



Mission Report

Planning Meeting on Developing an ASEAN Lifelong Learning Agenda

SEAMEO CELLL Building
33C Le Thanh Ton, Dist 1, HCMC
Vietnam

Prepared by

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A. SEAMEO Officials and Staff Member on Mission

1. Dr Ethel Agnes Pascua Valenzuela, Deputy Director for Programme and Development

B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

ASEAN is emerging as one of the most dynamic regions with strong economic growth and education efforts notably in Education for All and Millennium Development Goals. However, it still faces critical challenges due to, among other reasons, wide disparities in living standards, and low skills of workforce. An answer to the problem will be equitable, inclusive and quality education for its people. As conventional school education principally caters for children and youth, lifelong learning (LLL) appears to be a strong alternative since it focuses on providing learning opportunities to all age-groups equipping learners to be dynamic actors, who can adapt and reinvent themselves.

Despite all the attention it receives, LLL in Southeast Asia leaves much to be desired. This is caused in part by taking a narrow view on conceptualising lifelong learning, which, coupled with the socio-economic diversity and complexity in the region, has led to various levels of LLL development with many countries staying at the lower end. As a consequence, there is no standardised agenda for LLL, and regional coordination and cooperation in this matter has been wanting.

For this reason, SEAMEO CELLL made a proposal to UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning in 2015 for Developing a Post-2015 **ASEAN Lifelong Learning Agenda** with an aim to build a common foundation for understanding and developing LLL in the region. UIL agreed to support SEAMEO CELLL in initiating this agenda.

- I. The agenda setting is guided by following international frameworks:

- Strategic measures towards a creative, innovative and responsive region in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025: Enhance the competitiveness of ASEAN human resources through the promotion of lifelong learning, pathways, equivalencies and skills development ...
- SEAMEO CELLL's goal (2015-2020): conduct research and training activities in close accordance with the post-2015 ASEAN Educational Priorities and SEAMEO CELLL's mission, with particular focus on studying lifelong learning policy conduct in SEAMEO member countries and the regional lifelong learning agenda (Proposed First Five-Year Development Plan FY2015/16-FY2019/20)
- UNESCO's expected result: National capacities strengthened to develop and implement policies and plans within a lifelong learning framework (2016-2017 Programme and Budget)

For the best possible outcomes, SEAMEO CELLL is going to organise a planning meeting on **8 March 2016** to build strategic alliances and mobilise expertise and experience from stakeholders *in identifying issues and challenges in lifelong learning in SEAMEO countries; proposing national level activities to strengthen development and implementation of policies and plans towards a learning society; and planning possible actions by SEAMEO and UNESCO to support ASEAN countries' lifelong learning agenda.*

C. Meeting Objectives

This meeting will explore and agree on:

- Major issues and challenges in lifelong learning in SEAMEO countries
- Possible national level activities to strengthen development and implementation of policies and plans towards a learning society
- Possible actions by UNESCO and SEAMEO to support ASEAN countries' lifelong learning agenda
- Contributions by participating institutions in 2016 onwards

D. Expected outcomes:

The following outcomes are expected to be achieved at the end of the consultation meeting:

- A workplan for SEAMEO CELLL to successfully carry out the UIL-SEAMEO CELLL contract on developing an ASEAN lifelong learning agenda
- Partner institutions' support mobilised to have impact in ASEAN countries

E. Participants:

The meeting has the ff participants from

1. DVV International South East Asia Regional Office (based in Lao PDR)
2. Indonesia Ministry of Education and Culture
3. National Institute for Lifelong Education (Republic of Korea)
4. SEAMEO CELLL
5. SEAMEO Secretariat
6. UNESCO Hanoi Office
7. UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning

8. UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education
9. Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training

G. Role/Participation of SEAMEO

1. Presented the Lifelong Learning Inventory in Southeast Asia
2. Helped established the development of the LLL Agenda
3. Explored collaborative projects with other stakeholders in the meeting

H. Follow-up Actions Needed

- Monitor the development of LLL Framework in ASEAN for HOM and SEAMEC meeting approval.
- Assist SEAMEO Cell III in the inventory of LLL based on the 2010 survey developed with UNESCO Paris.

I. Photo Highlights



Annex 1. Planning Meeting on Developing an ASEAN Lifelong Learning Agenda
(Ho Chi Minh City, 8 March 2016)

TENTATIVE AGENDA (as of 06 March, 2016)

ACTIVITY	TIME
Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks • Introduction of participants 	08:30-09:00
Towards an ASEAN Lifelong Learning Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on SEAMEO CELLL – UNESCO / UIL collaboration by Mr Le Huy Lam (SEAMEO CELLL, context of cooperation and the proposal) and Ms Rika Yorozu (UIL, project and the objectives), • Information on the purpose of SEAMEO – UNESCO collaboration and identification of opportunities for collaboration 	09:00-10:00
Photo session	10:00-10:10
Tea Break	10:10-10:30
Brainstorming on issues and challenges in lifelong learning in SEAMEO countries. Kick-off input by Mr Phuoc (SEAMEO CELLL) Examples from APMED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holistic and integrated education sector • Sub-sectors in education and training • Multi-sector collaboration <p>➔ Mapping or defining fields of lifelong learning for regional collaboration</p>	10:30-11:30
Brainstorming on national level activities to strengthen development and implementation of policies and plans towards a learning society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy dialogue • Research / Evaluation • Educators / Practitioners capacity development • Regional LLL Week <p>➔ Identifying methods of national level activities in regional collaboration (brainstorming, noted down on flip chart, priorities by voting, 3 vote each participant)</p>	11:30-12:15
Lunch	12:15-13:30
Possible actions by SEAMEO and UNESCO to support ASEAN countries' lifelong learning agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inputs from participants regarding regional activities and events planned in 2016-2017 and beyond <p>➔ Regional collaboration activities and responsible / supporting agency/ies (other stakeholders)</p>	13:30-15:00
Tea break	15:00-15:30
Discussion on outputs and monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft set of outputs (i.e. publications, online portal) and agreement of monitoring procedures and responsibilities 	15:30-16:15
Conclusion *this session will be connected to UIL via Skype (Mr Raúl Valdés Cotera, Manager of Lifelong Learning Policies and Strategies Programme)	16:15-17:00