



The Contribution of Higher Education Partnerships in Southeast Asia towards the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030

SHARE Policy Dialogue 14
29-31 March 2022

CONCEPT NOTE

I. BACKGROUND

The Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (SHARE) Programme is the European Union's flagship higher education programme with ASEAN. The Programme is implemented by a consortium comprised of the British Council, the DAAD, ENQA and Nuffic. Since 2015, SHARE has worked alongside the ASEAN Secretariat, UNESCO, SEAMEO RIHED, the ASEAN University Network and regional partners to strengthen regional cooperation, enhance the quality, regional competitiveness and internationalisation of Higher Education Institutions and learners in the region.

The SHARE Extension¹ has placed high priority on partnerships of higher education stakeholders, namely regional organisations, higher education institutions, scholars, researchers, alumni, and learners with the shared vision and goal of building a sustainable future with the sense of ownership, equity, and inclusivity. Through the concerted efforts of regional organisations in working towards the Sustainable Development Goals, the Share Policy Dialogue 14 will serve as an opportunity to explore how partnerships amongst higher education stakeholders can multiply impacts to achieve the 17 SDGs, particularly SDG4 to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”

The importance of partnerships for sustainable development was highlighted in the ‘**Bangkok Declaration on Advancing Partnership in Education for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in ASEAN**’, which was adopted by the ASEAN Heads of State at the 35th ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand on November 2nd, 2019, where three actions were agreed:

1. Awareness Raising on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. Promotion of Education for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
3. Advancing Partnership to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

SHARE has been working with higher education stakeholders in the region to establish the **ASEAN Working Group on Higher Education Mobility 2025 (AWGHEM)**, which was officially launched at the 12th SHARE Policy Dialogue on July 27th, 2021, in line with the SHARE Programme's role as the technical and operational Advisor to the Working Group. The Members of the Working Group, including the ASEAN Education, Youth, and Sport Divisions (EYSD), UNESCO, SEAMEO RIHED, and AUN are synergising their efforts for the realisation of a more harmonised higher education and sustainable future of the region. This also contributes directly to the ASEAN Education Work

¹ The SHARE Programme is now in its final phase having resumed its work with ASEAN with effect from 27th February 2021 with the agreement for a programme extension between the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Commission until the end of 2022.

Plan 2021-2025, adopted by the ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (ASEM) on 31 May 2021, and in particular **Outcome 3: Enhanced regional capacity in higher education as part of lifelong learning provision, including the harmonisation of ASEAN higher education and Output 3.2: ‘Sustained and strengthened ASEAN capacity in higher education harmonisation through strategies, mechanisms, and scholarship provision.’**

These goals and the importance of partnerships towards the SDGs also resonate with the visions of key regional stakeholders. Through SEAMEO RIHED’s 6th Five-Year Development Plan, RIHED is committed to work at a policy level with Member Countries and aligns with other regional and international organisations towards contributing to the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SEAMEO Education Agenda (Priority Area 6: Harmonisation of Higher Education and Research). These ideals are critical to the achievement of SDG4 on quality education and to UNESCO’s leadership role in coordinating the international community through partnerships, policy guidance, capacity development, monitoring and advocacy.

SHARE Policy Dialogue 14 “The Contribution of Higher Education Partnerships in Southeast Asia towards the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030”, will help ensure the inclusive voices of stakeholders, including learners, the higher education institutional community, researchers of sustainable development, internationalisation of higher education practitioners, and representatives from regional and inter-regional organisations specialising in higher education are heard. Policy Dialogue 14 should reflect the spirit and emphasise *‘the crucial role of inclusive, equitable and quality education as well as the promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all in realising the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; [as well as] the strategic value of partnership by bringing together national governments, international communities, civil societies, the private sectors and other actors in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.’*

II. OBJECTIVES

The 14th SHARE Policy Dialogue has been designed to revisit these actions in the context of higher education partnerships in Southeast Asia and their contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The Policy Dialogue, which is implemented by the SHARE Programme, SEAMEO RIHED, the ASEAN EYSD, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, the ASEAN University Network and their partners, will bring together key stakeholders to share information, exchange views, and propose strategies for further higher education partnerships towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Policy Dialogue will focus on the following:

- The power of youth in partnership for the goals;
- Research-driven sustainable development and research partnerships for the goals;
- Higher Education Institution partnerships for the goals
- Community of Practice development for the goals; and
- Partnerships with the private sector and civil society for the goals

As a result of the Policy Dialogue, participants will develop an outcome document that highlights the contributions of partnerships in higher education in Southeast Asia to achieve, not only SDG4, but the broadest possible scope of the SDGs.

The objectives are as follows:

- To explore how higher education can be a catalyst for strengthened partnerships towards realising the 2030 Agenda
- To highlight the initiatives to date of higher education institutions and their partnerships in Southeast Asia towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- To explore the innovative approaches to regional higher education partnerships for a sustainable future

In collaboration with the UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, policy briefs and other outputs from the policy dialogue will be consolidated and shared during the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference from 18-20 May 2022.

III. PARTICIPANTS (In person / Virtual)

Participants will include key stakeholders from amongst the following organisations / groups:

ASEAN SOM-ED Leaders and/or their representatives
ASEAN Secretariat (EYSD and other relevant divisions)
ASEAN Foundation
European Union Delegations in ASEAN
AUN - ACTS
AUN - QA
ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN)
ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework Committee
ASEAN Human Development Organisation (AHDO)
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Education
SEAMEO RIHED
UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education
SHARE Higher Education Harmonisation Community of Practice
ASEAN University Network (AUN)
EURAXESS ASEAN
Southeast Asian Higher Education Institutions
Higher Education Institutions / Universities of Erasmus Partnership Projects
Employers in the ASEAN Region
European Chambers of Commerce in ASEAN
SHARE Alumni / Erasmus Alumni

IV. EVENT FORMAT

Policy Dialogue 14 will be held as a hybrid event in Bangkok in partnership with SEAMEO RIHED and UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education over the course of three days and as a series of public webinars on the Hopin Platform.

V. DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day One – Tuesday, 29 th March 2022	
15:00 (BKK/JKT)	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>Prof. Sirirung Songsivilai, Permanent Secretary of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation of Thailand</p> <p>H. E. Mr. David Daly, Ambassador of the European Union Delegation to Thailand (TBC)</p> <p>Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, SEAMEO RIHED Centre Director</p> <p>Dr. Roger Y. Chao Jr., Assistant Director/Head, Education, Youth and Sports Division, The ASEAN Secretariat</p> <p>Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi, Director, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, UNESCO Bangkok</p> <p>Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti, Executive Director, ASEAN University Network</p> <p>Mr. Darren McDermott, SHARE Programme Team Leader</p>
15:30	<p>Keynote: The Role of Higher Education Partnerships in the Promotion of SDGs</p> <p>Mr. Libing Wang, Chief, Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development (EISD), UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, Thailand</p>
15:45	<p><u>Panel Discussion Voices from the learners: the future of the sustainable region</u></p> <p>This session provides a venue for learners from the Southeast Asian/ASEAN region to share their views of how their learning experiences have prepared them to be a regional and a global citizen in the VUCA world. How much do they think they are prepared to live, work, contribute, collaborate and lead the change for a sustainable development of the region?</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yee Teng Low, Alumnus from AIMS Programme • Ms. Thananya Laisan, Alumna from SHARE Mobility Programme • Mr. Chanbora Sek, ASEAN Master Programme in Sustainability Management Scholarship Awardee from AUN • Ms. Watsachol Narongsaksakul, Alumna of ASEAN Foundation's eMpowering Youth Across ASEAN (EYAA) Programme Cohort II <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Ms. Porntip Kanjananiyot, Special Advisor to SEAMEO RIHED and former Fulbright Thailand Executive Director</p>
17:00	<u>Partnerships with the Private Sector and Civil Society for the Goals</u>

	<p>Considering the current challenges of climate change, the rapid changes and disruptions being brought to the future of work as well as the recent prioritisation of health security and rapid digital and technological advancements, there is an urgent need to prepare learners differently and more effectively for the sustainable future of the region. While higher education is expected to lead the grooming of future talent with necessary knowledge and skills, this session explores how higher education partnerships with the private sector and civil society can contribute to innovative, dynamic, and future-oriented learning experiences to prepare learners for decent work (SDG 8) and contributing to a responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), while being active global citizens of a sustainable world.</p> <p>Keynote (10 min): Mr. Kiangkrai Yooyeun – People Partnership Director, B.Grimm</p> <p>Panel Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Phunyanuch Pattanotai, CEO, Generation Thailand • Dr. Virot Chiraphadhanakul, Managing Director, Skooldio, Thailand • Dr. Hjh. Yatela Zainal Abidin, CEO, Yayasan Sime Darby, Malaysia • Mr. Bob Fox, Vice President, European Association for Business and Commerce (EABC) <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Mr. Darren McDermott, SHARE Programme Team Leader</p>
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Day Two – Wednesday, 30th March 2022	
15:00	<p>Keynote:</p> <p>Maddalaine Ansell, Director Education British Council (10 mins)</p> <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Leighton Ernsberger, Director Education and English, East Asia, British Council</p>
15:10	<p>Panel Discussion: <u>International Higher Education Partnerships and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) – Case studies from Southeast Asia</u></p> <p>Discussion of research conducted in 2021 on the role international higher education partnerships can play in contributing to the sustainable development goals. Through this panel we will share case studies and explore how equitable the partnerships have been, the value add of international collaboration and the sustainability of the outcomes.</p> <p>Panel Discussion (30 minutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Krčál, Technopolis Group • Professor Rosmini Omar, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia - <i>Assessing and developing the Research Performance of South-East Asian Universities (REPESEA)</i> • Juliette Eulderink, Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), the Netherlands (<i>Climate Proof Vietnam</i>) • Dr. Pisut Koomsap, Asia Institute of Technology (<i>Reinforcing Non-University Sector at the Tertiary Level in Engineering and Technology to Support Thailand Sustainable Smart Industry</i>) <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Leighton Ernsberger, British Council Director Education and English, East Asia</p>

	Q&A Session (20 mins)
16:00	<p><u>Presentation of SHARE Gender and EDI Research Study (20 – 30 minutes)</u></p> <p>Researcher Team: Asia Research Centre of Universitas Indonesia (ARC UI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Inaya Rakhmani, Head of ARC UI, Principal Investigator • Dr. Zulfa Sakhiyya, ARC UI, Co Principal Investigator <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Gill Cowell, Portfolio Lead Gender and Inclusion, British Council</p> <p>Q&A Session</p>
17:00	<p><u>Asia-Europe Foundation Education Department Session</u></p> <p>Inclusion as a Precondition to Higher Education Partnerships to Achieve the SDGs</p> <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Reka Tozsa, Senior Project Manager, Education Department, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to ASEF's Work in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Higher Education (10 mins) Ms Leonie Nagarajan, Director, Education Department, ASEF • Achieving Inclusive Higher Education in the ASEAN Region - Perception Study (10 mins) Student, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Alexandre Tham, Graduate student, LKY SPP, NUS - Mr. Nathan Lefievre, Graduate student, LKY SPP, NUS • Roundtable Discussion: Practitioners Views on Inclusive Partnerships in ASEAN (30 mins) <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Prof Nopraenue Sajjarax DHIRATHITI, Vice President for International Relations and Corporate, Communication, Mahidol University, Thailand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assoc Prof Filmor Murillo, Director of the Centre for International Linkages and Affairs, Camarines Sur Polytechnic Colleges, Philippines - Dr Hui Min Low, Associate Professor, Special Education Programme, School of Educational Studies, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia - Dr Agustinus Hermino, SUPERMA, Project Manager, International Consultant, Lancang Mekong Cooperation Project, Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao PDR <p>Q&A, Closing remarks (10 mins)</p>

Day Three – Thursday, 31 st March 2022	
15:00	<u>Opening Remarks</u>

	<p>Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu and Dr Jenny Lind Elmaco, Regional Coordinators, EURAXESS ASEAN</p> <p><u>Welcome Remarks</u></p> <p>H.E. Mme. Iwona Piórko, EU Ambassador to Singapore</p> <p><u>Keynotes: EU – ASEAN Gender-Responsive Best Practice Sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mina Stareva, Head of Unit, Gender, DG RTD, European Commission • Dr. Zurina Moktar, Assistant Director/Head, Science & Technology Division, ASEAN Secretariat <p><u>Roundtable Discussion: Women in Science and Research: Minding and Bridging the Gap</u></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Chai Lay Ching, Chair and Senior Lecturer, Young Scientists Network – Academy of Sciences Malaysia and University of Malaya, Malaysia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nadia Metoui, Acting Chair, Gender Equality and Diversity for Mobile Researchers in Science Working Group, Marie Curie Alumni Association • Associate Professor Dr Noorhafiza Muhammad, Asia Pacific Women Inventors and Innovators Network • Dr. Orakanoke Phanraksa, Senior IP Consultant, National Science and Technology Development Agency, Co-Chair, ASEAN Young Scientists Network, Former Co-Chair of Global Young Academy • Ms. Kathrin Muller, Project Manager, U-Multirank, Germany <p><u>Closing Remarks</u></p> <p>Dr. Susanne Rentzow-Vasu and Dr Jenny Lind Elmaco, Regional Coordinators, EURAXESS ASEAN</p>
16:30	<p><u>Session Outline Student mobility initiatives for the SDGs</u></p> <p>Preparation for UNESCO World Higher Education Conference 2022 (WHEC2022)</p> <p>Brainstorming and Next Steps – Higher Education Partnerships to Achieve the SDGs in Southeast Asia</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What should be the present and future role of higher education to favour wellbeing of humans and sustainability of societies? 2. What are the main gaps in relation to higher education partnerships to achieve the SDGs? 3. What needs to change or be created to face these challenges within and/or outside higher education institutions? <p>Session Chair and Moderator: Mr. Wesley Teter, Senior Consultant for Educational Innovation and Skills Development (EISD), UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education</p> <p><u>Closing Remarks</u></p> <p>Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, SEAMEO RIHED Centre Director</p> <p>Dr. Roger Y. Chao Jr., Assistant Director/Head, Education, Youth and Sports Division, The ASEAN Secretariat</p>

	<p>Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi, Director, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, UNESCO Bangkok</p> <p>Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti, Executive Director, ASEAN University Network</p> <p>Mr. Darren McDermott, SHARE Programme Team Leader</p>
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