



Southeast Asian
Ministers of Education
Organization

SEAMEO e-News

"Leading through Learning"



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Greetings from Bangkok!

November 30 marked SEAMEO's 57th anniversary with the theme "SEAMEO CARES: Building Back Better in SEAMEO Member Countries."

We take immense pride in our achievements and leadership role as Southeast Asia's first regional organization for quality education, science, and culture. This month's newsletter unpacks the latest program and project updates and recently held and upcoming events.

We hope it sheds some light on our continuous efforts to attain the region's educational agenda and turn UN SDG Goal 4 into a reality.

We at SEAMEO will continue to help provide equitable and inclusive education throughout Southeast Asia and promise to leave no one behind.

Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela
SEAMEO Secretariat Director



SEAMEO Champions Move to Transform Education

During the UN Transforming Education Summit (TES) 2022 held at the UN Office in New York City, U.S.A. on 16-19 September 2022, SEAMES Director Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela reiterated the call to action and commitment to reimagine and transform educational systems.

On the last day, UN Secretary-General António Guterres presented his vision statement to urge educational leaders to take collective action by saying, “Education transformation requires the collective commitment and action of visionary political leaders at all levels, parents, students, teachers, and the public at large.”

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Paying Homage to All Southeast Asian Teachers

On 5 October 2022, SEAMES, in collaboration with UNESCO Bangkok, organised a webinar to celebrate World Teachers' Day 2022. Centered on the theme "The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers," the webinar reinforced the teachers' crucial role in reimagining education and leading the charge in recovering from learning losses post-pandemic.

More than 5,900 participants comprising policymakers, educators, teachers, and students from Southeast Asia and beyond, celebrated the momentous occasion which was broadcasted via the SEAMES YouTube Channel. SEAMEO and UNESCO renewed their commitment to promote and advocate educational transformation by continuing to support teacher and teaching profession advancement to realise the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

[Read more >](#)

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Programme Highlights



Forging Ahead with SEA-PLM

The Annual SEA-PLM Regional Technical Workshop was conducted on 22-26 August 2022, heralding the preparations for the second assessment cycle, SEA-PLM 2024. The workshop participants stated their commitment to SEA-PLM 2024 with the common goal of attaining UN SDG 4. The workshop underpins the three pillars of SEA-PLM which seeks to strengthen and build the capacities of participating countries for cognitive test and questionnaire development.

SEAMES Director Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela emphasised that effective collaboration is critical to ensure the effective implementation of the field trial testing phase in preparation for the conduct of the main regional survey.

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SEAMEO Launches Another Border School Smart Classroom

On 22 August 2022, Minister of Education of Thailand H.E. Ms. Treenuch Thienthong and SEAMES Director Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela launched the fifth SEAMEO smart classroom as part of the SEAMEO Border School Quality Inclusive Education Project (BSQIEP) in Bankhaotangok School in Khlong Hat, Sa Kaeo.



Dr. Valenzuela said, “SEAMEO Secretariat and MoE Thailand recognise the need to accelerate their efforts to provide inclusive and equitable quality education for all, especially amidst the adverse effects of COVID-19 and as we enter the post-pandemic world. That is in line with the SEAMEO Education Agenda Priority 2 - addressing barriers to inclusion.”

Prior to this implementation, SEAMEO smart classrooms were established in four schools - the Sikai Wittayakom School in Nong Khai in the Thailand-Lao PDR border and the Bankhaotangok School and the Bankhlongkaithuan School

in Sa Kaeo in the Thailand-Cambodia border, and the Romeas Heak High School in Svay Rieng in the Cambodia-Vietnam border. SEAMES will continue to explore other areas of collaboration to establish more smart schools in Malaysia and Myanmar.

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Acting on the Science and Culture Front

During a hybrid workshop on the Science and Culture Agenda for 2021-2025 held on 27 July 2022 at the AVANI Sukhumvit Bangkok Hotel, participants sought to further operationalise the priority areas under the Science and Culture Agenda of SSP 2021-2030. They also identified flagship programmes and initiatives the SEAMEO centres can embark on.

Keynote Speaker Dr. Sheldon Shaeffer, former UNESCO Bangkok Director, shared that “One can’t see the forest because of the trees,” reminding the participants to look at the bigger picture. He provided insightful inputs and helpful contexts to improve SEAMEO’s science and culture priority areas, even those under the organisation’s Education Agenda.

SEAMES Director Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela provided a background of SSP 2021-2030 then provided guidance on how we can strengthen and mobilise to implement programmes and projects building on Dr. Shaeffer’s inputs. In closing, she reminded everyone that while SEAMEO has 21 priority

areas spread across the fields of education, science, and culture, they all aim to impact the society.

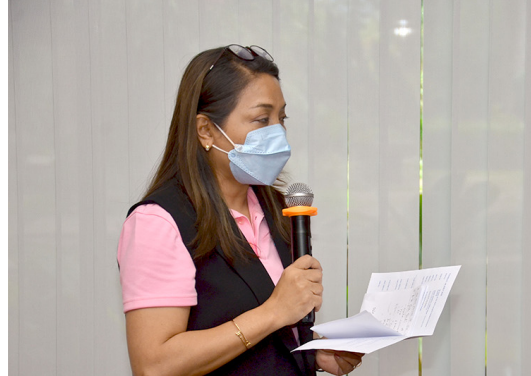
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Planning for the Future by Exploring Possibilities for 2022-2023

On 19-20 July 2022, SEAMES conducted its annual planning at the Phumontra Resort in Nakhon Nayok. Apart from identifying key programmes, projects, and activities for 2022-2023, the staff also celebrated the secretariat's gains and accomplishments and forged stronger bonds and camaraderie with one another. With the theme "Sailing the SEA: Navigating SEAMEO's Plans to Build Back Better," anchored on SSP 2021-2030 and SIOP 2021-2025, SEAMES Director Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela shared four points the staff should keep in mind-work for the greater good, focus on the tasks at hand, invest time, and work together.

In closing, Dr. Valenzuela thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication to SEAMEO and its mission and vision.

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Webinars



SEAMEO Thursdays Teacher Training (TTT)

FREE REGISTRATION

Integrating Sustainable Innovation Culture among Students in the Classroom

Date : 25 August 2022 (Thursday)

Time : 10:00-12:00 hrs (GMT +7, Bangkok Time)

- ✓ Capture and learn how to integrate innovation culture in the classroom from the experts
- ✓ e-Certificate of Participation is provided.



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Webinar on Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces in celebration of International Literacy Day 2022

Date: 8 September 2022 (Thursday)

Time: 14.00 – 16.00 hrs (GMT+7, Bangkok Time)

- ✓ Learn new perspectives on how to reimagine and transform literacy learning spaces
- ✓ e-Certificate of Participation will be provided



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SEAMEO-PARTNER SERIES



2nd SEAMEO-QS Higher Education Forum (Virtual): Using Analytics to Plan International Collaboration in Asia Pacific

29 September 2022 | 14.00-16.10 hrs (GMT +7, BKK Time)

Free Registration

- Learn how to use QS Analytics System to plan international collaboration in Asia Pacific
- Win a chance to get 10 free tickets (valued USD 200/ticket) to join the QS Higher Ed Summit: Asia Pacific 2022 Hybrid Conference on 8-10 November 2022, Jakarta, Indonesia
- e-Certificate of Participation is provided



Live on YouTube

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Register now!



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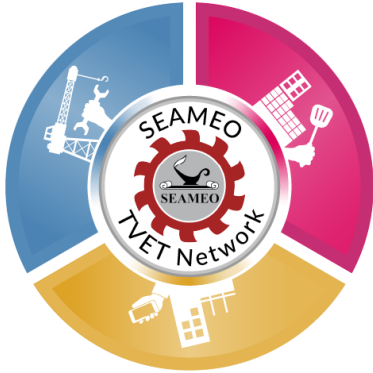
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Join Our Networks!



SEAMEO TVET Network

We launched the TVET Virtual Exchange Platform in May 2022. Join up along with more than 70 institutions and 800+ students and teachers.

[Sign up now >](#)



SEAMEO Schools' Network

Calling all educational institutions! Join our regional school network's 2,601 members for collaboration and development in education today.

[Sign up now >](#)



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