Report

Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes
29th - 30th August 2017, Bangkok

Introduction

From 29th – 30th August 2017 the Office of the Higher Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Thailand hosted a meeting of the Expert Group on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes which held its first meeting in China in March 2016. The previous meeting was held during 26th – 28th April 2017 in Ghent, Belgium, together with a “Peer Learning Activity on Qualifications Frameworks in relation to Quality Assurance and Recognition”, where a group of selected experts from Asia and Europe brainstormed on a number of related topics including qualifications frameworks, quality assurance schemes, credit transfer mechanisms and the use of learning outcomes as an underlying concept.

Participants of the Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes include experts from Belgium / Flemish Community, Germany, France, Latvia, Indonesia, as well as representatives from DAAD, SEAMEO RIHED, ASEM Education Secretariat (AES), and the Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Thailand.
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Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes

State of affairs
In March 2016, the first ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes was held in Beijing (PRC). The meeting had representatives from Brunei Darussalam, China, Estonia, Indonesia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Thailand, United Kingdom (& ASEAN University Network). Also, the following countries agreed to contribute as members but were not able to be present during the first meeting: Australia, Belgium (Flemish & French Community), Portugal, Romania (& ASEM Education Secretariat).

The second ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes was held jointly with the Peer Learning Activity on Qualifications Frameworks in relation to Quality Assurance and Recognition during 26th – 28th April 2017 in Ghent (Belgium). Participants of the meeting included representatives from Belgium/Flemish Community, Belgium/French Community, Lithuania, Romania, Germany, France, Norway, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand, SEAMEO RIHED, DAAD, EQAR, NVAO and the European Commission.

During the third ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes held on 29th – 30th August 2017 in Bangkok (Thailand), the members of the Expert Group present determined that it is crucial that the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries is complete, up-to-date, relevant and practical / useful. The Compendium should clearly state its objectives and target groups, and most importantly, a glossary to describe relevant terms should be set up, and the explanations / descriptions, therefore, must be related to national contexts. Consequently, the main result of the meeting was a complete review of the set-up and structure of the said Compendium.

TO DO’s
In connection with the above, the members of the Expert Group present agreed to:

• Update a list of contact persons for the working group;
• Write a stocktaking report;
• Work on the improvement of the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries;
• Review the “Terms of Reference” for the future work of the expert group.
**Proposed concrete actions / focal points**

Based on their specific discussions and the overall meeting, the members of the Expert Group present unanimously agreed on the importance of having clear definitions of relevant terms (especially those that could be interpreted in different ways, such as “Learning Outcomes”) and focused on the review of the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries.

The experts, therefore, proposed the following concrete actions for the improvement of the Compendium on Credit Systems and Learning Outcomes in ASEM Member Countries:

- Complete the review of the existing template;
- Specify in the introduction the main goal and target group of the compendium;
- Compile a glossary of all template-related terms;
- Prepare an online tool to gather the input of all ASEM members;
- Peer review the individual contributions with the support of the expert group;
- Discuss the future format and dissemination of the compendium (e.g. online version)

It was concluded that countries / representatives present at the meeting will be invited to participate / contribute to future actions.
ANNEX 1: Programme

The 3rd ASEM Expert Group Meeting on Credit Transfer Mechanism and Learning Outcomes

29th - 30th August 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

Venue: Karaked Room, 1st Floor, Mandarin Hotel Managed by Centre Point

Tuesday 29th August 2017:

9.00h   Registration
9.30h   Welcome
9.45h   Introduction of participants
10.00h  Follow-up meeting Ghent – State of play (Frederik De Decker & Magalie Soenen)
10.30h  Review compendium
        - Process on update compendium 2016 (ASEM education secretariat)
        - Example of the use of credits and learning outcomes in day-to-day practice in the ASEM-DUO mobility programme (Frederik De Decker)
11.15h  Coffee break
11.45h  Discussion on the final goal of the compendium
13.00h  Lunch
14.00h  DUO-work - Review of compendium entries

In pairs (one Asian, one European participant) the contributions of the two individual countries are critically analysed.

- Is the information in the compendium accurate?
- Is the information applicable for higher education institutions/individuals?
- Are there missing headings?
15.00h  First conclusions of the discussions of the DUO’s
15.30h  Coffee break
16.00h  Prepare adapted compendium entries for each DUO of countries
17.30h  End of first day
18.30h  Dinner

**Wednesday 30th August 2017**

9.30h  Set up of a template to describe best practices in the use of learning outcomes in study/course catalogues as the result of course design
10.30h  DUO-work
        In pairs (one Asian, one European participant) explore a system of credit transfer and grade conversion between the two countries.
11.15h  Coffee break
11.45h  First conclusions of the discussions of the DUO’s
12.15h  DUO-work
        Continue to work in pairs (one Asian, one European participant) on a system of credit transfer and grade conversion between the two countries.
13.00h  Lunch
14.00h  Prepare suggestions for non-present countries concerning the adapted compendium based on the experience of the expert group on CTS & LO
15.30h  Coffee break
16.00h  Conclusion and follow-up of the expert group on CTS & LO in relation to ASEMME6
        (Review terms of reference for next work programme)
17.00h  End of second day
18.30h  Dinner
## ANNEX 2: List of participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
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