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The Digest SEAMEO VOCTECH

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation
REGIONAL CENTRE FOR VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
Brunei Darussalam

ISSN No. 1816-1073

Vol. 20 No.2 (49)
December 2013

SEAMEO VOCTECH HOLDS THE 24TH GOVERNING BOARD MEETING 1 - 3 October 2013



SEAMEO VOCTECH holds the 24th Governing Board Meeting (GBM) on 1 – 3 October 2013 at Grand Ha Long Hotel, Ha Long City, Vietnam to seek approval from the members the programmes and services for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2014 and present the accomplishments of the previous year. In addition, the Board also provided policy directions to the Centre.

The Governing Board deliberated and approved the resolutions on the follow-up action on the 23rd Governing Board Meeting resolutions, Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013, Financial Report for Fiscal year 2012 – 2013 and the Proposed 5th Five-Year Development Plan for Fiscal Years 2014/2015 – 2018/2019.

The agenda on matters for consideration were also discussed by the Governing Board which include the regional training themes for Fiscal Year 2013-2014, cost-sharing strategy for in-country training programmes, revised salary package for professional staff and implementation on the TVET teachers technical skills training in collaboration with Institute of Technical Education-Education Services (ITEES) and TEMASEK Foundation of Singapore, partners were invited including some representatives from Regional Cooperation Platform (RCP) of GIZ, Germany in Vocational Teacher Education and the initiative to collaborate with FESTO Didactic.

During the opening ceremony, the Guest of Honour, Vietnam's Vice Minister of Education and Training, the Hon. Prof. Dr. Bui Van Ga, welcomed the members of the Governing Board, the SEAMEO and SEAMEO VOCTECH delegates, and other guests who graced the occasion.

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



*Awang Hj Md Sharifuddin Haji Md Salleh
Centre Director*

The first half of the current fiscal year has been a very challenging period for SEAMEO VOCTECH. The most significant undertakings that were accomplished during this period were the preparation for the next fiscal year's programmes and services, and the approval of next five-year development plan.

Also, the foci of our attention were our commitments to contribute in crafting the programmes of SEAMEO Secretariat, participate in the conferences organised by our international partners, and provide staff upgrading programmes to our clients.

The 24th SEAMEO VOCTECH Governing Board Meeting held in Vietnam from 1 -3 October 2013 resulted in the approval of the programmes and services the Centre will undertake for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2014. Among the many agenda discussed and approved during the meeting was the 5th Five Year Development Plan for Fiscal Years 2014/2015 – 2018/2019 which will serve as the Centre's blueprint in meeting its vision of becoming "A globally recognised Centre of Excellence in TVET".

At the SEAMEO Regional Centre Directors Meeting, we presented the Centre's accomplishments and the implementation plan for the SEAMEO Initiative on Setting up an International Standard Certification for SEAMEO Regional Centres. SEAMEO VOCTECH is appointed as the Lead Centre for this initiative.

In terms of the commitment to our international partners, the Centre's representatives were sent to participate and/or deliver papers to the International TVET Experts Meeting on Professionalisation and Modernisation in Initial and In-Service Training of TVET Personnel in ASEAN, The International Mixed Methods Symposium, Regional Conference on Vocational Teacher Education and Research as a Regional Task and Challenge, Workshop Research on Transferable Skills in TVET, UNESCO-UNEVOC Forum on Advancing TVET for Youth Employability and Sustainable Development, 6th China-ASEAN Educational Cooperation Week, Microsoft Instruction Faculty Development Workshop, and International Forum on Skills for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Asia-Pacific.

For our commitment to provide staff upgrading programmes to our clients, the Centre was able to deliver three (3) Regional Training Programmes, eight (8) Customised Training Programmes, and four (4) Special Training Programmes.

Among the training programmes conducted, the Regional Training Programme on Technical and Pedagogical Skills Upgrading Programme for VTET Teachers on Industry Electronics was delivered by the Centre in collaboration with the Temasek Foundation and Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Education Services, Singapore. This training programme was conducted at the ITE College West in Singapore and attended by participants from the SEAMEO member countries.

All these programmes and services delivered during this period has been a meaningful for me as the new Centre Director of SEAMEO VOCTECH. It has been a great honour and privilege for me to be able to steer the Centre in meeting its obligations to its stakeholders... that I will not be able to do without the support of our committed and competent management and staff.

"Together We Excel!"

(Continued from P1, SEAMEO VOTTECH holds)

He also thanked the SEAMEO VOTTECH management and staff for the very valuable supports to TVET in Southeast Asia.

The Vice Minister also averred, “MOET wants to cooperate with other members of SEAMEO to promote cooperation of education in general and of TVET in particular to strengthen cultural exchange, preserve and develop the friendship among ASEAN members.”

Newly appointed Centre Director Mr. Sharifuddin Haji Md Salleh, Ex-Officio member, thanked Vietnam’s Ministry of Education and Training for hosting the meeting and the Governing Board members for “availing themselves to attend this important meeting which to SEAMEO VOTTECH, is the most important annual event in our calendar to validate our efforts in steering the Centre to meet the TVET needs of your countries”.

Pg Dr. Haji Mohd Esa Al-Islam bin Pg Haji Mohd Yunus of Brunei Darussalam and Chairman of this year’s Governing Board Meeting, encouraged the members to look at the ASEAN Integration 2015 where mobility of labour and TVET graduates is inevitable and thus require synchronization of competencies that will meet the needs of local, national and regional.

He further stated, “With all the challenges that we are facing today, coupled with the increasing need to address global and regional issues on manpower development, the Governing Board inputs are going to be valuable for SEAMEO VOTTECH to formulate programmes and activities to be catalyst in the regions for TVET human resource development.

Dr. Tinsiri Siribodhi, Ex-Officio member and Deputy Director of SEAMEO Secretariat, presented working papers on the key issues from the 47th SEAMEO Council Conference, 35th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting and the Centre Directors Meeting 2013 which needs collaboration from the SEAMEO Centres.

On the second day of the meeting, a sharing session on the theme “Current TVET Policies, Issues and Strategies in SEAMEO Member Countries” ensued.

The Governing Board Members presented the new TVET policies and developments occurring in their respective countries.

Mr. Volker Schmid, Head of Asia-Pacific of FESTO Didactic, also presented his company’s plan regarding Southeast Asia.

The other members or representatives of the Governing Board who attended the meeting were Mr. Tep Oeun- Cambodia, Mr. Phouvieng Phoumilay- Lao PDR, Mr. Haji Ahmad Tajudin Jab- Malaysia, Dr. Maung Maung Latt- Myanmar, Atty. Teodoro C. Pascua- Philippines, Mr. Aw York Bin- Singapore, Assoc. Prof. Numyoot Songthanapitak- Thailand, and Dr. Hoang Ngoc Vinh- Vietnam.



SEAMEO and International Events

CD and DDPA participate in SEAMEO Regional Centre Directors Meeting



Mr. Hj Md Sharifuddin Haji Md Salleh, Centre Director (CD) and Dr. Paryono, Deputy Director for Professional Affairs (DDPA) represented SEAMEO VOTTECH (SV) in the SEAMEO Regional Centre Directors Meeting at the Marriot Hotel Sukhumvit, Bangkok, Thailand on 1-3 July 2013.

The Regional Centre Directors Meeting was organised by the SEAMEO Secretariat to discuss the actions needed on the resolutions of SEAMEO Education Ministers during the 47th SEAMEO Council Conference in March 2013 and to report on the progress of major initiatives under the SEAMEO Strategic Plan 2011-2020.

Mr. Hj Md Sharifuddin and Dr. Paryono presented the SV's accomplishments and the implementation plan for the SEAMEO Initiative on "Setting up an International Standard Certification for SEAMEO Regional Centres".

Being one of the few ISO-certified SEAMEO Centres, SV was chosen as the Lead Centre for the initiative. The plan is to organise training for quality management representative and internal auditor of centres that are willing to adopt the ISO quality standard.

Dr. Witaya Jeradechakul, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat who presided the meeting, emphasized the importance of SEAMEO Centres response to the resolutions of the SEAMEO Council. He further cited the significant role of the SEAMEO Centres and the need for them to remain relevant as indicated in the SEAMEO Statement which was adopted by the 47th SEAMEO Council Conference in March 2013.

The meeting also provided opportunities for the SEAMEO Secretariat and Centres to thresh out issues that need to be submitted to the 36th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting in 2014.

SEAMEO VOCTECH participates in UNESCO - UNEVOC Forum



SEAMEO VOCTECH was invited to participate in a three-day forum on “Advancing TVET for Youth Employability and Sustainable Development” held at the UNESCO Hall in Seoul, South Korea on 4 to 6 September 2013.

SV was represented in the forum by Dr. Mark Gapultos, SV Management Specialist, wherein he presented a paper on *“The International and Regional Organisation Perspective on Greening the TVET Programme for Sustainable Development.”*

The forum, participated by at least 26 countries from all continents, was primarily organised to provide a clear platform in addressing youth employability, and other implications arising from organisational sustainability of TVET programmes.

The activity was organized by UNESCO-UNEVOC, in cooperation with the Korean Research Institute for Education and Training (KRIVET).

The forum was indeed a successful endeavor among TVET practitioners because, it reinforced international networks, harmonised regional partnerships and strengthened resource mobilisation.

SEAMEO and International Events

DDA delivers keynote address in the 6th China-ASEAN Educational Cooperation Week

Mr. Haji Ali Husaini Haji Md Diah, Deputy Director for Administration (DDA) of SEAMEO VOCTECH (SV), addressed the delegates to the 6th China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (CAECW) held in Guizhou, China from 16-17 September 2013.

China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week (CAECW) is an annual event jointly-sponsored by China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, and People's Government of Guizhou Province.

Mr. Haji Ali delivered the keynote address entitled "SEAMEO VOCTECH and its Renewed Vision: Complementing Asia-Pacific Aspirations in Enhancing TVET System in the Region" during the China-ASEAN Vocational Education Achievements Exhibition which is one of the activities of the two-day annual event.

Almost 70 vocational colleges universities, and other institutions from China and overseas have participated in this activity.



Shizuoka-University of Michigan Advanced Residency Training, Education and Research in Family Medicine

and

The International Mixed Methods Symposium



From the Expert Meeting and International Conference on TVET and Research Methodology organised by Rajabat University Network in collaboration with SEAMEO VOCTECH on 24-26 December 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand, the keynote speaker from the United States, Prof. John Cresswell suggested organising a Mixed Methods Research Conference in Asia. Consequently, the first International Conference on mixed methods research was held in Japan, a follow up from Bangkok Conference.

In conjunction with the Conference, the Department of Family Medicine organised a capability building programme on "Shizuoka-University of Michigan Advanced Residency Training, Education and Research (SMARTER) in Family Medicine" held in Shizuoka, Japan on 17-18 October 2013. As the culmination of the capability building programme, the committee organised an International Mixed Methods Symposium in Tokyo, Japan on 20 October 2013.

The committee invited SEAMEO VOCTECH Deputy Director Professional Affairs cum Research Manager Dr. Paryono, in his capacity as the research specialist particularly due to his expertise on mixed-methods research where he was requested to prepare two papers. The first paper titled, "Preparing for Primary Care Physicians in Southeast Asia", not only provides an overview and a comparison with the policy and practices in Japan and other developed countries but also addressed the various practices and training strategies for Family Care Medicine in Southeast Asia. It was presented at Shizuoka Residency Medical Centre on 17 October 2013.

Dr. Paryono's second paper titled, "Mixed Methods Research in Education and Training: Southeast Asian Experience" was presented during the International Symposium in Tokyo, Japan on 20 October 2013.

SEAMEO and International Events



Regional Conference on Vocational Teacher Education and Research as a Regional Task and Challenge

This regional conference on vocational teacher education (VTE) in Asia was jointly organised by the BMZ-funded GIZ Project Regional Cooperation Platform (RCP), the Chinese-German Institute of Vocational Education of Tongji University and SEAMEO VOTTECH. This was a follow up on the recommendations from the RCP member universities including input given by other BMZ supported GIZ projects and programmes currently taking place in the ASEAN region.

This VTE Conference aims at enriching the regional debate on development concepts and pathways for strengthening VTE. The conference outcome will provide recommendations for regional enhancement and further development of VTE that is the key factor for demand-oriented TVET development in ASEAN countries and China.

Attended by about two hundred participants coming from ASEAN+3 countries and Asia Pacific, the focus of the conference was on 1) development of standards and study programmes for vocational teacher education; 2) regionalisation, common quality enhancement and respective policies on VTE; 3) Enhancement of praxis-orientation in VTE, and 4) Establishment of vocational education as a scientific discipline.

One of SEAMEO VOTTECH roles was to assist in inviting the speakers and participants from SEAMEO member countries. Centre representatives were Director, Hj Md Sharifuddin Hj Md Salleh and Deputy Director Professional Affairs, Dr. Paryono, presented papers on "SEAMEO VOTTECH's Initiatives in Anticipation for ASEAN Economic Integration", and a progress research report on "Transferable Skills Integration in TVET in Brunei Darussalam", as well as concluding remarks during the Conference Closing Ceremony, a noteworthy contribution that enhanced Centre's visibility.

TVET Experts Meeting on "Professionalisation and Modernisation in Initial and In-Service Training of TVET Personnel in ASEAN"



Centre Director Hj Mohd Sharifuddin Hj Mohd Salleh presented the paper on "Regional Capability Building Model for TVET Teacher and Instructors", and Deputy Director Professional Affairs, Dr. Paryono, moderated a session and presented key findings on "Professionalisation of TVET Personnel: International Models, Approaches and Experiences in Education and Training of TVET Personnel". In addition, Dr. Paryono also facilitated a workshop/discussion on "Suggestions for Transnational, Regional and International Cooperation."

This Experts Meeting was organised by GIZ, Academy for International Cooperation, Human Capacity Development in TVET/UNEVOC Centre based at Magdeburg, Germany in collaboration with HRD Korea, UNESCO UNEVOC, and the Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC) Thailand. TVET experts were invited comprising those from international/regional organisations such as UNESCO Bangkok, SEAMEO VOTTECH, Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), country experts from Southeast Asia, and GIZ representatives from Germany,

Thailand, Vietnam, Lao PDR, and Indonesia.

SEAMEO and International Events

Microsoft Partners in Learning Technology Enriched Instruction Faculty Development Workshop

Mr. Saiful Anuar bin A. Rahim, SEAMEO VOCTECH Training and Quality Assurance Manager attended the workshop on Technology Enriched Instruction held at Universitas Siswa Bangsa Internasional in Jakarta, Indonesia on 19 November 2013.

Conducted by Dr. Jim Praszynski of Microsoft Corporation and Ms. Sarah McPherson of International Society for Teacher Education, the workshop was designed to help participants develop competencies that will enable them to plan systemically for the selection, use, and evaluation of technology tools and resources in a pedagogically appropriate manner.

The workshop exposed the participants to the approach in designing their modules/courses using the TPACK framework incorporating the six dimensions of the 21st Century learning skills: Knowledge construction, Use of ICT for knowledge construction, skilled communication, real world problem solving, self-regulation and collaboration identified by a coded rubric.

The workshop also introduced the participants on the use of various technology platforms available to support their teaching. These technologies are easy to use and offer benefits to the learners in terms of gaining the experience in working with others (collaboration through Yammer), sharing and working synchronously or asynchronously on documents through the use of Sky Drive and Microsoft web office applications, and having a virtual discussion platform on a Padlet "Wall". These technologies are open and students can access them through their conventional computers and other interactive mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets.



Regional Forum on TVET in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Mentoring Progress and Revitalising Actions

UNESCO Paris and UNESCO Windhoek Office invited SEAMEO VOCTECH to present a keynote paper to share on various TVET initiatives in Southeast Asia with the counterpart in Africa. Participated by about 30 participants, Dr. Paryono presented a paper titled, "TVET Initiatives, Trends, and Issues: Perspectives from Southeast Asian Region" through live video teleconferencing.

This regional forum was organised as a way of monitoring the progress and revitalise the actions taken in response to the 2010 UNESCO and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat joint review of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in the SADC countries.



The forum was focused to identify and discuss progress and challenges facing TVET and explore appropriate collective responses, to build better understandings of and share knowledge on the contributions of TVET to Sustainable Development, and to inform perspectives for UNESCO's work in the field, and to define initiatives in line with the Strategic Framework and Programme of Actions and outcomes of the September 2012 Maputo Senior Officials meeting.

The presentation, which was followed by questions and answers sessions, was received positively by the participants. The committee and the participants expressed their appreciations and interest to collaborate with SEAMEO and SEAMEO VOCTECH.

Special Report

SEAMEO VOTTECH'S Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

Mandated to strengthen and improve the quality of vocational and technical education and training in Southeast Asia through human resources development, research and information sharing, SEAMEO VOTTECH was able to deliver its targets for Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013. Based on the 4th Five-Year Development Plan Fiscal Year 2009/2010 – 2013/2014, this report presents the accomplishments categorized by the following Key Result Areas: Training for Professional Development, Research and Development, Knowledge Management and Information Sharing, Networking and Partnerships, Organisational Capacity, and Financial Viability and Management.

Training for Professional Development

SEAMEO VOTTECH implemented 28 training programmes attended by 1,021 participants. Compared to the previous year of 32 training programmes, this fiscal year's number of training programmes decreased by 12.5%. However, the number of participants increased by 7.6% from 943 last year to 1,021 this fiscal year.

These training programmes for professional development are classified as regional, in-country, customised, special, and forum and seminar/workshop (Table 1).

The participants comprised of education policymakers, education and training institution administrators, teachers, instructors, lecturers, and other VTET implementers. Of the overall total, 541 are female comprising 53% while the male participants comprised 47% or 480. The training for professional development is usually attended by participants from all SEAMEO member countries.

Research and Development

The research and development activities of the Centre includes conducting research studies, presenting research paper in conferences and forums, and conducting a training programme on research-related themes.

The "Institutional Research to Measure Customer Satisfaction Index (CSI)" which is intended to generate participants' feedbacks for regular, in-country, and customized training programmes is regularly conducted by the Centre during the fiscal year.

The study on the "Occupational and Training Needs Analysis in Brunei Darussalam" of the Department of Technical Education, Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam was completed with the assistance of SEAMEO VOTTECH. The research study on "Models for Integrating 21st Century Skills in the VTET Curriculum in Brunei Darussalam" being conducted by the Centre is still in progress.

Representatives of the Centre presented six research works to different conferences conducted by international organisations.

The research work "Mapping National and Regional TVET Initiatives in Southeast Asia and Beyond in Response to Students and Labour Mobility" was published in TVET@Asia– The Online Journal for Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Asia.

Knowledge Management and Information Sharing

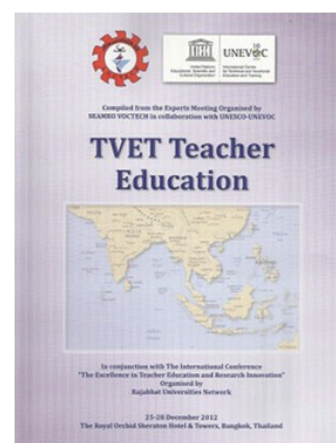
The Centre issued its regular print publications during the fiscal year which includes the SEAMEO VOTTECH newsletter- The Digest (July-December Issue 2012 and January-June Issue 2013), Training Information Guide 2013 – 2014, Annual Report 2011 – 2012 and the 23rd Governing Board Meeting Final Report.

Other print publication issued this fiscal year is the book "TVET Teacher Education" which is a compilation of the issues and challenges of teacher training in Southeast Asia presented by each country representative during the Experts Meeting organized by SEAMEO VOTTECH in collaboration with UNESCO-UNEVOC.

Aside from the new partners, the Centre also renewed its MOU with Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training and maintained its partnership with the existing ones.

The areas of agreement among the partners include joint implementation of training programmes, collaborative research projects, exchange of expertise and students, and resource and information sharing.

Type	Number	Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
Regional	4	58	51	109
In-Country	5	147	41	188
Customised	9	71	100	171
Special	7	52	108	175
Forum	3	140	238	378
Grand Total	28	480	541	1,021



The book published during the year.

Special Report

SEAMEO VOCTECH'S Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

Networking and Partnerships

Centre officials attended the following SEAMEO meetings as part of its obligations and networking and partnership activities. The Centre Directors Meeting (CDM) was held from 16 – 18 July 2012 and the 35th High Officials Meeting (HOM) from 27 – 29 November 2012 both in Bangkok, Thailand. The 47th SEAMEO Council Conference was held in Hanoi, Vietnam from 19 – 21 March 2013.

The Centre signed six new partnership agreements with institutions in China during the visit of the Centre Director. Another agreement was also signed with the AJ Digital Synergy Academy of Photography Sdn. Bhd., a private industry institution from Malaysia, and with the Regional Cooperation Platform (RCP), an international network of colleges and universities dealing with teacher education.

Organisational Capacity

To sustain its capacity to provide quality programmes and services, the Centre implemented several developmental activities.

The Centre recruited Management and Teacher Education Specialists to augment its manpower complement to a total of 45 management and support staffs distributed among the different offices and divisions.

The upgrading of the professional competencies and the physical and spiritual well-being of the staff has been at the forefront of the Centre's strategy in strengthening its organisational capacity. Centre staffs attended local and international training programmes, conferences and forums as participant, resource person or keynote speaker. As a means of spiritual renewal, the staff continuously practiced the Thursday Prayers or "Tahlil" Prayers and the observance of all Islamic religious celebrations. The staffs regular physical fitness programmes also showed good participation every 2nd Saturday of the month.

In terms of infrastructure development, the Centre undertook some improvements in its physical facilities through the repainting and installation of a new carpet in the conference hall and the conversion of the library into a new training room to accommodate the increasing number of trainings and participants.

To maintain assurance to quality standards, the surveillance audit was conducted by SAI Global during the fiscal year for the purpose of checking on the Centre's compliance to the intended standardized procedures. Prior to the surveillance audit, the Centre's internal auditors, composed of selected staffs, conducted the internal audit on 28 January – 9 February 2013.

Financial Viability and Management

SEAMEO VOCTECH recorded an increase in its Total Income from B\$1.7 million in 2012 to B\$1.8 million mainly due to the increase of income from Income Generating Activities (IGF). In terms of expenses, the Centre was able to retain an excess of B\$56 thousand during the fiscal year.

As of 30 June 2013, 70% of the Total Income of the Centre was contributed by the Government of Brunei Darussalam and 29% was sourced from Income Generating Activities (IGF) and the remaining 1% was from Endowment Fund provided by SEAMEO Secretariat.

Future Agenda

The Centre will continue to strengthen its efforts on the three main services: training, research and development, and information sharing.

Among the initiatives the Center will undertake in the coming fiscal year include implementing the regular, in-country, customised and special training programmes, together with the Continuous Professional Development Programme for VTET teachers in Brunei Darussalam, conducting joint research with UNESCO and Regional Cooperation Platform (RCP) on "Transferable Skills in TVET-Implications for TVET Teacher Policies in Selected Economies in Asia", publishing the regular print and digital publications, issuing press releases and coordinating with print and broadcast media to cover the Centre's activities and events, developing Regional TVET Teacher Quality Standards, in collaboration with RCP, strengthening collaboration with partner institution by serving as keynote speaker or paper presenter in conferences and forum, establishing sustainable sources of fund by generating income from existing training programmes and services, and preparing the 5th Five-Year Development Plan Fiscal Years 2014/2015 –



A networking session with the representative of ASEAN-China Centre during the CDM (top) and a photo opportunity (below) after the signing of MOU with AJ Digital Synergy.



The Honourable Minister of Education, Brunei Darussalam Hajj Awang Abu Bakar bin Hajj Apong, SEAMEC President officiated the inauguration of the conference hall "Dewan Seri Kerna"

SEAMEO and International Events

International Forum on Skills for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Asia-Pacific



SEAMEO VOTTECH Director, Haji Md Sharifuddin Hj Md Salleh and Deputy Director for Professional Affairs, Dr. Paryono, co-presented a paper titled, “Strategies for Youth Skills Development for Better Jobs in a Changing and Increasingly Digital World: SEAMEO VOTTECH’s Perspective”, addressing the issue of strategies for youth skills development for better job at present and in the future. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) hosted this third annual International Forum as a follow up from the two previous forums held in 2011 and 2012, which helped to build a dialogue platform on skills development in the Asia Pacific region. The event highlighted the best practices from advanced countries such as Australia, Canada, Germany, Korea and Singapore, and successful models in emerging economies. Pressing issues for developing countries such as, skills for employability, competitiveness, greening economies and skills for informal labour markets were also

deliberated in the forum.

The forum was focused primarily on the themes of Youth and Technology in the context of skills development. Participants explored, among other things, strategies for increasing access to skills development, improving the quality and market relevance of training, national qualification frameworks, enhancing private sector participation and improving the prestige of TVET.

Centre News

SEAMEO VOTTECH’S ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management System re-certified anew

SEAMEO VOTTECH maintains its status as an ISO 9001:2008 certified organisation and it will take effect first quarter of 2014. This is the third time that SV has been enjoying the prestige of being certified in its QMS practice since 2005.

The certification, which was issued and duly evaluated by Standards Australia International (SAI) Global Ltd., specifically covers the design and delivery of vocational and technical education and training programmes to local and international participants.

The adoption of QMS by international standards is a key strategic decision of SV which complements its vision and mission as a globally recognised regional centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

By adopting international standards and best practices, SV’s quality management processes and services are enhanced and clients’ satisfaction, trust and confidence are ensured. The renewed certification will be valid for three years.

Centre News

SEAMEO VECTECH extends assistance to SMARTER BRUNEI

SEAMEO VECTECH (SV) Centre Director Awg Hj Md Sharifuddin Hj Md Salleh presents a cheque to Malai Hj Abdullah Hj Malai Othman, President and Founder of SMARTER BRUNEI, as a financial assistance to the Autism Centre's projects.

The assistance is part of the proceeds raised during the celebration of World Autism Month in April 2013 through an educational forum organised by SV.

The forum, entitled "*Autism Spectrum Disorder: Exploring and Understanding the Enigma of a Beautiful Mind*," was held at the SV Dewan Seri Kerna and was attended by teachers, healthcare workers/caregivers, nurses, psychology students, occupational therapy practitioners and parents.

This act of charity is SV's response to its commitment in civic action and community involvement under its Corporate Social Responsibility programme.

Also present during the event are SV Deputy Director for Administration Mr Hj Ali Hussaini Hj Mohd Diah; Dr. Mark Gapultos, SV Management Specialist and Education Forum Coordinator; Mrs. Leanne Abdullah Lee, SV Sales and Marketing Manager and students of SMARTER Centre.



CD and DDPA visit SEAMEO INNOTECH

To optimise the visit to the Philippines soon after attending the ADB International Forum, Centre Director, Hj Md Sharifuddin Hj Md Salleh and Deputy Director Professional Affairs, Dr. Paryono had a courtesy visit to SEAMEO INNOTECH on 12 December 2013.



Director for Programmes Mr. Philip J. Purnell, together with management and staff of SEAMEO INNOTECH welcomed the delegates and brief them of SEAMEO INNOTECH's programmes and services as well as the function of each division.

SEAMEO INNOTECH is one of the SEAMEO Regional Centre that the CD Sharifuddin would like to learn and share best management practices. After the briefing, a tour of the Centre's facilities ensued.

Regional Training

Singapore, 19 August – 06 September 2013



Focused on Industry Electronics, the topics covered by the programme include electrical & electronics principle, digital and analogue electronics, electron-

Aside from the technical skills in Industry Electronics, the participants also undertake pedagogical training in delivering the specialised area.

A total of 30 participants attended this training programme held at ITE College West Singapore, which gave them the opportunity to use the modern facilities and equipment of the college, as well as the expert facilitation of qualified and experienced, Mr. Khiew Tzong Yong, who serve as the training programme Resource Person.

Effective Application of MOODLE Learning Management System in Delivering Rich Media Learning Contents



The participants to the course comprised of officers, educators and academics from Universities, Education Ministries, Technical institutions and schools from all the 10 ASEAN countries.

Especially for this regional training programme, the number of participants that registered and turned up for the course saw a record number of 33 participants which is a record high compared to all the re-

The course focuses on the implementation of an open source learning management system (LMS) called MOODLE which is an open source application, allowing participants the ability to install on their individual computers without infringing any licensing rights.

A seminar to showcase a real life implementation of online learning using LMS and the challenges of implementing a virtual education platform was also conducted on 24th October 2013, during the course. Professor Dr. Abtar Kaur from Open University Malaysia and Dr. Baldev Singh from Imagine Education (UK) shared their experiences and insight at this event on the challenges in implementing a virtual education environment.

The key resource persons from SEAMEO VOTEC which facilitated this training programme were Mr. Saiful Anuar A.Rahim, Mr. Edward Dela Rosa, Mr. Ariffin Haji Yusof and Dr. Marcellino C Gapultos.

Customised Training

SEAMEO VOTTECH trains RBAF personnel in digital photography

SEAMEO VOTTECH (SV) trained 15 uniformed and civilian personnel of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Ministry of Defence in digital photography on 9 – 12 September 2013.

The four-day training programme dubbed as “Getting Professional with Digital Photography” emphasizes on the essential theories of photography which were incorporated into practical exercises that would develop the participants’ skills in capturing and composing professional-looking photos.

The first two days of the programme were focused on the fundamentals of photography which include the definition of photography, the role of light in photography, how a camera works, the difference between SLRs and DSLRs, brief history of film and digital photography, types of photography, file resolution & quality, camera equipment, composition and exposure.

The last two days dealt on taking portraits and flash photography which include the application of studio lighting and shooting a model.



Workshop on Effective Blended Teaching and Learning Approach to Course Delivery for Politeknik Brunei

Two batches of a special customised workshop on Effective Blended Teaching and Learning Approach to Course Delivery was conducted for staff of Politeknik Brunei.

The first batch went through a 5 day intensive training from 22-26 October 2013 focusing on the underlying principles of Blended teaching and learning approach and teaching techniques that can incorporate technology for efficient instructional delivery and providing the opportunity for content conversion to an online delivery medium. It also introduces various rich media learning resource format that can be hosted to an online learning platform providing complementary learning support for a face-to-face teaching environment.



A total of 20 participants attended the course which was facilitated by Mr. Saiful Anuar bin A.Rahim, Mr. Ariffin bin Haji Yusof and Mr. Edward Dela Rosa from SEAMEO VOTTECH, and Prof. Dr. Abtar Kaur from Open University Malaysia.

Courses incorporating Blended teaching and learning approaches converts a significant portion of the learning activities that are traditionally spent in the classroom into online learning to promote active independent learning and reduce class seat time.

The second batch comprising of another 20 staff from Politeknik Brunei attended an improved version of the training programme from 23-29 November 2013. The duration of the course was extended to 6 days to improve on the time allocation provided for the content delivery.

Regional Training

Authentic Teaching, Learning and Assessment (Batch 2)



The second batch of participants, composed of 10 Brunei instructors, attended the training programme on Authentic Teaching, Learning and Assessment from 18 – 29 November 2013.

The participants came from the various technical and vocational institutions under the Department of Technical Education, Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam, namely: Maktab Kejuruteraan Jefri bolkiah, Sekolah Vokasional Sultan Bolkian, Sekolah Perniagaan, and Pusat Latihan Mekanik.

Among the key topics covered in this course included Understanding the Concept Authentic Teaching Learning Assessment, Appropriate Authentic Teaching, Learning, and

Assessment Strategies, Developing Problem-based Learning (PBL) Strategy, Designing Project & Planning for the Implementation of Problem-based Learning, and the Use of ICT as a Tool in Authentic Teaching, Learning, Project – Oriented Based Learning (POBL) and Assessment Activities, i.e. use of Computer-based Mogul Business Simulation in making education decision through data analysis.

The Resource Persons were Associate Professor Dr. Samsiah Mat and Senior Lecturer Ir. Dr. Nazrul Anuar Nayan, both of the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

The training programme on Authentic Teaching Learning Assessment (ATLAS) is part of the Continuous Professional Development on Capacity Building Programme for Vocational and Technical Education Teachers in Brunei Darussalam.

For this fiscal year, ATLAS will be conducted to four batches of participants with the first batch having already been held last 18 February – 4 March 2013.

Developing a Curriculum (DACUM) Certification Training Programme (Phase 1)



This was an in-depth training programme on Curriculum Development and Assessment aimed at enhancing the curriculum design, development and assessment skills of the participants, as well as equipping them with the skills of conducting LIVE DACUM workshop with the industry representatives to formulate occupational skills standard.

The whole programme structure consists of four phases: (1) Curriculum Design and Development, (2) Assessment Development, (3) Live DACUM Workshop by ITEES Consultant, and (4) Live DACUM Workshop by Brunei Participants.

The first phase of the programme, covering the Curriculum Design and Development, was held at ITE Central, Singapore, from 09 – 13 December 2013.

There were ten (10) participants who attended this training programme, coming from the Curriculum Development Section of the Department of Technical Education, Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam.,

The programme facilitator was Mr. Jason Chua, Manager of the Manufacturing Services Curriculum, Institute of Technical Education Singapore.

Special Training

SEAMEO VOTTECH staff trained for Quality Management System Auditing

In its bid to properly implement a quality management system, at least eight SEAMEO VOTTECH personnel have undergone a seminar-workshop on *"Risk-based Approach to Internal Auditing."*

The two-day activity allowed the SV staff to understand the basic principles of auditing and assessment, and to analyse the organizational requirements of internal auditing under an international standard of Quality Management System (QMS), particularly on ISO 9001:2008.

The seminar was part of SV's annual staff development and continuing education programme. The application of QMS enhances customer satisfaction through continual improvement and assurance of conformity to customers' needs.

It was facilitated by Mr. Gusran Wasirnur of Standards Australia International (SAI) Global Ltd., an international certifying agency on QMS. The training was held on the 25th and 26th of September 2013 at SV's Dewan Seri Kerana.



Mail Merge for Civil Service Institute Brunei

SEAMEO VOTTECH was given the privilege to conduct a two-day workshop for two batches of participants on applying Mail Merge to construct letters, envelopes and labels for participants registered with the Civil Service Institute. Training for the first batch of participants was conducted at the SEAMEO VOTTECH computer Laboratory from 1 – 2 July 2013, while the second batch of participants attended their training at the Civil Service Institute (IPA), Brunei Darussalam from 2 – 3 December 2013. The two day workshop for the second batch was conducted at Computer Laboratory 2, IPA.

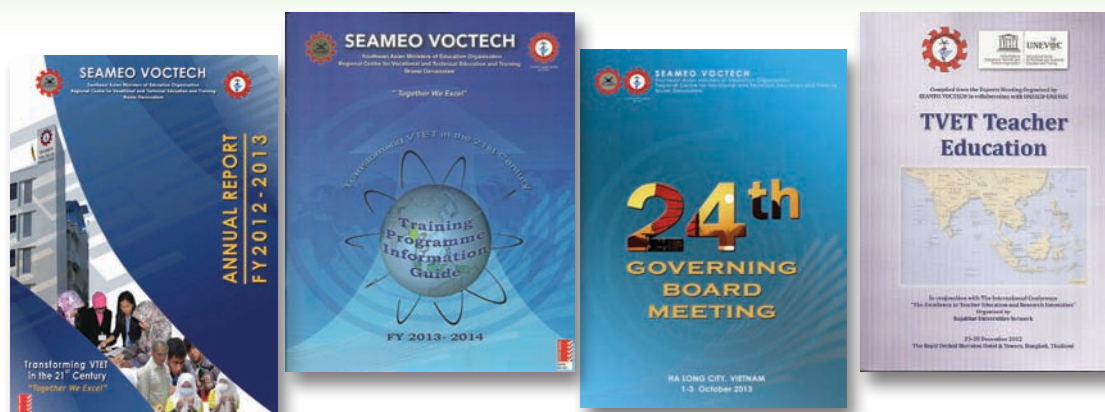
A total of 12 participants attended the first batch of training while another group of 17 participants attended the second batch of training.

Participants who registered for the course with Civil Service Institute (IPA) came from various government departments in Brunei Darussalam.



The focus of the training was on the use of Ms Office WORD 2010 to generate mail merged documents, with letters prepared for receiving data from separate data files prepared in WORD tables, EXCEL and Microsoft Database files. The sessions given, emphasizes on the steps to be taken to easily construct Mail merge documents, whether it is a conventional letter, certificates, labels or name tags. Both batches of training were facilitated by Mr. Saiful Anuar bin A. Rahim, Training and Quality Assurance Manager of SEAMEO VOTTECH.

Publications



- SEAMEO VOTTECH Annual Report Fiscal Year 2012-2013
 - Training Information Guide Fiscal Year 2013-2014
- 24th SEAMEO VOTTECH Governing Board Meeting Report
 - TVET Teacher Education

To obtain copies of the publications, please contact the Centre at Tel. No. 673 2447 992 or email to: info@vottech.org

SCHEDULE OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES/SEAMEO EVENTS

January – June 2014

A. Regional Training Programmes

Enhancing Corporate Image of Educational Institutions	09 - 14 February
Essential Research Competencies for Innovative Policymakers	07 - 19 April

B. In-Country Training Programmes

Facilitating Teaching and Learning through Technology and Learning Management System for the Vocational Institutions [Malaysia]	09 - 14 March
Strategic Management for High Achieving Organisations [Vietnam]	09 - 13 June

C. Customised Training Programmes

Continuous Professional Development for DTE Teachers on Authentic Teaching, Learning and Assessment (ATLAS) - Batch 3	13 - 25 January
IC ³ for Ministry of Religious Affairs	20 - 29 January
Kursus Kaedah Menulis Surat, Minit, Memo dan Pemfailan untuk Kementerian Hal Ehwal Uagama	03 - 06 February
Continuous Professional Development for DTE Teachers on Authentic Teaching, Learning and Assessment (ATLAS) - Batch 4	03 - 14 February
Student Assessment for Politeknik Brunei - Batch 1	12 - 21 February
DACUM Part 2 - Training Assessment Development	17 - 21 February
Effective Curriculum Development and Evaluation for Politeknik Brunei	25 February - 03 March
DACUM Part 3 - Life DACUM Workshop	25 February - 01 March
Perhubungan Awam untuk KHEU	14 - 17 March
Kursus Penulisan Kertas Kerja, Laporan & Minit Mesyuarat untuk KHEU	12 - 15 May
Database Programme: Microsoft Excel for MoRA	19 - 21 May
Database Programme: Microsoft Access for MoRA	19 - 23 May

To All Interested Contributors!

The SEAMEO VOTTECH Journal December 2014 will be published soon. Please submit your articles related to topics on "Vocational and Technical Education and Training" no later than 31 October 2014.

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