MOTHER TONGUE BASED - MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL REPORTS
- The 4th Annual International Symposium on Foreign Language Learning
- International Conference on Language and Education

NEWS:
- Arabic Teaching Methodology Training in the Philippines
- Online Learning Materials for ILFL
Dear Readers,

All praise to God, the Centre successfully launches the first edition of SEAQIL’s newsletter. In this edition, you will find the review of our Centre’s programmes and activities conducted in 2013. The programmes presented in this edition vary from the capacity building for language teachers to the staff development programme. The capacity building activities held by the Centre covers trainings, workshops, and international symposiums. The Centre’s internal activities include coordination meetings, internships, participation in conferences as well as workshops. As for other Centre’s activities, the news disseminated is pertaining to materials development, AISOFOLL, Mother Tongue programme, 36th SEAMEO official meetings, and etc. Hopefully, this newsletter will bring you one step closer to our Centre.

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ENHANCEMENT TEACHING METHODOLOGY OF JAPANESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS

Twenty Japanese language teachers participated in Training on Teaching Methodology for Japanese Language Teachers held by the Centre from 7-18 October 2013 at the Centre for Development and Empowerment of Business and Tourism Teachers and Education Personnel, Depok, West Java. This training aimed to enhance the competence and professionalism of the teachers in language teaching, therefore they will be able to teach their students with various fun learning techniques. The participants came from nine provinces in Indonesia, namely Bali, Banten, Central Java, Nangroe Aceh Darussalam, South Kalimantan, South Sumatera, West Java, West Sumatera and Yogyakarta).

The resource persons in this ten-day training are Japanese language experts from various institutions: The Japan Foundation, Jakarta State University, Bina Nusantara University. Before the training session began, Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo, the Centre’s Director, gave brief information on the Centre’s policy to broaden the participants’ knowledge on the existence of the Centre.

In this training, the participants not only learnt teaching methodology, but they also learnt Japanese culture for example origami, shodo, yukata and happi. By the end of the training, the participants presented their lesson plans to the resource persons as well as to their fellow participants.

LANGUAGE TEACHERS TO MASTER RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Thirty teachers teaching foreign languages, namely Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Indonesian Language as Foreign Language and Japanese and two Centre’s staff joined the training. During the training, the participants learnt (1) types of research, (2) components of research, (3) techniques of data collection, (4) data analysis and (5) class action research proposal writing.

The Centre invited Dr Hananto (Pelita Harapan University), Dr Tri Indri Hardini and Dr Emi Emilia (Indonesian Education University) as well as Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo (SEAMEO QITEP in Language) to be the resource persons of the training.

By the end of the training, the participants were able to produce draft of class action research proposals guided by the resource persons.
As a Centre aiming to improve the quality of language teachers and education personnel in Southeast Asia, SEAMEO QITEP in Language organised the teaching methodology training for Arabic language teachers on 3-9 November 2013 at the House of Indonesia, Davao City, the Philippines.

Thirty-four Arabic language teachers and lecturers from Davao City and Mindanao joined the training to enhance their knowledge and skills in teaching methodology.

In the training, the participants learnt various aspects in Arabic language teaching methodology, namely (1) Lexical Based Teaching, (2) ICT Based Teaching, (3) grammar teaching techniques, (4) Cross Cultural Understanding, (5) communication practice and (6) cooperative and collaborative learning.

By the end of the training, the participants were able to apply creative techniques in teaching Arabic vocabulary and grammar, to master four Arabic language teaching skills as well as to develop strategies in teaching cross cultural understanding.

The new Curriculum 2013, that demands new teaching strategies and new competences to be achieved, will be implemented from elementary to high school levels. Prior to its implementation, teachers need to be well informed and trained on how to develop learning materials based on the curriculum. Thus, aiming to enhance elementary school teachers’ knowledge and skills on integrated thematic learning, the Centre organised the workshop on 10-11 December 2013.

The two-day workshop was attended by 128 elementary school teachers from South Jakarta. By the end of the workshop, the participants were able to develop lesson plans of integrated thematic learning on nine themes, namely Togetherness, Occupation, Energy Saving, Care for Living Things, Environmental Care, My Hero, My Beautiful Country, My Goal and My Home.
4th GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The Centre along with QITEP in Mathematics and QITEP in Science jointly convened their 4th Governing Board Meetings (GBM) on 25-28 September 2013 at Goodway Hotel and Resort, Nusa Dua, Bali. Twenty Governing Board Members from SEAMEO Member Countries, representatives of SEAMEO Secretariat, representatives of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia as well as officials of the three Centres attended the meeting.

The Centre’s 4th GBM was led by the Governing Board Member from Brunei Darussalam, Ms Pearl Swee Hui Chua, and the Governing Board Members discussed thirteen working papers categorised into three types, namely matters of acknowledgement, matters of approval and matters of information. In the meeting, the Governing Board Members endorsed four working papers, namely Annual Report of SEAMEO QITEP in Language FY 2012/2013; Proposed Programmes of FY 2014/2015; Proposed Three-Year Budget of SEAMEO QITEP in Language for FY 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 as well as Proposed 2nd Five Year Development Plan of FY 2015/2019.

PARTICIPATION OF SEAMEO QITEP IN LANGUAGE’S DIRECTOR IN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUMS IN JAPAN

Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo, the Centre’s Director, along with other SEAMEO Centres’ Directors and officials, joined two back-to-back international symposiums in Japan on 21-23 February 2014.

The first symposium was International Symposium on New Directions in Higher Education for the Development of Global Human Resources-Launching AIMS Programme held on 21 February 2014 at International Congress Center, EPOCHAL Tsukuba, Japan. The symposium was co-organised by University of Tsukuba and SEAMEO RIHED.

The second symposium was International Symposium on Bridging the ASEAN Community and Japan through Education. It was organised by University of Tsukuba and SEAMEO Secretariat on 22-23 February 2014 at Hall University, University of Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan.

The symposium served as a platform to further consolidate the AIMS (ASEAN International Mobility of Students) Programme for Japanese universities and to enhance stronger partnerships with their counterparts in Southeast Asia.

In the symposium, Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo presented an overview of SEAMEO QITEP in Language programmes to the audiences. The Centres’ Directors also had the opportunity to have dialogues with other institutions to discuss potential areas of partnership between the parties.
SEARCA’S VISIT

Delegates of SEAMEO Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) visited the Centre on 29 August 2013. The visit to the Centre was included in their series of visits to several SEAMEO Centres in Indonesia from 25 to 31 August 2013.

The delegates consisted of staff from Management Services Unit (Mr Jaymark Warren T. Dia), Facilities Management Unit (Ms Bernisse Sabina R. Almazan) as well as General Services Unit (Mr Nicolas Sapin and Mr Jaime B. Buendia). During their visit, they were accompanied by Mr Bambang Sulistio (Manager of Human Resource Management Department) and Mr A. Tajudin (Assistant of Finance Department) from SEAMEO Regional Centre for Tropical Biology (BIOTROP). They were welcomed by the Centre’s Deputy Director of Administration, Ms Indrani Dewi Anggraini, as well as the staff.

MEETING WITH HONG KONG SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

Mr Eddie NG Hak-kim, SBS, JP, the Secretary for Education of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, visited the Centre on 17 December 2013. The Secretary was accompanied by Mr Kenneth CHENG Kin (Administrative Assistant to the Secretary), Mr LEE Chi Hung (Chief Curriculum Development Officer), Mr Roger CHEUNG Chi Ming (Press Secretary to the Secretary) as well as Mr Paul LEUNG (Assistant Director of Trade).

The Secretary and his team members were welcomed by Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo, the Centre’s Director, as well as the Centre’s officials and staff. The two parties exchanged information on their policies and programmes through presentation as well as discussion.

The Centre’s company profile video as well as completed programmes and activities in year 2013 were presented to the Secretary to give sufficient information on the Centre. The Secretary then explained the policies made by the Government of Hong Kong’s policies to improve education sector, namely Continuous Professional Development (CPD), grants, and information and technology (IT) in education.

By the end of the meeting, the two parties agreed to further discuss the possibilities of having cooperation in education sector to gain mutual benefit between the Hong Kong Government and the SEAMEO Member Countries.
On 18-20 February 2014, the 36th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting was convened at the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting was attended by representatives of ten SEAMEO Member Countries (excluding Myanmar); four Associates Member Countries (Australia, Canada, Germany and Spain); one Affiliate Member (the British Council); observer delegations (including the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan); Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea; ASEAN Secretariat; ASEAN-China Centre; ASEAN University Network; Asian Development Bank; Korean Educational Development Institute (KEDI); UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (UNESCO Bangkok); UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO); Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture as well as the 21 SEAMEO Regional Centres and Network.

The meeting discussed the ongoing development of education in Southeast Asia which put emphasis on Education for All (EFA) movement. The meeting also endorsed collaborative projects among SEAMEO, UNESCO and UNICEF on pre-primary teacher development, intercultural dialogues and learning metrics. Moreover, plans for the celebration of the 50th SEAMEO Anniversary were also announced in the meeting.

The Centre delegated Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo (the Centre’s Director) and Ms Endang Nilla Pramowardhanny (Deputy Director for Programme) to participate and give contribution to the meeting.

The Centre Directors Meeting 2013 focused on the follow up actions of the resolutions decided by the SEAMEO Education Ministers during the 47th SEAMEO Council Conference in March 2013. The meeting, during Special Session, reached several agreements upon (1) the implementation of the SEAMEO Initiatives; (2) support and inputs for the celebration of the SEAMEO 50th anniversary; (3) inputs for the content of SEAMEO Training Courses and Scholarship Opportunity as well as One SEAMEO Certificate; among others. Moreover, the meeting also provided opportunity to present matters to be submitted to the 36th SEAMEO High Officials Meeting. In addition, proposals for new projects and collaborative activities were also discussed in the meeting.

The meeting was held on 1-3 July 2013 at Marriot Hotel, Sukhumvit, Bangkok, Thailand. Dr Felicia Nuradi Utorodewo (the Centre’s Director), Ms Endang Nilla Pramowardhanny (Deputy Director of Programme) and Ms Indrani Dewi Anggraini (Deputy Director of Administration) attended and participated in the meeting. Along with them were directors and key staff from other SEAMEO Centres; representatives from SEAMEO Associate Member (Australia) and SEAMEO Affiliate Members (British Council and University of Tsukuba). Other invited presenters and observers were: the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan; Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Republic of Korea; ASEAN Secretariat; Asian Development Bank; ASEAN-China Centre, China; Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding; Australian Academy of Science; Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit; UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education; UNICEF East Asia Pacific Regional Office; United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies; Save the Children; and Regional Cooperation Platform for Vocational Teacher Education in Asia.
The Centre organised its 4th Annual International Symposium of Foreign Language Learning (AISOFOLL) on 30-31 October 2013 to promote, gather and share knowledge of foreign language learning in Southeast Asia. There were 84 education practitioners from Cambodia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, United Kingdom and Vietnam attended the event.

The keynote speakers of this symposium coming from University of Languages and International Studies (Hanoi-Vietnam), Germany at the invitation of Goethe-Institut Indonesien, Japan Foundation (Jakarta), Butsuryo College of Osaka, The Institute National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (Paris, France).

At the end of the symposium, a summary was presented by the Deputy Director for Programme, Ms Endang Nilla Pramowardhanny. The summary mainly highlights the importance of using culture in language learning and teaching that increases the role of teachers and the needs of new teaching strategies and means. The role of language teachers is modified to become mediators between two or more cultures. Besides, various strategies and means are needed to introduce, teach, and embed culture in the language teaching and learning.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION

Three SEAMEO QITEP in Language officials, namely Ms Endang Nilla Pramowardhanny (Deputy Director of Programme), Ms Itra Safitri (Head of Division of Partnership and Public Relations) and Mr Naftali Yudhistira (staff of Division of Research and Development Programme) attended the 4th International Conference on Language and Education at Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on 6-8 November 2013. Along with them were the representatives from UNICEF, UNESCO, ARNEC, Save the Children, Sulinama Foundation and SIL International. The conference was organised by Mahidol University and the theme of the conference was “Multilingual Education for All in Asia and the Pacific – Policies, Practices and Processes”.

The conference provided benefits that could not be found elsewhere such as educational opportunities and in-person networking. For educational opportunities, the conference gave the opportunity to learn from world language educators and personnel and the overall atmosphere and environment. Such opportunity can add a new stage that is not freely accessed through online events. For in-person networking, the conference was a good time to make connections, share information and learn about new colleagues. During the two days conference, activities such as lecturing, discussing and presenting was engaged to create the conference more appealing.
MOTHER TONGUE BASED - MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION

In response to improve students’ achievement in primary level, SEAMEO QITEP in Language (the Centre) implemented its flagship programme called the development of Mother Tongue Based – Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE). Three steps had been taken by the Centre to execute the programme. Firstly, the Centre held a series of workshops to design need analysis survey instruments. Secondly, the Centre used the instruments to conduct a survey to collect data regarding the use of local language as a bridge language of instruction in primary schools. Thirdly, the Centre conducted another workshop to analyse the collected data on MTB-MLE programme.

The series of workshops aiming to design need analysis survey instruments had been held from 2011 until 2012. The instruments were needed in order to gain validity over the data concerning MTB-MLE. The workshops produced eight instruments for interviewing stakeholders related to the implementation of MTB-MLE, which are: Local Education Officer, Heads of Village, Pre-School and Primary School Supervisors, Pre-School and Primary School Principals, Primary School Teachers, Pre-School and Primary School Parents, and Students of Primary Schools.

Then, in August 2013, the Centre conducted the survey in two provinces, West Java and Yogyakarta. For every province, the Centre selected two regions in which local language is mainly used not only in domestic domain but also in public domain. In West Java province, the Centre selected Bandung and Garut Regencies to collect sample data. As in Yogyakarta province, the selected regions were Bantul and Gunung Kidul Regencies. This survey aimed to collect information about the implementation of the local language as a bridge of instruction in primary school. Around 900 respondents participated in this research.

WORKSHOP ON LESSON STUDY FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan, the Centre held the workshop on 29-30 January 2014 at Centre for Development and Empowerment of Language Teachers and Education Personnel. An expert on curriculum development and a doctor in English language teaching from Sophia University, Japan, Chantal Naoko Hemmi, PhD, was invited to be the resource person of the workshop. Forty-five participants consisted of teacher trainers and the Centre’s staff contributed to the workshop.

In this workshop, the participants conducted a wide range of activities such as group working, discussing and teaching simulation in order to produce a live class situation.
ONLINE LEARNING MATERIALS FOR ILFL

The Centre is mandated to cater the needs for the improvement of language teachers and education personnel in Southeast Asia. As one of its efforts to carry out the mandate, the Centre develops language learning materials. The idea emerged from the realisation that language teachers need a wide variety of learning materials in order to motivate and grow the interests of the foreign language learners.

Thus, since 2010, the Centre began to develop ICT-based learning materials for Indonesian Language for Foreign Learners (ILFL). The Centre prefers to use ICT since it can be reached by people across the globe at their convenient time.

A total of 71 contributors comprising of ILFL experts, education practitioners and the Centre’s staff developed the learning materials in a series of workshops. In the last workshop, held in November 2013, the learning materials were finally uploaded into a Learning Management System (LMS) application named Moodle.

In developing the learning materials, the Centre adopted the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for Level A1. There are five themes for the learning materials, which are (1) Self-Introduction, (2) Self-Identity, (3) Self-Description, (4) Family and (5) Occupation. The learning materials are divided into three parts, consist of introductory, materials content and evaluation.

In the future, the Centre expects the ICT-based learning materials for ILFL to vary the existing ones so that the teachers would have more choice in selecting the materials based on students’ needs. Furthermore, since the learning materials are ICT-based, the Centre hopes that the materials will benefit the ILFL students not only in Indonesia, but also in Southeast Asia and beyond.

PRE-PRODUCTION OF LEARNING MODEL VIDEOS FOR INDONESIAN LANGUAGE FOR FOREIGN LEARNERS

As one of its efforts in improving the quality of language teaching and learning, the Centre has conducted series of workshops to develop learning model videos for Indonesian Language for Foreign Learners (ILFL). Ultimately, the workshops were able to produce five scripts with the following themes: Self-Introduction, Self-Identity, Self-Description, Family, and Occupation. The Centre adopted Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for level A1 in developing the scripts. The Centre then selected two themes (Self-Introduction and Self-Identity) to be produced in August 2014.

Prior to the video production, the Centre held the workshop on 24-26 March 2014 at Permata Convention Hotel, Bogor, West Java. An ILFL expert from APBIPA Bali, Mr M Bundhowi, assisted seven Centre’s staff in reviewing the content of the script, particularly in cultural aspects. In addition, eight production crews were guided by a movie director from D’Base Production, Mr Fitra Chairullah, in preparing the technical aspects for video shooting, such as determining location, characters and costumes.
Belitung Island was chosen to be the venue of Workshop on the Development of Videography Documentation held on 1-5 April 2014. The workshop aimed to enhance the staff competence in documenting the Centre's activities through video.

Two professional movie directors, namely Mr Fitra Chairullah (D’Base Production) and Mr Hanief Jerry (Jakarta Art Institute), led the five-day workshop. They assisted the staff to develop video documentation by writing the script, filming and editing.

During the workshop, the staff were divided into five groups. They did not only get the theory of developing videography, but also had the chance to develop them into creative videos. At the end of the workshop, the staff were able to complete five scripts and five short videos as examples for the Centre’s company profile.

Ms Endang Nilla Pramowardhanny (Deputy Director of Programme) and Mr Naftali Yudhistira (staff of Division of Research and Development Programme) had a chance to conduct a study visit at SEAMEO INNOTECH on 26-29 May 2014. The main purpose of the visit is to benchmarking on human resource development and strategic management improvement. INNOTECH was selected due to their broad knowledge in learning innovation and technology development and strategic management improvement and how far the organization has come in its development. They were welcomed by Ms Grace Cuadro, SEAMEO INNOTECH’s officer-in-charge and Manager of Administration and Management Office.

In this study visit, the Centre’s staff learnt Marketing and Networking at Knowledge Management and Networking Office, research management at Education Research and Innovation Office, training management and staff development at Learning Management Office, and finance at Finance Management Office.
WORK VISIT TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OF TIMOR LESTE

SEAMEO Centres in Indonesia intend to establish cooperation with the Ministry of Education (MoE) of Timor Leste. With this regard, delegates of four SEAMEO Centres (i.e. SEAMEO BIOTROP, QITEP in Language, QITEP in Mathematics and QITEP in Science) visited Timor Leste on 14-17 May 2014. The Centre was delegated by Ms Endang Nilla Pramowardhanny (Deputy Director of Programme) and Mr Rahadian Adetya (Head of Division of Research and Development Programme) to join the visit.

The main objectives of the visit are to redefine the meaning of SEAMEO to the Ministry of Education of Timor Leste, to invite Timor Leste to be more active participating in the activities held by three QITEP Centres and to engage cooperation in the area of tropical biology with SEAMEO BIOTROP. In addition, it is also aimed to offer In-Country Training programmes to MoE of Timor Leste.

The meeting between Timor Leste’s MoE with four Centres resulted several agreements. Firstly, Timor Leste’s MoE would make a better understanding on SEAMEO and its work mechanism. Secondly, the MoE would be more active by giving contribution to every programmes conducted by SEAMEO. Lastly, it would appoint delegations from the MoE to become SEAMEO Desk officers.

The visit also informed that there is a possibility to hold In-Country Training in Science and Mathematics in August 2014 with SESIM as potential partner from Timor Leste. Moreover, SEAMEO QITEP in Science would coordinate with Timor Leste education attaché in Jakarta for further engagement.