

## **Activities and accomplishment of cLINK Project**

The **cLINK** (Centre of excellence for Learning, Innovation, Networking and Knowledge) project helped to foster new partnerships of emerging Asian countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, China, India, Malaysia and Thailand) with the EU countries (Germany, Romania, Hungary, France, and UK), and to reinforce the existing collaborations developed through the EAST-WEST Asia Link project, eLINK and eTourism. The key objective of the cLINK consortium is to enhance the capacity for international cooperation between universities in the Asian and EU countries by facilitating transfer of people, know-how, culture and best practice in training the next generation of researchers and academic staff.

The cLINK project successfully accomplished following objectives: (i) to develop new and enhance existing co-operative teaching links, (ii) to enhance established co-operative research on contemporary technology enhanced solution, (iii) to enhance academic networks between HEIs of Asia and EU for sustainable scientific, social and economic benefit for all partners. (iv) cLINK used the collaborative framework for human resource development through the training and upgrading of skills of the faculty staff members, undergraduate students, postgraduate students and post-doctoral researchers in 'Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning', 'Business Studies and Management Science', 'Computer Science and Engineering', 'Education and Teacher training', 'Engineering and Technology' and 'Medical Sciences' areas. The project allowed the enhancement of the knowledge and skills of teaching staff and students by introducing the latest skills and training in supported disciplines. This knowledge transfer and learning has provided a foundation for fostering new partnerships and reinforcing existing collaborations between Asian and EU universities. The cLINK completed 104 mobility of students, researchers and academics between participating institutes for education, research and knowledge transfer as given below in Table 1.

Table 1. cLINK Scholars in each category for partner countries

Third country	Undergraduates	Masters	Doctorates	Post-doctorates	Staff	TOTAL
Bangladesh	5	6	3	4	4	22
Pakistan	2	7	10	2	5	26
Nepal	2	5	1	1	1	10
Bhutan	5	0	0	0	3	8
China	1	3	0	3	1	8
Thailand	5	2	0	0	3	10
Malaysia	0	1	2	1	3	7
India	1	0	6	3	3	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>104</b>