



Asia-Europe Meeting ASEM Education and Research Hub for Lifelong Learning

e-Newsletter 1, February 2010

The ASEM LLL Hub Secretariat, International Research Policy Office, Danish School of Education, Aarhus University • Tuborgvej 164, DK- 2400 Copenhagen NV, Denmark.
Editor and Designer: Que Anh Dang, asemLLL@dpu.dk, www.dpu.dk/ASEM
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The ASEM LLL Hub: 5th Anniversary in 2010

The ASEM Education and Research Hub for Lifelong Learning was officially launched by the Danish Minister of Education at its inaugural **Conference in Copenhagen in May 2005**. The original initiative to discuss lifelong learning at an ASEM Summit was taken in 1999 by the Danish government. Then a Steering Committee of the Initiative with representatives from Denmark (chair), Ireland, Malaysia and Singapore was set up in 2001. Subsequently three cross-national thematic workgroups were established in early 2002 to identify common interest of member countries.

The reports and recommendations were submitted to the ASEM Summit IV Copenhagen in September 2002, where the topic of lifelong learning was proposed as a new area for Asia-Europe cooperation. Workgroup 1 with the theme "Basic Skills for All" continued its work after the Summit and presented the outcomes to the EU, OECD and Asia-Europe Foundation. The proposal to establish the ASEM LLL Hub, presented by the Danish minister of foreign affairs Per Stig Møller, was adopted at the ASEM Summit V in October 2004 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The academic partnerships established in the last five years through various activities of the ASEM LLL Hub, have been growing from strength to strength thanks to significant support from the Asia-Europe Foundation, Denmark and many ASEM countries. Today the ASEM LLL Hub hosts five research networks with around 70 researchers from 37 universities in 25 countries, a university council with 25 university management representatives, and an advisory board with 22 senior officials representing national ministries of education.

Among many tangible and intangible impacts and achievements of the work undertaken by the ASEM LLL Hub, the start of 2010 has seen two remarkable events: the decision to establish the **SEAMEO Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning** in Vietnam and the opening of a **Doctoral School on Lifelong Learning** at the University of Latvia.



H.E. Deputy Prime Minister cum Minister of Education of Vietnam, Professor Nguyen Thien Nhan (left) at the 45th SEAMEO Council Conference, 26-29 January 2010.

The **SEAMEO RECELL** aims to:

- become an excellent regional organisation for research and training on lifelong learning to create foundation for educational policy development at national and regional level;
- become a focal point for strengthening links between Asia and Europe in promoting lifelong learning.

The **Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation** (SEAMEO) was established in 1965 as a chartered international organisation whose purpose is to promote cooperation in education, science and culture in the Southeast Asian region.

The ASEM LLL Hub is located at the International Research Policy Office, the Danish School of Education, Aarhus University, Copenhagen, Denmark.



SEAMEO Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning-SEAMEO RECELL

Based upon the recommendations of the **ASEM LLL Conference in Nha Trang**, October 2009, the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) took the initiative to propose the establishment of an institution to be named as "**The SEAMEO Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning**". A concept paper on the SEAMEO RECELL was presented by the MOET Vietnam for endorsement at the 45th SEAMEO Council Conference and 5th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting in the Philippines, on 26-29 January 2010.

The SEAMEO RECELL will be located in Hanoi and affiliated with the Vietnam Institute of Educational Sciences (VNIES), a leading institution specialising in educational research.



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The new Doctoral School on Lifelong Learning opened at the University of Latvia

The new Doctoral School “Human Capacity and Life-wide Learning in Diverse Inclusive Context” was opened on 12 January 2010 at the University of Latvia. Several teachers of the doctoral school are members of the five research networks of the ASEM LLL Hub, which provides international research approaches and orientations for its 12 PhD students. On this occasion, the Chairman of the ASEM LLL Hub, Dr. Arne Carlsen, delivered the **opening lecture** on the research orientations and methodology used by the Hub's five research networks.

The doctoral school is affiliated to the Institute of Pedagogical Sciences at the Faculty of Education and Psychology. The School will implement a cross-disciplinary and topic-oriented doctoral study programme.



From the left: Professor Irina Maslo, Head of the Doctoral School, Director of the Institute of Pedagogical Science, Dr. Arne Carlsen, Professor Mārcis Auziņš, Rector and Professor Indriķis Muižnieks, Pro-rector of the University of Latvia on 12 January 2010. (photos: Toms Grinbergs)

The ASEM LLL Book “Frameworks for Supporting Lifelong Learning”

The ASEM LLL Book “Frameworks for Supporting Lifelong Learning”, edited by Dean Min Weifang and Dean Lars Qvortrup, will be published in March 2010 by Tongxin Publishing House in Beijing, a leading publisher of academic and non-fiction books in China.

The book is published in English with Chinese abstracts and is organised in five chapters consisting of 19 peer-reviewed papers on various aspects of lifelong learning, relating to the five research fields of the ASEM LLL Hub. Academics from ten Asian and European countries are represented in this collection: Austria, China, Denmark, Germany, Korea, Lithuania, Malaysia, the Philippines and the UK.

The aim of the book is, in addition to reflecting the policy and practice concerning lifelong learning in ASEM countries at present, to open a new window of opportunity for further knowledge sharing and cooperation at regional, national and institutional level in the future.



The Asia-Europe Conference ‘**Frameworks for Supporting Lifelong Learning**’, November 2008 was attended by over 400 international and Chinese participants.

The ASEM LLL Book “Teachers and Trainers in Adult Education and Lifelong Learning: European and Asian Perspectives”

The ASEM LLL Book “Teachers and Trainers in Adult Education and Lifelong Learning: European and Asian Perspectives”, edited by Dr. Regina Egetenmeyer and Professor Ekkehard Nussli will be published in the coming summer. This three-chapter book contains 17 academic papers from 8 Asian and European countries, including China, Denmark, Germany, India, Indonesia, Latvia, the Philippines and Romania. The book focuses on professionalisation in adult education, professional development of teachers and trainers and comparative perspectives between ASEM countries.



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ASEM LLL Research Network 5 Meeting at the University of Glasgow, Scotland (UK)

ASEM LLL Research Network 5 on Core Competences will hold a network meeting and a seminar 'History and First Steps towards Network 5 Competence Constructs' on 19-21 April at the University of Glasgow, UK. The meeting will focus on:

- Publishing 4-6 selected papers presented at the Seoul Conference in October 2009
- Conceptualising and constructing ASEM LLL core competences
- Crafting research design for the cross-national comparative research on analytical competence
- Consolidating the network and recruiting new member universities in Asia and Europe

For further details on projects and memberships, please contact Professor Soonghee Han at learn@snu.ac.kr or Professor Lena Lindenskov at lenali@dpu.dk

Profiles of ASEM LLL Hub Partner Universities

From this issue onwards the ASEM LLL eNewsletter will feature in each issue one Asian and one European university, active in the research networks. This issue introduces the National University of Malaysia and the University of Latvia.

The National University of Malaysia



The National University of Malaysia was officially established in 1970, although its history can be tracked back in the 1920s. The Faculty of Education was set up in 1972 and today it has 78 academic staff. The student to academic staff ratio is roughly 25: 1. The Faculty of Education has two departments: the Department for Foundations of Education and the Department for Methodologies and Practices in Education, which offer a range of degrees at bachelor, master and doctorate levels.

The Malaysian Ministry of Education and Ministry of Labour were actively engaged in the ASEM LLL Initiative as a founding member from the beginning. Malaysia coordinated Workgroup II on "Integrated Approaches to Lifelong Learning and Recognition of Prior Learning" and hosted a conference in May 2002.

Since May 2005 the Faculty of Education has become a partner of the ASEM LLL Hub and several of its academics have participated in various conferences and publications organized by the Hub. Professor Dato' Dr. Sharifah Hapsah Syed Hassan Shahabudin, Vice Chancellor, is the university's representative in the ASEM LLL Hub University Council. The University also hosted the Asia-Europe Conference "Basic Skills for All" and the ASEM LLL Advisory Board meeting in November 2007. List of the researchers joining the ASEM LLL Hub's five research networks can be found [here](#).

For further information please contact Professor Dr. Lilia Halim at lilia@ukm.my

The University of Latvia



The University of Latvia in summer and winter



The University of Latvia was founded in 1919 and is the largest comprehensive university in the Baltics. The university offers more than 150 state-accredited academic and professional study programmes, among them there are 15 doctoral schools and 24 doctoral programmes.

Since 2008 researchers from the Institute of Pedagogical Sciences, University of Latvia have joined the ASEM LLL Hub and become active in all five research networks. Professor Irina Maslo, Director of the Institute, is the university management representative in the ASEM LLL Hub University Council. The representative in the ASEM LLL Hub Advisory Board is Mr Dmitrij Kulss, Deputy Head of the Policy Coordination Department, Latvian Ministry of Education and Science. The participation of the Institute in the ASEM LLL Hub for enhancing its international research capacity has been supported by Professor Tatjana Koke, Latvian Minister of Education and Science as an effort contributing to the implementation of the Latvian National Strategy of Lifelong Learning 2007-2013.



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The University of Latvia

The Institute of Pedagogical Sciences offers a **European joint master programme 'Educational Treatment of Diversity'** in cooperation with universities in Spain, Czech Republic and Germany. The Institute invites teachers and students from ASEM LLL Hub partner universities to join this programme and **other schemes for academic exchanges**.

Profiles of the researchers joining the five networks of the ASEM LLL Hub can be found **here**.

For further details please contact Professor Irina Maslo at irina.maslo@lu.lv

ASEM LLL Hub Publishing Partners

The ASEM LLL Hub works in partnership with ten international journals in order to create more opportunities for knowledge dissemination and enhancement of research capacity for ASEM LLL member researchers. There are possibilities for ASEM LLL research networks to publish special issues on specific themes.



The first three journals introduced in this e-Newsletter are: the **International Journal of Lifelong Education** (editor-in-chief: Professor Peter Jarvis, UK), **Lifelong Learning in Europe** (Editor-in-Chief, Professor Kristiina Kumpulainen, Finland), and **Journal of Educational Sciences** (Editor-in-Chief: Professor Simona Sava, Romania). The journals provide a context for an informed debate on the theory and practice of lifelong, adult, continuing, recurrent and initial education and learning, whether in formal, institutional or informal settings in a variety of countries, including ASEM members. **These journals** are recommended for course compendia and library resources on lifelong learning at ASEM LLL Hub partner universities.

Related News

ASEM LLL Hub and The Global Report on Adult Learning and Education

Researchers active in ASEM LLL have also been active as key authors and lead editor of the Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE), written for UNESCO World Conference on Adult Education 2009- CONFINTEA VI.

One of the two lead editors of the GRALE is **Professor Lynne Chisholm**, the coordinator of the ASEM LLL research network no.2 on 'Workplace Learning as Competence Development'. Two out of four chapter writers of the GRALE are **Professor Songhee Han**, the coordinator of the ASEM LLL research network no. 5 on 'ASEM LLL Core Competences' and **Associate Professor Richard Desjardin**, member of the ASEM LLL research network no. 4 on 'National strategies of Lifelong Learning with regard to citizens' motivations and barriers against continuing education and training'.

At different stages of the Report, **Professor Ekkehard Nuissl von Rein**, the coordinator of the ASEM LLL research network no. 3 'Professionalisation of lifelong learning and teacher training' has also been involved.

The Chairman of the ASEM LLL Hub, **Dr. Arne Carlsen**, was a member of the CONFINTEA VI Consultative Group, which suggested the writing of the GRALE and provided editorial guidance and comments.

The GRALE will serve as an international reference document and advocacy tool, providing a clear overview of the current state of adult learning and education. It builds on national reports provided by 154 UNESCO Member States, and on regional reports made in preparation for the CONFINTEA VI. The report can be downloaded **here**.





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Masters Programme in Lifelong Learning: Policy and Management

The European Masters in Lifelong Learning (MALLL) is an elite programme aimed at professionals who wish to develop the field of lifelong learning and gain specialized expertise in lifelong learning policy or management.

This Erasmus Mundus Masters Course is provided since 2006 by three European universities:

- The Danish School of Education, Aarhus University, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Institute of Education, University of London, London, United Kingdom
- University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain

Course information and application form is at www.dpu.dk/MALLL. Deadline: 1. April for scholarships for Europeans (deadline for scholarships for non-Europeans was 1. December 2009). Deadline for self-funded students: 1 May 2010. [Study lifelong learning abroad and Join a growing international community of researchers, practitioners and policy makers!](#)

Shanghai International Forum on Lifelong Learning- July 2010

UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning will co-organise the **Shanghai International Forum on Lifelong Learning** at the Shanghai Expo 2010, in cooperation with the Shanghai Municipal People's Government, the Chinese Society for Educational Development Strategies and the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO. The Forum will be held from 19-20 July 2010 during the UNESCO Week. The overall aim of the Forum – which will centre on the theme “Making learning a reality throughout life for all: Progress, trends and systems of lifelong learning” – is twofold: to reinforce the momentum for lifelong learning created by CONFINTEA VI and the **Belém Framework for Action**, and to share Member States' best practices for harnessing the lifelong learning discourse as a means of establishing learning systems and societies.