



Policy Dialogue

Jakarta, 24-25 August 2015

Research Study for EUA

Degree Structures in the ASEAN Region

Nopraenue S. Dhirathiti

Assistant Professor

Faculty of Social Sciences and
Humanities

Wesley Teter

Visiting Scholar

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Mahidol University

Contents



Policy Dialogue

Jakarta, 24-25 August 2015

- I. **Introduction:** Background, methods and aim of the study
- II. **Results:** Current state of post-secondary degree structures in ASEAN (initial view)
- III. **Discussion:** Analyzing ASEAN degree structures and potential impacts on mobility
- IV. **Recommendations** (tentative)

I. Introduction



Policy Dialogue

Jakarta, 24-25 August 2015

A. Background and aim of the study

- ❖ Why are degree structures important in the context of ASEAN integration?

B. Key research questions

- ❖ How are degrees defined across ASEAN countries?
- ❖ What compatibilities or incompatibilities are there? What does this impact?
- ❖ Where are the major degree and credit recognition road blocks between countries?
- ❖ How are some countries and institutions overcoming these obstacles?
- ❖ What are the supports needed from other stakeholders, especially international organizations and funding agencies?

C. Methods and timeline

- ❖ Literature review, document analysis, site visits, semi-structured interviews (n=28 interviews completed) and three student focus groups (July-August). Drafting and peer review (Aug/Sept). Final 15 Oct.

II. Results (tentative...)



How do degree structures compare across ASEAN countries?

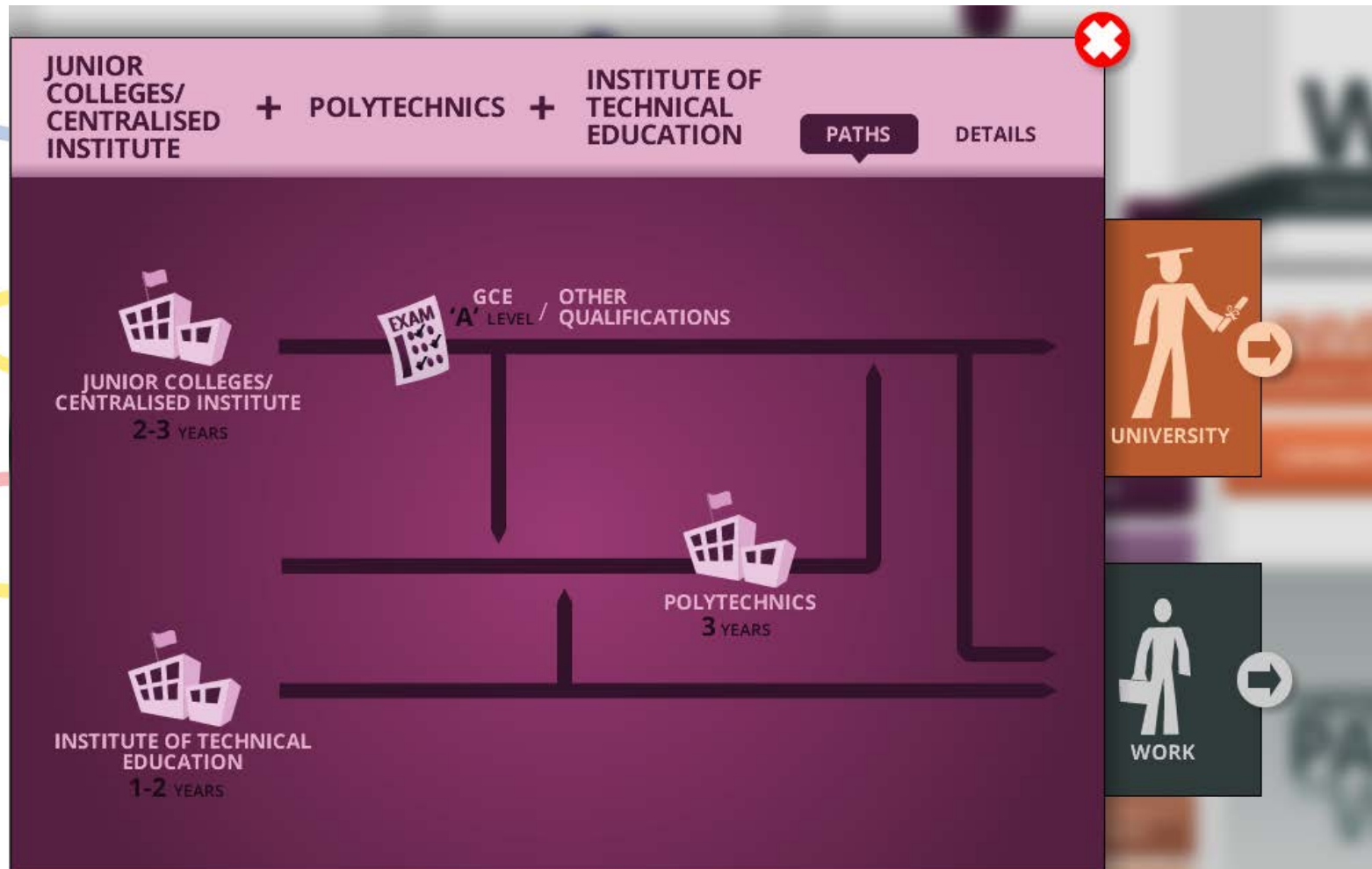
Same same, but...different

<u>Degree Structures</u>	<u>Bru</u>	<u>Cam</u>	<u>Laos</u>	<u>Indo</u>	<u>Mal</u>	<u>Mya</u>	<u>Phil</u>	<u>Sing</u>	<u>Tha</u>	<u>Viet</u>
Doctoral Degree	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Higher Graduate Diploma									x	X
Master's Degree	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Postgraduate Diploma	X				X	X			x	
Postgraduate Certificate	X									X
Bachelor's Degree	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Graduate Diploma			X		x			X	X	
Associate Degree		X	X	x		X				X
Advanced Diploma / Specialist Diploma	X		X		x			x		x
Diploma					X	X	X	X	X	X
Advanced Certificate								X		
Higher Certificate								x		
Certificate					X			x		X

II. Results (tentative...)



Singapore: Diverse pathways towards a degree...

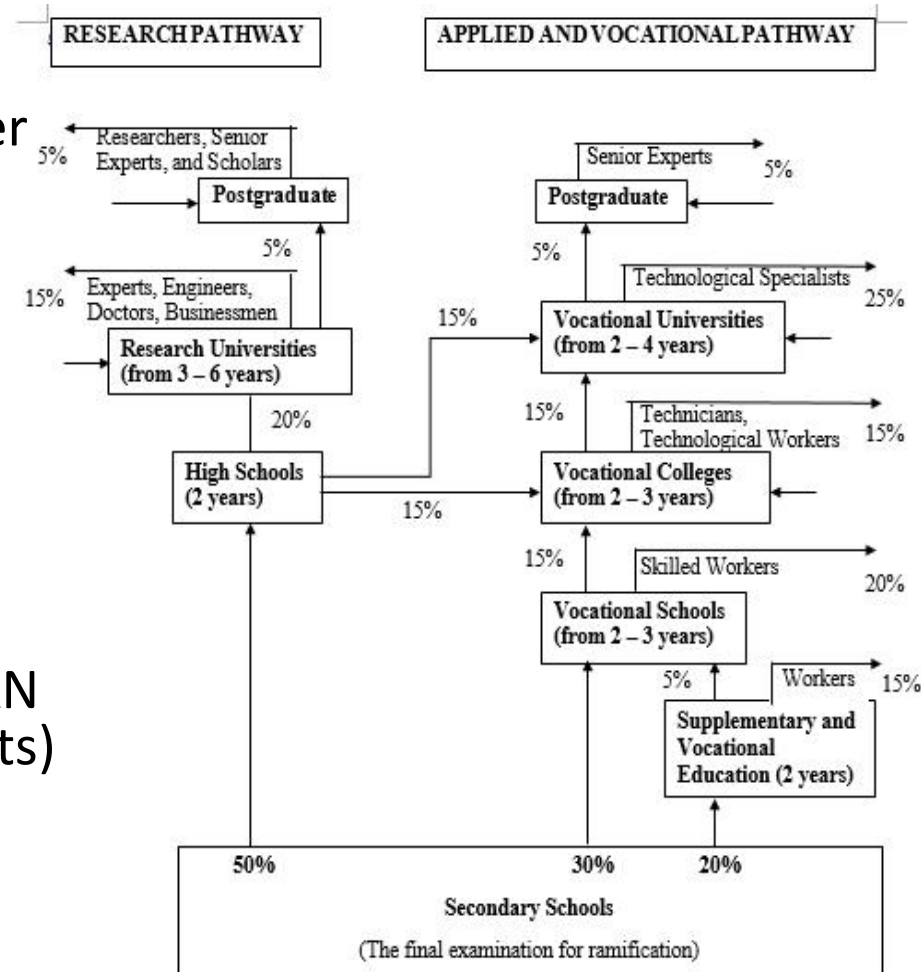


III. Discussion

ASEAN degree structures and potential impacts across HE systems

- i. National policies governing higher education and TVET (e.g. progression)
- ii. Institutional policies to promote student mobility, including joint/dual degrees
- iii. Student perceptions by degree program
- iv. Professional pathways (e.g. ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangements)
- v. Degree recognition (e.g. role of National Information Centres)

Draft Education Models in Vietnam





III. Discussion

Open issues:

- ❖ More detailed description of what each degree cycle means to each system (definitions) and whether these are quantified in terms of time, credits, etc.
- ❖ More on degree recognition issues (e.g. in academic sectors and labour sectors) and potential obstacles
- ❖ Analysis of progression pathways within systems, including higher education and TVET

IV. Recommendations



Policy Dialogue

Jakarta, 24-25 August 2015

Tentatively

- i. Identify road blocks to degree recognition and mobility (e.g. what is lacking?)
- ii. Raise awareness and deepen participation among HEIs, especially in emerging economies
- iii. Build institutional capacity for international mobility
- iv. Promote effective governance and ongoing evaluation strategies (e.g. data collection mechanisms through National Information Centres)

Thank you



Policy Dialogue

Jakarta, 24-25 August 2015

We welcome your ideas, feedback and questions...

Dr. Nopraenue S. Dhirathiti

Deputy Dean for International Relations and
Corporate Social Communication
Faculty of Graduate Studies &
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Mahidol University
nopraenue.dhi@mahidol.edu

Wesley Teter

Senior Consultant, APEID
UNESCO Asia-Pacific
Visiting Scholar, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Mahidol University
wr.teter@unesco.org

