

# **Strengthening networks: How can we improve regional and national MLE networks?**

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# Outline of Presentation

- 1) **SEAMEO**
- 2) **Advocacy Methods/Activities**
- 3) **Successes and Challenges**
- 4) **Tips**

# SEAMEO AND SEAMEO INNOTECH



# SEAMEO – Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (1965)

- An inter-governmental organization among governments in Southeast Asia
- 11 member countries



Brunei Darussalam



Malaysia



Thailand



Cambodia



Myanmar



Timor-Leste



Indonesia



Philippines



Vietnam



Lao PDR



Singapore

# 20 Specialist Institutions/Regional Centres



# 20 SEAMEO REGIONAL CENTRES

Country Location	Approval of Establishment	Centres	Acronym
Indonesia (6)	1968	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Tropical Biology	SEAMEO BIOTROP
	2009	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Quality Improvement of Teachers and Education Personnel in Language	SEAMEO QITEP in Language
	2009	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Quality Improvement of Teachers and Education Personnel in Mathematics	SEAMEO QITEP in Mathematics
	2009	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Quality Improvement of Teachers and Education Personnel in Science	SEAMEO QITEP in Science
	2010	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Food and Nutrition	SEAMEO RECFON
	1997	SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Centre	SEAMOLEC

<b>Country Location</b>	<b>Approval of Establishment</b>	<b>Centres</b>	<b>Acronym</b>
<b>Thailand (4)</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development</b>	<b>SEAMEO RIHED</b>
	<b>1978</b>	<b>SEAMEO TROPMED Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts</b>	<b>SEAMEO SPAFA</b>
	<b>1966</b>	<b>SEAMEO Tropical Medicine and Public Health Network</b>	<b>SEAMEO TROPMED Network</b>
	<b>1967</b>	<b>SEAMEO Regional Centre for Tropical Medicine</b>	<b>SEAMEO TROPMED Thailand</b>
<b>Malaysia (3)</b>	<b>1967</b>	<b>SEAMEO Regional Centre for Education in Science and Mathematics</b>	<b>SEAMEO RECSAM</b>
	<b>1967</b>	<b>SEAMEO TROPMED Regional Centre for Microbiology, Parasitology and Entomology</b>	<b>SEAMEO TROPMED Malaysia</b>
	<b>2009</b>	<b>SEAMEO Regional Centre for Special Education</b>	<b>SEAMEO SEN</b>

Country Location	Approval of Establishment	Centres	Acronym
Philippines (3)	1970	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology	SEAMEO INNOTECH
	1966	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture	SEAMEO SEARCA
	1967	SEAMEO TROPMED Regional Centre for Public Health, Hospital Administration, Environmental and Occupational Health	SEAMEO TROPMED Philippines
Myanmar (1)	2000	SEAMEO Regional Centre for History and Tradition	SEAMEO CHAT
Singapore (1)	1968	SEAMEO Regional Language Centre	SEAMEO RELC
Vietnam (1)	1996	SEAMEO Regional Training Centre	SEAMEO RETRAC
Brunei (1)	1990	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Vocational and Technical Education and Training	SEAMEO VOCTECH





# ADVOCACY METHODS/ACTIVITIES

# ADVOCACY METHODS

- 1. Regional/National training workshops**
- 2. Study visits**
- 3. Publications**
- 4. Identification of SEAMEO MLE Fellows**
- 5. Involvement of multiple SEAMEO Regional Centres and Ministries of Education**
- 6. Partnership with other international/national organizations for funding support and/or technical assistance**

# ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Period	Title of Activities
<b>June 2007 – July 2009</b>	<b>SEAMEO-World Bank Project on Mother Tongue, Phase 1: Mother Tongue as Bridge Language of Instruction in Southeast Asian Countries: Policy, Strategies, and Advocacy</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b><i>Consultative workshop</i></b>
<b>2009</b>	<b><i>Publication of “Mother tongue as bridge language of instruction: Policies and experiences in Southeast Asia” (Kimmo Kosonen and Catherine Young, eds.)</i></b>

# ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Period	Title of Activities
<b>2010</b>	<b>SEAMEO-World Bank Project on Mother Tongue, Phase 2: Enhancing Awareness and Building the Capacity of SEAMEO in Establishing Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education Programs in Southeast Asia</b>
	<b><i>Regional training workshops</i></b>
<b><i>6 – 8 July 2010</i></b>	<b><i>West Java, Indonesia (SEAMEO QITEP in Language &amp; SEAMEO Secretariat)</i></b>
<b><i>23 Aug – 1 Sep 2010</i></b>	<b><i>Quezon City, Philippines (SEAMEO INNOTECH)</i></b>

# ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Period	Title of Activities
	<b><i>Study visits to effective &amp; sustainable MLE programs</i></b>
<b><i>18 – 24 Sep 2010</i></b>	<b><i>Kanchanaburi, Thailand and Yunnan, China (SEAMEO SPAFA)</i></b>
<b><i>12 – 18 Dec 2010</i></b>	<b><i>Orissa, India (SEAMEO SPAFA)</i></b>
	<b><i>National training workshops</i></b>
<b><i>8 – 10 Dec 2010</i></b>	<b><i>Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines (Department of Education, Philippines; SEAMEO INNOTECH; SEAMEO Secretariat)</i></b>
<b><i>20 – 22 Dec 2010</i></b>	<b><i>Surin, Thailand (Ministry of Education, Thailand)</i></b>
<b><i>28 – 30 Dec 2010</i></b>	<b><i>Vientiane, Lao PDR (Ministry of Education, Lao PDR; SEAMEO Secretariat)</i></b> <b><i>“Strengthening the Capacity of Educators in Providing Quality Education for Ethnic Communities”</i></b>

# ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Period	Title of Activities
	<b><i>Publications</i></b>
<b>2011</b>	<b><i>MTB-MLE 2011 Table calendar (Pictures from study visits and “one-liners”)</i></b>
	<b><i>What, why and how of MTB-MLE: Materials development for non-dominant languages in Southeast Asia</i></b>
<b>12 – 16 Sep 2011</b>	<b>Jakarta, Indonesia National Workshop on the Design Development of Mother Tongue-based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) Programme</b>

# FUTURE ADVOCACY & TRAINING ACTIVITIES OF SEAMEO INNOTECH



Period	Title of Activities
2014	Publication of SEAMEO INNOTECH Journal (with MTB-MLE as focus)
2014	National Training Workshop (Target Audience Group: Public School Principals)
<b>PERSONAL PLANS</b>	
???	National Training Workshop on MTB-MLE (Target Audience Group: Professional Education Faculty of Teacher Education Institutions) - ???
???	Production of MTB-MLE Orientation and Instructional Videos for the Department of Education (DepEd), Philippines - ???
???	National Training Workshop on Conducting MTB-MLE Action Research (Target Audience Group: Public Primary School Teachers) - ???
???	National Training Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation of MTB-MLE (Target Audience Group: DepEd Officials – different levels) - ???



# SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES (PERSONAL INSIGHTS)



## SUCCESSSES

- 1. Involvement of multiple SEAMEO Regional Centres – SEAMEO Secretariat, SEAMEO INNOTECH, SEAMEO SPAFA, SEAMEO QITEP in Language**

## CHALLENGES

- More regional centers are needed to join – SEAMEO QITEP in Mathematics; SEAMEO QITEP in Science; SEAMEO RIHED; SEAMEO RELC**
- Regional center, but addresses national concerns**
- Need for more collaborative work among regional centers**
- Raise awareness and understanding of regional centers**
- Need for a regional strategic plan**

<b>SUCCESSSES</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<b>2. Involvement of international organizations for funding support/technical assistance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding support is not perpetual, but SEAMEO Regional Centres have limited budget and existing budget is allocated to other priority projects</li><li>• Sustainability of MTB-MLE activities</li></ul>
<b>3. Involvement of Ministries of Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not all member countries participated</li><li>• Advocate more to high officials the need for MTB-MLE</li><li>• Establish SEAMEO and ASEAN partnership to promote MTB-MLE</li></ul>

## SUCCESSSES

**4. Identification of SEAMEO MLE Fellows to serve as trainers and/or focal persons in their respective countries**

## CHALLENGES

- **Lack of monitoring/documentation of activities of the Fellows**
- **For the Philippines, Fellows from the Department of Education already resigned/retired**
- **Lack of communication among MLE Fellows (need for e-group, reunion meeting)**



# TIPS

# TIPS

- 1. Multi-sectoral and multi-group involvement**
- 2. Establish a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for MTB-MLE activities**
- 3. Maintain communication through e-group/website/MTB-MLE newsletter**
- 4. Make MTB-MLE an institutional “crusade”, not only a personal “crusade”**
- 5. Set aside personality differences**