



AUN/SEED-Net: Region-wide Inter- University Network in ASEAN

August 28, 2009

Naoki Umemiya

Japan International Cooperation Agency



Outline

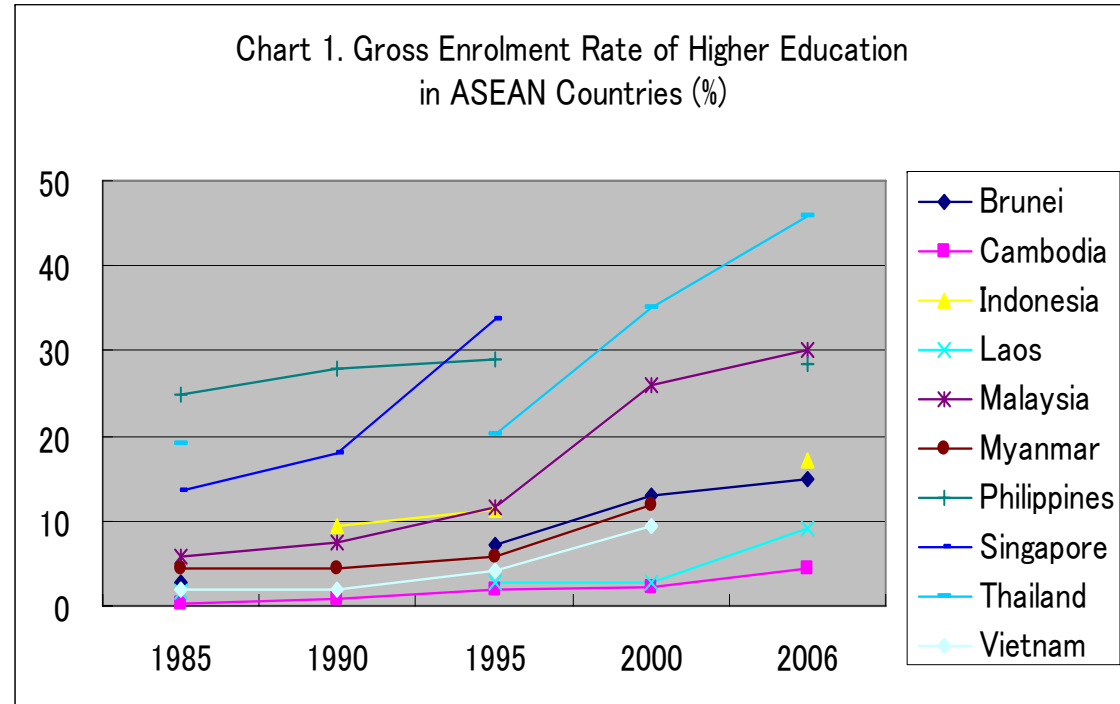
1. Higher education sector of Southeast Asia in a globalized world
2. About SEED-Net: its activities and achievements
3. What kind of institutions have been built by SEED-Net?
4. How can SEED-Net contribute to ASEAN regional integration?
5. Challenges ahead



1. Higher education sector of Southeast Asia in a globalized world

- Role of the higher education sector in the newly emerging knowledge-based society
- Globalization of the higher education sector
 - Increased exchanges of students and academic staff
 - Cross-border higher education
 - Growing international competition

In ASEAN, the higher education sector has been growing at a rapid pace...



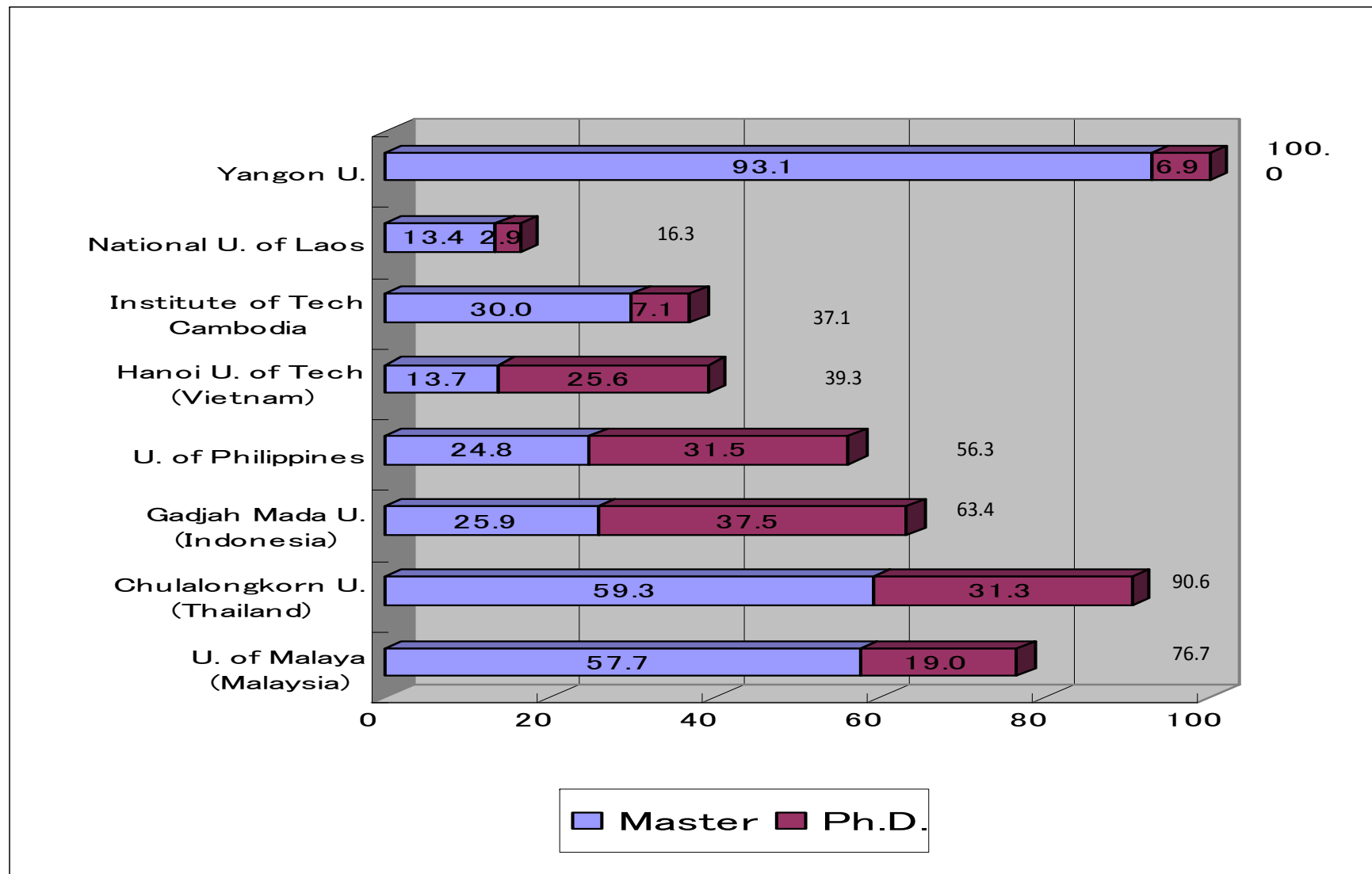
(Source) Data for Malaysia in 2006 are from Data Center of UNESCO Institute of Statistics. Other data are from Edstats of the World Bank.

(Remark) Higher education is defined as programs at ISCED level 5 & 6, including undergraduate and graduate programs.

....But, it has also been facing issues, such as:

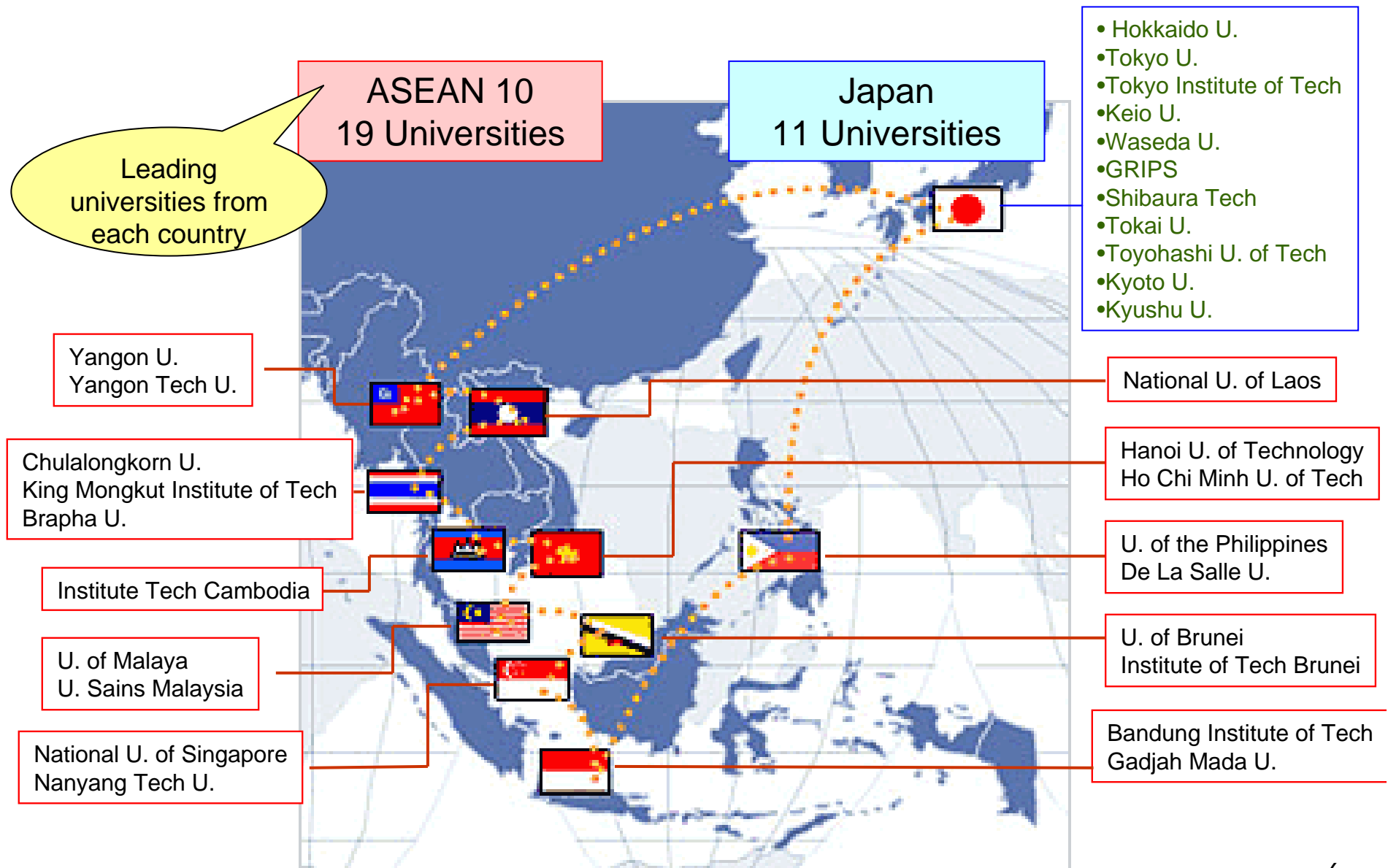
1. Not meeting region/country demand for highly-skilled professionals
2. Uneven quality of education programs
3. Disparity within the region and within countries
4. Insufficient research activities both in terms of quantity and quality

Ratio of academic staff with master's/Ph.D. degrees at major universities in ASEAN



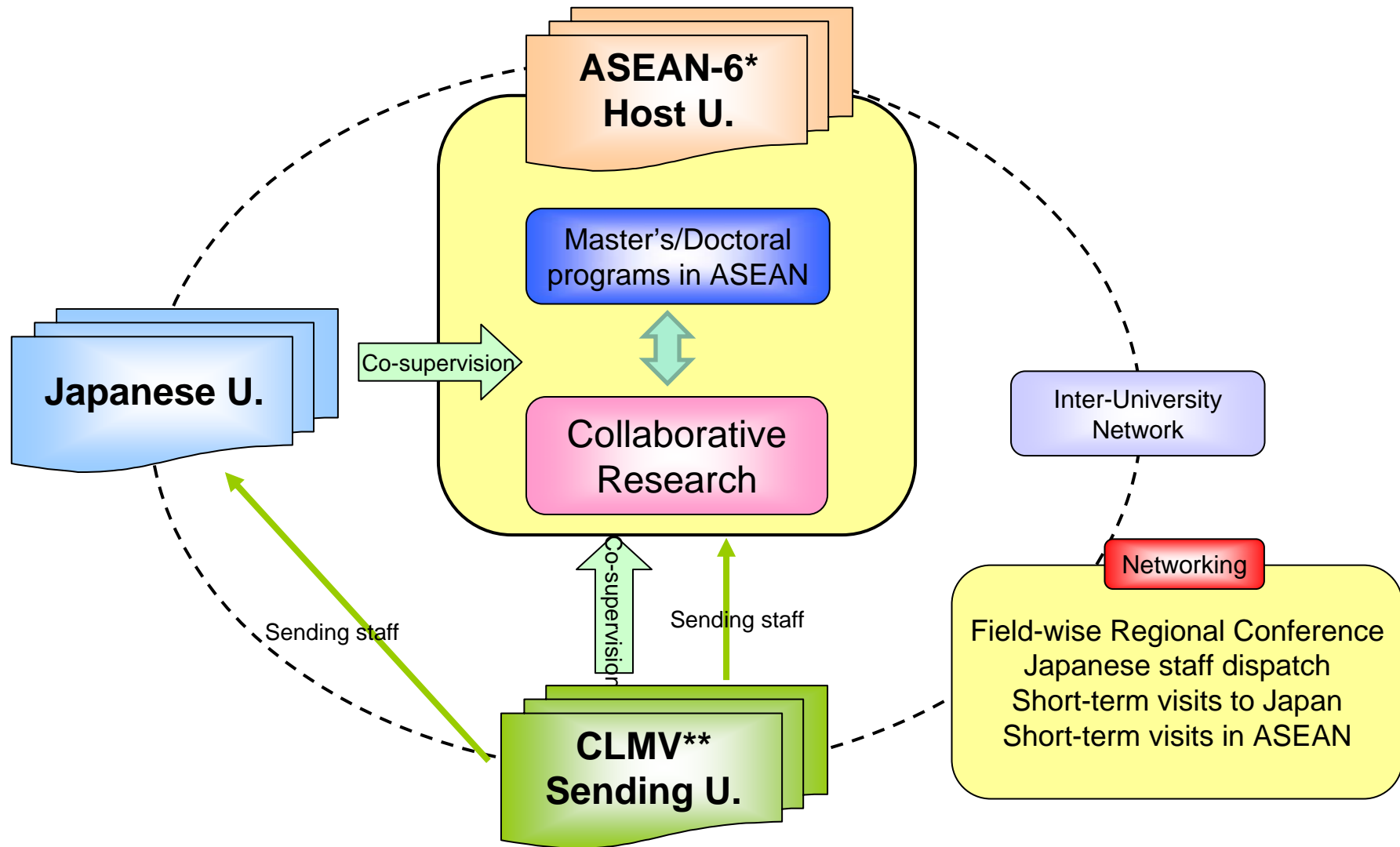
(Source) AUN/SEED-Net and JICA (2002) Strategy Paper.
 (Remark) Figures are for 2001.

2. About AUN/SEED-Net (ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network)



Framework of SEED-Net

Master's/Doctoral Programs + Collaborative Research + Networking



* ASEAN-6: Original members of ASEAN: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore & Thailand

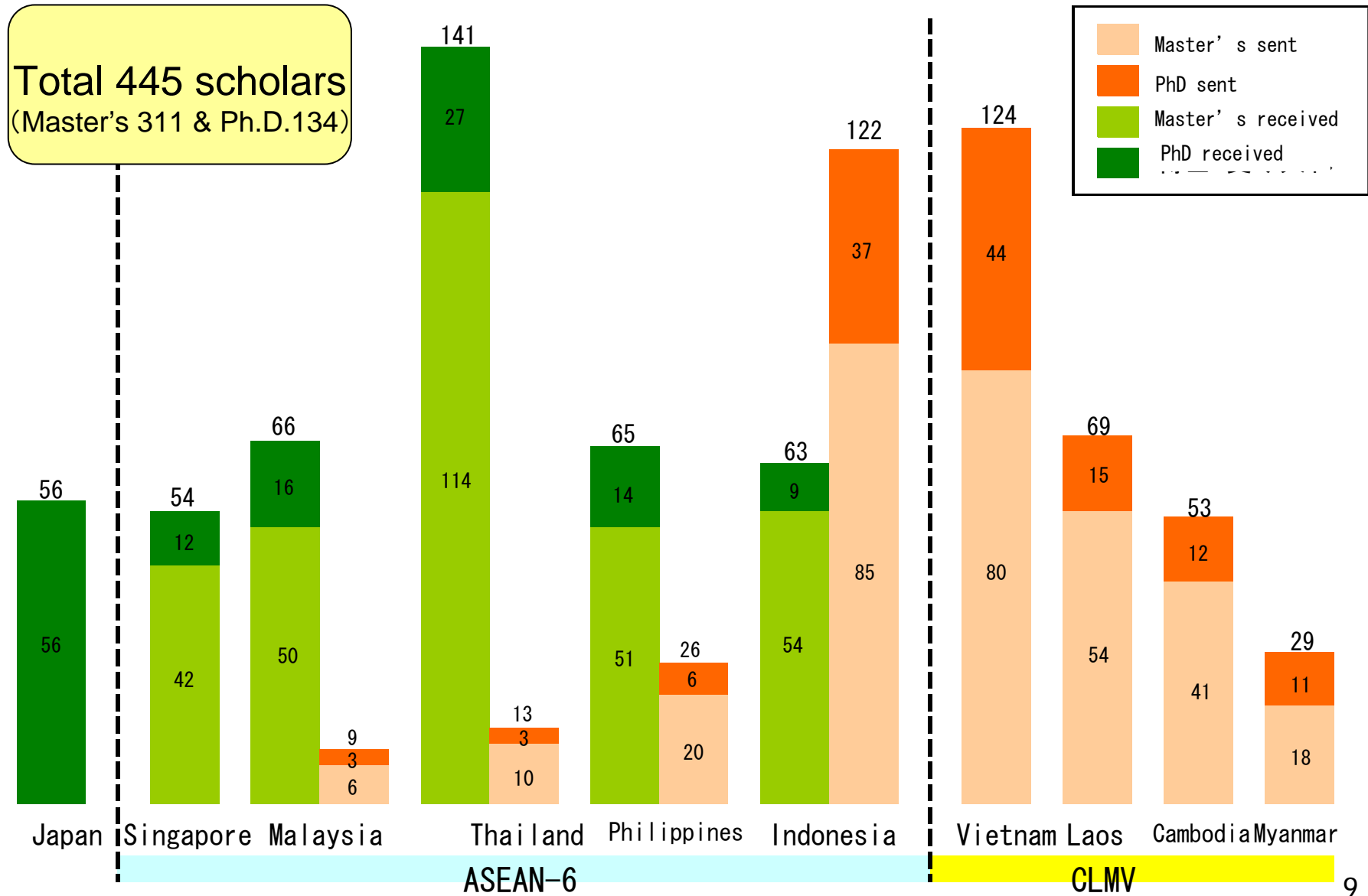
** CLMV: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar & Vietnam

Host Universities as Hubs

- Divided into nine fundamental engineering fields
- Each field assigned to a host university in ASEAN-6

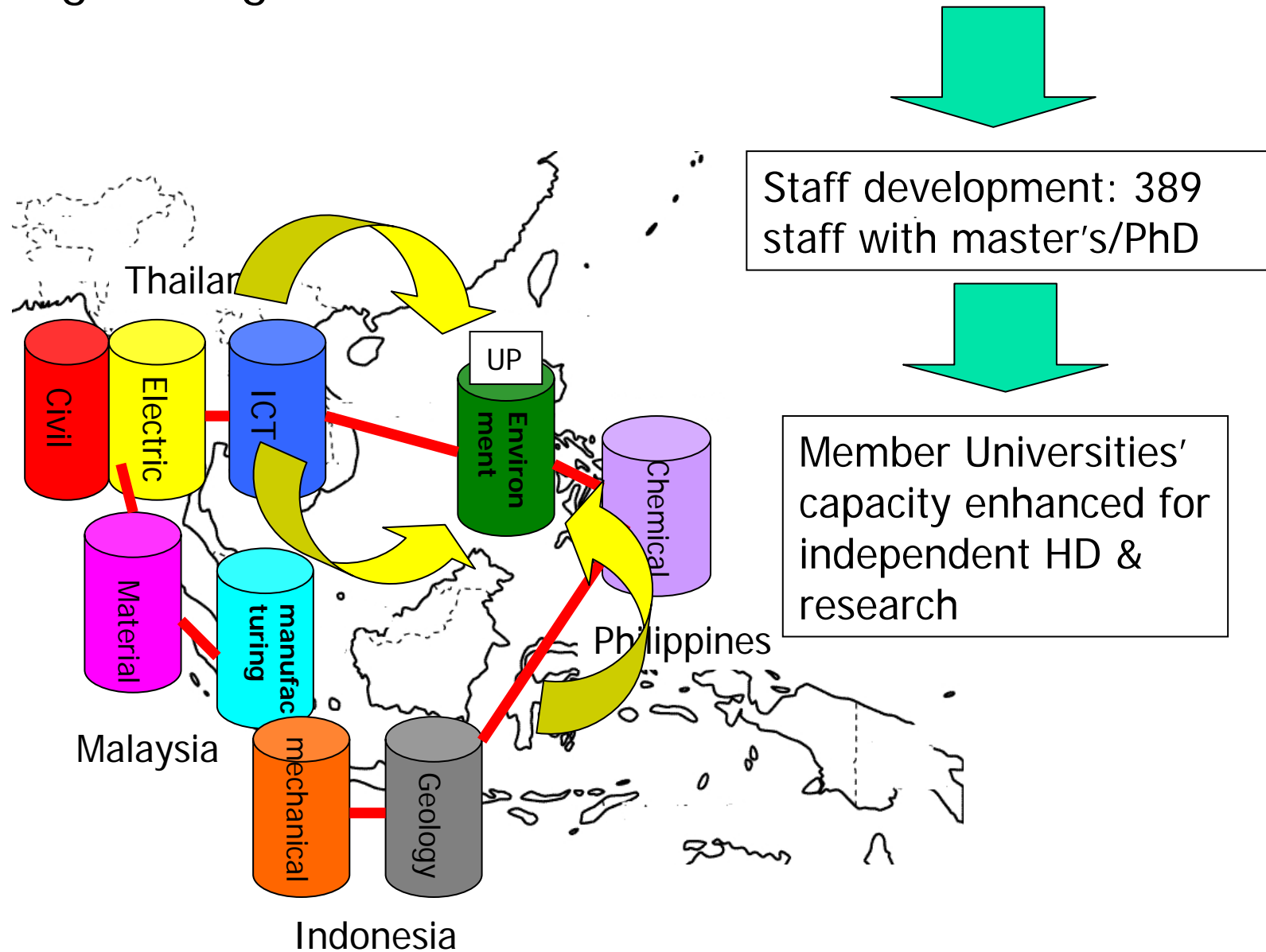
Engineering Field	Host University	Country
Chemical	De La Salle U.	Philippines
Environmental	U. of Philippines	
Manufacturing	U. of Malaya	Malaysia
Material	U. Sains Malaysia	
Civil	Chulalongkorn U.	Thailand
Electric & Electronics	Chulalongkorn U.	
ICT	King Monkut's Institute of Tech	
Mechanical & Aeronautical	Institute of Tech Bandung	Indonesia
Geological	Gadjah Mada U.	

Number of Participants in Master's/Doctoral Programs (2001-2007)



What kind of institutions have
been built by SEED-Net?

Institution (1): Regional Consortium of Graduate Schools of Engineering in ASEAN

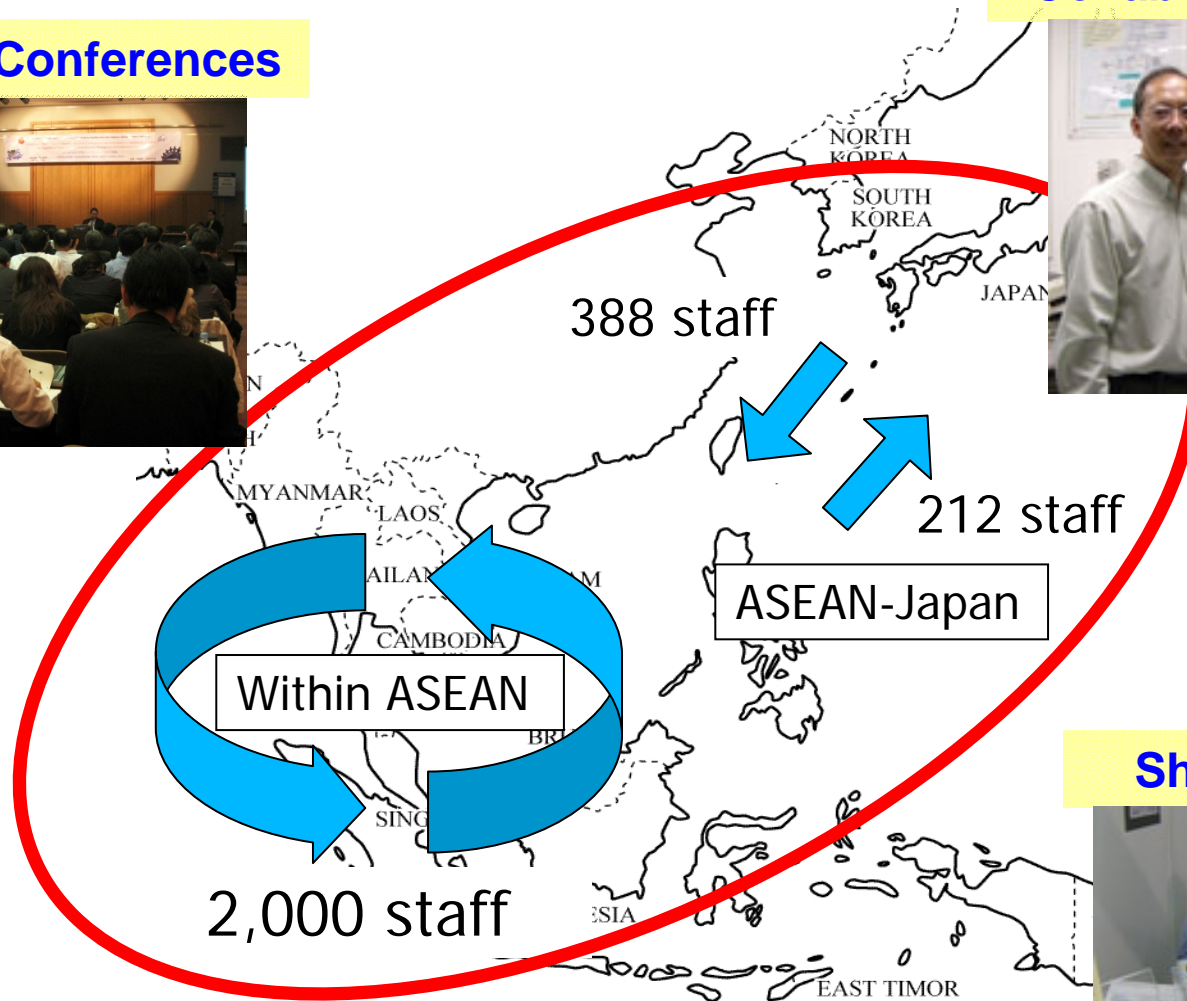
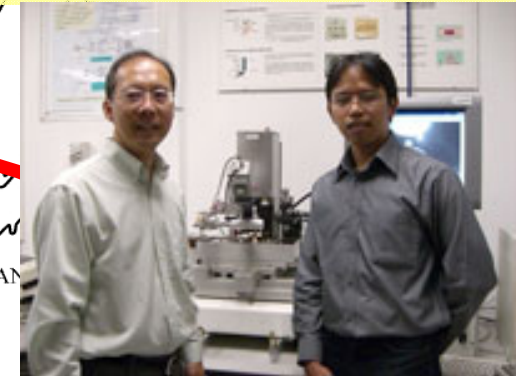


Institution (2): Regional Academic Networks in 9 Fundamental Engineering Fields

Regional Conferences



Collaborative Research



Short-term Visits

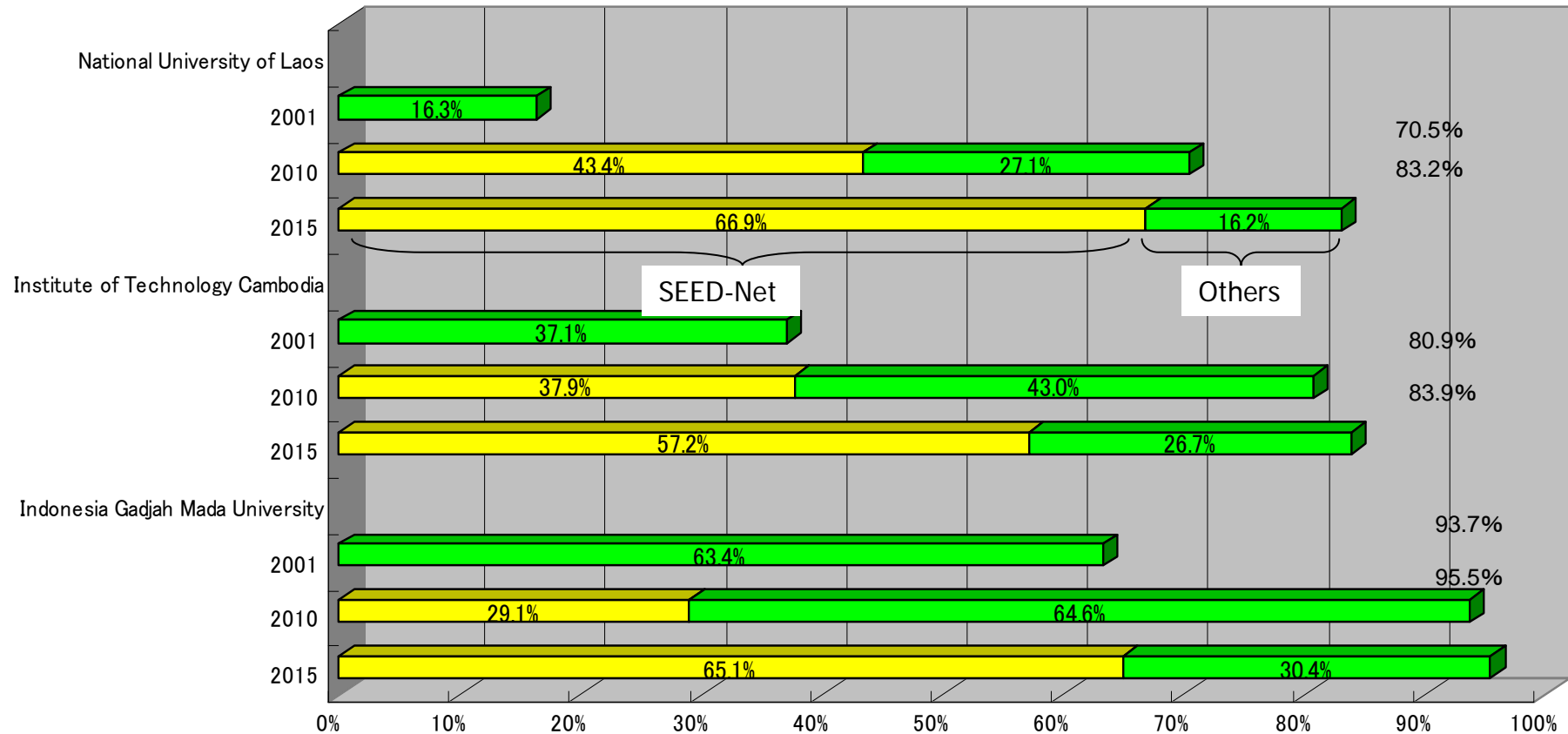


Platform created for researchers from the region to work together on common issues

How can SEED-Net contribute to
ASEAN regional integration?

(1) Addressing the disparity issue in the region through development of the higher education sectors in CLMV

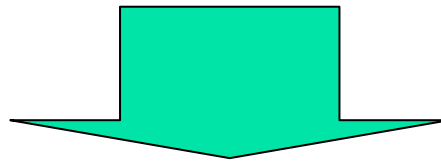
Projected ratio of staff with higher degrees over years



(Source) Figures for 2001 are from AUN/SEED-Net and JICA (2002). Figures for 2010 and 2015 are estimated based on staff development plans of member universities.

(2) Contribution to economic integration via human resource development

- Harmonization of higher education sectors in the region
 - e.g. Reform for standardization of duration of higher degree programs: 2 yrs for master's & 3 yrs for Ph.D.

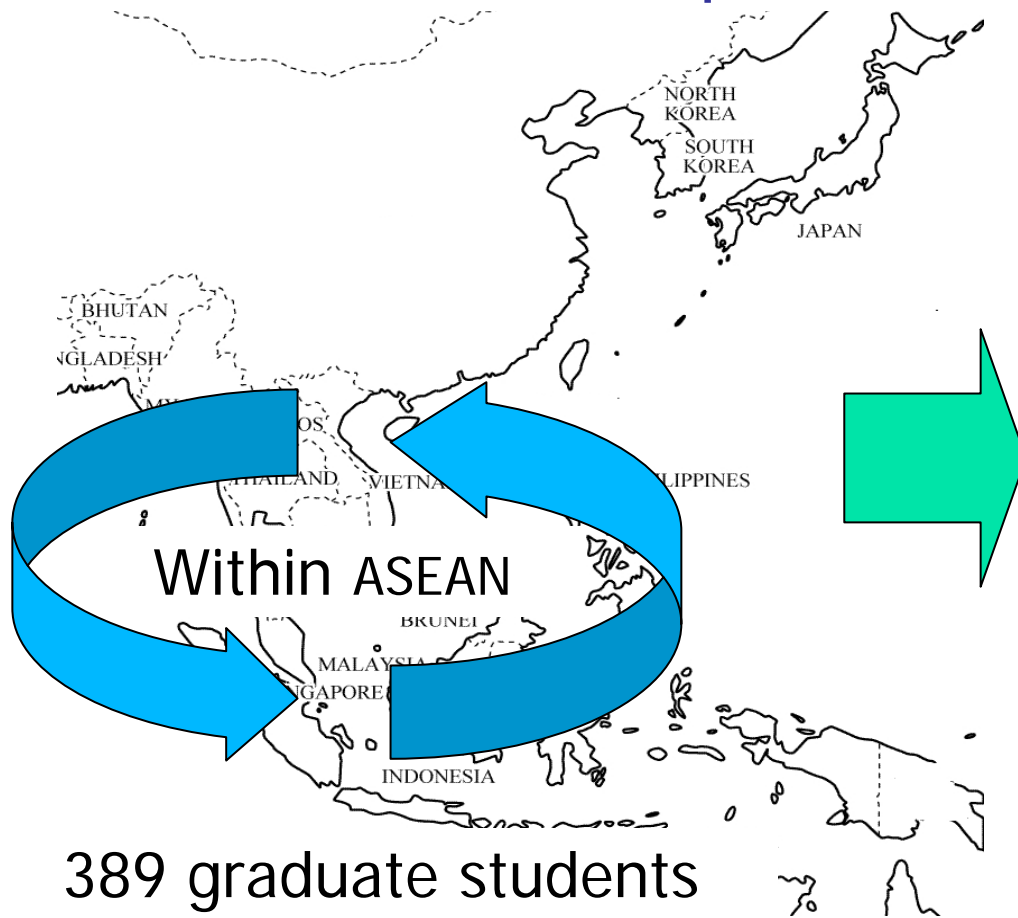


Promotes student/staff mobility

Enhances employability of graduates

Human resource development by the region for the region

(3) Contribution to promotion of ASEANness



389 graduate students
(Long-term: 2-3 years)



"mini-ASEANs" created at
Host Universities



Challenges ahead

- How to formalize a 'loose' network to be more stable
 - Establish a regional academic society
- How to make it financially sustainable
 - Supranational public investment for regional academic cooperation (Task Force on Higher Education & Societies, 2000)
- How to create an institution that can function in the diversity of Asia/ASEAN
 - Create a mechanism that addresses the diverse needs of a diverse constituency