

Educational Development in ASEAN Countries: Reflection of Research Results

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Abstract- This reflection was written from the research called “Trends of Educational Management for Unity and Peace of Countries in ASEAN Community”. The purposes of the research were 1) to synthesize the state of educational management in past and present of countries in ASEAN community, 2) to develop framework of trends in educational management for the unity of countries in ASEAN community, and 3) to propose trends and set strategy of educational management for peace of countries in ASEAN community. Future Research using Ethnographic Delphi Future Research (EDFR) was designed and the target group was educational personnel from ten ASEAN countries. Research tools were interview schedule and questionnaires. Qualitative data were analyzed by using content analysis and analytic induction, and quantitative data from EDFR questionnaires were analyzed using median, mode and interquartile range as descriptive statistics. Results of Reflection indicated that six strategic aspects were synthesized consisted of strategy 1 develop teachers and administrators, strategy 2 collaborate curriculum and assessment, Strategy 3 enhance teaching and instruction, strategy 4 encourage educational research, strategy 5 facilitate educational opportunity, and strategy 6 develop educational management. The analysis results from Ethnographic Delphi Future Research (EDFR) technique collected from 27 experts indicated that 6 strategies and 26 goals have been accepted the consensus from experts all items. The scenario was shown in ASEAN education roadmap to predict the future of education that to move towards education cooperation in 2018, to be a unity in education in 2020, to have education for peace in 2022, and to make ASEAN community full of unity and peace of education in 2024.

Keywords – Educational Development, ASEAN Countries, Reflection

I. INTRODUCTION

The preparation for the readiness into ASEAN community at the end of year 2015 was a very important role for every organization that needed to prepare for the change in order to be a part of ASEAN community. Educational organization is also needed to prepare for the readiness as well. Modern education and information technology are needed for helping to enhance level of education into international standard especially 7 occupations that have freely movement between countries within ASEAN community. These seven occupations are doctor, dentist, nurse, engineer, architect, explorers, and accountant. Therefore, the preparation of basic education to students is very important to train their learning skills for the quality of their future occupations. The learning activity that will meet the target of students’ achievement should be designed in variety and diversity and should cover 5 learning aspects which are 1) cognitive domain 2) affective domain 3) psycho-motor domain 4) process skills, and 5) integration. (Khaemane, T., 2007; Editorial department of Wittayajarn Journal, 2011). These aspects or skills of learning activities are usually used in general and worldwide in order to train the learners to be ready to their future careers.

The main purpose of educational management in ASEAN community has related to the fifth main objective of ASEAN which is to encourage each other to train and conduct research, support South East Asia education, and create awareness and understanding between people by using knowledge sharing in education. Educational management is also related to the third pillar of ASEAN community which called the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community. Therefore, the purpose of setting ASEAN community is to create the unity and co-operation in the region which will provide the opportunity for all countries to increase sharing of usefulness and encouragement to each other instead of having a competition (Piboonsongkram, P., 2011; Department of strategy and evaluation Bangkok, 2013).

Many organizations in each country have already prepared for being a member of ASEAN community since 2015 especially the organization that related to educational management. Some countries have issued planning approach and educational development was set for the strategy in order to develop education for produce qualify labors for team working of countries in ASEAN community. Brunei is one of the countries that having encouragement of students in vocational education to have an efficiency and matches with seven occupations. Philippines is also awakened to study and research in action by using good role of model to be the pattern of doing learning activities as well as Indonesia. Moreover, planning of educational management for the readiness of entering ASEAN community is also happening in Singapore, Cambodia, Malaysia, and Thai (Department of Technical Education, 2008; Ministry of Education, 2012; The World Bank, 2014; Florido, A.M., 2014; Ministry of Education, 2014).

The state of current educational development in ASEAN countries still appear some different aspects. In the aspect of teacher development, Singapore has shown good practice and being good role of model in teacher development for many countries in ASEAN region and world level. Many countries in ASEAN start to use the innovation and system of teacher development from Singapore; however, the effectiveness of development is still far away from Singapore. Even though in Thailand, the innovation and teacher development still keeps on going for the readiness and equality of teacher development in ASEAN community (Pornsrima, D., 2013). Student's development is also needed for enhancing the equality of producing qualify labors in ASEAN countries.

Organizations are alert for the adjustment and plan in educational management for the readiness of entering ASEAN community in 2015. Previous educations caused to current education and continue to future education. Therefore, setting of trends and possible standard is the way for social development in holistic of ASEAN community which will be the network interaction for increase sharing and connection. It is important to set the trend of educational management systematically and be the unity which will toward to the holistic of ASEAN society. However, the composition of educational management needs to have working system in many levels. It starts from policy level or plans in the country level. Level of curriculum development and level of learning and instruction are planned in all countries in order to prepare for entering ASEAN community. Each country will plan and issue their own policy, but it does not have any plan to collaborate for the unity in ASEAN community. Therefore, this article interested in studying and developing trends and possibility of educational management for the unity of countries in ASEAN community including to live peaceful coexistence in society (Phra Rajvaramethi and L. Klomkul, 2017). The Reflection of research results has also proposed in this paper including results of study into practice, and lesson learned of field study in ASEAN countries.

II. RESULTS AND REFLECTIONS

2.1 Results

For the strategy of educational management for peace in ASEAN community, it indicated that six strategic aspects were synthesized consisted of strategy 1 develop teachers and administrators, strategy 2 collaborate curriculum and assessment, Strategy 3 enhance teaching and instruction, strategy 4 encourage educational research, strategy 5 facilitate educational opportunity, and strategy 6 develop educational management and showed as below figure.



Figure 1. ASEAN Education Strategic Plan

Source: Phra Rajvaramethi and L. Klomkul, 2017

The analysis results from Ethnographic Delphi Future Research (EDFR) technique collected from 27 experts indicated that 6 strategies and 26 goals have been accepted the consensus from experts all items. Considering median, median and mode difference and interquartile range of each item showed that median of strategies and goals was between 4.00 to 5.00, the absolute of median and mode difference equal to 0 in all items, interquartile range were between 0.00 – 1.00 which showed that the expert group had correlated agreement on ASEAN education strategic plan at agree level to strongly agree level. Considering goals in each strategy showed as below:

Three goals are set for the 1st strategy to develop teachers and administrators, which are 1) develop teachers and lecturers to be professionalism, 2) develop Educational administrators to be professionalism, and 3) develop educational personnel to have accountability.

Four goals are set for the 2nd strategy to collaborate curriculum and assessment, which are 1) develop the basic education curriculum for all, 2) enhance curriculum diversification with ASEAN standards, 3) continue the comprehensive reform of educational assessment, and 4) collaborate curriculum and assessment between ASEAN countries.

Five goals are set for the 3rd strategy to enhance teaching and instruction, which are 1) enhance teaching and instruction with efficiency and innovativeness, 2) enhance the quality of learning and teaching effectively, 3) integrates technology through teaching and instruction excellently, 4) encourage cross cultural learning between each ASEAN country, and 5) encourage a personalized learning to achieve 21st century competencies.

Four goals are set for the 4th strategy to encourage educational research, which are 1) increase associate training scientific research for social needs, 2) conduct research for improving the quality of teaching and learning, 3) conduct research and implement from educational system into the community, and 4) develop educational innovation for improving student's learning through classroom action research.

Five goals are set for the 5th strategy to facilitate educational opportunity, which are 1) support compulsory and inclusive education, 2) expand access to preschool services for children in rural areas, 3) increased attention to the education and training needs of adults, 4) provide the opportunity to fulfill student's potential regardless of background, and 5) increase scholarships and opportunities for poor and merit students.

Five goals are set for the 6th strategy to develop educational management, which are 1) extend educational service accessibility and lifelong learning, 2) expand and raise effectiveness of international cooperation on education, 3) provides students with shared values, shared experiences, and common aspirations by acceptance diversity, 4) develop the quality of graduates, institutions and the overall system, and 5) develop education system that appropriate for multicultural community. In summary, strategy of educational management for peace of countries in ASEAN community can be shown as below figures.

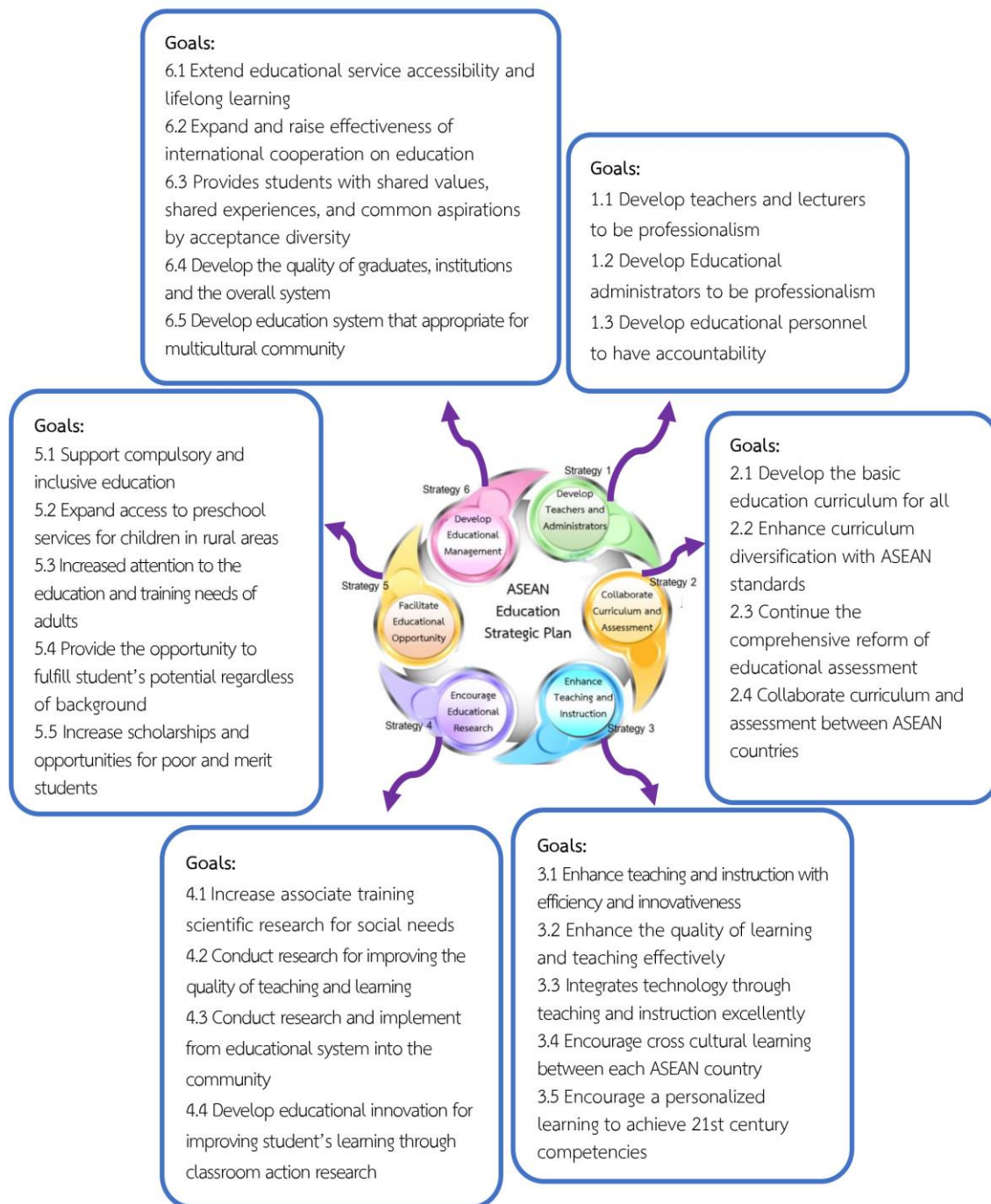


Figure 2 Strategic plan for the ASEAN Educational Management

Source: Phra Rajvaramethi and L. Klomkul, 2017

2.2 Reflections

The first reflection related to educational management in ASEAN community showed that ASEAN needs to set up the standard for ASEAN education and the policy of ASEAN education including the identity as the international collaborative project. These results related to the research of Phra Komsaeng Kuntasiri (2012) conducted research entitle "Teaching and instruction on profession curriculum of Pak Pa Sak Technical College, Vientiane, Laos PDR and the suggestion from research encourage teachers to teach and focus on practice more than on theory. Students should be encouraged to have the opportunity of sharing opinion as well as in educational media that teachers should learn more

and update new learning media. In the assessment aspect, teachers should give students mark or score without bias. For problem solving indicated that the curriculum should improve to reach the standard by extend to Master degree and Doctoral degree and should develop diverse activities. In addition, teachers should pay responsibility on teaching and focus on activities by supporting students on using educational media such as computer, VDO, picture, newspaper and journal. For the assessment, it should encourage students to ask question during doing class activities. These results also correlated to the strategies of Laos PDR which are the 1st strategy is to encourage education cooperation for developing human resources, the 2nd strategy is to encourage cooperation in knowledge enhancing for teachers and educational personnel in basic education, vocational education, non-formal education and informal education, the 3rd strategy is to encourage cooperation in development and education standard enhancement in higher education from the research of Bureau of International Cooperation (2009) as well as the strategic plan of Cambodia from the same research team found that the 1st strategy is to encourage education cooperation for being the mechanism of making relationship and cultural understanding, the 2nd strategy is to encourage education cooperation for being the main key in human resources development and skill for solving poverty, the 3rd strategy is to encourage cooperation in education reform. These are the sample education strategic plan from ASEAN countries that have tries to develop education in their countries in order to reach ASEAN standard.

The second reflection on strategies of educational management for peace in ASEAN community has shown six strategic aspects consisted of strategy 1 develop teachers and administrators, strategy 2 collaborate curriculum and assessment, Strategy 3 enhance teaching and instruction, strategy 4 encourage educational research, strategy 5 facilitate educational opportunity, and strategy 6 develop educational management. It can be discussed these results are related to the research of Bureau of International Cooperation (2009) which conducted the research called “Strategic Development of Educational Cooperation between Thailand and Neighboring Countries” consisted of Cambodia, Laos PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam. The main strategic plan showed that the 1st strategy was to enhance the policy of educational cooperation to be the national policy for being a mechanism in creating sustainable relationship between Thailand and Neighboring countries. The 2nd strategy was to expand the cooperation of educational quality development in basic education, higher education, vocational education to be lifelong education that related to trend of national development of each country. The 3rd strategy was to create unity in educational cooperative movement with neighboring countries in the same direction. The 4th strategy was to encourage good understanding, trust and confident between Thailand and neighboring countries. In addition, these results also related to the research of Ministry of Education (2006) from the research called “Comparative research on educational reform of countries in ASEAN community”. Results indicated that all ASEAN countries has given education for the most important issue of country development especially education can lead to economic development. Many countries in both old member and new member still give the role of education to reduce poverty and move over underdeveloped country in economy. At the same time, education is the key of potential enhancement for competition at international level. Some countries in ASEAN wish to have equally potential development within ASEAN countries.

The third reflection related to five goals of the 5th strategy to facilitate educational opportunity, which are 1) support compulsory and inclusive education, 2) expand access to preschool services for children in rural areas, 3) increased attention to the education and training needs of adults, 4) provide the opportunity to fulfill student’s potential regardless of background, and 5) increase scholarships and opportunities for poor and merit students. This strategy is very important for education development for making the unity in ASEAN community. Education for all is a key for providing education opportunity for children who are ASEAN members. It related to the article of Simpson, R.L. and others (2004) studied about “The No Child Left Behind Act Challenges and Implications for Educators”. It showed that The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act is potentially the most significant educational initiative to have been enacted in decades. Among the salient elements of this initiative are requirements that all students have qualified teachers and be given the opportunity to attend high-quality schools. The NCLB legislation also requires that states raise academic achievement levels for all students, including those with disabilities. Linked to these components and related issues, this article discusses the major components of the NCLB along with implications and recommendations for educators. For the expectation of this research, researchers hope that we can apply The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act to be a part of educational management in ASEAN countries.

The fourth reflection Related to the Encouragement of our ASEAN countries on education development. From the result showed that some ASEAN countries still need further development in term of resources and budget of educational development which related to the report of Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, (2014) on Australia-Laos Education Delivery Strategy 2013–2018. Result showed that the focus of Australia’s support will be in improving access to education, through both physical infrastructure and investments in school communities and administrations, to enable better management of resources. For physical infrastructure, support will focus on improving early childhood education learning environments and incomplete primary schools. This support will be carefully planned and managed to ensure it responds to location-specific needs, taking into account resettlement and safeguard concerns; and is matched with resourcing of teachers and learning materials. To complement the physical investment in school communities, efforts will

be made to improve the knowledge and value of education in communities. Support for strong school leadership, through capacity building of school principals, Village Education Development Committees (VEDCs), community groups, and District Education and Sports Bureaus (DESBs) will aim to increase community participation in education, ultimately supporting more children to stay in school and complete a basic education. This support will also assist school communities to be better able to plan, manage and monitor the use of resources, including school block grants, towards meeting national education quality standards, leading to more equitable and adequate school resourcing. Australia's support under this pillar will aim to achieve the following by 2018; 1) increased number of classrooms constructed through a community-based contracting approach in remote and disadvantaged village, and 2) increased number of accessible textbooks and teaching materials that incorporate relevant curriculum distributed to more schools.

In addition, this research results also related to the report of The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (2014) which indicated that the fact of ASEAN integration in 2015 and the desire of Cambodia to be a middle income country by 2030 require considerable investment in education. Both professional and well qualified human resources and financial resources are required (highly successful ASEAN countries have grown in part as a result of the high level of education investment often in excess of 5% of gross domestic product GDP). MoEYS recognizes the importance of making the whole of the sector work together in order to respond to the social and economic demands. The focus of the ESP 2014 - 2018 is on consolidating the gains already made in the previous ESP periods, reaching out to the most disadvantaged, providing learning that is of a high quality and relevant to the national development. Education services are delivered professionally and accountably in order to lay a foundation for knowledge and skills based economy. The sector will develop its sector wide quality assurance framework based on learning and service delivery standards that respond to the needs of children, communities and the labor market.

Three policies are set for educational management in Cambodia by the year 2018. In Policy 1, Ensuring equitable access for all to education services and all children have access to all type of ECE services, primary schools, secondary schools and then opportunities to continue learning. For children who are unable to access formal education alternatives will be provided. Increase the number of children and youth that have access to all education levels with a focused attention on equity and access for the most disadvantaged areas and groups of children. Increase opportunities for children to finish 12 years education with a good knowledge and reasoning and logic skills who can build these skills and knowledge through technical training, higher education and other means. In Policy 2, enhancing the quality and relevance of learning, all children and youth have a relevant and quality learning experience enabling them to contribute effectively to the growth of the nation. Ensure learning is of high quality and relates learning to socio-economic goals of the country and of local contexts; a quality framework that provides learners, parents, communities, teachers and managers with outcome standards and monitoring and reporting against these. In Policy 3, Ensuring effective leadership and management of education staff at all levels Education services are provided effectively and flexibly. Efficient and professional management provides best value (with a focus on results), timely and relevant monitoring and reporting of results with effective feedback, measures for accountability and mechanisms for adjustment to policy, strategy and programs at both national and subnational level. Management of public education institutions can respond efficiently to emerging needs at school level.

III. RESULT AND LESSON LEARNED

3.1 Results of Study into Practice

There are three main results of the research finding which can be implemented in the area of education development in ASEAN community.

1. Educational management in ASEAN community showed that most of the educational policy in ASEAN countries depended on the government, the curriculums and instructions focus on child center education and students are trained for 21st century skills, teachers conduct research for solving and developing student's learning. Teacher training is also an important part of educational development. However, some ASEAN countries still need further development in term of resources and budget of educational development and research.

2. Framework of trends in educational management for the unity in ASEAN community consisted of 5 aspects which were 1) the curriculum of humanism which supported the harmonization and collaboration, 2) the strategic planning came from local people, 3) teaching and instruction were integrated between scientific methods and religious methods, 4) the gap of educational problem should be implemented through action research and religious principles, and 5) all religions were integrated for peaceful coexistence consisted of good for humankind, conduct good action, avoid bad action and purify our mind.

3. Trends of educational management for peace in ASEAN community showed 12 aspects of bringing together to be the top in 2030 and can be developed through educational strategies. Six strategic aspects of educational management for peace in ASEAN community were synthesized. The strategies consisted of strategy 1 develop teachers and administrators, strategy 2 collaborate curriculum and assessment, strategy 3 enhance teaching and instruction, strategy 4 encourage educational research, strategy 5 facilitate educational opportunity, and strategy 6 develop educational management. Analysis results from Ethnographic Delphi Future Research (EDFR) technique indicated that 6 strategies and 26 goals have been accepted the consensus from experts all items which showed that the expert group had correlated agreement on ASEAN education strategic plan. The scenario was shown in ASEAN education roadmap to predict the future of education that to move towards education cooperation in 2018, to be a unity in education in 2020, to have education for peace in 2022, and to make ASEAN community full of unity and peace of education in 2024.

3.2 Lesson Learned of Field Study in ASEAN Countries

The experience of doing data collection in ten ASEAN countries included Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines, Brunei Darussalam and Thailand had gained the knowledge of the neighboring countries and to illustrate the locations, cultural sensitivities, unplanned situations, networking strategies, and outcome from field study in order to have deeply understanding to each other in the contemporary pluralistic society in ASEAN community. The overall finding showed that education system in ten ASEAN countries have shown the same system which are the system of pre-school, primary school, secondary school, and higher education. Most compulsory education covers primary school and some countries cover secondary school. Education for all is the main purpose of ASEAN countries in order to develop students to reach the highest potential of their learning.

IV. SUGGESTIONS

4.1 Suggestion for Applying Research Results

4.1.1 The result showed that most of the educational policy in ASEAN countries depended on the government. Therefore, results of this results should be written in pocket book and submit to government organizations in ten ASEAN countries in order to propose about trends and strategy of educational management for unity and peace in ASEAN community.

4.1.2 The result showed that some ASEAN countries still need further development in term of resources and budget of educational development and research. Therefore, as a part of ASEAN community, educators should try to provide the opportunity to each other and setting collaborative research project to fill educational gap and sharing to each other in term of knowledge, skills, area study for field research including budget. Then, research results can be applied into ten ASEAN countries as research utilization.

4.1.3 The result in the 5th strategy showed that to facilitate educational opportunity especially to provide the opportunity to fulfill student's potential regardless of background. Therefore, as an ASEAN community, we should support each other on educational development. Then, ASEAN students will be given equal opportunity to learn and access education especially for the basic education and compulsory education.

4.2 Suggestion for Further Research

4.2.1 This research has been developed based on grounded theory technique and confirmed data using Delphi technique. Results can be applied and constructed a causal relationship model by connecting between qualitative results from this research. Then, researcher can design by using quantitative research method to conduct and study how is the causal relationship model whether or not to relate with the empirical data or in the real life.

4.2.2 This research studied with general about educational management in ASEAN countries which received only data in term of policy and general practice of educators. Therefore, researcher should design to study deeply and focus on each aspect of education such as conduct research on vocational education. Results can guide direct to the career opportunity for students in ASEAN country and can guide the career market for them as well.

4.2.3 This research has done only Thai researcher team; it should be combined together of conducting research for all educators or researchers from ASEAN countries in the same research problem. Data can be collected in the area from each country by local researchers. Then, they can join together of doing research analysis, writing research report and public results to implement in their countries.

V.CONCLUSION

Education system in ten ASEAN countries have shown the same system which are the system of pre-school, primary school, secondary school, and higher education. Most compulsory education covers primary school and some cover secondary school. Education for all is the main purpose of ASEAN countries in order to develop students to reach the highest potential of their learning. Six strategic aspects were synthesized consisted of strategy 1 develop teachers and administrators, strategy 2 collaborate curriculum and assessment, strategy 3 enhance teaching and instruction, strategy 4 encourage educational research, strategy 5 facilitate educational opportunity, and strategy 6 develop educational management. The result of analysis from Ethnographic Delphi Future Research (EDFR) technique which collected from 27 experts found that 6 strategies and 26 goals have been accepted the consensus from experts all items. Reflection of this research result will be the guideline into practice as research utilization.

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