

**KIX EAP Podcast – Episode #24: From Teaching to Advising Ministers of Education throughout Southeast Asia, Our Interview with Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela**

Speaker biographical note



Dr. [Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela](#) is an Education Advisor to ASEAN on the Future of Education in the ASEAN Socio Cultural Community Research and Development Platform. She recently completed her 4-year term as the director of the [Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization \(SEAMEO\) Secretariat](#), becoming the first woman to hold the position since the organization was founded in 1965. During her administration, she implemented a range of educational improvement and research projects across the region, such as the SEA PLM, the first ever regional assessment in ASEAN, [SEAMEO Centre Policy Research Network \(CPRN\)](#), and the [SEAMEO MOOCS Network](#). She has worked closely with Ministers of Education, international organizations, and other regional NGOs and led the COVID-19 responses from SEAMEO at the height of the pandemic reaching over 4.5 Million teachers in Southeast Asia and beyond. In particular, Dr. Pascua-Valenzuela sits on the [UNESCO](#) COVID-19 Global Coalition for COVID-19 response, UNESCO Education 2030 High Level Steering Committee, a governing board member of the UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning (UIL) and UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS). As a passionate educator, she teaches PhD classes at the College of Education, University of the Philippines Diliman Campus online. She holds an MA in science education from [Philippine Normal University](#) and a doctorate from [De La Salle University](#).