



# SEAMEO RETRAC

NEWSLETTER VOL.93 | April - June, 2025



**SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION  
REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER (SEAMEO RETRAC)  
ISSN 1729 – 1852**



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# Inter-Centre Collaboration: SEAMEO RETRAC Strengthens Skills in SEAMEO Financial Reporting

To strengthen the accounting capacity of its staff and ensure alignment with the financial procedures and expectations of the SEAMEO Secretariat, SEAMEO RETRAC participated in a training course on “SEAMEO Financial Documentation and Report Preparation” in April 2025, with the participation of trainers from the SEAMEO Secretariat.

The training provided updated knowledge and practical skills in SEAMEO’s financial reporting system, while addressing differences between Vietnam’s national accounting regulations and SEAMEO requirements. Participants took part in interactive sessions to clarify common issues and exchange experiences, which helped improve the accuracy and consistency of financial documentation. This learning process contributed to better financial management practices and more standardized reporting.



# Training on AI Applications in Test Item Design and Student Assessment

Building on the growing impact of AI, SEAMEO RETRAC organized the training course on “Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications in Test Items Design and Student’s Learning Assessment” on April 24–25, 2025. Guided by SEAMEO RETRAC’s specialists, the program blended updated theoretical insights with hands-on practice, equipping participants to apply AI for more accurate, efficient, and learner-centered assessment processes. This course not only explored how AI can be leveraged to design high-quality test items, analyze learning data, and integrate intelligent tools into assessment systems, but also introduced case studies of emerging AI platforms and ethical considerations in AI-assisted evaluation.





## SEAMEO Council President (2023–2025) Visit to Vietnam

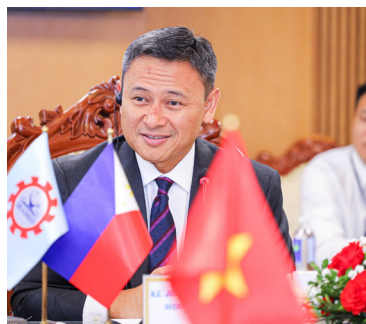
On April 29, Philippine Secretary of Education HE Mr. Juan Edgardo “Sonny” Angara, who also served as President of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Council for the 2023–2025 term, paid an official visit to Vietnam and held talks in Hanoi with HE Prof. Dr. Nguyen Kim Son, Vietnamese Minister of Education and Training, along with the Directors of two SEAMEO Centres based in Vietnam.

The meeting was also attended by Dr. Carmela C. Oracion – Assistant Secretary for Human Resource and Organizational Development of the Philippine Department of Education; representatives of the Philippine Embassy in Hanoi; Mr. John Arnold Siena, Deputy Director of the SEAMEO Secretariat; Directors of the SEAMEO Regional Training Center (SEAMEO RETRAC) and the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning (SEAMEO CELLL); as well as Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General, and Heads and Deputy Heads of Departments under Vietnam’s Ministry of Education and Training.

The Directors of both SEAMEO centers based in Vietnam presented reports on their activities and development plans for the 2023–2025 period. The reports highlighted initiatives in teacher training, capacity building for education managers, promotion of lifelong learning programs, support for policy research, and regional cooperation projects involving multiple SEAMEO member countries. The two Ministers highly valued the contributions and effectiveness of the centers in promoting digital transformation, professional development for educators, and the expansion of international partnerships across Southeast Asia.

During the meeting, Minister Nguyen Kim Son and Secretary Juan Edgardo “Sonny” Angara exchanged views on a wide range of education-related issues, including early childhood education, higher education, quality assurance in training, curriculum development, international student mobility, vocational education systems, development of a high-quality workforce, teacher training, and digital transformation in education and training.

The visit affirmed SEAMEO’s commitment to advancing regional cooperation in building quality education systems and expanding educational opportunities to all learners while underscoring the strong collaboration between the Philippines and Vietnam in education.



## Building Teaching and Assessment Skills with AI for Education Majors

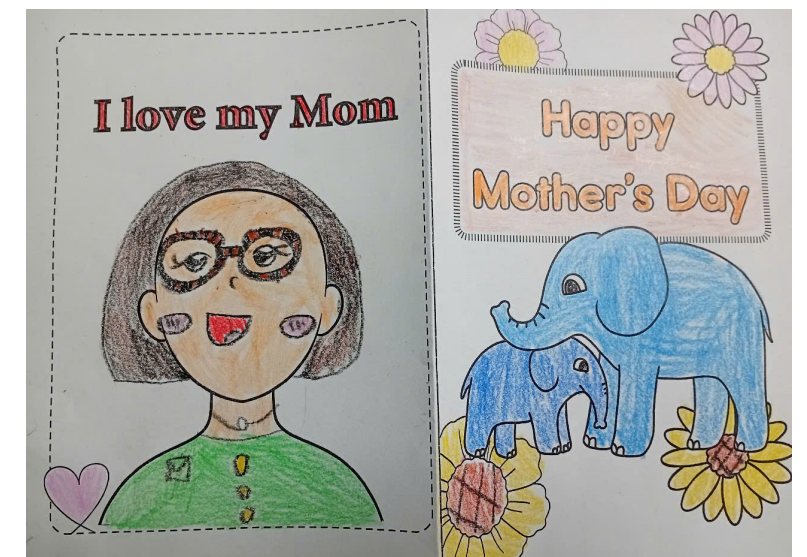
In May 2025, SEAMEO RETRAC, in collaboration with Dong Thap University, successfully organized two intensive training courses on “Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications in Designing Teaching and Building Activities for Student’s Learning Assessment” for more than 120 students from education-related majors.



The course covered key topics including: an overview of AI in education; practical AI tools for lesson planning and resource creation; AI-assisted test item design; strategies for building interactive classroom activities; and using AI to analyze student performance and adjust teaching approaches. Ethical considerations in applying AI in educational contexts were also discussed. Participants had short practice sessions to explore selected AI platforms, along with group discussions to exchange ideas. Many reported that the training provided both essential knowledge and applicable techniques for their future teaching careers.

## Activities in Celebration Of Mother’s Day

To celebrate Mother’s Day on May 11, SEAMEO RETRAC organized a series of meaningful and creative activities for nearly 1,600 students. The students enthusiastically participated in coloring and drawing portraits of their mothers, designing flower pots accompanied by heartfelt messages, as well as engaging in a word puzzle game themed around Mother’s Day, all in a warm and joyful atmosphere filled with love and appreciation. These activities aimed to remind the students of gratitude and love toward their mothers and families. They demonstrated creativity through their works, as well as cooperation and positive behavior throughout the activities. The event also reflected SEAMEO RETRAC’s partnership with families in educating and nurturing good values among the younger generation.





## Parent Forums 2025: Building Effective Pathways for Children's Learning and Development

With the aim of supporting parents in developing effective learning pathways and overall growth for their children, on the mornings of May 25 and June 1, 2025, SEAMEO RETRAC organized a series of Parent Forums under a practical theme – *"Growing with Your Child: Understanding to Accompany"* and *"Supporting Your Child: Building an Effective English Learning Pathway"* – the forums provided parents with useful perspectives on child development, specific strategies to create an effective English learning pathway, and practical methods to support children's study at home.

Parents also received guidance on how to nurture their children's confidence, independence, and motivation in learning, while better understanding their emotional needs. As a result, the forums helped equip parents with actionable approaches to accompany their children more effectively in both academic and personal growth.



## SEAMEO RETRAC Celebrating Children's Day

To celebrate International Children's Day (June 1), SEAMEO RETRAC organized a range of exciting and meaningful activities for nearly 1,600 students in the community. The children had the opportunity to meet the delightful Green Pig mascot and receive sweets while eagerly participating in activities such as statue painting, sand art, and interactive quiz games with prizes. SEAMEO RETRAC hopes that all students will always stay healthy, cheerful, diligent in their studies, show love and kindness to those around them, and spread positivity within their communities.



## Building Competence in Data Analysis for Research and Teaching

In the context of data playing an increasingly critical role in research and teaching, equipping lecturers and researchers with data analysis skills has become essential. From June 4–6, 2025, SEAMEO RETRAC organized the training course on *"Data Analysis in Research"* for academic staff, university lecturers, and individuals interested in research from Ho Chi Minh City and nearby provinces.



The program combined foundational theories with practical applications, included: an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methods; steps in preparing and cleaning datasets; the use of popular data analysis software; techniques for interpreting statistical results; data visualization for research reports; and applying analytical findings to enhance teaching quality and research outcomes. The course also featured guided practice sessions, small-group activities, and open discussions, enabling participants to share experiences and practical perspectives on the role of data analysis in research.

## Summer Fun 2025

To provide students with a fun and exploratory learning environment in the summer of 2025, SEAMEO RETRAC Center will continue its collaboration with Queens University, USA to organize the **Summer Fun Program – Summer Fun 2025**, running from June 09 to July 25, 2025. This full-time course is conducted entirely by interns from the United States and employs the Multi-dimensional Learning Method, blending play with education to keep students engaged and enthusiastic about learning.



The program embraces a variety of themes including **Science & Technology, Sports & Outdoors, Arts, Life Skills, and Entertainment**, offering students opportunities to explore knowledge, practice essential skills, and express creativity in a dynamic and supportive environment. In addition to classroom learning, students can take part in extracurricular activities such as team games, field trips, and collaborative projects that enhance communication and teamwork. A highlight of this year's program is the Culture Fair, where students, together with expat teachers, will explore traditional games and cultural practices from Vietnam as well as countries such as Greece, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, and the United States. Throughout the program, students will enhance their English proficiency, develop life and teamwork skills, and build meaningful friendships, creating lasting memories in the summer of 2025.





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## ISO 9001:2015



**The SEAMEO RETRAC Newsletter is quarterly publication of SEAMEO RETRAC Vietnam**  
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