



Mission Report

Country Visit Cambodia during the field trial of the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM)

**Cambodia
19 June – 1 July 2016**

A. SEAMEO Officials on Mission

- Ms Lauranne Beernaert, SEA-PLM Project Coordinator

B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

Based on discussions with the technical institution supporting the development of the metric (ACER) and UNICEF EAPRO and the experience with the field trial in Brunei Darussalam and Lao PDR that took place in November 2015 and April 2016 respectively, it was recognised that there was an immediate need for additional documentation of the first field trial. The main objective being to capture lessons learned and to ensure protocols as defined by ACER for the completion of the field trial are complied with. This work is to be carried out in collaboration between ACER and SEAMES with guidance from UNICEF EAPRO.

The support provided by the SEAMEO Secretariat will be as follows:

1. Representation of the SEAMEO Secretariat during this important step of the implementation of the SEA-PLM
2. Documentation of the exercise of the field-trial in Cambodia with a focus on the challenges and lessons learned for the use of the other countries, as well as for ACER, UNICEF EAPRO and SEAMEO's reference.

Deliverable:

- Comprehensive trip report including the lessons learned and areas for improvement of the observations of the test administration in selected schools and of the different interviews and focus group discussions (to be developed by ACER with SEAMES and UNICEF EAPRO's input)

Important Note:

The information below related to the visit to the schools (name of the schools and provinces) is strictly confidential.

C. Participants

The regional team was represented by SEAMEO Secretariat and by a representative from ACER (Ms Jennie Chainey, Research Fellow and Project Coordinator).

They met the following persons through the three activities below:

- 1) Observation of the test administration in selected schools and conduct of meetings with schools principals and school coordinators.
- 2) Interviews and focus group discussions with key persons/groups of persons from the MoEYS Cambodia who were involved in the preparation/conduct/next steps of the field trial in the country.
- 3) Meetings with development partners to discuss about how SEA-PLM fits within the wider assessment system in the country.

Please refer to Section F for the detailed agenda of the visit in the country.

D. Organizers

The meetings were facilitated by the Cambodian Technical Team and by UNICEF Cambodia Country Office.

E. Role/Participation of SEAMEO Secretariat

Due to the pioneering work of the SEA-PLM and as Cambodia was the third country to undertake the field trial, it was important for the SEAMEO Secretariat to be represented. SEAMES reaffirmed its support to the Technical Team and met a few high officials of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport Cambodia. This was an opportunity to congratulate the different teams for the significant work done for the preparation of the field trial and reaffirm SEAMES' willingness to promote further collaboration and sharing of best practices among SEAMEO Member Countries.

F. Agenda of the visit to Cambodia

Dates	Key Activities
12 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jennie's arrival
13 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical team meets with Jennie for introduction and planning• Sophea and Yin Ra (others are welcomed to join) work with Jennie to prepare Test Administrator training• Test administrators/monitors label questionnaires and booklets• Jennie meets with KICE
14 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sophea and Yin Ra continue to work with Jennie to prepare Test Administrator training• Sophea (others) prepare school director orientation on SEA-PLM and preparation for assessment at school level• Test administrators/monitors label questionnaires and booklets and prepare packages for dispatch
15 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yin Ra continue to work with Jennie to prepare Test Administrator training• Sophea (others) conduct school director orientation on SEA-PLM and preparation for assessment at school level• Test administrators/monitors prepare packages for dispatch
16 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Test Administrator training facilitated by Sarin and Yin Ra with support from Jennie and Solin at the back

17 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Administrator training facilitated by Sophea and Yin Ra with support from Jennie and Solin at the back
18-19 Saturday and Sunday (Lauranne's arrival on 19 June)	
20 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennie and Lauranne meet with Erika- UNICEF Cambodia Country Office (11:00-12:00) • Preparation for field trial by Test Administrators
21 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test administrators/school coordinators carry out test administration • Jennie, Lauranne and Solin observe assessment in Chumpouvon
22 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test administrators/school coordinators carry out test administration • Jennie, Lauranne and Solin observe assessment in Angkdey, Kong Pisey
23 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test administrators/school coordinators carry out test administration • Jennie, Lauranne and Solin observe assessment in Koh Sla, Chhouk
24 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview Technical Team Leader (2 hours) • FGD with Translation Coordinator (translators/reconciler/national reviewer)
25 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview sampling coordinator (1 hour) • Interview data manager (1 hour) • Interview coding coordinator (1 hour) • Interview logistics coordinator (1/2 hour) • Interview school contact person (1/2 hour) • Interview administration officer (1/2 hour)
28 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview with Test Administrators (1 hour) • Interview national quality control monitor (1/2 hour) • FGD with Item Review Coordinator (Math/Khmer/Global Citizenship) (1 hour)
29 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with World Bank (WB) and Save the Children (SC)
30 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Non-Governmental Organisations Education Partnership (NEP), European Union (EU) • Interview with Solin
01 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Technical Team to discuss on country capacity plan for main study • Departure of Lauranne and Jennie

Contacts of development partners:

Development Partner	Name	Position
European Union	Ms. Corrine Boulet	Attaché Social Sectors
World Bank	Ms. Lynn Dudley	Project Coordinator
Save the Children	Mr. Keo Sarath	Education Specialist
UNICEF Country Office	Solin Chan	Education Officer
Non-Governmental Organisations Education Partnership	Mr. Chin Chanveasna	Director

G. Pictures

Due to confidentiality concerns that are crucial for the proper conduct of the field trial and the observation purpose of this trip, taking pictures was not permitted during all school observations and interviews/discussions.

The picture below was taken with the Technical Team Manager and a Professor from the Royal University of Phnom Penh who has been involved in SEA-PLM in the country.

