
Progress Report
Activities Conducted by the SEAMEO Centres/Units Under
the SEAMEO Community Involvement Programme
During FY 2007 to FY 2008

**A. SEAMEO Regional Centre for Tropical Biology (SEAMEO BIOTROP),
Indonesia**

SEAMEO BIOTROP as a host institution of RCE Bogor has been conducting several activities related to community development and education for sustainability development. Several stakeholders' meetings have been conducted resulting the willingness of the stakeholders to take part in action in the domain of ESD. At the moment, RCE Bogor stakeholders consist of Municipality of Bogor, research centres, selected public and private primary and high schools, NGOs and business enterprises. Ministry of Men Power and Transmigration has included the activities related to ESD in cooperation with RCE Bogor.

Internally, at SEAMEO BIOTROP Campus, a pilot project: "the Green and Clean" activity by managing our organic waste from the canteen has been conducted. We separate our waste to compost the organic matter. A technology for managing waste from Bogor market using worms has been applied. This programme is the continuation of the cooperation programme with municipality of Bogor since 2004.

An agribusiness workshop focusing on Floriculture was conducted at SEAMEO BIOTROP on 1 May 2007. Dr Benny Tjia from PT Mandiri Jaya Tropika (private enterprise) presented his experienced in the floriculture business. The workshop was attended by 26 (twenty six) participants from government agencies, private enterprises, and farmers.

On 2 August 2007, a seminar on "Education for Sustainable Management" was conducted. Forty-five participants from SEAMEO BIOTROP (staff and scientists), IPB staff, IPB students, private enterprises and senior high school teachers attended the seminar. The resource person for this seminar was Mrs Tri Mumpuni from People Cantered Business and Economic Institute (IBEKA) based in Bandung. Mrs Tri Mumpuni and her team have successfully implemented numerous electrification projects, which resulted in more than 50 villages in remote parts of Indonesia having access to electrical power. She shared her expertise in the seminar by initiating a forum on energy efficiency and conservation in Indonesia and how to work with media on an accurate coverage of energy issues.

Mrs Tri's community-based hydro electrification scheme is bringing electricity to the 75 million rural Indonesians currently without it. Indonesian communities have experimented with small-scale hydropower generation in the past, but the technology's scalability has been limited by financial and regulatory obstacles. She launches community-based off-grid hydro systems, which she then connects with the state-run electricity company. This attractive business model draws private investors to provide the initial funding for the hydropower system in partnership with the community, allowing her to rapidly spread her model across Indonesia.

On 28 May 2008, a training on organic farming, focusing on "Organic Farming Activities at School Garden" was conducted for science school teachers. Thirteen various school teachers (primary, junior, high and special schools), including private schools participated in the training. The school teachers agreed to insert practical activities such as organic farming in their teaching. A request on curriculum design for biology has been raised from this training. RCE Bogor and SEAMEO BIOTROP will be the host and the facilitator to fulfill this demand.



Training on "Organic Farming Activities at School Garden" to Science School Teachers

The seminar on Education for Sustainable Development I: Environmental Conservation and Economic Value Added of Waste was jointly organized by RCE-Bogor and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Tropical Biology on 19 June 2008 at SEAMEO BIOTROP, Bogor. The seminar was attended by 90 participants i.e. high school teachers, college students, and private sectors.

A keynote paper entitled "Urban Waste Management Model and Economic Valuation of Waste" was presented by Dr Hartrisari H, BIOTROP Enterprise Development Centre Unit Head. She concluded that urban waste management model could be used to predict the amount of waste related to the total allocated funds for waste transportation. In addition, Dr Hartrisari explained that waste management model could also be used as a tool for policymaking in the management of urban waste.

B. SEAMEO Regional Centre for History and Tradition (SEAMEO CHAT), Myanmar

SEAMEO CHAT initiated the Community Involvement Programme in 2004 by adopting a Basic Education Middle School in Insein Township in Yangon suburbs, about 20-minute drive from the Centre.

SEAMEO CHAT carried out this programme by doing the school profile, community profile, survey on school activities, identifying needs based on the profiles and deciding on the assistance to be given. SEAMEO CHAT had arranged several meetings with the Insein Township Education Officer, the headmaster and teachers of the school at the Centre as well as at the school. To get the profile of the community, which consists mainly of low income families of different ethnic groups, interviews with parents have taken place at the community nearby.

To fulfill the school's requirement/needs, SEAMEO CHAT donated a 21" TV to the school in May 2005. SEAMEO CHAT conducted a two-week training course in librarianship to strengthen the school library and also presented cassette tapes and CDs on English and General Science, produced by the Myanmar Education Research Bureau to the school in February 2006. Resource Centre staff facilitated the management of the school library as well as collected information on publications related to education during FY 2007-2008.

SEAMEO CHAT is also upgrading English language skills for teachers of the school by enrolling two teachers from the school at every level of the SEAMEO CHAT Communication in English Course. Two teachers have obtained the SEAMEO CHAT

Diploma in English Language Proficiency in March 2007 and two teachers are now attending in the third level of the English course.

SEAMEO CHAT organized a number of activities to promote students' awareness on tradition and health during FY 2005/2006. For FY 2006/2007, SEAMEO CHAT also organized the parents of students of different national ethnic groups to share knowledge of their customs and traditions to the students. Parents were persuaded to support their children to speak and practice their own languages and cultures during summer vacations through organized training courses to be held in April 2008.

With the assistance of Population Service International (PSI), an international NGO, pamphlets on Malaria awareness were distributed to the students in August 2006. Under the guidance of Directorate of Basic Education, the Insein Township Health Department arranged the test on student's personal hygiene and blood grouping and health education talks on diarrhea and dengue fever were conducted in October 2007.



The Basic Education Middle School No. (3) Insein Township in Yangon Suburb, the Adopted School of SEAMEO CHAT

C. SEAMEO Regional Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (SEAMEO INNOTECH), Philippines

For the year in review, SEAMEO INNOTECH has continued to conduct research, training and information/communications technology projects involving schools and the communities they serve. Many of the technologies and innovations espoused by SEAMEO INNOTECH intimately involve parents and the community not only as stakeholders but as active participants/players in the projects. Following are some of the projects which closely engage the community:

Project eIMPACT – Enhanced Instructional Management by Parents, Community and Teachers. Since its inception, Project IMPACT had been an important part of the Centre's programmes. The innovative learning system is meant to improve learner achievement through a package of interventions meant to transform the school, the students, teachers and the community as a whole. Some key features of Project eIMPACT involve parents and the community to aid in providing a meaningful learning experience for the school children despite the limited resources used for conventional learning systems.

Project Text2Teach 500 – The project is implemented in the schools as a partnership among the local government or community institutions, the teachers and education leaders and an alliance of private corporations, including SEAMEO INNOTECH. The Parents, Teachers and Community Associations and local government units in participating communities are expected to provide a counterpart in acquiring some audio-visual equipment, keeping them secure and give support for their maintenance as well as

cover the electricity costs. This kind of involvement in Project T2T 500 gives the parents and the community a sense of ownership of the project results and encourages parents to be meaningfully engaged in education concerns.

Project APEX – Applied Academics for Excellence.

SEAMEO INNOTECH continued to give technical and logistic support to some of its adopted schools which are part of the Regional Coalition of QEE Schools:

1. Bahuyan Yapo Multigrade School in Barbasa District, Division of Antique; and
2. Bongabon National High School in Bongabon, Division of Nueva Ecija

The teachers and principals of the schools were invited to share insights in SEAMEO INNOTECH and even regional activities. Some organizational support was also provided in the schools' participation in various SEAMEO-QEE activities organized in during FY 2007-2008. Some used office furniture, computer equipment and other materials were made available to the schools.

The Centre also launched its Corporate Social Responsibility project by adopting two public schools that serve the community around SEAMEO INNOTECH: Culiat Elementary School and the Culiat High School, both in the Division of Quezon City. A comprehensive school improvement programme is being developed in close consultation with the school heads, the education leaders of Quezon City and the community leaders. The Centre provided some information materials, computers and peripherals, audiovisual equipment and continuing technical assistance to the teachers and the community extension services operated by the schools. The school heads and teachers will have free access to the training programmes and colloquia organized by SEAMEO INNOTECH.



Students of Culiat High School



Corporate Social Responsibility Activity of SEAMEO INNOTECH

D. SEAMEO Regional Centre for Education in Science and Mathematics, (SEAMEO RECSAM), Malaysia

SEAMEO RECSAMs community involvement takes the form of partnerships with seven primary and seven secondary schools in the vicinity of Penang Island.

All science and mathematics teachers of these fourteen schools were given free membership and access to the Learning Resource Centre.

A total of sixty four teachers were given free scholarships to participate in twelve workshops conducted by SEAMEO RECSAM throughout the fiscal year, thus continuously providing these schools with exposure to international high quality workshops.

SEAMEO RECSAM created the opportunity for three teachers to represent Malaysia in participating in a programme on the promotion of human values-based water, sanitation and hygiene education (HVWSHE) in Southeast Asian schools. This initiative is in line with helping teachers in these partner schools to participate at a global level.



Training for Science and Mathematics Teachers at SEAMEO RECSAM

E. SEAMEO Regional Language Centre (SEAMEO RELC), Singapore

SEAMEO RELC participated in the Asian Children's Festival – MRT Read and Ride event on 25 November 2007. The Festival was organized by the National Library Board. One of the Centre's lecturers told stories on Asian theme and heritage to children who were aged four to eight years old on board an MRT train that was travelling from Woodlands to Marina South. The children were from disadvantaged families.

In 2008, as part of its 40th Anniversary celebrations, SEAMEO RELC partnered with the Speak Good English Movement and National Library Board to present a series of three talks on Standard English. These talks, held at various libraries between July to September, were aimed at parents who wished to obtain information and suggestions on how to be good English language role models for their children. The titles of the talks were 'Using Standard Spoken English at Home', 'Ten Best Ideas to Teach Your Children to Speak Good English' and 'What Every Parent Needs to Know about Standard Singapore English'.



SEAMEO RELC Conducted a Series of Three Talks in Collaboration with the Singapore Speak Good English Movement and National Library Board.

F. SEAMEO Regional Training Centre (SEAMEO RETRAC), Vietnam

1. House-building for disadvantaged people in Ben Tre Province 2007-2008

The Centre joined hands to partially fund the house-building programme for disadvantaged people of Ben Tre province – a small province in the Mekong Delta – in June of the fiscal year. The project was carried out aiming to support the “hunger elimination, poverty reduction” movement in the community, improving living conditions for the poor people.

2. Community involvement action programmes

Besides the house building project, additional efforts were made to coordinate the “community outreach campaign” initiated by the Centre. These include:

a) Blood donation campaign

To support the call for blood donation campaign of Ho Chi Minh City Red-Cross, the staff members of the Centre joined the whole day event for the donation in October 2007 and June 2008. Recipients of the blood donation programme would be the poor patients of the City and surrounding areas.

b) Environmental Awareness programme

The Centre also joined hands with the Youth Association of Ho Chi Minh City to support the “Environment Improvement Programme” which lasted for three days in May 2008. The programme included planting trees in areas surrounding the Centre, raising people’s environmental awareness through the information dissemination channels to the Centre’s customers and visitors, and participating in the City-Cleans-up weekends.

c) Fund raising for the floods’ victims and the City’s poor retired educators

In order to help the floods’ victims in North and Central Vietnam, a one week fund raising programme was initiated and called for donation from the

Centre's staff. The donation included monetary, clothing, and food contribution. In addition, a similar fund raising programme was also created to help those who are retired educators and teachers. These two programmes were strongly supported by the Centre's staff and their families during October 2007 and June 2008.



Fund Raising Activity for Floods Victims and City's Poor Retired Educators

d) *English training for Ho Chi Minh City Police Department and University of Security*

Aiming at improving the English communicative skills for the police officers to better serve their work, especially in the era of globalization, two three month English training courses were held at the Centre in April 2007 and October 2007. Participants of the training courses had a good opportunity to elaborate the language learning context-situations and hands-on experience projects. Outstanding participants of the courses were also selected for receiving English language training scholarships at the Centre. The scholarship included tuition waiver for another three month English language learning at the Centre.

e) *Improving educational management skills among women and ethnic minority school leaders from disadvantaged areas of Vietnam.*

Four training courses in 2007 targeted at school leaders who are women and of ethnic minorities to empower them at work with new knowledge and skills. The training no doubt helps link them together for experience sharing and professional networking.

f) *Field trips to disadvantaged provinces in the Mekong Delta and Central Highlands of Vietnam.*

Those trips were to set up programmes to help those provinces improve their educational quality through the improvement of foreign language teaching, ICT application, and leadership & management skills enhancement. Three hundred gifts were given to poor students from those provinces.



English Training for HCMC Police Department

Details of the donations and contributions:

Description	US\$	Recipients
Donation for the flood's victims and poor retired educators	4, 200.00	Victims in North and Central Vietnam
House building for disadvantaged families in Ben Tre Province	5,000.00	Disadvantaged people of the province
Environmental awareness activities	6,000.00	Areas close to the Centre; Centre's customers and visitors
English training courses	10,000.00	Officers of Ho Chi Minh City Police Department and University of Security
Training courses on educational management skills	20,000.00	Women and ethnic minority school leaders from the disadvantaged areas of Vietnam
Gifts for poor students	1,000.00	Poor students from disadvantaged provinces in the Mekong Delta and the Central Highlands of Vietnam

G. SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMEO SEAMOLEC), Indonesia

ICT is an excellent tool to expand and improve quality of education. The fact in Indonesia shows that components of education in Indonesia who are use the ICT as a media for teaching and learning process in the class is still need to be increased. Since SEAMEO SEAMOLEC is a SEAMEO centre concerning on improving the quality of education through open and distance learning, the centre is responsible for participating to improve the quality of community and teachers, especially through open and distance learning. Therefore SEAMEO SEAMOLEC has run some programmes involving a community, such as: Klinik Pembelajaran (Teacher Clinic), Training on Wiki for Instruction for Teachers, Web-based

Course Development, Self Assess Study for Teachers, and Training on Computer for Instruction.

Teacher Clinic is a centre, a place, a medium, a learning resource in which teachers can obtain solutions for their teaching-learning problems they identified from a classroom action research by sharing their experiences, discussing their problems, and gaining advices from educational experts who acted as doctors (supervisors) through both face-to-face and online modes (internet). This programme was carried in 2005 –2007, and participated by teachers from whole parts of Indonesia.



The Website of Teacher Clinic (<http://klinikpembelajaran.com>)

Training on Wiki for Instruction, Web based Course Development and Self Assess Study were conducted to improve the quality of teaching and learning process using ICT and internet, World Wide Web, Web Blog. By the end of the training teachers are expected to be able to develop Class Communication Site, Collaborative Class Site, or Web Blog to assist them in successful teaching and learning.

Training on Computer for Instruction was offered to the Department of Education in the provinces of West Java and Jakarta. SEAMEO SEAMOLEC invites all teachers and other related people who are interested in using and integrating computer for education to actively join in the training. This offer was announced to the officers of the department in September 2008.



The Director of SEAMEO SEAMOLEC Delivered a Training on Computer for Instruction for Indonesian Teachers

H. SEAMEO Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture, (SEAMEO SEARCA), Philippines

SEAMEO SEARCA continues to be an active member of the Los Baños Science Community (LBSC) Foundation. Established in 1984, the LBSC Foundation is composed of academic and development organizations in Los Baños and its environs. Its vision is to build a prosperous, environmentally-conscious, scientifically-oriented, humane, and united community, living in harmony with nature. LBSC currently has 22 members.

Since October 2003, SEAMEO SEARCA has been serving as LBSC Treasurer. As Treasurer, the Centre takes care of the Foundation's financial transactions including its investments, ensuring that the best interest rates are obtained.

Every year, LBSC conducts a National Science and Technology Week (NSTW). For FY 2007/2008, SEAMEO SEARCA, through its Biotechnology Information Centre (BIC), set up an exhibit during the NSTW and sponsored several fun and interactive educational games dubbed "*Knowledge Quest on Biotechnology*," conducted at Baker Hall, University of the Philippines Los Baños. It was participated in by high school and college students from Laguna and nearby towns. NSTW was held on 17-20 July 2007 with the theme "Science, Technology and Innovation for Progress: Focus on Biotechnology and Environment."



High School Students from Various Schools in Southern Luzon Region of the Philippines Enjoy an Interactive Biotechnology Game Prepared by SEARCA's Biotechnology Information Center.

SEAMEO SEARCA also took part in a public awareness forum held during NSTW. It can be recalled that a strong typhoon hit Los Baños in 2006, wherein damage to life and property was extensive. The forum covered environment, safety and management concerns of Mt. Makiling where the villagers are primary stakeholders.

Aside from the above activities, SEAMEO SEARCA also donated computers, computer servers, and used vehicles to the University of the Philippines Los Baños, a computer set to the Los Baños-Calamba Transport Federation, coaster de luxe to the Municipality of Los Baños, and books, office supplies, and furniture to the Landcare Foundation of the Philippines, Inc., Claveria, Misamis Oriental.



SEAMEO SEARCA, a Member of the Los Baños Science Community (LBSC), Joins Los Baños in Celebrating the Town's Founding Day.

I. SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO SPAFA) Thailand

Since September 2006, SEAMEO SPAFA has partnered with representatives of the Thai Fine Arts Department and a civic group in the province of Phrae known as the Luk Lan Muang Phrae Network (LLMP), as well as the Phrae Architectural Heritage Preservation Club to organize various awareness-raising activities on local heritage preservation for local children under a project called 'Community-based Awareness Raising Programme on Local Heritage Preservation for Children'. SEAMEO SPAFA and its partners have also worked with the local community and the local heritage authority to raise awareness on local heritage preservation and to initiate sustainable heritage preservation activities in Phrae.



A House Owner Is Awarded a Flag as a Recognition of His Effort in Preserving the Architectural Heritage of Phrae.

- Objectives

The programme aims to raise awareness among school children in Phrae on local heritage preservation as well as to collaborate with local community on the revival and preservation of Phrae tangible and intangible heritage through different activities.

- Recent Development

Activities implemented include monthly study trips for the children to visit local heritage places and local wisdom leaders as well as the Monthly Heritage Bicycle Tour and street exhibitions. Information on the activities can be found on the project website (<http://phraebookhouse.googlepages.com>). At present, a book titled “Local Heritage Preservation Kit for Kids” is under preparation.

41 Upcoming activities include a regional pilot project on Community Archaeology at the Ban Natong prehistoric site to begin in January 2009, a Conservation Awards Project in collaboration with the Phrae Cultural Council and the Phrae Architectural Heritage Preservation Club, and an architectural conservation project in collaboration with Streetwise Asia.

42 This Community Involvement Programme was short listed by the State Department of USA to be a recipient of the Ambassador’s Fund for Heritage Preservation in 2008. Due to a change in policy SEAMEO SPAFA did not get the grant this year, but we were encouraged to resubmit the proposal in 2009.



Local Children in Phrae Learned How to Make Indigo Dye.



Planting Activity with Children of Phrae



The Local People and the Mayor of Phrae Participated in One of the Heritage Tour Series.

J. SEAMEO Regional Centre for Vocational and Technical Education (SEAMEO VOCTECH), Brunei Darussalam

1. SEAMEO VOCTECH's Half-Day Forums/Workshops in conjunction with Regular Training Programmes

VTE Institution Heads and selected staff are invited to these half-day gatherings to be updated on the specific topic of the scheduled training programme. Such related topics/issues are anchored on curriculum, management, training of trainers, research, and ICT.

Prof Jiro Yoshio, Emeritus Professor of Tokyo Gakugei University & Former Faculty Consultant of CPSC, Philippines, shared and demonstrated meaningful courseware and documents, etc. to course participants and VTE and Secondary School Principals and Teachers in Brunei Darussalam during the two half-day forums on Writing Lesson Documents [Lesson Plan and Storyboard] which were conducted on 28 February and 22 April 2008.

2. Induction Programme for Ministry of Education Officers

On 6 March 2008, an induction programme for Ministry of Education officers was organised by the Centre in collaboration with the Department of Technical Education, Brunei Darussalam.

3. Adoption of Youth Group

SEAMEO VOCTECH adopted the "B@ktif" Youth Group where they were given free usage of the computer lab [30 PCs] from 24 to 26 June 2008. Future project plans include two training programmes on ICT and Entrepreneurship.

4. Free Use of Facilities

Library: Students, teachers, staff of the Ministry of Education and other Ministries/departments use the facility without any fees, except for lost or damaged books borrowed.

Conference Hall and Training Rooms: A number of Government Organisations use the Centre's training rooms for meetings and training for their organisations' activities. [e.g. Information and Communication Department of the Ministry of Education for ICT Training room with Internet connectivity].
