



**REPORT ON THE  
5<sup>th</sup> FEALAC SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND EDUCATION  
WORKING GROUP MEETING  
20 November 2018, Vientiane, Lao PDR**

1. The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation and Education (STIE) of FEALAC was held in Vientiane, Lao PDR on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.
2. The Meeting was co-chaired by Maria del Carmen Martinez, Ambassador of Panama in the Kingdom of Thailand, Panama; and Teiji Hayashi, Deputy Assistant Minister, Latin American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau, Japan.
3. The Meeting was attended by delegates from 22 countries. The list of delegates is attached (**Annex 1**).
4. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs welcomed the attendees and thanked Lao PDR for its effort and attention to the delegations. Both co-chairs took note of the important fact that this Working Group has completed the largest number of projects. The Co-chairs also expressed the importance of this working group to enhance mutual understandings on science, technology, innovation and education area.  
The Co-Chairs conveyed the Working Group's appreciation for the excellent meeting arrangements made by Lao PDR.
5. The attached agenda was adopted (**Annex 2**).
6. Consideration of Reports on Science, Technology, Innovation and Education (STIE) Projects since the 4<sup>th</sup> STIE WG Meeting

Since the 4<sup>th</sup> STIE WG Meeting, 16 projects were completed or are in implementation, which is composed of 13 national projects and 3 regional projects. FEALAC member countries registered their projects as follows for this working group.

**A. National Projects**

**(Japan)**

*“Juntos!! Participation to World Robot Summit (WRS)” and “Juntos!! Exchange program for the Pacific Alliance”*

Japan launched “Juntos!!” program to promote people-to-people exchanges between Japan and LAC countries and to encourage understandings of various aspects of Japan among the participants. In 2018, considering the importance of exchanging experiences in the field of science and technologies, Japan organized program for learning science and technology in Japan through participating in WRS. In addition, in



the same year, considering the need of the Pacific Alliance countries, Japan organized short term program for learning Japanese technology and experience against disasters.

*“Seminar on the Japanese Science and Technology Policy toward Innovation in Japan House Sao Paulo”*

The seminar was realized as a part of “SIP Caravan”, which offers the information on Japan’s efforts to promote technology and innovation, including Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP). Mr. Takemura, Associate Director-General of JST, presented “Structural Materials for Innovation”, which promotes research and development mainly for the components of aircraft engines and airframes. From Brazilian side, Professors of the Federal University of Sao Carlos presented their research fields. They also exchanged information on science and technology policy of both Japan and Brazil.

*“Dispatch of specialist for science and technology”*

The purpose of this program is to respond to the interests about the cutting edge technology of LAC countries which are now requiring the change in the industrial structure. Dr. Ishiguro, Professor of Osaka University, carried out lectures about "Humanoid robots and the future society".

*“SATREPS: Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development”*

SATREPS is a Japanese government program that promotes international joint research. Based on the needs of developing countries, the program aims to address global issues and lead to research outcomes of practical benefit to both local and global society. In 2018, 8 projects in 5 LAC countries are under way or have completed.

*“Invitation program for young leaders of FEALAC”*

The theme of this program was “Use of Technology to Build a Sustainable Society”. As a country that has dedicated to the development of technology, Japan shared its experience and lessons with the invited young leaders.

**(Panama)**

*“Seminar on trade facilitation, the experience of the FOCALAE Region”*

Seminar on trade facilitation, the experience of the FOCALAE Region, is a project of the National Customs Authority in which the experience of the member countries of FEALAC is required.

**(Argentina)**

*“Cimientos 20th Anniversary, International Forum in Education”*

Fundacion Cimientos, an Argentine NGO that works in education since 1997 celebrated, on 13 November 2017 20 years of work in education with a Youth



Meeting attended by more than 800 young people. The main invited guest speaker was Kelvin Doe, a young man from Sierra Leone, Africa who started collecting technological waste in order to resell it, help his family and later invented an electric generator with which he could provide energy to his house and neighborhood. His life story was noticed by a researcher at the MIT, who invited him to USA in order to share his experience with students and engineers from many American universities. The audience included also businesspeople and donors.

*“Seminar on Creative Industries in Digital Convergence”*

A meeting on Creative Industries in Digital Convergence was held in Buenos Aires from 5 to 9th February 2018. The main objective was to foster cooperation between countries, people and companies, as creative industries are generator of solutions for society no matter their size or the resources they may have. The agenda included talks, workshops, project presentations and business desks with participants from Asian and African countries, sharing knowledge, projects and objectives in this area. Participants from Asia and Africa expressed their appreciation and satisfaction with the seminar, in which they developed personal links which will be useful for the improvement of their work and development of new projects.

**(Brunei)**

*“FEALAC University Discovery Year (FUDY)”*

FUDY program is a short-term exchange program for students to join Brunei Darussalam’s local university – ‘University Brunei Darussalam (UBD)’. The objectives are to promote and encourage student mobility from Latin American and East Asian countries to South East Asia, and specifically Brunei. UBD is number one in student mobility in Asia, according to QS Asia University Rankings (2015-2018), number one in outbound student mobility since 2015 and number one in inbound student mobility since 2018, thus is well placed to be the hub for student mobility between FEALAC country universities.

**(Thailand)**

*“FEALAC Short Course Student Exchange Program 2019”*

Thailand has launched the FEALAC Short Course Student Exchange Program 2019 entitled “Sustainable Development: Intercultural Business and Tourism in Thailand” during 30 June - 25 July 2019 in Thailand. The objectives of the program are to provide opportunities for the participating students to learn about Thai culture and multiculturalism, business environment and tourism in Thailand and the awareness of sustainable development in the areas mentioned, to foster better understanding and connection between students in FEALAC member countries, to encourage greater student mobility in East Asia and Latin America region, and to increase academic collaborations among the FEALAC member countries. Detailed information is available at [www.thaioverseastudy.com/fealacshortcourse](http://www.thaioverseastudy.com/fealacshortcourse).



*“FEALAC STI Policy Dialogue”*

Thailand will continue to cooperate with Colombia for the FEALAC STI Policy Dialogue to exchange views and best practices leading to coherent STI Policy formulation in member countries.

**(Colombia)**

*“Convergency network of scientific technology”*

This project began in 2013 to formulate pilot areas in nanotechnology. It was developed in the following way. Phase 1: Seminar “First meeting of the convergency scientific and technological network of FOCAL”. Phase 2: “Environment and energy, challenges and opportunities from biotechnology and nanotechnology”. Phase 3: For the moment, no other country has expressed their willingness to continue, however, Colombia is still open for countries to join. The seminar will be held in May 2019 and will be denominated “Exchange of practices in the face of contamination of heavy metals”.

**B. Regional Projects**

**(Argentina)**

*“Building new technology capacities for SMEs”*

The Secretariat for Science and Technology is currently involved in the European Business Network, a program that offers a platform for linking technology-based SMEs and research centers with the aim of developing joint projects, exchanging technology, or applying to European projects and that allows for the inclusion of third countries. The Secretariat is interested in identifying agencies capable to connect with Singapore's SMEs in order to focus on their industry and technology needs, to develop specific joint activities through the establishment of an exchange network, emulating the EBN scheme. The proposal is to implement the project in three stages.

**7. Presentation of the STIE Members' New Proposals**

**(Lao PDR)**

*The Lao PDR proposed 2 new projects as listed below:*

- “Regional Research Exchange on Science between universities, Researchers and Lecturers in FEALAC member countries”
- “Students Volunteers Exchange Program”

**(Uruguay)**

Uruguay wants to share with FEALAC countries the experience of “The Plan Ceibal” (One laptop per child), that is a successful initiative that connects education and IT technology, providing laptops to children in public and private schools until high schools.



8. Discussion on future co-chairs

It was agreed that Panama and Japan would be the next Co-Chairs.

9. Other matters

**(Costa Rica)**

Costa Rica shared with the countries its Foreign Policy Priorities of the new administration and the three areas of triangular cooperation of its expertise (environment and climate change, social wellbeing, competitiveness and innovation) so any country is welcomed to start discussions to develop projects.



## Annex 1

## STIE

No.	Name and Surname	Position	Organization	Country
1	Mr. Pengiran Muhd Husaini PENGIRAN ALAUDDIN	Acting Director	MoFA	Brunei
2	Mrs. Latifah ZAINI	Acting Deputy Director	MoFA	
3	Ms. Dk Nur Sara Emma PG SALLEH	Research Officer	MoFA	
4	Mr. Mao Naream	Deputy Director of the Americas Department	MoFA	Cambodia
5	Mr. Joshua CESPEDES	Desk Officer	MoFA	Costa Rica
6				China
7	H.E. Ms. Luz Stella JARA	Vice Minister	MoFA	Columbia
8	Mr. Alex Pina	Counselor	MoFA	Dominican Republic
9	Mr. Ivan Maldonado Vaca	Acting Executive Secretary of the Ecuadorian Committee of the Pacific Basin	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility Ecuador	Ecuador
10	H.E. Milton MAGANA	Ambassador	Embassy of El Salvador in Korea	El Salvador
11	Mrs. Virdiana Ririen HAPSARI	Deputy Director	MoFA	Indonesia
12	Mr. Teiji HAYASHI	Deputy Director General	MoFA	Japan
13	Mr. Tsubasa NORIOKA	Assistant Director	MoFA	
14	Mr. Min Goo Kang	Deputy Director	MoFA	Korea
15	Ms. Hana CHANG	Researcher	FEALAC Cyber	



			Secretariat	
16	Mr. Jungbum LEE	Researcher	FEALAC Cyber Secretariat	
17	Ms. Kyung AH LEE	Researcher	FEALAC Cyber Secretariat	
18	Mr. Virasac Somphong	Deputy Director	MoFA	Lao PDR
19	Ms. Alison MANN	Director General	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	New Zealand
20	H.E. Maria del Carmen Martinez	Ambassador	Embassy of Panama in Thailand	Panama
21	Mr. David De Leon	Third Secretary	Embassy of Panama in Viet Nam	
22	H.E. Raul SILVERO	Ambassador	Embassy of Paraguay in Korea	Paraguay
23	Mr. Kritsadakorn PINTHONG	Foreign Relational Officer	Ministry of Science and Technology	Thailand
24	Ms. Sawamitree PROMYOS	Acting Director of International Cooperation Division 3	Ministry of Science and Technology	
25	Mr. Lakhana DOCKIAO	Director	Office fo The Higer Education Commission	
26	Ms. Wannee KLOMLA-LED	Educator	Office fo The Higer Education Commission	
27	H.E. Dr. ELSA NURY BAUZAN	Ambassador	Embassy of Uruguay in Malaysia	Uruguay
28				Venezuela



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## **Annex 2**

### **The 5th Meeting of the Working Group** **On Science, Technology, Innovation and Education**

Vientiane, Laos

November 20, 2018

15:45-17:15 hrs

Landmark Mekong Riverside Hotel, Diamond Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

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### **Agenda**

1. Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs (Panama and Japan)
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Presentation & Feedback on the national and regional projects carried since the 4th STIE WG Meeting
  - A. National Projects
  - B. Regional Projects
4. Plans and proposals for new projects
  - A. National Projects
  - B. Regional Projects
5. Discussion on the future Co-Chairs
6. Drafting and approval of the STIE WG report
7. Other Matters