CUSTOMIZED COURSE: BEST PRACTICES IN TEACHING AND LEARNING: SEXUALITY EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

MELAKA, 15th-17th January 2019 – A workshop was held at SEAMEO SEN, Melaka attended by thirty-four (34) Special Education Teachers from various states of Malaysia and ten (10) officers of Department of Health, Melaka. The workshop aimed to share the importance of sexuality education for special needs children in the context of national culture, to explain the rationale of teaching sexuality education to special needs children and to expose theory and techniques of teaching sexuality for children with disabilities.

CONSULTATIVE MEETING AND WORKSHOP ON “SCHOOL-BASED APPROACH TO DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE IN KAMPONG AYER”

BRUNEI, 28th-29th January 2019 – The proposed project for “School-based Approach in Promoting Disaster Risk Mitigation for Cultural Heritage (Kampong Ayer, Brunei Darussalam)” consists of research, events and educational materials development. The programme was attended by two representatives from SEAMEO SEN, Mohd Anis bin Abdul Razak, Research Officer and Muhammad Asyraf bin Maarif, Assistant Researcher.

The event, namely a consultative meeting and workshops was organized from 28th to 31st January 2019 in Kampong Ayer, Brunei. The gathering featured on-site activities such as cultural and risk mapping with Kampong Ayer school teachers and identification of proposed mitigation measures. The programme outputs will lead to the development of educational materials on disaster risk mitigation for cultural heritage to be used within school communities in an aim to raise community awareness of and capacity in cultural heritage conservation.
BENCHMARKING AT SEAMEO RECSAM

PENANG, 30th – 31st January 2019 – The first batch of ten (10) staff of Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization, Regional Centre for Special Education (SEAMEO SEN) visited SEAMEO RECSAM on a benchmarking platform to measure best practices mostly on organization management, organization of programmes and the common practices between the two centre.

The two days programme also aimed to improve the quality of work procedures for a more systematic implementation. The programme was indeed very fruitful as many staffs had gained new insights on the procedures and processes of a SEAMEO centre. The second batch of eleven (11) staff visited on 26th – 27th February 2019 applying the same benchmarking approach.

TEAM BUILDING SEAMEO SEN 2019

NEGERI SEMBILAN, 19th – 21st February 2019 – SEAMEO SEN “Team Building” program is an annual initiative of SEAMEO SEN which aims to improve the professionalism of the staff, motivate on work application, improving knowledge, creativity, strengthening values and instill positive attitudes towards the success of the one’s organization.

The program was held at Avillion Admiral Cove, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan. The 3-day programme has manage to build better cooperation between staff and striving spirit to achieve collective goals.
IN-COUNTRY COURSE: TRAINING OF TEACHERS TRAINER FOR INDONESIAN SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

MELAKA, 4th – 21st March 2019 – Twenty (20) Indonesian Special Education Teachers from Pusat Pengembangan dan Pemberdayaan Pendidik dan Tenaga Kependidikan Taman Kanak-Kanak dan Pendidikan Luar Biasa (PPPPTK TK PLB) participated in the 3-week training course in SEAMEO SEN, Melaka, Malaysia. The training also involved a total of twenty-three (23) trainers and facilitators from institutions in Melaka and Kuala Lumpur. The participants were divided into two groups focusing on ‘Learning Difficulties Education’ and ‘Psychomotor and Physical Education’. The content focused in the area early intervention and creative pedagogical approached to special needs children.

REGULAR COURSE: POST SCHOOL CAREER TRANSITION PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUAL WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

MELAKA, 18th March – 9th April 2019 – Post-School Career Transition Program for Individual with Special Needs is a course designed to equip teachers with step-by-step strategies, approaches and necessary knowledge to organize and execute a Career Transition Program in schools. The course was attended by thirty-two (32) teachers from ten (10) SEAMEO Member Countries. This course is essential to Special Education Teachers in organizing a Career Transition Program, developing a transition module for Individual with special needs and to increase participant’s ability to plan, organize, and execute a Career Transition Program in schools.
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION 2019 (ICSAR)

INDONESIA, 24th March 2019 – A total of 265 participants and presenters have convened at Gedung Achmad Sanusi, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (UPI) Bandung Indonesia for the 9th Series International Conference on Special Education in Southeast Asian Region (ICSAR). The conference was a collaboration between Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (UPI) and SEAMEO SEN which serve as a platform to create discussions in education and related approaches to improvement the quality of special education and supporting the implementation of inclusive education.

IN-COUNTRY COURSE: OCCUPATION THERAPY TRAINING FOR TRAINER

INDONESIA, 25th March 2019 – The Occupation Therapy Training for Teacher Trainers was organized by Pusat Pengembangan dan Pemberdayaan Pendidik dan Tenaga Kependidikan Taman Kanak-Kanak dan Pendidikan Luar Biasa (PPPPTK TK PLB) with the cooperation of SEAMEO SEN. The 3-day course was held from 25th March 2019 to 30th March 2019. A total of thirty-two (32) participants from various provinces of Indonesia attended the course. Among the aims of the course are to incorporate Occupational Therapy (OT) approaches to strengthen fine motor skills and improving children coordination. Some of the methods uses play-like activities to help children process better and receiving information through their senses. The skills learnt will be in good use in helping children with special needs to improve their cognitive, physical, sensory and motor skills.
DOWN SYNDROME SEMINAR

INDONESIA, 30th March 2019 – The ‘Education for Down Syndrome Seminar’ was organized by The Association of Parents of children with Down Syndrome (POTADS) in collaborations with SEAMEO SEN at the West Java Provincial Health Office Hall Bandung, Indonesia.

The activities outlined by POTADS aimed at providing understanding to the community, highlighting the importance of the rights of Persons with Down Syndrome. The ultimate goal set is to empower parents of Children with Down Syndrome to be eager in supporting their children shine at their maximal potential and able to be self-reliant.

5TH SEAMEO POLYTECHNIC NETWORK MEETING, IPOH, PERAK

PERAK, 26th March 2019 – The 5th SEAMEO Polytechnic Network Meeting with the theme ‘Agreement for the 4th Batch of SEA-TVET Student Exchange Programme’ was hosted by the Department of Polytechnic and Community College, Ministry of Education, Malaysia with the support from SEAMEO Secretariat. The meeting was held from 26th to 27th March 2019 at the Excelsior Hotel, Ipoh. The conference gathered more than 50 institutions comprising more than 300 participants from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam. The meeting also witnessed MOU signing between TVET institutions across Southeast Asia expressing their commitment to the proposed programmes. The meeting was evidence in showing that education is borderless and can become an agent for harmonization between countries.
SEAMEO BORDER SCHOOLS PROJECT
INCEPTION WORKSHOP INTER-CENTRE COLLABORATION (ICC) PROJECT

LAO PDR, 2rd – 4th April 2019 - The 3-day workshop was attended by representatives of border schools, district officers, government officers, SEAMEO Centres, representatives from Department of Teacher Education, Department of General Education, Department of Non-formal Education and Department of External Relations. International donors and partner organizations were also invited to be advised on the intention and take part in the planning of the project. The project strongly welcomes inter-centre collaboration activities to explore expertise on critical issues highlighted in the SEAMEO 7 Priority Areas. The workshop successfully outlined proposed inter-centre cooperation mechanism by building a common understanding on quality education to the children, promote understanding of teachers and school leaders’ competency standards and mobilizing and sharing of knowledge, skills and best practices among SEAMEO Member Countries. The main workshop objective is to draw out global and regional learning strategies to assist border schools in facing the challenges to identify opportunities and constraints faced by schools in the borderland area of SEAMEO Member Countries.

MELAKA, 25th June 2019 – The 3-day Emergency Response Plan and First Aid Training for Special Needs Course organized by SEAMEO SEN successfully gathered thirty-three (33) special education teachers and lecturers of community and vocational college. The course aimed in highlighting the importance of medical emergencies preparedness and equipping the participants with first aid emergency response skills. These skills are undoubtedly very important especially while dealing with Children with Special Needs whom in most occasion having health risk. Group activities involved teachers responding to an emergency scenario in the classroom. The participants highlighted that such course should be expanded to more teacher across the country.

Students and teachers interacting with workshop participants during border school visit

Providing first level respond to an emergency

Simulation of medical aid and response

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training session

Welcoming remarks by Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua Valenzuela, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat

Mr. Mohd Zulkarnain Abdul Wahab, Training Coordinator Officer presenting on the options for identifying learning needs of students.
TRAINING PROGRAMMES TO BE CONDUCTED IN FY 2019 / 2020

01 Emergency Response Plan and First Aid Training for Children with Special Needs
   Customized Course: 25th - 27th June 2019

02 Best Practices in Teaching and Learning: Teaching Children with Down Syndrome
   Customized Course: 23rd - 25th July 2019

03 LAO PDR: Special Education Training (Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Autism)
   In-Country Course: 19th - 21st August 2019

04 Occupational Therapy for Special Educational Needs
   Customized Course: 10th - 12th September 2019

05 Best Practices of Teaching and Learning: Inclusive Education for Teachers
   Regular Course: 22nd October - 8th November 2019

06 Best Practices of Teaching and Learning: Inclusive Education for Teachers
   Customized Course: 29th - 31st October 2019

07 Supporting Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder
   Regular Course: 3rd - 20th December 2019

08 Best Practices of Teaching and Learning: Hearing Impaired
   Regular Course: 11th - 21st February 2020

09 Human Sexuality Education for Students with Special Needs
   Regular Course: 10th - 27th March 2020

10 Best Practices in Teaching and Learning: Methods of Communicating and Interacting for Children with Hearing Impairment
   Customized Course: 7th - 9th April 2020

11 TVET: Transition Programme from School to Career - Hospitality and Grooming
   Regular Course: 9th - 26th June 2020

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