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

Discussion Paper

Dr Sarah Richardson
Senior Research Fellow
Australian Council for Educational Research
sarah.richardson@acer.edu.au
Structure of workshop paper

- Student mobility
- Researcher mobility
- Provider mobility
- CBE without mobility

- Definitions and current activities
- Data collection needs
- Barriers
- Opportunities for collaboration
Student mobility
Student mobility insights

2011 - 4.3 million (2010 – 1 million from APEC)
2025 - 7.2 million (2020 – 1 million within APEC)

China ➔ United States, Australia

Malaysia: 58,000 inbound – 54,000 outbound

Increase capacity, enhance quality, global linkages, cross-cultural skills, language skills
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Data
- Agreed definitions and data on all types of mobility – e.g. Project Atlas
- Evidence of outcomes and impact of mobility – e.g. destinations / outcomes survey

Equality of opportunity
- Central repository of funding opportunities
- Funding of joint scholarships
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Credit transfer

- Develop an APEC credit transfer system (e.g. AIMS, ACTS, UMAP)
- Benchmarking learning outcomes across countries in key disciplines

Shared learning outcomes assessment

- Agreement on learning outcomes
- Joint assessment resources
Researcher mobility
Researcher mobility insights

doctoral students
post-doctoral researchers
collaborative research projects
joint publications

+ development of international research networks
+ increase quality and impact of research
+ share expensive research infrastructure
+ improves transfer of knowledge internationally
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Data

• Agreed definitions and data on all types of researcher mobility and its impact
• Impact of collaboration on research outputs

Opportunities

• Central database of grants and fellowships
• Funding of joint scholarships / doctorates
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Research collaborations

• Support for collaborative research
• Build on activities of APRU

Early career researchers

• Joint mobility scholarships – doc and postdoc
• Joint doctorate programmes
Provider mobility
Provider mobility insights

Multiple forms – branch campuses, joint degree programmes, double degree programmes ...

63 within-APEC branch campuses

+ Hosts – enhance capacity and choice, reduce brain drain, research, skills enhancement

+ Providers – prestige, revenue, linkages, international opportunities for students and staff
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Regulations
- central database of regulatory bodies
- improve consistency and transparency

Quality assurance
- APEC quality assurance network
- APEC qualifications framework
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Regulations

- central database of regulatory bodies
- improve consistency and transparency

Quality assurance

- APEC quality assurance network
- APEC qualifications framework
Recognition of qualifications

- Shared approach to NQFs
- APEC qualifications framework
- Diploma supplement
CBE without movement
Open Educational Resources (OER)

- teaching, learning or research materials that are in the public domain or released with an intellectual property license that allows for free use, adaptation, and distribution

+ Widely accessible, inclusive, low cost
+ Sharing skills, knowledge and expertise
+ Enhance teaching resources
+ Interactive teaching and learning
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Development and use

• Resources and funding
• Share expertise – knowledge transfer
• Engagement of teaching staff
• Cooperation on quality assurance
• Shared intellectual property licences
• Online platforms to support student interaction
MOOC insights

Massive open online courses (MOOCs)
e.g. through Coursera, edX

Millions of users – 88% male, 65% have bachelors degree +, 50% full time employed

+ Increased access to courses from elite institutions and latest knowledge
+ Establish quality thresholds
Overcoming Barriers: Opportunities for Collaboration

Transcending US / English / elite focus

- Share expertise – knowledge transfer
- Multi-directional exchanges of knowledge
- Multiple languages
- Common approaches to global issues

Recognition of achievement

- Broadening credit endorsement