



SEAMEO REGIONAL CENTRE FOR  
LIFELONG LEARNING

# NEWSLETTER

VOL 8/ OCT - DEC 2017





# contents

SEAMEO CELLL| Newsletter Vol 8 | Oct-Dec 2017

## 02

**SEAMEO CELL 3RD  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

## 04

**CENTRE VISIT BY DEPUTY  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
AND TRAINING, VIETNAM**

## 06

**CONFITEA VI  
MIDTERM REVIEW 2017**

## 08

**CAMBODIA HIGH-LEVEL MEETING**

*Towards a Lifelong Learning  
Policy Development in Cambodia*

## 10

**INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR**

*Education for Rural Transformation  
in Kunming, China*

## 11

**40TH SEAMEO  
HIGH OFFICIALS MEETING**

## 13

**NATIONAL SEMINAR**

*Improving the Performance of  
Community Learning Centres*

## 03

**EXPERT MEETING ON  
PROJECT PHASE II**

*Towards a lifelong learning agenda  
in Southeast Asian countries*

## 05

**THE 5TH ADULT EDUCATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE**

## 07

**CONSULTATION WORKSHOP**

*Designing Instructional Resource Package:  
Using Soft Skills for Non-formal Education*

## 09

**INDONESIA POLICY FORUM**

*Adult Learning and Education:  
Promises, Problems and Possibilities of  
Open Online Learning*

## 11

**CONSULTATION WORKSHOP**

*Draft Key Features on "Learning  
Cities" and "Learning Citizens" of  
Vietnam*

## 12

**ASIA-PACIFIC STUDY  
EXCHANGE ON REALISING  
LIFELONG LEARNING IN  
PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEMS**

## 14

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



# SEAMEO CELLL

## THIRD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING



The SEAMEO CELLL's third Governing Board Meeting and the back-to-back Expert Meeting on Phase II of the Project *Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries* were convened on 4-6 October 2017, at SEAMEO CELLL premises, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

The SEAMEO CELLL's third Governing Board Meeting was attended by ten Governing Board Members (GBM), two of whom were ex-officio members. The meeting was also honoured to welcome representatives from DVV International and UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) as observers. At this third Governing Board Meeting, the Vietnam GBM was elected Chairperson, the Laos GBM was appointed Vice Chairperson and the Myanmar GBM Chief Rapporteur. In the meeting, SEAMEO CELLL reported the follow-up actions of the second Governing Board Meeting and the Centre's operation in the last fiscal year 2016/17, followed by the

presentation on proposed budget and programmes for the fiscal year 2017/18, among which were key projects of the Centre, including the continuation into Phase II of the Project *Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries*, supported by UIL and the Project *Developing instructional resource package: Using soft skills in non-formal education*, supported by DVV International. The working papers were fully endorsed by the GBMs.







On the following two days (5-6 October), the back-to-back Expert Meeting on Phase II of the Project *Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries* was held, bringing together lifelong learning experts in Southeast Asia and representatives from stakeholder organisations including ASPBAE, DVV International, SEAMES, UNESCO Bangkok Office, UNESCO Hanoi Office and UIL. The first phase in 2016/17 has achieved major outcomes, one of which was the compendium *Lifelong learning in transformation: Promising practices in Southeast Asia*, which documents promising policies and practices in lifelong learning from 11 SEAMEO countries. Its findings are expected to be disseminated in national contexts via a series of in-country policy forums. Thus, this second expert meeting was of crucial significance as it opened up a platform for discussing the possibility of and providing input for the organisation of these policy forums. Except for Lao PDR, whose policy forum was already organised in August 2017, the GBMs and focal points from eight out of the remaining ten Southeast Asian countries proposed initial plans for policy dialogues to be held during the period of 2017 – 2018. The Expert Meeting culminated fruitfully with a primary scheme for the organisation of in-country policy forums and their consequent action plans, which aim to engage key lifelong learning actors both within and outside education in multi-sectoral dialogues on the promotion of lifelong learning, thus concrete impacts of the project.

## EXPERT MEETING ON PROJECT PHASE II: TOWARDS A LIFELONG LEARNING AGENDA IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES



## CENTRE VISIT BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING, VIETNAM

On 16 October 2017, SEAMEO CELLL was honoured to welcome Dr Nguyen Van Phuc, Deputy Minister of Education and Training, Vietnam to visit SEAMEO CELLL's premises and work with the Centre.

Commencing the welcoming ceremony, Mr Le Huy Lam, Centre Director, briefed the Deputy Minister on SEAMEO in general as well as SEAMEO CELLL and its main achievements during the previous years of operation. Mr Lam subsequently presented the Centre's merits and difficulties since its official establishment and requested the Deputy Minister's kind counselling and guidance in this regard.

Dr Phuc acknowledged the Centre's difficulties and encouraged the Centre to take a proactive approach to tackle the problems. He suggested possible directions for the Centre's income generation including offering short online courses and organising regional events which serve the Centre's functions and simultaneously bring the Centre benefits. Dr Phuc also accented that lifelong learning and learning society are currently dominant trends worldwide and that SEAMEO CELLL, as a regional centre for lifelong learning, has potential to develop.



# THE 5TH ADULT EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The 5th Adult Education and Development Conference (AEDC) was organised in Tbilisi, Georgia on 11-12 October 2017 by DVV International with support of its partners. The conference addressed topics of global relevance and strategic measures to promote world-wide adult education. More than 120 practitioners, researchers and key stakeholders shared concepts and insights regarding the potential of adult education centres for development where responsibilities, structures, benefits and wider impacts received special attention.

*The Conference agreed on a set of Key Messages corresponding to the three thematic blocks:*

- 1. Public responsibility in adult and youth education*
- 2. AEC/CLC as important structures*
- 3. Benefits and Wider Impact of AEC/CLC*



SEAMEO CELLL Director was invited to join a panel discussion on characteristics and particular challenges of adult education centres where he introduced the roles of community learning centres (CLCs) in the region and briefly analysed challenges these structures were facing in terms of programme quality, governance and financing.





The Belem Framework for Action (BFA) aiming at strengthening worldwide adult education was adopted at the Sixth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI), held in Belem, Brazil, in 2009 with the participation of 144 UNESCO Member States. The CONFINTEA VI Midterm Review was organised from 25 to 27 October 2017 in Suwon, Korea, by the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning, in cooperation with the Korean Ministry of Education, the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, the National Institute for Lifelong Education (NILE) and the municipality of Suwon, Korea.

## SEAMEO CELLL ATTENDED THE CONFINTEA VI MIDTERM REVIEW 2017

The conference-- attended by more than 400 participants from 103 countries—reviewed and examined actions taken in adult learning and education (ALE) since CONFINTEA VI and discussed the way forward in light of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

SEAMEO CELLL Director had a busy schedule at the conference. He was invited on a panel to discuss the Power of Adult Learning: Vision 2030 at the International Lifelong Learning Symposium 2017, organised by the municipality

of Suwon, Korea (24 October) at the City Hall Auditorium; to be a speaker at the first Conference side event on Adult Education Centres—Key structures for lifelong learning and development, organised by DVV-International (25 October) ; and to moderate a parallel group session on Participation, one of the five key action areas of the BFA (26 October). He also discussed country implementation plans of Policy Forums under the Project *Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries* with other SEAMEO CELLL Governing Board Members at the Conference (Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Viet Nam and Timor Leste) and attended a meeting on the Cambodian plan with the participation of UIL, DVV-International Regional Office and Cambodia MOEYS.





# CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON DESIGNING INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE PACKAGE: USING SOFT SKILLS FOR NON-FORMAL EDUCATION



SEAMEO CELLL is implementing a project to design an Instructional Resource Package: Using Soft-skills in Non-Formal Education for CLC facilitators, with support of DVV International. The project aims to develop a package of training materials to accompany the *Training Manual for Facilitators: Using Soft skills in Non-Formal Education*, compiled by PRIA (Participatory Research in Asia).

As part of this project, on 8-9 November 2017, a consultation workshop on *Designing Instructional Resource Package: Using Soft Skills for Non-Formal Education* was organised at SEAMEO CELLL's office, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The workshop was attended by 15 participants (mostly adult education facilitators) from Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam.

In this workshop, the draft Instructional Resource Package was introduced in tandem with the underlying methodology. Dr Walter Baeten, the Project Consultant also delivered a lesson demonstration to collect feedback from the participants for further editing work. The workshop also witnessed three micro teaching sessions delivered by three groups of participating countries. In this session, the standardised lesson plans and teaching materials compiled by the Consultant were applied for trial and evaluation purpose. After the workshop, constructive feedback and valuable comments on the draft Package were collected. They acted as reliable sources for the project management team to revise and finalise the draft package.





## Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries - Phase II

### HIGH-LEVEL MEETING "TOWARDS A LIFELONG LEARNING POLICY DEVELOPMENT" IN CAMBODIA

The organisation of in-country Policy Forums, one major component of Phase II of the project, was discussed and agreed upon at the second Expert Meeting at SEAMEO CELLL on 5-6 October 2017. So far, three policy forums were already conducted in Lao PDR (August 2017); Cambodia (November 2017); and Indonesia (December 2017). Other four policy forums are expected to be held in the year 2018.

### Upcoming Forums in 2018

Philippines  
February 2018

Vietnam  
March 2018

Thailand  
April 2018

Timor-Leste  
May 2018

Within the scope of the project *"Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries"*, on 17 November, 2017, representatives from SEAMEO CELLL were invited to join the joint high-level meeting *"Towards a Lifelong Learning policy development"* and its pre-event meeting that had taken place a day before in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This nation-scale Lifelong Learning event, which was chaired by HE Dr Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Youth, and Sport, Cambodia, witnessed the participation of nearly 60 Cambodian and international experts and governmental officials from eight Cambodian ministries. The meeting aimed to collect input from the specialists with a view to developing a draft of Lifelong Learning Policy in Cambodia.

Mr Le Huy Lam, SEAMEO CELLL Director, came to the event as one of the resource persons and contributed to the event with his presentation on the regional context of LLL. In his part, he emphasised that among ASEAN member countries, to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor, it is a common understanding that LLL is the best solution. Moreover, due to the fact that LLL is so important for all, it should be paid attention to by everyone. Therefore, in order to bring about positive changes in LLL development, a strong legal framework should be established, a clear plan be developed and most importantly, all ministries, not just ministries of education, join hands to build and implement the LLL framework.

The meeting was a success with an agreement that more ministries will be invited to participate in the development of the policy so as to further strengthen its implementation and impact. More importantly, a clear plan with systematic steps to develop the Cambodian national LLL policy in 2018 has been presented and endorsed, which clearly demonstrates the nation's determination in improving LLL.



# INDONESIA FIRST POLICY FORUM ON ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATION: PROMISES, PROBLEMS AND POSSIBILITIES OF OPEN ONLINE LEARNING

From 18 to 20 December 2017, Indonesia organised its first national policy forum on open online learning for adult learning and education. This sizable meeting gathered nearly 150 participants from the education sector and education policy making from in and outside the country.

*The meeting listened to 15 insightful presentations on open online learning and experience sharing in conducting online courses. The birth of Web 2.0 and subsequent Web 3.0 has brought online learning to a higher level where direct two-way communication course providers and learner-learner interaction are possible on the webpage. Cloud-based contents and online assessment have made it possible for courses to be available anytime, anywhere.*



SEAMEO CELLL representatives addressed the meeting in the opening session and delivered a presentation in the plenary session on the role of open online learning as a key promoter of lifelong learning in this digital age. The presentation emphasised that online learning is the trend of education as it opened up multiple opportunities for learners to access resources, including video lectures, and to form learning groups where newly-learnt knowledge is shared and discussed. Besides, as part of its role in the regional project *Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries*, which the centre initiated, and in fulfilling its commitment towards UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) in the project, SEAMEO CELLL carried out monitoring task during the meeting.

The three-day policy forum concluded with a concrete set of recommendations to be submitted to Indonesia Ministry of Education and Culture for policy making in the following year. They will also be sent to UNESCO Jakarta for support. The meeting also agreed that once the recommendations are reflected in the national education policies, provincial and district policy makers will adapt them to local contexts in ways that comply with the national guidelines while best facilitating the specific learning and education context in each area.

The policy forum also witnessed the inspiring inauguration ceremony of 3,000 non-formal education teachers who successfully completed online courses offered by the Centre for Development of Early Childhood Education and Community Education, West Java Province (Jayagiri Centre).



# INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON EDUCATION FOR RURAL TRANSFORMATION IN KUNMING, CHINA



In May 2015, the World Education Forum held in Incheon adopted the Framework for Action Education 2030 with an overarching goal of “ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning for all by 2030”. Rural education, which remains the weak point, is the indispensable part for the goal realisation. In September 2015, the United Nations set 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and rural education as a major component and a key area for policy actions has a close linkage with Goal 4 of SDGs. Within that scope, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (INRULED), Yunnan Normal University and Yunnan Agricultural University

hosted an International Seminar on Education for Rural Transformation in Kunming on 18-22 December, 2017. The seminar brought together 35 education policy-makers, researchers and practitioners from the five Mekong countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam) and Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan. In the event, the participants made presentations on various aspects of learning & education for the aim of rural development, shared their views in discussion sessions, and paid a visit to two exemplary sites as good examples of rural transformation in China.



Contributing to the seminar, the representative of SEAMEO CELLL shared the good practices and impact of community learning centres (CLCs) in Vietnam, thus highlighting the important role of these centres in sustainable rural transformation. More importantly, a network of partners has been established, which will pave the way for companionship and future collaboration between centres and countries to further benefit education in remote areas in the region.



## CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON DRAFT KEY FEATURES OF “LEARNING CITIES” AND “LEARNING CITIZENS” OF VIETNAM

On 13th December 2017, Vietnam Association for Learning Promotion (VALP) and Ministry of Education and Training co-organised the consultation workshop on draft key features of “Learning Cities” and “Learning Citizens” of Vietnam with the participation of representatives from People’s committees, Department of Education and Training and Learning Promotion Association at provincial level. During the workshop, various ideas have been put forward to build on the reality of operations in cities, in order to concretise and help bring the next version of key features closer to localities and people. In Vietnam, by 2016, the Party and People’s Committee of Ho Chi Minh City decided to build the city as a learning city and wanted to join UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities. However, over one year, the researchers have not yet identified the basic and effective features of the most populous city in the country in terms of “learning”.

At the workshop, Ms Vu Lan Chi, Deputy Director of the Centre, represented the Centre to present both general and detailed comments for each draft feature of learning cities and learning citizens in Vietnam.

## 40th SEAMEO HIGH OFFICIALS MEETING CONVENED

The 40th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting was convened on 29-30 November 2017 at the Montien Riverside Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. A total of 131 participants representing 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, 02 Associate Members, 24 SEAMEO Regional Centres/ Network, Partners and Observers participated in the meeting.

Apart from 15 working papers which were adopted by consensus and referendum, 14 other working papers were presented and adopted through plenary presentations by the SEAMEO Secretariat and relevant SEAMEO Centres.

HE Dr Sophon Napathorn, Vice Minister of Education of Thailand, presided over the Opening Ceremony, and Dr Didik Suharti, Secretary General of Ministry of Education and Culture Indonesia, chaired the meeting.







## ASIA-PACIFIC STUDY EXCHANGE ON REALISING LIFELONG LEARNING IN PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEMS

From 27 to 30 November 2017 SEAMEO CELLL attended the study exchange Asia-Pacific Study Exchange on Realising Lifelong Learning in Public Education Systems co-organised by the Office of the Non-formal and Informal Education (ONIE), Ministry of Education of Thailand and the Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) in Bangkok. With a focus on youth and adult learning and education, the workshop gathered 35 representatives from Asia Pacific working in this field. The workshop featured indoors presentations and discussion, and field trips to non-formal and informal education centres (NIE centres) in Thailand. As a saying goes, "Seeing is believing", the participants were taken to three NIE centres to witness community-based learning activities, listened to introductions by the management and were convinced of the communal benefits of these centres. The centres were the community digital centre in Chonburi province, the community learning centre of the New Theory Farming in Chachoengsao province, and the vocational skills training centre for women in Phra Nakhon Si, Ayutthaya province. Due to the long distances to these places, the delegation returned very late in the evening but were so motivated by what they had seen that they started the reflection session immediately to review facts about the centres and draw lessons.

During the indoors presentation and discussion, a wealth of inspiring presentations on Adult Learning and Education, and non-formal education were made. SEAMEO CELLL introduced the compendium *Lifelong Learning in Transformation: Promising Practices in Southeast Asian Countries*, which is one outcome of the regional project *Towards a lifelong learning agenda in Southeast Asian countries* which the centre has been conducting for two years, and delivered a summary of good and promising LLL practices in these countries. SEAMEO CELLL also shared their thoughts on the concept of LLL and adult learning and education. The sharing was well received by the workshop participants.

On the last day of the workshop, ONIE representatives gave a detailed description of Thai non-formal education curriculum, an inspiring presentation packed with interesting facts about this system which was highly appreciated by the participants. The case of Thailand promises to be a good source of lessons to learn from and to properly apply in other countries.

The workshop concluded after four tightly-packed workdays. The participants parted with a renewed zest to contribute to non-formal adult learning and education in their countries in ways they had learned from each other. A new network of non-formal adult learning and education had been established.



# THE SEMINAR "IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OF COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRES"

The seminar "Improving the Performance of Community Learning Centres (CLCs)" was organised in Ha Noi by the Department of Continuing Education, Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam on 25 December, 2017. The aim of this seminar is to provide policy makers, educators, and CLC managers with a chance to discuss the operation of 11,057 CLCs nationwide and learn from other CLC models in neighbouring countries, thus finding solutions to further enhance and develop CLCs in Vietnam.

Taking part in the seminar were 80 participants, including the Directorate and Staff members of the Department of Continuing Education, representatives of the central Vietnam Association for Learning Promotion (VALP), the Centre for Non-formal Education (The Vietnam Institute of Educational Sciences - VNIES), SEAMEO CELLL, and representatives of provincial Departments of Education and Training, provincial Sections of Continuing Education, provincial VALP, local CLCs.



The seminar was chaired by Mr Nguyen Cong Hinh - Director General of the Department of Continuing Education. Following Prof Dr Pham Tat Dong, Vice President and concurrently Secretary of VALP, who had a speech on the important role of CLCs in the national education system, SEAMEO CELLL was invited to deliver a presentation on different models of CLCs in Japan, Korea, Indonesia and Thailand to provide the participants with an overview of CLC operations in the region. Based on those models, SEAMEO CELLL also made suggestions on ensuring the sustainable development of CLCs in Vietnam.

A subsequent highlight of the event was a discussion where good practices, wholehearted comments and suggestions were shared by the participating managers and educators from the provinces and all the opinions were greatly appreciated and carefully taken note of by the organisers. The one-day seminar concluded with the closing remark by the chairman, in which he sincerely thanked all the participants for their attention and opinions in the event and also for their great effort in bringing education to the people through CLCs.



# Happy New Year 2018



## WHAT'S NEXT

---

Year-end Review Meeting  
Jan 2018

---

Labour Union Conference  
Jan 2018

---

SEAMEO-University of  
Tsukuba Symposium VI  
Feb 2018

---

---

Policy Forum in Philippines  
Feb 2018

---

Policy Forum in Vietnam  
Mar 2018

---

*Traditional Vietnamese Tet Holiday  
14 February - 19 February 2018*