

SEAMEO RETRAC

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Seminar on Promoting U.S. - Vietnam Partnerships In English Language Education

SEAMEO RETRAC, in cooperation with the Regional English Language Office (RELO), the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi and the U.S. Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City co-organized a 3-day national seminar on "Promoting U.S. - Vietnam Partnerships in English Language Education" from 12-14 March at SEAMEO RETRAC. The seminar hosted 50 English specialists from 48 of Vietnam's Departments of Education and Training (DOETs). Participants learned about RELO & SEAMEO RETRAC's teacher development programs, webinars, E-Teacher program, fellowships, specialist programs, and RETRAC's annual International TESOL Conference.

The DOET specialists visited the American Center in Ho Chi Minh City for a sharing session on Education USA, YSEALI and the American Center's available resources.

Ms. Diane Millar, RELO Director, diligently facilitated the workshop, detailed the advantages of active training, and shared the procedures to conduct similar training programs for local teachers. Ms. Nguyen Thi Mai Huu, Director of the National Foreign Languages Project, presented about, "Teaching & Learning Foreign Languages in the National Education System 2018 - 2025".

Attending DOET specialists that already implemented RELO-supported training programs shared their experiences working with RELO and through this sharing supported continued professional development for all the attending language teachers.

Events such as this help to build common understanding and fosters partnerships between Vietnamese and US educational institutions committed to English language learning as a national educational priority.

Presentation at SEAMEO - University of Tsukuba Symposium



SEAMEO RETRAC's delegation, invited by the SEAMEO Secretariat and University of Tsukuba attended the Symposium on, "Value Education & Global Citizenship: Towards the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals & Progress of Society"

on 11 Feb. 2018 in Tokyo, Japan. The symposium clarified values in education and provided a platform to share educational reforms regarding global citizenship, education for sustainable development, character developed, soft skills, and lifelong learning across Asia. At the symposium, Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong, SEAMEO RETRAC's Director, shared her paper, "Global Citizenship & Skills Development: Practices from Universities in Vietnam" in which she shared both Vietnamese universities' and SEAMEO RETRAC's methods to equip students to be the global citizens. Her presentation drew the attention of the attending ASEAN & Japanese counterparts.

SEAMEO RETRAC's contributes to, "Initiative Exchange Program in EMI" project at University of South Australia

SEAMEO RETRAC is participating in the Australia-ASEAN Council's project to link Vietnamese & Australian higher education institutions entitled, "Initiative Exchange Program in English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI)". The kickoff event was organized at the University of South Australia (UniSA) from 26 to 31 March 2018. Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong, RETRAC's Center Director, and Dr. Nguyen Thi Thuy Trang, RETRAC's Deputy Dean of Division of Foreign Studies, attended this event with other rectors, vice-rectors, and lecturers from Uni. of Social Sciences and Humanities, Viet Nam National Uni. Ha Noi, Uni. of Foreign Language Studies, and Uni. of Da Nang.



The project partners met at the University of South Australia to:

- Share EMI success, issues, & initiatives at 03 Vietnamese institutions
- Discuss directions for future EMI teaching & learning
- Meet & observe academics at UniSA
- Plan EMI conferences & seminars in Viet Nam at the end of 2018
- Discuss collaboration between UniSA & participating institutions

International Training on ICT Applications in Teaching & Academic Management



From 28-30 March, SEAMEO RETRAC in collaboration with Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) organized the training workshop on "Information & Communication Technology Applications in Teaching & Academic Management" at its premises. Supported by MEXT's Annual Expert Dispatch Program, the training was facilitated by Dr. Kazuo Nagata & Dr. Yasuhito Inoue from Japan's National Institute of Technology. The workshop centered on academic management and teaching through ICT. The workshop involved the participation of 32 lecturers and staff from colleges and universities in Ho Chi Minh City and surrounding provinces.

Seminar on Integrating 21st Century Leadership: Hallmarks in Pursuit of Organizational Change in Higher Education



A seminar on “Integrating 21st Century Leadership: Hallmarks in Pursuit of Organizational Change in Higher Education” took place on 26 March at SEAMEO RETRAC. The seminar aimed at providing best practices for integrating 21st century leadership skills in organizational change. There were 75 participants attending the seminar from various universities and colleges in Ho Chi Minh City and surrounding provinces. Participating in the seminar were leaders, administrators, managers from Vietnamese institutions. The workshop was facilitated Mr. Wayne Lee-Ying from College of the Rockies, Canada.

Teaching Methodology Training for English Teachers in An Giang Province

SEAMEO RETRAC and the An Giang Department of Education & Training jointly conducted an teaching methodology training courses for primary, secondary and high school English teachers in An Giang province from 27 December 2017 to 19 January 2018. The courses helped teachers improve their English teaching ability, update innovative approaches, use instructional materials effectively, and enhance their motivational strategies and communication skills to encourage learners’ class participation. These courses gave teachers an opportunity to improve their self-study skills and professional development.



Workshop on Learning Gamification Tools & Applications



SEAMEO RETRAC started the year by offering a two-day workshop on Gamification Tools and Applications from 25-26 January. The workshop’s 21 participants, including instructors from universities and private institutions, were delighted to discover many game-based applications that will enhance their lessons and motivate their students’ learning. The workshops introduced game-based accomplishments such as rewards, demerits, time constraints, advancing levels, barometers of progress, independent and/or team work, quiz show formats and other avenues for game-based learning. The participants were encouraged to mindfully plan the use of games for effective lesson delivery inside and outside class time.

Workshop on Human Resource Management



From 29-30 January, SEAMEO RETRAC hosted a workshop on human resource management in higher education. The workshop provided participants with knowledge and practices in educational human resource management. Attending the workshop were eight participants from colleges and universities in

Ho Chi Minh City and other provinces. The workshop touched on Staff Development, Human Resource Management, Motivating Staff, and Developing Human Resources- within both general Labor Laws & Public Servant Labor Laws.

Celebrating International Women's Day

In celebration of International Women's Day, the center hosted a gathering with games, performances, and a lively cooking contest. Each department cooked a three-course meal and submitted their creations to a panel of three judges. The teams spent hours purchasing, preparing, and cooking their dishes. The contest allowed our talented men & women to show off their cooking skills and share their unique recipes. All the teams shared their meals with each other and enjoyed the festivities.



Goodwill Visit to Center for Inclusive Education in Dak Lak Province



On 15 January, SEAMEO RETRAC visited and presented gifts to disadvantaged children from the Center for Inclusive Education Development for Handicapped Children in Ban Mê Thuột city, Daklak province. The Center for Inclusive Education educates 175 special needs students who are deaf, blind, and mentally impaired. These students come from remote and mountainous areas that struggle to supply their students with learning materials. Hoping to encourage hard working teachers and pupils during the Lunar New Year, SEAMEO RETRAC's Party Committee and Executive Committee presented 180 jackets and a 20 million VND donation for the center's development.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL - JUNE

In-country Training on Capacity Building in Leadership & Management for Educational Excellence in Lao PDR
10-13 April

Sharing session on Teaching IELTS Listening
16 April

Training Workshop on ICT Applications in Instructional Material Development
23-24 April

Trainer-Training Workshop on Soft Skills Teaching - Module 3
7-10 May

Training Workshop on Project Management in Education
May

Online Regional Training Series on Educational Leadership & Management - 21st Century Skills
May-June

International Training Course on Strengthening Capacity in Leadership & Management in Higher Education for Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam
5-8 June

The Opening Ceremony for Summer Fun 2018
11 June

Training Workshop on Grant Proposal Writing
13-15 June

Afghanistan Professional Exchange Program in Vietnam
22 June - 4 July



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