



# NEWSLETTER

1st Edition 2018



SEAMEO SEN  
REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

# SEAMEO SEN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION, 8<sup>th</sup> SERIES (ICSAR 2018)

SOUTH KOREA, 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018 - A total of 300 plus participants has convened at Daegu University, South Korea for the 8th Series International Conference on Special Education in Southeast Asia Region (ICSAR). This conference is a mean of a joint collaboration between Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (UPI) and also SEAMEO SEN.



SEAMEO SEN officers presented a paper in the conference

The main aims and goals of ICSAR 2018 are to provide recognition, awareness and a more nurturing platform for world community on the importance to acknowledge on special education and disabilities around them. The issue of disability and special educations may be spreading worldwide, however, not everyone is made a call upon it.



TVET for Special Needs given by Dr. Safani Bari (Acting Director, SEAMEO SEN)

## SEOUL REHABILITATION CENTER ON INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

SEOUL, 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2018 - The city of Seoul, South Korea were widely known and established for its scientific and technological advancement since the Joseon phase back in the 15th century. Thus, SEAMEO SEN officers and director did not waste the grand opportunity to went, for a visit at the Seoul Rehabilitation Centre on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, located at Boramae Park, 219, Daebang Street, Dongjak-Gu, Seoul.

Korea Association on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities was established to fulfil the mission of welfare for the disabled community to conduct daily human lives so they feel belong to the member of society. This centre working hand in hand on helping the community not only developing their highest potential capacities but also assisting them in utilizing their best talents through few amendments which include counsel, therapy, education as well as vocational training.



The visit aims to have SEAMEO SEN's officials an experience, gain some insights and deepened the understanding and knowledge on how the other region country are working and progressing towards providing a better environment in Special Education services.



One for the camera

## ART THERAPY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS COHORT 4

MELAKA, 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2018 – Along the joint action with Special Education Unit, the Malacca State Education, SEAMEO SEN has organized a course for Art Therapy for Special Education Needs Cohort 4 from 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 until 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 based at SEAMEO SEN, Melaka.

This course was attended by 51 Special Education Teachers in Malacca and was an extension for the Art Therapy course cohort 1, 2 and 3 for Special Education Teachers and Students Management Assistant in Melaka. Since children are more naturally artistic and creative, art therapy for special needs children may provide them with an easier way to express themselves. A young child is likely to be more initially comfortable expressing him/herself with some crayons and markers compared to expressing emotions and feelings through words.



After the closing ceremony, the participants were invited for photo session.

## SEAMEO - THE UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA SYMPOSIUM VI

JAPAN, 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018 - The University of Tsukuba Japan had invited the Acting Director of SEAMEO SEN, Dr Safani Bari as a presenter to represent SEAMEO SEN in their 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium. The theme selected for the symposium is “Values Education and Global Citizenship: Towards the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goal and Humanity”.

This symposium intends to provide a platform for clarifying the emerging necessary values in educations especially in the special education field. The session involves on sharing educational reform, challenges and issues within the scopes of global citizenship beyond the region, education for sustainable development, human characters developed through school subjects, as well as soft skills and lifelong learning in the changing society.



One for the camera



Souvenirs presentation



Mrs Jorah Johan with the participants making craft



Paper presentation



Head of Private Education and Special Education Sector from Melaka State Education Department, Mr Haji Shamsuddin Bin Harun and Assistant Director of Special Education Melaka, Mr Yahya Bin Md.Tap assessing the participants' handiwork



Participants during the Symposium

## SEAMEO CENTRES POLICY RESEARCH NETWORK TASK FORCE MEETING

BANGKOK, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018 - SEAMEO Secretariat had organized the first meeting of SEAMEO Centres Policy Research Network (CPRN) Task Force which was held at the Hotel Windsor Suites & Convention, Bangkok.

The SEAMEO Centres Policy Research Network (SEA-CPRN) was first introduced as a component of the SEAMEO College, a project launched in 2013. The Network was established to enhance relevancy and sharpen the responsiveness of SEAMEO Centres and the Secretariat to the needs of education leaders for policy research in addressing regional human resource development issues, particularly in Southeast Asia.



Workshop 1: Review of the Research Needs and Possible Policy Research Topics: Priority 1, 2, 3 by related SEAMEO Centres

Workshop 2: Review of the Research Needs and Possible Policy Research Topics: Priority 4, 5, 6, 7 by related SEAMEO Centres



Presenting review of the research needs and possible research topics by Mrs Noor Addlina Oshman (representing, SEAMEO SEN, SEAMEO RECFON and SEAMEO QITEP in LANGUAGE)

This workshop aims to develop Centre Policy Research Network (CPRN) to all SEAMEO Centre and deriving from these joint efforts, SEAMEO members had agreed upon the 4 main functions of CPRN which encompass an inter-center collaboration (ICC), formulating agenda, capacity building own staff or other people as well as knowledge exchange and impact. Gleaning from the joint collaborations and efforts that SEAMEO members had taken, huge anticipation for CPRN had become a reality even though some obstacles arise during the setup.



Closing ceremony

## SEAMEO BIOTROP'S FOR THE 50<sup>th</sup> & GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

INDONESIA, 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018 - In conjunction with the Golden Anniversary Celebration, SEAMEO SEN had participated in the celebration of SEAMEO BIOTROP's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 which took place at the SEAMEO BIOTROP's centre located in Bogor, Indonesia.

SEAMEO BIOTROP has always been a supportive and an active partner to SEAMEO SEN for the past two years. Attended by all representatives of SEAMEO centres based in Indonesia, this event was also officiated by the Secretary-General of MOEC Indonesia, Dr Didik Suhardi, together with the presence of Director of SEAMEO Secretariat and SEAMEO Center Directors to enliven the ceremony.



BIOTROP focusing on tropical biology has venture into many areas of research. Among the research are aquatics resources such as breeding of cat fish and sea weeds



Small scale agriculture for community



organic waste fertilizers

## SEAMEO INNOTECH 15<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Keynote Speech by Sheikh Manssour Bin Musallam, President, Education Relief

"Quality Education for All" by Mrs Josephine Bernardino

PHILIPPINES, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - SEAMEO INNOTECH's 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference was held starting from 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 until 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 located at SEAMEO INNOTECH, Philippines. The SEAMEO INNOTECH 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference was seen as an opportunity to challenge the traditional paradigms through compelling personal narratives that will re-frame conversations related to inclusive quality education policies, practices, problems and possibilities in the region.



Welcome remarks by Dr Ramon C. Bacani, Director of SEAMEO INNOTECH

Woven together, these stories aim to promote action towards building more equitable and inclusive education systems in Southeast Asia and beyond. Throughout the 3 days conference, participants are made available to discuss 82 agendas on Inclusive Education. These stories on inclusive education served as triggers for the participants to develop their own agendas and conduct their own sessions to answer the big question: "How do we grow a learning community that welcomes everyone?"



Closing ceremony

## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MODULE PROGRAM (HOLISTIC MODEL) SPECIAL EDUCATION 2<sup>nd</sup> SERIES (INCLUSIVE PEDAGOGY, PARENTAL SUPPORT, TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND PRESCHOOL)



One for the camera

MELAKA, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - SEAMEO SEN in cooperation with the Staff Development and Training Division Unit as well Special Education Department has organized a course for Inclusive Education Module Program (Holistic Model) Special Education 2<sup>nd</sup> Series (Inclusive Pedagogy, Parental Support, Teachers, Students And Pre School) attended by 48 Special Education Teachers and Officers in Malaysia on 16th March 2018 at SEAMEO SEN, Melaka.



Certificates presentation



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MODULE PROGRAM (HOLISTIC MODEL) SPECIAL EDUCATION 3<sup>rd</sup> SERIES (INCLUSIVE PEDAGOGY, PARENTAL SUPPORT, TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND PRE SCHOOL)

MELAKA, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - SEAMEO SEN along the cooperation with Staff Development and Training Division Unit as well as the Special Education Department has organized a course for Inclusive Education Module Program (Holistic Model) Special Education 3<sup>rd</sup> Series (Inclusive Pedagogy, Parental Support, Teachers, Students and Pre School) attended by 44 Special Education Teachers and Officers in Malaysia starting from 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 until 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 situated at SEAMEO SEN, Melaka.



Group discussions



Module evaluation



Certificates presentation

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH EASTERN PHILIPPINES (USEP) STUDY TOUR TO SEAMEO SEN, MELAKA

PUTRAJAYA, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - SEAMEO SEN as the regional centre for Special Education in Southeast Asia has played our role in creating an opportunity for USEP to understand in depth regarding on the Malaysian approach towards Special Education. The study tour started from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 until 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

The University of South Eastern Philippines (USEP) were brought to see several amended programmes under the Ministry of Education as well as some other initiatives taken by the Welfare Department throughout their ministration. The study tour includes a visit to SEAMEO SEN, PPKI SK Kuala Linggi, PPKI and PDK Sri Malindo. Alongside, SEAMEO SEN also has initiated a platform for USEP to engage in networking with the National University of Malaysia (UKM).



SEAMEO SEN



PPKI SMK RAHMAT



Special Education Unit, IPG Kampus Perempuan Melayu



Special Education Department, MOE Malaysia, Putrajaya

## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN SEAMEO SEN AND UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (UiTM), MELAKA CAMPUS

MELAKA, 5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018 - Moving towards the same goals of providing better platforms in educations, a signing of Memorandum of Understanding between SEAMEO SEN and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) were made happened on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018, taking place at the Mudzaffar Hotel, Melaka.



The MOU signing session was attended by Dr. Safani Bari, the Acting Director of SEAMEO SEN together with the officers from SEAMEO SEN. As for UiTM Melaka, they were represented by the Rector, Dato' Sabariah Mahat, senior management team as well as the lecturers. The ceremony started with the welcoming remarks by the Rector of UiTM Melaka followed by a brief speech by the Acting Director of SEAMEO SEN. The MOU signing was later signed witnessed by all guest from SEAMEO SEN and UiTM Melaka, shifting towards the completion of the main agenda of the ceremony.



Opening Remarks from Dr. Safani Bari



Opening Remarks from Dato' Sabariah Mahat

## SEAMEO SEN GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER VISIT TO SEAMEO SEN CENTRE, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

MELAKA, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 - SEAMEO SEN received the visit from the newly appointed Governing Board Member (GBM), Tn. Hj. Aminuddin Adam on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Tn. Hj. Aminuddin is also currently the Deputy Director General of MOE Malaysia. SEAMEO SEN new Governing Board Member was accompanied by Dr Noraisah Spahat and Ms Shahira Nur Zolkepli from the Policy and International Relations Department of MOE Malaysia. The visit was welcomed by Dr Safani Bari, Acting Director of SEAMEO SEN, officers and staff of SEAMEO SEN. The visit purpose was more on to understand the role of SEAMEO SEN GBM as well as to meet the staff and observe the centre's facilities. The visit was brief and ended with the tour around the centre.



Discussion session



Office and facilities visit



One for the camera

# FROM DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

## ENVISION 2030: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) AND DISABILITY

In 2015, countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. In 2016, the Paris Agreement on climate change entered into force, addressing the need to limit the rise of global temperatures.

On 1 January 2016, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development —



adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at an historic UN Summit — officially came into force. Over the next fifteen years, with these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

The SDGs build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty. The new Goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

### Definition of SDGs

Sustainable development has been defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Sustainable development calls for concerted efforts towards building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for people and planet.

For sustainable development to be achieved, it is crucial to harmonize three core elements: economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. These elements are interconnected and all are crucial for the well-being of individuals and societies.

Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. To this end, there must be promotion of sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion, and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems.

### SDGs and People with Disability

Disability is referenced in various parts of the SDGs and specifically in parts related to education, growth and employment, inequality, accessibility of human settlements, as well as data collection and monitoring of the SDGs, for instance:

- [Goal 4] on inclusive and equitable quality education and promotion of life-long learning opportunities for all focuses on eliminating gender disparities in education and ensuring equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities. In addition, the proposal calls for building and upgrading education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and also

provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

- In [Goal 8]: to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, the international community aims to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- Closely linked is [Goal 10], which strives to reduce inequality within and among countries by empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all, including persons with disabilities.
- [Goal 11] would work to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and sustainable. To realize this goal, Member States are called upon to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, such as persons with disabilities. In addition, the proposal calls for providing universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, particularly for persons with disabilities.
- [Goal 17] stresses that in order to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development, the collection of data and monitoring and accountability of the SDGs are crucial. Member States are called upon to enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS), which would significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data that is also disaggregated by disability.

Persons with disabilities comprise an estimated 15 per cent of the world's population, or one billion people, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries and are

overrepresented among those living in absolute poverty. Persons with disabilities often encounter discrimination and exclusion on a daily basis. This means, in particular, pervasive exclusion from development programmes and funds, as well as all areas of economic, political, social, civil and cultural life, including employment, education and healthcare. Persons with disabilities were not referenced in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and as a result were excluded from many important development initiatives and funding streams around the world.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes persons with disabilities and has thus opened doors for their participation and recognition as active contributing members of society: who must not face any discrimination or be left out or behind. Persons with disabilities should be recognized as equal partners, and be consulted by Governments, the UN system, civil society and other stakeholders. Out of the 169 targets across the 17 Goals, seven targets have an explicit reference to persons with disabilities.

Further, all Goals and targets are applicable to persons with disabilities by simple virtue of universality, which applies to all persons, and the overarching principle of “leave no one behind.” Persons with disabilities strongly believe that only by utilizing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as a guiding framework in implementing the SDGs, will it be ensured that exclusion and inequality are not created or perpetuated. This includes institutional, attitudinal, physical and legal barriers, and barriers to information and communication, among other such barriers.

#### References:

1. <http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/>
2. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/news/news/the-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs-and-disability.html>
3. <https://www.sightsavers.org/news/2015/09/disability-sdgs-words-action/consortium.net/resources-tools/advocacy/sustainable-development-goals>
4. <https://www.eud.eu/news/disability-data-and-sustainable-development-goals/>
5. Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Agenda: “The Road to Dignity by 2030: Ending Poverty, Transforming All Lives and Protecting the Planet”

## SEAMEO SEN TEAM BUILDING 2018

PORT DICKSON, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018 - Teamwork and cooperation are very crucial and important in making sure that a team may be able to excel in everything they have been work for. Hence in achieving, SEAMEO SEN had held 3 days and 2 nights ‘Team Building’ program starting from 20<sup>th</sup> February until 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 at the Eagle Ranch Resort, Port Dickson.

This particular program has been taken apart by a total of 16 SEAMEO SEN staffs including officers and subordinates which the main aim is to improve the quality and teamwork of the organizations’ key people. Several key elements that were being highlighted in this team building efforts are on the basics of teamwork, figuring out on how to create a sense of togetherness, distributing work and roles evenly, and the working competencies needed as an effective team within the organization.



Participants and facilitators photo session



Indoor Activity - Participants are conducting sitting exercises

Throughout this whole program, SEAMEO SEN has managed to achieve the main intention of developing and escalating staff’s level of motivation and altering the way of thinking in terms of thinking, shaping personality, equal treatment of gender (gender bias) as well as cultural influence through thoughts and emotions. In addition to that, this program also helps to prepare the staff in terms of expanding their learning curve and adding a variety of skills in becoming more creative



Outdoor activity - Dice



Outdoor activity - Floating Barrel

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