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ABSTRACT

This brochure describes the history, administrative organization, and activities of a UNESCO-sponsored regional institute for school building research. A list of publications is included.
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INFORMATION BULLETIN

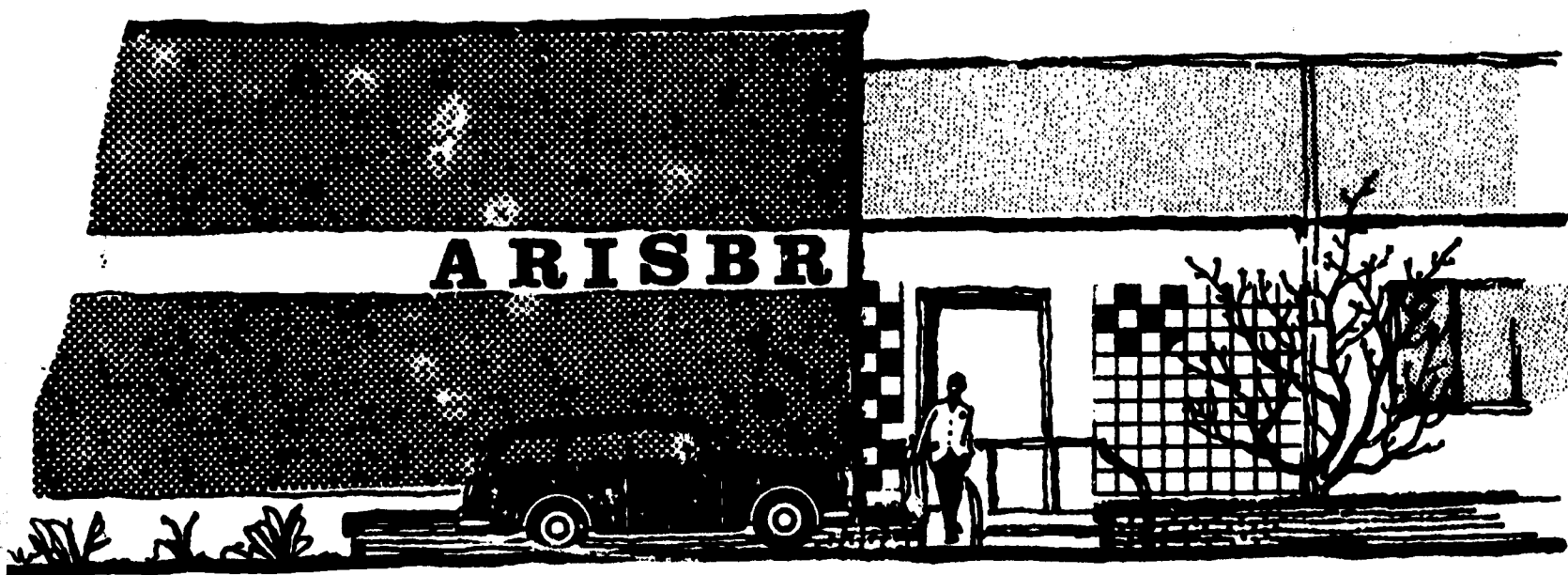


**ASIAN REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
SCHOOL BUILDING RESEARCH**

Sponsored by Unesco

COLOMBO
1967

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THE STAFF OF THE INSTITUTE

Government Members

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mr. H.A.V. Soysa | - Director |
| Mr. P. Senarath | - Educationist |
| Mr. H.G.S. Chandrasekera | - Administrative Officer |

Unesco Members

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Mr. D.J. Vickery | - Architect, Senior Expert |
| Mrs. T.E. Rungkat | - Documentalist & Information Expert |
| Mr. R.H. Sheath | - Building Cost Expert |
| Mr. C.E. Finney | - Architect, Development Group Advisor |

THE ASIAN REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SCHOOL BUILDING RESEARCH

FUNCTIONS

Studies of educational buildings needs of Asia at all levels.

Training: general meetings and training of local development groups to initiate design and construction of prototype buildings before mass building plans begin.

Documentation of all material on educational building relative to the Asian Region and publication of research findings and documentation aids.

Briefing of other experts on educational buildings assigned to the region.

PUBLICATIONS : Studies, Technical Reports, Occasional Papers, Annual Report, Buildings for Education (Quarterly).

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P. O. Box 1368

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MEMBER STATES : Afghanistan; Burma; Cambodia; Ceylon;
China; India; Indonesia; Iran;
Japan; Korea; Laos; Malaysia;
Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; Philippines;
Singapore; Thailand; Viet-nam.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Asian Regional Institute for School Building Research was established to support the resolutions of the Karachi Plan. Its activities are now extended to cover the entire field of educational building from primary schools to universities.

Karachi Plan

The Karachi Plan was drawn up by representatives of seven Asian Member States of Unesco at Karachi in 1960. The main object of the plan was the achievement of free and compulsory primary education of at least seven years duration by 1980.

Later Developments

The next meeting of the Ministers of Education of Asian Member States of Unesco, held in Tokyo in 1962, widened these terms of reference to include all levels of education. The 1965 Bangkok Conference of Ministers of Education and Ministers of Economic Planning of the Asian Member States of Unesco made clear the very low cost per place to which future educational buildings must be linked and indicated the various levels of education in

which national investment (and therefore building) was to be concentrated.

PROBLEMS OF THE REGION

These plans provide for housing a tremendous school population and a heavy degree of investment is required of countries in the lower national income groups. The Institute is called upon to assist in finding feasible solutions to this problem of accommodation - solutions which are in keeping with the educational needs of the countries yet within the low permissible budgetary allowances.

THE REGION

All the Asian Member States of Unesco are participating in the activities of the Asian Regional Institute for School Building Research. The diversity of culture, climate and per capita income encompassed by the Region presents a challenge to the Institute to find basic solutions to educational building problems which will be of wide application. At the same time it must take into account problems related to specific areas and conditions.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTE

From October 1962 until the end of 1964 the Institute was established in Indonesia. Following the temporary withdrawal of Indonesia from Unesco at the beginning of 1965 the Unesco staff of the Institute was transferred to Bangkok. There the activities of the Institute were carried on until its permanent relocation was decided. In June 1966 an agreement was signed between the Government of Ceylon and Unesco enabling the Institute to be established in Colombo.

Unesco will support the Institute until 1972 through the provision of experts and a cash contribution while the government of Ceylon will supply accommodation, supporting local staff including the Director, and a budgetary allocation for day-to-day expenses.

The Steering Committee

The Agreement provides for a Steering Committee which administers the Institute and is composed of a representative of the Government of Ceylon as Chairman, a representative of the Director-General of Unesco, and the Director of the Institute who also serves as Secretary and is a non-voting member.

The Steering Committee draws up the programme and budget in consultation with the Unesco specialists attached to the Institute.

The Technical Advisory Group

In order to ensure that the Institute continues to take note of problems particularly pressing for the Asian Region, the Director-General of Unesco has appointed a Technical Advisory Group consisting of eminent Asian educators or architects; the Technical Advisory Group advises the Steering Committee on the programme of the Institute and helps in coordinating and promoting school building research in the Region.

FUNCTIONS

The Institute carries out its Terms of Reference through several broad functions:

1. Studies - Studies into the functions, design, construction, materials, maintenance and cost of educational buildings and their furniture and sites.

2. Establishment of Development Groups - Through the establishment in each State of inter-disciplinary groups of experts concerned with educational building, the Institute hopes to encourage governments to utilize their own personnel to find the right solutions to design in relation to their own educational needs. By building prototype schools to these designs it is hoped the groups will be able to test their ideas and experiment further before mass building of schools is undertaken. The Institute gives assistance and advice to groups and provides a field expert to give regular service to each group established.
3. Training - By providing facilities for study and training in general educational building design techniques the Institute hopes to strengthen the ability of each State to cope with its future problems of educational building. Training is also aimed at Development Groups. It is usually given in "on the spot" seminars

in individual countries in order to take into consideration the particular problems of the country concerned. In addition expert staff is provided where appropriate and feasible to participate in other training courses, seminars and conferences. Occasional courses will be held in the Institute.

4. Documentation - The Institute aims to collect all material relevant to educational building in Asia, to organise it and make it available to Member States through such aids as bibliographies, photo-copies, accession lists and abstracts. It also publishes the results of research into the problems of educational building undertaken in the Institute. A list of the present and planned publications of the Institute will be found at the end of this booklet.
5. Briefing - Assistance and advice is provided at the request of Unesco to educational building experts working on projects in the Region.

In 1965 the Evaluation Commission on the Regional Offices, Centres and Institutes Established or Assisted by Unesco, confirmed these functions and indicated that they should lead not to operational assistance or consultant services for actual construction, but rather to recommendations on the adaptation and application of the Institute's general findings.

Furthermore, it extended the research and training activities to include the dry zone of the Region as well as to the humid zone upon which previous research had concentrated. It also recommended that the Institute should devote attention to specific area problems and natural disasters such as typhoons, cyclones, hurricanes, floods, in order to design school buildings protected against these conditions and capable of use as refuges in times of emergency.

WORK-PROGRAMME 1968

The functions of the Institute are expressed through the Work Programme of the Institute, which is drawn up by the Steering Committee. The Work-Programme for 1967 is described in detail in volume 1, no.1 of Buildings for Education. The work programme for 1968 will be concerned with the following aspects:

- 1a. Cost Studies - Further work on the international cost study will continue in countries of the Region. In addition studies will be

initiated on the Cost of Maintenance in Use of School Buildings, on a Cost-Size Study of Educational Buildings and on a Comparison of costs of industrialized and prefabricated units with traditional methods of building schools in Asia.

- 1b. Other Studies - A determination of a thermal comfort index for Ceylon school children will be undertaken, and design guides for secondary schools will be completed.

In addition, study will commence on the design of third-level science buildings.

A contract will be let for the development of simple techniques for window design for schools in the tropical region, for which a preparatory study was completed in 1967.

The contract concerned with the administrative and design problems of high multi-storeyed schools in urban areas will be continued and a report will be published.

2. Establishment of Development Groups - The field expert appointed by Unesco will continue to encourage the formation and active work of development groups in the Region.

PUBLICATIONS

Up to 1966 the Institute published one series of papers entitled: Occasional Papers: School Building. The following are the list of Occasional Papers: School Building published on the Institute's behalf by the Unesco Regional Office for Education in Asia in Bangkok:

1. Climate and School Building Design in Java
by D.J.Vickery. 1962
(English[^] and French version published)
2. The Shading of School Buildings in South East Asia
by D.J.Vickery. 1963
(English[^] and French version published)
3. Comparative Anthropometric Data: A, For use in
Indian Schools, by D.J.Vickery. 1963
(French summary added to English edition)

[^] English edition out-of-print.

4. Comparative Anthropometric Data: B, For use in Thai Schools, by D.J.Vickery. 1963
(French summary)
5. Comparative Anthropometric Data: C, For use in Indonesian Schools, by D.J.Vickery. 1963
(French summary)
6. Comparative Anthropometric Data: D, Application of Data, by D.J.Vickery. 1964
(French summary)
7. A Comparative Study of Multi-Purpose Rooms in Educational Buildings, by D.J.Vickery. 1964
(French summary)
8. Comparative Anthropometric Data: E, For use in Philippine Schools, by the Philippine National Development Group. 1964
(French summary)
9. Environmental Control In School Buildings Through Planting, by Rooskandar Winant. 1964
(French summary)

10. Primary School Buildings in Asia,
by D.S.Soriano. 1965
(French summary)
11. School Building Development Groups,
by D.S.Soriano. 1966
(French summary)
12. A Primary School Design Work-Book for Humid Asia,
by D.J.Vickery. 1966
(French and Spanish summary)
13. A Method of Reducing Classroom Requirements in
Primary Schools in Asia,
by R.D.Srivastava, D.M.Gupta and D.J.Vickery (in press)

From 1967 the Institute is publishing its findings in several series:

Studies - The series include papers on studies in progress and reports on specific research projects studied in the work programme.

Technical Papers - These comprise codes of basic data to assist Asian countries to use new or valid tech-

niques on specific school building problems and design guides for the major projects in the Institute's work programme.

Occasional Papers - This series continues the numbering of previous Occasional Papers but the papers are now restricted to findings on specific regional problems and aspects of research not in the general course of the work programme.

Buildings for Education - This is the Institute's quarterly newsletter to be published in March, June, September and December each year. Each issue contains a quarterly review of the Institute's activities, technical notes, and abstracts on educational building from periodicals and books held by the Institute. The first issue was published in April 1967.

Annual Report - This will be prepared and presented annually to the Steering Committee by the Director of the Institute, covering the year 1967, onwards.