



Country-Level Workshop in Malaysia on SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility

1-3 March 2016, Aminuddin Baki Institute, Genting Highlands, Pahang

Hosted by the Technical and Vocational Education Division (TVED), Ministry of Education, Malaysia

Concept Paper

1. Rationale and Background

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) has been identified as a priority area in the Southeast Asian region. This development came from the consultations held in 2012 initiated by the SEAMEO and the ADB (Asian Development Bank) under the SEAMEO College Project. After two years, the Southeast Asian Education Ministers affirmed the importance of TVET by naming it as one of the Post-2015 seven priority areas of SEAMEO in September 2014 during the Strategic Dialogue of Education Ministers (SDEM).

As the form of education that responds to poverty reduction, economic recovery and sustainable development, TVET has received greater attention from policy makers, particularly in the quest for economic integration into ASEAN at the year-end of 2015.

In the context of ASEAN integration; the perceived mobility of skilled workers in the region; and the needs to improve the quality of TVET in Southeast Asia, SEAMEO - with funding from the Office of the Vocational Education Commission, an agency within the Ministry of Education, Thailand- organised the **1st High Officials Meeting (HOM) on SEA-TVET**. This was held under the theme: *“Working Together towards Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia”*. The event took place on 24-26 August 2015 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. As a result, the **“Chiang Mai Joint Statement on Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia”**, including 4 priority industry areas were officially announced as the regional policy directions that emerged from the TVET High Officials Round Table Meeting. Details of the Chiang Mai Joint Statement are in **Appendix I**.

Following on from the HOM on SEA-TVET, the **SEA TVET–DAAD Workshop on “Internationalisation and Harmonisation of TVET in Southeast Asia”** was hosted by the Ministry of Education and Culture (Republic of Indonesia) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) on 10-12 September 2015 in Solo, Indonesia. The workshop aimed to further develop regional strategies according to the Chiang Mai Joint Statement and expand collaboration on internationalisation and harmonisation by identifying practical mechanisms and comprehensive action plans among the priority industrial sectors.

Building on from these two events, the **seven Country-Level Workshops on SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility** are planned to be conducted over two-three days in each of the seven countries to collate the results from the previous TVET regional meetings, and develop partnership and commitment among the participating TVET institutions which will lead towards harmonisation and internationalisation.

With the support from the host countries, the seven Country-Level Workshops has been/will be taken place in Cambodia (9-10 October 2015), Thailand (26-28 November 2015), Myanmar (4-5 December 2015), Lao PDR (22-23 December 2015), Malaysia (1-3 March 2016), Philippines (2016) and Vietnam (2016). **Appendix II** provides the schedule and priority industry/study areas as identified by the host countries.

The workshops at country level will serve as a platform for establishing partnership and networking among the participating TVET institutions from the host country and other Southeast Asian countries.

The workshops also aim to explore collaborative mechanisms, action plans and commitments for piloting student and teacher exchanges and other joint activities as well as discuss on continuous communication and networking among involved parties. Expected participants are directors/ principals of TVET institutions from the host country and neighbouring countries, TVET experts and educators, TVET development agencies and SEAMEO officers. The workshop programme of each country will be customised according to the priority industry/study areas recommended by the host country.

These country-based workshops are expected to advance TVET harmonisation and mobility across Southeast Asia and beyond.

2. The Country-Level Workshop on SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility in Malaysia

As a part of the country-Level workshop series in seven countries, the Country-Level Workshop on SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility in Malaysia will be hosted by **the Technical and Vocational Education Department (TVED), Ministry of Education, Malaysia**. The workshop is co-organised by SEAMEO Secretariat, SEAMEO VOCTECH, SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, British Council and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

3. Objectives of the Workshop

- a) To inform the result of the SEAMEO high-level meetings on TVET and current regional development of TVET which includes:
 - a1) exploration of existing mutual recognition/harmonisation agreements and/or the potential for harmonisation of TVET in Southeast Asia;
 - a2) analysis of TVET national programmes, institutions and frameworks in Southeast Asia; and
 - a3) issues and challenges in TVET.
- b) To discuss implementation strategies towards harmonizing **curriculum content and competencies** for the focused programmes.
- c) To explore and identify specific action plans and commitments related to the mobility of TVET human resource with regards to student and teacher exchanges and other collaborative activities according to the focused programmes.
- d) To establish networking platform among the TVET institutions and TVET partners, and discuss the roles of parties involved in student and teacher exchanges
- e) To provide capacity building support to TVET officials and TVET institutions.

4. Host Organiser and Partners

Host Organisation: The Technical and Vocational Education Division, Ministry of Education, Malaysia

Regional Coordinators:

- Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Secretariat (SEAMEO Secretariat)
- SEAMEO Regional Centre for Vocational and Technical Education and Training (SEAMEO VOCTECH), Brunei Darussalam
- SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMEO SEAMOLEC), Indonesia

Partners:

- British Council, Malaysia
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) under SEAMEO College (R-CDTA 8389) Strengthening SEAMEO's Capacity to Promote Education and Social Development in Southeast Asia

5. **Theme:** SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility
6. **Schedule:** 1-3 March 2016
7. **Meeting Venue:** Aminuddin Baki Institute, Genting Highlands, Pahang
The official accommodation for participants is also arranged at the Aminuddin Baki Institute (Genting Highlands).

8. **Priority Study/Industry Areas for the Country-Level Workshop in Malaysia**

The “Chiang Mai Joint Statement on Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia” announced at the HOM on SEA-TVET on 26 August 2015 identified Hospitality and Tourism as the industry sectors to be given priority for implementing regional harmonisation. The harmonization of other sectors such as Electronics, Mechatronics and Manufacturing; Agriculture and Fishery; and Construction will be implemented in the later stage (Chiang Mai Joint Statement, 2015).

For the Country-Level Workshop in Malaysia, the Technical and Vocational Education Division, Ministry of Education, Malaysia has identified the following **6 priority industry/study programmes** as the areas for collaborations with other TVET institutions in Southeast Asian countries:

- 1) Bakery and Confectionery
- 2) Tourism
- 3) Electronics
- 4) Industrial Machining
- 5) Aquaculture
- 6) Construction Technology

9. **Participants**

The Country-Level Workshop in Malaysia will be joined by approximately 120-150 participants who are:

- a) TVET policy makers and practitioners from Ministry of Education and related government agencies from Malaysia
- b) Principals from Vocational and Technical Colleges throughout Malaysia
- c) Directors/Principals of TVET institutions from participating countries as representatives for the focused programmes.
The participating TVET institutions are requested to bring along relevant curriculum on focused programmes for certificate / diploma level.
- d) Resource persons from SEAMEO Regional Centres and other development agencies.

10. **Requirements for Participants**

As the workshop programme is designed to establish networking and collaborations in relation to student and teacher exchange programmes among the TVET institutions, participants are recommended to bring along the following documents:

- a) Brochure / pamphlets on the profile of the Institutions.
- b) Curriculum/Course Details/ Programme Guide of your course (s) according to the focused programmes.

11. Sessions in the Programme

Day 1: Opening Ceremony

Study Visit to Local TVET Institutions in Malaysia

Day 2: Session 1: Introduction of the Programme.

Session 2: Sharing Experiences “Public-Private Partnership and its Benefits towards TVET Students”

Session 3: Report on SEA-TVET Programme

Session 4: Briefing on Execution of SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility

Session 5: Group Discussion on Execution of SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility

“ Framework of Cooperation” and “Proposed Action Plan”

- Group 1: Bakery and Confectionery
- Group 2: Tourism
- Group 3: Electronics
- Group 4: Industrial Machining
- Group 5: Aquaculture
- Group 6: Construction Technology

Session 6: Group Discussion on “Framework of Cooperation and Proposed Action Plans” (Cont.)

Session 7: Group Discussion on “Framework of Cooperation and Proposed Action Plans” (Cont.)

Day 3: Session 8: Reporting from the Group Discussion

Wrap-Up Session and Closing Ceremony

12. Expected Output

An Action plan of harmonisation and mobility of SEA - TVET student-teacher exchange programmes.

13. Coordinators:

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Chiang Mai Joint Statement on Harmonisation and Internationalisation of TVET in Southeast Asia

PREAMBLE

1 We, high-level education officials responsible for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and representing eight SEAMEO Member Countries (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand) met in a High Officials Round Table Meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 25 August 2015 to determine policy directions of TVET development and collaboration in Southeast Asia, and identify strategic framework and priority areas of development especially on prospects of harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET.

2 The First High Officials Round Table Meeting on TVET in Southeast Asia is in pursuit of the directive of the education ministers of Southeast Asian countries that comprise the SEAMEO Council during the SEAMEO Strategic Dialogue of Education Ministers held in September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR which identified TVET as one of the seven Post-2015 and Post-Education for All priority areas of SEAMEO.

3 Furthermore, the High Officials Round Table Meeting on TVET in Southeast Asia is in support of recent global and regional declarations on the promotion and enhancement of TVET such as the Third International Congress on TVET which focused on “Quality Education and Skills Development for Sustainable Future” and was held in Shanghai, Peoples Republic of China in May 2012; and the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on “Making Skills Development Work for the Future” held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 3-5 August 2015.

4 Cognisant of the increasing integration in the world and in Southeast Asia and the efforts of governments to address labour market demand which will help bring about economic growth and social development, the importance of working together towards harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET is key to ensuring greater mobility and competitiveness, not only of single and individual countries of the region, but the entire Southeast Asia as a unified community.

AFFIRMATIONS

5 With the foregoing antecedents, we therefore recognise and affirm the following:

1. That TVET plays a fundamental role in preparing the labour force in Southeast Asia, and that the industry is an important driver of economic growth;
2. That by synergising efforts of SEAMEO Member Countries on TVET, Southeast Asia can be more ready for ASEAN integration;
3. That there is a need for continuous and strategic discussion to help direct regional cooperation on TVET in Southeast Asia; and

4. That harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET is vital key to competency development and quality improvement of this sector in Southeast Asia.

AREAS AND STRATEGIES FOR COOPERATION

6 In support of precursor global and regional declarations on TVET and our foregoing affirmations, we therefore agree to the following:

1. Cooperate in the review and share the development of respective TVET national quality assurance and qualifications framework of SEAMEO Member Countries referring to the ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRf).
2. Establish SEA-TVET consortium as a mechanism for overseas student and staff exchange, which shall include industrial attachment and internship.
3. Agree that Hospitality and Tourism is the first priority industry sector as a pilot for implementing regional harmonisation. Other priority industry sectors such as 1) Electronics, Mechatronics, and Manufacturing; 2) Agriculture and Fishery; and 3) Construction will be implemented in the later stage.
4. Share knowledge, best practices, and resources, including experts, teaching and learning systems and materials, and equipment for enhancing cooperation to improve the quality TVET in Southeast Asia. Online TVET portal will be used as a platform to enhance information sharing. (<http://seatvet.seameo.org>)
5. Carry out TVET occupational mapping by priority industry sector and by geographical area in cooperation with industry and other agencies to narrow the gap between demand and supply for future labour force in the region.
6. Address several components, such as green TVET, technopreneurs, innovative practices in TVET, teacher education and training, and TVET for all as part of harmonisation and internationalisation of TVET initiatives in Southeast Asian region.
7. Mobilise stakeholders in a concerted effort to create strategies and share responsibilities for harmonisation of TVET.

Adopted on 26 August 2015 in Chiang Mai, Thailand
at High Officials Meeting on Southeast Asia Technical and
Vocational Education and Training (SEA-TVET)

organised by the Office of Vocational Education Commission,
Ministry of Education Thailand; SEAMEO, and British Council

Schedule of the Seven Country-Level Workshops on SEA-TVET Harmonisation and Mobility
October 2015 - April 2016

Country	Tentative Schedule	Host Organisation	Priority Industry/Study Areas, Identified by the Host Country
1. Cambodia	<p align="center">9-10 October 2015 Borei Angkor Resort & Spa, Siem Reap <i>(Completed)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, Cambodia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitality and tourism Agriculture and fisheries Construction
2. Thailand	<p align="center">26-28 November 2015 Lai Thong Hotel, Ubonrachathani Province <i>(Completed)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC), Ministry of Education, Thailand 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitality and tourism Electronics, mechatronics and manufacturing Agriculture, and fisheries Construction/civil engineering Commerce (banking) Marine maritime(Recommended by OVEC)
3. Myanmar	<p align="center">4-5 December 2015 Singapore-Myanmar Vocational Training Institute, Yangon <i>(Completed)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Technical and Vocational Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Education, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Singapore-Myanmar Vocational training Institute 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitality and tourism Agriculture and fisheries Construction
4. Lao PDR	<p align="center">22-23 December 2015 New Rose Boutique Hotel, Vientiane <i>(Completed)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Technical and Vocational Education Department (TVED), Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao PDR 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitality and tourism Agriculture and fisheries Electronics and mechatronics

Country	Tentative Schedule	Host Organisation	Priority Industry/Study Areas, Identified by the Host Country
5. Malaysia	<p style="text-align: center;">1-3 March 2016 Aminuddin Baki Institute, Genting Highlands, Pahang (Confirmed)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and Vocational Education Division (TVED), Ministry of Education, Malaysia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bakery and Confectionary 2. Tourism 3. Electronics 4. Industrial Machining 5. Aquaculture 6. Construction Technology
6. Philippines	<p style="text-align: center;">April 2016 (To be advised)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Education, and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippines, 	<p style="text-align: center;">To be advised by the host country</p>
7. Vietnam	<p style="text-align: center;">2016 (To be advised)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">To be confirmed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">To be advised by the host country</p>