

## **Talking Points on Education 2030 and its Interpretations Panel Symposium**

By SEAMEO (Dr Ethel Agnes P Valenzuela)

### **I. Background and Overview**

- SEAMEO is an intergovernmental organization established in 1965 and promotes cooperation in education, science and culture in Southeast Asian countries.
- In 2014, the SEAMEO Council approved the post-2015 foresight study for SEAMEO to promote the 2035 Education Agenda known as SEAMEO Seven Priority Areas.
- During the 2014 Strategic Dialogue of Education Ministers, they have supported the SEAMEO flagship agenda: the 7 Priority areas as: 1) Promoting universal Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE); 2) Addressing barriers to inclusion; 3) promoting resiliency in education; 4) Promoting technical and vocational education and training; 5) revitalizing teacher education; 6) promoting higher education mobility and research; and 7) adapting 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum.
- The Ministers also gave 5 recommendations on how to implement the 7 Education Agenda.
- In 2015, UN adopted SDG goals and one of the goals is in education or SDG4. This mandates international, regional and national bodies to develop plans and programmes to achieve SDG4.

### **II. Challenges and Constraints**

- SEAMEO Education Agenda and Education 2035, supporting, converging education goals and targets for Southeast Asian Region
- SEAMEO Education Ministers in 2016 discussed the SDG4 and agreed to adopt a roadmap and action agenda on to promote SDG 4 and SEAMEO Education Agenda.
- The SEAMEO Secretariat was tasked to identify activities and programmes to achieve Quality and Accessible Education for the unreached and marginalized children in the region, letting the SEAMEO Secretariat prepare the action agenda from 2016 to 2019, for approval by SEAMEO Council (Education Ministers) in July 2017.
- SDG4 is far more ambitious and comprehensive. It has 10 targets with a huge task but in a way similar to SEAMEO Education Agenda.
- The SEAMEO Education agenda way national plan of action and an integrated SEAMEO Education Action Agenda has been integrated. The first draft is available for 8 member countries, 3 countries have yet to submit their action agenda.
- There is a need converge the 2: SEAMEO Action Agenda and SDG Roadmap for Southeast Asia. Two Roads and One goal.

### **III. Moving Forward**

- Proactive Response:
  - Conduct of in-country workshops on the New Education Agenda and SDG4 in SEA countries (Indonesia, Philippines have completed); all other countries in the pipeline.
  - Multistakeholder Summit for SDG 4 to share and discuss indicators for the country
  - Address education equity, quality and assessment systems.
  - Promote global citizenship and regional values
  - Use the 4 approaches to SDG4 in national and regional levels: 1) reviewing, monitoring and reporting SDG 4; 2) policies and strategies; 3) communication and advocacy; and 4) Financing
  - The SEAMEO Way- 1) Dialogue of Ministers on SDG 4 to approve and adopt SEAMEO Action Agenda for SDG4 and 7 Priority areas; and 2) SEAMEO monitoring system, following the EFA model- of having lead countries per priority areas and SDG 4 Targets

### **IV. Concluding Remarks**

- Lessons learned from EFA
- Moving forward to achieve Action Agenda for SDG and SEAMEO Education Agenda 2017-2019
- SDG 4 Steering Committee support and more