



## **Partnership Agreement**

**Between**

**The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)**

**And**

**The ASEAN University Network (AUN)**

Concerning collaboration and cooperation in quality higher education

This Partnership Agreement is made between:

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development of 328 Si Ayutthaya Road, Ratchathewi, Bangkok, 10400, Thailand and referred to hereafter as "SEAMEO RIHED"

*Whereas SEAMEO RIHED is the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Regional Centre specialising in higher education and development. Its mission is to foster cooperation and provide policy platforms among governments and universities to enhance higher education for the sustainable future of the Southeast Asian region.*

ASEAN University Network of 17th Floor, Chamchuri 10 Building, Chulalongkorn University, Phayathai Road, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330, Thailand and referred to hereafter as "AUN"

*Whereas the ASEAN University Network (AUN) was established in 1995 by the ASEAN Ministers of Education as a sectoral body under the ASEAN Secretariat, following the mandate of the 4th ASEAN Summit in 1992. Its mission, enshrined in the AUN Charter (2022), is to strengthen collaboration among ASEAN universities, promote regional integration, and support the development of skilled professionals to advance ASEAN's socio-cultural and economic goals.*

Whereby both parties share similar objectives in advancing quality higher education, enter into this arrangement to establish closer relations.

## **Article I: OBJECTIVES**

SEAMEO RIHED and AUN agree to enter into a Partnership Agreement to cooperate and collaborate on matters of mutual interest, benefit and concern, and will use their best endeavours to establish relevant and effective enhancements to the quality and management of higher education in the Southeast Asian region.

## **Article II: COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION OF THE LETTER OF INTENT**

The content, timing and dissemination of any news release, public announcement, advertisement or any other form of publicity by either of the Parties concerning this Partnership Agreement, or any proposals, or any contracts, or other agreements to be carried out as a result of this Partnership Agreement, will be subject to the prior mutual approval of both Parties, provided that neither Party unreasonably withholds such approval.

The following liaison agents are appointed to manage the implementation and review of the Partnership Agreement;

### **SEAMEO RIHED**

Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti

Centre Director

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Email: [choltis@rihed.seameo.org](mailto:choltis@rihed.seameo.org)

### **AUN**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thanapan Laiprakobsup

Executive Director

Tel: +662 215 3640

Email: [executivedirector@aunsec.org](mailto:executivedirector@aunsec.org)

Matters related to this Partnership Agreement will be coordinated between the Centre Director (SEAMEO RIHED) and the Executive Director (AUN).

## **Article III. PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION**

The Parties will enter into dialogue around higher education and quality assurance and exchange relevant information where legally appropriate. SEAMEO RIHED and AUN will achieve this by;

- a) Cooperating on mutually agreeable research and related activities that benefit all parties and those of partners with a relationship involving SEAMEO RIHED and AUN.
- b) Providing opportunities for capacity building and creating opportunities for the sharing of

best practices.

- c) Sharing non-confidential intellectual property regarding each agency's information, publications, systems and processes in relation to collaboration.
- d) Cooperating on matters associated with policy dialogue and policy networking for the benefit of both parties.

#### **Article IV: PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The parties may seek to enter into the delivery of joint projects. In this instance, a project management plan with a comprehensive schedule will be negotiated, with contingent responsibilities itemised and added to as an addendum to this Partnership Agreement.

#### **Article V: RESOURCES AND INDEMNITY**

Each party undertakes to be responsible for its own costs in relation to the management of the Partnership Agreement.

No Party shall be liable to the other for any direct or indirect damages whatsoever, including but not limited to payment for loss of goodwill, loss of profits or prospective profits of any kind or nature sustained or arising out of or alleged to have arisen out of this Partnership Agreement.

#### **Article VI: CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Matters where an issue or dispute arises between the Parties and in relation to this Partnership Agreement shall be managed through consultation and negotiation.

#### **Article VII: DURATION**

This Partnership Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signing by both Parties for an initial period of THREE (3) years. Thereafter, it will be renegotiated for periods of THREE (3) years or more, subject to revision or modification by mutual written agreement.

#### **Article VIII: CONFIDENTIALITY**

Each Party may not disclose the confidential information of the other Party to a third Party without first having obtained the approval of the other Party.

#### **Article IX: LEGAL STANDING**

This Partnership Agreement does not create a legally binding relationship between the parties, nor does it confer the right for either party to represent or act on behalf of the other. Nothing in this Partnership Agreement shall create an association or partnership between the Parties, and

each Party shall remain free to negotiate with third Parties on any area mentioned in this Partnership Agreement.

#### **Article X: ALTERATION**

This agreement may not be altered without the consent and written approval of the Parties.

#### **Article XI: TERMINATION**

Each Party shall be entitled to terminate this Partnership Agreement with immediate effect and without judicial intervention through a registered letter to the other Party. Upon termination of the Partnership Agreement, all rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder will cease, except;

- a) All obligations that accrued prior to the effective date of termination and any remedies for breach of this Partnership Agreement shall survive any termination.
- b) That each Party shall promptly return all confidential information and permanently erase all confidential information from any computer and storage media.
- c) That financial responsibilities and non-disclosure shall survive in perpetuity.

#### **SIGNATORIES**

We, the undersigned, and as the duly authorised representatives of our respective agencies, confirm our intent to enter into this Partnership Agreement.

Signed in TWO (2) original copies in the English language, all texts being equally authentic.

Signed in Thailand on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2026.

On behalf of SEAMEO RIHED



**Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti**  
Centre Director

On behalf of AUN



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thanapan Laiprakobsup**  
Executive Director