

International/Regional Cooperation among Universities in Asia – Current Status, Challenges and Future Prospects

RCAP Seminar

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¹ The views expressed in this lecture are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Asian Development Bank or its Board of Governors or the governments they represent.

Outline

- Education indicators and trends in tertiary gross enrollment rates in East/Southeast Asia
- Rationale for regional and subregional cooperation in higher education (Greater Mekong Subregion and ASEAN context)
- Regional, intraregional, and subregional forums/ institutions and higher education networks in East/Southeast Asia
- Future image of university networks in East/Southeast Asia and prospects for regional/cross-border collaboration with potential ADB's involvement
- Greater Mekong Regional University and Greater Mekong University Association/League: A tentative proposal

Tertiary Gross Enrollment Rates: Selected Southeast and East Asian Countries, 1970-2005

	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
Cambodia	1.4	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.6	1.3	2.1	3.6
Laos	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.2	2.0	2.8	7.9
Vietnam			2.6	2.7	2.8	6.1	9.5	10.0 ^a
Indonesia	2.6	3.2	3.8	6.1	8.4	11.4	14.4	17.0
China	0.1	0.6	1.1	2.1	3.0	5.3	7.7	19.6
Philippines	17.7	20.9	24.1	24.3	24.5	27.5	30.5	28.0
Malaysia			4.1	5.7	7.3	16.6	25.9	28.6
Thailand	2.9	6.6	10.2	13.4	16.5	25.8	35.2	46.0
Japan	17.6	24.1	30.6	29.8	29.1	38.2	47.4	55.3
South Korea	7.4	9.9	12.4	24.9	37.3	57.9	78.4	91.0

Note: ^a. 2004 data.

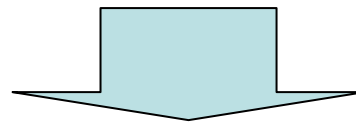
Source: UNESCO (2010). *EFA Global Monitoring Report*, cited by Yuto Kitamura, "Collaboration of Higher Education Systems in East and Southeast Asia, a presentation at the Education Community of Practice, ADB, 24 January 2011. 3

Lending and Non-lending Support to Higher Education: ADB and the World Bank (After 1995)

Country/ Region	ADB	World Bank
CAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special Rehabilitation Assistance Project-completed (ADF Loan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education Sector Support Project (IDA Credit and IDA Grant) - Higher Education Quality and Capacity Improvement Project (IDA Credit)
LAO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Postsecondary Education Rationalization Project (ADF Loan) - Strengthening Higher Education Project (ADF Grant) 	
THA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher Education Development Project (OCR Loan)-completed 	
VIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University of Science and Technology of Hanoi (New Model University) Project (OCR Loan/ADF Hard Term) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Higher Education Project (IDA Credit) -Second Higher Education Project (IDA Credit) - Higher Education Development Policy Program (IDA Credit) - New Model University Project (IDA Credit)
GMS/ Southeast Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher Education in Dynamic Asia (RETA) - GMS Higher Education Harmonization and Networking (in collaboration with ANU and SEAMEO-RIHED) (RETA) -ASEAN Leader Forum on HRD (RETA) 	

Regional Integration in East/Southeast Asia

- East Asia/Southeast Asia becomes increasingly integrated through market-driven trade (including proliferating FTAs) and FDI activities
- Infrastructure connectivity: GMS and ASEAN
- Evolving Economic Architecture in East/Southeast Asia → ASEAN, ASEAN+3, East Asia Summit (ASEAN+6), APEC, ASEM and TPP as trans-regional forums
- ASEAN Community (starting from 2015)

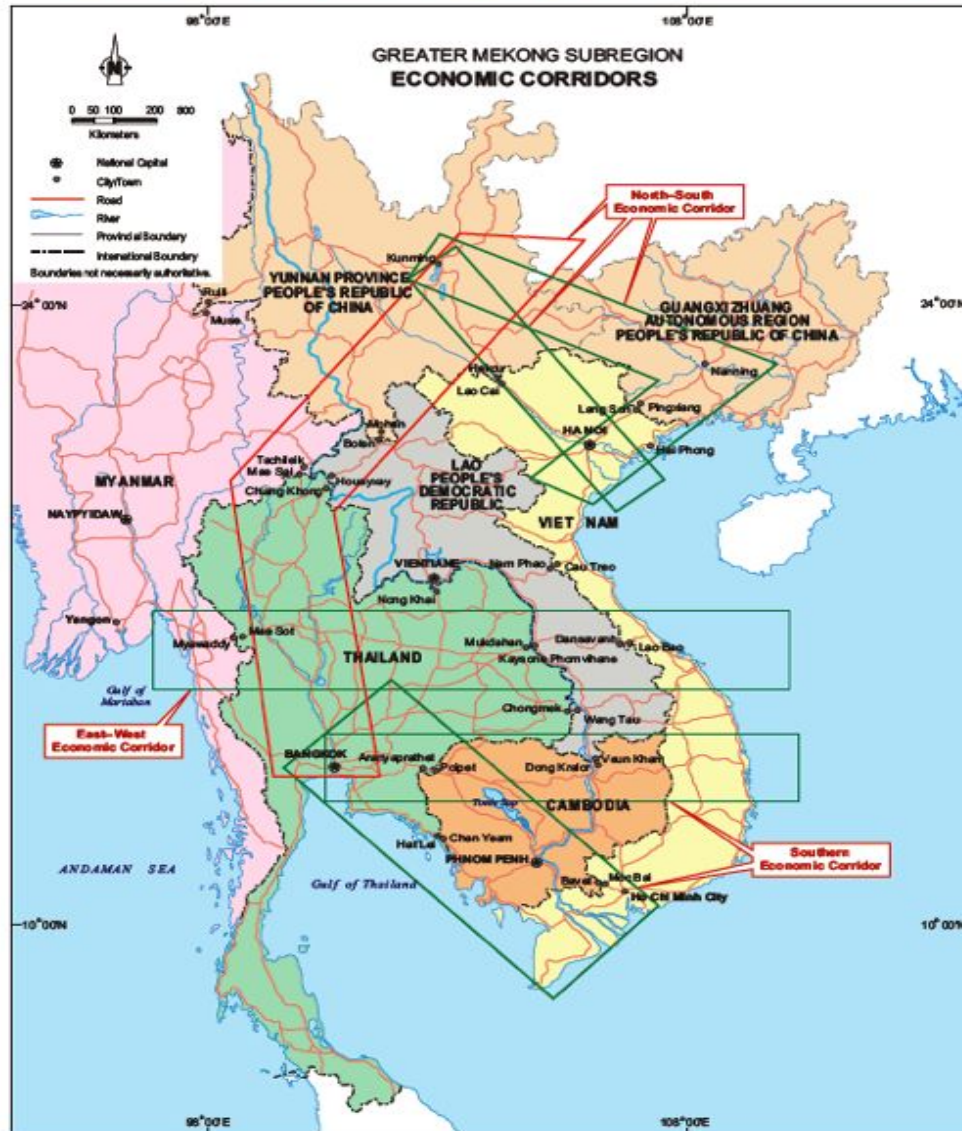


“ASEAN Community” → “East Asian Community”

Asian Regional Governance

GMS Infrastructure Connectivity: leading to greater competitiveness and sense of community

Figure 1: Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Corridors



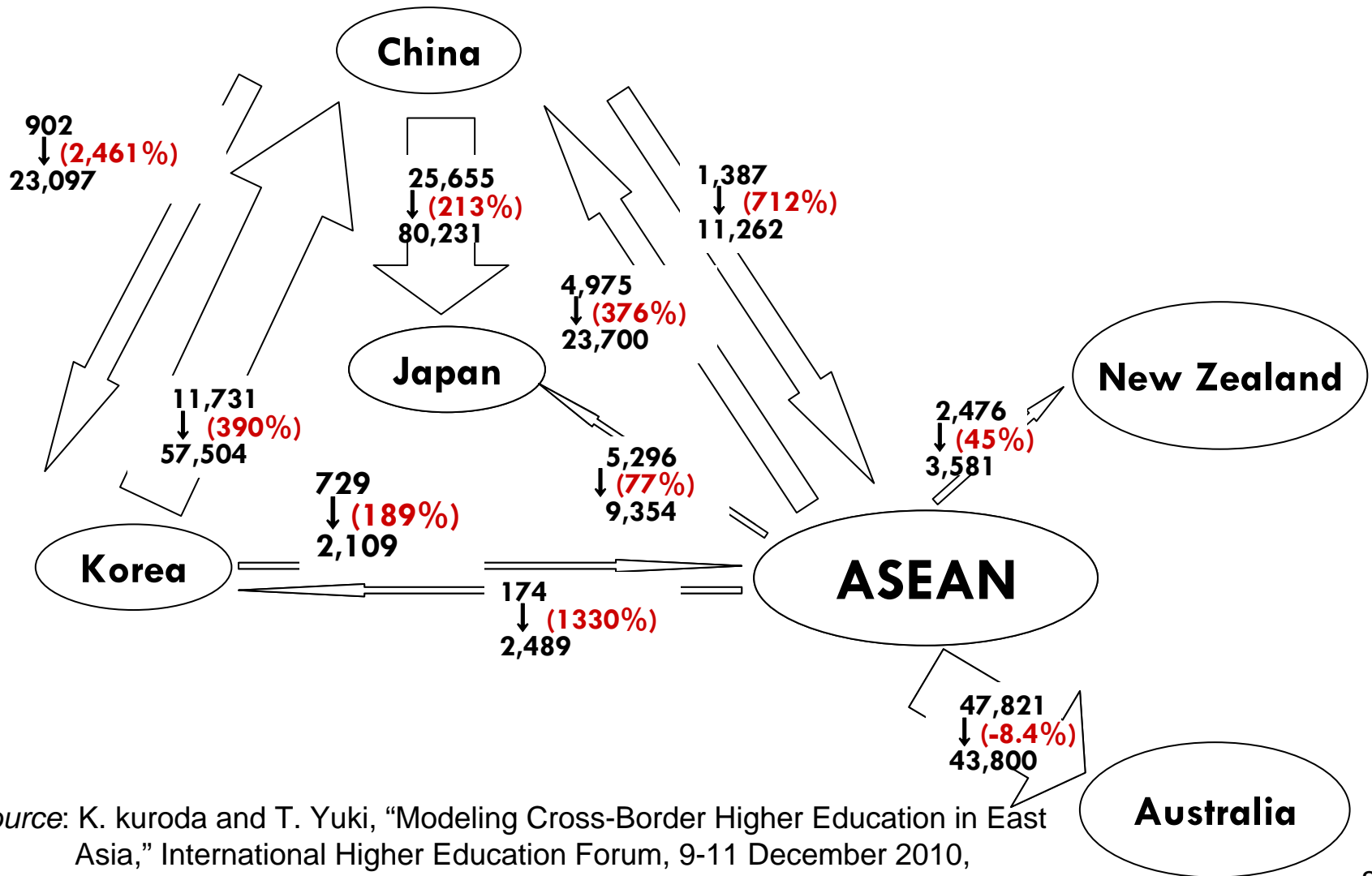
Source: ADB.

Implications to Higher Education in East/Southeast Asia

- Strengthening of higher education systems and institutions at the country level
- De fact of international higher education in East/Southeast Asia
- **Harmonization of higher education**
 - ASEAN University Network (AUN)-Quality Assurance (QA) platform and ASEAN Credit Transfer System (CTS) among 26 member universities in ASEAN
 - University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) and UCTS
 - “M-I-T-(V)” Student Mobility Pilot Program
 - Southeast Asia CTS (= ACTS + UCTS?)
- “Asian Version of ERASMUS”
- CAMPUS Asia (among China, S. Korean and Japan)
- A new scheme on strengthening cooperation between Japanese universities and universities in ASEAN

Regional economic integration (e.g, Southeast Asia) would fuel regional cross-border collaboration in higher education.

Growing Number of Students Move from Asia to Asia: Inbound mobile students: 1999 ⇒ 2007



Source: K. kuroda and T. Yuki, "Modeling Cross-Border Higher Education in East Asia," International Higher Education Forum, 9-11 December 2010, Sophia University.

Note: Numbers in parenthesis indicate the percentage growth

Optimism vs. Cautions/Caveats: Voices from the Region

(at the ADB Symposium on Cross-Border Collaboration in Higher Education, Higher Education in Dynamic Asia, July 2011)

- Benefits or risks: low program quality, brain drain, foreign competition with local universities
- Cross-border collaboration actually help universities?
 - Mixed motives-a little more than a diploma mills
 - One sided in nature (due to superior standards-Singapore)
 - Linguistics diversity across East/Southeast Asia
- Cost implications: profit oriented, over-priced
- Quality assurance frameworks: Weak at the national level, and competitive at the regional level
- Impact on equity: limited impact on improving access and equity for underserved and vulnerable populations

Optimism: Opportunities for cross-border collaboration are increasing and collaborative culture has improved: potential regional public goods (e.g., QA platform, credit transfer system, sharing experience) → A unique ADB's role as a regional development bank.

Main Regional, Intraregional, and Subregional Forums/Institutions and Higher Education Networks in East/Southeast Asia

Regional and Subregional Frameworks

- ASEAN
- ASEAN+3
- ASEAN+6
- ASEAN (original member)
- GMS + Yunnan

QA Networks

- APQN
- AQAN
- AUN-QA
- CAMPUS Asia

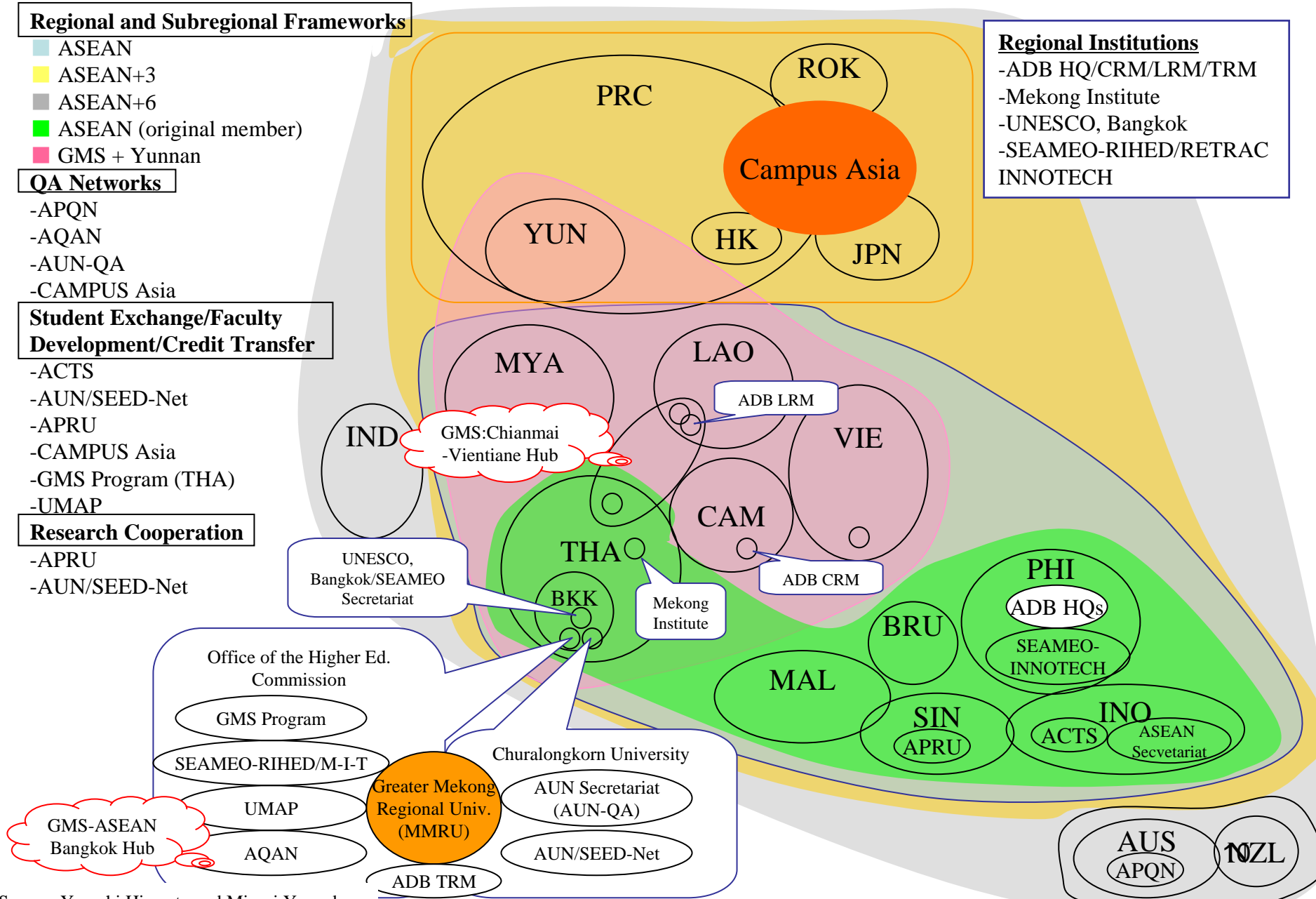
Student Exchange/Faculty Development/Credit Transfer

- ACTS
- AUN/SEED-Net
- APRU
- CAMPUS Asia
- GMS Program (THA)
- UMAP

Research Cooperation

- APRU
- AUN/SEED-Net

- ### Regional Institutions
- ADB HQ/CRM/LRM/TRM
 - Mekong Institute
 - UNESCO, Bangkok
 - SEAMEO-RIHED/RETRAC
 - INNOTECH



Source: Yasushi Hirotsato and Minori Yamada

Future Image of University Networks in East/Southeast Asia

“Greater Mekong Regional University”

AUN (→ASEAN University)

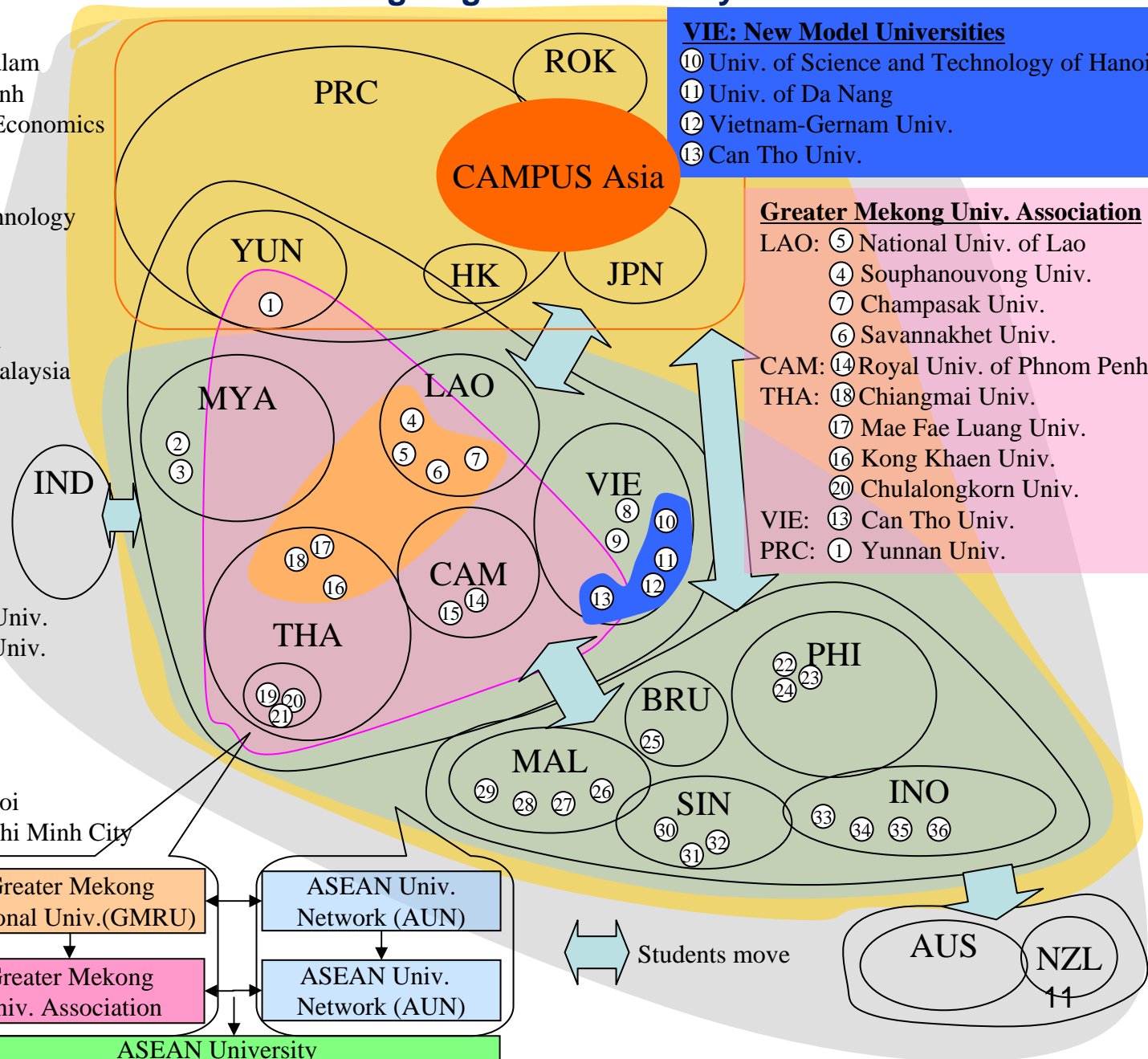
- BRU: 25 Universiti Brunei Darussalam
- CAM: 14 Royal Univ. of Phnom Penh
- 15 Royal Univ. of Law and Economics
- INO: 34 Univ. of Indonesia
- 36 Gadjah Mada Univ.
- 33 Bandung Institute of Technology
- 35 University of Airlangga
- LAO: 5 National Univ. of Laos
- MAL: 26 Univ. of Malaya
- 27 Universiti Sains Malaysia
- 28 Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
- 29 Universiti Putra Malaysia
- MYA: 2 Univ. of Yangon
- 3 Institute of Economics
- PHI: 22 Univ. of the Philippines
- 23 Ateneo de Manila Univ.
- 24 De La Salle Univ.
- SIN: 30 Singapore Nat'l Univ.
- 31 Nanyang Technological Univ.
- 32 Singapore Management Univ.
- THA: 20 Chulalongkorn Univ.
- 19 Mahidol Univ.
- 21 Burapha Univ.
- 18 Chiangmai Univ.
- VIE: 8 Vietnam Nat'l Univ. Hanoi
- 9 Vietnam Nat'l Univ. Ho Chi Minh City

VIE: New Model Universities

- 10 Univ. of Science and Technology of Hanoi
- 11 Univ. of Da Nang
- 12 Vietnam-Gernam Univ.
- 13 Can Tho Univ.

Greater Mekong Univ. Association

- LAO: 5 National Univ. of Lao
- 4 Souphanouvong Univ.
- 7 Champasak Univ.
- 6 Savannakhet Univ.
- CAM: 14 Royal Univ. of Phnom Penh
- THA: 18 Chiangmai Univ.
- 17 Mae Fae Luang Univ.
- 16 Kong Khaen Univ.
- 20 Chulalongkorn Univ.
- VIE: 13 Can Tho Univ.
- PRC: 1 Yunnan Univ.



Abbreviation

Regional Economic Architecture

- ASEAN+3 = ASEAN, Japan, Republic of Korea, and People's Republic of China
- ASEAN+6 (East Asia Summit) = ASEAN+3, and Australia, New Zealand, and India

Quality Assurance Networks

- APQN = Asia Pacific Quality Network
- AQAN = ASEAN Quality Assurance Network
- AUN-QA = ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance
- CAMPUS Asia = Collective Action for Mobility Program of University Students in Asia

Student Exchange/Faculty Development/Credit Transfer

- ACTS = ASEAN Credit Transfer System
- AUN/SEED-Net = AUN/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network
- CAMPUS Asia = Collective Action for Mobility Program of University Students in Asia
- M-I-T. = Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand Student Mobility Pilot Program
- UMAP = University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific

Research Cooperation

- APRU = Association of Pacific Rim Universities
- AUN/SEED-Net = AUN/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network

SEAMEO Centers

- SEAMEO-RIHED = SEAMEO Regional Center for Higher Education and Development
- SEAMEO-RETRAC = SEAMEO Regional Training Center
- SEAMEO-INNOTECH = SEAMEO Regional Center for Educational Innovation and Technology

Key Concepts/Principles

Key Concepts/ Principles	From	To
Permeability	“rigid” standard or platform (e.g., QA system, credit transfer system, school calendar)	“acceptable” standard or platform among key stakeholders
Neutrality	“competition” among networks, institutions, and universities	“cooperation” or “collaboration” to be facilitated by a neutral entity
Mobility	“waiting for others’ actions” or “too busy to take actions”	“pro-active” drive for change
Continuity	“ad hoc” forum, conferences, or meetings	“regular” actions to ensure the results

Greater Mekong Regional University and Greater Mekong University Association/League: A Tentative Proposal (I) *

(* To be supported under GMS Human Resource Development Strategic Framework and Action Plan, 2013-2017 and 2018-2022)

<p>Mission and Mandate (in 10 years and beyond)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To help improve the quality of universities in GMS by linking with existing/new higher education networks, and foreign universities. 2. To help harmonize higher education in GMS by facilitating development of an acceptable platform in areas such as quality assurance, student exchange, credit transfer system, research collaboration, etc.
<p>Main Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University President/Rector Forum - Leadership development in higher education - University QA capacity building (in collaboration with AUN) - Building common credit transfer system (in collaboration with AUN and SEAMEO-RIHED) - Teaching support, research capacity building, and faculty development (on-site and distance learning mode) - Support for cross-border delivery of instruction - Information clearing house (data base, matching partners, etc.)

Greater Mekong Regional University and Greater Mekong University Association/League: A Tentative Proposal (II)

Funding and Staffing	<p>Option I: ADB affiliated entity attached to ADB CAM/LRM/TRM (Regional Technical Assistance and Regional Projects) staffed by the personnel seconded from ADB and like-minded international and national experts (recruited as short- and long-term staff consultants), or</p> <p>Option II: International NGO funding from research grants and/or philanthropic foundations) staffed by like-minded international and national experts</p>
Location	Bangkok in close linkage with “Bangkok Hub” (SEAMEO-RIHED, ADB TRM, UNESCO-BKK, Chulalongkorn University)” and “Chiang Mai-Vientiane Hub” (Chaing Mai University, Mae Fah Luang University, NUOL)
Timeframe (Indicative)	<p>2012- : GMS HRD Working Group Meeting (to be held in Myanmar)</p> <p>2013- : GMS HRD Strategic Framework and Action Plan II (2013-2017)</p> <p>2015 - : Greater Mekong Regional University</p> <p>2017 - : Greater Mekong University League or Association</p> <p>2018- : GMS HRD Strategic Framework and Action Plan III (2018-2022)</p> <p>2020 - : Linkage with ASEAN University</p>

Thank you for your kind attention.

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