Community Learning Centres in the Southeast Asian Region

Le Huy Lam, SEAMEO Regional Centre for Lifelong Learning
625 million people
World’s third-largest labour force
Combined GDP 2400 billion USD
GDP average growth 5.1% (2000-2013)
ASEAN

Vast disparities and development divide between member countries (2013 figures)

- **GDP per capita**: 52,743 USD / 1,193 USD
- **Population**: 255 mil / 0.4 mil
- **Urban population**: 100%/ 23%
- **Adult literacy rate**: 97.2%/ 79%
- **Infant mortality rate**: 1.7/58.7 (per 1000 live births)
- **Internet subscribers**: 720/ 41
  - Internet subscribers /1000 (2011)

Diversity also extends to language, culture, religion and politics

ASEAN Statistic Leaflet 2016
Diverse Lifelong learning focuses

- Literacy and basic skills
- Income generation and job skills
- Quality workforce development
Adult Education?

SINGAPORE: Institute for Adult Learning, funded by Government

- NON-FORMAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
- CONTINUING EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
- ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
- OFFICE OF THE NON-FORMAL AND INFORMAL EDUCATION
- NATIONAL DIRECTORATE FOR RECURRENT EDUCATION
Lifelong learning focuses

**Literacy, vocational & income generation**
- Basic education
- Literacy
- Skills development and vocational training
- Income generation skills
- Entrepreneurship
- Community development
- Culture, recreation and sports
- Civics and practical knowledge

**Lifelong Employability**
- Technical skills, mindset, attitudes
- People management, problem analysis, communication skills
Community Learning Centres (CLCs)

An effective community-based non-formal education mechanism

A provider of various learning opportunities.

a) education and training,
b) community information and resource services,
c) community development activities,
d) co-ordination and networking.
Community Learning Centres (CLCs)

11,000+ (VIETNAM)
298 (LAO PDR)
843 (PHILLIPPINES)
7,424 (THAILAND)
347 (CAMBODIA)
4,513 (INDONESIA)

MORE THAN 25,000 CLCs in ASEAN countries*

*2013 data from national reports to UNESCO
CLCs in Southeast Asian countries

Target groups:
Children and youth;
Adults and the elderly;
Marginalised and disadvantaged individuals

Programmes offered:
- Literacy
- Income generation/vocational skills
- Practical knowledge
- Community development

Funding:
- Some are established by government,
  others by NGOs
- Inadequate funding/sustainability issues
CLC Challenges

Huge demands but limited resources: Funding, facilities, quality programmes, quality teachers/facilitators

CLC teachers' background*

None have training in adult education. 22.7% are local incumbent/retired teachers from local schools 77.3% are volunteers from sectors such as agriculture, health, political organisations*

*survey data of Vietnam CLCs (UNESCO Vietnam 2010)
Recommendations

1. Policy, Legislation and Financing
2. Professional Support
3. Human Resources and Capacity Building
Thank You