

*SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF EDUCATION ORGANISATION
REGIONAL CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND
DEVELOPMENT*



SEAMEO RIHED Annual Report



2007/2008



YOUR PARTNER IN HIGHER EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR

SEAMEO RIHED ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

SEAMEO RIHED is the SEAMEO Centre specialising in regional cooperation on higher education development. Our key objective is to foster efficiency and effectiveness of higher education in Southeast Asian Member states through research and professional trainings. SEAMEO RIHED also serves as the regional centre promoting the exchange and dissemination of information and research findings on higher education planning and management. The FY 2007/2008 was the first year in which SEAMEO RIHED started the operation under the Third Five-Year Development Plan, following SEAMEO RIHED's strategy 'Partnership on research-driven activities' in the area of strategic planning and university governance. At the policy level, we have invested a great deal of effort in raising the awareness of policy makers and high-ranking officials responsible for higher education on the importance of regional integration in higher education in this Southeast Asia. It is our long-term vision to be the prime mover in pushing forward the policy initiative leading to the establishment of a common higher education space or a higher education area in this region. As 'Your Partner in Higher Education,' it is our commitment to strive for the betterment of higher education in Southeast Asia.

This executive summary highlights the Centre's achievements in five key areas including the programme enhancement and promotion of quality and relevance, the improvement of Centre's management, the enhancement of financial viability through increased revenues and cost control, the improvement of market access to SEAMEO RIHED's programmes, and finally, the promotion of national, regional, and international linkages.



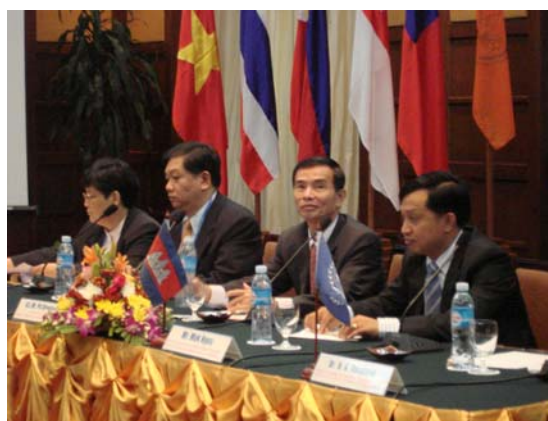
PROGRAMME ENHANCEMENT OF QUALITY AND RELEVANCE

SEAMEO RIHED is committed to the promotion of cooperation and development of higher education in the region by way of assisting the Member Countries in fostering efficiency and effectiveness through policy-oriented research, and professional trainings, workshops, seminars and conferences. The Centre also serves as a clearing house for higher education information and documentation as well as a hub for promoting collaboration among the Member Countries. The Centre carries out its mission by conducting research and providing professional trainings and information on higher education administration, policy planning and policy management to SEAMEO Member Countries. SEAMEO RIHED is constantly striving to increase the quality and relevance of the programmes it offers. The following section is a list of completed programme activities and publication for the FY 2007/2008.

1. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

1.1) The 3rd Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia

The workshop was held in Siem Riep, Cambodia during 23-27 July 2007, and organised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia; International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED). The workshop was the 3rd follow-up event of the research project conducted by IIEP and SEAMEO RIHED in 2002. The previous two workshops were held in the Philippines and Lao PDR on the topic of restructuring processes of higher education institutions. The 3rd workshop was attended by 31 participants from SEAMEO Member Countries and addressed the issues of university management, quality assurance, institutional restructuring, strategic planning, resource organisation and financial management in HEIs.



1.2) The Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in the Greater Mekong Sub-region



During 17-21 December 2007, SEAMEO RIHED and the International Strategic Planning Bureau, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand joined efforts to organise 'the Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in the Greater Mekong Sub-region' to raise awareness among GMS countries on the issues relating to university governance and the trends of higher education development in the globalised world. Following the Workshop on the Long-Range

Planning for Higher Education conducted in 2003, the International Strategic Planning Bureau and SEAMEO RIHED received recommendations from participants of the Workshop to follow up with activities relating to higher education planning. Therefore, the Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in GMS countries was considered a great opportunity to further address the issues pertaining to strategic development and university governance in HEIs in GMS countries. This was believed to be one of many activities advocating the establishment of the framework for deeper level or regional integration in Southeast Asia. As a sub-region, GMS countries would surely benefit from the opportunities to learn best practices from senior university administrators of other Southeast Asian countries, who were the speakers of the Workshop. At the same time, the participants would be able to establish a close-knitted network among themselves in the sub-region.

1.3) The First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to United States of America

With the cooperation from the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), SEAMEO RIHED had the opportunity to bring senior university administrators and executives from Thailand to visit higher education institutions in the US and also to attend the 2008 AGB's National Conference on Trusteeship in Boston this past April. The key objective of the programme is to provide the opportunity for senior university administrators to participate in professional development activities to improve their insights and knowledge about recent and current development of US higher education system.

During 13-21 April 2008, thirty-four (34) participants attended the 'National Conference on Trusteeship: the Nick of TIME – American Higher Education in a Global Context'. The participants also visited 7 higher education



institutions in Boston, Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia. The list of institutional visits was: 1) the Center for International Higher Education, Boston College; 2) George Mason University; 3) American University; 4) Georgetown University; 5) University of Maryland; 6) Northern Virginia Community College; and 7) AGB Headquarters.



1.4) The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia

The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia has been initiated by SEAMEO RIHED, with the support from the Japan Foundation. The Conference Series on Raising Awareness is aimed to raise the awareness among key stakeholders in higher education sector in this region on the importance of the process of regional harmonisation. The activity is consisted of 5 pre-conference workshops in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam and an international conference that promote better awareness and understanding on the process of higher education harmonisation throughout the region.

For Thailand, the Pre-Conference Workshop was held on 27 June 2008 at the Commission on Higher Education Building, Bangkok, Thailand. The event was attended by 50 participants from Thai higher education institutions, industrial sectors and other educational agencies to share the idea about process of higher education harmonization. Based on the ideas gathered from the workshop, the country coordinators from five countries will write country reports and present their findings and analysis in the International Conference on Raising Awareness in Bangkok during 6-7 November 2008.

2.1) SEAMEO RIHED Project on The Harmonisation of Higher Education in Southeast Asia

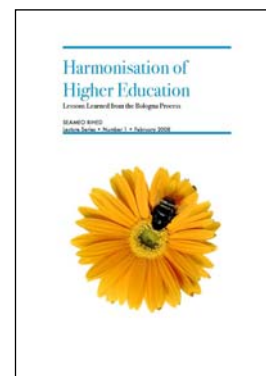
SEAMEO RIHED is convinced that it is a high time for the region to start discussing about the creation of a regional higher education area/space that facilitates greater mobility and enhances better quality of regional higher education among HEIs and countries in Southeast Asia. The starting step for SEAMEO RIHED was to conduct the research project on harmonisation of higher education in Southeast Asia based on the study on public documents, official papers and inputs from conference and workshop materials which were previously presented in several international conferences and workshops. The publication was edited to present the Centre's position and emphasis on the impact of globalisation and the importance of the inter-governmental process leading to higher education integration and harmonisation in Southeast Asia. The result of this preliminary study was published in *The Harmonisation of Higher Education: Lessons Learned from the Bologna Process*. Other activities relating to SEAMEO RIHED Project on The Harmonisation of Higher Education in Southeast Asia also include:

- 1) An open seminar on The Bologna Process and the Future Direction of (Regional) Higher Education: the event outlined basic information about the harmonisation process of higher education in Europe through the Bologna Process. It was held on 15 February 2008 in the occasion of the 15th Founding Anniversary of SEAMEO RIHED.
- 2) The idea of an 'ASEAN Space' and The five special focuses for regional collaboration and frameworks in higher education in the region: during the 2nd DG Meeting, it was agreed that the effort to promote the following areas should be emphasised. 1) the observation on the Bologna Process and its relevance to the promotion of Southeast Asian regional framework for higher education and 'ASEANness'; 2) ASEAN Quality Framework and Core Curriculum Development; 3) Student Mobility Enhancement; 4) Leadership Development Programme 5) E-learning and Mobile Learning Programme; and 6) ASEAN Research Clusters in Science and Technology.
- 3) The endorsement of the proposal on 'A Structures Framework for Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia: The Road towards a Common Space': The proposal was endorsed by the Council of Ministers of Education during the 43rd SEAMEO Council Conference in March 2008.
- 4) The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia: The project is funded by Japan Foundation and will effort to secure extra funding additional from the Department of Education and Workplace Relation, Australia is also attempted, last for about 6 months from May-December 2008.

3. CLEARING HOUSE AND PUBLICATIONS

3.1) Harmonisation of Higher Education: Lessons Learned From The Bologna Process

The book combines papers and conference materials prepared by SEAMEO RIHED during several international conferences and workshops, into a single book. The book was published to present the Centre's position and emphasis on the impact of globalisation and the importance of the inter-governmental process leading to higher education integration and harmonisation in Southeast Asia.



3.2) The Report of The First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme To USA

The Report of the 1st SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to the USA is a combination of lecture notes on US higher education system taken during the institutional visits, photos of the participants and also the reflections from some of the participants about the programme. The report is beneficial to those educators and HEI administrators as well as those who are interested in the overall higher education system and higher education management and governance in the US.

3.3) SEAMEO RIHED's Bulletin

The Bulletin is published tri-annually, ready for distribution in January, May and September. It aims at promoting SEAMEO RIHED and its activities, and to provide scholars and administrators with current information on higher education in the region.

3.4) SEAMEO RIHED's e-Library and Website

The RIHED's Website provides information and activities of the centre and the information regarding the centre's publications, such as studies, reports and conference/ seminar/ workshop proceedings in the e-book format. The list of higher education institutions in Southeast Asian Region, and the Electronic Library Services specialising in higher education could also be accessed through the website. The SEAMEO RIHED website can be accessed via the following official link: www.rihed.seameo.org

4. SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

4.1) Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies

SEAMEO RIHED and Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University organised the Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies on 7 September 2007. Fifty five (55) senior university administrators in Thailand, the representatives of ASAIHL, UNESCO Bangkok, InTREC and SEAMEO Secretariat, Australia Embassy and Canadian Embassy in Thailand participated in this seminar. The highlight of this event was the keynote lecture of Clinical Professor Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, who is one of the leading senior university administrators in Thailand. The lecture was followed by the Q&A session and the tour to Siriraj Hospital, the biggest hospital in Thailand.



4.2) The Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries

In order to share and update current information and the development of the use of ICT in university teaching/learning and research in Southeast Asian region, SEAMEO RIHED with the kind support from the Ministry of National Education, Indonesia, convened the Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/ Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries on 24 August 2007 at the Millennium Sirih Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia.



In addition to the presentation on current situations, future trends and development of ICT in university teaching/ learning and research in respective ASEAN countries, the seminar provided a forum for scholars and administrators to discuss and exchange ideas on issues relating to the use of ICT in higher education. More than 80 university administrators, scholars and graduate students attended the event.

4.3) The Second Meeting of Director-General/Secretary-General/ Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region

The 2nd Meeting of Director General/Secretary General and Commissioner responsible for higher education in Southeast Asia was convened under the sponsorship of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia. During the event, ten (10) Director-General/ Secretary-General/ Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia and 13 observers attended this Meeting.

The Meeting took on the theme of the 'Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia' and pointed out the key concern of the fact that Southeast Asia is fairly lagged behind other regions in recognising the importance of a concerted regional effort to promote a coordinated higher education policy and framework. It was therefore a great opportunity for SEAMEO RIHED to have exerted the ideas and concerns on the issue of regional integration on higher education in Southeast Asia at the policy level.



4.4) The 15th Founding Anniversary of SEAMEO RIHED establishment and the Open Seminar on the Bologna Process and the Future Direction of (Regional) Higher Education

On 15 February 2008, SEAMEO RIHED held an open seminar to celebrate its 15th founding anniversary under the topic of ***Regional Higher Education Harmonisation and the Lessons Learned from Europe's Bologna Process?*** In this seminar, the key issues discussed during the seminar included 1) the current trends of global and regional higher education development, 2) the impacts of globalisation on higher education, 3) the experiences of European's harmonisation and higher education reforms through the Bologna Process, 4) the importance of developing a common space in higher education in Southeast Asia, 5) the implications of regional cooperation and policy integration in higher education 6)



the extent to which the regional harmonisation process affect higher education institutions in the region and finally 7) the future regional move towards the establishment of the 'Southeast Asian (SEA) of Knowledge'.

The seminar was attended by 150 participants from the Commission on Higher Education and other agencies, representatives from higher education institutions in Thailand and also from business and employment sector.

5) COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

5.1) Public Lecture on US – ASEAN Relations:

The Preparation for ASEAN Integration

On 22 October 2007, SEAMEO RIHED and the Fulbright Foundation (Thailand) co-organised a special lecture on 'US-ASEAN Relations: The Preparation for ASEAN Integration' at the Commission on Higher Education, Thailand. The key speaker was Dr. Termsak Chalermpananupap, Director of Research, ASEAN Secretariat and Special Assistant to ASEAN Secretary General. Dr. Termsak outlined the background of US-ASEAN relations throughout the past decades, especially the role of the US in influencing the politics of ASEAN. He also elaborated on the development of the ASEAN Charter and stressed the importance of ASEAN countries in preparing themselves towards a more integrated society or ASEAN community. In this occasion, Ms. Pornthip Karnchananiyot, Director of Fulbright (Thailand), also chaired the session and led the discussion among participants from government agencies and academic institutions.



5.2) The 11th UNESCO-APEID International Conference Reinventing Higher Education: Towards Participatory and Sustainable Development



On 14 December 2007, Prof. Supachai Yavaprabhas, Director of SEAMEO RIHED chaired the session on "Quality Assurance in Southeast Asia: Sharing Experience, Shaping the Future". The key speakers in the session included Prof. Zita Hj Mohd Fahmi, Deputy Executive Officer (QA), Malaysian Qualifications Agency, who shared with the audience her ideas on 'Recent Changes-Challenges to Enhancement of Quality of Higher Education in Malaysia'. Professor Dr.

Paulina Pannen, Director, SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) led the discussion in the area of 'Quality Enhancement of Higher Education: Open and Distance Learning Perspectives'. Finally, Professor Dr. Somwang Pitiyanuwat, Director, Office of National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (ONESQA), introduced to the audience 'the Role of EQA for Enhancing Quality of Higher Education'.

The Conference brought together representatives from governments, educational institutions, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and local communities to explore the linkages between higher education, participatory development and sustainable development. The Conference expected to facilitate a paradigm shift in a sector that is less commonly associated with participatory development by highlighting the role of universities and other higher education institutions in balancing social inequalities and in formulating sustainable solutions with, and for, people so that they can have equal access to the benefits of a globalising world.

5.3) Survey for Situational Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in Southeast Asia (Thailand)

The Survey for Situational Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in Southeast Asia is a survey research of The APCEIU-SEAMOLEC Project 2007: Situation Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in ASEAN. The purpose of the project is 1) to setup the groundwork for the development of multimedia materials in Education for International Understanding (EIU) for teachers and teacher trainers through the situational analysis; 2) To enable ASEAN countries to carry out effective survey in their own e-learning situation and cooperate to develop the multimedia materials which are adaptable in local context; 3) to further enhance the knowledge and skills of teacher educators, schoolteachers and educational administrators on core issues of EIU using multimedia; and 4) to strengthen the partnership with ROK-ASEAN in educational in general and Peace Education in particular.

SEAMEO RIHED was responsible for Thailand's country report, which was completed in November 2007. The report provides the general educational background, the current situation of e-learning system in the educational system focusing on multicultural education within the curriculum framework, model cases on multicultural education, national policy on teacher education in general, and on multicultural education through e-learning.

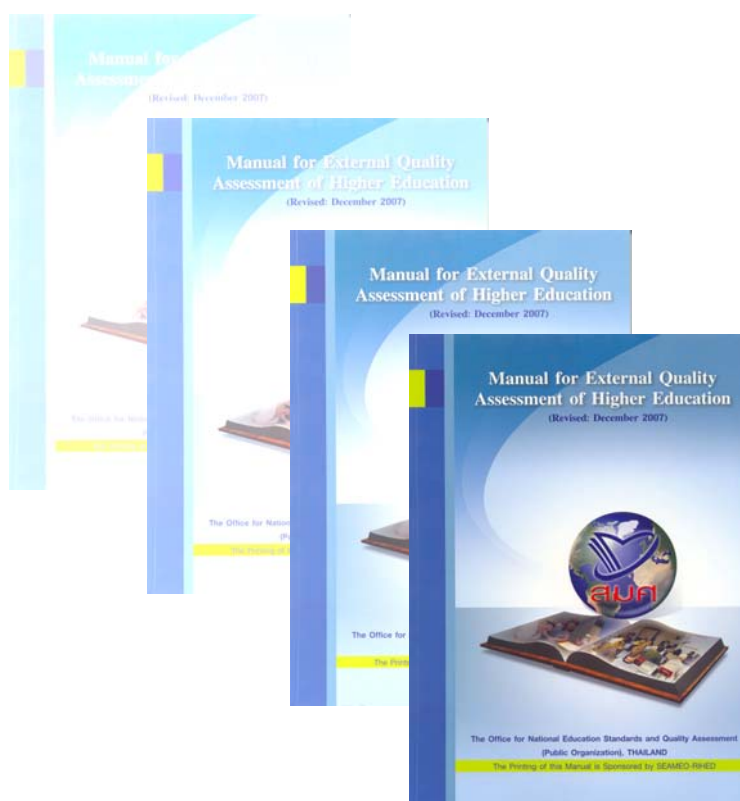
5.4) The 2nd INTERNATIONAL GMS-TESOL FORUM on 'English as an International Language: A view from the inside'

Determined to serve as an educational centre in the GMS, Mae Fah Luang University strongly considers it a policy to stage a GMS-TESOL Forum biennially in order to promote the region's progress in English learning and teaching innovations. In the academic year 2007, in collaboration with the Commission of Higher Education, Ministry of Education; Thailand-United States Educational Foundation (TUSEF/Fulbright); the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization, the Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) and the British Council, hosted the second GMS-TESOL Forum during 7 to 9 September 2007 at Mae Fah Luang campus in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The objectives of the event were: 1) to allow TESOL/TEFL experts in the region and other stakeholders to share and exchange ideas, 2) to facilitate greater cultural appreciation and understanding among the GMS countries, and 3) to establish a connection of English language practitioners and provide an opportunity for foreign professors and students to get to know MFU's campus and facilities.

The conference placed a major emphasis on the claim of English as an international language which has an impact on some scenarios of the English language teaching and learning itself. These scenarios are represented by the emergence of an English/international program at numerous institutions in ESL/EFL contexts, which enforces English as a primary medium of instruction. Additionally, English is used as a default language in international media as well as international public fora. Lastly, English is often adopted by gatekeepers as a determinant of education success and career opportunities.

5.5) Translation of the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education

SEAMEO RIHED sponsored The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organisation), Thailand to translate the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education from Thai to English. This manual is aimed at promoting a mutual understanding of the standards, indicators, assessment scales and the criteria employed in the ONESQA certified standards. It is also highly anticipated that any higher education institution will be able to achieve in performing its own internal quality assessment, devising its own institution standard, developing its educational quality and follow-up in the use of his manual.



ENHANCED QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE CENTRE'S MANAGEMENT

Since the inception of the Centre, the number of the Centre full - time staff are relatively small. At present, the Centre employs only 2 professional and 9 local staff. Although SEAMEO RIHED continues to be a small and flat organisation, it has always put the efforts to promote professional development of its staff as it will help increase the quality and efficiency of the Centre's management. The Centre's staff development programmes in FY2007/2008 were the following:

- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director participated as a speaker in The Consultation Workshop on "Regional Centres of Expertise (RCEs) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)" organised by the International University, Vietnam National University-HCMC on 7 December 2007 at International University, Vietnam National University-HCMC
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended in a "Workshop on "the Quality Assurance" organised by the Ministry of Education Lao PDR with the support of the Asia Pacific Quality Network during 11-13 December 2007 at Vientiane, Lao PDR.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended a Workshop on "Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development" organised by Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) with the United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), the aim of the workshop was lead to the establishment of Regional Centres of Expertise (RCEs) in Mindanao, Philippines on 24-25 January 2008.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director participated as a speaker in "The 3rd ACD Roundtable Meeting on Asia eUniversity" organised by Asia e University (AeU) in collaboration with Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia and Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia during 24-25 March 2008 in Subang Jaya, Kuala Lumpur.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director participated in a regional training workshop on "Open and Distance Learning System" organised by SEAMEO SEAMOLEC in collaboration with The Consortium of Universities in Southeast Asia - (SEA) during 26-27 March 2008 at SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended in "The 1st International Symposium on Asian Higher Education" organised by Waseda University Global -COE Program: Global Institute for Asian Regional Integration (GIARI) during 17-18 January 2008 at Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan.

- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended the “Asia-Pacific Quality Network 2008 Conference & Annual General Meeting” (Brisbane Communique Workshop) on 18 February 2008 at Chiba, Japan.
- Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer attended a lecture of “Roles and Achievement of NZUAAU” by John M Jennings, Director of the New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit (NZUAAU) organized by Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organization) on 6 November 2007.
- Mrs. Chompunoot Sawangdee, Human Resource Development Officer and Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer attended “The 2nd National Education Leaders Forum: In Search of Excellence in Education” organized by Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation Secretariat, The World Association of Publishers, Manufacturers, and Distributors of Education Materials (Worlddidac), Matchon Group, and Reed Tradex Company during 27-29 November 2007 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Mrs. Chompunoot Sawangdee, Human Resource Development Officer attended a Special Lecture from Dr. Glenn Withers, AO, Chief Executive Officer, Universities Australia organized by The Australian Embassy, Bangkok; Australian Education International with the support of the Commission on Higher Education on 25 January 2008 at Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Dr. Nopraenue Sajjarax Dhirathiti, Senior Specialist (Higher Education Research) and Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer participated in the First SEAMEO RIHED- AGB Educational Programme to USA organised by SEAMEO RIHED and the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges during 13-21 April 2008 in Boston, Maryland and Washington D.C., USA.



INCREASED FINANCIAL VIABILITY THROUGH INCREASED REVENUES AND COST CONTROL

Originally, the main funding source for the Centre's programmes and activities was the interest paid from the SEAMEO RIHED's Endowment Fund. In recent years, the interest rates have been in dramatic decrease, which resulted in the diminishing of operating funds. The Royal Thai Government, who has always supported the Centre by providing the Centre's seat at no cost to SEAMEO and underwritten the capital and operating costs of the Centre, has realised the Centre's recent financial hardship and has allotted additional budget to help alleviate some of the Centre's financial constraints. In addition, SEAMEO Secretariat has allocated some special funds to support the Centre's operations. SEAMEO RIHED gratefully acknowledges the support of the Royal Thai Government and SEAMEO Secretariat.

For its part, SEAMEO RIHED has tried to alleviate financial constraints by increasing the number of its partnerships and co-operative efforts so that it can maintain the scope and effectiveness of its programmes and activities. During FY 2007/2008, SEAMEO RIHED has cooperated several institutions, including two universities, namely, Mae Fah Luang University, and Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University; six international, private and governmental agencies, namely, International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Japan Foundation, UNESCO-APEID, SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMEO SEAMOLEC), and The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organisation) Thailand; and four national government agencies, namely, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia, the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia, and Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia. Apart from co-hosting, co-organised or sponsored activities with these organisations, SEAMEO RIHED has also created income generating programmes through study visit activities, research projects and publication to help support the running costs of the Centre.

INCREASED MARKET ACCESS TO SEAMEO RIHED'S PROGRAMMES WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE SOUTHEAST ASIA

SEAMEO RIHED continues to increase market access to its programmes by using a wide variety of media (poster, rollup board, display exhibition, newspaper, radio, etc.) along with its website and mailing lists. The target groups include the Centre's partner agencies, higher education institutions, and the general public.

The SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin, published 3 times a year and can be accessed through the Centre's website, summarises activities and programmes every 4 months and updates current status of higher education institutions in the region.

The Centre's publications including research studies and conference/seminar/workshop reports and proceedings are on sale at Chulalongkorn University Bookstore in Bangkok. They can also be ordered via the mail order form as well as through the internet. At present, the Centre's publication can be viewed in the e-book format before ordering at <http://www.rihed.seameo.org/publication.htm> or <http://elib.rihed.seameo.org/>.

The RIHED's website provides information and activities of the centre and offers e-library services specialising in higher education. The list of higher education institutions in the Southeast Asian Region is also provided on the website. Our next step is to provide a database of higher education expertise in Southeast Asian region.



INCREASED LINKAGES WITH NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

During the FY2007/2008, SEAMEO RIHED continued to maintain strong linkages with national, regional, and international organisations through cooperation, collaboration, and networking in various programmes and activities.

At the national level, the Centre cooperated/collaborated with two Thai universities, namely Mae Fah Luang University, and Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University; one independent government agency, namely, The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organisation) Thailand and the Fulbright Foundation (Thailand); and one government agency, which was the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand.

At the regional level, the Centre cooperated/collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia, SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia, and Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia.

At the international level, the Centre cooperated/collaborated with International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Japan Foundation, and UNESCO-APEID.



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

As SEAMEO RIHED begins its operating under the Third Five-Year Development Plan, following the current centre's main strategy: "Partnership on Research Driven Activities", the future directions of the Centre's **Higher Education Research Programme** will be focused on areas of 1) Harmonisation of Higher Education in Southeast Asia, 2) University Management and Governance, 3) Quality Assurance of Higher Education 4) Leadership Development Programme, and 5) ICT and Higher Education.

Higher Education Training and Development Programme is also one of the major functions of the centre, the training activities will be organized based on the knowledge gained from SEAMEO RIHED research activities. The training activities themselves will also serve as instruments to explore, collect and learn so that data and information will be put into the research work.

Higher Education Seminars and Conferences Programme, activities under this programme have been organized to provide opportunities for those higher education scholars, educators and administrators in the region to be able to meet, share and learn from their colleagues and from the experts in the region.

For **Higher Education Information and Documentation**, SEAMEO RIHED takes as its crucial function to disseminate the research findings as well as proceedings from seminar and conferences to those interested in higher education in the higher education institutions, Ministry/Department, and the general public through the Centre's Publications both in the printed form and electronic format. The Centre also plans to build E-services of higher education library to those interested in higher education in the region.

All SEAMEO RIHED programmes will be carried out by seeking collaboration with partners at the local/regional/international level. Collaboration with private and not-for-profit organisations will also be sought through. Each programme will also have its focus on the areas that are the key concerns of the Southeast Asian region. Following the centre's strategy, **partnership on research-driven activities is our strategy**.

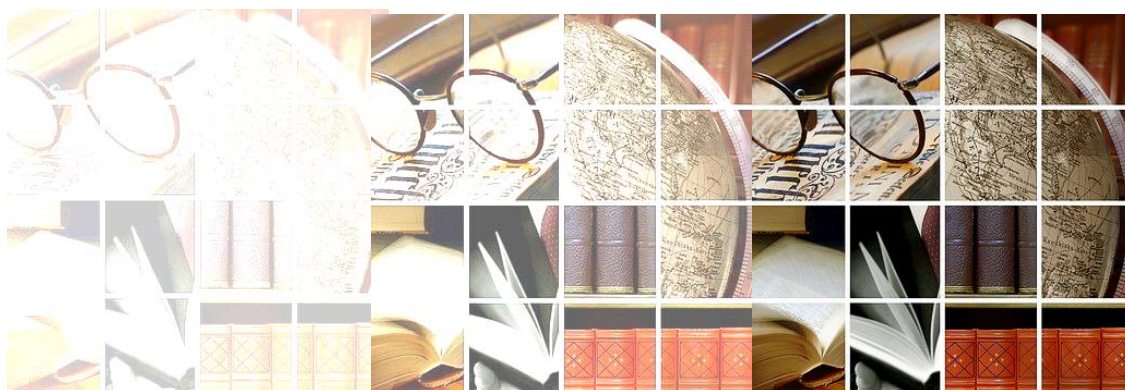


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SECTION A GENERAL INFORMATION

Background on SEAMEO RIHED

1 9 5 9

The Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development (RIHED) was conceived jointly by UNESCO and the International Association of Universities (IAU) in collaboration with the Ford Foundation.

1 9 7 0

RIHED was officially founded in Singapore in July with 7 Member States, namely Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

1 9 8 5

RIHED became inactive due to some of the Member Countries being unable to participate fully in the Institute's activities. The decision was then reached by RIHED's Governing Board to reconstitute RIHED under the umbrella of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) and to have its temporary office in Thailand.

1 9 9 2

Attempts since 1985 to obtain approval from the Thai Government to host RIHED under the umbrella of SEAMEO became a reality on March 17th.

1 9 9 3

RIHED was instituted as the newest SEAMEO Centre. It is now known as the Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development but retains its original acronym of RIHED.

1 9 9 4

SEAMEO RIHED began its first-year operation of the Interim Period (1994-1997) on 1 July 1994.

1 9 9 5

On August 28th, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M.R. Kasem S. Kasemsri and Dr. Ashari bin Che Mat, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat. According to the MOU, the Thai government recognises the legal status of SEAMEO RIHED and agrees to provide the Centre seat at no cost to SEAMEO as well as underwrite the capital and operating costs of the Centre. SEAMEO, through SEAMEO Secretariat, undertakes the raising of Special Funds for the implementation of approved programmes and activities of the Centre.

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FY 1996/1997 was the final year of RIHED's Interim Period. In turn, and with the legality of RIHED recognised, RIHED was prepared to embark on its first five-year plan beginning July 1997.

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SEAMEO RIHED began its first-year operation of the regular five-year cycle of SEAMEO (1 July 1997-30 June 2002).

2 0 0 1

The Second Five-Year Development Plan was approved at the 9th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting from 24-25 August 2001 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and will cover the period from July 2002 until June 2007.

2 0 0 7

The Third Five-Year Development Plan was approved at the 14th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting from 28-29 September 2006 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and was approved at the 42nd SEAMEO Council Conference from 13-15 March 2007 in Bali, Indonesia. The development plan will cover the period from July 2007 until June 2012.

Organisation

SEAMEO RIHED is hosted by the Thai government, located at the fifth floor of the building of Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education in Bangkok, Thailand. The Centre is managed by a director. The policy-making body is the Governing Board (GB) which is composed of one representative from each SEAMEO Member Country, SEAMEO Secretariat Director and the SEAMEO RIHED Director, who serve as ex-officio members of the Board.

The Board is responsible for operation policies, strategic planning, annual evaluation, and review of the Centre's programmes and budget within the framework of its approved five-year development plan.

Objectives

(1) To assist the Member States in fostering efficiency and effectiveness of higher education in their respective countries, with a focus on policy and planning processes, administrative and management systems through professional training and policy-oriented research, taking into consideration the special needs and pressing problems together with the cultural factors of individual Member States for integrated human resource development;

(2) To serve as the regional centre and clearing-house for higher education information and documentation, promoting the exchange and dissemination of information and research findings on higher education planning and management, both within and outside the region;

(3) To promote collaboration among Member States for establishing institutional linkages, and to assist them in strengthening institution building and development.

Its main activities, in line with other SEAMEO centres, will include training, research, and information dissemination with the special focus on fostering efficiency and effectiveness of higher education policy and planning, management, and administration in SEAMEO Member Countries.

Vision

A dynamic, self-reliant, strategic policy-research driven and internationally recognised regional centre for strengthening regional understanding and cooperation in higher education and development for a better quality of life.

Mission

SEAMEO RIHED's mission is to promote co-operation for the development of higher education in the region by assisting the Member Countries in fostering efficiency and effectiveness of higher education with a focus on policy and planning processes, administrative and management systems through policy-oriented research, and professional training, serving as the regional centre and clearing house for higher education information and documentation, and promoting collaboration among the Members for establishing institutional linkages. The Centre carries out its mission by undertaking research, professional training and information dissemination focusing on higher education policy planning and management, and administration in SEAMEO Member countries.

Strategy

Partnership on research-driven activities is our strategy. All SEAMEO RIHED programmes will be carried out by seeking collaboration with partners at the local/regional/international level. Collaboration with private and not-for-profit organisations will also be sought through. Each programme will have its focus on the areas that are the main concerns of Southeast Asian region.

SECTION B KEY RESULT AREAS

1) TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- 1.1) The 3rd Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia
- 1.2) The Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in the Greater Mekong Sub-region
- 1.3) The First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to United States of America
- 1.4) The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia

2) RESEARCH PROJECT

- 2.1) SEAMEO RIHED Project on the Harmonisation of Higher Education in Southeast Asia

3) CLEARING HOUSE AND PUBLICATIONS

- 3.1) Harmonisation of Higher Education: Lessons Learned From The Bologna Process
- 3.2) The Report of the First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme To USA
- 3.3) SEAMEO RIHED's Bulletin
- 3.4) SEAMEO RIHED's e-Library and Website

4) SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

- 4.1) Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies
- 4.2) The Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries
- 4.3) The Second Meeting of Director-General/Secretary-General/ Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region
- 4.4) The 15th Founding Anniversary of SEAMEO RIHED establishment and the Open Seminar on the Bologna Process and the Future Direction of (Regional) Higher Education

5) COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

- 5.1) Public Lecture on US – ASEAN Relations: The Preparation for ASEAN Integration
- 5.2) The 11th UNESCO-APEID International Conference Reinventing Higher Education: Towards Participatory and Sustainable Development
- 5.3) Survey for Situational Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in Southeast Asia (Thailand)
- 5.4) The 2nd INTERNATIONAL GMS-TESOL FORUM on 'English as an International Language: A view from the inside'
- 5.5) Translation of the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education

1) TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

1.1) Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia

Date and Venue:

23-27 July 2007, Siem Riep, Cambodia

Organisers:

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia; International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and SEAMEO RIHED

The IIEP, in collaboration with SEAMEO RIHED, conducted a research projects with the key objective to study the restructuring processes of higher education and their effects, both from the macro and an institutional point of view. These studies were carried out by national teams and focused on the implementation of the restructuring process, the difficulties being encountered, and the effects of the restructuring process on university management.

Upon the completion of these studies, the Policy Forum held in 2004 to share the findings was convened at Hue University in Vietnam. Following the Policy Forum, two workshops were organised in the Philippines and Lao PDR in 2005 and 2006 to introduce the university administrators to the process of higher education restructuring experienced by others in the region.

The 3rd IIEP Workshop was held in Siem Riep, Cambodia during 23-27 July 2007, and co-organised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia; International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and SEAMEO RIHED. The workshop was attended by 31 participants from SEAMEO Member Countries. The 3rd IIEP Workshop addressed the issues of university management, quality assurance, institutional restructuring, strategic planning, resource organisation and financial management in HEIs.



1.2) The Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in the Greater Mekong Sub-region

Date and Venue:

17-21 December 2007, Bangkok, Thailand

Organisers:

The International Strategic Planning Bureau, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand and SEAMEO RIHED



In view of the changing economic and social environment at the regional and international level as a result of globalisation and the increased interactions among the academia and higher education systems around the globe, higher education institutions (HEIs) in every continent, GMS included, are forced to adapt themselves to accommodate these trends and challenges. HEIs in the GMS countries

could neither afford to stay behind nor pursue policies which contradict to the present momentum of regional and global higher education cooperation. If they are to boost university efficiency and productivity, the strategic moves to reposition their governance systems and to seek further cooperation and integration, both at the institutional and policy levels, are indispensable. According to these unprecedented challenges, the International Strategic Planning Bureau, Commission on Higher Education, Thailand and SEAMEO RIHED joined efforts to organise the Regional Workshop on 'Strategic Planning for University Administrators in GMS countries' to raise awareness among GMS countries on the issues relating to university governance and the trends of higher education in the globalised world.

Also, the Regional Workshop on 'Strategic Planning for University Administrators in GMS Countries' was organised with the aims at promoting the ideas of ASEAN integration and the establishment of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. To support the initiative for ASEAN Integration, which had been focusing on the levelling up of member countries in the areas of economics, human resources, technology, and infrastructure, the International Strategic Planning Bureau and SEAMEO RIHED were keen on promoting closer cooperation within this 'sub-region'. As a matter of fact, the International Strategic Planning Bureau and SEAMEO



RIHED have conducted series of seminars, conferences and trainings to promote the issue of long-term higher education development in the GMS countries for a few years already. Some of which included the Workshop on Long-Range Planning for Higher Education in 2003, and other activities co-hosted by private HEIs in Thailand.



Following the Workshop on the Long-Range Planning for Higher Education conducted in 2003, the International Strategic Planning Bureau and SEAMEO RIHED received recommendations from participants of the Workshop to follow up with activities relating to higher education planning. Therefore, the Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in GMS countries was considered a great opportunity to further address the issues pertaining to strategic

development and university governance in HEIs in GMS countries. This was believed to be one of many activities advocating the establishment of the framework for deeper level or regional integration in Southeast Asia. As a sub-region, GMS countries would surely benefit from the opportunities to learn best practices from senior university administrators of other Southeast Asian countries, who were the speakers of the Workshop. At the same time, the participants would be able to establish a closeknitted network among themselves in the sub-region.

The Workshop was participated by 24 Participants from GMS countries, including China (Yunnan Province), Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam. The lecture themes of the activities included: 1) University and Strategic Planning by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tong-in Wongsothorn, Advisor to the Minister of Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand; 2) University and the Dynamics of Globalisation by Dr. Subramaniam Venkatraman, UNESCO Bangkok; 3) University Strategic Planning: A Participative Approach-Lessons from USM University and Strategic Planning by Assoc. Prof. Omar Osman, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Universiti Sains Malaysia; 4) Becoming a World Class University: The Roles of Strategic Planning by Prof. Dr. Jacob Phang, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Department, National University of Singapore, former



Chief Executive Officer of NUS Enterprise, NUS 2002-2006; 5) University Strategic Planning: Financial Consideration by Prof. Dr. Boonserm Weesakul, President Emeritus, Dhurakij Pundit, University and Professor Emeritus, National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA); and 6) University Strategic Planning: Does QA Matter? by Prof. Emeritus Dr. Somwang Pittiyanuwat, Director, The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment-ONESQA (Public Organisation).

1.3) The First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to United States of America

Date and Venue:

13-21 April 2008, Boston, Maryland and Washington D.C., United States of America

Organisers:

The Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges and SEAMEO RIHED

With the cooperation from the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), SEAMEO RIHED had the opportunity to bring senior university administrators and executives from Thailand to visit higher education institutions in the US and also to attend the 2008 AGB's National Conference on Trusteeship in Boston this past April. The key objective of the programme is to provide the opportunity for senior university administrators to participate in professional development activities to improve their insights and knowledge about recent and current development of US higher education.

During 13-21 April 2008, thirty-four (34) participants attended the 'National Conference on Trusteeship: the Nick of TIME – American Higher Education in a Global Context'. Higher education's best thinkers and leaders convened for the Conference to share their expertise and insights on governance. This was AGB's largest-attended National Conference on Trusteeship with 1,003 attendees at 35+ sessions and 25 roundtables. Participants came from around the world as Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Thailand, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Interested topics in Plenary Session and Concurrent Session for instance were Leadership Strategies for Board Chairs of Public Institutions, Strategic Finance for Presidents and Trustees, Ensuring Academic Quality, Bridging Two Worlds: From CEO to University System Chancellor, The Media Looks at Higher Education and Sees, Access, Price, Quality, and Productivity: The Dynamics and Dilemma of Higher Education and National Interests and Engagement in International Education.

The participants also visited 7 higher education institutions in Boston, Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia. The list of institutional visits, discussion topics and speakers in each institution were:

- 1) The Center for International Higher Education, Boston College, a discussion topic was American Higher Education From A Critical Perspective by Prof. Philip G. Altbach, Monan Professor of Higher Education, Director, Center for International Higher Education;
- 2) George Mason University, discussion topics were Strategic Planning and Governance, by Dr. J. Thomas Hennessey, Jr.; University Chief of Staff, Office of the President; The Role of Faculty Senate by Suzanne Slayden, Chair, Faculty Senate; The Role of Media Relations by Christine LaPaille, Vice President for University Relations; University As A Think Tank And Relationships With Local Industries by Matthew J. Kluger, Vice President, Research; and Leadership In Administration by Dr. Peter N. Stearns, University Provost.

3) American University, discussion topics were The Role of The Board of Trustees in University Governance, Strategic Planning, and The University's Presidential Search by Dr. Cornelius "Neil" M. Kerwin, President of American University and Mr. Gary M. Abramson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and other senior administrators.

4) Georgetown University, a discussion topic was University-Based Research Centers: Mortara Center for International Studies, School of Foreign Service by Dr. Victor Cha, Director and Professor, Asian Studies Department and Ms. Aliz Agoston, Program Coordinator of The Mortara Center for International Studies.

5) University of Maryland, discussion topics were University Governance and Leadership by Dr. Nina Harris, Faculty Director, Burns Academy of Leadership and The University's Relationship with Local Industries by Dr. Brian Darmody, Assistant Vice President for Research and Economic Development

6) Northern Virginia Community College, a discussion topic was The Community College Model for Higher Education by Dr. Paul McVeigh, Associate Vice President, Global Studies and Programs and Mr. Milan Hayward, Special Assistant for Technical and Career Education.

7) AGB Headquarters, a discussion topic was Governance of Postsecondary Institutions in The United States by Dr. Richard Skinner, Senior Vice President, Programs & Research; and Dr. Merrill Schwartz, Director, Special Project.

The group also had a study tour at United Nations Headquarter in New York welcomed by Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, Programme Coordinator, UNDP.

SEAMEO RIHED also conducted the Seminar on US Higher Education: Experiences from the 1st SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to USA with the support of the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand to disseminate the results and impact of the educational programme from the distinguished participants to all Thai scholars, educators and administrators on 4 July 2008 at Commission on Higher Education Building, Thailand. The Report of the 1st SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to the USA can be accessed via www.rihed.seameo.org.



1.4) The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia

Date and Venue:

27 June 2008, Commission on Higher Education Building, Bangkok, Thailand

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED with the support of the Japan Foundation



The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia has been initiated by SEAMEO RIHED, with the support from the Japan Foundation. The Conference Series on Raising Awareness is aimed to raise the awareness among key stakeholders in higher education sector in this region on the importance of the process of regional harmonisation. The activity is consisted of 5 pre-conference workshops and an international conference that promote better awareness and understanding on the process of higher education harmonization throughout the region.

Activities under the project include: **1) The Pre-Conference Workshops** will be organised in five countries as Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. These workshops are designed to involve a small group of key higher education stakeholders at the decision-making level, academic and industry sectors to get acquainted with the idea about the process of higher education harmonization; **2) The International Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia** will be held on 6-7 November 2008 in Bangkok. The Conference will be co-organised by SEAMEO RIHED, Japan Foundation, and Department of Education, Employment and Workplace, Australia (tbc). The main participants will include resource persons and experts from Japan, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, country coordinators from five ASEAN countries (Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam), and observers (high ranking officials responsible for higher education) from ASEAN countries; **3) The country reports and proceeding** will be published and disseminated by SEAMEO RIHED.

For Thailand, the Pre-Conference Workshop was held on 27 June 2008 at the Commission on Higher Education Building, Bangkok, Thailand. The event invited 50 participants from Thai higher education institutions, industrial sectors and other educational agencies to share the idea about process of higher education harmonisation. Based on the ideas gathered from the workshop, the country coordinators from five countries will write country reports and present their findings and analyses to the International Conference on Raising Awareness in Bangkok during 6-7 November 2008.

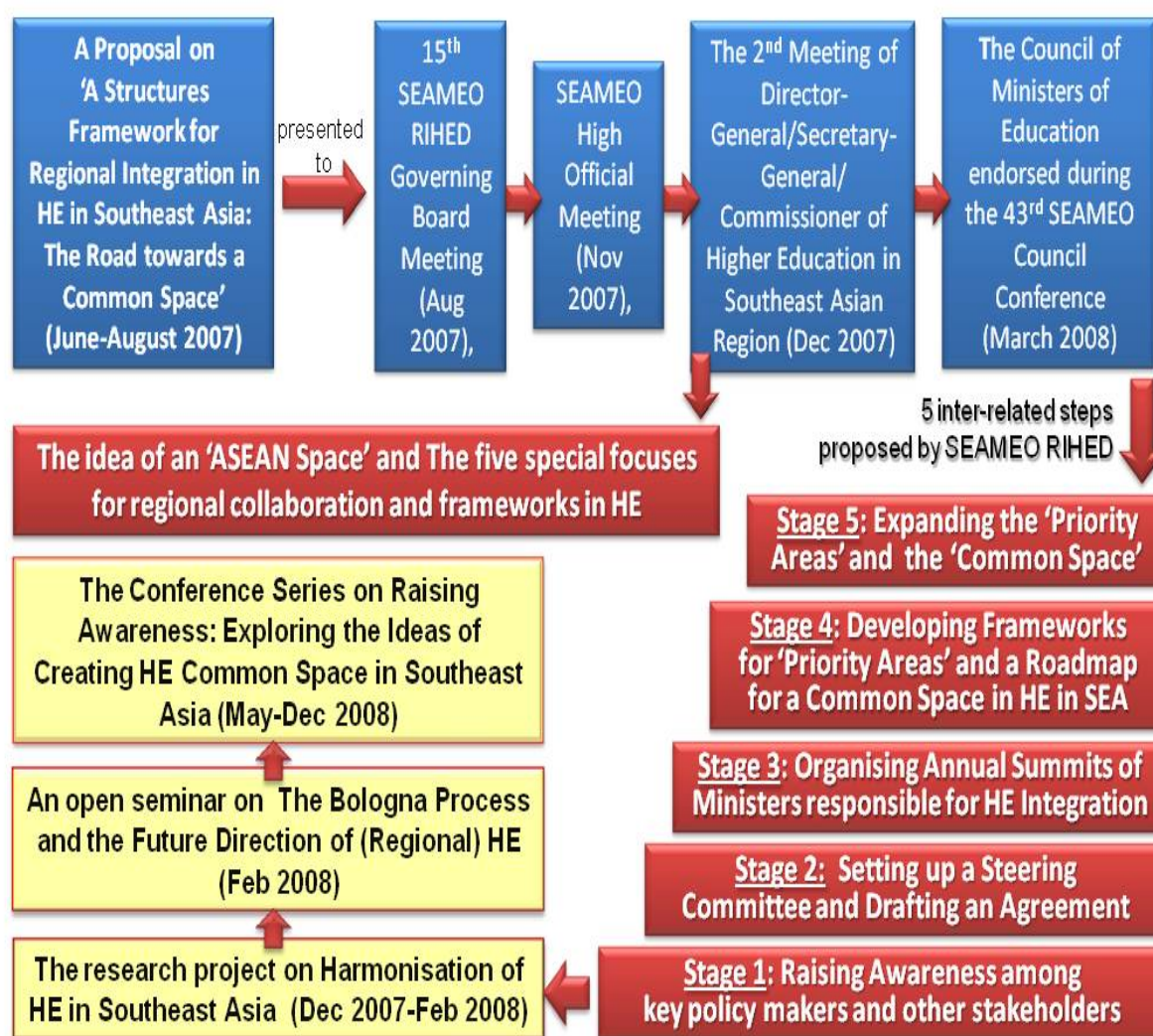
2.1) SEAMEO RIHED Project on The Harmonisation of Higher Education in Southeast Asia

SEAMEO RIHED is convinced that it is a high time for the region to start discussing about the creation of a regional higher education area/space that facilitates greater mobility and enhances better quality of regional higher education among HEIs and countries in Southeast Asia. The starting step for SEAMEO RIHED was to conduct the research project on harmonisation of higher education in Southeast Asia based on the study on public documents, official papers and inputs from conference and workshop materials which were previously presented in several international conferences and workshops. The publication was edited to present the Centre's position and emphasis on the impact of globalisation and the importance of the inter-governmental process leading to higher education integration and harmonisation in Southeast Asia. The result of this preliminary study was published in *The Harmonisation of Higher Education: Lessons Learned From The Bologna Process*. Other activities relating to SEAMEO RIHED Project on The Harmonisation of Higher Education in Southeast Asia also include:

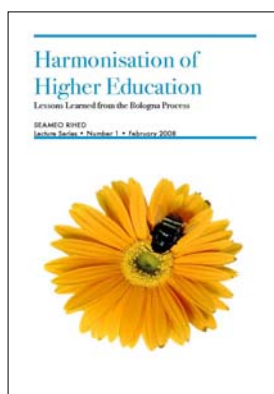
- 1) An open seminar on **The Bologna Process and the Future Direction of (Regional) Higher Education**: the event outlined basic information about the harmonisation process of higher education in Europe through the Bologna Process. It was held on 15 February 2008 in the occasion of the 15th Founding Anniversary of SEAMEO RIHED.
- 2) The idea of an '**ASEAN Space**' and The five special focuses for regional collaboration and frameworks in higher education in the region: during **The 2nd Meeting of Director-General/Secretary-General/ Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region**, it was agreed that the effort to promote the following areas should be emphasised. 1) **the observation on the Bologna Process and its relevance to the promotion of Southeast Asian regional framework for higher education and 'ASEANness'**; 2) **ASEAN Quality Framework and Core Curriculum Development**; 3) **Student Mobility Enhancement**; 4) **Leadership Development Programme** 5) **E-learning and Mobile Learning Programme**; and 6) **ASEAN Research Clusters in Science and Technology**.
- 3) The endorsement of the proposal on '**A Structures Framework for Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia: The Road towards a Common Space**': The proposal was endorsed by the Council of Ministers of Education during the 43rd SEAMEO Council Conference in March 2008.



- 4) **The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia:** The project is funded by Japan Foundation and will effort to secure extra funding additional from the Department of Education and Workplace Relation, Australia is also attempted, last for about 6 months from May-December 2008.



SEAMEO RIHED's Harmonisation of Higher Education Project for FY 2007/2008



3.1) Harmonisation of Higher Education: Lessons Learned From The Bologna Process

The book combines papers and conference materials prepared by SEAMEO RIHED during several international conferences and workshops, into a single book. The book was published to present the Centre's position and emphasis on the impact of globalisation and the importance of the inter-governmental process leading to higher education integration and harmonisation in Southeast Asia.

3.2) The Report of The First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme To USA

The Report of the 1st SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to the USA was a combination of lecture notes on US higher education system taken during the institutional visits, photos of the participants and also the reflections from some of the participants about the programme. The report is beneficial to those educators and HEI administrators as well as those who are interested in the overall higher education system and higher education management and governance in the US.



3.3) SEAMEO RIHED's Bulletin

The Bulletin is published tri-annually, ready for distribution in January, May and September. It aims at promoting SEAMEO RIHED and its activities, and to provide scholars and administrators with current information on higher education in the region.

3.4) SEAMEO RIHED's e-Library and Website

The RIHED's Website provides information and activities of the centre and the information regarding the centre's publications, such as studies, reports and conference/ seminar/ workshop proceedings in the e-book format. The list of higher education institutions in Southeast Asian Region, and the Electronic Library Services specialising in higher education could also be accessed through the website. The SEAMEO RIHED website can be accessed via the following official link: www.rihed.seameo.org

4. Seminars and Conferences

4.1) Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies

Date and Venue:

7 September 2007, Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED and Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University

SEAMEO RIHED and Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University organised the Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies on 7 September 2007. Fifty five (55) senior university administrators in Thailand, the representatives of ASAIHL, UNESCO Bangkok, InTREC and SEAMEO Secretariat, Australia Embassy and Canadian Embassy in Thailand participated in this seminar. The highlight of this event was the keynote lecture of Clinical Professor Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, who is one of the leading senior university administrators in Thailand. The lecture was followed by the Q&A session and the tour to Siriraj Hospital, the biggest hospital in Thailand.



4.2) The Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries

Date and Venue:

24 August 2007, Jakarta, Indonesia

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED with the kind support from the Ministry of National Education, Indonesia

In order to share and update current information and the development of the use of ICT in university teaching/learning and research in Southeast Asian region, SEAMEO RIHED, with the kind support from the Ministry of National Education, Indonesia convened the Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/ Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries on 24 August 2007 at the Millennium Sirih Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia.

SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board members and high-level administrators in higher education from 7 SEAMEO member countries from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand served as key speakers in the Conference.

In addition to the presentation on current situations, future trends and development of ICT in university teaching/ learning and research in respective ASEAN countries, the seminar provided a forum for scholars and administrators to discuss and exchange ideas on issues relating to the use of ICT in higher education. More than 80 university administrators, scholars and graduate students attended the event.

The Seminar was held back-to-back with the 15th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting on 23 August 2007. Papers and presentations on the use of ICT in university teaching/learning and research in Southeast Asian region, can be found at <http://mail.rihed.seameo.org/ict/>.



4.3) The Second Meeting of Director-General/Secretary-General/ Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region

Date and Venue:

30 November - 1 December 2007, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Organisers:

The Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia and SEAMEO RIHED



As part of SEAMEO RIHED's campaign to raise the awareness on the significance of the process of harmonisation in higher education among key stakeholders in Southeast Asia, the 2nd Meeting of Director General/Secretary General and Commissioner responsible for higher education in Southeast Asia was convened under the sponsorship of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Malaysia. During the event, ten (10) Director-General/ Secretary-General/

Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia and 13 attended this Meeting.

The Meeting took on the theme of the 'Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia' and pointed out the key concern of the fact that Southeast Asia is fairly lagged behind other regions in recognising the importance of a concerted regional effort to promote a coordinated higher education policy and framework. It was therefore a great opportunity for SEAMEO RIHED to have exerted the ideas and concerns on the issue of regional integration on higher education in Southeast Asia at the policy level.

Through the initial support of the Minister of National Education, Indonesia, the Centre had developed the ideas and issue of concerns and proposed it to both academics and policy makers in various venues. The proposal which ventures upon the ideas of promoting initiatives and establishing mechanisms that could lead to a 'common space' was submitted to the 15th Governing Board Meeting and the 30th High Official Meeting held in November 2007. The same proposal was later endorsed by the SEAMEO Council of Ministers Meeting in March 2008.



Dato' Professor Dr. Hassan bin Said, Director General of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia stressed in the Meeting about the importance of the effort in promoting the idea of an 'ASEAN space'. It will be the area in which closer collaboration in higher education in such fields as mobility, quality framework, research area in science and technology as well as the need to create awareness and multi-cultural understanding of integration process is emphasised. The Meeting also had an extensive discussion pertaining to the issues that could enhance and/ or inhibit regional collaboration and frameworks in higher education in the region. The Meeting agreed that special focuses should be given to: 1) the observation on the Bologna Process and its relevance to the promotion of Southeast Asian regional framework for higher education and 'ASEANness'; 2) ASEAN Quality Framework and Core Curriculum Development; 3) Student Mobility Enhancement; 4) Leadership Development Programme 5) E-learning and Mobile Learning Programme; and 6) ASEAN Research Clusters in Science and Technology.



4.4) The 15th Founding Anniversary of SEAMEO RIHED establishment and the Open Seminar on the Bologna Process and the Future Direction of (Regional) Higher Education

Date and Venue:

15 February 2008, Commission on Higher Education Building, Bangkok, Thailand

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED

SEAMEO RIHED held an open seminar to celebrate its 15th founding anniversary under the topic of 'Regional Higher Education Harmonisation and the Lessons Learned from Europe's Bologna Process.' In this seminar, the key issues discussed during the seminar included 1) the current trends of global and regional higher education development, 2) the impacts of globalisation on higher education, 3)



the experiences of European's harmonisation and higher education reforms through the Bologna Process, 4) the importance of developing a common space in higher education in Southeast Asia, 5) the implications of regional cooperation and policy integration in higher education 6) the extent to which the regional harmonisation process affect higher education institutions in the region and finally 7) the future regional move towards the establishment of a 'Southeast Asian (SEA) of Knowledge'.

The seminar speakers and discussants were:

- 1) Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director
- 2) Professor Dr. Adul Wiriyawechakul, former President of Mahasarakham University
- 3) Assoc. Prof. Paitoon Sinlarat, Professor Emeritus and Vice President for Research Affairs, Dhurakij Pundit University
- 4) Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University
- 5) Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj, Director of Knowledge Network Institute of Thailand
- 6) Dr. Nopraenue S. Dhirathiti, Senior Specialist (Higher Education Research), SEAMEO RIHED

The seminar was attended by 150 participants from the Commission on Higher Education and other agencies, representatives from higher education institutions in Thailand and also from business and employment sector.

5) Collaborative Activities

5.1) Public Lecture on US – ASEAN Relations: The Preparation for ASEAN Integration

Date and Venue:

22 October 2007, Commission on Higher Education Building, Bangkok, Thailand

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED and the Fulbright Foundation (Thailand)

On 22 October 2007, SEAMEO RIHED and the Fulbright Foundation (Thailand) co-organised a special lecture on 'US-ASEAN Relations: The Preparation for ASEAN Integration' at the Commission on Higher Education, Thailand. The key speaker was Dr. Termsak Chalermpanupap, Director of Research, ASEAN Secretariat and Special Assistant to ASEAN Secretary General. Dr. Termsak outlined the background of US-ASEAN relations throughout the past decades, especially the role of the US in influencing the politics of ASEAN. He also elaborated on the development of the ASEAN Charter and stressed the importance of ASEAN countries in preparing themselves towards a more integrated society or ASEAN community. In this occasion, Ms. Pornthip Karnchananiyot, Director of Fulbright (Thailand), also chaired the session and led the discussion among participants from government agencies and academic institutions.



5.2) The 11th UNESCO-APEID International Conference Reinventing Higher Education: Towards Participatory and Sustainable Development

Date and Venue:

14 December 2007, Bangkok, Thailand

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED and UNESCO APEID

On 14 December 2008, Prof. Supachai Yavaprabhas, Director of SEAMEO RIHED chaired the session on “**Quality Assurance in Southeast Asia: Sharing Experience, Shaping the Future**”. The key speakers in the session included **Professor Zita Hj Mohd Fahmi**, Deputy Executive Officer (QA), Malaysian Qualifications Agency, who shared with the audience her ideas on ‘Recent Changes-Challenges to Enhancement of Quality of Higher Education in Malaysia’. **Professor Dr. Paulina Pannen**, Director, SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) led the discussion in the area of ‘Quality Enhancement of Higher Education: Open and Distance Learning Perspectives’. Finally, **Professor Dr. Somwang Pitiyanuwat**, Director, Office of National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (ONESQA), introduced to the audience ‘the Role of EQA for Enhancing Quality of Higher Education’.

The Conference brought together representatives from governments, educational institutions, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and local communities to explore the linkages between higher education, participatory development and sustainable development. The Conference expected to facilitate a paradigm shift in a sector that is less commonly associated with participatory development by highlighting the role of universities and other higher education institutions in balancing social inequalities and in formulating sustainable solutions with, and for, people so that they can have equal access to the benefits of a globalising world.



5.3) Survey for Situational Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in Southeast Asia (Thailand)

Date and Venue:

October-November 2007, Thailand

Organisers:

SEAMEO RIHED and SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMEO SEAMOLEC)

The Survey for Situational Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in Southeast Asia is a survey research of The APCEIU-SEAMEO Project 2007: Situation Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in ASEAN. The purpose of the project is 1) to setup the groundwork for the development of multimedia materials in Education for International Understanding (EIU) for teachers and teacher trainers through the situational analysis; 2) To enable ASEAN countries to carry out effective survey in their own e-learning situation and cooperate to develop the multimedia materials which are adaptable in local context; 3) to further enhance the knowledge and skills of teacher educators, schoolteachers and educational administrators on core issues of EIU using multimedia; and 4) to strengthen the partnership with ROK-ASEAN in educational in general and Peace Education in particular.

SEAMEO RIHED was responsible for Thailand's country report, which was completed in November 2007. The report provide the comprehensive general educational background, the current situation of e-learning system in the educational system focusing on multicultural education within the curriculum framework, model cases on multicultural education, national policy on teacher education in general, and on multicultural education through e-learning.



5.4) The 2nd INTERNATIONAL GMS-TESOL FORUM on ‘English as an International Language: A view from the inside’

Date and Venue:

7-9 September 2007, Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai, Thailand

Organisers:

Mae Fah Luang University; the Commission of Higher Education, Ministry of Education; Thailand-United States Educational Foundation (TUSEF/Fulbright); the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization, British Council and SEAMEO RIHED

Determined to serve as an educational centre in the GMS, Mae Fah Luang University strongly considers it a policy to stage a GMS-TESOL Forum biennially in order to promote the region’s progress in English learning and teaching innovations. In the academic year 2007, in collaboration with the Commission of Higher Education, Ministry of Education; Thailand-United States Educational Foundation (TUSEF/Fulbright); the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization, the Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) and the British Council, hosted the second GMS-TESOL Forum during 7 to 9 September 2007 at Mae Fah Luang campus in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The objectives of the event were: 1) to allow TESOL/TEFL experts in the region and other stakeholders to share and exchange ideas, 2) to facilitate greater cultural appreciation and understanding among the GMS countries, and 3) to establish a connection of English language practitioners and provide an opportunity for foreign professors and students to get to know Mae Fah Luang’s campus and facilities.

The conference placed a major emphasis on the claim of English as an international language which has an impact on some scenarios of the English language teaching and learning itself. These scenarios are represented by the emergence of an English/international program at numerous institutions in ESL/EFL contexts, which enforces English as a primary medium of instruction. Additionally, English is used as a default language in international media as well as international public fora. Lastly, English is often adopted by gatekeepers as a determinant of education success and career opportunities.

5.5) Translation of the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education

Date and Venue:

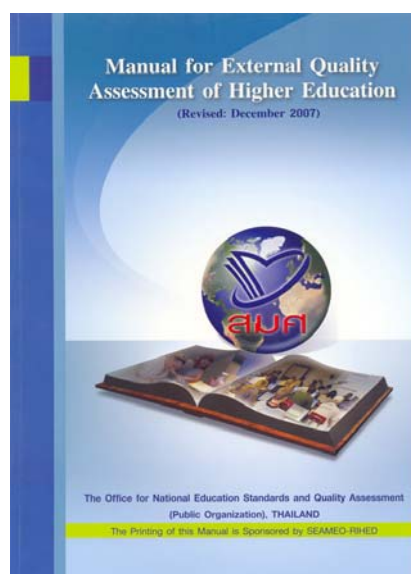
Revised: December 2007

Organisers:

The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment-ONESQA (Public Organisation), and sponsored by SEAMEO RIHED

To create a clear understanding regarding the preparation for the external quality assessment of the higher education institutes and also for the external assessors, the Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment-ONESQA (Public Organisation) has published the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education. The Manual is also aimed at promoting a mutual understanding of the standards, indicators, assessment scales and the criteria employed in the ONESQA certified standards. It is also highly anticipated that, any higher education institution will be able to achieve in performing its own internal quality assessment, devising its own institution standard, developing its educational quality and follow-up with the use of this manual.

To support ONEQA's initiative, SEAMEO RIHED sponsored ONESQA to translate the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education from Thai to English in order to distribute it to lecturers, scholars, educators and administrators both inside and outside Southeast Asia.



ENHANCED QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE CENTRE'S MANAGEMENT

Since the inception of the Centre, the number of the Centre full - time staff are relatively small. At present, the Centre employs only 2 professional and 9 local staff. Although SEAMEO RIHED continues to be a small and flat organisation, it has always put the efforts to promote professional development of its staff as it will help increase the quality and efficiency of the Centre's management. The Centre's staff development programmes in FY2007/2008 were the following:

- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director participated as a speaker in The Consultation Workshop on "Regional Centres of Expertise (RCEs) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)" organised by the International University, Vietnam National University-HCMC on 7 December 2007 at International University, Vietnam National University-HCMC
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended in a "Workshop on "the Quality Assurance" organised by the Ministry of Education Lao PDR with the support of the Asia Pacific Quality Network during 11-13 December 2007 at Vientiane, Lao PDR.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended a Workshop on "Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development" organised by Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) with the United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), the aim of the workshop was lead to the establishment of Regional Centres of Expertise (RCEs) in Mindanao, Philippines on 24-25 January 2008.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director participated as a speaker in "The 3rd ACD Roundtable Meeting on Asia eUniversity" organised by Asia e University (AeU) in collaboration with Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia and Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia during 24-25 March 2008 in Subang Jaya, Kuala Lumpur.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director participated in a regional training workshop on "Open and Distance Learning System" organised by SEAMEO SEAMOLEC in collaboration with The Consortium of Universities in Southeast Asia (SEA) during 26-27 March 2008 at SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended in "The 1st International Symposium on Asian Higher Education" organised by Waseda University Global –COE Program: Global Institute for Asian Regional Integration (GIARI) during 17-18 January 2008 at Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan.

- Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director attended the “Asia-Pacific Quality Network 2008 Conference & Annual General Meeting” (Brisbane Communique Workshop) on 18 February 2008 at Chiba, Japan.
- Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer attended a lecture of “Roles and Achievement of NZUAAU” by John M Jennings, Director of the New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit (NZUAAU) organized by Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organization) on 6 November 2007.
- Mrs. Chompunoot Sawangdee, Human Resource Development Officer and Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer attended “The 2nd National Education Leaders Forum: In Search of Excellence in Education” organized by Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation Secretariat, The World Association of Publishers, Manufacturers, and Distributors of Education Materials (Worlddidac), Matchon Group, and Reed Tradex Company during 27-29 November 2007 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Mrs. Chompunoot Sawangdee, Human Resource Development Officer attended a Special Lecture from Dr. Glenn Withers, AO, Chief Executive Officer, Universities Australia organized by The Australian Embassy, Bangkok; Australian Education International with the support of the Commission on Higher Education on 25 January 2008 at Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Dr. Nopraenue Sajjarax Dhirathiti, Senior Specialist (Higher Education Research) and Mrs. Wachareeporn Nilratt, Programme Officer participated in the First SEAMEO RIHED- AGB Educational Programme to USA organised by SEAMEO RIHED and the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges during 13-21 April 2008 in Boston, Maryland and Washington D.C., USA.

INCREASED FINANCIAL VIABILITY THROUGH INCREASED REVENUES AND COST CONTROL

Originally, the main funding source for the Centre's programmes and activities was the interest paid from the SEAMEO RIHED's Endowment Fund. In recent years, the interest rates have been in dramatic decrease, which resulted in the diminishing of operating funds. The Royal Thai Government, who has always supported the Centre by providing the Centre's seat at no cost to SEAMEO and underwritten the capital and operating costs of the Centre, has realised the Centre's recent financial hardship and has allotted additional budget to help alleviate some of the Centre's financial constraints. In addition, SEAMEO Secretariat has allocated some special funds to support the Centre's operations. SEAMEO RIHED gratefully acknowledges the support of the Royal Thai Government and SEAMEO Secretariat.

For its part, SEAMEO RIHED has tried to alleviate financial constraints by increasing the number of its partnerships and co-operative efforts so that it can maintain the scope and effectiveness of its programmes and activities. During FY 2007/2008, SEAMEO RIHED has cooperated several institutions, including two universities, namely, Mae Fah Luang University, and Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University; six international, private and governmental agencies, namely, International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Japan Foundation, UNESCO-APEID, SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, and The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organisation) Thailand; and four national government agencies, namely, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia, the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand, Ministry of National Education, Indonesia, and Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia. Apart from co-hosting, co-organised or sponsored activities with these organisations, SEAMEO RIHED has also created income generating programmes through study visit activities, research projects and publication to help support the running costs of the Centre.

INCREASED MARKET ACCESS TO SEAMEO RIHED'S PROGRAMMES WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE SOUTHEAST ASIA

SEAMEO RIHED continues to increase market access to its programmes by using a wide variety of media (poster, rollup board, display exhibition, newspaper, radio, and email, etc.) along with its website and mailing lists. The target groups include the Centre's partner agencies, higher education institutions, and the general public. SEAMEO RIHED currently promotes its activities by email and asking SEAMEO RIHED's partner agencies to promote the centre's activities by linking to our website.

The SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin, published 3 times a year and can be accessed through the Centre's website, summarises activities and programmes every 4 months and updates current status of higher education institutions in the region.

The Centre's publications including research studies and conference/seminar/workshop reports and proceedings are on sale at Chulalongkorn University Bookstore in Bangkok. They can also be ordered via the mail order form as well as through the internet. At present, the Centre's publication can be viewed in the e-book format before ordering at <http://www.rihed.seameo.org/publication.htm> or <http://elib.rihed.seameo.org/>.

The RIHED's website provides information and activities of the centre and offers e-library services specialising in higher education. The list of higher education institutions in the Southeast Asian Region is also provided on the website. Our next step is to provide a database of higher education expertise in Southeast Asian region.

STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING LINKAGES AND COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Over the last fiscal year SEAMEO RIHED collaborated with various agencies, universities, and Ministries of Education of SEAMEO Member Countries in order to create strong partnership and networks for the purpose of facilitating programmes in higher education across the region. The specific programmes carried out and their corresponding agencies of support are listed below.

AGENCIES	PROGRAMMES
The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia; and International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)	Regional Workshop on Institutional Restructuring in Higher Education in Asia
The International Strategic Planning Bureau, Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand	The Regional Workshop on Strategic Planning for University Administrators in the Greater Mekong Sub-region
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB)	The First SEAMEO RIHED-AGB Educational Programme to United States of America
Japan Foundation	The Conference Series on Raising Awareness: Exploring the Ideas of Creating Higher Education Common Space in Southeast Asia
Siriraj Hospital, the Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University	Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies
Ministry of National Education, Indonesia	The Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries
Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia	The Second Meeting of Director-General/Secretary-General/ Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region
The Fulbright Foundation (Thailand)	Public Lecture on US – ASEAN Relations: The Preparation for ASEAN Integration

AGENCIES	PROGRAMMES
UNESCO-APEID	The 11 th UNESCO-APEID International Conference Reinventing Higher Education: Towards Participatory and Sustainable Development
SEAMEO SEAMOLEC	Survey for Situational Analysis of E-Learning System for Multicultural Education in Southeast Asia (Thailand)
Mae Fah Luang University	The 2nd INTERNATIONAL GMS-TESOL FORUM on 'English as an International Language: A view from the inside'
The Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (Public Organisation) Thailand	Translation of the Manual for External Quality Assessment of Higher Education



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