1965 - 2015

Southeast Asian Ministers
of Education Organization

A New Education Agenda:
SEAMEO's Seven Priorities

1965 - 2015

50 Years of Education Cooperation
for Regional Sustainable
Development

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In last two decades, the global flagship agenda "Education for All" (EFA) has taken a centre-stage along with the myriad array of SEAMEO activities. With this agenda culminating this year, SEAMEO inherits the progress made thus far in achieving current global goals in order to set Southeast Asian agenda beyond 2015, especially in the context of regional integration and challenges of post-2015 developments.

SEAMEO, having harnessed vast experience in education in Southeast Asia for the past 50 years recognises that its challenges beyond 2015 will be even more demanding, calling for greater urgency to develop a new regional agenda that will drive SEAMEO to promote excellence in education, science and culture.

As part of this initiative, a ministerial meeting of the SEAMEO Council was convened in Lao PDR in September 2014 as part of SEAMEO's flagship projects, the SEAMEO College. The outcome from the meeting was the distillation of Seven Priority Areas of SEAMEO on Education to be promoted for the next twenty years (2015-2035).

SEAMEO 7 Priority Areas 2015-2035

01 Early Childhood Care and Education

Achieving universal pre-primary education by 2030, with particular target on the disadvantaged such as poor children; rural communities; marginalised ethnic and linguistic communities; and children with disabilities benefiting the most.

02 Addressing Barriers to Inclusion

Addressing barriers to inclusion and access to basic learning opportunities of all learners through innovations in education delivery and management to provide for the previously inaccessible and vulnerable groups.

03 Resiliency in the Face of Emergencies

Preparing schools leaders, teachers, students, and local communities in managing and maintaining the delivery of education services during emergencies such as conflicts, extreme weather, and natural disasters.

04 Promoting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

Promoting TVET among learners, teachers and parents with more visible investments and relevant curricula that focus on creativity and innovation, with a clear pathway to lifelong learning, higher education and regional labour, skill and learners' mobility.

05 Revitalising Teacher Education

Making teaching a first choice profession through comprehensive, strategic, and practice-based reforms of teacher management and development systems through more professional preparation at pre-service and in-service processes, following an explicit and shared teacher competency framework and a set of standards applicable across the region.

06 Promoting Harmonisation in Higher Education and Research

Institutional-level harmonisation taking place with Member Countries investing in the strengthening of higher education institutions with each institutions determining their most important needs, supported by research, in order to be able to coordinate and set quality standards with other institutions.

07 Adopting a 21st Century Curriculum

Pursuing a radical reform through systematic analysis of knowledge, skills, and values needed to effectively respond to changing global contexts, particularly to the ever-increasing complexity of the Southeast Asian economic, socio-cultural, and political environment, developing teachers imbued with ASEAN ideals in building ASEAN community.