

EDUCATION

Updates

30 May 2020

SOUTHEAST ASIA

ASEAN, May 20 [Vietnam Plus]: ASEAN's efforts against COVID-19 lauded. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has coped with COVID-19 quite well with Vietnam serving as the ASEAN Chair 2020, heard an online seminar held by the Centre for International Law (CIL) under the National University of Singapore. [LINK](#)

ASEAN, May 21 [Bangkok Post]: ASEAN firms and the future of work. Getting humans and machines to work together for optimum results an urgent challenge. Yet, in spite of the urgency, Southeast Asian businesses appear inadequately prepared for the inevitable transition, with some behind more than others. [LINK](#)

Cambodia, May 30 [Xinhua]: World Bank approves 15 million USD for Cambodia's pre-service education system for health professionals. The Southeast Asian country faces a shortage of qualified health professionals, especially in the public sector. [LINK](#)

Indonesia, May 28 [The Jakarta Post]: Hackers breach data of Education and Culture Ministry's 1.3 million civil servants. Cybersecurity researcher and consultant Teguh Aprianto revealed the cyberattack. Among the leaked data are full names, citizenship identification numbers (NIK), Family Card numbers, home addresses and other personal information. [LINK](#)

Indonesia, May 19 [The World Bank]: Indonesia's education technology during COVID-19 and beyond. Our recently published EdTech landscape survey reveals the growth of local platforms, such as Harukaedu (a platform offering online university degrees), Ruangguru (an interactive e-learning platform for K-12 students in Indonesia) and Cakap by Squire (a tutoring platform for language learning). But overall the sector is still emerging. [LINK](#)

Lao, May 30 [Xinhua]: Lao Students Returning to Schools as COVID-19 Restrictions Ease. All students nationwide can go back to schools on June 2, while final-year classes in primary, lower and upper secondary schools began on Monday. [LINK](#)

Malaysia, May 21 [New Straits Times]: Applications are open for ASEAN Data Science Explorers programme. The Higher Education Ministry (MOHE) is calling for tertiary students across Malaysia and other ASEAN countries to apply for the ASEAN Data Science Explorers (Aseandse) 2020. The programme, a collaboration between Asean Foundation and multinational software corporation SAP, aims to harness the power of data to help solve the region's most pressing developmental issues. [LINK](#)

Myanmar, May 21 [Xinhua]: Myanmar to reopen schools in mid-July. The Myanmar government has been planning to reopen basic education schools in the middle of July. Myanmar's academic year starts in June after three-month summer holidays from March to June, but this year's term will start a month later. [LINK](#)

Philippines, May 30 [Inquirer]: Globe and Amazon's Twitch Are Bringing Esports to Schools In the Philippines with AcadArena. AcadArena, the Philippines' leading campus esports initiative, is proud to be partnering with Globe Telecom and Amazon's Twitch to level up student gaming programs across the country for the second year in a row. [LINK](#)

Singapore, May 30 [Straits Times]: NSF cyber specialists can now attend classes at NUS. Mindef-NUS deal lets them pursue part-time studies while deployed in operational roles. [LINK](#)

Thailand, May 26 [Reuters]: Thai researcher eyes accessible COVID-19 vaccine for SE Asia. A researcher leading Thailand's push to manufacture a coronavirus vaccine says its aim is to make it cost-effective and accessible to Southeast Asia, and play a part in preventing a supply shortage globally. [LINK](#)

Vietnam, May 29 [Vientiane Times]: State schools struggling to comply with COVID-19 prevention measures. Many schools are unable to comply with measures to avert further outbreaks of the coronavirus due to a lack of necessary preventive equipment. [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC

Pacific countries, May 29 [India Education Diary]: UNESCO helps build 'neo-infrastructure' of crisis-resilient education systems in Pacific countries. Teachers, school principals, curriculum developers and platform managers from Small Island Developing States in the Pacific gained skills to implement distance learning solutions during a series of virtual trainings organized in May 2020 with several partners from UNESCO's Global Education Coalition, including Moodle, Khan Academy and Lark. [LINK](#)

Australia, May 28 [Sydney Morning Herald]: 'These are not Mickey Mouse courses': TAFE NSW swamped by 100,000 enrolments for free courses. As teachers raise concerns about their quality, medical administration was among the most popular of the 21 free online short TAFE courses, which would usually cost \$1000 each. Regional students accounted for more than half the 100,000 course enrolments. [LINK](#)

Australia, May 26 [Times Higher Education]: Little role for universities in Australian recovery plans. Australia's government has made vocational training a centrepiece of its efforts to reboot the post-pandemic economy, without committing any extra funding for either vocational or higher education. [LINK](#)

Japan, May 28 [KPL/ Kyodo]: Japan firm says its deep UV light deactivates coronavirus 99.9%. The University of Miyazaki and a Japanese firm said Wednesday their joint experiment has shown that a deep ultraviolet LED developed by the firm is effective in weakening the novel coronavirus, reducing its infection capacity by more than 99.9 percent. [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC (CONT'D)

India, May 28 [Indian Express]: HRD Minister addresses colleges HIGHLIGHTS: New quality assessment system for online education soon. In areas where the situation does not improve, then the exams will be held later but will be conducted for sure. The rest of the students to be promoted based on the past academic record as well as internal assessment. [LINK](#)

PR China, May 30 [Inside Higher Ed]: New Restrictions for Chinese Students With Military University Ties. Plans to cancel visas of Chinese students who attended universities with ties to the People's Liberation Army. Some praise targeted approach; others see a slippery slope. [LINK](#)

South Korea, May 30 [Washington Post]: South Korea closes schools again amid coronavirus spike, days after reopening. The country had started to stage the opening of schools in the last week, instituting social distancing and prevention measures in an attempt to prevent the spread of the virus. [LINK](#)

EUROPE

Europe, May 20 [University World News]: China pivot towards Europe in HE, research ties expected. The upcoming economic recession triggered by coronavirus shutdowns around the world, together with tighter budgets for institutions and research and in some countries the loss of fee-paying students, "may challenge Europe's competitive edge over China in an unbalanced relationship". [LINK](#)

Europe, May 27 [European University Association (EUA): EU seven-year budget proposal falls short of urgently needed education and R&I investment. In the few past months, it had become clear to policymakers just how fundamental adequate investment in research, innovation and education is to supporting societal and economic recovery. [LINK](#)

France, May 18 [VOA]: Some French Schools Close Again Due to COVID-19. Some schools in France have closed just a week after reopening, after students or staff tested positive for COVID-19. [LINK](#)

Spain, May 29 [Poets and Quants]: IE Business School Adopts Blended Teaching Model For Fall. IE University is touting what it calls "a unique liquid learning model" in moving to a blended learning approach when it opens all five of its schools, including IE Business School, in September. [LINK](#)

United Kingdom, May 29 [Guardian]: Britain's teacher heroes: the legends of lockdown lessons. From a teacher who has created his own YouTube character to another who takes students on virtual walks, we profile some of your nominations. [LINK](#)

AMERICAS

Canada, May 29 [Althority]: Cengage Announces New International Division To Serve Canadian Higher Education Market. Cengage, a global education and technology company, today announced the establishment of a new international division to provide direct service to the Canadian higher education market. [LINK](#)

Canada, May 28 [Newswire]: Canada's first two university-level blockchain programs address need for skilled workers during global pandemic. Today, due to the pandemic, this demand has only increased. Since the onset of COVID-19 and physical distancing measures, organizations and government bodies have urgently needed blockchain processes and technologies that can facilitate contactless, transparent distribution of vital data. [LINK](#)

United States, (date unavailable) [CNN]: Will students have to wear masks for the entire school day and other education questions, answered. As states around the country begin to open with different guidelines on how and when schools will restart, parents and school workers are asking many questions about what the future of education will look like. [LINK](#)

AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

Middle East, May 25 [Modern Diplomacy]: Internationalization of Higher Education in the GCC Countries. The Gulf states, nowadays are actively competing with other exporters of educational services in the world market. [LINK](#)

Middle East, May 29 [Their World, reliefweb]: Free access to online education for more students (Five things you need to know this week about global education (May 29, 2020)). Mobile phone companies who are part of UNESCO's Global Education Coalition have stepped up efforts to help students affected by school closures to keep learning from home. [LINK](#)

EDUCATION ARTICLES

Global, May 7 [[Newsletter of National Commissions April 2020]: 23 June 2020 – 2020 Global Education Monitoring Report – Inclusion and education: All means all – virtual launch. The webinar will include a presentation of the 2020 GEM Report and an interactive discussion with inclusion and education champions, education policy makers and donors. [LINK](#)

Leadership Strategy, May 7 [Forbes]: Turning Our Education Crisis Into Opportunity: Lessons From High-Performing Non-profits. World Bank, "it is possible to counter those shocks, and to turn crisis into opportunity." The effort to do so successfully — and find opportunities to improve education delivery and access in the long run. [LINK](#)

Core Education, May 7 [Newsletter of National Commissions April 2020]: UNESCO publications : "My Hero is you: how kids can fight COVID-19!". This book was a project developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings (IASC MHPSS RG). [LINK](#)

Core Education, May 29 [Industry Week]: Education Needs a Revolution Says STEAM Foundation. The Annenberg Foundation joins with Two Bit Circus Foundation to offer 150 free STEAM-based projects online. [LINK](#)

Higher Education, May 25 [Business Insider]: Free online Harvard course on family engagement in education has enrolled more than 80,000 people. [LINK](#)