

Short Report on Visit to UNESCO Office in Jakarta, Indonesia on 13 November 2013.

By Ir. Tan Yean Chin (FEIAP Secretary General)

The members of the Executive Board of FEIAP were in Jakarta recently to attend the 31st Conference of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations 2013 (CAFE031) which was held from 10-14 November 2013 with the theme "The Implementation of Green Infrastructure in ASEAN Countries". Nearly 600 engineers from the 10 ASEAN countries (Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Philippines, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and Myanmar) and Asian countries such as India, Australia, China, Korea, Japan and Chinese Taipeh also attended the event.

A FEIAP Workshop on Engineering Education and Accreditation was successfully organised with about 40 participants from FEIAP and AFEO on 11 November 2013. The Executive Board of FEIAP also had a successful meeting on 12 November 2013 attended by all the executive board members.

On 13 November 2013 the FEIAP Exco members comprising of members from IEM (Malaysia), CIE (Taiwan), IEI (India), KPEA (Korea), IES (Singapore) and PII (Indonesia) made a short trip to the UNESCO Office in Jakarta led by the FEIAP President, Academician Dato Ir. Chuah Hean Teik. Arriving early at the office met with Dr Shahbaz Khan, Deputy Director, UNESCO Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, Jakarta, Indonesia and his staff.

Dr Shahbaz Khan gave a short presentation on the Comprehensive Programme to Enhance the Technology, Engineering and Science Education in Asia – The Role and Contribution of Higher Education Institutions. In his message he briefed on the overall development goals, project objectives, course outlines and to develop a framework for science education. He added that pilot projects had started in Timor Leste, Bangladesh and Cambodia. The UNESCO Office in Jakarta under takes two roles. As a cluster Office, it represents UNESCO in Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Timor Leste looking into education, Culture, Social and Human Sciences, Communication and Information and Natural Sciences. As a regional office, it covers Asia and the Pacific Region, through its programme in freshwater, oceans, basic and engineering sciences, earth sciences and coastal zone and small islands as well.

Dr Shahbaz Khan also informed that in the wake of the 2004 tsunami, and in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action, the office in Jakarta had developed its disaster management programmes and roles in the development of tsunami early warning system (TEWS) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities. There are some manual and guides such as

- [Development of disaster preparedness manual](#)
- [Indian Ocean Tsunami Early Warning System](#)
- [Community-based disaster preparedness pilot project](#)
- [School-and community- based Disaster Risk Reduction On Nias Island, Indonesia](#)
- [Jakarta Tsunami Information Centre \(JTIC\)](#)
- [Building Model for Disaster Preparedness Project](#)

From FEIAP, the President informed UNESCO team that FEIAP has a new website at <http://www.feiap.org> and in this website FEIAP has devoted a section on Green Design which could be of interest to UNESCO. The stage after the setting up of this green building index, FEIAP would proceed to document the Green Listing and we shall keep you informed of the progress. UNESCO could look into linking to this website.

It was once again mentioned at this meeting that FEIAP is embarking on the programme to provide engineering education accreditation guidance to Myanmar and Papua New Guinea. For

this effort, the FEIAP mentoring team planned to visit Myanmar on 15 February 2014 to continue with the on going exercise of accreditation and education guidance to Myanmar. FEIAP invited Dr Shahbaz and his colleagues to join this trip and meet in Myanmar and to witness in person the work. FIAP proposed that dialogue sessions and interaction with the universities and the Myanmar Engineering Society could then be arranged. The delegation to Myanmar would comprise of the team from The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) and Chinese Institute of Engineers, Taipei (CIE) and the Institution of Engineering Education of Taipei (IEET).

FEIAP is also planning a 2nd Workshop to look into providing information on outcome base and competency base by training the Assessors and the Auditors as well as the staff of the Universities in Myanmar. This will provide them the knowledge to look into self-assessment and self improvement. Effort is being made by The Institution of Engineers, Singapore and the Engineers Australia in providing a similar guidance on education processes to Papua New Guinea. FEIAP will also be contacting the National Association Engineers of Timor Leste (ANETL) to discuss on the possibility of providing assistance to them to work towards the engineering education requirements as set out in the FEIAP Guidelines. Hence assistance from the Jakarta UNESCO office is very much appreciated.

Further to this, FEIAP President extended his invitation to UNESCO to attend the coming General Assembly planned for 2014 in Beijing. The event will be from 30 May – 1 June 2014. More details can be provided once the organiser, China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) sends in the details of the event.

The morning event ended with the presentation of token of appreciation to UNESCO for hosting the FEIAP delegation and a short photo session ended the meeting.