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Assalamualaikum Warrahnatullahi Wabarakatuh,

Greetings from SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, Jakarta!

I am delighted to present the end year edition of SEAMOLEC Info 2020 to our friends and colleagues. This newsletter provides the wrap-up on various activities conducted by SEAMOLEC in the last quarter of the year. I believe everyone agreed that this year is among the hardest years of the century, as the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has struck globally. It seems as if there is nothing but bad news we see and hear every day, more cases, more losses, and more restrictions. Though the virus has caused immense suffering and challenges since the beginning of this year, there have been some surprising and unanticipated silver linings. Proving that nothing is absolute, and that positive things can come out of even the worst tragedies. Among others is the acceleration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) habituation in the society, including in the field of education. This is in line with the Merdeka Belajar (Freedom of Learning) priority program of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, which is school digitalization. This is marked by the increasing numbers of free and meaningful webinars, online courses, online training programmes, and many more. Education personnel have moved large-scale immersive learning experiences to a virtual platform, needing to conceptualize and implement new approaches to collaborative teaching and learning. People are getting more and more familiar with technology in daily activities, it is definitely good news!

SEAMOLEC has been actively conducting several webinar series to provide platform for knowledge and experience sharing within the region. In the last quarter of 2020, at least 5 webinar events were hosted by the centre: 1) The webinar on Challenges of Distance Learning in the Era of New Normal, 2) ODL Webinar on Learning from Southeast Asia: Response on Education in Coping with COVID-19, 3) The Webinar on Multimedia Utilization in Teaching History and Culture, 4) The Webinars on Digital Teaching Materials Development for Higher Education Institutions, and 5) International Webinar on Preparing Students towards New Era of Business to Business (B2B) Sales.

For the first time ever, SEAMOLEC conducted its 23rd Governing Board Meeting (GBM) through online platform, where all Governing Board members participated virtually. The event went smoothly as expected. Read the full story of our other activities conducted by the Centre in this SEAMOLEC Info-December 2020 edition. One of the most interesting articles is the Try Out of SEAMOLEC Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Models 2020. The 7 ODL models implementation in cooperation with SEAMOLEC partners have finally reached its complete stage.

At the end, allow me to personally wish all of you the best, have a joyous, peaceful and love-filled Christmas. Also, throughout the coming New Year, may you live a happy life with goodwill, friendship, and prosperity. It was a pleasure working together this past year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2021

Wassalamualaikum Warrahnatullahi Wabarakatuh.

R. Alpha Amirrachman, M. Phil., Ph.D.
Director
As we all know, the outbreak of CoronaVirus Disease (COVID-19) has been declared as world’s pandemic and the virus has now spread to many countries and territories, including the Southeast Asia region. One of the first actions was closing schools and universities which are particularly important as the protection of children and educational facilities. No country is fully prepared to face these educational disruptions.

SEAMOLEC as the regional centre for open and distance learning finds it important for all Southeast Asian countries to learn from each other on how to overcome challenges during the outbreak. As series of activities related to its 23rd Annual Governing Board Meeting (GBM), SEAMOLEC hosted an Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Webinar entitled “Learning from Southeast Asia: Response on Education in Coping with COVID-19” on October 20, 2020 at 13.30-16.00 hrs. (GMT+7).

The webinar was opened by a welcome remark from SEAMOLEC Director, Dr Alpha Amirrachman who thanked all speakers, participants, and committees for contributing to the online event. The agenda continued by a special remark from SEAMEO Secretariat Director, Dr Ethel Agnes P Valenzuela. In her remarks, she highlighted that the silver lining of this pandemic is the transformation from regular to digital learning and how people are getting more and more familiar to ICT.

As keynote speaker, SEAMOLEC invited the Director of Teacher and Education Personnel for Basic Education, the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia, Dr. Rachmadi Widdiharto, who also delivered the official opening remarks. He briefly presented the learning policy in Indonesia set by the MoEC during the pandemic, and what the country has been doing in running its education in coping with the COVID-19.

The panel session presented by 4 speakers who are experts from 4 Southeast Asian countries namely; (1) Assoc. Prof. Dr Wan Zuhainis Binti Saad from the Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia, (2) Ms Tham Yoke Chun from the Ministry of Education of Singapore, (3) Asst. Prof Dr Anothai Ngamvichaikit from Sukhothai Thammamathirat Open University (STOU) of Thailand, and (4) Ms Hendri Puspa Martasari from ICT Center of the MoEC of Indonesia. After all speakers’ presentations, it was continued with active and a fruitful Question and Answer session from participants. All interesting and practical questions were satisfactorily responded. The webinar was closed by a summary remark by SEAMOLEC Deputy Director for Programme, Mrs. Prakaikan Schnetz. The event was held smoothly and resulted fruitfully with hope that all shared practices from Southeast Asian countries to cope with the challenging moment during the pandemic would be able to provide inputs, ideas and encouragement in initiating resolution in education in different environments of the region.
The Governing Board Meeting (GBM) is a remarkable annual event which places an important role in all SEAMEO Centres, including SEAMOLEC. It serves as an opportunity for the management committee to review the past activities and to discuss the plans for the following year. It is also held to ensure the relevance and responsiveness of the centre’s operation in human resource development, science, and education.

This year SEAMOLEC GBM was held virtually for the first time due to the global outbreak of the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic which has caused the limitation of travelling within the region. In addition, all SEAMEO Centres are strongly suggested by the SEAMEO Secretariat to conduct this year GBM in online mode.

The virtual GBM was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 starting from 09.00 to 14.00 hours (GMT+7) using video conference system. There were 7 Governing Board (GB) members and representatives presented in the meeting from Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The meeting was started with the SEAMEO Color and SEAMEO Song presentation followed by welcome remarks by SEAMOLEC Director, Dr Alpha Amirrachman who greeted and thanked all meeting participants. In his remarks he mentioned that SEAMOLEC has been trying its best to be relevant to the priorities set by the Ministry and SEAMEO. He also highlighted several significant achievements accomplished by the Centre within the fiscal year based on the 4 core tasks: training, research and development, information dissemination, and consultancy services.

SEAMEO Secretariat Director, Dr Ethel Agnes P Valenzuela, also stated in her remarks that the Governing Board meetings are important milestones of all SEAMEO Centres to update the ministries on the accomplishments and proposals. She shared the accomplishments and updates from the SEAMEO Secretariat.

She also mentioned 3 programmes launched by SEAMEO Secretariat as part of the multi-pronged approach to ensure that learners in Southeast Asia have a consistent and reliable source of much-needed information online; The SEAMEO Webinar Series, SEAMEO Ministerial Policy e-Forum, and SEAMEO Lecture Series. She concluded her remark by congratulating SEAMOLEC for all significant achievements that have been made to enhance distance learning in Southeast Asia through various innovations and initiatives.
The official opening remarks was delivered by Dr Evy Mulyani, the Head of Bureau of Cooperation and Public Relations, on behalf of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia. She mentioned the appreciation to SEAMOLEC with its expertise which has been greatly assisting the MoEC of Indonesia in developing, implementing, and monitoring programmes and activities of several Directorate Generals, Bureaus, and Units. She suggested SEAMOLEC to always find the relevance of its programmes with the Education Policy in Indonesia and the SEAMEO 7 Priority Areas, which is our shared commitment.

The meeting discussed 16 working papers (WP) and 1 in-camera session prepared by the GBM Committee. All documents were presented by SEAMOLEC Board of Directors and endorsed by the GB members. At the end of the meeting, all GB members agreed with positive hope to conduct the next meeting in Bandung city, Indonesia on September 13-17, 2021. Hopefully the condition will get better next year, and the GBM could be back to conduct face to face as usual.
In the previous edition of SEAMOLEC Info, the 7 Open Distance Learning (ODL) Models were introduced in order to support the effectiveness and efficiency of distance learning at any levels, characters, and types of education. In this edition we will briefly inform the trial phase which is an important stage in developing learning models before the models are deployed and widely implemented.

The trial stage was carried out after the design and development stage to meet the validation of needed specification. The design phase consists of determining learning methods and strategies while the development phase consists of; content development, identification of the appropriate Learning Management System, and other supported applications and tools to meet the learning design. The trial stage aimed to seek the validation of the appropriate quality of the learning design, as well as to see the readiness of learning content and other supported learning systems. The trial stage for each model as described below.

**Distance Learning through Consortium Mode in Higher Education Model**

Several universities are working together in developing and delivering courses for their students. This model is expected to be a piloting model in conducting distance learning especially during the pandemic condition or normal condition afterwards.

**Development:** It has entered the limited trial stage, the trial is carried out to test the prototype of the learning activities system to students as the end user, the test results become input for the development team for the system improvement before the product applied for broader users on the next stage.

**Challenge:** The delayed schedule encountered due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SEAMOLEC found it is difficult to carry out the activities in face to face, hence the activities mostly conducted in online methods.
Development of Blended Learning in Vocational Education Model

This model is expected to be a piloting model on blended learning for vocational education (SMK), several learning approaches and methods are integrated into a learning system and expected available for students to be accessed during their field practice period.

**Development:** The trial stage was carried out to try out the learning design, moreover, the learning method which is a blended learning method. The students are able to carry out their practical skill in the industry and also able to keep up with practical knowledge which is delivered through LMS. Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa (Untirta) developed the learning content to become more interactive and attractive for students on LMS.

**Challenge:** The development of learning content has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, student motivation also decreased due to the uncertain learning condition that causes too long period of learning from home. This situation brings impact to the less motivated students for doing learning tasks during their practical skill period, teachers and practical skill trainers have to provide extra energy to motivate and assist their students.

The Development of Blended Learning for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Skills on MOOC Model

This model is expected to be a piloting model on online learning through MOOC with industry 4.0 skills especially in Artificial Intelligence (AI). The development also involves the AI Industry, namely Nodeflux. The implementation carried out with fully online learning which is also available for the public or students who are studying at home during the COVID-19 outbreak. They are able to access learning material online and have assistance from experts from NodeFlux.

**Development:** The trial stages were carried out with a limited number of 20 participants attending the course fully online. Participants were divided into 2 groups, a group of 10 people were ones who previously had studied AI, and the other group consisted of 10 participants who had never learned AI before. The learning interaction is constructed through synchronous methods, through 5 sessions of video conferencing, and asynchronous method through the MOOC platform which is available at http://mooc.seamolec.org and google collab. The instructors consist of an AI Expert from Nodeflux and 2 SEAMOLEC trainers. The results of this trial showed that the most of participants gained new experiences, especially in terms of AI-related knowledge, this will bring more motivation for participants to explore AI-related knowledge around them.

**Challenge:** Due to the trial stage being carried out in fully online and the limited time on video conferencing, many participants tended to experience decreasing in motivation during the learning process which affected the provision of extra assistance from the instructors.
Development of Learning Media based on AR/VR Model

This model is expected to be a piloting model in development of Augmented Reality & Virtual Reality learning media according to the Indonesian curriculum. The implementation of this model will be carried out at the SMA, SMK, and Non-formal education, which is directly designated with the determined criteria. The output is also expected to become an alternative digital learning content to enrich student learning materials during learning at home due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

**Development:** This trial stage was carried out to see the effectiveness of learning on the chosen Chemistry and Power Generation subjects using AR and VR media. The trial was delivered by simulations in 2 different classes and implemented virtually to students during studying at home. One class was delivered through conventional learning, and the other was done by learning using AR/VR media. The results of classes with different learning approach will show the effectiveness and quality of different learning experiences. The trial results showed that the effectiveness and quality of learning using AR/VR media is higher than using conventional learning media.

**Challenge:** As the most content developers were students who still studying from home during the development of AR/VR content, this brought the delay in developing AR/VR, even though in the end this trial activity can still be carried out well.

Development of AR & VR Expertise through Blended Learning on MOOC in Southeast Asia Model

This model is expected to be a piloting model in development of Augmented Reality & Virtual Reality skill delivery on online learning through MOOC. This model development also involves professionals from the AR/VR industry, namely Shinta VR. The model is expected to be implemented on a blended learning method and the course is available for the public or students who are studying at home due to the COVID-19 outbreak. They are still able to access this material online and have assistance from experts from Shinta VR.

**Development:** The trial stages were carried out with 220 participants for AR and 120 participants for VR. Due to the pandemic, this trial was carried out fully online even though it was initially designed to be implemented through blended learning. The course interaction was delivered in a synchronous method, by conducting 4 times sessions of video conferences and asynchronous method through the MOOC platform which is available at http://mooc.seamolec.org. The instructors were teachers and students from SMK Immanuel Pontianak for AR and SMK Nurul Jaddid Probolinggo for VR, along with 2 SEAMOLEC teams. In the end of the course the participants were expected to produce AR/VR in 4 weeks.

**Challenge:** Implementation of this model was initially carried out by blended learning. Due to the pandemic this model was delivered fully online, as well as the limitation of face to face session through video conference, the most of participants tend to experience a decrease in motivation in the learning process, this situation brings impact to provide more extra assistance from the instructors.
Development of Internet of Things Expertise Through Blended Learning on MOOC in Southeast Asia Model

This model is expected to be a piloting model in development of Internet of Things skill delivery on online learning through MOOC. The model is expected to be implemented on a blended learning method and it is available for the public or students who are studying from home.

**Development:** The trial stage was carried out with 50 participants. The course interaction constructed through synchronous method by one session of video conference, and asynchronous through the MOOC platform which is available at http://mooc.seamolec.org. After the video conference session, it continued with the face-to-face session at the school for 3 days. The instructors were the teachers and students from SMK Taruna Bhakti Depok along with 2 SEAMOLEC teams. In the end of the course the participants were expected to produce IoT products within 2 weeks.

**Challenge:** Since learning IoT requires supporting devices such as microcontrollers, sensors, schools are required to prepare supportive devices before conducting the course, a stable internet connection was also required during the workshop.

Online Courses Development by utilizing the Common ASEAN Tourism Curriculum (CATC) for Southeast Asia Model

Distance learning system using ICT has become a significant education innovation in the 21st century to overcome geographical barriers, give flexibility in terms of learning time and places and also provide competitive cost/value to meet a wide range of learning needs and different types of learners. Considering the Mutual Recognition Arrangement in Tourism Profession (MRA-TP) in ASEAN is known to facilitate professional mobility, to exchange information on professional competency development and to provide opportunities for cooperation and capacity building in tourism for all ASEAN member countries, SEAMOLEC is seeking possibility to develop distance learning model in tourism to enhance capacity building for workforce among Southeast Asia countries. To pursue its efforts, feasibility study in Distance Learning Model in Southeast Asia was conducted in the year 2019 to formulate recommendation on the possible implementation of distance learning model in Tourism area for Southeast Asia countries.
As follow up action of the feasibility study result (https://seamolec.org/researchreport), 3 units of housekeeping competency courses namely 1) Provide housekeeping service to guests, 2) Clean and prepare rooms for incoming guests, and 3) Provide a lost and found facility were developed in 2019 and piloted in the early 2020. In order to respond to the pandemic situation, after the evaluation of 1st Pilot, 1 course namely “Clean and Prepare Rooms for Incoming Guests” will be developed and piloted again with additional procedures related to COVID-19 health protocols in hotel rooms.

As one of the vocational schools that has adapted the curriculum based on CATC, SEAMOLEC collaborates with Metland Vocational School to develop the online course. The development steps refer to ADDIE model. In the course, learning materials consist of text and video that have already been developed by teachers and students from Metland Vocational School. An assessment is prepared in multiple choice questions, project work and video assignments related to the competencies in the course to ensure learning achievement.

Currently the activity is still ongoing in the online course development stage and will be continued with course piloting. The piloting will be carried out at SMK Metland, SMKN 2 Batam and SMKN 3 Bogor. At the end of 2020, an evaluation will also be carried out regarding the follow-up to the development of this online course. It is expected that in 2021 the online course can be piloted in Southeast Asia after improvement based on previous piloting activities.

For more info, kindly visit the website: http://congress2021.seameo.org.
SEAMOLEC participated in the 2020 National Student Competency Competition

The Center for National Achievement of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia held the 2020 National Student Competency Competition (known as Lomba Kompetensi Siswa or LKS in Indonesia language). There were 42 competition fields in this year’s LKS, including Mechatronics, Hairdressing, Fashion Technology, Restaurant Service, and many more. The 2020 LKS was participated by 900 participants of 812 supervisors, 145 judges or experts, and 65 committees from 34 Provinces. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s implementation of LKS was slightly different from the previous ones. All competitions were conducted online and all participants joined from home.

SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) was involved in the 2020 LKS by representing of 3 judges for 2 fields of competitions, who were; Abdul Rizal Adompo as the judge for the Artificial Intelligence (AI) competition, Handi Pradana, and Betuah Anugerah as judges for the Cloud Computing competition. The winners for the AI and Cloud Computing competition were as listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artificial Intelligence</th>
<th>Cloud Computing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Winner Yusuf Ischak Maulana and Yusuf Hafid Alfiansyah</td>
<td>Jhody Setiawan Sekardon (SMKN 1 Cimahi, West Java)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Winner Veri Christian (SMK Kristen Immanuel Pontianak, West Kalimantan)</td>
<td>M. Novil Fahlevi (SMK 7 SMD, East Kalimantan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Winner Junianto Endra Kartika and Ardhan Kurniawan (SMKN 7 Semarang, Central Java)</td>
<td>Nanda Eka Suci Ramadan (SMKN 4 Jakarta, DKI Jakarta)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

As follow up, these champions will be representing Indonesia and sent to a bigger competition event which is the World Skills Competition (WSC). It is a bi-annual event that will be held next in 2021 in Shanghai, China. SEAMOLEC will still be responsible to accompany them to prepare for joining competition in AI and Cloud Computing fields.

Cloud Computing Materials Socialization

Special for the Cloud computing field, SEAMOLEC together with AWS Educate disseminated the material prior to the competition. Both institutions were appointed by the Center for National Achievement of MoEC as judges for the field of Cloud Computing.

Cloud Computing is a technology that makes the internet a central server for managing data and user applications. Cloud Computing makes it easy for users to run programmes without prior installment, and to access data and information through the internet. Data storage media from users is also stored virtually so that it won’t oppress the memory usage that is on the computer.

All participants and supervisors were updated with the materials in 2 stages held in July and August 2020. The materials included: (1) Introduction to SEAMOLEC, (2) Introduction to AWS Educate, (3) Introduction to Cloud Computing, (4) Configure Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2), (5) Configure Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3), and (6) AWS Cloud9 configuration.

After completing the socialization, participants were expected to better understand Cloud Computing technology, be ready to compete in the LKS 2020, and later be able to apply it in their respective schools.
SEAMOLEC Webinar Series

Challenges of Distance Learning in the Era of New Normal

It has been almost 6 months already that students are learning from home. Schools and universities are closed for regular teaching and learning activities. The Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia has released rules and regulations regarding the learning from home method, both for curriculum and learning process which are adjusted to the different needs of different locations. Challenges and obstacles are certainly unavoidable happening along the way, which require effective and practical solutions.

On August 27, 2020 at 14.00-16.00 (GMT+7) SEAMOLEC hosted a national webinar entitled “Challenges of Distance Learning in the Era of New Normal”. This event aimed to inspire the educational stakeholders in Indonesia, such as teachers, offices of local MoEC, policy makers, schools, and parents as the subjects of learning from home method. By participating in this webinar participants were expected to gain inspiration on how distance learning can be conducted aligned with student-centered method and approach.

The 3 resource persons were invited to the webinar:

1. Dr Praptono, M.Ed., Director of Teacher and Education Personnel for Secondary and Special Education, MoEC, who presented about “Learning from Home Policy in the Era of New Normal.”
2. Prof Ojat Darojat, M.Bus., PhD, Rector of Universitas Terbuka, who presented about “Best Practices of Distance Learning in Higher Education in the Era of New Normal.”
3. R Alpha Amirrachman, M.Phil., PhD, Director of SEAMOLEC, who presented about “Challenges of Character Education through Distance Learning in the Era of New Normal.”

In his session, Dr Praptono mentioned several challenges and obstacles faced by the teachers, students, and parents during the learning from home activities, as well as presented initiatives and solutions offered by the MoEC. He also shared about strategies which will simplify teaching and learning process in this new normal era. Some examples are the application of emergency curriculum, modules for teachers and activity-based learning. The first and foremost principle is to prioritize the health and safety of school residents as well as the wellbeing and growth of students.
Prof Ojat Darojat shared experience of UT as a higher education institution which has been applying distance learning for 36 years. Even long before distance learning became popular and needed as it is today. One of the main solutions explained by Prof Ojat through the good practices of UT is that it is mandatory to use modular printed learning materials which allows students to do self-learning. Technology and other facilities will be the enhancer. UT has applied this system in its learning centers nationally and internationally.

The last session was delivered by SEAMOLEC Director, Dr. Alpha Amirrachman. He opened his materials by explaining that the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the global changes in both education and work fields. The focus of his presentation is about character education taught in distance learning during the pandemic. Usually students imitate and set teachers as examples of good character during the class interaction. But this time, the special strategy to build students’ characters needs to be created. He also addressed some practical activities to be implemented by integrating it with distance learning.

At the end of the event, a Question and Answer session was held where participants could address questions to each resource person. The webinar was participated by more than 650 participants live on SEAMOLEC official YouTube account. Presentation materials of resource persons and guidance on how to download the e-certificate can be accessed through the link: https://bit.ly/seamolec_smiles3, and the recorded webinar session can be viewed through: https://www.youtube.com/user/prmseamolec. The event was closed at 16.00 hrs sharp.

The Webinar on Multimedia Utilization in Teaching History and Culture

Learning history and cultural heritage is most of the times considered dull and demotivating by young students. It is probably because the learning process is disconnected from students’ reality and daily experience. One possible way to overcome this challenge is to use technology in creating the learning materials of history and cultural heritage subject in a collaborative experimental approach with learning historical concepts of the traditional curriculum. Combining history teaching with technological tools and multimedia runs into the motivation of the students as they find the screen and gadgets as the most natural way to learn.

To broaden digital learning experience and perspective on teaching history and culture to benefit both teachers and learners, SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC) under the coordination of SEAMEO Indonesian Centres Coordinator (ICC) and in cooperation with the Directorate General of Culture, as well as Research and Development Body of the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia conducted the Webinar on Multimedia Utilization in Teaching History and Culture on October 21, 2020 at 13.00-18.00 hrs. On the other hand, this programme was also aimed to serve as a forum to share best practices from the Southeast Asia region.

This webinar used mixed language: English and Bahasa Indonesia in its different sessions according to each speaker. There were 2 main sessions, the first one was the opening and sharing session which was delivered in English, and the second session was the panel session which was delivered in Indonesian Language.
The webinar was opened by SEAMOLEC Director, Dr Alpha Amirrachman who briefly informed the webinar participants on the initiative of SEAMOLEC to host the event. In his remarks he mentioned that usually SEAMOLEC focuses on conducting webinars related to distance education and online learning. However, this time SEAMOLEC was glad to be able to collaborate with experts from the field of culture and history. Session was then continued with a programme overview and an official opening by Dr Gatot Hari Priowirjanto, the coordinator of SEAMEO ICC and the former Director of SEAMEO Secretariat. After that, the session was followed by a regional practice sharing, delivered by SEAMOLEC sister centres: SEAMEO SPAFA, Thailand which was represented by its Director, Mrs Somlak Charoenpoet, and SEAMEO CHAT, Myanmar, represented by its Director Dr Khin Lay Soe.

There were 9 speakers presented in 6 parts of the panel session, namely;
1. Drs Fitra Arda, M.Hum, Director of Cultural Protection, MoEC
2. Marlno Ririmas, The Center for National Research of Archeology, MoEC
3. Drs Jarwadi, M.Pd, The Center for Curriculum and Books, MoEC
4. Brigida Intan Printina, M.Pd, Lecturer, Sanatha Darma University, Yogyakarta
5. Alfan Pujo Laksono and Purwanto, Officers of IT Content and Knowledge Management, SEAMOLEC, Yohanna Novathalia, SEAMOLEC Intern.
6. Hirman Pratikto, History teacher, SMAN 2 Surabaya, and Drs. Adi Prawito, MSI, History teacher, SMAN 3 Malang

The webinar session lasted for 5 hours and all speakers were given a maximum of 30 minutes to deliver their presentation. A Question and Answer session was held at the end of all sessions. As a follow up event of the webinar, SEAMOLEC will host an online training on Digital Learning Material Development using Explee special for teachers/lecturers/students of History and Culture Study Programme.

The Webinars on Digital Teaching Materials Development for Higher Education Institutions

COVID-19 Pandemic has become a world epidemic and WHO has declared it as a global pandemic in 2020. This is also a concern of the Government of Indonesia in implementing large-scale social distancing. This policy focuses on three aspects which are working from home, learning from home, and worshiping at home.

The policy of learning from home is a challenge for educational institutions in Indonesia since the learning has been carried out mostly through face-to-face or conventional. However, the COVID-19 outbreak turns learning as an “emergency learning” from home because the learning curriculum originally is designed for face-to-face and not for distance learning.

The online learning adaptation is carried out by all levels of primary education, secondary education, and higher education. Higher education levels for several accredited B majors are allowed to conduct blended learning, which is a combination between online learning and face-to-face learning. However, in fact it was found that many universities have not implemented a blended learning system. The online learning adaptation carried out by the lecturer is the asynchronous learning method which is only using a video conference and a group chat messengers to substitute the face-to-face learning system.

Asynchronous learning through video conferences has brought new challenges both for the students and the teachers, such as the needs of the internet quota for online learning. During emergency studying from home, students are more likely to have distractions during learning. Therefore, the special strategies for online learning and interactions between lecturers and students are needed.
During the online learning, lecturers adapt themselves in utilization of technology as a learning support system. However, there are not many lecturers who have an expertise in digitizing learning content. Therefore, it needs training to scale up the lecturers qualification in using online applications.

As a distance learning development organization, SEAMOLEC has a responsibility in educating society, especially the educators and academicians, regarding online learning guidance. In learning during the pandemic period, SEAMOLEC and the General Directorate of Higher Education conducted a webinar on the Digital Teaching Materials Development for the lecturers. SEAMOLEC shared materials on how to package teaching-learning material using microlearning strategies and utilization of simple applications for producing learning content. The webinar streamed on YouTube and was participated by more than 400 participants per session.

In the adaptation of online learning during the COVID-19 period, several universities organised webinars packaging of teaching-learning materials for e-learning and SEAMOLEC’s trainers from Training Division and IT Content & Knowledge Management Division were invited as speakers.

List of institutions that were supported by SEAMOLEC trainers and speakers:

1. Directorate General of Higher Education, the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia
2. Board for Development and Empowerment of Human Resources together with the Polytechnic Network, the Ministry of Health of Indonesia
3. Universitas Terbuka Jakarta
4. Universitas Negeri Malang
5. Universitas Negeri Makassar
6. Universitas Sebelas Maret Surakarta
7. Universitas Negeri Padang
8. Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa Banten
9. Universitas Muhammadiyah Semarang
10. Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta
11. Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta
12. UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta
13. Universitas NU Surabaya
14. Politeknik Harapan Bersama Tegal

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR IG FOLLOWERS

We have reached another milestone because of you! Thank you for walking with us through this journey. We are highly delighted by the truth that we are so lucky to have amazing supporters on Instagram. We are fortunate to celebrate this with all of you.

What an early New Year’s gift for us!
The Indonesia Sales Competition (ISAC) that was held on November 24-25, 2020 was a great success. The competition that was opened by Rizal Alfian, representative from National Performance Center, Ministry of Education and Culture, successfully brought 25 students from 5 Indonesian Universities that belong to South-East Asian Sales Consortium (SEASAC) to compete and expose their competencies in Sales. This event was the first competition in sales participated by university students that aimed to prepare Indonesia students to be highly skilled Business-to-Business (B2B) sales professionals. Moreover, it will also be beneficial for industries and companies in Indonesia to obtain university graduates who are able to do B2B sales.

In the series of ISAC activities, an International Webinar was also held with the theme “Preparing Students Towards New Era of B2B Sales” which aimed to introduce various strategies in preparing future sales professionals in a new era of B2B sales. Those events were prepared by Universitas Putra Indonesia “YPTK” Padang and SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC), also supported by the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia, Universitas Negeri Sebelas Maret (UNS), Universitas Bina Nusantara (Binus), Politeknik Negeri Batam (Polibatam), Universitas Katolik Parahyangan (Unpar), Universitas Mahasarakham, Thailand, and Turku University of Applied Sciences, Finland. The competition prizes were provided by the supporting sponsors: Gistrav Group, Bank Mandiri Syariah, Gojek, and Silungkang Art Center.

Within those two days, in the thoroughly prepared role plays on qualification, semi-final, and final rounds, students need to negotiate and convince buyers based on the provided cases.

The competition winners were:

1st Winner Gabriella Stephanie Siregar from Polibatam
2nd Winner Aditya Putra from Unpar
3rd Winner Rajendra Khalil Afif from Binus University
4th Winner Noel Steven Limbong from Polibatam

International webinar was conducted after ISAC final and officially opened by Firman Hidayat, sub-coordinator for partnership, the Secretary for Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC). He shared MoEC policy for “Kampus Merdeka” that opens the new way of student learning and gives a chance for students to be more adaptive and agile in the workforce, society, and for their future.

Considering that one key of the successful business is through good and innovative sales action, he also believed that the higher education sector has an obligation to introduce and train our students in the “sales” competencies through interaction with the professional in various kinds of businesses which can be achieved through sales competition.

ISAC invited 3 speakers in the webinar, they were: Mr. Benny Kusuma from Microsoft Indonesia, Mr. Harri Lappalainen from Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS) and Mr. Watjana Poopane from Mahasarakham University (MSU).

In this fruitful event, from Microsoft, Mr. Benny Kusuma shared about career in sales, while Mr. Lappalainen introduced competition format as one of innovation pedagogy that has been developed by TUAS for more than 10 years. The last, Mr. Watjana Poopane shared MSU experience on the development of sales courses to prepare their students towards sales competition in Southeast Asia level.

This interactive session was led by Ms. Ina Agustini Murwani from Bina Nusantara University as the moderator. At the end, Mr. Beny Bandanadjaja the Director of Higher Education, Directorate General of Vocational Education, MoEC mentioned that success in selling is necessary for business growth and sustainability. On behalf of the Ministry, he gave appreciation to UPI YPTK Padang, SEAMOLEC, and all sponsors for the contribution in this event and specially congratulated all ISAC 2020 winners.
Shinta VR is a local startup and pioneer in Virtual Reality technology in Indonesia to innovate cloud-based software for creating a Virtual Reality (VR)-based learning content called Millealab. Millealab allows users to create, modify, and share their own VR-based learning content easily. Some of its advantages are that the software does not require users to do coding works, no need to use a high-end laptop or computer, and the content can be produced easily without the need to render the 3D models.

Cooperating with many stakeholders, Shinta VR has trained many teachers to create VR-based teaching-learning content. Recently there are more than 1,000 teachers from 360 schools in Indonesia that have been trained. Looking at the huge numbers, Shinta VR had the idea to encourage more teachers to be more creative in creating VR-based teaching-learning content using Millealab by hosting a VR competition called The Competition for 1,000 Pioneer of VR Teachers.

The aims of this competition among others are to utilize the VR technology in education, to improve and stimulate students’ curiosity in learning and give them a challenge, to enhance the competitiveness level of students in adapting the HOTs simulation, and to enhance the competitiveness level of teachers in Indonesia in implementing VR for education.

Participants of this competition were teachers and students. They needed to create VR-based teaching-learning materials based on their schools’ problems, and were required to create a HOTs simulation for students in each school. The students had to write an academic paper according to the simulations created.

In collaboration with SEAMOLEC, Shinta VR conducted a one month-training for the competition. Participants were trained on how to create a VR-based teaching-learning content.

Participants needed to access SEAMOLEC’s online learning platform to get the training materials. The trainers, from Shinta VR’s team and SEAMOLEC, provided the host and moderator for the video conference sessions. Both institutions also provided e-certificate for those who met the qualification.
SEAMEO SEAMOLEC in collaboration with the ICT Center of Education for West Java Province conducted a special training programme for teachers on Introduction to Office 365. This programme was held in 2 modes; the face to face (f2f) mode provided for teachers in Bandung City and the online mode for Virtual Coordinator Trainers (VCT) teachers in West Java Province.

So far, the f2f training has been conducted once in SMKN 1 Bandung on September 10-12, 2020, and participated by more than 40 teachers. Meanwhile, the online version has been conducted in three batches. The 1st batch was held on September 6-8, 2020 with more than 50 participants. The 2nd and the 3rd batch were conducted simultaneously on November 9-11, 2020, with more than 70 participants.

By following this programme, participants were expected to optimize the implementation of distance learning by utilizing several applications provided by Microsoft Office 365. During the training session, participants learned how to create an online quiz and questionnaire using Microsoft Form, how to take a note, voice recorder, drawing a sketch using Microsoft OneNote, how to create a digital storytelling using Microsoft Sway, and how to organize virtual class using Microsoft Teams.

The training was divided into three sessions; started with knowledge sharing by SEAMOLEC’s trainers, a practical session in which the participants were expected to explore the applications, and the project session. Participants who managed to finalize their project will be rewarded with the certificate.

The online training followed the mechanism of f2f training sessions. The sharing session was conducted synchronously through video conference, followed by a practical session where independently done by participants. As the requirement to get the certificate, they were required to create the final project. During the training session, participants were facilitated with WhatsApp Group communication to have discussion, consult and share their experiences with the trainers.
SEAMEO Participated at the Exhibition of IJSE 2020 in Yogyakarta

SEAMEO Regional Centre for Quality Improvement for Teachers and Education Personnel (QITEP) in Mathematics (SEAQIM), one of SEAMOLEC sister centres located in Yogyakarta, conducted the International Joint Conference on STEM Education (IJCSE) 2020. It is a forum for Mathematics and Science educators from various countries to share their research results and best practices related to current issues regarding Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education.

This event aimed to provide an international platform for educators to share ideas and experiences, learn new knowledge and best practices, and disseminate recent research results in the field of STEM Education. It was also an effort to strengthen STEM Education especially in Southeast Asia Region, as well as to establish and expand networks of academic cooperation at the international level.

The IJCSE 2020 is a collaboration of 3 international conferences held by three Southeast Asian educational institutions, which are:

1. International Symposium on Mathematics Education and innovation (ISMEI) - a biennial symposium held by SEAQIM based in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. ISMEI, which was started in 2011, is a forum for mathematics teachers and educators to share their research and innovation in the region of Southeast Asia.

2. International Conference on Science Education (ICONS) - a biennial international conference conducted by SEAMEO QITEP in Science (based in Bandung, Indonesia). In this conference, participants discuss the main aspects and latest exciting developments in science education.

3. The International Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Conference (ISMTEC) - initiated in 2013 by The Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology (IPST) based in Bangkok, Thailand. Since 2014, ISMTEC has become a biennial conference and evolved to be a platform for educators from around the world to share ideas, learn about new strategies and research results, and discuss issues to promote science, mathematics and technology for K-12 education.

Back to back with the conducting of the IJCSE 2020, SEAMEO QITEP in Mathematics also held an exhibition on educational innovations in the field of STEM. The exhibition was participated by SEAMEO centres in Indonesia, including SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre (SEAMOLEC). SEAMOLEC contributed to the event through exhibition of various innovations, such as learning media technology using Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR) and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as an approach that can be utilized in learning activities.
Internet of Things (IoT) is one of the most favorite training topics provided by SEAMOLEC. The requests from partners to conduct this training have been continuously increasing since last year. This training topic requires practices related to equipment and tools assembling processes, which considered difficult to be held online.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, SEAMOLEC training programmes were mostly being held in online mode while in August 2020 SEAMOLEC started to conduct its face-to-face training for IoT. To maintain the health and safety environment, all instructors and participants are required to apply the national standard health protocol such as regularly checking the body temperature, wearing masks, applying physical distancing, and limiting the number of regional participants to a maximum 50% of the room capacity.

SEAMOLEC conducted 6 batches of training programmes in IoT topic for its 5 partners in different locations of Indonesia:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Locations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>August 31 - September 3, 2020</td>
<td>SMK Madani Depok (1st batch)</td>
<td>Depok, West Java</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>September 3-6, 2020</td>
<td>SMK Madani Depok (2nd batch)</td>
<td>Depok, West Java</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>October 14-16, 2020</td>
<td>SMK Pesat Bogor</td>
<td>Bogor, West Java</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>November 1-4, 2020</td>
<td>SMKN 3 Pandeglang</td>
<td>Pandeglang, Banten</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>November 9-12, 2020</td>
<td>SMKN Bali Mandara</td>
<td>Bali</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>November 15-19, 2020</td>
<td>SMKN 2 Pemangkat</td>
<td>West Kalimantan</td>
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The training programmes of IoT-Basic Level were participated by teachers and students from grade 9-12. The materials presented by SEAMOLEC instructors were: Orientation and Introduction of the industrial revolution 4.0, Introduction to Microcontroller, Introduction to Arduino programming language, Best Practice-LED Blink, Temperature Sensor on Arduino, best practice-Sensor Proximity, Best Practice-Humidity Sensor and Water Level, Best Practice-Servo Motor Programming, Device Connectivity with the IoT platform (Web, Mobile). After the training, if needed, participants can continue the consultation and discussion related to the IoT with the instructors through WhatsApp. As training outcomes, participants were expected to be able to creatively innovate and develop IoT-based products. Moreover, the training is hoped to increase the ICT competency of participants.

SMKN 3 Pandeglang

SMKN 2 Pemangkat

SMKN Bali Mandara
The establishment of the Study from Home Policy due to the Covid-19 Pandemic creates the needs of educational institutions to implement distance education. One of the schemes of distance education is independent learning or independent study. Independent study is a study activity initiated by the student themselves. They are allowed to choose which topics they preferred to study first, and determine when and how to study. However, they need to be equipped with the appropriate materials.

Before the Pandemic, SEAMOLEC had a previous experience in assisting teachers in West Java province to develop teaching materials that could be used for independent study. These teaching materials were used by Highschool and Vocational School students in West Java Province. This year, SEAMOLEC provides similar assistance for lecturers in the Health Polytechnic networks under the Ministry of Health of Indonesia.

In order to create appropriate independent learning modules for students, the Polytechnic of Health collaborated with SEAMOLEC. This learning material is a package of hyper content-based teaching materials, which does not only contain text, but also various multimedia-based supported learning material and online quizzes. Everything that students need to help them in studying and measuring their competency are compiled in a module.

The module contains such structure including Description, Prerequisites, Study guide, Learning objectives, Description of the material, Learning Assessment, Learning Follow-up, Reference, and Glossary. By using this module, students are expected to guide themselves in studying, measuring their understanding of the materials, and understanding what steps they need to take after completing every topic.

The 4 modules being developed were Pancasila, Citizenship, Anti-Corruption, and Cultural Knowledge which belong to the university compulsory courses. The writers of the modules were cross-campus lecturers who teach those courses. Each module could be written by several lecturers who are competent in their respective fields.

During the assistance, SEAMOLEC took role as a module structure reviewer, layout designer, and graphic designer.
NEW HIGHLIGHT PARTNERS’ TESTIMONIALS: SEAMOLEC SUPPORTS IN REALIZING MERDEKA BELAJAR

The Director of SEAMOLEC got invited by the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) of Indonesia to perform in a talk show hosted by a national television channel Berita Satu along with the Director of SEAMEO CECCEP. The talk show discussed about the programmes and activities of these 2 SEAMEO Centres in supporting one of the priorities of MoEC called Merdeka Belajar or Freedom to Learn.

As quoted by Dr Alpha Amirrachman, "We interpret the concept of Merdeka Belajar as an effort for students to study anywhere, anytime, based on their talents and abilities. This is the relevant with the development of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) which is the focus of SEAMOLEC."

Article on Jakarta Post

At the end of the year, SEAMOLEC published its article on a daily English-language newspaper in Indonesia. The article explored about the conduct of the 1st Indonesia Sales Competition (ISAC) and the attached International Webinar. These 2 activities were related with the Southeast Asia Sales Competition (SEASAC) Project, where SEAMOLEC actively involved for the last couple years.

The ISAC committee also on a limited basis invited several lecturers from universities outside the consortium and representatives from the Ministry of Education and Culture to participate as judges or examiners in this competition. It aimed to prepare students to be highly skilled B2B sales professionals in Indonesia who understand the process and ethics in an emerging industry. It will also be beneficial for industries and companies in Indonesia to obtain university graduates who are able to do sales, especially B2B sales. In the series of ISAC activities, an international webinar was also held with the theme “Preparing Students Towards New Era of B2B Sales”, which aimed to introduce various strategies to prepare future sales professionals in a new era of B2B sales. It was open for public participation, especially lecturers, students, sales practitioners and business stakeholders in Southeast Asia.

The international webinar started with a report from Dr. Muhammad Ridwan, SE, MM, head of the ISAC Committee, University of Pura Indonesia “YPTK” Padang, followed by welcoming remarks by I. Alpha Amirrachman, PhD, SEAMEO director. It was officially opened by Firman Suwannarat from Mahasarakham University, Thailand and Asia, Prof. Dr. Prataprar Sauromant from Mahasarakham University, Thailand. The webinar was held with the theme “Preparing Students Towards New Era of B2B Sales”, which aimed to introduce various strategies to prepare future sales professionals in a new era of B2B sales. It was open for public participation, especially lecturers, students, sales practitioners and business stakeholders in Southeast Asia.
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