



EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE ASEAN REGION

SHARE Project Management Office
ASEAN Secretariat | 70A Jl. Sisingamangaraja | Jakarta 12110 | Indonesia
Phone: +62 (21) 726 2991 | Email: info@share-asean.eu | Web: www.share-asean.eu

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Feasibility Study: “Towards a Sustainable SHARE Online Training Course on Outcome-Based Education in ASEAN”

About SHARE

The Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (SHARE) Programme is the European Union’s flagship higher education programme with ASEAN. The SHARE Programme has been in operation since 2015. An agreement between the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat has extended the Programme up to the end of December 2022. The SHARE Extension will see the programme continue its support of the ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN stakeholders to enable greater harmonisation and internationalisation of ASEAN higher education. A central aim of the SHARE Programme Extension is to catalyse the transfer of ownership of programme outcomes to ASEAN entities and nominated organisations to be embedded within sustainable ASEAN-led structures and processes.

The SHARE Consortium is comprised of the British Council, the DAAD, ENQA, and Nuffic, and is implemented in three components: Policy Dialogue, Qualifications Frameworks and Quality Assurance, Credit-bearing Student Mobility and Scholarships.

Coordinated by the DAAD and ENQA, Result Area 2 aims at strengthening and disseminating ASEAN higher education frameworks on qualifications and quality assurance.

In the first phase of the SHARE Programme (2015-2020), a significant emphasis of the work on Qualifications Frameworks was put on strengthening Outcome-Based Education as a cornerstone for these frameworks and mobility. Numerous policy dialogues and training workshops took place, and several studies were published. In the extension phase of SHARE (2021-2022), DAAD will build upon these experiences, while focusing on the question of sustainability for training courses. Therefore, the feasibility of developing and implementing an online training course on Outcome-Based Education in ASEAN will be assessed.

Background

Outcome-Based Education (OBE) is the cornerstone of qualifications frameworks (QFs). Describing learning from an outcomes-based perspective allows educational sectors to communicate and interact more intensively. A study conducted during the first phase of SHARE (2015-2020) concluded that capacity building on Learning Outcomes should be a major focus to support the implementation of the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF). Consequently, SHARE conducted national workshops, symposia and dialogues on this major issue.



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These meetings demonstrated that in order to sustainably implement Outcome-Based Education in ASEAN higher education, many more stakeholders at institutional level require training. This need for training can hardly be accommodated by face-to-face seminars or workshops. Online education provides the opportunity to train more stakeholders within their daily setting, thus allowing a close intra-institutional collaboration.

With the feasibility study “Towards a sustainable SHARE Online Training Course on Outcome-Based Education in ASEAN” the foundation for implementing a short online learning course that caters for the aforementioned training need will be provided.

Objectives of the study

The study will support the [Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Higher Education](#) (2015), specifically the following points:

- ii (“uphold quality in the provision of higher education across all member states”);
- iii (“enhance academic contribution of ASEAN higher education within the global academic community”);
- vii (“build an innovation-driven ASEAN Community with critical thinking capability and skill through capacity building offered by higher education institutions within ASEAN, such as opportunities for lifelong learning, technical and vocational education and training, online and blended learning, postgraduate education, transnational education and other flexible learning options”).

The feasibility study will focus on an in-depth analysis of the prerequisites and requirements of a successful online training course in the ASEAN region. It is expected to address the following research questions:

1. What type of capacity building on outcome-based education (in Higher Education) is currently conducted in ASEAN/the larger Asia-Pacific Region? Which institutions currently offer this capacity building?
2. What type of learning material on OBE is publicly available in ASEAN/EU?
3. How can digital tools be helpful in offering training materials in other languages than English?
4. Which institutions are leading in ASEAN in offering high-quality short online learning courses?

Taking into account experiences from similar digital offerings in the region and/or other geographical contexts, the study is expected to develop a suitable implementation concept for a short online training course that can subsequently be run on a pilot basis in the frame of the SHARE programme. The training course will be ultimately targeted to Higher Education professionals in the ASEAN region.



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Implementation of the study

The study “Towards a sustainable SHARE Online Training Course on Outcome-Based Education in ASEAN” will be executed by a research team (external contractor), following a due procurement procedure. This party is to have a distinguished profile in conceptualising digital learning offerings according to local/regional needs as well as proven knowledge of the ASEAN region.

Expected output

The expected output of this feasibility study will be a report (including annexes) addressing the abovementioned objectives in close coordination with DAAD as the main recipient of this study. The report is expected to include the following:

- An analysis and mapping of online learning providers;
- An analysis and definition of specific requirements that can be translated into an implementation concept;
- A list of potential institutions in ASEAN which could develop and host such an online training course;
- Proposals for sustainability scenarios for the online training course

The report should contain an executive summary, an analysis of the aforementioned points, proposals for sustainability scenarios for the online training course, and a short PowerPoint presentation to present the results of the study.

Research Team Criteria

- 1) At least 1 (one) Lead Researcher with the following qualifications:

Required:

- a) An academic or consultant/practitioner, with experience in the higher education sector conducting professional development for academic staff and in adult education;
- b) At least 5 (five) years of experience in the field of Digitalisation, Online Learning and Outcome-Based Education;
- c) Knowledge of the higher education sector in the ASEAN region;
- d) Former project experience on the related topic areas;
- e) An established network of professional contacts in the field in ASEAN.



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Desirable:

- f) Publications on the related topic areas.
- 2) Supporting Researcher(s) with the same qualifications as above, with the exception of criteria 1.b. (years of experience in the field of Digitalisation, Online Learning and Outcome-Based Education) whereby 2 (two) years of experience suffice.

Provisional timeline

The study will be conducted between July – December 2021, with the publication of the results by early 2022 in preparation of the OBE training course. The study will take place for 6 (six) months starting from the time of the contract signing.

Timeline	Steps
4 July 2021	Deadline to submit applications
End of August 2021	Procurement process completed
Early September 2021	Meeting between external contractors and DAAD to discuss preliminary details
September – mid-October 2021	Research process
Mid-October 2021	Submission of first draft of the study and presentation to the SHARE Expert Group
23 December 2021	Submission of the study

Anticipated Budget

Project Budget	25,000 EUR
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Selection of Proposals

The selection of proposals will follow a two-stage evaluation process, as follows:

Stages of Selection	Items of Evaluation	Selection Timeline
Stage 1 Evaluation of documents submitted by the applying research team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the Lead Researcher(s) indicating that eligibility criteria are fulfilled; Curriculum Vitae (CV) of <u>each</u> Supporting Researcher(s) indicating that eligibility criteria are fulfilled; A comprehensive proposal to address the expected outputs as further listed above, comprising of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A description of the research design and methodology; (2) Declaration on potential conflict of interests and ethical issues; (3) Evidence from previous relevant projects; (4) Proposed work plan & timeline, and (5) Detailed cost breakdown. 	Early July 2021
Stage 2 Presentation of proposals	Applicants present their proposal to a panel of experts.	Mid-July 2021

The successful application will be announced following the completion of the two selection stages as described above.

Composition	Item of Evaluation	Weight
Researcher profiles	Researcher CVs	30%
Cost Efficiency	Submitted budget (cost breakdown)	30%
Research Proposal	Research design	40%
	Evidence from previous relevant projects	
	Feasibility of the work plan	
Total Score		100%



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Transferred Deliverables

All documents and other materials produced as a result of these Terms of Reference including but not limited to strategies, reports, application forms, report forms etc. are Transferred Deliverables and ownership of Intellectual Property Rights is to be assigned to the SHARE Programme without exception.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application (comprising Research Proposal addressing criteria specified above and Curriculum Vitae of each member of the applying research team, combined in one PDF) to: share@daad.de.

The deadline for the submission of applications is **Monday, 4th of July 2021**. The outcome of the selection of applications will be announced following the completion of the two selection stages in July 2021.



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