New Year Message from our Assistant Executive Director Prof. Dr. Kasem Choocharukul

“Now, as we close one chapter, the pen is gradually inking up, preparing itself to write the next.” – Mie Hansson. As the pen is inking up and the decade is approaching its end, I would like to use this opportunity to reflect on this year’s achievements and activities that our project has accomplished.

A kickoff meeting for Collaborative Education Program (CEP) was held in April to May as a good start for academic activities of every consortium. The meetings were successful as
everything worked out as planned and the distinguished partners were able to lay solid foundation and activities for future implementations. In addition, the problems and obstacles found during the procedure were reported in periodic meeting for further improvements, which AUN/SEED-Net was very pleased to receive the tremendous support and contribution from Member Institutions (Mls), Japanese universities, other ASEAN universities, and industrial sectors.

Alumni Support Program (ASP) continuously maintained the sustainability of our project’s outputs. Firstly, created in 2018, it is delightful to introduce the four alumni groups in our Member Institutions (Mls); Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC), Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST), Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HCMUT) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM). The groups designed various activities for alumni in order to create a broader network, not only among academia but also industry, and support career path in engineering. Please stay well-informed with the result of ASP’s awardees in February 2020.

The importance to maintain and expand the network were persistently emphasized and conducted via Regional Conferences (RCs). This year, RCs received variety of interesting papers from our 10 engineering fields and it has proven to be another successful year as participants and presenters eagerly contributed to raise the standard of high quality papers. The 10 RCs were hosted in six beautiful ASEAN countries including Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia, and Lao PDR, in which AUN/SEED-Net were touched by substantial cooperation from the organizers and involved parties.

2019 was a phenomenal year for AUN/SEED-Net, especially for ASEAN Engineering Journal (AEJ) that the journal has been accepted for inclusion in Scopus on June 17, 2019. This achievement marked a significant milestone for AEJ as the number of submitted manuscripts were on the rise ever since. On behalf of AUN/SEED-Net, I could not be more appreciative of the Editorial Office, especially the Editor-in-Chiefs (EICs) for the tremendous amount of effort putting towards the fruitful outcomes of the journal.

Last but not least, I would like to express my thanks to AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat for their hard work and effort to uphold the core value of the project. It is my pleasure to be working with devoted and talented colleagues. It is most opportune that our project was able to
achieve what it did over the past year. 2020 is going to be the start of a new decade and I hope that it will be a year full of bliss and productivities for our MIs, JSUs and fellow alumni.

I wish you and your loved ones safe and happy holidays!

Prof. Kasem Choocharukul

Assistant Executive Director

JICA Project for AUN/SEED-Net

1. On-Going Programs

1.1 Collaborative Education Program (CEP)

Since the launch of the Collaborative Education Program (CEP) in 2018, a total of 6 university consortiums have been awarded. Funded by AUN/SEED-Net, the consortiums are hence empowered to design, formulate, and implement their own activities, which will ultimately lead to the achievements of the expected outputs. Scholarships, staff and student mobility schemes, international workshops and conferences, formulation of Double Degree programs, and hands-on research collaboration with private sectors are among a wide variety of academic activities offered by the consortiums. Their implementations of the programs and activities have been kicked off and progressing well. Global Academia-Industry Consortium for Collaborative Education (GAICCE) organized their first official gathering, so-called GAICCE Alliance Meeting in Nagaoka, Japan during November 7-10, 2019. With the presence of more than 40 participants from universities and Japanese companies, the meeting highlighted the growing and stronger academic-industry partnership, which is one of the key expected outcomes of CEP.

SIIT-HU-ITC Collaborative Education Program dispatched the first student under the Double Ph.D. Program to Hokkaido University in Sapporo, where the student would spend around one year taking classes and conducting some research work. In addition, the consortium has also organized a technical seminar in Phnom Penh. The event attracted more than 100 Cambodian students who attended the seminar to learn about the latest technology and research trends in civil engineering.
International Collaborative Education Program for Materials Technology, Education and Research or ICE-Matter started off their program with a block lecture at Kasetsart University provided by Nara Institute of Science and Technology. This is one of many activities planned by the consortium to establish faculty/student networking, and encourage mobility among consortium partners.

Led by Universiti Malaya, the 1st Japan ASEAN Collaborative Education Program (JACEP) Workshop took place in Malacca, Malaysia on December 16, 2019. The event served as a platform for research and knowledge exchange in the field of energy engineering.

To find out more about the six CEP consortiums, please visit [http://seed-net.org/collaborative-education-program-cep/](http://seed-net.org/collaborative-education-program-cep/).
1.2 Alumni Support Program (ASP)

Stay tuned for the Announcement of the Alumni Support Program (ASP) Awardees JFY 2020

The call for ASP application JFY 2020 had just closed on December 20, 2019. This year, we are delighted to receive a large number of applications from our alumni AUN/SEED-Net alumni who have strong passion in connecting fellow graduates and eager to form a group/association at their institution. After the selection process, the awardees can utilize financial support from AUN/SEED-Net to design and organize interesting activities that
strengthen the bonds among alumni fellows, and promote linkage between academia and industry.

AUN/SEED-Net always believes in the potentials of our alumni, and sees that the establishment of a strong network among them is a vital tool for future collaboration opportunities and development in various aspects. “Alumni Support Program (ASP),” is hence recognized as one of our core programs in Phase IV, designed to sustain good relationship among AUN/SEED-Net alumni from the same Member Institution.

The screening process will be finalized in early February 2020, while the awardees can begin to organize their ASP activities from April 1, 2020 (or contract signing date) until January 15, 2021.

For more information and updates can be found at http://seed-net.org/.

Any questions or inquiries about the application, please contact us at alumni@aun-seed.net
Alumni Support Program (ASP) is designed to encourage AUN/SEED-Net alumni to set up an alumni group or alumni association at any of AUN/SEED-Net’s Member Institutions (MIs) to create activities that strengthen national and international collaboration among alumni.

The planned activities should fulfill the purpose of the program to involve all alumni members and be beneficial to the whole alumni group/association, for example, seminar, workshop, technical training, University - Industry linkage event, and meeting related to the management of alumni group/association.

What does ASP offer?

- A Maximum of 5,000 USD support for alumni activities per alumni group/association per Japanese Fiscal Year
- Networking among AUN/SEED-Net alumni, including graduates of AUN/SEED-Net scholarship programs, advisors of students, awardees of research programs, as well as organizers and sponsored participants of our Regional Conferences (RCs)

Who should apply?

The alumni at AUN/SEED-Net’s MIs who already set up or intend to set up an alumni group/association to create activities useful for their career paths.

Key dates

First submission date: October 18, 2019
Last submission date: December 20, 2019
Announcement of awardees: February 2020
Program Duration: April 1, 2020 or on the contact signing date until January 15, 2021

How to apply

Submit the online application with the consent letter from MI of the applicant signed by an authorized person at www.seed-net.org/aspapplication2020

JICA Project Office for AUN/SEED-Net
Room 109 110, Building 2, Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok Thailand 10330

alumni@aun-seed-net
http://seed-net.org/
1.3 Regional Conference (RC)

Seize the Opportunity to be the Host of Regional Conference in 2020

Regional Conferences (RCs) have been continuously hosted by AUN-SEED/Net awarded Member Institutions (MIs) every year. The program serves as a forum for exchanging up-to-date knowledge and experience sharing among ASEAN and Japanese scholars in 10 thematic fields of engineering. With the attendance and support of external participants, including representatives from governments, industrial partners, communities, non-MI partners, and professional organizations; the outreach of AUN/SEED-Net academic network continues to expand and consequently contributes to the international development and collaboration in engineering field.

With the past achievements of the program, we hope to see more of the flourishing and constructive events in the coming year, and the application is now open! Any Member Institutions interested to host Regional Conference in any engineering field for Fiscal Year 2020, please study RC guidelines and RC financial guidelines before submitting the application form with a proposal and supporting documents to us. The event can be either organized as a single event or held in conjunction with related conferences.

The important information is as follows:

- Call for Application Deadline: January 15, 2020
- Eligibility: Member Institutions
- Organizing Period: May – December 2020
- Engineering Field: all 10 Engineering Fields

For more information, please visit http://seed-net.org/application-forms/.

If you have any inquiry, please contact us at contact@aun-seed.net
CALL FOR APPLICATION for Organizing REGIONAL CONFERENCE (RC) JFY 2020

The Regional Conference Program (RC) is a platform to share the most updated technology and research of regional common issues. RC Program also provides opportunities for participants to discuss future collaborations and activities related to each engineering field. Moreover, it aims at maximizing the outreach of the AUN/SEED-Net Network for stronger impacts by involving external participants such as representatives from the government, industry, community and other professional organizations.

CONFEREECE THEME

Themes of an RC must be closely related to any of the 10 engineering fields as follow and cross disciplinary areas to a particular field are strongly welcome.

- Chemical Engineering (ChE)
- Civil Engineering (CE)
- Computer and Information Engineering (CIE)
- Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE)/Geological and Geo-Resource Engineering (GeoE)
- Materials Engineering (MatE)
- Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (ME/ManufE)
- Energy Engineering (EneE)
- Environmental Engineering (EnVE)
- Natural Disaster (ND)

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Representatives from any MIs who have strong intention to organize an RC (hereinafter organizing MI/organizer).

Application duration: Nov 15, 2019 – Jan 15, 2020
Organizing Period: May – Dec 2020

If you have any inquiry, please contact contact@aun-seed.net

AUN/SEED-Net
JICA
2. News

2.1 ASEAN Engineering Journal (AEJ)

This year was the beginning of ASEAN Engineering Journal (AEJ)’s quantum leap. Through TCI-TRF-Scopus Collaboration Project, AEJ has been accepted for inclusion in Scopus in June 2019, taking only 13-day turnaround time.

Shortly after AEJ was successfully indexed by Scopus, the journal has attracted more academic papers from researchers within and outside our academic network. As a result, the submission statistics of AEJ has increased four times higher than that of the first half of the year, from 26 papers received during January-May 2019 to 109 papers submitted during June-December. Following the increasing number of submission, AEJ aims to double the number of published papers from 10 papers per year to 20 papers per year in 2020.

Moreover, our recently published Volume 9 Number 2, which contains 5 papers accepted during June-December 2019 is now available for all scholars on the website http://www.aseanengineering.net/aej/archive.php. As 2019 is coming to its end and we are welcoming the beginning of a new decade, we look forward to receiving and publishing more high quality papers for next year’s issues.

AEJ would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude towards the Editorial Offices, including the 10 Editor-in-Chiefs (EICs), Editorial Board Members (EBMs) and reviewers for their endless contribution and support for the journal. AEJ would not be where it is right now if it were not for the dedication from all the involved parties.

To conclude, AEJ would humbly like to announce the ‘Call for Reviewers’ to expand the horizon of our community and continue to produce great research work in ASEAN and beyond.
CALL FOR

VOLUNTEER REVIEWERS

PhD holders in any of the 10 Engineering fields: Civil, Chemical, Computer & Information, Electrical & Electronics, Environmental, Energy, Geological & Geo-resource, Materials, Mechanical & Manufacturing, and Natural disaster

Email your interest with CV to journal@aun-seed.net

E-ISSN2586-9159  http://www.aseanengineering.net/aej/
2.2 The 25th Steering Committee Meeting and the 6th Working Group Meeting

"Alone We Can Do So Little; Together We Can Do So Much." – Helen Keller

AUN/SEED-Net holds this belief as our core value and the drive to move forward our project. This year our project organized the 25th Steering Committee Meeting and the 6th Working Group Meeting on July 19, 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand to reflect on partnerships and what could be done for future improvement of the project for human resource development in the 21st century. The meeting was chaired by Asst. Prof. Dr. Chaiyan Jettanasen, King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL), Thailand.

Attending the meeting were official representatives from AUN/SEED-Net Member Institutions (MIs) across ASEAN, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, ASEAN University Network (AUN), Japanese Supporting University Consortium (JSUC), Embassy of Japan in Thailand, JICA Headquarters, JICA Indonesia and Thailand Office, and ASEAN Secretariat.

Apart from reporting on satisfying results of on-going activities in Phase IV, the highlight of the meeting was case studies of expanding collaboration with other institutions beyond ASEAN through borderless perspective. The minutes of the meeting has been published and distributed to all stakeholders. Lastly, AUN/SEED-Net would like to extend our profound gratitude to participants for their attendance and valuable contribution to our project.
2.3 SEA-HiEd Week

*Outstanding Platform, SEA-HiEd Week*

A great success of South-East Asian Ministers of Education Organization Centre specializing in regional higher education development (SEAMEO RIHED) to organize a unique platform in order to connect local, regional and global partners in higher education namely Southeast Asian Higher Education (SEA-HiEd) Week during November 11-15, 2019 at Hotel Nikko, Bangkok, Thailand.

AUN/SEED-Net booth could attract various visitors from different institutions in ASEAN countries sharing their achievement goals and project plans. The event enabled fruitful discussions and exchange of ideas between AUN/SEED-Net and the visitors regarding potential collaborations in a variety of fields including agricultural science, environmental science, information science, management, and entrepreneurship.

This was such a delightful occasion for AUN/SEED-Net to build new and precious connections with diverse stakeholders in higher education by aiming to draw a new mutual interest for the future of higher education in Southeast Asia and beyond.

AUN/SEED-Net would like to express our sincerest gratitude to SEAMEO RIHED for organizing this remarkable event and connected us together. It is believed that higher education network would be compellingly expanded through this endeavor.