



CG GPD x ASEF Policy Dialogue

Higher Education Policies Working towards the SDGs in Asia and Europe

SEAMEO RIHED

27 September 2023, Rome, Italy

Latest Developments



In Southeast Asian Higher Education (SEA-HiEd)

The Redefined Common Space in Southeast Asian Higher Education

The common space brings together **11 Southeast Asian countries** and **partners** in higher education that cooperate through a **shared vision** to achieve an inclusive regional community for **collective intelligence** in higher education and **more sustainable living and learning**.

Working through consensus on the needs and challenges facing the region of Southeast Asia, this process has been led through SEAMEO RIHED's Southeast Asian Higher Education Senior Officials Meeting (**SEA-HiEd SOM**).

Ministerial Conferences

Every year in Southeast Asia, a Ministerial Conference on education is organised by **ASEAN and SEAMEO** on a rotating basis. In order to address and **institutionalise the shared vision** of countries and partnerships towards the redefined common space, SEAMEO RIHED and the ASEAN Secretariat are drafting a **Joint SEAMEO-ASEAN Declaration on the Common Space in Southeast Asian Higher Education** for adoption by the Ministers of Education and Higher Education in 2024.



The Common Space Today



History of the Common Space - What Has Changed

In 2008, Education Ministers of 11 SEAMEO Member Countries endorsed RIHED's proposed framework for **regional harmonisation** of higher education that would lead to **the development of a Common Space**. This included the establishment of several key initiatives to harmonise regional higher education systems, including **AQAN, ACI**) and SEAMEO RIHED's Asian International Mobility for Students (**AIMS**) Programme.

Through recent experiences and by redefining the Common Space, Countries have identified new challenges and priorities for the region to achieve that reflect the importance of **learning for skills, competencies and credentials**, as well as the need for **futuristic leadership** at all levels and the promotion of **regional collective intelligence** for the challenges we face.

Partners in the Common Space

Inclusive partnerships are needed in higher education to achieve Sustainable Development and we see the redefined Common Space as a means to enhance synergies and avoid duplication, where work plans and initiatives of all partners are shared and coalesce around a **common understanding and vision** for more sustainable living and learning.



Progress of our Efforts



Learning for Skills, Competencies and Credentials

New initiatives are exploring innovative learning through the AIMS Programme to contribute to solving sustainability challenges. These include:

Hybrid/Blended and Virtual Exchange

AIMS Research Committee

AIMS Regional Orientation

AIMS USR Activities

Futuristic Leadership

Four key areas of leadership capacity enhancement have been identified for the region and are being explored with partners. Current projects include:

Strengthening Leadership with Gender EDI in HEIs in the Greater Mekong Subregion and Timor Leste, co-implemented and supported by British Council

Horizon Southeast Asia: Pushing the Frontier of Research and Sustainability, supported by DAAD and Osnabruck University of Applied Sciences

Regional Collective Intelligence

More opportunities and partnerships are being explored through dialogues, research and the development of platforms for sharing and maximising knowledge. These include:

RIHED's SEA-HiEd SOM

RIHED-SHARE

Inter-Regional Research Symposium

Research: on research ecosystems and micro-credentials

—The Future of Inter-Regional Mobility



The SEA-Europe Mobility Programme for Sustainable Development

Global challenges and disruptions have raised the need for the **transformation of higher education and learning mobility.**



To encourage and enhance **inclusive inter-regional collaboration** between Southeast Asia and Europe towards Sustainable Development

Empowering learners to become active global citizens and providing opportunities to **co-design innovative, interdisciplinary learning mobility** based on **values for sustainable development.**



Bringing together governments, higher education institutions, partners, practitioners, learners and the private sector from **both regions to co-design and develop** the learning model and mode(s) of mobility.



Thank you

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