the development of higher education systems in the Southeast Asian region is part of the core mission of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED).

This mission, however, has not become easier in the context of rapid societal changes and transformations, demographic shifts and technological disruption that we are seeing today. In response to these transformations, countries and higher education institutions throughout the world are being challenged to re-think the role and future of higher education and this is also the case in the region of Southeast Asia, a region marked by both diversity and potential.

In 2017/2018, SEAMEO RIHED once again worked tirelessly together with Member Countries and our partners to strengthen and expand our engagement through promoting understanding, cooperation and synergy in higher education for regional development. With the formulation of our Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (FY 2017/2018 – FY 2021/2022),

our strategy is also oriented towards the new and evolving role of higher education and builds on our gains from the past as well as the work carried out in the harmonisation and development of higher education in Southeast Asia. At the regional level, our work is also closely aligned with the new SEAMEO Education Agenda (2015-2035), which has distilled 7 Priorities to be promoted over a 20 year period and in which the harmonisation of higher education and research figures prominently.

The following sections will inform you of what has been particularly important over the past year for SEAMEO RIHED and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight but a few of the many projects and activities that illustrate our impact over the past year and that have helped to cement our role in the region as “your partner in higher education”.

First of all, through our two formal policy platforms, including the annual SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting and Southeast Asian Higher Education Senior Officials Meeting (SEA-HiEd SOM), we are able to work closely with national authorities and high officials responsible for higher education in Southeast Asia and produce achievements based on their collective vision. These annual platforms are

self-sufficient and self-reliant and continue to serve as crucial platforms for higher education decision makers to discuss important challenges and confirm collective commitments for the region and you can learn more on page 14.

Our focus on the development of a common space in higher education and establishment of networks for academic mobility were also key aspects of our work in the past year. We are particularly proud of the AIMS Programme, highlighted from page 22 onwards, which has continued to expand opportunities for academic exchanges and propelled the mobility of over 3400 students since 2010.

In addition, this year marked the launch of a new project in cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat and under the framework of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) on Support for Capacity Building of the Greater Mekong Subregion University Consortium (GMS-UC). The first phase will be carried out over the next two years and aims to foster regional alignment between CLMV countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam) and other Southeast Asian countries through strengthening capacities of selected universities. You can learn more about this project and the GMS-UC on pages 34-35.

Thanks to our regional and global engagement with partners, SEAMEO RIHED's expertise is also much sought after in collaborative activities and this year saw new potentials for engaging partners to pursue intra- and inter-regional collaboration.

SEAMEO RIHED keeps in mind these important milestones and we are committed to build on them, providing Member Countries with effective platforms to discuss emerging challenges, explore policy solutions and further enhance multilateral collaboration within the region and beyond.



The background of the page features a dark blue wall with the SEAMEO logo on the left and the text 'REGIONAL CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT' in large, metallic, 3D letters on the right. In the foreground, several flags of SEAMEO member countries are displayed on red stands. The flags include those of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei, Malaysia, and Australia.

SEAMEO RIHED

The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED), is the SEAMEO Centre specialising in higher education and development. The Centre is hosted by the Government of Thailand and located on the 5th floor of the Office of the Higher Education Commission in Bangkok, Thailand.

The SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board is the main policy making body of the Centre and is comprised of one representative nominated by the Minister of Education of each of the 11 SEAMEO Member Countries and appointed by the SEAMEO Council. The Governing Board is responsible for operational policies, strategic planning as well as annual evaluation and review of the Centre's activities and budget within the framework of its approved Five-Year Development Plan.

The Centre's main activities, as laid out in the Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (FY 2017/2018 - FY 2021/2022) comprises four key areas, including alignment and development, cooperation and synergy, research and the development of a higher education information gateway.



ABOUT SEAMEO RIHED

Your Partner in Higher Education

Did you know?

The Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development (RIHED) was originally conceived in 1959 jointly by UNESCO and the International Association of Universities (IAU) in collaboration with the Ford Foundation. Although originally founded in Singapore, in 1993, RIHED was reorganised and established in Bangkok, Thailand, as a Regional Centre of SEAMEO and will celebrate its 60th anniversary next year, in 2019.

**SEAMEO RIHED
is the SEAMEO
Centre specialising in
higher education and
development for the
region of Southeast
Asia.**

Our Mission

To advance cooperation, alignment and the development of higher education systems in the region by creating policy platforms, engaging in policy-driven research and broadening space for information dissemination.

Our Vision

A dynamic, strategic and policy-research driven regional centre for promoting understanding, cooperation and synergy in higher education for regional development.



OUR STRATEGY

The Fifth Five-Year Development Plan

During the period of the Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (FY 2017/2018 – FY 2021/2022), SEAMEO RIHED will focus its activities and programmes on 4 key areas, which continue to build on SEAMEO RIHED’s regional engagement and existing work efforts in the region to address new challenges brought forward in the harmonisation and development of higher education in Southeast Asia.

Alignment and Development

SEAMEO RIHED realises the need to support the alignment and development of higher education at the system level. SEAMEO RIHED’s regional engagement in higher education takes place through two formal mechanisms at the policy level where the Centre is guided by the collective decisions of the region, working towards region-wide implementation of priorities for higher education and opportunities to narrow and bridge gaps within the region.

Cooperation and Synergy

In building on the existing formal policy platforms as well as the Regional Seminars and Fora conducted in conjunction with these mechanisms, the Centre aims to strengthen multilateral collaboration and cooperation in building synergies among regional and international partners as well as across higher education policies in the region.

Research

In order to assist national authorities and other decision makers in higher education in a rapidly evolving and globally competitive environment, SEAMEO RIHED also aims to undertake policy-driven research to support higher education development in the region. In pursuance of this, a series of regional publications are planned to help disseminate findings and encourage the exchange of ideas throughout the region and beyond.

Information Portal

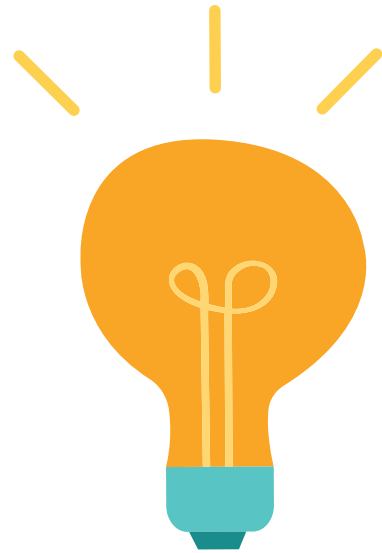
SEAMEO RIHED also aims to develop a higher education information portal. This is in line with the Centre’s objective to serve as a regional clearing house for higher education information and the need in the region to establish a transparent and accessible information platform where knowledge in higher education is widely shared and effectively enhanced.



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OUR SCOPE OF WORK IN 2017/2018

and Key Achievements

In FY 2017/2018, SEAMEO RIHED engaged in a range of activities and programmes, all of which serve towards achieving the Centre's mission to advance cooperation, alignment and the development of higher education systems in the region. This Annual Report provides a comprehensive summary of SEAMEO RIHED's scope of work and key achievements in 2017/2018, covering our policy platforms and regional seminars and fora, the AIMS Programme and development of university networks, our annual Seminar and Study Visit Programme, as well as capacity building activities and multilateral collaboration with partners.

Among our achievements, the past year featured several new landmark events that are reported here in the Annual Report. One was the SEAMEO RIHED Southeast Asian Higher Education Leadership Forum, co-organised with the Office of the Higher Education Commission, Thailand, which brought over 30 regional and international speakers to inspire and engage the more than 200 participants who joined the Forum from 1-4 April 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Another was the extension of our annual Seminar and Study Visit Programme to Germany in close collaboration with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The 1st SEAMEO RIHED-DAAD Seminar and Study Visit to Germany offered a unique opportunity for our Southeast Asian delegation to pursue collaboration and gain in-depth insights into the German higher education and research systems.

In addition to our annual policy platforms, another key focus has been on university network development and the AIMS Programme has continued to attract interest from prospective Member Countries and expand opportunities for mobility within the region of Southeast Asia and beyond. There was also renewed focus on the Greater Mekong Subregion through the preparation for a new project supporting capacity building activities for universities in the GMS. These and other exciting achievements in higher education complete this year's Annual Report and are covered in our scope of work in the next sections.



1) Policy Platforms

Our Policy Platforms include the annual SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting (GBM) and the Southeast Asian Higher Education Senior Officials Meeting (SEA-HiEd SOM).

2) Regional Seminars and Fora

In conjunction with our annual policy platforms, the Centre also convenes a range of regional seminars and fora that address current topics in higher education and development.

3) The AIMS Programme

SEAMEO RIHED's flagship AIMS Programme provides a multilateral platform to promote and enhance student and academic mobility in the region of Southeast Asia and beyond.

4) University Networks

Networks currently being developed include the Greater Mekong Subregion University Consortium (GMS-UC) as well as additional networks established in collaboration with the ASEAN-China Centre (ACC).

5) Study Visits

We facilitate the exposure of higher education institutions in Southeast Asia to advanced and innovative practices in other partner countries and regions, enhancing both inter- and intra-regional collaboration.

6) Capacity Building

To help strengthen and accelerate cross-border collaboration and narrow and bridge gaps within the region, we are also embarking on a new Project in support of capacity building for the GMS-UC.

7) Multilateral Collaboration

To expand collaboration with various strategic partners in conducting joint activities and establishing networks for the harmonisation and continued development of higher education in the Southeast Asian region.







Ms. Krittiya Wongtavavimarn

Ms. Khartini Slamah

Panellists Ms. Krittiya Wongtavavimarn, Ms. Khartini Slamah and Ms. Shannon Kalayanamitr share inspirational leadership stories with an empahsis on gender, equality and stereotypes at the SEAMEO RIHED Southeast Asian Higher Education Leadership Forum on Engaging Communities and Empowering Leaders

POLICY PLATFORMS

SEAMEO RIHED is committed to further enhancing cooperation and the coordination of efforts at the regional level in higher education through the Centre's existing formal policy mechanisms, which include the annual SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting (GBM) and the Southeast Asian Higher Education Senior Officials Meeting (SEA-HiEd SOM).

THE 25th SEAMEO RIHED GOVERNING BOARD MEETING (GBM)

3-4 August 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia

In 2017, the 25th SEAMEO RIHED GBM was held on 3-4 August in Jakarta, Indonesia, with the generous support of the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (MORTHE). The Meeting brought together SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Members and their nominated representatives from 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, including Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar,

Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam and offered an important opportunity to review the Centre's regular and on-going programmes and activities for the past fiscal year, as well as new activities to be launched in 2017/2018 in line with our Fifth Five-Year Development Plan (FY 2017/2018 - FY 2021/2022).

Confirming commitments and shaping future activities

The annual GBM continues to serve as an important platform for operational matters of the Centre to be acknowledged and proposed programmes and activities to be examined and endorsed, helping to shape SEAMEO RIHED's future activities and goals and where stakeholders in the development of higher education can discuss important challenges and confirm commitments towards collectively advancing the socio-economic development of the region.





THE 12th SOUTHEAST ASIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING (SEA-HiEd SOM)

26 April 2018, Singapore

Since 2005, the Southeast Asian Higher Education Senior Officials Meeting (SEA-HiEd SOM), formerly the Meeting of Directors General, Secretary-General and Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia (DGs/SG/CHE), has served as a crucial platform for national authorities responsible for higher education in the Southeast Asian region to identify priorities, discuss strategies and synergise plans towards the harmonisation and alignment of higher education in the region.

Revisiting Priorities and Exploring New Opportunities for Southeast Asian Higher Education

Co-hosted with the Ministry of Education, Singapore, the 12th Southeast Asian Higher Education Senior Officials Meeting (SEA-HiEd SOM) on 26 April 2018 was organised at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (Novena Campus), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. The Meeting revisited progress

in four established priority areas for the region, including: 1) Academic Mobility Enhancement; 2) Leadership Development; 3) e-Learning and Mobile Learning; and 4) the ASEAN Citation Index (ACI). The gathering also presented an important opportunity to explore new priorities and opportunities for Southeast Asian higher education and invited our regional partners, including the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the European Union Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (SHARE) Project to present future plans for collaboration and the advancement of higher education in the region.



REGIONAL SEMINARS AND FORA

In line with our aim to facilitate cooperation and support synergies across higher education systems, we also seek to maximise opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and the sharing of innovative practices for the region. In pursuit of this, we regularly organise regional Seminars and Fora around topics of current importance in higher education for the region.

2017 REGIONAL SEMINAR ON CURRICULUM STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

4 August 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia

Held in conjunction with the 25th SEAMEO RIHED GBM in Jakarta, The Regional Seminar on Curriculum Structure and Development for Southeast Asian Higher Education brought together over 100 participants, including higher education policy

makers, university executives, and other experts in higher education from the region.

With an overall aim of highlighting current curriculum structure and development in the context of the Southeast Asian region and promoting greater regional cooperation and alignment in higher education, the Seminar provided recent updates from 10 SEAMEO Member Countries on national practices and current developments covering the delivery of online and e-learning and curriculum evaluation and assessment in undergraduate education.

The country papers presented at this Seminar are also being used as the basis for a broader regional comparative study that will form part of a project to be carried out on the Alignment of Curriculum Structures and Development of Learning Outcomes in Southeast Asia.



2018 SEA-HiEd FORUM ON LIFELONG LEARNING FOR SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY

27 April 2018, Singapore

In conjunction with the annual SEA-HiEd SOM, the SEA-HiEd Forum provides an additional platform for national authorities responsible for higher education and regional university representatives to share good practices and update policies and practices being implemented at national and regional levels among selected topics in higher education.

The 2018 SEA-HiEd Forum focused on Lifelong Learning for Skills and Employability in the Southeast Asian region and explored national policies and implementation plans towards the development of lifelong learning initiatives as well as the role of higher education institutions in supporting this direction.

Attended by more than 60 participants, including national authorities, regional partners and university



representatives from throughout the region and beyond, the Forum also included a Keynote presentation by Mr. Musa Fazal, Divisional Director of the SkillsFuture Division of the Ministry of Education, Singapore, and country panel presentations which encouraged active discussions throughout the course of the Forum to inspire and encourage greater contributions in fostering lifelong learning opportunities for the region.



SEAMEO RIHED SOUTHEAST ASIAN HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP FORUM ON ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND EMPOWERING LEADERS

1-4 April 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

Increasingly, higher education institutions are becoming engaged in their own local communities as well as the communities of their partners around the world. At the same time, the New Normal is changing and redefining the characteristics of institutions and learning experiences. More complex issues are extending beyond borders and across boundaries that require collaboration and partnerships with

diverse groups working both locally and globally. These processes have also renewed interest in having higher education institutions engage with their communities at local, national and international levels and made clear the need for leadership in an era of disruption.

Building on our experience in the region of Southeast Asia, the Forum was a special landmark event in 2017/2018 that explored themes of leadership in the new normal context as well as innovative strategies and approaches to university-community engagement and social responsibilities for the region of Southeast Asia.



Fostering learning and inspiration and encouraging discussions that matter for the future of Southeast Asian higher education.

This special four-day Forum was co-organised with the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Thailand, from 1-4 April 2018 in Bangkok and brought together over 200 participants from across the region of Southeast Asia and beyond, including government officials and national authorities responsible for higher education, representatives of higher education institutions and public and private sectors.



SPOTLIGHT

ON ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND EMPOWERING LEADERS

With the theme of leadership in the new normal context and innovative strategies for university community engagement, the SEAMEO RIHED Southeast Asian Leadership Forum provided higher education stakeholders and participants from diverse sectors with a platform for active experience-sharing and hands-on learning through a series of keynote speeches, panel discussion and interactive workshops. For keynote speech and panel discussion, the Forum had invited inspiring leaders from the region and beyond who shared their insights on key approaches to engage in communities, utilise local wisdom and develop leadership in a new normal world.

The Forum also carried out a number of parallel workshops and project demonstration where participants were given an opportunity for interactive, hands-on learning on various topics facilitated by leaders from higher education and beyond.

Session Topics

The Forum invited speakers and participants to engage in various topics through discussion on strategic ways to engage communities and strengthen leadership, including the following:

- Assistive technology for the inclusive society
- Sustainable cultural tourism in local communities
- Inclusive urban design
- Digital fabrication technology
- Leadership for regional engagement (perspectives from the private sector, NGOs and university)
- Environmental conservation
- Social entrepreneurship
- Digital leadership



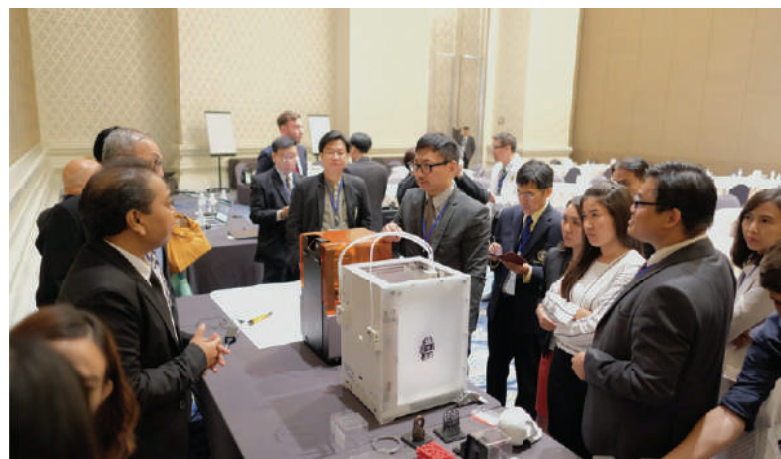
Session Highlights

On Day 1, the Special Dinner Talk was held by H.E. Dr. Suvit Maesincee, Minister of Science and Technology, Thailand. His Excellency delivered an engaging talk with participants on the topic of Universities at the Forefront of the Next Level Transformation.

H.E. Udom Kachintorn, Deputy Minister of Education, Thailand delivered the Opening Remarks to officially open the Forum. Assoc. Prof. Junichi Kurata, Faculty of Engineering Science, Kansai University, Japan, conveyed the keynote speech on 'Giving Back to Society: Assistive Technology through Medical, Pharmaceutical and Engineering Science', focusing on assistive technology to help elderly people and persons with disabilities (PWD) to better perform their daily life. Drawing on the speakers own experiences, the concurrent sessions later that day explored how universities can play a proactive role in implementing social and community-based projects in cooperation with various stakeholders.

One of the most innovative panel discussions explored inspirational stories of leaders with focus on gender equality and various stereotypes that exist in societies and mainstream media. The session invited Ms. Krittiya Wongtavavimarn, Communication Specialist, Ms. Khartini Slamah, Transgender Activist, PT Foundation, and Ms. Shannon Kalayanamitr, CEO of IKIGAI Group and UN Women HE for SHE Advocate as panelists to share their experiences on the pursuit of the equality and social justice.

On the topic of New Leadership in the New Era, Ms. Porntip Kanjananiyot, Former Executive Director of Fulbright Thailand, emphasised that rapid changes of social structures and norms have created a 'New Normal' in both professional and personal spaces, which, in turn, is re-shaping the role of leaders. The session discussed that in this new era, leaders should not only possess a solid background in advanced information communications technology, but also soft skills that would enable them to better communicate with and lead people from diverse backgrounds.



SEAMEO RIHED'S AIMS PROGRAMME

A MULTILATERAL PLATFORM TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE ACADEMIC MOBILITY IN THE REGION OF SOUTHEAST ASIA AND BEYOND

In Southeast Asia, past efforts to promote mobility for students have typically concentrated on bilateral exchange between respective higher education institutions. Benefits were therefore limited to individual participating institutions. SEAMEO RIHED's ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS) Programme overcomes this limitation by providing a regional platform for both governments and higher education institutions to promote and enhance mobility for the region.



The ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS) Programme was officially launched in 2010 as a pilot project coordinated by SEAMEO RIHED and involving the participation of Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand (M-I-T). With growing regional and international interest, SEAMEO RIHED's AIMS Programme has now expanded to include 8 Member

Countries, including Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan and the newest member, the Republic of Korea. Offering 10 study fields among a current total of 69 higher education institutions nominated by their respective governments to participate in the programme, over 3400 students have so far participated in exchanges under the AIMS Programme.

▪ Self-Sufficiency and Solidarity

Since its launch, the AIMS Programme has become a successful model for regional mobility based on the principle of self-sufficiency, where each Member Country supports their own participation in the Programme and moves forward together based on the academic readiness of each Member.

▪ Balanced Mobility

In order to promote reciprocity and balanced mobility in the AIMS Programme, the number of exchange students is based on mutual agreement among participating universities nominated by their national governments.

▪ Supporting Mechanisms

The annual Review Meeting and Steering Committee Meeting of the AIMS Programme are mechanisms that provide governments, higher education institutions and students with the opportunity to update progress, address existing challenges and propose further improvements to enhance collaboration and development of the Programme.



11th REVIEW MEETING OF THE AIMS PROGRAMME

1-3 November 2017, Bali, Indonesia

On 1-3 November 2017, the 11th Review Meeting of the AIMS Programme was held in Bali, Indonesia. Co-organised by SEAMEO RIHED and the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (MORTHE), Indonesia, the Meeting was attended by government and university representatives

from AIMS member countries, including Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. In addition, the Meeting also welcomed a prospective new member, Singapore, to join the dialogue, as well as a representative from Timor-Leste as an observer. The three-day meeting provided a valuable platform for all AIMS stakeholders, including governments, higher education institutions and students to review recent developments within the Programme.

Bringing Faculty and International Relations Offices (IROs) together

On the first day of the Meeting, faculty representatives from the 10 study fields explored possibilities of developing and strengthening collaboration within their respective fields for even greater benefits for students. By exploring the formation of consortia, the programme aims to establish closer relationships and better understanding among member universities to promote more dynamic mobility and increased cooperation and synergy across each study field. Parallel with this study field session, the Meeting also brought IRO staff of member universities together to grasp a better picture of issues and challenges in programme implementation. Fuelled with active discussion, the Meeting identified problems and suggested recommendations to collectively overcome them.

Providing a space for governments of Member Countries

The second day of the Meeting invited government representatives to update progress in programme implementation. The countries presented current status of implementation of the AIMS Programme,

information on visa and stay permit for AIMS students, challenges and solutions for national implementation, and 5 year plan for AIMS.

Following the presentation by member countries, the meeting invited the representatives of Singapore to share its participation proposal. In addition, to promote good practices among member universities, Thammasat University, Thailand, shared experience in implementing AIMS Thailand Off-Campus Programme, which attempted to enhance students' interaction within the AIMS community and promote their exposure to the local culture in the hosting country.

Gaining Perspectives from Students and Alumni

In addition, the meeting was featured by the students/ alumni session, in which they provided important feedback on the impact the Programme brought to their learning and life. The session involved the interactive dialogue with students and alumni and delivered valuable inputs, which will be utilised to further strengthen the programme.





THE 2nd STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE AIMS PROGRAMME

6-7 July 2017, Tokyo, Japan

The establishment of an AIMS Steering Committee was proposed during the 9th Review Meeting of the AIMS Programme held in 2015 in Ibaraki, Japan to set direction for the AIMS Programme, and provide synergy with national policy procedures. The Steering Committee is comprised of one government representative, and one university representative from each of the AIMS Member Countries.

The Steering Committee has two key roles: a) review the vision and goals, scope, and project outcomes of the AIMS Programme; and b) provide strategic inputs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the AIMS Programme, mainly concerning national policy and government issues.

SEAMEO RIHED successfully conducted the 2nd Steering Committee Meeting of the AIMS Programme last 6-7 July 2017 in Tokyo, Japan. It was attended by 15 Steering Committee Members and

designated representative from Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. SEAMEO RIHED was also delighted to accommodate representatives from Cambodia as a prospective member of the AIMS Programme.

The Meeting agreed on the Republic of Korea's proposal to explore evaluation methods on the impact of student mobility and establishment of a Working Group comprising one expert nominated from each AIMS Member Country to support the direction and development of an appropriate survey instrument. In addition, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea accepted to host the 3rd AIMS Steering Committee Meeting.

The meeting had been a crucial opportunity for the AIMS Steering Committee Members to review and reflect on the Programme's implementation and future direction. Members of the Steering Committee chaired by Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond have actively participated in sharing the progress and development of the AIMS Programme at national and institutional level.



AIMS Programme

ASEAN International Mobility for Students

8*

Countries

Malaysia
Indonesia
Thailand
Vietnam
Brunei Darussalam
Philippines
Japan
Korea

*Singapore has recently expressed interest to join the AIMS Programme

69

Universities

Universities are nominated by their respective governments to participate in the AIMS Programme. Participating universities offer a range of study fields for AIMS students.

10

Study Fields

Hospitality & Tourism
Agriculture
Language & Culture
International Business
Food Science & Technology
Economics
Engineering
Environmental Management and Science
Biodiversity and Marine Science

FACTS & FIGURES

The AIMS Programme online at www.aims-rihed.net

Given the continued expansion of the AIMS Programme, the development of an AIMS Website was identified as means to collect further information and provide a reference point and information gateway for participating members and stakeholders of the Programme including governments, universities, students and alumni.

over 3400 students



3 Countries
23 Universities

2010

4 Countries
32 Universities

2012

7 Countries
48 Universities

2013

8* Countries
69 Universities

2018

The AIMS Programme will
celebrate its 10 year Anniversary

2019



**WORKSHOP FOR THE AIMS PROGRAMME:
MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES (MOOCS)
AND DESIGNING EFFECTIVE MOOC COURSES
VIA DIGITAL PLATFORMS**

6-9 June 2018, in Bangkok, Thailand.

In recognition of the expanded role of technology in teaching and learning, the Workshop was organised with the generous support of the Office of the Higher Education Commission of Thailand to provide training for AIMS Member Universities as well as explore possibilities to establish common MOOCs for the AIMS Programme. A common regional MOOCs of the AIMS Programme would support lifelong learning

and cross-border collaboration, strengthening regional integration and the harmonization of higher education in Southeast Asia and beyond. As the result, more learners could benefit from the shared educational resources and greater access to knowledge being offered in the region and beyond.

For this initial phase, AIMS Member Universities from the study fields of Hospitality and Tourism and International Business were invited to attend the Workshop. Seventeen (17) participants from 10 AIMS Member Universities (Universitas Indonesia, University of Tsukuba, Universiti Teknologi MARA, University of Mindanao, University of St. La Salle,



Catholic University of Daegu, Prince of Songkla University Phuket campus, Mae Fah Luang University, Foreign Trade University, and Hue University) from 7 Member Countries including Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Vietnam participated in the Workshop. Representatives from the SEAMEO Secretariat and the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Thailand, also participated.

In the scope of 3.5 days, the Workshop provided a platform for participants to learn about MOOCs, innovative pedagogies, as well as take part in hand-on activities of designing MOOCs via digital



platform. Participants also visited the Department of Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, Srinakharinwirot University (SWU) to learn from their experiences in MOOCs development.

The Workshop concluded with suggestions to involve all the study fields in the future, have international and interdisciplinary courses for AIMS MOOCs to reach more learners and be relevant to industry needs, and to discuss future steps for collaboration in the development of MOOCs for the AIMS Programme at the 3rd AIMS Steering Committee Meeting in July 2018, in the Republic of Korea, and the 12th AIMS Review Meeting in Vietnam in November 2018.

UNIVERSITY NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

In addition to SEAMEO RIHED's AIMS Programme, the Center has also been at the forefront of university network development for the region. Current university networks established by SEAMEO RIHED include the Greater Mekong Subregion University Consortium (GMS-UC) as well as 3 networks established in collaboration with the ASEAN-China Centre (ACC), including the ASEAN-China Network for Cooperation and Exchanges among Engineering and Technology Universities (ACNET-EngTech), the ASEAN-China Arts Colleges Alliance (ACACA) and the ASEAN-China Alliance of Private Higher Education Institutions (ACAPHEI).

GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM (GMS-UC)

24 universities from Cambodia, P.R. China (more specifically Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam were nominated by their respective

governments to form the Greater Mekong Subregion University Consortium (GMS-UC), a regional platform to foster experience sharing and the linking of academic resources to improve quality and excellence of higher education in the GMS.

ASEAN-CHINA NETWORK FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES AMONG ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITIES (ACNET-ENGTECH)

One of the largest regional collaborative networks of top engineering and technology higher education institutions in Southeast Asia and P.R. China, the ASEAN-China Network for Cooperation and Exchanges among Engineering and Technology Universities consists of a total of 17 founding members from both P.R. China and Southeast Asia. The network aims to enhance engineering and technology education collaboration and cultivate excellent human resources in these areas between





the ASEAN countries and PR China. Tianjin University serves as the secretariat for the China-side of ACNET-EngTech and the Faculty of ICT, Mahidol University, serves as the secretariat for the ASEAN-side. The Chair of the network is appointed for each year on a rotational basis.

This year, ACNET-EngTech has established the China-ASEAN Capacity Building Center, and the China-Indonesia Smart Ocean Center as two new centres under the China-ASEAN Institute of Science and Technology. The official unveiling ceremony of the two centres took place on 27 July 2018 at the 11th China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (CAECW) in Guiyang, P.R. China.

ASEAN-CHINA ARTS COLLEGES ALLIANCE (ACACA)

SEAMEO RIHED, ACC and Guangxi Arts University (GXAU) inaugurated the ASEAN-China Arts Colleges Alliance (ACACA) on 16 March 2017 in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, P.R. China. This alliance of institution is well-poised to create an impact on societies through building interconnectedness, facilitating knowledge exchange of ASEAN and Chinese culture and arts, and deepen tolerance through the younger generation’s understanding of arts and culture.

Comprised of 19 participating universities, the alliance is expected to open up opportunities to nurture a new generation of internationally competent artists, contribute to opportunities to participate in collaborative research and creation, promote cultural and artistic prosperity, and come up with innovations developing the cultural and artistic industries in the Southeast Asian region and P.R. China.

ASEAN-CHINA ALLIANCE OF PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (ACAPHEI)

On 29 November - 1 December 2017, SEAMEO RIHED had the honor of co-organising the ASEAN-China Forum for Private Higher Education Development and Cooperation with the ACC and the University of Sanya (USY), in Sanya, P. R. China. This forum has successfully introduced and initiated cooperation between the private higher education institutions from ASEAN and P.R. China and concluded with the signing of the Strategic Cooperation Framework for ASEAN-China Private Higher Education Institutions, which established the ASEAN-China Alliance of Private Higher Education Institutions (ACAPHEI) between Chinese and Southeast Asian private higher education institutions to promote educational exchange and cooperation.

STUDY VISITS TO PARTNER COUNTRIES

THE 1ST SEAMEO RIHED-DAAD SEMINAR AND STUDY VISIT TO GERMANY ON HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

3-9 December 2017

In line with SEAMEO RIHED's vision and mission, the Centre helps to facilitate the exposure of higher education institutions in Southeast Asia to other countries and regions of the world for them to experience advanced and innovative practices and help connect Southeast Asian higher education institutions to other regional and international partners through a rotational and thematic seminar and study visit programme. SEAMEO RIHED has previously conducted visits to partner countries including the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and most recently in 2017, to Germany, in collaboration with the DAAD.

SEAMEO RIHED and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), within the frame of its Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies (DIES) programme, successfully organised the Seminar and Study Visit to provide senior executives and administrators from higher education institutions across Southeast Asia with in-depth insights into the German higher education and research system, with a particular focus on how innovation and excellence strategies are applied. Through the Seminar and Study Visit, delegates were provided extensive opportunities to demonstrate their strengths for potential cooperation with German institutions, establish new contacts and promote cooperation with Germany's strong network of higher education institutions, research institutes and clusters, enterprises as well as communities of scientists, researchers and academics.





The delegates also participated in the Seminar “Higher Education and Research Cooperation between Germany and Southeast Asia” organised at the DAAD Headquarters in Bonn, Germany, where delegates were provided a platform to actively exchange with German stakeholders in higher education and explore opportunities for future cooperation. In addition, all delegates had the opportunity to visit the Radio Telescope Effelsberg of the Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy (MPIfR) and the Mercedes-Benz Museum as part of the visit.

Over the course of the Seminar and Study Visit to Germany, 16 delegates from 8 Southeast Asian countries had the opportunity to visit leading German institutions throughout the cities of Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Stuttgart and Munich, including:

- Goethe University Frankfurt
- Heidelberg University
- University of Hohenheim
- Technical University of Munich
- Munich University of Applied Sciences



CAPACITY BUILDING

THE ACADEMIC CREDIT TRANSFER FRAMEWORK FOR ASIA (ACTFA) PROJECT AND GMS-UC

SEAMEO RIHED has implemented the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Human Resource Development Strategic Framework and Action Plan with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Under the 7 strategic drives of the strategy, SEAMEO RIHED was entrusted to implement cooperation in higher education and research, as a means to improve networking among higher education institutions, and foster higher education harmonisation among GMS countries and beyond.

Two projects were carried out in this regard: The Academic Credit Transfer Framework for Asia (ACTFA) and the GMS University Consortium (GMS-UC). The ACTFA Project is aimed at providing means for participating GMS countries to harmonise existing

credit transfer arrangements in higher education and comprised 4 phases: Explore, Experiment, Experience and Expand.

The Explore Phase was carried out as action research and to initiate the Experiment Phase, SEAMEO RIHED organised the Kick-Off Meetings for the ACTFA and GMS-UC projects on 8 and 9 July 2015 in Vientiane, Lao PDR, which established the formation of the GMS-UC, comprising 24 nominated higher education institutions from 6 GMS countries (PR China (specifically, Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam).

On 12-13 December 2017, SEAMEO RIHED organised the Experts Meeting for the Academic Credit Transfer for Asia (ACTFA) Project in Bangkok, Thailand, to mark the end of Phase II of ACTFA project. The 2-day meeting shared the results of project activities and





served as a venue to discuss a way forward for the GMS community to further work together to unite and harmonise higher education systems in the region.

THE SUPPORT FOR CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE GMS-UC PROJECT (PHASE I)

In order to continue to engage the members of the GMS-UC in key issues of regional higher education and development, SEAMEO RIHED is currently implementing the project “Support for Capacity Building of the GMS-UC (Phase I) in 2018 and 2019. The Project is supported by the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) under the framework of the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) and intends to strengthen the existing harmonisation efforts taking place in the region and enhance a common space in higher education for the Southeast Asian region. More specifically, it aims to provide a platform for the GMS-UC member universities from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam to engage in a series of capacity building activities in the areas of management, leadership, teaching, research, internationalisation as well as cross-border education and harmonisation through experience sharing.

On 19-20 March 2018, SEAMEO RIHED organised the Expert Meeting on the Preparation of Operating Guidelines for GMS-UC Development as part of the Project on Support for Capacity Building of the Greater Mekong Sub-region University Consortium (Phase 1) in Bangkok, Thailand. The Meeting brought together regional and international experts in the sphere of higher education in the Southeast Asian region and particularly within the GMS.

In the interactive meeting, the experts have discussed and distributed a variety constructive ideas as well as jointly drafted initial operating guidelines, covering four main activities: University President/Rector Forum; Management Leadership Development Workshop; Cross-border Education and Internationalisation Workshop; and a Teaching and Research Capacity Development Workshop.

SEAMEO RIHED truly appreciated all of the participants for their dedication to the Project. The productive inputs and reflection given by them will be utilised for creating further constructive plan of GMS-UC project, aiming to promote harmonised higher education among the member countries.

MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION

THE ASEAN-QA PROJECT

The ASEAN-QA Project aims at promoting regional quality assurance in ASEAN Countries. The Project is coordinated and conducted by the University of Potsdam within the frame of the DIES Programme, which is jointly coordinated by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK). Partners of the ASEAN-QA Project include the ASEAN University Network (AUN), SEAMEO RIHED and two regional networks of QA Agencies in both Europe and Southeast Asia: the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and the ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN).

This year, the fourth and last workshop of the ASEAN-QA TrainQA Phase III took place from 19 March 2018 until 21 March 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand



and enabled participants to identify lessons learned, points to improve and individual learning outcomes. Within the three workshop days, the participants learned about the importance of effective reporting, the challenges of organisational change and how to combine strategic management with quality assurance. At the end of the Workshop, there was a fruitful discussion about quality culture and the future of it within Southeast Asian countries and higher education institutions.



After a successful last workshop of the ASEAN-QA TrainQA Phase III, the ASEAN-QA Final Conference was organized in conjunction with the workshop on 22 and 23 March 2018. The Final Conference served as a platform to present and to get feedback on individual projects of each participant and moreover to discuss the current state and future of quality assurance among Southeast Asian countries.

THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES (JANU)

Another milestone in FY 2017/2018 was the MoU with JANU. The Japan Association of National Universities (JANU) promotes international exchange and supports international student mobility as well as the implementation of programmes that respond to the internationalisation of university education. Together, JANU and SEAMEO RIHED share a common

goal of promoting cooperation in higher education for the Southeast Asian region. On 9 February 2018 a Signing Ceremony for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SEAMEO RIHED and JANU was held in Tokyo, Japan, which set the direction for future cooperative relations in the field of higher education.

Together with JANU, SEAMEO RIHED looks forward to a productive and beneficial partnership based around common goals of promoting cooperation in higher education and expanding exchange between Japan and the Southeast Asian region. This collaboration will enable the acceleration of new educational developments between the region of Southeast Asia and Japan and encourage the development of academic exchanges and joint activities such as study visits as well as other collaborations related to the sharing of information and exchange.



OUR PARTNERS WORLDWIDE



- ASEAN-China Centre (ACC)
- ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN)
- ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC)
- ASEAN University Network (AUN)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB)
- British Council
- Campus France
- China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre (CDGDC)
- Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Philippines
- European Association for Quality Assurance and Quality Assessment (ENQA)
- EP Nuffic
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- German Rectors' Conference (HRK)
- Higher Education Leadership Academy (AKEPT), Malaysia
- Japan Association of National Universities (JANU)
- Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF)
- Korean Council for University Education (KCUE), Republic of Korea
- Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam

- 
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia
 - Ministry of Education Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan
 - Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao PDR
 - Ministry of Education, Myanmar
 - Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (MORTHE), Indonesia
 - Ministry of Education, Malaysia
 - Ministry of Education, Singapore
 - Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam
 - National Institute of Education (NIE), Singapore
 - Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Thailand
 - Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (ONESQA)
 - SEAMEO Secretariat and SEAMEO Centres
 - Tsukuba University, Japan
 - UNESCO Bangkok
 - UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (UNESCO IIEP)
 - University of Potsdam
 - Other Higher Education Institutions

OUR GOVERNING BOARD



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Senior Special Duties Officer and Head of Higher Education Division
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Brunei Darussalam



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Director
SEAMEO Secretariat
Ex-Officio Member



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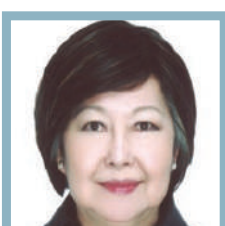
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Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond
Centre Director
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Ex-Officio Member

OUR TEAM



Programme and Development Staff

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- Senior Programme Officer and JAIF Project Manager | Ms. Midori Kojima, Japan
- Senior Programme Officer | Mr. Philip Masterson, Canada
- Programme Officer | Ms. Supansa Kajavong, Thailand
- Programme Officer | Mr. Kohei Yamada, Japan
- Programme Officer | Ms. Nitchata Chumjai, Thailand
- Programme Officer | Mr. Vo Tran Trung Nhan, Vietnam
- Programme Support Officer | Ms. Christelle Mae Barez Agustin, Philippines

The organizational chart features a central green box for the Centre Director, connected by a vertical line to a larger green box for Administration, Communication and Supporting Staff. This second box is connected by a vertical line to a list of five roles and their respective staff members. The background includes a stylized globe on the left and abstract leaf-like shapes in shades of green and grey on the right.

Centre Director

Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond, Thailand

Administration, Communication and Supporting Staff

Administration and Communication Manager | Ms. Thanthakorn Phuangawat, Thailand

Finance Officer | Ms. Archara Chowchankit, Thailand

IT Officer | Mr. Surasit Boonmun, Thailand

Chauffeur | Mr. Preecha Anghong, Thailand

Housekeeper | Mrs. Prateep Prakongsai, Thailand

ABOUT SEAMEO

The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) is a regional intergovernmental organization established in 1965 among the governments of Southeast Asian nations to promote regional cooperation in education, science and culture in the region.

The mission of SEAMEO is to enhance regional understanding, cooperation and unity of purpose among Member Countries for a better quality of life through the establishment of networks and partnerships, the provision of fora among policy makers and experts, and the promotion of sustainable human resource development.

The organization's highest policy-making body is the SEAMEO Council, which comprises the Education Ministers of the eleven Member Countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

The SEAMEO Secretariat is located in Bangkok, Thailand, and there are currently 24 Regional Centres responsible for training, research and development and information dissemination of various fields of specialisation.

SEAMEO Member Countries



SEAMEO Associate Member Countries



SEAMEO Affiliate Members



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