



SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION (SEAMEO)

The Establishment of SEAMEO

On 30 November 1965, Ministers of Education and high-level officials from Southeast Asian countries gathered for a meeting in Bangkok, Thailand to discuss the possibility of a mechanism for cooperation to be established through the sharing of existing knowledge, developing expertise, and addressing educational issues for common benefits of the countries in the region. The meeting marked the creation of a regional intergovernmental organisation – SEAMEO. It was the beginning of many success stories and tales of Southeast Asian community, working together to nurture and develop capacities and exploring potentials in human resource development. Over the period of half a century, SEAMEO has expanded and gained strength to stand as a significant regional Organization whose works in education, science and culture continue to improve and enrich the lives of people in Southeast Asia and beyond.

SEAMEO Now

SEAMEO has come a long way since its establishment in 1965. Today SEAMEO membership comprises 11 Member Countries in Southeast Asia, 8 Associate Member Countries from around the

world, and 3 Affiliate Members. Through its 21 Regional Centers and Network, SEAMEO has been consistent and steadfast in pursuing activities in its priority areas including various specializations in education, archaeology and history, arts and design, cultural diversity and regional identity, heritage preservation and cultural management, traditions and values, agriculture, biodiversity and biotechnology, disaster management, food and nutrition, natural resources and environmental management, preventive health, and reproductive health education and life skills development. Central to the activities is the special focus on regional needs, fuelled by the spirit of Southeast Asian cooperation.

Future of SEAMEO

SEAMEO is now on track towards achieving a common vision – Golden SEAMEO 2020 – a vision anchoring on four strategic thrusts; Regional Leadership and International Visibility, Programme Excellence and Dynamism, Internal Capacity Building, and SEAMEO Values and Social Responsibility. This vision is SEAMEO's culmination of strengths and values to equip itself to embrace the challenges of the future.

MILESTONES OF SEAMEO

