University Mobility Networks in Asia
What are they good for?:
A case of AIMS and GMS-UC projects

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I. What is the AIMS Programme and its Effectiveness?
AIMS Programme
ASEAN International Mobility for Students

Multi-lateral student exchange programme, involving both Governments and HEIs

Self sufficiency and sustainability, and balanced mobility

Student participation in AIMS Programme over time

- AIMS at First Glance
  - 8+ Countries
  - 10 Study Fields
  - 68+ Universities
  - 3374* Students

*For Brunei Darussalam and Vietnam the figure does not currently represent data from all member universities

www.apaie2018.org
Self-sufficiency & Sustainability, Balanced Mobility

10 study fields:

1. Agriculture
2. Biodiversity
3. Economics
4. Engineering
5. Environmental Management and Science
6. Food Science and Technology
7. Hospitality and Tourism
8. International Business
9. Language and Culture
10. Marine Science

http://www.aims-rihed.net/

www.apaie2018.org
What makes AIMS different?

• Self-sufficiency & Solidarity
• Regional mobility
• Member Country supports participation
• Based on academic readiness

SUSTAINABILITY

• Balanced Mobility
• Mutual agreement on the number of exchange students

• Supporting Mechanisms
• AIMS Steering Committee Meeting
• AIMS Review Meeting

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II. What is the GMS-UC Project and its Effectiveness?
The GMS University Consortium (GMS-UC)

SEAMEO RIHED and the ADB have **common aims**

1. To improve cooperation and networking of higher education institutions so as
2. To foster higher education harmonisation within the GMS countries and beyond

SEAMEO RIHED’s implementation on the **Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)** Human Resource Development Strategic Framework and Action Plan (Phase 2) with the support from the ADB

Under 7 Strategic Thrusts of the GMS HRD Strategy (iii) **Cooperating in higher education and research**

ACTFA

GMS-UC

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The GMS University Consortium (GMS-UC)

Aims to help strengthen and accelerate cross-border collaboration among universities in the GMS countries as well as to develop regional platform for HEIs and lead to harmonize higher education in Southeast Asia

SEAMEO RIHED facilitated the establishment of the GMS-UC with 24 universities nominated by their respective governments

Key areas of collaboration include
- Faculty exchange
- University governance and social responsibility
- Credit transfer
- Information sharing
- Talent cultivation,
- Research collaboration, and
- QA.

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The GMS University Consortium (GMS-UC)

• Kick off Meeting of the GMS-UC and ACTFA Projects and Signing Ceremony of GMS-UC for Collaboration and Excellence

• 8 – 9 July 2015, Vientiane, Lao PDR

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The GMS University Consortium (GMS-UC)

Chea Sim University of Kamchaymear
Royal University of Phnom Penh
Svay Rieng University
University of Battambang

Savannakhet University
National University of Laos

Yadanabon University
East Yangon University
Myeik University
Yenanchaung Degree College

Thuy Loi University
University of Transport and Communications
Vietnam National University of Agriculture
Hue University

Kasetsart University
King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi
Mae Fah Luang University
Thammasat University
Chiang Rai Rajabhat University
Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University

Guangxi Normal University
Guangxi University for Nationalities
Kunming University of Science and Technology
Yunnan University

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ACTFA Implementation Plan

1. EXPLORE
   Action Research: Building a Common Credit Transfer System for the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) and Beyond

2. EXPERIMENT
   Academic Credit Transfer Framework for Asia (ACTFA) piloted among nominated universities in GMS countries

3. EXPERIENCE
   Analysis and comparison between existing national credit transfer practices and ACTFA to determine compatibility

4. EXPAND
   ACTFA endorsed at regional level and adopted at national levels with possibilities to expand to Asia

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ACTFA project (Phase 2) has provided opportunities for universities in the GMS countries to work together, with an aim to ultimately facilitate and further support student mobility in the subregion and beyond. This effort led to the initiation of **GMS University Consortium**.
III. The Future Contributions of AIMS Programme and GMS-UC project in ASEAN nations
AIMS and GMS-UC will eventually create a Asian version of ERASMUS for ASEAN nations

- More opportunities for a massive number of students in ASEAN nations
- More “Vertical” mobility (academic advancement), in the region
- Prosperity by improving regional economic competitiveness in the international market
- Regional peace with mutual trust among people
THANK YOU

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