

Proposed International Conference
on “Lifelong Learning and Resilience
in Disaster Management: Asian and
European Perspectives” in
Collaboration with ASEM LLL Hub

GBM2/IP11

ASEM LLL Hub Conference 2016: Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster Management: Asian and European Perspectives

PURPOSE

1. This working paper aims to solicit support from the 2nd SEAMEO CELLL Governing Board Meeting on the Centre's collaboration with ASEM LLL Hub in organising the ASEM LLL Hub Conference 2016: Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster Management: Asian and European Perspectives.

BACKGROUND

2. The world has seen more and more disasters affecting a greater population for recent years. According to the World Bank's "Natural Disaster Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis" report, more than 160 countries have more than a quarter of their populations in areas of high mortality risks from one or more natural disasters. Man-made disasters and potential conflicts pose additional threat to the already serious damage caused by natural hazards, hence a necessity in disaster management and resiliency to mitigate the toll of those risks. As disaster management is a continuous process with no specific end point, it is relevant to address it in the context of lifelong learning where resiliency should be emphasised as "the ability to prevent disasters and crises as well as to anticipate, absorb, accommodate or recover from them in a timely, efficient and sustainable manner"¹.
3. ASEAN has reached mutual agreements to express its concern for the impacts of disasters and call for the promotion of regional resilience through action plans such as Vientiane Action Programme 2004-2010, the ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management for 2004-2010, and more recently, the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), signed in 2005, entered into force in December 2009,

¹ <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/how-we-work/resilience/en/>

emphasising the priority to disaster risk reduction thus enabling a more proactive framework.

4. Realising the importance of preparing school leaders, teachers, students and local communities on managing and maintaining the delivery of education services during emergencies such as conflicts, extreme weather and natural disaster, SEAMEO has identified Resiliency in the face of Emergencies as one of the 7 Priority Areas on Education for the next twenty years (2015-2035) following a ministerial meeting in September 2014 in Lao PDR.
5. In line with the SEAMEO 7 Priority Areas Action Plan 2016-2020, SEAMEO CELLL responds to ASEM-LLL Hub Secretariat's proposal in jointly holding the international conference on Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster Management: Asian and European Perspectives, which is one of the key events of ASEM-LLL Hub in the year 2016.
6. The Conference will be held on 8-10 November 2016 in HCM City, Viet Nam.

SCOPE

7. This paper presents the objectives, sessions and topics, and responsibilities of parties involved of the said Conference.

Conference Theme:

8. Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster Management: Asian and European Perspectives

Objectives:

9. To identify what is perceived as 'burning issues' in relation to education, lifelong learning and disaster management in the coming years.
10. To look at how the vision of lifelong learning and resilience is renewed within different fields of research and what impact it has, or will have, on policy in those areas and in the field of disaster management.

11. To provide research-informed policy recommendations to policymakers and practitioners in terms of lifelong learning with a focus on disaster management and resiliency in the face of emergencies.

Organisers and Audience:

12. The conference is organised by the Danish School of Education, Aarhus University (ASEM LLL Hub); in cooperation with Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Danish Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Equality, Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization – SEAMEO Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning (SEAMEO CELLL) and Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).
13. The conference seeks to engage representatives from all 32 European member states and 19 Asian countries under the auspices of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). The expected number of participants to the Conference is 100, 30 of which are local scholars mobilised by SEAMEO CELLL

Conference Sessions:

A. Opening Plenary Sessions:

14. Four keynote speakers shall be invited to discuss the Conference's overall theme of Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster Management from the perspectives of both Asia and Europe (two from Europe and two from Asia, including one from the SEAMEO Secretariat). A Q&A Session will follow each keynote presentation.

B. Parallel Workshop Sessions:

15. Four parallel workshops shall be held following the opening plenary session under the following sub-themes:
 - (1) Risk identification and Preparedness
 - (2) Restoring Heritage
 - (3) Resilient Recovery
 - (4) Risk Reduction and Prevention

C. Commentaries:

16. Three speakers from the Danish Ministry of Education, Denmark, DVV-International and ASPBAE shall be invited to give commentaries between keynote presentations to add additional insights into the discussion from different perspectives.

D. Panel Discussion:

17. A panel discussion will be held towards the end of the conference to consolidate key messages from the parallel workshops.

E. Closing Plenary Session:

18. The closing plenary session shall consist of the formulation of recommendations, conference synthesis and closing speeches.

Responsibilities of Parties involved:

19. ASEM-LLL Hub will cover most of the Conference expenses including travel, accommodation and meals of international participants.
20. SEAMEO CELLL is to cover the cost of renting the Conference venue and miscellaneous expenses. The Centre is also expected to provide in-kind contribution to the Conference regarding visa procedures and other professional services
21. ASEM-LLL Hub and SEAMEO CELLL will jointly chair the Conference according to an agreed detailed programme.

The full programme can be found at:

<http://asemlllhub.org/events/vietnam2016/>

JUSTIFICATION AND IMPLICATIONS

22. As one of the key events of both ASEM-LLL Hub and SEAMEO CELLL, this activity is expected to help the Centre enhance its visibility and strengthen its regional strategic alliances and linkages while addressing the SEAMEO 7 Priority Areas Action Plan 2016-2020. SEAMEO CELLL, therefore, has to set aside part of its limited operational budget and mobilise available resources to implement the tasks as agreed by the two parties. Careful preparation (particularly in terms of arranging logistics and generating adequate

participants), and effective teamwork among staff and collaborating parties are critical to ensure the success of the conference.

REQUESTED DECISION

23. The Board takes notes and supports SEAMEO CELLL in its activities to jointly coorganise the *ASEM LLL Hub Conference 2016: Lifelong Learning and Resilience in Disaster Management: Asian and European Perspectives*.