The Asia-Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development (APEID), UNESCO Bangkok, is convening the 11th UNESCO-APEID International Conference in December 2007. The Conference, “Reinventing Higher Education: Toward Participatory and Sustainable Development,” will explore the linkages among higher education, participatory development and sustainable development.

Participatory development is a bottom-up, people-centred approach to develop the full potential of all sectors of society, especially poor and marginalized social groups. Such development will contribute to processes that can lead to more sustainable development and to poverty reduction through greater empowerment, gender equality, social inclusion and respect for human rights, based on the conviction that development itself needs to be grounded in people’s own cultures and priorities.

To bring the dialogue to a sector less commonly associated with participatory development, UNESCO-APEID aims to highlight the role of universities and other higher education institutions in re-balancing social inequalities and in formulating sustainable solutions with, and for, people so that they can have equal access to the benefits of a globalizing world.

To facilitate a paradigm shift, the 11th UNESCO-APEID International Conference, Reinventing Higher Education, seeks to:

Enhance understanding of the concepts and principles of participatory and sustainable development

Explore the role of higher education institutions in engaging with communities, NGOs and the private sector

Encourage the formulation of collaborative participatory and sustainable development programmes and activities

Facilitate the development of a network of policy makers, educators and learners who will contribute to collaborative learning for participatory development and social change

Showcase examples and models of “Participatory and Sustainable Development in Action”

Participants will include representatives from governments, educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and local communities.

Sub-themes

I. Paradigms of Development
   • Participatory and sustainable development concepts
   • Implications for higher education research and teaching
   • Engagement with communities

II. Possibilities for Development
   • Initiatives of higher education institution departments, staff and students
   • Opportunities and constraints faced by such initiatives

III. Partnerships in Development
   • Local, regional and international partnerships among higher education institutions
   • Linkages among higher education institutions, government, communities, NGOs, private sector
   • Key elements for successful partnerships in development

IV. Permitting Development
   • Quality assurance standards and processes
   • Criteria for monitoring and evaluation
   • Regulatory frameworks

Keynote Speakers

Stephen Toope
President, University of British Columbia

Peter Taylor
Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex

Anthony Stella
Australian Universities Quality Agency

“Imagine a world in which all individuals are recognized as productive, educated citizens and as potential agents of change. Imagine a world in which universities embody democratic values, make strong connections between head, heart and hands, and recognize that their institutional goals go beyond the generation of wealth and the advancement of self-recognition.”

Tentative Programme

12 December
Registration
Raja Roy Singh Lecture
Keynote address
Plenary Session I: Paradigms of Development
Panel sessions and paper presentations
Welcome dinner

13 December
Plenary Session III: Possibilities for Development
Plenary Session IV: Partnerships in Development
Panel sessions and paper presentations

14 December
Plenary Session IV: Permitting Development
Panel sessions and paper presentations
Closing of Conference

12-14 December
Exhibitions

Details

Venue: Imperial Queens Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
Date: 12-14 December 2007

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Fees:
International participant US$ 350 each
Early bird registration US$ 250 each
Full-time student outside Thailand US$ 150 each
Full-time student in Thailand Baht 2,500 each
Resident of Thailand Baht 4,500 each
Group registration* US$ 250 / person

*5 or more individuals from the same organization/institution

Payment:
Bank draft payable to: UNESCO Bangkok

Deadlines:
Submission of abstracts 31 August 2007
Early bird registration & payment 30 September 2007*
Regular registration & payment 16 November 2007

*All payments received after 30 September will be charged the regular registration rate.

Accommodation:
Participants should contact the hotels directly for their room reservations. All quotes are in Thai Baht.

Manhattan Hotel 1,300
Tara Hotel 2,250
Grand Mercure Hotel 2,500
Windsor Hotel 3,060
Imperial Queens Park Hotel 3,500

For more information, please visit:
www.unescobkk.org/education/apeid/conference

CALL FOR PAPERS

The organizers invite papers on Conference sub-themes. Submit abstracts, no longer than 200 words, on forms available from the Conference website at www.unescobkk.org/education/apeid/conference by 1 August 2007.

For further information, go to http://sufficiency.bus.ubu.ac.th

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS

Showcase your examples of “Participatory and Sustainable Development in Action”. Visit the Conference website for details.

For more information, please visit:
www.unescobkk.org/education/apeid/conference

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12-14 December 2007, Bangkok, Thailand

Reinventing Higher Education: Toward Participatory and Sustainable Development