SEAMEO RIHED: Regional Initiatives for Internationalization

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At the Stakeholders Meeting on Indicators for Internationalization of Higher Education on 4 November 2016, Bangkok, Thailand
Presentation Outline

- SEAMEO RIHED’s Perspective
- Recent Trends and Challenges in HE in the SEA Region
- Overview on Higher Education in Southeast Asia
- About SEAMEO RIHED
- Harmonization in Higher Education
- Collaborative Partners
Overview on Higher Education in Southeast Asia
ASEAN: ONE DIVERSE COMMUNITY

- The current population of Southeast Asia is 642,929,859 as of Saturday, October 29, 2016, based on the latest United Nations estimates.

- Southeast Asia population is equivalent to 8.62% of the total world population.

- Southeast Asia ranks number 3 in Asia among subregions ranked by Population.

- The population density in Southeast Asia is 148 per Km² (382 people per mi²).

- The median age in Southeast Asia is 29.1 years old.

http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/south-eastern-asia-population/
Diversity of SEA: Higher Education

No of HEIs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No of HEIs</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunei</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>4,400</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>by 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2,299</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>by 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>by 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>by 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Diversity of SEA: Number of Students

No. Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No. Students (approximately)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>5.4 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>4 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>2.4 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>2 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>1.1 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>210,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>97,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 15 Million++

ABOUT
SEAMEO RIHED
SEAMEO

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization

Regional intergovernmental organization established in 1965 among governments of Southeast Asian countries to promote regional cooperation in education, science and culture in the region.

SEAMEO has 21 specialist institutions (20 Centres + 1 Network). Each Regional Centre has a Governing Board composed of senior education officials from each SEAMEO Member Country. The Governing Board reviews the Centres’ operations and budget and sets their policies and programmes.
SEAMEO RIHED

The SEAMEO regional centre for higher education and development

Originally founded as the Regional Institute of Higher Education and Development in Singapore in 1959. RIHED was reorganised and established in Thailand in 1993, as a regional centre of SEAMEO.
SEAMEO RIHED’s Scope of Work: The “BIG PICTURE”

Facilitating policy dialogues + Developing harmonization mechanisms + Promoting multilateral collaboration in the region and beyond

Governing Board MEETINGS

DGs/SG/CHE MEETINGS

5 Years Development Plan (2012-2017)
Programs serving 5 objectives

1. Empowering Higher Education Institutions
2. Developing Harmonization Mechanisms
3. Cultivating Globalized Human Resources
4. Advancing Knowledge Frontiers In Higher Education System Management
5. Promoting University Social Responsibility And Sustainable Development

Regional Seminars

- SEA-HiEd Leaders Forum Series (back-to-back with DGs/SG/CHE)
- SEAMEO RIHED Regional Seminars (back-to-back to GBM)

Promoting Harmonization of HE in SEA Region through 4 priority areas:

1. Academic Mobility
2. Leadership Development
3. E-Learning and Mobile Learning
4. ASEAN Research Clusters and ASEAN Citation Index (ARC and ACI)
Harmonization in Higher Education
Harmonization + Creating Common Space
In Higher Education in Southeast Asian Region

SEAMEO RIHED initiated discussions and set out our working direction & goals towards the two aforementioned concepts since 2007.
In harmonization process of higher education, IZN is like a blood vessel to keep harmonization alive!
SEAMEO RIHED, with the aims to cultivate globalized human resources and promote regional harmonization.

We believed that Mobility of Students, Researchers, Faculties and Administrative Staffs will support the region’s overarching aims in establishing a Common Space for Higher Education.
SEAMEO RIHED: University Networks Development

Since 2010

AIMS
ASEAN International Mobility For Students Programme

Since 2015

GMS-UC
Greater Mekong Sub-region University Consortium

24 Universities

Since 2014

ACNET-EngTech
ASEAN-China Network for Cooperation and Exchanges Among Engineering and Technology Universities

17 Universities

68 Universities
Initiated in 2008 as a Pilot Project under RIHED’s Framework for Regional Integration in Higher Education in Southeast Asia (endorsed by the SEAMEO Council at the 43rd SEAMEO Council Conference)

Being launched in 2010 as a M-I-T Student Mobility Project and renamed as ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS) Programme in 2012

One of the support mechanism that helps promote student mobility among Southeast Asian Nations and beyond

Based on the principle of Reciprocity & Balanced Mobility

Universities nominated by respective governments of participating countries

AIMS Overview

A regional platform for HEIs to harmonize higher education
People-to-people and cross-cultural connectivity
Globalized human resources

8 Countries
10 Study Fields
68 Universities
1500+ Students
Exploring possibilities of collaboration with the ASEAN-China Centre (ACC) since 2012 to promote:

1. Better understanding
2. Enhance more structured cooperation
3. Increase sharing of information of good practices
4. The mutual recognition towards higher education institutions between SEA and PR China
GMS-UC
Greater Mekong Sub-region University Consortium


SEAMEO RIHED facilitated the establishment of the GMS-UC with 24 universities nominated by their respective governments.

Supported by ADB, the Consortium aims to build a regional platform to strengthen and accelerate cross-border collaboration among universities and address human resource development as well as promote the quality and excellence of higher education in the GMS.

Key areas of collaboration include faculty exchange, university governance and social responsibility, credit transfer, information sharing, talent cultivation, QA and research collaboration.
Networks of universities supported by Instruments, such as

- Quality Assurance IQA+EQA and AQAF adopted by SEA Nations
- National Qualification Framework (NQF)
- Degree Recognitions
- Diploma Supplement
- Regional Credit Transfer Framework
- Capacities Building of University Management & Leadership
- Development of SEA Higher Education Information Gateway
University Networks Development
Supported by instruments, such as

Quality Assurance

- ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN)+AQAF
- ASEAN-QA

AQN / AUN 

AQN / AQAN

AQAF

AQN / ASEAN-QA

AQN / ASEAN-QA

AQN / ASEAN-QA

Adopted by SEA nations

Benefits all EQA bodies & institutions across SEA countries

QA Agencies (QA authorities and ministries responsible for HE)

Quality Assurance At Institutional Level

External Quality Assurance

Internal Quality Assurance

ASEAN Quality Assurance Framework
University Networks Development Supported by instruments, such as

- A formal system that describe qualifications.
- “NQF forms a basis for the mechanism that are used to assure quality in qualifications”
  (Bateman, Keating, Burke, Coles & Vicker 2012, p.7)

National Qualification Framework (NQF)
University Networks Development Supported by instruments, such as

Validation of foreign studies and degrees

“The 'recognition' of a foreign certificate, diploma or degree of higher education means its acceptance as a valid credential by the competent authorities in a Contracting State and the granting to its holder of rights enjoyed by persons who possess a national certificate, diploma or degree with which the foreign one is assessed as comparable.”

UNESCO conventions are legal agreements between countries agreeing to recognize academic qualifications issued by other countries that have ratified the same agreement.
University Networks Development Supported by instruments, such as

The Diploma Supplement (DS)

- Issued by the HEIs to support HE qualification and make it easier to be understood
- Provide sufficient independent data to improve 'transparency' and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates, etc.)

http://ec.europa.eu/education/resources/diploma-supplement_en

Opening doors to learning and working in Europa

Adapting & applying from the existing, successful model

Southeast Asian Region
University Networks Development
Supported by instruments, such as

Regional Credits Transfer Framework

Due to rigid formula of CT at both regional and international levels, it is needed to develop a framework that can accommodate different requirements and recognition of higher education institutions (HEIs).

By Assoc. Prof. Yuto KITAMURA
Advisor, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan

Academic Credit Transfer Framework for Asia

ACTFA

ASEAN Plus Three (working group)

ASEAN+3
In line with the ACTFA project, capacity building activities have been planned for the GMS-UC that emphasize **leadership development and curriculum design** in order to strengthen and accelerate cross-border collaboration and excellence among universities in the GMS.

These **capacity-building workshops** use Thailand as the training ground and target university stakeholders, such as **executives and administrators, presidents, deans and directors as well as staff from International Relations Offices (IROs)** from the 24 member universities.
University Networks Development Support by instruments, such as

- **Pilot Online Learning Courseware**
  - SEAMEO RIHED Technical Workshop on E-Learning Course Development for Hospitality and Tourism for the AIMS Programme

- **Massive Open Online Course (MOOCS)**

- **SEAMEO RIHED’s HE Portal Gateway**
Collaborative Partners
Thank You Very Much

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