

## A. Background

For eleven years, SEAMEO and the Government of Australia jointly organized the SEAMEO-Australia Press Award which gave recognition to excellent coverage of education issues by journalists and educators in Southeast Asia. The project has paved the way for greater discussion on many facets of education including challenges in providing quality education for all; as well as the promotion of cooperation in education between Southeast Asia and Australia.

In keeping with the aim of promoting beneficial education cooperation between the peoples of Southeast Asia and Australia, the SEAMEO-Australia Education Links Award has been developed to showcase and promote the value of education, training and research and their role in fostering stronger people-to-people and institutional links between Australia and SEAMEO member countries.

## B. About the Award

The SEAMEO-Australia Education Links Award gives recognition and financial assistance to projects or proposals that through education cooperation between Australia and Southeast Asia bring benefits to a Southeast Asian community, organization, or educational institution; and in the longer term help provide a better quality of life in society. The Award aims to highlight that education cooperation between countries can transfer new ideas, broaden educational opportunities, improve education quality, form long-term people-to-people links and improve mutual understanding to the benefit of all parties.

Specifically, the SEAMEO-Australia Education Links Award aims to:

1. Showcase education, training and research cooperation activities and the value these have in fostering stronger people-to-people and institutional links;
2. Provide the opportunity for sharing and learning of new ideas on education cooperation; and
3. Promote the development of effective education partnerships between countries, organizations, and communities.

The SEAMEO-Australia Education Links Award seeks to acknowledge and reward innovative projects or proposals that demonstrate one or more of the following:

- effective and inspiring efforts of individuals, groups of people, education institutions or organisations to improve education cooperation and linkages across the SEAMEO region and between SEAMEO member countries and Australia;
- recognition of diversity of individuals and sectors in promoting cross-border partnerships on education and thereby intercultural understanding;
- support to integration/regionalization of education while promoting the importance of and respect for local wisdom;

Entries could present examples of existing education cooperation initiatives that have proven effective and brought benefits to the Southeast Asia region. They could also propose innovative ideas that have the potential to bring benefits to and be implemented in the Southeast Asian region. This could take many forms, including, but not limited to an event, an academic or student exchange or an education or research development program.

Proposals however should not be activities that might be more effectively supported through the Australian Government's Australia Awards scholarships program such as scholarships and research in Australia. For proposals of this nature, please see <http://www.australiaawards.gov.au/>.

## C. Details of the Award

1. The Award is open to any national (natural person or body corporate) of a SEAMEO Member Country and must be at least 18 years old. The SEAMEO Member Countries are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.
2. Members of the SEAMEO Secretariat, the SEAMEO Regional Centres and their employees and family members are not qualified to apply for this Award.
3. Applicants must complete the application form. The form can be downloaded from the SEAMEO website [www.seameo.org/seameo-australia-award.org](http://www.seameo.org/seameo-australia-award.org)



4. The evaluation will be based on the merit of the proposal as indicated by:
  - a) Innovation, practicability and originality of the proposal;
  - b) Scope for replication, expansion or duplication of the proposal;
  - c) Value for money and sustainability;
  - d) Benefit and relevance to the Southeast Asia region through the transfer of new ideas, broadened educational opportunities, improvements to education quality, formation of long-term people-to-people links and improvements to mutual understanding to the benefit of all parties.
  
5. The winner will receive a grant worth AUD\$10,000, which is expected to support activities in relation to the winning innovative idea or project. The proposed use of the grant must be set out in detail in the application. A report to SEAMEO at the conclusion of the project, including information on how the grant money was used, will be required from the winning applicant.
  
6. The winner will be awarded a Plaque of Recognition during a SEAMEO event.
  
7. More information for each Award cycle will be made available in print and on the SEAMEO website.

The SEAMEO-Australia Education Links Award is made possible through cooperation between SEAMEO and Australian Education International.

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or the Ministry of Education  
 and SEAMEO Regional Centre in your country.




SEAMEO-Australia

Education Links Award



General Terms of Reference

A joint initiative of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education  
 Organization (SEAMEO) and the Government of Australia  
 to promote education links between SEAMEO and Australia  
 in Southeast Asia and beyond

