



THE DIGEST

SEAMEO VOTTECH

Regional Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training

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Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Deputy Minister of Education, Brunei Darussalam accompanied by ministry officials and SEAMEO VOTTECH management, during a courtesy visit to the Centre on 22 June 2026 (See Page 1 for coverage)

Welcome to the first issue of The Digest for 2026, highlighting SEAMEO VOTTECH's key initiatives from January to June, featuring regional and international efforts to advance TVET across ASEAN and beyond, alongside internal programmes and staff engagements. We hope this edition offers valuable insights into our work and partnerships, and wish you an enjoyable read!

IN THIS ISSUE

- Spotlight: Courtesy Visit from Deputy Minister of Education, Brunei Darussalam | Page 1
- Building Readiness for Green TVET across Southeast Asia | Page 3
- SEAMEO VOTTECH Leads Digital Readiness Study of Brunei's HEIs using Smart Education Readiness Index (SERI) Framework | Page 5
- SEA-VET Good Practice: "Learning Management System (LMS) Analytics: Tracking Engagement and Performance for Improved Pedagogical Design" | Page 7
- SEAMEO VOTTECH Expands China Ties through MoU Signing and Vocational Education Symposium | Page 10 - 11
- Reaffirming Commitment to International Standards with IMS | Page 13



MESSAGE FROM CENTRE DIRECTOR

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this edition of our digest, reflecting on SEAMEO VOCTECH's progress and achievements over the past six months.

The first half of 2026 has been a period of significant progress and meaningful achievements for the Centre, as we continue to build on the momentum established in the previous year.

We spearheaded a landmark study on the digital readiness of Brunei's higher education institutions using the SERI framework, delivered high-impact regional training programmes, and cemented new partnerships through a memorandum of exchange.

We also deepened our commitment to greening TVET and inclusivity, taking into account to embedding sustainability and gender-transformative approaches into our flagship programmes, while integrating AI topics and tools to equip educators for responsible adoption in curriculum and delivery.

Our collaborations continue to expand beyond SEAMEO member countries, as we look forward to engaging and exchanging knowledge with international and East Asian counterparts, pursuing new agreements to foster continued growth, innovation, and mutual learning across borders.

The Centre's continued progress reflect the collective effort of our dedicated staff and the invaluable support of our community; from governments and SEAMEO Centres to industry partners and private stakeholders.

As we move forward, we remain energised to continue our mission of advancing excellence in TVET across Southeast Asia and globally.

Thank you for your continued partnership. We look forward to bringing you more TVET developments and fostering deeper collaboration in the future.

Sincerely,

Haji Norjemee Jenek

Centre Director
SEAMEO VOCTECH

COURTESY VISIT FROM BRUNEI DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION

SPOTLIGHT



Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Deputy Minister of Education, Brunei Darussalam accompanied by ministry officials and SEAMEO VOCTECH management, during a courtesy visit to the Centre on 22 June 2026

22 June 2026 – SEAMEO VOCTECH was honoured to welcome Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Deputy Minister of Education, Ministry of Education Brunei Darussalam, together with esteemed officials from the ministry. The visit provided an opportunity for the Centre to present its mandate, core services, and functions as a regional TVET centre.

Accompanied by the Centre's management, the Centre Director delivered a comprehensive briefing covering the Centre's vision, mission, roles, core functions, financial overview, programmes, projects, initiatives, and key challenges and recommendations.

The presentation also provided an overview of the regional TVET landscape and a report on key policies and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), highlighting achievements from Q1 to Q4 of Fiscal Year July 2025 – June 2026.

It further elaborated on the Centre's mandate and operational capacity, underscoring its governance

under both the Ministry of Education Brunei and the SEAMEO Secretariat.



Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan with Centre Director and Deputy Director Professional Affairs during the Centre's briefing.

The briefing was designed to provide the Deputy Minister with a thorough understanding of the Centre's operations and its role within the broader education landscape, in light of his esteem's recent appointment to the Ministry of Education.

Following the briefing, the Deputy Minister was given a tour of the Centre and its facilities, allowing him to observe firsthand the operational environment and infrastructure that support the Centre's regional TVET programmes and services.

TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Strengthening Regional Capacity in Sustainability-Driven TVET Management



Participants of the training programme with SV officials

27-29 January (Online); 9-14 February (Onsite) 2026

The Centre successfully concluded the Hybrid Regional Training Programme on “Driving Sustainability and Developing Green Strategies for TVET Management”, with a certification ceremony officiated by Mr. Guo Weimin, Chargé d’Affaires ad interim of the High Commission of the Republic of Singapore in Brunei Darussalam, on 14 February 2026.



Mr. Guo Weimin, Chargé d’Affaires ad interim of the High Commission of Singapore in Brunei, and the Centre Director, present a certificate to a participant at the closing ceremony

Eighteen senior TVET managers from all 11 SEAMEO member countries completed the hybrid programme with the guidance of facilitators Dr. Jaya Priah Kasinathan and Dr. Margarita Pavlova, to equip them

with the right tools to integrate sustainability into their respective institutions.

A key highlight of the programme was the regional forum, “From Vision to Impact: Education, Industry and Community Partnerships for a Green Transition and Sustainable Future”.

Speakers of the Forum

“From Vision to Impact: Education, Industry and Community Partnerships for a Green Transition and Sustainable Future”

- Ms. Sarinah binti Ziziumiza, Head, Centre of Technology Enhancement Learning (CTEL), IBTE
- Ms. Nurul Fathiah Bazilah binti Haji Ibrahim, Education Officer, Science Technology Environment Partnership Centre (STEP Centre)
- Mr. Muhammad Haziq Abdullah Lim, Social Investment Lead, Brunei Shell Petroleum Sdn Bhd (BSP)
- Ms. Khairunnisa Asha'ari, Co-Founder/ Community Engagement Director, Green Brunei

Moderated by Dr. Jaya Priah Kasinathan, Training & Professional Development Manager & TVET Specialist (Management), SEAMEO VOCTECH



Moderators and speakers of the forum “From Vision to Impact”, organised as part of the regional training programme

The programme featured a visit to Sekolah Menengah Sayyidina Abu Bakar, an ASEAN Eco School Award recipient (2019) and two-time Gold Green School (2021, 2023), where participants witnessed its green initiatives in action.

Building Readiness for Greening TVET across Southeast Asia



Group photo of training participants, invited guests with Yang Mulia Dr. Haji Azman at the certificate ceremony

25, 26, 29 May (Online); 2 - 6 June (Hybrid) 2026

SEAMEO VOCTECH, in collaboration with GIZ-RECOTwin, successfully concluded the Hybrid Regional Training Programme on "Design Thinking-Based Mixed-Methods Research for Implementing the Greening Education Readiness Index (GERI) in TVET".

The certificate presentation was officiated by the Guest of Honour, Yang Mulia Dr. Haji Azman bin Ahmad, Permanent Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam.

The programme brought together 31 participants from all 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, representing ministries of education, TVET institutions, and government agencies.

The training equipped participants with Design Thinking and mixed-methods research approaches to drive GERI implementation and advance greening initiatives across the region.

Co-developed by SEAMEO VOCTECH and Dr. Margarita Pavlova with support from GIZ-RECOTwin, GERI assesses institutional readiness for greening education across four domains.

Participants refined the framework, developed national

research plans, and prepared for a regional ASEAN study.

The programme also featured a hybrid forum on "Greening TVET and Institutional Readiness in Southeast Asia: Policy, Practice and Monitoring Approaches", which attracted over 100 policymakers, educators, researchers, development partners, and sustainability stakeholders.



Group photo of participants, speakers and SV representatives following the conclusion of the forum

Speakers of the Forum on

"Greening TVET and Institutional Readiness in Southeast Asia: Policy, Practice, and Monitoring Approaches"

- His Excellency Mr Weert Börner, Ambassador-Designate, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to Brunei Darussalam
- Dr. Margarita Pavlova, Senior Research Fellow and Expert in Green TVET and Sustainability Education, SEAMEO VOCTECH
- Ms. Nurul Fathiah Baziah binti Haji Ibrahim, Education Officer, Science Technology Environment Partnership Centre (STEP Centre)
- Mr. Hiromichi Takayama, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Jakarta
- Ms. Kenneth Barrientos, Head, UNESCO-UNEVOC Network Secretariat

Moderated by Dr. Paryono, Deputy Director Professional Affairs & TVET Specialist (Research), SEAMEO VOCTECH

TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Regional Delegation Boosts Digital Skills through E-Commerce Training



Participants of the China-ASEAN TVET Educators E-Commerce training programme with esteemed guests after the certification ceremony

**29 - 30 June (Online);
20 - 26 July (Onsite, Nanning, China) 2026**

SEAMEO VOCTECH in collaboration with Guangxi Economic and Trade Vocational Institute (GXETVI) successfully convened the “China-ASEAN TVET Educators Scholarship Hybrid Regional Training Programme on E-Commerce”, with technical support from BOTOK Tech. Co., Ltd.

The programme brought together 23 participants from all 11 SEAMEO Member Countries including four delegation from SEAMEO VOCTECH.

The hybrid training programme began with online sessions on 29-30 June 2026, and continued with an onsite component in Nanning, Guangxi, China, from 20-26 July 2026, aiming to enhance digital commerce and e-commerce competencies of vocational education teachers from ASEAN countries

Participants engaged in lectures, hands-on sessions, and workshops covering e-commerce livestreaming, product photography, short video production, digital marketing, business data analysis, AI applications, and cross-border trade.

The programme also included an E-Commerce Specialist Assessment and Action Plan Presentations, allowing

participants to validate their competencies and develop implementation initiatives for their respective ministries and institutions.



SEAMEO VOCTECH and GXETVI high officials at the closing ceremony

The programme concluded with a Closing Ceremony on 25 July 2026 at GXETVI, graced by Guest of Honour Professor Luo Shengfang, Party Secretary and President of GXETVI.

Also present at the ceremony was the Centre Director and Deputy Director Administration of SV, a representative from the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Human Resources and Social Security Department, the President of Botok Tech. Co., Ltd., and GXETVI management, together with facilitators, and the training participants, who each received their certificates in recognition of their successful completion of the programme.



SEAMEO VOCTECH Centre Director delivering his remarks at the closing ceremony

The training programme marked the fifth and final Regional Training Programme implemented by the Centre for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

SEAMEO VOCTECH Leads Digital Readiness Study of Brunei's HEIs Using Smart Education Readiness Index (SERI) Framework

The shortage of future-ready workers challenges economic growth across SEAMEO member states. As digitalisation transforms economies, assessing the digital readiness of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) is essential to ensure graduates can meet evolving demands.

Study Period: Dec 2025 - June 2026

Recognising limited research on digital readiness in Southeast Asia, SEAMEO VOCTECH's Research and Innovation Division developed the **Smart Education Readiness Index (SERI) Framework**.

After an initial **regional study** across nine member countries; Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, the Centre has now extended the updated SERI framework to assess public HEIs in Brunei Darussalam.

Aligned with the Ministry of Education's Manpower Blueprint, the study will provide the Department of Higher Education (HiED) with systematic data on how prepared Brunei's six public HEIs are to adopt and sustain digital transformation.

To support the study, SEAMEO VOCTECH conducted workshops for institutional focal persons in January and March 2026. This included a pilot workshop held on 20 – 21 January 2026, which introduced participants to the SERI survey's pillars and dimensions, focusing on the three core assessment areas: Process, Technology, and Organisation. Validation of results by SEAMEO VOCTECH began in April 2026.

The findings will enable ongoing monitoring, benchmarking, and strategic planning to enhance digital maturity across Brunei's higher education sector, ensuring HEIs stay agile, innovative, and prepared for the demands of Industry 4.0 and Industry 5.0.

Assessed Higher Education Institutions:

- Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD)
- Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB)
- Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA)
- Politeknik Brunei (PB)
- Institute of Brunei Technical Education (IBTE)
- Kolej Universiti Perguruan Ugama Seri Begawan (KUPU SB)



From top to bottom: Group photos of SV personnel with educators from Politeknik Brunei (PB), Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), and Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA)

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Supporting ASEAN & EU in Closing the Gap for Workforce Readiness

Penang, Malaysia, 11 - 15 May 2026 - SEAMEO VOCTECH participated as a key knowledge partner at the "Closing the Gap Workshop 2026", represented by Deputy Director of Professional Affairs, Dr. Paryono and Knowledge Management Manager and IT Specialist, Dr. Ir. Muhammad Ikhwan Jambak.

The workshop, organised under the EU's SCOPE-HE programme in collaboration with Malaysia's Department of Polytechnic and Community College Education (DPCCE) and Ministry of Higher Education, explored apprenticeship models and industry-linked training to



(Far right) Dr. Paryono as facilitator for group sessions and the Regional Partnership Pitch

strengthen workforce readiness for green and digital transitions, in line with the ASEAN-EU Plan of Action 2023-2027.

Dr. Paryono facilitated group sessions and the Regional Partnership Pitch, while the Centre's study on the Employability of Vocational Graduates in the Agri-Food Sector served as the foundation for the workshop series.

SERI & GERI Research highlighted in CPRN Summit 2026

Presentations by SEAMEO VOCTECH at the CPRN Summit 2026 Parallel Sessions:

- "From Industry 4.0 Readiness to Digital Transformation: Updating the Smart Education Readiness Index (SERI) for Higher Education and TVET"

Presented by Mr. Haji Norjemee Jenek, Centre Director

- "Advancing Digital Transformation in Core Education: Adapting the Smart Education Readiness Index (SERI) for Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, and Sixth Form Centres"

Presented by Ms. Nabilah Zainuddin, Research Officer

- "Advancing the Green Transition in TVET: Development and Regional Validation of the Greening Education Readiness Index (GERI) in Southeast Asia"

Presented by Dr. Paryono, Deputy Director of Professional Affairs, TVET Specialist, and Research Manager



SV representatives together with other Brunei delegation at the CPRN Summit 2026 in Jakarta, Indonesia

Jakarta, Indonesia, 9-11 June 2026 - SEAMEO VOCTECH joined the Centres Policy Research Network (CPRN) Summit 2026 in Jakarta, Indonesia, convened by SEAMEO CECCEP under the theme "Bridging Research, Policy, and Practice: Pathways toward Inclusive, Equitable, and Sustainable Futures".

The Summit provided a platform to address educational inequalities and barriers for marginalised groups across Southeast Asia.

The Centre's representatives took an active role in the Parallel Sessions, contributing research insights on the SERI and GERI frameworks.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT



The regional knowledge platform, continues to expand its resources, covering vocational highlights and events across SEAMEO member countries and beyond.

AVAILABLE ON INITIATIVES SECTION

Lighthouse Project: Gender Transformative Coaching for TVET Stakeholders in ASEAN



SEAMEO personnel, GIZ representatives, and Design Thinking Bootcamp coaches involved in the Lighthouse Project

SEAMEO Member States, 9 May 2026 – Commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ with support from the SEAMEO Secretariat, the “**Lighthouse Project on Gender Transformative Coaching for TVET Stakeholders in ASEAN**” seeks to advance gender equality by empowering female students and prospective learners in Green and Technology skills.

Staff from four SEAMEO regional centres – SEAMEO VOCTECH, SEAMEO SEN, SEAMEO TED, and SEAMEO STEM-ED – participated in this collaborative initiative, exchanging experiences and fostering inter-centre cooperation under the guidance of GIZ experts. This engagement sparked innovative solutions to advance gender and social inclusion in TVET.

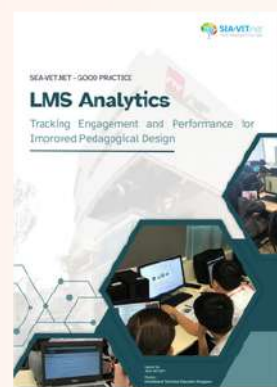
By developing gender-transformative mindsets and competencies, the initiative equips the Centres to identify inclusion challenges and implement solutions toward modern, inclusive, and exemplary institutions.

AVAILABLE ON GOOD PRACTICES SECTION

Good Practice: “**Learning Management System (LMS) Analytics: Tracking Engagement and Performance for Improved Pedagogical Design**”

Singapore, 13 April 2026

– A new SEA-VET Good Practice on **LMS Analytics** an initiative by an initiative by the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Singapore is now available on the knowledge platform.



LMS Analytics Publication

The publication highlights how ITE tracks learner engagement and performance data to inform pedagogical improvements, demonstrating how data-driven insights can enhance teaching effectiveness and student outcomes within TVET institutions.



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REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Advancing Evidence-Based Policy Brief Development Across the Region

Bangkok, 9 - 10 February 2026 - SEAMEO VOCTECH joined SEAMEO Centres and Networks at the 3rd SEAMEO Policy Research Capacity Building Workshop: "Developing Policy Briefs Anchored on Research and Evidence" focused on translating research into policy-oriented documents for education policy dialogue.

Representing the Centre, Dr. Paryono, Deputy Director of Professional Affairs, developed a draft policy brief based on the SERI framework, which assesses TVET institutions' readiness for digital transformation.

The brief would then be refined and presented at the CPRN Summit 2026 in Jakarta, advancing SEAMEO VOCTECH's advocacy for SERI Framework as a regional monitoring tool.



Group Photo of Dr. Paryono and Workshop Participants



Group photo of the participants and committee of the 3rd SEAMEO Policy Research Capacity Building Workshop

Centre Presents on AI for Flexible and Inclusive TVET at ASEAN-UK SAGE Dissemination

Jakarta, 2 - 3 March 2026 - SEAMEO VOCTECH, represented by Dr. Paryono, Deputy Director Professional Affairs, participated in the ASEAN-UK SAGE, Phase 1: Regional Dissemination Event.

The two-day event brought together senior education officials, researchers, and development partners to share evidence and innovations from the ASEAN-UK SAGE programme.

Presented for the Centre were findings from the EdTech Hub regional study and the SEA-VET Learning Sandbox initiative on integrating AI tools for flexible and inclusive TVET.



Dr. Paryono presented on the regional study in collaboration with EdTech

Emphasis was placed on evidence-based policymaking, early literacy strengthening, inclusive pathways for out-of-school youth, and responsible digital integration.

The findings will inform the ASEAN Workplan on Education 2026-2030 and SEAMEO VOCTECH's ongoing EdTech and SEA-VET Learning work.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH



Beyond its role as a regional knowledge hub for TVET, [SEA-VET.net](#) also powers the [ASEAN TVET Council \(ATC\) webpage](#). The ATC Secretariat gathers member updates, which the SEA-VET team then curates and publishes for users!

Advancing Regional TVET Integration with ASEAN TVET Council



Group photo of the ATC members and partners, together with ATC Chair and Co-Chair

Bangkok, 12 - 13 March 2026 - Four representatives from SEAMEO VOCTECH, comprising the Centre Director, Deputy Director of Professional Affairs, and two Knowledge Management and SEA-VET Content Officers, attended The 5th ASEAN TVET Council (ATC) Meeting as members of the Council.

Held under the theme "Advancing Regional Integration of TVET," the meeting provided a platform for strengthening cooperation, sharing experiences, and discussing strategic directions to advance TVET across ASEAN.

Key discussions centred on reviewing progress of initiatives through report presentations and sharing good practices from institutions supporting the ATC Workplan 2021-2030.

SV representatives contributed actively, presenting updates on the engagement between the ATC and the UNESCO-UNEVOC BILT Initiative, highlighting activities that bridge innovation and learning in TVET.



SEAMEO VOCTECH together with Brunei ATC member and OVEC representatives at the 5th ATC in Bangkok, Thailand

The Centre also reported on the [ATC web page](#) hosted on the SEA-VET.net platform, outlining progress and the way forward to ensure its sustainability and enhance regional visibility for the cross-sectoral body.



Knowledge Management Officer presenting on the ATC webpage during the meeting

Additionally, the collaboration with GIZ RECOTwin was highlighted during a dedicated open session of the meeting with partners of ATC, particularly SV reported on the joint efforts in developing the Study on Readiness for Greening TVET, underscoring the partnership's alignment with and support for the ATC Workplan 2021-2030.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Gaining Insights into South Korea's Digital Learning Strategies at ADEPT 2026



Group photo of the ADEPT 2026 delegation in one of the institutional visits

Seoul, 11 - 19 May 2026 - Pg. Hj Mohamad Sufri Pg. Ali, Deputy Director Administration represented SEAMEO VOCTECH at the APEC Digital Education Policy Training (ADEPT) 2026, held in Republic of South Korea.

The Centre contributed perspectives on regional TVET digital transformation, teacher capacity building, AI readiness, and regional collaboration, including discussions with APEC representatives on common challenges, including infrastructure readiness, teacher digital competency, learning management systems, and policy implementation.

Building on networks established through ADEPT, SV aims to explore collaborative initiatives with SEAMEO and APEC partners to strengthen educators' competencies in inclusive and AI-supported learning, while expanding capacity-building opportunities beyond ASEAN.

The programme included institutional visits to the Ministry of Education, Korea Human Resource Development Korea, the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education, and Seoul Technical High School, offering insights into Korea's workforce



Pg. Hj Mohammad Sufri during the discussion session at ADEPT 2026

development, industry collaboration, and digital learning strategies.

The programme also provided valuable opportunities to strengthen professional networks and explore future collaboration with policymakers across the wider APEC region.

SEAMEO VOCTECH Expands China Ties Through MoU Signing and Vocational Education Symposium



Mr. Haji Norjemee Jenek with representative from Department of Education, Ministry of Education in Guangxi

Nanning and Jinan, 25 - 30 May 2026 - A SEAMEO VOCTECH delegation, led by the Centre Director and including the Deputy Director of Administration, Sales and Marketing Manager, and Corporate Affairs Officer, conducted an official visit to People's Republic of China to strengthen partnerships.

continue next page

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

SEAMEO VOCTECH Expands China Ties Through MoU Signing and Vocational Education Symposium

continued from previous page



SEAMEO VOCTECH and GXETVI representatives at the MOU Signing Ceremony in Nanning, Guangxi

Nanning, Guangxi, 25 - 26 May 2026 - The Centre commenced the visit in PR China with the formalisation of a partnership with Guangxi Economic and Trade Vocational Institute (GXETVI) through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

A key outcome of this agreement is the joint implementation of a Hybrid Regional Training Programme in E-Commerce for TVET educators, scheduled for June-July 2026.



Group photo of SV delegation with CAIC representatives

Strategic discussions were also convened with the Department of Education, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and the China ASEAN Artificial Intelligence Application Cooperation Center (CAIC) to explore expanded opportunities for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and institutional cooperation across the education and training community.



Mr. Haji Norjemee delivering his keynote address at the Symposium (Jinan, Shandon Province)

Jinan, Shandong Province, 27 - 30 May 2026 - The delegation proceeded to Jinan for the International Vocational Education Cooperation Symposium.

The Centre Director delivered a keynote on industry-education collaboration, while the Deputy Director of Administration presented on regional cooperation in vocational education.



Group photo of the SV delegation at the Vocational Education Cooperation Symposium

Separate meetings with LCETPA and NJITT further explored collaboration opportunities to advance inclusive, green, and digital TVET across the region.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Regional Policy Dialogue



Photo of the Regional Policy Dialogue in session, held at Mangkuluhur Artotel in Jakarta, Indonesia

Jakarta, 8 June 2026 – The Centre Director and Deputy Director for Professional Affairs attended the “Regional Policy Dialogue on Harmonising Micro-credentials in Higher Education: Towards a Regional Policy Framework for Southeast Asia”, hosted by SEAMEO SEAMOLEC engaging with senior policymakers and SEAMEO Centres to explore a common framework for recognition and quality assurance.

The dialogue aims to produce a Draft Regional Policy Framework and Policy Brief for adoption by the SEAMOLEC Governing Board in September 2026 and endorsement at the SEAMEO High Officials Meeting in November 2026.

International TVET Symposium



Mr. Haji Norjemee and Dr. Paryono with EduHK President Professor John Lee Chi-Kin (far right) and the Hon. Edu HK Council Member (far left)

Hong Kong, 16 – 18 June 2026 – The Centre Director and Deputy Director for Professional Affairs attended the “International TVET Symposium: Reimagining TVET for Education Futures”, hosted by EdUHK, which delved into future skills, digital and green competencies, and the role of AI as a human-centred enabler.

The Centre's presentations, on sustainability by Dr. Paryono and on AI and digital transformation by the Mr. Haji Norjemee reinforced the complementary nature of digital and green transitions, a central tenet of SEAMEO VOCTECH's 7th FYDP "Inclusive TVET for a Green and Digital Future".

Global Sustainable Development Congress



Pg. Hj Mohamad Sufri in a group photo with SEAMEO Secretariat Director, Datuk Dr. Habibah and fellow participants at the congress

Jakarta, 22-25 June 2026 – The Centre participated in the Global Sustainable Development Congress 2026 (GSDC) represented by Pg. Hj Mohamad Sufri Pg Ali, Deputy Director of Administration.

The sessions covered sustainability, green skills, AI in education, lifelong learning, and inclusive workforce development, drawing insights from over 5,000 participants across higher education, government, and industry.

The Centre also engaged with the SEAMEO Secretariat, SEAMEO CECCEP, and Labtech Indonesia to explore collaboration in regional TVET and human capital development.

Reaffirming Commitment to International Standards with IMS

7 January 2026 – As a Centre certified under ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 21001:2018, SEAMEO VOCTECH conducted a "ISO Awareness Day", a one-day in-house session to strengthen staff understanding of its Integrated Management System (IMS).

Organised by the Quality Assurance Division, the workshop was critical to sustaining ISO certifications and embedding a structured, process-driven culture across the Centre.

Through sessions clarifying roles, workflows, and document access, alongside divisional presentations on core processes and dependencies.



Group photo of SV Executive Managers, Managers, Officers and Staff in attendance for the ISO Awareness Day

The initiative supports smoother operations, reduces duplication, and ensures continued ISO compliance.

Enhancing Staff Proficiency in Microsoft 365



IT Division providing hands on guidance to the Facilities Management staff

24 February 2026 – The IT Division conducted a "Microsoft 365 Email Training Session" for the Facilities Management Division to enhance digital literacy and ensure all staff are familiar with the digital tools used across the Centre.

The initiative supports inclusive access to workplace technologies and promotes digital competency across all divisions.

Fardhu Kifayah Workshop



Practical demonstration on the bathing (ghusl) and shrouding (kafan) of the deceased

28 February 2026 – A "Workshop on Fardhu Kifayah", focusing on *Pengurusan Jenazah* (funeral management), was conducted by Ar-Razaq Kifayah Management for SEAMEO VOCTECH staff.

The session demonstrated Muslim staff with essential knowledge and practical guidance on the proper procedures for managing a Muslim funeral in accordance with Islamic teachings.

SV COMMUNITY

Khatam Al-Quran and Donation Ceremony

17 March 2026 – SEAMEO VOCTECH held a Majlis Khatam Al-Quran (Completion of Al-Quran Reading Ceremony) alongside a donation presentation to orphans who are former dependents of the Centre's staff.

The event brought together staff and management in a spirit of reflection, gratitude, and community solidarity.



Group photo of SV staff with the donation recipients

Retirement Planning

31 March 2026 – The Centre hosted a briefing on the Skim Persaraan Kebangsaan (SPK) and retirement planning, conducted by representatives from TAP Brunei.

The session, delivered by Puan Sri Nazrina Hj Johari, Retirement Specialist, provided staff with valuable insights into retirement planning and the services offered by TAP.



Group photo of officials from SV and TAP Brunei

Hari Raya Celebration and Farewell for Former Staff



18 April 2026 – The Centre marked Hari Raya Aidilfitri with a celebration themed "Arabian Eid-ul-Fitri," embracing the diversity of Muslim festivities across the region.

Guests enjoyed an Arabic-inspired meal and wore traditional attires worn for the occasion. To keep the festivities lively, prizes were awarded to the best-dressed staff in both the male and female categories.

The event also served as an opportunity to express appreciation to former TVET Specialist Mrs. Noorhayati Cynthia Abdullah and former Research Officer Dr. Hartini Haji Mashod, recognising their contributions to the Centre.



Top: Executive Management together with Mrs. Noorhayati Cynthia and Dr. Hartini Haji Mashod; Bottom: Mr. Haji Norjemee, presenting the Best Dressed – Male award to Mr. Asmad Lamat from the Administration and Services Division

ISO 14001:2015 Awareness Training



Group photo of SV staff with the facilitator, Mr. Hanin Zainal

29 April 2026 - SEAMEO VOCTECH successfully conducted the "Awareness Training on ISO 14001:2015" for members of the Centre under the Special Training Programme.

Facilitated by Mr. Haji Hanin bin Zainal, Senior ISO Specialist Consultant, the session introduced participants to Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) concepts, with a strong focus on practical application in TVET environments

Promoting Wellness and Early Diagnosis among staff

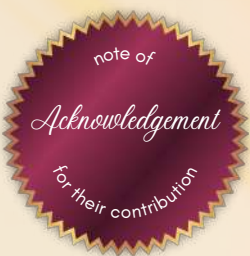


Group photo of SV staff with officials from RCTC Diagnostics

6 May 2026 - The Centre organised a Health Talk on healthy ageing and early detection, featuring Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Zulkarnain bin Haji Hanafi, Chief Medical Officer of RTCT Diagnostics, on holistic health, and Scientific Officer Miss Shane Ong on available screening options.

Staff were encouraged to embrace regular screenings, early diagnosis, and healthy lifestyle choices as part of their daily wellness routine.

Acknowledgment



The Knowledge Management Division of SEAMEO VOCTECH gratefully acknowledges Ms. Aina Wardina for her valuable contributions to the development of The Digest Vol. 34, No. 1 (67).

Ms. Aina was an internship student from Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) who worked with the

Corporate Affairs and Knowledge Management Division from January to June 2026, alongside other dedicated interns.

The Divisions appreciate her sincere dedication and efforts, and wishes her and her colleagues every success in their future endeavours.



Ms. Aina Wardina binti Yusri

Bachelor in Business
Accounting and Finance
Universiti Brunei Darussalam



THE DIGEST

JANUARY - JUNE 2026, VOL. 34, NO. 1 (67)

The first half of 2026 has been a period of significant progress for the Centre.

SEAMEO VOCtech extends its sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam, the SEAMEO Secretariat, and all our longstanding and new partners for your unwavering support and collaboration.

With the year still unfolding, we remain dedicated to serving and strengthening TVET across the region and beyond.

Thank you, for being valued partners in this journey.

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