Higher Education in ASEAN

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A. INTRODUCTION

ASEAN Charter (Article 1, para 10) – purposes of ASEAN:

“develop human resources through closer cooperation in education and life-long learning, and in science and technology, for the empowerment of the peoples of ASEAN and for the strengthening of the ASEAN Community”.
ASEAN Community

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)
- Enhancing competitiveness for economic growth and development through closer economic integration

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)
- Nurturing human, cultural and natural resources for sustained development in a harmonious and people-centred ASEAN

ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)
- Enhancing peace, stability, democracy and prosperity in the region through comprehensive political and security cooperation
ASEAN EDUCATION
ASCC BLUEPRINT

- 28 actions relevant to education under the work of ASEAN Senior Official Meeting on Education (SOM-ED)


- 3. Strengthening Cross-Border Mobility and Internationalization of Education;
B. HIGHER EDUCATION PRIORITIES

- Mobility
- Harmonization
- Capacity Building
1. MOBILITY

Intra-ASEAN mobility and faculty-students exchange programs

Programs with Dialogue Partners (e.g. ASEAN Plus Three, EAS)

SEAMEO initiatives (AIMS)

Bilateral/ sub-regional arrangements
Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)

- Engineering
- Architecture
- Accountancy
- Surveying
- Nursing
- Medical practitioners
- Dental practitioners
- Tourism
facilitate the movement of natural persons engaged in trade in goods, trade in services and investments between Member States with a view to achieving the long-term goal of higher levels of free flow of skilled labour.
2. HARMONIZATION

ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF)

- Part of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) Economic Cooperation Work Programme (ECWP).
- Best practices from the EU experience- EQF, Bologna Process
- The ASEAN Education Ministers endorsed the AQRF on 11 September 2014 in Vientiane, Lao PDR
QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA)

- ASEAN (AUN-QA)
- ASEAN PLUS THREE
- EAST ASIAN SUMMIT
- ASEAN QUALITY ASSURANCE NETWORK
Objectives

- General stock-take of ASEAN education landscape vis-à-vis the indicators of the ASEAN Education Scorecard
- Emphasis on individual education profiles of the 10 AMS

Development

- Robust drafting process in which all the AMS, AUN and SEAMEO were fully engaged.
- Supported By EU under the READI programme in ASEAN
- Officially launched at the 8th ASED Meeting, 11 September, Vientiane
AUN- ASEAN STUDIES COURSE

Initiated by AUN/UM/USAID in 2009

Common curriculum at Undergraduate Level

Geographic understanding of Southeast Asia toward the development of a regionally focused identity.
3. CAPACITY BUILDING

- INTRA-ASEAN
- DIALOGUE PARTNERS
- BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS
- ASEAN PLUS THREE
- EAST ASIAN SUMMIT
- OTHER REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS
C. NEW INITIATIVES IN HIGHER EDUCATION
1. ASEAN- EU SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE REGION (EU-SHARE) *(Awarded Dec 2014, British Council)*

**Objectives**
- To strengthen regional cooperation, enhance the quality, regional competitiveness and internationalisation of ASEAN higher education institutions contributing to an ASEAN Community in 2015 and beyond.

**Outputs**
- Policy dialogues on strategic issues; *(British Council)*
- Support to ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF) and ASEAN Quality Assurance systems *(DAAD)*
- Support to credit transfer systems; *(Institut Francais)* and
- Students mobility for intra-ASEAN and ASEAN-EU *(NUFFIC)*
2. Cooperation Agreement between the Associations of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Government of Hungary on Education Cooperation (To be signed 2015)

**Objectives**

- establish a Hungary-ASEAN Scholarship Programme to provide support to students who are nationals of ASEAN Member States and Hungary for pursuing Bachelor, Master, Doctorate, or Postdoctoral education outside of their home country.

- increase the quality of human resources by encouraging outstanding students and professors to undertake short-term or full-term studies or to conduct collaborative research in each other’s higher education institutions.
D. CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

- Education gaps remain, especially in CLMV
- Duplication and overlaps
- Multiple stakeholders present challenges in harmonization efforts
- Reliance of Dialogue Partners (funding and initiatives)
THANK YOU!

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