ASEAN Conference on Out-of-School Children and Youth

SEAMOLEC proposed the Open Educational Resource (DER) Hub in Centre Directors Meeting 2 (CDM) 2019

Online Course for Family Education has Officially Launched
Assalamu’alaikum Warrahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh,

Greetings from SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, Jakarta! This December 2019 edition recaps all activities conducted or participated by the centre during the month of September to December. During this period, there was a remarkable event in the mid of September, an International Conference on Embedding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policy and Practice for Southeast Asia, which was conducted back to back with SEAMOLEC 22nd Governing Board Meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia.

SEAMOLEC is very keen on establishing a stronger networking system through partnerships and synergizing with other related parties. Only with good network and partnership the Centre treasures to grow bigger in the future. Within the past 4 months, SEAMOLEC managed to create new partnership by signing Memorandum of Understanding with other institutions; Don Bosco Tech ASEAN, YPK Ora et Labora, Institut Ilmu Alquran (IIQ) Jakarta, Al Fajar Islamic Foundation, Nodelux, and Indonesian Association of Kindergarten Teachers in South Tangerang City.

In order to always maintain the existing partnership with its partners, SEAMOLEC opens itself for visitation from other institutions. We received a number of visitations from Institut Ilmu Alquran (IIQ) Jakarta, Foreign Relations Office of MOE of Thailand, SMK Bakti Nusantara 666, and SMKN 1 Kadipaten, Majalengka. Not only visitations, SEAMOLEC also extends new partnerships through joining various exhibitions; The 2019 International Literacy Day Exhibition, The Global Educational Supplies & Solutions (GESS) Indonesia 2019, Sinergi Aksi Informasi Komunikasi (SAIK) 2019, Exhibition of “Gelar Karya Film Pelajar 2019”, the 4th ICE on IMERI Symposium, and Kihajar Award Exhibition.

The training programmes of SEAMOLEC has always been favorite to its participants as it always tries to provide new emerging technologies and its application for education as its training topics. Among the various topics are; Fun Introduction to Visual Narrative-based Learning Material Development, Virtual Coordinator Training Programme, Training on Video Conference, Creating Interesting Learning Materials using Educational Comic, Developing More Interesting Learning Materials through the use of Whiteboard Animation, as well as Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR).

This edition also covers SEAMOLEC participation in several conferences; the ASEAN Conference on Out-of-School Children and Youth in Bangkok, the High Officials Meeting (HOM) on Southeast Asia-Technical and Vocational Education and Training (SEA-TVET) in Brunei Darussalam, the 4th Annual International Seminar English Language Teaching (AISELT) 2019 in Banten, and a One-day Seminar on Education Management System in Industry Revolution 4.0.

At the end, allow me to personally wish SEAMOLEC Info readers the best. May you have a joyous, peaceful and love-filled Christmas. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2020!

Wassalamu’alaikum Warrahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh.
The 22nd SEAMEO SEAMOLEC Governing Board Meeting

SEAMEO REGIONAL OPEN LEARNING CENTRE (SEAMOLEC) HOSTED ITS 22ND GOVERNING BOARD MEETING (GBM) AT THE HOLIDAY INN & SUITES JAKARTA GAJAH MADA HOTEL, JAKARTA, INDONESIA ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

The GBM is an annual event of the centre that invites Governing Board Members as representatives of Southeast Asia countries which aims to report performance of the centre in the past year and to propose new activities in the upcoming years.

The meeting was participated by 7 Governing Board Members and representatives from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. There were 13 working papers and 2 other matters being discussed, reviewed and proposed during the one-day meeting. Also attended the meeting, the ex-officio from SEAMEO Secretariat, Dr Wahyudi (Deputy Director for Programme and Development), and Ms Anti Rismayanti, and the Coordinator of 7 SEAMEO Centre in Indonesia, Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto. The meeting was officially opened by the Senior Advisor to the Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia on Innovation and Competitiveness, Dr Ananto Kusuma Seta.

Dr Wahyudi opened his speech by expressing his appreciation to the technical inputs and professional advice from the highly esteemed Board members that would allow SEAMEO SEAMOLEC to continue pursuing programmes and activities with high quality, relevancy to needs, responsiveness to development, effectiveness, and sustainability. He also applauded SEAMEO SEAMOLEC for the success in conducting 5 face-to-face training programmes and 40 online training programmes that mostly related to the Industrial Revolution 4.0 with a total of 7,115 participants in the last fiscal year. He also delighted...
that SEAMEO SEAMOLEC has been working closely and gave the services related to ODL system to the Ministries of Education, SEAMEO Centres as well as other partners such as universities in the region and consistently provides 30 research grants distributed to teachers and lecturers in Indonesia. Dr Wahyudi conveyed that he is confident that in upcoming years SEAMEO SEAMOLEC will be able to deliver more programmes and focus with their own flagship programmes not only in Indonesia, furthermore in other Southeast Asia countries as well as beyond the region.

In his opening remarks, Dr Ananto emphasized the role of SEAMEO SEAMOLEC in enhancing its competitiveness towards the industry 4.0 era. He shared the 3 key challenges to face the industry 4.0, they are; ensuring the benefits that are distributed fairly, managing the risks and harm that it causes, and the last one is ensuring it is human-led and human-centered. He also highlighted some ways for SEAMEO SEAMOLEC as strategies to improve its role in becoming the centre for Open and Distance Learning (ODL) which serve 11 countries within the region. SEAMEO SEAMOLEC should become a platform organization, develop knowledge sharing in global public goods, capacity building, and networks, as well as to provide more relevance, divers, and flexible services, which are demand driven, modular and certified through self-directed learning, project based-learning, and partnership with stakeholders.

The meeting was chaired by the Governing Board Member from Thailand, Prof Dr Prasert Suebka, the Acting President of Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU) of Thailand as the Chairperson. All meeting sessions went very productive and effective under the lead of the Chairperson. SEAMEO SEAMOLEC Board of Directors presented all 13 working papers and 2 other matters to the Governing Board Members and received valuable inputs and resolutions to be implemented accordingly. The Meeting was adjourned in late afternoon, it was agreed by all members that the 23rd SEAMEO SEAMOLEC GBM will be held next year in Bandung, Indonesia, on September 16-19, 2020.
The International Conference on Embedding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policy and Practice for Southeast Asia

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) was actively involved in the conduct of The International Conference on Embedding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policy and Practice for Southeast Asia at Holiday Inn & Suites Jakarta Gajah Mada Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia on September 18-19, 2019. The two-day event was held back to back with the 22nd SEAMEO SEAMOLEC Governing Board Meeting (GBM).

One of the reasons holding this conference is in accordance to the implementation of the Priority Areas of SEAMEO, especially priority number 7, Adopting 21st century curriculum. SEAMEO SEAMOLEC believes that the advancement of digital technologies, especially in the education field, needs to benefit everyone within our region. In his remark as the Head of committee of the conference, Dr Alpha Amirrachman, SEAMEO SEAMOLEC Director expressed that education powered with AI will be one alternative solution to address inequality access to education in Southeast Asia. This transformation will demand Southeast Asia countries to rethink their national policies as well as the priorities.

The event invited Mr Yanuar Nugroho, Ph D, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Analysis and Oversight of Priority Programmes at the Executive Office of the President Republic of Indonesia, as the keynote speaker on Day 1 who shared about Paradigm Shift in Enhancing Policy Making. Meanwhile, on the second day, there were 2 keynote speakers from the two Ministries who shared about Indonesia Education Policy towards AI; Ir Totok Suprayitno, Ph D, the Head of Research and Development Agency, Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia; and Prof Dr Ismunandar, the Director General of Learning and Student Affairs, Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education.

Several institutions were involved in this international conference; 13 industries such as Bukalapak, Blibli, Amazon Web Service, Samsung RnD, Nodeflux, kata.ai, Cognixy, Xcure IT, Cyber Edu Inkor, Edmodo, and Weidong Cloud Education. There were also 4 Indonesian public universities like Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Institut Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), and Politeknik Elektronika Negeri Surabaya (PENS), and several private universities actively playing role in this conference as speakers. The event was also supported by 2 international organisations: UNESCO and SEAMEO with its 10 Centres: SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, SEAMEO BIOTROP, SEAMEO RECafort, SEAMEO QIS, SEAMEO QIM, SEAMEO QIL, SEAMEO INNOTECH, Philippines, SEAMEO SEN, Malaysia, SEAMEO RETRAC, Vietnam, and SEAMEO TED, Cambodia.

The conference presented 6 sub-themes divided into 3 plenary sessions, and 3 break-out sessions. The plenary
sessions were; (1) the latest trends of humanistic AI: challenges and opportunities; (2) promoting digital talents for development of values and skills in AI era; and (3) AI development in Education. Meanwhile, the break-out sessions were; (1) the latest development of AI ecosystem, (2) distance education for ensuring inclusive and lifelong learning through AI; and (3) best practices of AI utilization in teaching and learning.

Press Conference
The Conference invited several local journalists to cover the event in national media. There were 5 resource persons shared information regarding the conference, among others; Mr Yanuar Nugroho, Ph D, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Analysis and Oversight of Priority Programmes at the Executive Office of the President Republic of Indonesia, Dr Ethel Agnes Valenzuela, the Director of SEAMEO Secretariat, Ir Totok Suprayitno, Ph D, the Head of Research and Development Agency, Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Suparto, the Special Staff to the Minister of Education on International Cooperation and Public Communication, Dr Alpha Amirrachman, the Director of SEAMEO SEAMOLEC who was also the Head of Committee of the International Conference, and Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto, the Coordinator of 7 SEAMEO Centres in Indonesia.

Exhibition on AI Prototype
During the Conference, SEAMOLEC carried out a compact exhibition to show 2 prototypes on AI developed by the Centre’s IT Content and Knowledge Management Division. After several months of research, the team managed to develop an early stage of AI prototypes to support learning. These two prototypes can later be customized according to the needs of educational institutions.

The first prototype is “the Fruit Nutrition Detection” which uses machine learning algorithms called Convolutional Neural Network. Just like the brain consists of billions of highly connected neurons, a basic operating unit in a neural network is a neuron-like node. It takes input from other nodes and sends output to others. Our programmers trained the computer with a dataset of different kind of fruits images taken from thousands of different angles and labeled them all as each fruit, such as banana, orange, grape, apple, and pear. So, when shown a particular fruit, let’s say a banana, the computer will recognize it as banana and differentiate it from any other object, as well as giving information about the nutrition contained in one banana.
The second one is called “the Southeast Asia Information” which uses voice recognition. This prototype is able to give information regarding Southeast Asia region with some relevant questions set prior to the system. For example, when asked “What is the capital city of Myanmar?” the computer will give respond “Nay Pyi Taw”. This prototype is believed to assist students to learn English language in terms of pronunciation and also about ASEAN studies.

High-Level Policy Forum on AI
During the conduct of the International Conference, UNESCO in cooperation with SEAMEO organized a side event to support countries in planning AI in education policies and fostering AI-ready policymakers. The event called High-Level Policy Forum on Planning Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policies and Fostering AI-Ready Policy Makers in Southeast Asia. It was held also at Holiday Inn & Suites Jakarta Gajah Mada Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia on September 18-19, 2019.

Participants of this meeting were High Officials from SEAMEO Member Countries, SEAMEO Secretariat and Centres and UNESCO. It aimed to demonstrate UNESCO’s global policies and practices on AI in education, to discuss regional strategies on harnessing the potential of AI in education, and to plan regional programmes on AI in education with multi-stakeholder partnerships.
The 2019 International Literacy Day Exhibition

International Literacy Day or Hari Aksara Internasional (HAI) is an international event declared and celebrated by United Nations member countries on every September 8. It was celebrated for the first time in 1966 by UNESCO as an act of commitment of international world in reducing the number of illiterate people. The Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia celebrated the 54th HAI this year by conducting exhibition event at Lapangan Karebosi, Makassar City, South Sulawesi on September 6-8, 2019.

The MoEC took “Variety of Local Culture and Community Literacy” as the theme of this year’s celebration. The exhibition was officially opened by the Mayor of Makassar City and the Director of Literacy and Equality on September 6, 2019 at 10.00 am.

The exhibition displayed several regional flagship programmes, regional products, and performing stage for community/institutions to show their creativity. Exhibitors were divided into 4 different zones. SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) participated in this event as exhibitor in Zone 1 together with SEAMEO Regional Centre for Early Childhood Care Education and Parenting (CECCEP). SEAMOLEC exhibited online training programme and opened online registration for participants to join. Other interesting exhibitors are the course institutions from all over Indonesia, they provided free services such as; massage, hair cut, spa, barista, food and beverage, medical check, reading section, and blood donation.

The Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia, Prof Dr Muhadjir Effendy, in his remarks emphasized that Indonesia needs to enhance the role of basic education in preparing the 21st century generation. The Governor of South Sulawesi, Nurdin Abdullah also mentioned about the importance of literacy education for community to improve their quality of life. Improved literacy skills will also have an impact in poverty alleviation.
The Global Educational Supplies & Solutions (GESS) Indonesia 2019

Global Educational Supplies & Solutions (GESS) Indonesia is an annual exhibition event for education in the form of conference and exhibition. It brings together engaging industry leaders from around the world and influential local practitioners to present a combination of inspirational talks and dynamic, hands-on workshops.

The GESS Indonesia 2019 was officially opened on Wednesday, September 18, 2019. Located at the Assembly Hall, Jakarta Convention Center (JCC), the largest education exhibition and conference in Southeast Asia was held for three days, September 18-20, 2019.

In the opening ceremony of GESS Indonesia 2019, the Senior Advisor to the Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia on Innovation and Competitiveness, Dr Ananto Kusuma Seta, expressed his appreciation for the conduct of GESS Indonesia 2019. With this event, GESS has taken its role in educating the lives of Indonesian students. According to Dr Ananto, the theme “What Will You Create” taken by GESS Indonesia 2019 is very relevant to the focus of Indonesian education which is going forward to increase the creativity of Indonesian children.

The exhibition involved around 80 exhibitors from 15 countries who showed innovative solutions to support education, including SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC). SEAMOLEC exhibited various innovative equipments, including; SEAMOLEC Innovative Educational Resources for Remote Areas (SIERRA); Virtual Reality (VR) interactive; 3D Augmented Reality; and face-detecting robot as innovations in the field of Internet of Things (IoT).

Visitors who were teachers, principals, students, lecturers came to SEAMOLEC’s booth to look for information about educational innovations that have been developed by SEAMOLEC. They also tried to experience the Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality; solar system, chemical elements, musical instruments and traditional houses as well as 3D printing results.

SAIK 2019 Exhibition

The Ministry of Communication and Informatics (Kemkominfo) organized a big event called Sinergi Aksi Informasi Komunikasi (SAIK) 2019 or the Synergy of Public Information and Communication Act (SAIK) 2019 at Alun-Alun Taman Merdeka, Pangkalpinang, Bangka Belitung, on October 23-25, 2019. The event has become an opportunity for the young generation of Bangka Belitung to develop their digital literacy, for exemple, by wisely choosing positive content in cyberspace.

This activity was officially opened by the Deputy Governor of Bangka Belitung Islands Province, Mr Abdul Fatah. He conveyed his expectation for SAIK 2019 to provide motivation and spirit of youngsters to understand technology, especially communication technology. So that in the future they will be able to create and operate new technologies for the development in Bangka Belitung. “To all smart phone users, please be a part of smart generation when you surf the internet and social media. Students should utilize this moment to learn about technology, as it is a great asset in the future,” he added.
SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC), together with other units of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of the Republic of Indonesia, also participated in the SAIK 2019. The Centre presented its programmes related to Information and Communication Technology (ICT), specifically about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT), Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR).

Exhibition of “Gelar Karya Film Pelajar 2019”

The Center of Film Development, Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia hosted an event called Gelar Karya Film Pelajar 2019, or the 2019 Movie Competition for Students. The theme of the competition was “the Spirit of Diversity in Millennial Generation”. This activity aims to foster a sense of love and care for the nation’s culture to strengthen the spirit of nationalism for Indonesian students through film media art. The other objective is to promote learning values for the wider community on creative themes contained in Indonesian student film works, because the massage conveyed through film art or audio-visual media will be easily understood universally.

Various activities were carried out during the award-winning ceremony on October 29-30, 2019 at the Ministry of Education and Culture Office, Senayan, Jakarta. Among others are the screening of students’ films that were nominated and exhibition event. SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Center (SEAMOLEC) participated as one of the exhibitors and shared its excellent programmes such as Online Training and In-House Training with various interesting course topics. Those programmes are opened for teachers, students, and lecturers from all levels of education. SEAMOLEC also introduces new learning tools such as Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR).

Kihajar Award 2019 Exhibition

The 2019 Kihajar Award is an annual event held by the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Center for The Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia or Pustekkom, on November 13-14, 2019 at Balai Kartini, Jakarta. This award aims to honor the Heads of regions with good commitment and support in developing ICT to support education within the region, to give appreciation to the best teachers in implementing ICT integration into teaching and learning process as the ambassadors of Rumah Belajar portal, and to reward students and teachers who won the Kihajar Competition. To support the award programme, SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) sent its expert in Research and Development division, Mr Karyana to be one of the judges.

Back-to-back with the event, Pustekkom also held a National Seminar on ICT, the official launching of Rumah Belajar android-based application, and an education exhibition. SEAMOLEC participated in the exhibition by displaying its flagship programmes, such as Online Training and In-House Training which are opened for teachers, students, lecturers, and public.

SEAMOLEC also introduced the current technology developed as learning tools, such as Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR) and Artificial intelligence (AI). Visitors were very interested in experiencing the technology as well as registering to SEAMOLEC Online Training. They also received exclusive souvenirs from SEAMOLEC.
ICE on IMERI Exhibition

International Conference and Exhibition on Indonesian Medical Education and Research Institute, or also known as ICE on IMERI, is one of the most important events dedicated to further the enrichment in the field of medical research and education conducted by the IMERI-Medical Faculty of the University of Indonesia. The conference aimed to gather experts on global health from various countries to share experiences, develop knowledge, and find a solution to overcome medical research and education problems.

This year, the conference held the theme of “ICE on IMERI 4.0: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data in Medical Science, Education, and Health Care”. It was conducted on November 4-5, 2019 along with an exhibition event, which focused on AI and big data, a new trend that is reshaping the way we think about the world.

Previously, data was limited to spreadsheets or databases, but now, advancement in storage and analytics makes technology to be able to capture, store and work with many different types of data. Big data now is continually evolving and being reconsidered, as it remains the driving force behind many ongoing waves of digital transformation, including artificial intelligence (AI), data science and the internet of things. AI has been emerging newcomers and acts as an effective tool to build the platform for ingesting, analyzing and providing recommendations for wide issues, including health care.

In this event, SEAMOLEC participated as an exhibitor and brought all products related to the theme of ICE on IMERI 4.0 which has been continuously developed by SEAMOLEC and partners. Among others were; Augmented Reality for human organs, Virtual Reality for Human Anatomy and the new one, is a prototype called D.O.N.O robot. It is an AI programme that can recognize particular fruits and the contained nutrition per serving.

ASEAN Conference on Out-of-School Children and Youth

University of Tsukuba in cooperation with SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) participated in ASEAN Conference on Out-of-School Children and Youth with the theme “No one left behind: Advancing Partnership towards a Learning, Inclusive, and Sustainable Community” which was conducted in Bangkok, Thailand, on September 16-17, 2019. This conference was organized as a part of the activities under the ASEAN Chairmanship of Thailand led by the Ministry of Education of Thailand in collaboration with UNESCO Bangkok, UNICEF EAPRO, UNICEF Thailand, SEAMEO Secretariat and the ASEAN Secretariat.

In this Conference, SEAMOLEC was represented by Abdul Rizal Adompo, the Manager of IT Content and Knowledge Management Division.

He presented about SEAMOLEC Innovative Educational Resources for Remote Areas (SIERRA) technology that can be used to deliver educational digital contents in remote areas. Available contents in SIERRA among others are results from cooperation with Rumah Belajar (PUSTEKKOM), Khan Academy, Biovision, Mathematics Lab, and many more. SIERRA can be filled with learning materials as needed by schools, teachers, or the institution as users. This will certainly give distinct advantages for schools and relevant educational institutions, as it can indirectly protect students from accessing dangerous sites or pornography contents. Besides, it can serve as an alternative solution to deliver digital contents for disadvantaged schools which cannot be reached by internet or electricity.

Another issue delivered during the session was the scarcity of available content for disadvantaged students, especially students who have special needs. SEAMOLEC offers and welcomes all possible cooperation to develop certain contents including sharing best practice and pedagogy for delivering to those in needs.
The Ministry of Education of Thailand

On Wednesday September 25, 2019 SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) welcomed representatives from the Bureau of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Education of Thailand, Ms Rungkan Punpukdee and Ms Benjaporn Munyaton. The one week study visit programme in Indonesia aimed to enhance the staff capacity with partners abroad, including the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia, ASEAN Secretariat, and SEAMEO Centres in Indonesia.

The visit was welcomed by SEAMOLEC Board of Directors and all managers after the office tour session at SEAMOLEC Office. SEAMOLEC IT Content division demonstrated the prototypes of Artificial Intelligence (AI) which are currently being developed by the centre regarding “Southeast Asia Information” and “Fruit Nutrition Detection”.

SEAMOLEC Deputy Director for Programme, Mrs Prakaikan Schneitz presented about SEAMOLEC as one of SEAMEO Centre which focus in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and its existing programmes/activities. Ms Rungkan Punpukdee and Ms Benjaporn Munyaton were very impressed with the information shared by SEAMOLEC, and on behalf of the Ministry of Education of Thailand, they are willing to assist SEAMOLEC for collaboration with education partners in Thailand in the future.

After visit at SEAMOLEC, delegates continued the visiting programme to SEAMEO Regional Centre for Quality Improvement of Teachers and Education Personnel (QITEP) in Science, and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Early Childhood Care Education and Parenting (CECCEP) in Lembang, Bandung.

Institut Ilmu Al-Quran (IIQ) Jakarta

The Faculty of Education of Institut Ilmu Alquran (IIQ), Jakarta visited SEAMOLEC on September 24, 2019 with total 131 participants of lecturers and students. It is the first time for IIQ in having a sharing session with SEAMOLEC team regarding educational technology. They were welcomed by SEAMOLEC Deputy Director for Administration, Drs Yoni Utomo. SEAMOLEC experts, Mr Timbul Pardede shared about ICT integration into teaching and learning in pedagogical
aspect, meanwhile, Mr Puryanto, SEAMOLEC IT Content officer demonstrated several types of technology-powered learning which are currently being developed by the centre.

The students were actively involved in the question and answer sessions. At the end of the visit, Dr Esi Hariani, the Dean of the Faculty of Education of IIQ conveyed her appreciation for SEAMEO SEAMOLEC for sharing relevant information regarding current technology empowerment in education. She also stated the interest of IIQ in conducting other students visit programme and also training programme in the near future at SEAMOLEC office or at IIQ campus.

**SMK Bakti Nusantara 666 Bandung**

SMK Bakti Nusantara 666 which is located in Cileunyi, Bandung District has established good networks and partnership with industries in order to improve the skills of students and graduates. The school applies balanced learning in theory and practice by involving their industry partners. One of their efforts in maintaining the good relation is by conducting industrial visit.

On October 31, 2019 SEAMOLEC received 97 teachers and students from visual communication design and animation majors of SMK Bakti Nusantara 666. They were welcomed by Mr Renaldo R Nosyafril, SEAMOLEC Training Manager, and Mr Timbul Pardede, SEAMOLEC Expert in Training Division. For half day they listened attentively to explanations about ICT for Learning, especially the ones related to design and animation, which has been developed by SEAMOLEC.

They were then divided into two groups; design class and animation class. In design class, the students were demonstrated about Infographic Design, and in animation class they learned about Whiteboard Animation. These two materials will support them with digital publication and animation competences.

**SMKN 1 Kadipaten Majalengka**

On November 5, 2019 SEAMOLEC received visitation from 102 students of Grade 11 from Software Engineering major and teachers of SMKN 1 Kadipaten Majalengka. They visited the Centre to learn more about Basic ICT Skills for Professionals and its implementation.

During the session, Mr Timbul Pardede, SEAMOLEC Training Expert shared about 4 levels of skill in ICT, they are: Basic, Practice, Production, and Business. He also shared interesting programmes developed by SEAMOLEC related to ICT skills.

Mr. Alfan P Laksono as SEAMOLEC IT Content and Knowledge Management Officer shared about Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) which are continuously being developed by SEAMOLEC for educational purposes.

Mr Edi Junaedi as the representative of the Principal of SMKN 1 Kadipaten expressed his appreciation to SEAMOLEC and believed that the information received from the Centre will be very useful to the students considering that they are from Software Engineering major who need to always update their ICT skills with the latest development.
SEAMOE Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) has been servicing Southeast Asia region with its various programmes since the year 1997. In line with its mission, the Centre with twenty two years of experiences, SEAMOLEC assisted the SEAMEO Member Countries in identifying educational problems and finding alternative solutions for sustainable human resource development through the dissemination and effective use of open and distance learning. This cannot possibly be done without the well-established networks and partnership with other institutions.

To maximize the implementation of its programmes SEAMOLEC has always eager to create and maintain good relationships with its partners. Signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and creating action plans to be implemented are among SEAMOLEC’s efforts to develop its networks. These past 4 months of 2019, SEAMOLEC established new partners, namely; Don Bosco Tech ASEAN, YPK Ora et Labora, Institute of Alquran (IIQ) Jakarta, Al-Fajar Foundation, Nodeflux, and Indonesian Association of Kindergarten Teachers in South Tangerang City.

New Partnership with Don Bosco Tech ASEAN

Don Bosco Tech ASEAN (DBTA) is one of SEAMOLEC new partners which is an organisation that supports the improvement of human resource development, especially for young people in ASEAN through providing vocational trainings and short courses in 8 Southeast Asian countries; Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam. DBTA and SEAMOLEC agreed to have collaboration in terms of international cooperation and ICT utilization for teaching and learning.

As a first step to establish the cooperation, both parties agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on October 11, 2019 at SEAMOLEC Office. Director of SEAMOLEC signed the MoU with 8 DBTA country’s coordinator.

SEAMOLEC Extends Collaboration with YPK Ora et Labora

Yayasan Pendidikan Kristen Ora et Labora (YPK OeL) is a foundation that manages Christian schools from kindergarten, elementary, junior and senior high school levels based in Jakarta, Indonesia. Considering the importance and benefits of integrating Information and Communication Technology (ICT) into teaching and learning activities in improving the quality of education, YPK OeL together with SEAMOLEC agreed to have collaboration.

As a first step to establish the cooperation between both parties, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on October 2, 2019 at YPK OeL Pamulang Campus. The cooperation will focus on developing ICT based education programmes and extending the cooperation network in Southeast Asia and beyond,

Another meeting was held to discuss a more strategic action to support the quality improvement of teaching and learning process in schools under YPK OeL. A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) and follow up action plan was signed on October 31, 2019 at YPK OeL BSD Campus. SEAMOLEC Director, Dr. Alpha Amirrachman, accompanied by Community Partnership Manager, Mr. Victor Labotano, were welcomed by the Head of YPK Ora et Labora, Mrs Sandi Rahaju, SJD, with Board of Directors of YPK OeL.
Dr Alpha said that SEAMOLEC with its expertise and programmes will support YPK OeL and its future activities, especially the ones that related to open and distance learning and ICT utilization in teaching and learning.

**SEAMOLEC and IIQ Jakarta Collaborate in Developing ICT-based Education Programmes**

Institut Ilmu Al Quran (IIQ) Jakarta is a university specialized in study of Al Quran located in Jakarta and considered as one of the best in the field all around Indonesia. IIQ Jakarta set its vision to be the world’s center of study and research of Al Quran in the year 2028. In the era of globalization where technology has become a powerful tool, especially in education, IIQ Jakarta considers to actively integrating technology into their teaching and learning activities. Together with SEAMOLEC, IIQ agreed to have collaboration to increase ICT skills of the lecturers and students.

The collaboration was marked by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony on August 1, 2019 at SEAMOLEC office. SEAMOLEC Deputy Director for Administration, Mr Yoni Utomo, accompanied by Community Partnership Manager, Mr Victor Labotano and staff, welcomed the Rector of IIQ Jakarta, Prof. Dr. Hj. Huzaemah T Yanggo, who came with the Vice Rectors and Dean of Faculties of IIQ Jakarta. The cooperation will focus on developing ICT based education programmes and extending the cooperation network in Southeast Asia and beyond.

**Al-Fajar Islamic Foundation**

Al Fajar Islamic Foundation is a foundation that manages Islamic schools from all levels starting from early childhood care education, kindergarten, elementary, junior and senior high school located in Bekasi, West Java, Indonesia. The Head of Al-Fajar Islamic Foundation, Dr KH Abdullah Maky said that the school has always been integrating ICT into its curriculum and learning system. It is considered as important as studying general knowledge and Islamic materials in all learning activities. Therefore, Al-Fajar Islamic Foundation decided to build collaboration with SEAMOLEC to improve the ICT skills and ICT habituation of its teachers and students.

Dr KH Abdullah Maky, with Board of Directors and Principals of Perguruan Islam Al Fajar invited SEAMOLEC to sign an MoU on October 1, 2019 at SMA Islam Al-Fajar, Bekasi. SEAMOLEC was represented by the Deputy Director for Administration, Mr Yoni Utomo, accompanied by Community Partnership Manager, Mr. Victor Labotano and staff. Both institutions agreed to focus cooperation in developing ICT based education programmes and extending the cooperation network to Southeast Asia and beyond.

**With Nodeflux SEAMOLEC will Develop Artificial Intelligence for Open and Distance Learning (ODL)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the development of computer systems that are able to perform tasks that would require human intelligence. Examples of these tasks
are visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages. The examples of real-life AI are: Self Driving Cars, Navigation Systems, Chatbots, Human vs Computer Games, and Many More. AI has been integrated into many aspects, boosting growth and expanding opportunities in particular in the era of industry 4.0. In education, AI will be a powerful engine to improve learning outcomes.

SEAMOLEC established new cooperation with Nodeflux, which is an Indonesian made Vision AI company based in Jakarta. Established as a Big Data startup in 2016, Nodeflux has been compiling a list of proven track records by various experiences to work in collaboration with local governments and institutions to provide programme development and trainings. This will be a good opportunity for both sides, especially for SEAMOLEC to follow up the big event of International Conference in Embedding AI into Education Policy and Practice for Southeast Asia which was conducted earlier in September 2019.

As the first step to establish cooperation between both parties, on November 8, 2019 at SEAMOLEC Office, SEAMOLEC Director, Dr Alpha Amirrachman and Mr. Meidy Fitranto, President Director of Nodeflux agreed to officially sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Mr Meidy mentioned 3 programmes that are possible to be jointly conducted as a start, they are; conducting AI trainings using SEAMOLEC Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform; disseminating information related to AI utilization to schools in order to improve the quality of learning as well as daily activities; and collaborating with local and central governments in promoting AI in education, especially in ODL.

Dr Alpha welcomed the idea, he believed that this cooperation will be beneficial to the quality improvement of education in Indonesia and Southeast Asia, especially in the field of ODL. Also he is convinced by looking at how Nodeflux has been building significant milestones through achievement, recognition, and value added impact via collaboration with its partners.

Indonesian Association of Kindergarten Teachers in South Tangerang City

Indonesian Association of Kindergarten Teachers or in Bahasa Indonesia known as Ikatan Guru Taman Kanak-kanak Indonesia (IGTKI) is an organization of kindergarten educators throughout Indonesia. IGTKI committed to develop and foster early childhood care education in order to contribute in creating a better quality of Indonesian human resources in the future.

IGTKI of South Tangerang City and SEAMOLEC agreed to have collaboration especially in improving ICT skills of kindergarten and early childhood care teachers. Therefore both institutions signed a memorandum of understanding on August 20, 2019 at SEAMOLEC office. As the first activity of the follow up actions, representatives of IGTKI of South Tangerang City joined the partnership workshop on October 25, 2019 at SEAMOLEC. The workshop was also participated by other partners which discussed about the services offered by the centre to its network within the next year.
Cooperation between SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) and Universitas Sebelas Maret (UNS) has been built since SEAMOLEC sent its 4 staff in 2013 to pursue their master's degree in UNS. Since then, annually SEAMOLEC provides various ICT based training programmes for UNS students. The training programmes were mainly participated by Master of Education Technology students of UNS. However, they were also available for other students from various majors and public.

This year at UNS, SEAMOLEC team conducted a training programme called “Visual Narrative based Learning Material Development”. Under this title SEAMOLEC provided various training materials, among others; Educational Comic, Infographic Design, and Digital Learning Material Development using Whiteboard Animation. The programme was conducted on September 26-28 and October 26-27, 2019. The first batch was participated by UNS’ students from various majors, and it was also opened for public. The second one was joined by Master of Education Technology students of UNS and exchange student from Thapsatri Rajabhat University, Thailand.

During the programme, the sessions were divided into several agendas including material sharing, tools exploration, practicing, project prototype development, project prototype presentation, and quiz. In the beginning of the training session, trainers gave the overview of training materials and explained how to develop a storyline. Afterwards, they inquired participants to try developing a short storyline based on topic they love to share. Having the participants creating storyline, trainers introduced certain application or software to develop the project, including all features of the application and how to apply it. Trainers gave few minutes to let participants explore the tools.

Some tips and tricks in developing an attractive project using the application or software were also shared. Furthermore, participants were asked to develop a prototype of the project in the form of a comic project, infographic project, and whiteboard animation project. At the end of the day, several participants were asked to present their project to get feedback from trainers. To wrap up the day, SEAMOLEC team invite all participants to play a quiz together which made the atmosphere of the class turned out brighter.
Virtual Coordination Training Programme Improves ICT Skills of Teachers

In the digital age, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has tremendous potential for education as it helps expand access to education, motivate to learn, facilitates the acquisition of basic skills, and can transform the learning environment. ICT enables a teacher to reach out widely efficiently and effectively thus help improving the quality of education.

Meanwhile, teachers are among the most important components in education. The standard of the teachers determines the quality of education. In order to become a confident user of ICT in the classroom, teachers need to take part in ongoing training and understand the benefits of digital literacy. Training in ICT needs to be recognised as essential for teaching such skills, and as an enabler of other teaching and learning practices.

The Indonesian Law No 14/2005 about teachers and lecturers stated that teachers should constantly upgrade their competency. SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) provides various training topics on ICT integration into teaching and learning for teachers which is in line with one of the SEAMEO 7 priority areas, which is priority no. 5: Revitalising Teacher Education. One programme that is specially designed for teachers called The Virtual Coordination Training (VCT), trained teachers on how to operate a virtual room for web conference, prepare digital publications, as well as create and use google forms. This programme was started in early 2018 in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia and SEAMEO Secretariat.

Teachers can participate in this programme by using their mobile phones to join the web conference sessions which are usually held after 6 pm until late at night for several days. At the end of the training programme, participants are required to submit assignments and receive e-certificate which they can use to strengthen their certification portfolio.

Dr Alpha Amirrachman, SEAMOLEC Director mentioned that currently, about 20,000 teachers from all across Indonesia have participated in this training programme and the number is expected to increase. In West Kalimantan, a province which is impacted by the forest fires, virtual class is beneficial when face to face learning in the classroom cannot be conducted as schools are forced to close during fires. Teachers that have joined the VCT programme are able to operate virtual classes and prepare digital learning materials to be accessed by students through their gadgets.
Training on Video Conference for More Effective Coordination at BP PAUD DIKMAS of DI Yogyakarta Province

A video conference is a live, visual connection between two or more people residing in separate locations for the purpose of communication. It is effective because it joins people who are not be able to form a face-to-face connection. It is also beneficial as it can increase productivity as well as provide an enhanced way of communicating and interacting among colleagues, partners and customers in coordinating matters.

Center for Development of Early Childhood Care and Community Education (BP PAUD DIKMAS) of DI Yogyakarta Province realizes the importance and benefits of video conference, invited SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) to share about the technology. In a workshop attended by 50 participants, SEAMOLEC team delivered the utilization of Cisco WebEx for video conferencing. Invited participants came from districts or cities’ education offices, centers for learning activity, partner organizations, and staff from BP PAUD DIKMAS of DI Yogyakarta Province.

The training was opened by the Section Head of BP PAUD DIKMAS, Dr Cipto Sunco, MPd who explained that in the future this technology is very promising, especially to accelerate the expansion of access to quality education. Video conference is also considered as an alternative way for a more affordable, effective, and fast coordination. Chairman of the Committee who organized this training, Indri Purwanto, SH in his remark also mentioned the purpose of this training, which is to introduce the technology to participants, give more understanding and increase the skill in using the Cisco WebEx application for PAUD DIKMAS learning.

The activity continued with presentation of materials from SEAMOLEC team; Zahrani Balqis, Rindriana Martasari Putri, and Ruli Handrian as instructors. They explained about video conference as a media for information dissemination, how to use Cisco WebEx for video conferencing, and how to create documentation of video conference sessions with Camtasia Studio. A demonstration of video conference session was also held for all participants to try.

After the training completed, participants could still consult and discuss with SEAMOLEC instructors through emails or personal chat if they find problems related to video conferencing. By the end of the workshop, it was expected that BP PAUD DIKMAS of DI Yogyakarta Province can organize video conferencing sessions, either independently or with assistance from SEAMOLEC. Participants will be able to use video conferencing method to facilitate their activities, such as; meetings, seminars, learning sessions which will be far more efficient in terms of time and travel costs. Moreover, the abilities of the ICT competency of all participants are expected to be increased as well.
Creating Interesting Learning Materials using Educational Comic

Online training is one of routine programmes of SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) organized by its Training division. The main objective of this programme is to facilitate the improvement of participants’ ICT skills, especially in creating digital learning content. The training usually starts at the beginning of each month and lasts for 4 weeks within each period. It is opened for the public to register online through the http://etraining.seamolec.org site, though it is limited by quota in each registration. Participants are currently dominated by teachers and educators. However, students or the general public are also invited to take part in this training.

One of the most popular topics of SEAMOLEC online trainings is Educational Comic, which allows people to describe and explain something by the use of colorful text combined with collage images. Participants are directed to create learning materials which are relevant or related to certain scientific fields using comics. Educational Comic training now had been attended by more than 2000 participants from various backgrounds, ranging from educators like teachers, and lecturers, as well as students and the general public.

In the process of making an educational comic, participants will start by making plans through the storyline which contains important elements to be decided, such as learning content that will be raised in the comics, characterizations, target readers, short stories, and the storyline in the comics. Then, after designing the storyline, they will start collecting visual assets by taking pictures of characters and backgrounds. After that, those items are arranged through the application called “Comic Life 3” to make an educational comic.

The comic project required activities for the readers which will eventually lead them to act or do further actions, such as opening a complete reading resource or answering questions at the end of the comic. After joining this online training, the educational comics produced as participants outputs are expected to be applied to the target readers. For example, if the target readers are grade 3 junior high school students, then the training participants have to disseminate the comics that have been made to the grade 3 junior high school students. This comic-using method is also expected to increase the reading interest of target readers.

Developing More Interesting Learning Materials through the use of Whiteboard Animation

Quality improvement in teaching and learning process has always been the main goal of all educators. In accordance to that, SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) conducted various face to face training programmes to facilitate educators in improving their ICT skills. A programme called SEAMOLEC
In-House Training (IHT) is regularly conducted in the weekends at SEAMOLEC office building and offers various Information Communication Technology (ICT)-based training topics. Most of them are the basic ones, therefore, participants with basic ICT skills can join this programme without hesitation.

In order to follow up the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between SEAMOLEC and the Institute of Al-Qur’an (IIQ), Jakarta, SEAMOLEC provided face to face training program for IIQ students. The training programme was conducted in three batches within November 2019 and participated by total 257 IIQ students. In every training session, students were divided into two to three classes with two trainers in each class who gave materials related to developing digital learning materials using whiteboard animation, which is a digital explainer media.

Through whiteboard animation people can describe and explain a certain topic using colorful text combined with images and voice. Therefore, whiteboard animation can be a fun digital learning media for the student. This kind of explainer project usually used to create public service announcements or to present company profiles.

During training sessions, trainers shared how to develop a storyline, introduced the features of application to develop whiteboard animation project, as well as tips and tricks to develop an eye-catching whiteboard animation project. In the storyline session trainers showed the format of the storyline and explained how to fill out the format. Then, participants were required to create their own storyline.

After storyline session, trainers started to introduce the application to develop the whiteboard animation project. Trainers introduced the features of the application one by one, explained how to apply it, and gave a few minutes for participants to explore it. Then, trainers mentioned some tips and tricks to produce a whiteboard animation project while participants practiced developing it. Before ending the training sessions, trainers informed that all participants were expected to develop a whiteboard animation project including the storyline to get e-certificate from this training. The whiteboard animation project should contain Islamic-related materials which is in line with their majors.

The project due date was eight days after the training session finished, and they were still allowed to have a consultation session with the trainers through chat application group during the period. The trainers then gave feedback for participants’ projects until they reached the requirements.

Seven days after the submission, the result was announced online via etraining website. The unaccomplished ones will get some notes from the trainers regarding their projects and were allowed to join the same training session next time. The accomplished one deserved e-certificate which can be downloaded from their etraining account.
SEAMEO Centre Directors Meeting 2019 (CDM) had rounded back again this year during 6-8 August 2019. The meeting was held at Hotel Nikko Bangkok, Thailand where Board of Directors from every Centres gathered together, annually, to share updates on new policy directions, achievements and experiences, to learn from each other. CDM 2019 was specially bustled with its newly established centres namely SEAMEO Regional Centre for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education (SEAMEO STEM ED) and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Sufficiency Economy Philosophy for Sustainability (SEAMEO SEPS) together with the headship of new appointed SEAMEO Secretariat Director, Dr Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela and Deputy Director for Programme and Development, Dr Wahyudi.

There were total of 83 participants attended the meeting representing 26 SEAMEO Centres/Network and the SEAMEO Secretariat, a SEAMEO Associate Member Country, 3 SEAMEO Affiliate Members, 12 Partners and Observers while SEAMOLEC and other 6 Centres based in Indonesia joined the annual meeting through video conference this year.

In her opening remarks, SEAMEO Secretariat Director stated that SEAMEO Strategic Plan will reach its deadline next year (2020), it is then now time for SEAMEO to think ahead and plan how it will steer the ship forward.

In line with global and regional policy directions, SEAMOLEC proposed its working paper on Open Educational Resource (OER) Hub for Southeast Asia Content in CDM 2019. The OER Hub platform has begun to develop in 2019 and aimed to become knowledge sharing hub where digital contents and open learning resources are contributed and shared from SEAMEO Centres and educational institutions partners to benefit human resource development and promote lifelong learning atmosphere in Southeast Asia through the use of ICT. Through the supports and contributions from SEAMEO Centres and partner institutions, SEAMOLEC hopes that OER Hub can reach 5,000 of digital contents by the end of year 2019.

CDM 2019 went with active participation from both on site and online participants during reports, proposals, networking session, as well as Centres’ accomplishment videos showcases. All endorsed programmes and initiations will be carried on towards the common goal of sustainable human resource development in Southeast Asia which all centres are looking forward to reporting and updating to one another again in CDM 2020.
The seminar was officially opened by the Rector of UNTIRTA, Dr H Fatah Sulaiman, MT.

The main speaker of the seminar was Prof Dr Joko Nurkamto, MPd from Universitas Negeri Sebelas Maret (UNS), who presented about the issue of the quality of English Language Teaching (ELT). He discussed about the trends and issues on ELT and how to overcome the challenges faced by ELT educators, which at the same time gradually improve the quality of education. He also gave some examples of ELT practices that refer to the quality improvement. The session was followed by a panel discussion on the issue moderated by Dr John Pahanzah, MHum, one of the lecturers of UNTIRTA.

On the panel session, Mr Timbul Pardede, on behalf of the Director of SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC), exposed an interesting topic “SEAMOLEC English Development Program in Education 4.0: to Equip and Enhance English Language Teachers with Digital Literacy”. He mostly shared about the issues of Industrial Revolution 4.0 era, digital literacy, and a better classroom teaching and learning on English Development Program.

Two other presenters in the panel session were Dr Allan Frank Lauder, MA from Universitas Indonesia and Bambang Sumintono, PhD from University of Malaya, Malaysia.

The seminar was attended by around two hundred participants consist of students who were mostly from English Language Department, teachers, and lecturers from other universities.
One-way of doing it is by sharing the Centre’s best practices through participation in a one-day seminar on “Education Management System in Industry Revolution 4.0”. The seminar was organized by ISMAPI (Ikatan Sarjana Manajemen dan Administrasi Pendidikan Indonesia or translated as Association of Indonesian Bachelor of Education Management and Administration) on September 28, 2019. It was hosted by Jakarta Provincial Office of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MOEC) of Indonesia and supported by Muhammadiyah University of Prof Dr Hamka (UHAMKA).

The objective of the seminar is to provide opportunity to exchange educational information, latest trends and issues in Industry Revolution 4.0 era. Prof. Kamaluddin from the Postgraduate Programme of UHAMKA officially opened the seminar and delivered keynote speech entitled “the Readiness of Post Graduate UHAMKA on Industry Revolution 4.0”. The event was attended by more than one hundred participants.

Together with the Vice Rector of UHAMKA, SEAMOLEC was invited to be a speaker on plenary session. Mr. Timbul Pardede, SEAMOLEC Training Expert delivered a presentation titled “SEAMOLEC Program in Education 4.0”. Basically, he focused in sharing about three issues, they are; today’s technology in Education, the paradigm shift of teaching and learning to adopt and adapt with new technology, and SEAMOLEC Innovation program in Education 4.0.
Over the years, families carry out many challenges for this big mission, which has always been the concern of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia.

Therefore, since the year 2015, the Directorate General of Early Childhood Care Education and Community Education (DG ECCE) through the Directorate of Family Education, has sought to improve the capacity of families through technical guidance and familiarization of family education. It was started with training of prospective facilitators which is held conventionally. However, Ir Harris Iskandar PhD, the Director General of ECCE mentioned that it is certainly not enough just to rely on facilitators who are trained conventionally to educate 83 million families in Indonesia. Harris added that the condition has demanded new way and mode to be more in line with current times while maintaining the quality, which is by using information and communication technology (ICT).

SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC), with the support of Centre of ICT of MoEC (PUSTEKKOM), has been assisting the Directorate to establish a programme called Online Guidance for Prospective Facilitators of Family Education, or in Indonesian language; Bimbingan Calon Fasilitator Pendidikan Keluarga Daring (BCF Dikkel Daring). SEAMOLEC provides technical assistance in creating the online course for these prospective facilitators in its Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform.

The platform enables participants to learn independently through the available materials, videos, quizzes, and assignments. It will also be equipped with two-way communication sessions through web conference and chat group for discussion between participants and resource persons. SEAMOLEC also provides assistances starting from the registration process, content review, and generate e-certificate for participants who passed the assignments.

On November 6, 2019, the day program was launched, there were already 895 people registering, and based on the documents submitted as requirements, 250 participants will be selected to be participants in the first batch of this online course. The course will last for about 2 months, started on November 6 to December 30, 2019. This programme is expected to increase the number of facilitators for family education to reach all regions of Indonesia.

At the same occasion, the Directorate of Family Education, DG ECCE, MoEC of Indonesia also held an event called Appreciation Night for Early Childhood Care Education and Family Education at Balai Kartini Convention Centre, Jakarta. The Directorate presented appreciation awards as the Greatest Parents to 32 parents from various provinces in Indonesia. It was indeed a very heartwarming evening event hosted by the Directorate.
SEAMOLEC Initiatives on CATC-Based Online Courses In Tourism Endorsed by The 5th HOM of SEA-TVET in Brunei Darussalam

High Officials Meeting (HOM) on Southeast Asia-Technical and Vocational Education and Training (SEA-TVET) is an annual meeting among TVET High Officials as a platform to strengthen cooperation as well as to promote the development of TVET in the region. Recently, the 5th HOM on SEA-TVET was conducted in Brunei Darussalam on September 9-10, 2019 and hosted by the Ministry of Education of Brunei Darussalam involving Polytechnic Brunei (PB), Institute of Brunei Technical Education (IBTE), and MoE International Affairs Unit. Responding to the industrial revolution 4.0, the theme of the 5th HOM was Strengthening Efforts Towards TVET 4.0. This meeting was specifically aimed to reflect on previous years regional collaboration as well as plan the regional strategies to advance the quality of TVET that may enhance the regional responsiveness towards industry 4.0.

The meeting was officially opened by His Excellency Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sulaiman, the Minister of Education of Brunei Darussalam. He stressed the need to strengthen the capabilities of TVET in the region by providing ecosystem that support the digital revolution through investment in emerging technologies and modernizing physical facilities, building capacities, and matching skills to emerging markets demands. Opening remarks was also delivered by Dr Ethel Agnes P Valenzuela, SEAMEO Secretariat Director. She stated the importance of regional collaboration in TVET due to its roles in human resource development as highlighted in many Ministerial and High Officials meetings as regional education development priority until 2035.

In this remarkable event, Dr Mohd Zamri Sabli, the SEAMEO Voctech Director and Project Manager from GIZ/RECOTVET, Mr Alexander Tsironis also officially announced the industry 4.0 feature in SEA-VET.net platform. SEA-VET.net is a one-stop online platform that specifically provides information on TVET in Southeast Asia. This platform was officially launched in 2018 and yet it is equipped with more information about regional development on TVET towards industry 4.0.

During the meeting various countries and regional initiatives were presented. In this session, SEAMOLEC Research and Development Manager, Mrs Cahya Kusuma Ratih, shared SEAMOLEC initiative on the development of online courses by utilizing Common ASEAN Tourism Curriculum (CATC) toolboxes. She presented the result of the feasibility study from 6 piloted countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippine, Thailand, and Timor Leste, and shared the need of attracting more learners and providing learning flexibility by utilizing the CATC toolboxes. She also shared the current status of online course development for endorsement by the high officials.

She presented that the initiative is planned to be conducted in 4 phases from 2018-2021; Feasibility Study, Online Course Development, 1st implementation pilot and 2nd implementation pilot. There are three online courses, namely: Provide housekeeping service to guests, Clean and prepare rooms for incoming guests and Provide a lost and found facilities that are currently being reviewed by teachers and students from those 6 piloted countries. Blended learning approach as well as synchronous and asynchronous communication channels will be used in those courses. At the end of her presentation, during the high officials round table meeting, this initiative was endorsed for further implementation.
SEAMEO ICCM for 2020 Planning

SEAMEO Centres in Indonesia regularly hold coordination meetings called Inter-Centre Collaboration Meeting (ICCM). The latest one was organized by SEAMEO Regional Centre for Food and Nutrition (RECFCN), on December 9, 2019 at Redtop Hotel and Convention Center, Jakarta. All 7 SEAMEO centres in Indonesia joined the meeting to present their plan of activities in 2020.

Also attended the meeting, was Mr Iwan Syahril, Ph.D, the Special Staff to the Minister of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia for the field of Education and Teachers Professional Development, who officially opened the meeting. He also gave directive messages after all centres presented their flagship programmes based on their specialties.

He pointed out the President’s mandate to improve Indonesian human resources. One way that SEAMEO Centres could contribute to the mandate is by enhancing teachers’ development and competencies. He also challenged SEAMEO Centres to provide training and guidance for teachers, and to connect them with the Ministry’s program in upgrading teachers.

Another point given for all centres is to develop strategy on how to implement the SEAMEO research result into society, especially to schools. SEAMEO Centres with its flexibility and the worldwide networks are considered very potential to share world’s new development and technologies in education into Indonesia. This will be a strategic role for all centres to equip teachers with new skills so that they could innovate their teaching skills as well.

Participating in the 42nd SEAMEO High Official Meeting (HOM)

The 42nd HOM participated by 149 representatives from Ministries of Education of 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, Regional Centres/Network, Partners and observers. SEAMOLEC Director, Dr Alpha Amirrachman, and SEAMOLEC Deputy Director for Programme, Mrs Prakaikan Schneitz were participating on behalf of the centre. The forum comprised of 13 agenda items in In-Camera session and 34 agenda items in plenary session covering programmes on SEAMEO Seven Priority Areas to be decided.

In his opening remarks, His Excellency Mr Nattapol Teepasuwan, Minister of Education of Thailand, pointed out urgent need of accelerating in educational development in Southeast Asia by sharing issues of Thailand context and the significance of internal reformation, partnership as well as vocational education to strengthen quality of education and human resources towards world-class community.

Discussions and decisions during HOM will serve as guidelines and directions for all member countries and SEAMEO Centres towards the common goal of SEAMEO.

It was another remarked occasion of SEAMEO in the 42nd High Official Meeting (HOM) during November 27-28, 2019, in Bangkok, Thailand. As a vital link among Ministers of Education of 11 SEAMEO Member Countries who comprise the SEAMEO Council, HOM is a key forum for high level education officials to discuss priority issues and other related matters to shape the decision and share actions taken by member states.
SEAMOLEC Assists Cambodia to Develop E-Learning

Over the years Indonesia and Cambodia have enjoyed well-established cooperation in various sectors, particularly in education. Student exchange program, dual degree program and other undertakings regarding educational institution have been continuously conducted between the two nations. Education improvement both in quality and quantity has always been the concern of the cooperation for both countries.

In May 2019 SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) was requested by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) of the Kingdom of Cambodia to conduct training programme on ICT Capacity Development for Technical School Teachers in Cambodia. The training run very effectively for the teachers and therefore, MoEYS of Cambodia interested to collaborate further with SEAMOLEC, especially in developing e-learning platform that is suitable for the teachers in Cambodia.

Mr Sok Tha, the Director of the Department of Information Technology of MoEYS of Cambodia and other representatives from the Ministry participated in the International Conference on Embedding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policy and Practice for Southeast Asia,
In its capacity to give consultancy service to its partners, SEAMOLEC developed an Open and Distance Learning (ODL) model on Blended Learning for STIKES Mitra Ria Husada (SMRH), Cibubur. The preliminary meeting resulted in conducting 3 batches of training at SMRH.

The first training was “Writing Blended Learning Design” conducted on Oct 7-8, 2019 participated by 30 SMRH lecturers. At the end of the training, the participants have a skill to map learning object materials and blended learning activities by producing blended learning syllabus.

The next two trainings are designed for Digital Contents Development, which includes utilization of learning object materials for narration, presentation, visualization, simulation & illustration; and Web-based Course Development, which is based on the outputs of the previous trainings. All activities were coordinated by SEAMOLEC Training Division.

Dr Alpha mentioned that SEAMOLEC will be ready to assist MoEYS of Cambodia in developing their e-learning system and platform until the year 2021. The programme will be started with need identification process where SEAMOLEC will assist in determining the type of system will be used, courses to be offered, human resources needed and other basic requirements. This process will be followed by system development and implementation.

Blended Learning for STIKES Mitra Ria Husada (SMRH)

In its capacity to give consultancy service to its partners, SEAMOLEC developed an Open and Distance Learning (ODL) model on Blended Learning for STIKES Mitra Ria Husada (SMRH), Cibubur. The preliminary meeting resulted in conducting 3 batches of training at SMRH.

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Responding to the Industry 4.0 Era, Teachers at SMKN 1 Magelang Learned about AR/VR

The workshop was opened by the principal of SMKN 1 Magelang, Drs Nisandi, MT and was attended by the school supervisor namely Drs Asturi, MPd who briefly explained the Referenced School (Sekolah Rujukan) programme. The team from SEAMOLEC who acted as instructors and facilitators in the workshop were Alfan P Laksono, MDs and Amiruddin Romadhoni, both are SEAMOLEC IT Content & Knowledge Management officers.

The event continued with explanation of training overview, introduction to AR/VR, and how to utilize it in teaching and learning process. Instructors also introduced several examples of AR/VR products developed by SEAMOLEC, among others are the virtual exploration of Sumpah Pemuda Museum from Jakarta, and Surakarta Keris Museum. This information has brought the interests of the participants towards the technology, as it has changed the interaction in conventional learning to be more interactive.

The workshop was then continued with the introduction of making 3D-based teaching materials, starting from determining the concepts and ideas, developing it into sketches, continued to creating 3D models suitable for the specific learning material, and how to publish 3D results to be accessed by the students. After the participants are familiar with creating 3D objects, the session was continued by the introduction of the media application which will be deployed on Android smartphones. Participants were taught about the introduction of a single AR target, multiple targets, creating user interface interaction menus until deploying applications to smartphones.

Within 3 days of workshop, the participants were able to make a prototype for developing AR-based learning materials which will be disseminated to their students later. It is expected that the use of AR technology will facilitate the delivery of learning and improve the ICT skills of students in this industry 4.0 era.

Over the years SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) has been supporting the programmes of the Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education (DTVE) of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia. Since last year, the programmes of DTVE have been focusing in the field of utilization and implementation of industry 4.0-based learning. One of the most favorite subjects for schools to learn is Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR). Responding to the needs of SMKN 1 Magelang, Central Java, SEAMOLEC provided a three-day workshop on that particular topics on September 12-14, 2019.
Every two years the SEAMEO Council Conference (SEAMEC) is conducted. In SEAMEC 2019 SEAMEO Secretariat hosted an awarding ceremony called SEAMEO Service Award for the best staff from all SEAMEO Centres and Unit. This Award is considered a great recognition to the staff’s commitment and contribution. In the year 2018/2019 SEAMOLEC nominated Ms Arie Susanty from IT Content and Knowledge Management Division and Mr Tomi Dapisah from Finance and Administration Division as the two excellent staff of the year.

**Arie Susanty**

Her name is Arie Susanty, she originated from Jakarta and currently entitled as SEAMOLEC IT Content and Knowledge Management Officer. Living in Jakarta made her able to see many kinds of human characters, differences in point of views, culture, as well as behaviour. She graduated with a degree in Education. She chose that field of study because she’s always been interested in observing and learning people's individual, and she found that it could lead to various life experiences. One of her key accomplishments is seeing at every individual has their opportunity to show every single competency they have to the world. Because she believes in a person’s character, values, vision, action and results. She also believes that difficult lessons are learnt only after committing mistakes, for her strongly believe that the harder you try the further success you will achieve in life.

**Tomi Dapisah**

Tomi Dapisah, or usually called as Tomi, has been working for SEAMOLEC for 12 years under the Administration Division as an office staff. He enjoys working in the centre as it has family working value among all the employees. Along with other office staff, this father of three children helps all divisions in SEAMOLEC for any administrative and other needs. In the year 2019 Tomi was rewarded as one of the best staff of SEAMOLEC. He is proud of the award as he works diligently in his daily tasks, and just like his life motto, he always tries to do the best thing that he can. In the years to come he wishes that SEAMOLEC will grow bigger in the future as the centre of excellence in open and distance learning.
Wishing You a Wonderful Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year.

MERRY Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020