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SEAMEO College

MODULE 3: EDUCATION LEADERS' INNOVATION FORUM 2

Innovative Solutions for the 21st Century Curriculum, Teacher Education and Educational Leadership and Management in Southeast Asia

March 2-4, 2016
Vung Tau City, Vietnam

Overview

SEAMEO College is a SEAMEO Project funded by Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) through Asian Development Bank (ADB) under the guidance of SEAMEO Secretariat as the Executing Agency.

SEAMEO College envisions at strengthening the capacity of education leaders and practitioners, and promoting education and social development in Southeast Asia Region for an integrated ASEAN Community. It is a high level policy and strategy forum among education leaders and practitioners. It does not involve a physical campus.

SEAMEO College consists of a series of forums and research and development activities with 4 modules and focus groups, namely:

Module 1: Strategic Dialogue of Education Ministers

Module 2: High Officials Country Case Study

Module 3: Education Leaders' Innovation Forum

Module 4: Innovation Forum of Youth Leaders

SEAMEO RETRAC is the Lead Center of Module 3. Module 3 will convene two forums, one in 2014 and another in 2016, respectively. It employs a blended learning approach.

MODULE 3: EDUCATION LEADERS' INNOVATION FORUM (ELIF) - FORUM 2

Forum Theme

Innovative Solutions for the 21st Century Curriculum, Teacher Development and Educational Leadership/Management in Southeast Asia

Areas of focus:

1. Updating a truly 21st century curriculum by identifying 21st century skills that are most applicable to the region and other 21st century issues facing the educational systems of member countries.
2. Reforming teacher education for the 21st century curriculum and making teaching profession the first choice.
3. Innovating leadership and management for the 21st century education.

Participants

- Education administrators and practitioners of upper-secondary level of education from the Southeast Asia region;
- International consultant and resource persons from Canada and Southeast Asia;
- Representatives from SEAMEO regional centers.

Forum Dates and Venue

1. Dates

March 2-4, 2016 (3 days)

2. Venue

PALACE HOTEL

📍: 01 Nguyen Trai St., Ward 1, Vung Tau City, Vietnam

☎: (+84) 643-856-411 / 3856-265 / 3856-238

📠: (+84) 643-856-878

✉: info@palacehotel.com.vn

🌐: <http://www.palacehotel.com.vn>

Location of Palace Hotel (illustration extracted from Google Maps):



Upon Arrival

Upon your arrival in Ho Chi Minh City, please kindly send the following information to our contact person's email address tvthai@vnseameo.org after booking the air tickets:

- **A scanned copy of the first page of the passport with personal information**
- **Tentative flight schedules, including airfare for our confirmation before purchasing**

Domestic Transportation

Participants will be picked up at Tan Son Nhat airport by RETRAC staff. Please note that the below logo will appear on the signboard for recognition.



On March 1, 2016, RETRAC will arrange the transfer for the participants from SEAMEO RETRAC, Ho Chi Minh City to Palace Hotel, Vung Tau City. The distance between Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau City is about 95km and it takes around 3 hours for the transfer. Please kindly note that **the transfer is scheduled at 12:00 PM, March 1, 2016; hence, all participants are advised to be available at SEAMEO RETRAC at 11:30 AM, March 1, 2016 for the departure.**

In case participants are missed at the airport, please refer to information about accommodation and public transportation to get a taxi to SEAMEO RETRAC's premises at 35 Le Thanh Ton St., Dist. 1, Ho Chi Minh City, our staff will assist to arrange the transportation for you to Vung Tau City. Please kindly note that personal and occurred transportation costs will be shouldered by the participants themselves. Upon arriving in the hotel, please keep hotel receptionists informed that you attend SEAMEO RETRAC forum and ask them to call our contact person, Mr. Tran Van Thai (Tel: 0123-366-2898) upon check-in.

On the date of departure back to the country of origin, March 5, 2016, RETRAC will arrange transportation to send off the participants from the hotel to the airport.

Public Transportation

For personal trips, please refer to the following options of transportation:

Taxi: (Strongly recommended) There is a variety of taxi companies operating in Vung Tau City. Vinasun Taxi can be contacted at 064-38-27-27-27, Mai Linh Taxi 0643-56-56-56.

"Xe om": This is the most common form of transport. "Xe om" provides faster transportation during traffic jams. Many "xe om" drivers speak basic English. Fares should always be negotiated before proceeding. Be prepared for an adventurous ride as safety is not the primary concern of most "xe om" drivers!

Cyclos: Cyclos are a slow but safe option. Most cyclo drivers do not speak English. Negotiate the fare before you proceed.

Buses: There are some public buses operating within Vung Tau City.

Exchange Rate

Foreign currencies are not accepted in most shops, so it is best for you to change your foreign currency to the local currency, which is Vietnam Dong.

The current foreign exchange rate is approximately US\$ 1.00 = VND 22,370. These rates are subject to market fluctuations so please check them again prior to your departure date. If you come to Vietnam with some foreign cash,

you can exchange it for VND upon arrival at the international airport, banks or currency exchange establishments. You may get a slightly better rate of return at banks but you will always lose a little bit in the exchange agencies. The disadvantage of going to a bank to exchange money is that you need to show a passport for identification and you need to fill out a form first. Alternatively, at currency exchange booths you can exchange money instantly. Also please note that many exchange places will not accept old or torn bills. Bring new and crisp bills in order to get the best exchange rate. If you happen to have damaged bills that no one else will accept, simply go to a bank and exchange it for a new note for a nominal fee.

Credit cards are accepted by hotels and some shops, however cash is also necessary. There are now a number of ATMs accepting international cards. Please note that most ATMs charge a fee of approximately US\$ 4 for use of international cards. Most HSBC and TechCom ATMs allow a per transaction maximum withdrawal of 5 million to 6 million dong. Other ATMs allow around 2 million dong. For large withdrawals, the ATM will dispense 500,000 dong notes which you will then have to exchange for smaller bills for small purchases.

Climate and Attire

The weather in Vung Tau City, which has a tropical climate, Vietnam at the time of the Forum should be warm and dry in the daily temperature range of 25-35°C. Light clothing will be necessary for outdoors but it is worth noting that the Forum’s venue are fully air-conditioned, therefore it is advisable that you pack appropriate clothing for your attendance. You may wear your national dress or formal attire (suit) during the Forum. However, this is optional but all participants and guests are requested to dress up formally for the event.

 Average Weather in Vung Tau for March			
Sunlight	5 hours a day	Discomfort*	High
Coldest March temperature	18°C	Morning Humidity	62%
Coldest daily temperature	25°C	Evening Humidity	58%
Warmest daily temperature	35°C	Rain in March	16 mm
Warmest March temperature	38°C	Wet days for March	2 days

Electricity

Electricity used in Vietnam is 220v-50Hz. The types of plug are A and C (as pictures below):



Meals

Lunches, dinners and refreshments will be provided to all participants during the three-day forum.

If you wish to look for more exploration on the local food, following are some suggestions:

Ganh Hao Restaurant

Location: No. 3, Tran Phu St., Vung Tau City
Prices: mains 55,000-210,000

This is a highly impressive seafood restaurant, with tables on terraces by the ocean. It's always packed with locals, so try to get here early. The menu is extensive, with delicious fish, lobster, crab (great with pepper sauce), squid, prawn and mussels (called 'oysters' on the menu, try some baked with cheese). It's huge, but somehow everything ticks over efficiently.

Thanh Phat 2 Restaurant

Location: No. 121, Tran Phu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 70,000 to VND 400,000

This is a large, very local seafood place with strip lights and blue plastic chairs on a covered terrace right by the sea. Seafood is expertly prepared and delicious, with lobster at 1,250,000 per kilo and sea-bass for a quarter of that. It's 4km north of central Vung Tau.

Quan Tre Bamboo Restaurant

Location: No. 7, Tran Phu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 40,000 to VND 180,000

This is a tip-top seafood place that does the full mighty seafood like lobster or king crab. The restaurant has good views of the Virgin Mary and Baby Jesus statue from the upstairs terrace.

David Italian Restaurant

Location: No. 92, Ha Long St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 60,000 to VND 200,000

This is an authentic Italian-run restaurant with freshly prepared pasta and the pizzas are the best in town. Quite expensive but has a nice sea-facing terrace.

Tommy's 3 Restaurant

No. 3, Ba Cu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 60,000 to VND 280,000

The food is mainly Western and familiar, with big portions of steaks and burgers, plus local food including tasty noodle dishes. There's a prime front terrace that draws a mixed crowd of locals, expats and tourists.

Nine Restaurant

Location: No. 9, Truong Vinh Ky St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 50,000 to VND 150,000

Formerly known as Plein Sud, Nine is the leading French restaurant in town. The patio is a good place for authentic coffee, pastries and ice creams throughout the day. The menu includes fresh seafood with a Gallic twist, plus pizzas and homemade desserts such as profiteroles.

Cay Bang Restaurant

Location: No. 69, Tran Phu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 60,000 to VND 280,000

This is a seafood restaurant with a great location. Cay Bang Restaurant is set under the shadow of the Virgin Mary and Baby Jesus. At weekends it draws a huge crowd of the Vung Tau faithful for the shellfish, hot pots and grilled fish.

Good morning Vietnam Restaurant

Location: No. 6, Hoang Hoa Tham St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 60,000 to VND 100,000

The "Good Morning Vietnam" Restaurant popular with the foreign resident and tourist, is located next to the central Tran Hung Dao Square, not far from the Front Beach. You'll find the Italian Manager, there with a smile, travelling from table to table to ensure each diner's comfort and satisfaction.

Nathalie's Restaurant

Location: No. 220 A, Tran Phu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 50,000 to VND 200,000

This is the first Thai restaurant in Vung Tau, the location is quite dramatic, set in a large house overlooking the ocean. Choose from the Thai favourites, including a good seafood selection.

Lam Duong Seafood Restaurant

No. 125B, Tran Phu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 60,000 to VND 200,000

The restaurant is by the sea so it has a nice view. If you don't really want to sit by the sea you can always have a table inside with air conditioners. The view was quite appealing with plenty boat activity going on.

HALAH FOOD RESTAURANT

There are only two Halal restaurants in Vung Tau city serving Authentic Malaysian & India food.



Viet An Restaurant (Vietnamese-Indian Restaurant)

*Location: No. 1, Hoang Dieu St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 30,000 to VND 100,000*

This shady garden restaurant is located on a peaceful side street and offers an enticing combination of Vietnamese fish and seafood or 100% halal Indian food.



Cafe Sambal Halal Restaurant in Vung Tau

*Location: No. 63 Tran Hung Dao St., Vung Tau City
Price ranged from VND 60,000 to VND 200,000*

Located inside Petro House hotel - Cafe Sambal Halal restaurant is an Authentic Malaysian & Chinese cuisine. This is only one Halal restaurant confirmed with compliant kitchen. It serve not only famous Tea Tarik from Malaysia but also Vietnamese traditional coffee

Useful websites

General Information:

<http://www.vungtau-city.com/>

The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Vietnam:

<http://english.cinet.vn/>

Other useful websites for tourists are:

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/vietnam/around-ho-chi-minh-city/vung-tau/restaurants>

<http://www.traveltovietnam.com/VietnamAttractions/LocationGuide.aspx?location=vungtau>

<http://www.vietnam-beauty.com/beautiful-beaches/vietnames-southern-beaches/15-vung-tau-a-favorite-beach-of-southern-people.html>

Contacts

SEAMEO RETRAC OFFICE

35 Le Thanh Ton St., District 1
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Tel: (+84-8)-3824-5618
Fax (+84-8)-3823-2175

SEAMEO RETRAC DIRECTOR

Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong

SEAMEO RETRAC Director
Tel: (+84-8)-3824-5618 Ext: 232
Mobile: (+84)-919-038-848
Email: htmphuong@vnseameo.org

DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT (RPD)

Mr. Tran Phuoc Linh

Deputy Head, Research and Project Department
Tel: (+84-8)-3824-5618 Ext: 121
Mobile: (+84)-984-814-118
Email: tplinh@vnseameo.org

Ms. Mai Thi Minh Tho

Research Officer, Research and Project Department
Tel: (+84-8)-3824-5618 Ext: 144
Mobile: (+84)-908-359-588
Email: mtmtho@vnseameo.org

DIVISION OF EDUCATION (DOE)

Dr. Do Thi Hoai Thu

Dean, Division of Education
Tel: (+84-8)-3824-5618 Ext: 107
Mobile: (+84)-909-952-382
Email: dththu@vnseameo.org

Mr. Tran Van Thai

Program Officer, Division of Education
Tel: (+84-8)-3824-5618 Ext: 126
Mobile: (+84)-123-366-2898
Email: tvthai@vnseameo.org