

Practical Note

Education for the ASEAN Community – The Case of Indonesia

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Abstract

Education plays a significant role in all of the strategies made and initiatives taken to achieve various outcomes of ASEAN. One of the core strategies which engage the Higher Education sector to meet the ASEAN Community in 2015 was “Cross-border mobility and internationalisation of education—to promote regional sharing, cultivate a regional perspective among member states and contribute to the spirit of regional unity and excellence.” The purpose of this practice note is to find and analyse initiatives taken by the Government and Higher Education institutions focussing in Indonesia, the largest population and largest economy country in ASEAN and how the initiatives positioned the education in the region. This note is intended to contribute to the knowledge of ASEAN Community, especially on its education area.

Keywords: Higher Education, Internationalisation, ASEAN Community

Introduction

Education plays a significant role in all of the strategies made and initiatives taken to achieve various outcomes of ASEAN. The *ASEAN Charter*, the legal and institutional framework of ASEAN also specifies an education specific related clause as one of the purposes of ASEAN as “to develop human resources through closer cooperation in education and life-long learning, and in science and technology, for the empowerment of the peoples of ASEAN and for the strengthening of the ASEAN Community – a vision of ASEAN nations living in peace, stability and prosperity

which is to be achieved by 2015” (Article 1 paragraph 10).

At the 2009 ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting, it was decided important to have a work plan that guides the education relationship in achieving ASEAN community and the ASEAN 5- Year Work Plan on Education was established in 2011. One of the four strategic priorities agreed upon which engages the Higher Education sector was “Cross-border mobility and internationalisation of education—to promote regional sharing, cultivate a regional perspective among member states and contribute to the spirit of regional unity and excellence.”