Enhancing the Mobility of Researchers

Foster Researcher and Student Mobility in Southeast Asia: SEAMEO RIHED Role and Initiatives

By Dr. Chantavit Sujatanond

Special Advisor to SEAMEO RIHED

@ Promoting Regional Education Services Integration: APEC University Associations Cross-Border Education Cooperation Workshop

21-May-2014
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.

Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
Indonesia
Lao PDR
Malaysia
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Philippines
Singapore
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

www.rihed.seameo.org
SEAMEO Centers
OUR MISSION

To foster efficiency, effectiveness, and harmonization of higher education in Southeast Asia through system research, empowerment, development of mechanisms to facilitate sharing and collaborations in higher education.
Background

- **Countries with developed national research systems:** R & D, innovation, etc.
- **Countries that are developing their national research systems:** research funding, management mechanisms, facilities, networks, etc.
- **Cross-border Education & Internationalization**
  - Internationalization of HEIs plays a key role in national higher education policy and strategy
  - **Personnel (student/researcher/staff), Program & Institutional mobility**
Elements of Harmonization
Process of Higher Education in SEA

Student, faculty, and staff mobility
Regional quality assurance
Regional credit transfer
Regional research collaboration

University governance

Degree recognition
E-learning & mobile learning
Readable and comparable degree
Leadership development

www.rihed.seameo.org
# Internationalization & Cross-border Education

## Key Issues in Internationalization of HEIs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASEAN Countries</th>
<th>Government Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Brunei Darussalam | Revise Curriculum & Academic Programmes  
                   | International Student/Staff Mobility  
                   | International Collaboration |
| Cambodia          | International Collaboration; International Student Mobility  
                   | Offshore Campus; Internationalization of  
                   | research and teaching |
| Indonesia         | International Student Mobility; Joint Research;  
                   | International Collaboration; International  
                   | Accreditation |
| Lao, PDR          | International Student Mobility; Offshore Campus; Research and  
                   | Teaching; International Curriculum |

Source: Regional Seminar on Internationalization of Higher Education in Southeast Asia, 22 Sep 2012, the Philippines
# Internationalization & Cross-border Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASEAN Countries</th>
<th>Government Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td><strong>International Student/Staff Mobility</strong>; International Academic Programmes; <strong>R&amp;D; International Collaboration</strong>; Marketing of Education Sector in Malaysia (Education Malaysia Global Services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Internationalize curriculum; R&amp;D; <strong>International Student Mobility</strong>; <strong>International Collaboration</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td><strong>QAF; International Student/Staff/Faculty Mobility</strong>; establish environment for international exchange/collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td><strong>International Student Mobility</strong>; <strong>International collaboration</strong>; Offshore campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Internationalization & Cross-border Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASEAN Countries</th>
<th>Government Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td><strong>International Collaboration; International Student Mobility; Joint degree &amp; research;</strong> International Academic Programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>provides services according to internationally recognised quality standards (establish national qualification framework, implement new regulatory framework)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td><strong>International Student/Staff Mobility;</strong> Advanced Curriculum Implementation; Establish fully foreign invested universities; Joint Programmes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gaps Existing in SEA Countries

• Gap in national policy & funding support
• Lack of infrastructure, facilities and human resources
• HEIs Diversity
• Level of research competence
SEAMEO RIHED roles

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

Current Mechanisms
- GBM Meetings
- DG Meetings
SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meetings

• Governing board is the policy-making body of SEAMEO RIHED, compose of senior officials appointed by respective Minister of Education in SEAMEO Member Countries

• SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board is responsible for:
  
  Determine future direction of higher education in the region;
  Determine policies for the Centre’s operations;
  Review and approve programme activities;
  Oversee administrative operation of the Centre
Meetings of Directors General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia

- Establish a formal platform for senior higher education officials in the region to sharing views, experiences, as well as national policy and up-to-date information
- Review & monitor progress of projects/programmes with assistance of SEAMEO RIHED
- Explore future collaboration
Four key areas were identified for regional higher education harmonization, which are:

- Student Mobility Enhancement
- Leadership Development Programme
- E-Learning and Mobile Learning
- ASEAN Research Clusters
ASEAN Research Cluster (ARC) as a Strategic Move:

• As a vehicle for systematic and strategic investment in the development of long-term regional competitiveness and sustainability

• As a platform for HE contributions to regional prosperity and peace

Thailand work closely with SEAMEO RIHED:

➢ To coordinate regional expertise for meeting regional and global challenges

➢ To discover, develop, and disseminate SEA intellectual resources in advancing frontier of knowledge
Initial Steps

• Survey research management system information of ASEAN member countries
• Explore research potential of SEA universities and identify research interests
• Survey existing joint research projects in SEA
• Draw a roadmap for the future collaboration in SEA
Establishment and Implementation Plan of ARC

1. Select the agreed areas to explore common interest in establishing ARC
2. Set up Steering Committee/Working Group
3. Organize meeting/workshop on exploring common interest in establishing ARC in each selected area
4. Draw the roadmap for the establishment of ARC & propose to the Meeting of DGs/SG/CHE in SEA for Endorsement
5. Start to establish ARC as planned under the roadmap
Areas of Strength Identified for ASEAN Research Clusters

discussed at 1st ARC Conf, Nov 2010

- Health & Medicine
- Environment & Biodiversity
- Agriculture & Food
- Social Science

Establishing targeted research clusters (virtual)
- Using 2-3 core countries and core universities-based model for each cluster
- Selecting universities with strong research activities in the topics as the cores

The proposed areas were based on Elsevier’s Scopus Database 2006-2010

www.rihed.seameo.org
Example: ASEAN Research Cluster
Health and Medicine

Brunei Darussalam

Vietnam

Philippines

Thailand

Singapore

Laos

Malaysia

Myanmar

Indonesia

www.rihed.seameo.org
Example: ASEAN Research Cluster
Environment and Biodiversity

Brunei Darussalam
Vietnam
Thailand
Philippines
Indonesia
Cambodia
Laos
Singapore
Malaysia
Myanmar
Example: ASEAN Research Cluster

Agriculture and Food

Brunei Darussalam

Vietnam

Thailand

Cambodia

Malaysia

Laos

Myanmar

Indonesia

Philippines

Singapore
Example: ASEAN Research Cluster

Social Science

Brunei Darussalam

Vietnam

Cambodia

Singapore

Laos

Philippines

Thailand

Indonesia

Malaysia

Myanmar

www.rihed.seameo.org
ASEAN Citation Index (ACI): The Way Forward

• To promote research collaboration among ASEAN researchers
• To explore common needs and benefits of ASEAN issues in various aspects
• To increase visibility and impact of ASEAN researches
• To support the establishment of common policy framework
Designing & Developing the ACI Database

• The research team has studied, designed & developed the ACI database since the beginning of the project (August 2011).

• The database is completed in 2012 & the input data process began in 2013 onwards

• The ACI database comprises 4 major functions: Data input function; Search function (general & cited search); Display function; Data export function.
The Planned Activities

• **Set up ACI Steering Committee**
  
  Comprise representatives from ASEAN member countries
  
  • to provide policy recommendations & guidance including the sustainability of the ACI.
  
  • to define journal selection criteria to be included in the ACI

  Thailand by TCI/KMUTT is pleased to serve as ACI Coordinating Center

• **Input bibliographic records of some ASEAN journals for a trial in order to evaluate & test the database performance**
**AIMS Programme**

**Programme Timeline**

- **2010**
  - 10 universities
  - M-I-T Student Mobility Programme

- **2011**
  - Around 260 students
  - 5 fields
  - 3 countries (M, I, T)

- **2012**
  - 12 universities
  - 1 university
  - 7 countries (M, I, T, V, B, P, J)

- **By 2013**
  - Around 670 students
  - 7 fields
  - 7 countries

- **By 2015**
  - 500 students
  - 10 fields
  - 10 countries

**Country Participation**

- **Vietnam**
  - Joined in 2012

**By 2012**

- 60 Universities

**By 2013**

- 670 students

**By 2015**

- 500 students

**Fields and Countries**

- **M, I, T, V, B, P, J**
Member Countries & Study Fields

5 Initial Study Fields
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Agriculture
- Language and Culture
- International Business
- Food Science and Technology

2 Additional Study Fields
- Engineering
- Economics

2010
- Malaysia
- Indonesia
- Thailand

2012
- Vietnam

2013
- Philippines
- Brunei
- Japan
AIMS Programme

Current Arrangements

- undergraduate
- International academic programme
  - Fields of study: determined collectively by participating countries

Multi-lateral Framework
Ministries & HEIs

HEIs nominated by Ministries

Government scholarships
* Additional funding from other sources encouraged

- Specific # of students exchange and arrangements based on HEIs bi-lateral agreements
- HEIs to share curricula and syllabi
AIMS Review Meetings

Semi-annual review meetings for governmental and HEIs representatives from member countries

Stage I
- Updates
- Establish Partnerships

Stage II
- Sharing good practices
- Policy Making
- Updates
- Establish Partnerships

Stage III
- Foresight
- Sharing good practices
- Policy Making
- Updates
- Establish Partnerships
SEAMEO RIHED

• Fostering efficiency and effectiveness of higher education with a focus on policy and planning processes, administrative and management systems

• Promoting the exchange and dissemination of information and research findings on higher education planning and management

• Promoting multilateral collaboration

• Facilitating the development of regional higher education open space

• Your partner in higher education

www.rihed.seameo.org
Thank You
SEAMEO RIHED
www.rihed.seameo.org
Your Partner in Higher Education