



SEAMEO Regional Centre for History and Tradition

Annual Report

2010-2011







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Mission Statement

To promote co-operation in the study of history and tradition among member countries, through research, human resource development, education and linkages. In doing so, SEAMEO CHAT will attempt a paradigm shift, adopt new strategies and explore new opportunities.

Objectives

-  to develop a better understanding of the history and tradition of the Southeast Asian region through research activities as part of the efforts to create and maintain a better sense of national and regional identity
-  to enhance the efforts of the member countries in the utilisation of the resources of their history and tradition in the continual effort of human resource development in relation to the study and teaching of history and tradition, and the raising of public awareness in the three levels of education - basic education, higher education and continuing education for the community
-  to develop educational curricula, programmes and personnel for making history and tradition relevant to meeting the challenges of the contemporary situation
-  to create and develop among the general public a better understanding and appreciation of history and tradition for the creation of a greater sense of national and regional identity
-  to enhance co-operation in the study and teaching of history and tradition by creating and developing linkages and networks among relevant institutions and agencies in the region and beyond
-  to help promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the history and tradition of Southeast Asia in the world by establishing a resource centre and databases.

Annual Report

FY 2010-2011

The 46th SEAMEO Council Conference held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 26 - 28 January 2011, approved Proposed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the Evaluation of SEAMEO Regional Centres and Network.

The Resolutions of the 46th SEAMEO Council Conference are as follows:

The 46th SEAMEO Council Conference:

- a) approved the proposed Key Result Areas (KRAs) for the evaluation of SEAMEO Regional Centres and Network;
- b) approved the proposed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the evaluation of SEAMEO Regional Centres and Network;
- c) approved the SEAMEO Centres mandatory choice of at least 2 or 3 KPIs and optional choice for the rest under each sub-KRA; and
- d) recommended that SEAMEO Centres identify KPIs not only beyond quantitative aspect but also KPIs that reflect impact.

Upon approval of the proposed KRAs and KPIs by the 46th SEAMEO Council Conference SEAMEO CHAT uses the KRAs and KPIs as the basis for developing its programmes and activities and reporting its progress and performance.

This report covers the period July 2010 to June 2011 and is presented by the new Three Key Results Areas in which the Centre directs its efforts.

SEAMEO-CHAT aims to promote cooperation in the study of history and tradition among the member countries. It is also trying to develop a greater regional identity through research, human resource development, education and linkages.

By adopting new strategies, it is trying to become a centre par excellence in the fields of history and tradition.

KRA (a) Regional Leadership

Research and Development

To develop a better understanding of the history and tradition of the Southeast Asian region through research activities as part of the effort to create and maintain a better sense of national and regional identity, SEAMEO CHAT in commemoration of its 10th Anniversary published the *Traditions 2010* in December 2010.

The Publication contains research papers from Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan and Myanmar on the history and traditions of the Southeast Asian region.

Innovation Programme

To create and develop among the general public a better understanding and appreciation of history and tradition for the creation of a greater sense of national and regional identity, SEAMEO CHAT held the lecture series on Cultural Heritage of Myanmar from 20 to 24 July 2010 at SEAMEO CHAT to an audience of senior academics of the Departments of History, Archaeology and International Relations of the Universities in the Yangon area.

Capacity Building

The annual training programme, Myanmar History from Myanmar Perspectives, providing participants with an understanding of Myanmar history as viewed by Myanmar and an informed acquaintance with some major historical cities, was conducted at SEAMEO CHAT from 11 to 20 August 2010. The programme provided lectures and museum visits in Yangon and a field study of Bago, Mandalay, and Bagan. There were five participants from Thailand and two from Singapore.

Myanmar History from Myanmar Perspectives programme is not only a study programme for regional and international participants but also a programme on the history and tradition of Southeast Asian for Myanmar academics through the cooperation of participants who share their experiences and knowledge on their countries' culture, tradition and history. For this year, the participants discussed the preservation and conservation of the palm leaf manuscripts in Myanmar and visited the Resource Centre of Ancient Myanmar Manuscript. They exchanged their views and discussed the preservation and conservation of palm leaf manuscripts in Myanmar and their countries. They noted that ancient manuscripts were very rare documents and needed to be preserved and conserved. They appreciated the value of traditional texts.

KRA (b) Regional Visibility

Strengthening linkages with inter-centre, national, regional and international institutions

The Delegation of the Center for Development and Empowerment of Art and Culture Teachers and Educational Personnel, Ministry of National Education, Republic of Indonesia paid a visit to SEAMEO CHAT on 21 December 2010. It was learnt that a new SEAMEO Centre namely QITEP Art and Culture will be established in Indonesia. The Director of SEAMEO CHAT showed interest in exchanging knowledge on art and crafts and invited the head and delegates to giving lectures at the Centre in the future.

The Centre has maintained and strengthened its linkages with the Ministry of Education, Myanmar and its Departments: University of Yangon, Myanmar Educational Research Bureau, Department of Higher Education, Department of

Basic Education and Myanmar Historical Commission, Historical Research Department, Ministry of Culture.

The Centre has also maintained and strengthened its linkages with regional and international institutions in particular with the following in the implementation of current projects and programmes: Kyoto University, the Centre National des Recherches Scientifiques and Ecole Francaise d' Extrême-Orient.

Increase means for stakeholders to access SEAMEO programmes

The continually updated SEAMEO CHAT website was used to market SEAMEO CHAT programmes as well as provide information about the Centre.

Marketing and promotional activities were conducted through the SEAMEO CHAT brochures, contacts, distribution of publications and participation in public and professional events.

A Chronicle of the Mons translated by Tun Aung Chain was published in April 2010 as one of the publications commemorating the 10th Anniversary of SEAMEO CHAT.

Texts and Images, Glimpses of Myanmar History by Tun Aung Chain was published in March 2011.

Five Years' Endeavour, SEAMEO CHAT (2005-2010), was published in December 2010.

KRA (c) Solid Resource Base

Financial Viability

The Government of the Union of Myanmar continued its support of the Centre by providing staff salaries and operating expenses as well as upgrading resources and facilities.

The SEAMEO Secretariat continued its assistance for SEAMEO CHAT programmes with SEDF funding.

The ongoing programme, Myanmar History from Myanmar Perspectives generated income for the Centre.

The Centre has also generated income from its English Language Proficiency programme.

Management Efficiency

The Ninth Governing Board Meeting of SEAMEO CHAT was held at SEAMEO CHAT, Yangon on 23-24 September 2010 in which Governing Board Members gave suggestions and provided guidelines for the future activities of the Centre.

Facilities

SEAMEO CHAT was shifted to a more extensive accommodation situated in the University of Yangon campus, on 20 November 2010. The building needed renovation. The first phase of renovation work included whitewashing the main building and repairing some office rooms were finished in March 2011. The second phase of renovation work started in August 2011.

With the renovation completed, the features available for SEAMEO CHAT in a well-appointed building are:

Ground Floor: Lobby, Language Laboratory, Classrooms, Resource Centre, Director's Office, Meeting Room and Conference Room.

First Floor: Deputy Director's Office, Offices, Class Rooms and Multi Purpose Room.

Second Floor: Studies for Visiting Scholars and Living Accommodation for Visiting Scholars.

Acknowledgments

SEAMEO CHAT wishes to place on record its sincere appreciation to
the following for

their support, guidance and inspiration

in ensuring the success of

its programmes and activities:



Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



SEAMEO Council



SEAMEO Secretariat



Ministries of Education of Member Countries



Associate Member Countries



Funding Organizations



Linkage Partners