



Media Release

Embargoed till Wednesday 21 Aug 2013, 1600hrs Singapore Standard Time

Temasek Foundation and Republic Polytechnic partner The Polytechnic Association of Indonesia to develop technical and vocational education expertise

Joint programme will utilise Problem-Based Learning methodology to build technical and vocational education training capabilities of TVET educators at 14 polytechnics in Indonesia

Singapore and Jakarta, 21 August 2013 – Temasek Foundation, Republic Polytechnic (RP), and The Polytechnic Association of Indonesia (ASPI) have partnered to launch a Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programme, aimed at advancing Indonesia's vocational education capabilities.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed today between RP and The Polytechnic Association of Indonesia (ASPI) will pave the way for an 18-month programme. RP will share their expertise in Problem-Based Learning (PBL) pedagogy with 196 trainers and academic staff from 14 Indonesian polytechnics. Participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills required to teach using PBL, develop high-quality and sustainable curriculum, as well as learning materials that can be used in the context of TVET education.

The Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC), Indonesia, welcomes the MoU between ASPI and RP. The MoU will contribute to MoEC's long-term objectives to improve the polytechnic education relevance to industry, improve quality and ensure alignment with Indonesian qualification framework policies and guidelines.

The MoEC is responsible for Indonesia's four main divisions of education, namely, primary and secondary education, higher education, culture and out-of-school education.

Temasek Foundation has committed a grant of about S\$425,000 towards this capability-building programme. While it has supported other capability-building programmes in TVET in Indonesia, this is the first programme to focus specifically on PBL pedagogy training. This programme will help to improve the teaching and learning environment, as well as develop more effective accreditation and assessment methods. This will result in raising and maintaining the overall quality of technical and vocational education in Indonesia's polytechnics.

Trainers from RP's Problem-Based Learning Institute (PBLI) will also introduce senior educators and administrators from the Indonesian polytechnics to best practices and policies for administration, and prepare them to examine the systems and processes that support the framework for the delivery of quality education and training in polytechnics.

RD. Kusumanto, Chairman of ASPI, said, "This programme is very crucial for strengthening the education management of polytechnics in Indonesia. It is expected to meet the demand of workforce and equip them with the appropriate knowledge, skills and competencies in accordance with market demand. This process requires innovative development, especially in the learning process for students. Generally, the state polytechnics in Indonesia have already implemented Problem-Based Learning partially."



“Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is an important component of education and life-long learning across Asia. Through Temasek Foundation’s support, the training programme will provide a core group of TVET educators with the skills to integrate new methods into their teaching curriculum. This core group of educators will share their learning with their peers and together they will lead the efforts to enhance the vocational education and training system in Indonesia,” said, Temasek Foundation’s CEO, Mr Benedict Cheong.

“Problem-Based Learning, which is a student-centred and practical approach to education, is increasingly being adapted for technical and vocational training with positive results. Republic Polytechnic is pleased to share the PBL pedagogy and its practical applications through this MOU with The Polytechnic Association of Indonesia (ASPI). This training collaboration represents another milestone for RP’s international engagement, as we continue to partner educators in other countries to enhance knowledge and skills in PBL pedagogy with the support of Temasek Foundation,” said Republic Polytechnic’s Principal/CEO, Mr Yeo Li Pheow.

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About Republic Polytechnic

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage Problem-Based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and two academic centres offering thirty-seven diplomas in Infocomm, Engineering, Applied Science, Technology for the Arts, Sports, Health & Leisure, Events and Hospitality, Enterprise, and Communication.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic, broad-based curriculum, covering culture, enterprise development and cognitive processes, prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society.

Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO9001, ISO14001, OHSAS 18001, SS540, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class.

For more information, visit www.rp.edu.sg

About Temasek Foundation

Temasek Foundation is a non-profit philanthropic organisation anchored in Singapore that seeks to contribute to sustainable growth and a bright future of hope and opportunities for people in Asia. The foundation works with partners to support programmes that develop people through health care, education and research, programme that build bridges between peoples, programmes that build institutions of excellence through governance and ethics, programmes that rebuild lives and livelihoods affected by natural disasters. For more information, visit www.temasekfoundation.org.sg



About The Polytechnic Association of Indonesia

Asosiasi Politeknik Indonesia or The Polytechnic Association of Indonesia (ASPI) was formed on 8 February 2005 in Bandung as an entity supporting the development of polytechnic education in Indonesia. ASPI was previously known as API until 24 July 2008, when its name was updated. The Association's main objective is to enhance polytechnic education in Indonesia through knowledge and resource sharing, and to act as a body representing polytechnics in raising pertinent issues to the Ministry of Education and Culture, Indonesia.

About the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia

The Ministry is the government body which is tasked with overseeing the education and culture field in the Republic of Indonesia and assists the President in running the state administration.

The functions include the formulation, determination and implementation of policies of the above field, management of state property and supervising the execution of tasks in the Ministry. It also includes the implementation of technical guidance and supervision.

Contact persons

Ms Caroline Tan
Head, Communications
Temasek Foundation
T: (65) 6828 6739 / M: (65) 9768 4628
Email: carolinetan@temasekfoundation.org.sg

Ms Diana Lee
Senior Associate, Communications
Temasek Foundation
T: (65) 6828 6737 / M: (65) 9652 0569
Email: dianalee@temasekfoundation.org.sg

Mr Ronald Wong
Director, Office of Corporate Communications
Republic Polytechnic
M: (65) 9833 3220
Email: ronald_wong@rp.edu.sg

Mr Patrick Seng
Manager, Office of Corporate Communications
Republic Polytechnic
M: (65) 97676701
Email: patrick_seng@rp.edu.sg