

# 10<sup>th</sup> SEAMEO-University of Tsukuba Symposium

## BIOGRAPHY

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**Dr. Sharon Joy Berlin-Chao**  
**Manager**  
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Dr. Sharon Joy Berlin-Chao, Manager of the Learning Development and Management Office (LDMO) of SEAMEO INNOTECH, is an organization development professional with expertise in designing and facilitating whole system dialogues using open, inspired and strength-based approaches. She works in building consensus and collaboration with groups and communities and is a strong advocate of Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space Technology applications in human systems particularly in organizations, programs, and project environment. Dr. Chao

has obtained her PhD from the Southeast Asia Interdisciplinary Institute (SAIDI) School of Organization Development in 2007 where she completed her research on the use of Appreciative Inquiry in evaluating development projects particularly those in the education sector.

As Manager of LDMO, Dr. Chao partners with education stakeholders in identifying current and emerging learning needs of those in mainstream education and those in the fringes. She works with internal and external experts and partners and academic institutions to execute the learning strategy of the Center. She also oversees the design, development, sourcing, and implementation of learning solutions in a variety of delivery modes including the use of flexible online platforms and the development of massive open online courses.

Together with her team in LDMO, Dr. Chao guided the development of the Regional Competency Framework for School Heads using Appreciative Inquiry as the platform in identifying and generating the development requirements of school leaders and managers in Southeast Asia. She provided technical leadership in developing the Southeast Asia Teacher Competency Framework (SEA-CFT) together with the Teacher Council of Thailand, SEAMEO Secretariat and the SEAMEO member countries.

Dr. Chao is a former Board Member of the Open Space Institute, USA – a US-based inclusive learning community that provides access to resources in Open Space Technology. It connects individuals and groups to inform, mentor and sustain each other in opening and holding spaces

for dialogues and engagements. She is also the past President of the Association for Appreciative Inquiry, Philippines.