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# Report

## 2nd National Awareness Day Conference at UHS, Laos

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CATALYST

Communicative Approaches in University Vocational Training Methodology  
Focusing on Improving Educational Yield and Sustainability [CATALYST]

Second National Awareness Day

12 March 2021

Location: Meeting Hall of University of Health Sciences (UHS), Amphitheatre,  
Vientiane Capital. LAO PDR.

The 2nd NAD was conducted on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, in UHS-Laos. In total, 35 participants participated in the event. The 2nd NAD focused on the CATALYST modules development and implementation campaign to enhance the project's goals and ensure sustainability. During the workshop, held as part of this NAD, a panel discussion was conducted concerning ECTS and the possibility to apply the develop modules to the current training curriculum in UHS-Laos. The person in charge of education from the European Ambassador in Laos was invited, and the Vice-Director for Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education (MoE), and the Rector and Vice-Rector of UHS-Laos were also invited.

The topics discussed at the NAD focused on important issues in teaching such as how to combine usual teaching styles and E-learning and how to prepare teaching tools-suited to the COVID-19 pandemic context. The panel discussion lasted about two hours. The main outputs of the 2nd NAD were that UHS-Laos needed to improve teaching methodology and develop appropriate tools for teaching especially in the COVID-19 pandemic situation. Other recommendations from the event included the need for more focus on the two ways communicative approach in teaching which was also emphasized. In addition, strategies for active learning should be applied, and workshops to discuss and prioritize innovative teaching methodology should be conducted, on important topics such as Understanding the Differences Between Teaching and Facilitating Learning.



Photo 1: A group photo of the participants in the 2nd NAD of UHS-Laos.



Photo 2: The 2nd NAD Banner, organized by UHS-Laos.



Photo 3: The 2nd NAD opening speech by the Rector of UHS-Laos, Dr. Bounthoum Samountry.



Photo 4: The opening remarks of the 2nd NAD by the representative from the European Ambassador in charge of higher education in Vientiane Capital, Laos, Mr. Francois Pravongviengkham.



Photo 5: The UHS-Laos CATALYST Project Coordinator, Dr. Ketkesone Phrasisomabth, facilitating the 2nd NAD workshop.



Photo 6: The UHS-Laos CATALYST Project Coordinator, Dr. Ketkesone Phrasismabth provided more information, on modules developed, and activities available via the CATALYST website.



Photo 7: Vice-Rector of UHS-Laos, Prof. Mayfong Mayxay, provided actionable comments on how to improve teaching methodology and adapt teaching methodologies to the COVID-19 situation, e.g., using more eLearning, virtual platform, and active learning styles.



Photo 8: Dr. Phouthone Vangkonevilay, the UHS-Laos CATALYST Project Leader gives comments during the panel discussion.



Photo 9: Mr. Panya Chanthavong from the Department of Legislation and Education Quality Assurance, MoE, gives information and comments on the CATALYST project, emphasizing that the project is important and should be continued.

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Awareness Day workshop

## ERASMUS+ CHBE PROJECT ON

### COMMUNICATIVE APPROACHES IN UNIVERSITY VOCATIONAL TEACHING METHODOLOGY FOCUSING ON IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL YIELD AND SUSTAINABILITY (CATALYST)

**Time:** 8:30-17:30  
**Date:** 12 March 2021  
**Venue:** Meeting Hall of UHS-Laos, Amphie the Theatre  
**Organizers:** UHS-Laos  
**Language:** English and Laotian

<b>Time</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Persons in charge</b>
8:30 – 8:45	Registration	All participants
8:45– 9:00	Opening speech and welcome quest	Dr. Bounthom Samounry Rector of UHS-Laos
9:00-9:15	Education and project collaboration under the Erasmus+	Representative EU country office in Laos
9:15-9:45	CATALYST Project Overview Introduction of the developed modules	Dr. Ketkesone Phrasisombath CATALYS UHS coordinator
9:45-10:00	The video “The Journey of CATALYST project”	All participants
10:00-10:15	Group photo and coffee break	All participants
10:15-11:30	A panel discussion on Education using ECTS and a possibility to applied the develop modules to the current training curriculum in UHS-Laos	Key speakers: - Rector of UHS - Rep. of higher Educ. Dept. MoE - EU country office Representative - Rep. Centre of Education Quality Assurance - Rep. CATALYS NUoL coordinator
11:30 – 12:00	Plenary discussion, Q&A	All participants
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	All participants

Done by University of Health Sciences (UHS), Laos